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Filipino vets fight for long overdue justice with introduction of bill.

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South Bay JACL introduces JA history project.

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Actress Eugenia Yuan tries to find love onscreen.

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SAKURA, SAKURA

D.C. hosts the 7th Annual Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk.

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Since 1929

PACIFIC CITIZEN

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MAR. 4-17, 2005

Doris Matsui Raises Nearly \$700,000 in Race for Late Husband's House Seat

By JIM WASSERMAN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO—Doris Matsui, widow of the late Rep. Robert Matsui, reported Feb. 24 that she raised nearly \$700,000 in six weeks for the March 8 special primary election to replace her husband in Congress.

In fund-raisers held in Washington, D.C., and Sacramento since her husband's Jan. 1 death, Matsui tapped \$691,867, including donations from congressional Democrats, political action committees and former Clinton administration officials.

The totals greatly overshadowed Matsui's opponents in the heavily Democratic 5th Congressional District race for the seat held for 26 years by her late husband, also a

Sacramento Democrat.

Fellow Democrat Julie Padilla, a Sacramento activist, reported raising \$29,293, while Republican John Thomas Flynn reported raising \$20,698. Others among 12 candidates raised less than \$5,000, the threshold for reporting contributions to the Federal Elections Commission.

Matsui spokesman Nick Papas cited an aggressive fund-raising campaign to "communicate her vision." Reports showed \$346,000 raised from individuals and \$297,000 from political action committees.

Robert T. Matsui, 63, died at Bethesda Naval Hospital from pneumonia brought on by a rare form of bone marrow disease. He was the third-ranking Democrat on

See MATSUI/Page 2

HOT 97's Miss Info's Future Still Unknown

The Asian American radio host who objected to the tsunami parody song says she will not return to hostile work environment.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Just when HOT 97 (WQHT FM) thought it could move past its tsunami song debacle, the only employee to emerge unscathed from the controversy is now saying that the radio station is threatening to fire her.

Miss Info's (Minya Oh) attorney Ken Thompson recently told the *New York Daily News* that Oh does not want to return to work until personnel issues are smoothed out.

Oh has been absent from the popular hip-hop morning show ever since the airing of the infamous tsunami parody song, titled "USA



MISS INFO

for Indonesia," enraged Asian Pacific Americans and listeners with its insensitive and racially inflammatory lyrics.

It was only Oh who objected to the content of the song during a Jan. 18 broadcast. Soon, most of America joined in the protest chorus which cost HOT 97 parent company Emmis Communications over one million dollars in apologetic donations to tsunami relief, major

See MISS INFO/Page 10

Millennium Club

By EDWIN ENDOW
JACL Nat'l V.P. of Membership

Supporting the JACL can be done in many ways and takes



many forms. The obvious ways are through planning, supporting and holding various activities. Another is taking leadership roles in the various levels of JACL, giving of your time and your

See MILLENIUM/Page 10

'Living' History Lesson Revives Emotions, Debate

Washington State's Sakai Middle School says the community supports its internment curriculum. An outspoken opponent is barred from school property.

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

For some, Japanese American history is more than just a paragraph in a book.

Two weeks out of the year, students at Sakai Middle School on Bainbridge Island are transported back to the bleak barracks of the World War II era internment where they can hear echoes of the past. And although some parents want to yank the children back from the journey, school officials and community members maintain that the program is an important part of the island's unique history.

The "Leaving Our Island" curriculum, which started in 2004 through grant money, put Sakai Middle School on a short list of schools that dedicate more to teaching internment history than just reading. The interactive pro-

gram is a part of the school's sixth grade social studies curriculum, which requires students to adopt JA family identities, trek through museum field trips and converse with former JA internees and their descendants.

see its JAs forcibly removed from their homes. Two hundred twenty seven Bainbridge Island JAs boarded a ferry in 1942 and sailed away to Manzanar. Since then, the community has worn its history on its sleeves.



PHOTO: SAKAI INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Learning: Sixth graders visit the Bainbridge Island Library to learn the history of the garden dedicated to Issei settlers.

Before the program's inception, Principal Jo Vander Stoep said the only reference to internment was a paragraph in their social studies books.

The picturesque island, a 35-minute ferry ride from Seattle, was the first site in the United States to

Sakai Middle School itself is named after Sonoji Sakai, a long-time Bainbridge resident and community leader who died in 1953. The "Leaving Our Island" curriculum is one of the ways the school honors his and the island's legacy.

See BAINBRIDGE/Page 8

APA Group Wants Smoke Free Parks

The Asian Youth Center's anti-tobacco campaign looks to Monterey Park, Calif. — the city with the nation's highest percentage of APAs — to implement a proposed ban.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Executive Editor

SAN GABRIEL, Calif.—A year in South Africa was enough to turn California native Jessica Wey off of cigarettes for life.

Wey, a 23-year-old non-smoker, was amazed at how common smoking was among South African youth who often attend tobacco company sponsored youth parties as a cool way to spend a weekend evening. Free cigarettes are a mainstay of these events and are often cleverly packaged — one party offered cigarettes in cute toothpick containers.

"I was living in South Africa for about a year and everybody over there pretty much smokes," said Wey. "It's interesting coming from California where everything is smoke-free. I loved coming home to California and not having to deal with all the smoking."

Wey's back home in Los Angeles and her distaste for smoking is



Photo courtesy of the Asian Youth Center

Alice Tang (far right), Asian Youth Center tobacco coordinator, speaks with attendees at a recent health fair about the dangers of smoking.

being put to good use at the Asian Youth Center where she's helping with the non-profit organization's anti-tobacco campaign. The campaign, through education and advocacy, reaches out to Asian Pacific American youth on the dangers of smoking.

According to a 2003 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 12.8 percent of Asian American high school students and 7.4 percent of AA middle schoolers are cigarette smokers. A 2000 study by the American Legacy

Foundation showed smoking increased dramatically among AAs from 6th to 12th grade at a rate much steeper than that of any other ethnic group.

Wey, an intern at the center, believes that for many in the AA communities, especially those who have recently immigrated to the United States, smoking is an imbedded part of the culture passed onto the younger generations.

"Because of the culture, their par-

See SMOKING/Page 2

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SMOKING

(Continued from page 1)

ents are smoking, so APA youth are more apt to do it," said Wey. "There's a sense that it's cool to do it. Youth in general are living in the moment and not thinking of the long-term negative effects. Tobacco is a drug, it's addictive."

Nowhere is this cultural phenomenon more prevalent than in the city of Monterey Park, Calif., where more than 60 percent of the population is APA, the highest of any city in the nation. With newer immigrants making up a large part of this percentage, smoking is a common sight — ironic since the city is in California, a leader in the anti-smoking movement, possessing some of the strictest anti-smoking laws in the nation.

"California is so successful, it is a model state. But in the city of Monterey Park, the image is totally different," said Alice Tang, Asian Youth Center tobacco control coordinator, noting that the Chinese community is the largest APA group in Monterey Park.

"When Asian immigrants come here they bring their smoking habit," she said. "Smoking is accepted because there's a lack of education. They don't know that smoking is bad, especially those from the coun-

tryside. We are having to start educating from the beginning with the new immigrants."

The tobacco industry has been quick to notice Monterey Park as an ideal venue for selling their products. The billion dollar Chinese cigarette company International Tobacco Group, Inc., which is based in Las Vegas, recently opened a field office in Monterey Park and held a grand-opening last May.

The company currently sells six new cigarette products designed specifically to cater to Asian immigrants with tobacco percentages much higher than those found in American cigarette products.

"The city of Monterey Park is so important because the tobacco companies focus first on the city of Monterey Park," said Tang. "The state of California is the best smoke-free state but in the city of Monterey Park more people are smoking now."

Part of the Asian Youth Center's anti-tobacco campaign has been an effort to expand the current smoking ordinances for parks in Monterey Park by asking for a "curb to curb" ban on smoking. Currently the city follows the state law that bans smoking and disposing of cigarettes in public parks within 25 feet of a children's playground or tot lot area.

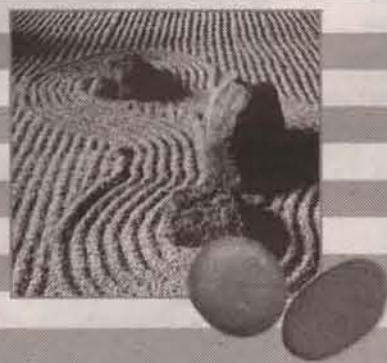
The Center's request is currently under consideration with the city's Recreation and Parks Commission who have already tabled the issue once. The issue is currently set to be revisited on March 7 although some commissioners have already indicated they see a problem with enforcement of a "curb to curb" ban in its 13 parks. Ultimately, the decision will be up to the Monterey Park City Council.

The Asian Youth Center recently gathered close to 500 signatures on a petition to support the "curb to curb" ban and has received the support of Monterey Park Mayor Michael Eng and Judy Chu, a former Monterey Park City Council member and current California State Assemblywoman.



Photo courtesy of the Asian Youth Center

A STRONG MESSAGE — A volunteer at the Asian Youth Center makes clear his anti-smoking message at a recent health fair.



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"California has already taken a stance but it's necessary for cities like Monterey Park to take a stance too," said Wey. "We need to push the city of Monterey Park to take a stance and really take that step in educating the youth."

The request to implement a "curb to curb" ban on smoking is not unprecedented in California. The cities of Santa Monica, El Monte, Beverly Hills, Carson, Huntington Park and San Fernando are just some of the cities that have instituted such a ban.

Tang believes that a "curb to curb" ban would go a long way to combating the prevalence of smoking in the city of Monterey Park. On recent visits to some of the city's parks, volunteers with the Asian Youth Center collected hundreds of cigarette butts.

In Barnes Park, 1,400 cigarette butts were collected in 45 minutes and in Sierra Vista Park 2,400 cigarette butts were collected in 30 minutes.

Tang noted that mothers and fathers who take their kids to the city's parks have to be weary of their

children being exposed to second-hand smoke and of picking up dirty cigarette butts off the ground. She also noted that senior citizens, who often use the parks for walks and tai chi exercises, have complained about the second hand smoking they have to endure.

"Curb to curb is easier for residents than zoning," said Tang. "It's good for the senior citizens and for the kids."

Tang is hopeful that community members will write letters of support to the city council members and will come out to support the proposed "curb to curb" ban on smoking at the next Recreation and Parks Commission meeting.

