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Since 1929

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

#3029/ Vol. 140, No. 2 ISSN: 0030-8579

FEB. 4-17, 2005



## INSIDE

Can Quarterback Timmy Chang wobble his way into the NFL? — PAGE 7

## Radio Station Under Fire for Tsunami Parody Song

**HOT 97 FM responds to controversy by suspending employees, but angry protests continue to press the radio station for full accountability.**

By **LYNDA LIN**  
Assistant Editor

Note to HOT 97 FM (WQHT-FM): Human tragedy is no laughing matter.

The New York-based radio station got the message loud and clear recently when angry Asian Pacific Americans and enraged listeners roared loud enough to force the morning show off the air for playing a tsunami parody song filled with racial slurs and misguided humor.

Listeners who tuned into the popular hip-hop radio station in the early morning hour of Jan. 26 were greeted with a humble announcement of the indefinite suspension of radio personality Miss Jones and the

"Morning Show" team "due to the content of the tsunami song and its bad taste."

That morning's conciliatory broadcast was a stark contrast to the usually raucous radio show known for its prank phone calls and face slapping contests. For many outraged listeners, the announcement sounded like sweet bells of justice.

The now infamous song, a parody of the 1985 charity anthem "We are the World," included these lyrics:

*All at once you could hear the screaming chinks,*

*And no one was safe from the wave.*

*There were Africans drowning, Little Chinamen swept away.*

*You could hear God laughing, 'Swim bitches, swim.'*

The song hit the airwaves only a month after the South Asian tsunami killed over 200,000 and while rescue workers were still recovering bodies in the ruins. It was reportedly replayed for four days. An audio



PHOTO: JAY SMOOTH

**Drop it like it's hot**—Hundreds of protestors braved freezing temperatures Jan. 28 to protest the tsunami parody song in front of HOT 97 FM's New York studio.

recording of the song was quickly circulated through the Internet allowing listeners to not only hear the tsunami song, but also the racial-

ly charged argument between Jones and "Morning Show" Co-Host Miss Info.

Miss Info was the only one to

object to the song's insensitivity, but she was promptly accused of feeling superior because of her Asian ethnicity. Most of the "Morning Show's" hosts are African American. Todd Lynn, also a co-host, announced that he was going to "start shooting Asians."

In the immediate wake of the controversy, HOT 97 FM radio station officials issued a blanket apology. Jones and Program Director John Dimmick gave on-air apologies and announced that the entire "Morning Show" team agreed to give up one week's pay to aid the tsunami relief effort.

"I should have known better and I didn't. So I'm sorry and hopefully we can move forward from this, or I can move forward from this being a better hostess, because I am better than that," said Jones, in her on-air statement.

Emmis Communications, HOT

See HOT 97 FM/page 2

## IN MEMORIAM

### Former JACL Nat'l President Patrick K. Okura Passes at Age 93

A JACL leader for over 65 years, Okura was a pioneer in the mental health field.

By **CAROLINE AOYAGI**  
Executive Editor

Former JACL National President Patrick K. Okura, whose impact went beyond JACL to include the mental health and civil rights communities, passed away Jan. 30 after a lengthy illness. He was 93.

"Once again, we've seen the passing of one of our major figures from the past," said JACL Executive Director John Tateishi. "The death of Pat Okura, while not

unexpected because of his failing health of late, is nonetheless a sad and tragic loss for the JACL."

"Pat served the organization with such dedication over the span of decades, always so willing to be a friend, advisor, mentor, and father figure to so many young Japanese Americans who were fortunate

See OKURA/page 8



The Okuras at the 1988 JACL Nat'l Convention.

## From Texas to Tennessee, Fight to Rename 'Jap' Roads Continues

By **CAROLINE AOYAGI**  
Executive Editor

Sandra Tanamachi has spent the better part of the last decade taking on the state of Texas. Now her eyes are set on Tennessee.

In the past few months, Tanamachi has seen her hard work pay off with three Texas Counties agreeing to rename roads that contain racial slurs such as "Jap Road" and "Jap Lane." Now she is taking her fight east where the state of Tennessee is home to two "Jap Lanes."

"In this day and age, 'Jap' is a racial slur just as the N-word is and it should not be used anywhere in the United States," she said. "All Americans should be treated with the same respect and honor."

Tennessee's two "Jap Lanes" are in Lawrence County in the cities of Ethridge and Lawrenceburg. Both cities are small and Caucasians make up 98.9 percent of the population in Ethridge and 93.3 percent in Lawrenceburg. The city of Ethridge has no Asian Americans while Lawrenceburg has an AA population of 0.4 percent.

These numbers may make it more difficult to sway a change in these areas. The city of Ethridge has lived with "Jap Lane" for 75 years and traces the two-mile road's origins to a man named Jap Holland for whom the road was named after.

"Frankly, I don't care if a town has five or five hundred people in it. If it has a geographical marker of some kind — a road name, a mountain name, or whatever — we need to do what we can to get it

changed," said John Tateishi, JACL executive director. "The only way we're going to eliminate the use of the word 'Jap' is by



informing the public of its disparaging nature."

Members of the Committee to Change Jap Road (CCJR) agree with Tateishi and plan to forge

### Orange County, Texas to Decide New Name

By **CAROLINE AOYAGI**  
Executive Editor

Residents of "Jap Lane" in Orange County, Texas met Jan. 18 to decide on a new name for the road but could not come to a consensus. They now have until the end of February to come to a decision.

Although Orange County Commissioners voted to rename the controversial road late last year, it is still taking a while to choose a name that will be acceptable to both the Japanese

See TEXAS/page 2

ahead with their campaign to rename the two "Jap Lanes" in Tennessee. Thomas Kuwahara of CCJR has already been in contact with commissioners in Lawrence County asking for a renaming of the roads.

"I see it this way ... if you don't repair a broken window, then it is more likely that other windows will be broken," said Kuwahara. "In the worst case, another Vincent Chin," he continued, referring to the brutal racial murder of Chin in the state of Michigan.

But so far, Lawrence County Commissioners have indicated they will not be renaming any of the roads.

"It'll remain the same," said Commissioner Delano Benefield, whose district includes Ethridge. "The people who live on [the road] have no trouble with it. The county has no trouble with it."

He noted that only about four or five families currently live on Ethridge's "Jap Lane" and "out of respect for [Jap Holland's] family who still lives on the road" the County will not be changing the name of the road.

See TENNESSEE/page 2

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## CAMPAIGN Membership Challenge

By **EDWIN ENDOW**  
JACL V.P. of Membership

The JACL needs your help in facing our biggest, most crucial challenge: increasing our membership.

And we have a plan. It involves having each of you get ONE person to

See MEMBERSHIP/page 3





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## HOT 97 FM

(Continued from page 1)

97 FM's parent company, also issued an official apology, but as listeners continued to inundate the radio station, its sponsors and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) with angry calls, letters and e-mails, HOT 97 FM finally announced that it was suspending the show.

"Our entire radio family is ashamed by this," said Adam Schiff of HOT 97 FM in an e-mail response to the Pacific Citizen. "HOT 97 is re-directing the full salaries of those individuals to charities aiding tsunami relief for the duration of the suspension."

But the apologies all came too late. Major sponsors like Sprint, McDonalds, and Jackson-Hewitt have reportedly withdrawn their advertising from HOT 97 FM at the

## TENNESSEE

(Continued from page 1)

Although Benefield may feel a change is unnecessary, others in Tennessee feel "Jap Lane" should be renamed.

Forde Callis of Ridgeway, Tennessee was a member of the 36th Texas Division, better known as the "Lost Battalion," that was rescued by the famed 442nd Regiment and 100th Battalion during World War II and knows all too well the heroics of the Japanese American soldiers.

"I feel like as much as these people gave to me, I ought to do what I can. If it weren't for them I probably wouldn't be alive today," said Callis, who has urged Commissioner Benefield to rename the roads.

Callis believes "Jap" is a racial slur that should not be part of any road names in the state of Tennessee.

"To me it don't sound right," he

## TEXAS

(Continued from page 1)

Americans who asked for the change and the current residents of the road.

Commissioner John Dubose had presented ballots with the road name suggestions American Lane and Japanese Lane but residents rejected these choices. Instead, residents came up with their own list of new names which include Mary Lane, Country Lane, and Shane Goldman Lane.

Most of the residents at the meeting indicated that their first choice would

be to keep "Jap Lane," according to reports in the local paper, the

Beaumont Enterprise.

Orange County reluctantly followed

a similar road name change in neighboring Jefferson County where a ten-year battle among residents and those pushing for the road's name change took place. In the end, a lawsuit demanding a renaming of Jefferson County's "Jap Road" seemed to be the deciding factor.

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## Connerly Leaves UC Board With Warning: Don't Bring Back Affirmative Action

By MICHELLE LOCKE  
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO—Ward Connerly, the University of California regent best known for dismantling state programs that gave preferences to minorities, completed his term with a final plea to fellow board members: Don't bring back affirmative action admissions.

"There will be a great temptation ... for you to relax your attitude about the use of race," Connerly said in his parting remarks Jan. 20. "For God's sake, don't do it."

After dismantling UC's affirmative action system, Connerly, 65, chaired a state ballot initiative, Proposition 209, that scrapped similar programs in public hiring, contracting and education.

His next battleground is Michigan, where he and others recently announced they believe they have enough signatures to get a constitutional amendment similar to

Prop. 209 on the November 2006 ballot.

Connerly, who is of black, white and American Indian descent, was a catalyst for conflict during his 12 years as a regent. He was praised by supporters as a civil rights hero, denounced by others as a sellout; some opponents cheered Connerly's departure during the public comment portion of the recent meeting.

Regent Peter Preuss, a frequent ally, praised Connerly for his "delightful demeanor, even temperament and good humor."

Some of the issues Connerly spearheaded led to tense times, Preuss said, "but is a board which would shy away from tense times really doing its job?"

Connerly's voice appeared to quiver with emotion as he recounted highs and lows of what he jokingly referred to as "my 12-year sentence."

"There have been times when I've been pretty tough on the university, but it's out of love," he said. ■

## Olympic Gold Medalist Yamaguchi to Present Awards at JACL 76th Anniversary Gala Dinner

Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi will help celebrate JACL's 76th anniversary as honorary chair of the NCWNP District's second annual gala dinner April 2 at the Blackhawk Auto Museum in Danville, Calif.

With the theme of "Spirit of 76," Yamaguchi will help present awards to the Legacy and Hikari honorees at the gala dinner. Legacy Award honorees, the "unsung heroes," will be honored and recognized for their longtime

work in JACL. Hikari awards will be presented to youth who have demonstrated leadership and made significant contributions to the Japanese American community.

The "Spirit of 76" gala event serves as a fundraiser in support of NCWNP district's programs, vital to JACL's continued effectiveness. Proceeds will help support JACL's youth development, cultural enhancement and civil rights programs.

Yamaguchi is president of the

"Always Dream" Foundation which supports organizations that have a positive influence on youth and programs that inspire and embrace the hopes and dreams of children and adolescents.

The cost for the gala dinner is \$100 per person with

an "early bird" special of \$90 by Feb. 15. Registration forms for seating and menu choices can be obtained from JACL chapter presidents or downloaded from the district website (<http://jaclncwnp.org>).

Completed registration forms and checks should be sent to Carolyn Ishihara, 3425 Waterfront Circle, Stockton, CA 95209.

The Blackhawk Auto Museum is located at 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle in Danville, Calif. and the dinner will start at 6 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to celebrate the event by wearing red, white, or blue.

For more information about the gala event, contact Patty Wada, Regional Director, at 415/345-1075 or email [jacl-ncwnp@msn.com](mailto:jacl-ncwnp@msn.com). ■



KRISTI YAMAGUCHI

## Texas' First Vietnamese American State Legislator Defends Election Victory

The House of Representatives will decide if Vo legally eked out the win against incumbent.

