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OAPIA Update

News Updates from the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

A Message from the Director

Dear Community Members,

In the spirit of this season of giving, the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs would like to highlight the importance of volunteerism and community service. Volunteerism is an essential tool when promoting Mayor Vincent C. Gray's priorities of improving everyone's quality of life. Helping those in need is tantamount when giving back to the community. You can all make a great impact as volunteers. Not only does our community benefit from your service, but the benefit will extend to you individually as well. Serving the community can be an uplifting experience.



OAPIA continuously works with non-profit organizations in the DC metro area to ensure our District resident's health and well-being. We truly believe that participating in community service is a good way for residents to engage with and give back to the community. We want to remind and encourage you to support the organizations and charities in the area.

On December 13th 2012, OAPIA will be holding our annual toy drive event "Share a Smile; Give a Toy." This event will be a great opportunity to volunteer and give back to your community! We will be collecting donated toys and will be distributing them to Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) children. For this event, we have put in a tremendous effort to get volunteers through advertisements. We highly encourage everyone to come out to our annual event.

As always, remember that your contribution towards the community has the potential to inspire others to act generously. OAPIA will continue to promote volunteerism through raising awareness in the DC metro area among AAPI residents. To learn more about our annual toy drive and to volunteer please email Ngoc Trinh at ngoc.trinh@dc.gov.

Warm Regards,

Soohyun "Julie" Koo

Director, DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

District News

Arrests Made in the Homicide of Hae Soon Lim and Two More Unrelated Homicides

On Wednesday, November 28, 2012, 46-year-old Steven Vondell Williams of Northwest, Washington, DC, was arrested for the murder of Hae Soon Lim.

On June 14, 2012, Hae Soon Lim was found dead inside Grace Deli, in the 700 block of H Street on June 14. Police say she was shot in the neck. DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services personnel responded and did not find any signs consistent with life. The victim was pronounced dead by a member of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

June, a respected member of the community, emigrated from South Korea and was a mother of two. The Asian Pacific American Bar Association set up a memorial fundraiser online, asking the community for donations.

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) has also announced the arrests made in two unrelated homicides of Howard Ricardo Sampler and Thomas Glenn Lipscomb. For inquiries on these two cases, please contact Officer Araz Alali at 202-727-4383.

OAPIA would like to remind you to be vigilant in reporting crime. If you suspect a crime has happened or is about to occur, please contact **911**. Please visit [MPD's website](#) for important numbers and to learn about tips in reporting and filing your own report online.

Office of the Deputy Mayor: Small Business Capital Improvements Grants

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development: Small Business Capital Improvements Grants

Small Business Capital Improvements Grants - Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
The purpose of the Small Business Capital Improvement Grant is to support existing small businesses, attract new small businesses, increase the District's tax base and create new jobs for District Residents. The Office of the Deputy Mayor will be awarding individual grants up to a maximum of \$85,000 each to support and foster growth amongst small businesses. Grant funds may be utilized to reimburse the grantee for the purpose of capital expenditures to improve the subject property.

- Pennsylvania Avenue SE
- Georgia Avenue NW
- 7th Street and North Capitol NW
- Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue NE

For Notices of Funding Availability, please click on this [link](#).

Goals of Small Business Capital Improvement Grants

- To support existing small businesses and attract new small businesses.
- To create new jobs for District Residents.
- To increase the District of Columbia's tax base.

District of Columbia Honors World AIDS Day

December 1st, officially called World AIDS Day, is a time for people to come together to fight against HIV/AIDS. The campaign raises AIDS awareness by conducting thousands of events, not only in the United States, but around the world as well. Since 1988, World AIDS Day and AIDS Awareness Month have been put in place to remind people of the AIDS crisis and to always remember those who have been lost to HIV/AIDS.

[Serve DC](#) honored World AIDS Day, in the District with its annual World AIDS Day DC Government Food Drive. Donations benefited [Food & Friends](#), a District-based nonprofit that provides free, home-delivered meals, groceries and nutrition counseling to people living with HIV/AIDS in the DC Metro area.

During the month of December, people wear the red ribbon which is the global symbol for solidarity with HIV-positive people and those living with HIV or AIDS.

According to the Office of Minority Health of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Asian Americans have a lower AIDS rate than their white counterparts and are less likely to die of HIV/AIDS; however, because of cultural differences, Asian Americans are less likely to have been tested for HIV/AIDS. Also, the total number of reported AIDS cases has generally declined over the past five years for the white population, but it has increased for Asian Americans.

To learn more about HIV/AIDS please visit [here](#).

Spotlight: Asian Americans Make History in 2012 Elections

This past November, Americans took to the polls to cast their vote for the President of the United States and other elected offices. In January, Americans will welcome a diverse roster of newly elected members in the House and Senate, particularly for Asian Americans, where the political representation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders will increase. From remarkable personal journeys to historical "firsts," Asian Americans have made significant accomplishments and gains locally and nationally. Increased political participation by the Asian American community led to a historical number of Asian Americans running for federal office.

Please click here for the latest [press release](#) from the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

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