"We need the community's support," she said. "We really need the community to come out and speak out." ■

What: Monterey Park Recreation and Parks Commission meeting

Where: Monterey Park City Hall Council Chambers

When: March 7, 7 p.m.

Info.: 626/307-1497

MATSUI

(Continued from page 1)

the House Ways and Means Committee where he was the party's leader on Social Security legislation, including President Bush's plan to partially privatize the nation's retirement plan.

Among Matsui contributions were \$2,000 from Teresa Heinz Kerry, wife of Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry; \$1,000 from former Clinton Secretary of State Madeleine Albright; \$1,000 from Alice Rivlin, former director of the Clinton-era Office of Management and Budget; and \$1,000 from former U.S. House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt.

Doris Matsui, a former Clinton White House official and a Washington, D.C., lobbyist since 1998, received thousands of dollars from unions and trade groups, including \$5,000 each from the American Hospital Association, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the American Medical Association. She also received \$5,000 from the political action committee of her employer, the Washington law firm, Collier Shannon Scott, and \$5,000 from

EMILY's List, a national fund that supports women in politics.

Matsui received thousands more dollars in her hometown — including \$16,000 from family members associated with AKT Development Corp., a firm that brought her into two real estate investments that more than doubled her \$150,000 investment within two years.

Opponents have criticized Matsui over the deals, but Papas said Feb. 24 that Matsui has support from hundreds of Sacramentans.

Fellow candidates also criticized her fund-raising totals.

"It leaves candidates beholden to wealthy interests instead of the general public," said Green Party candidate Pat Driscoll, a software developer.

"I compete with volunteers and real people on the street, not paid canvassers walking neighborhoods," said Democrat Padilla. "I'm forced to be a real candidate."

Several candidates criticized Matsui for avoiding candidate forums during the race.

One of the candidates must win more than 50 percent of the March 8 primary vote to automatically take office. A runoff is scheduled May 3, if necessary.

Doris Matsui could become California's third congressional spouse in recent history to assume her late husband's seat and the 45th nationally since 1923. During 1998 special elections, voters chose Santa Barbara-area Democrat Lois Capps and Palm Springs Republican Mary Bono to succeed their late husbands in Congress. ■

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

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

Supporters May Take Hate Crimes Bill to the Ballot

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALT LAKE CITY—Supporters of hate-crime legislation, defeated in the Legislature for nine years now, may try to put it before voters.

The legislation would enhance penalties for crimes based on bias or prejudice appears to be hardening the resolve of supporters to keep the debate going.

Edward Lewis Jr., president of the NAACP Utah-Nevada-Idaho Tri-State Conference, said efforts to take the issue to voters will likely be headed up by the NAACP Salt Lake Branch.

"The voters, the police depart-

"I hope those polls aren't being used as gospel," Oda said.

Sandy resident Sonia James, who lobbied legislators to pass a hate-crimes law, said she wakes up in the middle of the night to voices screaming from her answering machine. The anonymous callers curse James for being black, telling her they will burn her house down if she continues to push for enhanced hate-crime penalties, she said.

"Every time we vote that bill down, the message we're sending out to these fanatics is that there's no consequence for these actions," James said. "It's scary when the people who are representing us are

'You've got the attorney general in support of it, police officers in support of it. What part of this message do legislators not understand?'

Edward Lewis, Jr., NAACP

ments, the law and justice systems have all been in favor of passing this bill," Lewis said. "You've got the attorney general in support of it, police officers in support of it. What part of this message do legislators not understand?"

Lewis said the NAACP would likely discuss the topic at a March meeting.

The earliest a statewide initiative could be put on the general election ballot would be next year.

Recent Deseret Morning News/KSL-TV public opinion polls by Dan Jones & Associates have shown public support for the legislation. In the most recent poll, 63 percent of the 406 people polled said they favored the bill. The poll's margin of error was plus or minus 5 percent.

However, the newspaper said those legislators against the bill that it contacted believe most of their constituents are opposed to it.

Rep. Curt Oda, R-Clearfield, said his Davis County constituents are "against hate-crimes legislation."

Bill Would Ban Eating of Dogs and Cats in Hawaii

By JEANNETTE J. LEE
Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU—A state legislator is pushing a bill that would ban the slaughter of dogs and cats for food, drawing protests from members of some Asian ethnic groups who believe the measure is aimed at unfounded and racist stereotypes of their cultures.

Animal rights groups pushed for the bill's introduction last month, even though joint investigations last year by the Hawaiian Humane Society and Animal Crimestoppers yielded no proof that anyone uses the pets as food.

State Rep. Glenn Wakai, who introduced the measure, said it is aimed at stemming the growth of a "cottage industry" with the potential to threaten public health. He said news reports last August about dogs being stolen and butchered in some Oahu neighborhoods proves there's a problem.

Eating dog meat is tolerated in some Asian cultures, but many families from Asia settled in Hawaii generations ago and now consider the practice repugnant.

not protecting us."

Sandy city leaders on Feb. 22 passed a "Resolution Calling for Respect & Tolerance" that mentions racist fliers placed on James' door and calls for the city to reaffirm its commitment to "be a place of tranquility, peace and respect."

"Sandy has taken a better stance than some of the people in our Capitol," James said.

"At least they're making an effort. It's not going to make a change, but it's a positive step."

Sandy city spokesman Ryan Mecham said police have kept a close watch on James' house and will install equipment to trace harassing calls.

The failed legislation would have enhanced by one step the penalty for crimes based on bias or prejudice due to perceived or actual attributes, including race, color, disability, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, age or gender.

For example, a class A misdemeanor would be prosecuted as a third-degree felony. ■

The measure was scheduled for a vote in the House last week, but the state Senate has not scheduled a hearing, Wakai said. It would make it a felony to kill, purchase or distribute any dog or cat for human consumption.

The news reports he cited were based largely on tips from Carroll Cox, president of the local environmental activist group Envirowatch, who said his own undercover investigation found evidence of the practice on Oahu.

But investigations of two of those tips came up empty, said Letha DeCaires, a Honolulu police detective and a coordinator for Animal Crimestoppers, part of the local nonprofit Crimestoppers program.

"Either the Humane Society or the police department followed through with every tip that we had," DeCaires said. "There was no evidence of slaughterhouse equipment, butchering tools, or anything to substantiate such claims at the time we visited the locations."

Cox claims the Humane Society mishandled the cases and blew his cover by alerting the media to his investigation. ■

Sen. Inouye Files Filipino Vets Equity Act of 2005 in Time for 59th Anniversary of 1946 Rescission Act

Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, recently filed Senate Bill 146, the companion bill to HR 302, the Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2005, which aims to restore full veterans status to Filipino World War II soldiers.

The bill seeks to render the service of Filipino WWII veterans "active" for the purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. It would reinstate Filipino WWII veterans to the status of "full veteran" and undo the Rescission Act of 1946 that originally removed Filipino veter-

ans from "active" service and stripped them of benefits.

"We applaud Sen. Inouye for his leadership and for taking the initiative to introduce S. 146. With bills in both the House and the Senate, we have come one more step closer to realizing our goal of

correcting the discrimination against Filipino World War II veterans," said Lillian Galedo, co-chair of the National Network for Veterans Equity.

Galedo continued, "The Filipino World War II veterans issue should be a civil rights issue of concern to

office and with other senators to garner support for S.146."

With restored status, Filipinos would finally be recognized for their contributions and sacrifices during WWII when 200,000 Filipino soldiers served under the U.S. flag. There are less than 13,000 veterans living in the United States and 46,000 veterans in the Philippines, according to a Veterans Administration study from 2001.

"As we mark the 59th anniversary of passage of the Rescission Act on February 18, we condemn the injustice committed against my uncle and the

other Filipino Veterans of World War II," said Terry Bautista, a daughter of a Filipino WWII veteran who returned to the United States in 1946. "We renew the call for full equity for and the restoration of justice for these brave men." ■



Filipino veterans of World War II protest for their rights to be restored.

all Americans. Filipino veterans deserve nothing less than equal treatment as all other U.S. veterans. HR 302 and S. 146 would bring a fair resolution to these inequities. We thank Sen. Inouye, and the Filipino American communities look forward to working with his

Honda Bill Remedies Injustice Done to Korean Immigrants

U.S. Rep. Mike Honda, D-San José, chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), introduced legislation Feb. 17 that provides relief to 275 Korean immigrants who were victimized in one of the largest green card fraud schemes in California history.

"This bill will bring justice to the innocent Koreans who unwittingly contracted with rogue immigration brokers and were caught in the investigatory net," said Honda. "These immigrants — many of whom

are successful Bay Area professionals who lead well-established lives as doctors, architects, and high-tech engineers — deserve fair treatment."

"Rep. Honda's bill justly protects the rights of innocent Koreans who have become victims of immigration fraud through no fault of their own," the Korean American Coalition, a non-partisan advocacy organization, said in a statement. "These individuals who received fraudulent green cards were unaware of the fraudulent scheme orchestrated by one INS supervisor and several immigrant consultants."

The issue stems from a long-standing scheme of fraud and bribery perpetrated by a veteran government official based in the San Jose, Calif. office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Over the course of 12 years, the INS official accepted more than \$500 million in bribes

from various immigration brokers in exchange for green cards.

The immigration brokers, in turn, directed the green cards to their unsuspecting clients — Korean immigrants who had no reason to believe they were involved in anything other than a lawful process. Although the corrupt INS official managed to avoid jail time by bargaining his testimony in exchange for a fine and probation, four of the immigration brokers involved in this green card scheme were convicted in 1999.

Honda's bill provides relief specifically to the 275 wrongfully affected Korean immigrants. To be eligible for the relief in the bill, the immigrant had to be in a valid non-

immigrant status prior to seeking adjustment of status.

If found to be an "eligible" alien, that person would be treated as though the fraud in procuring the green card had not taken place; so long as they were otherwise eligible, they would regain the immigration status they had as if the fraud had not taken place.

"Uprooting these unknowing victims from their homes, families, careers, and communities would clearly be an injustice," Honda said. "In their quest for the American Dream, these hard-working Koreans were exploited by a corrupt immigration official and immigration brokers, and this legislation will remedy that wrongdoing." ■



HONDA

Wu Secures Equal Employment Requirement for Energy Dept.

Congressman David Wu successfully secured language in the energy bill to require the Department of Energy (DOE) to report to Congress about minority employment practices at all DOE National Laboratories.

