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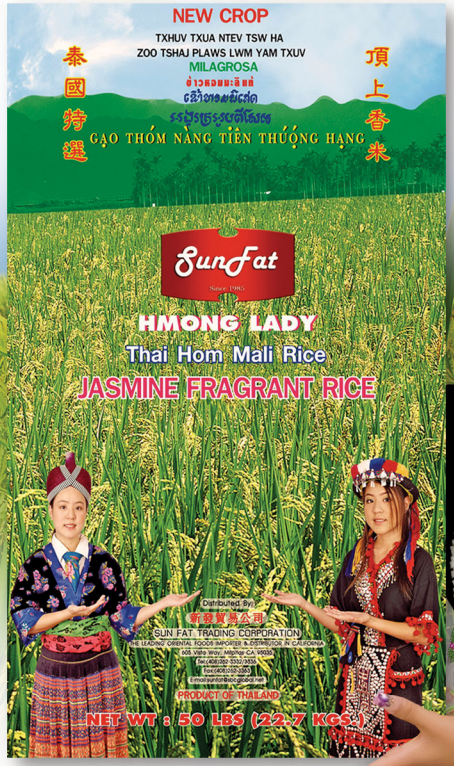
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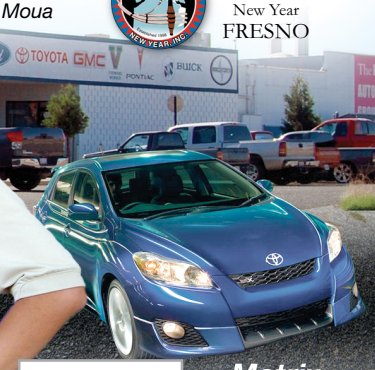
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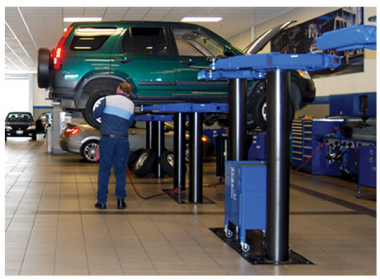
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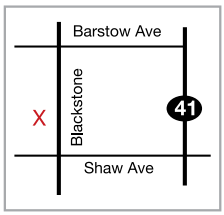
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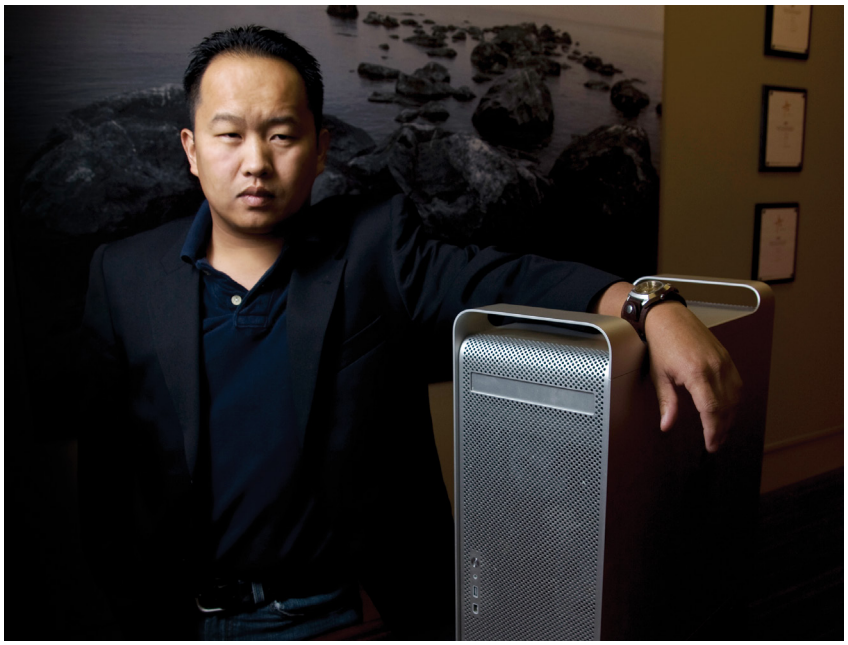
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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

Like most graphic designers, I first started my business as a freelance designer during my third year at Fresno State University in 1996. I ran Yang Design out of my apartment with an old computer and my dream fueling my drive to make a career out of something I loved as much as life itself. Art has always been something I've been passionate about. Graphic design gave me the opportunity to combine business and art together to communicate ideas and concepts. I love it more today than ever before and it is always a new frontier, which brings new challenges every day.

Like most minority businesses, I found trust in my own community first. Boua Long Vue, of Apple Video Productions, was my very first client opening the first of many doors for my business. Over time, I was able to slowly grow my business through his contacts and his belief in me. Trust is something that is very hard to earn. Only through hard work, dedication and performance can you earn it.

My business was able to grow over the years because of the opportunities the Hmong community has given to me. I believe most Hmong businesses are only able to grow because of the support from our community. Likewise, our community can only flourish if Hmong businesses and their partners give back to nurture the community. It is a support system that we must appreciate, understand and value.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the advertisers and business owners who have supported Txhawb, especially those who unconditionally supported us from the very beginning when Txhawb was just an idea. And to readers, please support our advertisers. They make it possible for us to produce Txhawb. I also want to thank all the writers, artists, photographers and my designers and sales team for putting up with me and my crazy ideas and for pushing themselves to the edge of their creativity to make Txhawb so unique and beautiful.

I hold Txhawb to very high standards in the form of artistic expression and innovative design. Txhawb is very expensive to print and takes an immeasurable amount of time and energy to conceptualize, design and produce. Our team focuses on every detail to ensure that we can produce something that the Hmong community can proudly say is positive, beautiful and was created from within the hearts and minds of our community. Txhawb belongs to the Hmong community. It is a place where we can have access to resources and hear inspiring stories of courage and success. I welcome any input and story ideas to help shape Txhawb into what our community needs it to be. Please call me or email your thoughts and suggestions to: laryang@yangdesign.net



Lar Yang, *Txhawb publisher, founder of Yang Design*

Though we put forth our best effort, we could not reach every business and residence in Central California. If we missed you or your business, please give us a call or drop us a letter and we will be sure to include you next year. If you have ideas for content or a story that must be told, please email them to laryang@txhawb.com.

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The Journey between two Worlds



The Pa Lor Story

Story By BoNhia Lee Photography by Tudor Stanley

When Pa Lor pulls the red veil over her face, she travels to the spirit world searching for lost spirits or ways to help people living in the real world. But physically, her body is still here.

She chants, shakes and moves her legs up and down in age old ways used to help heal Hmong people. Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't.

"I said, 'Hey you know what, my gift has never harmed or hurt anyone. All it has is helped people emotionally and it's helped them (when they are sick) physically too,'" says Lor, 31.

Lor is a shaman. It's a calling that she struggled for years to understand, but eventually became a gift that she embraced.





Much of her life was shaped by the Christian religion, a path that her brother chose to follow after the church helped to resettle her family in the United States in 1979. She grew up in Stockton learning about God and the Bible by attending church services with her older brother, with her sister and with missionaries when she was older.

But her faith and all she had learned about religion was put to the test when she was chosen by a higher power to become a shaman at age 21.

"I had suffered three years trying to understand is this God's work or is this the Devil's work," says Lor, an eighth grade teacher in Stockton.

THE GIFT

Lor was first introduced to Hmong shaman ceremonies at age 10 or 11. At that age, you always want to sneak a peek under the shaman's veil to see what evil was really behind it, she jokes.

She remembers thinking that shaman ceremonies or Hmong "kev ua neeg" is too long. It requires early morning preparation and a long day of waiting around. She and her niece told each other that they would not have any shaman ceremonies when they got older.

After graduating from Franklin High School at age 16 and enrolling at Delta College, Lor got sick. For the next five years, she lived with constant aches, pains and fatigue. The doctors didn't know what it was and all the chiropractors could do was massage her. They told her to take Tylenol for the pain.

During the fifth year of her illness, Lor woke up one night and told her mother she was dying.

"I felt every single little cell on my body just slowly lift away," Lor says. "It was so hard for me to breathe and I couldn't feel my body anymore."



Her mother called a shaman the next day to perform a ceremony or ua neeg. As soon as Lor was placed on the bench in front of the ta neeg or altar, she began to shake and move her legs up and down in the motion of a shaman.

Her eyes were closed as if someone forced her eyelids shut. Then she had her first vision. It was dark, pitch black, but she could clearly see a dark road in front of her as if this was the road to be taken.

The people around her, moved her from the bench to the couch and she continued to shake and move her legs. The shaman restarted the ceremony and Lor mimicked the shaman's every move from the couch without ever opening her eyes.

They said that Lor's illness was mob neeg or the reason behind her sickness was the calling to become a shaman.

Since then, no one has asked her if she wanted to ua neeg or be a shaman. She just became one.

"On that day, I think I cried the hardest," Lor says about the experience. "I wasn't scared. I just cried and couldn't stop… I think the old me died that day and someone new reborn because that day I think I just matured more than I ever did."

THE JOURNEY

Lor's transition into a shaman happened quickly. She started practicing almost immediately under the guidance of another more seasoned shaman.

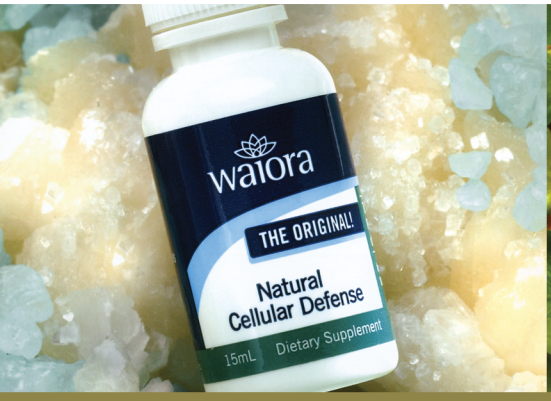
Shaman customs and rituals are not taught and cannot be learned. It just happens, Lor says. There are no instruction manuals or classes to take.

The first night Lor performed, she saw a vision of a man wearing a white pantsuit with a red sash. She later asked her mom to sew her a similar outfit to wear when she performs ceremonies.

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The second night, Lor says she heard the sound of the drum used during the ceremony turn into a calming Chinese flute. On the third night, the sound of the flute turned into words coming from a monk. Then she started repeating everything she heard. She has spirit helpers who help her navigate the spirit world and its rules. Her main spirit helper has a strong influence on Lor who speaks Chinese when performing shaman ceremonies as well as some Thai, Laotian and Cambodian.

Lor gets her information from her spirit helpers and together solve problems, ask permission to enter and leave homes and for help to find lost spirits. If that doesn't work, they will go to a higher power for help. Everything that she does on the other side has to happen according to a certain set of rules.

"Every shaman, no matter what kind of shaman you are, you have to go through the steps," Lor says. "We may think that the spirit world is not structured, but everything is structured just like here. They have their laws we have to go by."

Spirits are only seen when they want to be, Lor says. Those that don't want to be seen, won't appear anywhere.

In the spirit world, Lor sees vivid, color images of people or situations. She hears names and can see what people are wearing down to the color. And sometimes there's nothing.

"You can ua neeg straight through and not see anything," says Lor who started performing shaman ceremonies for people outside her family in about a month.

She jokes that for a period of her life she hated Hmong clothing because that's all she saw people wearing on the other side.

During her first journey into the spirit world, when looking into the situation of a man with foot pain, Lor remembers seeing the image of a child sitting on a log.

She learned that the child, an orphan, used to live with the man and his wife before getting sick and dying. She was told the child was taken by evil spirits or dab.

That was Lor's first confrontation with an evil entity, one she wasn't prepared for. And it followed for a while because she didn't know how to block it out.

That image stands out for Lor who says her journey in the spirit world sometimes plays out like a story or movie scenes with details. Sometimes there are no images at all.

In another case, she was asked to look into the situation of a girl who was sick and couldn't eat or take care of herself. Lor went into the spirit world and saw the girl's mother who had died years before.

The mother said her daughter was not being loved or cared for so she came to take the girl. Lor said she told the mother to go away.

One of the rules in the spirit world is the dead have to go away, she said. They can't stay around.

FUTURE OF SHAMANISM

Lor doesn't know how many ceremonies she has performed since becoming a shaman nearly 10 years ago.

When she first started, she performed between two and four ceremonies on both Saturdays and Sundays and some in between on the weekdays at her home after returning home from school or work.

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Once Lor was able to understand her gift, she was able to return to school to study liberal studies at California State University, Sacramento. She graduated in 2005 and received her teaching credentials a year later.



She speaks quickly about her experience as a young shaman and admits that she is physically tired and mentally exhausted of helping people all the time.

But she looks at her gift as something to be proud of and a way to help people. Lor believes shamans are God's helpers.

"There's so much evil out there as well as good and he can't keep track of it," Lor says. "It's a hard job for him and so that's why he created shamans and whatever you call it to be the mediators…because there isn't anyone who can go into the spirit world and back. What the role of the shaman is just to be that medium to resolve it."

For as long as the Hmong people have existed, so has shamanism and it's not going away, Lor says. Culture is changing and shamanism will change to accommodate it.

It seems to be happening already. In the last few years alone, there have been more instances of a higher power choosing young adults like Lor to practice shamanism. Even those who know little Hmong language are being picked to carry on the tradition.

This occurrence should relieve those who think shamanism may disappear as the elders pass on and the younger generation becomes more Americanized.

"As long as shamans exist, we will never lose that," Lor says.

The mainstream acceptance of shamanism as a tool for healing is catching the attention of local and national news as well. Through the work of the community based organizations and non-profits like Hmong Health Collaborative (www.hmonghc.org) , shamanism is gaining mainstream recognition and now are able to work alongside doctors in at least one California hospital so far. The collaborative is a partnership of nine community organizations advocating for change in the California health system to help Hmong people.

The Fresno Bee and The New York Times recently featured stories on the initiative and its start at Mercy Medical Center in Merced.

It's a positive change and a helpful one for those like Lor.

"People always think shaman is a religion, but I don't think it is," she says. "I think it's our way of life. When you take shaman away from the Hmong culture, you're not going to have much."


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Dream it. Wish it. Do it.

Written by Chuck Yang, J.D.

When my family was visiting Sunriver in Central Oregon, I bought a t-shirt with the quote: "Dream it. Wish it. Do it." I thought it would be a great motto of success for my children. Success is to dream a dream that you truly desire, relentlessly pursue that dream, and one day ultimately reaching that dream. Often, many dream wonderful dreams when they are younger only to be forgotten as they get older, like a dream in your sleep that is forgotten when you awaken.

