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**JUNE 6-19, 2003** 

### UCLA Inaugural Conference Looks at APA Health

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA Assistant Editor

Inadequate data and the dangers of lumping all Asian Pacific Americans into one category presents a misleading status on APA health, which in turn prevents researchers from addressing the needs of the different APA com-



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Dr. Marjorie Kagawa-Singer
shatters several myths about the
status of Asian Pacific American
health.

munities, said researchers, medical doctors and healthcare providers at an inaugural APA health conference held on May 24 at UCLA.

Many of the same people testified earlier at a panel before the National Center for Health and Vital Statistics Committee on Subpopulations, which is holding hearings throughout the United States for different segments of the population. The hearing on APA health was held at UCLA.

Dr. Vickie Mays, chair of the National Center for Health and Vital Statistics Committee on Subpopulations, said they are considering holding a second hearing for APAs in November. Part of the purpose of the hearings, Mays said, was to determine whether the federal health and human services offices were in compliance with the collection of data on race and ethnicity as issued in 1997 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB); whether those who use the data feel that it is

working; and to find out if the federal government has the data it needs to determine health disparity.

"What we're doing is we want to make sure there's adequate data to monitor all the populations that we need according to the OMB guidelines," said Dr. Nancy Breen, committee member and economist with the National Cancer Institute. "That means blacks, whites, Hispanics, Asians, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. We've been having hearings with the smaller populations in which there might be potential problems, so with the Native Americans and Alaskan Natives."

Mays said they will issue rec-

See APA HEALTH/page 12



# What the Future Holds

By MAYA YAMAZAKI P.C. Editorial Board Youth Rep.

I often wonder how my life would be different if the JACL

never existed. I would probably have had the free time to go and watch "X-Men 2" or "The Matrix Reloaded"



"with my friends, and I would definitely sleep more. But I also wonder if my parents would have been able to immigrate to America. I could very well be living in Japan today.

If it weren't for the JACL, would my parents be able to run their small business? Would I live

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# Inside the Pacific Citizen Spring Campaign ... 2 National News ... 3-4 Community News ... 5-6 Sports and Entertainment ... 7 Columns, Cartoon ... 8 Calendar ... 10 Obituaries, Death Notices ... 11

### Reality of JACL's Dire Financial Situation Hits Personnel

By CAROLINE AOYAGI Executive Editor

SAN FRANCISCO—After months of warnings and discussions, the JACL is now facing the realities of its dire financial situation.

At an executive board meeting May 31 talks of reduction in current staff hours and possible layoffs and closing of offices were put on the table, topics that had been avoided until recently.

"Things are grim, grimmer than they've ever been," said Floyd Mori, JACL national president.

"It's a setting sun right now," said John Tateishi, JACL executive director. "We're not going to be the same organization as we've been."

In a conference call with the entire national board, the executive members announced that JACL is facing a projected deficit of between \$135,000 to \$150,000 this year and will have to make some difficult decisions to get to a balanced budget.

Over the past several national board meetings expenses from all programs have continually been cut and now only one area remains: personnel.

"It's going to come down to personnel ... and it's going to be the

downfall of the JACL," said Tateishi, who expressed disappointment with the inability of chapters, districts and national board members to raise membership numbers. "The apathy is really disturbing," he said.

"We can't talk generalities anymore," said Art Koga, JACL national secretary/treasurer.
"There's got to be some drastic

changes."

Tateishi has placed all JACL staff on furloughs as of June 15 with work hours reduced to 80 percent. The national board has also directed all staff to reallocate their hours to focus solely on membership and fundraising. Over the past couple of years, JACL has depended heavily on these two areas for its revenues but lately the monies raised have not met the budget targets. Staff has been directed to no longer work on other JACL programs including community outreach, district support, legislation and advocacy.

"Because of our financial crisis, and until further notice, the national staff will be operating at 80 percent and has been directed to focus on fundraising and membership recruitment and will not be able to provide the assistance to chapters as they have in the past," said Tateishi.

Other options Tateishi may be forced to look at include the elimination of staff positions and exploring a more limited staff health benefits package.

"I don't know what the fallout is going to be ... we will have a really demoralized staff," said Tateishi. "We probably will have to close down some offices."

He added, "There may be a time when JACL has no offices out there ... but JACL will not be the same. JACL is the best APA organization out there and it's due to the great staff ... but there may be a time when we will not have the same structure."

"I know the staff may balk at doing this because we are a community organization ... but we need to redirect our direction," said Mori. "If we don't do it the day of reckoning gets closer and without much of a future."

Mori also added that the *Pacific Citizen* will also be on the table for further cuts, noting that the *P.C.* is currently a large part of the JACL budget. He sees *P.C.* likely changing its structure from a newspaper to a newsletter in the future.

In response, Gil Asakawa, P.C. editorial board chairperson,

See JACL/page 9

# JACL'S MID-YEAR CAMPAIGN Critical Times for JACL

By JOHN TATEISHI JACL Executive Director

As you'll read in this current

issue of the Pacific Citizen, we just had a national board meeting this past weekend and things are not well. I know



many of you are tired of hearing

See TATEISHI/page 9

2003 JACL NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE



June 20-22, 2003 Washington University St. Louis, MO

> 2 WEEKS

# California Lawmakers Ask Coble to Resign Over Internment Remarks; JACL Lauds Decision

By ASSOCIATED PRESS and *Pacific Citizen* Staff

SACRAMENTO—Without opposition, the California Assembly May 19 called for U.S. Rep. Howard Coble, R-N.C., to resign as chair of the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security because of his comments about the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

A bipartisan group of Asian American legislators questioned why Coble has kept his post since February, while it took just days for former U.S. Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., to resign as Republican Senate leader last December after appearing to praise Strom Thurmond's 1948 segregationist presidential campaign.

"Our voices have gone unheard. Even worse, they've gone ignored," said John Tateishi, JACL executive director, who with others suggested it's because Coble's comments were about Asians instead of blacks or Jews.

"We are baffled that the Congressman and the Republican leadership continue to disregard the concerns of millions of Americans," he said. "What kind of leadership do we have that they deliberately ignore and therefore implicitly endorse racist attitudes and remarks?"

Floyd Mori, JACL national president, said, "Rep. Coble needs

a lesson in the Constitution — first that the internment completely abrogated every right guaranteed in the Bill of Rights and second, that our government is supposed to be responsible to the people, not above them."

The Democratic National Committee also called Coble to resign, without result, and Assemblyman Ray Haynes, R-Murrieta, suggested the May 19 vote amounted to "partisan sniping" over remarks he called "stupid" but unworthy of an Assembly resolution. Haynes joined the 70-0 approval of a resolution that picked up 66 co-authors, however.

JA leaders hope the vote by representatives of the state with the largest concentration of AAs and JAs will add pressure on Coble 3,000 miles away.

Coble chief of staff Missy Branson said the congressman would have no comment beyond his written statement of Feb. 10 in which he said, "I regret that many Japanese and Arab Americans found my choice of words offensive because that was certainly not my intent."

During a Feb. 4 radio show, Coble disagreed with a caller who said Arab Americans should be confined, but appeared to defend the internment of JAs during WWII

"We were at war. They were an

See COBLE/page 9

# Pacific citizen

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### YAMAZAKI

(Continued from page 1)

in my suburban neighborhood? Would my Hapa friends even be here? Would I look in the mirror and wish for higher cheekbones and blonde hair?

Today I dedicate my time to the JACL to show my gratitude for all this organization has done. Everyday I encounter things that may not have been possible without the help, support, or dedication of the JACL.

Throughout history we have witnessed how the media can move people, inspire their thoughts and actions, challenge their ideas, influence their dreams, and rally their support. The *Pacific Citizen* is our media. It is our far-reaching voice that resonates across the nation and ties our organization together. It is an integral part of the Asian Pacific American community, filling a social niche that no other vernacular has adequately done.

The *P.C.*, unfortunately, is in a time of crisis. I dislike the word "crisis" because it is overused. Whenever people feel stress, they proclaim a crisis, and when a real crisis does come, the word loses its power. But now, we may be reaching a dangerous time of a real crisis.

With a dwindling staff and a great lack of resources, the *P.C.* is struggling to maintain its high quality reporting. At what point will we realize the legacy that will be forgotten and the dreams unfulfilled if we lose the *P.C.*?

For years we have been crying out that we are in trouble, each time hoping that our fears will be quelled by an upturning economy or a miracle. Now our entreaties

# Letters to the Editor

### A Remembrance, Topaz Pilgrimage 2002

I returned to the Topaz, Utah, camp site after 60 years on Aug. 10 to participate in the Topaz Pilgrimage. Topaz has a dedicated Museum board with Ms. Jane Beckwith as president, and board members from the Nikkei community as well as Caucasians from Delta, Utah.

When the Topaz monument was vandalized, (Mori Memo, "Visiting Our History," April 18-May 1), citizens of Delta were outraged. The Museum board posted a reward for information leading to the vandals' arrests. Flowers and an American flag appeared at the monument.

The idea for the pilgrimage came from Susan Stefanoff, a are stronger than ever. To keep the *P.C.* running, to keep our voices heard, to ensure the protection of civil liberties in the future, to forever continue the legacy of the JACL and to pass it on to the next generation with pride, please support the *P.C.* 

As a 20-year-old Japanese American, I would like to continue to be a part of the JACL and the *P.C.* in my future. I want my children to reap the benefits and contribute to the mission of our organization.

Just as I could never imagine a world without an American Ethnic Studies department at my college or a society that neglects to include me and my fellow APAs, I can never think of a time in the future without the JACL and the *P.C.* Unfortunately, in the near future, I may not have to try and imagine it. Reality leaves nothing to the imagination.

Deltan and now a Topaz Museum board member. Soon numerous volunteers formed the Topaz Pilgrimage Committee. All former inmates were invite to the day-long program that included a morning bike ride, tours, tributes, dedication of a new monument, barbecue (catered by the Utah JACL), and a big-band dance. Deltans provided tents as shelters from the sun during the dedication of the new monument. School bus drivers donated their time during the day.