In May 2002, Wu released a report prepared by the General Accounting Office, which documented racial and gender disparities in employment practices at the DOE weapons labs. This report was inspired by the handling of the Wen Ho Lee case and increasingly common anecdotes from minority employees at National Laboratories that work conditions were hostile or unfair.

"We need to ensure that our national labs can recruit and retain the best and brightest, both to protect our national security, and to maintain America's technological

leadership," said Wu. "My amendment holds the Department of Energy accountable for its practices, and takes an important step to correct the situation revealed by our Congressional investigation."

Wu's provision requires the Department of Energy to provide a biennial report to Congress about equal employment opportunity practices at the Department's National Laboratories. Under this measure, DOE must provide information on efforts to attract minorities to the laboratories and document employee complaints and disciplinary actions taken.

The provision was included in HR 610, the Energy Research, Development, Demonstration and Commercial Application Act and was recently successfully voted out of the House Science Committee. ■

National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Famed Unit of WWII to be Honored on Hornet

Two World War II legends will come together this month when the USS Hornet launches a permanent exhibit honoring the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

The exhibit, which will cover the war as well as internment and postwar years, will be curated by the 442nd veterans organization The Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans. It will



consist of videos, artifacts and photographs in one of the Hornet's former crew sleeping quarters.

The 442nd was a segregated JA Army unit that received the most decorations in U.S. military history.

The Hornet is a veteran of some of the fiercest battles of the Pacific War and the ship that plucked Neil Armstrong and his crew out of the ocean after their historic Apollo 11 flight to the moon. Now, the ship is a floating museum.

Historic Japanese School On the Market

GREENWICH, Conn.—The Japanese School of Greenwich, which was recently gutted by an arson fire, had been for sale quietly for some time.

The private school opened in 1992, offering a standard national Japanese curriculum for children from Japanese families living in the tri-state area. The school, which has about 240 students, relies on Japan's Ministry of Education to supply its teachers.

The property was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1990 to help protect the campus' building.

Justice Campaign Launched for 'Comfort Women'

NEW YORK—V-Day, an anti-violence movement founded by "The Vagina Monologues" author Eve Ensler recently launched a campaign to seek an official apology and compensation for women forced into wartime brothels run by the Japanese army.

V-Day's spotlight campaign includes a petition, construction of museums in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan documenting the enslavement of the "comfort women" and a demonstration outside the Japanese embassies around the world.

Historians estimate 200,000 women mostly from Korea and the Philippines were forced into prostitution for WWII Japanese soldiers. The Japanese government has refused to provide compensation for the women, now mostly in their 80s.

Chinese Double Agent Challenges Government Bid to Overturn Dismissal

LOS ANGELES—Attorneys for Katrina Leung, who was accused of using her romantic ties with a retired FBI agent to gain access to classified documents, asked a federal judge to reject the government's bid to reinstate the case.

U.S. District Judge Florence Marie Cooper dismissed all charges against Leung in January.

But a motion asking the judge to reconsider was filed last month.

Leung's attorneys submitted a 35-page response that called the motion impermissible and wrong.

The FBI recruited Leung in the early 1980s to gather intelligence. She allegedly used her affair with her FBI handler to copy classified documents. ■



36th Annual Pilgrimage to Manzanar Set for April 30

The 36th annual Pilgrimage to Manzanar will be held April 30 the Manzanar Committee announced recently. The program, co-sponsored by the Manzanar 9/11 Committee, will focus on "Retrospection and Relevance: Commemorating the First Manzanar Pilgrimage and its Meaning for Today."



"We must not let history repeat itself. Muslim and Arab Americans are being held at Guantanamo Bay without charge or trial just like the Japanese Americans were for years during World War II. We must work to protect the civil liberties of all Americans from racial and institutional prejudice," said Manzanar Committee Chairperson Sue Embrey.

Manzanar is located approximately 200 miles north of Los Angeles on Highway 395. During WWII, it was a U.S. Government-run internment camp for 10,000 persons of Japanese ancestry. Eighty percent of the internees came from Los Angeles County.

Congress established Manzanar as a National Historic Site on Feb. 19, 1992, the 50th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin Roosevelt. E.O. 9066 authorized the military to remove 110,000 men, women and children of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast, two-thirds of whom were American citizens.

Manzanar is now under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, which has been restoring and maintaining the site since it was transferred in 1997 from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power, to the Department of the Interior.

In the tradition begun by the Manzanar Committee to "Raise the Banner" and recognize the various camps, former internees of Minidoka, Idaho, will be honored. Minidoka was designated as a National Monument by Executive Order by President Bill Clinton.

The Manzanar Committee is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization that depends on community support to hold its yearly pilgrimages. Contributions may be sent to the Manzanar Committee, 1566 Curran Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Click on <http://www.manzanarcommittee.org> or write to sueke@msn.com for further information and updates. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

First APA Congressman Gets His Own Post Office

The first Indian American member of Congress recently received a post office in his name.

HR 120 was introduced in the House of Representatives to designate the U.S. Postal Service located at 30777 Rancho California Road in Temecula, Calif. as the **Dalip Singh Saund** Post Office Building.



Congressman Saund was elected to the House in 1956 just six years after his work to secure citizenship for Indian Americans.

Shintani Recognized as Young Optometrist of the Year

The California Optometric Association named **Kelly Shintani, O.D.**, its 2004 Young Optometrist of the Year for her contributions to optometry, the community and her pursuit of professional development.

Lockheed Martin Employee Receives Engineer of the Year Award

Wei-San Lily O'Byrne, vice president of Systems Design and Integration at Lockheed Martin Enterprise Information Systems, received one of 15 Asian American Engineer of the Year awards from the Chinese Institute of Engineers/USA. The California resident is honored for her contributions to the field of information technology.

O'Byrne, who has been involved in computer engineering for 30 years, leads a team of over 1,400 professionals.

The Asian American Engineer of the Year Award Banquet is the only program of its kind in conjunction with the National Engineers Week in the United States.

Former Washington Governor Joins Law Firm

Former Gov. **Gary Locke** is joining Seattle law firm Davis Wright Tremaine in mid March as partner.

Locke, 55, was the country's first Chinese American governor. At his new job, he will be working with the firm's energy and governmental relations group.

Vatican Names New Archbishop for Hanoi

Monsignor **Joseph Ngo Quang Kiet**, 53, the bishop of Lang Son and Cao Bang provinces was named to a new post by Pope John Paul II.

Kiet had been a church administrator since 2003 and assisting ailing Cardinal Pham Dinh Tung. An official ceremony for Kiet will be held March 19.

NAPALC President, Executive Director Recognized by ABA



The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium's **Karen K. Narasaki** is the recipient of this year's American Bar Association Spirit of Excellence Award.

Narasaki was nominated by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association for her lifelong devotion to addressing diversity issues.

Yaki Recommended to U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi recommended San Francisco attorney **Michael Yaki** for a seat on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

If appointed, Yaki will fill the remaining term of former Commissioner Christopher Edley and serve the next full six-year term. ■



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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



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Japanese American Citizens League



DOR — Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne proclaims the Day of Remembrance Feb. 21. Also pictured (l-r): Jim Oyama (Minidoka), Mary Oyama (Minidoka), Maya Hata Lemmon (Gila River), and George Iseri.

Park Service, Local Groups to Plan Minidoka Internment Center

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOISE, Idaho—Federal parks officials and the Friends of Minidoka reached an agreement recently to begin working on an interpretive center at the Minidoka Internment National Monument in southern Idaho.

The announcement came at the Statehouse Feb. 21 at a ceremony in Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's office marking the 63rd anniversary of the Japanese Day of Internment.

During World War II, the U.S. government opened 10 internment camps in seven states that held 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry. About 13,000 were held in southern Idaho.

At the recent ceremony, Kempthorne called the internment a "dark story" in American history.

"There were no warrants, no trial, no due process. Only the suspicion that some of these men and women may be the enemy," Kempthorne

said.

In 2000, during the final days of his administration, President Clinton designated 73 acres of the 33,000-acre Hunt Camp site as a national monument.

Emily Hanako Momohara, president of Friends of Minidoka, said the new agreement will allow people in the Japanese community in southern Idaho to help create the center, along with the people of the agricultural communities that were already living there during WWII.

"The story of Minidoka is very layered. It's a lot of work to gather the complete story that needs to be told," Momohara said. "We're working on different ideas for park rangers to be able to explain that experience."

Momohara said a general management plan is in the process and will be presented to the public in June, with final approval expected later this year. ■

YOUTH FORUM

Making a Difference

By YUKO KAGAWA

I am a graduate student who lives in the Western New York area. I was born and raised in Yokohama, Japan for 19 years as a Japanese citizen. I came to the United States to go to college and it's been about seven years since I arrived here.



Being a Japanese citizen gives me some unique perspectives. First and most importantly, my status has changed; when I was in Japan, I belonged to the majority group. Yet since the day I landed in the United States, I now belong to the minority group.

Throughout my academic career, I was often the "only" Asian person — or even the only person of color — in the classrooms or in the entire program. It is impossible for me to deny the sense of isolation in my university right now — I am the only Japanese student in a school with 3,000 students!

Often I felt vulnerable and fearful of remarks that might be offensive. Another source of fear was what they didn't say to me; even though my classmates didn't make any remarks about my heritage, their prejudice toward people of color

was clearly present when we were talking about the issue of diversity.

This was the first time I experienced peer rejection. What made my experience unforgettable, however, was the fact that I was rejected not because of what I had done, but because of who I was — Japanese.

Sadly enough I began to numb myself towards how people misunderstood me and of the countless insensitive remarks made. But as I got to know more about the history of the United States and people's general perceptions toward diversity, I realized they didn't understand how inaccurate their stereotypes toward Japanese people and Asian Americans were, as well as how offensive racial slurs could be to a particular group of people.

Whenever someone used offensive words, I acted like a dumb foreigner who did not know anything. I would ask several questions like: "What does that mean?" or "What's the origin of that word?" Sometimes I would dare to ask why they chose the word to describe someone. This dumb foreigner technique also worked well when I was learning some American traditions and customary celebrations such as Thanksgiving, Easter, Ash Wednesday, and so on.

Since then, my approach to combating stereotypes has changed. I am no longer afraid to be assertive in order to stop people from using offensive terms and from judging

people based on their stereotypes.

It took me a long time to come to this point. How many people in the past seven years called me "Jap" without any sense of guilt or sorrow? How many people have I seen openly express their hatred and denigration toward AAs? And, every time I encountered those who let their prejudice talk, I always found myself enduring the pain and feeling remorse.

