

THE APPA Newsletter  
July 2, 2008  
See This Weekend

4th of July - we should understand the significance by now, but:  
[http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Independence\\_Day.shtml](http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Independence_Day.shtml)

MISSION STATEMENT:

Promote full utilization of the capabilities of the Enterprise's employees and champion the betterment of the company and community. Promote interest in Asian Pacific issues and culture and act as a bridge to all groups within our community. (substitute in your Enterprise and company, etc...)

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ed. by Douglas Ikemi  
([dkikemi@pacbell.net](mailto:dkikemi@pacbell.net))

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Back issues of the newsletter for all of 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 are available at  
<http://www.ikemi.info/APPA/newsletters.html> if you want to look up some past event.

The website [www.apa-pro.org](http://www.apa-pro.org)

no longer exists. This newsletter was originally published under the auspices of the Hughes Asian Pacific Professional Association (no longer extant). It currently has no affiliation and is available to anyone who is interested in downloading it.

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Please send in information on cultural events and news items to [dkikemi@pacbell.net](mailto:dkikemi@pacbell.net) or [dkikemi@mac.com](mailto:dkikemi@mac.com) . Thanks to those who have.

Long range calendar items:

Chinatown Farmers Market EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2-6PM, the Chinatown Farmers' Market takes place at Hill & Alpine bringing fresh fruits and produce by California Farmers to the Chinatown Community. FRIED BANANA, FRIED YAM, HAWAIIAN CHICKEN. We invite you to come and experience the Chinatown Farmers' Market. Free parking with purchase.

The Downtown Arts District/Little Tokyo Farmers' Market  
Weller Court 2nd & San Pedro in  
Little Tokyo Summer Hours 10-3pm

Features fresh produce, Hawaiian Chicken, more food gifts...and live jazz band.

Tuesdays from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

The weekly market is held every Tuesday from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m year round, rain or shine.

Sponsored by LARABA the market will include farm-fresh produce, Asian produce, organic produce, eggs, seafood, cheese, olives, olive oils, flowers, plants, bread and prepared foods and more. Hawaiian Chicken, Roasted corn on the cobb  
Local businesses interested in having a prepared food booth at the market or individuals interested in volunteering at this non-profit event, please contact Susan Hutchinson at 323-660-8660 for more information

Los Angeles Public Library Celebrates our DiverseCity  
<http://www.lapl.org/kidspath/events/diversecity/index.html>

Living Flowers: Ikebana and Contemporary Art

June 15, 2008 - September 7, 2008

Japanese American National Museum

Living Flowers: Ikebana and Contemporary Art is an innovative exhibition that showcases the traditional Japanese art of ikebana alongside cutting-edge contemporary art. For centuries, ikebana has been displayed in conjunction with traditional Asian art. In Living Flowers, arrangements by masters of the Ikenobo, Ohara, and Sogetsu schools of ikebana will be juxtaposed with the works of international artists. The exhibition explores how Japanese traditions have been maintained and transformed in our present-day world, while simultaneously highlighting the influence and impact of Japanese aesthetics on the art of today.

Providing glimpses into the artistic process, ikebana artists will work within the exhibition to create fresh flower arrangements. Living Flowers will reach beyond the gallery walls by featuring informative educational and interpretive programs such as ikebana demonstrations and exhibition-related workshops, as well as inspiring family programs and artists talks that explore the link between contemporary art and traditional ikebana.

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: 213.625.0414

fax: 213.625.1770

[www.janm.org](http://www.janm.org)

The Vision and Art of Shinjo Ito

Westwood Art Forum 1028 Westwood Blvd

May 8-June 29

Hours: 10am-7pm M-W, F,S (10am-9pm Thur., 11am-5pm Sun)

Free for all

[www.shinjoito.com](http://www.shinjoito.com)

Exhibits:

Monkey King: A Journey to China

SANTA ANA, CA—Monkey King: A Journey to China is the first ever children's exhibition presented at the Bowers Kidseum and focuses on the classic 16th century Chinese story about the Buddhist monk and scripture pilgrim, Xuan

Zang, who takes a journey along China's Silk Road. To engage children in the story and Chinese culture, Kidseum will dramatically transform into an environment filled with the sights and sounds of China.

Monkey King: A Journey to China opens at Kidseum on June 15, 2008 and runs through August 31, 2008. The exhibition compliments Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China's First Emperor, which is on view at the Bowers Museum from May 18, 2008 to October 12, 2008.

