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JUNE 9-15, 2000

1st Anniversary of the Go For Broke Monument



Tadd Tokuda, representing Hawaii's 442nd Regimental Combat Team and grandson Jay Tokuda participated in the floral presentation on June 3 at the first anniversary celebration of the Go For Broke monument in Los Angeles. Others who took part were: Ben Tagami & Reid Naimatsu; Sam Fujikawa, & Kana Noda; Ted Ohira & Robin Tokukaji; Jim Mita & Dawn Tankersley; Horace Nakamura & Irene Long; George Ishihara & Kyle Sato; George Yamada & Ichizo Yamada; Tom Tait & Jamie Kusumoto.

Actor Noriyo "Pat" Morita, who hosted the event, signs an autograph for veteran Tets Asato as Tokuda looks on.

Others who spoke were: Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera, who sent a special message via videotape; L.A. County Board of Supervisor Michael Antonovich; L.A. City Councilwoman Rita Walters; and Col. Young Oak Kim. Veteran Tak Shindo wrote original music for the veterans which was performed by the LAPD Band, directed by Don Holcomb.



PHOTOS: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

Reno Chapter Responds to Hate Column

By LYNDSY SHINODA
Writer/Reporter

An opinion column by Bob Thomas in the April 27 issue of the *Nevada Appeal* titled, "Why U.S. sent all Japanese to internment camps" has sparked a response from the Reno chapter of JACL, and a flurry of letters to the editor.

In his column, Thomas, a Carson City businessman and former member of the Carson City School Board and Nevada State Assembly, wrote: "... And we had zero time and no reason to check out Japanese-American loyalties in advance of Pearl Harbor. All we had were the distinctive looks of the Japanese which made it easy to find and detain them quickly."

Thomas also asserted that "some Japanese-American immigrants were still supportive of their old Japanese homeland ... And a few Japanese-American immigrants operated a 'fifth column' for sabotage purposes in California ..."

He concluded by saying: "I sincerely hope we're never again faced with such a dilemma. But if we are, and circumstances are the same as in December 1941, then we will be forced to handle it exactly the same way."

Thomas said he had not anticipated the reaction that his column has received. "I'm not a

racist, I can tell you that," he said to the *Pacific Citizen*. "You have no idea how many Japanese Americans' lives were saved by putting them in camps. Because of the hysteria of the moment, what's done was done."

Bud Fujii, president of the JACL Reno chapter, sent a response letter to the *Appeal*.

"I felt shocked, dismayed and angry," said Fujii. "It's unbelievable that at this time, you still have people writing that kind of article. You're always going to have prejudice, but to not even be close to the facts is totally uncalled for."

Fujii blames the editor for even putting it in the paper, because they should've researched the topic beforehand and listed the facts, he said.

"The paper should admit that the article is not very factual, because even if it's his opinion, it needs to be factual," Fujii continued.

Michelle Trusty-Murphy, an English professor at Western Nevada Community College, was also angered by Thomas' column. She sent a letter to the editor stating, "I was doubly sad that the editorial staff would think it was OK to publish a column full of such racist and untrue statements." She then proceeded to

See COLUMN/page 5

Philadelphia Chinatown Opposes Proposed Baseball Stadium

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

In the city of brotherly love, the local Asian American community fears that a recently chosen site for a new Phillies baseball stadium will threaten the livelihood of one of its oldest cultural enclaves.

Philadelphia Mayor John Street publicly announced May 4 he had selected a downtown location directly adjacent to historic Chinatown for an expansive 15-acre ballpark, despite opposition from area residents and community members who have voiced concerns that such a facility would do more harm than good.

The mayor began negotiating with the Phillies and Eagles sports franchises for new playing facilities two months ago, and a conceptual agreement with both teams is scheduled to be reached by June 15.

Meanwhile, preliminary technical and architectural studies are

being conducted to gauge the feasibility of the project. The estimated cost for both stadiums is \$1 billion.

According to the mayor's press secretary Barbara Grant, the current facility, Veterans Stadium, is in bad shape. Several other locations were considered, she said, but the Center City site near Chinatown afforded the best opportunity to really boost Philadelphia's economic development.

"The mayor has said on numerous occasions that world-class cities deserve world-class facilities. It creates economic benefits and brings an excitement to the core of the city," Grant said. "Although he is willing to listen to the community's concerns, he felt this location was in the best interest of the entire city."

However, many felt as though Street had made his site selection with little regard for the Chinatown community and the AA community-at-large.

See CHINATOWN/page 5

National Youth Candidates Outline Vision

This is the fourth and final piece in a series of articles that profiled each of the candidates for national JACL offices. The information is taken from the nomination forms completed by each candidate in which they responded to questions about their qualifications, their definition of leadership and the manner in which they would implement the JACL Program for Action.

National Youth/Student Council Chair

Matthew W. Nakata

Nakata was born in Honolulu, raised in Cincinnati and now lives in Seattle. He recently received his bachelor's degree in political science from Seattle University and he works for Velma Veloria, a member of the Washington State Legislature. He is a member of the Seattle chapter.

JACL Participation:
• Seattle Chapter Board Member

See CANDIDATES/page 8

Resolution Calls for Boycott of Labs

The Association for Asian American Studies passed a resolution calling Asian American scientists to boycott federal laboratories by not applying for jobs with them, at their national meeting in Scottsdale, Ariz., on May 26.

The organization introduced the resolution in objection to what they see as the racially discriminatory treatment of former government scientist Dr. Wen Ho Lee, who is accused of mishandling nuclear secrets, and the application of security rules to AA scientists who are currently employed at federal laboratories.

"This kind of case touches a very raw nerve," said Stephen H. Sumida, American Ethnic Studies professor at the University of Washington and past president of the Association of AA Studies, in a recent *New York Times* article. "I think everybody in the organization knows that the 'suspect pattern' of the treatment of Asian Americans goes back to the internment of Japanese

Americans in World War II."

Lee has not been charged with selling nuclear secrets to China but instead has been charged with illegally downloading nuclear secrets onto unsecured computers and portable tapes. He has been kept in custody awaiting his trial in November.

The association's resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority of about 250 members of the association who attended the Arizona meeting. The association has about 700 members in academic departments across the country.

The association becomes the second AA scholarly group to raise concern about the federal laboratories run by the Department of Energy. This past March, the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education issued a boycott call after citing similar complaints.

Asians and AAs make up more than a quarter of the Ph.D.'s in sci-

See BOYCOTT/page 6

Civil Rights Groups Hold National Day of Outrage in Support of Wen Ho Lee

The Coalition Against Racial and Ethnic Scapegoating (CARES) held a National Day of Outrage on June 8 over the presumed espionage activity of Asian Americans in national laboratories and the alleged guilt and denial of due process for Dr. Wen Ho Lee in particular.

Civil rights groups in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Albuquerque, Detroit, Seattle, Salt Lake City and other cities across America came out to express their outrage over the racial scapegoating of Lee and other AA scientists.

Alberta Lee, daughter of Dr. Lee, and Rev. Cecil Williams and Janice Mirikitani of Glide Memorial Church spoke at the San Francisco rally.

National JACL joined the protest demanding that the U.S. government stop using ethnicity as a basis

for espionage investigations of AAs.

Some of the other national organizations included: the National Lawyers Guild, American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area, Equal Rights Advocates, Organization of Chinese Americans and Chinese American Citizens Alliance.

The organizations demanded that due process and fair treatment be accorded to Lee, and that he be freed on bail. Since December 1999, Lee has been held in solitary confinement and is shackled in chains at his wrists, ankles and waist every day. The 60-year-old scientist, although charged with mishandling classified information, has not been charged with espionage.

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JACL Calendar

National

Mon-Sun, June 26-July 2—36th Biennial JACL National Convention; DoubleTree Inn, Monterey, Calif.; special rate for JACL conventioners. Reservations ASAP: 831/649-4511, <www.doubletreemonterey.com> Info: Larry Oda, 831/758-7107 days, 831/735-3314 eve., e-mail: tsuno1@msn.com; or Kaz Matsuyama, 831/649-0704, e-mail: KAZNMN@aol.com.

Eastern

SOUTHEAST
Sun, June 25—Annual JACL Picnic; 1-6 p.m., Milam Park, Pavilion #2, Clarkston, Ga. Info: Roger Ozaki, 770/979-3616.

Midwest

WISCONSIN
Fri-Sun, June 16-18—Asian Moon Festival; see Community Calendar.