By LYNDALIN  
Assistant Editor

Escaping war-torn Vietnam, building successful businesses and becoming Texas' first Vietnamese American state legislator are goals Hubert Vo achieved within his lifetime. Now, he must defend his latest achievement — winning the House seat — from a formidable opponent.

Talmadge Heflin, a senior Republican who was voted out of office during the Nov. 2 election, claims that illegal votes led to Vo's victory. Now, Heflin is challenging the election results in a hearing before the House that could overturn the voters' decision.

Vo, a Democrat, won Houston District 149 — which is 18 percent Asian American, 20 percent African American and 21 percent Hispanic — by just 33 votes.

At the first election challenge hearing Jan. 27, Heflin's lawyer Andy Taylor said they have uncovered evidence that at least 140 votes were cast illegally from outside areas, reported the *Daily Texan*.

Larry Vaselka, Vo's lead attor-

ney, refuted the claim and pointed out that the presidential elections were running concurrently with the local races. "There is no evidence the 140 voters even voted in the race," said Vaselka.

Both sides submitted evidence supporting their cases to the Select Committee on Election Contest, which will study the evidence and

seating Heflin or calling for a new election.

In the meantime, Vo has been sworn in as the Democratic winner and can vote on all matters except for election contest issues.

Vo said he does not think the election controversy is racially motivated, just a part of the democratic process.

He told the *Pacific Citizen* that he's leaving the election contest matters to his lawyers and focusing on his job as an elected official, but expects the committee to deliberate in a "fair and unbiased manner."

Victoria Lai, national director of the Asian Pacific Islander American Outreach said Vo's voice is needed in the Texas House of Representatives.

"Not only will he represent his district in Texas, Vo will also represent the growing political voice of Asian Americans across the country and in the Democratic Party," said



PHOTO: HUBERT VO'S OFFICE

Hubert Vo, elected last November, is fighting to keep his seat in the Texas House.

make a recommendation to the full House.

At that time, members can vote on upholding Vo's election victory,

Lai.

She is optimistic that in the end, Vo will be declared the winner — again. ■

## Doris Matsui's Bid for Late Husband's Seat Follows Tradition

By JIM WASSERMAN  
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—When Doris Matsui announced plans recently to run for her late husband's seat in Congress, she chose the fastest and most historic route to Capitol Hill for women: being the widow of a man who was there already.

Since 1923, 44 women have gone to the House or Senate upon the death of a husband in office.

Matsui's husband, Rep. Robert T. Matsui, a Democrat who represented a Sacramento district for 26 years, died at 63 on Jan. 1 of a rare bone marrow disease. If Doris Matsui wins a special election this spring, she will join three other congressional widows on Capitol Hill, all of them in the House.

Matsui, a 60-year-old

Washington lobbyist and former Clinton White House official, said her husband was among many who suggested she try to succeed him.

"It was a brief conversation during this very intense time. He said, 'You'd make a wonderful member of Congress.' But he also said you have to feel it and do it for the right reasons. I want to continue his legacy and what he's done," she said. "But I want to blaze my own trail, too."

Since 1923, when California Republican Mae Ella Nolan succeeded her late husband, John, in the House, deaths in Washington



DORIS MATSUI

have propelled 36 widows to the House and eight to the Senate.

Though the phenomenon today accounts for only a few of the 79 women in Congress, it nonetheless remains one of the most assured, if woeful, paths to Capitol Hill.

"I tell people there are other ways you can be a member of Congress that's less painful," said Rep. Lois Capps, a California Democrat who in 1998 was elected to the seat of her late husband, Walter.

Matsui, like many congressional widows before her, came under immediate pressure to run for her husband's seat. She entered the race Jan. 12, asking "those who supported him to now support me."

The outpouring of public sympathy and quick, critical endorsements from members of her party, including House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of California, cleared the field of major challengers.

"Very few spouses ever lose," said Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Politically, "there's a huge advantage to being the widow."

California provided one of the few exceptions in 1999, when voters rejected Marta Macias Brown, running for the San Bernardino-area seat that had been held by her husband, Rep. George Brown.

For now, Matsui said, she is thinking only about serving out her husband's term, which started last month.

"Let's see what happens," she said. "Every two years you decide, and that's what I'm going to be doing." ■

## MEMBERSHIP

(Continued from page 1)

join JACL. You are not being asked to get ten, 20, or a 100 people. No, you are being asked to get ONE of your family members, relatives or friends to join. Just ONE.

Every one of us knows at least one person who would be an asset to JACL on the chapter, district or national levels. What kind of asset should you be looking for? I think the biggest asset is someone who can pay a JACL membership due.

Sound funny? Let's examine the 10-90 rule. Out of 100 people, you will have 10 people who are active, but, you need the other 90 people's money to do the work. So just being a member by paying your membership dues is HUGE.

So when you ask someone to join

JACL, don't tell them you need them to be the next chapter president ... for life. Just ask them to join and be a member. They will then get your newsletter, the *Pacific Citizen*, find out about the JACL Credit Union, our health insurance and so much more. They will, without trying, become more exposed to what JACL does.

"For Better Americans in a Greater America" — That is what the JACL does on all levels, especially at your chapter level. We may concentrate on the Japanese American community, but in doing so we are trying to make our country a better place for all Americans.

We want good schools for our children — JACL has an outstanding educational program, plus thousands of dollars in scholarships. We want equal opportunities — JACL is

the oldest and most respected Asian American civil rights organization. We want to enrich our lives — JACL chapters have a myriad of cultural activities for all ages. The JACL does all this and more.

Every one of you will be receiving a membership recruitment package from your chapter. The packet will contain a letter from National Director John Tateishi and me, a script, a 2005 membership application form, and a benefits page outlining the tangible and intangible benefits of JACL. Please use these materials to help get that ONE new member.

We will also be sending you materials throughout the year outlining different ways to recruit new members. Forms will be available through your chapter president or membership chairperson. We will

also have the forms available on the JACL website ([www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org)).

As an added benefit, the JACL Credit Union has donated a four-day Carnival Cruise for two out of Long Beach, Calif. including airfare to and from Southern California.

New members, current members who gift a membership, and every current member who refers a new member will be entered in the contest.

Individuals can be entered multiple times for each referral or gift membership to increase the chances of winning. The cruise may be taken in 2005 or 2006.

The JACL draws its strength from you, the individual member. Now it is up to you to make the JACL even stronger for the future. Thank you for your efforts and commitment to JACL. ■



# National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

## Inouye, Other Senators Introduce Bill to Upgrade Tsunami Warning System

WASHINGTON—Sens. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, and Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., recently introduced legislation to upgrade and modernize the nation's tsunami warning system.



The bill would authorize up to \$35 million a year for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to upgrade tsunami detection and warning capabilities on the East and West Coasts and the Gulf of Mexico.

Protecting human life and property from natural disaster requires the ability to forecast, said Inouye.

## Akaka Bill to Be Reintroduced in Congress

HONOLULU—Sen. Daniel Akaka plans to reintroduce the "Akaka Bill," which would allow Native Hawaiians to seek federal recognition.

The House passed the bill last year, but the measure ran into opposition from senators who were concerned it would sanction race-based preferences. Sen. John McCain, R-

Ariz., is a vocal opponent of the measure.

If passed, the bill would establish an office in the Department of the Interior to address Native Hawaiian issues and to create an interagency group composed of representatives of federal agencies.

## Multiracial Patients Must 'Win the Lottery' to Find Bone Marrow

NEW YORK—Luke Do's parents, who are of mixed heritage, made it difficult to find a bone marrow match, but they finally found a match in a Japanese American police officer in Seattle.

Because matches usually are made with a relative or someone with the same racial or ethnic background, multiracial people rarely have success.

Only 2 percent of those who list their ancestry with the National Marrow Donor Program are multiracial.

The NMDP will study multiracial patients' medical records this year to better understand what kind of marrow tissue they tend to inherit from their parents.

## Bill Would Eliminate Hate Crime Laws

CONCORD, N.H.—A group of lawmakers is pushing to eliminate New Hampshire's hate crime laws, claiming the state is punishing people for unpopular beliefs.

The lawmakers believe that it is

discriminatory to levy a heavier penalty for hate crimes, while activists from many minority groups spoke out against the idea.

The proposal to remove hate crime laws also faces opposition from Attorney General Kelly Ayotte.

## Japan to Dissolve Compensation for Former Sex Slaves

TOKYO—The private fund used to compensate women forced into World War II brothels run by the Japanese army will be dissolved in March 2007.

The fund was created by the government in 1995 but independently operated with private donations and has given out 2 million yen to 285 women in the Philippines, South Korea and Taiwan.

Critics are decrying the decision as an example of Japan's refusal to take responsibility for past crimes.

## Michigan Voters Support Banning Affirmative Action

LANSING, Mich.—More than half of Michigan voters favor banning race and gender based preferences in university admissions and government hiring.

A poll revealed that voters favored or were leaning toward a state constitutional amendment banning preferential treatment, which could be on the November 2006 ballot. ■

## Forum to Take Up JLA Redress Issues

The Assembly of Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians will host a two-day conference at San Francisco's Hastings College of the Law to focus on redress issues for those who have not received proper acknowledgment for the violation of their civil rights during World War II.

Slated to take place April 8-9, "Justice Delayed Is Justice Denied," is open to the public and will focus on the personal testimonies of U.S. citizens and immigrants of Japanese, German and Italian ancestry in the United States and from Latin America.

Other activities include: examination and dialogue of how race prejudice and war hysteria impact citizens and immigrants; personal stories of individuals and families who were interned in the Department of Justice camps and Army facilities as part of the enemy alien program and

discussion of what government action is considered permissible.

Over 2,200 Japanese Latin Americans were abducted during WWII from 13 Latin American countries and interned in the United States for the purpose of prisoner exchanges with Japan.

A complete set of audiovisual recordings and transcripts will be deposited at the National Japanese American Historical Society archives in San Francisco. Copies of the testimony and videotaped excerpts from the proceedings will be submitted to the U.S. Congress and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights as background educational information for consideration of pending and future legislation and litigation.

For more information, contact the Campaign for Justice at 510/528-7288 or check their Web site: [www.campaignforjusticejla.org](http://www.campaignforjusticejla.org). ■

## Minorities, A&F Employees Eligible for Settlement

Former Abercrombie & Fitch employees and those who were turned down for employment because of race or sex may be eligible for payment from the settlement of a class action lawsuit.

The settlement applies to all women and all African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latinos who either applied or were discouraged from applying for a job at an Abercrombie & Fitch store between Feb. 24, 1999 - Nov. 16, 2004.

The retail store settled a \$40 million race and discrimination class action lawsuit, *Gonzalez v.*

*Abercrombie*, last November.

In addition to the money for class members, the settlement requires Abercrombie & Fitch to reform its recruitment, hiring, job assignment, promotion and training practices.

Claim forms are now available and must be postmarked and mailed to the Claims Administrator by March 25, 2005.

For more information, visit [www.abercrombieclaims.com](http://www.abercrombieclaims.com) or call 866/854-4175. The *Gonzalez v. Abercrombie Claims Administrator* is located at: P.O. Box 10564, Tallahassee, FL 32302-2564. ■

By Pacific Citizen Staff

## Nakano Announces 2006 Senate Bid

Now in his third and final term as a member from the 53<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District, Calif. Assemblymember **George Nakano**, D-Torrance, recently announced his plans to run for the state Senate in 2006 because there is "still much to do." Nakano helped create the first ever Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus and authored his landmark bill to create the Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs.