Related Events:

Backpacking Through Asia

Tuesdays, July 8 through July 29 or Wednesdays, July 9 through July 30

12:30 PM–2:30 PM

You've heard of the Seven Wonders of the World? Well, we are going to explore four wonders of Asia together. Let's climb to the top of Mount Fuji and relax in the Hanging Gardens. We'll answer questions like, what are the terra cotta warriors? Why are they so interesting? And just how long is the Great Wall of China? Bring your passport as well as your imaginations, and join us on a grand adventure! For more information, call 714.480.1521 or e-mail [schilberg@bowers.org](mailto:schilberg@bowers.org).

Admission: General \$65; members \$50 (for up to two children per family; additional children \$15)

The Kidseum

1802 North Main Street

Santa Ana, CA 92706

THE CHINESE AMERICAN MUSEUM AND AUTO CLUB GIVE LEGENDARY CALIFORNIA PAINTER DAY IN SUNSHINE to October 25, 2008

California Artist Fused Chinese Heritage with California Scenes

Jake Lee, a highly respected, yet quiet and enigmatic painter who influenced numerous other artists in California for decades, has not been the subject of a major retrospective, until now. "Sunshine & Shadow: In Search of Jake Lee" an exhibition hosted by the Chinese American Museum of Los Angeles, co-produced with the Automobile Club of Southern California, marks the first comprehensive and critical review of a prolific artist who embraced California landscapes and city scenes through watercolor.

Showcasing at the Chinese American Museum (CAM) from Dec. 1 to October 25, 2008, "Sunshine & Shadow" will highlight more than 60 watercolors, including eight from the Auto Club's WESTWAYS cover art collection. The collection will also illustrate with photos and letters more details of the artist's professional career and his family life, which he kept distinctly separate for many years.

"Jake Lee is among the most well known and prolific watercolor artists of the 20th Century, yet we found very little published about his personal life as we researched this exhibition," said Dr. Pauline Wong, Executive Director of the museum. "We had no problem locating his art and his influence – it lives in collections throughout the state and in the hearts of his many students. But it was more challenging to find the man. We believe this exhibition and catalogue will result in new appreciation for his artistic production and his influence."

Lee (1915-1991) worked steadily as a commercial artist and teacher. His first works fell

squarely within the California watercolor tradition. Lee said he wanted to be known as a California artist – not necessarily a Chinese American artist. In the 1960s he was asked to produce murals and paintings that reflected Chinese culture in California settings, such as San Francisco's Chinatown for the cover of WESTWAYS, and scenes from Chinese American history for Kan's Restaurant (San Francisco).

"Lee's depictions of Chinese American urban spaces, such as Chinatown balconies and storefronts, became a commercially sustainable side bar to his landscapes and rural scenes," noted Matthew Roth, Auto Club historian. "The Auto Club's member magazine, WESTWAYS, commissioned cover paintings from Lee nine times from 1954 to 1978, and these watercolors show in capsule his evolution into full engagement with Chinese aesthetic traditions."

Gordan McClelland, noted authority on California art and co-author of California Watercolors, 1850-1970 said: "Jake Lee was a talented watercolorist whose finest paintings combine an engaging blend of California Style watercolor painting with calligraphic brushwork reminiscent of his Chinese heritage. He was a key figure in a small group of California artists that carried on American Scene painting into the second half of the 20th Century and was highly regarded as a innovative and entertaining art instructor. This recognition is long overdue."

The Chinese American Museum is located at 425 North Los Angeles Street in El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, across from Union Station. Hours are 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Tuesday – Sunday. Admissions are suggested donations of \$3 for adults and \$2 for seniors and students.

The Chinese American Museum (CAM) is jointly developed and operated by the Friends of the Chinese American Museum (FCAM) and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, a department of the City of Los Angeles. Located at 425 North Los Angeles Street within the El Pueblo Plaza in downtown Los Angeles, CAM is housed in the last surviving structure of the City's original Chinatown. CAM's mission is to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of America's diverse heritage by researching, preserving, and sharing the history, rich cultural legacy, and continuing contributions of Chinese Americans. For more information about the Museum, please visit [www.camla.org](http://www.camla.org).