Dreaming is easy. The challenge is hanging on to that dream and working towards it until it comes to fruition. Achieving your dreams is possible by taking a simple and systematic approach.

Clarify your dream

The first step in reaching your dream is achieving clarity about what your dream really is. Take time to really focus and think about your dream. What is it that you would like to accomplish? Imagine yourself already successful at pursuing this dream. What would it be like? Describe your success with as much details as possible. Be as as vivid as you can.

And most importantly, write it down. Putting your dream down on paper brings clarity and makes you to accountable to yourself. Talk to your family and close friends about your dream. The more you talk about your dream and visualize yourself in this environment, the more real it becomes to you.

Avoid Distractions

One of the biggest barriers to reaching our dreams are other dreams. Along the way, another dream comes along and leads us down a different path. Or sometimes we meet someone who has such an impact on our life that we are inspired to chase that person's dream instead of our own. Whether you consciously choose to pursue this new direction or not, it distracts you from reaching your target.

Along the path to success, many distractions will keep you from reaching your dreams. The solution is simply to remove these distractions—often easier said then done. Many people don't achieve their dreams not because they fail. They simply lose sight of it and in pursuit of another dream. Removing distractions will help you to stay focus on your target.

Create Manageable Goals

Achieving a great big dream may seem to be an insurmountable task. But when you break it into small manageable steps, any dream can be achieved. Analyze your dream and think about the steps needed to get there. For example, if your dream is to start your own business, what skills or training will be required? How much money will you need to get started? Who can you talk to that can give you insight into this industry? Write down these steps. Organize them into concrete yearly goals that you can work towards.

A simple tool to help you achieve your goal is to create a To Do list of concrete actions that will take you closer to your goal. By writing down the steps required, you will always have a reference when looking for the next steps. Review this list regularly and do something every day that will take you closer to your dream.



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Focus and Determination

The planning phases of reaching your dream are important but many people fail in the execution. Planning is like a runner gearing up and getting into position before a race. Getting in the correct line and facing the right way are essential to the runner's success, but he will only win through execution. Reaching the end may be daunting, but staying focused and taking it one step at a time, the runner is able to complete the race. So, it is with the tasks to reaching your dreams. Create tasks that are not too large and persistently work at accomplish them one at a time and you reach the finish line.



As my generation of Hmong-Americans move on to parenthood, I hope that we will help inspire our children to dream dreams worthy of their life's pursuit - dreams that will take our Hmong people to new levels of success. Encourage your children to be bold enough to dream, to stay focus and work relentlessly towards that dream, and they will be successful.

About the Author



Chuck Yang, J.D.

Chuck Yang is founder and Chief Executive Officer of Quasitime, a software company that develops web applications to help you and your company be more productive. Chuck is a graduate of Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon. He also holds a masters in Engineering Management and an undergraduate degree from UCSB.

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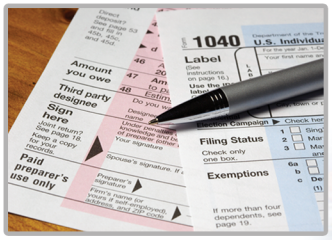
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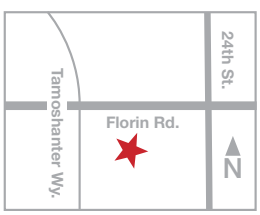


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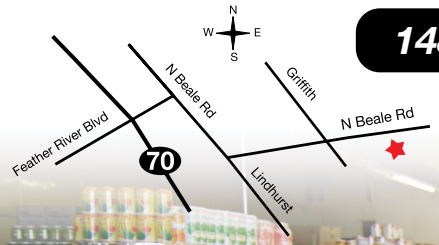
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Dr. Kao N. Vang

txhawb profile

Kao N. Vang, D.M.D., always knew he wanted to help people at an early age. "I wanted to study in a field that I could use to help others," he says, "especially my community." Finishing with honors from McLane High School, he went on to obtain his B.A. in chemistry from Fresno State. In 1998, he completed his Doctor of Dental Medicine from the University of Pennsylvania and began a one-year residency at UMC. His clinic, Family & Cosmetic Dentistry, has been operating since 2000.

"The joy of helping my clients—being able to relieve them of their pain—is a rewarding experience," says Dr. Kao N. Vang, a promoter of dental hygiene. "There is still a lack of knowledge in our Hmong community, and I'd like to educate them more about how to maintain and keep their teeth for as long as possible. Having a dentist screen you can help detect and prevent infections early on. If you have a blister or bump inside your mouth, that's not normal, you need to be seen and treated immediately." Not visiting your dentist can lead to something as serious as oral cancer, explains Dr. Kao. "Even what you eat can affect you. Plastic or metallic parts of an organ replacement are reservoirs for harmful bacteria accumulated from your mouth. This can lead to a heart attack. As a Doctor of Dental Medicine, unlike a Doctor of Dental Surgery, my job is to survey your body and how it affects or is affected by your teeth. My job is not limited to only oral examination and treatment."

Dr. Kao N. Vang's philosophy on success is: anything is possible; believe in yourself—if someone can do it, you can do it. "I always wanted be in control," he says, regarding his education and occupation. "If you want to be a successful individual, you must be stable and self-sufficient, and you must be a kind of resource—perhaps as an educator, role model, or leader—for your community. And of course, you must seek preventive care to stay healthy." Dr. Kao N. Vang often donates to local Hmong elementary and high school events, and is currently a member of the California Dental Association, Fresno Madera Dental Society, and the Vang Unity International Foundation.

writer
Burlee Vang

photography
Tudor Stanley

Kao N. Vang
D.M.D.

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txhawb profile

Chue Charles Vang

writer
Burlee Vang

photography
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Chue Charles Vang
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Chue Charles Vang, owner of Good Luck Bail Bonds and Vangold Insurance Group, has come a long way in the American business venture. "When I first arrived in this country in 1979, in San Francisco, I saw a lot of banks—high buildings overlooking the ocean. I wanted to sit on the top floor of those buildings. I wanted to be a banker. That was success." Settling in Orange County, he began working as an account executive for Bank of America until he was relocated to a branch in Fresno. There were no Hmong tellers or account executives at the time and Fresno's Hmong population was just growing. "I liked my job, but I began noticing how bank managers and vice presidents were being laid off each time banks were merged or bought out," says Charles. "I realized that there was no guarantee for me in that business. I had to look for something new."

In 1992, he went into media. He founded Asian Broadcasting, a conglomerate of Hmong television (aired on Channel 43) and radio. He also purchased and took over California Hmong Times, a local newspaper, and renamed it Hmong Times and introduced the concept of Hmong radio to the Fresno market. "I saw that our community lacked information. I knew it was hard for other people to connect and work with us. That's why I got into media." Chue continued in that venture for five years. But putting on a TV show was costly. In addition, the newspaper, which was given out freely, suffered from the lack of patrons and financial support from advertisers. "Hmong people weren't really reading in those days. I also knew the market was small," says Chue, knowing he wouldn't be able to make a living from his services.

In 1997, after doing extensive research into bail bonds, Chue started Good Luck Bail Bonds and Vangold Insurance. The two businesses have thrived in the last twelve years. His idea of success has long changed since his arrival in San Francisco. "It's about going through trials, and how much you accomplish, not how much money you make." His business philosophy is: look at your company in the long run, find a way to cater your product to everyone—not just the Hmong community, think of how you can be convenient to others, and above all, do it with honesty because you'll be in partnership with your customers for a long time. "Honesty matters." In his years in Fresno, Chue Charlles Vang has served as president for Central California Forum on Refugee Affairs and on boards for City of Fresno Planning Commission, Chamber of Commerce, Central Valley Public Television, and Fresno Unified School District's Measure B and C committees. He ran for City Council in 1996 with Blong Xiong as his campaign manager.



Paul C. Lo

txhawb profile

After graduating from UC Davis with a B.A. in economics, Paul C. Lo attended UCLA School of Law and became the first licensed Hmong attorney in California. He has been in practice since 1994. In 2003, after leaving a partnership firm in Merced, he launched the Law Offices of Paul C. Lo with offices in Merced and Fresno.

"For the past 15 years, I have had the pleasure of representing Hmong clients in the Central Valley," he says. "I work hard for my clients and I treat them with respect, fairness, and honesty." He initially handles a wide array of cases including criminal defense, family law, personal injury, and general civil litigation. For the past ten years, however, his practice has been in the areas of personal injury, employment law, business law, and general civil litigation. When asked to define the word success, Paul says, "Success is the person who has found the career that gives him meaning and satisfaction, who is blessed with a supportive and loving spouse, whose family and children are honest, descent, and happy, and who is content with his station in life, whether he has little or a lot."

In 2001, Paul C. Lo also founded SEA-APA (South East Asian American Professional Association) to better the Southeast Asian community through resources provided by working and business people. Since its existence, more than $50,000 in scholarship money have been raised and given to Southeast Asian students in Merced and Stanislaus counties. Their website is www.sea-apa.org. Aside from his involvement with SEA-APA, he has served on the board of Hmong National Development, Inc., and was also an elected member of the Merced City School District board of trustees from 1999 to 2005. Currently, he is a member of the UC Merced Foundation Board of Trustees and the Merced Mercy Medical Foundation Board of Trustees, president of the Merced County Bar Association, and president of the board of his church, the Lao Evangelical Church of Merced. After having accomplished so much, Paul C. Lo still finds inspiration from a very humble foundation. "I am deeply inspired by my parents and the struggles, sacrifices, and bravery of the Hmong people during the Vietnam War and its aftermath, including the many successes in the Hmong-American community."

writer
Burlee Vang

photography
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txhawb profile

Asia Supermarket

writer
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Chafong Lee and his daughter KaoYoua Pa Lee-Hinds are descended from a long lineage of Hmong merchants who started to practice business in Laos as early as 1965. After losing everything in the war, Chafong resettled his family to Santa Ana, CA in 1979. He decided try his luck at business again in 1984 when he started "Lee's Gardening & Services" in Merced cutting grass, cleaning homes, offices and apartments. After saving some extra money, he was able to open "Lee's Video & Fashion" in 1987 selling movies, clothing and fabric. His store was one of only two Hmong stores in Merced at the time. "You come to this country, but you don't know what you're going to do," he says. "We went to Merced and saw that this would be a good opportunity."

The family built on the success of the Merced store and opened up the 6,000-square-foot Asia Supermarket in Fresno on Belmont Avenue in 1992. Three years later, the family moved its store to a larger 25,000-square-foot building at Tulare and Chestnut avenues. In 1995, Chafong Lee founded Hmong Union Trading, Inc., becoming an international distributor of Asian goods from Laos, Thailand, China and Korea to stores across America. "I am the first Hmong person to order goods from overseas," he says. In 2000, he opened the first and largest Hmong Shopping Center in Brooklyn Center, MN. With 22 units on 8.5 units, it served the large Southeast Asian communities in and around the Twin Cities.

Despite losing the shopping center to the City of Brooklyn Center who exercised eminent domain to obtain the property in 2006, Lee carried on with the help of his family to grow their other supermarkets. In 2007, Asia Supermarket in Fresno underwent a successful redesign and remodel of their Fresno store which is now under the ownership of Lee's daughter, Kao Youa Pa Lee-Hinds. Kao brings contemporary business management knowledge from her BS from Fresno State's Craig School of Business. They still believe in reinvesting back into the community and donate time and money to student organizations. They credit their continued success in the Hmong supermarket business as a result of honesty to your customer, to your vendor and to yourself, Lee says. Hinds says success is putting 100 percent of your effort into your business. "If you only do it half way, you're only going to get half way results," she says. "If you do it 100 percent, then you get the feedback, the feeling that you accomplished something."



Dr. Lee X Yang

txhawb profile

Early on, Dr. Lee X. Yang, D.C., hoped for a career that would help others live a healthy and harmonious life. "During my high school years I wanted to become a teacher," he says, "and then, when I was in college I wanted to become a pediatrician or a psychiatrist. It wasn't until I came across a friend who was in Chiropractic College that I started to become interested in the field. The friend provided great insight on the impact chiropractors have in people's lives. He also discussed the business aspect of the career, and highlighted the benefits of being one's own boss. Being a chiropractor has enabled me to be a business owner, as well as an educator."

writer
Burlee Vang

Dr. Lee X. Yang received his Doctor of Chiropractic from Life West Chiropractic College in Hayward, California, and has been practicing for approximately seven years in the Sacramento area. For him, success is measured by his ability to improve the quality of life for his patients and by the support from friends and family. "Now, if success was defined and measured by monetary items, then I would have to say I'm still heading toward success," he says. "The chiropractic profession does not focus on making money, but emphasizes on the value of providing a service to improve the quality of life for our patients. The value of hard work and good ethics, along with the support from my family, friends and community, has always been my foundation. My job has been made enjoyable and valuable."

Dr. Lee X. Yang D.C.
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Throughout his years of practice, Dr. Lee X. Yang has participated in numerous functions involving health and wellness, education, and entrepreneurship. He has sponsored/co-sponsored and donated to events, programs, and fundraisers that promote and empower students and individuals to become thriving citizens in their community. "I have a belief of 'being the change you want to see' and being proactive about the changes you want to see," he says. "Business owners and leaders have the necessary skills, tools, and knowledge to seize the opportunity to set an example, to influence people. There's a Buddhist saying: He who experiences the unity of life sees his own Self in all beings, and all beings in his own Self, and looks on everything with an impartial eye. If we, as business owners and community leaders are able to genuinely give to our community without personal interests or gains, then we can encourage and coach others to make selfless acts and decisions for a collective and thriving community.



