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Since 1929

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

#3025/ Vol. 139, No. 9 ISSN: 0030-8579

Nov. 5-18, 2004



**JA Vets honored for liberating Italian town in 1943**

See page 3

## Membership Trends



Membership numbers are at their lowest point in nearly FORTY years!

Courtesy of Mark Kobayashi

## JACL Nat'l Board Projects Budget Deficit

By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor

EL SEGUNDO, Calif.—A push for successful fundraising drives and an increase in membership is needed to make up for a projected fourth quarter deficit, said the national board at the Oct. 23-24 quarterly meeting. But even if all revenue goals are reached, JACL will still see a \$50,000 shortfall in 2004.

As of Sept. 30, 2004, the budget shows a total of \$1,172,761 in revenue and a total of \$1,338,244 in

expenditures. JACL National Secretary/Treasurer Mark Kobayashi announced that JACL's expenditures exceed revenues by \$165,483 because of several factors:

- Additional Millennium Club membership fees need to be collected;
- Proceeds from the national convention in Hawaii and the Golf for Youth Tournament are still being tallied;
- A \$50,000 Planned Giving loan from the Life Trust Endowment has not started;
- Liability insurance increased

from \$26,500 to \$75,000;

• Increased cost of meetings and conferences during a convention year; and

• Some grant money payout has not been received because projects have not been completed.

So far, Millennium Club memberships and the golf tournament have brought in \$18,000 and \$15,000, respectively. Once final revenue numbers from the national convention, golf tournament, annual giving campaign and Millennium

See JACL BUDGET/page 6

## Utah JAs Fight to Preserve J-town

As the neighboring Salt Lake Convention Center prepares for a planned expansion, JAs worry about the survival of their already diminished J-town.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI  
Executive Editor

In a David vs. Goliath-esque battle, the Japanese American community in Utah is fighting for their beloved Japantown as a proposed expansion of the behemoth Salt Lake Convention Center threatens its survival.

And this is Goliath's second appearance. In 1969 two blocks of this once bustling J-town — a town filled with restaurants, barbershops, markets, and churches — was relocated to make room

for the newly built convention center.

Today, all that remains of this J-town with roots dating back to 1907 are two churches — the Salt Lake Japanese Buddhist Temple and the Salt Lake Japanese Church of Christ — and JAs here are doing all they can to ensure its survival.

"This location is sacred to many JAs and they feel that taking it away

to preserve what is left."

The Buddhist Temple and the Church of Christ are located in the heart of Salt Lake City's downtown on 100 South, in-between 200 West and 300 West. The convention center, also known as the Salt Lake Palace, sits just east on 100 South with the backside of the building facing the two churches.

The convention center's planned expansion is necessary to make room for the Outdoor Retailer trade shows which brings in \$32 million annually. They plan to build 145,000 square feet of exhibit space to add to its already expansive exhibit size of 365,000 square feet.

The Utah JA community, numbering about 6,200 JAs, worries that the proposed expansion of the

See JAPANTOWN/page 2



The Salt Lake Convention Center (above) prepares for an expansion that threatens Utah's only remaining J-town. Monet and Kayla Watanabe (left) take part in the Obon festival, one of the many activities held at the J-town each year.

is taking a part of them away," said Floyd Mori, a longtime resident of Sandy, Utah. "The city and county have already taken most of J-Town and now we feel that we must fight



PHOTO: JEFF HAN

Jana Yoshizumi was re-establishing her relationship with her father, Kenji, when his life was recently cut short in a hit-and-run accident. Now, she says she will not rest until justice is served.

## In Search of Her Father's Killer

By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor

Every day, Jana Yoshizumi has a routine: she juggles her heavy workload at a San Jose-based high tech firm with her intensive search efforts to find her father's killer — currently a nameless and faceless individual who haunts her dreams.

"When I'm falling asleep at night, I picture what happened to my dad," said Jana, 28. "It's hard for me to accept that my dad's killer will never get caught."

In conversation, she pieces through the details of her father's life — from his professional peak of designing the logo for Tab Cola to the personal tragedies of losing his first wife and child within months of each other — stories which are united by the common theme of resilience. It seems Kenji Yoshizumi just never gave up on life before it was taken from him.

According to police officials, on Oct. 2 at approximately 9:36 p.m.,

See YOSHIZUMI/page 8

## PSW District Honors the Generations at Annual Dinner

By CAROLINE AOYAGI  
Executive Editor

COMMERCE, Calif.—As JACL celebrates 75 years as a national community and civil rights organization, the PSW district commemorated the anniversary with a tribute to the generations.

From the pioneering spirit of the Issei and the Nisei whose wartime experiences continue to define a community, to the Sansei who struggled to define their own identity and the Yonsei and Gosei who are paving their own unique paths, the Japanese American community has a long and accomplished history.

"It's an honor to be celebrating the generations of Japanese Americans who have helped make us who we are today," said JACL National President Ken Inouye at the PSWD annual dinner held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Oct. 23.

The different generations that make up the JA community provide a sense of history, a sense of community, and a source of pride, said Hiromi Ueha, PSWD governor. "We honor all the generations who have helped continue the legacy of JACL," she said.

Dr. Akemi Kikumura-Yano, senior vice president at the Japanese American National Museum, spoke about the Issei generation, recalling how her Issei mother did not often talk about her immigrant experiences and thus, grew up knowing very little about the Issei experience.

It wasn't until the 1970s that Kikumura-Yano was finally able to talk to her mother about her Issei life experiences as she prepared to write her well known book, "Through Harsh Winters: The Life of a Japanese Immigrant Women."

See PSWD DINNER/page 5

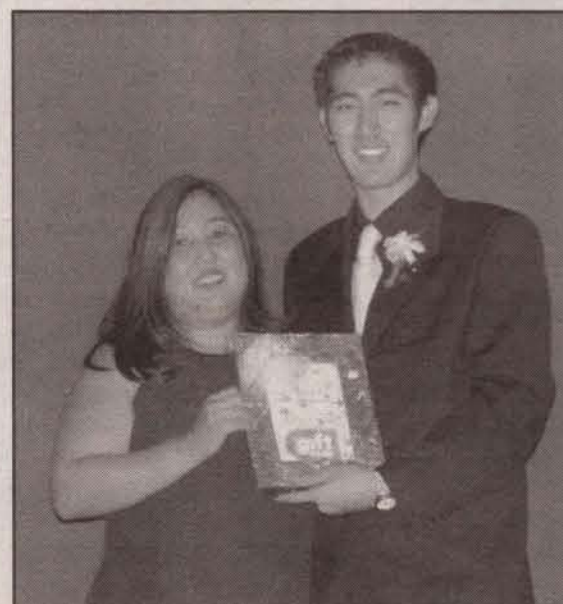


PHOTO: JASON STOM

Eric Nakano, who spoke about the Yonsei and future generations at the gala dinner, receives a thank-you gift from Hiromi Ueha, PSWD governor.

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## JAPANTOWN

(Continued from page 1)

center will add to the already congested traffic in the area and further limit street parking for those attending functions at the two Japanese churches such as the annual Obon festival, food bazaars, and Aki Matsuri. They also fear that the overwhelming size of the convention center will overshadow the two churches and that additional expansions of the center would also be likely.

"I consider First South 'sacred' ground to the Japanese," said former Judge Raymond Uno. "We have been here for almost 100 years, way before the Salt Palace. Why should we have to move or be in a position where we are unable to practice the free exercise of our religions like the Mormon Church to the North East?"

"It boils down to money," he said. "The expansion will bring in a prospective income of \$30 million plus annually for five years from the Outdoor Retailers Association."

To ensure their concerns are being heard, the JA community recently formed the Japanese Community Preservation Committee, Inc. (JCPCI) and representatives have met with county and city officials and those involved with the convention center expansion to make sure the Salt Lake J-town continues to prosper.

"When the JA community spoke up a couple of weeks ago, the politi-

cians finally realized that they had made a grave error by not consulting with the JA community," said Mori, who is the chairman of JCPCI. "This opposition has become a great opportunity for the JA community to preserve what is left of J-Town and enhance what is now there."

J-town holds special meaning for many of the longtime JA residents of Utah. Silvana Watanabe, a member of the Buddhist Church, is a frequent visitor attending not only church events but helping to deliver meals to the neighboring senior citizen's center and taking her two kids to Japanese school.

She worries about the future of the J-town. "One can ask what is the city teaching our children? Are they teaching them and us that money has more value than our community?" said Watanabe. "Those expos will come and go but it's the community that has been here. It is the community that is the foundation of the city, not vendors that may come one year and not the other."

Mori still remembers his father taking him to J-town as a child prior to World War II. Whether for a bowl of noodles, a haircut at the local barber, or to buy some fish at the market, J-town was integral to the lives of the JAs here.

"This is where we got to see other members of the community," he said. But after the Salt Lake Convention Center was built, "from that time on, there was really no place to go for Japanese culture except for the church events."

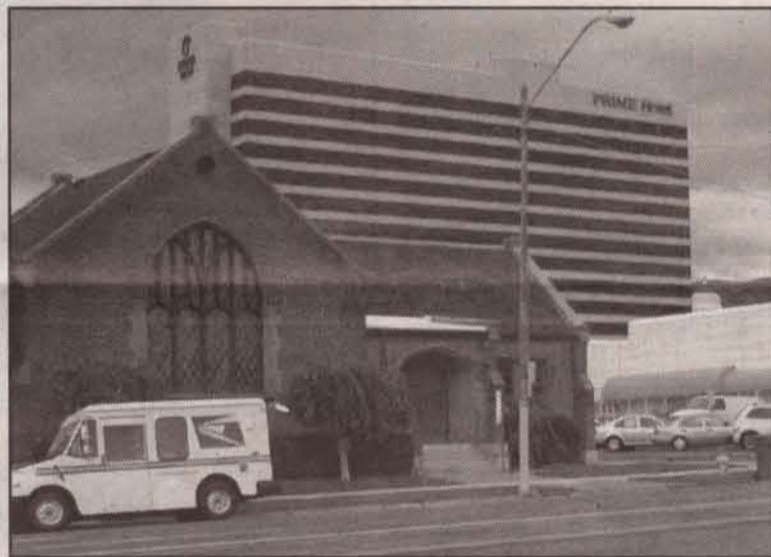
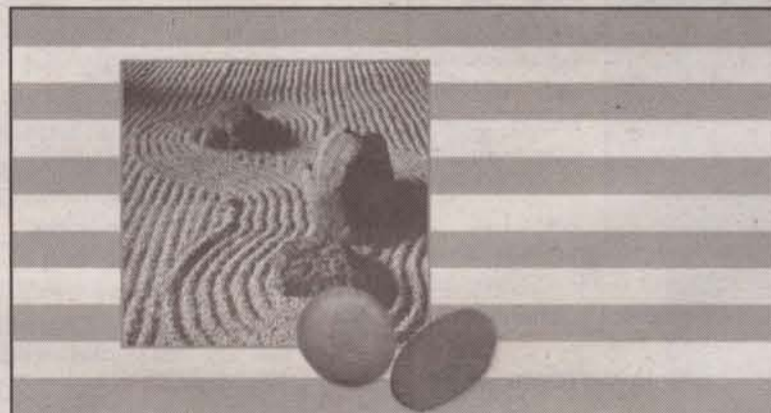


Photo courtesy of Silvana Watanabe

The Salt Lake Japanese Church of Christ (above) is one of only two buildings that remain in Utah's historic Japantown located in downtown Salt Lake City, Utah. The other structure is the Japanese Buddhist Temple.



