Pacific Ettinon

ication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

[Spectrum]: First Nat'l Conference Hosts Over 100 Nikkei Youth



Prominent civil rights activist Yuri Kochiyama was the featured keynote speaker at the [spectrum] national youth conference in Los Angeles.

The Nisei, in their teens and ear-The Nisei, in their teens and early 20s, first met en masse during World War II under tragic circumstances imposed by the U.S. government. Over 50 years later, a new generation of young Japanese Americans would meet, this time on their own terms, at the first national conference for, by and about Nikkei wouth. Nikkei youth

youth. ctrum!" brought over 100 "[Spectrum]" brought over 100 participants from around the country, mostly college and high school students, to Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, April 20-22, for a weekend of culturally relevant workshops, group dialogue and petworking.
"One of the main points of this

conference is to broaden the views of Nikkei youth, so that they can see where our community is at now and where we want it to go in the future because the future is us," said [spectrum] co-chair Brian Nagami, a fourth-year student at UCLA.

Organized by several Nikkei stu-dent groups from Northern and Southern California, attendees came from as far away as Hawaii, Illinois and Maryland.

The event was sponsored by the California Japanese American Community Leadership Council in conjunction with the Intercolle-giate Nikkei Council, JACL Pacific

See SPECTRUM page 9

JA Community Anticipates Backlash from 'Pearl Harbor' and led to the unconstitutional in-By TRACY UBA Writer/Reporter part of that air force that came and

A U.S. spy plane crashes, its crew is detained in China. Chinese Americans become the targets of racial slurs and stereotyping in me dia outlets across the country.

It's an all too familiar scenario for Asian Americans, and now with the upcoming release of Disney's newest film, "Pearl Harbor," Japanese American community leaders are anticipating a similar backlash.

Representatives from the JACL, Japanese American National Mu-seum (JANM), Japan America Soseum (JANM), Japan America So-ciety and the Japanese consul gen-eral's office recently met in Los An-geles to discuss the potential im-pact "Pearl Harbor" and its sensi-tive subject matter will have both on public perception of JAs and on foreign relations between the Unit-

ed States and Japan.
"The nature of what I understand the content of the movie to be stand the content of the movie to be — a lot of the actual bombing, a lot of death, Zero airplanes — I have a strong feeling that there's goods to be sort of a reliving of World War II," said JACL, National President, Floyd Mori.

"Since now, [many people] don know the difference between Chinese and Japanese, they're going to perceive Japanese Americans as

part of that air torce that came and bombed Pearl Harbor," he said. "Any Asian face, they're going to have a negative attitude towards. I'm concerned about that, and that's why I feel that we as a community need to let the public un-derstand that Asian Americans

derstand that Asian Americans played a very important role for America during World War II." "Ill be disappointed if that's the reaction," added JANM spokesper-son Chris Komai, "but it won't surprise me. Like the recent episode with the Chinese community, if you look at it historically, it's always the same thing. When relations go bad between the United States and any other country — it doesn't have to be Asia, think back to the Iranian crisis — it dictates a lot of the prej-udice that 'seems to come out against specific groups."

Movie executives are reportedly pushing the love story between stars Ben Affleck and Kate Beckinsale as the main plot element, along with the heroism of American soldiers stationed in Hawaii during the bombing. However, trailers have focused on the high-tech effects and explosions in detecn enects and explosions in de-picting the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor naval ships.

The Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese at-tack on, Pearl Harbor thrust the United States into World War II

and led to the unconstitutional in-carceration of over 120,009 JAs in-U.S. concentration camps.
"I'm very concerned about the potential backlash from this movie. Even though we're over 50 years removed from World War II, I dan't beling it takes much to stir. I don't believe it takes much to stir the old hatreds and prejudices when it comes to war wth Japan," said JACL National Executive Di-

rector John Tateishi.

Tateishi has been discussing and negotiating various aspects of the film with "Pearl Harbor" producers as well as expressing concerns over the implications it may have for JAs. He is scheduled to attend a

JAs. He is scheduled to attend a pre-release screening on May 11. "Those at Disney studios with whom I've discussed the film have whom I've discussed the film have been very open. to discussing our concerns. However, since the pro-ducer, Jerry Bruckheimer, has fi-hal say on the content of the final product, III have to wait until the screening to make a judgment on just how productive those discus-sions have been, Tateishi said.

With one of the biggest budgets in Hollywood history, "Pearl Harbor" is scheduled to have its prebor is scheduled to have its premiere in Honolulu on May 21 aboard the John C. Stennis aircraft carrier. The film opens nationatide in theaters on May 25 at the start of the Memorial Day weekend. ■

Congressman Kennedy Gives Support to JLA Redress Bill

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA

Support for the Wartime Parity and Justice Act of 2001 — H.R. 619
— introduced by Congressman
Xavier Becerra, D-Calif., in February, is gaining momentum and among the bill's latest co-sponsor is Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy,

Kennedy, during a recent stop in Los Angeles, took some time out to talk with the Pacific Citizen re-garding his support of H.R. 619, a bill that would provide redress equity for Japanese Latin Americans forcibly brought to the United States during World War II to be States during World War II to be used in hostage exchanges between the United States and Japan; pro-vide redress to Japanese Ameri-cans who were initially denied compensation due to technicalities and narrow interpretations of the

> SUSP UM 1 TINE GARY

1765 Sutter St.,

San Francisco

Civil Liberties Act of 1988; and authorize \$45 million for educational funding.

funding.

Among the stops the four-term congressman made in Los Angeles was the Japanese American National Museum (JANM), where Mary Miyashita, a longtime Democratic fund-raiser, organized a small gathering of Asian Pacific American friends.

Although Konnady perpresents a

American mends.

Although Kennedy represents a state with a small APA population (2.3 percent of Rhode Island according to 2000 census figures; 1.3 cording to 2000 census lightes, 1.5 percent of Kennedy's congressional district according to 1990 census figures, the latest available numbers), he felt H.R. 619 was a bill that should be supported by all

Americans.

"This is not a Japanese American issue," said Kennedy. This is an American issue so you don't have to be of Asian descent to appreciate the importance of this issue. This is fundamental to whowe all are as human beings and as American citizens. It is important that we recognize that this was a violation not only to Japanese perpenses (pages 48).

See REDRESS/ page 8

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Very Truly Yours,

Troubled in Paradise . . 8 Letters, Obituaries . . . 11

Call to Increase Membership Focus of Calif. Tri-District

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA

RENO, Nev.—The call to increase JACL membership was at the heart of the NCWNP/CC/PSW tri-district held from April 20-22 at the Peppermill Hotel Casino.

the Peppermill Hotel Casino.

The conference was sponsored by NCWNPD with a theme of "The McWNPD with a theme of "The According to Robbie Teruffa, conference chair, about 120 people registered, with the participant who traveled the farthest being "National JACI." The Supermer Care Act al JACL Treasurer/Secretary Art Koga of Hawaii.

Koga of Hawaii.

Teruya volunteered to organize
the conference not only because her
husband, Alan, is NCWNP district governor, but also since her exper is in fund raising and event planning for nonprofits.

This was sort of a natural fit

when they were looking for some-body to chair the conference," said Teruya. "But the most challenging Teruya. "But the most challenging part of this was trying to plan this on my spare time as opposed to having it be my full-time job, and



U.S. Congressman Mike Honda, D-San Jose, keynoter at the NCWNP/CC/PSW Tri-District (I) with JACL Executive Director John Tateishi.

right now I have to look after my right now I have to look after my 16-month-old daughter so it's been a little hard chasing her around and trying to work on the program layout at the same time."

The conference opened with a

plenary session focused on recruit-ing new JACL members. Alan Teruya said conference organizers decided to replace a regular work-

See MEMBERSHIP/ page 6

Members Ask the Tough Questions at Nat'l Bd. Forum

By CAROLINE AOYAGI

RENO, Nev.-With almost the entire JACL national board in atentire JACLI national board in at-tendance, participants at the re-cent. California tri-district got a chance to see what their elected board members have been up to the last 11 months since the Mon-terey convention and to hear about their visions for the future of the their visions for the future of the organization.

Questions about membership and how to reverse the downward trend in numbers, and inquiries about JACL's current financial sitabout JACLs current manacial sit-uation were the hottest topics of discussion. Members also wanted to know details about the recently formed Blue Ribbon Committee and they wanted to talk about the recent apology to the resisters of

recent apology to the resolvent of conscience.

Through dialogue we hope that the national board hears what is important to the membership, said John Hayashi, former NCWNP district governor, who

moderated the dialogue that took place on the final day of the PSW/NCWNP/CC tri-district con-

ference, April 20-22.

Taking part in the national board dialogue were elected. Taking part in the national board dialogue were elected members: Floyd Mori, president; David Kawamoto, vice président of general operations; Ryan Chin, vice president of public affairs; Art Koga, treasurer/secretary; Gary Mayeda, treasurer/secretary; Gary Mayeda, treasurer/secretary; Gary Mayeda, vice president of membership; and Karen-Liane Shiba, vice president of planning and development. Also taking part were several district governors: Craig Osaki, PSWD; Alan Teruya, NCWNPD, Bob Taniguchi, CCD; and Rieko Yoshino, MPD.

The following is a summ the national board forum:

the national board forum:

Q: The resolution of apology to
the resisters of conscience passed
at the Monterey national convention called for a public ceremony to
honor the resisters. What is the national board's commitment to tional board's commitment to en-sure that the ceremony takes place

and what is the likelihood of it hap-

and what is the likelihood of it hap-pening in 2001?

Kawamoto: We-have been look-ing for an appropriate place and time for the public ceremony but have yet to make any final deci-sions. The ceremony will take place this biennium and although we have no specifics, we "promise it will be done." We want to coordi-

will be done." We want to coordi-nate the ceremony to make sure the resisters will be able to attend. Teruya: Floyd Mori has asked me to form a committee to plan the public ceremony and so far we have three or four people. The ceremony will take place. "I know that this is an important issue for many peo-

ple."

Q: Do we have any statistics on the recent loss of some members? What is being done for those who may have dropped out because of the recent resisters resolution?

Mayeda. We do not have statistics on that because we are not able to identify which members are vet-

See FORUM page 7



7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755 Tel: 323/725-0083, 800/966-6157 Fax: 323/725-0064 E-mail: Paccit@aol.com

Executive Editor: Caroline Y. Aoyagi Assistant Editor: Martha Nakagawa Editor Emeritus/Archivist:

Harry K. Honda
ice Manager: Brian Tanaka
Production Assistant: Office Mans Margot Brunswick Writer/Reporter: Tracy Uba; Lyndsey Shinoda Circulation: Eva Lau-Tino

Citizens League (founded 1929) 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115, tel: 415/921-5225 fax: 415/931-4671

JACI President: Floyd Mori. National Director: John Tateishi Pacific Citizen Board of Directors: Ken Inouye, chairperson; Paul Uyehara, EDC, Hank Tana-Ra, MDC; Grace Kimoto, CCDC; Ken Kamei, NCWNPDC; Elsie Taniguchi, PNWDC; Jeff Watan-abe, IDC; Vacant, MPDC; Deni Uejima, PSWDC ka MDC: Grace Kimoto CCDC:

NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY REFORE DATE

FRIDAY BEFORE DATE
OF ISSUE.
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Allow 6 weeks for addre changes

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JACL-COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

WASHINGTON, D.C. Sun., May 27—Memorial Day Cere-mony; 10 a.m.; Arlington National

The Midwest

CINCINNATI

CINCINNATI
Thurs. Sun., June 28-July 1—EDC-MDC-MPDC Tri-District meeting; Weston Hotel; "Training for Trainers" Weston Hotel; "Training for Trainers" workshop, youth retreat, etc.; youth scholarships available; for special hotel conference rate call 513/621-700. Full registration, \$70; Friday teacher training workshop only with materials and lunch, \$40; Saturday banquet only, \$42. Info: Hiroko Nishikawa, 513/631-7885. CLEVELAND

Sun., May 20—Cherry Blossom Fest-ival; Metro Park; Sho-Jo-Ji dancers will be participating. Info: Spence Zaorski, 216/533-1641, or Mari Kuroda, ST. LOUIS

Tues., May 8—Community Reception and Program, "Building On Our Past" 5-7 p.m., Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial Bldg., 5700 Lindell Blvd.; with Gyo Obata, Alice Hayashi and John Hara, Irene Hirano. Info: Wendi Roll, 636/230-6348; Robin Hatrori, 314/863-7248; JANM, 800/461-5266.

Intermountain

ALT LAKE CITY

2002: Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 30-Sept. 2— Heart Mountain Reun ion 2002: Info: Raymond Uno, 801/355-0284

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Sun. May 13—The Asian Reporter's Sun. May 13—The Asian Keponter's scholarship and awards banquet; 4 p.m. social hour, 5 p.m. banquet; Legin Restaurant Banquet Hall, 8001 SE Division St. RSVP by May 9.
Sun., May 20—Film, "First Person

Sun., May 20—Film, "First Person Plural"; 2 p.m._{3c}OPB-TV Channel 10; a Korean child adopted by an American family searches for her birth

tamily.

Sun., May 20—Film, "Forgotten Fields"; 11:30 p.m., OPB-TV Channel 10; documents what happened to Japanese American farmers after Pearl Harbor

Wed., May 23—Film, "Conscience and the Constitution"; 11 p.m., OPB-TV Channel 10; concerning the "resisters of conscience

Fri,-Sun., July 13-15—JACL National Youth/Student Council Conference; Youth'student Council Conterence; Seattle University; workshops, net-working, Saturday night party, etc. For registration forms or more information, contact: Gerald Kato, 213/626-4471, <youth@jaclpsw.org>; Matthew Na-kata, 206/720-3049, <Nakata Ma@</p> hotmail.com>; Amy Matsumoto, 301/460-5584, <amatsu@hotmail.com>; www.jacl.org/youth.

Northern California

BERKELEY

Sun., May 6—Nikkei Widowed Group meeting new members, both men and women, are welcome. For meeting place and time call: M. Kusaba, 415/333-5190, or Kay Kusaba, 415/333-5190, Yamamoto, 510/444-2911.

Yamamoto, 510/444-2911. Sat.-Sun., May 19-20—Satsuki Arts' Festival & Bazaar, Saturday 4-10 p.m., Sunday .noon-7 p.m., Berkeley Buddhist Temple, 2121 Channing Buddhist Temple, 2121 Channing Way at Shattuck arts, crafts, antiques, games, food, saké, beer, sodas, etc.; Sunday performing arts festival featur-ing salsa, rhythm & blues, philippine dance and music, long-sword-martial arts, traditional dance and music of Okinawa, jazz ensemble, Info: Okinawa, jazz ensemble. Info: 510/841-1356, <Home.pacbell.net/

FI CERRITO

Sat., May 5—Sakura Kai Health Fair; 8:30-a.m.-2 p.m.; El Cerrito Open House Senior Center, 6500 Stockton Ave. Info: Kimi Sato Honda, 524-

OAKLAND

OAKLAND
Sun, June 10—Contra Costa chapter
JACL Day at the Ball Game; 1:05 p.m.,
Network Associates (formerly Oak-land Coliseum); A's vs. Giants; \$4 per
ticket. RSVP: Esther Takeuchi, 223-

2258. REDWOOD CITY

REDWOOD CITY
Sat, May 12—Children's Day Celebration at the San Mateo County
Historical Association Museum; 1-4
p.m., 777. Hamilton St.; origami, kite
making, bonsai exhibit; author Mar-

lene Shigekawa will present "Blue Jay in the Desert." Info: Karen Brey,

in the Desert." Info: Karen Brey. 650/299-0104. Through July—Exhibit, "A Community Story: A History of Japanese Americans in San Mateo County"; San Mateo County Museum, 777 Hamilton St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: Karen Brey. 650/299-0104

RICHMOND

Sun., May 6—JACL NCWNP district council meeting, hosted by Contra Costa chant

SACRAMENTO

SACRAMENTO
SACRAMENTO
A. Wed., May 27 & 30—Asian
Pacific Heritage Month program on
kVIE Channel 6; 8 p.m., 2:30 p.m.
Sunday and 8 p.m. Weginesday:
"Hapa" by and about marathen runner
Midori Sperandeo. Info: KVIE, Midori Sperandeo. 916/923-7474 ext. 6017

Thurs., May 31—Asian Pacific Heritage Month program on KVIE Channel 6; 8 p.m., "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties"; about the MIS during WWII and postwar. Info: KVIE, 916/923-7474 ext. 6017. SAN FRANCISCO

Fri.-Sat., May 11-12 & 18-19— Takahashi Imports benefit sale for Kokoro Assisted Living; 10 a.m. 4:30 p.m.; 235-15th St. at Kansas; Asian antiques and Japanese porcelain, etc., a 20% off. Info: Rich Eijimà, 415/776 8066:

Through May 15—"Silent Voices Speak," an art exhibition and lecture series on the Holocaust and social injustice today; Herbst International Exhibit Hall, The Presidio; series will include Tsuyako "Sox" Kitashima and Jeff Adachi (May 6); Chinese dissident Harry Wu (May 15); many others. Free. Exhibition hours 10 a.m.-8 p.m. except Mondays. Schedules and Info: 415/928-2992, fax 415/928-8886, e-mail: silentvoices@talmus.com. SAN IOSE

SAN JOSE
Sun, May 6—Nihonmachi Run/Wallyfor all ages; 3-mile course around/
Japantown, begins at 9 a.m. Info: Yu-Ai
Kai, 408/294-2505.
Sun, May 6— Health Fair; Japantown;
free consultations with local doctors,
optometrists, dentists, podiatrists, chiropractors. Info: Yu-Ai Kai, 408/2942505. 2505.