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Pao Yang

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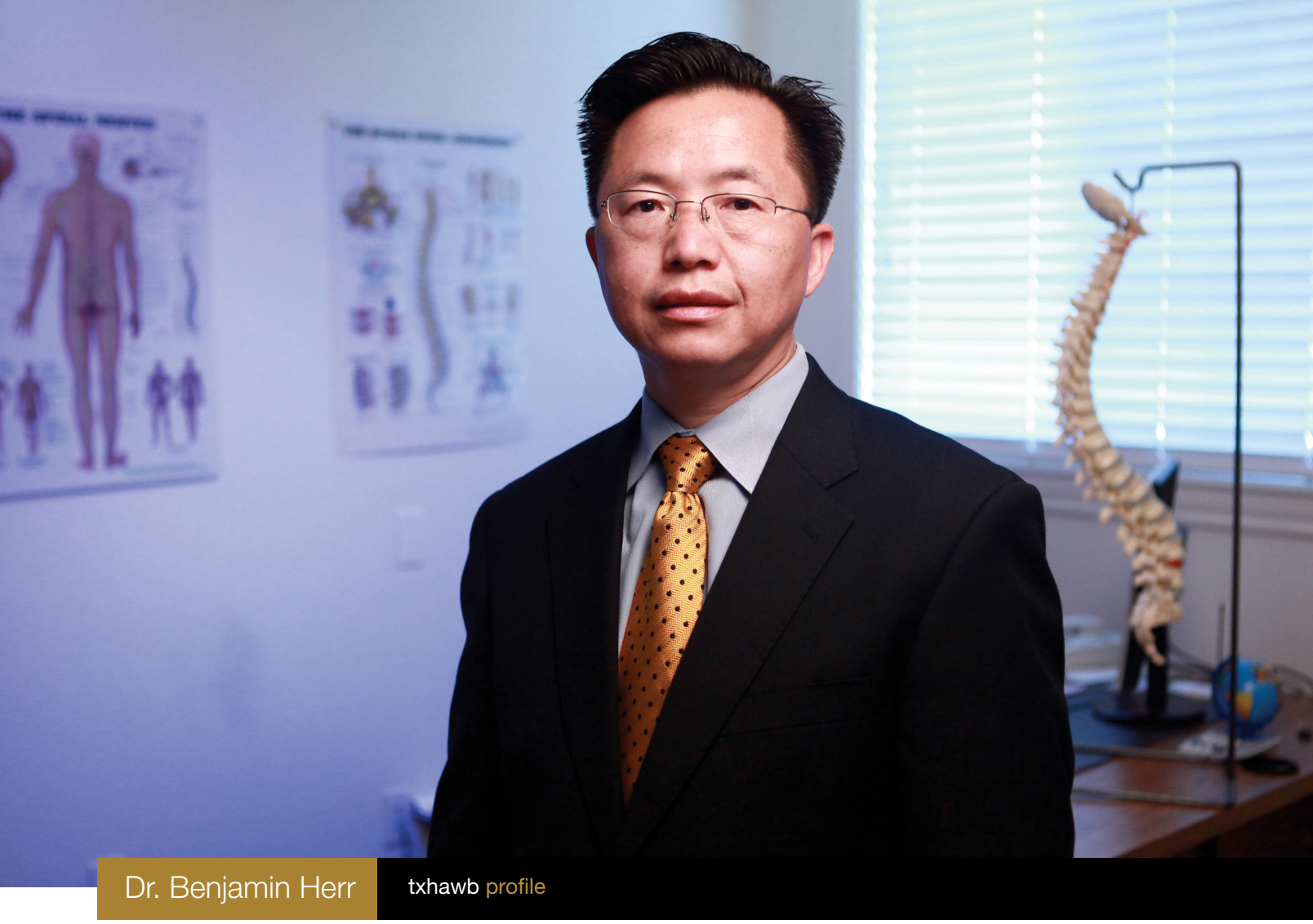
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Assuming the position of Director of Admissions at Devry University was not an obvious career choice for Pao Yang when he attended its Pomona campus in 1992. After receiving his B.S. in Electronic Engineering, he began working with Siliconix as a Product Development Engineer, designing computer chips. At the time, he was also referring students to Devry University, promoting the education he had attained in Pomona. While working for Siliconix and sending referrals to Devry University, he took the opportunity to apply for an open Admissions Advisor position in the Bay Area. He was hired part-time, and was able to maintain his engineering job. Two years later, he abandoned his work with Siliconix and took on the full-time responsibility as a DeVry University Admissions Advisor.

"I finally realized my passion was to help students," says Pao. "What I do now at DeVry University is not a job—because it's what I like to do." Moving to Fresno, he began conducting high school presentations and workshops to promote the education provided at DeVry. In 2005, he was part of the team responsible for establishing DeVry University, Fresno, and in 2007, he helped launch the campus in Bakersfield as Assistant Director of Admissions. With the two institutions experiencing a successful growth, Pao quickly assumed the Metro Director of Admissions position overseeing both campuses.

"I probably have forty or more relatives who have graduated from DeVry University," Pao says. Including his schooling, he has been with Devry University for fourteen years. Currently, Pao Yang is finishing his M.B.A. with an emphasis in Project Management. When asked about what makes DeVry University distinctive from other institutions of higher education, he says, "One of the great features of the university are its classes, which are small and can provide one-on-one with professors. There is also a multitude of different advisors to guide the students. You have your admission advisors, financial advisors, academic advisors, tutors, and even a student success coach. And when you graduate, a career advisor is assigned to assist you in finding employment. With our students, 90% of those in the active job market are employed in career-related positions within 6 months of graduation with an average starting salary over $40,000 a year. We've put people in high positions at Kaiser Permanente, Valley's Children Hospital, Hitachi, Cisco Systems, Intel, Bank of America, EA-Electronic Arts (Game development), among many others."



Dr. Benjamin Herr

txhawb profile

Although Benjamin Herr always knew he'd become a doctor someday, he wanted the ability to heal others without the use of medication. "There's not much medication involved in the chiropractic practice," he says. "It is based on one's nervous system, meaning the body can heal naturally without chemical interference—that was what attracted me most to the career. My grandfather treated people with his hands and through natural herbal medicine. In the same way, I now use my hands to treat the entire body—the bones, muscles, tissues, and nervous system."

After attending Simpson University for four years, Benjamin Herr went to Life Chiropractic College West in Hayward, California for his Doctorate in Chiropractic. "I have been a successful chiropractor for more than nine years," he says. "But I have been doing business in general for more than 15 years. I've been running a successful Hmong-Asian market for 18 years. In addition, I've been a real estate investor for more than five years now. I think all my businesses are going well because of my hard work and family's unconditional support." For Benjamin Herr, success is a continuous journey, a way of life. "It is about discovering your ultimate purpose and pursing it with everything you have and everything you do. Success is not about money at all. You may accumulate a million dollars, but in reality, you still might lack success. Success does not always equal money—it's the feeling you get when you accomplish something. When I see people improve their health through my help, it makes me feel like a good person and doctor. When I see a patient go from a poor condition to a strong and healthy recovery, it motivates my passion for helping others."

Dr. Benjamin Herr contributes locally to as many Hmong events and organizations as possible. He has helped sponsor the Hmong New Year as well as banquets and functions regarding student education. "We need unity in the Hmong community," he says. "We also need to really educate everyone about education so that we can create Hmong business leaders with professional skills in different areas." He currently serves as board member for Hmong District, Over Seas Tribal Services, President of Empowerment Institute, Hmong Heritage, Hmong New Year, among many other organizations. He has also worked overseas, training leaders from Vietnam, Thailand, Laos, and China.

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Brewing a Dream

The Hawj Brother's Distillery Story

It's commonly known as Baijiu in the East. But in our community, we've always called it caw dlawb or "rice wine." You'll find it stored in jars on kitchen counters or in the pantries of most traditional homes, but you won't find it on any market shelf — at least not until now.

Story By Burlee Vang Photography by Tudor Stanley

"It's actually a distilled liquor, not a wine," says Rinna Her, 28, co-founder of Hawj Brother's Distillery, located at 1100 Garden Highway in Yuba City. With his sister, Nancy Her, they've come a long way to introduce caw dlawb as the next American alcoholic beverage.

CULTURE AND TRADITION

Rinna's knowledge of making caw dlawb is a centuries old tradition passed down from one generation to the next. "I see it as something worth preserving," he says, having acquired the trade from his parents. "You'll find that caw dlawb plays a huge role in our community."

The drink represents friendship, commitment, and respect. Back in Laos, the arrival and departure of a guest, relative or old friend in one's home would be addressed with an offered sip of caw dlawb. During the ceremonial process of weddings and funerals, the drink is poured into tiny plastic cups and given to key participants, especially male family members, elders, and clan leaders. It also has its medicinal purposes when mixed with herbs. Traditionalists will use it as a nightcap for health rejuvenation, a remedy for muscle and joint pains, or even as treatment for a nasty wasp sting. And then, like other alcoholic beverages in most world cultures, caw dlawb has its common role in social gatherings. In America, with the Hmong community clinging to its traditions, caw dlawb is still popular for the same reasons.

"I hope my re-invention of the drink will be used for these cultural practices," says Rinna.

THE PROCESS

Taking classes and attending conferences in alcohol fermentation and distillation, Rinna realized the similarities between the skills passed down from ancestors and the techniques used by the American distiller. "It's all the same," he reveals. "I just learned more technical terms for the process. The only difference is: different grains and different yeasts equals different flavors."

Walking into his distillery in Yuba City on any given day, you'll find Rinna and his family making caw dlawb from raw materials. "A true artisan makes his product, hands-on, from scratch," he says.

The early phase is a manual process, carried out by Rinna and his siblings. Short-grain white rice is steamed over several small stoves using standard propane tanks. When cooked, the rice is cooled and hand-mixed with yeast in large stainless steel trays, and then it is moved into fermentation tanks to be blended with water. "I let it sit for two to three weeks," says Rinna. "It's a period of just waiting." After fermentation, the liquid is transferred into a copper still. Three stages of alcohol are produced: the heads, hearts and tails.

"The heads are so harsh that I use them for a sanitizer or cleaning solution." He compares the heads to nail polish remover. The tails are saved and redistilled. The hearts, "the part you want," he describes, are bottled in a fine glass bottle sporting the Hawj Brother's Distllery's golden logo, a paj ntaub design known as "an elephant's footprint."

When asked about the difference between his product and what you get from traditional homemade caw dlawb, Rinna boasts, "Unlike mine, they don't dilute theirs, and they keep all the heads, hearts, and tails. That's why you get that burning sensation from your throat down to your stomach when you drink it. It's like drinking poison. It might taste stronger than my product because of the burn, but it's actually only 120-130 proof. My stuff won't burn as much, but it's 180 proof, about 90% alcohol. The finished product is 90 proof, 45% alcohol."

BUSINESS CHALLENGES

Going into the distillery business has been a huge risk for Rinna and his family. Rinna, who worked as a Sutter County Sheriff's Department detective, had to quit his job because state law prohibits being in law enforcement and holding a liquor license in the same jurisdiction.

"People would think you're nuts, trying to go into this business," he says, smiling. To launch such a business, it is a requirement to build or rent a facility with all equipments installed prior to submitting a distillery license application. "You have to risk spending a lot of money before you can even submit an application. You don't know if you'll be approved after inspection. I talked to a lot of people who were already in the business before I decided to take the chance."

Rinna recalls the application process as a grueling experience. "You will be rejected for every little minor error. Our application got kicked back several times before it finally passed through."

His plans to open a distillery began in November of 2007, and progressed into December of 2008 when a federal permit was






HAWJ BROTHER'S DISTILLERY
BAIJIU ❖ SOJU ❖ VODKA ❖ BOURBON
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finally obtained. Three months after, a state permit followed. "That one cost us several thousand dollars, unlike the federal permit, and has to be renewed annually." All labels on the Hawj Brother's products are required to run through inspection to avoid infringing upon advertising laws. "We cannot depict sexual content," says Rinna. "And all our models have to be 24 years of age, well above the drinking age, because some 21-year-old might look 18."

A DREAM IN THE MAKING

When asked why the beverage will be marketed as Baijiu instead of caw dlawb, Rinna says, "The name 'Baijiu' is sweeter on the tongue. It's harder for non-Hmong speakers to call it the way we call it. Plus, in Asia, Baijiu is already the most recognized name for the drink. It'll be easier to market." Rinna and his family hope to make this alcoholic drink as popular as what the Japanese did with sake and what the Koreans did with soju. "This is new, different from everything you can find in America. You won't find it anywhere." A bottle of Baijiu from Hawj Brother's Distillery retails at $29.99. Soju, vodka, and bourbon will soon be added to their list.

It's a dream in the making for Rinna Her and his family. Like any business, there has been much sacrifice and hard work. Often, Rinna will spend his nights at his distillery, keeping an eye on his production, checking temperatures on his machines to make sure everything is functioning properly. "We didn't have much when we were young," he reveals. "We went to The Salvation Army for our things. If we do it right, our whole family and the generations to come can really benefit from this."



For more information on how to buy products made by Hawj Brother's Distillery or to stay updated on their other progress, please contact them at the following :

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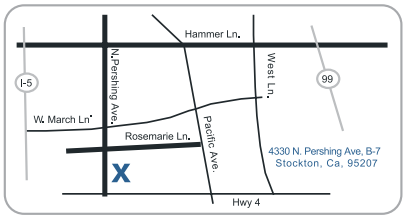
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Sounders Music Group, LLC in partnership with **M-150 Energy Drink**, the most popular energy drink from Thailand, will officially launch The Sounders' fifth album, "Kuv Hlub Kov," to all fans. Still in the hearts of many today are The Sounders' previous popular albums: "Leej Twg Lub Paj Rose," "One Thousand Miles," and "Dua Rhe Nblooj Siab."

M-150 Energy Drink has been involved with the Hmong community for a long time. In the past years, it has sponsored the Hmong History Exhibit booth (managed by Hmong students from Roosevelt High School in Fresno) and the Hmong International New Year Festival in Fresno, Txhawb Hmong California Directory, and has participated in the 28th Hmong International Sports Tournament in Minnesota. In 2009-2010, M-150 will present The Sounders.

The "Kuv Hlub Koj" album is produced for all The Sounders' fans. Lots of funds, hard work, and dedication have been put into the detailed making of this album to bring out the best of The Sounders to their fans. The album includes twelve new original songs and six music videos filmed in high definition. Also featured on the album are string parts from the popular and extremely talented group Vie Trio. The tracks were mixed and mastered at GMM Grammy Studio in Bangkok, where famous Thai artists such as Bird Tongchai, Sek Loso, and others have produced their music.

To deliver a great music experience for The Sounders' fans, M-150 and The Sounders have set out to do a concert tour for 2009-2010. The first two concerts of 2009 will be held in Sacramento during November and in Fresno during December. More concerts have been scheduled in 2010 in Minnesota and other locations. Fans will be greeted with crystal clear and heart-thumping sound provided by the line array hanging sound system, accompanied by automated lights and video screens synchronized to music.

The "Kuv Hlub Koj" album can be found at major Hmong festivals in Sacramento and Fresno, local Hmong Stores, online at www.soundersmusic.com, and itunes.com.