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Although only two churches remain in J-town, community members note the recent revival of the area, especially with the Nisei and Sansei bringing their Yonsei and Gosei children and grandchildren.

"There is now a resurgence of membership because the young have married and are now bringing their families to the churches," said Uno. "A glimpse of the past J-town is starting to sprout and the families are interested in perpetuating their cultural heritage. Everyone is now beginning to realize what was lost and what may yet be lost."

Members of JCPCI are hopeful their current efforts will help save J-town. In ongoing discussions with city and county officials, ideas to revitalize J-town have been discussed including closing off parts of 100 South to make room for a public plaza. They have also discussed building a park near the Church of Christ.

The convention center also backed off on some original aspects of their expansion including the elimination of a two-story parking structure that would have been adjacent to the Church of Christ and the reduction of a loading dock across from the Buddhist Church. The convention center will also create a buffer between its structure and the

churches.

Although several issues have yet to be resolved, the expansion plans for the convention center have already begun with the first cement trucks arriving to build an underground parking structure. The first phase of the expansion is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2005.

"From our meetings it seems that it will be feasible to develop a J-Town that the JA community can feel they are a part of," said Mori, who feels optimistic that a compromise can be reached. "The vision is to see a section of Salt Lake City become more of an ethnic center of the city, which will bring some new diversity and vitality to present attempts to revitalize the downtown corridor."

But others still hold some reservation about the current talks and proposed plans for J-town. "There is a lot of talk and compromises, but nothing concrete in writing to satisfy the needs and wants of the Japanese community," said Uno.

"In the end, we may be left out in the cold with nothing but talk," he continued. "We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to grow if things turn out well, or we may be left hanging in the wind to be blown away." ■

## Reader Appreciates P.C.'s Broad Coverage

My wife and I attended the "Life Interrupted" conference in Little Rock, Arkansas in September and want to thank and congratulate the Japanese American National Museum, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation for putting on this wonderful experience.

The conference was purposely more than a reunion of camp residents and that's what attracted me (a toddler at Rohwer). I appreciated the linking of the Japanese American war experience with the experiences of Arkansans, the civil rights movement, and current experiences of Muslims in American society. I also appreciated the inclusion of teachers and students who wrote and taught a curriculum about these events in Arkansas schools, and the visits to Rohwer and Jerome.

I am very glad that the conference sponsors chose to link the experiences of JAs with the experiences of other groups and major public policy issues. It appears that the Pacific Citizen and the JACL are consciously making broader issues a major part of their agenda. In a recent issue of the P.C., I noticed with pleasure the broad range of ethnicities of and interests expressed by the recipients

of JACL scholarships (including the one sponsored by my mother's scholarship fund — Alice Yuriko Endo) and the broader range of issues in the P.C. news articles.

As someone who has been working in multi-racial immigrant communities in Arlington, Virginia for some time and far away from the JA networks for many decades, I appreciate the current emphasis. As I think I said in the 1962 JACL oratorical contest, the future of the JACL is to build bridges with other ethnic groups around important public policy issues. Keep it up!

Todd Endo  
Arlington, VA

## Remembering a Friend

Peter K. Okada of Kirkland, Washington passed away Oct. 13. Although we met only 15 years ago, it seems far longer than that. I was to get to know a sensitive, generous, dependable trusted friend. There undoubtedly are many others out there who were similarly touched by this man.

The focus of our relationship was the then-seemingly impossible dream of establishing in Wash., D.C., our nation's capital, a memorial dedicated to the unswerving commitment of the Issei and Nisei to the cause of America during World War II, despite the unjust treatment heaped upon them. The Memorial was to be — as Peter phrased it — our "Last Hurrah," celebrating the spirit of these Nikkei and their resident parents.

Especially in the early days of the Memorial operation, funds were scarce. On more than one occasion, without fanfare, Peter contributed the needed funds. He devoted energy to honing contacts of Nisei residing in post-war Japan; he also sought out key contacts in Hawaii, resulting in the successful recruitment of prominent individuals from that state.

Peter was a *sempai-gumi*, one of the "originals." His "Last Hurrah" will resound for eternity from that Nikkei Memorial in Wash., D.C.

Bill Marutani  
Lumberton, NJ

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

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



# Italian Town Honors 100th Infantry Battalion

Sant Angelo d'Alife, a grateful Italian town of 3,000, located 300 miles south of Leghorn, dedicated a monument in the town square on Oct. 24 to honor the 34th (Red Bull) Division's 131st Regiment and the 100th Infantry Battalion that helped liberate the town 60 years ago.

"The erection of monuments is a demonstration of respect for those who fought for freedom," said Mayor Salvatore Bucci. In thanking the Allied Forces for the liberation of Sant Angelo d'Alife, Bucci said "this small gesture signifies the strong friendship that ties us to the United States and we would like to give special thanks for the help that was given to our community in that time of great need.

"This gesture also serves to remind the future generations that freedom is a precious gift and that friendships are sacred and must never be forgotten," he said.

The program included the reading of the names of 59 131st Regiment and 21 100th Battalion soldiers who were killed in fiercely fought battles during Oct. 20-25, 1944.

Brigadier General Jason Kamiya, Commanding General, Southern European Task Force (Airborne)



L-r: George Watanabe, Gracie Watanabe, Carmen Kamiya, Piera Bucci, Mayor Salvatore Bucci, BG Jason Kamiya.

(SETAF) and George Joji Watanabe, a longtime resident of Italy and unofficial "ambassador" of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and wives, participated in the event. Honolulu-born Kamiya is the son of Larry Kamiya (Company C, 100th Battalion), who participated in the Sant Angelo d'Alife liberation and was wounded shortly before the battle of Monte Cassino.

"The battle to liberate Sant Angelo d'Alife must have been horrendous as the town is dominated by hill masses on three sides," said General Kamiya. "While the fallen are no longer with us, you could feel in spirit their courage and sacrifice as the names of those killed in action — civilian, Italian military, and U.S. military — were read."

The 100th Battalion soldiers who were killed in the liberation of Sant Angelo d'Alife area are:

Arakawa, Harold J PFC Co A; Ajitomi, Matsuei Pvt Co C; Fukuyama, Kaoru Pvt Co D; Hamanaka, Fred Y. Pvt Co D; Hasegawa, Kiyoshi PFC Co C; Hirayama, Yutaka Pvt Co C; Kaya, Satoshi Pvt Co C; Kiyabu, Ronald S Sgt

Co A; Morihara, Arthur A. PFC Co A; Murakami, Sakae Pvt Co C; Murashige, Richard K S/Sgt Co A; Naganuma, Martin M Pvt Co C; Nagata, Hideo Pfc Co C; Naito, Kaoru PFC Co A; Ozawa, George Y Sgt Co A; Riyu, Masatsugu Pvt Co C; Sakamoto, Louis K S/Sgt Co C; Shikiya, Ted T Pvt Co A; Takei, Yoshinobu Pvt Co A; Toyama, Richard K Cpl Co A; and Yamanaga, Thomas I PFC Co A.

"This tribute to the 100th by the residents of Sant Angelo d'Alife expresses the warm feelings of a grateful community and will serve to further cement the friendship between the peoples of Italy and the United States," said Bert Mizusawa, president of JAVA (Japanese American Veterans Association). "This monument is a testament to the supreme price that must be paid to preserve freedom." ■

# National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

## Asian American Arts Group Folds

ST. PAUL—Asian American Renaissance (AAR), a non profit founded in 1992 to support Asian Pacific Americans in the arts, closed its doors last month because of financial problems.

AAR was the brainchild of scores of friends who gathered at potlucks to plan a pan-Asian arts festival in the early 1990s. In its heyday, the organization held cabarets, brought APA artists to the Twin Cities, provided a network for artists and created a sense of solidarity.

Local APA artists said AAR's absence will leave a void when the state's Asian population is at its highest. But in its closure, they hope a new movement can be reborn.

## Wife of Hawaii Senator Undergoes Surgery

HONOLULU—U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye was by his wife's side Nov. 4 when she underwent surgery to remove a cancerous growth in her large intestine.

Maggie Inouye said the growth was discovered a week ago during a routine physical examination.

## Fireworks at Washington Monument Rejected as Art Project

WASHINGTON—It was too expensive for the Smithsonian Museum to circle the Washington Monument with an explosion of fireworks designed by Cai Guo-Qiang.

The fireworks display would have involved a series of explosions starting above the Hirshhorn, traveling two-thirds of a mile to the Washington Monument and circling it. The path would have been shaped like a human foot. The work's title was "Big Foot Footprint and Project for Extraterrestrials No. 6."

Kristen Hileman, curator of the exhibit called "Unlucky Year — Unrealized Projects 2003-2004," said the fireworks did not fit into the show's budget.

## Kamehameha Vows to Defend its Admission Policy

HONOLULU—Kamehameha Schools vowed it will vigorously defend its Hawaiian-preferred admission policy at a hearing before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals next month.

A three-judge appeals court panel will hear oral arguments in the case at the University of Hawaii on Nov. 4 when the court makes its scheduled visits to Hawaii.

Previously, U.S. District Judge Alan Kay ruled that the school's admission policy does not violate federal anti-discrimination law because it seeks to remedy socio-economic and educational disadvantages suffered by Hawaiians as a result of the overthrow of the Hawaii monarchy.

Opponents say the admission policy would be different than allowing an all-white school to bar admission of nonwhite students.

## Buddhist Monks to Build Waukesha Temple

WAUKESHA, Wis.—The town board has approved a zoning change that will let a sect of Buddhist monks from Southeast Asia build a \$1.5 million temple grounds.

The plan calls for a two-story dormitory for eight monks, a sacred chapel and a two-story addition to the existing temple that will serve a growing membership and allow the ordination of monks. ■

## APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

## Furosha Elected AAWD President



In October, Dr. Cissy Furosha was inaugurated as president of the American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) for a term beginning Jan. 1, 2005.

Furosha — currently of the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry — was nominated by the AAWD board of directors.

The AAWD is dedicated to enriching and nurturing lives of women dentists. Furosha hopes that her presidency will mentor and influence students to eventually seek officers' post in various dental organizations.

## Arizona Chapter Board Member is Honored with Caring Spirit Award

Mary M. Tadano was selected as this year's outstanding volunteer for her vision and leadership. For her exemplary work in coordinating the Japanese Senior Center and its various events, she was honored at an Oct. 1 luncheon at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel in Phoenix.

This marked the 23rd anniversary of the Dr. R. Alice Drought Caring Spirit Award, which recognizes individuals and organizations that demonstrate outstanding volunteerism.

## JAR Board Member and Former Long Beach Mayor to Receive Leadership Award

Current Japanese American Republican Club Board Member and former Long Beach Mayor Eunice Sato received an Excellence in Leadership Award at an Oct. 14 dinner hosted by Leadership Long Beach.