Sun., May 6—24th annual Nikkei Matsuri; 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., 5th and Jackson Street; Nikkei food fair, arts and crafts, talko, jazz, shamjsen, dance, judo, farmer's market, histori-cal displays, children's crafts, etc. Info: <www.pgbgroup.com/nikkeimatsuri>.
Sun., May 6—Booksignings with authors Marlene Shigekawa and Rena Krasno; 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Wesley

Krasno; 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Wesley United Methodist Church, 566 N. First St. Info: 661/263-0623. Fri., May; 11—Ed Ivasaki Memoffal Fund Scholarship BBQ and Reception; 6 p.m., Issei Memorial Building Patio Area, 565 N. Fifth St., Japantoven. RSVP by May 9: fax 408/296-7554 or carali. Every Memorial St. Properties of the con-ception of the control of the con-ception of the con-tensive of the con-ception of the con-tensive of the con-ten e-mail: joyce@sugimura.com. Info: Joyce Iwasaki, 408/973-8063, www

Sat., May 12—The Human Race fund raiser; Coyote Point. Call—Bob Hashimoto at 343-2793 to participate. Wed., May 16-Kiraku Kai meeting: 1 Wed, May 16—Kiraku Kar meeting: 1 p.m., San Mateo JACL Community Center, 415 Claremont St.; Attorney Julie Hansen of the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County will speak on the energy crisis; the public is welcome. Info: 650/343-2793

inio: osu/343-2793 Wed., May 30—Dress rehearsal performance of La Traviata by the San Francisco Opera Guild; bus departs at noon from Buddhist Temple. Tickets: San Mateo JACL Community Center, 650/243-2793

SANTA CRUZ-WATSONVILLE

SANIA CRUZ-WATSONVILLE
Thurs, May 17—Fairfield Area senior.
trip; Jelly Belly Factory tour, AnheuserBusch Fairfield Brewery tour, Lunch ajTodai (Restaurant in San Jose, Info:
Carmel Kamigawachi, 722-1930, or Carmel Kamigawachi, 73 Shig T. Kizuka, 728-2693.

Central California

Sun., May 20—JACL CCDC scholar-ship lunctieon; 12 noon, Sunnyside Country Club.

Southern California

CAMARILLO/OXNARD
Sat., May 12—Cleanup at the Japanese Cemetery; 8:30-12 nepn; coffee and dougnuts provided by the Ventura County JACL.

County IACL
Sat.-Sun, May 19-20—2001 Strawberry Festival; next to Oxnard College.
GARDENA
Fri., May 11—Greater L.A. Singles
chapter JACJ, meeting/program, "Look
at Yoursell 84 Looking for a Significant
Other"; 8 p.m.; Gardena Valley



PHOTO: VISU The hit Thai film, "The Iron Ladies (Satree Lex) from director Yongyooth Thongkonthum, will spike its way into Los Angeles at this year's VC Film Fest 2001

YWCA, 1341 W. Gardena Blvd.; speaker Debbie Wong, former mar-riage, family and child counseling in-tern; public is invited. Info: Louise oto, 310/327-3169

Sakamoto, 310/32/-3109. LOS ANGELES Sun., May 6—"East Meets West Jamlest 2001"; 12 noon-6 p.m.; Jamfest 2001"; 12 noon-6 p.m.; JACGC Plaza, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; music, food, dance and comedy performances. Tickets, info: 310/289-4464 or www.HotPopTV com/ jamfesttix

com/jamestitx.

Sat., May 12—children's Day Celebration 8 a.m. 4 p.m., JACCC Plaza, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; Chibi-ik Fun Run; San Tai San Basketball Tournament and Skillz Competition, performers and artisans-from Hawaii, booksigning with author Stan Saka, more. Info: 213/628-2725.

Sun, May 13—Mother's Day Hawaiian Style; 11 a.m.4 p.m., JACCC Plaza, 244 S. San Pedro St.; Little Tokyo; cultural activities and foods; complimentary favor for moms.almo: 213/628-2725.

Sun, May 13—The Lim Family in:

213/628-2725.

Sun., May 13—"The Lim Family in Concert,": 4 p.m.; Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; award-winning Hawaiian recording artists. Tickets: 213/680-3700

3700. Sun., May 17-20—"Gila River," à play by Lane Nishikawa; 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday; JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo, Tickets, Info: 213/680-3700

Thurs.-Fri., May 17-25-16th Annu Visual Communications Asian Pacific Film & Video Festival; featuring "Green Dragon," "Farewell to Man-zanar," "American Chai," "Anirio," more. For locations, schedules, call 213/680-4462, Tückets; Japan America Theatre Box Office, 213/680-3700.

Sat., May 19—St. Mary's Episcopal Church Bazaar-Carnival; 961 S. Mariposa Ave. Info: 213/387-1334 Manposa Ave. — 10: 213/36/-1334 Sat, May 19—Video screening panel discussion; "Once Upon A Camp"; English at 1-2:30 p.m.; reception at 2:30 p.m.; Spanish language screening at 3:30 p.m.; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo; presented by Visual Communications Filmfest 2001, Free with museum admission. RSVP

with museum admission. RSVP: 213/625-0414. Sat., May 19—An Afternoon of Nagauta Shamisen Music and Dance; 1:30-2:30 p.m.; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Free with museum admis-sion. RSVP: 213/625-0414.

sion. RSVP: 213/625-0414; Fri., May 25—Exhibit. Opening. C.O.L.A. (City of Los Angeles). 2001 Exhibition; Skirball Cultural. Center, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd.; includes in-stallations by Bruce Yonemotic: "La Vie Secrete-Moi" and "La Vie Secrete-After Magritte"; exhibit runs through July 15. Info: 310/440-4500.

Inio: 310/440-4500, Fri., Aug. 3—"Salute 2001," All Nikkei Veterans and Family Event; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. *RSVP by July* 10. Info: JANM, 213/625-0414 ext.

2240.
SAN DIEGO
Wed., May 9—Union of Pan Asian
Communities Golf Classic and Reception; 11 a.m. registration and box
lunch, 12:30 shotgun start; Maderas
Golf Club. Info: Joyce Wong, 619/5250113 0013

Coff Club. Info: Joyce Wong, 619/525-0013.

Thurs., May 10—Union of Pan Asian Communities annual gala dinner, 5:30 p.m.; The Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina, Harbor Island; hostess Lee Ann Kirn, KGTV-10 anchor/reporter, speaker Rita Ng, Miss California 2000; black tie or ethnic attire optional. Info: Joyce Wong, 619/525-0013.

Fri.-Sun., June 1-3—Poston Carng. III. 10th reunion: Mission Valley Double-Tree Hotel; Friday night mixer, day trip to Wejas Tribat Casino, city tour, San Drego Zoo, golf tournamers, exhibit of damp memorabilia, Sunday sayonara breakfast buffet, etc. Info: Sen Segawa@ 401.comp.; Arnold Seko, 619/427-711(6, e-mail: <Sanse11@hotmail

.com>; Mich Himaka, 619/660-9865.

SAN LUIS OBISPO
Sat., May 19—8th Annual Wisteria
Festival; 11 a.m.4 p.m.; San Luis
Obispo Buddhist Temple, 6996
Ontario Rd.

TORRANCE

TORRANCE
Thurs., May 10—Public forum with
Calif. Assemblyman George Nakano;
6:30 p.m., Forance Airport Meeting
Room, Zamperini Field Administration
Bldg., 3301 Airport Dr.; Nakarow will
discuss issues that affect the South Bay
Community: hosted by South Bay
chapter JACL.

chapter JACL.

Fri-Sum, Aug. 31-Sept. 2—Ninth
Bjennial National JACL Singles Convention, "Come Together 2001";
Torrance Marriott Hotel; workshops,
seminars, mixer with line dancing, dinner dance, optional trips to Las Vegas,
Little Tolyo, JANM, Certy Center, golf,
bowling. Call hotel for special convention rate: 800/228-9290. Register
before June 30 for early bird discovered. bowling. Cail note for special con-vention rate: 800/228-9290. *Register before June 30 for early bird discount:* Victor Kato, 714/891-6606, <Lbeluga9

Sat., Sept. 22—JACL PSW Awards Dinner; 6 p.m., Torrance Marriott Hotel; 6 p.m. cockalis/silent auction, 7 p.m. dinner; proceeds to support 7 p.m. dinner; proceeds to support PSWD-JACL youth programming community leaders will be honored; all are welcome. Ticket prices, dona-tions, hotel information, etc.: 213/626-

LIPLAND

UPLAND Sat., May 12—West Covina Buddhist Temple 5th annual golf classic; 12:30 p.m., Upland Hills Country Club. Info: Glenn, 626/915-5388, or Ray, 909/ 595-6718.

Arizona - Nevada

GILA RIVER

GILA RIVER
Mon., May 21—Arizona chapter JACL
cleanup detail at former Gila River
Relocation Center, Butte Camp #2; 9 a.m. 4 p.m. Persons interested must call Mas Inoshita, 623/937-8890, or Joe Allman, 602/942-2832. LAS VEGAS

Sat., May 12—Asian Pacific American Culture Fair; 10 a.m.4 p.m.; West Sahara Library, 9600 W. Sahara Ave.;

food, crafts, etc.

Fri.-Sat., May 18-19—International
Food and Folk Life Festival of Southern

Food and Folk Life Festival of Southern Nevada; 7 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. 7 p.m. Saturday, 10 volunteer for JACL tood booth, call betty Atkins, 221-0414. Sun., JMay 20—Martial arts demonstration; afternoon at Clark County Library. Mon.-Wed., Sept. 24-26—Manzanar High School Reunion; Fremont Hotel; entertainment, dancing, slot machine tournament; banquet to be dedicated to the late Shiro Nomura. Info: Kazu to the laté Shiro Nomura, Info: Kazu Nagai, 212/380-2611. PHOENIX

PHOENIX
Sun, May 20—Arizona chapter JACI.
Millenium Picnic; Amphitheatre Island
at Encanto Park, 15th Ave. and:
Encanto Blvd.; fishing derby 8-11 a.m.
(free poles and bait, no Jicense required, lots, of prizes); free food

(free poles and services); free food 11a.m.-1 p.m.; games, jumping house, etc. Info: Gene fanite, 628/572.0503, or Charlie Tadano, 602/942.4644.
Wed, June 6—Asian Pacific Night at Bank One Ballpark; 7:05 p.m. game time; Diamondbacks vs. LA. Dodgers; JACI. Taiko will perform on the field belone the game. Info: Madeline Ong. 100.000. 8452 home

RENO
Suin, May 20—Reno chapter JACL
Potluck and belated Easter Egg Hunt;
12 noon; Knights of Pythias Hall, 980
Nevada St.; mons will also be honored; Info: Cynthia Lu Yamamoto,
827-6385, or Linda Okada, 7477074.

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.

Commission Faces Uncertainty as it Urges Bush to Meet Needs of APIs



PHOTO: TRACY UBA

Stewart Kwoh, executive director of APALC, holds up the commission's report detailing the needs of APIs.

By TRACY UBA

With Census 2000 numbers showing Asian Pacific Islanders as the fastest growing minority poputhe fastest growing minority population in the United States, the unmet needs of this diverse community have never been so apparent.
That's why members of the Pres

ident's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Is-landers gathered in Los Angeles on April 18 with community leaders to urge President Bush to ensure that APIs nationwide have access to federal health-care resources and

sted by the Asian Pacific Poli-Hosted by the Asian Pacific Poli-cy & Planning Council (A3PCON), a federation of over 40 health and human service agencies in South-ern California, the event allowed the commission to highlight its in-terim report on APIs, "A People Looking Forward."
"The report addresses many" of the issues that we are so concerned about in the Asian Pacific Ameri-can community, and it does so from

mmunity, and it does so from

a national and a federal perspective," said Stewart Kwoh, executive director of the Asian Pacific Amer Legal "We Center. are usually very much at

work at a lo-cal and re-gional, somestatewide, level, but rarely rian Pa-

ity at a na tional level been pulled into a major initiative to get some major is-sues addressed."

Among those issues, according to

Kwoh, are immigrant rights, hate crimes, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, gay and lesbian rights and Pacific Islander concerns.

. The report also contains formal recommendations to the president on how to address these issues, inon now to address these issues, in-cluding boosting API participation in federal programs, fostering re-search and data collection on API populations, and increasing public and private sector community in

Approximately two million APIs lack health insurance today, while 40 percent of APIs are limited Eng-40 percent of APIs are immted Eng-lish speakers and 35 percent live in linguistically isolated homes, said A3PCON executive committee member Miya Iwataki, who noted the report's call for more culturally sensitive language and interpreta

But even as the commis tempts to bring more awareness to communities, it is facing two big hurdles: lack of an executive director and uncertainty over Büsh's

first formed in June 1999 under sident Clinton's Executive Or 13125. The commissioners, al er 13125. The com Democrats, come from various fields including health, education, economic and community develop-ment, civil rights and business.

With a new Republican adminis-tration, however, some fear Bush may eventually dismantle or remay eventually dismantle or re-place the current commission be-fore the recommendations in their report are even addressed. "At this point, we have not heard from the [Bush] administration

num the [Bush] administration that we are not going to be able to continue our work, and so for all in-tents and purposes we assume that the commissions stays intact, asid-commissioner Tessie Guillermo.

"We haven't met with the cur-rent Cabinet, but I don't think it's ething that anyone should take a) pessimistic [sign]," said com-sioner Jacinta Titialii Abbott. The new administration is young There's a lot that they have to do in terms of appointments and focus-ing on key issues that affect all Americans, not just Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. All of ions that have been es

the commissions that have been established by executive order (Hispanic, Native American, African American) are in the same kind of limbo that we are.

"The positive aspect is that we still have our staff in place," Abbott said. "We're short an executive director, which is key to keep the momentum that we have in place going, and so that is of concern to us." But even with these concerns, commissioner Jonathan Leong stressed that its really up to the community to begin implementing

community to begin implementing these recommendations and find-

these recommensuous and ma-ing sources of funding.

"Our commitment to this is not time-limited," added Guillermo. "So whether it's officially or non-official-ly, we do still continue to see our-selves as members of the commis-sion. Our job is to promote the resion. Our job is to promote the re-port, work towards the implemen-tation of the recommendations and work in partnership with all [the different community groups]."

Congressional **Fellow Program** Seeks Applicants

The Mike M. Masaoka Fellow ship Fund has announced requests for applicants for its 10th Annual Congressional Fellow program. The selected fellow will serve in the office of a U.S. senator or member of the U.S. House of Representa-tives. The deadline for applications

tives. The deadline for applications is June 1.

