

The Asian Reporter

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Asian Heritage Month Special Issue



HONORING OUR HERITAGE. During the month of May, we celebrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander heritage. The idea of celebrating the achievements and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States began in mid-1977, when a resolution first appeared in the House of Representatives to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian-Pacific American Heritage week. Soon after, a similar bill was introduced in the senate. Both passed on October 5, 1978 and U.S. President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating the annual celebration. In 1990, the observance was extended from a week to a month. This year's heritage month special section begins on page 8. (Illustration by Jonathan Hill)



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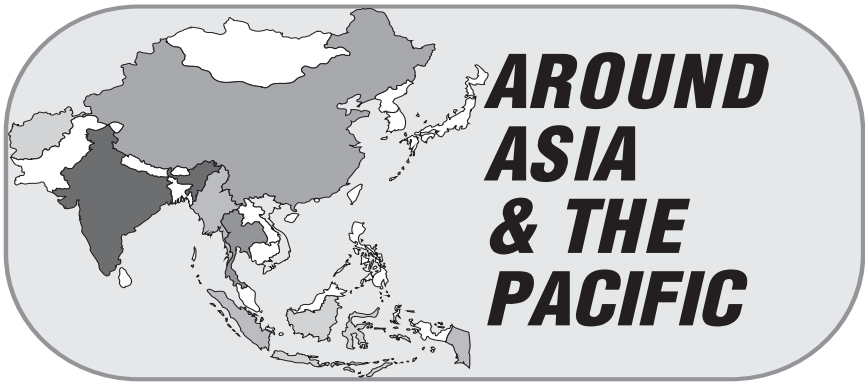


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The Asian Reporter is published
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China pushes to digitize mines to try to make them safer

SHENMU, China (AP) — China is using “smart” technology to try to improve its safety record in coal mines, as part of a push by the National Energy Administration to bolster output and stem frequent accidents and collapses. Smart-mine sensors monitor aspects such as gas buildup and flooding or ventilation levels, and set off an alert if any reach a dangerous level. The sensors, located inside the mine and on carts and tools, transfer the data via 5G, allowing for real-time monitoring by a central command. Huawei Technologies Ltd., better known for telecommunications equipment, teamed up with state-owned Shaanxi Coal Industry Co. to pilot its intelligent coal mine technology in Hongliulin and Xiaobaodang. Huawei has pivoted to other industries, including self-driving cars, factories, and mines amid U.S. sanctions that led it to report a 70% decline in profits from last year in March. The system has allowed Shaanxi to reduce the number of people working underground by 42% at the Xiaobaodang mine, while increasing production levels. Miners now work with the help of robots, which also monitor equipment including centrally-controlled shearers, the sharp blades used to collect coal.

Reports: Tesla plans Shanghai factory for power storage

BEIJING (AP) — Electric car maker Tesla Inc. plans to build a factory in Shanghai to produce power-storage devices for sale worldwide, according to state media reports. Plans call for annual production of 10,000 Megapack units, according to the Xinhua News Agency and state television. They said the company made the announcement at a signing ceremony in April in Shanghai, where Tesla operates an auto factory. The factory is due to break ground in the third quarter of this year and start production in the second quarter of 2024, the reports said.

Apple Inc. bets big on India with first flagship store

NEW DELHI (AP) — Apple Inc. opened its first flagship store in India in a much-anticipated launch that highlighted the company’s growing aspirations to expand in the country it also hopes to turn into a potential manufacturing hub. Dozens lined up outside for the grand opening. Located in India’s financial capital, Mumbai, the store’s design is inspired by the iconic black-and-yellow cabs unique to the city. A second store then opened in the national capital, New Delhi. The tech giant has been operating in India for more than 25 years, selling its product through authorized retailers and the website it launched a few years ago. Regulatory hurdles and the pandemic delayed its plans to open a flagship store. The new stores are a clear signal of the company’s commitment to invest in India, the second-largest smartphone market in the world, where iPhone sales have been ticking up steadily, said Jayanth Kolla, analyst at Convergence Catalyst, a tech consultancy. The stores show “how much India matters to the present and the future of the company,” he added. About 600 million of India’s 1.4 billion people have smartphones.

India’s heat is underestimated, harming progress, per study

BENGALURU, India (AP) — The full extent of the damage from India’s sizzling heat that’s causing more deaths, illnesses, school shutdowns, and crop failures is underestimated by lawmakers and officials in the country and slowing the nation’s development, according to a study. Extreme heat is placing 80% of India’s 1.4 billion population in danger, but assessments of how vulnerable the country is to climate change don’t take into account how much the searing temperatures in recent decades are hampering goals like reducing poverty and improving health outcomes across India’s population, researchers at Cambridge University in England found in a peer-reviewed study. “It is high time that climate experts and policymakers reevaluate the metrics for assessing the country’s climate vulnerability,” said Ramit Debnath, the lead author of the study. India has seen an uptick in sweltering temperatures caused by climate change from the burning of coal, oil, and gas, with an early heat wave in March and April last year breaking heat records in India and neighboring Pakistan. Scientists were able to attribute last year’s exceptional heat to human-made climate change and warned of worse to come as global average temperatures continue to creep upwards. Debnath and a team of researchers analyzed the methods currently used to work out India’s vulnerability to heat and climate change alongside measurements of the country’s progress toward goals like eliminating poverty and hunger and promoting equity, health, education, and curbing climate change — known as the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. Those goals will only be harder to reach the hotter it is, with the pace that India is progressing toward sustainable development aims already having slowed in the past 20 years because of more severe weather extremes, the study said.

Rare big tornado near Myanmar capital kills 8

BANGKOK (AP) — A tornado that tore through two villages in central Myanmar near the capital of Naypyitaw killed eight people and destroyed more than 200 houses, according to a rescue worker. The tornado hit Aung Myin Kone and Tadau villages on Naypyitaw’s southern outskirts in April, Thet Paing Soe, a leading member of the Doh Lewe charity organization, told The Associated Press. He said local charity organizations had transported 128 people to hospitals, and 232 houses in the two villages were destroyed. “The tornado blew for approximately 40 minutes. Almost all the houses in the villages are quite badly damaged. The restoration will take months,” Thet Paing Soe said. Major tornadoes are rare in Myanmar.



TREES IN TROUBLE. A crane is visible in the marsh through the roots of mangroves belonging to the Mangalavanam bird sanctuary, a protected area in the heart of the city in Kochi, Kerala state, India, on March 29, 2023. Government buildings, private offices, and homes have sprung up at pace, cutting deep into the forest known as the “green lung of Kochi.” Environmentalists have expressed concern over the loss and declining health of mangrove cover. (AP Photo/R S Iyer)

In India, mangrove trees make way for booming city of Kochi

By K Praveen Kumar
Press Trust of India

KOCHI, India — Burrowed between mangroves and a bustling skyline, 70-year-old Rajan, who only uses one name, reminisces about his old home.

For nearly sixty years, Rajan has lived comfortably among the trees in Mangalavanam forest in India’s southern Kerala state. In the last two decades, the surrounding city of Kochi has boomed as the state’s financial capital and swallowed up once-protected green areas, including Rajan’s former home.

He was forced to sell his land to a local private realtor when the area was bought up for construction about 15 years ago. He moved into a makeshift dwelling on the edge of a protected bird sanctuary.

“Now there are buildings all around and no wind,” said Rajan, adding that the towering concrete has made the city and forest stifling hot.

Government buildings, private offices, and homes have sprung up at pace, cutting deep into the forest known as the “green lung of Kochi.” The trees are now squeezed on all sides by buildings, construction, and smog.

Environmentalists are concerned over the loss and declining health of mangrove cover, which is particularly effective at sucking planet-warming carbon dioxide out of the air, can fend off scorching heat for nearby residents, and sustains populations of local wildlife.

Officials and developers alike defend the need to house the state’s dense population and harness economic growth in the world’s soon-

to-be most populous nation, but experts say this cannot come at the cost of green spaces.

Kerala has lost nearly 98% of its mangrove forests, shrinking from 270 square miles to just 6.5 square miles since 1975, according to figures from the Kerala Forest Research Institute. Mangrove cover across the country crept up slightly between 2017 to 2019 at a rate of 0.5% per year thanks to concerted efforts by the government with restoration and maintenance projects springing up in Kerala and beyond.

“I had literally fought with the government to come out with plans to protect the mangrove forests,” said Kathiresan Kandasamy, who studies India’s mangrove forests and is a former member of the National Mangrove Committee, a body set up by the government to advise on conservation.

In 2022, the Indian government, following Kandasamy and the committee’s advice, identified 44 critical mangrove ecosystems in the country, including two in Kerala. It launched a management action plan to protect and maintain the areas. State governments also started sanctioning funds for conservation projects.

The shrunken Mangalavanam is now listed as a protected area, but there are concerns about the impact of nearby development.

“I found out that some city drainage is passing through this mangrove ecosystem,” said Rani Varghese, a research scholar at the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies. Varghese said the runoff “is changing its whole ecosystem.”

While the trees themselves are still sucking

Continued on page 4

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| Fijian Dollar | 2.193 |
| Hong Kong Dollar | 7.8498 |
| Indian Rupee | 81.77 |
| Indonesian Rupiah | 14657 |
| Iranian Rial | 42356 |
| Japanese Yen | 136.18 |
| Laos New Kip | 17375 |
| Malaysian Ringgit | 4.458 |
| Nepal Rupee | 130.84 |
| Pakistani Rupee | 283.34 |
| Papua N.G. Kina | 3.521 |
| Philippine Peso | 55.47 |
| Russian Ruble | 80.145 |
| Saudi Riyal | 3.706 |
| Singapore Dollar | 1.3334 |
| South Korean Won | 1338.6 |
| Sri Lankan Rupee | 319.8 |
| Taiwan Dollar | 30.734 |
| Thai Baht | 34.11 |
| Vietnam Dong | 23397 |

Thailand celebrates Songkran with first splashes since 2019

BANGKOK (AP) — Hordes of revellers toted colorful water guns when Thailand kicked off its exuberant three-day Songkran festival at full blast for the first time since 2019.

The New Year celebration’s signature water fighting — a major draw for tourists — had been banned or discouraged since 2020 to curb the spread of the coronavirus, and its full-scale return was widely promoted. In Bangkok alone, there were 40 designated spots this year for public water splashing, including the touristy Khao San Road where vendors hawked food, clothes, and water-fighting gear in the scorching heat.

The festival, which is also celebrated in neighboring Myanmar, Cambodia, and Laos, falls at the hottest time of the year when temperatures can creep above 104° Fahrenheit.

While many tourists and locals congregate in the capital, millions of workers head home to rural provinces to see family and celebrate by cleansing images of the Buddha for luck, throwing



MAKING A SPLASH. A family celebrates the Songkran festival in Prachinburi Province, east of Bangkok, on April 13, 2023. Hordes of revellers toted colorful water guns as Thailand kicked off its exuberant three-day Songkran festival at full blast for the first time since 2019, hoping to boost tourism after the industry was devastated by the coronavirus pandemic. (AP Photo/Wason Wanichakorn)

projected this year’s Songkran festival would help generate more than 18 billion baht (\$530 million) in revenue and bring in more than 300,000 international travellers for the holiday week — a 525% increase over the same period in 2022, but just 58% of 2019’s number from before the COVID-19 pandemic began.

Although the country gradually eased up travel restrictions before fully reopening in October, local entrepreneurs remain concerned about the pace of the recovery.

Thailand received about 40 million international visitors in 2019. That number decreased sharply to 6.7 million in 2020 and fewer than 500,000 in 2021, according to data from the Ministry of Tourism and Sports.

By Yuri Kageyama
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Takeshi Kitano’s new film, premiering at the Cannes Film Festival this month, is a samurai story without heroes, mercilessly portraying human greed, betrayal, and cruelty.

Kitano, awarded the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival for his *Hana-Bi* in 1997, wanted to make a different kind of period piece in *Kubi*, or “neck,” a reference to traditional Japanese beheadings.

“Most samurai films portray famous

water on each other, and washing the hands and feet of elders to pay respect and ask for a blessing.

Police geared up for the “Seven Dangerous Days” — taking into account the travel days on either end of Songkran — during which traffic-related casualties

spike in a country where road traffic death rates ranked No. 9 worldwide in the World Health Organization’s 2018 road safety report. Many accidents involve drunk driving, and motorcyclists account for a large number of the deaths.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand

Japan auteur Kitano’s latest samurai film headed to Cannes

people and don’t focus on the dirty side of human existence or show how evil people don’t care a hoot about slaughtering regular people,” Kitano told reporters.

The story features a 16th-century feud centered around Oda Nobunaga, a powerful warlord — well known in Japan but not as familiar for overseas audiences. But the Shakespearean intrigues are familiar enough.

The spectacular battle scenes evoke Akira Kurosawa classics like *Seven Samurai* and *Kagemusha*, according to Takeshi Natsuno, president of Kadokawa, the production company behind *Kubi*.

Kitano, age 76, began in Japan’s equivalent of vaudeville as a stand-up comic with the stage name Beat Takeshi, before becoming a superstar on TV shows and films.

The latest work juxtaposes the horror of killing with the absurd, said Kitano, appearing on stage with his cast at a Tokyo hotel.

Kubi features a star-studded cast, including Hidetoshi Nishijima, marking his return to a Kitano film since the 2002 *Dolls*, which was inspired by traditional Bunraku puppet theater, as well as Ryo Kase, who appeared in

Kitano’s *Outrage* gangster series.

Kitano also acts in the new film and wrote the screenplay, based on his book, published in 2019.

Some of the most dramatic scenes in *Kubi* involve fabulous sets, but were taken in one cut or minimal cuts. Kitano said that was intentional and recalled that director Nagisa Oshima taught him to stay away from closeups in major scenes.

Kitano’s first major film role was in Oshima’s *Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence*, a drama about a Japanese prisoner of war camp during World War II, starring David Bowie and Ryuichi Sakamoto.