At noon, the program at the Delta Park consisted of testimonials from ex-inmates and Deltans, representing literally "both sides of the fence." Throughout the day it was uplifting to see Nikkei mixing with local folks. I was impressed by the spirit of the event and the goodness of the Deltans.

The Topaz Museum board has restored half of a recreation hall used at Topaz, filled it with camp artifacts and purchased over 500 acres of the original site, thus preserving it for posterity. They became a Save America's Treasures project and have conducted an archaeological survey.

The next Topaz Pilgrimage will be Aug. 2, and will once again be hosted by the Topaz Museum board and the people of Delta. Everyone is invited to attend, see the camp site and museum, and talk about this period of our country's history.

Albert Mizuhara San Mateo, Calif.

### **Church and State**

Several newspapers feature Mr. Joseph Perkins of the *San Diego Union-Tribune* who propagates the myths so often associated with American history and who does a disservice to the students of history.

In a recent article, he concluded with "But the United States was founded by God-fearing men. And it's the godless element in this country — those who would bar even the mention of the Almighty in schools and other public settings — who have truly broken faith with this nation's Founders."

How wrong can the supposedly knowledgeable columnist be? His lack of historical knowledge speaks volumes.

First, this country wasn't founded by "God-fearing men." In fact, they escaped the mentality of the "God-fearing men" of European intolerance. They no longer believed in a "God" that they needed to fear. Their "God" was one of understanding, justice, and compassion. Secondly, the founding fathers were convinced that each opinion was to be respected regarding religious views.

The Declaration of Independence was never meant to be a legal document. The goal of its author, Thomas Jefferson, was to make an illegal rebellion appear as a righteous course of action by citing a "higher" authority — Laws of Nature (if you didn't believe in God), Nature's God, Creator, Supreme Judge of the World, Divine Providence. British laws did not permit the separation.

On the other hand, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights — the supreme laws of the land — were carefully constructed to respect the various points of view.

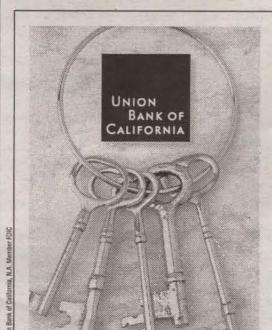
The authors of the Constitution began the Preamble with "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union." The nation's Founders knew this young union was far from perfect. In order to form a more perfect union, justice needed to be established first. That meant a fair system of federal courts had to be organized and a Bill of Rights added.

In that Bill of Rights, the concept of the "Separation of Church and State" was established in the First Amendment, "Congress shall make no laws respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; ..." What part of "no" doesn't Mr. Perkins understand?

There is no swearing to God in any official oath of public office in the United States. To add "God" would break faith with this nation's Founders. To add "In God We Trust" would break faith with this nation's Founders. To add "under God" would break faith with this nation's Founders.

Mas Hashimoto Watsonville, CA





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the writers.

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

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

### **Group Establishes National JA Political Action Committee**

A group of prominent Japanese Americans from across the country have joined together to establish the National Japanese American Political Action Committee (JaAmPAC). A nonpartisan PAC, JaAmPAC is not affiliated with a particular political party, candidate, or organization.

The charter PAC organizers are: Dr. Harry Abe, George Aratani, Leslie Furukawa, Thomas Iino, Ray Inouye, Sunao Ishio, Mieko Kosobayashi, Warren Maruyama, Etsu Mineta Masaoka, Dr. Warren Minami, Bert Mizusawa, Floyd Mori, Tomio Moriguichi, Dr. Ray Murakami, Bill Ouchi, John Tagami, George Takei, Yosh Uchida, Grant Ujifusa, Gerald Yamada, and Nancy Mizokami Yamada.

JaAmPAC has engaged the Washington, D.C., law firm of O'Connor & Hannan as JaAmPAC's general counsel.

"This is the first national PAC established to promote and defend interests uniquely important to Americans of Japanese ancestry," said Gerald Yamada, JaAmPAC's

JaAmPAC has three primary goals. The group plans to make federal campaign finance law contributions to key members of Congress who support issues important to the JA community. JaAmPAC will also oppose candidates who have stated positions and views that are anathema to the JA community.

JaAmPAC plans to encourage JAs to become more involved in the political process at the federal level, encouraging and supporting JAs to run for or seek federal office appointments.

For more information about JaAmPAC, visit www.jaampac. org or contact Yamada at treasurer@jaampac.org.

### **Nat'l JACL and PSW Announce 2003 Gala Dinner, 'An American Testimonial:** A Salute to the JA Leaders'

The national JACL and the PSW district encourage members, chapters, and friends to save the date of Sept. 13 for a national gala dinner, "An American Testimonial: A Salute to the Japanese American Leaders" to be held at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in Los Angeles.

This national dinner will bring together for the first time at one event four of the most prominent Japanese American leaders: the Hon. Norman Mineta, Sen. Daniel Inouye, Rep. Robert Matsui, and Rep. Michael Honda. There will also be a tribute to the late Congresswoman Patsy Mink.

"This is a rare, once in a lifetime opportunity," said JACL Executive Director John Tateishi. "To see these four Japanese American leaders together in one place is indeed a rare opportunity, and more importantly, it's a chance to honor and thank them for all they've done for the JA and API communities. I think we all owe it to them, and I'm pleased that the JACL is hosting this dinner to recognize their many contributions to the community and the nation."

The JACL last hosted a dinner of this magnitude in 1980 as a fundraiser to support the organization's historic redress campaign. Proceeds from this year's dinner will go to support the JACL's operations and pro-

"In addition to helping support the organization, this dinner is an important event that will honor four great leaders," said Floyd Mori, JACL national president. "I encourage all JACLers and our friends to join us on September 13 to show these national lead-

how much we appreciate all they've done for us over the many years of their service in the nation's capital."

To encourage and ensure JACL chapters and districts organize buses, caravans, and trips to attend the gala din-

\$55 annually.

ner, a special early bird rate for chapter members is being offered at \$1,250 per table of 10. Deadline for this special rate is Aug. 1. The nonmember price, which will be the regular member price after Aug. 1 is \$150 per person. Non-members wishing to receive the special price can become a member JACL, depending on chapter/location, for as little as

The Wilshire Grand Hotel in downtown Los Angeles is offering rooms at \$85 per night. The Miyako Hotel in Little Tokyo is offering a rate of \$79 per night single and \$89 per night double. Contact the PSW office at 213/626-4471 or psw@jacl.org for more information.



**MINETA** 

**MATSUI** 

INOUYE



tours or packaged trips should consider stopping several days in Southern California to visit the Japanese American National Museum, Go Broke For HONDA Monument, East West

In addition

to the special

dinner, chap-

ters and dis-

plan-

bus

tricts

ning

Players' David Henry Hwang Theatre, and take a historic tour of Little Tokyo, one of the three remaining Japantowns America.

Corporations and businesses seeking sponsorship opportunities should contact national JACL at 415/921-5225. For more information on the dinner or hotel/trip suggestions, please contact the PSW office.

### **APAICS Holds Annual Dinner**



**Photo courtesy of Kristine Minami** 

The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) held its annual dinner in Washington, D.C., May 8. This year's gala dinner was a tribute to Congresswoman Patsy Mink. Pictured (I-r) are the current and former JACL Washington, D.C., Reps.: Karen Narasaki, Bob Sakaniwa, Kristine Minami, and Ron Ikejiri.

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By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

☐ Viet Dinh, Author of Patriot Act, **Leaving Justice Dept.** 

WASHINGTON—Viet Dinh, a key author of laws increasing government enforcement and surveillance powers after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, left the Justice Department to return to his university post.

Dinh, 35, stepped down May 31, when his two-year leave of absence from the Georgetown University Law Center expired.

Dinh headed the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy since May 2001 and helped write the USA Patriot Act, which law enforcement officials credit with helping prevent terrorism and arresting terrorists. Civil liberties groups have criticized the law as a broad assault on privacy and constitutional protections.

"Viet brought a brilliant legal mind, boundless energy and tremendous loyalty to a very difficult job," Attorney General John Ashcroft said May 14.

☐ Wu Calls on Bush **Administration to Help Businesses Hurt by SARS** 

WASHINGTON—In letters to President Bush and the Small Business Administration (SBA), Congressman David Wu, D-Ore., on May 20 asked the SBA to make available low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans to allow small businesses, ailing because of the SARS epidemic, to meet their ordinary operating expenses and avoid bankruptcy.

"Many of the businesses, already

# **National Newsbytes**

weakened by a stagnant economy, have failed or been pushed to the brink by SARS," said Wu. "I call on the Bush Administration to provide economic relief to help these small businesses stay afloat through this difficult time."

Fear of SARS has caused a major reduction of travel to and from Asia, and a decline in tourism to America's Chinatowns. In certain business sectors such as restaurants and the travel industry there have been reports of an over 50 percent reduction in business.

■ More Asians **Getting Divorced** 

WASHINGTON—More Asian Americans are divorcing, census figures indicate, suggesting this segment of the population may gradually be shedding cultural taboos against the practice.

According to Census Bureau data released May 28, an estimated 488,000 Asians or Pacific Islanders age 15 and older in March 2002 were divorced, about 5 percent of that population, up from less than 4 percent in 1994. The changes show that more Asians may be considering American norms on divorce and marriage, said Wei Li, professor of Asian Pacific American Studies at Arizona State University.

Asians born in the United States may be more apt to consider divorce than those born overseas, she said. Nevertheless, the percentage of divorced Asian Americans is still less than half that of the U.S. population as a whole — 9.5 percent, according to 2002 data.

☐ Hate Crime Charges in Suburban Philly Catch **Attention of Group** 

LEVITTOWN, Pa.—The Washington, D.C.-based Council on American-Islamic Relations said it is monitoring the case against three suburban Philadelphia boys accused of beating an 8year-old because of his Middle Eastern heritage.

District Attorney Diane Gibbons on May 16 announced charges against a 12-year-old and two 13year-olds in the assault on Ahmed Hadi, a Bensalem boy who spent 1-1/2 days in the hospital after the attack. The three are charged with ethnic intimidation, simple assault, recklessly endangering another person, harassment and conspiracy.

and beat Ahmed, called him "Saddam Hussein's helper," and told him to "go back to Iraq," Gibbons said.