Founded in 1989, Leadership Long Beach's mission is to develop principled leaders for the enrichment of diverse communities. ■

## UCLA Celebrates Creation of AA Studies Dept.

UCLA celebrated the creation of the department of Asian American Studies and the 35th anniversary of the Asian American Studies Center with a community reception in Chinatown Oct. 21 that drew an audience of over 400.

"The creation of a department of Asian American studies marks a significant step forward in the development of an academic discipline devoted to understanding an important segment of American society and culture," said Scott Waugh, dean of social sciences for the UCLA College.

UCLA has produced more scholars for the field of AA studies than any other university in the nation. It also has developed the largest AA studies teaching program in the nation, which annually offers more than 70 courses and enrolls more than 3,000 students.

The AA studies interdepartmental degree program was established in the UCLA College in fall 1976, although the center began offering classes in 1969. The department is one of UCLA's four ethnic studies programs to become a department.

"The 35th-anniversary celebration of the Asian American Studies Center and the establishment of the department of Asian American studies at UCLA are both watershed events," said Tritia Toyota, a journalist and doctoral candidate at UCLA.

Since 1971, the center has produced Amerasia Journal, the leading multidisciplinary scholarly journal in AA studies. The journal has published more than 30,000 pages of scholarly and creative writing by notable AA studies scholars. ■





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Photo courtesy of Dave Suyama

The newly enlarged Midwest District of JACL meets for their first district meeting in Milwaukee.

## Newly Merged Midwest District Meets in Milwaukee

By ANDREA K. PARKER  
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

MILWAUKEE—It came down to a coin toss.

As the newly enlarged Midwest District met for their first council meeting recently, the new interim governor was decided by a toss of the coin after two tied votes forced the unconventional tally.

Scott Furakawa, election chair, flipped a quarter and Sharon Ishii-Jordan became the governor-elect of the Midwest district — which now includes all chapters from the dissolved Mountain Plains District — after she called “heads” in the air and the coin landed Washington-side up.

“We did it that way because that

was what we had to do [at that point],” Furakawa said.

“I am very pleased to serve as the interim governor with the newly elected board. Please know that I welcome any questions, comments, or concerns that you may have regarding JACL,” Ishii-Jordan said in an email to the district shortly after the meeting. “I will do my best to represent the district.”

Other officers elected — by normal ballot — were: Tom Yamamoto, 1st vice governor; Andy Uehara, 2nd vice governor; Andrea Parker, secretary; Leilani Savitt, district youth chair; and Natalie Nakasone, district youth representative.

All new officers will serve from the time of the election until the bi-

district conference in the summer of 2005. This is an interim period of service to compensate for the differing time periods the separate districts had before the merge. After the 2005 elections, officers will return to serving two-year terms.

Appointing certain non-elected positions within the district was one of Ishii-Jordan's first official duties as governor. With the approval of those present, Furakawa was named membership chair, Laura Paige was named education committee chair and Casey China was named as the MDC representative on the *Pacific Citizen* editorial board.

In other business, the district unanimously voted to support a project to build a memorial to Min Yasui in Denver. MDC donated \$1,000 to the fund and is going to encourage its chapters to donate as well.

Discussion also went on for the merging of treasuries and a new budget for 2005-2006. The Mile-High chapter and Chicago were selected as tentative hosts for the spring district meeting and the summer Bi-District conference, respectively. ■

## After 61 Years, JA Vet Has His Dog Tags Returned



Photo courtesy of Bacon Sakatani

More than 61 years after former World War II veteran Beans Sogioka had his dog tags stolen from a pool in Wyoming, a local woman returned the tags after discovering them in her front yard.

Sogioka was on an Army furlough in the summer of 1943 when he decided to visit his family at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. During his visit, he decided to go for a swim with one of his close friends in the neighboring town of Powell, Wyoming. Soon after coming out of the pool Sogioka noticed that his dog tags had been stolen from his locker.

More than 60 years later, Robert Heaney of Lovell, Wyoming was doing his favorite hobby of looking for metal when his detector beeped loudly in the yard of his friend, LaDonna Zall. Heaney and Zall soon got in touch with Sogioka (pictured above) who now has the dog tags back in his possession. ■

## First-ever Nat'l APA Student Conference to be Held in L.A.

Asian Pacific American students from across the country will convene for the first-ever National Asian American Student Conference (NAASCon) Nov. 5-7 at the University of Southern California.

This event is the first-step in the creation of a nationwide APA student network that can be mobilized to effect positive change at all levels and within all the diverse communities.

Building upon the theme: “The Past, Present, and Future of the

Asian Pacific American Community,” students will learn the historical roots of APA student activism and educate one another on current issues and campaigns.

“The conference is content-rich and has been meticulously-planned,” said NAASCon co-chair Clarence Tong. “We are extremely excited about the strong support and positive feedback we have received since the earliest development stages of our conference.”

For additional information, visit: <http://usc2004.naascon.org>. ■

## J-Town Task Force Releases Draft Report

By *Pacific Citizen* Staff

The Japantown Task Force has released a preliminary draft report identifying potential targets in San Francisco's Japantown for historical preservation to ensure the continuation of the Japanese American culture and history.

San Francisco's Japantown is one of the only three remaining Japantowns in the United States. The task force, created in 2001 after the state Legislature called for studies of the remaining Japantowns, has been working for years to identify what needs to be preserved through government and community efforts in the near future.

Eventually, the report will be used to point out the areas that should be targeted for redevelopment and preservation and what the priorities will be.

“At the community-based level it was about what we thought should

be transmitted culturally from one generation to the next and what should be preserved,” said Linda Jofuku, executive director of the task force, in an interview with the *San Francisco Examiner*.

“Not just tangible resources, like buildings, but the day-to-day life of everyday Japantown people. It's not from historians, but from people who lived here for a long time and are engaged in the community.”

In addition to the Hokka Nichi Bei Kai, a non-profit teaching Japanese language and history, and the Annual Day of Remembrance, the task force also looked at the more recent JA trends of anime and street racing cars.

“We are not just Japanese from Japan anymore — there are generations of Japanese Americans who have created their own culture and history in San Francisco and the United States,” said Jofuku. ■

## Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter Celebrates 70th Anniversary



PHOTO: MAS HASHIMOTO

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL recently celebrated its 70th anniversary in conjunction with the JACL Senior Center's 33rd anniversary at the Seaciff Inn in Aptos.

The event honored four outstanding JACL Senior Center leaders: Ray Sako, Carmel Kamigawachi, Iwao Yamashita and Shig Kizuka.

Chapters and members were also recognized for receiving distinguished awards at the community, district and national levels in 2004. President Paul Kaneko was acknowledged for his commitment in pursuing these awards.

Pictured above (l-r): National JACL Executive Director John Tateishi; honorees Kizuka, Kamigawachi, Sako, and Yamashita. ■



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# YOUTH FORUM Your Angst-Ridden Ethnic Identity Crisis No Longer Amuses Me

By YUMI SAKUGAWA

As one of my attempts to become a serious Asian American artist, I am writing and directing this year's Cultural Night Show for our school's Nikkei Student Union.



Cultural Night, as most college students know, is every major ethnic student organizations' opportunity to put together an elaborate show where students have a chance to do acting, traditional dance and other means of creative cultural expression for the rest of the student body and their respective communities.

In our case, we usually have a three-hour long drama integrated with taiko drumming, traditional odori and modern dance. The turnout is usually quite impressive.

Maybe there is something slightly masochistic about taking on the grandiose responsibility of writing and directing an entire show that is essentially the major NSU event of the year, but I volunteered myself anyway.

The storyline is supposed to be a complete secret, but I'll tell you what it is anyway. It is a heartwarm-

ing coming-of-age tale about a Japanese American girl who, through a series of unexpected events, learns to embrace her cultural identity and reach a mutual understanding with her strict immigrant parents. Somewhere along the way, she has a forbidden love affair with a *Caucasian man*. And faster than you can say "Madame Butterfly" she commits ritual suicide when he dumps her.

Just kidding.

Several people who heard of my writer-director responsibility gave me some valuable suggestions for the storyline. Actually, the general response I got from people was: ENOUGH WITH THE IDENTITY ISSUE ALREADY!

You all know how it goes: white-washed and hopelessly naive AA alienated from the older generation eventually learns the Important Life Lesson that cultural pride is a good thing. Sadly, us young AAs just can't seem to get enough of the identity storyline. It's either that, or writing personal columns about identity.

We can't help it. We're just so addicted. We want to quit this terrible guilty pleasure, but we can't. It's just so darn *easy*, like buying cheap California roll sushi from the local supermarket.

Are we, as a community, so boring that identity is the only storyline

we can generate about our collective minority experience? Of course not. This past summer's movie, "Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle," proved to the rest of the world that you could make an entertaining movie about two Asian kids getting high, because contrary to popular belief, college-age AAs actually do more than just study and have ethnic identity crises in their free time.

But seriously folks, at least when it comes to cultural night shows of student ethnic orgs, it's time to move onto newer storylines already.

I do not deny the significance of the identity storyline; we are still far from living in a post-racial society where race and ethnicity does not play some role in our everyday lives. Even so, it is unfortunate that many AAs my age are completely unaware of the multitude of AA artists, writers, poets and filmmakers who tackle the complex issues of identity and race without resorting to that oh-so-clichéd storyline.

So anyway, back to my cultural night script.

Having no previous experience in writing or directing full-length cultural nights, I lay no claim on adding anything groundbreaking to the diverse body of creative work already created by the community we are all a part of. If I'm lucky, this show, which after all is not just my single effort, but also the combined labor of countless dedicated organizers, actors, dancers and volunteers, will make you laugh and possibly make you think.

At the very least, I can promise you hot taiko drummers in tight tank tops. ■



PHOTO: JASON STOM

Carol Saito was given a special award at the PSWD dinner for her 25 years of service to JACL as the administrative assistant for the PSWD district. She is pictured here with her husband John and son John Jr. shortly after the presentation.

## PSWD DINNER

(Continued from page 1)

"I am constantly impressed by the ingenuity and creativity of the Issei. How hard the Issei worked; How they struggled... but had a zest for life," said Kikumura-Yano, noting the sumo tournaments, the baseball tournaments, and the elaborate oshogatsu meals that were popular with the Issei.

It was the Issei who left us with the values of *gaman* (persevere), *giri* (obligation), and *enryo* (restraint) she said. "The things we continue to live by in our everyday lives."

As the JA community moves towards the future, it is still the experiences of the Nisei that defines and continues to define the community and the generations that have come after.

The Nisei experience is "vital to understanding what the community has gone through," said Warren Furutani, Los Angeles Community College District Board trustee, who spoke about the Nisei generation. The World War II camp experience is still "the defining moment in the community," he said.

Furutani is a Sansei and like his other Sansei friends, he recalls the reluctance of his Nisei parents to discuss their WWII internment experience. To learn about what had happened to the Nisei, Furutani and his friends decided to organize the first Manzanar Pilgrimage in 1969 to get a first-hand glimpse of the camps.

He noted the many difficult decisions the Nisei had to overcome, especially the decision of whether to go and fight for a country that had

incarcerated their families or to stand up and protest the war as a draft resister.

"I have a growing respect for the Nisei and love for the experiences they had to overcome," said Furutani. "I congratulate and salute the Nisei generation."

The solid foundation laid by the Issei and Nisei generations were to be inherited by the Sansei generation that followed, a generation that took bold steps into new and unexplored areas and made historic strides in this country's fight for civil rights.

