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JACL, APA Groups Angered at McCain's Use of Term 'Gook'

National JACL criticized Sen. John McCain, the Republican presidential candidate, for his use of the word "gook" in referring to his wartime North Vietnamese captors during his imprisonment.

"It's appalling that a candidate for the presidency of the United States would use a derogatory racial slur as Senator McCain has done," said Helen Kawagoe, national JACL president. "It's obvious the senator doesn't recognize that using a racial epithet against single individuals demeans the entire group."

McCain was quoted as saying

to several reporters on his campaign bus recently, "I hate the gooks. I will hate them as long as I live."

McCain's refusal to apologize for using the term has further stirred the anger of the Asian Pacific American community.

"What I find especially troublesome is Senator McCain's refusal to recognize how harmful and even dangerous his comments are," said John Tateishi, national JACL executive director. "Asian Americans have experienced an increase in hate crimes, and the word 'gook' is often heard from the lips of the attackers."

Hate crimes against Asian Americans increased during the 1980s and have escalated in recent years. A study by the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium noted that the term "gook" frequently accompanies hate crime attacks such as a 1994 beating of a refugee Vietnamese family in Massachusetts by their white neighbors or a 1997 attack by a white male on an Asian female in Portland, Ore.

The bloodiest incident occurred in Stockton, Calif., where a Vietnam veteran entered an elementary school yard with an automatic rifle and killed a number of

children, saying he wanted to "kill some gooks."

"It's incomprehensible that Senator McCain can be so irresponsible as to sanction the use of the worst kind of racist slur," said Tateishi. "The term has provocative connotations of violence, as evidenced by the attacks on Asian Americans victimized by hate crimes."

Since a story ran in the *Nation* magazine about a month ago reporting McCain's continued use of the racial slur, members of the APA community have protested the Senator's use of the term.

"Senator McCain, being a pub-

lic figure and a presidential candidate, needs to be more sensitive about offending the Asia Pacific American community," said Organization of Chinese Americans National President George M. Ong. "We can accept his anger toward what happened to him during a wartime situation, but to denigrate an entire race of people is not in keeping with the ideals that he, and America, professes to have and promote."

"We demand an immediate public apology from him and his campaign, and a pledge that

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Religious Communities Differ in Perspective on Same-Sex Marriage Issue

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

There's a fine line between church and state, as Proposition 22 continues to prompt both discussion and debate over same-sex marriage within both the secular and religious arenas.

While some faith leaders have shared their particular perspective on this issue with their congregations, keeping discussion within the realm of their church community, others have chosen to be more outspoken, going beyond their inner circle to advocate either on behalf of or against same-sex marriage.

In any case, this issue is proving to be not just a civil or political matter; it is, for some, also a matter of religious perspective.

"We need to look at this from a moral and spiritual perspective. What does our faith say about homosexuality?" said Rev. Lloyd Wake, a supporter of same-sex marriage and a retired Nisei minister, formerly with Glide Memorial United Methodist Church and Pine United Methodist Church, both in San Francisco.

"In some ways, the faith community has been exclusive. It has shut certain people out. But I feel our faith is inclusive. This is what Jesus and his ministry was all about, to include those who were pushed to the fringes," he said.

While disagreement within the United Methodist Church over the issue of homosexuality has been heating up in recent months due to pending same-sex marriage legislation in various states, there have been efforts to be more inclusive, as Wake mentioned. The Reconciling Congregation Program, for instance, is a growing movement

within some UMCs which publicly welcomes all persons regardless of their sexual orientation.

Many Christian denominations are divided specifically on the issue of how to minister to their gay and lesbian members, said Chris Lyford, director of Marriage and Family Life for the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Within the Catholic Church, he said, there are two primary factions. One, called "Courage," upholds the church's teaching by saying, "Let's work on chastity ... to support them spiritually and to sort of bring them out of the lifestyle," he said.

"There is, within the Christian denominations, a dissent in terms of a specific area—between homosexual attraction or orientation and a homosexual act. There's a [difference]. Just because you're tempted to lust, doesn't mean you've actively lusted."

The other, called "Dignity," diverges from the teaching. "It affirms homosexuality by saying you didn't choose it, you were born with it, or God planned it," he said.

Lyford's view is that, "According to God's creation, marriage is by definition between a man and a woman. We're against couples of the same-sex using marriage in that traditional sense."

This perspective, he said, "is borne out of Scripture in the Judeo-Christian tradition but also in many world religions."

"Jesus, in his ministry, he did include everyone in his offer to repent and turn away from sin, but not everyone chose that offer. [Some] excluded themselves, they made the decision," he said. "Homosexuality was not in

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AJA WWII Memorial Alliance Unveils Monument

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

In 1945, as the war in Europe was coming to a close, Rev. Major George Aki, a chaplain for the 442nd Central Postal Directory Battalion stationed in Italy, was given a difficult task. He and his assistant

were to locate the isolated graves of Nisei soldiers hurriedly buried in the heat of battle.

Aki and his assistant scoured the former battle fields and dug up the dead, one by one. And each time, Aki would fall to his knees and read the name on the dog tag of the fallen Nisei soldier.

It was to honor and remember these Nisei soldiers killed in action that Aki and more than 600 people turned out to Los Angeles' Little Tokyo on Feb. 19, at the unveiling of the Americans of Japanese Ancestry World War II Memorial Alliance's monument.

"What can we do for these men who died? Do we just say a prayer once a year and forget about them?" Aki, the day's keynote speaker, asked the *Pacific Citizen*. "I believe what we need to remember, as a friend once told me, is that they live in us. And that is why we have to dignify their lives with our lives. How we live our lives becomes that much more important."

The Alliance monument lists the names of 825 WWII Nisei soldiers killed in action, 15 of whom served during WWII and were killed in action in the Korean War. The list also includes 31 names of Caucasian officers who served with the 100th/442nd MJS and

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PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

A loved one takes a moment to touch the name of a killed in action Nisei soldier.

Day of Remembrance 2000

Michi Weglyn Remembered; Carmen Mochizuki, Alice Nishimoto and Fred Okrand Honored for JLA Redress Efforts

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

It's been over half a century since more than 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were unlawfully incarcerated by the United States during World War II, but the legacy of those who subsequently fought for redress is alive and well.

The National Coalition for Re-

dress/Reparations, recently retired Nisei for Civil Rights and Redress (NCRF), commemorated its Day of Remembrance 2000 at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles on Feb. 19, the anniversary of the 1942 signing of Executive Order 9066.

According to this year's theme, "Common History, Shared Struggles: Celebrating the Struggle of Japanese Latin Americans for Redress," NCRF honored three individuals—Carmen Mochizuki, Alice Nishimoto and Fred Okrand—with the annual Fighting Spirit Award for their inspiring efforts with the Campaign For Justice.

"The work of Campaign For Justice has been quite a ride. It's been kind of a rebirth of the redress movement of the 1980s with all the twists and turns, the ups and downs," said Richard Katsuda, president of NCRF. "It's been a real uphill battle partly because the government and many in our community thought that redress was over. But when the going got tough, these three got going."

Mochizuki and Nishimoto, two of the named plaintiffs in the historic *Mochizuki v. U.S.* lawsuit, and Okrand, a former American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) leader, were instrumental in the ongoing fight for redress on behalf of the 2,264 Latin Americans of Japanese ancestry who were abducted, forcibly detained in the United States and used in hostage exchanges with Japan during WWII.

"I'm here today because I want to honor my late parents, my sister and many others who we've been fighting for," said Nishimoto, who got a bit choked up. "This Campaign For Justice was for them. They suffered so much because of what the U.S. government did to us, but they were strong. Some survived, some didn't, but I believe [it is] because of their strength that we're here today."

Nishimoto said she felt both "very honored" and "a little uncomfortable" to be receiving such

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JACL NATIONAL CONVENTION 2000
AN ENDLESS WAVE OF LEADERSHIP

Monterey, California
June 26-July 2, 2000

18 weeks

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NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.