## Uno to be Honored with Inspiration Award

**Hon. Raymond S. Uno** is slated to receive the Inspiration Award Feb. 12, presented by the American Bar Association Commission on



Racial and Ethnic Diversity. The award will be presented at the Tenth Annual Spirit of Excellence Awards Luncheon at the Grand America Hotel. Uno is a long-standing minority issues advocate and retired judge from Salt Lake City's third Judicial Court.

## Deborah Ikeda Named Dean of Instruction and Student Services

**Deborah J. Ikeda** has been named dean of instruction and student services at the State Center Community College District's North Centers. The centers com-

## APAs in the News

prise campuses in Clovis, Madera and Oakhurst. Ikeda has worked for the State Center since 1981 and has 28 years of experience with community colleges.

## JAVA Selects Tanamachi for Distinguished Award

The Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) has selected Sandra Tanamachi of Texas for its Courage, Honor, Patriotism Award. Tanamachi was honored for her successful 12-year struggle to have various Texas Counties rename roads that contained the racial slur "Jap." She will be presented with the award later this year.

## APA Professors Win Rosenfield Distinguished Community Partnership Prize

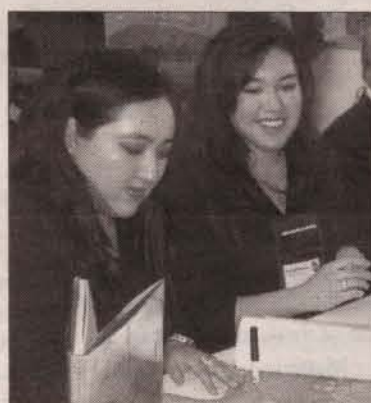
The UCLA Center for Community Partnerships awarded the Ann C. Rosenfield Prize to faculty members: **Dr. Kenneth Chang**, **Robert Nakamura** and **Paul Ong** for enhancing the quality of life in Southern California. In two years, the center has awarded more than \$1.6 million to fund 65 partnership projects.

## Kochiyama Memoir Wins Outstanding Book Award

"Passing it On—A Memoir" by human rights activist **Yuri**

**Kochiyama** received a 2004 Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award for challenging bigotry and offering insight into Japanese American social conditions. The book is an account of Kochiyama's battle for civil rights and social justice.

## JA Authors Honored With Woodsen Award




Kimberly (left) and Kaleigh Komatsu at a recent book signing.


Authors **Kimberly and Kaleigh Komatsu** were recently honored by the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) with the 2004 Carter G. Woodson Book Award for their book, "In America's Shadow." The two Yonsei authors forged memories and stories of their grandparents and great grandparents into an account of the internment during World War II.

## Kamiya Promoted to Major General

Brigadier General **Jason Kamiya**, commanding general, Southern European Task Force, was promoted to major general Jan. 5. He is the most senior U.S. military officer in Southern Europe. ■





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



## Health Plans for California JACL Members

Blue Shield of California offers health care coverage to JACL members age 18 and over who reside in California. Choose from 3 plans offering a wide range of benefits, including vision care, worldwide emergency coverage, dental care, prescription drug benefits & more. For more information about these plans, and how to become a member, call the JACL Health Benefits Trust at

**1.800.400.6633**  
or visit  
**[www.jaclhealth.org](http://www.jaclhealth.org)**

An Independent Member of the Blue Shield Association  
Japanese American Citizens League



## YOUTH FORUM

## Gaman: Hushing Us to Live in Conformity

By ALEXIS HISAKA

I have always been intrigued by Japan. Its beauty, enchantment and heroism are a part of my history that I take pride in. However, my associations of Japan contain far too many experiences where people live in *gaman*.



*Gaman* means to "take it" and be patient, a way of thinking for Japanese when faced with a tough situation they think is unchangeable. It is a fact that we live in *gaman* and it dominates our thinking. It has even helped us survive difficult times, including a bad economy and war.

We can interpret *gaman* as inspirational. In fact, there are innumerable occasions in which it shaped our strength as people. However, the more I learn of its nature, I begin to see a darker side of *gaman*. The overtones of conformity, secrecy and resilience have set the stage in every situation conceivable, fracturing our communication and blindsiding our judgment.

Historically, we have thrived through a need for conformity. As *gaman* becomes ingrained in our psyche, we silence ourselves rather than deal with the issue. But as Americans today, has *gaman* outlived its usefulness? Perhaps we have reached a point where we must

make a change, otherwise, we will only destroy ourselves.

In 1941 we were placed in internment camps. We were at war with our ancestors, so obeyed without question and relocated. Afterwards, we spoke little of our dark years enclosed behind barbed wire fences. Instead, we practiced *gaman*. We feared rejection by society, so we remained the "good citizen."

Maybe at the time, *gaman* helped us survive internment, but the need to speak up for ourselves and share our lives was nonexistent. When does *gaman* become a bad thing? When is it best to make peace with your situation, and when is it a form of giving in and giving up?

Avoiding conflict is extremely important in Japan and it forces us to communicate indirectly, such as through gossiping and silencing ourselves. And in a culture where conformity is essential, secrecy can also damage us. We may thrive in the workplace and in the classrooms, but we lose the battle when it comes to speaking our minds.

In my years of experience as a student and employee, very few Japanese would participate in lectures and meetings, or confront staff, professors and peers. When it comes to feelings or ethical issues, Japanese Americans fail to make any comment. *Gaman* is so consistent in our everyday culture and I'm embarrassed by that.

One of the reasons I criticize *gaman* is because it is so intrinsic.

Every Japanese parent wants their child to attend church, play Japanese basketball, and have Japanese friends. But I always saw it as a "Stepford" life and I did not want to be a conformist. And because I just wanted to be me, I was looked at as different.

At 14 I was young and outnumbered, and I took in every remark and accusation. I thought it made me look tough but all the while I felt like I was in a coma and slowly destroying myself. I too was practicing *gaman*. As the years went by, I discovered that *gaman* may be honorable and gallant in some situations, but a life without honesty and self-expression, a life without conflict and resolution, is not the life for me.

I am not writing to condemn Japanese culture, nor am I writing to portray Japanese people in an unappealing light. But I feel that if I don't confront the issue and express my personal dismay as a JA, none of us will move forward.

As JAs, we have an opportunity and we have a choice to right the wrongs, to directly communicate with others, and most importantly be true to ourselves. How are we going to show society who we are unless we express who we are? Until we correct the nature of our personal identity, we will always remain invisible through *gaman*. ■

Alexis Hisaka is currently studying journalism at the University of San Francisco.

## Making History, JAVA Elects All Post-WWII Officers

For the first time in its 12-year history, all of the new JAVA (Japanese American Veterans Association) officers are from the post-World War II generation.

The new JAVA officers recently elected by unanimous acclamation are: president, Bert Mizusawa (incumbent); vice president, Thomas V. Mukai; secretary, Dave W. Buto (incumbent); and treasurer, Earl S. Takeguchi.

Presently a Colonel serving in the Army Reserve, Mizusawa's election two years ago marked the beginning of the transfer of leadership from the WWII generation. He is also president of PaxCentric, Inc., a consulting firm. Mizusawa was recently recalled to active duty and will leave shortly for Afghanistan for a period of 90 to 180 days.

Thomas "Vic" Mukai, a retired Army colonel, is a native of New York and was commissioned in the Regular Army through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. His tours included assignments to Germany, Korea (three tours), Turkey, Japan, and Belgium. During Mukai's 30-year career, he commanded a tactical signal company in the 2nd Infantry Division, Korea, and a signal battalion in California.

Dave Buto, son of Colonel Jun (442nd & OSS) and Ann Buto of



JAVA officers 2005-07: (L-R): Bert Mizusawa, Dave Buto, Thomas V. Mukai, Earl Takeguchi.

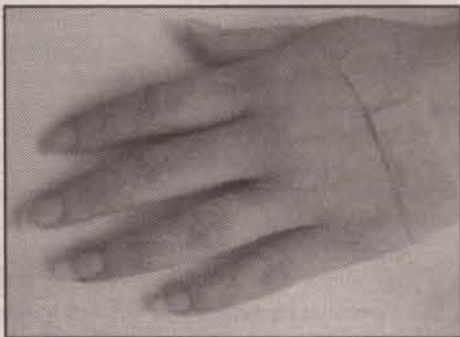
PHOTO: GRANT HIRABAYASHI

Hawaii, is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, Military Academy graduate, Class of 74. After two years in the Infantry, he served in various assignments in military intelligence and automation over a 22 year career.

Earl S. Takeguchi, a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel and a native of Hawaii, began his military career following graduation from the University of Hawaii, Honolulu, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. He attended the Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was commissioned in the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

Takeguchi's last assignment was at the Pentagon at the Department of the Army with the Office of Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications and Computers. ■

## Blue Cross of California



Since 1947 the JACL HEALTH TRUST has offered Health Care coverage to JACL members

To protect you and your family from even common accidents and illnesses the JACL HEALTH TRUST provides Blue Cross of California health care coverage.

Blue Cross of California has been providing health coverage to Californians for over 65 years. Blue Cross is committed to keeping you connected to quality health care services.



To learn more about the Blue Cross plan and how to become a member, please call the JACL Health Trust at 1-877-848-4875.



## Golfing for a Good Cause

## COMMENTARY

By FLOYD MORI  
Tournament Chairman

Sports have always played a big part in my life. I remember as a child being glued to the radio listening to the University of Utah national championship basketball team play every game. One of my childhood idols, Wat Misaka, was a star guard on that team.

If the game included something round that bounced, I played the game associated with it and dreamed of being a pro when I grew up. When I graduated from high school in Utah, my venture to Southern California to become a Trojan was fueled by the dream of playing baseball and being part of a championship team.

Well, my dreams never did come true as a player. I did coach some championship baseball teams in Little League and Babe Ruth ball. There was a time when I played on three different softball teams at the same time. But here I am now a senior citizen who never really made the grade to pro sports.

Over 20 years ago I made a serious attempt to take up the game of golf. This opened a new world of competition and fellowship that I hadn't really explored as a youth. Golf was the "rich man's" game back then. Today, golf is every man's and woman's game. I have made many new friends through the game of golf. In the past 15 years I have probably spent more time with my golf buddies than anybody else save my wife who even gets dragged out to the golf course now and then.

I think it is safe to say that there are many in the Japanese American community who have found the same satisfaction and enjoyment in the game of golf that I have. Whether it is the businessman from the city or the farmer from the country, golf has become the pastime of many who never had given it a thought in former years.

This past October, the national JACL held its First Annual Golf Tournament at the Strawberry Farms Golf Club in Irvine, California. It was our first attempt to use the sport of golf to raise money. Over 100 players showed up, had a great time, won some prizes, ate some great food, and felt the enjoyment of friendly competition. Many non-players enjoyed the day as volunteers. The result was some funding for the youth programs of



JACL.

I really want to give a big Arigato to all of those who participated as players and as volunteers. Many have reported to me that it was the greatest time they have ever had on a golf course. It took the work of many people on the committee to make sure all elements of the tournament were successful. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

A huge thank you goes to George Aratani and the Aratani Foundation for their financial support. Without George's early encouragement and help, the tournament would not have come to fruition. All our sponsors and donors are greatly appreciated.

We are now planning the golf tournament for next year. All you golfers, save the date of June 20. Come and join in on the fun and fellowship of a friendly round of golf with over 100 other players. While you're having a great time you'll be helping fund the youth programs of JACL.