Mountain Plains

NEW MEXICO
Sun, June 25—Chapter Picnic; 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Holiday Park, 11710 Comanche NE.

NC-WN Pacific

CONTRA COSTA

Sat, June 10—First Bingo session of the year; see Community Calendar. Info: Mary Ann Furuchi, 510/526-8020, e-mail: mafuruchi@cs.com.
MONTEREY PENINSULA
Sun, June 11—Community Picnic; Laguna Grande Park, Seaside.
Fri, June 30—Veterans Tribute Dinner; see Community Calendar
SAN FRANCISCO
Sat, June 24—First San Francisco JACL Youth Fishing Derby; see Community Calendar.

Pacific Southwest

PSW DISTRICT
Wed, June 28—A chartered bus will leave for the national convention in Monterey (July 2 return); pick-up points in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo and West Los Angeles; cost \$100 or less, according to number of passengers. **RSVP ASAP:** 213/264-4471.

SONOMA COUNTY

Sun, June 25—Community Picnic/ Potluck/BBQ; Finley Park, Santa Rosa. Info: Margaret, 707/544-9638.

RIVERSIDE

Sun, June 18—Annual Community Picnic and Father's Day Celebration; 11 a.m., Sylvan Park, Redlands; Bingo, volleyball, games, races, special Dad's Day prizes, raffle. Info: Miesko Inaba, 909/682-8116.

COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

CLARKSTON, GA.
Sun, June 25—Annual JACL Picnic; 1-6 p.m., Milam Park, Pavilion #2, Clarkston, Ga. Info: Roger Ozaki, 770/979-3616.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thurs-Sat, Nov. 9-11—National Memorial to Patriotism Dedication Ceremony. Pre-registration required: NJAMF, 800/607-8550. (Hotel reservations accepted up to Oct. 15.)

The Midwest

CLEVELAND
Sat, June 17—Asian Heritage Day; Cleveland State University. Info: Hazel Asamoto, 216/921-2976.
Fri, June 23—"Passport to Japan," a day camp for ages 6-11; 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Whitestone Public Library, 3909 N. High St., Columbus. **RSVP:** Japan America Society, 614/292-4002.

MILLWAUKEE
Fri-Sun, June 16-18—Asian Moon Festival; Lakefront Festival Grounds on Lake Michigan; food, entertainment, taiko. Info: Sherri Fujihira, 414/423-1408; Margaret Igowsky, 414/643-5999.
ST. LOUIS

Tues, June 13—Japan America Women's Association craft workshop; to make items to sell at the Japanese Festival or info: Nikki Hara, 314/821-4100.

Northern California

EAST BAY
Sat, June 10—Bingo Night; El Cerrito Community Center. Info: Mary Ann Furuchi, 510/526-8020, e-mail: mafuruchi@cs.com.

MONTEREY
Fri, June 30—Veterans Tribute Dinner; 6 p.m. cocktail reception, 7 p.m. dinner, DoubleTree Hotel De Anza Ballroom; Gen. Eric Shinseki keynote speaker; Hon. Robert J. Dole invited; fund-raiser for the WWII memorial in Washington, D.C. **RSVP ASAP:** Judy Nitzawa, 408/733-7692; e-mail: jnizawa@earthlink.net.

SACRAMENTO
Sat, June 24—Youth Fishing Derby; San Pablo Dam reservoir; for youngsters 8-12 years old. Free. Call JACL at 415/273-1015 for application.

Fri-Sat, Sept. 8-9—Tulelake Reunion; DoubleTree Hotel and Resort; Friday registration and gala mixer; Saturday Sayonara banquet. **RSVP early:** Tulelake Reunion, P.O. Box 22877, Sacramento, CA 95822.

Sun, Sept. 10—Greater Sacramento Valley Region-wide Reunion; DoubleTree Hotel; 11 a.m. fellowship/mixer, 1 p.m. buffet lunch; keynote speaker Cherry Tsuchida of the NJAMF; the historical book of the Sacramento region will be available. Info: Toko Fujii, 916/421-6968.

SAN FRANCISCO
Through June 18—Exhibit, "America's Concentration Camps: Remembering the Japanese American Experience," California Historical Society, 678 Mission St.; Karen Ishizuka, curator; featuring the Threads of Remembrance quilt. Free. Info: 415/357-1848 ext. 16.

Sat, June 24—Nisei Fishing Club Youth Fishing Derby; San Pablo Dam; for ages 8-12. Applications, info: San Francisco JACL, 415/273-1015.

Fri, June 30—6th Annual Northern California Nikkei Open Golf Tournament; Shakespeare Course, Chardonnay Golf Club, Napa Valley; 10:30 a.m. registration; 6:30 p.m. dinner and raffle. Fee, \$175. **RSVP by June 21:** Chris Hirano, 415/567-5505, e-mail: chiranoc@jccn.org.
Sat, Oct. 28—Reunion, Topaz High School classes of '43 and '44, and others who wish to attend; 2-10 p.m., JACCC, 1840 Sutter St., San Francisco; Info: Mas Kawaguchi, chairman, 415/731-2658; Fumi Manabe Hayashi, sec'y, 510/524-1048.

SAN MATEO
Tues. & Thurs, June 20 & 22—"55 Alive" safe driving class; 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St. Info: 343-2793.

Central California

DELANO
Sat-Sun, July 15-16—10th Delano Nisei Reunion; Delano Elks Lodge. Info: Toshi Katano, 661/725-8660.
FRESNO

Fri-Sat, Oct. 13-14—Fifth Jerome Reunion; bus available to Los Angeles. Info: Hiro Isogawa, 559/222-7083, Shig. Rosie Okajima 559/875-3878.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES
Fri-Sun, June 9-11—World Premier, "On Gold Mountain," an opera by Nathan Wang; 8 p.m. Fri. & Sun.; 2

2000 JACL Sweepstakes

Chapters can now buy 2000 JACL sweepstakes tickets. Last year's sweepstakes raised over \$40,000 and benefited JACL programs.

For a donation of \$40, members will have a chance to win various prizes, including grand prize: \$3,000; 2nd prize: \$1,000 (two winners); 3rd prize: \$500 (10 winners); Seaworld Fun Packs. Seaworld Fun Packs are courtesy of Seaworld California and San Diego, one of the Anheuser Busch Adventure Parks.

Winners will be announced at the national convention in Monterey at the Sayonara Banquet on July 2, and you don't need to be present to win. If you haven't bought tickets yet, please contact your local chapter president.

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.

p.m. Sat.; Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Tickets, info: 626/799-4167.

Sat, June 10—Book-signing and Reception, "Growing Up Nisei: Race, Generation, and Culture among Japanese Americans of California, 1924-1949," by Professor David K. Yoo; 11 a.m.-2 p.m., UCLA Faculty Center; parking in Lot 2. **RSVP:** 310/825-2974, e-mail: din@ucla.edu.

Fri, June 16—"J-Town Beat Reunion" concert; 8 p.m., JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; dedicated to Duane Ebata. Tickets, info: 213/680-3700, fax 213/680-1872.
Sat, June 17—"Know Your [Patients'] Rights" annual Japanese American Bar Association seminar; 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple, 505 E. Third St., Little Tokyo. Info: Janet Hasegawa, 213/473-1602 (Japanese), or Julia Hanami Masu, 626/796-7555 (English).

Sat, June 17—Guitar concert by Antonio Koga; Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Tickets, info: 626/799-4167.
Through June 18—Exhibit: Ceramics by Dora De Larios, Mexican American artist influenced by Japanese culture; Doizaki Gallery, JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Info: 626/799-4167.

Sun, Sept. 24—63rd L.A. Roosevelt High School Class of 1937-38 Reunion; Montebello Country Club, 901 Via San Clemente; music by "The Time Machine," mariachi, Aztec dancers, TV coverage; cost \$50; send checks to Dave Brenner, 1700 Bagley, Los Angeles, CA 90035. Reserve early; 310/837-6582.

WEST COVINA

Sat, June 17—"Millennium 2000 Casino Night" 6-11 p.m., East San Gabriel Valley JCC, 1203 W. Puente Ave.; Las Vegas-style gambling, bingo, silent auction, raffle; etc.; to benefit Sabers/Saberettes Youth Basketball. Tickets, info: 818/552-2867.

Arizona - Nevada

LAS VEGAS
Through July 9—Exhibit, "Asian Art Now"; Las Vegas Art Museum, 9600 W. Sahara Ave. Schedules, info: 496-3763.