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JACL Calendar

National

Wed., March 1—Deadline for entering freshmen to submit applications to chapter scholarship committees for national JACL scholarships.

Sat., April 1—Deadline for students other than entering freshmen to submit applications to chapter scholarship committees for national JACL scholarships.

Mon., June 26-Sun., July 2—36th Biennial JACL National Convention; Doubletree Inn, Monterey, Calif.; special rate for JACL conventioners. Reservations: ASAP. 831/649-4511, <www.doubletreemonterey.com>.

Eastern

Fri.-Tues., March 31-April 4—Washington, D.C., Leadership Conference; Doubletree Hotel. Info: Tom Ehle, 415/921-5225.

Intermountain

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sat., March 4—District Council Meeting, Jackpot, Nev.

SALT LAKE

Wed., March 1—Scholarship applica-

tion deadline. Info: Kristi Ryujin, 581-7203.

Sat., March 4—National JACL Credit Union annual meeting; see Community Calendar.

NC-WN-Pacific CONTRA COSTA

Wed., March 1—Scholarship application deadline. Info: Yoko Olsgaard, 415/201-0969.

Sun., March 19—Senior Appreciation/Scholarship Awards luncheon potluck; 2-5 p.m., Maple Hall, 1 Alvarado Square, San Pablo; karaoke by Akayko Kai. Info: Esther Takeuchi.

FREMONT

Sun., March 19—Bay Meadows outing; see Community Calendar.

RENO

Sun., March 12—Teriyaki Dinner fund-raiser; see Community Calendar.

SAN MATEO

Sat., March 25—NCJASC 20th Annual Shinnen En Kai; see Community Calendar at Hayward.

WATSONVILLE

Mon.-Thurs., April 24-27—Senior Center Tour to Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, etc. Info: Carmel Kamigawachi, 831/722-1930, Ship Kizuka, 831/724-0116.

COMMUNITY Calendar

The Midwest

CHICAGO

Sun., March 12—Caring Is Preparing workshop: "Long Term Care for Your Parents"; 2-4 p.m., Japanese American Service Committee, 4427 N. Clark St.; RSVP: 773/275-7212.

Intermountain

SALT LAKE

Sat., March 4—National JACL Credit Union annual meeting; Little America Hotel, 500 S. Main St.; business meeting & children's entertainment 5 p.m., buffet dinner 6 p.m., entertainment 7:30 p.m.; RSVP by March 2: 801/355-8040.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 11-13—Greater Portland Reunion, "Nikkei Futures 2000; Doubletree Lloyd Center Hotel; mixer, banquet, tours, golf tournament, picnic, etc. Info: Kennie Namba, 503/258-0648, Kurtis Inouye 503/682-3238.

SEATTLE

Sat., March 4—Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church Sukiyaki Dinner; 4-7 p.m., 3001 24th Ave. S.; take-out and bake sale from 2 p.m. Info: 206/723-1536.

Through April—Exhibit, "A Different Battle: Stories of Asian Pacific American Veterans"; Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S. Info: 206/623-5124.

Northern California

BAY AREA

Sun., March 5—Nikkei Widowed Group monthly meeting; 2 p.m.; new members, both men and women, are welcome. For location call: Tets Ihara 415/221-4568 or Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

BODEGA BAY

Through March 6—Exhibit, early 20th century woodblock prints by Kawase Hasui, Hiroshi Yoshida, Toshi Yoshida; Ren Brown Gallery, 1781 Highway One. Info: 800/585-2921, <www.ren-brown.com>.

FREMONT

Sun., March 19—Bay Meadows outing; meet at SACBC at 11 a.m. for car pooling. Info: Ted Inouye, 510/797-3075.

HAYWARD

Sat., March 25—20th Annual Shinnen En Kai by the Northern California Japanese American Senior Centers; luncheon, entertainment, arts, crafts, food items. RSVP by March 10 to your local senior center.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sat., Feb. 26—Tenth anniversary celebration of exhibit, "Strength and Diversity-Japanese American Women, 1885-1990"; 6:30-9 p.m., Grand Hyatt

Central California

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sun., March 12—District Council Meeting, Clovis.

Pacific Southwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sun., Feb. 27—PSWDC Quarterly Meeting and 2000 District Oratorical Contest; JACCC, 240 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Info: Gerald, PSW District Office, 213/626-4471.

ARIZONA

Wed., March 1—Application Deadline for Sara Hutchings Clardy Scholarship. Info: Kathy Inoshita, Scholarship Committee Secretary, 623/937-5434

SOUTH BAY

Wed., March 1—Application, Deadline for Kiichi Egashira Memorial Scholarships. Info: Christine Shimane, 310/715-2039. ■

DEADLINE for Calendar is the Friday before date of issue, on a space-available basis.

Please provide the time and place of the event, and name and phone number (including area code) of a contact person.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES

Sat., March 4—Exhibit Opening, "More Than a Game: Sport in the Japanese American Community"; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414.

PASADENA

Wed., March 1—Seminar & Reception, "The Making and Construction of the Japanese American National Museum" with Project Manager Jun Egua and Architect Paul Nagashima; 6-7:30 p.m., Ray Wilson Co., 199 S. Los Robles Ave., Suite 250, RSVP by Feb. 28: Japan-U.S. Business Alliance, 949/727-9820, fax: 949/727-9821.

WEST COAST

Sat., March 4—"Spring Fling" dance, 7-11:30 p.m., East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave.; DJ Jim Ikehara. Info: 626/337-9123.

Arizona - Nevada

RENO

Sun., March 12—Teriyaki Dinner; noon-4 p.m., Washoe County Senior Center, 9th & Sutro; also sushi sale, bake sale, entertainment, bonsai, ikebana, calligraphy, origami, raffle, etc. Info: Tracie Sasaki, 856-4004. ■

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Proposition 12 to Help Save Angel Island Immigration Station

Saving the Angel Island Immigration Station in San Francisco Bay is one of the goals of Proposition 12 on the California state ballot on March 7.

Proposition 12 is a \$2.1 billion state parks bond measure that allocates \$15 million to restore the immigration station, which has deteriorated over the past half century.

"The immigration station represents an important part of California and American history," said Felicia Lowe, president of the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation. "It is a cultural and historic treasure."

The Angel Island Immigration Station processed an estimated half million immigrants crossing the Pacific Ocean from 1910 to 1940. They included Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, Filipinos, Asian Indians, Russians and some Europeans.

While all immigrants had to rely on the whims of immigration officials to judge their fate, Chinese immigrants were treated more harshly. Chinese immigrants were detained for weeks,

months and even years because of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which barred the legal entry of Chinese laborers. The site was used as a prisoner of war camp during World War II. In subsequent years, it was turned over to the state park system, which has not had sufficient resources to stem the site's deterioration.

It was very much the West Coast equivalent of Ellis Island, which processed thousands of European immigrants and which is now a heavily visited national immigration museum. Lowe added, "We envision that Angel Island will become an important destination point."

"Sadly, the Angel Island Immigration Station is deteriorating," Lowe noted. "As time passes, invaluable pieces of American cultural history are eroding. The pier where the immigrants first set foot on American soil is gone. Poems on the decaying wooden walls are barely visible under coats of chipping paint."

The Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation has succeeded

in starting the preservation efforts. The immigration station is a National Historic Landmark and has been recognized by the White House and national preservation groups as a valuable historic asset. "We are pleased with our efforts thus far, but we still have a long way to go," said Daniel Quan, an architect and former president of the immigration station foundation. "We need the Proposition 12 funds to carry on expensive restoration efforts. We envision that when the Angel Island Immigration Station is fully restored, visitors will be able to learn of the station's important and largely unknown role in California and American history."

Quan said Proposition 12 funds will be used to upgrade existing structures, rebuild a pier at the site, preserve the irreplaceable poems and create a West Coast bookend to the Ellis Island Immigration Museum.

Overall, Proposition 12 will also refurbish visitor facilities and trails in the magnificent park system, make urban neigh-



The Chinese detention barracks, circa 1934, where hundreds of poignant messages were carved into the interior walls by the detainees, is the principal structure to be restored and preserved at the former site of the Angel Island Immigration Station.

hood parks safer, and provide recreational programs for at-risk young people. It will also help clean up rivers and streams and protect and improve watershed lands and threatened coastal lands.