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India’s population will pass China’s soon, but when exactly?

By Mike Schneider and Sibi Arasu
The Associated Press

India should surpass China’s population midway through this year, according to the latest projection from the United Nations.

That’s of course unless it’s happened already — or happens later in the year.

Demographers are unsure exactly when India will take the title as the most populous nation in the world because they’re relying on estimates to make their best guess. The latest projection from the United Nations in April put it at midyear, though that remains an estimate.

China has had the most people in the world since at least 1950, the year United Nations population data began. Both China and India have more than 1.4 billion people, and combined they make up more than a third of the world’s 8 billion people.

“Actually, there is no way we can know exactly when India will surpass China,” said Bruno Schoumaker, a demographer at Université catholique de Louvain in Belgium. “There is some uncertainty, not only about India’s population, but also China’s population.”

Still, when is it happening?

The U.N. said in a report in mid-April that India will have about 2.9 billion people more than China sometime in the middle of this year — an estimated 1.4286 billion for India, 1.4257 billion for mainland China. But demographers have said the limits of population data make it impossible to calculate an exact date.

Mathematical calculations are made from data including a range of surveys, as well as birth and death records.

“It’s a crude approximation, a best guess,” said Patrick Gerland, chief of the population estimates and projections section at the U.N. in New York.

Not long ago, India wasn’t expected to become most populous until later this



POPULATION PROJECTION. People eat street food as shoppers crowd a market in New Delhi, India, in this November 12, 2022 file photo. India should surpass China’s population midway through this year, according to the latest projection from the United Nations. That’s of course unless it’s happened already — or happens later in the year. Demographers are unsure exactly when India will take the title as the most populous nation in the world because they’re relying on estimates to make their best guess. (AP Photo/Altat Qadri, File)

government seven years ago retreated from a one-child policy, and just two years ago said couples could have three children.

India has a much younger population, a higher fertility rate, and a decrease in infant mortality over the last three decades.

India has more babies born each year than in any other country, while China has joined many European countries in having more deaths each year than births, said Dudley Poston, Jr., an emeritus professor of sociology at Texas A&M University.

Why does this matter?

There’s more than bragging rights at stake over which nation is the world’s most populous — there are social and economic consequences. In India, that means a growing labor force and growth that sparks economic activity. In China, that means fewer working-age adults able to support an aging population.

Once a country hits a low fertility level, it’s often hard to recover population growth, even with changes in government policy to encourage more births, said Toshiko Kaneda, technical director of demographic research at the Population Reference Bureau in Washington.

“Psychologically, it will be tough for China, especially given the rivalry in other areas between the two countries,” Gietel-Basten said. “It is a big moment in human history as the baton is passed to India.”

Arasu reported from Bengaluru, India.
Schneider reported from Orlando, Florida.

decade. But the timing has been sped up by a drop in China’s fertility rate, with families having fewer children.

How is it calculated?

Demographers at the U.N. Population Division make estimates based on projections from a wide variety of data sources to get what they believe are the most up-to-date demographic numbers. The last update to the data used for these calculations for both India and China was July 2022, said Sara Hertog, a U.N. population affairs officer in New York.

The demographers then use a statistical technique to infer when India’s population has surpassed that of China, according to Stuart Gietel-Basten, a professor at Khalifa University of Science and Technology in Abu Dhabi.

“The reality, of course, is that these estimates are just that,” Gietel-Basten said. “But at least they are based on a relatively solid and consistent methodology.”

Where do the numbers come from?

The foundations of both nations’ numbers are censuses, or head counts, conducted every decade.

China’s last census was in 2020. Demographers used birth and death records, along with other administrative data, to calculate how the population has grown since then.

India’s last census was in 2011. Its scheduled 2021 census was postponed by COVID-19. Without an actual door-to-door count for more than a decade, sample surveys have filled in the gaps to help demographers and India itself understand its population, said Alok Vajpeyi of the New Delhi-based non-government organization, Population Foundation of India.

Among the most important is the Sample Registration System, India’s large-scale demographic survey that gathers data on such things as births, deaths, fertility, and more.

Andrea Wojnar, the United Nations Population Fund’s representative for India, said the agency is confident in the survey’s numbers “because it uses a very robust methodology.”

Why is India moving ahead?

China has an aging population with stagnant growth even after the

In India, mangrove trees make way for booming city of Kochi

Continued from page 2

planet-warming carbon dioxide out of the air, Varghese explained, effluents and pollutants in the soil hamper how good of a sink for carbon the soil can be.

With record amounts of carbon dioxide being pumped into the air by human activity, maintaining ecosystems like mangrove forests can counteract some of the harms of

warming.

The potential of the forest to store carbon “is actually in the state of deterioration,” said Varghese.

A. Anil Kumar, who’s mayor of the city’s administrative body, the Kochi Corporation, said while they cannot do anything about wastewater runoff immediately, the area will continue to be studied.

In the meantime, property companies use what’s left of the squeezed forests as a selling point for extravagant homes and office buildings in the area.

Signs outside new developments boast about their luxury apartments’ untouched green views from properties’ multiple balconies. Long, plastic advertising boards line nearby roads with images of thick forests.

The apartments give residents spectacular sights of backwaters merging with the Arabian Sea and, for a premium, Mangalavanam’s last green stronghold in the form of the bird sanctuary, which is surrounded by construction and scaffolding.

K. Krishnankutty, a nearby resident, comes for a morning walk every day on the surrounding road, where mangrove branches hang overhead, lining wide pavements. He said he loves the shade and chirping birds but laments how much the lush space has slimmed in recent years.

“All around this Mangalavanam used to be open with no tall buildings,” Krishnankutty said. “So many migratory birds used to come here. Now we cannot see any as the buildings cover up this area.”

Experts fear the loss of Kerala’s forests could worsen in

the coming years.

Some 75% of the remaining mangroves across Kerala are in the hands of private individuals and could be cleared for more lucrative intensive shrimp farming, said M. Ramit, a program officer for the Wildlife Trust of India, who is working on a project to restore mangroves in Kannur, a coastal district in northern Kerala.

“The Kerala government had earlier devised a plan to acquire the mangrove land from private individuals in order to conserve them,” Ramit said, but “somehow, the plan was later dropped.”

But Kerala’s state department of environment and climate change contested the claims and said there is no threat to the existing mangrove forests, regardless of ownership, as the forests are protected by state laws.

Varghese, the Kerala University researcher, said there’s still hope that the trend of mangrove loss can be reversed and the forest ecosystem can function normally in the near future.

“If we stop the adverse human interventions in the sanctuary and divert the drainage from Mangalavanam, in another 10 years we could regain all the potential benefits of the mangrove ecosystem,” Varghese said.

With the right measures, she said, communities can “turn it around as a good carbon sink.”

Editor’s note: This article is part of a series produced under the India Climate Journalism Program, a collaboration between The Associated Press, the Stanley Center for Peace and Security, and the Press Trust of India.

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| 6 | | | | | | | | 1 |

Difficulty level: Hard

#49534

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that the digits 1 through 9 appear one time each in every row, column, and 3x3 box.

Solution to last issue’s puzzle

Puzzle #96553 (Medium)

All solutions available at <www.sudoku.com>.

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| 4 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 5 |
| 6 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| 8 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 |
| 9 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 |

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Philippines tries to bring back small fish key to rural diet

By Joeal Calupitan and Patrick Whittle
The Associated Press

TANAUAN, Leyte, The Philippines — The Philippines, a nation made up of thousands of islands, is home to about 1.6 million people who work in fisheries, and the majority of those fishers are small-scale harvesters who collectively catch almost half of the nation’s fish.

Years of market pressures, lack of fisheries management, and unchecked overfishing from larger commercial fishers have led to a decline in small fish such as sardines that rural coastal communities in the country of about 110 million people depend on. Data is not available on the state of many fish stocks, but the conservation group Oceana has said more than 75% of the nation’s fishing grounds are depleted.

The problem of overfishing is especially detrimental to the country’s poorest people, many of whom earn their livings by fishing, said Ruperto Aleroza, an anti-poverty activist who has spent decades harvesting small fish like sardines and round scad from the waters around the archipelago. The small fish are important to the diet in parts of the Philippines where other sources of protein are not available, he said. The fish are used in traditional dishes such as kinilaw, a raw fish dish similar to ceviche.

“We fisherfolk are the second to the poorest in our country” behind only farmers, Aleroza said.

The challenge overfishing poses to people who earn their living from the sea and who count on fish for protein in their diet is being experienced throughout the world. As overfishing is impacting kinilaw in the Philippines, it’s affecting traditional dishes and ways of life in places such as the



Bahamas, where scientists and government officials worry the commercial fishing of conch, a marine snail central to the diet and identity of the island nation, may soon no longer be feasible. And in Senegal, overfishing has largely wiped out white grouper, long the basis for the national dish of thieboudienne.

Aleroza blames years of poor fishing management and unsustainable fishing practices for taking away both a way of life and a key source of protein for some of this nation’s poorest people.

“It is threatening the local food source. We can’t feed our family. And it’s worsening poverty of artisanal fishers,” he

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT. A fisherman (not seen) in the top photo inspects fish caught using the beach seine method at the coastal waters of Tanauan, Leyte, the Philippines, in this October 26, 2022 file photo. In the bottom photo, fishermen pull their nets using the same method. Non-governmental organizations are working with the government to adopt science-based, sustainable fishing practices. (AP Photos/Aaron Favila, File)

said. “The overfishing worsens economic depression among us.”

Recently, the country has begun to make strides in rebuilding fisheries with spawning closures, said Mudjekeewis Santos, a scientist with the Philippines Department of Agriculture’s National Fisheries Research and Development Institute.

“And the communities are happy that happened, because their catch increased,” he said. “Fish don’t care about jurisdiction, and they’re being decimated.”

But there is much work left to be done, Santos said.

Non-governmental organizations such as the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) are working with the Philippines government to adopt science-based, sustainable fishing practices, said Edwina Garchitorena, who leads those efforts for EDF in the country.

The problem goes beyond small fish. The loss of small, ocean-going fish such as anchovies is also devastating for larger fish, which eat the small fish, she said.

Garchitorena and others blamed the over-exploitation of larger fish species to meet international demand, which she said increased fishing pressure on the smaller fish stocks that live closer to the coast.

“We’ve systematically reduced every type of fish in the ocean,” she said.

Whittle reported from Portland, Maine. This story was supported by funding from the Walton Family Foundation. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

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1111 NW Naito Pkwy, Portland
Jean’s Place
(for residents only)
1:30-3:30 p.m.
18 NE 11th Ave, Portland
- MAY 4**
Street Roots
9-10:30 a.m.
211 NW Davis St, Portland
Cultivate Initiatives
11-1 p.m.
660 SE 160th Ave, Portland
Nightstrike
7:30-9:30 p.m.
Under the Burnside Bridge
- MAY 8**
Clark Center
(for residents only)
9-11 a.m.
1437 SE MLK Blvd, Portland
Doreen’s Place
(for residents only)
12-2 p.m.
610 NW Broadway St, Portland

- MAY 9**
Cultivate Initiatives
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
247 SE 82nd Ave, Portland
Union Gospel Mission
2-3 p.m.
3 NW 3rd Ave, Portland
- MAY 10**
Portland Rescue Mission
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13207 NE Halsey St, Portland
The Rosewood Initiative
1-4 p.m.
14127 SE Stark St, Portland
- MAY 15**
Cultivate Initiatives
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
4808 SE 92nd Ave, Portland
- MAY 18**
Street Roots
9-10:30 a.m.
211 NW Davis St, Portland
Cultivate Initiatives
11-2 p.m.
660 SE 160th Ave, Portland



The Asian Reporter

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WORLD POPULATION TO SEE NEW CHAMP SOON



MY TURN

■ Wayne Chan



To pho or not to pho, that is the question

Sushi without the rice? Dumplings without
a wrapper? Noodle soup without the noodle?

This has been my latest conundrum.

How does someone who loves Asian food maintain
a low-carb diet?

Sure, when eating at home, it's
manageable. I can cook fish or
make vegetables. But when I go
out? It's not as easy.

Recently after working up a
sweat playing tennis, a few of my
tennis buddies decided to go out for
pho. Knowing what I was getting
into at a Vietnamese pho
establishment, I prepared myself
for some tough choices.

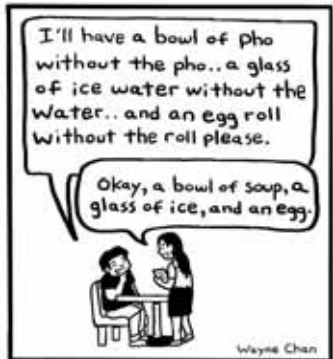
Eating at a pho restaurant while on a low-carb
diet is like someone who is allergic to cheese eating
at a pizza place — It's a nearly impossible task.

The egg rolls are a no-go. The wrapper has carbs
and so do the vermicelli noodles inside. I could go for
the grilled lemongrass pork chops ... but it's sitting
on a bed of rice.

Well, why not just eat the pork chops and ignore
the rice? Ignore the rice? BECAUSE I LOVE THE
RICE! THAT'S THE PROBLEM!

I admit it. I have no self-control. If it's a carb and
it's on my plate, that plate will be clean when I leave
the table. I would love to be able to signal to
everyone that it would be wasteful to not eat the
rice when so many people are hungry all over the
world. Honestly, though, it's not like if I left rice on
my plate that some logistics company would pack
it up and rush it over to Bangladesh or some-
thing.

So what did I end up eating? I ordered a bowl of
pho noodle soup without the pho. It was a pho-less
pho noodle soup. The server looked at me for an
uncomfortably long moment as if to truly
contemplate what I was trying to order.



It reminds me of the time I asked
a server in a Chinese restaurant to
not include any MSG on a
particular dish. For some people,
eating a dish with MSG leaves
them with a headache or a sore
back. I asked them not to put any
MSG on the dish and double
confirmed it with him. And he
assured me they wouldn't.