I am hoping that many of you will volunteer your talents to help us with next year's tournament. Any and all help will be gladly accepted and appreciated. Anyone wishing to help may contact me by email at 4thforrest@msn.com or send a note to national JACL. ■

| Sponsors and Donors<br>Nat'l JACL Golf<br>Tournament: | Seattle JACL Chapter                                   |
|---|--|
| George Aratani, Aratani Foundation                    | Skyler Blue  |
| JACL Pacific Southwest District                       | Pacific Citizen  |
| Lyn Nishimura   | Audrey Magazine, James Y. Ryu                          |
| Gene Yamagata, Yamagata Foundation                    | Captured Memories, Pam Tsujioka                        |
| Mount Olympus JACL Chapter                            | Japanese American National Museum, Caylene Nakamura    |
| National JACL Credit Union                            | KAWA Golf Products, Inc., Gary Kawaguchi               |
| Fusae Yoshida   | Golf Coast Custom Fitting Center                       |
| Jim Matsushita, FIA Insurance                         | Gail Hirata, LPGA                                      |
| JACL NCWNP District Council                           | Japan Airlines, Dolly Oishi                            |
| Clyde E. Nishimura                                    | Susan Iguchi   |
| Ken Inouye  | David and Carol Kawamoto                               |
| David Frost   | Floyd Mori   |
| Ted Nagata  | Jason Jackson  |
| Mark Kobayashi  | King's Hawaiian Bakery, Stella Miyamura and Mark Taira |
| San Jose JACL Chapter                                 | Mile Square Park Golf Course                           |
| JACL Eastern District Council                         | Southern California Edison                             |
| Fresno JACL Chapter                                   | Strawberry Farms Golf Club                             |
| Dr. Clarence K. Hiura                                 | Golf Tournament Committee and Volunteers               |
| Linda Hara  | National Youth Council                                 |
| David Masuo   |  |
| Thaya Mune Craig                                      |  |
| Lucy Kishine  |  |
| Chip and Setsy Larouche                               |  |

Apologies are extended if anyone was missed from this list.



'When all 320 high school students hugged me, it felt like a dream. Now my life is almost complete.'

— Mary Kitahara



## High School Diplomas 62 Years Later

While Nisei rebuilt their lives after World War II and many continued their education or established successful businesses, the loss of their formative youth remain as hidden wounds.

While interned at Heart Mountain with their family, Tom Okumura and his sister Mary (Okumura) Kitahara were pulled out of Mountain View High School. He was drafted into the Army and served with the 442nd Regiment.

"When I was told I wouldn't be able to complete my education, I lost all hope of anything. I stopped going to school and let it go," said Okumura.

After her incarceration, Kitahara returned to the Bay Area and contacted Mountain View High School to see if she could receive her high school diploma, but was told they had no record of her attendance. She inquired several more times over the years, but always received a similar response.

In 2004 Janet Thelan, Kitahara's daughter, heard about the passage of Assembly Bill 781 and contacted Assemblywoman Sally Lieber's office and Mountain View High School to request a diploma for her mother and uncle.

After 62 years, Kitahara and Okumura received their Class of '42 high school diplomas and were honored at the Mountain View High

School commencement in June 2004.

"After all those years ... what others did to make it possible, I was completely surprised and pleased ... I'm glad it happened," said Okumura.

With eyes twinkling and a soft bright smile, Mary said, "When all 320 high school students hugged me, it felt like a dream. Now my life is almost complete."

The California Nisei Project has been helping people like Okumura and Kitahara — former internees whose high school years were interrupted due to forced removal from California and incarceration during WWII — to achieve their dreams.

The project was established to provide community outreach and education for legislation, AB 781, which became law in 2004 and authorizes any high school district, unified school district, or county office of education to retroactively issue a high school diploma to eligible individuals from their hometown school. ■

*To find out how you or your family can sign up and support the California Nisei Project, or to find out if any efforts have begun in your region, please visit [www.canisei.org](http://www.canisei.org) or contact Jill Shiraki at [jshiraki@scbcglobal.net](mailto:jshiraki@scbcglobal.net).*

As a part of the California Nisei Project, the following individuals are being sought by Lodi High School for their retroactive diplomas:

### Class of 1942

Matsumi Kume  
Toshito Thomas Oshita  
Harumi Terada (Kishita)

### Class of 1943

Takeshi Monji  
Ben Morimoto

### Class of 1944

Yutaka Matsumoto  
Minoru Monji  
Sanji Morimoto  
Bennie Okura  
Emiko Amy Oshita  
Osamu Sam Shimizu  
Ted Tanaka  
Chizuru Tomimatsu

### Class of 1945

Sally Hideko Asada  
Sally Hamako Oshima  
Shigeru Sato  
Fumika Evelyn Shimizu

Individuals listed, or someone who knows the whereabouts of these individuals, should contact the Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Northern California at 415/567-5505 and Susan Erdbacher at Lodi High School at [serdbacher@lodiusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:serdbacher@lodiusd.k12.ca.us). For more information, check [www.canisei.org](http://www.canisei.org). ■

## Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL to Present 'Camp Dance'

As a follow-up to the popular World War II evacuation reenactment in 2002, the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL will host "The Camp Dance: The Music and the Memories" April 2.

Playwright Soji Kashiwagi of the Grateful Crane Ensemble, in association with the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and the Ow Family Properties will present this program with special guest vocalist Mary Kageyama Nomura, best known as the "Songbird of Manzanar," and Helen Chizu Iwanaga.

"The Camp Dance" is a sentimental look back in time at the

### Musical Event

**What:** The Camp Dance: The Music and the Memories

**When:** 1-3:30 p.m. Sat., April 2

**Where:** Henry J. Mello Center for the Performing Arts, 250 East Beach Street in Watsonville, Calif.

lighter moments of growing up as a Japanese American in an internment camp during WWII.

The program will also feature songs and performances from the Moonlight Serenaders, who are all sons and daughters of former

camp internees.

As a tribute, all WWII veterans, their spouses and former camp internees, students and teacher are invited as sponsored guests. ■

*To support the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Camp Dance Fund, make a tax-deductible donation by sending a check to Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, P.O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077 no later than March 1 for acknowledgment in the special commemorative program. For more information, contact Mas Hashimoto at 831/722-6859 or [hashi79@earthlink.net](mailto:hashi79@earthlink.net).*

## 2005 UPCOMING ESCORTED TOURS

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| DISCOVER TUSCANY & ROME (12 days, 2 hotel stays)                            | MAR 21   |
| HOLLAND/BELGIUM TULIP CRUISE (11 days)                                      | APRIL 9  |
| JAPAN SPRING ADVENTURE (Takayama Spr. Festival, 12 days)                    | APRIL 11 |
| CANYONLANDS (w/ Tauck Tours, 9 days)  | MAY 28   |
| INTER-LEAGUE SUMMER BASEBALL TOUR (11 days, 8 games + Cooperstown)          | JUNE 10  |
| ALASKA CRUISE W/ CRYSTAL CRUISES (departs from SF, 13 days)                 | JULY 5   |
| MIDWEST BASEBALL TOUR (9 days, games @ ChiWS, Det, Cin, STL, KC, Mil, ChiC) | JULY 30  |
| THE OZARKS & BRANSON (w/ Tauck Tours, 9 days)                               | SEPT 25  |
| JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE (12 days)  | OCT 19   |
| DISCOVER KYUSHU (13 days)   | NOV 1    |
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| May 29   | Williamsburg & Washington, D.C.  |
| June 30  | Scandinavia - Denmark, Sweden & Norway                                   |
| July 18  | Highlights of Japan for the whole family                                 |
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| Aug. 13  | Best of the Rhine River - Holland, Germany, France & Switzerland         |
| Aug. 23  | Russia - "Waterways of the Czars"  |
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| Sept. 15 | Northern Japan - Hokkaido & Tohoku                                       |
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| May 12  | Great Lakes "Tulips & Mackinac Island" 10 Days - 18 Meals - \$2295 - Chicago, Holland, Traverse, Mackinac Island Grand Hotel, Sault Ste. Marie, Canada. Wisconsin Dells & Chicago.  |
| May 27  | Georgia & South Carolina "Hospitality" - 8 Days - 14 Meals - \$1895 - Atlanta, Charleston, Beaufort, Savannah & Jekyll Island.  |
| June 6  | America Once More "Pacific States - San Juan Islands" 12 Days 23 Meals - \$2295 - By Bus - LA to San Fran-Eureka-Newport Portland, San Juan Islands, Friday Harbor, Seattle, Bend, Crater Lake, Klamath, Tulelake, Tahoe, Mammoth & Manzanar. |
| June 20 | Summer Japan "Family Tour" 10 Days - 21 Meals - \$2995 - Child 11 & Under \$2695 - Tokyo, Takayama, Nara, Kobe, Hiroshima, Inland Sea, Awaji Island & Kyoto.  |
| July 8  | American Heritage - 10 Days - 18 Meals - \$2150 - New York, Philadelphia, Amish, Charlotte, Williamsburg & Washington.  |
| Aug 8   | Scandinavia Classic - 11 Days - 18 Meals - \$3995 - Copenhagen Denmark, Bergen, Balestrand, Loen, Oslo, Norway & Stockholm.   |
| Sept 7  | Central-Eastern Europe "Danube" 12 Days - 26 Meals - \$3995 Prague, 8 Day Cruise-Nuremberg-Vienna-Bratislava-Budapest.  |
| Sept 22 | America Once More - South-14 Days- 26 Meals - \$2295 - By bus LA to Poston/Gila-El Paso-San Antonio-New Orleans-Vicksburg, Jerome/Rohwer-Amache-Santa Fe-Grand Canyon-Laughlin.   |
| Oct 10  | Hokkaido & Tohoku "Fall Foliage" 11 Days-24 Meals - \$3695 Sapporo, Sounkyo, Sahoro, Shiraoi, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Aomori, Lake Towada, Hachimantai, Sendai & Tokyo.  |
| Oct 17  | Uranibon "Otherside of Japan" - 11 Days -25 Meals - \$3595 Tokyo, Sado Island, Toyama, Kanazawa, Fukui, Amanohashidate Kinosaki, Tottori, Matsue, Izumo, Daizen & Kyoto.  |
| Oct 31  | Fall Japan Classic "Fall Foliage" 11 Days - 24 Meals - \$3295 Tokyo, Takayama, Nara, Kobe, Takahashi, Miyajima, Hiroshima Inland Sea Cruise, Shodo Island & Kyoto.  |
| Nov 10  | Okinawa, Kyushu & Shikoku - 12 Days -28 Meals - \$3695 - 3 Days Okinawa, Nagasaki-Unzen-Kumamoto-Miyazaki-Saiki, Kyushu - Ashizuri-Kochi-Takamatsu, Shikoku & Osaka.  |

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## FOOTBALL

## Hawaii's Chang Trying to Prove He's NFL Ready

By JAYMES SONG  
AP Sports Writer

WAILUKU, Hawaii—With 13 NCAA records and his No. 14 jersey in the College Football Hall of Fame, Hawaii quarterback **Timmy Chang** has left his mark on the game.

Now he is trying to prove he deserves a shot at the NFL.

Chang's college career came to an end Jan. 22 at the Hula Bowl.

He leaves college football as its career leader in yards passing (17,072), attempts (2,436), completions (1,388) and total offense (16,910). With 117 touchdown passes, he is second to Ty Detmer (121).

"My best memories are just representing the state and developing a winning program — not the records," he said.

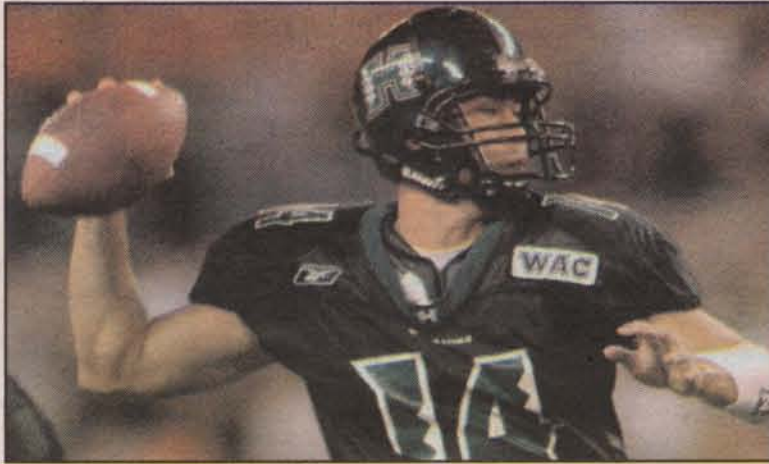
This past season, Chang led the Warriors to an 8-5 mark and a 59-40 victory over Alabama-Birmingham in the Hawaii Bowl. He had 405 yards passing and a hand in five TDs against UAB.