For more information on The Sounders' concerts, tickets, and more, visit their website at

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media chat with

Zoua Vang

Zoua Vang put a Hmong face on the news in a good way and not as a topic for a news story.

Story by BoNhia Lee
Photo by Tudor Stanley

For about a decade, she stood in front of the news camera as a broadcast journalist to tell stories about the Hmong community and to help the Hmong people understand how to interact with the media.

She's carried a deep sense of responsibility to tell all her stories accurately and fairly in order to better portray the Hmong community. And others in the community have put that responsibility on her shoulders as well.

Her pride in being Hmong is the reason she kept her Hmong name as a reporter, the reason she insisted on having a Hmong wedding ceremony even though her husband isn't Hmong and the reason that for the past two years she has been documenting the Hmong community's search for a voice as it rallied behind General Vang Pao.

"If you're not out there to accurately portray or tell the stories of your community someone else will and there isn't a guarantee they're always going to get those stories right," Vang says about reporting.

Her work at KSEE Channel 24 in Fresno earned her two Associated Press Awards and a Best of the West award. She is also recognized as the first Hmong television news reporter in the United States.

Although no longer a broadcast journalist today, she continues to educate the community about the media in a new way. She is now the communications director at First 5 Fresno County, a public organization created to enhance the lives of children from birth through age 5.

"Being in news, I saw how people who have access to public relations firms know how to pitch their stories," says Vang, 32. "So I thought…I have great skills here and I can help people to advocate for stories to get on the news and impact how it gets covered by educating folks how to better tell their stories."

The Media Bug

Vang first appeared in front of the camera when she was invited onto Ben H. Vue's "Hmong Today," television show on KNXT Channel 49 to talk about how a young girl straddles being Hmong and growing up in America while being successful in school.

Vang and her family were resettled in Mobile, Ala. in 1980. Three years later, the family moved to Fresno and lived in the housing projects near the fairgrounds.

She attended Winchell Elementary School and graduated valedictorian from Edison High School. That year, she received a scholarship to study education in college with plans to eventually become a school counselor.

After appearing on Vue's show, Hmong parents called in asking for her to come back on as a role model for other Hmong girls in the community. Vue invited Vang back as co-host.

She entered her freshman year at California State University, Fresno undeclared and unsure of what she really wanted to do. But the experience of being on television lingered with her.

"I said, 'Wow, could I really do this,'" says Vang, a Rodman Scholar at Fresno State. "You look around and see there's no Hmong person on TV, so maybe it's not for me. I remember being really frustrated."

But journalism professors at Fresno State encouraged Vang to pursue her dreams and she went for it. With no journalism training, she connected with a professor who helped her get a night news writing job at KFRE, the news radio channel for KMPH Channel 26.

That summer, Vang's grandfather died forcing her to move to Minnesota to live with her parents. The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities made an exception and allowed Vang to start school that fall. She worked full-time and took 20 credits and more a semester double majoring in history and broadcast journalism so that she would graduate on time.



Working in Media

Vang's first big story came right before her senior year at age 20 when she was interning at KSTP Channel 5 in Minnesota.

Twenty-four-year-old Khoua Her had just strangled her six children to death in a St. Paul public housing complex and the news managers were discussing the story. Vang interrupted, gave her two-cents and they asked her if she wanted the story.

She ended up getting an exclusive interview with the woman's husband who was hiding out in a nearby home, but not until after explaining to him that he could get into a lot of trouble for speaking to her.

"I'm Hmong," Vang said. "I think when you're a Hmong person, you can't take advantage of people and not feel bad about it."

She pulled him aside and asked him if he was sure he wanted to be interviewed because it wasn't just talking Hmong person to Hmong person. Anything he said was going to be broadcast all over.

"This was my way to make sure he knew what he was getting into," Vang says.

After that summer, the station created a "full-time reporter in training" position for Vang convincing her not to take a weekend reporting job in Eau Claire, Wis.

In 1999, Vang left her contract a year early and came to KSEE in Fresno to see how she could influence and work on stories about the Hmong community.

Some of the stories she covered included an in depth look at the life of a Hmong strawberry farmer, the Mongolian Boy Society gang rape trial and the suicide of a young Fresno High School Hmong couple who drank silver cleaning solution. Vang has also covered the Laci Peterson case, the Marcus Wesson mass killing and the aftermath of the September 11 attacks on New York City.

"As a journalist, you have to be objective. You have to be fair," Vang said. "My experience is because I am Hmong, I can do a much better job than anybody else can….being Hmong gives me more context and allows me to cover things more fairly."

But perhaps the most memorable work Vang is most proud of was her half-hour special in 2001 called "Trail of Tears: The Hmong Story" in which she documented the Hmong journey from Thailand to the U.S. using her own family's story.

"It was a deliberate piece and it was kind of scary to do because it was a focus on my family," Vang said.

But exposing her family and pitching the special to news managers at the time was worth it.

"It's being used still in a lot of classrooms throughout Fresno Unified, it's at the county library, the classes at the university are using it to teach about Hmong history," Vang said.

The Next Step

After five years working at KSEE and airing "Trail of Tears," Vang finally felt like she had accomplished her goals.

By then, the media industry was changing. She didn't get to write as much as she wanted to or work on the in depth reporting that she loved.

In 2004, Vang left television and got a job working on the other side of communications doing advocacy and public relations work for First 5 Fresno County.

She now oversees radio and television commercials for the agency, handles its media campaigns and works on the group's public policy and advocacy programs.

"It was a good opportunity for me to learn a new skill, but also to put the skills that I have to good use because we deal with a lot of nonprofits and teaching them how to better advocate for children and services," Vang said.

And the career change helped her personally too. She had no time to date while in news, but since then, she got married, had two children and earned her master's degree.

She still serves on a number of boards in the community such as Channel 30's Advisory Committee, the Stone Soup Advisory Committee, the advisory committee for journalism at Fresno City College where she will also be teaching mass communications next semester.

Vang admits that journalism is a challenging field requiring reporters to have a certain toughness to them. It's sad not seeing more Hmong people going into the field, she says.











"It's also an opportunity for someone to come in and there's that spot waiting for them," Vang said.

Other notable names in the media include Vang's younger sister, Susie Pakoua Vang, who was a reporter at The Fresno Bee until recently when she left to pursue a degree in law.

Another relative, Doualy Xaykaothao is a radio reporter for National Public Radio. She is based in Seoul, South Korea.

"I think there are great opportunities for Hmong reporters because the community will get behind you if you (report) responsibly," Vang said. "If not done appropriately you can end up hurting the community more than helping it."

Hmong and the Media

As a reporter, Vang helped to educate many of her sources about their rights when dealing with the media.

The media can be very helpful, but people have a right to invite them in or keep them out, she says.

No one can force anyone to go on the record for a story, but the community must know that the media have a right to videotape anyone standing on public property or the public realm.

"The media is evil," Vang says. "But the Hmong people tend to hide because our people don't have the tools or feel empowered enough to speak up."

In reality, the media has helped the Hmong community get much more connected especially through Hmong radio. The community knew the charges against General Vang Pao were dropped in mid-September because they heard it on the radio, Vang says.

She admits that she is concerned, skeptical and cautious of the media herself. Her advice to the Hmong community is to engage with the media, but know what you're getting into because a statement can be taken out of context at any time.

"I think its being smart enough to assess the situation," Vang says. "The media can be a very good thing if you know how to engage appropriately."

She encourages people to not run away from the media if they are looking for thoughts from the public about things such as social problems or how the president is doing.

"We need to represent so that when they see Asian faces on television, it's not because we're killing each other, but so (people) can see that we're articulate," Vang says. "You can change the way people view us in so many different ways."

Vang says because of her raised profile which was a result of her career, some people in the broader community expect her to speak on behalf of the community, but she discourages that. She says while she's proud to be Hmong, people need to remember the Hmong community, like all other communities, is complex and that's what makes us so dynamic.

"As members of the Hmong community, we cannot wait on other Hmong people to do good things so the public will view us in a more positive light. Everyone has a part to do," Vang says. "Regardless if a person is a custodian or social worker or a news reporter, if they do their absolute best and do well, it is a positive reflection on all of us. Every day, I still challenge myself to do better because I know my work is a reflection of myself, my family, and my community."



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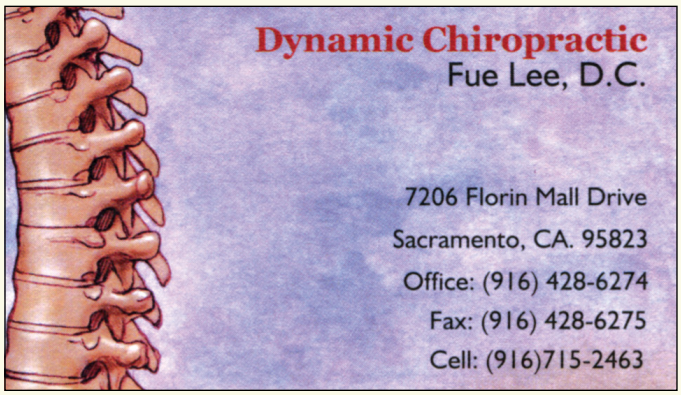
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(916) 346-4444

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(916) 230-4817

May's Caskets
3281 35th Ave Ste 2
Sacramento, CA 95824
(916) 833-6774

Planet Private Security
Ger Yang
6784 Bodine Cir
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 688-5851

Thao Therapy
Bee Thao
Sacramento, CA
(916) 712-8214

Third Eye Patrol
2751 Fruitridge Rd., Ste. 14
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(916) 919-0979

Toua's Electronic Repair
2531 Alta Arden Expressway
Sacramento, CA
(916) 849-7196

Victory Construction
Elizabeth Thao
3650 51st Ave
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 424-7392

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(916) 455-8309

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Houa Vang
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Sacramento, CA 95824
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Elite Realty Services
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7412 Elsie Ave
Sacramento, CA 95828
(916) 640-6822

Executive Realtors
Kao Xiong
5850 Stockton Blvd Ste A
Sacramento, CA 95824
(916) 743-7894

1st National Mortgage Sourc.
Richard C. Vang
7260 E Southgate Dr Ste C
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 601-4671

RESTAURANTS

Gana Juice
Se Vang
Sacramento, CA 95829
(916) 525-2426

Jack's Donut Wheel
Neng Vang
9372 Madison Ave
Orangevale, CA 95662
(916) 987-7838

Jimmy's Deli
1201 Grand Ave
Sacramento, CA 95838
(916) 929-7176

Lighthouse Fish & Chips
Kham Xiong
8055 Elk Grove Florin Rd # F
Sacramento, CA 95829
(916) 682-0100

Noodle House
5800 Madison Ave Ste X
Sacramento, CA 95841
(916) 344-5769

Varsity Donuts
Doua Yang
8732 La Riviera Dr
Sacramento, CA 95826
(916) 854-4588P

TAX SERVICES

Rocky's Tax Service
2308 Florin Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95822
(916) 421-0119
(See Ad on Page 28)

Simply Tax Service
Jonathan Neng Yang
1010 El Camino Ave., Ste. AB
Sacramento, CA 95815
(916) 467-6477
(See Ad on This Page)

TH Tax & Insurance Services
2831 Fruitridge Rd
Sacramento, CA 95820
(916) 455-5151

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Hmongitv Tour
7413 Elsie Ave
Sacramento, CA 95828
(916) 949-6259

Hmong United Travel
7100 24th St
Sacramento, CA 95822
(916) 429-2177

Vang Intl. Travel
2330 Fruitridge Rd
Sacramento, CA 95822
(916) 395-8271

Vang International Travel
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Sacramento, CA 95822
(916) 395-8220

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Sacramento, CA
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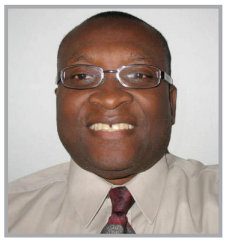
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We reserve the right to refuse services, change any business strategies, prices, promotions and fees at anytime without advance notice. Discount cannot be applied with any other offer. There is no refund on anticipated tax refund loans.

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(559) 681-6618

Household Appliance Outlet
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Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 738-9327

AUTOMOTIVE

REPAIR

Best Auto Body
4678 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 255-8800

Brothers Tires & Auto Repair
208 S. Highway 59
Merced, CA 95341
(209) 564-0453

CV Auto Parts
2554 E Omaha Ave
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 708-5313

Hmong Auto Body
2077 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 233-9200

Jungle Stars Auto Body
4655 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 456-2239

Mobile Pit Stop
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 389-6974

Nelly's Auto Repair
2038 E. Jensen Ave., #6
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 246-7126
(See Ad on Page This Page)

Quality Auto Repair & Tires
3665 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 907-5428

South Collision Automotive Center
2014 E Webster Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 486-2735

Sunrise Auto Clinic
4518 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 255-7557
(See Ad on Page This Page)

TEC Motorsport
1250 N Sierra Vista Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 776-8988

Vang's Auto Services
4654 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 253-0282

Vue Fast Auto Repair
3813 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 266-9565

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Belmont Smog
4520 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 251-5650

Smog Express
4623 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 255-1221

TIRES

Belmont Tire Service
3324 E. Belmont Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 445-1462
(See Ad on PageThis Page)

Citi Tires
4718 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 255-7328
(See Ad on Page 48)

Highland Tire
4678 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 251-6765

VIISIT US AT
www.txhawb.com

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Hmong Towing
4654 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 313-7815

Nelly's Towing
2038 E Jensen Ave #C
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 307-1684
(See Ad on This Page)

NEW AUTO SALES

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7250 N Palm Ave
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 431-3400

Fresno Lexus
777 W Palmdon Dr
Fresno, CA 93704
(559) 354-5500

Honda North
Koua Cha
395 W Herndon Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 355-7015
(See Ad on Page 6)

Nissan of Clovis
370 W Herndon Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 297-6919

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Complete Engine Services
American - Foreign
Since 1987



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Shop Manager

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CHRIS MOUA
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8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

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Free estimates & computer diagnostics on everything!
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- Motor Repair
- Head Repair
- Water Pump
- Axel Rapair
- Brake
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- Check Engine Lights
- Alarms
- Radiator
- Odometer Repair
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- General Motor Repair
- Power Door & Window Repair



(559) 246-7126

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24 HRS

State Farm
Liberty Mutual
Allstate Insurance



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FAX (559) 307-1684
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Toyota of Selma
Larry / Nengwa / Kou
3150 Highland Ave
Selma, CA 93662
(866) 754-5250
(See Ad on Page 5)