The three-and-a-half month fellowship includes a stipend of \$7,500, and roundtrip airfare is provided to Washington, D.C. The term served will be the fall (September through December 2001) or the spring (February through May 2002). The choice of fall or spring even will be arranged with the conterm will be arranged with the con gressional office and the awardee. Candidates must be American

candidates must be American citizens who are in at least their third year of college or in graduate or professional programs. Prefer-ence will be given to those with a demonstrated commitment to Asian American issues, particular-ly these effecting the Jananeses Asian American issues, particular-ly those affecting the Japanese American community

merican community. The most recent Mike M. Mas The most recent Mike M. Massaka Fellows were Nicole Akemi Inouye of Huntington Beach, Calir,
who served in the office of Rep. Patsy T. Mink, D-Hawaii, and David
M. Namura of Arvada, Colo, who
worked in the office of Sen. Daniel
K. Inouye, D-Hawaii.
Interested candidates should call
National JACL Headquarters at
415921-5225 for application forms,
or e-mail jack@idlorg. Information
is also available at the JACL website: www.jacl.org/massaoka.html.

Group Protests Actions of Japanese Government

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA

A multicultural group of more than 200 people rallied outside the Japanese Consul General's office in Los Angeles on April 17 to prote the recent approval of newly re-vised textbooks for Japanese public school students and a March court ruling denying compensation to women forced into sexual slavery by Japanese Imperial troops beby Japanese Im tween 1910-1945.

A petition signed by 130 organi-zations and a letter addressed to the Japanese government was de-livered to the Japanese Consulate

yen (approx. \$2,440). Although Japan has supported the establishment of a private fund (the Asian Women's Fund) to compensate former sex slaves Chikashita's ruling was the first re-

Chikashita's ruling was the first requiring the government of Japan to take responsibility.

In referring to the high court's reversal of Chikashita's ruling, Haena Cho, with the Young Koreans United of Los Angeles, said. "The recent court decision is a brutal slap in the face to the 'comfort' women." The Japanese govern. women.' The Japanese govern-ment's continuing refusal to re-dress these women for what they have suffered during World War II



Bong Keon Kim, president of the Korean Association of Korean War Veterans in U.S.A., leads the crowds in demanding an apology from Japan.

General's office by representatives

from five organizations.

Among those showing their support was Martha Matsuoka with the Okinawa Peace Network of LA. Matsuoka said the Okinawan LA' Matsuoka said the Okanawan people were also impacted by the recent textbook revisions since ref-erences to the Japanese Imperial Army's role in killing or forcing hundreds of Okinawans to commit suicide during the Battle of Oki-nawa at the tail end of World War

If were shortened. An estimated 22 percent of Okinawa's civilian population perished during that time.

"The recent textbook controversy shows that the Japanese government is increasingly favoring nationalist and pro-military interests who ignore, distort and revise important to the control of the control portant histories of women, chil-dren and victims of militarism who continue to live the daily legacy of World War II," said Matsuoka.

Matsucka also decried Japan's support of keeping 75 percent of the U.S. military facilities on Okinawa. The Okinawan governor has re-peatedly called for a pull-out of U.S. military bases, pointing to crimes such as assaults and rapes committed on civilians by American troops. Studies have also shown that the bases contribute to environmental pollution, birth defects and high rates of cancer.

ourt Ruling On March 29, a Hiroshima High Court overturned a landmark April 1998 ruling made by Judge Hide-aki Chikashita of the Yamaguchi District Court. Chikashita had ruled that the Japanese govern-ment must compensate three South Korean women with 300,000 demonstrates the ongoing nature of their oppression."

Textbook Revision On April 3, Japan's Ministry of On April 3, appare similarly to Education approved eight contro-versial textbooks to be used next year in their public junior high and high school systems. The revised textbooks were based on a draft submitted by the right-wing Atarashii Rekishi Kyokasho wo Tsukurukai (Japanese Society for History Textbook Reform).

According to the coalition made up of the Association for the Vic-tims of Japanese War Crimes, GABRIELA Network of L.A., Okinawa Peace Network of L.A. and Young Koreans United of L.A., the revised textbooks do the following:
• Five of the books eliminate all

references to "comfort women," the euphemistic term coined by the Japanese military to refer to the es-Japanese m

Japanese mintary to refer to the estimated 200,000 women who were forced into sexual slavery.

• All the books make no reference to Unit 731, the infamous army unit that specialized in biological warfare experiments on Chinese citizens

Chinese citizens.

• The books justify the actions of
the Japanese Imperial Army as a
campaign to free Asia from Western intervention and downplay the
atrocities of the 1937 Nanjing Massacre, where an estimated 340,000 were killed in a three-month

 Shortens references to Japan's role in killing and/or forcing Okinawan families to commit suicide during the Battle of Okinawa, which ultimately took the lives of which ultimately took the lives of an estimated 25 percent of the is-land's civilian population.

Survey Reveals Negative Attitudes Toward APAs

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK—A quarter of Americans have strong negative stereotypes of Chinese Americans, and 23 percent would be uncom-fortable voting for an Asian American president, according to a sur-vey sponsored by a Chinese American president,

Thirty-two percent of those surveyed believe Chinese Americans are more loyal to China than to the United States.

United States.

"We found these findings startling," said Henry Tang, chairman of the Committee of 100, which sponsored the survey. "Asian Americans are not the model minority with no issues. The study shows that they face negative stereotyping among a significant

Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, said the survey results in-dicated that prejudice continues to be a part of the American land-

scape."
The study also found some posi-tive attitudes toward Chinese Americans. Of those surveyed, 91 percent said that Chinese Ameri-cans had "strong family values," 77 percent said they have "honesty as businesspeople," and 67 percent said they place a high value on ed-ucation.

ucation.

The survey was conducted March 1-14 by Yankelovich Partners in collaboration with The Martila Communications Group and the ADL using phone interviews with 1,216 Americans age 18 ⁴ and older. The margin of error was 3.1 percentage points. ■

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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National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

☐ Hate Crimes Bill

CHATE Crimes Bill
Passes Texas House
AUSTIN, Texas—The Texas
House of Representatives gave
preliminary approval on April 23
to a bill that enhances penalties
for crimes motivated by hate.
The James Byrd Jr. Hate
Crimes Act, named for the black
man dragged to death behind a
pickup in 1998, strengthens
penalties for crimes motivated by
race. religion, color, disability, sexce, religion, color, disability, sex ual preference, national origin or ancestry. The 87-60 vote came af-ter a two-hour debate.

In the state Senate, however the bill's sponsor, Sen. Rodney El-lis, D-Houston, has been unable to gather support to bring it up for debate. It died in the Senate in 1999 when critics complained it created unnecessary distinctions for homosexuals.

Rep. John Shields, R-San Antonio, who opposed the bill, said he would have voted against it even if it didn't include protections for

if it didn't include protections for gays and lesbians.

Shields said he opposed all crime but feared the legislation threatened free speech and un-necessarily and unfairly protect-ed certain people.

ed certain people.
Ellis said that "the bill would have passed both houses of the Legislature many years ago if we'd been willing to take sexual orientation out of it," but that would send out a signal that "it's open season on a certain group of

people."
The House voted closely along party lines, with all 77 voting Democrats supporting the bill and all but 10 Republicans opposing

☐ Searching for Ancestors Gets Easier With Ellis Island Database

ALT LAKE CITY—On April 17, Ellis Island officials and the ormon church introduced a nev database containing arrival records for the 22 million immigrants who entered the port of New York from 1892 to 1924.

When fully operational, the database, which includes 70 percent of all U.S. arrivals recorded during that period, will be available both to Ellis Island visitors

and on the Internet:

The searchable database includes immigrants' names, their port of origin, age, nationality, hometown and marital status.

Visitors to the new American Family Immigration History Center at Ellis Island can take

home printouts of the information and purchase a copy of the origi-nal immigration records and a photo of the ship that brought their ancestors to the United States. Online visitors will be able to order the records and pho-

tos in about a month.
Until now, Ellis Island informa-tion was only available on micro-film at the National Archives in Washington, or at the Mormon Church's Family History Library

over the past several years, church volunteers have worked with the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation to compile the information from manifests im-migrants filled out on board ship.

Stephen Briganti, president and chief executive of the foundation, said, "There's great interest now in finding one's family history, where they came from, what their life was like, what diseases they might have had. This is cer-tainly going to help that process

☐ Alaska Governor Calls for Hate Crime Legislation

JUNEAU, Alaska—In re-sponse to a January paintball at-tack against at least a dozen Alaska Natives by three white young-sters, Gov. Tony Knowles said he would propose a hate crimes bill and create a commission to com-bat what he called "a dangerous corrosion of Alaska's social fab-

Police confiscated a videotape that was made during the attacks in downtown Anchorage. in downtown Anchorage. I shared with Alaskans across our state the shock, the sadness, the anger we all felt as we witnessed these hate-filled young men as they went hunting for Eskimos."

Knowles said April 16.

The governor created a cabinet-level task force in March to make recommendations on fighting racism. Suggestions included prohibiting the suspension of sen-tences in hate crimes cases; al-lowing yictims to file civil lawsuits; and mandatory minimum

The panel also recommended that the Department of Public Safety incorporate courses on hate crimes and intolerance in statewide police training and that the state encourage schools to adopt guidelines to protect stu-dents from harassment-and hate

crimes.
With less than three weeks left in the legislative session Knowles acknowledged the bill would probably not get very far this year, but he said he thinks it will

☐ Monterey Park: Ground Zero in U.S. Asian Growth Boom MONTEREY PARK, Calif.

Known at the beginning of the 1970s as an aging but respectable postwar suburb, Monterey Park provided an affordable bedroom ommunity lifestyle to thousands of working-class families, almost all of them white or Hispanic.

Thirty years later, it is a bustling regional business and banking center of 60,000 residents; 61 percent of them Asian.

It's nickname, "The Chinese

Beverly Hills," may have done more than anything else to turn Monterey Park into America's Asian-majority city in the

Frederic Hsieh, known as the father of modern-day Monterey Park, was a promotion-minded young real estate agent from young real estate agent from Hong Kong when he approached the Chamber of Commerce in the 1970s and suggested that thou-sands of highly educated, upward-ly mobile Chinese were poised to move there if the place were mar-

keted properly.

He translated the city's name He translated the city's name into the Chinese equivalent of Lush Green Valley and played up the city's area code, 818—a lucky number in Chinese—and declared Monterey Park "Asian friendly," noting that 15 percent of the city's possible to the city's provide from the cit the city's population was arready Asian in 1970, although most-of those residents were Japanese Americans.

Today, it is said, "Everybody in Taiwan has heard of Monterey

Not everyone in the city was happy about the rapid change. At one point the City Council passed a non-binding resolution declaring English as the official language, and there were battles over whether to allow Asian books in the library or even Asian letters on the storefronts of Asian-owned businesses. But the Asians kept coming and the whites and Hispanics who stayed began to adapt.

APA Elected Officials to Attend Leadership Academy May 10-12

The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center have selected 13 outstanding elected officials to participate in the third annual leadership academy for Asian Pacific American elected

The leadership academy, a nonpartisan training program, will be held in Washington, D.C.,

on May 10-12.
The APA elected officials will attend sessions on staff and con-sultant selection and management, fund-raising, public speak-ing, media relations, online campaigning, and interview tech

Speakers at the leadership Speakers at the leadership academy will include Norman Y. Mineta, Secretary of Transportation; Sen Daniel K. Inouye, D. Hawaii; Kep. Patsy Mink, D. Hawaii; Delegate Robert A. Underwood, D. Guam; and former călifornia Treasurer Matt Fong.

APAICS Chairman William H. "Mo" Marumoto said, "According to the 2000 Consuis there are at

to the 2000 Census, there are at least 3.5 million more Asian Pacific Americans now than there were in 1990, an increase of nearly 50 percent. We want to see our population growth reflected in political representation. At the leadership academy, we will develop the 'rising stars' among our elected officials by providing them with the skills they need to become more effective leaders and to run successful campaigns for higher office." Among the leadership acade-

Among the leadership academy participants are Democrats and Republicans of Filipino, Japanese, Vietnamese, Chinese, Indian, Korean, and Pacific Islander descent, from Massachuster (Chinese Chinese). setts, Wisconsin, Colorado, Texas, California, Washington

and Hawaii.

The leadership academy participants are: Christopher Cabaldon (D), councilmember, City of West Sacramento, Calif.: Colleen Hanabusa (D), vice president, Hawaii Senate; Daniel Lam (D), selectman, Town of Randolph, Mass.; Tony Lam (R), councilmember, City of Westminster, Calif; Neng Lee (D), councilmember, City of Eau Claire, Wis.; Stan Matsunaka (D), president, Colorado Senate; Donna Mercado Kim (D) member, Hawaii Senate; Alan Nakanishi (R), mayor, City of Lodi, Calif., Gordon Quan, (D), councilmem-ber, City of Houston, Texas, Scott ber, City of Houston, Texas; Scott Saiki (D), member, Hawaii House of Representatives; Vini Samuel (D), councilmember, City of Mon-tesano, Wash.; Van Tran (R), vice mayor, City of Garden Grove, Calif.; Velma Veloria (D), member, Washington House of Representatives.

"We are pleased to be bringing such a diverse group of elected of-ficials to Washington," said proheials to Washington," said pro-fessor Don T. Nakanishi, director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. "They will have an unparalleled opportunity to learn from each other as well as from the faculty of the leadership academy

Patrick Gaston, executive director of strategic alliances at Verizon, said that Verizon is Verizon, said that Verizon is proud to sponsor the leadership academy for the third straight year. "We are committed to suporting an expanded role for Asian Pacific Americans in public. office, policy making, and the po-litical process," he said.

Daphne Kwok, APAICS execu-tive director, said, "APAICS is extremely fortunate to have the continued support of Verizon as our corporate partner, enabling APAICS to meet the tremendous needs of our community

APAICS is a nonprofit, nonpar tisan educational organization dedicated to increasing the par-ticipation of APAs in the political process and the formation of pub-lic policy. The seventh annual APAICS gala dinner, with Secre-tary Mineta as a featured speakwill be held in Washington D.C., on May 10. A political edu-cation conference will beheld on May 11. For information, call 202/296-9200 or see the APAICS website at www.apaics.org.

Poston on Arizona's Most **Endangered Properties List**

The Poston auditorium in La Paz County, Ariz., was one of 11 sites named by the Arizona Preservation Foundation (APF) in their "Most Endangered Property List 2001.

Every year, APF releases a list prioritizing Arizona's most ur-gent prehistoric and historic preservation sites in critical condition or in jeopardy of destruc-

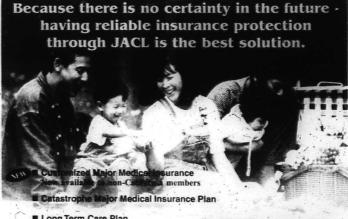
The list includes archaeological sites, historic landscapes, as well as architectural structures and buildings. Nominated properties are evaluated according to crite-ria that consider the individual importance or historical significance, the specific threats to its existence and the feasibility for sérvation.

The Poston auditorium is an adobe brick structure built in 1943 by some of the 17,814 people of Japanese descent interned at the Poston War Relocation Authority camp during World War II. Since the building, which was rt of an elementary school, sits

on Colorado River Indian Tribal land, it is protected from develop-ment threats, but weathering, lack of maintenance and vandal-ism have left gaping holes in the

walls, making it susceptible to further deterioration. The other 10 sites on the list in-clude: Harrison G. Yocam home Yuma/Southern Pacific Railroad ettling tanks and sand mounds; Grande Archaeological Phoenix Union High School; Montgomery-homestead; Grace Court School; Phoenix Seed and Feed; Pennington house; Williams Grammar School; and the Gold Spot Mar-

ket.
The APF is the state's only non profit statewide historic preservation organization. The private group is dedicated to preserving Arizona's historical, archeological and cultural resources through education and public outreach programs and rehabilitation pro-



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Spokane Chapter Hosts Annual Nikkei Appreciation

The Spokane chapter recently held its annual Nikkei Appreci-ation Luncheon at Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute with approximately 150 attendees. The event was headlined by speakers Floyd Mori, national JACL president; Harry Honda, editor Pacific Citizen; and emeritus, Pacific Citizen; and Cherry Tsutsumida, executive director of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation

Dean Lynch, Spokane city council member, delivered greetings from the city of Spokane. Additional greetings were offered by the Hon. Yoshiharu Araki, senior consul from the Consul General's Office of Japan; Dr. Hiroshi Takaoka, executive vice president of Muko-gawa Fort Wright Institute; and Karen Yoshitomi, JACU P. aren Yoshitomi, JACL Pacific

Northwest regional director. Silver Pins were awarded to Susie Uyeno and Sue Shimizu for their outstanding contributions to the community over the years. The Spokane Taiko Drummers provided entertain-

Denny Yasuhara, past JACL national president, and member of the Spokane chapter, presented Cherry Tsutsumida \$7,500 check for the National JA Memorial Foundation. This was the second half of the chapter's \$15,000 pledge.