Despite the lofty numbers, NFL scouts are lukewarm about Chang's pro potential. He figures to be a late-round pick, if he is drafted at all in April.

Detroit Lions scout Russ Bollinger said Chang will get a chance somewhere and believes his big numbers are not just a reflection of Hawaii's run-and-shoot offense.

"You can be a system's guy, but you still got to get the ball down field, you still have to hit the receivers, you still got to read the coverages," he said. "So he obviously did something right."

Chang said playing in a pass-happy system should be a plus, not



After a record-breaking career at the University of Hawaii, Timmy Chang now has his sights on proving himself in the NFL. The NFL draft is in April. (AP Photo/Ronen Zilberman)

a minus.

"We do throw the ball a lot. We take pride in throwing the ball," he said. "But you answer this question: Is it easier to pass the ball or hand it off?"

Bollinger said Chang's size — which officially was measured this week at a bit over 6-feet and 204 pounds — isn't a major concern.

"It matters. But it doesn't matter," Chang said about his height. "It would be nice to be 6-5, but as long as you can see the receivers down the field and see the coverages."

Consistency and durability are concerns with Chang. He threw an NCAA record 80 career interceptions with a completion percentage of 57.0. Most of the top passers complete over 60 percent of their throws.

Chang was a prep football star in Honolulu before starting for Hawaii as a freshman.

"He's been under the microscope. He's been under a lot of pressure," Bollinger said. "I think the NFL

should be fairly easy (transition) in regards to the pressure. He's felt it since he was a freshman."

Chang said he offers a lot that can't be measured in workouts.

"I've seen a lot of defenses. I've seen a lot of coverages. The game always stays the same no matter what system you're in," he said. "I understand the mental part of the game."

West head coach Mike Bellotti, of Oregon, said he believes Chang will succeed.

"He has a very accurate, strong arm," Bellotti said. "Stronger than most people think. Stronger than I thought too."

Chang said he spoke with several NFL teams over the past couple weeks, but declined to say which ones showed the most interest.

"I don't want to say anything. That's a big jinx," he said. "Right now I just want to concentrate on the game."

"If they're interested, they're interested. I just want an opportunity to play." ■

## SUMO

## Sumo Holding Three-day Tournament in Las Vegas

TOKYO—The Japan Sumo Association will stage a three-day tournament in Las Vegas in October to help celebrate the city's 100th anniversary.

"It's a privilege to present this aspect of Japan's culture to the people of the world in Las Vegas," said JSA chairman Toshimitsu Kitanoumi. "We are confident that Grand Sumo Las Vegas will meet the expectations of fans in the United States."

The tour will take place at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino from Oct. 7-9 and will mark the first time in 20 years that Japan's 1,500-year-old sport has staged an event in the United States.

The Las Vegas tournament will feature most of the sport's top wrestlers, including Mongolian grand champion Asashoryu, who just won his 10th Emperor's Cup at

the New Year Grand Sumo Tournament.

"The three-day sumo event will be the most prestigious event ever held at Mandalay Bay," said Glen Medas, vice president of entertainment at Mandalay Bay.

Tickets will go on sale on April 6, and Medas said he expected the 12,000-seat venue to be sold out for all three days.

A champion will be determined each day, and a grand champion will be decided on the final day but gambling on the outcome of bouts will not be permitted.

"The Japan Sumo Association frowns on gambling so no odds will be posted," said Medas.

Sumo, which regularly stages overseas events, last held a tournament in the United States at New York's Madison Square Garden in 1985. ■

## GOLF

## Wie to Play in LPGA Under Revised Criteria

HAVRE de GRACE, Md.—**Michelle Wie** has accepted an invitation to play in the LPGA Championship, making it likely the 15-year-old golfer will compete in all four of the women's majors this year.

Wie and other top amateurs like Paula Creamer and Jane Park have not played the McDonald's LPGA Championship because it was for professionals. But the tournament expanded its field from 144 to 150 players, offering one of those additional spots to a "leading amateur."

Three extra exemptions will go to a top player from the Korea LPGA, the Japan LPGA and the Ladies European Tour, and the remaining spots will go to the next two LPGA Tour players from a priority list.

The LPGA Championship will be played June 9-12 at Bulle Rock. Annika Sorenstam is the two-time

defending champion, having won both titles at DuPont Country Club in Wilmington, Del.

"We could not be happier having Michelle Wie in our field," tournament co-founder Herb Lotman said. "This is what ladies' golf is all about ... the best of the best, competing in one field and showcased at one outstanding golf course."

Wie already accepted an amateur exemption to the Kraft Nabisco Championship on March 24-27, and she is exempt to the U.S. Women's Open in late June because she tied for 13th a year ago.

She is expected to get an exemption to the Women's British Open at Royal Birkdale in July.

Wie is coming off her second appearance on the PGA Tour, shooting rounds of 75-74 in the Sony Open to miss the cut by seven shots. ■

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Sapporo, Abashiri Ice Floe Cruise, Sounkyo, Asahikawa, Lake Shikotsu, Noboribetsu.
- NEW ORLEANS-BILOXI HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... MAR 5-11  
New Orleans, River Jazz Cruise, Biloxi, Shrimp Boat Cruise, Stennis Space Center.
- SOUTH AMERICA PATAGONIA HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... MAR 18-APR 4  
Buenos Aires, Trelew/Puerto Madryn, Ushuala (Southern most city in the world), El Calafate (Perito Moreno Glacier), Torres Del Paine, Puerto Montt, Lakes Crossings, Bariloche, Santiago. Meet local Japanese in Buenos Aires & Santiago.
- JAPAN SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... APR 9-20  
Tokyo, Lake Kawaguchi, Mt. Fuji, Lake Hamana, Nagoya (Aichi World Expo), Matsumoto, Takayama, Kyoto.
- HAWAII HOLIDAY CRUISE** ..... APR 24-MAY 1  
Honolulu, Kauai, Maui, Hawaii (Big Island), NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE
- JAPAN SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR II** ..... MAY 9-20  
Wakayama, Shirahama, Katsura, Toba, Nagoya (Aichi World Expo), Gifu, Takayama, Matsumoto, Lake Kawaguchi, Tokyo.
- AMERICAN HERITAGE HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... MAY 14-23  
New York, Lancaster/Gettysburg/Shenandoah Valley/Williamsburg, Wash. D.C.
- LA-NAGOYA, SISTER CITY AFFILIATION (LANSCA) NAGOYA FESTIVALS/EXPO** ..... MAY 25-30  
Nagoya Festival, Sister City Festival, Aichi World Expo.
- CANADIAN ROCKIES HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... JUNE 4-11  
Edmonton, Jasper, Columbia Icefields, Lake Louise, Banff, Calgary.
- GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR** ..... JUNE 19-28  
Tokyo, Hakone, Lake Hamana, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
- ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE** ..... JULY 3-10  
Anchorage/Seward, Kenai Fjords, Glacier Bay, Sitka, Juneau, Ketchikan, Vancouver. Pre-cruise Anchorage/Denali Park Option, HOLLAND AMERICA CRUISE LINE
- 13TH PANA CONVENTION TOUR** ..... JULY 5-14  
Vancouver-PANA Convention, Victoria, Radium/Fairmount HotSpring, Lake Louise, Banff.
- CHINA HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... SEPT 3-17  
Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin, Hong Kong, Japan stopover option.
- VENICE-GREEK ISLANDS HOLIDAY CRUISE** ..... SEPT 30-OCT 9  
Venice, Corfu, Gythion, Santorini, Kusadasi, Athens, RADISSON CRUISE LINE
- HOKKAIDO HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... OCT 2-13  
Sapporo, Tokachigawa, Lakes Akan/Mashu/Kushiro, Shiretoko, Abashiri, Sounkyo, Otaru, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya, Hakodate.
- OKINAWA-KYUSHU HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... OCT 17-30  
Naha/Okinawa, Ibusuki/Kagoshima, Kirishima, Miyazaki, Beppu, Yufuin, Kumamoto, Nagasaki, Fukuoka.
- SOUTH AMERICA HOLIDAY TOUR** ..... NOV 10-22  
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## NIKKEI VIEW

## When the JPNZ Say 'Jap'

By GIL ASAKAWA

We're making great headway in the United States in getting public names changed when they are reflections of an older era when racially charged terms were considered acceptable, or at least, not controversial.

In the past few months, for instance, Japanese American community groups including the JACL have managed to change the name of a couple of byways from "Jap Road" to more appropriate names that honor the Japanese immigrants who settled near those roads.

To be fair, it might not be out of prejudice that "Jap" has been used in the past. It is, after all, the most obvious abbreviation for "Japan." But even that's changing.

Earlier this year, AT&T wireless apologized for running a nationwide ad for its international calling rates that used "JAP" for Japan. It pulled the ad from newspapers, replaced the abbreviation with "JPN" and made a donation to the JACL for its error.

And when it was pointed out, CNN and the *Chicago Tribune* changed their abbreviation for Japan during their Olympics coverage.

The work's not done: The abbreviation "JAP" shows up often on the online auction site eBay even though the company recently updated its policy towards racially offensive terms to bar the use of words such as "Jap" and "Nigger" in



descriptions even if the words are part of the name of the item for sale. eBay says that, "sellers must ensure that the language in their listings shows appropriate sensitivity to those in the community that might view it."

And, the state of Florida is still rife with businesses that for some reason continue to use the word "Jap" in their name to describe the Japanese autos and products they service or sell.

Critics complain that this is all the result of pesky political correctness; those of us who feel a pit in our stomach when we see "Jap" in any context think it's the right thing to do. Values have evolved, and there's no reason for us to accept those vestiges of an earlier, more racially divided time.

Unfortunately, this discussion of changing values doesn't quite translate to the Japanese themselves, or at least, not to all of them.

I received a distressing e-mail from a JACL member who contacted a Japanese-run Website for scuba diving news, Cyber Diver News Network, or CDNN (<http://www.cdnn.info>).

She saw that the Website's news headlines used "JAP" as an abbreviation for Japan, and sent an irate e-mail to the editor.

Satoru "Stanford" Suzuki, the editor-in-chief, responded testily back, and then followed up with quite a nasty message.

"Don't be stupid. You are not Japanese. You are American. So don't lecture me about what it means to be Japanese and how I should react to the word 'Jap'. Modern Japanese don't care about WWII and do not associate the word with

racism and war atrocities (sic) such as the Nanking Massacre, which makes your little historical anecdote about American internment camps sound like a Sunday picnic.

"For we Japanese, it's just a short form of 'Japan' and 'Japanese' equivalent to 'Brit'. If that's a problem for you, if you want to live in the past, if you want to cultivate some kind of a victim complex, if you want to get overly excited about a mere word, regardless of how it's actually used in 2004, we Japanese don't care. The war has been over for 60 years and we Japanese have moved on."

After giving some examples of other Asian and Filipino Websites that also use "Jap" in headlines, Suzuki finished up:

"For my part, the discussion is closed. I've got better things to do than entertain a dumb retro-Yank on a bad Jap trip.

"Peace and love from a modern Jap journalist in modern Japan."

I trust that Suzuki doesn't speak for all Japanese — I'd love to know what the foreign ministry would think of such invective, because the Japanese government has been making a concerted effort to outreach to Japanese Americans.