2001: Wed-Thurs, April 4-5—Minidoka Reunion; Caesars Palace. Info: Tak (Yokoyama) Todo, 15537 - 32nd Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98155 6530; e-mail: kmkawachi@hotmail.com.

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Higashi Rumberg Appointed to City of Alexandria's Human Rights Commission

The JACL recently congratulated Susan Higashi Rumberg, an alumnae of the JACL/OCIA D.C. Leadership Conference, on being appointed to the City of Alexandria's (VA) Human Rights Commission on May 23.

Higashi Rumberg is one of nine volunteer citizen-at-large members (the other five members on the commission represent different agencies) and will serve a two-year term.

The Human Rights Commission is responsible for setting the human rights policy of the city and for hearing complaints that are not resolved at the staff level. It can research, study and hold public hearings on matters that affect the

equal rights of the general public. The commission also monitors and evaluates the city's affirmative action plan and reports its findings semi-annually to the city council.

According to Higashi Rumberg, "The appointment required my lobbying the council members, so it was really a learning experience. I think my attendance at the JACL/OCIA leadership conference was the impetus I needed to motivate me to apply to the commission. I left the conference feeling inspired and empowered by the speakers' encouragement about public service and knew I had to act on those feelings immediately."

P.C. Seeks Intern for L.A. Office

Wanted: part-time summer intern for the *Pacific Citizen*.

Reward: working with an enthusiastic staff; oh yeah, and a modest stipend.

The *Pacific Citizen* newspaper, the national publication of the Japanese American Citizens League is currently looking for someone to work at its Monterey Park, Calif. office, approximately three days a week, including some weekends.

Various duties include reporting, researching, rewriting of press releases and production duties. Knowledge of the Asian

American community and the JACL a plus.

College or grad students currently majoring in English or Journalism preferred, but not required. Applicants should also have a valid driver's license.

The application deadline for P.C.'s "Harry Hotida Summer Internship Program" is Thursday, June 15, 2000.

If interested, please send a resume and a writing sample to the *Pacific Citizen*, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755, fax: 323/725-0064, email: PacCit@adl.com, attention: Caroline Aoyagi. ■

UCLA Establishes First National AA Writer's Archive

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

The UCLA Asian American Studies Center (AASC) announced at an Asian American writers' conference on June 3 the establishment of the first Asian American writers' archive in the United States.

The archive will be housed at UCLA's Special Collections, and the founding writers to be included will be: Janice Mirikitani, who was named San Francisco poet-laureate and author of "We, The Dangerous"; Al Robles, community poet, oral historian and author of "Rappin' with 1,000 Carraabos in the Dark"; Hisaye Yamamoto, American Book Lifetime Achievement Award recipient and author of "Seventeen Syllables"; Wakako Yamauchi, author of "And the Soul Shall Dance," which later evolved into a play and dramatic film on PBS.

"Our role here I think is to lay claim to us, to define ourselves," said Mirikitani, who shared that although poetry today is her "sanctuary and liberation," this was not always so. She noted that until the 1960s civil rights movement, she considered language and literature as "part of her oppression because I was not present."

Robles, often referred to as the "people's poet" who played an active role in opposing the razing of the International Hotel in San Francisco's Manilatown, felt that as an Asian Pacific American writer, part of his responsibility was to record history forgotten by mainstream society. "It is a world we will take care of because it belongs to us," said Robles, who is a frequent fixture at the annual

Manzanar pilgrimage.

Yamauchi, who has been asked by other institutions to donate her papers, said she didn't have second thoughts about donating her papers to UCLA, saying she "owed her writing life to the Asian American Studies Center" and considered it an honor to be part of the founding writers in the archive.

Spearheading this collection project was Russell C. Leong, who was recently appointed to adjunct full professorship at UCLA. He said the idea for creating an APA writers' archive came to him after a well known APA writer lamented the fact that some of her items were going into private collections through auctions rather than remaining accessible to the public.

"That's why we felt, in a sense, that having an archive in a public institution democratizes it and makes it accessible to people," said Leong. "And I also see a lot of my writer friends not knowing what to do with their papers. Basically, there's repositories for other American writers, and Asian Americans deserve a good home for themselves, so I thought that UCLA is a good place because of the Asian American Studies Center."

Don Nakanishi, AASC director, felt that the new archive collection will complement the other APA resources now stored at UCLA.

"Our mission here at the Asian American Studies Center is to very, very actively be involved in the preservation of Asian American history, Asian American culture and the Asian American experience," said Nakanishi. "...I know that both our center as well as the UCLA library system, which is basically accepting these materials, have made a commitment to pre-

serve them for as long as they exist physically so that in literally hundreds of years from now, people will be able to access them."

He added that in the near future, they hope to post a list of available material on their Web site.

Marjorie Lee, AASC librarian, hoped that the donated papers will further shed light into the diversity and contributions of APAs. "The Asian American Studies Center strongly believes that institutional preservation and promise of access to these very unique experiences, manuscripts, photographs, personal papers and correspondence will give historic, cultural, artistic, literal and political evidence to the rich presence of Asian Pacific Americans," said Lee.

Lee will be working closely with Victoria Steele, department head of the UCLA Library's Special Collections, where the papers will be stored. Steele assured the public that the papers will be in good hands. She shared that the UCLA library system was ranked among the top five in the nation and "every effort is made to preserve the collections for future use."

She added that those who decide to donate their papers will be advised as to tax laws, physical ownership vs. rights to the property and other legal and financial considerations.

Anyone interested in making financial contributions or donating their papers should contact the AASC at 310/825-2974; fax: 310/206-9844; UCLA Asian American Studies Center, c/o Asian American Writers' Collection, 3230 Campbell Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1546. ■

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National

By Pacific Citizen Staff
and Associated Press

AA's Want Probe In Binghamton Attack

NEW YORK—Asian American groups demanded on May 31 that the U.S. Department of Justice look into possible violations of federal civil rights laws in the attack on a group of AA students at the State University of New York in Binghamton earlier this year.

The Feb. 27 assault outside a dorm left John E. Lee, 19, with a fractured skull and roused ethnic tensions on campus. The three suspects are white members of the school's wrestling team and prosecutors say they shouted anti-Asian racial slurs during the attack.

The Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund and other national groups launched a letter-writing campaign May 31 to urge the Justice Department to open an investigation. They are also asking SUNY Binghamton to work with students and faculty to ensure a safe campus environment.

Nicholas W. Richetti, 19, was expelled by the university, while Chad Scott, 18, was suspended for two years and will not be eligible for reinstatement until fall 2002. The third student, Christopher M. Taylor, 20, was cleared by the university.

Richetti pleaded guilty to attempted assault on June 1. He is expected to be sentenced to weekend jail time and probation, said court officials.

Scott was arraigned June 6 on third-degree assault charges. Taylor has pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and was sentenced to 50 hours of community service and a \$250 fine.

Lee, who suffered short-term memory loss and is still on medication, said he plans to resume his studies at Binghamton, after having considered another school following the attack.

Anti-Immigrant Billboards Cause

Tension

PHOENIX—A billboard posted on Interstate 10 just outside of Benson is causing tension over illegal immigrant crossings in Arizona.

The billboard, rented by anti-immigration activist Robert Park, of Prescott, reads: "It's an invasion of drugs and illegals. Call your Congressman." The sign also lists the number for the main congressional switchboard.

Supporters, like area ranchers, have been patrolling their land and holding illegal crossings for the Border Patrol, while some residents have requested that Gov. Jane Hull send in the National Guard, which the governor said she won't do.

Critics of the billboard see the sign as an effort to incite residents into anti-immigrant frenzy. "This is really disgusting," said Alexis Claire, a Bisbee business owner.

In addition to the Benson sign, Park, who once led an "Official English" initiative in Arizona, rented a similar billboard on Interstate 40 in New Mexico, which exhorts the removal of the job market that attracts many immigrants to the United States.

Park said the \$400-\$700 a month he pays for the billboards comes from an \$18,000 grant from the Federation of American Immigration Reform, a Washington-based anti-immigration lobby group.

Hawaii Vets Hospital Named After Matsunaga

HONOLULU—A quarter century after it was first proposed, Hawaii's first hospital for veterans was dedicated and named after former Congressman Spark Matsunaga.

The \$61 million Spark M. Matsunaga Medical and Regional Center will include an ambulatory care center, a center for aging and the only automated medicine dispenser in the state.