Arizona Chapter Sponsors Trip to Laughlin, Nev.

Thirty-one members of the Arizona chapter-sponsored Cho-jukai made their annual bus trip to Laughlin, Nev., on April 19-20, staying overnight at the Colorado Belle Hotel Casino. The fun-filled trip was arranged by Sadayoshi Sasaki, Chojukai president, assisted by Toshiko Chavers, Gladys Sallas, Uta Eto and Kaye Minato.

Talking Books' Topic at Arizona Japanese Senior

The April monthly meeting and luncheon of the Japanese Senior Center hosted guest speakers from the Talking Book Library. Jill Bartlett spoke on "talking books" and Angela Ac-



(L-r) Dean Nakagawa; Cherry Tsutsumida, accepting a check from the Spokane chapter JACL to the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation from Denny Yasuhara; Floyd Mori.

erno spoke on "news via tele The event included birthday celebrations, a white elephant sale and cash bingo. Mary Tadano was chairperson, Marian Matsumoto vice chair, Barbara Ishida secretary and Helen Y. Tanita treasurer. The Arizona chapter operates the Japanese Senior Center jointly with the Area Agency on Aging-Region One and the YWCA of Glendale.

Gila River Cleanup Planned by Arizona JACL

Cleanup detail is planned by the Arizona JACL at the former Japanese American Gila River Relocation Center for May 21 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The cleanup will be primarily at the Butte Camp #2 site, which is visited by many and trashed by some.

The camps are within reservation lands of the Gila River Indian Community. Annual right-of-entry permits are obtained by the Arizona chapter to provide maintenance for the wo sites, and the Land Use Officer must be notified of names of all participants, and all vehi-cles involved, 24 hours in advance of the planned trip.

Persons interested in participating should contact either Inoshita at 623/937-8890 or Joe Allman at 602/942-2832.

Merced, Calif.-based NSRCF Awards 34 Scholarships

The Nisei Relocation Com-memorative Fund, Inc. (NSR-CF) will hold an awards cere-

mony from 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 20, at the Golden Valley High School theater to recognize this year's 34 scholarship recipients.

This year marks the first time that NSRCF will present special scholarships named in honor of a particular person or per-sons. The scholarships are named after the following peo-ple: Nobu Kumekawa Hibino Scholarship (established by family and friends of Hibino); the Koh, Mitsu and Dr. Kotaro Murai Scholarship (established, by the Murai family); the Naka ndowment Scholarship (established by Dr. Fumio Robert Naka), the Lafayette and Mayme Noda Scholarship (established by Walter N. Frank); the Gladys Ishida Stone Schol-arship (established by Stone); the Kay Yamashita Scholarship (established by Yutaka Kobayashi).

The NSRCF was established in 1980 by thankful Nisei as on gaeshi (to return a favor) to those who helped them during World War II.

The NSRCF awarded their first grant to the American Friends Service Committee for

assisting Nisei students relocate during WWII. In 1983, NSRCF gave out their first scholarships to high school seniors in the San Fran-

cisco area. Since then, NSRCF has awarded annual scholarships to students and communities throughout the United States, and NSRCF national board members come from as far away as Connecticut and Portland.

South Bay JACL to Host Forum With California Assemblyman George Nakano

The South Bay chapter of JACL rill host a community forum feawill host a communit turing California Ass ber George Nakano on mblymem ber George Nakano on May 10. The forum will begin at 6:30 p.m., at the Torrance Airport Meeting Room, 3301 Airport Drive, in Torrance.

Nakano represents the 53rd As sembly District encompassing the nther southern coastal region of Los Angeles County, stretching from Venice, Westchester, Marina del Rey, Playa del Rey and the Beach Cities, into Torrance, Lomita and the northern tip of Palos Verdes Estates. He will discuss issues that tates. He will discuss issues that affect the communities he repre-sents—especially how the electric-ity crisis and recent energy rate hikes will affect business and resi-dents, the reapportionment of the assembly districts, the creation of the Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, as well as other topics

that are of interest to the local Asian American community. Nakano will also address constituent questions and concerns.

The community forum is co-sponsored by the South Bay chap-ter, JACL, Greater Los Angeles Singles chapter, JACL, Nikkei Innational Ass sociation; Asian Pacific American Democratic JACL; Gardena Valley Shapter, JACL, Carson chapter, JACL, and the Ko-rean American Coalition.

The Torrance Airport Meeting Room is located in the Torrance Zamperini Field Administra ing, at the intersection of Airport Drive and Aero Way. The near-est cross street is Pacific Coast Highway between Hawthorne and Crenshaw boulevards. For infor-mation, call Diane Tanaka at mation, call Diane Tana 213/489-8251 (day) or tanakad@fleishman.com. e-mail:

Educational CD-ROM Available to California JACL Chapters

An educational CD-ROM made An educational CD-ROM made possible through a grant from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) is now available to JACL chapters in

The purpose of the CD is to provide teachers, school administra-tors and school board member with information about the JACL Curriculum and Resource Guide, "A Lesson in American History The Japanese American Experi-ence." The CD will help to promote the guide, assist in the develop-ment of teacher training work-shops, and encourage teachers to incorporate the material in their classrroom work

classroom work.

The CD was produced by Dianne
Fukami and includes a presenta-

tion by Jan Matsuoka, who provides a brief background about the need to incorporate the Japanese American experience in the classroom. It contains portions of the current guide; photos and footage from other sources are used to highlight the guide material.

Because the CD was produced with CCLPEP funds, the primary focus for its distribution is in Calitecus for its distribution is in Can-fornia. Therefore, a supply of the CDs is being distributed by nation-al JACL to the regional staff of the three California districts, NCWNP, CC and PSW.

The CD, along with computer re-quirements and instructions, can be obtained from the district Na-tional Education Committee repre-

JACL National Youth/Student Conference to be Held July 13-15 in Seattle

The JACL National Youth/Student Council (NY/SC) recently announced that they will be holding a youth conference this summer at Seattle University, July 13-15.

Seattle University, July 13-15.
The conference will include workshops dealing with such topics as: talko, Hapa issues, API Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender is sues, AIDS and HIV in the APA sues, ALIX and HIV in the APA community, college organizations and the importance of graduate school, generation gaps, APAs in entertainment, and women's histo-ry, among others.

ry, among others.

Participants will also hear various keynote speakers, network with other young JAs, and attend an "Off Tha Hook" party Saturday

night.

The NY/SC is a governing body within the JACL. The NY/SC de-

velops programs encouraging youth and students to actively serve the community. The council has adopted a program for action to reach their goals. These include re-cruiting youth and student memcruiting youth and student mem-bers into JACL, creating programs to meet the needs of these mem-bers, and fostering leadership development and preparing members to assume leadership roles in the JACL and the community.

For registration forms or more ror registration forms or more information, contact: Gerald Kato, 213/626-4471, <youth@jacipsw. org>, Matthew Nakata, 206/720-3049, <Nakata_Ma@hotmail .com>, or Amy Matsumoto, 301/460-5584, <amatsu@hotmail

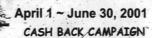
.com>.
The conference website is:



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Tell your friends about TV JAPAN. You can receive \$30 for each-referral! During the campaign period, tell your friends to subscribe to TV JAPAN. Refer as may people as you'd like and you will receive \$30.00 for every referral that becomes a TV JAPAN subscriber. In order to participate in this campaign, you must be a current TV JAPAN subscriber.

TV JAPAN INFORMATION CENTER: 1-877-TVJAPAN 100 BROADWAY 15th FL. NEW YORK, NY 10005 FAX:212-262-2083 W

National JACL Singles Convention to be held Aug. 31-Sept. 2

Convention will be held Labor Day Weekend, Aug. 31-Sept. 2, at the Torrance Marriott Hotel in Tore. Calif., 310/316-3636 Activities will include a Friday

night mixer with line darcing, a computer matching game and karaoke. Workshops, a luncheon and panel presentations will take place on Saturday, with a dinner dance and a live band in the executor, a complex penel discussion.

dance and a live band in the evening, a couples panel discussion will follow brunch on Sunday.

Workshop/panel topics will include: "You and Your Message: Communicating in the Workplace" with Sol Gordon, producer, director, writer, "Before You Say '1 Do, "Know What You're Getting Into" with Robert M. Kawahara, family practice attorney, "Hot Feng Shui Tips for Love and Romance" with Angi Ma Wong, and a bonus seminar in investment strategies. Optional activities include golf, bowling, a raffle, trips to the Getty Center, Las Vegas and Little Tokyo.

Early bird convention packages are available for \$150 before June: 30. Info: call \$310/559-4024, e-mail singlesconvention@yahoo.com.

Honda Keynoter at Calif. Tri-District; Addresses Controversial Issues

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA

Although tri-district keynote speaker U.S. Congressman Mike Honda focused his speech on the importance of maintaining JACL membership, he did not shy away from discussing more heated sub-jects, such as a controversial bill

that he recently co-authored. Saying that JACL is a great saying that JACL is a great training ground for those interest-ed in entering politics, Honda en-couraged would-be politicians to participate in the organization. But aside from learning parliaaside from learning parliamentary procedures, the n in to be involved in JACL today is to help combat the nation al rise in hate messages/crimes, particularly on the Internet, said Honda.

There is no other time than to day ... to be a part of JACL," said Honda. "We're not only going to the national level, but because of technology, our issues are becom-ing global. Make no mistake about it information and reactions are going to be instantaneous because of technology...What happens in China, Taiwan, Latin America, the Middle East — we're going to have to stay on top of it and be prepared

to give a response, so this is why I think JACL is going to be critical."
To help combat hate crimes in all mediums, Honda stressed the im-

meanins, rional stressed the im-portance of speaking up.
"If people don't hear from Japan-ese Americans, they'll think /ts's okay to commit hate crimes," said Honda. "We have to learn to speak

one immediate proactive measure that the JACL could do to combat potential hate crimes in light of the upcoming opening of the movie, "Pearl Harbor," is to start an education campaign, said Honda

"The anxiety is rising again," said Honda. "I hope you are vigi-lant and making sure that the communities are well informed communities are well informed about who we are and what our roles are... Now, if you're not wor-ried about the movie, if you're not concerned about it and you have not a grain or thread of anxiety in you over this, you ought to revisit the experiences we had as a coun-try. The residue is still here, the poison is still here. It's been passed on from generation to generation by misinformation."

Honda shared about how his

JACL chapter held a press conference prior to Dec. 7 in 1991, the

year marking the 50th anniver-sary of the bombing of Pearl Har-bor, to help ease tensions. He rec-ommended similar action before ning of the movie later this

Honda also suggested contacting educators when an emotional aud ence member stood up and shared an experience her 17-year-old son had in a movie theater after view ing a preview to "Pearl Harbor. The woman said her son came home scared after hearing hateful comments about "those Japs" from movie-goers sitting behind him.

"As parents, it may not be a bad idea to go to your county office of education or superintendent meeting or school board meeting, and say to them something like, We ing or school board meeting, and say to them something like, We have concerns about a movie com-ing out. We don't know what the movie is going to look like but that's not the issue. The issue is the kinds of comments coming from the kids and how this affects our kids and how it frightens me. It frightens me because based upon other hate crimes in other schools. we don't want to see that happen again," said Honda.

In discussing Honda's controver-sial proposed bill titled, "Justice for American World War II POWs Act

of 2001," Honda said the bill do not name Japan in an effort to prevent backlash against JAs.
"In the bill, we talk about the

target, and it's not Japan, the

target, and it's not Japan, the Japanese government or the Japanese people," said Honda. "This is about the people getting their day in court."

If passed, the bill would allow former American military prisoners of war to sue companies in U.S. state or federal court for losses or injuries sustained during the time they were imprisoned and forced to perform slave labor. erform slave labor. Honda said he also discuss

need to be sensitive to the Asian American community with the bill's co-author Rep. Dana Rohra-

bacher, R-Huntington Beach.
"My co-author Dana Rohrabacher is known to be pretty outspoken about Asians, and I told him that this is not about bashing Asians or Asian Americans or the Japanese government or the Japanese peo-" said Honda. "He understa this so I believe he'll be a good part-ner in this. He'll be outspoken in making sure that people are not anti-Asian."

Reactions from his fellow elected officials have been positive, said

"Everything we do in our com-

"We've had good reactions," said Honda. "In fact, we had something like 29 Republicans sign onto the bill. Plus, the leadership on both sides of the party have signed on as well. We've also gotten good sup-port from the Veterans of Foreign War and the veterans office." As for reaction from the JA com-munity, Honda said he has not re-

eived any directly.

"I haven't heard any reaction yet," said Honda "But is according to the said Honda "But is according to the said Honda". yet," said Honda. "But it may be mixed because I think there may be a lot of concern about backlash."

In a separate move, the fresh-man congressman also signed on to H.R. 619, the redress bill authored by Rep. Xavier Becerra..
"I think what happened to the

Japanese Latin Americans needs to be addressed, said Honda. "The process of a bill moving through Congress is a process where you have debate and discussion, and therefore, an airing of the issues, which it needs more of And like our reparations, at the final end, it produces a much more educated public, and I believe this will also create a higher level of under-standing of what happened and also a higher level of expectation of what we do as a government in times of stress and war."

MEMBERSHIP

(Continued from page 1)

shop session with a plenary se focused on membership to empha-size the importance of increasing membership for JACL's future.

"We wanted to talk about membership and come up with ideas so you can take them back to your chapters," said Teruya. "In a way, we're talking to the choir because all of you obviously are interested in JACL to come to this tri-district.

Well, as a choir, I want you all to go back and sing to your chapters." The plenary session was led by Edwin Endow, Stockton JACL member, Gary Mayeda, national vice president of membership; and Alan Thruya Law Kiship. JACL vice president of membership, and Alan Teruya. Lucy Kishiue, JACL's new interim membership coordina-

tor, was also introduced.

Mayeda discussed membership recruitment from a national level, while Teruya focused on the dis-trict level and Endow from a chapter perspective

National Level

According to Mayeda, since 1966 (the year JACL began tracking membership) to the present, membership peaked around 1977 with close to 32,000 members. He attrib-uted this increase to JACL's in-volvement in the redress move-ment. But since that time, the numbers have been declining at a steady rate of about 350 members

per year with a current total of about 21,000, according to Mayeda. Demographically, a large part of JACL's current membership — close to 6,000 JACLers — are aged 75 or older

To recruit more members at the national level, Mayeda recently formed a national membership committee, consisting of a repre-sentative from each district. From this, Mayeda hopes each district will form their own membership committees that can coordinate lo-cal membership drives tailored to

each chapter.
"The goals and focus of the national membership committee is to really reinvigorate membership is reatiy reinvigorate membership is-sues, organized through national, but carried on with more personal contacts on a district level," said Mayeda. "And it is my vision that the districts would hold workshops on a district level to help out the charters in membership." chapters in membership

cnapters in membership.

Mayeda's goal is to increase
JACL's membership by 2,000 people by the 2002 national convention. He said increasing membership was critical due to some of the
following factors:

* key advantage when conditions and the control of t

· key advantage when applying

key advantage when applying for grants;
 membership dues fund about 1/3 of national's operations budget;
 larger pool of donors, contacts and volunteers; and more influence on public policy.
 To get people interested in

JACL, Mayeda encouraged JA-CLers to focus on the benefits provided by the organization such as the scholarship program, the JACL credit union, health benefits and a

abscription to the Pacific Citizen. He also emphasized JACL's re cent activities such as helping to get the former Minidoka War Relo-cation Authority camp site named as a national monument, and protesting the various racist inci-dents that have occurred following the sinking of the Ehime Maru and the collision between a U.S. spy

was up to the chapters to let their districts know what their needs are. "It is incumbent upon all the chapters to let the districts know what we can be doing to help you, to let us know where to focus our energies and to do the things that are most helpful to you, said

To facilitate the recruitment process, Teruya pointed to two re-sources at the district level; the regional offices and membership

mmittees.
As for what roles the districts



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

through district newsletters, e

Grace Kimoto (third from left) encourages the young JACL members (I-r) Tiffany and Megan Ikeda and Marcia Chung.

plane and a Chinese fighter jet.
"JACL has had hundreds of accomplishments in every single
decade it's been in existence," said decade its been in existence, said Mayeda. "We need to focus on that. Start making a list of things that you've done that you could be proud of, that you could say I'm proud to be a JACL member and these are the things we've accomplished." And take that back to your

community events."