It's true that the changing cultural values of the United States haven't necessarily reached all parts of the world; nor, perhaps, should they. But I'd submit that even Japanese who disagree could do so with a little less hatred and a little more grace.

After all, nothing's ever going to change without a discussion across cultures. ■

*Gil Asakawa is the P.C. Editorial Board Chair and author of "Being Japanese American." He writes a more-or-less weekly online column called "Nikkei View" at <http://nikkeiview.com>.*

FROM THE MIDWEST  
JACL's Year in EducationBy BILL YOSHINO  
Midwest Regional Director

The JACL took large strides in 2004 to secure a strong footing in the area of education.

The foundation of JACL's education program is our much-acclaimed curriculum guide, "A Lesson in American History: The Japanese American Experience." We revised the guide two years ago and prior to reprinting 1,800 copies in 2004, we cleaned up some typos, did some re-formatting and corrected some errors. Copies of the updated version of the guide are now available at our headquarters office.

During 2004 we also completed an education project, "What It Means To Be An American," funded by a \$74,000 grant from the National Conference for Community and Justice and the ChevronTexaco Foundation. The project focused on the bigotry and racism being faced by South Asians, Muslims and Arabs in the wake of the Sept. 11th attacks.

Our project coordinated and implemented three teacher training workshops held at the University of Michigan at Dearborn, the University of San Francisco and the Holocaust Museum Houston. Approximately 100 teachers attended the workshops, which were presented by Sharon Ishii-Jordan and Greg Marutani.

Each of the daylong sessions consisted of: a review of the JA internment experience; a history of the



Arab American experience; a discussion of the post-Pearl Harbor and post-Sept. 11th experience on targeted groups; an overview of historical events where civil liberties were jeopardized by governmental action and exercises on formulating lesson plans for classroom use.

Each workshop also had a panel of former JA internees and individuals from the Arab and Muslim American communities who related their personal experiences. These panels were a highlight for the teachers who took the opportunity to probe the panelists on their experiences. The workshops were interactive and lively, resulting in excellent evaluations by the participants.

The product produced from this project is a lesson plan booklet for teachers entitled, "What It Means To Be An American." This 20-page booklet contains a short history on the internment, a history of the Arab American experience in the United States and a section on the impact of using stereotypes. The booklet concludes with three lesson plans which focus on race and the media in times of crisis. Copies of this booklet can be obtained by contacting any of the JACL offices.

Finally, to promote the JACL curriculum guide and our other materials, we took part in the November national convention of the National Council for the Social Studies held in Baltimore. We handed out freebies including the lesson plan booklet and copies of a promotional CD for the curriculum guide. With approximately 5,000 teachers in attendance, this event provided an excellent opportunity to sell the curriculum guide and to encourage teachers to include the internment as a part of their curriculum.

The success of these efforts is due to the hard work of our JACL staff, including Patty Wada and Karen Yoshitomi who contributed their time and considerable talents to these projects.

The JACL education program is important because the American memory is short. Each new generation must be reminded about our past and the role that JAs have played in the long arc of American history. It's important to ensure that our history is presented unvarnished, revealing our nation's shortcomings and its triumphs. That is what the JACL is endeavoring to do as we seek to make our history part of America's history. ■

## OKURA

(Continued from page 1)

enough to encounter him," he continued. "He'll be sorely missed."

Okura first joined the JACL at the age of 25 and went on to serve for seven decades at the chapter, district and national levels. He was elected to the JACL national presidency in 1962 and went on to serve three years. Even at the age of 90, Okura continued to serve the organization as treasurer for the JACL Washington, D.C. chapter.

Well-known for his skills at coalition building in the civil rights community, Okura often reminisced of his experiences representing the JACL at the March on Washington with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1963.

Okura's stories were often passed on to the younger generations, something he took a special interest in as a host of the JACL/OCA Washington, D.C. Leadership conference where participants come to the capital each year to learn leadership skills. Even in his later years, Okura was a frequent speaker at schools and universities in the D.C. area, helping to educate people about the JA World War II experience.

Okura and his wife Lily, like many other JAs, were forcibly removed from their Los Angeles home at the outset of WWII and sent to the Santa Anita Race Track, where they lived in horse stables with 19,000 other people.

Eventually, they made their way to Boys Town in Omaha, Nebraska where Patrick worked as a psychologist. They remained in Omaha for 30 years and formed the Omaha JACL chapter in 1947.

"JACL has lost one of its steadfast guiding lights, someone who, incredibly, has been a valued leader for nearly seven decades," said Paul Uyehara, JACL EDC governor.

"Although his vision was exemplified by his successful effort to have JACL join the historic March on Washington, it also was manifest in his day to day contributions to the civil rights cause and to JACL."

Okura's influence and reach went far beyond the JACL making a marked impact on the mental health field and especially its relationship to the Asian American community, an area that has often been overlooked.

In 1972, Okura took a position with the National Institutes of Health where he spent several years advocating for AA health issues. With the redress monies he and his wife Lily received from the U.S. government for incarceration during WWII, they founded the Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation.

To this day, the foundation helps to develop Asian Pacific American leaders gain understanding and access to the national policy process.

Okura's work in the mental health field has been recognized many times over, including an Honorary

Doctorate in Psychology from the Phillips Graduate Institute in California in 2001. He was recently appointed as a Fellow of the Asian American Psychological Association and was chosen for the 2005 Kun-Po Soo Award from the American Psychiatric Association Committee of Asian American Psychiatrists.

Okura has also been recognized for his work in the civil rights field and was inducted into the Montgomery County Civil Rights Hall of Fame in 2002. He was also the National JACL's JA of the Biennium winner in 1978 and was awarded the National JACL Ruby Pin in 1999.

Okura leaves behind his wife Lily who continues to be active in the JACL, Washington, D.C. chapter.

A memorial service is planned for Feb. 11 at 10:30 a.m. at the Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland. In lieu of flowers or koden, Lily requests that donations be made in Pat's name either to:

The Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation, 6303 Friendship Ct., Bethesda, MD 20817-3342; or The Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, 6601 Bradley Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Condolences may be sent to Lily at: 6303 Friendship Ct., Bethesda, MD 20817-3342. ■





# Tracing SPARKLY Stories

Kadohata's story about a JA family growing up in the South wins highest award in children's literature.

By LYNDA LIN

**W**rite a book and nobody may notice. Win a prestigious award for the book and the "Today Show" starts demanding your time. But not everyone was thrilled with Cynthia Kadohata's John Newbery Medal — an "Academy Award" level win in children's literature.

Her infant son Sammy, unimpressed with the fanfare cried and threw up "bright orange airplane food" while on a flight to New York to tape a recent segment on the popular morning show. Count on family to always keep you down-to-earth.

Appropriately, "Kira-Kira" is Kadohata's first young adult novel about a Japanese American family living in the South during the 1950s. The book's touching story captured the American Library Association's attention and is now only the second children's novel by an Asian Pacific American author to win a Newbery Medal.

Like many other authors, Kadohata writes about what she knows. "Kira-Kira" ("glittering" or "shining" in Japanese) is loosely based on Kadohata's own childhood growing up in Georgia and Arkansas with a thick Southern accent. Her father was interned at Poston during World War II before becoming a chicken "sexer," separating males from females on a poultry farm.

The 49-year-old author, who started writing short stories in her 20s, said her work has been rejected "20 or 30 times" before finally landing in print. Earning this prestigious award is itself a shining experience.



**Capturing childhood moments**—Cynthia Kadohata tempers a heartbreaking story with trademark humor.

**Pacific Citizen:** Writers always say that just telling a story is the true reward, but that's a bunch of hogwash, isn't it? It's all about the recognition, right?

**Cynthia Kadohata:** When you first finish writing the book, obviously it's very rewarding, but you don't jump up in joy because of that (Laughs). I was shocked. It definitely feels different. I used to say that I need new glasses, now I can actually afford them!

**PC:** Do you plan to call those publishers and magazines that previously rejected your work and show off your medal?

**CY:** No! I sold four stories to the *New Yorker* awhile back, but I've been rejected like some 20 or 30 times. You just have to want it so badly.

**PC:** How did you decide to become a writer?

**CY:** In college I majored in journalism and hoped to write nonfiction someday. I moved to Boston when I was 25 and started reading contemporary fiction. I'd only read classics previously. But when I lived in Boston, there were a lot of bookstores around. I used to just walk up and down the aisle and look at the books and buy the ones that caught my interest. I tried to read at least 75 pages a night. And I started sending out stories. I aspired to quantity over quality, because I felt that I could learn more from writing ten different stories than I would from working the same story for ten months. I didn't feel as if I was officially a writer until I had a story published. Theoretically, you're a writer as long as you're writing, but I didn't feel it happened officially until I saw a story of mine in print.

**PC:** Did you have to shop this book around to

many publishers before it got picked up?

**CY:** For this one, my editor was my former roommate from graduate school. She had been encouraging me to try writing a children's book for awhile. She sent me children's books and I started reading them. I had an idea of a Japanese American family living in the Deep South and she said "Well this really isn't a proposal, but I'll take it to them anyway."

**PC:** Did writing a story as personal as this make you relive some childhood moments?

**CY:** It was more the setting that had some reality. There were some things I didn't know about that I had to research ... like I didn't know much about poultry. The Internet is amazing! There are actually blue prints of poultry farms available.

**PC:** Your incredible sense of humor masks even the most painful and startling parts in the book. Is the humor something that you developed in your own life or is it a stylistic tool used because you're writing for children?

**CY:** It's probably some of both. My editor flagged some things ... and reminded me that "Well, you're writing for children." She would comment mainly on the point of view ... that she didn't think a ten-year-old girl would think this way.

**PC:** How do you capture the voice of a young girl so effectively?

**CY:** Pounding by my editor! (Laughs) My grown-up books were also written from a child's perspective as well, so I guess it's easier for me to write from the viewpoint of a child. I don't know if that's such a good thing!

**PC:** This was your first foray into young adult fiction, how does writing for this age group differ from writing for adults?

**CY:** I think it's more natural. Even when dealing with sad subjects, you have the sense of hope [in the young adult genre]. You can show more of that.

**PC:** If "Kira-Kira" were made into a movie, who would you cast as the lead and the director?

**CY:** I hope they would go around to schools and look for the perfect girl. I believe that's what the filmmakers did with the young actress from "Whale Rider," (Keisha Castle Hughes) and she was really great in that part. I wouldn't mind who directed the film, as long as (s)he felt passionate about it. ■

## Kadohata's Other Works

*In the Heart of the Valley, The Floating World, The Glass Mountain*

## PACIFIC CITIZEN

National business and Professional Directory

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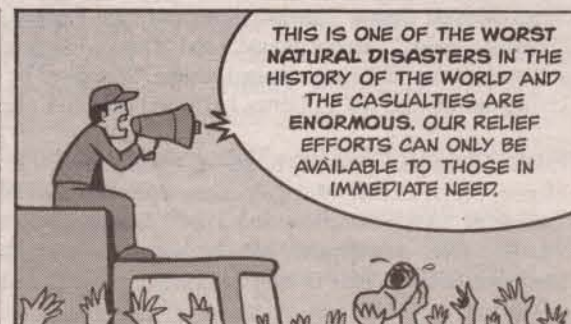


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# JACL COMMUNITY Calendar

## National

**VANCOUVER, British Columbia**  
Thurs.-Sat., July 7-9—XIII COPANI, "Heritage and Health in the 21st Century, 2005 PANA Convention; Hyatt Regency Hotel, 655 Burrard; registration begins February; Info: www.najc.ca.

## East Coast

**BROOKLYN, N.Y.**  
Sat.-Sun., April 30-May 1—24th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival; Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Info: www.bbg.org or 718/623-7333.