But I am so proud to say that those painful days are over. I started asserting myself and educating others of how detrimental and unjust racial slurs are and how to break their internalized stereotypes. I also decided to pursue my career as a school psychologist who could model the importance of accepting people from different backgrounds — not limited to cultural and ethnic differences, but also psychopathological factors that make people different but unique.

My commitment to promote diversity became so visible to others when I became a member of JACL a few months ago. Even though my voice may be small and I'm such an unimportant individual, I know that I can make a difference.

In pursuing my career goals and following through on my commitment, I am so appreciative to the JACL family and encouragement I get from the newsletter. Learning about the accomplishments of fellow Japanese Americans keeps me going forward. ■

Yuko Kagawa writes from Kenmore, New York.

South Bay JACL Completes First Phase of History Project



MAKING HISTORY — Seated (from left): Alice Uyeda, Midori Kamei, May Minami, Fujiko Ishikawa, Nami Fukuzawa. Standing (from left): George Nakano, Diane Tanaka, Paul Nowatka - Torrance Councilman, Jack Omatsu, Harold Kobata, George Tenpo, Ryo Komae, Frances Kaji, Kikue Isobe, Hideo Jibo Satow, Frank Endo, Ted Hasegawa, Myloc Dinh - Debra Bowen Rep., Dan Walker - Mayor Torrance, and Anne Inoue, South Bay JACL president.

The JACL South Bay Chapter recently debuted the completion of the first phase of the South Bay History Project and the chapter's Web site (www.SouthBayJACL.org) to local dignitaries, Nisei participants of the project and community friends.

The South Bay History Project, which was funded by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) in 2003-2004, conducted 23 oral histories of Southern California South Bay Nisei who lived and worked in the greater community prior to World War II.

The project's goal is to educate the local community, especially students of the area, of the significance Japanese Americans played in the South Bay region including Gardena, Hawthorne, Torrance, Palos Verdes, Wilmington, and San Pedro. Seed funds for the project were provided by the JACL Pacific Southwest District Trust Fund in 2002.

"It is important to educate the communities that make up the South Bay as there is a large population of Asian Americans that reside in the area," said Diane Tanaka, chair of the South Bay History Project. "Japanese American pioneers contributed to the economic growth of the area and their struggles and sacrifices must be preserved."

Many of the Nisei and Issei parents were sent to U.S. concentration camps, and after that, they came back to Torrance, or to Gardena, Hawthorne, or to other pre-war South Bay homes. The oral histories provide insight as to why they came back to resettle into the area they left.

The project was also initiated to generate awareness of the South Bay JACL chapter, hoping to draw new members. Through the project, local elected officials, such as Torrance Mayor Dan Walker, learned more about the contributions of the Nisei in the South Bay and also verbalized his support to see the project through.

Twenty-three oral histories were conducted with the Nisei residents whose lives represent a cross-section of the pre-war JA community including shopkeepers, farmers, and flower growers. The interviews were conducted by a committee of volunteers who were instructed by Dr. Arthur Hansen, California State University Fullerton.

The committee is comprised of South Bay JACL board members as well as others who had an interest in oral history. Of the 23, 16 interviews are accessible via the South Bay JACL Web site through a partnership with California State University, Long Beach, who houses the interviews through its online oral history

archive. The Web site was also funded through CCLPEP.

Among those interviewed include: Frank Endo, Miyoko Fujikawa, Nami Fukuzawa, Tetsuo Ted Hasegawa, Yoshi Inoue, George Ishibashi, Fujiko "Fuzzy" Ishikawa, Kikue Isobe, Frances Kaji, Midori Kamei, Harold Kobata;

George Kobayashi, Ryo Komae, Toshiko Kubota, May Minami, former California Assemblymember George Nakano, Jack Omatsu, Alice Ono, Hideo "Jibo" Satow, Sumi Seki, George Tenpo, Alice Uyeda, and Michael Yasutake.

Currently the South Bay JACL chapter is looking to raise additional funds to place the remaining interviews online, as well as create lesson plans and DVDs for local schools.

Esther Taira and Kathy Gill, retired teachers from the Los Angeles Unified School District, demonstrated a short video clip derived from the oral histories and incorporating music and video as a sample of the types of projects that could be created.

For more information on the South Bay History Project, write South Bay JACL, P.O. Box 4135, Torrance, CA 90510 or email: info@southbayjACL.org. To hear the interviews online, visit www.SouthBayJACL.org. ■

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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.



Wie, Creamer are Friends Off the Green

By JAYMES SONG
AP Sports Writer

KAHUKU, Hawaii—Michelle Wie and Paula Creamer quickly shoot down any notion of a rivalry brewing between the teen U.S. stars.

"We don't talk about that kind of thing," said Creamer, who made her first PGA Tour start as a pro Feb. 24 at the season-opening SBS Open. "We talk more about girl stuff, I guess."

The pair was featured in an LPGA press release last week entitled "Rivalry in the making," and were the only golfers with scheduled news conferences on Feb. 23.

Creamer and Wie are among eight teens playing in the 54-hole event. Others include the 18-year-old twins Aree and Naree Song.

"I really don't think about rivals," said the 15-year-old Wie, who is making her 18th PGA Tour start.

"I just think about my own game and what I have to do better."

Creamer, 18, agreed.

The inaugural SBS Open marked the return of the LPGA Tour to Wie's home state. The last PGA

tournament in Hawaii was the 2002 Takefuji Classic, where Wie became the youngest to qualify for an LPGA Tour event at the age 12.

"It's really nice to play at home," said the soft-spoken 1.83-meter player (6-footer) who can outdrive many male pros.

"I was talking to my mom and said, 'Oh wow. This is my fourth year out here.' It's pretty cool how time has passed."

The \$1 million (euro760,000) SBS Open played at the Turtle Bay Resort's 6,563-

yard (5,972-meter), oceanside Palmer Course marks the first of eight LPGA Tour events Wie will enter this season.

The young stars became friends last June when they were teammates and helped the United States retain the Curtis Cup with a 10-8 victory over Britain and Ireland.

They had a chance to bond on their six-hour plane ride.

"We have a lot in common. We both love golf and we're young," Creamer said. ■



Participants from last year's Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation's Basketball tournament. Players were from Matsuyama, Japan and Sacramento.

Students Will Represent Sacramento at Japan Goodwill Exchange

The Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation recently selected 22 eighth and ninth grade boys and girls to participate in the inaugural Japan Goodwill Exchange.

The students will travel to Japan to participate in a goodwill basketball tournament in Matsuyama and demonstration game in Hiroshima, Japan during the cultural exchange slated for July 24 to Aug. 8.

The students are: Alyssa Chow, Tori Hironaka, Allison Hiuga, Kristal Ishii, Courtney Louie, Miranda Melliza, Kim Nakamura, Tori Satow, Kaela Shoo Hoo, Kaetlin Uchida, Rachael Uda, Brittney Wong, Sheri Yuji, and Ameki Yuki. Boys selected for this honor are: Jason Chan, Jordan Chan, Michael Dumlao, Robert Jong,

Kevin Morita, Teddy Moy, Steven Toy and Brandon Yee.

Following a rigorous application process, boys and girls teams were selected from Sacramento applicants who were distinguished by their communication skills as well as their scholastic and athletic prowess.

"I am impressed by the level of skill and commitment demonstrated by these student athletes," said Harvey Tahara, Goodwill Exchange girls coach and varsity girls basketball coach at C.K. McClatchy High School.

The program paves the way for team participants to "understand the importance of global friendship, engage in an exchange of cultural ideas, and promote the spirit of good

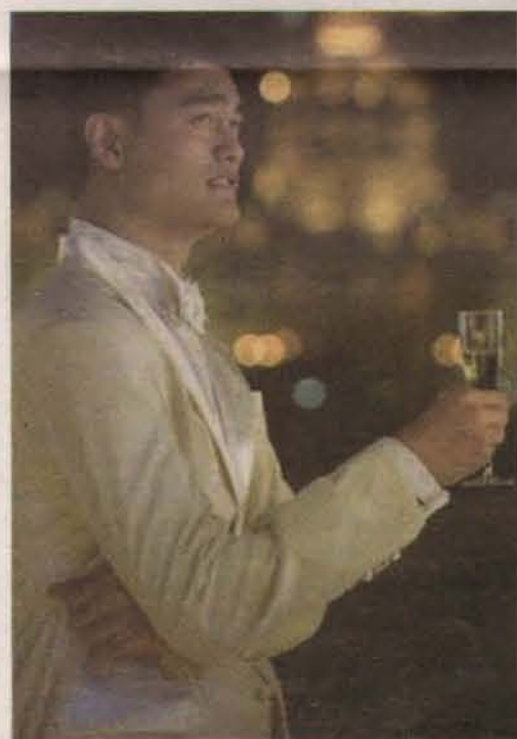
sportsmanship," said Christine Kojima, goodwill exchange director.

Prior to the trip, team members will learn about Japanese culture and traditions. To gain valuable first hand experience about life in Japan, student athletes will home-stay with host families in Matsuyama, Japan. In 2006, the team will host families from Japan.

The Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the Asian and Pacific Islander history, culture and traditions. The goal of the SASF is to build a deep understanding, tolerance and respect for people in the community and for future generations.

For more information, visit www.sasfquest.org. ■

Dine Yao Ming Style



HOUSTON—Yao Ming is a big fan of his mother's cooking.

Everyone else was able to try it out Feb. 21 when Yao's parents open the Yao Restaurant and Bar on the west side of Houston.

Houston's thriving Chinatown is about three miles away.

Yao's restaurant is a \$1.5 million venture that combines Chinese food with a sports bar. It is owned by Yao's father, Yao Zhiyuan, and mother, Fang Feng Di, both former members of China's national teams.

The restaurant

employs a chef, but it will feature some of his mother's home-cooked specialties, including Yao's favorite, chicken soup with shiitake mushrooms.

Three 70-inch televisions are located in the bar so fans can watch Yao play and pictures of the Houston Rockets' center cover the walls.

Yao, 24, a native of Shanghai, China, is in his third season with the Rockets. The All-Star center is not directly involved with the restaurant, but his parents did include special accommodations for his 7-foot-6 frame.

Chairs in a special VIP room are built to fit NBA players and the doors are 10-feet high so tall customers won't have to duck. ■

Matsui Not Ruling Out Extension

TAMPA, Fla.—Hideki Matsui wouldn't mind wrapping up a contract extension with the New York Yankees before the end of spring training.