To streamline the membership renewal process, Mayeda encour-

renewal process, Mayeda encouraged chapters to follow the centralized procedure set up by national. When chapters create their own procedures, renewals may be delayed, he said.

To assist chapter membership chairs, Mayeda noted that membership handbooks are available. An electronic version is also being prepared so that it can be e-mailed. Brochures are also available but he encouraged each chapter to create one tailored to the needs of their local residents.

District Level
Teruya noted that since JACL is a chapter-based organization, the districts must support chapters in recruiting members.
"No one enters JACL as a member of a district or from patient!"

said Teruya. "They start in at the chapter level so the district's job should be to help the chapters get the people in."

At the same time, Teruya said it

munities.

• Look at changing demographics to find possible communities to start new chapters.

To be more visible in the communities. nity, Teruya encouraged districts/to create brochures highlighting their accomplishments, involve JACL in local events and sponsor regio

munity makes us more visible," said Teruya. "It makes people more interested in us and makes them want to join and stay a member."

Chapter Level

Endow emphasized the importance of chapter involvement and cautioned against an "us vs. them" mentality between national and the chapters. He compared the JACL to a tree where the chapters were the roots.
"If you don't have good roots,

"If you don't have good roots, that tree is not going to stay green long," said Endow. "So we have to remember to keep those roots strong and that means all of us."

He encouraged chapters to take advantage of the benefits and tools available through the districts and from the national office.

Endow also noted that recruiters

had to be more aggressive in publi-cizing the contributions of JACL as well as be prepared to "politely an-swer the tough questions," and to not be afraid of rejection.

On the question of where to seek potential members, Endow sug-gested starting close to home with

NAME: ADDRESS:

CITY:

family members. He drove home his point when he asked how many attendees had their entire family in JACL. Very few hands went up. "If everybody asked their broth-

ers, sisters, moms and dads or sons and daughters, we would have 40,000 people right now," he said. "We don't even ask our own family."

Other ways to find potential ne-cruits included approaching friends and acquaintances; professional/business contacts;

other Nikkei organizations (with

their permission);
• phone book; and

through events (i.e., pass around a sign-up sheet to gather names). Other suggested tools to help at-

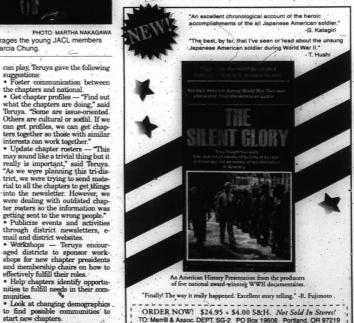
tract members included:

being visible at events; offering gift memberships

 invitation to join through newsletters and the Pacific Citiz with member benefits listed; and through

pass out membership brochures

• pass out membership brochures at every activity. The bottom line, Endow said, was to get involved. "Do some-thing," he said. "Have a plan and do it. There's no set way. Even if it's a simple plan, just do it."



STATE.

7IP

FORUM

(Continued from page 1)

(Continued from page 1)
erans and which are not.
Mort: In general we had a 15 to
16 percent loss in membership this
past year although we had originally projected an 8 percent decrease. In terms of the veterans, we
have been open to holding dialogices and, have met with those
who have concerns about the resisters resolution. "As a board we
are open to whatever we can do to sisters resolution. "As a board we are open to whatever we can do to amend the bad feelings created by the resolution." We need to follow through with the resolution but we also know how important the veterans are to the organization.

• What is the JACL doing to recognize the World War II veterans? Perhaps JACL can do something during the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation's official opening in Line.

Mori: At JACL's recent conven-tion in Monterey, a dinner in honor tion in Monterey, a dinner in honor of the veterans of all wars was held. JACL played a large role in last November's dedication of the National JA Memorial in Washington, D.C., and also took part in the Medal of Honor ceremonies in Hawaii and Los Angeles. We will also be attending the NJAMF official dedication in June. "We're trying to show our presence in recognizing the role the veterans have played."

played."
Teruya: JACL has recognized the vets. If the members want to honor the vets, a resolution should be put in front of the national coun-cil at the next convention. "I don't

think there's a person in the JACL that would vote against it."

Q: What is the Blue Ribbon Committee? What is their purpose, who is on the committee and what ir timeline?

Mori: I identified people in the community who could look at JACL and see what can be done to make it an organization that will be effective in the modern era. With the declining membership numbers and the realities of today's Japanese American commu-nity, JACL can no longer afford to operate as it did in the 1980s and

operate as it did in the 1980s and must become a relevant organiza-tion for the year 2001. Because of our current budget constraints, I chose people from the Southern California area. The members are: Thomas lino, Deloitte & Touche, Bill Imada, Imada Wong Communications Group, Inc.: Alan Kumameto. Kumamoto kumamoto. Kumamoto kumamoto. Kumamoto kumamoto kumamoto. loitte & Touche; Bill Imada, Imada Wong Communications Group, Inc.; Alan Kumamoto, Kumamoto Associates; Henry Ota, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP; Beth Renge, Renge Securities & Co., Inc.; Sandy Sakamoto, Pacific Bell; and Tritia

Gila River

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center

The JACCC presents the Southern California Premiere of

Toyota. These people are highly qualified in the non profit area and have experience in organizational restructuring.

The committee's recommendations will be forwarded to the JACL national board and then on to the national council. Members of the Blue Ribbon Committee will be at the next national board meeting in May to begin discussion with the board. We are holying to have a final report from the committee, at the November board meeting.

Q: What is the financial status of JACL as of Dec. 31, 2000?

Koga: 1 don't have the actuals but it's in the range of between \$150,000 to \$200,000 as far as a deficit from a cash flow perspective.

Q: What is the outlook for 2001.

deficit from a cash flow perspective.

Q: What is the outlook for 2001 and 2002?

and 2002?

Koga: The outlook for 2001 is
"not very good." The early months of the year are usually when membership revenues come in but this year the monies have not been coming in at the rate they have in the past. This will increase our deficit till the end of the year, and we may have to tap into the en-dowment fund.

dowment fund.

Q: With the adjustments to the
2001 budget, when will the membership have a chance to look at
the new budget?

Koga: Slight adjustments have
been made and more adjustments
are likely to be made still. But
those are the decisions of the national director. We are still trying to
maintain our current staff, and the
cuts that have been made are in
the area of programs. There are
still some areas that we can look at,
like travel, before we make any still some areas that we can look at, like travel, before we make any cuts to staff.

Q: How much has been taken out of the endowment fund and what are the plans to return the

Koga: So far \$100,000 has been taken out of the earnings portion of the endowment fund. Approxi-mately, \$200,000 is left in the earnings portion of the fund. Currently,

ings portion of the fund. Currently, there are no plans to return the money that has been used.

Q. When will the 1999 audit for JACL be available?

Koga: The 1999 audit will be presented at the next national board meeting in May.

Q. Are there any current plans to replace the fund-raising/development, position left vacant by the departure of former staff member Donna Okubo?

Mori: Lucy Kishiue was recent-Mori Locy histing was recently hired as interim, part-time membership coordinator but her position does not involve any fund-raising. Fund-raising will be up to John Tateishi and the national board since there are no monies to hire a fund-raiser. Many nonprofit board members are required to raise monies, but this is not currause monies, but this is not cur-rently the case for JACL national board members. This idea is cur-rently being explored by the Blue Ribbon Committee. Teruys When

Ribbon Committée.

Teruya; When choosing a board, many non profits follow, the three "Ws," which are "Wealth, Wisdom, and Work." And if you can only have one, it better be wealth. Perhaps JACL should look at forming some sort of auxiliary board of

er chapters had many applications from which to choose only a few ap-plicants. With the current applica-tion process, all applicants will be leaked etc.

tion process, all appuration will coloked at.

Q: In terms of U.S. Japan relations does the board feel that the organization needs to develop dialogue in this area? And if so, how

Koga: The Honolulu chapter received a number of phone calls from the media after the Ehime Maru incident and we had a diffi-cult time developing a response



National board members: back row (I-r):—Karen-Liane Shiba, Floyd Mori, Craig Osaki, Reiko Yoshino, and Art Koga; front row (I-r)—Bob Taniguchi, David Kawamoto, Ryan Chin, Alan Teruya, and Gary Mayeda.

high-profile people who have a lot of connections.

Q: Members are not getting their

renewal notices or receiving them even though they have paid in full. Is there anything that can be done about that?

Mayeda: I've noticed that some of the chapters are sending in their renewal notices in a way that does-

renewal notices in a way that doesnt work well with the process set up at national. Some chapters wait to collect a bunch of membership checks and than send them up to national all at once. That doesn't work well for national and will delay the process. Checks should be sent directly to national, which au tomatically go into a lockbox. There are three renewal notices that go out, one two months prior, one when it's due, and the last one one month after the due date. There's a nonth after the due date. I here's a lot of time in between so sometimes renewal notices will go out as the paid memberships come in and we

apologize.

Q: The national JACL scholarship applications now go directly to national JACL and not to the chap-Why was the proces ters. nged?

Shiba: In the past, students were joining smaller chapters to better their chances, since the larg-

from JACL. The JA community in Hawaii held a ceremony of healing and had a dialogue with the Japan-ese. JACL could have taken more lead in this.

Mori: JACL should have a rela-Mori: JACL should have a rela-tionship with the Japanese govern-ment because what they do does at-fect us. With the release of "Pearl Harbor" a fet of the United States is going to live World War II all over again, J' won't be surprised if there is a resurge, in Asian hate crimes ... as people view us as them." But this is also a chance for us to tell our story, including the WWII camps and our heroic veter-ans. JACL should be prepared and

ans. JACL should be prepared and
we are currently looking into how
to handle the situation.
Q: How is JACL going to get
youth to join?
Mayeda: I've found that the JA
youth are very much interested in
Japanese culture as well as civil
rights. Youths are adults and our
ceutels It's important to keen that equals. It's important to keep that

equas. Its important to keep that one-on-one approach.

Mori: We need to instill pride in who we are and that pride will turn into a desire to carry on our rich heritage. Being grateful and

thankful for who we are and taking what we have learned and passing on our rich heritage.

Taniguchi: Students usually

consider themselves Asian Ameri-can first more than JA JACL needs to take this into considera-

Q: Why does JACL take on con-troversial issues if it causes a loss in membership?

Mori: We need to take positions

on issues if we want to be a visible organization. I also feel that JACL has not taken on enough positions

on issues.

Osaki: I think it's great that JACL has been on the forefront on many issues. I'm proud of JACL's accomplishments, of protecting the accomplishments of people. Controversy civil rights of people. Controversy should not be looked on as a bad thing but rather as providing an opportunity to talk about the is-

sues.

Q: With the new goal of raising JACL membership by 2000 members by the next national convenion, what kinds of programs can we develop under planning and develope to attract to street provide to income. velopment to attract people to join, considering our current financial situation?
Shiba: We must keep in mind

our current financial constraints. We are lucky that Gary and I live in Southern California so that we are able to get together. Gary and I

will be meeting to explore various options and ideas.

Q: What is being done to see that the redress history project is being accomplished?

Shiba: With the recent passing

of Mae Takahashi who was spear-heading the project, I will need to talk to others to obtain the various records. I may ask chapters to start doing the oral histories. The project was sponsored by soft mon-ey so we will need to start looking for donations.

or donations.

Q: How does the rest of the country feel about JACL head-quarters being in San Francisco, and the West Coast influence on

the organization?
Yoshino: Members outside the Yoshino: Members outside the West Coast area feel excluded be-cause everything is about the West Coast. There are many chapters east of the Rockies. Having Bill Yoshino in MDC and Kristine Mi-nami in Washington, D.C., has been great. The MDC and MPDC realer by the MDC and MPDC make up a lruge geographical area so getting together as a district is almost impossible financially. Some people aren't even aware that MPDC and MDC are two sep-

Hate Crimes and Lobbying Just Some of the Workshop Topics at Calif. Tri-District

By CAROLINE AOYAGI

RENO, Nev.-Resisting the RENO, Nev.—Resisting the temptation of the slot machines and blackjack tables, attendees at the recent California Tri-District managed to make their way over to the numerous conference work-

Topics as wide and varied as have comes, lobbying, and interpersonal conflict were joined by care-giving, understanding our cultural values and effective leadership, and planned giving. There were also workshops on senior medication awareness and training, and the legacy of the Nisei vet-

Hate Crimes

With the recent U.S. spy plane incident sparking a number of anti-Chinese skits, cartoons, and radio talk show topics, Tom Shigemasa, former San Jose assistant police chief, fears a "growing anti-Asian movement," making the need to be educated about hate crimes even

more important.

Speaking at the hate crime workshop held during the PSW/NCWNP/CC Tri-District, April 20-22, Shigemasa asked the attendees if they had ever experienced or knew of someone who had been a victim of a hate crime. He

been a victim of a hate crime. He was surprised to see quite a few people raise their hands, for in the past this wasn't, the case. But with the recent media cover-age of an NBA basketball player making anti-Asian sentiments, ra-dio talk show hosts mocking a Chi-nese basketball player, and the

soon to be released "Pearl Harbor" movie, hate crimes against Japan-ese Americans and other Asian Americans are likely to increase, said Shigemasa, and "as JACLers

said Shigemasa, and "as JACLers we need to be prepared to respond." As a former member of a police department, Shigemasa stressed the importance of reporting hate crimes to the police. It's also important to report any hate incidents, he added, for though it may not yet be a crime, incidences of hate can turn into hate crimes and may eventually be prosecuted. In fact, most police departments have hate crimes policies in place.

Although the trend among Asians and Asian Americans has been a reluctance to report crimes, it's absolutely necessary to get the

the a reincurance to report crimes, it's absolutely necessary to get the police involved, said Shigemasa, for if we don't, "we don't count." He added, "If you speak out we'll all be better for it."

better for it."

Along with the police, the community also needs to get involved. "Hate crimes are not only the responsibility of the police department but it is the responsibility of the community," said Shigemasa. And that's where groups like JACL, that has been fighting hate crimes for several years now, can work in tandem with the police. Ken Kame, joining Shigemass on the hate crimes panel, introduced the audience to how the Internet play's role in the prolifera-

ternet plays a role in the prolifera-tion of hate crimes, providing a 24-hpur, seven-day presence readily available for both adults and mith .

ter & Directed by Lane Nishikawa Thursday through Sunday, May 17 - 19, 8 pm (May 20, 2 pm) featuring Emily Kuroda • Emily Liu • Ken Narasaki Lane Nishikawa • Sharon Omi • Ryun Yu Drawn from real-life stories and interviews. Gila River focuses on a Japanese American family, forcibly removed from their West Coast home and interned at the Gila River relocation center during World War II. Themes of racism, betrayal, patriotism, identity, tradition, and dreams, all intertwine the unique cultural exchange between the Pima-Maricopa Indians who live on the Gila Reservation and the Japanese Americans brought there by the Reserved Seating \$25, \$20 Special JACL Member price! \$22, \$17 JACCC Members \$22, \$17 / Groups \$15 / Students & Seniors \$10 "It is rare to be moved to tears in the theater, but here they will 4 performances only! stream down your face throughout. Gila River is indeed a very special piece of theater." -Japan America Theatre
244 S. San Pedro Street, Little Tokyo, downtown L.A. The Pacific Bridge Com nies Cor PRAFU SHIMPO Official Media Spo Japan America Theatre Box Office (213) 680-3700 / Open Mon. - Sat. 12 - 5 pm Asian Avenue .com Official Internet Sc

The House on Lemon Street: Only This One Is in Riverside, Calif.