"The Sansei are bold... they face challenges with strength," said Yonsei Alayne Yonemoto, current PSWD vice governor, who spoke on the Sansei experience. "They have shown they are the children of the Nisei and Issei."

The redress movement was a defining moment for the Sansei generation, said Yonemoto, encouraging their parents and grandparents to fight for the justice that had been denied them during the war. The Sansei marched on the hill, made sure the stories of the Issei and Nisei were heard during the commission hearings, and fought to win the *coram nobis* Supreme Court cases.

Yonemoto also noted the incredible success of the Sansei JA politicians, including U.S. Sec. of Transportation Norman Mineta, U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, and U.S. Reps. Robert Matsui and Mike Honda.

"The Sansei leaders are being recognized outside of our own community to ensure we have a voice at the table," said Yonemoto.

"The Sansei have worked hard to create an identity for themselves," she added. "Their journey is not yet done."

The JA community is now in its fourth and fifth generations, and the Yonsei, Gosei, and Hapa can look back at all that the former generations have experienced and accomplished to develop their own identities and successes.

"Our ability to reach our dreams is because of your sacrifice," said Eric Nakano, former PSWD intern and current executive assistant with the Democratic National Committee, who spoke about the Yonsei and future generations.

Nakano encouraged the older generations to place their trust in the youth and have confidence in handing over the reins of leadership to the younger generations. He also encouraged the JACL to continue to fight for the civil rights of JAs and all Asian Pacific Americans.

"The values you've instilled... you should be proud," said Nakano. "Because of you, the future of this organization and this community looks bright." ■

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## JACL Nat'l Board Launches Annual Giving Campaign



EL SEGUNDO, Calif.—The JACL national board launched the Annual Giving Campaign at the recent national board meeting Oct. 24. In total, board members contributed a total of \$3,500. Carol Kawamoto (holding book), national vice president of planning and development, encouraged JACL members to support the campaign which goes towards the general operations of the organization.

### JACL BUDGET

(Continued from page 1)

Club memberships have been added in and all revenue goals are met, the deficit should come down to approximately \$50,000 which was already budgeted, said Kobayashi.

He added that outstanding grant monies will also help alleviate the shortfall. JACL is currently working on three major grants this year: a teacher training program, hate crime/anti-hate program and a nearly complete Asian Pacific American curriculum guide. Once these grants fulfill their program obligations, up to \$115,000 can be fully released to help JACL's projected budget shortfall.

But new memberships and renewals continue to be key. In a Power Point presentation to the national board, Kobayashi pointed out that membership numbers are at their lowest in nearly 40 years and that only 29 percent of members are under the age of 50.

"Within the next 10 years, JACL will need an infusion of new members or an increase in other revenues in order to maintain current levels of service. Absent these revenue increases, JACL will be forced to make severe reduction in programs," said Kobayashi. "I do feel that our current leadership is aware of these issues and is trying to determine a course of action."

As of Sept. 30, revenue line item actuals include \$772,048 in membership income, investment income at \$48,496 and grants at a total of \$130,914. Fund raising revenue came in at \$74,426 and the *Pacific Citizen* generated \$75,586 in total revenue.

Some larger expenditures include \$597,283 in personnel cost, contract services with \$132,475 and travel expenses at \$73,330.

JACL investments include the Life Trust Endowment Fund at \$426,566, the National Fund at \$379,207 and the reserve fund at \$4,294.

### Liability Insurance

How much chapters or districts should pay for liability insurance coverage became a sticking point at the quarterly meeting.

Increased insurance rates have forced JACL to increase insurance dues. The board took up the issue after the national council decided at the Hawaii Convention to give the national board the power to determine a fair distribution of insurance premiums. Some board members

were concerned that smaller chapters with few members may not be as capable of shouldering the expense that larger chapters with more members can more easily pay.

After much debate, the board unanimously passed a four-tier insurance payment plan:

- \$200 per chapter with less than 40 members;
- \$300 per chapter with 41-150 members;
- \$350 per chapter with 151-300 members; and
- \$425 per chapter with more than 300 members.

The calculations were based on June 2004 chapter numbers. This payment plan will take effect in the next biennium. For 2004 insurance payments, the total amount due is still \$270.

"The national board recognized that it would be difficult to devise a plan that will satisfy all parties, however, we selected a plan that strikes the greatest balance between our diverse chapters," said Kobayashi.

### IPC and the Legacy Fund

Based on the recommendations of former investment policy committee (IPC) chair, Ted Tsukahara, JACL President Kenneth Inouye made recommendations to invite current IPC members to resign. JACL's Constitution and Bylaws states that the IPC is to be composed of seven members appointed by the president, subject to approval by the national board, for three full year terms.

"I hold high regard and respect for [the IPC members]. I look forward to former members being appointed to the new committee," said Inouye.

Inouye instructed district governors to make recommendations for new appointees by Nov. 12.

In light of the deficit, the board revisited discussion on the Legacy Fund and unanimously passed the decision to ask the new IPC to investigate the benefits and detriments of developing an annual investment strategy that creates a \$50,000-\$120,000 revenue stream for general operations.

"We wanted the IPC to explore the feasibility of adopting an investment plan that would create a revenue stream, certainly with respect to the original provisions," said Inouye. "We rely on their expertise for guidance."

The new IPC members will take up this issue at their January 2005 meeting.

The intent of the Legacy Fund — which currently sits at \$5,507,336 — was to create an endowment that

ensures that JACL continues to exist in the future.

### 'Spirit of 76' Fundraising Campaign

In response to the looming deficit, the board unanimously approved investing \$2,000 in seed money to develop a logo and fundraising material for 'The Spirit of 76' Campaign, the brainchild of Kobayashi and Vice President of Public Affairs Heidi Tanakatsubo.

The campaign's intent is to raise money for 2005 by highlighting JACL's 76 years of service as the oldest and largest APA civil rights organization and linking all fundraising events under an umbrella theme.

Tanakatsubo and Kobayashi thought it would be a great way to bring everyone together with a unifying theme.

"In looking at the 2005-06 budget as well as the changing demographics of our membership, I knew that the JACL needed to diversify our revenue sources and expand our fundraising effort," said Kobayashi.

"We're hoping it will remind JACL members everywhere that this is our organization, our anniversary, our legacy and our future," said Tanakatsubo.

Executive Director John Tateishi calls the campaign positive and innovative. "It's the first time we've had a conceptual target in an off-convention year, and this campaign ... [it's] the sort of thinking we need on the national board to help us through the kinds of financial problems that seem to dog us year after year," said Tateishi.

"It's a welcomed change to think positively about our financial situation by coming up with funding strategies instead of talking about the need to cut and cut as our finances tighten up," he added.

But even as the organization faces another financial crunch, board members are cautiously optimistic about the future.

"We're projecting a deficit year, and our efforts now are to reduce the deficit as much as possible. It's going to be tight once again, but with the push for membership through the last few months and the drive of the Spirit of 76 campaign next year, I'm hopeful that next year will prove to be financially healthy," said Tateishi.

"There's no question that this board acknowledges the responsibility of building a strong economic base and every effort will be made to do so," added Inouye. ■

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## GOLF Teen Golf Star Michelle Wie Leads a Double Life

By KEN PETERS  
AP Sports Writer

PALM DESERT, Calif.—On a golf course, she's a celebrity in the glare of the international spotlight.

Back home in Honolulu, **Michelle Wie** is a high school sophomore who hangs out at the mall, plays video games and faces the usual teen challenges — such as how to keep chats with pals on her new cell phone within the allotted 100 monthly minutes.

Extra charges will come straight out of her allowance, her father warns.

"I don't know how that will work out," she said, smiling and shaking her head.

Wie, who tied for 13th in the Samsung World Championship recently to wrap up her seven LPGA appearances this year, skillfully balances a double life.

"I'm not stupid enough that I would not enjoy myself coming out here. I'm not really that stupid. If I'm not enjoying myself, I wouldn't be coming out here and playing," Wie said.

"I'm having a great time. It's kind of fun missing school and I'm having a lot of fun traveling with my family."

Some times are more enjoyable than others.

"It's more fun when your putts are going in," Wie said, grinning.

Proclaimed by Laura Davies as the LPGA's future Tiger Woods, the slender, 6-foot teenager with the silky smooth swing launches 300-yard drives and is the same type of golfing prodigy Woods once was.

"She's impressive, very talented," six-time LPGA player of the year Annika Sorenstam said. "She hits the ball a long way and she's very



Fifteen-year-old Michelle Wie, left, signs autographs after finishing at her round during the Samsung World Championship in Palm Desert, Calif. (AP Photo/Laura Rauch)

mature on the golf course.

Wie, who played her first LPGA tournament at age 12, has competed in 17 women's tour events. This year, she finished fourth in one of the women's majors, tied for 13th in another and finished out of the top 20 only once.

Her father, B.J., is a professor at the University of Hawaii. Her mother, Bo, works in real estate. They are determined their daughter enjoys the best of both worlds.

"Some people may think it's really challenging for parents to take care of a well-known golfer," B.J. said. "We haven't changed anything. Being a young golf star is different from being a young star in Hollywood, or in music."

"She likes movies, reading, music. She makes good grades, and since she mostly plays in tournaments during summer vacation, she only misses a couple of weeks of school."

"She's been able to handle all the attention and is having a normal childhood," Bo said. "The only difference is, she plays golf."

B.J. said the goal is for Michelle to lead an ordinary — and extraordinary — life.

"We want her to have it normal, then abnormal, become a very, very great golfer, very rich, with a rich personal life," he said. "Most of all, we want her to be happy."

Michelle, who turned 15 on Oct. 11, is a friendly, articulate youngster who seems quite happy.

Her amateur status does keep some pressure off Wie — she's never had to stand over a "money putt." She has passed up some \$250,000 in prize money. Then there are the millions she could earn in endorsements.

Bo said Michelle intends to give back to the sport and to society, noting that she already is honorary chair of a library foundation in Honolulu and active in other charitable work. Bo cannot help but feel a parent's sense of pride.

"At the Kraft Nabisco, when the spectators gave her a standing ovation as she walked up to the 18th green, some of them even bowed," Bo said. "I was crying." ■

## MARTIAL ARTS UB to Offer Degree in Martial Arts

HARTFORD, Conn.—The University of Bridgeport will begin offering a degree in martial arts, the first of its kind in Connecticut, and perhaps in the country.

The state Board of Higher Education Oct. 20 gave UB the approval to offer the bachelor's degree program.

The plan is to create a career path for students interested in sports management, health sciences or teaching.

"It's such a new program we have to be careful," Thomas Ward, dean of UB's International College said. "Once it's official, we'll recruit."

The degree will cover the theory and practice of martial arts, incorporating study of world religions, international political economy and

diplomacy, literature and civilization.

As for some people who might question the need for an academic degree in martial arts, Ward said the same might be said of a degree in theater or music or dance.

"It's a liberal art with a specific focus in martial arts," he said. Students would be required to take at least 12 credits in Chinese, Japanese or Korean.

They would also take the Chinese art of tai chi, judo or tae kwon do, Korean style karate.