The Automobile Club of Southern California, the largest member of the AAA federation of motor clubs, has been providing service since 1900. Today, the Auto Club's members benefit by roadside assistance, insurance products and services, travel agency, financial products, automotive pricing and buying programs, automotive testing and analysis, trip planning services and highway and transportation safety programs. Information about these products and services is available on the Auto Club's Web site at [www.AAA.com](http://www.AAA.com).

March 6 - July 27, 2008

Chinaman's Chance: Views of the Chinese American Experience

The discovery of gold in California drew unprecedented numbers of Chinese immigrants. By 1865 about 50,000 Chinese had come to "Golden Mountain" to try their luck. But the winds of fortune often blew in unexpected directions. The majority of the Transcontinental Railroad's east-bound track was built by Chinese. To conquer the treacherous terrain, workers were often suspended from the top of cliffs to plant

explosives. It was from this dangerous task that the phrase “A Chinaman’s Chance in Hell” was coined. Later shorten to “Chinaman’s Chance,” the phrase unfortunately defined many immigrants’ experiences.

Three contemporary artists – Amanda Ross-Ho, Zhi Lin and Arthur Ou – will examine the diverse Chinese American experience from the days of the Transcontinental Railroad’s construction to today. Several of the artists will be incorporating Pacific Asia Museum collections into their work, and all draw their inspiration from the history encompassed in the museum’s exhibitions. While the experience of being of Chinese heritage and living in America is unique to each individual, Chinaman’s Chance: Views of the Chinese American Experience will investigate the similarities and dissimilarities of these experiences. The experience of the viewer will be simultaneously cerebral, physical, historical, contemporary, foreign and universal. Sponsored by Pasadena Art Alliance.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena California 91101 [Google Map]

Hours: Wed – Sun: 10:00am-6:00pm

Admission: \$7 for adults

\$5 for students/seniors

Free admission every 4th Friday of the month!

Parking: Free parking is available in museum parking lot, located on corner of Los Robles and Union.

[www.pacificasiamuseum.org](http://www.pacificasiamuseum.org)

June 6, 2008 - January 6, 2009

Mingei East and West

Sake bottle (tokurri), motif by Shoji Hamada, Japan, early 20th century

Mingei literally means “folk art” in Japanese. Literary scholar and critic Yanagi Soetsu (1889–1961) coined the word in the 1920s to refer to and champion the kind of anonymous, handcrafted objects that had begun to disappear as Japan entered the age of mass production and western-oriented modernization. Yanagi and his followers revitalized the tradition

of handicraft by re-evaluating the beauty of utilitarian objects and spurring a new artistic movement dedicated to maintaining what they defined as essential Japanese values

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[www.pacificasiamuseum.org](http://www.pacificasiamuseum.org)

May 1 - August 24, 2008

Pacifika: Young Perspectives on Pacific Island Art

The first in a series of experimental, community-driven exhibits; Pacifika: Young Perspectives on Pacific Island Art explores the arts, cultures, and traditions of the people of the Pacific Islands now living in Southern California. Issues regarding migration, ceremonial tattooing, costumes and adornments will be explored through interpretive materials created by students of Carson High School's Pacific Islanders Club and UCLA's Pacific Islands Student Association (PISA).

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Hours: Wed – Sun: 10:00am-6:00pm

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Free admission every 4th Friday of the month!

Parking: Free parking is available in museum parking lot, located on corner of Los Robles and Union.

[www.pacificasiamuseum.org](http://www.pacificasiamuseum.org)

May 18-Oct 12, 2008 Terra Cotta Warriors, Guardians of China's First Emperor

After building the first Great Wall,  
what do you do for an encore? Re-invent death.

China's First Emperor, the boy king who united the country in 221 BC and began construction of the first Great wall, was not only obsessed with building but also a fanatic about death. After experimenting with potions to prolong his life, the megalomaniac king resigned himself to death on his own terms. He would build a standing army of 7,000 soldiers to enforce his rule over the afterlife.

Now Bowers Museum presents the largest exhibit of Emperor Qin's Terra Cotta Army ever seen outside of China.

Since his birth in 259 B.C., China's First Emperor was destined to become one of the most important political leaders to rule the country. Beginning at age 13, and for the next 38 years, he assigned over 700,000 workers to build an enormous mausoleum with life-size terra cotta warriors to protect him throughout eternity.

This terra cotta army of soldiers, servants, musicians, acrobats, and animals silently remained underground for two thousand years. Until, in 1974, Chinese farmers digging a well made the startling discovery of a terra cotta head.