## PHILADELPHIA

Sat., Mar. 19—Annual JACL Installation/Graduate Recognition Dinner; 7 p.m.; Popi's Italian Restaurant, 3120 S. 20th St.; Congressman Mike Honda is the keynote speaker; 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner. Info: Hiro Nishikawa, 610/896-0538.

## Midwest

**CHICAGO**  
Thurs.-Sun., July 21-24—Bi-District Conference of the MDC and EDC JACL; Radisson Hotel, 160 East Huron; room rate: \$129/night for single, \$139 for two doubles and \$154 for corner suite; room deadline is June 21; a welcome reception is scheduled for Thursday and a dinner on Saturday. Further details to follow.

## DENVER

Sat., Feb. 26—Annual Chinese New Year Banquet; 6 p.m.; Palace Chinese Restaurant, 6265 East Evans; \$40 per person (10 per table); sponsored by OCA, Denver and Mile-Hi JACL; make checks payable to: Mile Hi JACL, c/o Richard Hamai, 333 E. 16th Ave, Unit 613, Denver, CO 80203. Tickets and reservations: Toshiko Sakamoto, 303/694-4790 or Richard Hamai, 303/839-9637.

## Northern California

**MANZANAR**  
Thurs., Feb. 10—"Q and A at Manzanar" (60 minute walk); 11 a.m.;



The 2005 San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show runs through Feb. 6 at the Fort Mason Center, Festival Pavillion.

Manzanar National Historic Site Interpretive Center; join Park Ranger R. Potashin to explore the many ramifications of the "Loyalty Questionnaire" administered to Japanese Americans at Manzanar. Discover how a "Yes" or "No" could determine your future.

Fri., Feb. 11—"Days of Their Lives" (60 minute walk); 2 p.m.; Manzanar National Historic Site; join Park Guide S. Bone for a stroll around Block 14 to hear stories of former internees as they recall the days of their lives at Manzanar.

**OAKLAND**  
Sun., Feb. 13—JASEB Annual Crab Feed; Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th St.; \$25 per person in advance, \$30 at the door; make checks payable to JASEB, c/o Esther Takeuchi, 3008 Phillip Ct, Richmond, CA 94806. Info: Esther, 510/223-2258.

**SACRAMENTO**  
Sat., Mar. 12—22nd Annual Tsubaki Dance Club Spring Dance; 7:30-11:30

p.m.; Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 6151 H St.; \$20 in advance, \$23 at the door. Info and tickets: Frank Shimizu, 916/721-5267, Henry Fong, 916/428-7871 or Phillip Lum, 916/427-5667.

## SAN FRANCISCO

Through Feb. 6—San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show; Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center, Marina District; benefit preview: \$175/person, gen. admission: \$12/person; Info: www.caskeyles.com or 310/455-2886.

## SAN JOSE

Sat., Feb. 5—4th JCCSJ Town Hall meeting; 8:30-noon; Wesley United Methodist Church, 566 N. 5th St. Do you share a love of Japantown? Are you interested in its future? Info: Kathy Sakamoto, 408/298-4303 or Joe Yasutake, 408/923-2883.

## SEBASTOPOL

Sat., Feb. 11-Mar. 20—GIRI: Giving Back ... Going Forward; Sebastopol Center for the Arts, 6780 Depot St.; presented by the Sebastopol Center for the Arts and Sonoma County JACL. Info: Linda Galletta, 707/829-4797 or lindag@monitor.net.

## WATSONVILLE

Sat., April 2—The Camp Dance: The Music and the Memories; Henry J. Mello Center for the Performing Arts, 250 East Beach St.

## Central California

### FRESNO

Sat., April 30—Fresno JACL hosts the 20th Annual Shinzen Run; 7 a.m.; Woodward Park. Info: Bob Shintaku, 559/449-0273.

### HANFORD

Through Mar. 26—Exhibition, "Inhabited/Uninhabited: Intimacy and Exuberance in Japanese Landscape Painting; Ruth and Sherman Lee Institute for Japanese Art at the Clark Center; features a diverse selection of landscapes from Japan's Chinese-inspired literati tradition. Visiting hours are Tues.-Sat., 1-5 p.m. with guided

docent tours every Sat. at 1. As of Feb. 1, admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students. Info: 559/582-4915 or info@shermanleeinstitute.org.

## Southern California

### LOS ANGELES

Sat., Feb. 5—JANM's 2005 Gala Dinner, "Teaching from the Heart: Honoring Educators from America's Concentration Camps;" Century Plaza Hotel and Spa; honoring Madam Fujima Kansuma, a legendary performer and instructor of Japanese classical dance. Info: JANM, 213/830-5688 or outside of Los Angeles, 800/461-5266, ext. 5688.

Mon., Feb. 21—UCLA Nikkei Student Union presents the 19th Annual Cultural Night; 7 p.m.; Royce Hall; admission is free, however tickets are required; ticket reservation contact Aileen Trieu, 626/221-6244 or Atrieu2001@yahoo.com. Info for Cultural Night: Carolyn Chan, 310/968-3174 or uclansucn@yahoo.com.

### SAN DIEGO

Sun., Feb. 27—San Diego JACL annual meeting and showing of "Day of Independence"; 4 p.m.; China Camp at Fat City, 2137 Pacific Coast Highway; Chris Tashima, Academy-Award winning director of "Visas and Virtue" along with executive producer/co-writer, Tim Toyama, will be present and participating in a brief discussion following the film; meeting begins at 5; screening is free, but dinner is \$21 per person.

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# 2005 National Day of Remembrance Programs

**CHICAGO, Sun., Feb. 13—2-4:30 p.m.;** DePaul University Student Center, 2250 N. Sheffield Ave. Program includes a staged reading of Chay Yew's "Question 27, Question 28," a documentary theater piece that tells the story of the World War II evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans as experienced by women. Free and open to the public. Info: Jean Mishima, 847/998-8101, Debbie Miekko Burns or Sharon Harada, 773/275-0097, x224 or x229.

**CUPERTINO, Calif., Thurs., Feb. 17—1:30-3:30 p.m.;** Hinson Campus Center, Conference Rooms A and B, DeAnza College, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd. A Day of Remembrance: Race Prejudice, War Hysteria, and a Failure of Political Leadership, The World War II Internment of Japanese Americans and its Relevance to the Defense of Civil Liberties Today, sponsored by the California History Center. Featured speakers include: Dr. Peter Irons, Professor of Political Science, UCSD, Banafsheh Akhlaghi, Attorney at Law, San Francisco and Dr. Alice Yang-Murray, Professor of History, UCSC. Info: Tom Izu, 408/864-8986.

**HONOLULU, Mon., Feb. 21—2 p.m.;** Architecture Auditorium, Univ. of Hawaii at Manoa; Yuri Kochiyama is the keynote speaker. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Parking on campus that day is free. Sponsored by the Honolulu JACL and a host of other community groups.

**IRVINE, Calif., Wed., Feb. 23—11-3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m.;** Sponsored by U.C. Irvine Tomo-No-Kai and Selanoco JACL. Info: Nicole Inouye, ninouye@uci.edu.

**LOS ANGELES, Sat., Feb. 19—2-4 p.m.;** JANM, 369 E. First Street. "When Loyalty is Questioned ... from Tule Lake to Guantanamo." Guest speakers include: Hank Naito, Reiko Nimura, Wayne Collins, Jr. and Salam Al-Marayati. Also on the program is a video tribute to the late Congressman Robert Matsui and a performance of "9-0-Double 6" by Kyle Toyama, a rap artist. Sponsored by NCRR, the PSW JACL District and JANM. Event is free and open to the public with limited seating. Info: 213/680-3484.

**MERCED, Calif., Sat., Feb. 19—1:30-4:30 p.m.;** Merced College, Leshner Library I, 3600 M Street. Merced County Japanese American Film Festival commemorates Day of Remembrance. "Forsaken Fields," "Honor Bound," and "Day of Independence" are all scheduled to screen. Free and open to the public with limited seating. Sponsored by the JAs of Merced County Committee, Livingston-Merced JACL, Cortez JACL and Merced College Social Science Department.

**PHILADELPHIA, Sat., Feb. 26—2-4 p.m.;** Merion Friends meeting, 615 Montgomery Ave, Merion, Penn.; Debbie Wei, Curriculum Specialist, School District of Philadelphia is the featured speaker of "Asian Americas and Public Education: Reclaiming and Sustaining our Common Wealth." Free; refreshments will be served. Hosted by the Philadelphia JACL. Info: Joyce Horikawa, 856/427-9431 or Miiko Horikawa, 610/525-6620.

**PORTLAND, Sat., Feb. 19—10 a.m.;** MAX Expo Center station. Program includes an historical overview, a skit and personal stories from those once interned in the former Portland Assembly Center. Following the program, a new exhibit of internment camp photographs will be on display at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center. Free and open to the public. Info: ONLC, 503/224-1458 or Portland JACL, 877/843-6914.

**REDWOOD CITY, Calif., Sat., Feb. 19—noon-1:30 p.m.;** San Mateo County History Museum, 777 Hamilton St.; San Mateo JACL Day of Remembrance and Board Installation; Professor Michael Svanevik is the keynote speaker. Living Treasure Recognition goes to Florence Hongo of the Asian American Curriculum Project. Tickets: \$20, includes admission, obento box lunch and

program. RSVP by Feb. 14 to Kate Motoyama, 583 Easton Ave, San Bruno, CA 94066.

**SACRAMENTO, Sat., Feb. 19—11:30 a.m.;** Secretary of State Building Complex, 1500 11th St.; screening, "From A Silk Cocoon"; 1:30 p.m., "Citizenship and Protest" a renunciants panel; 11:30-1:30 p.m., Interactive Internment Camp Experience. Advance prepaid donation, \$7.50, after Feb. 14, \$10. Free parking at 10th and O Street, additional parking at 11th and P Street. Info: California State History Museum, 916/653-5864.

**SALINAS, Calif., Sun., Feb. 27—12:30;** Salinas Rodeo Grounds, Salinas Assembly's stone monument and Japanese Memorial Garden; Observance begins at the Memory Gardens then moves inside to the Gabilan Room of the Salinas Community Center, 980 North Main St. 2004 JACler of the Biennium, Mas Hashimoto, will present his program, "The Japanese American Experience: The Internment." Sponsored by the Gilroy, San Benito County, Watsonville-Santa Cruz, Salinas Valley and Monterey Peninsula JACL. Info: Paul Ichijui, 831/422-7784.

**SALT LAKE CITY, Sat., Feb. 19—12-4 p.m.;** Salt Lake Buddhist Temple, 211 West 100 South. Guest speaker is Congressman Mike Honda. Bento boxed lunch available for \$12 at Japanese Christian Church, call 801/355-8040 to reserve lunch. Pickup begins at noon. Event is free.

**SAN DIEGO, Tues., Feb. 15—noon;** San Diego State University; Program includes the viewing of "9066 to 9/11" with a panel to discuss the similarities between the two. Fri., Feb. 18—noon; U.C. San Diego. John Tateishi is the keynote speaker. Both events are co-sponsored by the San Diego JACL. Info: David Kawamoto, dhkawamoto@aol.com.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Sun., Feb. 20—2 p.m.;** AMC Kabuki 8 Theatres, 1881 Post Street. "Day of Remembrance 2005: Carrying the Light for Justice! Across Generations, Beyond Borders" sponsored by the Bay Area Day of Remembrance Consortium. Congressman Mike Honda is the keynote speaker.

**SAN JOSE, Sun., Feb. 20—5:30 p.m.;** San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, 640 N. 5th Street. "Democracy and Dissent" presented by Nihonmachi Outreach Committee. Program includes speakers, cultural performances, candlelight procession and reception. Info: Fran, 408/730-9974 or info@sjnoc.org.