The medical center is expected to serve 150,000 veterans.

Court Says Garment Workers Can Sue Anonymously

SAN FRANCISCO—Garment workers on the island of Saipan can sue their employers anonymously over alleged sweatshop conditions because disclosing their names might get them fired, deported or imprisoned, a federal appeals court ruled June 2.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a ruling by a judge on the Pacific Island that required the 23 women to reveal their names or face dismissal of their lawsuit. Lawyers for the workers told the court in December that 297 more employees had agreed to join the suit since it was filed earlier in the year.

Saipan, part of the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the western Pacific, is home to numerous garment factories where workers, mostly immigrant women, are not protected by U.S. minimum wages and where goods can be stamped "Made in U.S.A."

Break In Xerox Shootings Trial Called Unusual

HONOLULU—Jurors considering whether Bryan Uyesugi was sane when he allegedly gunned down seven Xerox Corp. co-workers last November took a 10-day break on June 2, so the judge could teach a legal course on the mainland.

Legal experts say such an intermission is unusual, particularly for a murder trial pertaining to one of the nation's deadliest workplace shootings and the worst mass killing in Hawaii history.

The delay also raises the prospect of a mistrial since, in today's media saturated world, there is a risk that the unsequestered jurors will be exposed to news coverage of the case, experts say.

Until they return to court June 13 for closing arguments, the 12 jurors and four alternates will go without Circuit Judge Marie Miller's daily admonishments not to discuss the case and not to follow media or Internet coverage of the case. ■

National Convention Workshop Reminder

With only a few weeks before the convention, just a reminder, the workshops will take place Friday, June 30, 8 a.m. to noon.

• LEAP! APA Leadership in the 21st Century (youth session), 8 a.m. only

• LEAP! APA Leadership in the 21st Century (delegate session), 10 a.m. only

• How to Start a Japanese Cultural Heritage Program for Your Community; a Guide to Success, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

• Japan Acts, and Japanese Americans Experience and the Repercussions, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

• How to Get Your School District to Implement "An American Story: The Japanese American Experience," 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

• Community Strategies in Addressing Hate Crimes, 10 a.m. only.

• The Story Behind the Redress Movement, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

• Discrimination in the Workplace, 8 a.m. only

• How Do You Find a Career in the New Economy, 10 a.m. only

• Let's All Focus on Aging: Sansei, Yonsei, Gosei - Taking Care of Their Elders, combined with Social Security: How it Relates to you, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

• Planned Giving - Act Today, Give Forever, 10 a.m.

Convention attendees are asked to fill out a separate form when choosing workshops. For more information, contact Larry Oda at tsuneo1@msn.com. ■

AAPCHO Releases Diabetes Report

The Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) announced on May 30 a first-of-its-kind report that details the issues and concerns of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) suffering from diabetes.

The report, titled "BALANCE Program for Diabetes Community Assessment Report," was written to inform health care providers and professionals of diabetes as it relates to AAPIs.

Diabetes is a serious chronic condition affecting an estimated 16 million Americans. Although research examining the impact of diabetes on AAPIs is limited, some local studies report diabetes prevalence rates to be two to three times as high in certain AAPI populations as that of non-Hispanic whites.

The report found that AAPIs living with diabetes face many challenges in managing their condition such as the ability to

prepare healthy meals using their respective ethnic foods, and the difficulty in receiving care that is sensitive to their cultural practices and beliefs.

"This document underscores the dire need for culturally and linguistically appropriate diabetes services for AAPIs living with diabetes," said Jeffrey Caballero, AAPCHO executive director. "We hope this report sheds some light on the important issues and concerns of AAPIs living with diabetes, and that health care professionals will take these concerns into consideration when treating or working with AAPIs."

The report, conducted through AAPCHO's Building Awareness Locally and Nationally through Community Empowerment (BALANCE) program for diabetes, is the result of a survey of about 100 AAPIs living with diabetes, and dozens of interviews with health care providers and community representatives. ■

YWCA Honors Two of Omaha Chapter as 'Women of Vision'

Two members of the Omaha JACL chapter, Pamela K. Watanabe-Gerdes and Judy Zaiman Gotsdiner, were honored by the YWCA as "Women of Vision" at a luncheon at the Holiday Convention Center on June 7.

Watanabe-Gerdes (Entrepreneur) and Gotsdiner (Professionals) were two of eight women honored by the YWCA for their impact in their particular fields, their community service and a demonstrated commitment to the elimination of discrimination.

Watanabe-Gerdes founded her own giftware and home-decor company, Tender Heart Treasures Ltd., in 1987. The company now employs more than 800 people, with annual sales of \$46 million. It is the largest business owned by a woman in Nebraska, and among the 300 largest in the United States, according to *Working Woman* magazine.

Watanabe-Gerdes, whose parents founded Oriental Trading Co. in Omaha, was a 1999 finalist for the national Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award. She is active in the Junior League, JACL, and the Methodist Hospital Foundation.

Judy Zaiman Gotsdiner, a lawyer, is the first vice president, counsel and assistant secretary for Mutual of Omaha Cos. She was appointed as a commissioner to the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission in 1997. Gotsdiner also has served as a board member and president of the board for the Omaha YWCA and was elected to the YWCA of the USA board in 1996.

Gotsdiner currently serves on the boards of the National Conference for Community and Justice, Midlands Chapter, and the

Omaha Children's Museum. She is legal counsel for the Omaha JACL chapter, served on the boards of the United Way of the Midlands and the Great Plains Girl Scout Council and is president of the Mortar Board Alumni Association.

She was honored as Outstanding Asian Woman of the Year by the annual Nebraska Women of Color Conference. She and her husband, Gary Gotsdiner, have two daughters, Kate 12, and Jessalyn, 9.

Other recipients of the YWCA "Women of Vision" awards were: Jane Hill (Arts/Humanities), Carol Russell (Professional Volunteer), Amy Friedman (Communications), Joanne R. Carlson (Education), Mary M. Heng-Braun (Human Services-Community Advocate), and Kathleen C. Vance (Business). ■

Nisei Week Japanese Festival to be Documented and Preserved for Future Generations by the U.S. Library of Congress

The Nisei Week Japanese Festival will represent Los Angeles in the national Local Legacies project of the Library of Congress bicentennial celebration, announced Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Alarid on May 25.

The Local Legacies project is designed to document and pay tribute to the nation's rich cultural heritage. The Library of Congress is fostering community projects to ensure that future generations will have access to important cultural "snapshots" of American tradition, folklore and everyday life.

The Nisei Week festival will be celebrating its 60th year July 29-August 6. Originally conceived by the Nisei as a marketing strategy during the Depression years, the festival attracted business to the

Little Tokyo area and promoted good will.

Today, the festival includes a nine-day celebration that promotes the Japanese and Japanese American culture and history through traditional cultural exhibits and events, including a grand parade, street arts fair, coronation, carnival and jamboree, taiko gathering — made possible by the City of Los Angeles' Cultural Affairs Department.

Working through congressional offices, the Local Legacies initiative seeks to chronicle aspects of America's diverse cultural heritage from all 50 states, U.S. trusts and territories, and assembles a selection of documentary material at the Library of Congress to share with all Americans. Later, selected Local Lega-

cy material will be added to the library's collections and made available on the World Wide Web.

The Library of Congress, celebrating its bicentennial in 2000, has been "gathering knowledge for the nation's good" since 1800, in the words of Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. Known as "the national library" for the services it provides to all Americans, the Library of Congress is planning a national celebration of the contributions of all libraries to a democratic society.

For more information on the library's bicentennial, check the library's bicentennial Web site at www.loc.gov/bicentennial, or call the bicentennial program office at 800/707-2000 or toll-free 800/707-7145. ■

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CHINATOWN

(Continued from page 1)

"We see this as an example of being targeted, being taken advantage of as a minority community that has minimal political clout. It says something about the way we as a community are treated, the way we are heard," said Helen Gym, public relations chair of the Stadium Out of Chinatown Coalition, a group which consolidates a smaller core of community-based organizations with city-wide allies.

"The mayor's announcement took most people by surprise. Plans for a stadium had been in the works for almost a decade, but this site had never been mentioned before," Gym said.

Since the announcement, the coalition has been lobbying the city council and writing letters to Philadelphia's two daily newspapers, the *Inquirer* and the *Daily News*. The coalition recently organized a protest march and general strike to take place at city hall on June 8.

