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A Chinese Artist Gao Hang From The Big Show 2018 Standing out



**Inside C2** 

Sunday, October 28, 2018 | www.today-america.com

Southern

## Gunman kills at least eight, injures 12 in Pittsburgh synagogue shooting

**Today** 

Different

injured 12 in an attack on a Pittsburgh synagogue during Sabbath religious services on Saturday, and a suspect was in custody in a possible hate crime, local authorities and media reported.

A "bearded heavy-set white male" was in custody, KDKA television said, citing police sources saying the gunman walked into the building and yelled "All Jews must die". Responding officers "received fire" and three officers were injured, KDKA said, but it was not immediately clear if they were counted among the 12 injured.

Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, who was at the scene of the shooting according to local media, said in a tweet: "We are providing local first responders with whatever help they need."

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center said it was treating multiple

patients at UPMC Presbyterian.

Earlier, a police commander said the shooting resulted in "multiple casualties." Police surrounded the Tree of Life synagogue after reports of an active shooter at the building in the city's Squirrel Hill neighborhood, local TV news images showed.

"Do not come out of your home right now, it is not safe," Pittsburgh police Commander Jason Lando warned local residents, in an impromptu news conference at the scene.



Police officers respond after a gunman opened fire at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania



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## LOCAL NEWS

## A Practice of Balance Reaction to the High-tech and Social Media

## A Chinese Artist Gao Hang From The Big Show 2018 Standing out

Southern Daily / Houston

The Big Show is an ambitious open call juried exhibition of new work by artists practicing within a 100-mile radius of Lawndale. The show will last two months, from September

15th to November 11th, 2018. As one of As a Chinese, I am influenced by eastern philosophy, and the most important Houston Galleries, in particular the doctrine of Lawndale Art Center Zhongyoung, a practice of balattracts many tourists and art lovers every day, and the "Big Show 2018" no doubt is one of the most expected art exhibitions every year.

This year's juror is Evelyn C Hankins, she has been a curator at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden since 2007. Previously, she held

curatorial positions at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, and the Robert **Hull Fleming** Museum at the University of Vermont, Burlington. She earned

her M.A. and Ph.D. in art history from Stanford University. Among all the fantastic artists

in the show, Chinese artist Hang Gao's painting really stood out. His painting "Somewhere I saw the other day when I drove home" was hang right next to the Show's

title. I met Gao in person at the gallery. He is also currently having two exhibitions at ance and harmony. I use this as CICA Museboth a conceptual and strucum of Art in tural armature, as a result, my Korea, and at works attempt to offer a sense Masur Muof rational and stable readabilseum of Art in Louisiana, ----Quote of the Artist State-US. As a young

artist, he came to America three years

ago, though he had been an artist

ment by Gao Hang

for few years in China, starting over as an artist in America. His art and reputation grew so fast that he got his first gallery (The Secondbedroom Gallery, Los Angeles) representation in his second year of Master of Fine Art program, and got his second gallery (Anya Tish Gallery, Houston) representation in his third year. All the energy Gao brought me made me wonder more about him and his art.

Gao explained "In my work, I am questioning media advancement and influences upon language and image. I particularly focus on the idea of being surrounded by electronic display in terms of electronic devices, exploding social medias, and the Internet. Those elements formed a visual environment which further generate new systems of representation within visual culture. " The coming up exhibition for Gao is the Survival Condo hosted by the Secondbedroom Gallery in San Francisco. Gao will have a gigantic piece of art, 15 feet long and 6 feet wide painting, showing in the main gallery towards the entrance. The piece is a

required. Additionally, there will be "Big Slide Show" on October 27th afternoon from 1:00-3:00 PM at Lawndale Art Center when some of the artists will give a presentation of the concept of their works, Gao will also be there as

one of the artists.

"construction blueprint" of a Survival

Bunker designed by Gao. We will be

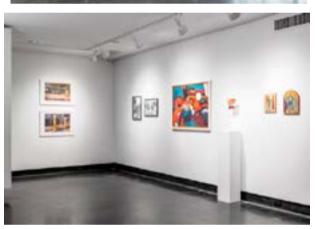
looking forward to witness this excit-

ing exhibition. The opening reception for the show is November 3rd, RSVP



Chinese Artist Gao Hang







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Sunday, Octomber 28 2018



## Editor's Choice



Gubernatorial Democratic candidate Tony Evers speaks at a rally attended by former U.S. President Barack Obama at North Division High School in Milwaukee



Former U.S. President Barack Obama waves to the crowd during a campaign rally for Wisconsin democratic candidates at North Division High School in Milwaukee