While a few East Asian colleges have bachelor's degree programs in martial arts, there apparently are none in the United States. Indiana University offers a certificate in martial arts. ■

## SPEEDSKATING Ohno, Wang Take Golds in Short Track Speedskating

BEIJING—**Apolo Anton Ohno** of the United States won the men's 500-meter sprint Oct. 23 to take his second gold at the world short track speedskating championships.

China's **Wang Meng** won the women's 1,500 meters for her second title of the tournament in the northeastern Chinese city of Harbin.

Ohno finished in 43.663 seconds, edging out South Korea's Lee Seung-jae (43.777) and American Rusty Smith (43.928).

Wang finished in 45.037 seconds,

beating countrywoman Fu Tianyu (45.054) and Tania Vicent of Canada (45.816).

Ohno won the men's 1,500-meters event Oct. 22, finishing in 2:22.270 seconds, ahead of Ahn Hyun-soo of South Korea (2:22.414) and China's Li Jiajun (2:22.656).

Wang won the women's 1,500-meter race in 2:22.270, ahead of South Koreans Choi Eun-kyung (2:27.621) and Kang Yun-mi (2:27.694). ■

## BASKETBALL Sacramento Releases Liu Wei

SACRAMENTO, California—China guard **Liu Wei** was among three players released by the Sacramento Kings Oct. 24.

Liu joined the Kings shortly before their tour of Beijing and Shanghai with the Houston Rockets earlier last month. He is a star with the Shanghai Sharks, Yao Ming's former club team in China.

The Kings also released center Anwar Ferguson and guard Tony Bland. They have 16 players left on their roster. ■

## Former Iolani Star Low Breaks Foot

PULLMAN, Wash.—Washington State freshman point guard **Derrick Low** broke a bone in his right foot during practice and will undergo surgery, coach Dick Bennett said Oct. 19.

Low, who starred at Iolani School in Honolulu and was one of the most sought after recruits in Hawaii history, was scheduled to have surgery Oct. 20 after breaking his foot during practice, Bennett said.

The 6-foot-1 guard could be out for six to eight weeks, WSU athletic officials said.

Low had been expected to take over for Marcus Moore in running the Cougars' offense. Moore graduated after last season.

"It's an unfortunate start of the season," said Bennett, who directed the Cougars to a 13-16 record in his first season at WSU last year. ■

## BASEBALL Hanshin Pitcher Yabu Interested in Major Leagues

TOKYO—Hanshin Tigers pitcher **Keiichi Yabu** said Oct. 27 he will exercise his free agent rights and is interested in pursuing a career in the North American major leagues.

The 36-year-old veteran right-hander, who has spent 11 seasons with the Central League team, went 6-9 this season for the Tigers with a 3.02 ERA and 75 strikeouts in 19 games.

"The Tigers have said they want me back," Yabu told reporters. "But I'd like to consider all options including any in the major leagues."

Yabu's best season was in 1996 when he went 10-14 with a 4.01 ERA and 145 strikeouts in 30 games for the Tigers. ■

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Photo courtesy of Jana Yoshizumi

**In happier times:** Kenji Yoshizumi (center) was a celebrated graphic designer of Tab Cola and VO5 hair products.

**YOSHIZUMI**

(Continued from page 1)

Kenji was struck by a new dark color Dodge Ram pick-up truck while crossing the intersection of Santa Fe Avenue and Burnett Street in the city of Long Beach, Calif. The driver — who ran a red light — sped away from the accident scene and left few clues for police to work with. Kenji, 84, later died from his injuries.

Long Beach Police Detective Brian Watt recently told the *Pacific Citizen* that he has not received any additional leads to bring him closer to identifying the hit-and-run driver, but added that Kenji was crossing the lighted intersection using a cane.

Unless citizens, witnesses or family members pitch in and call in tips, the case will go cold, Watt said, echoing Jana's fear.

This fear has fueled her effort to find the hit-and-run driver in a rather unorthodox way. Instead of posting signs or distributing fliers, Jana launched her own "high tech" campaign through the Internet. Each day, she scours the Internet for new venues and Websites to post a bulletin asking for help in catching her father's killer.

"In my day, I'm on the Internet trying to find new places to call and e-mail ... I felt like the [Internet] was the best way to do it" she said, adding that so far, the response from the Asian Pacific American community has been overwhelming. Her "e-plea" has been posted and reposted on various APA Web sites, giving her efforts self-renewing longevity.

Jana also e-mailed radio stations, contacted local auto repair shops to see if they have taken in a dark-colored truck with frontal damage. Within a short amount of time, Jana had mastered the art of publicity in a way that even Det. Watt said he has never seen in his many years of police service.

"[Jana's campaign] is a little unusual," he said, adding, "I encourage it if it will help bring the person to justice. If at all possible, the victim's family can go the extra mile, we would appreciate it."

But even with the outpouring of support, relevant information has been, at best, trickling in. A tipster recently informed Jana that a black truck was involved in another accident in Long Beach the same day her father was killed. She also found a police officer that was at the accident scene, but all these clues do not come together in a cohesive thread of facts.

The numbers are sobering. Watt said that the LBPd handles roughly 98,000 hit-and-run cases per year. According to a 2003 report from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 111 minutes and almost 20 percent of pedestrian fatalities were a result of hit-and-run crashes.

Jana wants to call attention to dangerous drivers even if it means using her dad's case as an example.

In the city of Long Beach, the rate of hit-and-run accidents has increased since last year.

"[It] is high and we admit it. We requested a grant from the state and

[we] were recently awarded a \$450,000 grant with designation for pedestrian safety only," said Long Beach Police Sgt. David Cannan. The grant money will help fund safety measures such as street signs and increased police patrol.

Long Beach Councilwoman Tonia Reyes Uranga added that pedestrian education and upgrades of old and aging traffic infrastructure are currently underway, but more work is needed.

"I would love to work with [Jana] to use her dad's case as an example to push for more infrastructure changes," said Reyes Uranga, adding, "There's a close community in the westside [of Long Beach where Kenji was killed], I know that if they knew something, they would do the right thing. It's just a matter of getting the word out."

\*\*\*

Over a month has past since Kenji's death and the case remains stagnant. His memorial service was held Oct. 13 to celebrate his life, which began in San Pedro, California. At the age of six, he embarked on his life-long love of drawing and designing, which elevated him to prominence in the 1950s as the Tab Cola and VO5

logo designer.

In old office photos, Kenji is a striking young man with a confident smile surrounded by predominantly Caucasian peers. His work won a 1958 outstanding design of the year award and garnered many other distinctions.

"He didn't brag [about his success], but he was always proud of it. Whenever we went to the supermarket and see Tab Cola, he would say, 'I designed that!'" said Jana with a laugh.

However, no stranger to tragedy, Kenji also suffered many losses within his lifetime. In 1942, he was interned in Utah and then in the early 1970s, his daughter and his wife died of brain aneurysms. Both were events that Jana says her father recovered from but never really talk about.

And when Kenji's second marriage with Jana's mother dissipated, Jana lost contact with her father for 16 years. They only recently reconciled three years ago and were beginning to rediscover each other.

Still, those years without her father continue to haunt Jana.

"I wish I made an effort earlier. The past three years, I visited [him] every other month and we would

have dinner or go shopping. We developed more of a friendship towards the end."

Looming above every thing else is the fact that the hit-and-run driver is still at large. As the days pass by with no substantial leads, the prospect of catching the perpetrator continues to wane.

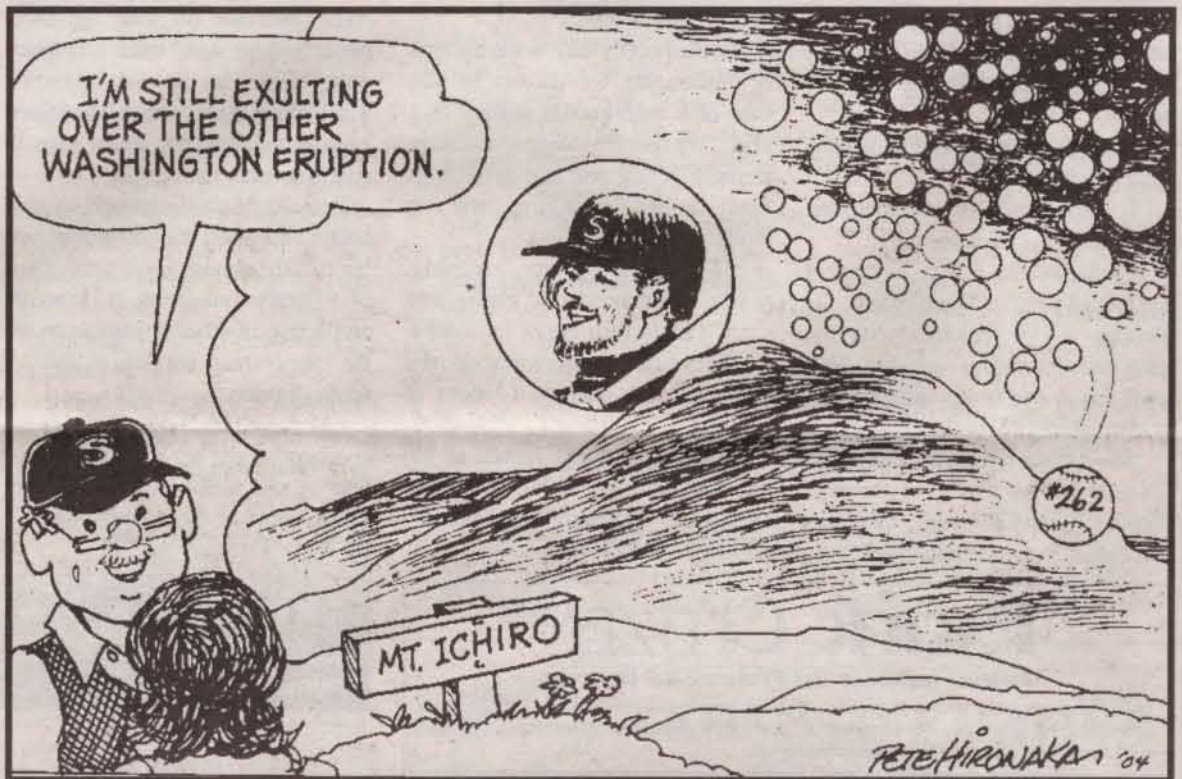
"Anyone with a conscience would have called us by now," said Det. Watt.

But Jana refuses to lose hope. She says her father would not have wanted her to give up. She wants to set up a reward fund and says she will continue to fight until she looks her dad's killer in the eyes and is able to unbridle her pain.

"I just want justice to be served and yell at [the perpetrator] for taking my father away from me," she said.

"When someone leaves the scene of the accident, for the family, that's really unfair. On behalf of the police department, we'd really like to find a resolution for this family," said Cannan. ■

Any information regarding the incident should be reported to the Long Beach Police Department Accident Investigation Detective Brian Watt at 562/570-5520.



Japanese American Citizens League

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# Just Ken

By LYNDA LIN



**Quick Facts**

**Ken Oak**

Rock/Pop

Classically trained cellist & guitar guru

First full-length CD, "Half Step Down," to be released early next year

For more info & show dates: [www.kenoak.net](http://www.kenoak.net)

**K**en Oak's music is the window into his soul. In the popular single, "End Credits," he laments about an ex-girlfriend's dogged attempts to sustain the relationship, which is dead on arrival by the last strum of his guitar. However, the 29-year-old Korean American's first love was the cello, which he learned to play in the third grade.