After the dish arrived and we
started enjoying it, a familiar
twinge on the back of my neck immediately
started.

I asked our server, "I thought we asked you not to
put any MSG in this dish!?" He said, "We added
very little! We have to give it some flavor!"

So, you might ask, "How was the pho-less pho
noodle soup?" Good question.

To be honest, it was still very good! It would have
been a lot better if it actually had pho in it, but what
can I say. It was hot, tasty, and I still really enjoyed
it.

After eating it, I did get a little twinge on the back
of my neck, but come on! You think I'm going to ask
them to not put pho in the pho *and* ask them to
remove any flavor from it, too?

I'm going to a pancake house tomorrow. Wish me
luck.

*Humor writer Wayne Chan lives in the San Diego area;
cartoonist Wayne Chan is based in the Bay Area.*

Opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the authors and not necessarily those of this publication.

Celebrate The Year of the Rabbit!

January 22, 2023 to
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The Asian Reporter's
Lunar New Year special edition
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The anime hit *Suzume* and Shinkai's cinema of cataclysm

By Jake Coyle

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK — Makoto Shinkai was never the same filmmaker after the 2011 earthquake struck Japan.

When the tsunami and quake ravaged the Tohoku region of northern Japan and prompted a nuclear meltdown, Shinkai, a now 50-year-old director and animator of some of the most popular anime features in the world, could feel his sense of storytelling crumbling.

"The shock to me was that the daily life that we had become accustomed to in Japan can suddenly be severed without any warning whatsoever," says Shinkai. "I had this odd, foreboding feeling that that could happen again and again. I began to think about how I wanted to tell stories within this new reality."

The three blockbusters that have followed by Shinkai — *Your Name*, *Weathering With You*, and the new release *Suzume* — have each tethered hugely emotional tales to ecological disaster. In *Your Name*, a meteor threatens to demolish a village, an event that dovetails with a body-switching romance. In *Weathering With You*, a runaway teenage boy befriends a Tokyo girl who can control the weather, spawning fluctuations that mirror climate change.

"With these three films, I didn't set out to make a disaster movie. I wanted to tell a love story, a romance, a coming-of-age of an adolescent girl," Shinkai said on a recent trip to New York, speaking through an interpreter. "As I continued to make the plot, this idea of disaster kept creeping in. Suddenly, I felt surrounded in my daily life by disaster. It's like a door that keeps opening."

Shinkai has emerged as one of cinema's most imaginative filmmakers of contemporary cataclysm. His movies aren't just about surviving apocalypse, though, but living with its omnipresent threat. And it's made him one of the biggest box-office draws in movies.

After it was released in 2016, *Your Name* became the then-best-selling anime of all time, dethroning Hayao Miyazaki's beloved *Spirited Away* with nearly \$400 million in ticket sales. *Weathering With You* made nearly \$200 million. Before opening in North America, *Suzume* has



already crossed \$200 million, including \$100 million in Japan and nearly that in China. It's easily the biggest international release of the year so far in China, more than doubling the sales of *Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantummania*.

Much of that success is owed to Shinkai's earnest grappling with today's ecological upheaval in sprawling epics that are filtered through everyday life. National trauma mixes with supernatural fantasy. While Japan has been home to many extreme geological events, it's a tension that most in the world can increasingly connect with.

"It can be anything: earthquakes, climate change, the pandemic. Russia and Ukraine, for an example," says Shinkai. "This idea that our daily life will continue to maintain the status quo should be set

aside and challenged."

Shinkai, who writes and directs his films, has become convinced that young people shouldn't be pandered to with stories where the natural world is heroically returned to balance, calling such approaches "egotistic and irresponsible." Instead, his disasters take on metaphorical meaning for young protagonists who learn to persist, and find joy, in a world of perpetual danger, shadowed by loss.

His latest, which was the first anime in competition at the Berlin Film Festival in two decades, is a road movie where the 17-year-old Suzume (voiced by Nanoka Hara) travels from the southwestern island of Kyushu with that mysterious young man, Souta (Hokuto Matsumura), who happens to get transformed into a

BLOCKBUSTER ANIME. This image released by Sony Pictures Entertainment shows Suzume (top photo), voiced in Japanese by Nanoka Hara and dubbed in English by Nichole Sakura, in a scene from the animated film *Suzume*, by filmmaker Makoto Shinkai (bottom photo). (Photo/Jordan Strauss/Invision/AP)

three-legged chair while closing a portal.

As a wooden sidekick, Souta recalls a Miyazaki side character like the hopping scarecrow of *Howl's Moving Castle*. But Shinkai, who's often been cited as among the heirs to Miyazaki, says his film is no homage. But he grants Miyazaki's influence is so pervasive in Japanese society that it seeps into everything. He imagines Suzume, herself, grew up on his films.

Shinkai liked the symbolism of a chair, something we use every day. His father made him one as a child. While promoting *Suzume*, Shinkai has travelled with a chair just like the one in the movie, packing it in a suitcase, bringing it with him on stage, and occasionally taking pictures of it at places like Times Square or the Museum of Natural History.

"I've picked very daily items — a door, a chair — that are perhaps relatable to a wide range of audiences," he says. "This symbolism of the door, I think people are able to translate to their own story. We start thinking about: How do we maintain our daily routine?"

Shinkai is known for photorealistic panoramas of glittering splendor. As much as doorways make up the iconography of *Suzume*, the most indelible image is one he uses at the beginning and end of the film. Suzume rides her bike on a steep hill with a sparkling ocean set behind her. The waters below, which to her could signify the tsunami that left her an orphan, are at once gorgeous and perilous.

"In a weird way, I feel that with *Your Name* and *Weathering With You* and *Suzume* that I'm creating this sort of folklore or mythology," Shinkai says. "In mythology or these ancient legends, what they're doing is taking real-life events and transforming it into a story that can [be] relayed to others."

Whether Shinkai will continue on this quest in his next film he doesn't know. It's a blank slate, he says. But he doesn't close the door.

"As I continue to make more stories," he says, smiling, "that door might start creaking open again."

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Celebrating Asian Heritage

The Asian Reporter celebrates Asian Heritage Month with this special edition. In this issue, we mark heritage month with a visit to New Year in the Park 2023, a free family-friendly celebration of the Cambodian, Lao, Thai, and Burmese New Year that took place at Glenhaven Park in late April. On a beautiful day with sunny weather, the event featured area businesses, restaurants, organizations, and performers. In addition to watching the entertainment stage, festival-goers enjoyed papaya salad, lotus cookies, and fried bananas; purchased clothing, jewelry, and other goods; and learned about important information available to the community.

The section continues with numerous programs, shows, and documentaries scheduled to air during heritage month on Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) and OPB World. More than three dozen films focusing on the experiences of Asian Americans are featured.

The issue also highlights a new book written by Renee Macalino Rutledge and illustrated by Lauren Akazawa Mendez. *The ABCs of Asian American History* introduces readers to amazing inventors, artists, athletes, comics, and others, whose accomplishments benefit all of us. The book also contains interesting facts while empowering the Asian community.

Finally, our expanded events calendar provides a monthlong guide to Asian art, history, culture, and entertainment.

While celebrating heritage month, we continue to stand with our fellow Asian Americans across the country who have experienced unprovoked racial attacks and hate crimes. Please stay safe and remain alert while also looking out for each other.



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#STOP ASIAN HATE



CULTURAL CELEBRATION. New Year in the Park, a free family-friendly celebration of the Cambodian, Lao, Thai, and Burmese New Year, took place at Glenhaven Park on a sunny Saturday in late April. The event featured traditional music, cultural dance (pictured), Asian cuisine, items for sale, and more. Some people attended for a couple hours while others partied all day. (AR Photos/Jan Landis)

Thousands attend 2023 New Year in the Park

By Jody Lim
The Asian Reporter

While waiting at the red light to turn west onto N.E. Siskiyou Street from 82nd Avenue, I could smell the celebration. On a sunny spring day that reached at least 80°, thousands of people attended the 2023 New Year in the Park in northeast Portland over the weekend.

Just beyond the trees lining Glenhaven Park were too many tents to count. Small pop-up tents shaded businesses, restaurants, and organizations. Two huge tents covered the performance stage and attendees.

At least 10 restaurants, such as Burmese Delight, Mekong Bistro, Thip Khoa, Sandy's Myanmar Cuisine, and Ding Tea PDX, sold fried rice, papaya salad, skewers, micola bowls, pad see ew, crazy wings & rice, Burmese tea, lotus cookies, fried bananas, and much more. Festival-goers patiently waited in line for their delightfully delicious cuisine.

Outreach booths included organizations — the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO), the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), and the Cambodian-American Community of Oregon (CACO) — as well as businesses and government agencies — the Multnomah County Library, DHS's API Net, the Oregon Department of Justice's Civil Rights Unit, the OHSU BEFAST program, and the Multnomah County Circuit Court, among others. Anyone seeking information could find someone willing to provide helpful pamphlets and resources.

Plenty of freebies were also available — candy, pens, buttons, calendars, flyers, bookmarks, and band-aids. The BEFAST (Balance. Eyes. Face. Arm. Speech. Time.) booth educated attendees who stopped by



about the signs to be aware of in case someone is experiencing a stroke. The Civil Rights Unit distributed information about its Stand Against Hate program.

Many vendors, including one from up north in Bellevue, Washington, offered sashes, hats, small sculptures, handbags, wallets, scrunchies, shampoo, lotion, jewelry, and more for sale. Youth were invited to participate in arts and crafts at the New Year in the Park table.

The booths, which surrounded the tall performance tents, were bustling. I noticed smiles everywhere. Celebration organizers were also selling colorful New Year in the Park t-shirts for only \$20 as a fundraiser.

And, of course, there were performers and speakers onstage during the daylong festival. Groups, individuals, and families representing Lao, Myanmar, Thai, Iu

Continued on page 13

SCAN ME

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Oregon Public Broadcasting to feature shows with an Asian focus throughout Heritage Month

Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) has released its schedule of Asian-related programs, shows, and documentaries airing during Asian Heritage Month. The organization is featuring pieces created by the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM), Oregon Experience, Pacific Heartbeat, America ReFramed, Independent Lens, and others.

The list of features include premieres of *Nam June Paik: Moon Is the Oldest TV* on Tuesday, May 16, and *Fanny: The Right to Rock* on Monday, May 22. *Nam June Paik: Moon Is the Oldest TV* traces the life and work of the avant-garde artist best known as the father of video art who coined the term “electronic superhighway.” *Fanny: The Right to Rock* tells the story of the first all-women band to release an album with a major record label.

Locally produced shows, such as episodes of Oregon Experience, include *Oregon’s Japanese Americans* on May 8 and *Massacre at Hells Canyon* on May 15. In addition, segments of *Asian Americans*, the five-part series released in 2020, traces the epic story of Asian Americans spanning 150 years of immigration, racial politics, international relations, and cultural innovation.

The programming is scheduled to air on both OPB and OPB World. Several shows are also streaming online through various services, including <www.pbs.org>. For more information, call (503) 293-1982. To learn more, or to view the full schedule online, visit <www.opb.org>.

Below is a partial schedule:

Asian Americans: “Breaking Ground”

May 1, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 2, 11:00pm, OPB

In an era of exclusion, new immigrants arrived in the U.S. from China, India, Japan, the Philippines, and elsewhere. Eventually barred by anti-Asian laws, the first show in the epic five-part *Asian Americans* series that premiered in 2020 — titled “Breaking Ground” — tells how newcomers became America’s first “undocumented immigrants” even as they built railroads and dazzled on the silver screen. They also took the fight for equality to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Stories From the Stage: “Asian Voices”

May 1, 11:30pm, OPB World

Every day, millions of people create their own definitions of what it means to be Asian American. And to do this, they rely on history, culture, family, and friends to deal with their dual identities. In “Asian Voices,” an episode of Stories From the Stage, storytellers share tales that speak to the richness and variety of the Asian-American experience.

Rising Against Asian Hate: One Day in March

May 2, 10:00pm, OPB



May 3, 10:00pm, OPB World

In March 2021, a 21-year-old man murdered eight people, including six women of Asian descent, at three spas in Atlanta, Georgia — a horrific attack in a year of widespread anti-Asian violence. *Rising Against Asian Hate: One Day in March* pays tribute to the lives lost, examines the rise of anti-Asian racism, and documents a growing movement to fight back and stop the hate. The one-hour documentary takes a deep dive into this critical moment of racial reckoning while exploring the need for better hate crime legislation, demanding accountability from law enforcement, and chronicling a community as they break their silence to rise up against hate. Ultimately, the film asks the crucial question of what’s next for Asian Americans — in the courts, in the voting booth, and in the streets.

Barakan Discovers: “Ainu, a New Generation”

May 3, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 24, 11:00pm, OPB

Learn about the Ainu, an indigenous people in northern Japan, in “Ainu, a New Generation,” an episode of Barakan Discovers. The Ainu were once subjected to cultural assimilation policies and many of their traditions were lost, but now, young Ainu are spearheading a movement to restore their heritage. In the show, host Peter Barakan meets an artisan who re-creates old craft items; performers with a new take on traditional singing and dancing; and a YouTuber who presents language lessons. He also looks at the oppression of the past and the possibilities that exist in the future.

POV Shorts: Where I’m From

May 4, 8:00pm, OPB World

Where I’m From, a POV Short, tells stories about home and how it shapes us. A segment of the show, “Sing Me a Lullaby,” which spans 14 years and two continents, follows a daughter as she searches for her mother’s birth parents in Taiwan, unravelling complex tensions between love and sacrifice.

Mr. Tornado

May 4, 11:00pm, May 5, 7:00pm &

May 8, 7:00pm, OPB World

Mr. Tornado tells the remarkable story of Tetsuya Theodore “Ted” Fujita, whose groundbreaking work in research and applied science saved thousands of lives and helped Americans prepare for and respond to dangerous weather phenomena. Fujita devoted his life to unlocking the mysteries of severe storms.