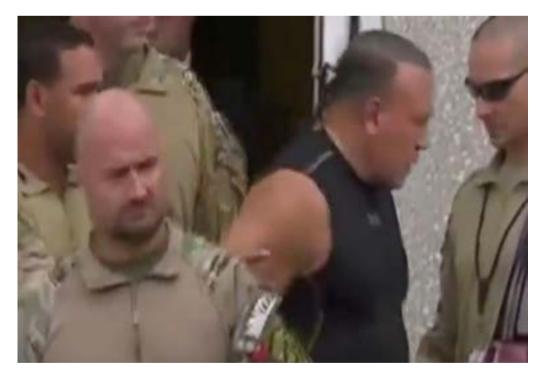
FILE PHOTO: Supporters participate at a campaign rally for U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) in Houston, Texas, U.S., October 22, 2018. REUTERS/Leah Millis/File Photo



Migrants, part of a caravan of thousands from Central America en route to the United States, hitch-hike on a truck along the highway to Arriaga from Pijijiapan



U.S. Representative candidate Randy Bryce listens as he sits in the crowd attending a campaign rally with former U.S. President Barack Obama at North Division High School in Milwaukee



Cesar Altieri Sayoc, who was arrested during an investigation into a series of parcel bombs, is escorted from an FBI facility in Miramar



Brazilian students protest against censorship at the universities in front of the Electoral Court in Rio de Janeiro



Brazilian students protest against censorship at the universities in front of the Electoral Court in Rio de Janeiro



## COMMUNITY

[WASHINGTON, DC- SEPTEMBER 14, 2018] - The U.S. Senate unanimously approved legislation this week introduced by U.S. Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) and Mazie Hirono

(D-HI) to recognize the tremendous contributions made by more than 13,000 Chinese-American World War II Veterans. The Chinese American World War II Veterans Congressional Gold Medal Act will authorize Congress to award the highest civilian honor - a Congressional Gold Medal – to these dedicated Veterans, including the approximately 50 Chinese-American WWII Veterans who call Illinois home.



Helen Chan pins Sun Lum with lapel badge identifying him as "Chinese," to avoid being rounded up with Japanese Americans who were being interred following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. "Despite facing outright discrimination,

more than 13,000 brave Chinese Americans volunteered to risk their lives to protect their fellow Americans during World War II," said Duckworth. "I'm proud my colleagues from both sides of the aisle have chosen to recognize this brave group of Veterans' unwavering commitment and honor them with a Congressional Gold Medal."



**Chinese-American Veterans in WWII** "During World War II, Chinese Americans served our country honorably while experiencing discrimination here at home," said Hirono. "I thank my Senate Senate Passes Bipartisan Duckworth-Hirono Bill To Honor Chinese-

American WWII Veterans

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



Memorial Day Observance in New York by American Legion Lt. **B.R. Kim Lau Chinese Memorial Post 1291** 

colleagues for passing this legislation, which gets us one step closer to ensuring that these veterans receive this long-overdue recognition for their brave service." **Internet References:** 

https://www.duckworth.senate.gov/ news/press-releases/senate-passes-bipartisan-duckworth-hirono-bill-to-honor-chinese-american-wwii-veterans 2/3



American Legion Lt. B.R. Kim Lau **Chinese Memorial Post 1291** 

Senators Duckworth and Hirono introduced the bipartisan legislation in May of last year with former Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS). Companion legislation (HR.2358) has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Representatives Ed Royce (R-CA), Ted Lieu (D-CA), and Grace Meng (D-NY). Since the American Revolution, Congress has

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issued gold medals to express its gratitude on behalf of the entire nation for distinguished achievements. The medal has been awarded to Veterans who served admirably in military conflicts as well as to civilians whose contributions have had a lasting impact on American history and culture.

#### **Related**

**Chinese Americans Had To Label** Themselves To Avoid Being Confused With The Hated Japanese Americans, 1941

World War II brought momentous change to America's Chinese community. For decades, Chinese were vilified in America, especially in California, the center of the U.S.'s anti-Chinese feelings. The Chinese had initially come to California for the Gold Rush and later the building of the Transcontinental Railroad, but public sentiment quickly turned against them. Competition for jobs and a depression in the 1870s all led to a racist backlash against Chinese. Eventually Chinese immigration was ended with the 1882

Chinese Exclusion Act. The Chinese in America found themselves a hated minority segregated in Chinatowns. The attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 changed all of that.

After Pearl Harbor perceptions of China and Chinese Americans were suddenly transformed. China went from being known as the "sick man of Asia" to a vital ally in the United States' war against the Japanese. Likewise, Chinese went from the "heathen Chinese" to friends. In 1943 a congressman said if not for December 7, America might have never known how good Chinese Americans were.