Now is your once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see one of the 20th century's greatest archaeological finds, often referred to as the Eighth Wonder of the Ancient World Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China's First Emperor.

The Bowers Museum

2002 North Main Street

Santa Ana, CA 92706

714.567.3600

Tuesday-Sunday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Open late the fourth Thursday of every month until 8:00 pm

Closed on Mondays, 4th of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day

Tickets \$27 weekends for this exhibit. See website for further pricing.

[www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org)

Glorious Excess (Born): Paintings by Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda  
July 12, 2008 - August 3, 2008 Special Engagement

Musician/producer/artist Mike Shinoda premieres *Glorious Excess (Born)*, a brand-new series of paintings and digital work, in the George T. and Sakaye Aratani Central Hall. The exhibition, which is presented in two parts, features large-scale pieces that blend his own experiences in the superstar spotlight with pop commentary and classical vanitas influences.

This opening coincides with the release of Shinoda's new DC Remix Shoe. All proceeds from sales of his artwork and shoe go toward the Michael K. Shinoda Endowed Scholarship at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.

Return to the National Museum January 24 through March 22, 2009, to view the expanded continuation of the exhibition *Glorious Excess (Dies)* in the Miyawaki and Watanabe Galleries. Accompanying the artwork will be text about Shinoda's career and examples of his continuing commitment to invoke change through his music including *Projekt Revolution*, *Fort Minor*, and *Live Earth*.

Check out clips from a 2006 interview with Mike Shinoda on [DiscoverNikkei.org](http://DiscoverNikkei.org).

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: 213.625.0414

fax: 213.625.1770

[janm.org](http://janm.org)

June 15 – Aug. 31, 2008

The Afro-Chinese Cuban artist Wifredo Lam (Cuba, b. 1902, Cuba; Paris, d.1982) is the most celebrated artist of the Caribbean region and the first Cuban artist to be recognized as a master among the mid-20th century modern artists. Associated with Pablo Picasso during the time of Cubism and Andre Breton in the time of surrealism, Lam contributed a non-European Afro-Cuban voice to the evolution of Western art. His visual language is a synthesis of Cubism, Surrealism, "primitivism", Negritude, Afro-Cuban history and ethnicity and the religious practice of Santería. Lam was born of a polyglot heritage; his mother was African, indigenous Cuban and Spanish and his father was a Cantonese Chinese businessman. Lam said about himself, "...from childhood I didn't know the basis of my ethics or my joy... except that I was a cross-breed of many races." This cross-hybridization is the basis of Lam's artistic style, more celebrated today than during his lifetime.

The exhibition *Wifredo Lam in North America* presents 65 of the most important paintings, gouaches and drawings by Lam represented in United States collections. The selected works were curated by Mr. Curtis Carter, former Director of the organizing institution, the Haggerty Museum of Art in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. A national traveling exhibition, *molaa* is the West Coast venue for this comprehensive presentation, the first in over 30 years to be seen in the United States. Mr. Carter, the curator, will be in attendance at the Member's Opening Reception. The exhibition is accompanied by an illustrated catalog available in the museum store.

628 Alamos Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802  
562.437.1689  
www.molaa.com

The Age of Imagination: Japanese Art, 1615–1868, from the Price Collection  
June 22, 2008–September 14, 2008 | Pavilion for Japanese Art and Hammer Building  
The Etsuko and Joe Price Collection is world-renowned for its collection of Japanese paintings of the Edo Period (1615–1868) featuring screens, hanging scrolls, and fan-format paintings. The Price Collection reflects the eclectic diversity of a remarkably creative span in Japan's history of visual art and is highlighted by some of the finest examples of the distinctive and compelling renderings of animal life by Ito Jakuchu (1716–1800), an artist who caught Joe Price's eye five decades ago, when the artist was fairly unknown. The collection also features Kansai-region artists such as Maruyama Okyo, Nagasawa Rosetsu, and Mori Sosen, and artists of the Edo Rimpa school including Sakai Hoitsu and Suzuki Kiitsu. The exhibition has been on a four-city tour in Japan with enormous success; it was the highest-attended exhibition in the world in 2006.

June 23 2:00 PM TOUR: The Art of Imagination: Japanese Art, 1615-1868, from the Price Collection (50 min.) Hammer Building

LACMA is located on Wilshire Boulevard between Fairfax and Curson avenues—midway between Downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica.