**SANTA CRUZ, Wed., Feb. 17—7-10 p.m.;** U.C. Santa Cruz College 9/10 Multipurpose Room. Program features the showing of "Day of Independence," and "Stand Up For Justice: The Ralph Lazo Story." Following the viewing will be a panel discussion with the directors, producers, and those involved in the API film industry and those involved with the movies. Sponsored by the U.C.S.C. Japanese American Student Association.

**SEBASTOPOL, Calif., Sat., Feb. 19—2 p.m.;** Sebastopol Center for the Arts, 6780 Depot Street. Sonoma County JACL, in partnership with the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, presents "Giri: Giving Back—Going Forward." Gaye LeBaron, popular columnist/historian from the Santa Rosa Press Democrat newspaper, will moderate a panel discussion with interviewees from the Giri Oral History Project.

**WASHINGTON, D.C., Sat., Feb. 19—3-5 p.m.;** National Museum of American History, Carmichael Auditorium, 14th St. and Constitution Ave N.W.; Jerry Kang, UCLA professor of law will speak and Mari Matsuda, professor of law at Georgetown University Law Center will moderate. Free. Sponsored by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Program, JACL and NJAMF. Info: 202/786-2409 or www.apa.si.edu.



All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Date, Hideo, 98**, Queens, N.Y., Jan. 6; Osaka, Japan-born artist that created watercolors and paintings in the 1920s and 1930s. Subject of the retrospective survey Hideo Date: *Living in Color at the Japanese American National Museum* in 2001.; survived by wife, Yuri (née Tamaki).

**Fukuyama, Sanji, 86**, San Francisco.

**Hard, Lillian Kiyoko, 75**, Gardena, Jan. 4; survived by daughters, Deena (Dave) Koda and Karen Hard; 3 gc.; brothers, Robert (Jane) and Wallace (Lynette) Nakagawa; and sister, Jane (Joe) Murakami.

**Higashi, Mary M., 69**, Cheney, Wash., Dec. 19; JACler; survived by daughters, Jacqueline Higashi-Poynter and Lisa (Brett) Lauderdale; son, Craig (Ramona); 9 gc.; and sisters, Naomi Barry and Annette Minafo.

**Hori, Teruko, 83**, Los Angeles, Jan. 6; survived by sons, Masaaki (Angela), Tommy (Beverly) and Itsuo (Holly); daughters, Nancy and

Sharon; 4 gc.; and sisters, Irene Yamaguchi, Chiyoko Nishimura and Taeko (Shinji) Jinyama.

**Horiuchi, Akinobu**, West Los Angeles, Dec. 17; survived by daughter, Donna; son, Warren; brother, Sige; sisters, Matsue Watanabe, Yachiyo Genma and Lily Kikushima; and sisters-in-law, Dorothy Watanabe, Gladys Abe and Mary Iwami.

**Hotta, Teruko "Terry," 81**, French Camp, Nov. 28; French Camp JACler; survived by sons, Gary and David; 2 gc.; brother, Hiroshi Shinmoto; and sister, Alyce Shinmoto.

**Ige, Takeo, 74**, S. San Gabriel, Jan. 11; survived by daughter, Stephanie; son, Alan; brother, Minoru (Rimiko) and Alfred; and sister, Nancy Miyahira.

**Ishitani, Roy S., 51**, Spokane, Wash., Dec. 26; U.S. Army; survived by son, Roy, Jr.; daughter, Tammy (Jon) LeBlanc; 3 gc.; and brothers, Harry, Joe, Jack and Adam.

**Kajiki, Kikue "Kay," 91**, Sun Valley, Jan. 16; survived by sons, Hiroyuki (Dorothy) and Masaji (Ofelia); daughters, Chizuko (William) Morita, Yoshiko (Mike) Hiroyasu and Satsuki (John) Rivera; brother, Kuniharu (Fujiko) Kajiki; 9 gc.; 8 ggc.; and sister-in-law, Harumi Yamashita.

**Kaminishi, Minoru, 88**, Torrance, Jan. 3; 442nd RCT, Company L; survived by sons, Alan and Wayne; daughters, Peggy (Sol) Zira and Gail (Renan Jeffereis) Kaminishi; 4 gc.; and sister, Fusaye Nakano.

**Kawamoto, Hisako, 75**, Covina, Jan. 2; survived by husband, Masami; sons, Howard (Louise), Marvin and Edwin (Julie); 4 gc.; brothers, Kenji (Yoriko) Kusagaya, Masanobu (Michiyo) and Minoru (Susie); and brother-in-law, Kikuo Nishihara.

**Kawashima, Robert "Bob," 79**, Pasadena, Jan. 7; WWII veteran; survived by wife Tamiko; son, Dale (Deborah); 2 gc.; sister, Mary (Jake)

Matsumoto; brother-in-law, Tsumuo "Ted"; and sisters-in-law, Lillian and Kyoko Kawashima and Yoshiye (Tom) Mori.

**Kinoshita, Tom Masanori**, Yuba City; Korean War veteran and interned at Amache; survived by wife, Carol; son, Russell (Lisa); daughter, Sheryl (Richard) Leong; 4 gc.; and sister, Phillis Taketa.

**Kosaka, Yoshiko "Yo," 80**, Lodi, Jan. 7; survived by husband, Sanaye; stepson, Gerald (Brenda); brother, Tomio Muranaka; sister, Teri (Richard) Uyehara; sisters-in-law, Hisako Nakamura and Miyako Tsunekawa; 2 step-gc.; and 4 step-ggc.

**Krivasich, Toshiko Katsumata, 71**, Oceanside, Dec. 14; survived by companion, Bill Farris; son, Frank (Cheryl); stepsons, Brett (Laura) Farris and Jeff (Judy) Farris; 6 gc.; and 4 ggc.

**Lew, Barbara, 86**, Montebello, Jan. 7; survived by husband, Albert; daughter, Vonnie (Dennis) Kinoshita; and 2 gc.

**Mibu, Kiko, 101**, Gardena, Jan. 13; survived by son, Osami (Reiko); daughters, Sajiko Oda and Kisako Arima; 6 gc.; and 11 ggc.

**Mimura, Ilene Nakatani, 87**, Ventura, Nov. 17.

**Murakami, Dr. Clifford U., 84**, Los Angeles, Jan. 9; survived by wife, Yuriko; daughter, Carol; son-in-law, Ray Drisco; son, Alan; daughter-in-law, Jiefan Chen; 3 gc.; and sister, Yaeko Hashiba.

**Murakami, Larry Sunao, 88**, Jan. 4; survived by wife, Doris; son, Alvin; daughters, Charlotte Soohoo and Debbie Carter; and 7 gc.

**Nakaoka, Masaaki, 83**, Carson, Jan. 14; survived by wife, Fumiko; daughters, Sharleen (Minoru) Aoki and Marleen (Fari) Yousofi; 3 gc.; and brothers, Harry (Setsumi) and Tom (Mary).

**Naito, Kimi, 99**, Nampa, Idaho, Dec. 13; Hilo, Hawaii-born; survived by sons, Hiroshi and Mitts (Joyce); 8 gc.; and 9 ggc.

**Nuuihiwa Sr., David, 82**, Honolulu, Jan. 21; well-known among California surfers for his knowledge of Hawaiian culture and was inducted into the Surfers' hall of Fame in Huntington Beach, Calif. in December; survived by his wife, son, daughter and six grandchildren.

**Oda, Kazo, 82**, Covina, Jan. 3;

survived by wife, Mine; sons, Kazuo (Mitsuko), Tsugio, Kasumasa (Dana) and Toru; 10 gc.; and brothers, Kamehachi (Sachi), Kazumori (Mitsuko) and Kosaku (Tamiko).

**Okazaki, Tazu Nancy, 82**, Cypress, Jan. 5; survived by husband, George; daughter, Linda; sons, Gary and Danny; brothers, Harumi (Masako), Chihiro and Saburo (Tsuneko) Sameshima; and sister, Chizu Manshio.

**Oki, Mayumi Vivian, 43**, Westchester, Jan. 15; survived by son, Nicolas; daughters, Jaclyn Yuki, Simone Chiyo and Chloe Schlanger; parents, Matsuyuki and Chiyomi; brother, Masanori; and boyfriend, Curtis Majers.

**Ota, Bob Shigeru, 90**, Stockton, Nov. 23; French Camp JACler; survived by sons, Larry (Arleen) and Dr. Calvin (Melanie); daughter, Janice (Dennis) Kitagawa; 8 gc.; and 2 ggc.

**Ozawa, Harry, 85**, San Gabriel, Jan. 10; survived by wife, Jane; sisters, Dorothy Hirai, Hamako Kawamura, Marie Ozawa and Grace (Ray) Michihira; and sisters-in-law, Hatsuko Nakatsuka and Keiko Sakakibara.

**Sakaida, Sakiye, Jan. 10**; survived by daughter, Betty (Curtis) Lee; son, Raymond; 5 gc.; 3 ggc.; and sister, Shizuye Inouye.

**Takenaga, Ben Tsutomu, 89**, Santa Ana, Dec. 12; survived by wife, Kimiko; daughters, Violet (Satoru) Uyeda, Diana Takenaga (Daved) Wendt and Arlene Takenaga; 2 gc.; and 2 ggc.

**Tamura, James Juichi, 82**, Spokane, Wash., Nov. 16; survived by wife, Janet; sons, Jim Jr. and Rod (Marie); daughter, Patti (Lane) Uchimura; and 3 gc.

**Tomio, George Tomoo, 91**, Los Angeles, Dec. 29; survived by sister, May Sakurai. ■

## Whereabouts

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

## KOREAN WAR MIS

A group of Nikkei veterans who served during the Korean War (1950-1953) in the Military Intelligence Service would like to contact other former Korean War MIS Servicemen who would be interested in joining the group to pass on stories of their experiences. Please contact Bob Miyasaki, 1184 Springside Rd., San Diego, Calif., 92128-5004, 858/486-9126, e-mail: sgmmiya@earthlink.net. ■

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## IN MEMORIAM

### Shigeya Kihara, Taught at First Army Language School, Dies at 90

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

OAKLAND, Calif.—Shigeya Kihara, the last surviving original instructor of the first U.S. Army language school, has died at age 90.

Kihara died Jan. 16 of natural causes at his son's Castro Valley home outside Oakland, said his son, Ron. He had Parkinson's disease and suffered a stroke three years ago.

Kihara was one of the first four civilian instructors at the 4th Army Intelligence School, established in 1941 on the Presidio of San Francisco to teach American soldiers Japanese. It moved to Monterey five years later and became known as the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, the nation's premiere language school.

A Nisei, Kihara was exempted

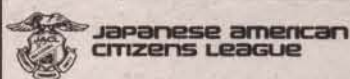


from Japanese relocation camps in 1942 because he worked for the center, but his parents, in-laws and siblings were interned at camps in Utah.

Kihara taught and supervised Japanese language training until 1958, then conducted research and development of foreign lan-

guage programs, and later served as a director. He retired in 1974.

Besides his son, Kihara is survived by his wife, daughter, brother and sister. A memorial service was scheduled for Feb. 28 at First Covenant Church in Oakland. ■



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## DEATH NOTICE

### EMIKO ISHIBASHI

Beloved wife, mother and grandmother, Emiko (Kamiya) Ishibashi passed away Dec. 8 at her home in Torrance at the age of 74. Her devotion, energy and thoughtfulness will be deeply missed by her husband of 54 years, Akira, her children Steven (Gail), Karen (Bill), Debra (Ken) and Gary (Susie), her grandchildren Nicole, Justin, Tommy, Andrew, Caitlin, Emiko and Michael, and her numerous relatives and friends. Although we miss her each day, her spirit will always be with us. Private family services were held.

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