His music, self-described as pop/rock, from his "End Credits" EP has been featured on reality television shows like the WB's "High School Reunion."

He still plays at local open-mike nights and continues to document his thoughts in a Xanga.com online diary. But now, on the cusp of releasing his first full-length album "Half Step Down" next year, Oak finds himself in high demand.

**PC:** Can you talk more about the record label you recently signed with?

**Ken Oak:** I haven't signed with a label yet. I've been working with jd8 started by a business lawyer, Jason Pu. Basically he has already invested the capital and I'll be his first artist, but it's still kind of open. I'm also meeting with Jaggo ... which is the bigger label with more artists, and they have distribution through Universal. I'm very close to going with Jason. It's just the trust factor. He lets me retain a lot of artistic integrity because, honestly if someone were to control me creatively, I would be suffocated.

**PC:** We have Vanessa Mae, the Ahn Trio and Ken Oak who share two common traits: being Asian Pacific American and being classically trained. Do you think it's appropriate to lump you into that category?

**KO:** I wouldn't say I hate it. I never thought of it that way actually because we're all classically trained, but I'm more pop/rock and the Ahn Trio, they're classical or neo classical. I think it's cool. I think because of my background, I have more options, but I don't consider myself a classical musician, but I would love to collaborate with [the Ahn Trio].

**PC:** How would you describe your writing style?

**KO:** If anything it's the truth. Basically everything I write is from experience.

**PC:** So who is analog girl?

**KO:** [Laughs] That's definitely a person! It's about staying at someone's place because I didn't have a place to stay at the time. The house was very different than I was used to.

**PC:** Which mainstream musical artist would you say is most comparable to your sound?

**KO:** I would say Jason Mraz ... Jack Johnson is a little more laid back. Jason Mraz has so many lyrics, it sounds like he's rapping, so I'd say more Jack Johnson. Howie Day is another up-and-comer. It's easy to say that these guys are similar because they have an acoustic guitar and write their own stuff, but I think I'm different in terms of what I bring to the table.

**PC:** What other music has hit you hard recently?

**KO:** I kind of keep going back to British pop probably because I lost my musical virginity through it. Of course, Duran Duran and the New Wave stuff is what I grew up with. Recently, Coldplay and Keen are popular ... basically they are guys who are not afraid to make pretty melodies. I'm drawn to that.

**PC:** You went from the University of Michigan to USC and then you moved to the D.C. area, which isn't really known for its music scene. What kind of strictly D.C. influences did you come away with?

**KO:** I came to USC in 1994 and finished in 1998 ... after I graduated I applied to law school because that was the condition (His dad and sister are both lawyers). But I was playing at my

church, basically cutting my teeth on music at the church. They offered me a position, so I deferred New York University for a year. The church split and I was in limbo waiting tables. In 2000, I moved to the East Coast. Chris Ramos, a friend of mine, signed me up to an open mike session, so that's when I really got into the open-mike, folksy type of deal. I didn't get into it until I moved to D.C. I learned a lot about music there and how diverse it is. It's like a coming together of people from diverse backgrounds, not like the Hollywood scene at all.

**PC:** What's the Hollywood scene like?

**KO:** The Hollywood scene is about a band that is really loud ... it's sheer overpowering and not a lot of lyrics.

**PC:** There's a quote on your web site: "I love to meet new people/I'm only here to learn/and teach you of a culture/that isn't fit to burn. Sounds pretty political to me."

**KO:** It can mean a lot to a lot of different people. If there was anything that it could stand for, I would have to say that it's about communication. I want to break down communication barriers. Like if you grow up in church, you become really secluded and it becomes an 'us and them' mentality. Everyone deserves a chance. I wouldn't say that I've completely turned my back on religion, but I'm listening to the different perspectives of religion ... as opposed to hearing and having an answer back.

**PC:** From an insider, how hard is it to be Asian and make it in the biz?

**KO:** It's extremely difficult. If you're going to want mainstream appeal, you need to appeal to the general public, which means you need to appeal to white people. One major label said they would come to check me out at the Key Club [in Los Angeles]. Of course, I was very excited, but they never showed up. I found out later that they liked my music, but didn't know how to market me because I'm Asian. It does show me that they're short sighted. I think now, however, there is a place [for APA artists]; the younger generation is more open-minded and less racist.

**PC:** How much of your fan base is from exposure through the MTV Show and how much was through the APA grapevine?

**KO:** I would say mostly through the grapevine ... through younger APA downloading from the Internet. When I first came out here, people told me to not get pigeonholed in the APA market, but I feel like you have to appeal to your own people first or they won't support you later. It just makes sense to me.

**PC:** Okay, if someone else were to write a score about your life right now what genre would it be and why?

**KO:** It'd probably be country or something [laughs]. What makes me kind of unique is that I grew up all over this country — we moved a lot — and it was always in heavily white areas. I'm definitely caught in between somewhere. Especially when I'm hanging out in Koreatown because I don't speak Korean all that well ... so country music because it's the whitest of white music!

**PC:** I found this Groove Asia poll where you come in #3 on their top Asian American weekly list. You're behind Hikaru Utada and barely egging out William Hung who is #5.

**KO:** That's an accomplishment! I'm out of his shadows. It's kind of ridiculous. I'm a big fan of his attitude, but it's obvious that the media make a fool out of him. He's some kind of puppet, but he's probably the most popular Asian American singer there is in the United States right now.

**Nanka Nikkei Voices: Little Tokyo - Changing Times, Changing Faces**

The third publication of the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California features 57 personal stories and institutional histories of Little Tokyo covering decades from the early 1900s to the present.

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**JACL-COMMUNITY  
Calendar**

**East Coast**

**NEW YORK**

**Wed., Nov. 17**—AAJA Gala Dinner honoring pioneers in journalism; 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner; Waldorf Astoria; honorees: Peter Bhatia, Connie Chung, Ken Kashiwahara, Dith Pran and Helen Thomas; \$250 per ticket, \$200 for AAJA members. Tickets/reservations: 415/346-2051. Info: www.aaja.org

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**Thurs., Nov. 11**—Exhibit, "Price of Freedom: Americans at War"; features veterans who fought as minorities and Americans during WWII and the Korean War; panelists include Yeiichi Kelly Kuwayama and Col. Jimmie Kanaya and Col. Charles McGee.

**Tue., Nov. 16**—"Race and America's War: WWII and Korea," Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of American History, Carmichael Auditorium (14th and Constitution Ave.); 6:30-8:30 p.m.; speakers include: Col. Jimmie Kanaya, 442nd RCT, Yeiichi Kuwayama, medic, 442nd RCT, Col. Charles McGee, Tuskegee Airman and Col. Woodrow Crockett, Tuskegee Airman; moderator will be Franklin Odo. Info: Smithsonian Institute, 202/633-1000.

**Midwest  
CHICAGO**

**Sun., Nov. 14**—Chicago JACL's 60th Anniversary; 4 p.m. reception, 5 p.m. dinner; Chicago Athletic Association, 12 S. Michigan Ave.; honoring Mitsuye Endo for initiating and pursuing ground-breaking litigation that resulted in the closing of American internment camps; Tickets: \$75, call 773/989-7333 to purchase.

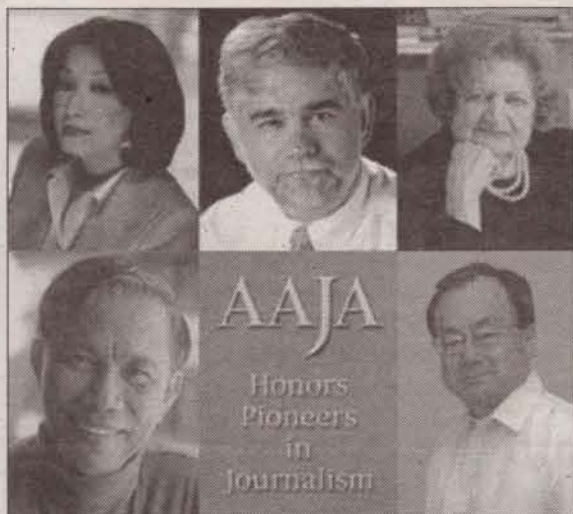
**DENVER**

**Sat., Nov. 6**—Mile-Hi JACL Get Together; noon-4 p.m.; Tamai Towers Penthouse; potluck. Info: Sumi Takeno, 303/355-5040.

**ENGLEWOOD, Colo.**

**Sat., Nov. 6**—Book signing, "Being Japanese American: A JA Sourcebook for Nikkei, Hapa... and their friends" by Gil Asakawa; 1 p.m.; BORDERS, 9515 E. County Line Rd. Info: BORDERS, 303/708-1735.

**Central California**



**FRESNO**

**Sat., Nov. 13**—CCDC's 55th Annual Installation Dinner; 5:30 p.m.; Grand Occasion, 4584 W. Jacquelyn Ave.; Bill Clark, guest speaker and founder of the Japanese Institute of the Art; \$40. Info: Bobbi Hanada, 559/434-1662.

**Sun., Nov. 14**—JACL Chapter Insurance Commissioner's District Meeting; Info: Stephen Divizich, 800/400-6633.

**HANFORD**

**Through Nov. 27**—"Depth and Diversification: New Acquisitions from the Lee Institute Collection; The Ruth and Sherman Lee Institute for Japanese Art, 15770 Tenth Ave., Info: Maiko Behr, 559/582-4915 or mbehr@shermanleeinstitute.org.

**Northern California**

**BERKELEY**

**Sat., Nov. 13**—2nd Annual U.C. Berkeley Nikkei Student Union's Japanese American Culture Night. Info: Loreen Kozen, lkozen@gmail.com.

**Nov. 14-Dec. 18**—Exhibition of quilts by Mieko Taketa; Salmon Graphics Gallery, 1728 University Ave.; opening reception, Nov. 14, 1-3 p.m. Info: 510/548-0293.

**SACRAMENTO**

**Sun., Nov. 21**—"Holiday Asian Arts and Crafts Show"; 10-3 p.m.; Elks Lodge, 6446 Riverside Blvd.; free. Info: 916/422-7906.

**SALINAS**

**Through Nov. 7**—Exhibition, "From the Sierra to the Sea: The California Landscapes of Chiura Obata"; National Steinbeck Center, 1 Main St. Info: 831/796-3833 or www.steinbeck.org

**SAN FRANCISCO**

**Fri., Nov. 5**—The Japanese

The Asian American Journalists Association will hold a gala dinner to kick off their \$2 million project. Honorees include Peter Bhatia, Connie Chung, Ken Kashiwahara, Dith Pran and Helen Thomas.

Yoshikawa, 209952-5578.

**Southern California**

**BRAWLEY**

**Sat., Nov. 6**—3rd Annual Imperial Valley JACL Golf Tournament; Del Rio Country Club; \$85 non-members, \$75 JACLers. Info: George or Craig Kodama, 760/353-6660 or Jason Jackson, 760/791-5576.