The father of one of the boys and the mother of another said Ahmed instigated the fight by making racist comments against the 12year-old, who is black. The two other boys are white.

☐ Sikh Community

PHOENIX—Arizona's Sikhs are using meetings and prayer vigils to help cope with the apparently hate-related shooting of one of its members, a community leader said.

Witnesses said the boys taunted

**Recovering From Hate Crime** 

Avtar Singh, 52, a Phoenix truck

driver, was wounded May 19 by men who told him to "Go back to where you belong to." Police said Singh, who wears a turban and untrimmed beard as part of his faith, was targeted because of his religion. Local and federal authorities are investigating the shooting as a hate crime. No suspects had been found as of May 21. Singh was listed in fair condition.

Meanwhile, the Sikh community has scheduled a meeting to spread security advisories and plan community education strategies.

"I'm reluctant to reveal the date, time or place in case someone would want to target practice on it," said Guru Roop Kaur Khalsa, a comunity spokeswoman..

Singh is the second Sikh in less than two years to be shot in the Phoenix area apparently because of his appearance. Gas station owner Balbir Singh Sodhi was killed in Mesa just days after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, allegedly because the gunman thought he was Arab.

**□** UC Regents Oppose **Connerly's Initiative** 

SAN FRANCISCO—University of California regents formally opposed fellow regent Ward Connerly's new campaign to ban collecting race data.

Connerly led the fight eight years ago to drop race in UC admissions and went on to successfully dismantle many public affirmative action programs statewide.

Connerly's new initiative, which goes before voters in March, could strike the "race box" from government forms by forbidding state and local governments from classifying students, contractors or employers by race, ethnicity, color or national

The measure exempts data collected for medical research, descriptions of prisoners or criminal suspects, and cases where the federal government requires that agencies report racial data.

□ Court Sidesteps Airport Screener Rule Challenge

SAN FRANCISCO—A federal appeals court declined May 20 to rule on whether the government can bar non-citizens from being employed as airline screeners, sending the case back to a lower court to determine the fate of eight former screeners.

In early May, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard the American Civil Liberties Union's challenge to that provision of the Aviation and Transportation and Security Act, which was passed in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

On May 20, the San Franciscobased appeals court said the act was amended last year to allow non-citizen U.S. nationals and those from American territories to be airport screeners. Green card holders — lawful U.S. residents who pay taxes and serve in the military — are still barred from employment.

The appeals court sent the case back to U.S. District Judge Robert Takasugi in Los Angeles, where the ACLU said it would focus the litigation on green card holders. The ACLU estimates 7,000 green card holders lost positions as screeners when the law was

### **APAs in the News**

Awards, Appointments, Announcements

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki is retiring from his post within the U.S. Army the Honolulu Advertiser reports. The first Asian American four-star general was appointed by President Bill Clinton and has held the position for the past four years. Shinseki's retirement party will be held June 11 at Fort Myer, about three miles from the Pentagon. The 35th Army chief worked to transform the U.S. Army to a lighter, faster, fighting force during his tenure. A native of Kaua'i, he graduated from West Point in 1965 and holds a master of arts degree in English literature from Duke University. He served two combat tours in Vietnam and for two years was the top Army general in Europe and commanded NATO forces in Bosnia.

California Assemblymember George Nakano, D-Torrance, was



named in the Democratic Leadership Council's (DLC) 100 Dem-New ocrats to The Watch: Gener-Next ation of Lead-

ership recently. The list casts a spotlight on elected officials and community leaders whose innovative ideas are modernizing progressive politics for the 21st century. The second installment of DLC's 100 to Watch touts 100 rising stars beyond Washington, D.C., and below the rank of governor.

The Colorado State University's Alumni Association presented Dr. John K. Matsushima the William E. Morgan Alumni Achievement Award on May 2. Matsushima, a

Colorado native, is professor emeritus in CSU's Department of Animal Sciences and has dedicated his life to education, and is a respected leader in the beef industry. Since beginning his career at CSU 30 years ago, Matsushima has taught more than 10,000 students and trained 55 graduate students, many of whom have gone on to become leaders in their chosen fields.

Kent Ninomiya, 36, has been named the new anchor for KSTP-TV in Minneapolis. He will anchor the main weekday newscast in the 14th largest market in the country. Ninomiya becomes the highestprofile Asian American male newscaster in any local market when he begins his anchor duties at the end of June. He will be partnered with Harris Faulkner, who is black, making them the Twin Cities' only front-line minority news team. Ninomiya's hiring ends the station's yearlong search for an anchor.

prominent Three Asian American business leaders -David L. Kim of St Louis, Lo-Yu Sun from Seattle and Fred S. Teng from New York City — have been appointed by Hector V. Barreto, administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, to SBA advisory panels. Kim, director of sales development and community relations for Anheuser-Busch, and Sun, owner of several Chinese restaurants in Seattle and other small businesses in Sacramento, have both been appointed to the SBA's National Advisory Council. Teng, president and CEO of Noble Communications Group, Inc., has been appointed to SBA's National Small Business Development

Center Advisory Board. Kim also received an Award of Excellence May 29 from New York State Gov. George E. Pataki in honor of Asian Pacific Heritage Month. The award recognizes Asian Americans in the Empire State whose outstanding dedication and service have positively impacted the AA community and the state.

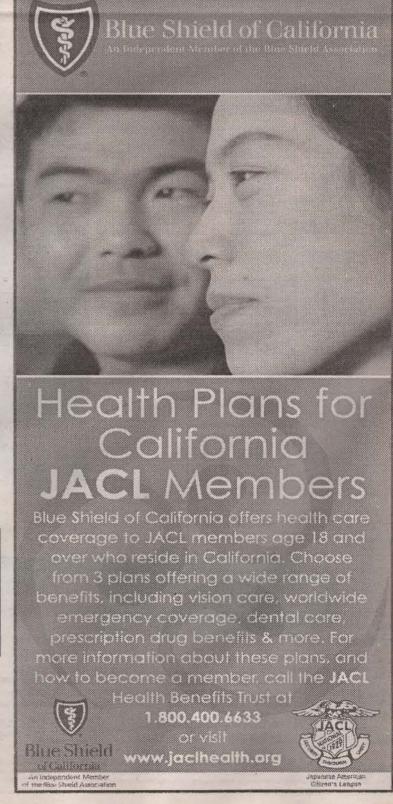
Having been named Sertoman of the Year, Ed Hida was presented with a Salute to Volunteerism award by The Metropolitan Milwaukee Civic Alliance at an awards banquet recently at the Pfister Hotel. The Sertoman Club is a civic service organization chartered in Milwaukee in 1921 that focuses on speech and hearing disabilities. The Milwaukee Club is affiliated with Sertoma International, one of the oldest civic organizations in the United States. A resident of Milwaukee since 1944, Hida is a longtime member of the Wisconsin JACL chapter.

John Chiang, currently a member of the California Board of Equalization (BOE),

announced his intention for California State Treasurer. Chiang is the highest-rank-



member of the BOE he administers fair, effective and efficient tax policy. He is currently serving his second term representing the Fourth District, which serves over 8 million residents of Los Angeles





### By the Board

David Kawamoto VP of General Operations

### **Marketing JACL**

t was recently my pleasure to "pinch hit" as the keynote speaker at the San Diego chapter's scholarship luncheon. I was really glad to have the opportunity to speak to so many nonmembers of JACL and point out JACL's accomplishments and what JACL means to our community.

The San Diego chapter requires scholarship applicants to submit an essay regarding JACL's programs.

One of this year's applicants wrote of the experiences of her grandmother, who was born in Japan and married a Caucasian. The compelling essay told of the grandmother's travails in immigrating to the United States and later in her attempts to become a naturalized U.S. citizen.

I used the opportunity of this wonderful essay to inform the scholars of JACL's work in advocating the passage of the Walter-McCarran Act, giving the grandmother the right to become a naturalized citizen.

Further, I informed them of the naturalization workshops conducted by JACL to assist our

community's members in passing the naturalization test.

I went on to point out many more of JACL's accomplishments through its many generations of work. I equated JACL to our community's "insurance policy." All of us have various insurance policies. You pay your premiums and, hopefully, seldom have claims. But, when you need the protection because of some problem the insurance company covers you.

Hopefully, you'll never face discriminatory practices or hate crimes, but if you do JACL will be there to support you. And, let me tell you, we have such a wonderful "insurance policy" that you don't even have to pay your premiums to be covered.

I rhetorically asked my audience if JACL could continue to provide such service if people did not join. I'm pleased to inform you that several of those in attendance approached me after the luncheon to obtain membership applications.

It continues to surprise me that JACL doesn't use the opportunity of its numerous community events to promote itself.

I took advantage of my opportunity on the podium to enlighten a group of young scholars and their families as to JACL and its community value. We need to do a better job of telling people about what JACL has accomplished and what it continues to mean to our community. I strongly encourage all of our membership to actively market JACL.

# JACL Chapters and CSUMB Work to Purchase Chiura Obata Mural

More than 50 years ago prominent Japanese American artist Chiura Obata painted a mural as a favor to one of his GI students.

Now local JACL chapters in the Monterey Peninsula area and CSU-Monterey Bay want to give the mural a permanent home on the university campus.

Obata, a Japanese immigrant who lived in Northern California for more than 70 years, is known for his unique landscape artwork and his tenure as a professor at UC Berkeley. He is also recognized for portraying the World War II interment experience through his artwork and for establishing schools at the camps.

Obata was uprooted from his home in Berkeley during WWII and was interned in the Topaz camp in Utah.

On May 16 the local JACL chapters and CSUMB held an event on campus to kick off their



Standing in front of Chiura Obata's mural are (I-r): CSUMB professor Chris Hasegawa, Sally Smith, Sue Antle, Obata's granddaughter Kimi Kodani Hill, and JACL Monterey chapter president Larry Oda.

fundraising efforts. The group hopes to raise \$65,000 to purchase Obata's mural.

The 1947 mural is titled "Point Lobos At Sunset" and measures 6 by 12 feet. Although Obata often worked with watercolor, this mural

is oil on canvas. The work depicts a coastal sunset in the Japanese sumi-e style of painting.