5905 Wilshire Boulevard, L.A. 90036, 323-857-6000  
lacma.org

THURSDAY, JULY 10

FRIDAY, JULY 11

7:30 PM

7:30 PM

The Torrance Cultural Services Division presents ROAD TO PARADISE - POLYNESIAN REVUE in the James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive.

Tickets are \$9. Call the Theatre Box Office at 310.781.7171.

July 12,13 Nishi Hongwanji Los Angeles Betsuin Obon

815 East First Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: 213/ 680-9130

FAX: 213/ 680-2210

<http://www.nishihongwanji-la.org/>

July 19, 20 Pasadena Buddhist Church Obon Festival

Sat. & Sun., 5:00 - 8:30pm

BOOK SIGNING STAN SAKAI signs



USAGI YOJIMBO #22 - TOMOE'S STORY

Sat., 5-7pm

Pasadena Buddhist Church - 1993 Glen Avenue, Pasadena CA 91103 - tel (626) 798-4781

July 19, 20 Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Obon

12371 Braddock Drive

Culver City, California 90230

(310) 391-4351

<http://www.vhbt.org/>

July 19, 20 ORANGE COUNTY BUDDHIST CHURCH Obon Festival

909 South Dale Avenue

Anaheim

California 92804

Tel: (714)827-9590

<http://www.bca-ocbc.org/>

July 26, 27 HIGASHI HONGANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE obon

505 East Third Street OBON is a traditional event to honor and express gratitude to the spirits of our ancestors, those before us who provided us with the gift of life. The Obon Festival features food, games, farmers market, flower market, traditional Bon Odori Dancing, and various types of entertainment. This year's entertainment lineup includes June Kuramoto of Hiroshima, Local Mojo, TAIKOPROJECT, hereandnow, and many others.

Los Angeles, CA 90013

Telephone: (213) 626-4200

Facsimile: (213) 626-6850

E-mail: [info@hhbt-la.org](mailto:info@hhbt-la.org)

<http://www.hhbt-la.org/Obon.html>

West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple Obon Festival 2008

Saturday, July 26 5-10pm

Sunday, July 27 3-9pm

2003 Corinth Avenue

West L.A., CA 90025

(310) 477-7274

10 am - 4 pm Daily

O-bon or only Bon is a Japanese Buddhist holiday to honor the departed spirits of one's ancestors. This Buddhist festival has evolved into a family reunion holiday during which people from the big cities return to their home towns and visit and clean their ancestors' graves. Traditionally including a dance festival, it has existed in Japan for more than 500 years. It is held from July 13 (August 13 according to the lunar calendar still observed in many regions) to the 15th ("Welcoming Obon" and "Farewell Obon" respectively) in the eastern part of Japan (Kanto), and in August in the western part. In recent years, however, most parts of Tokyo, and by extension, the media, hold Obon in August to

coincide with the summer holiday period. Obon shares some similarities with the predominantly Mexican observance of el Día de los Muertos.

[http://www.wlabt.org/activities/activities\\_obon.html](http://www.wlabt.org/activities/activities_obon.html)

See LA Library DiverseCity events at <http://www.lapl.org/kidspath/events/diversecity/index.html>

Sunday - August 3, 2008 Orange County Buddhist Church  
Youth Organization Presents Kenny Endo Taiko Ensemble  
at 4:00pm

(Doors and snack concessions will open at 3:30pm)

Orange County Buddhist Church – Multi-Purpose Building

909 So. Dale Ave. Anaheim, CA

Donation - Adults \$30 / Youth \$10 (16 yrs. and under)

Donations will benefit OCBC Troop 578, Taiko and Jr. YBA

Adult tickets \$30

[http://www.taikoarts.com/images/KennyEndo\\_AUG\\_03\\_08.pdf](http://www.taikoarts.com/images/KennyEndo_AUG_03_08.pdf)

If you have any questions please call (714) 827-9590

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This Weekend (and earlier/later)

July 5, 6 San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Obon

9450 Remick Avenue

Pacoima, California 91331

Telephone: (818) 899-4030

Facsimile: (818) 899-0447

Email: [sfvhbt@gmail.com](mailto:sfvhbt@gmail.com)

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Where I went last weekend:

June 28, 29 Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center Annual Summer Carnival and  
Cultural Festival