"I'd like to stay a Yankee as long as possible. That's my desire right now," Matsui said Feb. 19 through a translator at New York's minor league complex.

Matsui, who worked out at camp for the first time Feb. 19, is due \$8 million in 2005, the final season of a \$21 million, three-year deal. He has a clause in his contract that requires

the Yankees to put him on waivers unless a new contract is agreed to by Nov. 15.



Talks have not yet started between the Yankees and Matsui's agent, Arn

Tellem, though the sides probably will try to put together a new deal during the spring.

The 30-year-old outfielder was a three-time MVP in Japan's Central League before joining the Yankees in 2003. He hit .298 with 31 homers and 108 RBIs last season after batting .287 with 16 homers and 106 RBIs in his first season in New York.

Yankees manager Joe Torre doesn't believe Matsui would be distracted if extension talks go into the regular season. ■

Wo Lai! Chinese Come to America to Hone Baseball Skills

By BOB BAUM
AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.—Chairman Mao banned the sport during China's cultural revolution as imperialist poison. Baseball, though, is a tough game to kill.

Shouts of "wo lai!" ("I've got it") and "bern lei!" ("throw it home") echo across the practice fields of Scottsdale Community College this spring.

Dressed sharply in bright red and white uniforms with a stylish "C" on the chest, the Chinese national team is working out daily under the tutelage of Jim Lefebvre, the one-time scrappy Los Angeles Dodgers infielder and former major league manager whose goal is to mold a team that won't embarrass the host country at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

"They want to put a very competitive team out there, and that's what

they're here for," Lefebvre said before the 23 Chinese players — ages 21 to 27 — began a series of drills and speed work. Three Chinese coaches also are part of the group.

Lefebvre and pitching coach Bruce Hurst, a former Boston Red Sox pitcher, are paid by Major League Baseball, which is anxious to expand the sport to the estimated 1.4 billion Chinese, most of whom know nothing about the game.

"If we can get one of these players to the big leagues, hopefully it would create the Yao Ming effect in baseball over there," Lefebvre said. "Everybody is playing basketball in China. So our objective is to develop them in everything — scouting, recruitment, selecting coaches and getting them the training and competition that they need."

The best player might be Wang Wei, a 26-year-old catcher with a powerful bat and lightning, 1.8-sec-

ond throw to second. That's in the Pudge Rodriguez territory, Lefebvre said.

Through interpreter and team consultant Sam Kao, Wang said he began playing baseball at age 9, and wanted to be a catcher "because you get to wear all the gear."

As for someday playing in the major leagues, Wang smiled and said, "That's every baseball player's wildest dream."

Baseball resurfaced in China 20 or so years ago, but the country is far behind Asian neighbors Japan, South Korea and Taiwan at the international level.

As the host country of the Olympics, China automatically qualifies for the baseball competition.

The team is in its third annual six-week trip to Arizona. Later this year, China will attempt to qualify for the world championships, to be held in Holland. ■

Starbucks Introduces Ichiro Card

Starbucks, Major League Baseball and the Seattle Mariners have joined forces to create a unique and limited-edition Starbucks Card featuring Ichiro Suzuki that benefits seriously ill children.

This one-of-a-kind card will be available through Starbucks.com and in stores in Washington, Oregon and Japan. It

will be pre-loaded for \$10. Two dollars from each sale will go to charities including the Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation in the United States and Make-A-Wish of Japan.

The card is available for pre-order only and will be available for shipping in April. ■





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Sale fares on United are each way based on required roundtrip purchase by 03/31/05. Fares below are valid for travel between 03/26/05 and 05/31/05.

Boston	\$325	New York City	\$325
Chicago	\$305	Philadelphia	\$325
Denver	\$305	San Francisco	\$295
Las Vegas	\$295	Seattle	\$295
Los Angeles ¹	\$295	Washington, D.C.	\$325

For the fares above, service is provided by United Airlines except where noted. Portions of this service may be provided by the following carriers doing business as United Express® or codeshare partners: 1. SkyWest®.



FARE FACTS: Fares are each way based on required roundtrip purchase for United Economy® travel on United Airlines®, Ted® and United Express® carriers. Tickets purchased through United reservation offices are \$5 per ticket higher and tickets purchased at airport ticket counters are \$10 per ticket higher. Fares purchased through other distribution channels may also be higher. When purchasing from United, always go to united.com to find United's lowest fares. Seats are limited and may not be available on all flights/dates. **Purchase Requirements:** Tickets must be purchased at least 7 days in advance and ticketed within 72 hours of making reservations, but no later than 3/31/05. Sale fares apply to U.S. point-of-sale only. Reservations and ticket purchases on united.com must be completed simultaneously. **Travel Days/Dates:** Fares are valid for travel Monday through Thursday for travel commencing between 3/26/05 and 5/31/05. Fares for other days of the week are higher. **Flight Restrictions:** Transpacific travel must occur on flights UA830/UA831 (San Francisco-Nagoya). **Blackout Dates:** None. **Min./Max. Stay:** A 6-day minimum stay is required and the maximum stay is 30 days. **Booking Class:** Sale fares to Nagoya are booked in S or W class, depending on the fare origin. **Additional Taxes/Fees:** Fares do not include the September 11th Security Fee of up to \$10 maximum per roundtrip or Passenger Facility Charges of up to \$18, which may be collected depending on the itinerary. All international fares are subject to U.S. arrival and departure taxes and agricultural, immigration and customs fees of up to \$40. For travel to some countries, additional airport, transportation, embarkation, security and passenger service taxes/surcharges of up to \$72 will apply depending on destination. For return travel from some countries, fares do not include airport and/or departure taxes of up to \$36, which may be collected by the foreign government. **Itinerary Changes:** Tickets are non-refundable, but the return portion may be changed for a \$150 fee, provided the new itinerary is within the parameters of this offer, minimum and maximum stay requirements are met, and the origin and destination are not changed. If the reservation is cancelled before the ticketed departure date, the itinerary may be rebooked up to one year from the original ticket issuance date for a \$150 service fee. If a reservation is not cancelled before the ticketed departure date, the ticket has no value. **Other Conditions:** Fares are subject to change without notice. Other restrictions may apply. Lower fares may be available. **MILEAGE PLUS® BONUS TERMS & CONDITIONS: IMPORTANT NOTES:** Miles accrued and awards issued are subject to the rules of the United Mileage Plus program. Bonus miles apply to base flight miles only and do not count towards Premier status. Please allow 6 to 8 weeks after completed qualifying activity for bonus miles to be posted to your Mileage Plus account. For more information about the Mileage Plus program visit united.com. The united.com 1,000 bonus miles booking offer expires 12/31/05. United and Mileage Plus are registered service marks. ©2005 United Air Lines, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

BAINBRIDGE

(Continued from page 1)

"It's where what they read and hear in history class comes alive," said Vander Stoep. "I cannot imagine teaching World War II history of the United States and not having a curriculum about the internment."

But others feel differently and object loudly to what they believe is a one-sided take on American history. Recently, the quiet island of a little over 20,000 residents was besieged with national attention and became known as a divided community.

Headlines screamed about showdowns between parent and school officials and internment debates. Current Bainbridge JA residents who attended internment camp reunions and community events were asked about the island's problem with racism.

But longtime Bainbridge resident Dr. Frank Kitamoto said the issue was more a ripple in the water than a gale storm of controversy.

"Less than five percent of the island was against the curriculum and of those, half live off the island," said Kitamoto, who is also the president of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community (BIJAC).

"It's just been two people who have asked a lot of questions," added Vander Stoep.

Those two people — Captain James Olsen and his wife Mary

Dombrowski — have been the main agitators in the fight against the curriculum. The couple, whose daughter attends Sakai, has battled school officials about its teaching on the internment as a mistake made by the U.S. government.

They call the curriculum "propaganda" and rallied enough support to get the Bainbridge Island School

On that day, a panel of speakers from the Bainbridge Island JA community was scheduled to talk about their experiences as a part of the curriculum. Olsen arrived at Sakai with a tape recorder and a microphone, but was turned away by the police and school officials.

"By reason of recent conduct, behavior and rhetoric, we believe



PHOTO: SAKAI INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Poetry Lessons: The school's social studies program mixes internment history lessons with Haiku appreciation studies.

Board to recommend revisions to the curriculum. The school agreed to make the curriculum a more concise lesson that puts the internment into context about how the decision was made at the time, and to soften the connection with present day national security issues.

Olsen, who was not satisfied with the revisions, finally caused enough disruption Feb. 9 to be barred from school district property indefinitely.

there was sufficient cause to deny Captain Olsen access to our schools. We felt the likelihood of disruption was, and is, real," said Superintendent Dr. Ken Crawford in an official statement.

Under school policy and procedures, the principal can order the person to be removed from school property, but Olsen told local press that being kept out of his own child's classroom was a discriminatory act

that violated his civil rights. He is reportedly planning to meet with an attorney.

However, the odds are stacked against Olsen, said Aaron RS Lorenz, professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Department of Legal Studies. He said that the school has the right to sanction parents and in this case, bar Olsen because of his actions not his beliefs.

Vander Stoep, who calls herself the "gatekeeper," said the curriculum will continue in future years.

Olsen and Dombrowski are a part of a reemerging group who maintain that the U.S. made the right decision in the name of national security to intern hundred of thousands of JAs. Perhaps the most recent ringleader is Michelle Malkin whose book "In Defense of Internment" was reportedly influential to Olsen and Dombrowski.

John Hawkins, who runs www.rightwingnews.com, credits Malkin's book for spurring people to rethink the internment.

"The Japanese internment was an important history event that students should learn about. Unfortunately, our kids are often not told of the unique set of historical circumstances that led to the internment and are incorrectly led to believe that it was simply based on racism. For students to truly understand the Japanese internment, they have to be presented with all the relevant facts," said Hawkins.

In democracy, there is always freedom of expression.

However, JACL Executive Director John Tateishi said there is danger in this point of view.

"Those who defend the internment or refuse to accept that the government's actions were racist and unjustified blind themselves to historical truth because they have some kind of perverted need to believe that Japanese Americans aren't quite equal to them as citizens of this nation," said Tateishi.

"One could argue that they provide a forum for opening up the debate once again, but we've been through that. We've been debating that for sixty years. But as long as there are racists in this country, and there always will be, I suppose that this is an issue that won't go away," he added.