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559 Motors
1032 N Blackstone Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 237-3542

Affordable Imports
Tou Moua
1010 S San Jose Ave, Ste 101
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 824-4755

C & H Auto Center
3420 E. Belmont Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 445-0150

Glazzy's Auto Sales
4505 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 456-2987

Lee Auto Sales
4007 E Ventura Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 255-7224

BAIL BONDS

Bail Maxx
Fresno, CA 93650
(559) 237-6299

Good Luck Bail Bonds
Charles Vang
381 N Blackstone Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 497-8888
(See Ad on Page 4)

BEAUTY SALON

Beauty Mark Salon
4783 E McKinley Ave Ste 100
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 452-1448
(See Ad on This Page)

Fancy Cuts Beauty Salon
1552 N 1st St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 233-0449

Hair Mode
4915 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 456-2228

Hot Cut
4548 N First St
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 230-1128

Kaying Beauty Salon
476 W Shaw Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 322-6122

Kings Hair & Beauty Supplies
4787 E Kings Canyon Ave Ste 103
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 251-9352

Lis Salon
5235 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 456-0944

Ly's Hair & Nails
3119 E McKinley Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 233-8208
(See Ad on This Page))

Magic Cut
4887 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 251-5110

M.V. Beauty Salon
723 S Laverne Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 916-4583

Naked Hair
643 Shaw Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 299-7757

Pro Nails & Hair
1445 Shaw Ave Ste 120
Clovis, CA 93611
(559) 322-4741

Ready Cut
4583 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 392-2594

CASINOS

Clovis 500 Club
500 Clovis Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 299-9951

Club One Casino
1033 Van Ness Ave
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 497-3000
(See Ad on Page 15)

Chukchansi Casino
711 Lucky Ln
Coarsegold, CA 93614
(866) 794-6946

Eagle Mountain Casino
681 S Reservation Rd
Porterville, CA 93257
(559) 788-6220

Merced Poker Room
2217 Yosemite Pkwy
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 722-5050

Mono Wind Casino
37302 Rancheria
Auberry, CA 93602
(559) 855-4350

Table Mountain Casino
8184 Table Mountain
Friant, CA 93626
(559) 822-7777

Tachi Palace
17225 Jersey Ave
Lemoore, CA 93245
(559) 924-7751

CEMENTARY / MONUMENTS

Bell Memorials & Granite
339 N Minnewawa Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 299-7055

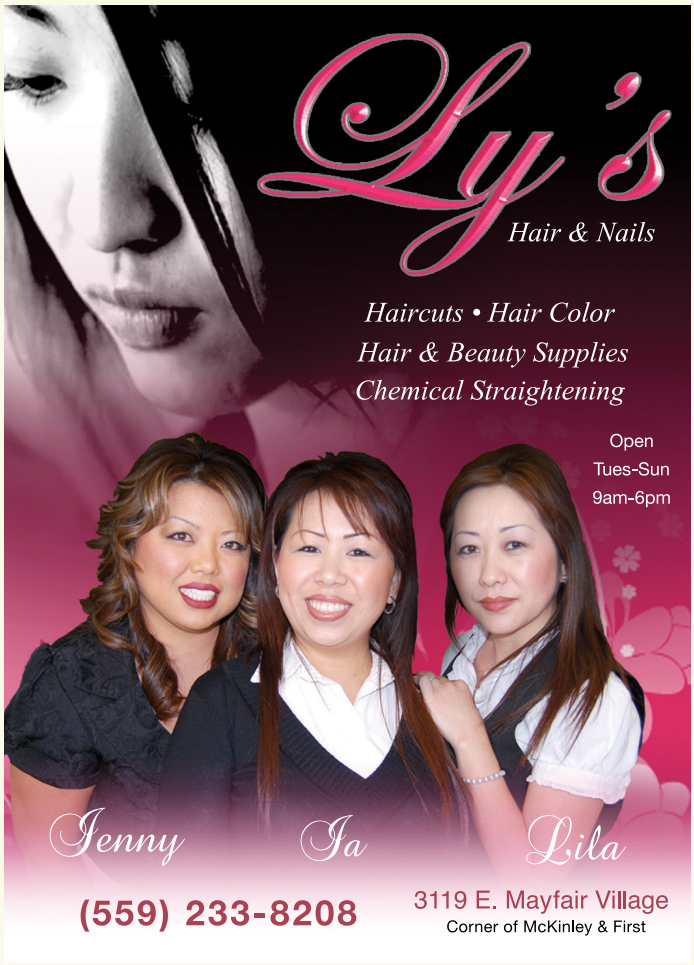
Central Valley Monuments
505 W Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 237-7888

Clovis Cemetery District
305 N Villa Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 299-6057

Gateway Memorial
5 W 14th St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 723-0188

Meachum's Memorials
21 W Herndon Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 299-2696

Merced Monuments
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Merced, CA 95340
(209) 383-2325





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4575 E. Pine Ave.
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(559) 916-1751
(See Ad on Page 75)

Mt. View Cemetery Assn.
1411 W Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 233-3327

Visalia Cemetery
1300 W Goshen Ave
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 734-6181

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135 Shaw Ave Unit A
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(559) 299-0755

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4090 N Chestnut Ave Ste 226
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 283-3862

DISTRIBUTORS

M150 OSOTSPA USA Inc.
1815 W 205th St Ste 104
Torrance, CA 90501
(310) 782-8440
(See Ad on Inside Back Cover)

Sun Fat Trading Company
605 Vista Way
Milpitas, CA 95035
(408) 262-3332
(See Ad on Page 88)

US Trading Company
2675 McCone Ave
Hayward, CA 94545
(510) 781-1818
(See Ad on Page 31)

DRINKING WATER

Aqua Pure Water
5622 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 251-5800

Best Drinking Water
3022 W Clinton Ave 101
Fresno, CA 93722-5200
(559) 905-8584

Bingo Pure Water
2213 E Belmont Ave Ste 103
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 268-9123

Clovis Pure Drinking Water
2055 Peach Ave # 104
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 325-6210

Crystal Clear Drinking Water
4789 E McKinley Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 251-1977

First Pure Water
3121 E McKinley Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 497-6117

Imperial Pure Water
4921 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 452-1125

King Pure Water
4786 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 456-0626

Olive Pure Water
4837 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 453-8758

Pure & Fresh Drinking
1835 Ashlan Ave
Clovis, CA 93611
(559) 709-7029
(See Ad on This Page)

Pure & Fresh Drinking Water
1144 N First St
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 233-4779

Pure Water
4554 N First St
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 225-4075

S & K Pure Water
4221 E Shields Ave
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 228-8275

Snow Pure
2774 Willow Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 294-1995

Super Pure Drinking Water
2416 E Gettysburg Ave
Fresno, Ca 93726
(559) 226-5028

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4729 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 111
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 255-1360

Valley Pure Water
317 E Shields Ave
Fresno, CA 93704
(559) 222-1919

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

Blackbeard's Family Entertainment
4055 N Chestnut Diagonal
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 292-9000

Da Internet Lounge
4103 E Ashlan Ave
Fresno, CA 93726
559-906-1380

Fresno Chaffee Zoo
894 W Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 498-5910

Island Waterpark
6099 W Barstow Ave
Fresno, CA 93723
(559) 277-6800

Oh Wow Nickel Arcade
5217 N Blackstone Ave
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 432-0123

Wild Water Adventures Water Park
11413 E Shaw Ave
Clovis, CA 93619
(559) 299-9453

FASHION

Fabuless Retail Apparel
6616 N Blackstone Ave
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 977-3045

N-Stylez
4770 E Clinton Ave 110
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 978-3517

New Line Fashions
5904 W Hampton Way
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 709-2305

Va's Fashion
4790 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 408-8339

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2904 N Blackstone Ave Ste A
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 284-0778

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Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 442-0265

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4903 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 201
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 347-4058

First Priority
1300 E Shaw Ave, Ste 117
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 224-6600

Fresno United Financial Corp.
Chue Vang Lo
2904 N Blackstone Ave Ste B3
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 226-0435

Happy Valley Financial Services
2904 N Blackstone Ave Ste A
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 283-3197

Moua Auto Finance
1262 N Marks Ave
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 905-8584

Union Bank
Doua Xiong
7075 N. Marks Ave.
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 446-2590

Vang Financial Services
4620 W Weathermaker Ave
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 779-8953

World Lending Solutions
1530 E Shaw Ave
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 270-1528

Yang Brothers Financial
524 S Clovis Ave Ste M
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 456-1668

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California Bait & Tackle
4516 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 454-1155

California Hunter Education Program
1220 N Abby St Ste F
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 367-1688

Valley Rod & Gun
2704 Clovis Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 292-3474

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(559) 225-5797

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2409 N First St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 243-1431

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Touly Vangkhue
328 W Main St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 722-5758

Ms Rainbow Flowers & Gifts
Sonia Xonglee Yang
4305 E Tulare St
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 270-8269
(See Ad on Previous Page)

FUNERAL HOMES

Cooley Funeral Services Inc.
Jesse E. Cooley Jr.
1830 Fruit Ave
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 268-8048

Faith Community
1495 N. Chestnut Ave.
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 577-8233

Hmong Community Chapel
Pao Xiong
1030 B St
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 999-9345

Hmong Memorial Chapel
741 W Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 274-8180

Miller Memorial Chapel
1120 W Goshen Ave
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 732-8371

Sterling & Smith Funeral
Edward Cooper
1484 Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 266-9711

Stratford & Evans Funeral
1490 B St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 722-4191

United Chapel Services
Chue Fue Vang
1146 B St
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 577-7730

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4789 E Madison Ave Ste B
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 454-8366

Cha Designs
1220 N Abby St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 486-5664

Central Media Inc.
1840 Hornet Ct
Milpitas, CA 95035
(408) 956-8618

D & P Printing
1788 N Helm Ave Ste 110
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 453-1600
(See Ad on Page 39)

Imprint Solutions
620 DeWitt Ave., Ste. 102
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 322-8669

KH Graphics Enterprise
120 E Warner St
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 790-0023

Macy Logo Service
998 E Jolson Ave
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 457-9138

Screen Print & Embroidery
2416 E. Gettysburg Ave.
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 288-8090

Yang Design
2236 N Fine Ave Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 454-1212
www.yangdesign.net
(See Ad on Page 86)

Yes Print
4789 E. Madison Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 454-8366

HEALTH SERVICES

CHIROPRACTORS

Effective Chiropractic Care
Dr. Yeng Xiong
4753 E Olive Ave Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 252-1037

Heu Chiropractic Clinic
(559) 221-8180
3636 N First St Ste 123
Fresno, CA 93726
Dr. Lee Heu

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Brite Care Dental
Dr. Su Vang
3481 E Shields Ave
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 226-8971

Dentech Dental Laboratories
Teng V. Vang
2434 M St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 722-1233

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
Dr. Kao N. Vang
4304 E Ashlan Ave
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 225-9098
(See Ad on Page 27)

Family Dental Care
4857 E. Kings Canyon Rd.
Fresno, CA 93737
(559) 251-7191

MEDICAL

Dr. Anong Moua MD
3736 N 1st St
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 222-9500

Dr. Long Thao, MD
700 W Olive Ave Ste A
Merced, CA 95348
(209) 384-8426

Kings Winery Medical Clinic
4929 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 255-6476

Mountain Family Health Care
Neng Lee
5066 N Fresno St Ste 111
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 226-6796
(See Ad on Page 12)

HBL Medical Clinic Inc.
3240 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 486-4324

THERAPY

Ko Fang, Ph.D.
2822 N Blackstone Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 229-0227

VISION

Insight Vision Center
Melinda Xiong
1360 E. Herndon, Ste. 201
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 449-5050

Natural Vision
6767 N Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 432-1000

HOME SERVICES

Air Conditioning & Heating
Cheur Moua
Fresno, CA
(559) 906-8541

All Carpet & Tile Cleaning
(559) 347-1139

All San Joaquin Cleaning
Lia Xiong
2926 E. Pryor Dr.
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 704-9388

BUSINESS LISTING

American Indoor Air Solutions
P.O. Box 2505
Clovis, CA 93613
(559) 325-1728

All About Lawn Services
May Nhia Vang
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 994-4334
Beautiful Carpet Cleaning
(559) 473-5284

Chue's Drappery
Chia / Chue
Fresno, CA
(559) 297-2289

Cost-U-Less Super Clean
4723 N Vista Ave
Fresno, CA 93722
559-917-6384

C-Tech
Cheng Vang
Fresno, CA
(559) 978-1935

Golden Roofing
Fresno, CA
(559) 355-9465

Right On Cleaning Services
Soua Lee
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 776-5104

S.K. Evergreen Yard Service
Kao Vang / Shoua Moua
Fresno, CA
(559) 907-7779

Sunshine Carpet
Chor Yang
Fresno, CA
(559) 360-0139

INSURANCE

AAA Insurance
Lee Cha
1595 Shaw Ave
Clovis, CA 93611
(559) 323-3005

AAA Insurance
May Pa Lee
3065 M St
Merced, CA 95348
(209) 726-7443

Allstate Insurance Co.
Cheo Syvirathphan
708 N Locust St
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 622-1813

Allstate Insurance Co.
Liz Xiong
1099 E Champlain Dr Ste B
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 433-3060
(See Ad on Page 14)

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Cell: (559)**307-8361**
Fax: (559) 455-1199

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axiong@farmersagent.com

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David Vue Insurance Services
4903 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 105
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 456-1086

Farmer's Insurance
Hong Yang
433 E Keats Ave Ste 5
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 222-9558

Farmers Insurance Group
Thao Arrow Xiong
4759 E Olive Ave Ste 102
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 455-1197
(See Ad on This Page)

Farmers Insurance Group
Sang Yang
4903 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 261
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 251-3299

FFSI Insurance Services
Mike Lee
4506 E Fairmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 222-7454

Future Life Insurance
Mimi Yang
2050 N. Winery Ave., Ste. 103
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 255-1700

Horace Mann
4836 E Belmont Ave Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 298-9880

Moua Insurance Agency
Pahoua Lor-Moua
3995 N Fresno St Ste 108
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 222-9280
(See Ad on Page 76)

Nationwide Insurance
Mai Thao
151 W Bullard Ave Ste. 10B
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 322-3355

New York Life
Linda Vu
7112 N. Fresno St., Ste. 300
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 447-3693

Old Mutual Finan. Life Insur.
Shulthur Vang
2904 N Blackstone Ave Ste A-1
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 227-3845
(See Ad on Page 86)