The JACL and the university hope to use Obata's work as a starting point to educate the community about the JA experience.

# Go For Broke Educational Foundation's 4th Anniversary Tribute to be Held June 14

The Go For Broke Educational Foundation will host the Go For Broke Monument's 4th anniversary tribute, "Honor Our Heroes," June 14 at the monument located in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

The anniversary tribute will take place on Flag Day, a day in which America commemorates Old Glory. Another symbol of patriotism is the heroic World War II Japanese American veterans whose spirit is carried on through

the Go For Broke monument. The monument includes 16,126 names of Nisei veterans, their officers, and Nisei women who served during WWII.

The keynote speaker at the tribute will be civil rights attorney Dale Minami of Minami, Lew & Tamaki of San Francisco. The Sansei attorney led the famous coram nobis case that vacated the U.S. Supreme Court's conviction of Fred Korematsu.

"It is the responsibility of this generation to educate the public of the lessons that can be gleaned by the history of the Nisei World War II veterans to ensure civil liberties for all Americans are possible," said Minami.

The event will take place from 10-11 a.m. at the monument located at Temple and Alameda streets.

For more information contact the foundation at 310/328-0907 or esoldier@goforbroke.org.

# Save The Dates

SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2003

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	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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/	21	22	23	)	25	26	27
	28	29	30				

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**Berkeley Chapter** 

The Berkeley chapter held it's annual scholarship awards banquet recently at the Silver Dragon Restaurant in Oakland. Six scholarships totaling \$4,650 were awarded to students from the East Bay area.

Scholarship recipient Jessica Kawamura of Head Royce High will pursue biology and ethnic studies at Brown University; Douglas Sekimura of Piedmont High, electrical engineering at UCLA; Lindsay Nakano of Bishop O'Dowd High, TV/Film at UC Davis; Alan Terusaki of Albany High, the sciences at Occidental College; Toshimi Fujikawa of Skyline High, civil engineering at UC Davis; and Justin Fukuyama of Campolindo High, mechanical engineering at UC Berkeley.

The Hon. Jo-Lynne Lee, the first Asian American woman to serve on the Alameda County Superior Court, spoke on how the detours in one's life can help find one's true destiny. Lee was introduced by the Hon. Ken Kawaichi, and the students were given words ofencouragement by former scholarship recipients Tomine and Kyle Morishita.

The chapter also honored Tak Shirasawa with its 2003 Pioneer Award, presented by Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, for dedicated and distinguished



ARIZONA-Top row (I-r): David Sullivan, Evan Fuwa, Michael Tang, Nathan Johns, Megan Ishikawa, Sara Edrich, Kris Nakashima, and Tony Harper. Bottom row (I-r): Bill Kajikawa, Mas Inoshita, Helen Y. Tanita, Susie Sato, and John Hirohata.

service to the chapter and the community.

Major contributors were Union Bank and Whitley Burchett Associates, Walnut Creek; Wells Fargo Bank, Berkeley; and Horizon Beverage, Oakland.

The scholarship committee included Ron Tanaka, chair, Brent Nakagiri, Neal Ouye, Al Satake, Kelly Shintani, Sharron Sue and DeAnn Tabuchi.

### Arizona Chapter

The Arizona chapter held its 42nd annual Sara Hutchings Clardy Scholarship and Gold Saguaro Tribute awards luncheon at the Glendale Civic Center recently, where more than 175 guests were in attendance.

Six graduating high school seniors each received a plaque and \$700. They were: Evan Fuwa, Dobson High; Tony Harper, Corona Del Sol High; Nathan Johns, Brophy High; David Sullivan, St. John's High; Megan Ishikawa, Gilbert High, winner of the Dr. Herb Jensen scholarship; and Michael Tang, Sunnyslope High, winner of the Joe Allman scholarship.

The chapter's annual Gold Saguaro Tribute awards were presented by Dr. Richard Matsuichi and Joe Allman to longtime JACLers John S. Hirohata, 1940 Arizona chapter president; Masaji Inoshita, 1953 chapter president; William M. Kajikawa, 1942 chapter president; Suzie Ishikawa Sato; and Helen Y. Tanita.

Keynoter was Marian Tadano Shee, senior dean of instruction at Phoenix College and a member of the Arizona JACL for many years.

Randy Nakagawa and Jill Yano served as master and mistress of ceremonies. The invocation was given by Pastor Sid Ogino of the Phoenix Japanese Free Methodist Church and the benediction by Rev. Ryuta Furumoto of the Arizona Buddhist Temple.

Scholarship committee members were Marilyn Inoshita Tang, Michelle Namba, Nancie Haranaka, Kathy Inoshita, Jo Ann Kimura, Seiko Watkins and Jill Yano.



BERKELEY-Berkeley chapter scholarship winners (I-r): Toshimi Fujikawa, Justin Fukayama, Alan Terusaki, Lindsay Nakano, Jessica Kawamura and Doug Sekimura.

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### Sansei Documentarian Seeks **Japanese Americans Living in Japan**

"Once and Again: Japanese Americans Return to Japan" is the latest documentary by Southern California-based media artist Art Nomura.

Supported by a 2003-4 Fulbright Research Grant, he will be spending Fall 2003 in Japan capturing visuals and conducting interviews for this project. The goal of the project is to increase understanding of the relationship between Americans of Japanese ancestry and Japan.

The documentary will contrast and compare the experiences of Kibei Nisei (Japanese born in the United States but educated in Japan) with current-day Japanese Americans who have chosen to live and work in Japan on a longterm basis. Nomura plans on interviewing 15-20 JAs in Japan to find out why they have chosen to be there and what they have gained or lost in making the decision to be an expatriate.

Preliminary interviews will be followed by more extensive interaction with selected members of the target group.

Nomura has worked in expres-

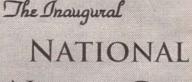
sive media of all types since 1968. His independent productions include documentaries, narratives dance, and music videos.

Many have themes connected to the Asian American experience. All are influenced by his experience growing up as a JA.

Video honors include a Gold Award from the Houston Worldfest for "Lotusland," Best Drama Pilot; three City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs grants; two Los Angeles area Emmy nominations; and four Regional Media Fellowships funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

He has taught TV/Film at Loyola Marymount University since 1990.

Help is requested in contacting potential interviewees. If you know of a JA who has made a long-term commitment to live in Japan and is currently living there, please contact Nomura at anomura@lmu.edu, phone 310/338-4568, or send contact information to: Professor Art Nomura, School of Film and Television, LMU, 1 LMU Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90045-8203. ■



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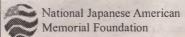
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# In Sports & Entertainment

HOCKEY

### **Kariya Comes by Athletic Ability Naturally**

ANAHEIM, Calif.— Mighty Ducks captain Paul Kariya, one of hockey's best players for almost a decade, comes by his talent naturally.

Kariya's late father, Tetsuhiko, was a rugby player for Canada's national team, and when he took up hockey in his mid-30s he showed an instant knack for that

"He was a great person, and an unbelievable athlete," Kariya said May 21 after the Stanley Cup finals-bound Ducks held a spirited practice. "He picked up hockey when he was around 35, playing in men's (recreational) leagues, and he was a natural, would score four or five goals in almost every game.

"He'd always bug me if I wasn't scoring, say, 'Hey, you want me to teach you a little bit?"

Tetsuhiko, who died last Dec. 27 of a heart attack, was a retired high school math and physical education teacher in Vancouver.

"When I was a kid, I watched him play rugby, and he coached me in rugby when I was in high school. It's a tough sport, no pads," Kariya said, smiling.

He is one of five children of Tetsuhiko and Sharon Kariya, also a retired teacher. He and his two brothers all played at the

The Go For Broke Educational

approach to telling the story of the

100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd

Regimental Combat Team, and the

Military Intelligence Service that

combines emotion-filled testi-

monies with humor and the grue-

June 11-15.

University of Maine, and younger brother Steve now plays in the Vancouver Canucks' sys-

"Both my parents were always very supportive," Kariya said. "They weren't the typical parents who were yelling and screaming. They stayed in the background. All they wanted was that we did our best."

Kariya paid a tribute of sorts to his father by playing in the Ducks' game against the Canucks in Vancouver the day after Tetsuhiko died. The Ducks forward had one assist in Anaheim's

"My father would have wanted me to play, I know that," Kariya said. "It obviously was a tough time for my family, but they helped me get through it."

Kariya wishes, of course, that his father could see him play in the Cup finals for the first time.

"I would have liked that very much," he said. "But it just wasn't in the cards."

Kariya, a 5-foot-10 (1.78meters), 182-pounder (82-kilograms), makes up for his lack of size with his speed and agility. He has 300 goals and 669 points in 606 regular-season games since coming into the league with Anaheim during the 1994-95 sea-

Anaheim has Although advanced to its first Cup finals largely on the strength of Jean-Sebastien Giguere's outstanding goaltending, Kariya has chipped in with five goals and three assists to help the surprising Ducks to a 12-2 record in the playoffs.

Kariya's upbringing obviously provided him strengths beyond his athletic ability.

"He's got a phenomenally tight family that's created his expectations and foundation for himself, and he knows who he is,' Anaheim coach Mike Babcock said. "I'm sure they expected him to be the kind of person that he

The Ducks' Keith Carney considers Kariya an outstanding cap-

"He's just a solid guy. Everybody respects Paul Kariya, the way he treats people, the way he conducts himself on and off the ice," Carney said. "When it comes to hockey, he's just professional in everything he does, from preparing for games to playing

"He's a great competitor, a winner. He does everything he can to help not only himself, but his teammates play the best they

TENNIS

### **Tennis Star Chang to Call it Quits**

PARIS—Michael Chang's French Open finale was forgotten the moment he lost, as thoughts turned to 1989.

When he walked off center court May 27 following his last match at Roland Garros, French fans rose to applaud an aging player whose greatest moment came at 17 on the same rust-colored stage.

Chang's game has slipped so badly that he was beaten 7-5, 6-1, 6-1 by an opponent with a sevenmatch losing streak, fellow thirtysomething Fabrice Santoro. But the postmatch tribute removed much of the sting.

"This tournament has been so special to me," Chang told the crowd, his voice breaking. "The funny thing is that in my 16-year career, I've only cried twice, and both times were on this court."