Free and open to the public

1766 Seabright Ave.

Long Beach, 2 blks west of Santa Fe Ave. and just south of PCH

parking available in lot south of the Center

3-9PM Sat

1-8PM Sun

714-236-0335

June 28, 29 Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute Annual Carnival

Sat noon to 9PM

Sun noon to 7:30PM  
1964 W 162nd Street  
Gardena  
310-324-6611

June 28 West Covina Buddhist Temple Obon  
East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center  
1203 West Puente Ave,  
West Covina, CA 91790

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Resources:

LACMA calendar:

<http://www.lacma.org/events/Calendar.aspx>

UCLA Asia Institute calendar:

<http://www.international.ucla.edu/asia/events/index.asp?action=monthview>

Japanese American National Museum

<http://www.janm.org/events/>

Chinese American Museum

<http://camla.org/events/calendar.htm>

Korean Cultural Center

<http://www.kccla.org/html/calendar.asp>

Japanese American Community Cultural Center

<http://jaccc.org/>

Pacifica Asian Museum

<http://www.pacificasiamuseum.org/calendar/whatsnew.htm>

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Links to selected articles from the LA Times. To actually access the articles, you may have to sign up for a free account.

TENNIS

Zheng Jie making a name for herself

The Chinese player has reached the semifinals at Wimbledon and says she plans to give some of her earnings to earthquake victims. She's also gearing to play for her country in this summer's Olympics.

By Chuck Culpepper, Special to The Times

7:10 PM PDT, July 1, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/la-sp-zheng2-2008jul02.0.6645463.story>

Pacquiao looks better than ever

He stops Diaz in the ninth round and now has title belts at four weight classes.

From the Associated Press

June 29, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/boxing/la-sp-boxing29-2008jun29.0.2175411.story>

Where have Echo Park's lotuses gone?

The lake in Los Angeles used to house the largest, lushest lotus beds in the nation. All that remain are a few sickly leaves. The city is working to revive them, but experts say it may be too late.

By Deborah Schoch, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer

June 29, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/news/science/environment/la-me-lotus29-2008jun29.0.5990406.story>

A SECOND LOOK

Retracing Wong Kar Wai's first decade as a director

A five-film set from Kino includes 'Chungking Express.'

By Dennis Lim, Special to The Times

June 29, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/homeentertainment/la-ca-secondlook29-2008jun29.0.7389443.story>

CALIFORNIA

On the trail of California's Mexican past

The era was brief, but influential. Revisit those years with a classic road trip. There are plenty of options too -- wine or gold country, or a stop in Carmel or San Diego. Not every history lesson includes margaritas, but this one does.

By Christopher Reynolds, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer

June 29, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/la-tr-mexicalifornia29-2008jun29.0.1364862.full.story>

L.A. sights wow first Chinese leisure tour group

The travel industry expects a boon from the new wave of visitors since a U.S.-China agreement was reached last December.

By Teresa Watanabe and Tiffany Hsu, Los Angeles Times Staff Writers

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-chinatour27-2008jun27.0.2787032.story>

Japanese doll a hit with older women

Toy maker targets the cuddly companion at adults as birthrate drops

From Bloomberg News

July 1, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fi-doll1-2008jul01.0.6778009.story>

Daihachi Oguchi, 84; drummer led spread of 'taiko' style in U.S. and Japan

Associated Press

"Your heart is a taiko. All people listen to a taiko rhythm 'donsuku-donsuku' in their mother's womb," Oguchi once said. He was one of the first to elevate the traditional folk sounds of taiko to modern music played in concert halls, not only festivals and shrines.

From the Associated Press

July 1, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-me-oguchi1-2008jul01,0,4584233.story>

UNLOCKING CHINA | COUNTDOWN TO '08 OLYMPICS

Qingdao, China -- a six-pack of surprises

The old colonial city by the Yellow Sea serves up beaches, beer, even a church or two.

During this summer's Games, it'll also host sailing events.

By Susan Spano, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer

June 29, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/olympics/other/la-tr-qingdao29-2008jun29,0,6250323.full.story>

With generations carrying on tradition, L.A.'s Chinatown celebrates 70th anniversary

The downtown Los Angeles community has lasted, with second- and third-generation Chinese Americans continuing their families' legacy. Festivities will begin Saturday.

By David Pierson, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer

June 28, 2008

<http://www.latimes.com/la-me-newchinatown28-2008jun28,0,604614.story>