Ruth Lee, a hostess at a Chinese restaurant, flies a Chinese flag so she isn't mistaken for Japanese when she sunbathes on her days off in Miami, in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 15, 1941. The flag shown here is the flag of Nationalist China which went into self-imposed exile to the island of Taiwan after the Communist revolution. This flag is now the flag of Taiwan.

Motivated by fear and indignation, Chinese Americans also tried to distinguish themselves as much as possible from the Japanese and "prove their undivided loyalty to the American war effort". Mere days after Pearl Harbor, the Chinese consulate in San Francisco started issuing identification cards, and Chinese Americans began wearing buttons and badges with phrases like "I am Chinese" on them. Hoping to prove their loyalty to the

United States beyond any doubt, Chinese periodicals also adopted the inflammatory anti-Japanese rhetoric and racial epithets used by the mainstream press.

Although there was some sentiment of pan-Asian solidarity, it was definitely not the norm. Chinese Americans, fueled by anger at Japanese aggression in their home country, their American patriotism, and their desire to be seen as American patriots, were, consciously or not, complicit in the persecution of their Japanese

The internment of the Japanese was more or less ignored by the Chinese community, with the exception of a few individuals. In fact, Chinese periodicals also participated in spreading the belief that Japanese Americans were guilty of treason or aiding Japan.

Japanese internment actually presented an opportunity for economic and social advancement to the Chinese. Chinese merchants moved into formerly Japanese-owned businesses. And when the Japanese were removed from their farm jobs, the United States Employment Service issued a call for Chinese Americans to replace them.



"Me Chinese Please, No Japanese".

World War II was an opportunity for the Chinese to gain economic and social standing in mainstream American society; however, the shift in white America's perceptions of the Chinese Americans must also be remembered as a consequence of racist attitudes directed towards the Japanese Americans and the ensuing internment of a whole ethnicity. Tides quickly shifted after World War II, when the United States declared another war, this time on communism. Power, given rather suddenly to the Chinese during the war, was just as quickly taken away afterwards. (Courtesy google.com)

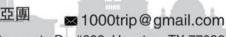


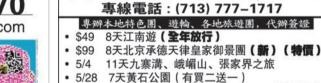
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## BUSINESS



Many sites that generate fake news disinformation masquerading as truth share characteristics that distinguish them from journalistic outlets, according to researchers from MIT and the Qatar Computing Research Institute, who incorporated several of those characteristics into a dataset and then trained an algorithm to identify them. Their work could help fight a growing problem that many experts in government forecast will only get worse. Facebook, Twitter, and other social media outlets are building teams of fact checkers and supporting nonprofit organizations like First Draft to spot disinformation. But fact checking and verification takes a lot more time than pushing out disinformation. Also, fake news doesn't always match an expected pattern. Russia disinfo watchers have long observed that a key Kremlin tactic is to validate conspiratorial ideas on both sides of a given political debate (with the exception of gun control, to which they catered exclusively to pro-gun perspectives.)

That's why fighting disinfo piece-by-piece is like bailing a boat that's filling up faster than buckets can handle. What's worse, research has shown that news readers of all political persuasions become defensive and resistant to the idea that news they've accepted is fake, especially if the act of accepting—and then sharing—that news item furthered their standing within a selected social group.



All of this is why fake news spreads faster than accurately sourced articles, including

ones that debunk conspiracy theories and disinformation.

According to experts in digital forensics from the International Justitute of Ciber.

from the International Institute of Cyber Security, this explains why fake news are disseminated faster than articles from accurate sources, including those that discredit conspiracy theories and misinformation.

The research presented reveals the key features of fake news websites that may be less visible to verifiers, such as functional words, specific word patterns that give greater force to news content.

If a news site launches a large number of

MIT And Qatari Researchers Are Working To Expose Fake News Sources Rather Than Dispute Fake Postings

## New Tool Fights Fake News By Exposing Websites That Create It

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

articles with a variety and high degree of these linguistic features, it can be easily inferred that they are more likely to publish unreliable "news".

"Automatic fact-checking lags behind in terms of accuracy, and it is generally not trusted by human users. In fact, even when done by reputable fact-checking organizations, debunking does little to convince those who already believe in false information." the researchers write.

Their study, "Predicting Factuality of Reporting and Bias of News Media Sources," forthcoming in the Proceedings of the 2018 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language, reveals key features of false news web sites that might be less visible to human fact checkers but can tab a bad news source.

Among the features: specific patterns of so-called "function words" that give a more spoken feel to a news article, as opposed to the far more common "content words." Mainstream news editors clamp down fast and hard on too many function words, but fake news sites may not be edited at all. The number and pattern of words that seem to express some sort of sentiment is another easy giveaway, as is the amount of user engagement and shares; linguistic indicators of bias around specific topics, (or bias generally), also



If a news site pumps out a lot of articles with a variety and high degree of these linguistic characteristics, you can safely infer that they're more likely to be publishing "news" that, well, isn't.