He first wept in '89 when he mounted a remarkable run to his only Grand Slam title. Cramps reduced him to serving underhand in the round of 16, but he still managed to beat Ivan Lendl. In the final, he upset Stefan Edberg to become the youngest men's Grand Slam champion.

Chang, 31, would have scripted his departure to include a few rounds of victories. But he has won only one match in 2003 and admits he's wearing down, which is why he plans to retire after the U.S. Open.

"The daily grind of going out there, working day in, day out, surely takes its toll after a while," he said.

Chang was part of a remarkable generation of Americans that included Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi and Jim Courier. He was the first of them to win a major title but never won another thereafter.

SOFTBALL

### Jung Named to NCAA **All-Tournament Team** University of Arizona shortstop

Lovie Jung was named to the Women's College World Series All-Tournament Team for her effort in UA's tie for a third-place finish in Oklahoma City recently.

Jung, a senior, led the Wildcats in hitting with a .417 average and five hits, plus tied for the team high with two runs batted in. She also batted .583 in UA's eight NCAA playoff

### **AUTO RACING** Takagi Named **Indianapolis 500** Rookie of the Year

INDIANAPOLIS—Tora Takagi, whose fifth-place finish was the best among nine first-year drivers, was selected Indianapolis 500 rookie of the year May 26,

Tagaki, driving for Mo Nunn Racing, started seventh and was among the leaders for most of the Indianapolis 500 race.

He led two laps before a late pit stop took him out of contention.

"It was a great race, lots of people," He said. "I saw 300,000 people and thought, 'Wow!' I'll be back.

Takagi, a former Formula One driver from Shizuoka, Japan, received a check for \$363,515 at the annual victory dinner. His winnings included \$25,000 as rookie of the year.

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Foundation announced that its The 82-minute documentary documentary, "A Tradition of focuses on the personal stories of Honor," has been selected as an more than 40 Nisei veterans from official entry to the Maui Film Hawaii and the mainland concen-Festival in Wailea and Kahului tration camps. "A Tradition of Honor" chronicles the lives of the Yonsei producers Craig Yahata Nisei from being classified enemy aliens, through their war experiand David Yoneshige take a unique

'A Tradition of Honor' Documentary

**Selected for Maui Film Festival** 

redefining what it means to be an

"A Tradition of Honor" is the first documentary created from the foundation's Hanashi Oral History

ences and beyond, ultimately

Program's video archive of World War II Nisei veteran interviews. The program was formed in 1998 by a group of young Japanese Americans who wanted to ensure the stories of the Nisei soldiers were preserved.

The documentary is scheduled to show on June 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the McCoy Theatre in the Maui Arts & Cultural Center. Tickets are available by calling 808/579-9244 or 888/999-6330. For more information go to www.mauifilmfestival.com.

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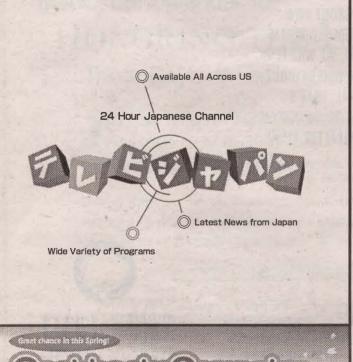
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Noriko Nakagoshi, starred in Morning Drama Series "Kokoro" **East Wind** 



Bill Marutani

### A Letter to Roy

EFORE HE DIED last fall, M.I.S. (Military Intelligence Service) veteran Joe Yoshiwara, in response to a request from a fellow M.I.S. vet (identified only by the name "Roy") from Hawaii, was impelled to recall some of his early 40's wartime experience in the South Pacific. It seems that the National Geographic magazine was engaged in gathering data focusing upon Guadalcanal during early 1943, including the unique role of the M.I.S. men. Yoshiwara, whom I once met briefly, was one given to economy of words. However, in investment. responding to his old army buddy's request (classmates at Camp Savage) Yoshiwara in

ed as a simple letter to you but it sort of got blown up somewhat." This is a brief summary of some of the experiences of yet another M.I.S.er.

AFTER UNDERGOING MONTHS of rigorous Japanese military language (heigo) training at Camp Savage, Minn.,

reaching back to events that

took place decades before,

ended up with a six-plus-page,

single-space typed response to

Roy. Apologetically he concluded his epistle-tome with, "I startYoshiwara shipped out for the South Pacific aboard one of those ubiquitous, plodding "Liberty" ships, spending weeks on the high seas of the Pacific. By January 1943 he was landed in Guadalcanal where he was baptized by nightly visits of Japanese "Charlie" bombers, which proceeded to relieve themselves of their loads of bombs. The foxhole which Yoshiwara had the foresight to have dug (by an island denizen for a pack of cigarettes, "smokes" having become one of the principal mediums of barter) proved to be a reassuring

THERE WERE RECONS (reconnaissance) accompanied by an M.I.S. man. On Bougainville Yoshiwara came across a Japanese plan-ofattack, which was translated in the field. Forewarned as to the enemy plans, the American forces were able to resoundingly repel the oncoming assault. On another occasion, there came into the hands of the M.I.S. crew a stunning Japanese military document, containing original brush (fude) entries captioned as the General Staff Operational Plans for Defense Lines of the Central Pacific. It dealt in detail with Japanese

plans to capture and control New Britain, Bougainville, New Georgia, Guadalcanal, on to New Guinea.

After a preliminary field translation which confirmed the gravity of the documents, the M.I.S. crew promptly dispatched the "hot" bundle "upstairs," where appropriate senior commanders would analyze the enemy's military strate-

AS THE PACIFIC WAR

ground on, Yoshiwara entered Manila with the American forces where he was part of the contingent reaching Santo Thomas University from which American civilian prisoners were released. In the meanwhile, Yoshiwara was promoted to warrant officer, followed by commission as 2nd louie, and but four months after that being promoted to 1st lieutenant preparatory to proceeding to Japan with Lt. Gen. O.W. Griswold of the XIV Corps who established his headquarters in Sendai.

Yoshiwara had been drafted pre-Pearl Harbor, along with some 50 other Nisei draftees assigned to a medical battalion which reflected the U.S. military's ambivalence over arming and placing Nisei into fighting units. Indeed, the next post assignment was Camp Wolters, Texas, where duties included "breaking rocks" by hand to build a walk for the Officer's Club. Some others who were there included Dr. "Tets" Hayashida, Fred Odanaka, George Tokunaga, and Roy.

Joe Yoshiwara's mother died while confined at Amache, Colo.; her son was then in the South Pacific. He was offered a funeral leave, but the death having occurred some three months before, it seemed pointless to make the weary round trip to the internment camp.

Aflter leaving the bench, Bill Marutani resumed practicing law in Philadelphia. His column appears regularly in the Pacific Citizen.



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### (Continued from page 1)

**JACL** 

warned against cutting the P.C., not-

ing that the paper is a valuable JACL resource for all its members and that it has an important legacy. In addition to the immediate real-

location of staff hours to focus on membership and fundraising, Mori formed a committee to work on refining the budget. Mori, Koga, Mark Kobayashi, NCWNP district governor, and staffers Tateishi, Clyze Izumi, JACL business manager, and Lucy Kishiue, JACL membership and fund development director, will meet on June 14 in San

TATEISHI

(Continued from page 1)

about our financial woes, and

believe me, so are we who have the

responsibility of managing our

finances and running this organiza-

As you'll also read in this P.C.,

some drastic measures are being

contemplated to tackle the predicted

cash shortfall for this and next year.

It's a continuous struggle. Our mem-

bership numbers are down, the market is suffering: it's a continuing

mantra you've heard over and over

So this year, our campaign to raise

funds through your generosity and

support is doubly important. No, it's

even more than that. It plays a criti-

cal part in how we decide to contin-

Make no mistake: we will contin-

ue to operate and we will continue to

be the great organization we always

have been, but it's going to take your

reaching deeper into your pockets to

help us, just as it's going to take long

ue operating as an organization.

again for the past few years.

need to raise \$408,452 to meet its and tough hours by the staff to help maintain our level of work.

be discussed at the meeting.

So far JACL's membership num-

bers continue to fall. As of the end of

April there were 19,108 members

compared to June of last year, when

the membership stood at 21,033.

Although the original goal for 2003

was to raise the membership num-

bers by recruiting 2,000 new mem-

bers, now JACL will need to get

4,000 new members to meet its

JACL has also received approxi-

mately \$63,048 in grants and fundraising as of April 30 of this

year, but the organization will still

budget.

So I'm writing — yet once again to ask for your generosity and support in our mid-year fund raising campaign.

Our financial woes seem to run in cycles, but this time, it's more serious and critical than it's ever been. For the immediate future, we're bent on raising funds to keep our operations going and to serve our membership, and in the long view, we're examining what changes are necessary to keep us from the down cycles.

These are extraordinary times for the JACL, and critical times. As I said above, I know you get tired of hearing about our financial situation. But the reality is that we're in a serious financial crisis and we need your

Please give generously to this year's mid-year campaign. If you can't write a check, we'll be happy to take your donation by credit card. This is your organization, so I hope you'll acknowledge this by your support.

Francisco. Koga and Izumi will present some budget cut scenarios to

2003 goals. JACL's financial picture has been negatively impacted by the poorly performing stock market, and as a result its funds are still struggling below principal values. As of May 29, the Legacy Fund sits at \$5,084,157, a small rebound from a few months ago.

During the executive session Milo Yoshino of the Diablo Valley chapter suggested the national board explore the possibility of releasing monies from the Legacy Fund. Although the board members agreed that this may be an option further down the line, they did not feel that looking at the Legacy Fund is necessary at this

With the focus now on membership and fundraising, the national

board is pushing several upcoming fundraising events. The JACL is placing a lot of hope on the National Dinner in Los Angeles Sept. 13 that will honor the Hon. Norman Mineta, Sen. Daniel Inouye, and Reps. Robert Matsui and Mike Honda. A national golf tournament in conjunction with the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation July 14 in Virginia is another fundraiser JACL is working on.