Oregon Art Beat: “Fabric of Life”

May 4, 8:00pm & May 7, 6:00pm, OPB

“Fabric of Life,” an episode of Oregon Art Beat, focuses on Fuchsia Lin, an artist, costume designer, and filmmaker. Lin’s designs have become fantastical, other worldly costumes that have graced stages from Broadway

FIVE-PART SERIES. Pictured is Bhagat Singh Thind as a young man wearing his U.S. Army uniform and holding a rifle at Camp Lewis in 1918 during World War I. Thind, a Sikh American, was the first U.S. serviceman to be allowed for religious reasons to wear a turban as part of their military uniform. Thind is featured in the five-part Asian Americans series. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Bhagat Singh Thind Spiritual Science Foundation)

to the Oregon Ballet Theatre. Now, she is creating films to highlight her work. “I just love seeing my costumes in motion, in performances, and in film,” says Lin. “They really just come to life.”

America ReFramed: Jaddoland

May 4, 9:00pm, May 6, 7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

Nadia Shihab’s *Jaddoland* is an intimate portrait of the work and process of the director’s visual artist mother, Lahib Jaddo. The film offers a fresh look at the immigrant story in America. Through an exploration of her mother’s art and connections to her life in Texas, Shihab also drafts a unique picture of how art can help both the creator and the audience make sense of familial and cultural connections, loss, perseverance, and life.

And Then They Came for Us

May 5, 10:00pm, OPB World

Inspired by the book *Un-American: The Incarceration of Japanese-Americans During World War II* by Richard Cahan and Michael Williams, *And Then They Came for Us* brings history into the present, retelling the difficult story of Executive Order 9066, which paved the way to the profound violation of constitutional rights that resulted in the forced incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans and the Japanese-American activism that followed, with community members speaking out against the Muslim registry and travel ban. The 50-minute documentary features George Takei and many others who were incarcerated, as well as recently rediscovered photographs of Dorothea Lange.

Try Harder!

May 6, 5:00pm & May 6, 9:00pm, OPB World

Try Harder!, an episode of Independent Lens, takes place at Lowell High School, San Francisco’s academic pressure cooker, where the kids are stressed out. With a majority Asian-American student body, high-achieving seniors share their dreams and anxieties about getting into a top university.

“Bloodline”

May 6, 6:30pm & 10:30pm, May 14, 8:30pm, OPB World

“Bloodline” is a profile of Vietnamese-American chef Tu David Phu and the evolution of his culinary aesthetic. The program follows Tu as he returns home to Oakland, California, after competing on the cooking series “Top Chef.” From the son of refugees growing up in West Oakland to a professional chef, Tu’s acclaimed culinary creations are heralded as the next wave of Asian fusion representing Vietnamese culture.

Oregon Experience: Oregon’s Japanese Americans

May 8, 9:00pm, OPB

In *Oregon’s Japanese Americans*, an episode of Oregon Experience, viewers discover the history of Japanese Americans in Oregon, from their early beginnings to forced incarceration during World War II and beyond. By the 1920s, Japanese-American communities in Portland and Hood River were thriving. Immigrant pioneers managed businesses, farms, and orchards with their American-born children. The attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 changed everything.

Asian Americans: “A Question of Loyalty”

May 8, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 9, 11:00pm, OPB

An American-born generation straddles their country of birth and the homelands of their parents in “A Question of Loyalty,” an episode of the five-part series *Asian Americans*. Those loyalties are tested during World War II when families are imprisoned in detention camps and brothers find themselves on opposite sides of the battle lines.

America ReFramed: Blurring the Color Line

May 11, 9:00pm, May 13, 7:00pm &

11:00pm, OPB World

Blurring the Color Line follows director Crystal Kwok as she unpacks the history behind her grandmother’s family, who were neighborhood grocery store owners in the Black community of Augusta, Georgia, during the Jim Crow era. By centering women’s experiences, Kwok poses critical questions around the intersections of anti-Black racism, white power, and Chinese patriarchy in the American South.

Reel South: Seadrift

May 11, 10:00pm & May 13, 8:00pm, OPB World

Continued on page 11

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Several Asian Heritage Month
programs are streaming online at
<www.opb.org> and <www.pbs.org>.

Oregon Public Broadcasting to feature shows with an Asian focus throughout Heritage Month

Continued from page 10

In 1979, a fatal shooting ignited a maelstrom of hostilities against Vietnamese refugee fishermen along the Gulf Coast. Set during the early days of Vietnamese refugee arrival in the U.S., *Seadrift* examines this turbulent yet little-seen chapter of American history and explores its consequences that continue to reverberate today.

Shinmachi: Stronger Than a Tsunami

May 11, 11:00pm & May 12, 7:00pm, OPB World

On the morning of April 1, 1946, a deadly tsunami reduced Shinmachi to rubble. In *Shinmachi: Stronger Than a Tsunami*, discover the resilience of a unique Japanese community in Hilo, Hawai‘i. Their stories bring to life the once-thriving small business district founded by Japanese immigrant plantation laborers who made the bold decision to establish their economic independence from the sugar industry.

Tyrus Wong

May 12, 9:00pm, OPB World

Tyrus Wong, a show by American Masters, tells the story of the renowned painter. Until his death at the age of 106, Wong was America’s oldest living Chinese-American artist and one of the last remaining artists from the golden age of Disney animation. The quiet beauty of his eastern-influenced paintings had a pioneering impact on American art and popular culture.

Hidden Letters

May 13, 5:00pm & 9:00pm, OPB World

In *Hidden Letters*, an episode of Independent Lens, the bonds of sisterhood and the parallels of struggles among generations of women in China are drawn together by the once-secret written language of Nushu, the only script designed and used exclusively by women.

Doc World: Ganden: A Joyful Land

May 14, 7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

Likened by Buddhists to the Vatican City, Ganden is considered the most influential monastery of Tibetan Buddhism. Monks lived in the monastery for more than 500 years before a brutal invasion drove them to India. *Ganden: A Joyful Land* is a look at the lives and remembrances of the remaining generation of monks to have studied at the monastery in Tibet where the Dalai Lama’s lineage began.

Massacre at Hells Canyon

May 15, 9:30pm, OPB

Massacre at Hells Canyon, an episode of Oregon Experience, details an 1887 incident in which as many as 34 Chinese gold miners were massacred on the Oregon side of Hells Canyon in what was likely the nation’s worst massacre of Chinese people. Though the culprits — a gang



AMBASSADOR OF ALOHA. Waterman: Duke, Ambassador of Aloha, which tells the inspiring story and considerable impact of five-time Olympic medallist Duke Kahanamoku, airs on Saturday, May 20 on OPB World. Kahanamoku shattered swimming records and globalized surfing while overcoming racism in a lifetime of personal challenges. (Photo courtesy of American Masters)

of Wallowa County men — were well known, no one was ever convicted and the crime was largely forgotten. Chinese immigrants were instrumental in building the west, but they faced unprecedented legalized discrimination and violence.

A Tale of Three Chinatowns

May 15, 10:00pm & May 16, 7:00pm, OPB World

A Tale of Three Chinatowns, presented by Local, USA, explores the survival of urban ethnic neighborhoods in three American cities: Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Boston. Through the voices of residents, community activists, developers, and government officials, the film looks at the forces altering each community and the challenges that go with them, including the pressing issue of urban development and gentrification.

Asian Americans: “Good Americans”

May 15, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 16, 11:00pm, OPB

Part of the five-part series *Asian Americans*, “Good Americans” addresses the Cold War years, when Asian Americans are simultaneously heralded as a model minority and targeted as a perpetual foreigner. Bold

ambition also emerges, as Asian Americans aspire for the first time to national political office and a coming culture-quake simmers beneath the surface.

Nam June Paik: Moon Is the Oldest TV

May 16, 9:00pm, OPB

May 19, 10:00pm & May 22, 7:00pm, OPB World

Nam June Paik: Moon Is the Oldest TV, an episode of American Masters, premieres on Tuesday, May 16 during Asian Heritage Month. The feature traces the life and work of the avant-garde artist best known as the father of video art. Narrated by Oscar nominee Steven Yeun, viewers see the world through the eyes of Nam June Paik, who saw a future in which “everybody will have his own TV channel.” With the advent of social media and the rise of platforms such as YouTube and TikTok, Paik’s vision of the future looks startlingly like the present. Born in Japan-occupied Korea, Paik went on to become a pillar of the American avant-garde and transformed modern image-making with his sculptures, films, and performances. Paik also coined of the term “electronic superhighway.”

“First Peoples: Asia”

May 16, 10:00pm, OPB World

In “First Peoples: Asia,” viewers discover the ancient humans living across Asia when *Homo sapiens* arrived. Our ancestors mated with them and their genes found a home within our DNA. More than that, they’ve helped humans face down extinction.

Finding the Virgo

May 18, 11:00pm & May 19, 7:00pm, OPB World

Finding the Virgo, a documentary, follows the Vuong family through their post-war years in Vietnam, including the family patriarch’s imprisonment, their harrowing escape and rescue at sea, and their daughter’s decades-long search for their saviors.

America ReFramed: Far East Deep South

May 18, 9:00pm & May 20,

7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

Far East Deep South follows Charles Chiu and his family as they travel from California to Mississippi to find the grave of Charles’ father, K.C. Lou. The search leads to stunning revelations about their family, and they receive a crash course on the history of Chinese immigrants in the segregated South. Through encounters with local residents and historians, this Chinese-American family not only discovers their family’s important role in the Mississippi Delta, but they also learn about the symbiotic relationship between the Black and Chinese communities during the Jim Crow era.

Vanishing Chinatown:

The World of the May’s Photo Studio

May 18, 10:30pm, May 20, 8:30pm &

May 31, 9:00pm, OPB World

In the early- to mid-1900s, Leo and Isabella May Chan Lee, owners of The May’s Photo Studio in San Francisco’s Chinatown, turned out one-of-a-kind photos of Chinese-

Continued on page 14

CASCADE BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

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Children & adults will learn something new in *The ABCs of Asian American History*

The ABCs of Asian American History

By Renee Macalino Rutledge

Illustrations by Lauren Akazawa Mendez

Bloom Books for Young Readers, 2023

Hardcover, 48 pages, \$14.95

By Jody Lim

The Asian Reporter

Children age five and older — and adults, too — have a new book to learn about the many accomplishments of Asian Americans, as well as interesting facts, holidays, cuisine, and more.

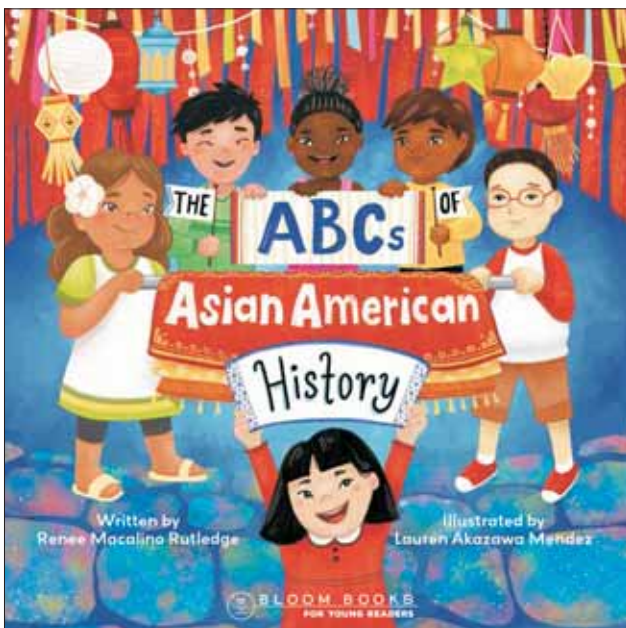
Published just last month, *The ABCs of Asian American History* is not only a great book for learning words, phrases, and facts — such as “tashi delek,” which is said during Losar, the Tibetan New Year, to wish luck and good cheer, or bola bekel, a game which is similar to jacks but with shells to pick up — it also introduces readers to Asian American inventors, artists, athletes, and so much more.

There’s Eugene Trinh, who was the first Vietnamese American to travel to space, and Sal Khan, who founded the Khan Academy to help children learn on a website that’s free. There is also Jacqueline Nguyen, “once a refugee in a military fort,” but now a judge “on the federal court,” as well as 8-year-old Mamie Tape, who with her parents in 1885 filed a lawsuit to fight against anti-Chinese sentiment — and won.

There are far too many awesome Asian Americans highlighted in the book to list all of them here. Readers will need to find a copy of the book to peruse them all.

The many words presented in the order of the alphabet to describe Asian people, items, and efforts — Activists, Daring, Forward-thinking, Heroes, Noble, Pioneer, Sacrifice — are inspiring and amazing.

*A is for Activists,
who fight to end wrongs
Helping farm workers strike*



there was Larry Itliong

*For H is for Heroes
doing acts big and small
Some get all the limelight,
others hardly any at all*

The ABCs of Asian American History also informs of traditions, instruments, and holidays:

Kimono — A thousand-year-old traditional Japanese garment

Kse diev — A Cambodian musical instrument with a gourd and one string to strum

Tihar — A five-day-long exuberant festival filled with worship and song

Yi Peng — A floating lantern festival celebrated in Thailand by thousands of people

I also thoroughly enjoyed reading the glossary at the end of the book, which is full of names and items with
Continued on page 13



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Heritage Month events

Organizations and others are holding events in celebration of Heritage Month. Some activities include:

“Reorient: Journeys Through Art and Healing”

Through May 14, 10am-5pm (Wed-Sun), Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (719 S King St, Seattle). View “Reorient: Journeys Through Art and Healing,” an exhibit of non-traditional media by four artists — Victor Kai Wang, Suchitra Mattai, Jean Isamu Nagai, and Tuan Nguyen — who address stories of immigration where art is a sanctuary, resulting in regeneration and innovation. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (206) 623-5124 or visit <www.wingluke.org>.