For more information about Proposition 12's impact on the Angel Island Immigration Station, please visit the following Web sites: www.aiisf.org, www.safeparks.org and www.parks2000.org. ■

Gov. Davis Supports U.S. Postage Stamp Recognizing 'National Day of Remembrance'

California Gov. Gray Davis on Feb. 19 sent a letter to the U.S. Postal Service in support of a commemorative stamp for the National Day of Remembrance.

The National Day of Remembrance, observed on Feb. 19, honors more than 120,000 Japanese-Americans who were victims of internment during World War II.

Davis wrote the letter at the request of Assemblyman Mike Honda, who himself was forced into an internment camp as a child. The following is the letter:

"Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee of State Development U.S. Postal Service 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Room 4474 E Washington, D.C. 20260-2437

"Dear Committee Members: As Governor of California, I am proud to add my support for the proposal to issue a United States postage stamp and stationery in recognition of Febru-

ary 19th as the National Day of Remembrance.

"The National Day of Remembrance commemorates a deplorable, but important part of our nation's history, when more than 120,000 Japanese-Americans were denied their civil rights and forced into internment camps during World War II."

"There are no truer American heroes than those brave men, women and children who maintained their loyalty to a country that did not trust them. To ensure that the extraordinary bravery of these Japanese-Americans is never forgotten, we must be vigilant in teaching the lessons of World War II and the internment period."

"The National Day of Remembrance Commemorative stamp will be a tribute to the indomitable spirit of a community who remained steadfast in the face of a nation traumatized by wartime crisis, prejudice and fear. More than that, it will serve as a grave reminder of what we as a nation are capable in times of extreme circumstances and what we must not allow to ever happen again."

"Thank you for your consideration of this request." ■

Cal Poly Pomona President Selected to Attorney General's Commission on Hate Crimes

Cal Poly Pomona President Bob H. Suzuki has been selected by Attorney General Bill Lockyer to serve on the California Civil Rights Commission on Hate Crimes.

The commission will advise the attorney general on methods to improve hate crime prevention; tolerance and appreciation for diversity; law enforcement training; monitoring and suppression of organized extremist hate groups; victims' services; and the strength and efficacy of state criminal and civil rights laws aimed at preventing and punishing perpetrators of hate crimes.

"Hate crime is an issue that I

have been concerned with for many years," said Suzuki. "I am honored that the attorney general has asked me to serve on this commission."

Members of the commission will begin their service by addressing the difficulty in obtaining accurate and complete hate crimes statistics. They will submit a report at the end of the year, which will suggest better ways for collecting such data.

Suzuki joins such distinguished individuals as Fred Korematsu and Joseph McNamara. Korematsu, a renowned civil rights crusader who fought against the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II, will serve as honorary chairperson of the commission. McNamara, a research fellow at the Hoover Institute, will co-chair the commission. ■

Nov. 6 Trial Date Set for Wen Ho Lee

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—The trial of fired nuclear weapons scientist Wen Ho Lee will begin Nov. 6, nearly a year after he was arrested on charges of breaching Los Alamos National Laboratory security, a judge ruled Thursday.

U.S. District Judge John Conway told attorneys he will push hard to deliver a speedy trial.

"Do not expect delays," Conway said.

He asked both sides for their best estimates on when they could be ready for trial. Acting U.S. Attorney Robert Gorence said, "November-December is a very do-able time period." He has estimated the trial could take four to five weeks.

But defense attorney John Cline said he doubted the trial could begin this year.

When Conway set the trial, he noted: "Whether this is totally realistic or not one of us knows at this point." But he said setting a date now "will help hasten things along."

Lee, a naturalized U.S. citizen born in Taiwan, is charged with 59 counts involving security breaches — but not espionage. He could get life in prison if convicted.

Moments after the courtroom opened, the gray-haired 60-year-old scientist sat alone at the defense table, wearing a dark blue sport shirt, black jeans and tennis shoes. He greeted a reporter with a cheerful "Morning" but did

not speak during the hearing.

Lee, held without bond in the Santa Fe County jail since Dec. 10, has appealed the court's refusal to release him on bail. The Denver-based 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has neither ruled nor set a hearing on his appeal.

Lee is accused of downloading classified information onto unsecured computers and computer tapes, seven of which prosecutors contend may still exist. Lee has said the tapes were destroyed.

Defense court filings have noted parallels with the case of former CIA director John Deutch, who also downloaded sensitive information on an unsecured computer but who did not face charges.

Prosecutors contend Lee, who until a year ago had top security clearance, downloaded enough nuclear secrets to build a functional thermonuclear weapon. They have called the information he downloaded the "crown jewels" of American science.

They did not allege he gave those secrets to any unauthorized person. They do contend, however, that releasing Lee on bail might give him the chance to pass secrets. The defense petitioned to have portions of the Classified Information Procedures Act, or CIPA, declared unconstitutional on grounds the law was being used to compel Lee to provide evidence in violation of his Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination. Under

CIPA, the defense must provide pretrial notice of classified information it expects to disclose or have disclosed.

Gorence filed the government's response Thursday opposing the self-incrimination argument.

The defense said if Conway upholds CIPA, that could mean a longer and more complicated pretrial disclosure process.

The defense also said work on getting an area of the courthouse secured to handle discussion of classified evidence was also running behind. Cline said there had been a month's delay in securing U.S. General Services Administration funding for the security alterations.

Conway said he would speak with the GSA's national director.

"He's going to get an earful. We're going to move this along," Conway said.

Conway cautioned attorneys on punctuality, saying, "I start on time. I finish on time." If attorneys have motions to argue, he said, they will have to do it before court starts or during lunch hours.

Conway said he will allow jurors to take notes during the trial and to submit written questions for witnesses.

"If I think the questions are good, I'll ask the questions," Conway said.

Conway said he might set up a separate courtroom for news media to observe the trial "so we're not distracted by folks coming in, going out." ■

Vice President Gore Commits to 80-20's Declaration

Vice President Gore has written to commit his support for 80-20's Declaration on Presidential Election of 2000.

His letter reached 80-20 a few hours before 5 p.m. on Feb. 15, the time set by 80-20's steering committee to become irrevocably committed to Sen. Bill Bradley in the presidential primary.

Gore stated: "America is strong because of its diversity, not in spite of it. That is why I am proud to support the goals of the 80-20 declaration, and call upon all levels of business, academia and government to open wide the doors of opportunity to Asian-Americans and to all Americans."

Gore further stated, "If you entrust me with the presidency, I would direct my cabinet officers to investigate discrimination against Asian Pacific Americans

in any environment, and to use every means available to combat discrimination where it is found. A Gore administration would work to lift the 'glass ceiling' that unfairly prevents any American from rising to his or her fullest potential. And I would continue the progress that we have made to create an administration that looks like America, considering and appointing qualified Asian Pacific Americans for positions at every level of government. You have made our nation stronger, more diverse and more inclusive. As president, I will continue working to empower your community."

The 80-20 had urged APAs to withhold financial and other forms of support to any presidential primary candidate who fails to pledge his/her commitment to the declaration. Now that both Democratic candidates

have committed to 80-20's declaration, 80-20 as an organization no longer takes a position on the Bradley/Gore race.

Kenneth Fong, president of Clonetch Laboratories, who is a steering committee member of 80-20 and a Republican said, "As a Republican, I am disappointed that neither Bush nor McCain has committed to our declaration which calls for fair representation of Asian Pacific Americans. We will definitely vote for only those candidates who are committed to the 80-20 declaration."

80-20 now focuses on the Republican presidential primary. If either Bush or McCain writes to commit to 80-20's declaration, 80-20 will urge its 150,000 supporters to vote for that candidate in the primary election.

For further information, visit <http://www.8020initiative.net>. ■

and proactive Web site.