Also, the national youth/student conference is set for June 20-22 in St. Louis and both Tateishi and Mori expressed their disappointment with the lack of participation from the various districts. So far there are only 68 students registered and 34 are coming from the Intermountain District, mainly Utah.

"I'm totally appalled" that some districts are only sending three youth to the youth conference, said Mori. "It's up to us to do something to bring in the cash.'

The national JACL is also asking its chapters to forego \$46,000 worth of chapter rebates and return them as a donation to national JACL. Not disbursing these funds to the chapters will help the national JACL budget. But the national board unanimously voted to commit to repaying the chapter rebates and developing a plan to repay the

"This is really the chapters' money ... and I think the money should be going to the chapters," said Koga.

### COBLE

(Continued from page 1)

endangered species," Coble said. "For many of these Japanese Americans, it wasn't safe for them to be on the street."

Coble said most JAs during WWII, like most Arab Americans today, were not America's enemies, but President Franklin D. Roosevelt had to consider the nation's securi-

"Some probably were intent on doing harm to us," he said, "just as some of these Arab Americans are probably intent on doing harm to

The California legislators were particularly upset at what they called Coble's rewriting of history, by suggesting the internment was for the JAs' own protection.

"I still remember guards' rifles pointing inward to the camp ... not to protect us, but to keep us in," recalled Assemblyman George Nakano, D-Torrance, who was interned at age 6 and released when he was 10. "It is very dangerous for someone who chairs the Judiciary Subcommittee on Homeland Security to distort historical facts."

Assemblyman Alan Nakanishi, R-Lodi, also was interned as a child.

We were allowed to take only what we could carry," Nakanishi said. "But the most valuable thing we lost was our freedom. We must never allow this to happen again to Americans of any race.

Congress and California lawmakers are considering creating an annual "Day of Remembrance" to mark the internment.

AJR 30 is the second resolution to be passed by a state legislature in the wake of Rep. Coble's remarks. In April, the Hawaii State Legislature adopted HCR 26, which expressed concern over Coble's continued leadership role on the

House Judiciary Subcommittee. Also on May 19 the California Assembly sent the Senate a bill to let high schools give diplomas to internees or military veterans whose schooling was interrupted during WWII or the Korean War.

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San Francisco, Monterey/Carmel, Napa Valley, Napa Valley Wine Train.
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Sept 15	Branson Musical Getaway: 5-days,	\$1,049
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Sept. 28	Mexican Riviera Cruise: (depart from & return to Port L.A.) 8-days	from \$879
Oct 7	New England Back Roads Fall Foliage: (Opt. 2-nite Boston ext.) 8-day	ys \$1,599
Oct 13	Japan Fall Foliage Tour: 10-days,	\$3,095
Nov 3	Country Roads of Italy: (Optional 2-nite Rome ext.) 9-days	\$1,799
Nov 10	Okinawa & Kyushu Tour: 10-days	\$3,195
Dec 7	Eastern Caribbean Cruise: 8-days	rom \$1,649

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

### JACL-COMMUNITY endar

### **National**

Fri.-Sun., June 20-22—JACL Youth/ Student Council's National Youth Conference; Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.; workshops, forum on multicultural issues, mentorship luncheon, Vision Award banquet, much more. Info: Maya Yamazaki: youthchair@jacl.org; or Joshua

Mizutani Spry: youthrep@jacl.org. Mon., July 14—Inaugural National Nikkei Golf Tournament, "Nikkei 1"; 8:30 a.m. registration; 10 a.m. shotgun start; Westfields (a Fred Couples Signature course), 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton, Va.; practice time available in the morning; lunch on the course; awards buffet to follow; hosted by the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and JACL. \$200/person, \$1200/foursome with hole signage. Make checks payable to: NJAMF and send to NJAMF, 1000 Connecticut Ave. NW #304, Washington, DC 20036. Info, directions: NJAMF, 202/530-0015; njamf@ erols.com.

Sat., Sept. 13—National JACL Dinner, "An American Testimonial: Salute to Japanese American National Leaders"; Wilshire Grand Hotel, Los Angeles; honoring Hon. Norman Mineta (invited), Hon. Daniel Inouve. Hon. Robert Matsui and Hon. Mike Honda. RSVP, info: 213/626-4471; psw@jacl.org or www.jaclpsw.org. 2004: Tues.-Sat., Aug. 10-14—JACL

75th Anniversary Convention: Waikiki, Hawaii. Hosts, Honolulu chapter.

### East Coast **NEW YORK CITY**

Through June 20—Exhibit: "Noguchi: Contours"; UBS Paine Webber Art Gallery, 1285 Ave. of Americas; rare Isamu Noguchi scroll drawings, some not seen for 70 years. Info: 212/713-2885

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sat.., June 28—Washington, DC JACL Chapter Picnic; 12:30 p.m.; Wheaton Regional Park, Shelter D, Shorefield Rd., Wheaton; barbecue, pot luck, raffle, carousel, miniature train. Info: Craig Uchida, 301/438-3132.

Thurs., Sept. 25-Sat., Oct. 4—Korean War Veterans Washington, D.C., Tour, "Heritage of America"; to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of the Korean War; welcoming dinner, memorial service; includes JA Memorial to Patriotism;, Williamsburg, Gettysburg, Amish country, Philadelphia; open to the public. Info: Sam Shimoguchi, 310/822-6688; Paul Ono, 310/532-2495; Victor Muraoka 818/831-2178.

### Midwest **TWIN CITIES**

Sun., June 22—Normandale Japanese Garden Benefit; 1:30 a.m. tour of Science Center, 12 noon-6 p.m. dinner buffet; Normandale Community College, 9700 France Ave. S., Bloomington; boutique, shakuhachi, taiko, dancers. Tickets, info: Pat Kirsch, 612/866-5322; May Tanaka, 952/934-9238; Toshi Nishida, 763/588-1742. Sun., June 29—Twin Cities JACL Super Senior Luncheon, Info: Sam Honda, 651/429-3410.

### Mountain Plains

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Sun., June 22—New Mexico JACL Annual Picnic; 11:30-4:30 p.m.; Holiday Park (Comanche between Juan Tabo & Tramway NE); games, prizes, fun. Info: Esther Churchwell, 505/883-5320 evenings, 505/346-7832 ext. 3113 days

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo.

Sat-Mon., July 5-7—Dedication of the Heart Mountain WWII Military Honor roll; dedication, 3 p.m. on Saturday; hike up Heart Mountain on Sunday. RSVP by June 16: Info: Pat Wolfe, 307/754-2689; pwolfe@wavecom.net; or John Collins, 307/754-2272. Tour to Yellowstone on Monday coordinated by Bacon Sakatani, 626/338-8310.

### Intermountain

Sat-Sun., June 21-22—White River Thomas Reunion; see details at Ontario, Ore.

TWIN FALLS, Idaho

Fri.-Sun., June 27-29—JACL Bi-District Conference (IDC-PNW); welcome mixer, "Hint of Hawaii" (prefunction for 2004 convention); recognition/speakers: artist Roger Shimomura, political aide Dan Shimomura and Terrell Nagata, JACL Credit Union; workshops; bone marrow registry drive; golf in the canyon, bus to Jackpot, Nev. (golf there also), Minidoka pilgrimage, fishing for rainbow trout. Registration discount until June 10. Group rate at Red Lion Hotel until June 16: 800/727-5003; robin.bammert@westcoasthotels.com. Info: Micki Kawakami, 208/234-1654.

### Pacific Northwest

ONTARIO, Ore.

Sat.-Sun., June 21-22—White River Thomas Reunion; Info: Mary Ann,

Iseri Agency, 800/424-4226, or George 800/546-6739, Iseri, iserig@fmtc.com.

Fri.-Sun., June 27-29—JACL IDC-PNW Bi-District Conference; details at Twin Falls, Idaho.

SEATTLE

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 1-3-Minidoka Reunion; DoubleTree Hotel, Seattle Airport; all former Minidokans, their families and interested persons are invited; mixer, exhibits, panel discussions, banquet dinner with a short program; Sunday picnic. Reserve directly with the Hotel and mention the Minidoka 2003 Reunion for special rate: 800/222-8733. Info: Emily Momohara: EHMomohara@aol.com; 206/409-7931.

### Northern California

**BAY AREA** 

Sat.-Sun., June 7-8-Eden JACLsponsored Bazaar; 710 Elgin St., San Lorenzo; to benefit the Eden Japanese Community Center.

**BURLINGAME** 

Sat.-Sun., June 7-8—33rd Annual Art in the Park Festival; Washington Park, next to Burlingame High School; arts, crafts, entertainment, food; San Mateo JACL will have a hamburger booth. Info: Heidi Tanakatsubo, 415/978-3168, or Craig Ichiuji, 650/342-8857. **OAKLAND** 

Sat., Aug. 2—Contra Costa JACL's "Day With the Oakland A's"; 1:05 p.m.; Network Associates Coliseum: A's vs Yankees, with Hideki Matsui. RSVP ASAP: Esther Takeuchi, 510/223-2258

**SACRAMENTO** 

Through June 15—Exhibit, "The Whole World's Watching," on the peace and social justice movements of the 1960s and 1970s; Golden State Museum, 1020 "O" St. Info: 916/653-5864.

**SAN FRANCISCO** 

Sat., June 14—San Francisco JACL's Youth Fishing Derby. Info: 415/273-1015.

SANTA CRUZ

Sat., June 21—Santa Cruz Japanese Cultural Fair; 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Mission Plaza Park; Watsonville/Santa Cruz JACL will have a booth. Info: www.jcfsc.org

**STOCKTON** 

Sun., June 8—Stockton JACL Scholarship Luncheon; 1-3 p.m.; King's House Restaurant, 104 E. Market St. Info: Joyce Tsutsumi, 209/478-2968, or Chieko Nomura, 209/474-6309.

Sat., June 21—Asian Pacific American Night with the Stockton Ports; 5 p.m.; entertainament, information booths, baseball food; fireworks. Tickets: Edwin Endow, 209/477-6905 evenings and weekends.

### **Central California FRESNO**

Sun., Sept. 21-Shinzen Run and Walk; 6 a.m. registration; Woodward Park; to benefit the Nikkei Service Center, the Shinzen Friendship Garden and the Fresno JACL Scholarship Endowment Fund. Info: Bobbi Hanada, Fresno JACL, 559/434-1662.