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon

Through May 28, 2pm & 5pm (Sat), 11am & 2pm (Sun), Newmark Theatre (1111 SW Broadway, Portland). Watch *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*, a musical adapted from a book by author Grace Lin. Presented by Oregon Children’s Theatre, the production of the Chinese folktale features an all Asian-American local cast. The show, which has a runtime of 75 minutes, is recommended for children age six and older. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 228-9571 or visit <www.octe.org>.

“Subtle Intimacy: Here and There”

Through June 12, 10am-6pm (Wed-Mon), Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). After two seasonal residencies in Portland, the Japan Institute’s inaugural artist-in-residence, Rui Sasaki, is showing her site-specific works inspired by the natural beauty of the Portland Japanese Garden. Entitled “Subtle Intimacy: Here and There,” Sasaki’s new works have created an immersive experience where transparent impressions of the garden’s foliage are forever preserved in panes of clear glass. The glass panels feature plants from Portland and Sasaki’s neighborhood in Kanazawa, Japan. The garden is closed on Tuesdays. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

“Hito Steyerl: This is the Future”

Through June 18, 10am-5pm (Wed-Sun), Portland Art Museum (1219 SW Park Ave, Portland). View “Hito Steyerl: This is the Future,” an exhibit that explores a vibrant, imagined garden through an immersive environment of video projection, sculpture, and spatial intervention. Filmmaker and writer Steyerl is one of the foremost artists offering critical reflections on the complexities of the digital world, global capitalism, and the implications of artificial intelligence (AI) for society. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 226-2811 or visit <www.portlandartmuseum.org>.

Cultural performances at the Portland Japanese Garden

May 3, 5 & 6, 1:15-2:15pm, Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). Attend afternoon cultural performances held at the Portland Japanese Garden. The performances feature *koto* on May 3 and 6, and *shinobue* flute & piano by Mado Mind on May 5. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

Oregon Rises Above Hate

May 6, 10am-3pm, Flanders Festival Street (between NW Third & Fourth Avenues and NW Flanders & Glisan Streets, Portland). Join Oregon Rises Above Hate for a day of activities. The event kicks off at 10:00am with community leaders and elected officials addressing attendees. From 11:00am to 4:00pm, booths and tables for organizations are open to the public. Performances begin at noon and run until 3:00pm. Some of the scheduled artists include Alex Dang, Devigals Filipino Dance, DJ Anjali, Swiggle Mandela, Paul Susi, Mitch Iimori, Ken Yoshikawa, Portland Taiko, and others. Food carts will be onsite from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Another highlight of the day is free admission to Lan Su Chinese Garden (2:00pm to 6:00pm), the Japanese American Museum of Oregon (11:00am to 6:00pm), and the Portland Chinatown Museum (11:00am to 6:00pm). For info, visit <www.oregonrisesabovehate.com>.

Continued on page 15

Children & adults will learn something new in The ABCs of Asian American History

Continued from page 12 descriptions:

Awkwafina: Nora Lum, known as “Awkwafina,” is a Chinese and Korean American rapper and Golden Globe-winning actress.

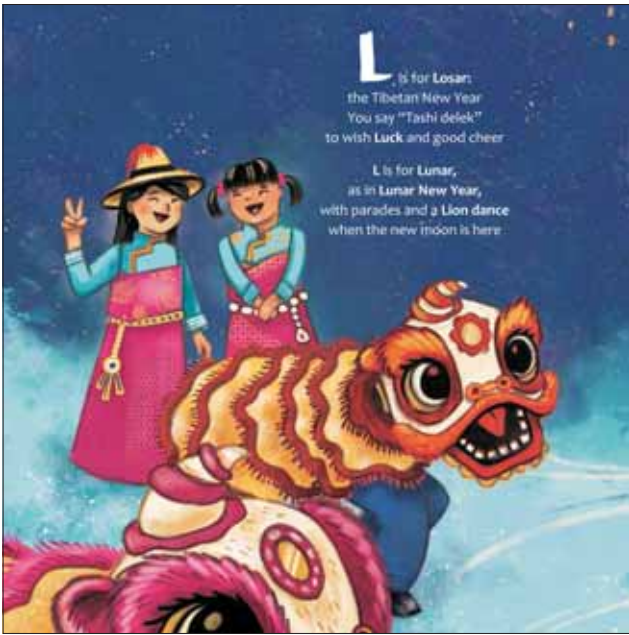
Fitbit: Korean American entrepreneur James Park co-founded and is the CEO of this fitness technology company.

H.E.R.: Gabriella Wilson, known as “H.E.R.,” is a Filipina and Black American R&B artist whose music has won a Grammy and an Academy Award.

Mountain Brothers: The first Asian American rap group to sign with a major label (1996).

Thingyan: This water festival of Myanmar celebrates the new year.

Yuri Kochiyama: Yuri



was a Japanese American civil rights activist dedicated to social change.

There is so much to be learned within *The ABCs of*

Asian American History. I’ve already read it to my five-year-old nephew; it’s a book we’ll return to over and over again.

Thousands attend 2023 New Year in the Park

Continued from page 9

Mien, Hmong, Kachin, Zomi, and Karen communities and cultures graced the stage.

Anyone who also wanted to enjoy some of the amenities at the park — the play structures, skate park, or just shade from the trees — could find what they needed. Organizers also set up three volleyball courts in the grass for attendees to use.

Attending New Year in the Park was a great way to welcome the upcoming Asian Heritage Month. Some people attended for a couple hours while others were there all



AR Photo: Jan Landis

day. Remember to mark your calendar for late April for the 2024 celebration.

To learn more, visit <www.newyearinthepark.com>.

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- Michael Liu, business leader Fubonn Shopping Center
- Mari Watanabe, Partners in Diversity Executive Director (retired)
- Eddie Wang, business owner/PPS School Board candidate
- Community leaders Sean Egusa and Bobby Lee
- Former Governors Barbara Roberts, Ted Kulongoski, and Kate Brown

and many, many more at: www.JuliaBrim-Edwards.com



"Julia Brim-Edwards has been a leader in our East Portland community for decades. She helped build and has supported the Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Japanese language immersion programs in our schools, and been an advocate for our small and locally owned businesses in the heart of 82nd Avenue's Jade District. Local businesses and working families are in desperate need of an advocate for our neighborhoods and families. We know we can count on Julia to be that strong, effective voice."

- Michael Liu
Owner of Fubonn Shopping Center
on SE 82nd Avenue

Julia Brim-Edwards
for Multnomah County Commission District 3

www.JuliaBrim-Edwards.com or contact Julia at: JuliaForCommissioner@gmail.com

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Oregon Public Broadcasting to feature shows with an Asian focus throughout Heritage Month

Continued from page 11

American immigrants. *Vanishing Chinatown: The World of the May's Photo Studio*, by director Emiko Omori, tells the story of hundreds of photographs, serendipitously rescued from a San Francisco Chinatown garbage dumpster, that were almost lost to time. The arresting images, which utilized collage, double exposure, and more, are a rare and intimate look at an immigrant people taken by The May's Photo Studio. The body of work presents a vibrant community that flourished despite racial discrimination and severely restrictive laws.

Behind the Strings

May 19, 9:00pm, OPB World

When Mao's Cultural Revolution ended, China's door cracked open, and four young, classical musicians seized the opportunity to flee to the west as classical music was banned. *Behind the Strings* explores how the Shanghai Quartet began a lifetime adventure — studying with great masters, attending Juilliard, and performing at major music festivals and top classical music venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and The Kennedy Center. When the quartet's cellist decided to leave, they invited a young American grad student from New York City's Spanish Harlem to join the quartet. He was a highly praised cellist but also had a New York City "attitude" that the three Chinese musicians had never encountered.

Waterman: Duke, Ambassador of Aloha

May 20, 5:00pm & 9:00pm, OPB World

Waterman: Duke, Ambassador of Aloha, by American Masters, tells the inspiring story and considerable impact of five-time Olympic medallist Duke Kahanamoku, who shattered swimming records and globalized surfing while overcoming racism in a lifetime of personal challenges. As a dark-skinned Pacific Islander, Kahanamoku broke through racial barriers with athletic accomplishments before Joe Louis, Jesse Owens, and Jackie Robinson; yet relatively few outside of Hawai'i know the details of his inspiring story and considerable impact. Narrated by Jason Momoa, *Waterman* reveals Kahanamoku's influence on surfing's global spread, his life-saving achievements, and the obstacles he conquered both within and outside the sporting world.

Asian American Stories of Resilience, Volume 1

May 22, 11:00pm & May 23, 7:00pm, OPB World

Asian American Stories of Resilience, Volume 1, presented by Local, USA, reflects on the complexities of Asian-American experiences. In the program, queer filmmaker Quyen Nguyen-Le recovers and articulates the legacy of their mother's nail salon for their refugee family, and Filipino-American filmmaker Frances Rubio records and captures the experience of being distanced from her sick father, who has been isolated in his facility during the pandemic.

Asian Americans: "Generation Rising"

May 22, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 23, 11:00pm, OPB

Episode 4 of the of the five-part *Asian Americans* series is "Generation Rising." The show highlights a time of war and social tumult, when a young generation fighting for equality in the fields, on campuses, and in the culture, claim a new identity — Asian Americans. In the aftermath of the Vietnam War, new immigrants and refugees expand the population and the definition of "Asian America."

Fanny: The Right to Rock

May 22, 11:00pm, OPB

May 24, 9:30pm, OPB World

Fanny: The Right to Rock tells the story of the first all-women band to release an album with a major record label (Warner/Reprise, 1970). The group was co-founded in California 50 years ago by Filipina-American and queer teenagers. Fanny bandmates expertly played their own instruments and penned original songs that were ahead of their time, with lyrics exploring themes of sexual freedom, war, relationships, and identity. According to pbs.org, Fanny is "the most groundbreaking rock group you've never heard of ... yet."

Asian Americans: "Breaking Through"

May 22, 10:00pm, OPB World

May 30, 11:00pm, OPB

"Breaking Through," part of the *Asian Americans* series, revisits the turn of the millennium, when the U.S. is tackling conflicts over immigration, race, economic disparity, and a shifting world order. A new generation of Asian Americans empowered by growing numbers, rising influence, and more diversity faces a reckoning of what it means to be an American in an increasingly divided society.



BETRAYED. *Betrayed: Surviving an American Concentration Camp*, which airs May 28 on OPB World, tells the story of a group of Japanese Americans and their forced incarceration by the U.S. government during World War II. Several Asian Heritage Month programs are also streaming online at <www.opb.org> and <www.pbs.org>. (Photo courtesy of Oregon Public Broadcasting)

America ReFramed: First Vote

May 25, 9:00pm, May 27, 7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

First Vote is a character-driven verité documentary with unparalleled access to a diverse cross section of politically engaged Chinese Americans: a gun-toting Tea Party-favorite candidate courting GOP votes in the South; a podcaster in Ohio who became a citizen in order to vote for Trump; a long-haired journalist confronting Chinese Americans for Trump after moving to a battleground state; and a University of North Carolina professor teaching about race and racism in the U.S. A verité look at Chinese-American electoral organizing in North Carolina and Ohio presented by America ReFramed, the film weaves their stories from the presidential election of 2016 to the 2018 midterms, and explores the intersections between immigration, voting rights, and racial justice.

China: Frame by Frame

May 25, 10:00pm & May 27, 8:00pm, OPB World

When Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Bill Einreinhofer arrived in China more than 30 years ago, he had no idea it was the first of many visits. He would spend much of his professional career making stories in and about China, locating rare historical footage. He interviewed countless people about China, its culture, and its history. Many of those people are now gone, but their stories live on through him in *China: Frame by Frame*.

Alternative Facts:

The Lies of Executive Order 9066

May 25, 11:00pm & May 26, 7:00pm, OPB World

Alternative Facts: The Lies of Executive Order 9066 tells the untold story of false information and political influences which led to the World War II forced incarceration of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans. The film also examines the parallels to the targeting of groups today and similar attempts to abuse the powers of the government.

Plague at the Golden Gate

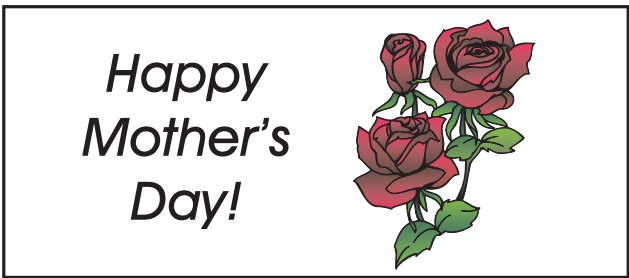
May 26, 9:00pm, OPB World

In *Plague at the Golden Gate*, a documentary screening held as part of American Experience, viewers discover how an outbreak of bubonic plague in 1900 set off fear and anti-Asian sentiment in San Francisco, California. The episode tells the gripping story of the race against time by health officials to save the city from the deadly disease.

Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir

May 27, 5:00pm & 9:00pm, OPB World

Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir, an episode of American Masters, tells the story of the author whose debut novel, *The Joy Luck Club*, was published in 1989 to great commercial and critical success. With the 1993 blockbuster film adaption that followed, as well as additional best-selling novels, librettos, short stories, and memoirs, Tan firmly established herself as one of the most prominent and respected American literary voices working today. *Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir* is an intimate portrait of the groundbreaking author that interweaves archival imagery, including home movies and personal photographs; animation; and original interviews to tell the inspiring story of Tan's life and career.



Armed With Language

May 28, 6:00pm & 10:00pm, OPB World

Minnesota was home to a little-known military intelligence school during World War II that trained Japanese Americans to be translators. Primarily recruited from concentration camps on the West Coast, these men and women served while many of their families remained imprisoned. For their efforts, it is said that the translators "shortened the Pacific War by two years and saved possibly a million American lives." *Armed With Language*, an episode of Minnesota Experience, airs on May 28.