9. Salt Lake City - \$1,400

Complete Japanese American oral history project (which began 30 years ago) for transfer to the University of Utah library, for research and public use.

10. San Diego - \$2,175

Produce a mini-documentary program in collaboration with KPBS-TV about the experiences of a San Diego Nikkei farm family.

11. San Jose - \$750

Yu-Ai-Kai program and services (JA community service services).

12. Seattle - \$1,325

Japanese American Values and Attitudes - Yesterday and Today

13. Southeast - \$1,325

To fund public education programs in conjunction with two exhibitions presented at the William Brennan Jewish Heritage Museum in Atlanta, Ga.

14. Twin Cities - \$1,250

Purchase educational materials for distribution to teachers at a state-wide social studies teacher's convention on March 2-3, in Bloomington, Minn.

15. National Youth/Student Council - \$1,200

Develop a youth recruitment video with the PSW District to recruit new youth/student members.

16. Midwest District Council - \$1,775

Intergenerational legacy project of the Japanese Americans in the Midwest.

e) Redress History Project - CDC Regional Director Patricia Tsai Tam has been working with Mae Takahashi, project committee co-chair, to send out question packets to potential interviewees. The deadline for responses has been extended to March 24. In addition, potential funding sources are currently being pursued.

f) The three NCWNP chapters, Golden Gate, Sequoia and Florin, who spearheaded the recent push for a redress of conscience resolution, have drafted a new resolution taking into account the various responses to the first resolution, and

will present it at the upcoming national convention in Monterey. The following is the draft resolution.

Recognition of and Apology to the Nisei Resisters of Conscience of World War II:

"Whereas, the JACL is one of the oldest and largest Asian Pacific American civil rights organizations in this country;

"Whereas, the purpose of the JACL is to ensure that the civil rights of all individuals are upheld and protected;

"Whereas, the JACL Constitution states that 'the organization and its members shall uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States and the several states';

"Whereas, the Constitution of the United States extends to its citizens the right to protest unfair treatment;

"Whereas, the JACL has participated in and learned from the civil rights movement of the 1960s that fighting for civil rights takes many forms including picketing, boycotting, lawsuits, lobbying, civil disobedience, etc., in efforts to challenge civil rights violations and unjust laws;

"Whereas, the resisters of conscience's right to protest is guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and is in keeping with the JACL Constitution;

"Whereas, history is a great teacher and has shown the JACL that there is no one easy and 'correct' response, emotionally or politically, to a civil rights violation as massive and destructive as the evacuation and internment; that the various forms of protest by innocent and loyal Japanese Americans to overwhelming injustice are deserving of respect; today;

"Whereas, the JACL took its first steps to acknowledge this at its 1990 National Convention;

"Whereas, the JACL has recognized others, notably the Nisei veterans of World War II who made great sacrifices in defense of our

country and who have won a place of honor and respect in the history of Americans of Japanese ancestry; and

"Whereas, the time has come for the JACL of the 21st century to display its leadership in this new millennium, to nurture the healing of divisions within our community; and to fully recognize the resisters of conscience;

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National JACL recognizes the Japanese American resisters of conscience as a group of principled Americans; offers an apology for not acknowledging the resisters' stand as one valid form of protesting the denial of constitutional rights and for the pain and bitterness this helped cause; and plans to recognize them at an appropriate public ceremony."

g) Proposition 22 - The national board voted to oppose Prop. 22, "The Knight Initiative," that seeks to define marriage as that between a man and a woman.

MOTION: To reaffirm the national JACL's position on same sex marriages, the national board opposes California Proposition 22.

Made by: Craig Osaki, seconded by: Lori Fujimoto. Vote: passes; abstentions: Marie Matsunami, Elaine Akagi, and Lillian Kimura

UPS and Northwest Airlines to Sponsor 2000 Min Yasui Oratorical Competition



The JACL will hold the 2000 Min Yasui Oratorical Competition during the 36th JACL national convention in Monterey, Calif., on June 29.

This year, United Parcel Service and Northwest Airlines will be co-sponsors for the competition. UPS has donated \$10,000 to cover expenses for the regional competitions and the national contest. The winner of the national competition will be awarded two round-trip tickets to Japan and first runner up will be awarded two round-trip tickets in the domestic United States, both prizes provided by Northwest Airlines.

"UPS is excited about the opportunity to sponsor an event which supports young adults in a positive and creative fashion," said Fred Fernandez, director of equal opportunity and diversity.

The competition is conducted in two stages. First, students

must compete in a district competition to qualify for the national competition. There will be seven district competitions throughout the United States. Winners of the district competitions will receive a travel stipend and two nights' hotel accommodation in order to represent their district at the national competition in Monterey. High school members of the JACL, age 16 or older, and undergraduate members are eligible to participate.

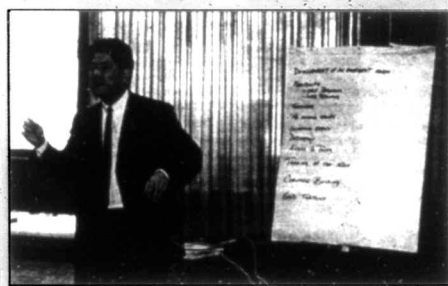
This year's topic is, "How would the Japanese American community differ today if Japanese Americans were not interned during World War II?"

The following are regional competition dates and locations:

Los Angeles: Feb. 27; Jackpot, Nev., March 4; Seattle, March 11; Chicago, March 18; Denver, April 1; Salinas, Calif., May 7; Fresno, Calif., May 21.

For information regarding the district competitions or general questions, please contact JACL national headquarters at 415/921-5225 or youthdir@jacl.org.

PSWD Hosts Day of Remembrance Event



Mitch Maki, author and UCLA assistant professor spoke about the history of the redress movement at PSWD's Day of Remembrance event on Feb. 19, held at the Japanese American Community and Cultural Center.

"Commemorating the Day of Remembrance is important not only in JA history but American history," said Maki. "We must remember the history of our internment but we must also remember the importance of the redress movement, the second chapter in our experience."

Tateishi Keynotes at Salinas DOR

By FRED OSHIMA

John Tateishi, JACL national director, will be the keynote speaker for the annual Day of Remembrance Feb. 27 at the Salinas Community Center.

The 1:30 p.m. observance is sponsored by the five area JACL chapters - San Benito, Gilroy, Watsonville, Monterey Peninsula and Salinas Valley. The opening ceremony chaired by Paul Ichiuji will take place at the center's Japanese Garden, 940 N. Main St., and then will move indoors to the Santa Lucia Room. In the event of rain, the entire program will be transferred indoors.

The Day of Remembrance commemorates the signing of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on Feb. 19, 1942, that triggered the forced removal of some 120,000 Japanese Americans from the entire Pacific Coast states - Washington, Oregon and California - into inland

barbed wire internment camps.

Here in this Central California coastal region, the famed California Rodeo Grounds, the home of one of the nation's premier horse and stock shows, was converted overnight into an evacuation processing base - a hastily built, crude assembly center. The evacuees, stripped of their citizenship rights, were subsequently shipped to Poston War Relocation Center in Arizona, and today an imposing granite boulder marks the site as a tragic reminder.

John Tateishi was appointed by JACL President Helen Kawagoe last fall after the resignation of Herbert Yamanishi and is no stranger to this organization. He served as national chair for the JACL's redress campaign from 1978 to 1986 and in this role, developed legislative strategies and conducted important research for this program.

The public is invited and refreshments will be served.

National JACL Welcomes New Youth Director Jaclyn Kuwada

Jaclyn Kuwada joins the national JACL as the new youth director.

As youth director, Kuwada will perform a wide variety of duties to ensure the development and maintenance of JACL's youth and student programs and goals.

Kuwada is not new to JACL. In the past, she was involved in JACL's education program, and assisted in implementing the teacher training workshops, a project that introduces the Nikkei experience into the curriculum of various school districts. She is committed to educating the youth in hopes that it will combat intolerance and social injustice.

In addition, Kuwada helped supervise the JACL scholarship program.