### Southern California

GLENDALE

Through Aug. 3—Exhibit, "The Art of Setsu: Portraits and Panoramas"; Forest Lawn Museum, 1712 S. Glendale Ave.; Setsu's work explores the Japanese American culture; meet the artist at 1 p.m. on June 21. Info: 800/204-3131; www.forestlawn.com. **LOS ANGELES** 

Sat., June 14 and June 21—Two-day UCLA Extension course in "Finding Family Stories"; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on June 14 at the Japanese American National Museum, and 9 a.m.-12 noon on June 21 at the California African American Museum. Registration, info: UCLA 310/825-9971; www.uclaextension .org.

Wed., & Sat., June 25 & 28—Go For Broke Educational Foundation Volunteer Orientation; all ages and skill levels welcome; internship opportunities. Open to the public, but RSVP by June 20: Dori Ishiara, 310/222-5704; dori@goforbroke.org.

Thurs., June 26—Japanese American Cultural and Community Center's 23rd Anniversary and Pacific Pioneer Awards Dinner; George and Sakaye Aratani/Japan America Theatre: honoring the Rafu Shimpo, Southern California Flower Market, Union Bank of California and Chaya Restaurant Family. RSVP: info: JACCC, 213/628-2725; ac@jaccc.org.

Sun., July 13-Third Annual Community Law Day; 1-3 p.m.; Venice Japanese Community Center, 12448 Braddock Dr.; light refreshments; topics: privacy, identity theft, consumer fraud, internet security, durable powers of attorney; sponsored by the Venice Culver JACL. RSVP by July 7 (requested but not required): Diana Nishiura, 310/838-9862, or Florence Ochi, 323/291-1450.

Sat., July 19—Japanese American Community Day at Dodger Stadium; 1:10 p.m.; Dodgers vs. St. Louis Cardinals; see Hideo Nomo, Kazuhisa Ishii, So Taguchi. Group Discounts. Info: Asian Oprations Dept., 323/224-4271

RIVERSIDE

Sun., June 29—Riverside JACL Community Picnic; Sylvan Park, Redlands.

SAN DIEGO

Sat., June 21-9th Annual Kids' Culture Day; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; San Diego Buddhist Temple; sponsored by the San Diego JACL. Registration \$15. Info: 619/230-0314.

Sun., June 29—San Diego JACL's Annual Community Picnic; 11 a.m.dusk; East Crown Point Shores, Mission Bay. Info: 619/230-0314. WEST COVINA

Sat., June 21—East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center's Casino Night 2003, "Here's to Hollywood"; 6-10 p.m.; 1203 W. Puente Ave.; must be at least 18 years old. Tickets, info: Naomi Nakamura, 626/573-9554, Irene Takamatsu, 909/594-9012.

### Arizona - Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Tues.-Thurs., Oct. 28-30—Rohwer Jr. High School Reunion; California Hotel & Casino; including students who attended Rohwer Jr. High from 1943-45 (graduating classes of 1948, '49, '50). Registration forms, info: Sets (Izumi) Asano; 310/515-0889; Toshi Kusumoto, 213/382-5712; or Pat Toshiko (Tamura) Muraoka, 310/532-

**RENO** 

Sun., June 15—Reno JACL Father's Day Potluck; 12 noon; Knights of Pythias Hall, 980 Nevada St. Info: 775/853-8850.

**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.

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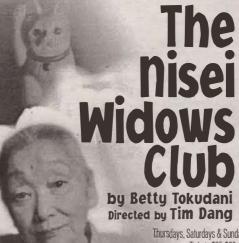
**GARDENA** Saturday, June 21 9AM to 11AM Ken Nakaoka Center 1670 W. 162nd St.

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### Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Adachi, Tadao, 86, Gardena, May 10; Manhattan Beach-born; survived by wife Yukiko; daughter Louise Shimizu; daughter-in-law Akemi Adachi; 6 gc.; sister Miyoko (Norio) Kiyama; brother Hiroshi.

Fukumura, 96, Kahului, Hawaii, May 17; Japan-born; survived by wife Haruko; sons George, Richard; daughter Helen Miyabuchi; 10 gc., 4 ggc.

Furukawa, George "Juggy" Toshiaki, 87, Los Angeles, May 15; Denver-born; survived by son Kenny Yoshio (Dianne Keiko); 2 gc.; brothers Richard Isao, Louis Masamichi, John Mutsuo.

Iba, Harry Hayao, 87, Los Angeles, May 13; Los Angelesborn; Amache, Colo., internee; survived by wife Nobuko; daughter Joan (Kay) Kobayashi; sons Larry (Phyllis), Dennis (Laurie); 5 gc.

Ikari, Ike Torao, 81, Honolulu, May 17; Honolulu-born; retired U.S. Army veteran; survived by wife Florence; sons Richard, Gary, Michael; daughter Evelyn Kinoshita; 6 gc.; brother Sueto; sisters Ruth Okase, Iris Yano.

Inafuku, Jane Chiyo, 91, Westlake Village, May 10; Kekaha, Kauai, Hawaii-born; survived by son Paul (Nancy); daughters Betsy (Susumu) Okimoto, Gene (Ernest) Tokifuji; 6 gc., 2 ggc.; sister Peggy Nakakuni of Hawaii.

Kamikawa, Juichi, 80, Rockville, Md., April 2; 442nd RCT U.S. Army WWII veteran; a member of the American Society of Appraisers, he appraised works of art for the Smithsonian Institution and other historical trusts and foundations.

Kubota, Yoshiko, 101, Gardena, May 10; Hiroshima kenborn naturalized U.S. citizen; sur-

vived by daughters Sadako, Toyoko, Emiko and Hisako Kubota; 1 gc., 2 ggc.; sister Mitsuko Kawashima of Japan; predeceased by husband Sadaichi, daughter Teruko.

Maeshiro, Jack Kenneth, 49, Los Angeles, May 6; Los Angelesborn; survived by daughter Ashley; son Jack; father Ken; brother Jamie; sister Sandy (Kenwood) Jung.

Marquez-Mitsunaga, Olga; 63, Los Angeles, May 7; Los Angeles-born; survived by husband Kenneth Mitsunaga; sons Troy, Brandon; daughter Letty; 4 gc.

This compilation appears on a spaceavailable basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcome. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$15 per column inch. Text is reworded as needed.

Mayeda, Harry K., 91, Chicago, April 16; Sacramento-born; Tule Lake internee; first president of the Chicago Resettlers Committee; survived by wife Toshiko; daughter Sibyl M. (Jack) Yau; sisters Helen T. (Clarence) Saiki, Pearl Zarilla.

Miyasaki, Hisa, 94, Los Angeles, May 8; Bellingham, Wash.-born; survived by son Tommy (Gail); daughters Patricia (Clyde) Ikehara of Reno, Nev., Bobbie (Allan) Mizuhara; 8 gc., 8 ggc.;

Nakamura, Masaichi, 79, Pacoima, May 15 service; Los Angeles-born; survived by sons Russell M., Glen S. (Stephanie), Phil T. (Bridget); daughter Jane K. Nakamura; 3 gc.; brother Paul.

Nishiura, Jerry K., 100, Chicago, May 11 service; survived by daughter Mary Nishiura; sons Garry (JoAnn), Bing (Carol); 1 gc.

Odanaka, Fred Hideo, 88, Kaneohe, Hawaii, April 22; U.S. Army veteran; survived by daughter Susan (Roy) Osada; sons Erick, Michael (Margie); 4 gc.; sisters Naoko Saito, Emy Hirano; sisterin-law Katsuko Odanaka; predeceased by wife Fukiko Uba.

Ota, Kyoko, 83, San Francisco, May 20; Salinas-born; survived by wife Mitsugi; son Koichi (Marlene); daughter Machiko (Jerry) Domoto; 2 gc., 2 ggc.; brother Ichiro Hayashi.

Sato, Velma M., 76, Ontario, Ore., May 9; Los Angeles-born; San Fernando-raised; Manzanar internee; survived by sister Lillian Nishizaki of Ontario; predeceased by parents Dairoku and Yasu.

Shibukawa, Fred H., 80, Monterey Park, May 19; Seattleborn; survived by wife Toshiko; daughters Dawn (Norman) Inouye, Rene (Peter) Kent; brothers George (Yoshiko), Tadashi (Chiya); sisters-in-law Yoshiko Watamura, Sally Shibukawa.

Soeda, Noboru, 87, Los Osos, May 13; Lahaina, Hawaii-born; Japan-educated; formerly of Santa Maria; predeceased by wife Natsuko Nishimoto; survived by sons Ron (May), Harold (Jeanne); 1 gc.; brother Toshiyuki of Japan; brother-in-law Jiro (Haru) Hara of Gardena; sisters-in-law Kikue Isobe and Kimi Kawasaki of Gardena; aunt Fujie Idemoto of Watsonville.

Takade, Yasue, 78, Mar Vista, May 16; Wakayama, Japan-born; survived by sons Manabu (Linda), Etsuo (Jackie); daughter Masako (James) Ido; 6 gc.; two brothers and four sisters in Japan; predeceased by husband Sakuichi.

Takahashi, Hiroko, 42, Whittier, May 14; Paraguay-born; survived by husband Koji; son Chikara; daughters Ami and Ayumi Takahashi; father Shizuharu Wakamori of Paraguay.

Takeda, Hiroshi, 84, Santa Barbara, April 28; Oxnard-born; Japan educated (he witnessed the atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima); anti-nuclear war activist

### **OBITUARY**

### Linda Mabalot, VC Director, Passes

Linda Mabalot, executive director of Visual Communicatons (VC), passed away May 19 from cancer. She was 49.

The youngest child of farm laborers Thomas and Rosalina Mabalot, she grew up on Liberty Island near the Sacramento Delta in Northern California.

Mabalot entered the University of California, Davis, through the Educational Opportunity Program, hoping to become a doctor to help migrant farm workers.

But when she was ready to enter medical school in 1976, UC Davis threatened to cut the EOP program and she joined other students in opposing the cut, and thereafter got involved in community organizing, conducting oral history interviews and introducing the students to the Filipino farm laborers she grew up with.