Betrayed: Surviving an

American Concentration Camp

May 28, 7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

Discover the story of a group of Japanese Americans and their forced incarceration by the U.S. government during World War II in *Betrayed: Surviving an American Concentration Camp*. Through the compelling voices of survivors of Minidoka, a concentration camp in the Idaho desert, the film tells a universal story about unjust incarceration and the loss of civil rights.

The Registry

May 28, 8:00pm, OPB World

The Registry breaks open the hidden history of the U.S. Army's Military Intelligence Service (MIS) during World War II — a story made possible because of a few aging Japanese-American veterans with a little internet savvy and a lot of determination.

"Tokyo Hula"

May 29, 9:00pm, OPB World

Today it is estimated there are nearly 2 million people dancing hula in Japan — a figure greater than the entire population of Hawai'i. "Tokyo Hula," an episode of Pacific Heartbeat, examines how tourism, economics, and a love for all things Hawaiian have fuelled this cultural phenomenon by focusing on the personal stories of Japanese and Hawaiian master teachers who are now living and teaching in Japan.

"American Aloha: Hula Beyond Hawai'i"

May 29, 10:00pm, OPB World

"American Aloha: Hula Beyond Hawai'i," an episode of Pacific Heartbeat, tells the stories of three *kumu hula* (master instructors) who direct hula schools based in California. The film explores the challenges they face trying to perpetuate hula faithfully, from the traditional to the contemporary, as it evolves on distant shores.

Asian American Stories of Resilience, Volume 2

May 29, 11:00pm & May 30, 7:00pm, OPB World

Asian American Stories of Resilience, Volume 2, presented by Local, USA, tells the story of two Filipinx cousins, one of which is filmmaker Bree Nieves, who grapples with what remains of their hometown dreams after the loss of one of their fathers during the pandemic. "Malditas" explores the possibilities of growing deeper in faith through grief while in the most conservative county in North Florida. In J.P. Dobrin's "The Lookout," Chanthon Bun, who was convicted of second-degree robbery at age 19 and lost his legal protection to live in the U.S., must tread carefully as he attempts to legally reintegrate into society after being released from prison. If ICE were to locate him, he would be detained and slated for deportation.

The Donut King

May 29, 11:00pm, OPB

May 31, 9:30pm, OPB World

The Donut King, an episode of Independent Lens, tells the story of a Cambodian refugee who built a multi-million-dollar donut empire. An immigrant story with a (glazed) twist, the documentary film follows the journey of Ted Ngoy, who arrived in California in the 1970s and, through a mixture of diligence and luck, built a donut empire up and down the West Coast.

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Heritage Month events

Continued from page 13

Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration in Seattle

May 6, 11am-5pm, Seattle Center, Armory Food & Event Hall (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Attend an Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration presented by Seattle Center Festál. The festival features food, music, vendors, performances, and a cultural display of nations. Seattle Center Festál is a year-round series of 24 free cultural festivals, produced in partnership with community organizations. In 2022, Festál celebrated 25 years of stories and traditions. For info, call (206) 684-7200 or visit <www.seattlecenter.com>.

“Celebrate Our Stories”

May 6-28, 10am-6pm (daily), Lan Su Chinese Garden (239 NW Everett St, Portland). Attend “Celebrate Our Stories,” special events planned at Lan Su Chinese Garden during Asian Heritage Month. The festivities begin Saturday, May 6 with free admission between 2:00pm and 6:00pm. Cultural Immersion Days, which are scheduled for May 7, 13, 20, and 27, allow visitors to explore cultural history, traditions, and art. Another feature during the month (May 6 to 28) is “Threading Together,” an exhibit of traditional clothing and attire. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 228-8131 or visit <www.lansugarden.org/CelebrateOurStories>.

Kodomo no Hi

May 7, 10:30am-3:30pm, Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). Celebrate children or being a child at the Portland Japanese Garden’s Children’s Day event, *Kodomo no Hi*. The family festival features a host of activities and entertainment including the raising of the *koi nobori* (carp banner), taiko drumming (10:45am & 11:45am), a treasure hunt, and more. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

“Celebrate 2023 — IRCO Gala”

May 11, 5-9pm, Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland Airport (7900 NE 82nd Ave, Portland). Attend “Celebrate 2023 — IRCO Gala,” an event highlighting 47 years of the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) empowering refugee and immigrant communities in Portland and beyond. The event features cultural performances, dinner, an online and live auction, and speeches from community leaders. Contributions raised during the celebration directly benefit families and clients of IRCO. A free livestream is also available for viewers. For info, call (503) 234-1541. To reserve a space, call (503) 234-1541 or visit <www.irc.org>.

“A Glimpse of China”

May 20, Seattle Center, Armory Food & Event Hall (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Attend “A Glimpse of China: Chinese Culture & Arts Festival” presented by Seattle Center Festál. The event illuminates the colorful and ancient palette of Chinese arts with dance, painting, calligraphy, workshops, and more. For info, including hours, call (206) 684-7200 or visit <www.seattlecenter.com>.

AANHPI Heritage Month Festival in East Portland

May 20, 2-4pm, East Portland Community Center, Gymnasium (740 SE 106th Ave, Portland). Attend the AANHPI Heritage Month Festival, an event featuring an afternoon of traditional dance performances, crafts, and refreshments presented by the Multnomah County Library. The celebration includes origami crafts, balloon art, and performances by the White Lotus dance group and the Joyful Dance Team. The festival is the first big event held since the temporary construction closures of the Midland and Holgate libraries. For info, call (503) 988-5123 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

Oregon AAPI Food + Wine Fest

May 20-21, Stoller Family Estate Experience Center (16161 NE McDougall Rd, Dayton, Ore.). Plans are underway for the first Oregon AAPI Food + Wine Fest. The mission of the event is to uplift Asian American Pacific Islander food and wine businesses, promote diversity, and educate the public regarding non-traditional food and wine pairings. Tickets include a souvenir cup, passport to



“CELEBRATE OUR STORIES.” During Asian Heritage Month, Lan Su Chinese Garden in Portland is holding several “Celebrate Our Stories” events. Offerings include free admission on Saturday, May 6 between 2:00pm and 6:00pm; Cultural Immersion Days on May 7, 13, 20, and 27 to explore cultural history, traditions, and art; and an exhibit of traditional clothing and attire called “Threading Together.” (Photo courtesy of Lan Su Chinese Garden)

tastings, ten bites from five chefs, and ten wine tasters from five wineries. For info, visit <www.oregonaapifoodandwine.com>.

Asian & Pacific Islander Leadership Night

May 31, 6-8:30pm, Legacy Emanuel Hospital, Lorenzen Conference Center (303 N Graham St, Portland). Attend Asian & Pacific Islander Leadership Night, a networking event with guest speakers. The theme for the evening is “Health Equity in Today’s Social Climate.” Online registration is open. For info, call (503) 862-6853 or e-mail <loreleihosmillo@pacco.org>. To purchase tickets, visit <www.pacco.org>.

Pagdiriwang Philippine Festival

June 3-4, 11am-6pm (Sat), noon-6pm (Sun), Seattle Center, Armory Food & Event Hall and Mural Amphitheatre (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Attend the Pagdiriwang Philippine Festival, a celebration of Filipino culture, history, and heritage presented by Seattle Center Festál. The free event observes Philippine independence from colonial rule and the strength of Filipino identity and imagination through art exhibits, songs, spoken word, film, and more. For info, call (206) 684-7200, or visit <www.seattlecenter.com> or <www.festaltagdiriwang.com>.

For timely information about upcoming events, visit <www.facebook.com/TheAsianReporter>.



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Parks and nature
Arts and events
Garbage and recycling
Land and transportation
Oregon Zoo



FILIPINO SINANGAG. Pictured is a serving of Garlic Fried Rice with Chicken, a recipe from *Cook What You Have*. (Milk Street via AP)

Filipino breakfast is a tasty garlic fried rice for any meal

By Christopher Kimball
Christopher Kimball's Milk Street

In Filipino homes, the smell that wakes up many families is not coffee brewing or bacon frying, but slices of garlic sizzling in oil. It's for a fried rice known as sinangag, a way to use up the previous day's rice by packing it chock-full of crisp, toasted garlic. Sliced garlic is deeply browned in oil to create golden garlic chips that are mixed into the rice along with a flavorful oil that infuses the entire dish. In this recipe from our book *Cook What You Have*, which draws on pantry staples to assemble easy, weeknight meals, we add chicken to transform it into a main dish

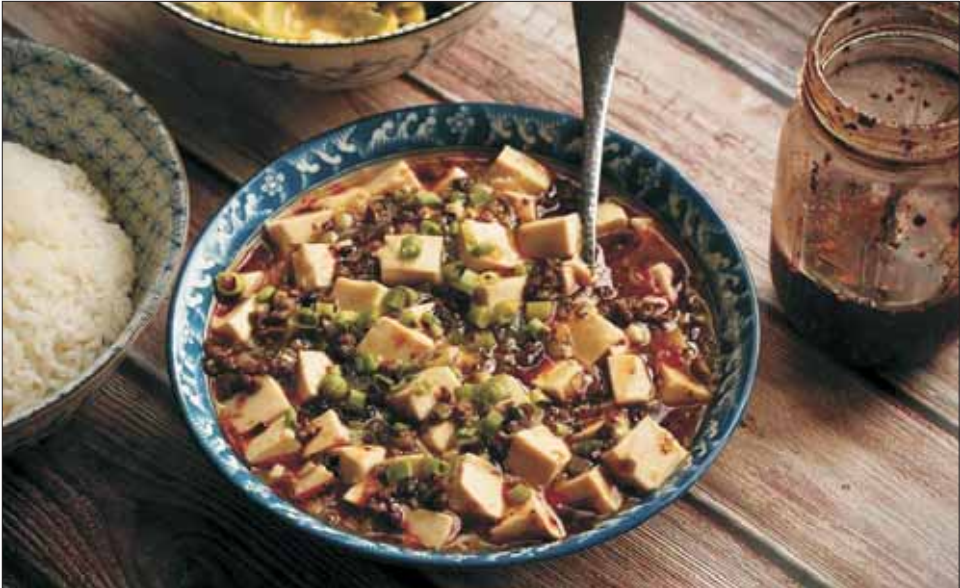
that can be eaten any time of the day. Soy sauce, scallions, and a small amount of sugar give the rice complexity. For the best texture, use cooked rice that's been refrigerated until firm. To make enough for this recipe, in a large saucepan, combine 2 cups water and 1 1/2 cups jasmine rice (or regular long-grain white rice) that's been rinsed and drained. Bring to a simmer over medium-high heat, then reduce to low, cover, and cook for 15 to 18 minutes. Let the rice stand, covered, for 10 minutes, then transfer to a wide, shallow bowl. Cool to room temperature, then cover and refrigerate until well chilled. *Editor's note: To view additional recipes, visit <177milkstreet.com/ap>.*

Garlic Fried Rice with Chicken

Start to finish: 35 minutes
Servings: 4

- 8 ounces boneless, skinless chicken thighs, trimmed and cut into 1/2- to 3/4-inch pieces
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon white sugar
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons grapeseed or other neutral oil, divided
- 8 medium garlic cloves, thinly sliced
- 3 scallions, thinly sliced, white and green parts reserved separately
- 4 cups cooked and chilled long-grain white rice, preferably jasmine rice (see headnote)

In a medium bowl, stir together the chicken, 1 tablespoon soy sauce, the sugar, and 1/4 teaspoon salt. In a 12" nonstick skillet over medium-high, heat 1 tablespoon oil until shimmering. Add the chicken in an even layer and cook without stirring until browned on the bottom, 2 to 3 minutes. Stir the chicken, then cook, stirring occasionally, until well browned all over and cooked through, another 2 to 3 minutes. Transfer the chicken to a plate; set aside. Wash and dry the skillet. Set it over medium-low heat and add the remaining 2 tablespoons oil and the garlic. Cook, stirring only occasionally at first then more often once the garlic begins to color, until some of the slices are light golden brown, about 5 minutes. Add the scallion whites and cook, stirring, until most of the garlic is golden brown, about 2 minutes. Add the rice, breaking up any clumps, followed by the remaining 1 tablespoon soy sauce and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Cook over medium-high heat, stirring and scraping the bottom of the pan to incorporate the garlic and any browned bits, until the rice is heated through, about 2 minutes. Add the chicken and any accumulated juices; cook, stirring, until warmed through, about 1 minute. Off heat, taste and season with salt. Transfer to a serving dish, then sprinkle with the scallion greens and pepper.



TASTY TOFU. J. Kenji Lopez-Alt has written a cookbook with handy tips, fascinating asides, and some 200 dishes all related to the wok. One recipe in the book is My Mom's Japanese-Style Mapo Tofu (pictured). (Photo/J. Kenji Lopez-Alt/W. W. Norton & Company via AP)

Recipe for My Mom's Japanese-Style Mapo Tofu from *The Wok*

By The Associated Press
J. Kenji Lopez-Alt last year released a cookbook with handy tips, fascinating asides, and some 200 dishes all related to the wok. One recipe in *The Wok* is for a version of mapo tofu that is similar to what he ate growing up, though instead of plain ground beef, his mom would use the dish as an opportunity to use up leftover dumpling filling. Unlike the numbing-hot Sichuan version, this one is savory and sweet, with the classic Japanese flavors of soy, saké, and mirin, and comes together even faster, if you can believe it. It's one of Lopez-Alt's go-to meals for the family when you're not in the mood for spicy foods and are craving saucy soft tofu.