People's Benefit
2904 N Blackstone Ave Ste A-1
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 227-3845

Prestige Life Insurance
Teng Fang
875 W Ashlan Ave Ste 102
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 408-6468
(See Ad on Page 21)

Prestige Life Insurance Solutions
Xou Fang
875 W Ashlan Ave, Ste 102
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 408-6468
(See Ad on Page 83)

Russell Vang Insurance
1432 N Cedar Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 252-9332

Seng Yang, General Agent
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 903-5657
(See Ad on Page 84)

State Farm Insurance
Bob Perry
3210 E Shields Ave
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 224-4546

Titan Insurance
Martin Lee
5247 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 103
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 451-0579
(See Ad on Last Page)

Vangold Insurance
381 N Blackstone Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 497-8888
(See Ad on Page 9)

LAUNDROMAT

Fresno Wash & Dry
2332 N Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 222-1832

King's Washtime
4925 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 255-4110

K & N Laundromat
5626 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 251-5800

Lucas's Laundromat
1580 N West Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 776-8925

Wash Time II
2774 Willow Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 294-1995

Wash Time
4910 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 452-0951

LAWYERS

Amendola Robert and Assoc.
Neng S. Pha
516 W Shaw Ave Ste 200
Fresno, CA 93705
(559) 978-4019
(See Ad on Page 4)

Immigration Law Offices of Phillip Kim, Inc.
1320 E Shaw Ave, Ste 108
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 761-1040

Law Office of Jeffrey D. Bohn
2445 Capitol St Ste 115
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 485-1212

Law Offices of Paul C. Lo
4867 E Kings Canyon Rd.
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 454-2000
(See Ad on Page 81)

Law Offices of Val Dornay
200 W Bullard Ave Ste A-2
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 299-5300

Law Offices of LCW
Maiya Yang
5701 N West Avenue
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 256-7800

Timothy L. Marks
4753 E. Olive, Ste. 103
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 251-5324

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www.txhawb.com

LIVESTOCK

CATTLE

California Fresh Meats
13600 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93657
(559) 313-9468 Kao
(559) 346-7930 Sue

Hmong Central Farm
13263 E Shields Ave
Sanger, CA 93657
(559) 709-9847

Joey Ambrose Cattle
4752 N Dickenson Ave
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 696-9181

MDH Cows
5383 S Fig Ave
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 994-5247

Panoche Livestocks
1145 E Coleman
Laton, CA 93242
(559) 923-4009

Terra Linda Farms
21655 S Cornelia
Riverdale, CA 93656
(559) 867-1508

Vue's Cattle Ranch
8501 E McKinley Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 708-6353

WJ Vang Cattle
12102 E McKinley Ave
Sanger, CA 93657
(559) 681-5436

CHICKEN

Daddino's Egg Ranch
3706 N Thompson Ave
Clovis, CA 93619
(559) 291-3927

King Poultry
1521 N Maple Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 252-8880

Vang's Chicken Farm
3272 N Leonard Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 292-1933

FEED

Academy Feed
494 S Academy
Sanger, CA 93657
(559) 875-2855

KY Feed Store
4564 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 255-9120

Robert's Feed & Pet Supplies
4571 E Belmont Ave Ste A
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 454-1859

RS Farm & Harvest Supply
3439 W Holland Ave
Fresno, CA 936722
(559) 222-1678

MARKETS

AM Oriental Store
1289 N First St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 264-1892

A-P Market
3645 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 268-2979
(See Ad on Page 48)

Asia Supermarket
4818 E Tulare Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 252-7025
(See Ad on Page 13)

Asian One Grocery
4473 W Ashlan Ave
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 271-5981
(See Ad on Next Page)

Bingo Grocery
2143 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 498-0817
(See Ad on Page 100)

California Market
2848 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 264-1520



BUSINESS LISTING

Food Empire
4109 N Clovis Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 294-1430

Fresno Food Mart
1047 N Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 266-1393

Golden Bowl Asian Market
1221 N First St
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 485-5593
(See Ad on Page 24)

Golden Valley Asian Market
4845 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 252-1858

Her's Supermarket
4244 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 255-2131
(See Ad on Page 103)

Kailee Market
Txawj Xyeem Lis
630 W Main St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 722-7485

K.L. Trading Company
Koua Lee
211 W Main St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 384-3819

K M Market
127 NE 3rd Ave
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 734-5493

Lee's Community Market
Koua Yang
37 E 15th St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 722-4254

MC Market
1145 N Fisher St
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 233-4713

MT&Y Market
617 W Murray Ave
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 625-3273

Orient Market
254 Broadway Ave
Atwater, CA 95301
(209) 357-0317

Smart Save
Koua Lee
211 W Main St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 384-3819

TC Fresh Meat Supermarket
KHW MOOS LOOB
4790 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 453-1038
(See Ad on Page 30)

T & V Food Market
2306 N Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 225-3380

Thao's Food Market
4215 E Butler Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 255-4527

Tsim Neej
4791 E Tulare Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 253-1975

UC Oriental Market
235 W. Main St.
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 288-9921

XC Lucky Market
4905 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 255-8422

MEDIA

Hmong Community Radio
Ben H. Vue
264 Clovis Ave Ste 36
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 288-0405

The Hmong Tribune
4759 E Olive Ave Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 453-9868

Hmong TV Network
4325 E Tulare St
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 475-0045
www.hmongtvnetwork.com
(See Ad on Page 104)



KBIF 900 AM
3401 W Holland Ave
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 222-0900
www.asianradioam.com
(See Ad on Page 22)

KQEQ 1200 AM
Hmong Amer. Broadcasting
139 W Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 499-1210
www.thehmongradio.com
(See Ad on Page 102)

TV Hmong
3235 N San Fernando Rd Ste 7B
Los Angeles, CA 90065
(559) 994-4852
(See Ad on Page 70)

Txhawb
2236 N Fine Ave Ste. 101
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 454-1211
www.txhawb.com

MOVIE - PRODUCTION

All Pro Video Productions
4759 E Olive Ave Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 453-9686

Apple Video Production
P. O. Box 11509
Fresno, CA 93773
(559) 696-9347

Chalasia Production
6351 E Platt Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 803-8397

Classic Video Production
1220 N Abby Ste B
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 240-1152

Hmoob Puav Pheej Prod.
Fresno, CA
(559) 303-4899

Hmong International Filmmaker Organization
1220 N Blackstone Ave, Ste G
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 803-3982

Ja Iab Producions
Sanger, CA 93657
(559) 876-1757

P.T. Home Studio
Fresno, CA
(559) 974-1678

PX Entertainment
Visalia, CA
(559) 936-8863

Suab Hmoob Productions
4903 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 105
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 456-1086
(See Ad on Page 55)

MOVIE - RENTAL

Golden Path Entertainment
4790 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 776-4448

Golden Video
3109 E Tyler
Fresno, CA
(559) 233-8833

Hmong Movie Store
2607 N Rowell Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 779-9243

HT Video Rental
2844 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 442-0997

Olive Video Rental
4654 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 456-1792

Showtime
2794 Willow Ave
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 348-0332

Vue Specialities
2416 E Gettysburg Ave
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 228-8098

NIGHTCLUBS

Aldo's Nightclub
617 W Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 292-9000

Bliss Nightclub
5030 N 1st St
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 227-6272

Club Roe
7845 N Palm Ave
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 394-5774

Club Typhoon
609 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 313-7443

Nite Track
4097 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 11
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 251-8045

PHOTOGRAPHY

Alex Photo Studio
1148 N First St
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 579-9499

Elite Photo Studio
3602 N Blackstone Ave Ste 140
Fresno, CA 937026
(559) 228-3310

Forever Memories Studio
2314 N Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 226-4973

Moment In Time
107 S Filbert Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 907-7770

StudioVue
4915 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 708-8070

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

All San Joaquin Cleaning
Lia C Xiong
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 704-9388

Asian Village Shopping Center
Bobby T. Vang
4903 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 456-2844

Chang Homes
17616 Meagan Court
Springville, CA 93265
(559) 361-6499
(See Ad on Page 44)

Colligo Studio
May Lee Lee
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 824-1430

CY Sound Studio
1220 N Abby St, Ste J
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 408-3283

Dance Empowerment
Sheng Vang
1016 E St
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 441-7001

DeVry University
7575 N Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 437-5322
(See Ad on Page 23)

D L Recycling, LLC
Dan Vang
7197 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 352-2302

Dynamic Wireless
2630 E Ashlan
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 225-6203

ECO Systems
Kong Meng Vang
6262 E Butler Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 287-2098

Fimax Networks
Yer Yang
4305 E Tulare St
Fresno, CA 93702
(415) 609-9434

Fragrance Flora
Mee Cha
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 306-9305

Global Learning Center
4563 E Santa Ana Ave
Fresno, CA 93726-1236
(559) 840-2776

Green Cleaning Solutions
Keng Cheng Vang
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 285-2280

Hmong Business Develop.
2607 N Rowell Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 779-9243

Hmong Literature
4666 E Byrd Ave
Fresno, CA 93725
(559) 237-0118

Hmong Union Trading Inc.
910 N Leonard Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 251-9106

KuabCha Inc.
4759 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 495-8642

Lee Architect
3335 W Cardella Rd
Atwater, CA 95301
(209) 723-3786

Lee Charcoal Distributor
Ku Yang
2904 N Blackstone Ave Ste B
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 681-4729

Merced Celluar
Touly Vangkhue
2000 G St
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 384-8277

MYRV Interpreting Services
5468 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 255-6713

Night Hawk Private Security
87 E Olive Ave Ste 206
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 443-7231

Oriental Tattoo & Piercing
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 579-0573

Respiratory Care Plus
2027 N Gateway Blvd Ste 110
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 252-0100
wwww.respiratorycareplus.com
(See Ad on Page 39)

Roger's TV Repair Service
Roger Hang
Fresno, CA
(559) 709-1634

Simplified Network Solutions
6608 E Alta Ave
Fresno, CA 93727-6865
(559) 273-8562

Spotlight Planning
Michelle Her
4724 Mariposa St
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 268-7942

Waiora
Steve Moua
2515 E Lamona Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 213-5007
(See Ad on Page 19)

Wireless To Go
1050 W Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 266-2002

Xiong Digital Productions
Michael Xiong
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 977-2481

Xiong Family Day Care
5249 E Byrd Ave
Fresno, CA 93725
(559) 264-7687

Yang Handy Man
Kou Yang
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 355-9465

Yang Property Management
P.O. Box 7608
Fresno, CA 93747
(559) 709-3122
(See Ad on Page 54)

REAL ESTATE

Atlas Realty
Tonnah Her
147 N Maple Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 389-3547
(See Ad on Page 71)

Benchmark Mortgage
Steve Moua
2515 E Lamona Ave
Fresno, CA 93704
(559) 494-0766

Century 21
Moua Chang
2007 W Sunnyside Ave
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 734-1390

Elizabeth Vang
1300 E Shaw Ave Ste 121
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 341-2523
(See Ad on Page 86)



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BUSINESS LISTING

First Priority Financial
1300 E Shaw Ave Ste 117
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 224-6600
(See Ad on Page 84)

Future Realty & Mortgage
Soua Xiong
2050 N Winery Ave Ste 103
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 273-5233

Golden Key Realty & Mortgage
1300 E Shaw Ave Ste 121
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 224-2400
www.mygoldenkey.net
(See Ad on Page 104)

Golden Stars Realty
Truly Yang
2318 W. Sunnyside Ave Ste 8
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 730-1888

Liberty Real Estate
Lee Her
634 S Chestnut Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 284-1724

Meridian Real Estate Group
Sophia Cha
1100 W Shaw Ave Ste 124
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 224-4401

The Milli Group, Inc.
1477 E Shaw Ave Ste 112
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 230-2575

Realty Planet
Mai L. Fang
(559) 494-0766
(See Ad on Page 83)

Sherchia Realty
Victor Vue
1300 E Shaw Ave Ste 117
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 288-5867
(See Ad on Page 84)

RESTAURANTS

Angkor Resturant Pho 2009
4852 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 454-0887

Boba Café
4917 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 704-4263

Chin's Market
3039 N Cedar Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 255-2345
(See Ad on Page 99)

China Buffet
5155 N Blackstone Ave
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 222-8478
(See Ad on Page 7)

Christy's Donuts & Chinese
2505 E Belmont Ave
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 442-1459

Dough Boy Donuts
4577 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 252-4255
(See Ad on Page 71)

Hmong Food Express
4305 E Tulare Ave
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 252-4263

Long Cheng Café
4579 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 252-4211
(See Ad on Page 53)

Mangosteen
4965 N Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 229-8300

Mom's Pies N Goodies
See Yee Her
7709 N First St
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 439-6667

Masago Restaurant
3109 W Noble Ave
Visalia CA 93277
(559) 735-9680

Pho 75
3127 E McKinley
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 497-9261

Pho 99
3141 E McKinley Ave
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 485-1233

Pho N Seafood Resturant
Doua Xiong
924 N Court St
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 732-3663

Pho New Hope
1234 N First St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 268-1960

Pocket 8 Sushi
9 W Alexander Ave
Merced, CA 95348
(209) 384-0212
(See Ad on Page 10)

Tang Dynasty
2066 W Shaw Ave
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 432-6118

Thaipoon Resturant
609 E Olive Ave Ste C
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 486-2445

Zipangu Japanese Restaurant
5096 N West Ave
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 431-2625

TAX SERVICES

Hmong Income Tax Services
5035 E Belmont Ave Ste F
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 252-2702

HTR Tax Services
Beatrice Vang
1700 14th St
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 635-0429

Liberty Tax Services
David Fang
2373 S Chestnut Ave
Fresno, CA 93725
(559) 251-8500

NTL Acct. & Tax Services
777 Minnewawa Ave, Ste 10
Clovis, CA 93612
(599) 217-9308

P & N Tax Services
1533 E Shields Ste A
Fresno, CA 93704
(559) 227-7633

Vangold Tax Services
4903 E Kings Canyon Rd Ste 103
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 497-8889
(See Ad on Page 4)

TRAVEL SERVICES

Excel Travel
4885 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 455-1959

Mimi Dream Travel
2050 N Winery Ste 103
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 312-5547

RXV Travel
Rebecca Vang
(559) 355-0197

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7000 65th St
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 743-9204

Asian Advancement Association, Inc.
Mr. John Thao. Executive Director
7240 E Southgate Dr Ste F
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 424-8784

Asian Business Institute & Resource Center (ABIRC)
7035 N Fruit Ave
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 438-9680