Meanwhile, Grant assured, "We are aware of their concerns and want to address their concerns. We don't want to do anything without understanding how this will impact nearby neighborhoods."

She noted the mayor has already held two private meetings with community leaders in addition to two public hearings.

Despite these meetings, however, Street continues to say he will not let any one community "veto" the stadium plan, said John Chin, executive director of the Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation (PCDC). "Publicly, he's saying that he would work with our community, but he's not seriously listening to our concerns."

Over the past 30 years, the 128-year-old Philadelphia Chinatown has served witness to urban

development in Center City which has virtually boxed it in.

It is currently flanked by the Convention Center to its west, a commuter rail tunnel to its east, the Gallery mall to its south and the Vine Expressway to its north, which split off the Chinese Gospel Church from the rest of Chinatown. The stadium proposal seeks space northwest of Chinatown on 11th and Vine.

"It basically puts a stranglehold on Chinatown, which is being encroached upon on all sides by city developments that are not serving its interests," said Ellen Somekawa, executive director of Asian Americans United, a community-based organization in Chinatown which serves both longtime residents and new immigrants.

"It's a growing community. This stadium, if you consider the size, will take away people's ability to use this space to support their families," she said.

There are about 4,000 residents living in Chinatown today, with an influx of approximately 100,000 visitors on weekends, according to Chin.

"Chinatown is one of the few places that is attracting people into the city. If the stadium's built, it will take away valuable acreage for community development, and it will make housing less affordable," he said.

In 1997, PCDC completed its Hing Wah Yuen project, a 51-unit housing development for first-time homebuyers. Chin fears plans for future housing developments, especially for low-income families and senior citizens, will now be thwarted by the stadium.

However, Grant stressed the mayor is taking these different factors into consideration, especially when it comes to places such as the Holy Redeemer Church, where children go to school. "Those are issues that we are concerned about in planning the design of the ball-

park. We want to be mindful that there are people living there and we don't want to disturb them," she said.

Grant also reiterated, "This is not located in Chinatown. It's in an area of the city that's not being used by anyone right now. The blueprint of the stadium is not going to prevent Chinatown's expansion."

Still, Chin fears the proximity of the stadium will mean other ramifications for Chinatown, including an adverse effect on local business. When the convention center initially had been proposed in the 1970s, the city claimed it would boost tourism and improve the local economy. Instead, he said, the community was faced with severe traffic and parking congestion.

"We've heard this story before, that [these city developments] will bring in new business, but they haven't. They've actually had a negative impact. You may gain some business, but in the long run, it hurts because the regulars just don't come in," he said.

"We're afraid this will be the nail in the coffin that kills Chinatown," Chin said.

The mayor's panel of city officials and private-sector financial experts began negotiating with team representatives in mid-May over how the stadiums were to be funded.

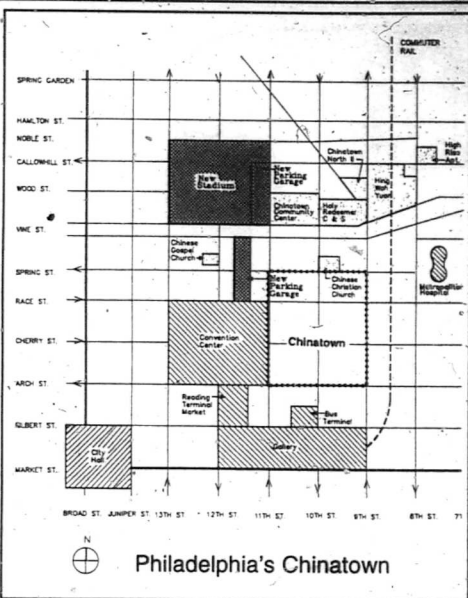
The city council also passed a resolution calling for stadium-financing hearings, which are scheduled to begin June 20.

City Council President Anna Verna and Phillies President David Montgomery did not return phone calls by press time.

Robin Schatz, chief of staff for Councilman Frank DiCicco, who represents Chinatown (First District), said, "It's a little premature to be making comments about this issue right now. We just don't have information from the mayor's office yet. There are too many unknown variables."

Schatz said they have been promised more information regarding technical data and feasibility as early as next week.

Schatz added, "Councilman DiCicco has close ties with the Chinatown community. He met with them both prior to the mayor's announcement and subsequent to it. He understands that everybody is



Philadelphia's Chinatown

upset and has listened to their concerns. He's certainly not going to ignore his constituents."

Formal stadium legislation must reach city council by September, which will then be voted on Nov. 3.

One issue which has come up in the meantime is whether the city's money would be better spent on helping the city's schools than on funding the stadiums.

"Right now Philadelphia is going through a school-funding crisis. Schools are in danger of being shut down, and many people feel that public funding shouldn't be spent on this stadium," said Somekawa.

Even Schatz admitted, "Councilmembers are asking, how can you use public dollars when you have a system ready to explode?"

As many in the AA community are aware, urban development overtaking smaller ethnic enclaves is not exclusive to Philadelphia. It is a phenomenon affecting cities across the nation, including Seattle, Sacramento and Washington, D.C., in more recent times.

"This is just part of a growing trend," said Daphne Kwok, executive director of the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA). "The

same thing is happening in other parts of the country. People think they can bulldoze over us without any opposition. The Asian American community's got to mobilize and voice loudly to make sure this kind of thing doesn't happen."

"From a historical standpoint, if you think about why Chinatowns first came into existence, they were a manifestation of discrimination to begin with," added JACL Philadelphia chapter president Paul Uyehara. "They were these derelict neighborhoods, now they're viewed as vital communities."

"The reason why people in Philadelphia were so strongly opposed to the stadium was they had the sense that race played a role in the mayor's decision," Uyehara said.

But despite the fact that it is still early in the campaign, the community is determined that this stadium won't be built, even if it means eventually resorting to legal action, said Somekawa.

"One of our biggest hopes," added Gym, "is that this is not, seen strictly as a Philadelphia issue, that it's seen as an Asian American issue and as a cause of justice."

COLUMN

(Continued from page 1)

give facts about the internment camps that Thomas had disputed in his column.

"If you read my column objectively, you have to understand, I was there, I was part of it, it was all factual," insisted Thomas, in defense of his piece. "It was real, it was not imaginary."

"People are so overly sensitive today. I don't understand why people are offended," Thomas continued. "The responses I received were emotional, not from the words I wrote."

When asked about printing the controversial column, Publisher/Editor of the *Nevada Appeal*, Jeff Ackerman, cited the First Amendment in defense of Thomas' words.

"I don't want to censor or edit opinions," said Ackerman. "The point is to provide a forum for opinions, although most of the time the paper does not agree with Thomas."

Ackerman did say that if given the chance again, he would sit down with Thomas before publishing the column to discuss what would be written and the kind of responses he thought it would yield. Ackerman admits he can see where it was offensive.

"If you're going to stick your neck out like he did, you'll have to be prepared to get it chopped off, which he did," explained Ackerman.

Thomas offered this in response to those readers who were offended by his column. "I'm sorry if I inadvertently offended anybody, that was not the intent," he said. "The intent was to tell a story. Everything that I said in that article, I saw with my own eyes."

Ackerman has shown no indication of apologizing. "You're not going to apologize for your opinion, opinions are what makes the world go around," he said. "If I'm going to fight for my right to publish a newspaper, I have to be willing to allow authors to express themselves."

"I didn't expect him (Ackerman) to issue any apologies, because he ran the column in the first place, but a letter of correction would've been appropriate," Fujii countered.

Fujii believes that the situation of racism is just a matter of education.

"It starts in schools; some of the television programs that talk about Japanese Americans help," he said. "Changing the minds of the younger people is easier than changing the minds of older people."

Patty Wada, JACL regional director of the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific district, was proud of the way that the Reno chapter handled the situation.

"This just shows how our chapters are key in fighting discrimination in their own communities," said Wada.

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>



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East Wind

Some Straight Shooting

By Bill Marutani

EVERY SO OFTEN, someone will hand me a book or a dissertation to read. Usually I'll peruse the contents, flipping through the table of contents, and then set the writing aside for a later closer review. One supplier is fellow Northwesterner (Tacoma, Wash.) H. Tom Tamaki, an M.D. (Pathology) who has been given to passing along "hot tips" in the form of a stockbroker's analytical reports. In the latest packet of such reports, there was included a 247-page paperback book titled "Suspended: Growing Up Asian in America." The author: Clifford I. Uyeda, also a Tacoma contemporary and longtime friend of Tamaki and also himself an M.D. (Pediatrics). I've known and respected Uyeda through our mutual affiliations with JACL. Over the years we've sporadically exchanged correspondence, characterized by long lapses between replies. A belated response may well open with something along the lines of "As I was saying..." as if no untoward time gap had intervened.