My Mom's Japanese-Style Mapo Tofu

Serves: 4 ♦ Active Time: 15 minutes ♦ Total Time: 15 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 teaspoon (3 g) cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon (15 ml) cold water
- 2 tablespoons (30 ml) peanut, rice bran, or other neutral oil
- 4 ounces (120 g) ground beef
- 2 teaspoons (5 g) minced garlic (about 2 medium cloves)
- 2 teaspoons (5 g) minced fresh ginger (about 1/2-inch segment)
- 2 scallions, chopped into 1/4-inch pieces, dark greens reserved for garnish
- 2 tablespoons (30 ml) saké
- 2 tablespoons (30 ml) mirin
- 1 tablespoon (15 ml) shoyu or light soy sauce
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) low-sodium chicken stock, dashi, or water
- 1 1/2 pounds medium to firm silken tofu, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- Steamed rice and chili oil, for serving

Directions

Combine the cornstarch and cold water in a small bowl and mix with a fork until homogenous. Set aside. Heat the oil in a wok over high heat until smoking. Add the beef and cook, stirring constantly for 1 minute. Add the garlic, ginger, and scallion whites and pale greens, and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 15 seconds. Add the saké, mirin, soy sauce, and chicken stock and bring to a boil. Pour in the cornstarch mixture and cook for 30 seconds, until thickened. Add the tofu and carefully fold it in, being careful not to break it up too much. Transfer immediately to a serving bowl and sprinkle with the scallion greens. Serve immediately with rice and chili oil. *Excerpted from The Wok: Recipes and Techniques © 2022 by J. Kenji Lopez-Alt. Reproduced by permission of W.W. Norton. All rights reserved.*

Hand Sanitizer Safety

- When soap and water are not available, alcohol based hand sanitizer can help you avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others.
- Keep hand sanitizers out of reach of young children and supervise their use.
- Avoid hand sanitizers not approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Check the do-not-use list at www.fda.gov/handsanitizerlist
- Call poison control if hand sanitizer is swallowed or splashed in someone's eyes.

Questions? Poison control can help.

If you suspect a poisoning, don't take a chance. Call 1-800-222-1222.



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In new book, Murakami explores walled city and shadows

By Mari Yamaguchi
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Haruki Murakami wrote a story of a walled city when he was fresh off his debut. More than four decades later, as a seasoned and acclaimed novelist, he gave it a new life as *The City and Its Uncertain Walls*.

It was three years ago when he felt the time had come to revisit the story that he thought was imperfect but had important elements, such as the wall and the shadow, and tackle them again based on what he was feeling on his skin.

“Because of the coronavirus ... I hardly went out and stayed home most of the time, and I tended to look at my inner self. Then I thought, perhaps it’s time to write that story,” Murakami said. And he did, “as if recovering it from the back of a drawer.”

He started writing it in January 2020 and finished in December 2022, years that overlapped with multiple earth-shattering events. “When I write a novel, I just know it’s time,” he said.

There were also Russia’s war on Ukraine, shaken globalism, and the Pandora’s box of social media, Murakami noted.

“In an age when society is going through rattling changes, whether to stay holed up inside the wall or to go to the other side of the wall has become a greater proposition than ever,” Murakami said in an interview ahead of the book release in Tokyo with selected journalists including The Associated Press.

The City and Its Uncertain Walls has been released in print and in digital formats by Shinchosha Publishing Co. The availability of an English translation is not yet known. It’s his first novel since the 2017 bestseller, *Killing Commendatore*.

Murakami wasn’t in Japan when the book was released. He has been holding seminars about female protagonists in his stories at Wellesley College, the women’s school in Massachusetts once attended by former U.S. presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and late Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Initially, Murakami’s intention was to rewrite the 1980 story “The City, and Its Uncertain Walls” to improve it. But the



story didn’t end there, and Murakami kept writing. The version published in the *Bungakukai* literary magazine was rewritten, then became the first chapter of what turned into a three-part, 672-page novel.

In Part 2, the protagonist gets a job as head of a library in a small town in Fukushima, where he meets his mysterious predecessor and a teenage boy as the story leads up to the final section.

Dozens of enthusiasts of Murakami novels celebrated the release of his new book outside a landmark bookstore in downtown Tokyo at a midnight countdown event, and many who didn’t make it showed up for a special early morning sale the next day.

“I’m so excited,” said Kaori Otoh, a longtime fan of Murakami’s work, as she gently held her new purchase. “I have to fight my temptation of reading the book at work.” Kotaro Watanabe, 32, said he planned to read all night at a café with his friends. He has read the two previous stories of the walled city and said: “I really look forward to finding out how this story ends differently.”

Going to the other side of the wall requires determination, belief, and physical strength, Murakami says. “You have to squeeze out all your might, or you can’t go to the other side of the world.”

His stories are “by no means pessimistic,” he says. “Despite many bizarre things and a dark side, my stories are fundamentally positive,” he said. “I

think stories must be positive.”

In some of his earlier stories, protagonists travel between two worlds, through a wall, a well, or a cave.

“I think that sliding through a wall, a process that involves going to the other side of the world and coming back from there, is an extremely important step,” Murakami said.

There are many kinds of walls — between conscious and unconscious, real and unreal, and the physical walls that separate societies, like what used to stand in Berlin and the barriers between Israel and the Palestinian territories, he said.

He kept thinking about the meaning of the wall in this story while writing it, Murakami said. Walls can carry different meanings and purpose, depending on who are inside, he said.

Equally important to Murakami and his stories is the shadow. He says the shadow is a form of his subconscious, or an alter ego, which resembles his negative side and helps him to know himself.

“Writing a novel, for me, is to dig down to that depth,” he said. The distinction between the main body and the shadow becomes blurry in the book, which broadened its scope of the story. He said it was a difficult process and he had to rewrite many times.

“I’m now in my mid-70s, and I don’t know how many more novels I can write. So I strongly felt that I must write this story with affection, and spend ample time

CITY & SHADOWS. People pick up Japanese writer Haruki Murakami’s new novel, *The City and Its Uncertain Walls*, on the first day it was available for sale, at Kinokuniya bookstore in the Shinjuku district of Tokyo on April 13, 2023. Murakami wrote a story of a walled city when he was fresh off his debut. More than four decades later, as a seasoned and acclaimed novelist, he gave it a new life as *The City and Its Uncertain Walls*. (AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

to do so,” he said.

Murakami, who debuted with a 1979 story “Hear the Wind Sing,” says the original version of his new novel contained the key elements of the wall and the shadow but it also had potential that was too complex for a second-year novelist to handle.

It then evolved as part of *Hard-Boiled Wonderland and the End of the World*, a 1985 bestseller of two intertwined stories of pop and action-filled science fiction and an imaginary world of a secluded walled city of the dead.

Looking back, Murakami said even that attempt was premature. He shelved a rewriting attempt for another 35 years, though the story stayed on his mind, “like a tiny fishbone stuck in the throat,” he said.

Murakami said he started feeling confident about his storytelling ability in midcareer, around 2000, just before he wrote *Kafka on the Shore*, the bestselling novel released in 2002. “From there I have come thus far, I thought perhaps now I can finally rewrite the incomplete work of *The City and Its Uncertain Walls*.”

Twice as old now at age 74, Murakami says he is more intrigued by the tranquility as in the *End of the World* part of the 1985 novel than the pop and action depicted in the *Hard-Boiled Wonderland* side of that novel.

“You can’t help it, and I think it’s only natural,” he says, but he never tires of balancing writing novels, translating his favorite western literature, and in recent years hosting his own radio show. “I really enjoy writing. It’s fun to write, and rewriting is more fun.”

The driving force for his multiformat operation, he says, is running. It’s his daily morning routine and he has run 40 marathons. “Translation, running, and collecting used records,” he said, citing his hobbies. “I don’t have time for a night life, which might have been a good thing.”

Events calendar

Please note: Policies vary for venues. Please read online guidelines for each event and proceed accordingly. Some activities feature timed ticketing with advance online purchase required.

Come From Away

May 2-7, 7:30pm (Tue-Sat), 2pm (Sat), 1pm & 6:30pm (Sun), Keller Auditorium (222 SW Clay St, Portland). Watch *Come From Away*, a performance held as part of the Broadway in Portland series. The musical is based on the true story of when the isolated community of Gander, Newfoundland, played host to the world. What started as an average day in a small town turned into an international sleepover when 38 planes, carrying thousands of people from across the globe, were diverted to Gander’s air strip on September 11, 2001. Undaunted by culture clashes and language barriers, the people of Gander cheered the stranded travellers with music, an open bar, and the recognition that we’re all part of a global family. For info, or to buy tickets, call (503) 248-4335, or visit <www.portland5.com> or <www.broadwayinportland.com>. To learn more, visit <www.comefromaway.com>.

Portland Timbers

May 6, 13 & 20, 7:30pm, Providence Park (SW 18th Ave & SW Morrison St, Portland). Watch the Portland Timbers take on Austin FC (May 6), the Vancouver Whitecaps (May 13), and Minnesota United FC (May 20) in Major League Soccer action. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 553-5555 or visit <www.portlandtimbers.com>.

Sunday Parkways: East Portland

May 7, 11am-4pm, Gateway Discovery Park, Ventura Park, and Lincoln Park. Walk, bike, rollerblade, skateboard, and more around east Portland without motor traffic during a Sunday Parkways event. Entertainment, live music, bike education and repair, activities for both adults and children, and more take place in the parks and along the 3.3-mile, two-way route, which has no start or finish. For info, call (503) 823-7599 or visit <www.portlandsundayparkways.org>. To receive event updates, text “East” to 1-888-520-0526.

Portland Timbers 2

May 7, 5pm, Providence Park (SW 18th Ave & SW Morrison St, Portland). Watch Portland Timbers 2 (T2), the Timbers’ MLS NEXT Pro affiliate, take on Austin 2. Attendance to T2 games is free. Tickets (required) are available through SeatGeek. For info, or to reserve tickets, call (503) 553-5555 or visit <www.portlandtimbers.com>.

OAME luncheon and tradeshow

May 11, Oregon Convention Center (777 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Portland). Attend the 35th Luncheon & Tradeshow of the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME). The event is designed to help businesses increase networking with minority-owned companies, government agencies, and others while sampling their diverse products and services. The tradeshow is closed during the luncheon. For info, or to register, call (503) 249-7744 or visit <www.oame.org>.

Portland Thorns FC

May 21 & 31, Providence Park (SW 18th Ave & SW Morrison St, Portland). Watch Portland Thorns FC take on the Chicago Red Stars (May 21, 2:00pm) and Angel City FC (May 31, 7:30pm) in the National Women’s Soccer League. The Thorns FC squad features Hina Sugita, Christine Sinclair, Rocky Rodriguez, and others. The Red Stars squad features Yuki Nagasato, Casey Krueger, and others. Angel City’s squad features Alyssa Paola Thompson, Jun Endo, Lily Nabet, and others. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 553-5555 or visit <www.portlandthorns.com>.



Additional event listings are included in our Asian Heritage Month special section.

NORTHWEST JOB MARKET



Find general information about the city and employment opportunities at:
<www.hillsboro-oregon.gov>

DRIVERS / PRODUCTION
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Driver: \$21.00 an hour
Production: \$18.00 an hour
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Please contact (503) 284-6818 or
e-mail to <an.inc@msn.com>.

BIDS, SUB-BIDS & PUBLIC NOTICES

INVITATION TO BID

METRO
METRO CENTRAL
TRANSFER STATION RAMP-1
PUSH WALL REMOVAL
ITB 4177

Metro is inviting bids remove the ramp-1 push wall in Bay 1 at Metro Central Transfer Station located at 6161 NW 61st, Portland OR.

The project consists of modifying a truck ramp so it can be used for unloading inside the building. It requires saw cutting and removal of two sections of 12" thick concrete push walls. Concrete work involves pouring on top of existing slab to raise the truck bed height to match the Bay-1 floor.

Bids are due no later than 2:00pm, May 23, 2023 in Metro's business offices at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, Attention: Julie Hoffman, Procurement Analyst, ITB 4177. Responses will be opened publicly at that time.

A voluntary Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for all potential prime and sub-contractors on May 11, 2023, at 9:00am at 6161 NW 61st St., Portland, OR 97210. Per Metro's Subcontractor Equity Program, Contractors that submit a bid for this project must solicit a sub-bid from ALL COBID certified businesses who attend the pre-bid conference. Bidders may park in the gravel lot just past the transfer station

All bidders submitting a bid for public improvements over \$50,000 certify that they will pay and comply with the minimum prevailing wage requirements of ORS 279C.800-279C.870 and if applicable 40 U.S.C.276a.

Solicitation documents can be viewed and downloaded from Bid Locker, <bidlocker.us>.

Metro may accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, or waive irregularities not affecting substantial rights if such action is deemed in the public interest.

Metro extends equal opportunity to all persons and specifically encourages minority, women-owned, emerging small businesses and service disabled veteran owned businesses to access and participate in this and all Metro projects, programs and services. Metro Local Contract Review Board Rules require all Bidders to follow and document a specific outreach effort to State-certified Minority, Emerging, Women-owned and Service Disabled Veteran owned Businesses. Certification of good faith compliance and a declaration of any actual utilization pursuant to both programs are required at the time of Bid Opening.

Metro and its contractors will not discriminate against any person(s), employee or applicant for employment based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, political affiliation or marital status. Metro fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see <www.oregonmetro.gov>.

Additional jobs, public notices & bids are updated online as new opportunities arrive.

View new posts at
<www.asianreporter.com/nwjobmarket.htm>
or <www.asianreporter.com/notices.htm>.