Central California Consortium
Chor Yang
1600 Tollhouse Rd
Clovis, CA 93611
(559) 297-0706

Center For Asian-American Media
145 Ninth St Ste 350
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 863-0814

Central Valley Asian-American Chamber of Commerce
178 West Adams Street
Stockton, CA, 95204
(209) 469-8860

Chico Hmong Adv. Council Mr. Yang (Shuanyung) Xiong
PO Box 9126
Chico, CA 95927
(530) 321-4808

Empowerment Institute, Inc.
Ms. Connie Cha
5654 E Westover Ave Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 291-7587

Fact Finding Commission
Mr. Ger Vang
1566 Huntoon Street
Oroville, CA 95965
(530) 532-7514

F.I.R.M.
1940 N Fresno St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 487-1500

Fresno Center for New Americans
4879 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 255-8395

Greater Health Org., Inc.
Dr. Tou Xa Lyfoung, Administrator
4929 Kings Canyon Rd.
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 255-6476

Hmong American Assoc. of San Joaquin County, Inc.
Mr. Jim Lee, President
4502 N Pershing Ave Ste B
Stockton, CA 95207
(209) 743-3340

Hmong American Community
2904 N Blackstone Ave Unit 7
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 229-3428

Hmong American Assn. Inc.
1559 N Beale Rd
Marysville, CA 95901
(530) 749-1580

Hmong Cultural Center of Butte County
Mr. Sor Lor, Executive Director
1640 Lincoln St
Oroville, CA 95965
(530) 534-7474

Hmong Health Collaborative
4879 E Kings Canyon Rd
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 255-1656

Hmong Int. Cultural Reunion
Mr. Neng Youa Her, President
5750 E Shields Ave Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 252-8782

Hmong Intern. Union, Inc.
407 S Clovis Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 253-1710

Hmong Language Inst. Inc.
Mr. Blia Mao Xiong, Director
1220 N Abby St Ste A
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 498-8454

Hmong New Life Health Center
3811 Florin Rd
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 427-1227

Hmong New Year Fresno
Hmong International New Year
1558 N 9th St
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 487-1012

Hmong New Year Merced
Merced Hmong New Year
900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 384-7384

Hmong New Year Sacramento
1600 Exposition Blvd
Sacramento, CA 95815
(916) 821-4576

Hmong Org. for Parents, Educators & Students, Inc.
Mr. Tsia Xiong, President
P.O. Box 188695
Sacramento, CA 95818
(916) 951-5931

Hmong Women's Heritage Assoc.
2251 Florin Rd Ste104
Sacramento, CA 95822
(916) 394-1405

Lao Family of Fresno
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- Providing opportunities for families and individuals to learn, growth, develop, and become productive citizens and self-sufficient.
- Providing excellent social support services to families and individuals by promoting education health, safety, economic success, cultural, and generational connections.
- Developing Lao Family Community of Stockton to become a resource center where families and individuals can get the information they need to make effective decisions.

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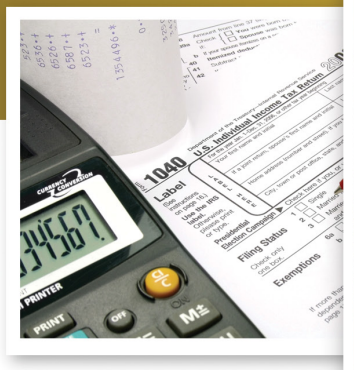
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Grand Opening



Opening Pocket 8's Sushi and Grill

is one dream Jerry Yang has finally achieved since winning the 2007 World Series Poker. Although he never liked raw fish as a young man, he came to acquire a taste for it in sushi, and had hoped to open a restaurant one day. For Jerry, it is a startling life journey, having survived the Secret War in Laos and the refugee camps in Thailand before resettling in America. He reveals that he will never forget what it is like to be hungry. "I promised God I would give ten percent of my winnings to charity," he had said, in regards to his poker victory.

He has donated and raised funds for Make a Wish, Feed the Children, the Valley Children's Hospital, and Ronald McDonald House among other charities. Prior to becoming the champion of the 2007 World Series Poker, Jerry—who holds a doctorate degree in Psychology and Public Health from the University of Southern California - worked as the clinic director of a Foster Family Agency. In the World Series of Poker tournament, he challenged 6,300 players before coming out on top.

For contact info:
See Pocket 8's Ad
on page 10.

The grand opening of Pocket 8's Sushi and Grill, set up by the Merced County Chamber of Commerce and Julius Pekar who is a personal friend of Jerry Yang, was attended by 200 local dignitaries, movie stars, family and friends. Mayor Ellie Wooten, Police Chief Norm Andrade, Fire Chief Ken Mitten and Sheriff Mark Pazin participated in the ribbon cutting. Pocket 8's Sushi and Grill was made possible with some of Jerry's winnings. The restaurant is currently operated by twenty-seven employees. Its guests are seated around teppanyaki dinner tables where skilled chefs perform their culinary arts. Pocket 8's Sushi and Grill is located at 9 W Alexander Ave in Merced. Jerry Yang is currently planning to open two more restaurants: one in Elk Grove, and the second one in Turlock.



Up Close + Personal

Tou Ly Vangkhue

Photo by Tudor Stanley

Story by Burlee Vang

In the late 70's and early 80's, as the major wave of Hmong refugees from Thailand resettled in the United States, a young man's music emerged to capture the story of his generation's experience.



Painting with lyrics an emotional portrait of how Hmong people lived in isolated communities throughout America - how his generation dealt with the complications of long-distance dating and love, Tou Ly Vangkhue has become one of the greatest and most influential legends in Hmong music history. His songs have inspired generations of vocalists and musicians, not only in the United States, but also in Thailand and Laos and many other countries throughout the world.

But for a quarter of a century, the man has kept the story of his rise to stardom in the dark. He's rejected all media coverage on his celebrity profile, and has been successful at resorting to a quiet, humble life behind the ten albums and one music video collection. Now in the production of his final album, after 27 years in the Hmong music industry, he's finally stepping out of the shadows. Even if you've never listened to his music, you've definitely heard his name…This is his story in his own words.





The Early Years

He recalls his early love of music as a student in Sayaboury Province, Laos. "At seven, I was already a known singer in my school. Most of the students were afraid of the spotlight, but I was different, I craved attention, at least in terms of singing." Often, before recess, his teacher would take the class outside and have each student sing individually in front of their peers. A young Tou Ly took advantage of the dreaded activity with his boyish, unflinching voice. "Unlike my friends who went first to avoid a large audience, I waited until recess when all the students from the other classes were released into the open. I wanted to be seen and heard by everyone."

An early source of motivation for his singing came unexpectedly. "I was about ten years old when I entered my school's New Year's song competition. There were a lot of competitors, but I knew I'd claim 1st place. I wanted to win badly, and I'd been confident throughout the contest. When the judge announced the winner—it was someone else! I was shocked. So I convinced myself that I'd be the runner-up, no doubt. But then it wasn't me either! At least I'll take 3rd place, I told myself. Of course, I was wrong." Unfortunately, Tou Ly's fledging performance that day had gone unnoticed by the judge. "I walked away surprised and disappointed. However, losing the competition only made me realize then how much I'd have to do in order to shine. From that situation I wanted to try harder, accomplish more."

In Thailand, after his family had fled from a collapsed Laos, Tou Ly, twelve years old, picked up guitar playing. "In the refugee camp, there was only one guitar—so everyone shared it. We passed it from one person to the next. Up until then, I had only been exposed to music and lyrics by Laotian artists." Strumming the much coveted six-string instrument under the thatch roof of the camp's makeshift school, he began listening to songs composed by Hmong singers on the rise, such as Lis Pos, Lis Zeb, Lis Pheej, Lis Toj, Loj Leeb. "I was playing "Ntuj No Tuaj Lawm' and 'Siab Dub.'

Finding His Story

"The focus on music was gone by the time my family resettled in America, in Utah," Tou Ly says. "There was no Hmong population there, we were isolated, and I was trying to learn English."

Living in Provo, UT, the community began to grow and eventually established an annual New Year celebration. The event was an open invitation for arts and entertainment, allowing exposure for Hmong vocalists and musicians. Tou Ly returned to his musical roots with his first purchased guitar, a Yamaha acoustic guitar.

"I practiced, and I continued listening to the wave of early Hmong singers from Thailand and Laos," says Tou Ly. "But the more I listened to these singers, the more I realized something was wrong. The songs written by Lis Pos, Lis Zeb, and Lis Pheej were about a love story from a different time, a different country. It was not my generation's story. It did not represent me. I wanted to hear about what was going on in America. I wanted to tell my generation's story."

He began dabbling in song writing, and soon found he was struggling to produce lyrics that—unlike the predecessors he'd admired—would represent his generation. 'Leeg Txoj Kev,' composed in 1979, was the result, and although it did not fully reveal his story, it contained the line "vim kuv nyob deb deb ntawm koj nplooj siab," which bleakly shed light on what was happening to his generation in terms of romantic courtship. "You see, during 1979 to 1982, the Hmong people were scattered all over America. It was a time of long distance relationships and piling phone bills. 80-90% of relationships were like this. Also, out of cultural politeness, you didn't publicly claim that someone was your boyfriend or girlfriend, which could make things hard in a relationship. I wanted to capture all of that." 'California 1979' followed, a song written after his visit to the New Year celebration in Santa Barbara, California. Still, it did not encapsulate the essential features of the complicated romance his peers were experiencing. The song he'd been seeking would arrive in 1980.

Up until that time, the Hmong population in Utah was comprised mostly of members from the Ly clan. If you were a Ly, majority of the single females were considered your sisters. And since it was taboo to develop any romantic interest toward a sister, you stood on the sidelines of the dating scene while young men from other clans played out their luck with the other sex. Into the summer of 1980, three well-known high school girls outside of the Ly clan—the only bachelorettes in Utah who were much desired and sought after by every young Ly boy—got married. Many were devastated. "I took that experience and shaped it into lyrics," Tou Ly reveals. 'Diploma' surfaced from that incident. It was the first in a succession of songs that, after many attempts, had finally epitomized his generation's courtship challenges. 'Tsis Muaj Tug' and 'Tu Siab Kuv Nyob' came right after 'Diploma.' These would be the two songs that uniquely identified Tou Ly with the decade of the 80's.

Rise to Stardom

In the winter of 1981, Tou Ly began working on his first album with Dave Eyer, his producer and keyboardist. "I was eighteen years old and a senior in high school. I needed money for the project. My father borrowed $1,000 from the bank to help with production costs. We hired professional musicians and held recordings at Audio Visions' studio. I still remember listening to the songs and hearing something new and special. The $1,000 covered all production and recording fees and got me 1,000 cassette copies." By the summer of 1982, 'Tsis Muaj Tug' was released.

The success of Tou Ly's debut album came as a surprise, especially with regards to the limitations he had with distribution. "There were no Hmong stores or booths at special events like the New Year celebrations to sell my album. I had a few out-of-state friends and relatives here and there, so I sent them boxes of my cassettes. I was quite worried about sales."

Unbeknownst to him, his music was spreading quickly to the small Hmong communities pocketed throughout the United States. His songs were obviously different from the artists before him in terms of style and lyrics—one could describe his work as a snapshot of the intricacies of romantic relationships in the late 70's and throughout the 80's.

A few days after the release of 'Tsis Muaj Tug,' Tou Ly drove to Salt Lake City to visit a girl. Standing outside of an apartment complex that was mostly occupied by Hmong, he was surprised to hear one of his songs coming from one of the apartments. Up on the second floor, someone else was also playing his album. He decided to take a walk through the complex, only to discover that more residents were listening to his music from their apartments. A shaken Tou Ly returned to his car. "I sat there…and really thought about my music—and right then and there—I knew I was going to be popular, perhaps more than any Hmong vocalist before me. I was nineteen."



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News of his sales came back two weeks after the album's debut. The minimum wage at the time was a measly $3.25. 'Tsis Muaj Tug,' was selling at $8 on audio cassette tape. He had sold all 1000 copies.

Work on his next album, 'Qeeb Rau Kev Hlub,' began in August of 1982. In nearly three decades, eight more albums would follow: 'Best of 82,' 'Yuav Pib Qhov Twg,' 'Li Bau Suav,' 'Mus Zoo,' 'Poj Ntxoog,' 'Nws Tsis Paub Kuv,' 'Nco Txog the 80's,' and 'Duab Ntxoov Ntxoo.' 'My Story,' a music video collection, was released in 2005.

Peaking Out

"Hmong music started to quiet down as the 80's ended," Tou Ly says. "Hmong singers usually ended their music careers after they got married. I was married in '87 and had not recorded anything for three years. In 1990, I went into recording again to break out of this mold. 'Mus Zoo' was the album." At the Hmong Year celebration in Fresno, Tou Ly sold 470 cassettes in one day, a startling number within the scope of the Hmong community for a single album. "I calculated a five-second exchange of cassette and cash between me and my supporters. My parents were there to assist with sales. That year, it was just me and the singer, Maly Vue, who had debuted with her first album. There were no other vocalists or musicians present. The one-day sale record I received for 'Mus Zoo' has remained unmatched."

Following that year, other bands began to scale the ladder in the Hmong music industry. Sounders and Voltage were among some of the leading names. "Sounders established this whole new take on Hmong concerts with a big sound stage and expensive lighting versus the traditional intimate, small building concert people were accustomed to," says Tou Ly. The change quickly drew in massive crowds to these engagements where fans could see their favorite Hmong musicians and vocalists perform like never before.

"In 1994, at the Aldrich Arena where I was to perform, 3,400 tickets had been sold out." He remembers watching the parking lot fill up with cars and feeling mesmerized by the amount of attendees. The number of security guards and officers doubled that night, and fans stayed with Tou Ly until 1 A.M. in the morning. "But it wasn't going to last," Tou Ly admits. "Big concerts were too expensive. I can say that my career peaked in 1994."

Half the amount of concertgoers had diminished by 1997. The big sound stages and costly lighting were gone. With the approach of the new millennium, many Hmong artists would suffer from the economic crisis, music pirating, and illegal sales.

"If money is what you're looking for in the music industry, you should find a different career," says Tou Ly. "For me, it's a hobby I was passionate about and was able to maintain."

The Mystery Girl

Most fans of Tou Ly Vangkhue are familiar with Nkauj Nyiag, a female persona who surfaces from time to time in several of his songs. Over the years, many have pondered whether or not she is a real person or a fictitious character. If you're one of those curious fans, here's what Tou Ly has revealed to Txhawb.