Kuwada received her bachelor's degree in 1998 from UC Berkeley where she majored in social welfare and a minor in education. During her college years, Kuwada's involvement in the social service sector included working as a student orientation chair for UC Berkeley's Social Welfare Undergraduate Association where she coordinated an inaugural student meeting for social welfare majors.

Kuwada also worked as a tutor and mentor for middle school students in the local area.

It is Kuwada's hope that her past experiences and educational background will help her in working with the JACL youth council in developing innovative programs.

Blue Shield health plans for California JACL members

Blue Shield of California offers group health care coverage to current JACL members age 18 and over who reside in California. Plans may include a wide range of benefits, including vision care, worldwide emergency coverage, dental care, prescription drug benefits and more. For more information about these plans, call the JACL Health Benefits Trust today at 1-800-400-6633.

Website: <http://www.jaclhealthbenefits.org>



Choose from four plans:
• Access HMO • Blue Shield PPO • Shield 65
• A new low option \$1000 deductible basic plan.

Blue Shield of California
An Independent Member of the Blue Shield Association

South Bay JACL Hosts Teacher Training Workshop



Sue Embrey (middle) spoke about the experience of being incarcerated during WWII at a recent Teacher Training Workshop sponsored by South Bay JACL on Feb. 8, at the Japanese American National Museum. Fellow panelists Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston (left) and Midori Watanabe Kamei (right) look on. Attendees were educators from the Torrance Unified School District.

Stranger Than Fiction

By Christina Shigemura

It Ain't Always Easy

As a teacher, I find myself in a strange predicament.

This year my "classroom" is the All-Purpose Room. This room was designed to serve many purposes, but teaching was not one of them. My room is next to the cafeteria. There is a stage on one side of the room, and the other side of the room is a graveyard for dead furniture. There are no bulletin boards or windows, and the only set of doors that can be opened from on campus have no handles or keyholes. The ceiling is two stories high and stained where the roof has leaked. The All-Purpose Room is also home to the faculty restrooms, which are off a foyer that can only be accessed by walking through my room. I call the room "mine" loosely because my students and I have shared the room (sometimes simultaneously) with many other classes and teachers over the past six months. The room also houses the faculty kitchen, including a soda machine which students are always trying to sneak in and use because the sodas are only 50 cents.

When I began teaching in the All-Purpose Room in September, it had no screen for an overhead projector, no filing cabinets, no bookshelves, no usable chalkboard, and no desk or chair for me. The students' desks and chairs are old, decrepit and some-

times break when students sit down. It's somewhat amazing to me that students continue to come to school and learn, despite everything, but they do.

I've tried to make the place as much like a regular classroom as possible, but it is still like teaching in the middle of a circus. People come and go all the time, and furniture is moved in and out of the room constantly. There is noise from the outside eating area and the cafeteria, and my voice is all but swallowed up by the high ceiling.

I am not the only teacher in this situation. At my school, for instance, classes are held in the pit of the auditorium, in the foyer of the auditorium and in the library. Some teachers travel to a different classroom every hour because there is simply no more room.

Sadly, this is becoming the norm throughout the state. My school, like almost every other urban public school in California, is overcrowded. The American Civil Liberties Union is already working on one lawsuit regarding a particularly crowded school in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Yet schools do not seem to be a very important priority for state leaders. California spends more than any other state on prisons, but we are only 41st in spending on education. If Proposition 21 passes, hundreds of millions of

dollars per year will be spent on building more prisons. Meanwhile, I hold my breath and hope that the heat will be working each day before I walk into my classroom.

I guess it is easier to throw kids into prisons, rather than building new schools and classrooms for them. Former Gov. Pete Wilson (the sponsor of Prop 21) certainly has a track record of doing what is easy and politically expedient for himself instead of standing up and doing what is right. California state Sen. Pete Knight seems to share this character flaw.

Proposition 22, which is sponsored by Knight, seeks to deny basic legal, medical and financial rights to gay and lesbian couples. It's funny. President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 on a February day kind of like this one. He acted on white Americans' fear and hatred of Japanese Americans. He took the easy way instead of the right way, and we all know the consequences. Now we have a duty to stand up for what is right. We need to do it to protect the children, the schools, and the rights of lesbians and gays.

Christina Shigemura is a teacher and a member of Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (formerly the National Coalition for Redress and Reparations).

JANM Premier Sports Films

In the Japanese American community there are few things that impassion its members as much as their love for a game called basketball.

One only needs to take a look at the popularity of the JA basketball leagues, boasting some 20,000 members on the West Coast, to witness the adoration of this sport.

"Crossover" a film directed and produced by Justin Lin, takes a look at the players, families, and fans of this 70-year old phenomenon

leagues a long time ago.

But in addition to the boy-girl social scene, the leagues are a place for a mishmash of generational bonding. Often it's not uncommon to see four generations of one family attending the basketball games.

The film also touches on the issue of ethnicity and the rules that dictate who is qualified to play in the JA leagues. Originally founded at a time when JAs faced discrimination in the mainstream basketball leagues, people have

struggled to bowl a perfect game; Wat Misaka, New York Knicks' No. 1 draft choice in 1947; and Johnnie, Eric and Chad Morton, a family football dynasty.

Through candid interviews and the use of both historical and present-day images, the film focuses on the diversity of sports that exists within the JA community. "We were trying to get a diversity of experience [in the film]," said Esaki. "Both Nisei and Sansei, the famous and less well-known, from surfers to the



Photos from "Crossover" courtesy of the Japanese American National Museum

non and was recently shown to the press at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles along with "Top of Their Game."

"Crossover" is a fast-paced, 26-minute documentary that opens a window into the popular JA basketball tournaments that take place each year throughout the country. Through interviews with Yonsei youth, Sansei parents, and the elder Nisei, issues of family, ethnicity, friendship, and camaraderie are explored. The film also includes candid interviews with former UCLA basketball coach John Wooden and NBA player Rex Walters who got his start in the JA basketball leagues. "It's a huge social scene," said Lin of the JA leagues. "It's about hanging out with other JAs. It's nice to have that comfort level." Added Lin jokingly, "The guys play for the girls. If I knew that, I would have played in these

started to question the need for an exclusive JA league that often works around unwritten rules of ethnicity qualifications.

"My first reaction was, these rules are lame, but then you see the other side," said Lin, a Chinese American who currently plays on a team in the JA leagues. The thing is, "how do you define JA today anyways?" asked Lin. "The leagues are about playing together, hanging out, not if you're one-eighth JA. Besides, there's a lot more to the leagues than the ethnicity rules."

Like "Crossover," "Top of Their Game" explores themes of community, history, and a love for sports that is shared by JAs. This 60-minute documentary directed by John Esaki shows us 14 interviewees representing a wide range of sports including: Olympic Gold Medalist Kristi Yamaguchi; Judy Kikutu, the first female bowler west of the Missis-

sippi to bowl a perfect game; Wat Misaka, New York Knicks' No. 1 draft choice in 1947; and Johnnie, Eric and Chad Morton, a family football dynasty.

For Esaki, the film was a lesson about the people and the different generations that make up the JA community. And in particular, he appreciated the discovery that JAs, even while being incarcerated in World War II concentration camps, were making a mark in sport. "It gave me a broader view of what JAs were doing in World War II," he said. "That even though there was a lot of discrimination, they [JAs] still accomplished a lot."

Presented by the Japanese American National Museum's Media Arts Center, both "Crossover" and "Top of Their Game" will be featured in the museum's upcoming exhibit, "More Than a Game: Sport in the Japanese American Community," which is scheduled to open on March 4.

For more information, contact the museum at 213/625-0414.

Salinas JACL's New Board of Directors



The Salinas Valley JACL recently elected their board of directors for 2000. They are (l-r) seated: Lynne Gatnaga, 1st vice president, Bob Shintaku, president; Linda Iwamoto, secretary; Kyo Hirano, standing: Fred Oshima, delegate; George Higashi, 2nd vice president; Herb Wong, treasurer; Bob Uemura. Not pictured are Jim Tashiro and Bonnie Marquart.