**GARDENA**

**Sun., Nov. 14**—Gardena Pioneer Project's Annual Law Day co-sponsored by the Japanese American Bar Association, the Senior Citizens' Bureau of the city of Gardena and the APALC; 1-3 p.m.; Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1700 W. 162nd St.; speakers are Marjorie Shely, Esq. and Ronald Hirano, Esq.; free; translation will be provided for Japanese speakers. Info: Karen Uyekawa, 213/894-3235.

**LOS ANGELES**

**Through April 3, 2005**—Exhibition, *Imagining the Orient*; Getty Center, 1200 Getty Center Dr.; new exhibition explores 18th century Europe's fascination with the Orient; Info: 310/440-7360 or www.getty.edu.

**Sat., Nov. 6**—JACL Chapter Insurance Commissioner's District Meeting; Info: Stephen Divizich, 800/400-6633.

**Sat., Nov. 6**—4th Annual Breaking the Fast - An Angelino Gathering for Ramadan; "Communities Under Siege, Keeping the Faith"; 3:30 p.m.; Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple, 505 E. Third St.; 5:30 proceed to Centenary United Methodist Church, 300 S. Central Ave.; donation or contributions of food or beverages (no pork or alcohol); Info: NCRRL, 213/680-3484 or ncrlla@yahoo.com.

**Sat., Dec. 18**—3rd Annual "Spirit of the Season nearly acoustic Hiroshima Holiday Show"; JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St.; benefits Keiro.

**SAN DIEGO**

**Wed., Dec. 1**—San Diego JACL's Salad, Soba, Sushi Social; 6:30 p.m.; Hayama Restaurant, 911 Camino del Rio South; RSVP by writing a check to SD JACL for \$25 per person and mail to SD JACL, 1031 25th St, San Diego, CA 92102. Include a phone number to call to leave a message to confirm that your check has been received. Checks must be received by Mon., Nov. 29. No payment at the door please.

**WEST COVINA**

**Sat., Nov. 6**—Fall Frolic Scholarship Dance sponsored by the

San Gabriel Valley JACL; 7-11 p.m.; East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave.; \$10 donation. For table reservations of 8 or more dancers, please call Barbara, 626/810-1509 or Toshi, 909/861-9676.

**Arizona - Nevada  
PHOENIX**

**Sun., Nov. 14**—Arizona JACL's Gold Saguaro Tribute Awards Luncheon; 1 p.m.; Phoenix College Culinary Cafe. Info: Seiko Watkins, 623/581-2623.

**Sun., Nov. 14**—Arizona chapter general meeting; 2:30 p.m.; Phoenix College Amphitheatre. Info: Ted Namba, 623/572-9913.

**Wed., Nov. 17**—Korematsu vs. U.S.-60 Years Later: A Look at Civil Liberties and Race; commemorating the 60th anniversary of this significant case by having experts talk about the Japanese American internment experience and it's current affects on American society and civil liberties; sponsored by Arizona JACL, Asian Chamber of Commerce, ASU Asian Pacific Law Student's Association and ASU American Constitution Society; Arizona State University College of Law, Armstrong Hall, Great Hall, 6-7 p.m. reception, 7-9 p.m. feature event. Info: jason.wong@asu.edu. ■

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**APIHR/Ohana House Youth Conference Postponed**  
Due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts, APIHR/Ohana House regrets to announce the postponement of Double Visions: Reconciling Multiple Identities Youth Conference. The conference will now be held July 2005 instead of Nov. 7.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Go For Broke Educational Foundation's "Evening of Aloha" Has Changed Venues**  
The 3rd Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner will now be held at The Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel and Spa in Pasadena. The dinner is Sat., Nov. 6 and features Gen. Eric Shinseki. The event is sold out. For information contact the Go For Broke Educational Foundation at 310/328-0907 or eveningofaloha@goforbroke.org. The Ritz-Carlton Hotel and Spa is located at 1401 S. Oak Knoll Ave.

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**Season's Greetings From Centenary UMC**  
Once again the Holiday's are fast approaching.  
Our second edition of "CENTENARY FAVORITES" is available and would make a great gift.  
With 200 new recipes in a 3-ring binder. Typed in large print for easy reading. A 584 page book of Western-style and Asian-style cooking. A special section on Japanese New Year dishes and sushi preparation with step-by-step instructions and diagrams.  
Our book can be ordered by mail for \$30 plus \$6 for postage/handling (shipped within the USA). Checks made payable to Centenary UMC-Cookbook Project and send to Centenary United Methodist Church, 300 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90013. Books are also available for pick-up at church or regional locations. Call for more information, (213) 617-9097.  
To insure delivery before Christmas, all orders should be submitted by December 1.



**IN MEMORIAM**

**Alfred Song, First AA in Calif. Legislature, Dies**

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVINE, Calif.—Alfred H. Song, a veteran politician who was born in Hawaii and became the first Asian American elected to the state Legislature in California, has died. He was 85.

Song died of natural causes Oct. 11 at an assisted living center in Irvine, his daughter, Leslie Song Winner, said.

Song, who was an attorney before entering politics, earned the reputation as a top legal expert in the Legislature.

Song entered politics as a Monterey Park city councilman in 1960 and went on to represent a broader area of the San Gabriel Valley in the state Assembly in 1961. He was elected to the state Senate in 1966.

The former chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Democratic Caucus said he was most proud of getting passed a law designed to protect minority voters from harassment at the polls.

Song's 16-year career in Sacramento was tainted by allegations of political corruption. His career in the Legislature ended in 1978 amid reports that he was the subject of an FBI probe into political wrongdoing.

A World War II veteran, Song was born in Hawaii of Korean ancestry. He attended USC, where he earned bachelors and law degrees.

He is survived by daughters Marsha Song Boehling and Frances Song; son Mark E. Song; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. ■



**Peter Okada, Credited With Introducing U.S. Football to Japan, Passes**

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Peter Kazunori Okada, the man who is credited with introducing U.S. football to Japan shortly after World War II, passed away Oct. 13 of cancer. He was 85.

Born in Los Angeles in 1919, Okada was interned after the war with Japan broke out. He eventually worked at Boys Town in Nebraska and joined the U.S. Army in 1944.

A graduate of Woodbury University in Los Angeles in 1953 he ran his own firm, PWP Japan Inc., until he retired in 1979.

Active in the Japanese American

community, he was a founding director of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, which built the monument in D.C. honoring those who were interned during the war and the JAs veterans.

Okada was active in the JACL, the Nisei Veterans Organization and was a board member of the Keiro Nursing Home in Seattle.

Okada married his wife Mutsuko in 1945 and they have five children: sons Peter, Mark, and Andrew; and daughters Leslie and Jerrie. He also had 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. ■

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Abe, George Shigeo, 87**, Seattle, Wash., Aug. 7; WWII Veteran, 442nd RCT; survived by daughters, Linda Abe-Blackston, Vicki, and Marianne (Doug); sons, Lawrence and David (Deborah); 9 gc.; and brothers-in-law, Bob (Fusako) Akimoto and James Nishimoto.

(Elizabeth) Wolfe and Kevin Omura; daughters, Shelli (Warren) Smith and Judy Suto.

**Tanaka, Yoshio, 86**, Camarillo, Sept. 25; survived by daughter, Grace (Mark) Callegari; sons, Eddie and Alan; 2 gc.; brothers, Minoru, Shuichi, Michio and Takeshi; and sister, Fujiko Uryuu.

**Uchida, George, 79**, Seattle, Wash., Aug. 6; WWII Veteran, 1972 Judo Olympic coach; survived by wife, Jean; son, Daizo; daughters, Machiko and Miyuki Peterson; step-daughter, Chimene Brown; 2 gc.; brothers, Yosh and Henry; and sister, Kazuko Maehara.

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

**Kiga, Henry I., 91**, Seattle, Wash., Aug. 30; WWII Veteran, MIS; survived by daughters, Charlotte (Dennis) Wharton and Irene (Ed) Toyoji; sons, Drew (Hana), Fred (Marianne) and Bob (Iszy); and 7 gc.

**Mizoguchi, George G., 82**, Spokane, Wash., Oct. 12; survived by sons, Duane (Janet), Dudley and Dwight (Carol); sisters, Naoko (Bob) Takeshita, Jeanne (Jim) Yamada, and Lili (Sam) Hirata; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Omura, Lloyd Koreyuki, 75**, Seattle, Wash., Aug. 22; WWII Veteran; survived by wife, Marcia; sons, Robert (Janice) Wolfe, Rick Wolfe, Scott Wolfe, Craig

**Yoshitomi, Dr. Peter Isao, 85**, Seattle, Wash., Aug. 6; WWII Veteran; survived by wife, Frances; sons, Mark and Robert; stepchildren, Jeannie (Christopher) Lawford and John Olsen; and 3 gc. ■

DEATH NOTICE

**MINORU G. SUYAMA**  
LUM, Michigan—Minoru Suyama, 76, passed away Oct. 21. Born Oct. 18, 1928 in Tacoma, Wash., Minoru lived in Lum for 31 years and was previously of Warren, Mich. Mr. Suyama served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was a program analyst for the Federal Government Tank Plant before retiring in 1983. He enjoyed gardening, playing cards and cartooning/drawing. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Sally; daughter, Kay (Paul) Ullman of Lum; son, Mark of Flint; grandchildren, Nicole, Jeffry, Lyndsey and Seth; sister, Nobuye Zaran of Wyandotte; and special nephews, Frank and David. Minoru was preceded in death by parents, Kumataro and Asako (Ikegami). The family asks that memorial requests be sent to: Sevin Ponds Nature Center, 3854 Crawford Rd., Dryden, MI 48428; North Branch High School Library, P.O. Box 3620, North Branch, MI 48461; or Detroit Chapter JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115. A memorial service was held Oct. 30 at the Muir Brothers Funeral Home, Lapeer, Mich.

DEATH NOTICE

**TAMIYE TAMI TANABE**  
Tamiye was born in Dunnigan, Calif. on July 28, 1922 and passed away one day shy of her 82nd birthday, July 27, 2004. She was preceded in death by her husband, Tom. She is survived by sisters, Yaye Florence Yoshimine of El Cerrito, Mary Kasai of Lincoln and Toshiye Murakami of Roseville; daughters, Candace Cramer of Davis and Emily Berg of Petaluma; grandchildren, Lara Salvati of Iowa, Jessica Berg of Elk Grove, Ethan Davis of Davis, Matthew and Mark Cramer of Davis; and great-grandchildren, Grace and Tal Salvati of Iowa. A memorial service was held in Berkeley.

**Whereabouts**

Whereabouts is free of charge and run on a space-available basis.

**TAKESHI ARIYOSHI  
YUKI KISHIMOTO**

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and Connie Benton, Assistant Superintendent, Santa Cruz County Office of Education are looking for these two members of Santa Cruz High Class of 1942. With information about these two former students or other Nikkei in the class of 1942, contact Mas Hashimoto, 578 Vivienne Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076 or hashi79@earthlink.net.