"People who think this is a real person are going to be disappointed. However, the name did come from a real person, but the stories about her are all imaginary. When I was a kid in the refugee camp in Thailand, there was a little girl, about eight or nine years old, who had this unique, innocent expression reminiscent of leading female stars in old Chinese romantic films. Her name was 'Ab Nyiag,' and all the boys liked her. In 1981, I wrote a song using the name 'Paj Tag.' But 'Paj Tag' wasn't a name that belonged to a real person, so it didn't mean anything to me. I decided to use 'Ab Nyiag.' I altered it to 'Nkauj Nyiag,' hoping no one would ever know. After 2005, I found out that the real 'Ab Nyiag' was living in French Guyana. Her relatives had come to visit the United States and had told me that they knew the girl I was singing about. They took pictures with me, and later, Ab Nyiab and I were able to reconnect as friends. It was interesting how people actually figured it out. Fans at concerts have questioned me so many times about the identity of Nkauj Nyiag. Now they know."

Finale

Some people with fame and fortune will take advantage of their fans' loyalty, seeking wealth and pleasure through the abuse of their star power. But having lived a quiet and mysterious life, Tou Ly says, "I've never used my fame to take advantage of anyone. It's something I'll never, never do." For the last 27 years of his music career, he's been able to separate his everyday life from his celebrity stature. Few will know that he currently lives in Merced where he owns a small business with his wife and has been teaching Computer Technology at a Merced middle school for the last ten years. Fewer will even know that he was one of the first Hmong graduates in computer science, having obtained his degree from Webster State University in 1986. He is also among the first Hmong to hold a California teaching credential. It was his music career that financed all his schooling, he reveals.

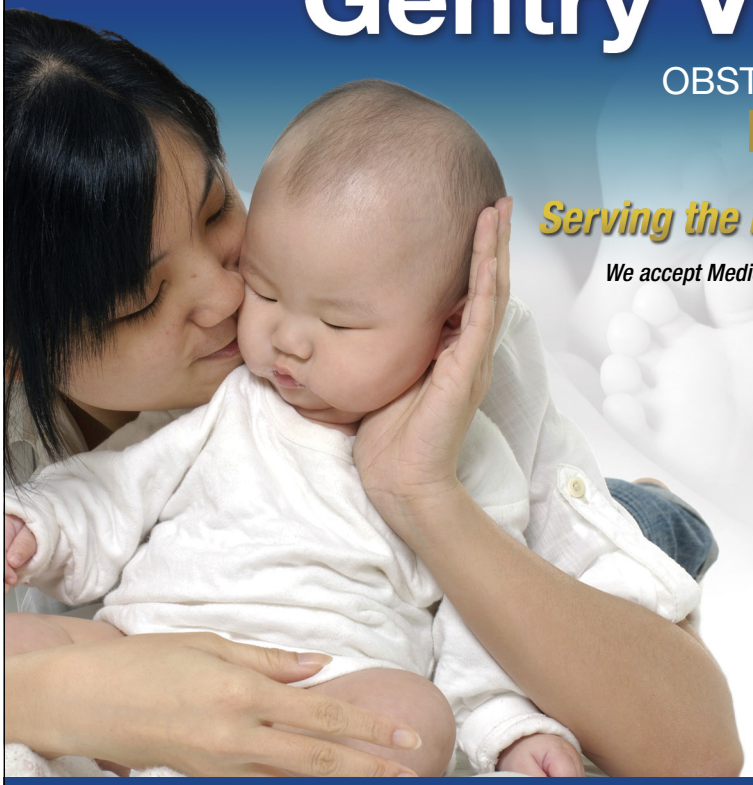
When asked about his musical influences, his list included John Denver, the Eagles, and Kenny Rogers. Working on his final album, which he's hoping to put out at the end of this year, Tou Ly says, "I'm reuniting with Dave Eyer, my original producer and keyboardist. I'm closing my singing career with this one." Tou Ly Vangkhue, who enjoyed the late 70's, 80's, and early 90's as the leading figure in Hmong music, leaves us with a note of encouragement,

"We need a new superstar singer to lead the next generation of Hmong musicians - someone other musicians will look at for guidance, someone our kids will look up to as a role model. I hope and pray that God will grant us that superstar in the near future. There are a lot of talented young people out there, especially our own children, and we need to pay attention to what they're producing. Hmong vocalists and musicians need our support. This is not the time to turn our backs on them. Let's focus on our youth in this country. The future of Hmong music is here in America."

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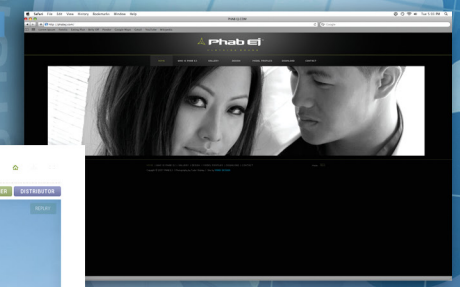
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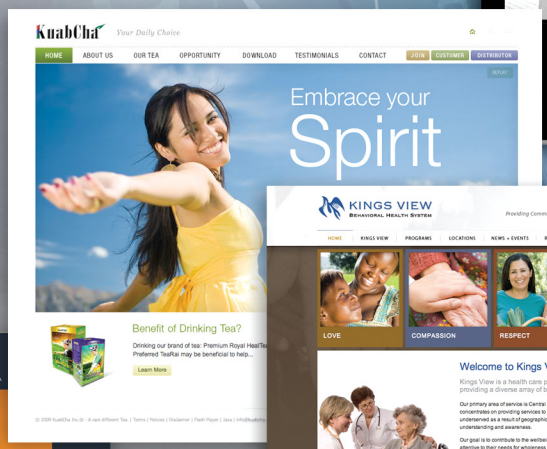
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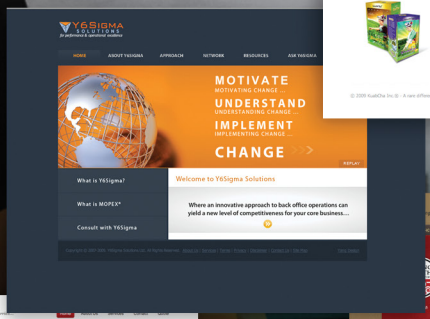
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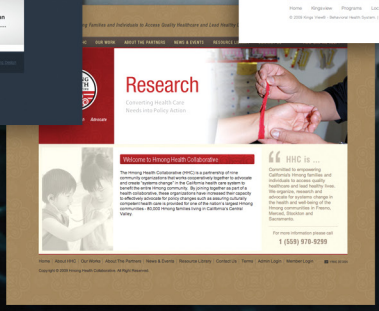
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All winners will be chosen by 8/2010

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VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

GET A SMOG CHECK FOR ONLY

$30* + certificate fee

SMOGTECH

Smog Check Test Only

* only for passenger cars year 96 & up

8101 Elder Creek Rd., Ste. N • Sacramento, CA 95824 • (916) 388-8366

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

20% OFF!

Chang Auto Repair

Over 26 Years of Experience!

Axle Repair & Replacement

8595 Weyand Ave., Ste. B • Sacramento, CA 95828 • (916) 381-6455

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

Front End Alignment

$25* *passenger cars only

Front End Alignment

$30 For Trucks

Chang Auto Repair

Over 26 Years of Experience!

8595 Weyand Ave., Ste. B • Sacramento, CA 95828 • (916) 381-6455

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

20% OFF!

Brake Service

Chang Auto Repair

Over 26 Years of Experience!

8595 Weyand Ave., Ste. B • Sacramento, CA 95828 • (916) 381-6455

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at Asia Supermarket International Market, LLC

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 50lb SunFat Jasmine Rice



4818 E. Tulare Ave. • Fresno, CA 93727 • (559) 252-7025

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at Asia Supermarket International Market, LLC

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 100lb SunFat Calrose Rice



4818 E. Tulare Ave. • Fresno, CA 93727 • (559) 252-7025

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

FREE DRINK*

Asia Supermarket International Market, LLC

* with purchase of a combination plate @ $5.99 (drink is 12oz. can)

4818 E. Tulare Ave. • Fresno, CA 93727 • (559) 252-7025

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

15% OFF!* HOUSEWARE GOODS

Asia Supermarket International Market, LLC

* excludes clearance items

4818 E. Tulare Ave. • Fresno, CA 93727 • (559) 252-7025

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at bingo GROCERY

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 50lb SunFat Jasmine Rice



2143 E. Belmont Ave. • Fresno, CA 93701 • (559) 498-0857

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at bingo GROCERY

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 100lb SunFat Calrose Rice



2143 E. Belmont Ave. • Fresno, CA 93701 • (559) 498-0857

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

10% OFF!*

bingo GROCERY

Your Next Purchase

* No minimum purchase. Excludes Rice.

2143 E. Belmont Ave. • Fresno, CA 93701 • (559) 498-0857

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

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Your Next Purchase

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VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

10% OFF!

Chin's Kitchen

Whole Roast Pig



3039 N. Cedar Ave. • Fresno, CA 93703 • (559) 255-2345

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

HMONG SANDWICH

$2.50 + TAX

reg. price $2.99

Chin's Kitchen



3039 N. Cedar Ave. • Fresno, CA 93703 • (559) 255-2345

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at Chin's Kitchen

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 50lb SunFat Jasmine Rice



3039 N. Cedar Ave. • Fresno, CA 93703 • (559) 255-2345

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at Chin's Kitchen

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 100lb SunFat Calrose Rice



3039 N. Cedar Ave. • Fresno, CA 93703 • (559) 255-2345

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

15%* OFF!

Mongolian Monuments

* with purchase of $2,000 or more.

3039 N. Cedar Ave. • Fresno, CA 93703 • (559) 255-2345

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires12/2010**

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VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

$10 OFF!

Whole Roast Pig

Long Cheng Cafe

4579 E. Kings Canyon Rd. • Fresno, CA 93702 • (559) 252-4255

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

10%* OFF!

A Party of 4 or More

Long Cheng Cafe

4579 E. Kings Canyon Rd. • Fresno, CA 93702 • (559) 252-4255

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at Golden Bowl MARKET

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 50lb SunFat Jasmine Rice



3039 N. Cedar Ave. • Fresno, CA 93703 • (559) 255-2345

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at Golden Bowl MARKET

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 100lb SunFat Calrose Rice



3039 N. Cedar Ave. • Fresno, CA 93703 • (559) 255-2345

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

10%* OFF!

Golden Bowl SUPER ASIAN MARKET

Your Next Purchase

** No minimum purchase. Excludes Rice.*

1221 N. First St. • Fresno, CA 93701 • (559) 485-5593

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

10%* OFF!

Golden Bowl SUPER ASIAN MARKET

Your Next Purchase

** No minimum purchase. Excludes Rice.*

1221 N. First St. • Fresno, CA 93701 • (559) 485-5593

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

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VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at SUPER MARKET

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 50lb SunFat Jasmine Rice



1480 N. Beale Rd. • Marysville, CA 95901 • (530) 741-0550

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at SUPER MARKET

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 100lb SunFat Calrose Rice



1480 N. Beale Rd. • Marysville, CA 95901 • (530) 741-0550

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

10% OFF!*

SUPER MARKET

Any Total Purchase

** Excludes Rice, Reduced Items, Beer, Alcohol, or Cigarettes*

1480 N. Beale Rd. • Marysville, CA 95901 • (530) 741-0550

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

FREE $1 ITEM*

SUPER MARKET

When You Spend $10 or more

** must present this coupon*

1480 N. Beale Rd. • Marysville, CA 95901 • (530) 741-0550

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

FREE DRINK*

A~P MARKET

** with purchase of a combination plate @ $5.99 (drink is 12oz. can)*

3645 E. Olive Ave. • Fresno, CA 93702 • (559) 268-2979

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

TAX FILING FOR ONLY

$35*

Simply Tax Service

Short Form Only

1010 El Camino Ave. Ste. AB • Sacramento, CA 95815 • (916) 467-6477

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 4/15/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at A~P MARKET

$1.00 OFF

SunFat 50lb SunFat CalRose Rice



3645 E. Olive Ave. • Fresno, CA 93702 • (559) 268-2979

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

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LIMITED TIME OFFER!

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$2.00 OFF

SunFat 50lb SunFat Jasmine Rice



3645 E. Olive Ave. • Fresno, CA 93702 • (559) 268-2979

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

10% OFF!*

MARKET BASKET SUPERMARKET

Any 1 Purchase

* with purchase of $20 or more.

(excludes rice, beer, alcohol, & cigarettes)

3845 Marysville Blvd. • Sacramento, CA 95838 • (916) 920-0706

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

10% OFF!*

D&B MEAT Co.

Any 1 Purchase

* with purchase of $20 or more.

(excludes rice, beer, alcohol, & cigarettes)

4910 Franklin Blvd. • Sacramento, CA 95820 • (916) 452-5642

Limit one coupon per customer per service. May not be combined with any other offer. Taxes not included. No cash value. No substitutions. Void if copied or transferred. **Expires 12/2010**

VALUE COUPON

Txhawb 2010

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at MARKET BASKET

$2.00 OFF

SunFat 50lb SunFat Jasmine Rice



3845 Marysville Blvd. • Sacramento, CA 95838 • (916) 920-0706

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited to stock on hand. No Rainchecks. **Expires 2/28/2010**

VALUE COUPON

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LIMITED TIME OFFER!

valid only at MARKET BASKET

$2.00 OFF

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3845 Marysville Blvd. • Sacramento, CA 95838 • (916) 920-0706

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SunFat 100lb SunFat Calrose Rice



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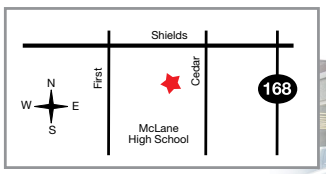
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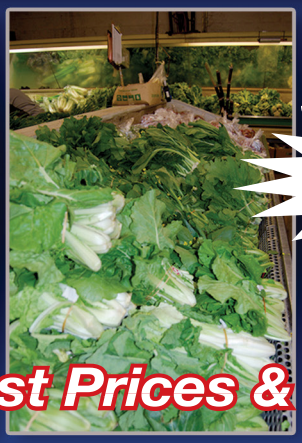
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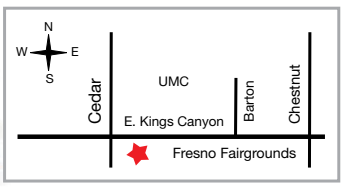


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