Gila River Reunion Planned for June

West Coast Japanese Americans who were evacuated to Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona during World War II will get together for their Millennium Reunion June 2-3 in Las Vegas.

This year's reunion will be held at Jackie Gaugh's Plaza, formerly the Union Plaza Hotel, and reservations are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

The reunion will offer an exhibit of relics found on the sites of the Butte and Canal camps of 1942-45. Ralph Edgars and the late Mrs. Edgars conducted lengthy, patient searches of the sites and dug up artifacts. Videotapes depicting camp years will also be shown.

The reunion will kick off at a mixer on Friday evening in the Grand Ballroom. Refreshments will be provided and a karaoke time will be set aside, but participants are asked to bring their own tapes.

A golf tournament is scheduled for Saturday at Rhodes Ranch. Also on Saturday—a sightseeing bus tour of Las Vegas is being arranged.

A banquet on Saturday night in

the Grand Ballroom will provide the grand finale to the reunion.

Hotel reservations should be made directly with the hotel of choice. A total of 250 rooms have been set aside at the Plaza (800/634-6575) where all reunion events except the golf tournament will be held. The Gila River Reunion should be mentioned when reserving.

A chartered bus from Los Angeles to Las Vegas, with hotel reservations and meals, will be available.

Souvenir booklets will be optional. Photos of reunion guests will be taken on Saturday. Group pictures of school classes and of camp blocks can be arranged. Booklets may be ordered with registration.

Questions or registration materials should be sent to Hy Shishino, c/o Gila River Reunion Committee, 16031 Sugarpine Ln., Cerritos, CA 90703.

Inquiries about the golf tournament should be sent to Hank Sato, 5021 Vallecito, Westminster, CA 92683, or phone him at 714/892-2486.

Deadline to enter is April 1.

APAs Encouraged to Apply for Gates Millennium Scholarship Program

The Gates Millennium Scholars Initiative, funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and administered by the United Negro College Fund, seeks to increase the number of low-income minority students enrolling in and completing undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Four thousand scholars will be selected in the first year, and 1,000 scholars each successive year for the next 20 years.

Student eligibility requirements in the first year of the program are:

- High school seniors applying to college; current undergraduate students in any major who will be sophomores, juniors or seniors in academic year 2000-2001; individuals applying or already enrolled in graduate school in mathematics, science (including life sciences, physical sciences and computer science), engineering, education.
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Have demonstrated financial

need as defined by the federal needs analysis formula, i.e., Pell Grant eligible

• Have demonstrated leadership commitment through participation in community service, extracurricular activities that reflect leadership abilities

• U.S. citizen, permanent resident of the United States, resident of the Freely Associated States (Palau, Micronesia, Marshall Islands), Nationals (American Samoa)

• Asian Pacific Islander American, Native American, Hispanic, African American

• Must be nominated by an individual — not an application process — who knows the nominee very well. Nominators may be community leaders, individuals from educational organizations, teachers, principals, professors, deans, program directors.

To receive nomination packages and for more information, call toll-free 877/630-4677, or download from www.gmstp.org.

Marysville Chapter Donates \$5,000 to NJAMF

The board of directors of Marysville JACL recently voted to contribute \$5,000 to the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington D.C.

This donation will be added to recent \$5,000 contributions by the Sacramento JACL, Florin JACL and Placer County JACL. The grand total raised in the greater Sacramento Valley is now nearing \$125,000, said coordinator Toko Fujii. Checks continue to come in every week, and it is not too late to add to the total.

Please send checks to: National Japanese American Memorial Foundation c/o Union Bank of



Sacramento Valley NJAMF fundraising chair Toko Fujii (center) receives a \$5,000 check from George Inouye (left) and Roy Hatayama (right) of the Marysville JACL chapter.

California, 700 L St., Sacramento, CA 95814, Attn: Toko Fujii.

MEMORIAL

(Continued from page 1)

died in action during WWII.

Of the 779 Nisei soldiers killed during World War II (excluding the Caucasian officers and Nisei who served during WWII but died in the Korean War), 65 percent were from Hawaii, 32 percent from the mainland and three percent whose hometown were unknown.

No women are listed because there are no known accounts of Nisei women killed in action, according to Dr. Roy Machida, Alliance co-chair.

The monument joins two other memorials dedicated to Nikkei soldiers killed in action during the Korean and Vietnam wars. All three stand in the National Japanese American Veterans Memorial Court, in the southwest corner of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACC).

The creation of the Alliance monument was not without controversy. The Alliance came into existence after breaking off from the 100th/442nd MIS World War II Memorial Foundation, which dedicated a "Go For Broke" monument last June constructed near the Japanese American National Museum. The 100th/442nd MIS WWII Foundation raised more than \$2.5 million for their project, while the fundraising for the Alliance wall came to around \$450,000.

The basis for the Alliance's split from the 100th/442nd MIS WWII Foundation came down to this: whether or not a monument should list the names of all Nisei soldiers who served during WWII or to list only those killed in action. The controversy ripped the Nikkei community apart during the 1990s with threats of lawsuits and angry letters to the editor appearing in various Nikkei newspapers almost on a daily basis.

But today, with the completion of both monuments, Machida believes there is room for both memorials.

"We need all kinds of monuments," said Machida, a recent supporter who joined the Alliance two years ago. "I think there was no controversy at first. Some people did not want the names of those killed

in action commingled with people who are living. There is an honor roll for those who served. That's not us. We list only those killed in action. It's purely that difference, and as far as I'm concerned, I have no problems. The more the merrier."

And while the monument stands as a constant reminder of the ultimate sacrifice of war, those in attendance did not consider it a glorification of war.

Retired U.S. Army Col. Christopher Keegan, H Company 100th/442nd, shared how reading the names on the wall stirred memories of close comrades lost in battle, and considered memorials such as the Alliance wall as a necessary part of grappling with the emotional and psychological scars of war.

"In the aftermath of war, we look for ways to ease the pain and guilt we inflict on ourselves," said Keegan. "As part of the healing process, we build war monuments to honor those who served. They are not intended to glorify war but a necessary reminder that the true cost of protecting freedom is the highest cost — life itself. Without proper remembrance, the sacrifices of these men, made for freedom and recognition as Americans, would be meaningless."

Like Keegan, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Hershey Miyamura felt war memorials played a useful role, especially for the younger generations.

"We need monuments, especially we, Japanese Americans, to let future generations know what we sacrificed for this country," said Miyamura. "I think it's the best legacy we can leave. People remember monuments. I remember as a young boy that whenever I saw a monument, I was very impressed with them so I think it's a good reminder."

Rev. Ernest Uno, 442nd chaplain from Hawaii, agreed that memorials "give those who gave up their lives recognition, and helps the community remember the reasons they died and felt it did not have anything to do with glorification of war because none of us would want war to occur."

At the same time, Uno called upon the community to honor the

Nisei resistors of conscience who fought for democracy through the court system.

"While there are others who may not have been killed during the war, they served their country in other ways, especially those who, by reason of conscience, did not take up arms," said Uno. "They were vilified by the community, and they had to give their recognition for what they did. By conscience, they resisted the draft. It was not that they were against fighting in the war but against the injustices of the government."

Another long ignored sector of the Nikkei community recognized at the ceremony were the Kibei Nisei. By virtue of their upbringing in Japan, Kibei were proficient in both Japanese and English and played a critical role in the MIS, translating sensitive documents and interrogating Japanese prisoners of war.

Retired U.S. Army Col. Harry K. Fukuhara of the MIS highly commended the Kibei Nisei, a community whose loyalty to the United States were questioned both by the American-born Nisei and American government during WWII.

"The Kibei Nisei, who were raised and lived in Japan before the war, did an outstanding job, and their contributions with their language capabilities were outstanding," said Fukuhara. "Without the Kibei Nisei contributions, the efforts to get Japan back on its feet to become a partner with the United States would not have taken place."

With the completion of the monument, Machida said the next goal was to set up a computerized site the JACC with a CD-ROM which will give a brief history of the Nikkei community and list the names of all JA soldiers who served in the military. They also hope to distribute similar CD-ROMs to schools, museums, churches and other institutions.