In 1977 Mabalot moved to Los

Angeles, where she attended a VC videotape screening on redevelopment issues in Little Tokyo. Realizing the power of the media in addressing social issues, she produced "Manong," a film on the Filipino American community, for VC.

In 1984, Mabalot was named executive director of VC.

A public ceremony will be held for Mabalot on June 22 a 4 p.m., at the Aratani/Japan America Theatre in Los Angeles.

A fund has been set up in her name. Checks should be made out to Visual Communications; indicate "for the Linda Mabalot Legacy Fund" and send to Visual Communications, 120 Judge John Aiso St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90012-3805.

Joyce Nako contributed to this article.

and past v.p. of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission OB Kai USA; 1994 Nisei Pioneer honoree; survived by wife Helen Sachiko; sons Mike (Rosemary), Ron (Lainie); daughter June (Larry) Iwafuchi; 5 gc.; sister Miyo Tabata; brother George (Doris).

Tsukamaki, Ethel Haruko, 84, March 19; Ontario, Ore.; Seattleborn, formerly of Fife, Wash., and Pleasant Valley, Ore.; survived by daughters Carolyn Thompson of Eugene, Ore., Ethel Ann Nishiyama of Seattle; son William Ben of Eugene; 1 gc.; 8 ggc.; sisters Carol Wininger of Ontario, Grace Shigeno of Chehalis, Wash., Ruth Tanaka of Redlands; brothers John Kobayashi of Lawndale, George Kobayashi of Seattle.

Uneda, Junko, 26, Lake Forest, May 19; Los Angeles-born; survived by father Roy Isamu Uneda; brother Dan Susumau (Patricia Moran) Uneda of Florida.

Watanabe, Alice Katsuko, 80, Sacramento, May 17; Marysvilleborn; survived by husband James; son Marc; daughters Marsha Matsuda, Marlene Watanabe; 2 gc.; sister-in-law Sumiko; brothers-in-law Louie (Emi), Jack (Kazuko).

Yoshimoto, Akira "Jay," 89, Ventura, May 4; Tokushima, Japan-born; post-WWII unofficial translator to the Occupation forces; survived by daughters Hiroki Yoshimoto of Ventura, Dr. Shoko Miura of Tokyo; 2 gc.; predeceased by wife Teo.

Yoshioka, George, 77, Monterey Park, May 8; San Francisco-born; WWII Army veteran; survived by wife Olympia Yoko; daughters Lynne (David) Takeuchi, Chris Yoshioka; 3 gc.; brothers Masaharu (Marché), Thomas.

DEATH NOTICE

### ALICE SACHIKO UCHIYAMA

PHOENIX Ariz. — Alice Sachiko Uchiyama, 93, passed away quietly on May 17. Alice is survived by four sons



daughters, 14 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren, all of whom she adored. She was born July 5, 1909, in Seattle, Wash., into the

Tatsujiro Akiyoshi family, early pioneers from Japan to the Northwest Pacific coast. After internment in Manzanar, Calif., Alice spent the majority of her life in Chicago, Ill. She was a member of Christ church of Chicago and worked as a bookkeeper for Westinghouse. Upon retirement, she provided services wherever needed, including the Japanese American Service Committee. Alice moved to Phoenix in December 2000. A small service was held in her memory in Phoenix on May 18 and a formal memorial service was held on May 24 at Lake View Funeral Home in Chicago.

# Pacific citizen

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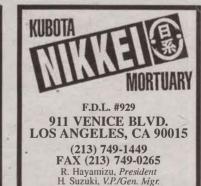
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### **APA HEALTH**

(Continued from page 1)

ommendations to the secretary of health based on the hearings. "We just had the hearings so I don't even know in my head if it's all clear or not, but I would say overwhelmingly, we heard that there is a need for data in some of the even geographically concentrated populations or smaller populations, so I think that without a doubt, that will be a definite recommendation."

Dr. Marjorie Kagawa-Singer, associate professor at UCLA's School of Public Health and the Asian American Studies Center, noted that in 1985 the Secretary of Health published a report titled, "Task Force on Black and Minority Health," in which APAs, as an aggregate, were considered healthier than all racial and ethnic groups in America.

"We know that is not true," said Kagawa-Singer. "That is a myth ... When you lump all of us together, those in highest need are totally invisible and inaccessible."

To illustrate her point, she said although available data indicate that APAs, as an aggregate, have a low rate of infectious diseases, when APAs are separated by ethnicity, some groups have an unusually high rate of infectious diseases.

Mary Anne Foo, executive director of the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance, noted that although heart disease was the No. 1 problem among APAs, as an aggregate, "some Asian Pacific Islander ethnic groups have some of the highest rates of cancer than any other population in the United States."

Foo said men of Filipino, Korean and Southeast Asian descent have the highest rate of lung and bronchial cancer in the United States. She added that Southeast Asian men also have the highest rate

of liver cancer, with Vietnamese men having liver cancer 11 times that of white men.

Among Vietnamese and Korean women, Foo said they have the highest rate of cervical cancer in the United States. Japanese American women have the highest rate of breast cancer, said Foo.

"We want to give you this breakout data so you can see that among certain populations, certain cancers are more prevalent," said Foo. "It's very important to disaggregate the data. When you put Asians and Pacific Islanders together, what happens is that the rates are lower, and you don't know which populations are in need."

Dr. Timothy Pan, board-certified internist and staff physician at the UCLA Center for East-West Medicine, said APAs, as an aggregate, had a lower rate of heart disease than the national average, but when APAs were disaggregated, the Filipinos, Samoans and Chamorros (natives of Guam) had "rates that are way off the scale, more than African Americans." Yet while there are a number of heart health literature geared towards African Americans, Pan said there are none for vulnerable APA groups.

Dr. Steven Han, professor of medicine and surgery at UCLA's Pfelger Liver Institute, focused on the high prevalence of Hepatitis B in the Asian community. Although Hepatitis B affects roughly 0.3 percent of the American population, more than half the estimated 1.5 million carriers in the United States are

Han said until recently researchers did not know how 35 percent of Hepatitis B patients in the United States contracted the virus. Although it was commonly known that Hepatitis B can be contracted through sexual contact, intravenous drug use and contact with Hepatitis B patients, Han said researchers only recently discovered that mothers can

pass the virus to their children. which is the common form of infection among APAs. Other infection sources include acupuncture, blood transfusions (prior to 1992) and on rare occasions the sharing of toothbrushes or nail files.

Han said most people with Hepatitis B exhibit no symptoms, but if untreated the virus causes cirrhosis of the liver, liver failure and eventually liver cancer.

In Asians who acquire Hepatitis B as a child, Han said the risk of developing liver cancer increases when they are in their 30s and 40s. But because there are aggressive treatments now available, Han urged those who suspect they may be infected to get tested.

Dr. Mona Roy, a fellow in endocrinology at the Keck School of Medicine, noted that 90-95 percent of Asians who develop diabetes have the Type II diabetes, which is brought on mainly due to obesity, diet and a sedentary lifestyle.

Obesity is usually determined by the body mass index (BMI), but Roy said the World Health Organization is considering lowering the BMI numbers for Asians as a result of recent studies.

Pan also touched upon the BMI changes being considered by the WHO. Pan said for whites a BMI of 25 is considered normal. However, new research done with people in mainland China found that those who had a BMI of 23 exhibited a sharp increase in hypertension. The WHO is now considering lowering the BMI for Asians to between 18.5 and 22.9, said Pan.

As researchers shared the importance of disaggregating data, they also emphasized the need to advocate for better health care policies for

Of most concern was the impact the Racial Privacy Initiative may have if passed. The initiative, being pushed by Ward Connerly, will appear on the March 2004 ballot in

California, and would prohibit California from collecting data on race or ethnicity except in specific

"This will eliminate race or ethnicity from any data being gathered, especially around health care," said Foo. "If this happens, we'll never know which populations are in most need and which populations have higher rates of certain diseases."

Kazue Shibata, founder and executive director of the Asian Pacific American Health Care Venture, concurred that it was important to oppose the Racial Privacy Initiative next year. If the initiative passes, all the efforts of the last 10 to 15 years may be lost, she said.

Shibata noted that the current political climate was "very, very tough," given the huge deficit plaguing the federal and California state budget. Many public health programs are being reduced or eliminated altogether, said Shibata.

Shibata was particularly concerned over the reduction or elimination of what some consider nonessential services such as bilingual translation.

"These services serve as gateway services to other medical health services for our community," said Shibata. "For example, bilingual outreach to our community about the harmful effects of tobacco increases access to physical checkups and cancer screening. People also begin to understand what is available in the community. The reduction in services or elimination will definitely have a ripple effect."

To ensure that low-income APAs are not adversely affected, Shibata urged everyone to "keep raising the importance of ensuring access to health care for all people in the state."

Dr. Paul Ong, professor at UCLA's School of Urban Planning and Social Welfare and director of the Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies, said APAs needed to

be counted and needed to be heard. "We want better data not for data

sake," said Ong, "but ultimately for improving health and the quality of

As a researcher, Kagawa-Singer said, all too often she comes across medical articles that cite the APA category with data "not available" or "not collected" or "not analyzed." One time a colleague suggested to her that she use data collected from the "other" category since 96 percent of the respondents were APAs. But part of the difficulties in gathering data, Kagawa-Singer said was the language barrier since 55 percent of APAs speak English only a little and there are more than 100 different APA languages.

Dr. David Takeuchi, associate dean of research in the School of Social Welfare at the University of Washington, addressed the tension existing between scientists and those who push for social justice. He noted that some scientists did not want to have their research perceived as biased towards any racial group.

"This tension has created many obstacles in making improvements, especially around health issues," said Takeuchi. "We need a third space, a space where people can do good science and still have the outcome of improving life for people in the different communities.'

As part of APA Heritage Month, Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson also launched two online health resources for APAs. The websites offer multilingual information in Cambodian, Chinese, Hmong, Korean, Laotian, Samoan, Thai, Tongan and Vietnamese. The website is at www.healthfinder .gov/justforyou.

A second website, launched by the National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine, is at http://asianamericanhealth.nlm .nih.gov.