Back to "Suspended."

WHERE THE SUBJECT-MATTER of the book is familiar to you, or you happen to know the author, or you may have had experiences parallel to that of the writer, such can't pique one into closer checking out of the contents without waiting for a later time. In the case of Uyeda's book, for me all three factors were operative, and I finished the book in about four sittings. In recounting his life experiences, Uyeda's autobiography pro-

vides the framework for addressing issues that impact upon Nikkei. A particularly crushing blow was Boston University School of Medicine's unexplained withdrawal of Uyeda's previous acceptance to the medical school. In a notice dated March 20, 1942, the dean wrote:

"I regret exceedingly to have to inform you that due to circumstances over which none of us have any control, the Committee on Admission did not foresee that it will not be able to grant to you final acceptance for matriculation here in July. We are accordingly enclosing our check for \$55 representing your application fee... and your deposit... In full." (p. 94)

This is the mask of racism couched in its chilling formality. Uyeda describes the demoralizing impact of the notice:

"It was as if a trap door had sprung beneath me and I kept falling into an utter void. The years of preparation, the acknowledgment, acceptance and promise for a future were suddenly meaningless."

"I thought I had prepared myself for life's disappointments, but Boston University Medical School's rejection letter came as a total shock. I was angry and confused, and attempted to rationalize the surprising turn of events. But it was useless. I could not escape the truth: my American citizenship and the U.S. Constitution meant nothing to the Boston University medical school administrators." (p. 95)

TAKEN TO TASK is the JACL

which Uyeda (ably) served postwar as national president. He does not mince words in his criticisms of the organization's wartime stances. Responding to the question that he poses to himself — "How would I have accepted the circumstances forced upon my family? How would I have reacted to the JACL position of declaring total loyalty to the government that had locked us away?" — he firmly declares: "I knew I would have rebelled. I would have become a so-called 'disident.' I would never have become a wartime JACLer. There is not a doubt in my mind." (p. 149)

In a later section of his writing, Uyeda gives voice to a somewhat conciliatory but nonetheless blunt assessment:

"On reflection, I think the JACL leadership made a fundamental error in not understanding that resistance is a natural and a necessary consequence of injustice and oppression. Instead the JACL branded any resistance as disloyal, the work of anti-democratic subversives. The men who ran the JACL in the 1940s were men of strong will and determination, a quality necessary in a time of crisis. Yet their vision, blurred by patriotic fervor, lacked compassion and understanding." (p. 150)

One may not agree with some of Uyeda's statements; but I for one, have never doubted his bona fides. P.S. The book is available at \$14.95 from the Japanese American Historical Society, 1684 Post St., San Francisco, CA 94115-3604.

Masaoka Fellowship Fund Extends Application Deadline

The application deadline for the ninth Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship Fund for the year 2000-2001 term has been extended to August 1, announced Dr. H. Tom Tamaki, chairman of the fund.

Candidates must be American citizens who are in at least their third year of college or in graduate or professional programs. Preference will be given to those having demonstrated commitment to Asian American issues. Written and oral communication skills are also important considerations.

The successful applicant will serve a three and a half month term

in the office of Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., in the fall (2000) or spring (2001) periods. The choice of time period will be a mutual decision by the successful applicant in association with the Senator's office.

The fund provides a stipend of \$7,500 and includes a round trip air fare from the successful applicant's home to Washington, D.C.

Interested applicants may obtain application forms or information from national JACL headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94114, 415/921-5225, fax: 415/931-4671, or e-mail: jack@jaci.org. ■

54th Nisei Memorial Honors JA Veterans

DENVER—About 100 people gathered at Fairmount Cemetery for the 54th annual Nisei Memorial ceremony on May 29, which honored Japanese American veterans who risked their lives for their country despite suffering racism at home.

"You had to come home and rebuild your lives, displaced not only by war but dishonored by racism," said Rev. Amy Wake of Simpson United Methodist Church in Arvada. "Because of you we are able to stand tall and proclaim we are Japanese Americans."

Florence Uyeda Miyahara was 18 and living in Utah when she was

stripped of her citizenship and sent to an internment camp. She later joined the Air Force and served in the Korean War. Miyahara, a nurse, was the first female member of the American Legion Post No. 185 in Denver.

Boulder High School student Heather Nakama, who played Taps on her trumpet during the memorial service, researched the war and internment camps for a class project. "It's pretty shocking the discrimination the Japanese Americans faced at home," she said. "I didn't know my grandfather served in the war until I started working on the report and called him." AP ■

BOYCOTT

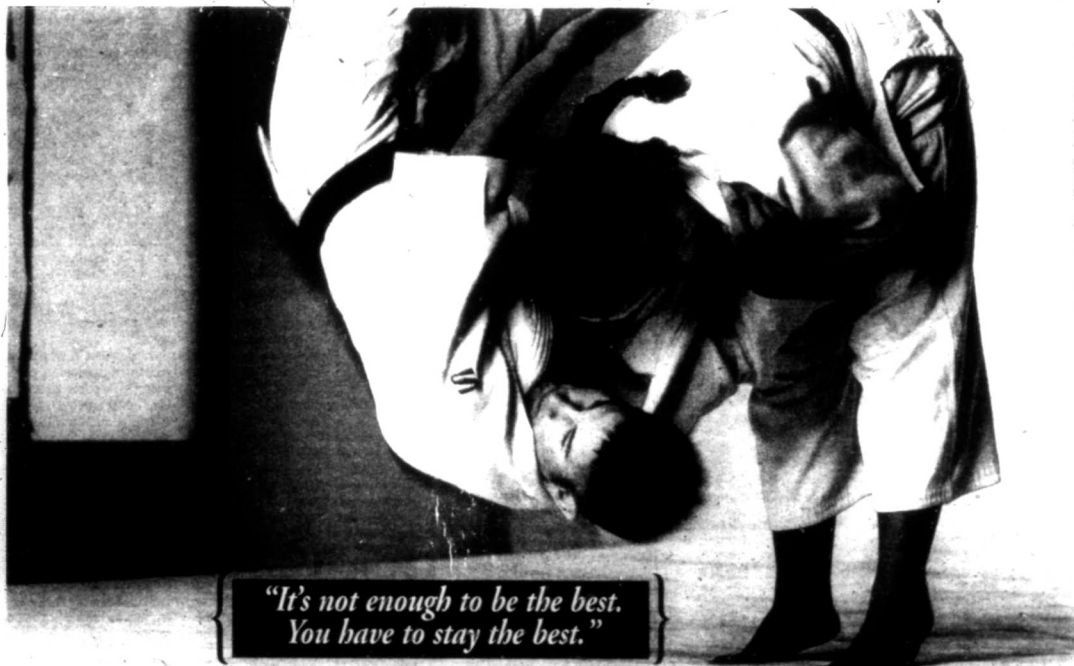
(Continued from page 1)

ence and technology awarded positions each year by universities across the country. Thus, the impact on the federal laboratories could be serious if young scientists choose to support the association's resolution.

Both resolutions have been a source of intense discussion among AA scientists at the federal laboratories and has been a source of concern for Department of Energy offi-

cials.

"I think it's a mistake, it's counterproductive, and it will not be effective in terms of achieving its original objective," said Dr. Jeremy Wu, the department's national ombudsman who deals with workplace issues like diversity and equal opportunity, in the same N.Y. Times piece. Wu added, because a boycott could reduce AA participation at the labs, "it certainly will hurt those who are fighting against racial profiling in the department right now." ■



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Letters to the Editor

The Late Shigeru Wakamatsu

"We got to do this one, Harry," said Shig. He was talking redress. Shigeru Wakamatsu was already a member of the LEC board when our acquaintanceship began. He was a good listener, never interrupted others when they were speaking, and he made insightful comments whenever he spoke. It was very comfortable to be in Shig's company. I sought his counsel many times.

Shig contributed to JACL, over many decades. I just learned that he was a founding member of the Chicago JACL. His work at the national level includes the 1958-60 national JACL presidency.