The researchers found that their algorithm, called the Support Vector Machine, could correctly deduce a high, low, or me-

dium level of "factuality" about 65 percent of the time. It could predict right- or left-leaning bias about 70 percent of the time. While not perfect, it's a big improvement over a raw guess (50 percent). The authors caution that the algorithm would work best with human fact checkers.

The next step, they write, is "characterizing the factuality of reporting for media in other languages. Finally, we want to go beyond left vs. right bias that is typical of the Western world and to model other kinds of biases that are more relevant for other regions, e.g., islamist vs. secular is one such example for the Muslim World." (Courtesy nextgov.com)

#### Related

#### NEWSGUARD WANTS TO FIGHT FAKE NEWS WITH HUMANS, NOT ALGORITHMS

Imagine you are scrolling through Facebook, you see an article that seems a little unusual, and you flag it. If Facebook's algorithm has decided you're trustworthy, the report then might go to the social network's third-party fact checkers. If they mark the story as false, Facebook will make sure fewer people see it in the News Feed. For those who see it anyway, Facebook will surface related articles with an alternative viewpoint just below the story. Every major platform—Twitter, YouTube, Reddit, and more—has some version of this process. But they all go about it in completely different ways, with every tech company writing its own rules and using black box algorithms to put them into practice. The patchwork nature of promoting trustworthy sources online has had the unintended consequence of seeding fears of bias.

That's one reason why a group of journalists and media executives are launching a tool called NewsGuard, a browser plug-in for Chrome and Microsoft Edge that transcends platforms, giving trustworthiness ratings to most of the internet's top-trafficked sites. Those ratings are based on assessments from an actual newsroom of

dozens of reporters who comprise News-Guard's staff. They hail from a range of news organizations, including New York Daily News and GQ. Together, they've spent the last several months scoring thousands of news sites.

### **□NewsGuard**

## Restoring Trust & Accountability

To vet the sites, they use a checklist of nine criteria that typically denote trust-worthiness. Sites that don't clearly label advertising lose points, for example. Sites that have a coherent correction policy gain points. If you install NewsGuard and browse Google, Bing, Facebook, or Twitter, you'll see either a red or green icon next to every news source, a binary indicator of whether it meets NewsGuard's standards. Hover over the icon, and NewsGuard offers a full "nutrition label," with point-by-point descriptions of how it scored the site, and links to the bios of whoever scored them.

The tool is designed to maximize transparency, says Steve Brill, NewsGuard's cofounder, best known for founding the cable company Court TV. "We're trying to be the opposite of an algorithm," he says. Brill started NewsGuard with Gordon Crovitz, former publisher of The Wall Street Journal.

Along with the launch of the plug-in, NewsGuard is announcing partnerships with Microsoft as part of its Defending Democracy Program. The startup has also forged a deal with libraries in at least five states, which plan to install the extension on their own computers and educate members about how to use it at home. "Adding this service on computers used by our patrons continues the long tradition of librarians arming readers with more information about what they are reading," Sta-

cey Aldrich, the state librarian of Hawaii, said in a statement.

'We're trying to be the opposite of an algorithm.'



Brill and Crovitz launched News Guard in response to two dueling crises facing journalism:

the declining trust in mainstream media, and the proliferation of fake news that masquerades as legitimate. To fend off the threat of heavy-handed regulation, tech companies have unleashed artificially intelligent tools, which in turn have sparked charges of censorship. Recent changes to Facebook's algorithm, for example, led to traffic declines at a range of media outlets. But Republican members of Congress have since seized on the shrinking reach of sites like The Gateway Pundit as evidence that Facebook censors conservatives.

Brill and Crovitz view NewsGuard as a sort of compromise. "We see ourselves as the logical, classic, free market American way to solve the problem of unreliable journalism online," Brill says. "The alternatives out there are either government regulation, which most people should rightly hate, and the second-worst idea, which is: Let's let the platforms continue to say they're working on algorithms to deal with this, which will never work."



NewsGuard's staff of nearly 40 reporters and dozens of freelancers are still working their way through 4,500 websites that they say account for 98 percent of the content shared online. The creators say they're on track to meet that goal by October. Sites can score up to 100 points on the NewsGuard rubric, with certain offenses, like repeatedly publishing stories identified as false, carrying extra weight. Any site that receives less than 60 points gets marked as red. The NewsGuard staff calls all of these organizations to discuss their shortcomings, and to ensure that they've characterized the site fairly.

"Algorithms don't call for comment," Brill says, adding that dozens of sites that have already improved their scores by integrating NewsGuard's criteria. (Courtesy wired.com)

















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