"This is an ongoing thing, and we're not quitting with this," said Machida, who said that he hopes the Alliance and 100th/442nd MIS Memorial Foundation can mend their division and work together on this project. ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Aoki, Buntaro, 88, Madera, Jan. 29; survived by wife Haruno; sons Masato and wife June, Shunji and wife Joyce, Takeo and wife Janet, Kenji; daughters Ellen Shigemitsu Tanimoto and husband George, Eiko Mikuni and husband Ronald; 12 gc., 1 gc.; brother Nobuo.

Carlson, Diana Iriye, 47, Glendora, Jan. 31; survived by husband Clifford; daughter Kelly; parents Henry and Midori Iriye; sister Annie Iriye; brother Ken Iriye and wife Joji; parents-in-law Clifford and Virginia Carlson; brother-in-law Victor Carlson; sister-in-law Kimberly Abay.

Devason, Misako Shintani, 82, Pasadena, Feb. 2; Santa Maria-born; survived by husband Ed; daughter Jeanne Nakano; son-in-law Hideo Obayashi; sister Aiko Uyeno and husband Sadao.

Dobana, Ruby Tamako, 76, Stockton, Feb. 3; Stockton-born; survived by daughters Gail Nishimoto and husband Jerry (Davis), Carrie Dobana (Stockton); 2 gc., 1 gc.; predeceased by husband Fred Kezuo.

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from our newspaper are welcome. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$19 per column inch. Text is reworded as needed.

Futa, Kinuo, 84, Cheyenne, Wyo., Jan. 20; Vacaville-born; interpreter for WWII Occupation forces in Yokohama; survived by son Kiyota (Lakewood, Colo.); daughters Cynthia Miyashita (San Francisco), Nancy Brockmann (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia); brothers Kazuo Miyashita (Whittier), Masao Miyashita (San Jose), John Miyashita (Desoto, Texas); 1 gc.; predeceased by husband Thomas, father Shigeoyoshi Miyashita and mother Tomi Kasai (both from Yamanashi-ken).

Harada, Sao, 93, Del Rey, Feb. 5; Hiroshima-born; survived by sons Jimmy and wife Toshiko, George; daughter Nancy Abe and husband Charles; 11 gc., 15 gc.

Hirose, Isuke, 84, Torrance, Feb. 7; Kagoshima-ken born; survived by wife Masako; sons Isao Henry and wife Alice, Isamu Sam and wife Hatsumi; Yoshio; daughters Hiroko Jane Hartwig and husband Robert, Toshiye Erickson; 4 gc.

Iwata Paul Shigeo, 62, Pinole, Jan. 31; survived by wife Eiko; son Kevin; daughters Tomiki Silverton and husband Keith, Sachiko Slate and husband Jonathan; brother Himeo and wife Midori; sister Yuriko Woon.

Maguire, Joyce Nagata, 43, Rockville, Va., Jan. 6; La Jolla-born Defense Dept. lawyer; survived by husband Frank; children Matthew and Margaret; parents Mits and Miki Nagata (Oceanside); 2 sisters.

Morikawa, Manabu, 79, Jamestown, N.D., Feb. 7; Maui, Hawaii-born; veteran of WWII, and the Korean and Vietnam wars, named volunteer of the decade by Hawaii County; survived by wife Sally; daughters Eva Maria Vickers (Ga.), Rose Marie Kent (Conn.), Christine Fox (Tenn.), sons Edward and Anthony (both Hawaii); sisters Yasuko Anna Shigemitsu, Kikue Kay Yamashita, Asano Matsumoto, and half brothers Yuzuru and Ishiro Muta (all Hawaii).

Pistor, Kiyoko, 66, Las Vegas, Jan. 31; Fukuoka-born; survived by husband Kenneth.

Nakahara, Sueki Bill, 75, San Jose, Jan. 22; Oak-brook; survived by brother Wataru and wife Misako (Oakland), Keisuke and wife Hinuko (Japan).

Narita, George, Palo Alto, Jan. 28; Sacramento-born; survived by wife Mary; daughters Karen, Nadine; son Grant; 5 gc.; mother-in-law Kikuyo Mizufune; sister Dorothy Morikone and husband Gary; brothers John and wife Mary, Sue and wife Yoko; sisters-in-law Bomi Higaki and husband Shigeru, Mitzu Takimoto and husband Hideyo, Lynne Mizufune.

Nishikawa, Kei Kaoru, 70, Torrance, Feb. 4; Orange Cove-born; survived by wife Linda; sons Jeffrey and wife Joyce, Greg, Brent; daughters Sandra and husband Glen, Christine and husband John; 3 gc.; brothers Nob, Mas, Tosh; sisters Tomi, Sue.

Sakakura, Kumi, Upland, Feb. 2; Seattle-born; survived by husband Arthur "Peanuts"; sons Steve Tsutsumi, Don Tadashi and wife Annette, David Hiroshi; 2 gc.; sisters Mary Noma (Japan) Jean H. Shimazaki; sisters-in-law Sachi Kihimura and husband Pete, Emi Obata and husband Shuichi, Michiko Sakakura.

Tsubaki, Aaron K., 49, Ontario, Ore., Jan. 22; Lahaina, Hawaii-born; survived by wife Beverly; son Shane; parents Jitsuo and Sue Tsubaki (Lahaina); brother Dale (Kehe, Hawaii); mother-in-law Peggy Teubota (Ontario), brother-in-law Ronald Teubota, and sister-in-law May Ann, (all Ontario); brother Harry Nomura and wife Carlene (Portland, Ore.).

Tsugawa, Martin Tom, Vancouver, Wash., Feb. 7; Portland, Ore.-born; prominent Northwest nurseryman; survived by parents George and Mable Tsugawa (Woodland, Wash.); daughter Jennifer Payton Tsugawa (Vancouver); stepchildren Barry, Chris and Susan Etnes (Woodland); brothers Danny (Woodland), Brian (Vancouver).

Uyeda, Fumiko, 85, Fort Wayne, Ind., Feb. 12; Tacoma, Wash.-born; interned at Tule Lake and at Sioux Ordinance in Nebraska; survived by husband Tsutomu "Stony"; daughters Catherine R. Plummer (Fort Wayne), sisters Taeko Iwacka (Chicago), Toshi Itoku (Ballwin, Mo.); predeceased by brothers Tsuyoshi Nakamura (Hawaii), Hiroshi Nakamura (Bremerton, Wash.).

Yamaguchi, Yoshiharu, 81, Fresno, Feb. 3; Fresno-born; survived by wife Mary; daughter Diane Otani and husband Hideo; 1 gc.; sister Hinako Sasaki and husband Masaru; brother Roy Yamaguchi.

Yoshiyumi, Miyako, 84, Los Angeles, Jan. 1; Palmdale, Hawaii-born; survived by daughter Ruyi Iwamoto and husband Daniel; son Gary and wife Gloria; 4 gc.; sisters Tomiko Kuba and husband Raymond, Setsuko Yokoyama (both Hilo, Hawaii); sister-in-law Kanari Fukuda (Japan). ■

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MARRIAGE

(Continued from page 1)

God's plan, but that doesn't mean they should be treated with violence or hate," Lyford continued. "The Catholic Church's perspective has never been one of condemnation but an invitation to accept or deny his offer."

What is at issue today, he said, is how we define marriage. "If we decide marriage can be between a woman and a woman or a man and a man, this basically is saying that anything is up for redefinition, including the whole concept of family," he said. If that's the case, he added, what's to stop something like polygamy, for instance.

While Lyford adheres to a more conservative interpretation of Scripture, Wake believes that Prop. 22 supporters who use their faith to oppose same-sex marriage may be "selective in their use of the Bible."

"The understanding of the Bible has changed," Wake said. "There are the right-wing or conservative Christians who say that the Bible is not to be changed, whereas many of us in the theological field understand that the Bible is what I would call God's changing and evolving word to humanity."