My firsthand knowledge of the extent of his dedication to JACL was when he volunteered to take the LEC treasurer position because no one else sought the job. He cut every check and kept the books from 1984-89.

Calls were made to Shig's home, many as late as 10 p.m. (PST) and his wife Toshiko would tell me he was still at the Midwest District Office. I then would call the office and tell him, "Shig, what are you doing there so late? Please be careful and go home." "I got just a little more to do," he would say. He must have gone home around 1 a.m. many times.

Should the history of JACL be written in some future millennium, I am certain that Shig Wakamatsu will be included among the pillars of JACL.

Harry Kaphana
Oxnard, Calif.

Re: Apology to WWII Resisters

With a sigh I take up my pen again in an attempt to set the record straight. Though I am writing as an individual, a resister from Heart Mountain, other Heart Mountain resisters and those from other concentration camps probably share my thoughts expressed below.

Let me at the start make a broad general statement. Resisters as a group have never asked for an apology from any group. Having said that, we are very pleased whenever we receive such an apology from groups. I carry no bitterness or malice to those who object and denounce the stand we took back in 1944. Serving or resisting was and is an individual choice.

The apology issue being debated today was, to the best of my knowledge, originally generated within and between JACL chapters. It did not originate from the resisters. I was one of several resisters invited to attend a meeting of several JACL chapters of the Pacific Southwest District being held in Los Angeles several years ago. It's been so long ago I can't remember the exact date or place. As an onlooker, I listened and then realized that a resolution for an apology to the resisters was being debated. After long passionate arguments, the chapters voted to eliminate the word "apologize" from the resolution. Thus in effect the apology issue was defeated. The debate still continues today within the JACL.

As a resister, I am pleased that some JACL members are sympathetic to our stand. Also I am very pleased that several veteran groups have made public their apologies. Resisters, I myself included, have thanked those organizations for extending their hand in friendship and reconciliation.

Whether a group wishes to apologize and extend their hand in fellowship is a decision they alone can make. We have no argument with their stand. Remembering that we live in a democracy, it is the right of every citizen to express her or his thoughts and beliefs.

To directly address Mr. Satow's comments in the *Pacific Citizen*, May 19-25, none of the resisters from Heart Mountain has ever

physically attacked a JACL member, to my knowledge. As a personal request to anyone having such information, I would very much appreciate receiving it.

Recalling those attacks mentioned by Mr. Satow, I am always saddened they occurred. They strike very close to me, having personally known Rev. John Yamazaki when I was a Boy Scout at St. Mary. Rev. John was a person I admired and looked to as a role model.

YES, an apology is due from those who attacked people supporting the draft. An apology is also due from those who yelled "baka yaro." But it is wrong to categorically accuse all resisters as participants or supporters of the beatings or name-calling.

I speak for myself and most likely other resisters, and the Fair Play Committee would concur, we all admire and applaud those who served in the armed forces. We have said this many times and will be saying it again in the future.

Our stand was and has always been "Give back our constitutional rights, release our families and we will gladly serve."

Dr. Takashi Hoshigaki
Heart Mountain resister
and Korean War draftee
Los Angeles

In the mid-1940s, Americans of Japanese ancestry were thrown into concentration camps. From the standpoint of the rights and privileges of Americans, citizens or non-citizens, the U.S. government did commit an unconscionable error against them and they apologized, as they should, to the general AJA community.

In the same period, the government requested volunteers and later draftees from those concentration camps. Some volunteered and some resisted. Both were absolutely correct, constitutionally correct, in my view. But the courts, all the way up to the Supreme Court, ruled against the resisters. I believe the resisters' actions were legally just and the government's actions were unjust. I do commend the resisters for their courage, whether or not I agree with their choice of action.

JACL was organized to counteract unequal treatment against AJAs. It has over the years, in many ways, endeavored to do just that. It has, considering its limited resources, both in finance and influence, done an outstanding job. Much was sacrificed by its leaders and supporters in order to arrive at the freedoms and equalities gained by AJA efforts. We owe JACL a great deal.

We also cannot overlook the accomplishments of the 100th/442nd and other Nisei military men's efforts in obtaining the position we enjoy today.

In a small town in France, the citizens of Bruyeres dedicated a monument to the 100th/442nd. In another town in Italy, a monument was constructed by the citizens in appreciation of the 100th/442nd for liberating their community occupied by German forces.

The fighting men of the 34th infantry division from the midwest, centered around Iowa, sent a resolution commending the 100th/442nd for their unsurpassed accomplishments. In Texas, a similar honor was provided to the 100th/442nd for their rescue of the Lost Battalion.

President Truman recognized the 100th/442nd in an unprecedented presidential review of a regiment, awarding them the Seventh Presidential Unit Citation, which is equivalent to the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Now, members of the JACL national board who vote for an apology to the resisters must realize that they are also voting for an apology from those Killed in Action, Wounded in Action and from men who risked their lives in the war. Would you want to go to the 20 recipients of the Congressional Medals of Honor and ask them for an apology?

g? That's what you would be recommending.

The members of the board who vote for an apology must realize they and the majority of JACLers have nothing, absolutely nothing, to apologize for.

Members of the board might consider voting for an effort to overturn the Supreme Court's decision on the resisters. That's where the blame should rest. That's where the apology should evolve from.

Frank Nishio
via e-mail

Re: National JA Memorial Controversy

An Open Letter to The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye:

Dear Senator Inouye:

We, JAvoice.com: Committee for a Fair and Accurate Japanese American Memorial, believe you identified an excellent solution to the major point of controversy surrounding the proposed inscriptions for the Japanese American national memorial. Your idea of eliminating all quotations and names from the memorial is one we hope everyone will embrace because it opens the door to inclusiveness. Your suggestion will strengthen the memorial by infusing a broader perspective beyond that of a few individuals and one organization.

We enthusiastically support your proposed solution to the nationwide controversy, and we hope others, including the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and the U.S. Department of Interior, will join with us in seeing that your suggestion is instituted. Because we know you support making the memorial accurate and appropriate, we anticipate that you will also work to correct all historical inaccuracies on the memorial.

This letter, the newspaper articles about your solution to the controversy (19 May 2000 *Nichi Bei Times*, San Francisco, and 1 June 2000 *Honolulu Star Bulletin*), additional letters and articles about this matter, and list of close to 550 signers of the resolution are posted on our website, JAvoice.com.

JAvoice.com: Committee
for a Fair and Accurate
Japanese American
Memorial

Sue Embrey (Los Angeles, CA)
Sam Fromartz (Washington, D.C.)
Don Hata (Redondo Beach, CA)
Nadine Hata (Redondo Beach, CA)
Aiko Herzog-Yoshinaga (Falls Church, VA)
Jack Herzog (Falls Church, VA)
William Hohn (Lomita, CA)
Chris Iijima (Honolulu, HI)
Yoshi "Kelly" Kuwayama (Washington, D.C.)

Copies to: Bruce Babbitt, Robert Stanton, John Parsons

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* Except for the National Director's Report, news and the views expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The columns are the personal opinion of the writers.

* "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JACL of a wide range of ideas and issues, though they may not reflect the viewpoint of the editorial board of the *Pacific Citizen*.

* "Short expressions" on public issues, usually one or two paragraphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone number. Because of space limitations, letters are subject to abridgement. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.

OBITUARY

Pianist/Shamisen Improviser Horiuchi Passes on June 3

Glenn Horiuchi, jazz pianist/shamisen player and community activist, passed away on June 3 at his residence in Los Angeles. He was 45.

Horiuchi had been diagnosed with terminal colon cancer last August, and had undergone two surgeries and intense chemotherapy before he succumbed to the disease.

He was active during the redress movement, particularly in the San Diego area where he grew up, and has since then dedicated numerous works and albums to the experiences of the Japanese American community. Among his 15 solo albums are titles that speak for themselves: *Fair Play*, 1999; *Oxnard Beat*, 1992; *Poston Sonata*, 1992; *Little Tokyo Suite*, 1992; *Manzanar Voices*, 1989; *Issei Spirit*, 1989.

Earlier this year in January, a benefit concert was dedicated to Horiuchi in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo where people from all across California turned out to play tribute to him. But Horiuchi, in turn, gathered enough strength to perform at his own benefit. Between jokes and personal anecdotes, Horiuchi shared insight about his work, life and philosophy.

He is survived by his wife Edna and his son Kenzo.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes that donations be made to the Wellness Community, c/o Edna. The Wellness Community organizes cancer patient support groups that Horiuchi and his wife participated in.