Kitamoto said the debate at Sakai has its pluses and minuses.

On the one hand, it shows how people are still prejudice. On the other, it makes the curriculum more important to teach.

As president of BIJAC, Kitamoto helped Sakai develop the internment curriculum.

He gives a slide show presentation on the internment and multicultural issues to the students every year and said the students enjoy having history come to life.

"Kids are smart. They can come to a certain conclusion on their own. Teachers aren't planting ideas in their minds," he said. ■

NIKKEI VIEW

Racism on Top of Stupidity

By GIL ASAKAWA

Who would be idiotic enough to find humor in the Asian tsunami tragedy?

Some of the staff at Hot 97, a New York City hip-hop radio station, that's who.

In January, the station's morning show crew, led by "Miss Jones" (Tarsha Jones) tried to get some cheap yucks by airing a parody of the 1980s charity record, "We Are the World," with new lyrics about tsunami victims, sung in off-key falsetto and including some atrociously insensitive sentiments — even by radio morning show standards.

Worse, the song featured the unmistakable stench of racism, with words such as "chinks" and "Chinamen" in the lyrics.

If Hot 97 is like many popular

radio stations, parodies are probably part and parcel of the morning show's routine. But it's truly mind-boggling to think that anyone at a major market radio station could find anything funny in the tsunami.

It begs the question, would this have happened if a similar disaster occurred and 200,000 people died in Europe? Latin America? Africa? North America?

As it happened, it wasn't funny. And the public outcry over the stupidity of the song, which was aired four times during one week and featured on the station's Web site, got the crew in hot water.

Within a few days, Hot 97 had pulled the song, posted an apology on its home page. The apology didn't address the racism in the song. The management also announced the morning show crew would donate one week's pay to tsunami relief, and later added the station's parent company, Emmis Communication, would kick in \$1

million.

When the furor didn't die down and advertisers began yanking their commercials, the station felt the pain and suspended its morning show staff indefinitely, then fired two staffers (producer Rick Delgado, who actually wrote and recorded the song, and Jones' sidekick Todd Lynn). So far, *Newsday*, Toyota, McDonald's and Sprint have refused to air ads during the morning show.

But Jones, who didn't sing on the recording but went along with it, was allowed to go back on the air.

The controversy is continuing not only because of the song's incredible insensitivity, but because of the deep-rooted racism it revealed.

A clip making the rounds on the Internet captured a remarkable, four-minute segment of dialogue before the song, during which Miss Jones and Todd Lynn harangue the morning show's entertainment reporter, Miss Info, who is Korean American. "That song is really offensive to me, and I opted not to involve myself," Miss Info says during the exchange, and refuses to endorse it.

The other members of the show attack Miss Info for not being part of

the team, and Jones snaps, "I know you feel you're superior because you're Asian, but you're not."

Later, Lynn says, "I'm going to start shooting Asians."

Miss Info wasn't fired, but she took time off and has yet to return to the air. According to her lawyer, she's considering suing the station for creating a hostile environment.

An ominous shadow lingers over the controversy, and it hasn't been addressed by the mainstream media. There's a bitter history of tension between the Asian and African American community, and this incident adds another chapter to that history.

Author and journalist Helen Zia

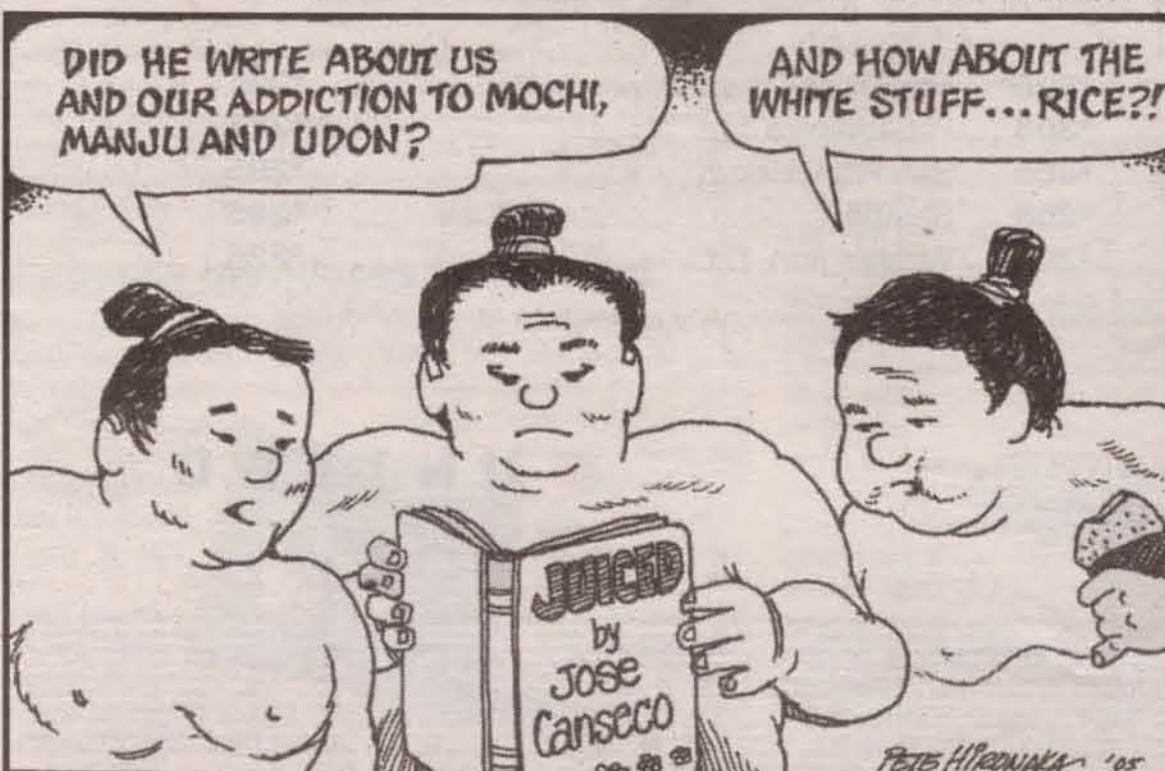
has written eloquently about this tension — especially in New York City, where a couple of much-publicized clashes between African Americans and Korean merchants flared up over a decade ago — in her book, "Asian American Dreams."

Both Asian and Asian American organizations are working with African American groups to make sure this incident doesn't flare up into anything worse.

But I'm nervous — I'm afraid this song and the way the Hot 97 crew reacted to it reflect that beauty isn't the only thing that's skin deep.

So is ugliness. ■

Gil Asakawa is the Pacific Citizen editorial board chairperson.



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'[Acting] makes me cry when I think I can't do it. You know the feeling? Like when you love somebody so much and you can't be with him? It's like that.'



By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

Not Your Typical Mail Order Bride

In Hollywood, promptness is overrated. Tantrums, award shows and excuses run on infinitely. But when the office phone rang at 10:45 a.m. on a rainy Los Angeles day, her voice tinkled disarmingly: "Hi, it's Eugenia. I'm sorry I'm calling a little early."

Eugenia Yuan's voice matches her onscreen presence. It's breathy, low but jingly and somehow so heavy with depth. When she speaks, it's like you're the only person in the world. We saw these characteristics in "Charlotte Sometimes" where she quietly cuts down her "loser" boyfriend with a whisper and sliding ebony hair.

So when talking about her love for acting ("I really want to do artsy stuff. I want the hurt ... the pain"), her voice is so shaded with yearning that you feel like rescuing her. The men in "Charlotte" loved her character for all those reasons and more (her bone structure and pretty face may have also been factors), but she's no delicate blossom.

In fact, she can probably knock any well-intentioned white knight onto his backside, what with her former Olympic training and all. It also helps to inherit good butt-kicking genes from Hong Kong's premier kung fu actress Cheng Pei Pei.

But this month, Yuan arrives first class as Lichi in "Mail Order Wife," a dark comedy shot documentary style about some lonely American men and

their yen for subservient Eastern women.

Pacific Citizen: Did coming from a showbiz family influence you to become an actor?

Eugenia Yuan: No. I fought for my own identity. My mom is amazing with this long career, but I wanted to have my style, do it my way and be myself. I've danced since I was four. And in rhythmic gymnastics, there are elements of performing ... getting the audience to feel something with the routine. Eventually, I admitted to myself that I loved acting.

PC: Speaking of gymnastics, I found some old newspaper articles from the 80s about how you were working to bring U.S. rhythmic gymnastics back from obscurity.

EY: (laughs) I competed in the Olympic trials and did some professional shows. In the Olympics, the girls are way too thin and young. To make that sport grow, they need to have older and more mature, voluptuous women to make it more beautiful.

PC: Was it empowering for you to grow up watching your mom kick butt in those martial arts films?

EY: My mom taught me dance. She empowered me as a person and a mom, not as an actress. But I've been watching her films because they're coming out again and it is awesome what she did. She didn't use stunt doubles and didn't have all these takes. It's just one long take ... and her kicking ass.

PC: What was it about this film and this character Lichi that attracted you?

EY: I always wanted to do dark comedy. I met the director Andrew

Gurland first and found that he had a horrible sense of humor that matches my horrible sense of humor. We just cliqued. I loved her character because it seems like she's stepped all over, but she's actually the one who comes out on top.

PC: Your character radiates sexual power. Do you think you have that power in real life?

EY: I wish!

PC: None of the film's characters are very likeable. Do you think they have any redeeming qualities?

EY: I think [Lichi's] a survivor. They're all doing the best to be on top and I think they all get confused. I think it also demonstrates men and their weakness with women. That's what's so great about Lichi. That's what's so great about the film, it makes fun of all that and everything else.

PC: The scene where you're screaming about wanting a child is emotionally raw, which I have to think is difficult to capture in itself, but how much more complicated was it to do with an accent?

EY: First of all, when "Charlotte" came out and was classified as an Asian American film, I didn't understand why there was this grouping ... I'm not into that ... I think that by naming yourself then you're trying to segregate yourself.

Some people were saying, "Why are you doing an accent when you don't have one?" It's a character. As I was growing up and playing with my cousins, I would do the accent. It was so easy and so fun. I had the best time!

PC: Have you come across more scripts as dynamic as "Mail

Order Wife" that gives APA actors more dimension?

EY: I can't say yes. There are maybe more, but anytime you see any Asians in the movies now, they're the ones from Asia. It'd be really nice for them to realize what we have here. Not that those actors from Asia lack talent, but we don't have to learn English.