Prop. 22 really plays on the homophobia that is aided and abetted by right-wing Christianity. We need to recognize that the Bible was written in a particular context as we come to understand and interpret it," he said.

"I know there is division in the [religious] community. Some pastors come out of a conservative understanding of the Bible, so they use that as a literal interpretation and their condemnation, their homophobia comes from that perspective."

Rev. Cory Ishida, of the Evergreen Baptist Church of San Gabriel Valley, attributes this division to a difference in "hermeneutics," or principles of interpretation.

"The basis is probably teach church's particular view on Scripture, in what they read they hold it," he said. "That makes a wholesale

difference in what stance they take."

The debate seems to be centered around "whether there is an absolute Truth. We take the position that there are absolutes according to the Scripture," Ishida said. "I'm very much for traditional marriages. Scripture indicates that marriage is supposed to be between a male and a female."

While Ishida said it is regretful that so much division has arisen, he said it is understandable. He mentioned he recently held a two-part sermon on the issue of same-sex marriage, so that his congregation would be informed on where his church stood. "Within our church family, we teach that unity is more important than unanimity. But that's within our church family."

For the Rev. Mas Kodani, of the Senebitt Buddhist Temple in Los Angeles, the issue confuses secular law with religious law.

From a secular perspective, he said, "a big part of it is that gay and lesbian couples are denied things that heterosexual couples automatically have."

Things like health insurance, taxation, home ownership and wills are defacto advantages that heterosexual couples have, which should be extended to gay and lesbian couples by law, he said.

From a religious perspective, however, Kodani said, "The Buddhists are pretty loose about it. I guess you could say. They are much closer to the Japanese [view] that homosexuality is not a horrible aberration, but just something that's different."

He mentioned that Buddhists did not even perform marriages until they came to the United States and felt the Western influence, mainly because for them marriage was not considered a religious rite.

"The Japanese Christians are much different, whereas for Buddhists... we have no doctrinal objections to homosexuality or to same-sex marriage," said Ishida. "It's not a matter of choice, I don't think there should be too much objection to it." ■

MCCAIN

(Continued from page 1)

there be no further public use of this record.

Sen. McCain, a former Navy pilot during the Vietnam war, was shot down over Hanoi and imprisoned by North Vietnamese soldiers who tortured him for five years. McCain has insisted that he uses the term "gook" only for his former captors and does not generalize to the APA community. As a senator, he helped in the effort to normalize the United States' relationship with Vietnam.

In a recent *San Francisco Chronicle* article, McCain said, "I was referring to my prison guards and I will continue to refer to them in language that might offend some people because of the beating and torture of my friends."

The Arizona senator has garnered much support for his straight talk but this recent episode has raised eyebrows in not only the APA community but the larger community.

"Historically, straight talkers who say things off the top of their heads eventually hang themselves with those sort of remarks," said Bruce Cain, a political scientist at UC Berkeley, who was quoted in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

"While it might not hurt him now, Democrats are not going to have any hesitation about using this stuff to string him up later."

McCain's refusal to stop using the term won't win him any friends in the APA community, especially in states like California where there is a significant amount of APAs who are potential voters.

"As we go forward into the 21st century, it behooves all Americans to move past the racial barriers and stereotypes of the past," said Raymond Wong, OCA executive vice president. "The use of this term by a presidential candidate is completely unacceptable and suggests a level of insensitivity which is inappropriate for someone seeking to be elected to the highest office in our country." ■

DOR

(Continued from page 1)

an award for her JLA redress advocacy because "no one could have done it alone."

Mochizuki likewise thanked the many people who've been involved in the Campaign For Justice and accepted the award on their behalf.

"I learned from everyone I worked with by observing their dedication and perseverance. I was inspired to go beyond myself and [my] limitations," Mochizuki said. "Their kindness and humanity gave me the support I needed to find the strength to fight my fears. They taught me that everyone has a fighting spirit but that we must take action to make a change."

In March 1944, Mochizuki and Nishimoto, both natives of Peru, were forced by U.S. government

agents to leave their homes in Latin America. They and their families, unaware of what was happening, were taken to the United States and held in Crystal City, Texas, until December 1945, after which they were again deported to an unfamiliar country, this time to war-torn Japan.

Like many other JLA's after the war, their citizenship was revoked and they were denied entrance back into their homeland, which forced them to rebuild their lives in the United States or Japan.

While the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 provided eligible JLA's with an official apology from the U.S. government and monetary compensation of \$20,000, JLA former internees were dealt a second blow when they were denied comparable reparations because of a technicality which said they were "illegal aliens."

Mochizuki and Nishimoto, along with fellow Peruvian Henry

Shima, subsequently filed a class action lawsuit against the United States in 1996, which resulted in a controversial settlement agreement two years later. The settlement provided for an official apology and \$5,000 in monetary compensation.

While some, including Shima who opted out of the settlement and filed a separate suit, pressed forward for the same compensation JLA had received a decade earlier, many took the settlement. Mochizuki and Nishimoto reluctantly agreed to the offer, feeling an obligation to older JLA's who had suffered and were now passing away.

Nishimoto recalls receiving a phone call from a friend in Tokyo last March who said her family had received their check one morning, and that night her mother, who was 93 years old, passed away.

Lending a hand in the Mochizuki case was Okrand, legal director emeritus of the ACLU of Southern California, who has been an active supporter of the civil rights of JLA's and JLA's for over 50 years. In 1996, he became a member of the pro bono legal team representing the JLA plaintiffs. During WWII, Okrand served as co-counsel in the Southern California ACLU's challenge of the government, one of only two organizations that formally opposed the internment at the time.

"I'm gratified and flattered at this recognition," said Okrand. "If I contributed at all to bringing about some justice, I'm glad I had the opportunity. There's an awful lot to be done, and I hope I have a chance to assist."

California Congressman Xavier Becerra, who was unable to attend the Day of Remembrance

2000 ceremony but sent his regards, will soon be introducing legislation intended to give closure to those remaining JLA's who have not yet received their due compensation.

If NCR's Day of Remembrance 2000 provided a forum to celebrate those who have shown and continue to show courage in standing up for their rights and the rights of others, it was also a time to remember the 1998 recipient of the Fighting Spirit Award, Michi Weglyn, noted author, researcher and redress advocate, who passed away in April 1999.

Kay Ochi, of the Campaign For Justice, gave the dedication and spoke of the enduring gift Weglyn left and of the work that she had not yet finished.

"By calling the United States government into account for their shameful acts, she helped an entire community, she helped a nation. She was an unrelenting force in her last two years for the JLA's and for the railroad workers," Ochi said.

"One of her last wishes was that one of the major wounds that the government had caused in our community be healed. That would be the wound of the Heart Moun-

tain Fair Play Committee and the draft - resisters, the [r] relationship with the national JACL. She hoped and hoped that this schism could be healed.

"A lot of work remains in our community," continued Ochi, "and so in honor of Michi and all that she's done, all the people that she has helped, let's keep pressing forward to meet this goal, and one day our community will be whole again."

In addition to Weglyn, past recipients of NCR's Fighting Spirit Award include The Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee (1999), Linda Kawabe Consolo, Bruce Iwasaki and Gerald Sato (1997), Bill and Yuri Kochiyama (1996), Jim Saito and David Monkawa (1995), James Omura (1994), Jim Matsuko (1993), Bert Nakano, Bernadette Nishimura and Lily Okamoto (1992), Tom Shirosaki (1991), Amy Ishii and the Uno Family (1988) and Frank Emi and Rev. Paul Nakamura (1987).

Over 300 people attended NCR's Day of Remembrance 2000, which was capped off by a special collaborative performance by theater group hereandnow and rock band Visiting Violet. ■



PHOTO: MAHIHA NAKAGAWA

Fred Okrand, former Southern California ACLU leader, and Carmen Mochizuki and Alice Nishimoto, two of the named plaintiffs in the *Mochizuki v. U.S.* lawsuit, which fought for redress equity on behalf of Japanese Latin Americans, are all smiles after receiving NCR's annual Fighting Spirit Award at Day of Remembrance 2000.

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