RIVERSIDE, Calif.—Several weeks tago (April 19), Dr. Harold Harada, 77, head-lined the dedication of the house on Lemon Street, where as a National Historic Legislation, once a listory student at nearby UC Riverside, Harold re-



By HARRY HONDA

minded me of ceived a small check for his 1976 Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue feature on the

da Hous Harold, a re-tired dentist,

Very Truly Yours

active in JACL and a combat 442nd medic veteran, was the youngest of six children of pioneer Issel parents, Jukichi and Ken Harada, who bought a two-story wooden frame house on Lemon Street in the downtown residential district in 1913, after their five-weared em. Toden hee contracted. district in 1913 after their live-year-old son Tadao had contracted diphtheria and died. Jukichi blamed the tragedy on the living conditions at the boarding house where they had been living since the fall of 1905. The Haradas also ned a restaurant in the boom ing citrus town. The father m and served the customers, moth and served the customers, mother did the cooking, and the children helped. The two businesses were patronized by farmhands, packers

Aware of the 1913 California Alien Land Law prohibiting aliens ineligible for citizenship (Japanese, Chinese and Koreans) from ownromese and roreans) from own-ing property, Jukichi purchased the house in the name of his citizen children as a logical solution to the problem and had daughters Miné, 9 (eventually Mrs. Saburo Kido); Sumi, 5; and 3-year-old son Yoshizo holding title. Soon neighbors organized to prevent the Haradas from buying the property. "They even of-fered \$2,000 for the house — \$500 more than he had paid the price for it," writes Maria Fleming in the Southern Poverty Law Center pub-lication, "A Place at the Table." Ju-kichi was yletermined to put his children ir a better living environ-ment that included a backyard, but the neighborhood demanded the family be evicted. family be evicted.

family be evicted.

But one prominent businessman, Frank Miller, known for his strong interest in Japanese art and culture, came to the aid of Jukiehi when he was sued in 1916. It was the first test case of California's Alien Land Law. Miller arranged to have his brother, an attorney, defend him. In 1918, the superior court in San Remarking. superior court in San Bernarding County held in Harada's favor, cit ing the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. [Two years later, the loophole enabling citizen children to be named in purchase of land was closed. The 1920 law would encounter further challenges. It finally was found uncon

lenges. It manly was found unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in the Oyama Case in 1948.] During World War II, the Issei Haradas, in their 60s, were evacuated to Topaz. In ill health, both died in camp. The house was placed in care of a good restaurant customer, a blacksmith. Harold noted a scrawling on the wall up-stairs: "Evacuated on May 23, 1942; Saturday, 7 a.m." In a nearby dresser he found a tiny Italian-English dictionary and some Italian coins, mementos of his duty as a combat medic in the last battle routing the Germans from Italy in 1945. They are currently on dis-play along with other artifacts and pictures at the Riverside Museum in the section devoted to Frank Miller's Mission Inn.

Onetime Seattle City Treasurer Lloyd Hara, in town for a business seminar, was an unexpected visitor semmar, was an unexpected visitor at the museum. He was attracted by the banner out front with a Japanese name. Mrs. Edison Uno of San Francisco (daughter Rosalyn of the Saburo Kidos) introduced me to her grandchildren. The Japanese contingent from Riverside's Sister City, Sendai, em-bellished the turnout, making the dedication a fabulous occasion.

Only Sumi returned after the war to the house on Lemon Street. She opened the house to other Riverside families who found their own homes had been confiscated by the government. What was the randa on the second floor was thus boarded up to add two mor

The house today doesn't lookslike it once did and I was told that purists want to restore the veranda for the sake of history. That it served as a postwar hostel is an integral part of the Harada House and a part of Riverside's history. As and a part of Riverside's history. As Rawitsch noted at the plaque dedi-cation: "It's a story that goes be-yond Lemon Street and beyond Riverside. It's a story of struggle for ne American dream."

The Harada family still owns

the house. Harold, who lives in Culver City, said he is thinking of donating the house to the city. He wants it to be maintained as an historic landmark. On this point, some furniture appears to be of

some furniture, appears to be of World War I vintage.

The landmark status is not the same as the National Registry of Historic Places, a federal list of cul-tural resources worthy of preservation. A proud civic fact: the All-American City of Riverside has two National Historic Landmark plaques — the other being the Mis-

To put a perspective spin on the Harada House, the whole of Orange County has but two national landmarks — Richard Nixon's birthplace in Yorba Linda and the Modjeska House in Santiago Canyon. The oldest building in California (which could be #3 in Orange County) is not a National Historic Landmark: the San Juan Capistrano Mission dating from 1776, which has been nominated. The cable cars of San Franciscand the Mission Beach roller coas er in San Diego are among the 100-plus national landmarks in the state.

REDRESS

(Continued from page 1)

ese Americans but a violation of the spirit of all Americans to have nese Americans treated in such a racist way."

Kennedy, known for his support of global human rights, in particu-lar his call for independence in East Timor, noted that human rights violation within our own country must also not be ignored. He acknowledged that the history and contributions of all people of color in America have been large-ly "under-reported" and was therefore particularly supportive of the education component of

"I think there ought to be a T trink there ought to be a proper foundation like we're putting together in this Becerra bill for education and dissemina-tion of information regarding the injustices of the past," said Kennedy. "Unfortunately, I don' think many people understand the whole notion of putting Japanese Americans into concentration camps during World War II and I think fewer understand the role that our government played in taking Latin Americans of Japanese descent from Peru and elsewhere and holding them as hostages, as ransom be for American prisoners of wars. He added, "I think this (bill) is one more step we need to take to ac-knowledge the painful past of this country so that we never repeat it country so that

In assessing the bill's future, Kennedy was optimistic, saying "I don't think there should be any partisanship over this bill."

Kennedy, who sits on such boards as the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation and who met with African American leaders while Los Angeles, was also aware of the stirrings of a redress movement within the African American comunity, and acknowledged that

America's past history of slavery and discrimination against African Americans had to be dealt with.

with.

Among Kennedy's fellow cosponsors of H.R. 619 is Congressman John Conyers Jr., D-Mich,
who recently introduced a bill to
examine the effects of slavery and the feasibility of reparations to African Americans. Convers, who supported the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, had raised the issue of African American redress 12 African American gedress 12 years ago but it was only recently that the concept began receiving widespread support with such events as the first National Reparations Convention, which was or-

rations Convention, which was or-ganized by African American lead-ers in Chicago this past February. Reflecting on this latest redress movement, Kennedy said, "We cannot take it for granted the historic and grinding discrimination that this country has been a part of and the affects that it has had on African Americans. We still have the same segregation that we had 40 years ago when my un-cles were fighting overt segregation in this country. Now it's much more insidious. Its segregation by socio-economic class, as well as race, so I think it's important to recognize historic prejudices, biases and racism for us to be able to world. overcome them in today's

Kennedy praised such educa-tional institutions as JANM, the Holocaust Museum and the currently under construction muse um to Native Americans at the Smithsonian Institute as essen tial tools in educating the younger generation about the impact of racism on today's society.

"Museums like these are impor tant vehicles to help us come to a better understanding of each oth-er," said Kennedy. "We still have many scars in our own history that are important to remember because to this day, there is still bigotry and racism; and we won't be able to tackle the problems of today unless we learn from our past history."

Hollywood Stories

he story of Japanese Ar cans in mainstream Holly a wood movies is generally not a happy one. It's kind of sad that the greatest JA movie star was at his peak in the silent era some 85 years ago. There have been some high points to

Troubled in

Paradise

when "Go For Broke" premiered. And it was 25 years ago in March that the made-for-television movie

"Farewell to Manzanar" was na-tionally broadcast on NBC. Both were major events in their time.
"Go For Broke" had its world

premiere at the Waikiki Theater in Honolulu on March 4, 1951, and its Hollywood piemiere at the Egypt-ian Theater five days later. The movie put a Hollywood spin on the story of the 442nd, Regimental Combat Team and starred six JAs for of whom were actual World

Combat Team and starred six JAs – five of whom were actual World War II veterans — in the six major Nisei roles. The storyline centers on Lt. Michael Grayson (played by Van Johnson), a Texas native-assigned to the 442nd against his will who eventually becomes their biggest booster by the end.

The good points of the movie can be summed up juickly. It is a "message" movie with an important and

ere at the Waikiki Theater in

be sure, but they have gen-erally been

few and far be

Strangely

anniversaries

for two of them. It was

50 years ago this month



By BRIAN NIIYA

brave message of tolerance: that JAs had displayed bravery and pa-triotism in the face of prejudice during WWII and deserved to be treated like other Americans. In 1951, this was no small thing

1951, this was no small thing.

The movie's negatives are pretty much everything else. There is little in the way of story line, the battle scenes look phony even by 1950s standards; and the Nisei themselves are mostly just window dressing. Essentially, the Nisei soldiers are not so much the subject of the pression as the objects of if. The the movie as the objects of it. The movie is less about them, than about how others view and react to them. As such, the Nisei characters themselves are underdeveloped and mostly indistinguishable from one anoth

"Go For Broke" turns up pretty often on television (mostly on TNT) and was issued on video, so it is pretty easy to see. This is not the case with "Farewell to Manzanar," which has been very difficult to se which has been very difficult to see since its NBC premiere on March 11, 1976. Thus, I won't give you my detailed impressions of the film, since I haven't seen it in a few

The film is based on the book of the same title, which is probably the most widely read book ever written on the mass internment of JAs during WWII. Based on the childhood memories of Jeanne childhood memories of Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, the book was written by her and her husband James Houston. The book was adapted for the movie by the Houstons and by director John Korty.

The important news about "Farewell to Manzanar" is that you may have a chance to see it again. Late last year, while brainstorming for ideas for the 2001 Day of Remembrance, members of the Marin. membrance, members of the Marin chapter of JACL came up with the idea of screening "Farewell" since it

would be the 25th anniversary of its original airing and since it was actually filmed mostly in Marin County, Thanks to the detective work of Lewis Kawahara, the film was located in the Universal Stuwas located in the Universal Stu-dios archives and a screening was arranged. Kawahara also suggest-ed that surviving cast and crew members be invited to the screening as well.
The San Francisco and Sacra

mento chapters found out about it and wanted to join the program. The result was a three-day event, where the film was screened to sold-out houses in all three places sold-out houses in all three places on consecutive days this past Feb-ruary. Many surviving cast and crew members turned up, includ-ing director Korty, the Houstons, and cinematographer Hiro Morita, along with actors Clyde Kusatsu, James Saito, Akemi Kikumura, Vernon Kato, and Nobu McCarthy,

Vernon Kato, and Nobu McCarthy, among others.

Given the interest generated by the screening, efforts are underway to secure a re-release of the film for educational purposes along with restoring the original print. Another screening is set for Los Angeles, as part of the VC FilmFest 2001:

The Visual Communications Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film & Video Festival. The film will be screening to close the festival on May 24. If to close the festival on May 24. If you get a chance, check it out.

Of course we have made great

Of course we have made great progress since 1951 and 1976, OK, maybe not. The list of succeeding Hollywood films that tell JA stories can be counted on the fingers of ofe hand. And now that it is 2001, we will be greeted with the gala premiere of the movie "Pearl Harbor" later this month. Are you looking forward to this as much as I am? I guess that's progress for you. guess that's progress for you.

Brian Niiya is a member of the onolulu chapter of the JACL.

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SPECTRUM

(Continued from page 1)

Southwest District, Japanese American National Museum, American National Museum, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, Japanese Com-munity Youth Council, Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern/California, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics and Little Tokyo Service Center.

Yuri Kochiyama

Yuri Kochiyama
When first approached about speaking at [spectrum], keynoter Yuri Kochiyama said she was ready to decline the invitation for fear that she would "offend a lot of Nikkei."
But then, as she had done on so many other occasions, she remembered a quote by her slain comrade, civil rights activist Malcolm X: Tm for truth no matter who tells it."
And so Kochiyama, a leading civil and human rights activist in her own right, felt a sense of duty in speaking to her Nikkei confemporaries about looking both within and beyond the JA community to find a common humanity. d a common humanity. We Nikkei of whatever age need

to come together and talk among ourselves," she said. "We need to get to know one another and, despite some of our differences, acknowl-

edge our kinship warmly.

"But we've got to go further than that," she said. "This world is peopled by a diversity of races, nationalties, religions, cultures, traditions and experiences. We have the oppor-tunity of learning from others, the opportunity of sharing with others." In the early 1960s, Kochiyama

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first got involved in community ac-tivism in Harlem, which later led to her work with the Asian American, Black and Third World movements,

Black and Third World movements, and her interest in social justice causes from JA redress to the plights of various political prisoners, including Mumia Abu Jamija and David Wong.

"Each generation must find its mission," Kochiyama later told/the Pacific Citzen." It think it will always be the same: to fight for basic needs, human rights, justice, equality, freedom, self-determination, truth and human dignity for all We ity, freedom, self-determination, truth and human dignity for all. We must work together to benefit or help society internationally, whether it would be for post-natural disaster, famine, disease or whatever. We must create a more just, harmonious and safer world. We must build bridges, cross bridges and mend bridges. For the Nikkei community today, she said, those bridges include en-

she said, those bridges include en couraging Japan to issue repara-tions and an apology for its war crimes against former sex slaves and forced laborers; rewriting the JA story into American history so that it is not omitted in textbooks; and recognizing groups such as the resisters and the "no-nos" for the constitutional stand they took dur-

ing WWII.

But Kothiyama admitted that she wasn't always in such an emered position

"When I was young, the age of many of [those] here, which was just before World War II, I was to-Just before world war II, I was to-taily apolitical. I didn't know any-thing that was happening in the world. I was just a small-town, provincial [girl], very, very red,

white and blue and banana too,"

white and some she joked.

That's why she hopes that today's Nikkei youth are "more socially conscious of racism, classism and some social for instinct the social social

Youth Speak While [spectrum] participants, ranging in age from 14 to 25, were While [spectrum] participants, ranging in age from 14 to 25, were given a rare opportunity to hear a living legend speak, they were also offered the chance to attend workshops on such topics as JA basket-ball leagues, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered issues, Hapa issues, Latin American Japanese youth culture, high school issues, JA artists and culture, re-evaluating JA history, generation gape in the Nikkei community, evolution of Japantowns and Nikkei in politics. Following workshop sessions, small discussion groups allowed participants to give feedback on what they'd learned and to apply [spectrum's] five mission statements to their experience: challenge notions of exclusivity, take an active part in leadership roles in the community, preserve culture and

community, preserve culture and appreciate heritage while re-evalu-ating the past; interact with and learn from older generations; and understand the evolving nature of

the Nikkei community.
Craig Matsuzaki, 23, a fifth-year student at UC Irvine and one of the discussion group facilitators, saw the conference as a chance for youth "to dialogue with each other and exchange ideas about where the com-

munity is going."
Third-year UCLA student
Meredith Lee, 19, said, "I think it's important to have a conference like this so that students and youth can get a sense of community, which they might not get from other places, and also to acknowledge the issues within the community as the community evolves.

"It brings everyone from different places together that you would nev-er meet otherwise. You learn about how you can stay active ... and how you can help out and direct the com munity in a positive way," added Stan Paez, 22, a student at Cal State Long Beach.

"It gives me and other people a chance to see where we came from and what we can do in the future to help continue our culture so we don't forget where we came from," said Scott Kato, 21, a third-year student at UC Irvine

Darren Nakashima and David Uchida, both fourth-year students at UCLA, agreed that the confer-ence accomplished its mission as a whole but viewed it also as a change to see beyond the insularity of the

community.

"It is good that we have a conference like this that brings together people of JA ancestry, but it could have drawbacks," said Uchida, 22. Personally, he said, "I want to

broaden my views outside of my community. For other people it might be like 'cool, all this JA stuff,' but for me I think I've had a dose of it and now I need to learn about other communities. We should fo-cus on learning about other people so we have an understanding of their communities instead of cr ing this tight-knit thing that might not understand the world outside of the JA community

Too California-centric?
Organizers believe that [spectrum] is building on the momentum started by such conferences as 1998's The That Bind in Los Ange-les and last year's Nikkei 2000 in San Francisco. But as with those two conferences, [spectrum] was predominantly organized and at tended by people in California, a trend which some criticize as ne glecting those Nikkei who live out-side of the state.

"Some of the issues that were

dealt with during [spectrum] were specifically geared towards youth who live in California," said Kristy Shimosaka, [spectrum] co-chair and a student at UC Berkeley. "However, I believe that the larger issues and the larger concerns projected within the mission state-ments apply to all JA youth, re-gardless of where they are from.