PC: Are you choosy with the roles you take?

EY: I try to be selective, but to be honest, I'm not at that point in my career where I have three thousand offers and I can choose one. I would love to get to that point. But I want to maintain my morals and feel good about myself when I go to sleep. I'm proud that I can speak Chinese and when I go back I feel comfortable, but I don't completely fit in there just like I don't completely fit in here.

PC: Your next project isn't an independent film, but a huge movie called "Memoirs of a Geisha."

EY: I play a girl named Korin, who is Hatsumomo's (Gong Li) friend, but it's not a lead or anything. The best thing is that I got to be best friends with Gong Li. She's gorgeous. She's class.

PC: Did Gong Li offer you any advice?

EY: She just said if you love it, do it. ■

ON SCREEN
'Mail Order Wife'
An outrageous satire of sexual politics and revenge that explores the lengths some men will go for companionship.
Starring: Andrew Gurland, Eugenia Yuan, Adrian Martinez
In theaters March 11

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SECRET ASIAN MAN By Tak

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MAN, I HATE THAT OLDE. HE'S BEEN HERE FOR 3 MONTHS. WILL SOMEONE PLEASE BID ON HIS CANDY ASS? I'LL SPOT YOU THE SHIPPING.

JACL-COMMUNITY Calendar

National

SALT LAKE CITY

Fri.-Sun., June 24-26—2005 National JACL Student/Youth Conference; University of Utah; \$40 for members (includes lodging), \$60 non-members (includes youth membership and lodging). Info: Joshua Spry, youthchair@jacl.org or Todd Sato, youthrep@jacl.org.

East Coast NEW YORK CITY

Sat., Mar. 12—New York JACL's Annual Bazaar; 1-6 p.m.; Japanese American United Church, 255 Seventh Ave. (between 24th and 25th Streets); donations will be accepted (no used clothing) starting at 10 a.m.; Info: Aileen, 212/873-4170 or Lillian, 973/680-1441.

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.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sat., April 2—7th Annual Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk; Registration and check-in 9:30 a.m., opening ceremony 10 a.m., walk begins 10:30 a.m.; National Japanese American Memorial, D Street and New Jersey Ave NW; \$15 adults, \$5 children 12 and under; mail to: Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk, P.O. Box 3529, Washington, D.C. 20007; 4k walk around the Washington Mall. Info: NJAMF, 202/530-0015 or Ben Watada, 703/978-5365, email bgwatada@star-power.net or visit www.CherryBlossomFreedomWalk.org.

Thurs., April 7—National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Awards Dinner Gala; 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner; Capital Hilton, 1001 16th St. NW; Honorary dinner co-chairs Gen. Eric Shinseki (ret.) and George Aratani; honoring Daniel K. Inouye, Peter W. Rodino, Jr. and President Ronald Reagan (1911-2004); Pat Morita is the master of ceremonies; black tie optional. Info: 202/530-0015 or www.njamf.com.

MILLENNIUM

(Continued from page 1)

efforts. That is the strength and the roots of JACL.

Giving monetarily is another way you can support JACL. All of you do it just by being a member. Many of you have taken the next step to the Thousand or Century Club levels. I would like to introduce you to some JACLers that have taken being a member to our highest level — the MILLENNIUM CLUB.

This level was formed at the 2004 Honolulu Convention. The level is \$1,000 per year. The co-chairpersons for this elite level are Frank Sakamoto and Milo Yoshino. It was their idea and through a tremendous amount of work, were able to get it approved and functioning. There are 44 members of the Millennium Club and we would like it to grow. I would like to present to you the charter members of the Millennium Club.

Shea Aoki, Seattle; Sheldon Arakaki, Lake Washington; George Aratani, Downtown Los Angeles; Frank Chuman, Hollywood; Willard Clark, Fresno; Ernest Doizaki, Downtown Los Angeles; Edward A. Endow, Stockton; Edwin T. Endow, Stockton; Jerry Enomoto, Sacramento; George Higashi, Salinas Valley; Yo Hironaka, San Francisco; Fred Hoshiyama, Venice Culver; Edith Ichiuji, Monterey Peninsula; Noriko Imagawa, Greater L.A. Singles; Kenneth Inouye, SELANOCO; Helen Kawagoe, Gardena Valley;

David Kawamoto, San Diego; Lillian Kimura, New York; Mark Kobayashi, San Jose; Kit F. Kurisaki, Greater L.A. Singles;



LACE UP YOUR SNEAKERS—The 7th Annual Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk will take place April 2 around the Washington Mall.

Sun., April 10—The Twinkling, Sparkling Writing Life: 2005 Newbery Award Winner Cynthia Kadohata; 2:30-4:30 p.m.; Carmichael Auditorium, National Museum of American History, 14th Street and Constitution Ave. NW; free and open to the public. Info: 202/786-2409 or www.apa.si.edu.

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.

Pacific Northwest SEATTLE

Sat.-Sun., Mar. 12-13—2005 Floral Arrangement Exhibit by the Seattle Saga Goryu School of Ikebana; 12-5 p.m. both days; St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 1610 South King St.; Master Seifu Noguchi will perform floral demonstrations; tea and refreshments

George Masunaga, Mile High; Gary Mayeda, APAN; Sam Mayeda, Mile High; Alice Nishikawa, Wilshire; Lyn Nishimura, Greater L.A. Singles; Clarence Nishizu, SELANOCO; Henry Nishizu, SELANOCO; Larry Oda, Monterey Peninsula; Mary Oda, San Fernando Valley; Lily Okura, Washington D.C.; Frank Sakamoto, Mile High; Glenn Sakamoto, Mile High; Toshiko Sakamoto, Mile High; Joe Sasaki, Fort Lupton; Eiko Sugihara, Contra Costa; James Taguchi, Mile High; Matilda Taguchi, Mile High; Hitoshi Tom Tamaki, Philadelphia; Rose Tani, Chicago; Elsie "Leila" Taniguchi, Puyallup Valley; Emily Teruya, Berkeley; Deni Uejima, San Gabriel Valley; Takeko Wakiji, New York; and Reiko Yoshino, Omaha.

These Millennium Club members have truly stepped up to help the JACL and we should all thank them for their wonderful commitment. Their membership has already made a huge positive impact for the organization and given all of us on the national board a tremendous boost. Thank you so very much.

I realize that this level is not for everyone. It does not diminish all of the hard work done by the thousands of our committed members. However, it is an opportunity for those who can, to step up their commitment to JACL just as many did since the 1950s by joining the Thousand Club.

If you would like to know more about the Millennium Club and its new benefits, contact JACL headquarters at 415/921-5225, Ext.26 or e-mail at mbr@jacl.org and it will be our pleasure to contact you.

To all of you, our membership, thank you for your commitment to JACL. ■

will be served. Info: Nobuko Ohgi, 206/232-8736 or Jerry Miyao, 425/313-2720.

Northern California

SAN MATEO

Sun., Mar. 27—Movie matinee, "Barefoot Gen"; JA Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St.; free. Info: 650/343-2793.

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.

Southern California

IMPERIAL VALLEY

Sat., Apr. 30—Imperial Valley JACL Friendship Imperial Valley Expo, Casa de Manana Bldg., 200 E. 2nd, Imperial, Calif.; \$18/person; Operation Recognition, an Imperial County Board of Education program, will present high school diplomas to those from the Imperial Valley who were forced to discontinue their high school education due to wartime circumstances.

Arizona-Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Tues., Mar. 15—Reunion, Poston III Christian Church Reunion, an extension to the 12th Poston Camp Reunion; 4-5 p.m.; Golden Nugget Hotel; Rev. and Dr. Paul Nagano will speak on "Eternal Ties" and Rev. John Oda will speak on the "Ministry of the 21st Century"; free. Info: Rev. Paul Nagano, 510/233-3556 or pmnagano@cs.com or Marie Kurihara, 415/921-1240 or Mariekuri1@aol.com.

PHOENIX

Sun., Apr. 24—Sara Hutchings Clardy Scholarship Luncheon; 1 p.m.; Phoenix College Culinary Cafe; \$25. Info: Marilyn Inoshita Tang, 602/861-2638 or Michele Namba, 623/572-9913. ■

MISS INFO

(Continued from page 1)

loss of advertising revenue and two employees.

Oh recently told UPN 9 News that she vocally opposed the tsunami parody program not only because she is Asian American, but also because she is human.

"I'm the one person who kinda' represented those ideals from the start but I feel like I'm being punished," she said.

Throughout the controversy, Emmis maintained that Oh was not suspended or punished like the other members of the morning team. But her absence was palpable when the "Morning Show" went back on-air Feb. 11 with a humbled Miss Jones (Tarsha Nicole Jones), the show's controversial ringleader.

Thompson stated in local reports that Oh no longer wants to work with Jones who berated his client on the show and accused her of feeling superior because she is Asian.

Jones apologized several times for offending listeners and called the song a mistake, but has not made a public apology to Oh.

"I'm really confused and kinda' hurt," Oh said, adding that she wants to talk to her audience and have the radio station take further steps towards diversity.

Emmis countered in an official release that they would like Oh back at her job delivering the entertainment news in the morning, but have not heard from her lawyer.

Despite the war of words, Oh's stance against the song has made her the *de facto* figurehead to the campaign against HOT 97.

Groups like the Coalition Against Hate Media (CAHM) have organized protest rallies including a March 4 student rally in New York's Union Square to demand more accountability from media groups that broadcast hateful or discriminatory messages. ■

2005 UPCOMING ESCORTED TOURS

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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 19
THE OZARKS & BRANSON (w/ Tauck Tours, 9 days) SEPT 24
JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE (12 days) OCT 19
DISCOVER KYUSHU (13 days) OCT 30
NEW YORK CITY HOLIDAY (6 days, incl 2 Broadway + Rockettes Xmas show) NOV 28

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Aug. 23 Russia - "Waterways of the Czars"
Sept. 12 Reflections of Italy
Sept. 15 Northern Japan - Hokkaido & Tohoku
Oct. 6 Cruise Canada & New England + New York - Radisson Seven Seas "Navigator"
Oct. 15 Onsen of Hokuriku plus Seoul & Taipei
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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, Saboro, Shiraoi, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Aomori, Lake Towada, Hachimantai, Sendai & Tokyo.
Oct 17 Uranihon "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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All the towns are in California except as noted.

Endo, Hanako, 83, Los Angeles, Feb. 14; survived by sons, Brian (Patricia), Daryl (Motoko) and Steven (Teresa); and 7 gc.