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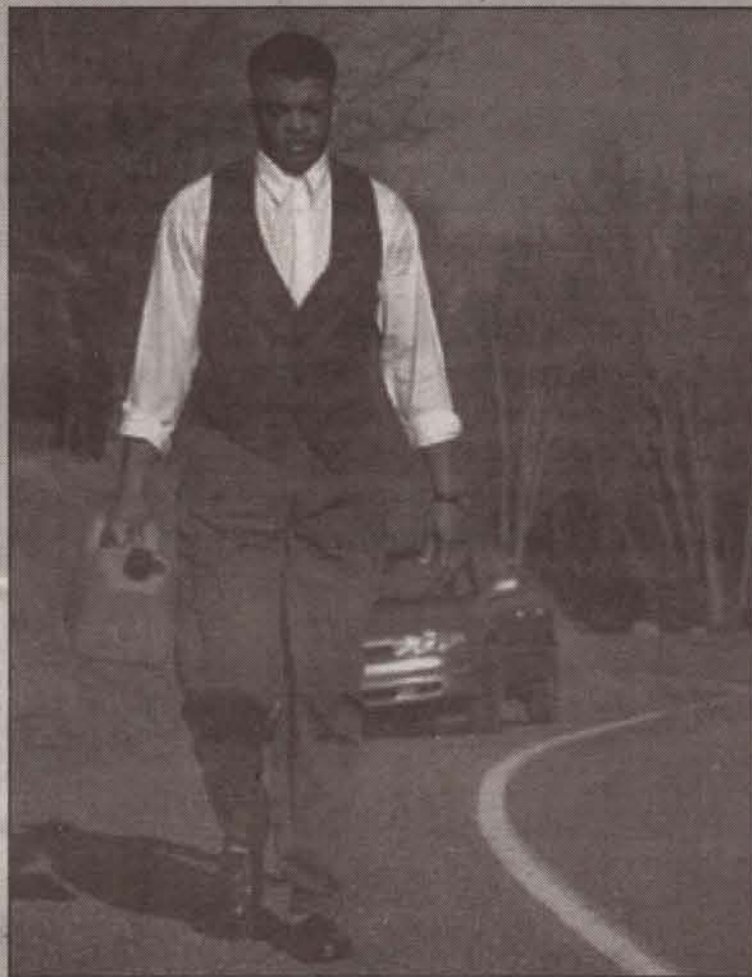
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# Early Holiday Shopping Ideas ... Books!

By YUMI SAKUGAWA  
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

**Born Confused**  
By Tanuja Desai Hidier  
PUSH  
500 pp.; \$7.99 paperback

Tanuja Desai Hidier spins an absorbing tale of a teenage girl's coming-of-age in her debut novel. Told through the witty, observant voice of Dimple Lala, a teenager who spends all her time with her Supertwin best friend Gwen or taking photographs with her camera. Hidier's young adult fiction is a unique, refreshing voice for the new multicultural generation of youth.

Dimple's life takes a complicated turn beginning on her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday, which sparks a whirlwind journey of self-discovery, friendship and love. The fact that she has to constantly find a balance between her traditional Indian culture and her own personal American identity certainly does not make her eventful summer any easier.

Hidier has a distinctive voice in creating very real, relatable characters that aptly capture the multicultural youth culture that exists today. Hidier not only has a keen eye for the adolescent confusion that comes with having an ethnic identity, but also adeptly interweaves rich details of the Indian American experience



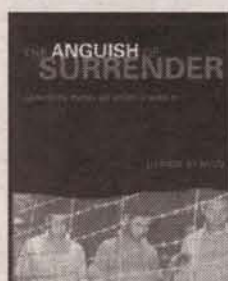
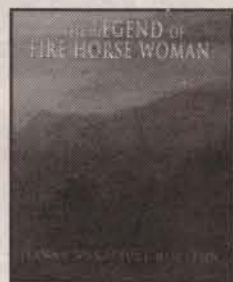
into the brilliantly woven fabric of her engrossing storyline.

**The Legend of Fire Horse Woman**  
Kesington Books  
Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston  
pp. 330

Author Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, who wrote her critically acclaimed memoir "Farewell to Manzanar," has written her first novel that interweaves the story of three generations of Japanese women. The story follows the life of Sayo, born under the Fire Horse sign in 1902 — which in Japanese tradition is considered to be a ruinous birth date. Married into a wealthy Matsubara family, Sayo is later sent to a Japanese internment camp with her daughter and granddaughter. The story of these three women is that of survival, hope and redemption in a world of racism and hate.

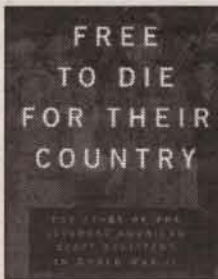
**The Anguish of Surrender: Japanese POWs of World War II**  
By Ulrich Straus  
University of Washington Press  
pp. 272; \$27.50, cloth

In this book, Straus vividly describes the experiences of Japanese prisoners of war in allied hands, which offers a unique historical perspective for better understanding U.S.-Japanese relations in



a postwar context. Filled with author's interviews with dozens of former Japanese POWs, along with recent memoirs that have emerged, "The Anguish of Surrender" provides deeply human stories of the Japanese POW experience — from entering camp to returning to postwar society.

**Free to Die for Their Country: The Story of the Japanese American Draft Registers in World War II**

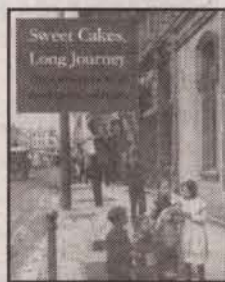


By Eric Muller; foreword by Senator Daniel K. Inouye  
University of Chicago Press  
pp. 250; \$15.00  
"Free to Die for Their Country" tells the story of Japanese American men who resisted the draft while they were held at internment camps. Muller aptly combines personal interviews with surviving resisters, historical background and judicial proceedings to create an engaging historical perspective that has not been explored enough.

**Sweet Cakes, Long Journey: The Chinatowns of Portland, Oregon**

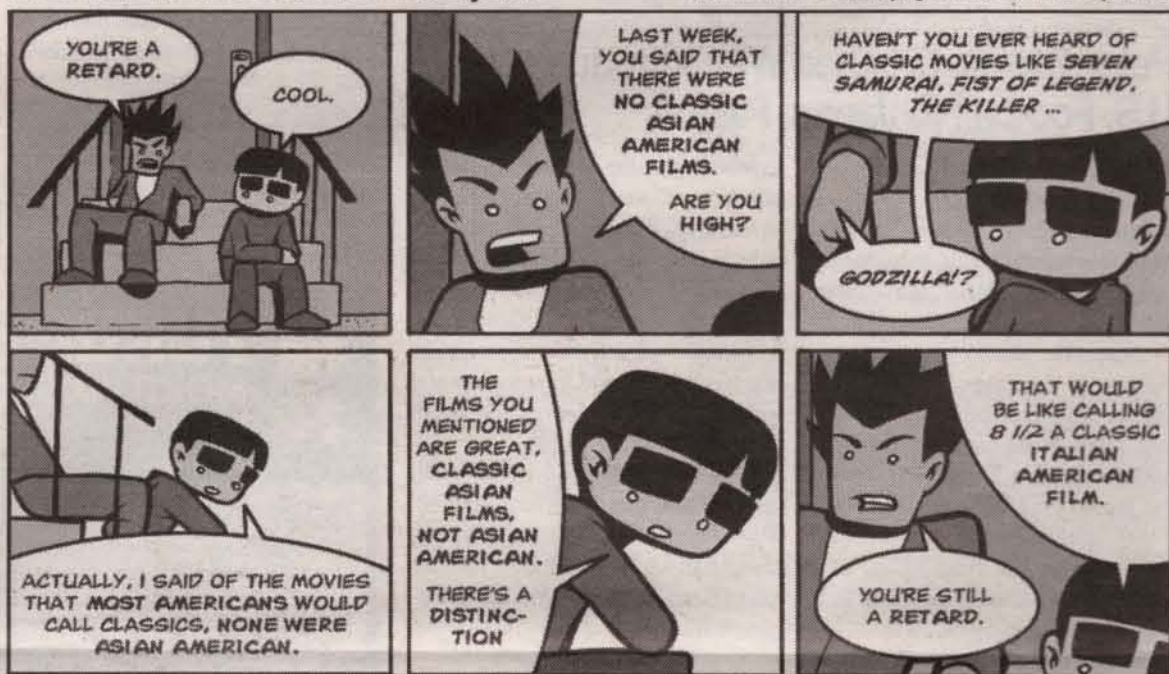
By Marie Rose Wong  
University of Washington Press  
pp. 337

Drawing from more than six thousand individual immigration files, census manuscripts, letters and newspaper accounts, author Wong chronicles the history of Portland's Chinatowns from the 1850s until the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act in the 1940s. This book also shows the effects of Oregon's leaders and laws on the early development stages of this Chinese American community, and how the immigrants gained illegal entry into the country. ■



## SECRET ASIAN MAN By Tak

secretasianman@weeklydig.com • © 2004 Tak Toyoshima

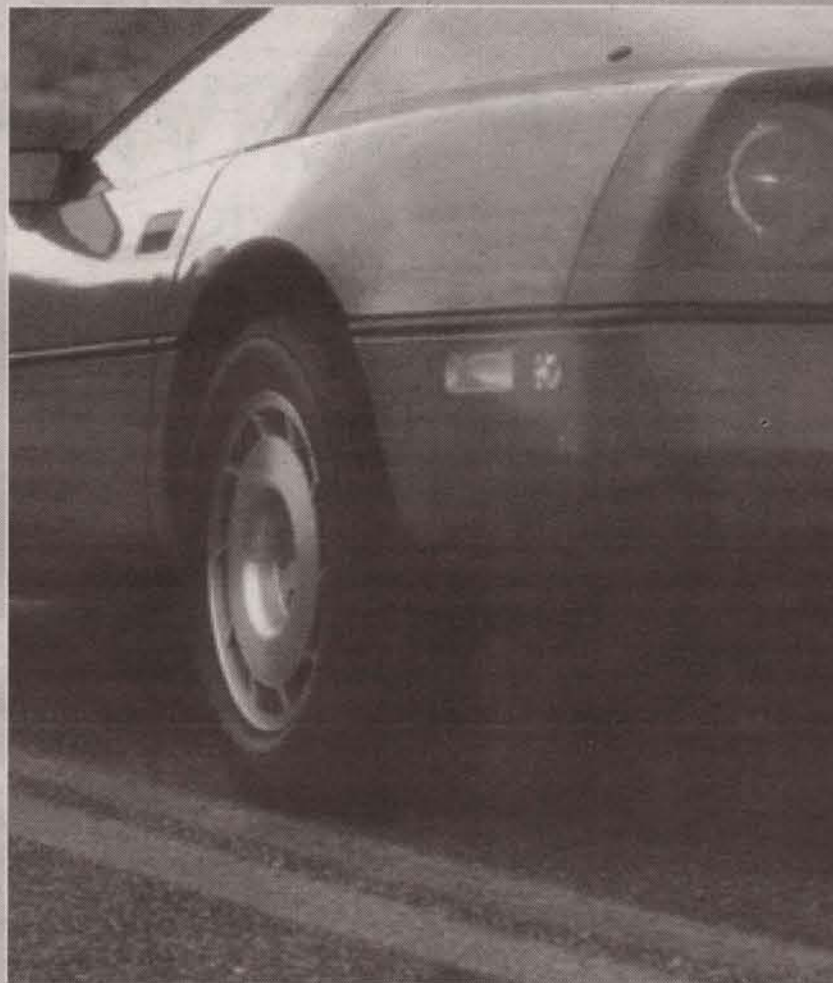


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