We as a community are not very well networked outside of Califor nia when it comes to JA youth clubs and organizations that can get the word out ... about conferences like [spectrum]," Shimosaka said.

But hopefully more regional di-versity will come about as new relationships and networks are established, she said.

Often, the decision to hold such conferences in California comes down to logistics.

"I very much agree with the ar-

gument that these Nikkei confe ences are very centralized around California," said JACL national youth representative Amy Mat-sumoto, of Silver Spring, Md., who attended (spectrum) as one of the handful of out-of-state participants "However, I have come to realize that the majority of the members of the Nikkei community are central-ized around California and the West Coast."

Matsumoto mentioned that JACL will hold its own 2001 Na-tional Youth/Student Conference on July 13-15 in Seattle, a decision which came out of a majority vote from the youth council.

"I feel that the National Youth Student Council was con-cerned that this conference was beornered that this conference was be-ing held during the school year which would prohibit many of the high school people from attending, especially if they were out of state," she said. "In saying that, I do also feel that NY/SC did miss a great op-portunity to work with some dy-namic and outstanding individuals portunity to work with some onamic and outstanding individu in the community."

We thought it was kind of silly to "We thought it was kind of silly to have two competing youth conferences at different times because the workshops are very similar," said Gerald Kato, youth director for JACL PSWD, which served as one of [spectrums] co-sponsors.

But he said part of the reason the JACL NY/SC decided to hold a separate national conference was that some were worried about being too California-centric and, as an alter-

some were worried about being too California-centric and, as an alternative, choise to highlight the diversity of the Seattle APA community, "They supported [spectrum] indirectly but hot as an official co-sponsor even though that was the original intent," Kato said.

Jon Osaki, the closing keynote speaker for [spectrum] and executive director of the Japanese Community Youth Council (JCYC) in San Francisco, also had envisioned

munity Youth Council (JCYC) in San Francisco, also had envisioned a cooperative venture between JACL's NYSC and Ispectrum]. "When we first started planning this, we had hoped that we could've merged this with JACU's youth con-ference because myself and many others felt that made a lot of sense," he said "For whatever resen the he said. "For whatever reason, the decision was made to have separate ones, but I tell people all the time I think that in order to really have an impact, at some point, we've got to start to pool our resources. Every-body doesn't need to do their own thing. I hope that that would be something we would shoot for in the

See [spectrum] workshops page 12

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WORKSHOPS

(Continued from page 7)

hate-based sites that can be accessed on the Internet, with groups like the National Alliance, National Observer Today, there are more than 3,000 National Observer, American Knights and World Church of the Creator spreading their hate mes-

Seages. Most of these sites are sponsored by White supremacists, militia groups and anti-abortions groups. According to Kamei, the state of Alabama has the most hate groups followed by California and Florida.

"It all starts with dehumaniz-ing and victimizing," said Kamei of the hate sites.

The difficulty for law enforce-

ment in policing these sites is that issues of freedom of speech and censorship make hate crimes on the Internet almost impossible to monitor and prosecute. In fact, many of these hate sites cater to the young and inexperienced, offering games, crosswords and puzzles to get their hate messages

And often times these sites look And often times these sites look authentic, seemingly safe and informative, but they include false and misleading information, leading to a rewriting of history. "When on the Internet it's hard to the safe of t monitor where people go," said Kamei. But "you need to be aware of [misleading websites] and do your own research.

Lobbying
"Lobbying is like being a sales-man," said JACL National Execu-tive Director John Tateishi, who, prior to joining JACL, worked for several years as a professional lobbyist. "You're selling an idea, a

lobbyist. "You're selling an idea, a concept, not a product."

When Tateishi led JACL's redress campaign in the '80s as its national char, "we were selling the idea of 'injustice," he said at the tri-district's lobbying work-shop. "That something happened that shouldn't have happened."

There are two types of lobby.

There are two types of ists: professional lobbyists izen lobbyists. Professiona of lobby ional lobby ists are expected to have certain relationships in place and a cer-tain level of professionalism; citizen lobbyists usually have an in-terest or passion in a bill or issue and are not expected to be ex-

The success of selling your idea as a lobbyist starts with how you frame it, said Tateishi. You've got to develop a strategy by looking at who is going to support your idea and who is not. The people left in the middle are the ones you start to lobby.

Most of the time lobbyists will not be meeting with the elected representative but rather with his representative but rather with his of her staff members. Usually the legislative assistant is the person you end up talking to. And often it's the assistants who end up helping you the most with your idea for they have the ear of the representatives they work for.

and i



LOBBYING WORKSHOP - JACL National Executive Director John Tateishi (I) and panelist at the recent Tri-District's lobbying workshop with fellow panelist Elaine Yamaguchi and Paul Bannai, a workshop attendee and the first Asian American California State Assemblyman.

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Tateishi's first rule of lobbying Tateishi's first rule of lobbying, don't ever lie. If you lie, you lose your credibility, "Alleyou have is your credibility," he said. The second rule of lobbying is "the two-minute rule." Always go into a session thinking that you have to convince the legislative aide of your idea in two minutes, for that is often the amount of time you are given.

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□ \$25

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The success rate of lobbyists is not very good, for the chance of a bill making it all the way to the White House and being signed into law is minimal. That's why lobbyists can never be discour-aged, said Tateishi, who readily admits that all of the bills he worked on as a lobbyist for civil rights and environmental issues failed. "But I loved every minute of it," he said. "It's the only job I

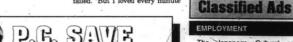
of it, he said. Its the only job I had where failure felt good.". The same rules of lobbying ap-ply at the state level, said Elaine ply at the state level, said Elaine Yamaguchi, assistant to Calif. Speaker of the Assembly Robert Hertzberg, who joined Tateishi on the lobbying panel. "God members [of the legisla-ture] want to hear from you. Bad members need to get to know

you," she said.

Yamaguchi emphasized the need to vote and to get further in-volved in the legislative process. She encouraged people to get to know their district staff members and to send letters because, she said, they are in fact read by the

said, they are in fact read by the elected representatives. She also emphasized the im-portance of the "two-minute rule" and advised people to have all rel-evant information ready when meeting a legislative aide, And make sure that whatever issue or bill being lobbied is known in in-tricate detail because often the aide and representative are rely-ing on your information to decide whether they will or won't be giv-

ing their support.
But above all, "remember that they are really just people working for you," said Yamaguchi.



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The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) have the following new positions available:

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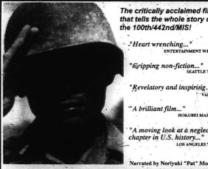


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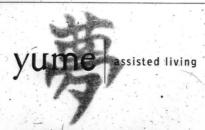
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Letters to the Editor

Kudos to Congressman Honda

Kudos to Congressman Mike Honda for introducing "Justice for United States Prisoners of War Act" that would allow former American POWs to sue Japanese companies over slave labor. We need more people like him in Congress who have the courage to act on behalf of people like her remaining 3,000 exPOWs.

Congressman Honda has re-

Congressman Honda has re-searched this issue and met with some of the ex-POWs to learn of their sufferings perpetrated by some of the Japanese companies. The bill is based on humanitarian grounds and is not intended to bash people or a country. Despite the pro-vision of the U.S.-Japan Peace vision of the U.S. Japan Feace Treaty which prohibits lawsuits against private companies, the bill will challenge this. There is a possi-bility the bill will be passed since enslaved Jewish people during World War II have taken action against German companies.

JACL states that their decision to

JACL states that their decision to remain neutral, in other words to do nothing, is based on their by-laws. In the past, JACL has done great things. However, lately it seems they follow a safe, politically-correct path rather than an independent, proactive one. They seem to "need a weatherman to know which way the wind is ablowin."

JACL claims, among other

which way the wind is ablowin."

JACL claims, among other
things, to be a human rights organization. Because of the bylaws
there was in the past no official
stand on the issues of 'comfort
women," the 'Rape of Nanking,"
Japan's fingerprinting law of the
Korean Japanese and so forth.
What about Pearl Harbor? No matter where it's at aren't all these huter where it's at, aren't all these hu-man rights issues?

The P.C. article stated that the

The PC, article stated that the bylaws were the "guiding principle" for their non-action. What kind of principle is this? Are we forgetting our past? Whose side are we on? Is this why we are still treated by some like foreigners in our own

JACL should do to its bylaws what Congressman Honda is doing to the treaty. There is no place for a cop-out and/or cow flop.

Stanley Kanzaki New York

A Beacon of Light: Dr. Roy Nishikawa

Sorry to hear that one of the bea-cons of light for the JACL has ed on.

he was one of the national JACL presidents that persuaded me to run for national office of the 1000 Club back in the 1960s

Rest in peace. Your wisdom and spirit will always be with us.

Dr. Frank 7. Sakamoto Past National 1000 Club Chair

Re: Leo Hosoda's Commentary

It would be a breath of fresh air if a member of VFW Post 8985 would write something that did take place in Wyoming in favor of their posi-tion against the men of Heart Mountain that can be substantiat-ed. Until they can prove otherwise, they have been maliciously repeat-ing derogatory heresy and rumors over these many vears.

over these many years.

I am neither for or against an apology to the draft resisters but I am ashamed by the methods used

am ashamed by the methods used by certain members of my former Secramento Nisei VFW Post.

There is an age-old saying that patriotism and insinuation are resources of bigots and scoundrels. The tactics used in the rycent commentary, in other letters to various Japanese. American newspapers and in their own monthly VFW newsletters, are like those used by the Native Sons of the Colden West, the American Degion, the Sacramento Home Front Commandos,

the Pacific Coast Japanese Problem League in Los Angeles and other so-called All-American groups that wanted to get rid of us during World

It is hard to understand how some Nisei men could attend monthly VFW meetings sprinkled with unjustifiable animosity. It is no mystery that a great many of the Nisei veterans like my own broth-ers and other relatives have not been members of the Nisei VFW.

ugh is enough. They should hemselves in the mirror and say to their Issei parents who en-dured many years of sacrifice and to their deceased comrades that they disagree with the likes of all of us. The Heart Mountain Resisters did make their mistakes in action and constitutional belief but in respect to you, I forgive them.

Hisashi Ishizaki former lifetime member of Sacramento Nisei VFW Post

WWII Veterans vs. Resisters Controversy

n

I was enlightened by the latest Sacramento veterans commentary, especially at the end where it stated: "d) an acknowledgment of the resisters" (Pacific Citizen, April 6-

Although I served only as an interpreter in war crimes investiga-tions after the end of hostilities, learned much about linguistics from the experience, including in-terrogations in Sugamo Prison and witnessing the Far East War Crimes Tribunal.

witnessing the Far East war Crimes Tribunal. When I noted the inclusion of "an acknowledgment of the resisters," I thought there exists more commonthought there exists more common-ality between the two groups' think-ing and experiences. Basically, we all did what we thought we had to. If that premise can be accepted, it would be peace for all, especially for the new generations who continue to wonder why the conflict has been prolonged into the 21st century

prolonged into the 21st century.

From my experience as an interpreter shortly after the war in Japan, I learned more about communication and the Japanese language. The phrase 'draft resisters' connotes something negative. By contrast, the phrase 'resisters of conscience' would have been more appropriate for the Japanese American resisters. They truly exercised their conscience ont for their own. their conscience not for their own purpose but for the interned people, just as Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu and Min Yasui had

in mind, not so much as what was happening abroad as what was happening to us in our country. Ev-idence of this can be seen in the lat-Sacramento veterans entary which said, "the Nisei had two cho ces to follow a) draft rehad two choices to follow a) draft re-sisters or b) the path of the JACL leadership." Fortunately, hundreds raised the constitutional argument, thousands volunteered from Hawaii as well as the mainland and thousands were conscripted from the internment camps. I was among the latter, physically fit or

As implied by the Sacra veterans' commentary, I am glad to see recognition of each and all as having contributed to the JA cause during WWII.

Hideo Tachibana via e-mail

Re: Loyalty Question 28

I read Ann Muto's story, "A Hap-ening at Tule Lake," and noted pening' at Tule Lake," and noted the continuation of a myth about the TWO loyalty questions (27 & 28) as determining whether an internee was to be segregated. In fact, only the answer to Question 28 determined segregation. I refer to "The Spollage," Thomas and Nishimoto, page 85, and to "The Evacuated People: A Quantitative Description," U.S. Dept. of the Interior, page 162. William Hole Lomita, Calif.

Reader Thanks P.C. for Book Review

I wanted to thank you for writing the review for Loung Ung's book 'First They Killed My Father, a Daughter of Cambodia Remem-bers." Since I was going to Cambo-Daugnter of cambonia remem-bers." Since I was going to Cambo-dia the following week after the review appeared, I hurried down to Barnes and Noble to purchase the book and read it on the plane.

Ung's experiences as a child dur-ing the Khmer Rouge invasions are eart wrenching and then her life ing th in Vermont with no Asians, cold weather and no knowledge of Eng-lish and the culture are very moving. She is a survivor.

ing. She is a survivor.

Cambodia is still a very, very poor country. The streets in Phnom Penli (the capital) still are unpaved and dusty and the people are cooking, sleeping and conducting business on the streets.

Because of Ung's commitment to andmine Free World, we patronized the Seeing Eye Massage run by those blinded by the mines (\$3 for one hour) and the National Centre for Disabled Persons Handicrafts The wallets, purses, baskets, bags etc. were of high standard of artianship

Our main purpose of going to Cambodia was to visit Angkor Wat, one of the ten best ruins in the world. The 12th century Hindu and Buddhist temples are magnificent but in disrepair with the jungle tak-ing over some of the buildings, fallover some of the buildings, fall-en rubble strewn all over and some dangerous (mines) pathways. We were warned not to man dangerous (mines) pathways. We were warned not to roam by our-selves off the designated roads. Thank you again for introducing me to this touching book. It made

me more conscious of the plight of Cambodia and the devastation of wars.

П

Miye Yoshida Northridge, Calif.

Lois-Ann Yamanaka Interview

I am responding to Tracy Uba's interview with controversial au-thor Lois Ann Yamanaka. I had cringed at the language she chose in her early books, to voice her de-

Thank you Tracy for your excellent, dispassionate, perceptive, sensitive interview. You reveal Yamanaka's growth and evolvement, her slipping out of expressive but stunting, limited pidgeon to mas-terful full expressions of story-telling, as novelist/poet or telling, as storyteller.

Kay Shiroma Stockton, Calif.



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* "Short expressions" on public issues, usually one or two para-graphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone num. graphs, 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.

Obituaries

Amate, Marion Setsuko, 71, Culver City, April 5; Maryaville-born; survived by husband Kiyoshi "Mike"; son Ronald and wife Karen; daughter Stacy and fiance Mike Irie; sisters Jane Tby and husband Harry (Huntington Beach), Eleanor Morikawa and husband Richard (La Habra); brothers-in-law Shi-ceru Amate Archie Amate and wife geru Amate, Archie Amate and wife Grace; sister-in-law Chiyeno Ishi-

moto.

Hirata, Sachiko, 75, Los Angeles, April 3; Yokohama-born; survived by husband Ted. N.; son Tony A.; daughter Susan Ideishi and husband Bob; 2 gc.; sisters in Japan. Yoko Yamaguchi and husband Takeshi, Fumiko Kaneko and husband Masao.

Ikeda, Michiye, 84, Stanton, April 14; San Mateo-born; survived by husband Kaoru; son Ben; daugh-ters Akiye Teodoro, Kazuye Mura-naka and husband Howard, Kiyoye Lee and husband Moe, Betty Berg-er and husband Michael; 14 gc., 14 ggc.; brother Hitoshi Fujii; sister Masako Takamiya sako Takamiya

Masako Takamiya.

Inouye, Tatsuichi, 97,1.os Angeles, April 6; Hiroshima-born; survived by daughters Jane Ochi, Dorothy Tsuji, Eleanor Shimahara and husband David, Rosanne Nakamatsu and husband William Retsy Gima and husband Russell: sons Michael and wife Jenny, Dan and wife Patricia, Eisen and wife Denise John and wife Chris: 17 gc.

2 ggc.