Please send condolences to Edna Horiuchi, 2004 Apex Ave., #7, Los Angeles, CA 90039. ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Doiguchi, Bessie, 76, Los Altos, May 18; Redlands-born; survived by husband Shizuo; son Wayne and wife Karen; daughter Lynne Watanabe and husband Glenn; 4 gc; brothers Ted, Frank,

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your 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.

Henry, Robert Wada; sister Mary Marumoto, sister-in-law Etsuko Kasai.

Hirano, Tsukino, 76, Stockton, May 11; survived by husband Kiyoshi Mike Hirano; sons James and wife Ayako, Patrick Hirano; daughter Sophia Kallman and husband Scott; 1 gc.

Hirao, Fumie, 81, Los Angeles, May 16; Hiroshima-born; survived by husband Nobuo Jimmy Hirao; brother Masaru Bill Yamamoto and wife Toshiko (Fresno), sister Helen T. Motokane and husband Ed; sister-in-law Kay Yamamoto.

Ichinose, June Sumiko, 73, San Gabriel, May 22; Hawaii-born; survived by sons Arthur M. and Francis Ichinose; daughter Florence M. Lowthorp; gc; brother Masao Watasaki; sister Shinayo Miyagawa.

Kanemoto, Yutaka, 90, Chicago, May 17; Seattle-born; survived by wife Haruko; son Neil and wife Karen; daughters Masako, Janice Hew and husband Stanley, Jane Anselmino and husband Eberhard.

Matsudaira, Rev. Kohan, Los Angeles, May 16; survived by son Rev. Noriyoshi Matsudaira.

Matsumoto, Yukie (Yukie), 97, Los Angeles, May 21; Fukushima-ken-born; survived by daughters Mariko Inouye and husband Sid, Nancy Chizuko Matsuda and husband Kenji, Kayko Sonoda; 8 gc, 8 ggc; predeceased by husband Kazuma.

Nitta, Susie Sueko, 77, Henderson, Nev., May 2; Gardena-born; survived by daughters Sandra Nitta (Henderson), Suzanne Tanji and husband Bobby (San Gabriel); 3 gc; sisters Saki Matsubara, Grace Makimoto and husband Fred, Peggy Hirata and husband Shin.

Ogohara, Yoshitami "Charlie," 90, Spokane, Wash., May 11; Seattle-born; survived by sons Steve and Victor Ogohara, both of Spokane; 1 gc; sisters Kay Ito and Sadie Ogohara, both of Seattle; predeceased by wife Kazuo.

Oku, Misao, 98, Sanger, May 3; Wakayama-ken-born; survived by husband Frank; son Toshio; daughter Louise Yama-

mura.

Shirozu, Isao Mason, 62, New York, May 9; Longview, Wash.-born; survived by sisters June Miko Hayaishi and husband Ken (Altadena), Dorothy Ishida and husband Bill (Kent, Wash.), Sharon Takabayashi and husband Tak (Oceanside).

Takeoka, Masako, 84, Florin, May 23; Sherman Island-born; survived by daughters Nancy Oda and husband Tom, Mary Ota and husband Walter, Alice Hirata and husband Henry, 6gc, 3 ggc; brothers Roy Sumida and wife Nancy, Tom Sumida and wife Janet; sisters Carol Matsubara, Shiz Kawakawa and husband Ed; predeceased by husband Miki.

Tanaka, Toyochi, 54, Wellesley, Mass., May 20; Nagasaki-born; biophysicist/professor at MIT; pioneer of "smart" gels, which are used in fields such as medicine and toxic-waste cleanup; survived by wife Tomoko; son Kazunori (Brookline, Mass.); daughter Ayako (Wellesley Hills, Mass.); parents Toyosuke and Shizu (Japan); sister Noriko (Japan).

Tsurudome, Shigenori, 88, Chula Vista, April 30; Japan-born; survived by wife Peggy; sons Ben (El Cajon), Jimmie (La Mesa); sisters Tane Tsurudome (Claremont), Taya Okamura (Japan); brother Tamio (Claremont); 2 gc.

Yamada, Takayoshi, 66, San Francisco, May 12; survived by wife Francis; daughters Kellie Becker and husband Rick, Jean Yamada; 1 gc; sisters Keiko Churchill, Takako Oki and husband Ed, Yoko Uyemoto and husband Steve, Ryoko Sato and husband Tadami (Japan); brother-in-law Walter Nomura (Hawaii).

Yoshimoto, Ichiro "Willy," 76, San Gabriel, May 18; Hawaii-born; survived by wife Michiyo; brother-in-law Shin-kichi Ichikawa and wife Ayako; sister-in-law Isako Takizawa and husband Koichi. ■

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JACL Youth Candidates Outline Vision

(Continued from page 1)

- JACL Washington, D.C., Leadership Conference
- Seattle JACL Scholarship Committee

Leadership

"Leadership is the fostering of growth of knowledge and empowerment in the community. The JACL is a richly diverse organization. Within the JACL, there is representation of many different cities, many different ages, and



many different people. The role of the JACL in fostering growth in knowledge and empowerment in these various backgrounds

most importantly consists of the facilitation of communication among all groups that come together to make up the JACL. Developing continuous strategy for dealing with issues of social injustice against our communities of color, recognizing the strong and courageous individuals who have aided the community in achieving present-day accomplishments, and mentoring those who will help the community achieve the accomplishments of tomorrow — are all a part of the communication that is a basic necessity for effective leadership to take place."

Qualifications

"As a younger member of the community who has a lot of ideas for empowering your youth and getting them more involved in the community, I feel that I am a highly qualified individual. I have a great deal of experience

working with other "young" people from the community in both professional and community service oriented areas.

"In high school, I spearheaded a strong effort for the API students at our school to form an academic/social support group for the API students. While these social groups are quite common in many institutions of education throughout the country, due to the fact that I was in Cincinnati, and at a conservative high school, my goal of seeing other students such as myself come together faced major hurdles."

"... During my years at Seattle University, I was highly active in the organizations for students of color. I also served as president of the Asian Pacific Islander Student Organization, during which time, some of my responsibilities included outreach and recruitment, goal/strategy development, event planning, and empowerment of the organization's officers. During my term as president, one situation that our organization had to rectify was the pending elimination of the university's Office of Minority Student Affairs. At which time, I had to mobilize my organization while working with the other student groups on campus to present the school's administration from cutting this valuable resource."

"I think that all of these experiences have allowed me to develop and learn critical leadership and community organizing skills that are valuable assets that I could use as the national youth/student representative."

National Youth/Student Council Representative

Amy H. Matsumoto

Matsumoto is a member of the New York chapter. She works as an office assistant for the State of Maryland, Governor's Office on Asian Pacific American Affairs. She received her degree in business administration from the University of Baltimore.

JACL Participation:

- Youth Representative for 1998 Convention Committee
- Assisted with planning of EDC Youth/Student Ski Weekend

Leadership

"The definition of leadership is so hard to define because it is a broad term that can be done or shown in so many ways. Leadership in the capacity of the JACL youth/student council representative would be to work with the chair of the council to implement the mission of JACL. I would use my position to empower the representatives in the youth/student council by conveying the needs and opinions to the JACL national board and vice versa. In addition, it would be to assist the chair in managing the youth/stu-

dent council and any other assistance he or she may need. One of my leadership goals would be to help the youth/student representatives understand the role that I play in JACL and to encourage them to run for this position as well as other leadership positions in the future. Another goal is to empower the youth/student by informing them of the latest issues and events that are or will affect both the Japanese American community and the Asian Pacific American community, with the hope that the representatives will take this information back to their districts and chapters and start a dialogue with their constituents."



Qualifications

"During the four years of the

East Coast Asian Student Union, I learned a great deal about how an organization is built and how difficult it is. I have been a member of both JACL and the Organization of Chinese Americans and have learned a great deal about both the organizations. In JACL I have acted as a liaison before and I am going to be on the program for action committee as a representative of the youth/student council. However, most of my experiences have come from working in the State of Maryland, Governor's Office on Asian Pacific American Affairs for the past three years. There I have made recommendations to the executive director and the executive assistant concerning new or revised legislation and attended community functions. With all of this experience, I feel that I can effectively accomplish the program for action for the biennium when it is created and approved at the biennial convention in Monterey." ■

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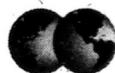
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