BIDS, SUB-BIDS & PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

SUBCONTRACTING
OPPORTUNITIES

Just Bucket Excavating, Inc. is requesting expressions of interest for the scopes of work listed below. These scopes are associated with the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project's Early Work Packages A.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Asphalt Paving | Retaining Walls |
| Concrete Flatwork | Shoring |
| Crane Services | Soldier Pile Walls |
| Erosion Control | Tree removal |
| Fence Installation & Removal | Trucking |

Registered DBE firms are encouraged to inquire.
Expressions of interest must be received
by May 31, 2023, sent via e-mail to
<team.davis@comcast.net>.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



ADVANCED TRIBAL, LLC
General Contractors

SUBCONTRACTING
OPPORTUNITIES

Advanced Tribal, LLC is requesting expressions of interest for the scopes of work listed below. These scopes are associated with the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project's Early Work Packages A.

| | |
|-----------|--------------------|
| Earthwork | Retaining Walls |
| H-Pile | Soldier Pile Walls |
| MSE Walls | Sound Walls |

Registered DBE firms are encouraged to inquire.
Expressions of interest must be received
by May 31, 2023, sent via e-mail to
<Leon@advancedtribal.com>.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

S 27TH STREET SHARED USE PATH PROJECT

OWNER: CITY OF WASHOUGAL • ADDRESS: 1701 C STREET, WASHOUGAL, WA 98671

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received until **4:00pm, Friday, May 12, 2023**, by the City of Washougal at the City of Washougal City Hall, 1701 C Street, Washougal, Washington 98671, for the **S 27th Street Shared Use Path** project; then publicly opened and read aloud at the City of Washougal City Hall, 1701 C Street, Washougal, Washington.

SCOPE OF WORK

The City of Washougal solicits interest from consulting firms with expertise in Civil Engineering Design. This agreement will be for approximately one year in duration with the option for the City of Washougal to extend it for additional time and money if necessary. Consultants will be considered for the following project. The City of Washougal reserves the right to amend terms of this "Request for Proposals" (RFP) to circulate various addenda, or to withdraw the RFP at any time, regardless of how much time and effort consultants have spent on their responses. Potential bidders can download all RFP documents and addendums at Washougal's e procurement website, <<https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/cityofwashougal>>. For any potential consultant not signed up through the e-procurement portal, further instructions are located on the City's bid opportunities website, <<https://www.cityofwashougal.us/748/Bid-Opportunities>>.

Project Description

The City of Washougal received federal funding for design funds for the S 27th Street Shared Use Path Project. The S 27th Street Shared Use Path project will provide a dedicated separated shared use path on S 27th Street. The proposed project expands the bicycle and pedestrian facility connectivity within Washougal and the region and furthers a safe and cohesive active transportation network.

The existing roadway has two lanes and is approximately 32 feet wide with no existing bicycle or pedestrian improvements and narrow shoulders. The existing roadway is the sole roadway which crosses under SR-14 to the Captain William Clark Park from eastern Washougal. Planned improvements consist of storm-water improvements, paved multi use path on the east side of the road, ADA improvements, and a crosswalk and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) for safe crossing of Index Street. Conduit for future fiber optic facilities will also be constructed the entire length of the project.

The City of Washougal reserves the right to retain the services of the successful firm(s) for any subsequent phases (R/W, CN) associated with this/these project(s).

Evaluation Criteria

Submittals will be evaluated and ranked based on the following criteria:

1. Completeness of Response to RFP Requirements (Pass/Fail)
2. Experience (50%)
3. Analysis (15%)
4. General (35%)

Submittal

Submittals should include the following information:

1. Letter of Interest
2. Summary of Qualifications, Experience, and Availability
3. Project Team
4. Scope of Services
5. List of Professional References

If you wish to be considered for this work, please submit three (3) hard copies and (1) one PDF electronic copy on USB of your Request for Proposals (RFP) to the City of Washougal, 1701 C Street, Washougal, WA 98671, by 4:00pm, PDT on May 12, 2023. Proposals shall be limited to 20 pages including the cover letter. Elaborate or glossy proposals are neither expected nor desired.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

The City of Washougal in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), commits to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability, in all of its programs and activities. This material can be made available in an alternate format by e-mailing Scott Collins at <scott.collins@cityofwashougal.us> or at (360) 835-8501, ext. 230.

Title VI Statement

The City of Washougal, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

For project information, please contact Scott Collins, City of Washougal City Engineer / Deputy Public Works Director (360) 835-8501, ext. 230.

DATED this 25th day of April 2023



Celebrate The Year of the Rabbit
January 22, 2023 to February 9, 2024!

The Asian Reporter's Lunar New Year special section may be downloaded online at <www.asianreporter.com>.

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THE ASIAN REPORTER CAN BE PICKED UP ON THE FIRST MONDAY EACH MONTH AT MANY LOCATIONS, INCLUDING:

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Great location. 3,520 s.f. Large parking lot. 150 seats. Part of 82nd Ave. culture for 24 years. Please call: (503) 863-6579

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Classified advertising deadlines for our next three editions are:
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July 3 issue:
Friday, June 30, 2:00pm
August 7 issue:
Friday, August 4, 2:00pm
For more information, please call (503) 283-4440 or e-mail <ads@asianreporter.com>.

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Does your garden or yard need weed protection? Are you an art teacher who has upcoming papier-mâché projects? Are you a dog owner training a puppy? Does your business need packing material? First come, first served! Please leave a voice message at (503) 283-4440, ext. #, or e-mail <news@asianreporter.com>.

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Check out our last two issues, jobs, news, past stories, lists of community groups, and more on our site: <www.asianreporter.com>

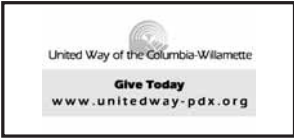
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"Equal housing opportunity"



PUBLIC NOTICE

Effective Sat. 04/15/2023 at 9:00am through Weds. 05/31/2023 at 11:59pm, Salem Housing Authority will open the waiting lists for **SALEM HOUSING PRESERVATION 4** (Northgate Village and Livingston Village in NE Salem) and **SALEM HOUSING PRESERVATION 9** (Meadowlark Village in SE Salem and Brush College Village in NW Salem) for three-bedroom units (occupancy between 3 - 7 people).
To apply, visit <www.salemhousingor.com> and click "Apply Now." Paper applications are accepted as a reasonable accommodation and may be requested by contacting <housing@salemhousingor.com> or (503) 588-6368.
Applications will not be accepted after 11:59pm on 05/31/2023 when the lists close.
Equal Housing Opportunity



SUBSCRIPTION COUPON

Have *The Asian Reporter* delivered directly to your home or office and receive a \$4.00 discount. See page six for subscription options and an order form. Expiration date: May 31, 2023. Discount applies to new subscribers only. (Please include coupon with your order form.)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

METRO COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES
ON CALL SIGN, DESIGN, PLANNING AND FABRICATION SERVICES
RFP 4179

The Communication's Department of Metro, a metropolitan service district organized under the laws of the State of Oregon and the Metro Charter, located at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, is hereby requesting sealed proposals for On call sign, design, planning and fabrication services.
Sealed proposals are due no later than 2:00pm, May 30 2023, via electronic response to BidLocker.
Metro is requesting proposals for On-call sign services. Category 1: General on call sign services. Category 2: Safety and traffic signs and related products.
RFP documents can be viewed and downloaded from BidLocker at:
<https://www.bidlocker.us/Home/bidlockerus>

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS
Metro may accept or reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, or waive irregularities not affecting substantial rights if such action is deemed in the public interest.
Metro extends equal opportunity to all persons and specifically encourages minority, women-owned, emerging small businesses and service disabled veteran owned businesses to access and participate in this and all Metro projects, programs and services.
Metro and its contractors will not discriminate against any person(s), employee or applicant for employment based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, political affiliation or marital status. Metro fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see <www.oregonmetro.gov>.

2023 ADVERTISING RATES & ORDER FORM:
*Phone: (503) 283-4440 * Fax: (503) 283-4445 * E-mail: ads@asianreporter.com*

☐ **Display Space (Asia, Opinion, Community, A.C.E. sections)**
\$24.00 per column inch; Reservation deadline: Wednesday prior to the next issue by 1:00pm

☐ **Special "Business Card" Display Ad:**
☐ \$70 per issue (1 month) ☐ \$190 for 3 consecutive issues (3 months) ☐ \$330 for 6 consecutive issues (6 months)

☐ **Northwest Job Market/Bids & Public Notices section**
\$24.00 per column inch; Text/Fax deadline: Friday prior to the next issue by 2:00pm

☐ **Community Classified Page**
☐ **Boxed Ad**
☐ \$24.00 per column inch; Text/Fax deadline: Friday prior to the next issue by 2:00pm

☐ **Line Ad (up to 35 words):**
☐ \$24 per issue ☐ \$51 for 3 consecutive issues ☐ \$90 for 6 consecutive issues

☐ **Name Listing (4 lines maximum ~ about 10 words):**
☐ \$14 per issue ☐ \$30 for 3 consecutive issues ☐ \$51 for 6 consecutive issues

☐ Prepayment required with Line Ad, Name Listing & Business Card.
☐ Add \$1.00 per issue per line for bold headings (Line Ad & Name Listing).
☐ Add 25¢ per word per issue after 35 words (Line Ad).
☐ All advertisements must be submitted in writing; no phone ads accepted.

The Asian Reporter

Main classification:Run date(s):Total ad cost:

Ad type (circle one): Display ad Business Card Box ad Line ad Name listing ad

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Address:City/State/ZIP:

Phone:Fax:E-mail:

Ad copy (attach a separate sheet if necessary):


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Fax: (503) 283-4445 * E-mail: <ads@asianreporter.com>
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Tokyo plan likened to putting “skyscrapers” in Central Park

By Stephen Wade
The Associated Press

TOKYO — The Jingu Gaien area in central Tokyo is a cultural and historic treasure, a mostly green space set aside almost 100 years ago with private donations to honor Japan’s famous Meiji Emperor.

With the tacit support of Tokyo governor Yuriko Koike, a real estate company is planning to redevelop the green enclave with a pair of high-rise towers — about 620 feet each — and a smaller 260-foot companion.

Plans also call for razing a famous baseball stadium where Babe Ruth played — and demolishing an adjoining rugby venue — and rebuilding them on a reconfigured tract that provides more commercial space.

“This is like building skyscrapers in the middle of Central Park in New York,” professor Mikiko Ishikawa told The Associated Press.

Ishikawa is an emeritus professor at the University of Tokyo who earned her masters degree at Harvard. She studied landscape architecture and Central Park’s history and said the park was an inspiration for the Japanese — as were European designs — when Jingu Gaien was completed in 1926.

“Tokyo would lose its soul,” said Ishikawa, who described the area as “the showroom of the Japanese nation” when it was opened.

“Jingu Gaien is a public place, and you should think of it as a commons,” she said.

The controversial, billion-dollar project pits a diverse group of activists, preservations, and local residents against Koike, the metropolitan government, and real estate developer Mitsui Fudosan.

The project will take more than a decade to complete, but Koike has allowed some limited construction to begin despite questions about the environmental impact.

“The Jingu Gaien was paid for by private money, maybe the earliest example of crowd-funding,” Ishikawa said

Opponents have filed suit seeking an injunction to stop the project, which would allow environmental issues to be addressed and explore if the area needs a radical makeover.

“For me and other people who live in the neighborhood, we never dreamed there would be anything like this happening,” said Tenco Tsunoi, a graphic designer who opposes the project.

“It was a complete shock,” added Tsunoi, who said the project was done “very quietly” by the city and the developer.

Activists have gathered almost 200,000 signatures on a petition to stop the project. And a newspaper poll conducted by *Tokyo Shimbun* last year showed 69.5% against the project.

Famous Japanese composer and musician Ryuichi Sakamoto, days before his death on March 28, sent an emotive letter to Koike to oppose the project as his last cause. About 6,000 gathered earlier in April near the National Stadium to remind Koike of his wishes.

Sachihiko Harashina, an engineer who specializes in environmental planning and is the president of Chiba University of Commerce, said Koike seemed to favor the developers.

“If the governor has a mind to hear the voice of the people, she should make more communication with the people,” Harashina said in a e-mail to AP.

Harashina is a leading international and national expert on Environmental Impact Assessment, or EIA. He termed as “very poor” the quality and thoroughness of the impact assessment on this project.

“I should say this is one of the poorest EIAs in Japan,” he said. He said the city’s own Environmental Assessment Committee has pointed out several flaws.

“One of the major problems in the process of the EIA for the Jingu Gaien redevelopment project is the lack of scientific analysis of the ecosystem of the park,” Harashina said.

Harashina and others say that Koike could stop the project if she wished.

Koike addressed Jingu Gaien several months ago at a news conference. A Japanese reporter, posing a question, told Koike that local statutes require her to “take measures in the event that business engages in fraudulent behavior.”

“There are people who have great interest in this matter — people who are opposed and people who are very active,” Koike replied. “There are people who voice such concerns but this issue is going through procedural steps — fraudulent or not.” She said the city council was “currently deliberating on this matter.”

The flashpoint has been trees, green space, and who controls a public area that has been encroached on over the years. Also at issue is the fate of more than 100 ginko trees that line an avenue in the area and provide a colorful cascade of falling leaves each autumn.



The developer says the trees on the avenue will be kept, but 18 others away from the main avenue will be felled. In addition, Ishikawa said the root system of the remaining ginko trees will be damaged — perhaps killed — when the new baseball stadium is built within about 25 feet of the

CONSTRUCTION CONTROVERSY. Meiji Jingu Stadium in Tokyo is seen in this October 19, 2010 file photo. The historic baseball stadium in Tokyo where Babe Ruth played baseball could be demolished. It is part of a disputed redevelopment plan harshly criticized by environmentalists. The Jingu Gaien area is a mostly green space set aside almost 100 years ago with private donations. (Kyodo News via AP, File)

tree line.

About 1,500 trees were cut down to build the National Stadium for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

The Olympics, caught up in a corruption and bribery scandal over the last several years, also helped the city pass legislation to remove height restrictions in the Jingu Gaien area. Activists believe planning for the project began a decade ago.

“Up until now, Tokyo has preserved a lot of these public spaces,” Ishikawa, the landscape architect said. “If this goes through, this will be the first one of these preserved places that will be completely destroyed. This will be like a tidal wave, or the domino effect. If this can go forward in Jingu Gaien, what’s next?”



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