Katayama, Some, 93, Los Angeles, April 12; Kapa'a, Hawaiiborn; sūrvived by husband Ted
Teruo; daughters Helen Yawata,
Iris Miyashiro and husband Jingo,
Betty Guthrie and husand Bob, Grace Iwamoto and husband Mas, Kiko Baba and husband Watson; sons Ted Teruki, Shoji and wife Diana Bernard; 14 gc., 11 ggc.

ana Bernard; 14 gc., 11 gc.

Nishikawa, Kiyoshi "Nish,"
79, Berkeley, April 9; San Francisco-born; former chief of California
Air Resources Board. Topaz internee; graduate of Syracuse University; survived by wife Kimiyo;
dentity to Lore Kornes Durid. versity; survived by wile kimiyo; daughters Janis, Karen; son David; 2 gc.; daughter-in-law Karen Mc-Coy; son-in-law Richard Hanson; sister Michiko Inouye; predeceased by sister Takako Hashioka.

by sister Tanako Hasinoka.

Nonaka, Masayosshi, 84, San
Francisco, April 4; San Franciscoborn; survived by wife Sumako;
sons John and wife Mary Lou, Victor and wife Janice; 6 gc., brothers and sisters.

Nozawa, George Sadahiko, Nozawa, George Sadaniko, 93, Los Angeles, April 3; Fresno-born; survived by sons Reggie (Col-orado), Freddie (Utah); brothers Shigeo and wife Eva, Akira; sister Fujie Hori (Colorado).

Fujie Hori (Colorado).

Obata, Hajime, 83, Gardena,
April 13; Brawley-born; survived by
wife Hinne; sons Howard, Keith; 1
gc; brother Shuichi "Switch" and
wife Emie; brothers-in-law Kichio
Tsuchiyama and wife Charlotte
(Benicia), Minoru Tsuchiyama and
wife Ruth, James Tsuchiyama and
wife Kinue, Tom Tsuchiyama and
wife Kinue, Tom Tsuchiyama and
wife Kinue, Tom Tsuchiyama and
wife Kinue, Kiyoko Nakano, Rosie
Date and husband Tsutomu (Chula
Vista).

Oshida, Otto A., 80, Fountain Valley, April 13; Berkeley-born; survived by wife Dorothy Y.; sons Robert and wife Miranda, James and wife Margaret, Gary and wife Patricia; daughter Cheryl Oshida and husband Parvaze Bashir, 9 gc.; sister, Miyeko Kawabata.

Takatsui, Kentaro, 85, Tar-zana, April 20; Mukilteo, Wash-born; WWII MIS Army veteran; survived by daughter Wendy Hiro-ta and husband Larry; 3 gc.; sister Masako Takiguchi, brother Fumio

Takatsui.

Tanahara, Deo, 75, Hacienda
Heights, April 6; Los Angeles-born;
survived by brothers Tom and wife
Evelyn, Sam and wife Jane, sisters
Ruth Hiyane and husband George,
Katy Pena and husband Frank.

Tanikawa, Setsuko, 70, Los
Aneles, April 10; survived by
nephew Tamon Higuchi and wife
Yuka; nieces Kazuko Higuchi,
Keiko Matsumoto and husband

Katsuhiro, Fujiko Higuchi (all of

Yamada, Ema J., 77, San Diego, April 8; San Pedro-born; survived by daughter Susan Teeter and hus-band Wayne; 2 gc.; isister Mari Suko and husband Mitsuru; brothers Joe Ohno and wife Evelyn, George o and wife Kay.

Yamamoto, George Yoshio, 81, Long Beach, April 14; Fresno-born, Japan educated survived by daughters Irene Yamada and hus-band Stan, Kathy Hirose and husdaughters Irene Yamada and hus-band Stan, Kathy Hirose and hus-band Jeff; 1 gc.; sisters Setsuko Hashioka, Ayako Yamamoto (both Japan); brothers-in-law Ted Miya-kawa and wife Betty, Nob Miyakawa, Minoru Uyeda, sister-in-law Mitsuko Tashiro and husband Roy.

Yatabe, Thomas Tomio, 69, At-lanta, Ga., March 25, instrumental lanta, Ga., March 25; instrumental in formation of the Southeast chapter-JACL; Canada internee; survived by wife Roe Sumiko Mori; sons Graydon and wife Latha, Grant and wife Autumn (Lawrenceville, Ga.), Blaine (Albany, N.Y.); 1 gc.; predeceased by parents Gosaku and Tsune Yatabe.

Saku and isune ratabe.

Yokoyama, Fumiko, 80, Gardena, April 6, Alhambra-born; survived by husband Shigeo; sons Mickey and wife Elaine, Danny and wife Carol, 4 gc.

DEATH NOTICE

RUTH HIGA NAGAO

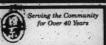
Ruth Higa Nagao passed away on April 20. Wife of Mataki Nagao, mother of Tim Nagao and his wife Karen, loving grandmother of Kaitlin. She is also survived by sisters Sada Grahame, Louise Nakauchi, Patricia (Chas.) Nakauchi, brother Sam Higa, and sister-in-law Naoko Higa. Also Higa, and sister-in-law Naoko Higa. Also many nices an nephews. Ruth lowed nature and being outdoors, whether it be hiking, gardening, birdwatching or tennis. Ruth will be greatly missed especially for her Words of Advise. Visitation was held at Rose Hills Mortuary or Tues, Apr. 24, 5 p.m. 8-30 p.m. and Wed, Apr. 25, 8 a.m. to ID a.m., Mortuary Stateroon, Gate 1. Services were held on Wed, Apr. 25, 11 a.m., Memorial Chapel, 3888 S. Workman Mill Road, Whittier, Calif.

LOU HARUO МІУАМОТО

FRESNO, Calif.—Lou Haruo Miyamoto vas born Feb. 10, 1919 in Monmouth and was born Feb. 10, 1919 in Monmouth and passed away April 18, it the age of 62. He was precided in death by his parents, Gunto and Chiyono of Fresso, his aster Shigelo Sally Nakatta and brother, Akira James Miyamoto, both of Therance. Mr Miyamoto served during World War II with the 442nd which started at Camp Shelby, Miss. and cortitude of no 100 S and MIS school in Fort Shelling, Minn. He retired through the Reserves as a L. Col. 18. school in Fort Shelling, Minn. He retired through the Reserves as a Lt. Col. He farmed in Terraince and Fresno before, retir-ing in 1984. Mr. Mrigamota loved, spending time traveling with his family-sind viewing sporting events. He is survived by his wife-of 57 years, Marion of Caruthers, daughter Joyce Aoki and the husband Shunji of Caruthers, sister Bise Morita and her hus-band John of Reedley, sinter-in-law Chipvon Miyamoto of Torrince; his grandchildren Miyamoto of Torrince; his grandchildren Miyamoto of Torra Traci and Steven of Torrance; his grandchildren d Steven Aoki, Kate and Kylie o and many nieces and nephews.



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Politics and JA Basketball Leagues Were Some of the Workshops Offered at Spectrum

By LYNDSEY SHINODA Writer/Reporter

Nikkei and Politics

Nikkei and Politics
With nore Asian American representation in government in the
21st century than ever, the workshop titled 'Nikkei and Politics',
was very relevant to today's youth
Workshop leaders were Nicole
Inouye, a former Mike Masaoka
fellow who currently works in the
Office of Congresswoman Juanita
Millender McDonald, Keith
Kamisugi, of Neihaus Ryan Wong,
Inc.; and Mariko Nakanishi of
Campaign for Justice. The three
talked about their diverse interestsin politics.

talked about their diverse interestsin politics.
Kamisugi explained that while
many consider politics a necessary
evil, he thinks otherwise. He
passed out an action planning list
called, "The Science and Art of Getting Chit Done."
His advice to the workshop attendees included communicating
well and often, expecting to succeed
but planning for failure, having a
positive attitude, and doing a lot of
networking:

networking.
Stanford University student
Miho Tanaka questioned the panel
about what could have been done Miho Tanaka questioned the panel about what could have been done differently at her school regarding a recent rash of anti-Asian graffiti. Because Stanford is a private university, the administration has a lot of pull, but workshop leaders gaid that contacting the JACL among other civil rights organizations was the right thing to Graffith of the second things in the end game, it's a way of getting things done,' said Kamisugi. "It's a vehicle to do good things in the conjunuity." Inouye and Nakanishi have shown just that. Inouye got her start as a heavily involved youth who grew up in JACL, eventually working in Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink's office in Washington, D.C. Inouye encouraged participants to look into getting involved with their local governments.

Nakanishi looked for support for Campaign for Justice, which seeks

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PHOTO: LYNDSEY SHINODA Workshop leaders for Nikkei and Politics were (from left): Nicole Inouye, Keith Kamisugi and Mariko Nakanishi.

to provide redress for former in-ternees of Japanese Latin Ameri-can descent. She gave attendees form letters to send to their respective government officials, and pre-

"These issues are not specific to just one group; just Japanese Americans cannot accomplish Americans cannot accomplish what we can as a larger group, said Nakanishi. "Visibility is so important, as is the potential for students to get involved. Don't disappear, it's important that you keep coming back."

All three workshop leaders externed the veed for present the rest of the research.

pressed the need for more activism among youth and said that every-one has a different talent which can be used in a positive manner.

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	DOMEI JAPAN TOUR (15 days)	SEPT 17
	TAUCK TENNESSEE/OZARKS/BRANSON (9 days)	SEPT 22
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Japanese American basketball leagues have been a prominent fix-ture in many of our communities over the years. If we didn't play in over the years. In we thank play in them ourselves, we have a cousin, friend, or sibling who is somehow involved in JA basketball. This workshop dealt with the changing status of the leagues, who should be allowed to play, and the future that lies ahead.

that lies ahead.

Workshop leaders were Jesse
James, a founding member and
past president of the Orange Coast
Optimists; Marcia Murota, a legend in JA women's basketball and
current coach of the Cal State Los
Angelos weren's basketball teams.

Angeles women's basketball team; and John Saito Jr., who coaches a JA boys team, and continues to play himself in the Nisei Athletic



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Union league.

The workshop turned into more of a small discussion group of about 10 people, with high school to college-aged youth represented. Each gave his/her-take on why JA leagues are even in existence, and what eligibility concerns should be addressed.

want engibility concerns should be addressed.

"Basketball is something that sustains life," said Saito. "Our cul-ture is sustained through basket-ball."

So the question was raised: What defines culture? "the ideas, customs, skills, arts, etc. of a people or group, that are transferred, communicated, or passed along, as in or to succeeding generations."

Workshop attendees were presented with questions like: Should those of other cultures be denied from learning about JA culture? Then aren't we practicing reverse racism? Rules of eligibility ultimately vary from league to league, so there isn't one universal rule in existence. James said that to be on an OCO

team, one must be an active mem-ber of the Optimists, that is, if one is not JA. Otherwise, being active

is not JA. Otherwise, being active is not a necessary requirement.

"The Number One reason parents bring their kids to J-leagues is so that they'll be with other JA kids," said James. "There are blacks, whites and Samoans that play, but we are a Japanese

ague." Still, James doesn't believe in

MEXICO HOLIDAY CRUISE (NEW PEDLICED PATE)

turning anyone away. Participants voiced concerns of teams that had players that were non-JA and deemed 'ringers." But when Saito asked which players were on teams that had ringers, the majority sheepishly responded with nods of the head.

James wondered if a team had a

the head.

James wondered if a team had a non-JA who was not a ringer, if they were a threat as well. Most said "no."

In a "time where Division One collegiate basketball players stem from JA leagues, people wonder if the leagues are still serving the same purpose. Do we want to have a league that's just for fun or one that serves as a base to develop fundamental skills for the future? With the recent backlash from those who feel the league discriminates based on race, there is talk of lawsuits from outside parties.

The JA leagues seem to be turning into something much more competitive than ever before. Teams that used to have only JA players are now very diverse in their programmer.

players are now very diverse in their racial makeup. Some consider this a good thing, but others believe it defeats the purpose of having a league for kids who would normal-

league for kids who would normally be sitting on the bench.
What is the future of the JA
leagues? Maybe they will continue
to thrive and grow, turning into a
multicultural breeding ground. Or
maybe the lawsuits will drive the
league beneath the hardwood
floors. Only time will tell.

AUG 26-SEPT 1

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2001 TOUR SCHEDULE

AFRICA WILDLIFF SAFARI HOLIDAY TOLIF (Postponed to May 2002)
GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR Tekyo, Hakone, Lake Harnana/Kanzanji Onsen, Hiroshima, Nara, Kyoto, ROYAL BRITAIN HOLIDAY TOUR

England, Scotland, Wale ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE JULY 28-AUG 4 Glacier Bay, Ketchikan, Inside Passage

MT. RUSHMORE-YELLOWSTONE HOLIDAY TOUR

y Harbox Kennebunkport, Andover, SEPT 30-OCT 10 NEW ENGLAND AUTUMN HOLIDAY TOUR Boston, Stratton, North Conway, Boothbo

HOKKAIDO HOLIDAY TOUR Tokyo, Cakes Akaru/Maraukusi uzu, artustus ratusa Sourkyo, Offoru Sopong, Shiroo, Nobolbethu Halidatate, WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN HOUDAY CRUSS: (SPACE LIMITED) Liston, Mayloco, Carabitoraca, Gibratia Rehand de Malenca Sercelon, Marausilia Mante Carlo, Livomo, Rome, HOLLAND AMERICA CRUSE LINE

Marselle, Martle Carlo, Llvarno, Rome, HOLLAND AMERICA CRUSE LINE.

AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND HOLLDAY TOUR.

Carrey/Great Barrier Reef. Sydney, Melbourne, Christchurch, Mr. Cook, Tweel.

SOUTH AMERICA HOLLDAY CRUSE. SYAPCE LIMITED).

NOV 13-DEC 3

Chile, Chileon Fjords, & Glaccies, Strat of Magellan, Cope Horn, Folkand Blands, Buenos Arles, Montevides, Bo de Jannero. HOLLAND AMERICA HOLLDAY CRUSE LINE.

MOZARTS MUSICAL CRITES HOLLDAY TOUR.

NOV 27-DEC 4.

Salzburg, Vienna, Prágue and festiv PÁNAMA CANAL HOLIDAY CRUISE IAN 2002

We can also assist you with: Domestic/International flights, Hotels, Cars, Individual Tour Packages, Cruises, Low Cost Airfares to Japan, Japan Railpass and Customized Group Tours For information and reservations: please write or call to:

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL 312 E. 1ST ST., #341, Los Angeles, CA 90012 Tel: (213) 625-2232; Fax: (213) 625-4347 Ernest & Carol Hida CST #2000326-10

West L.A. Travel 12012 Ohio Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025 Phone: (310) 820-5250, Fax: (310) 826-9220

2001 GROUP TOURS Japan Spring Ura-Nipon Tour Revisit Washington D.C./Atlantic City/Baltimore China Yangtze River Cruise Canadian Rookies Japan Summer Tour Ray Ishii Roy Takeda \$3,295 5/21-5/27 1,599 6/3-6/17 6/23-7/2 1.629 Ray Ishii Toy Kanegai 2,675 3,148 3,519 6/25-7/6 Japan Summer Jour
Waterways of the Czars
Canadian Discovery by Rail
Japan Hokkaido/Tohoku Tour
Australia & New Zealand
Splendors of Turkey
China Special & Hong Kong
New England Back Roads & Fall Foliage 8/14-8/29 9/5-9/14 9/17-9/27 3,095 3,349 Bill Sakura 14 9/19-10/3 Toy Kanegai 2.395 9/26-10/10 2,695 10/4-10/11 1,489 New England Back Floads & Fall Foliage Takayama Festival & Gero Onseri New York & Washington, D.C. Smoky Mountain, Georgia/N. Carolina/Tenn. Japan Fall, Foliage Tour China & Japan Tour Japan Special Tour Okinawa/Kyushu Tour Discover Vietnam & Bangkok Branson Christmas Tour 18 19. 10/10-10/26 1.599 10/14-10/21 21 3.095 10/31-11/15 2 995 3,200 3,195 2,249 11/3-11/13 11/12-11/21 23. Galen Murakawa

Please call for booking of any unescorted individual tours or for a detailed tinerary.

Travel meetings are held on third Sunday of each month beginning at 1:00 p.m. at Felicia Mahood Center 11338 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Los Angéles.