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

Eto, Taro G., 85, Lomita, Feb. 12; Terminal Island-born Nisei; survived by wife, Rose; son, Thomas; daughter, Emi (John Fisher) Eto; 2 gc.; brother, Keiji (Jane); sisters, Tazu Morihisa and Mari (Giichiro) Mori; and sisters-in-law, Yuri Katsuki, Joanne Shiba and Kazuko (George) Fujinami.

Hayashi, Rodney Ken, 57, Los Angeles, Jan. 18; Vietnam War veteran; survived by brother, Glenn.

Honda, Masami, 87, Chula Vista, Feb. 8; San Diego JACler; survived by companion, Toshiko Springer; daughters, Amy and Margaret; son, Stan; sister, Chiyoko Oshima; and brother, Tom.

Ikeda, Kaoru, 94, Stanton, Feb. 11; survived by daughters, Akiye Teodoro, Kazuye (Howard) Muranaka, Kiyoye (Moe) Lee and Betty (Michael) Berger; son, Ben (Joy); 11 gc.; and 19 ggc.

Kato, Shiro Edward, 70, Temple City, Feb. 11; former Nichigo minister of Centenary United Methodist Church; survived by wife, Haruko; sons, Andrew (Heidi) and Peter (Naomi); daughters, Julie (Giulio) Casciani and Joyce; 8 gc.; brother, Rokuro (Keiko); sister, Yuriko Shibuya; and sister-in-law, Yoko Kato, Tsuneko Kato and Akiko

Kato.

Kita, Heiji, 87, Los Angeles, Feb. 6; Nisei; survived by wife, Kiyoko; daughter, Mary Bender; son, Sam (Colleen); 5 gc.; brother, Shigeo (Sanaye); and sisters-in-law, Ume Kita and Shigeo Okamoto.

Kumagai, Mitchell, 83, Crawford, Neb., June 2004; WWII veteran, U.S. Army Europe; survived by sisters, Mary, Susan and May; and brother, Henry.

Miya, Kazu, 74, Culver City, Feb. 19; Layton, Utah-born Nisei; Veteran, Korean Conflict; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Dr. Gary (Dr. Gina) and David; daughter, Jennifer; 2 gc.; brothers, Masa (Misako), Hisa (Nancy) and Tomio (Eiko); and sisters, Hanako Ito and Fumi (Tosh) Matsumoto.

Nagano, Raymond M., 75, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Joanne; and son, Don.

Nakamura, Rev. Isao Bob, 78, Lancaster, Feb. 19; survived by wife, Kikuko; sons, Kiyoshi (Yasue) and Masaharu (micko); daughter, Carol (Masahito) Kaisho; and 7 gc.

Nakamura, Yae (Nakatsuka), 82, Feb. 19; survived by daughter, Nancy (Bob) Clark; sons, Robert (Ki-Sun) and Kenny (Maureen); sisters, Louise Nakatsuka and Marge Ishida; brother, Jim (Kazuko) Nakatsuka; and 3 gc.

Nishimura, Dwight Ken, 77, Houston, Jan. 8; survived by wife, An; son, Dwight Jr.; daughter, Anne Morse; stepchildren, David Kirkland, Solace Southwick and Robert Kirkland; sister, Rhoda Iyoya; and brothers, Jonathan and Joseph.

Nishikawa, Hanako, 100, Monterey Park, Feb. 10; Hiroshima, Japan-born; survived by daughter, Emi (Bill) Shishima; 2 gc.; 1 ggc;

sister, Matsuko Awa; sister-in-law, Anna Inadomi; and brothers-in-law, Shigeshi (Mitsuko) Nishikawa, Roy Kaminishi and Takuzo Kikawa.

Ogata, Dr. Masami, Palm Springs; survived by wife, Beverly; 3 children by previous marriage; sister, Patricia (Howard) Lucraft; and sister-in-law, Yoshiko Ogata.

Ohira, Fusaye Alice, 87, Los Angeles, Feb. 16; survived by daughter, Becky Okamoto; son, Bob (Kazuko); 4 gc.; and 1 ggc.

Sakata, Misuzu "Susie," 54, Santa Ana, Feb. 2; survived by husband, Hideki; son, James; daughter, Sherry; grandmother, Kyoko Sugata; brothers, Hidenobu and Nobuhisa Sugata; sister, Takako Kadono; and sister-in-law, Shigeo Sugata.

Sujishi, Ayao, 85, Pacoima, Feb. 3; survived by daughter, Sharon Nishimura; 3 gc.; brothers, Dentaro (Hajime) and Yasuhiko (Asaye); sister, Kumiye Nakamura; and 2 ggc.

Takemoto, Tamano, 99, Feb. 14; survived by daughters, Ayako Uyeno, Masako Minobe and Keido Iseri; 8 gc.; and 15 ggc.

Takeshita, Tadayuki "Tad," 84, survived by sons, Ronald (Leslie), Robert (Lani) and Steven (Susan); and 7 gc.

Wagner, I.J. "Izzy," 89, Salt Lake City, Feb. 1; Salt Lake JACler, provided employment to a number of Japanese Americans during and after WWII as owner of Wagner Bag Company.

Yahata, Toshio, 76, Culver City, Feb. 5; Los Angeles-born Nisei; sur-

vived by wife, Satsue; daughters, Doreen (Jeff) Hearn and Denise (Mark) Partridge; and 2 gc.

Yamamoto, Sachiko, 76, Gardena, Feb. 6; survived by sons, Gary (Terrina) and Kenny (Jenny); and 5 gc.

Yamashita, Kumao "Skip," 88, El Cerrito, Jan. 13; survived by wife Teruko; daughter, Reiko (Kenneth) Nabeta; son, Kenneth (Susan); 4 gc.; and 2 ggc.

Yamashita, Shigeru, 86, Hacienda Heights, Feb. 5; Tustin-born Nisei; WWII veteran, MIS; survived by wife, Helen; son, Mark (Leslie); daughter, Cheryl; 1 gc.; sisters, Nobuko (Tom) Ezaki, Meri (Eddy) Kurushima and Lily (Ted) Yamaguchi; and brothers, Jim (Marian) and George (Carol) Yamashita. ■

DEATH NOTICE

MARIE AMINO YASUI

FOLSOM, Calif.—Marie Amino Yasui, 81, passed away Feb. 17. Born March 4, 1923 in Los Angeles, Marie was interned at Manzanar during World War II. Beloved wife of George Yasui for 54 years. Beloved mother of David, May, Arthur and Henry and wife Mary. Sister of Yosh Amino and wife Aiko, and Yoshimi Ikeda. Grandmother of Kenneth H. and Rosalyn M. Yasui. A memorial service was held Feb. 26 at Miller Funeral Home in Folsom with inurnment at Lakeside Memorial Lawn in Folsom.

DEATH NOTICE

EDDIE HIROFUMI SATO

Seattle-born, Eddie Hirofumi Sato, 82, passed away peacefully Feb. 4 in Chicago. Beloved husband of 53 wonderful years to Doris Jeannette (Shively) Sato, older brother to the late Kay M. (Miye) Sato, adored uncle to

Diane (Dan) Bjornson, Joanne (Jeffrey) Rowe, Linda (Keith) Adams, Marianne Sato and their cousin Patti (Gary) Nakai. Dear friend to many of all ages. Decorated WWII veteran (442nd RCT, 232 Combat Engineers). His passions included audio, photography, calligraphy, and history and was an untiring activist in the Redress campaign. As a published graphic artist, Sato's celebrated sketches of life at the Puyallup Assembly Center can be seen online at: <http://www.lib.washington.edu/exhibits/harmony/Photo>

IN MEMORIAM

China's Oldest WWII Sex Slave Dies at Age 94

By ELAINE KURTENBACH
Associated Press Writer

SHANGHAI, China—China's oldest surviving sex slave from World War II has died at age 94, state media reported, noting the increased urgency of efforts to gain recognition and compensation for women forced into prostitution by Japanese troops.

Zhu Qiaomei was among seven women on Shanghai's rural Chongming Island, in the Yangtze River, known to have been forced to work as prostitutes for Japanese soldiers during the war. Her ordeal, which lasted more than two years, began when she was three months pregnant.

She died Feb. 20, the state-run newspaper *Shanghai Daily* reported.

Historians estimate 200,000 women, mostly from Korea and the Philippines but also from China,

Indonesia and the Netherlands, were pressed into wartime prostitution for millions of Japanese soldiers stationed throughout Asia.

Zhu was among a group of former sex slaves from various Asian countries who filed a class-action lawsuit against the Japanese government in 2000 in the District Court of Washington, D.C.

In June, the U.S. Supreme Court ordered the case, initially rejected, to be reconsidered in light of a ruling last year that a federal law allows American courts to hear old disputes over such things as wartime crimes unless the suits are barred by treaties.

Japanese courts have rejected a number of lawsuits brought by former sex slaves and the Japanese government refuses to provide official compensation, saying such issues were handled under postwar treaties. ■

American Holiday Travel

2005 TOUR SCHEDULE

- SOUTH AMERICA PATAGONIA HOLIDAY TOUR** MAR 18-APR 4
Buenos Aires, Trelew/Puerto Madryn, Ushuaia (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 PANAMA CONVENTION TOUR** JULY 5-14
Vancouver-PANAMA Convention, Victoria, Radium/Fairmount Hot Springs, Lake Louise, Banff.
- CHINA HOLIDAY TOUR** SEPT 3-17
Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin, Hong Kong, Japan stopover option.
- HOKKAIDO HOLIDAY TOUR** OCT 2-13
Sapporo, Tokachigawa, Lakes Akan/Mashu/Kushiro, Shiretoko, Abashiri, Soukya, Otaru, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya, Hakodate.
- GREEK ISLANDS HOLIDAY CRUISE** OCT 3-14
Venice, Croatia, Santorini, Kusadasi, Athens, Rhodes, Katakolon, Malta. HOLLAND AMERICA LINE
- 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
ARGENTINA-Buenos Aires; BRAZIL - Sao Paulo, Iguassu, Rio de Janeiro. CHILE - Santiago, Valparaiso/Vina del Mar. Meet local Japanese in Argentina/Brazil/Chile. PERU OPTION - Lima, Cuzco, Machu Picchu.
- MUSIC CITIES HOLIDAY TOUR** DEC 7-11
Memphis, Elvis Presley's Graceland, Nashville, Ice Sculptures Exhibit, Opryland Christmas Show.

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