Residents of 'Jap Lane' Closer to Choosing New Road Names

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Residents of "Jap Lane" in Orange County, Texas have moved a step closer to renaming the controversial road, largely due to a desire to avoid a scandal and potential lawsuits.

Gathering at the Pecan Acres Baptist Church June 21, the residents chose three different names for the three sections of the original road: the long section of the original road is naturally divided into, said Orange County Commissioner John Granger, 53, said he is sorry to see her road renamed but she is not feeling. "[Lily] was one of the pathfinders among the Nisei women and American a great beauty but also a great responsibility," he said, "a sentiment which many speakers later echoed.

Together young JACLers from all walks of life answered the question of identity through discussions about Japanese American history and civil rights, perceptions of the word "camp" meant more than a fun outdoor retreat. His father never talked about the other side of the word—he kept the barbed wire stories buried because they were topics kids should not have to worry about. Now Moriwaki finds strength in the silence as the chair of the Bainbridge Island War II Nikkei Exclusion Memorial Committee, which is the driving force behind the creation of a Japanese American memorial set to be built on the same land where injustice began.

It was here on Bainbridge Island that the first group of JA residents were evacuated under Executive Order 9066, escorted by U.S. Army
Thank you!

Total donations: $10,285

I'm not alone out there. I have a big support group.

JACL MID-YEAR CAMPAIGN

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Allow 6-8 weeks for address changes.

JACL MEMBERS Change of Address

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To Our Readers:

THANKS TO OUR READERS.

To our generous readers, the third annual Pacific Citizen Spring Campaign was an enormous success. With 83 donors generously contributing to this important campaign, we managed to exceed our campaign goal, bringing in a total of $10,285.

As I'm sure you've read in the numerous Spring Campaign articles that have appeared in the P.C. in the last four months, this year's campaign monies will go towards our official P.C. Web site, set to launch this fall.

Of course the printed version of the P.C. will continue to be delivered to your doorstep twice a month but be sure to check out our new Web site. In addition to top feature stories, the site will also include sports and entertainment stories, commentary, obituaries and of course our popular crossword puzzle.

So tell your friends, relatives, and co-workers to check out our Web site. Simply fill out a subscription form to the P.C. The Web site will be an added bonus for our readers, but only a portion of the P.C.'s printed stories will be available online. The entire P.C. will still be only available in the printed version, so get your copies now.

For those three years the P.C. has relied on the generosity of our readers and supporters to help fund the newspaper. And we thank you! As a non-profit newspaper, funding has always been tight and this situation will likely continue. As JACL continues to deal with fiscal issues, at the P.C. we continue to tighten our fiscal belts.

Our generous donors have been recognized with a listing of their names (see right) and our new Web site will feature a Hall of Fame of donors who have helped, find the Web site project. Again, we thank all of you.

Over the years the P.C. has continued to chug along and we are glad you have joined us on that journey. Thank you to our readers and to the JACL board members who have generously supported the campaign.

Sincerely,

Caroline Y. Aoyagi
Executive Editor

COMING THIS FALL

www.pacificcitizen.org

CAMPAIGN

(Continued from page 1)

Youth (Continued from page 1)

members.

So while there is a surplus, it isn't nearly enough to get us from now to December without once again trimming costs wherever and however we can. We've been working with you all with the services you expect and meeting all your needs, while at the same time carrying on our programs and responding to those who need our help: but doing so without all the resources we need or would like to have.

What this really means is simple: we count on your generosity and support to carry on the mission of the organization and to meet your needs and expectations. The P.C. has just completed its Spring Campaign, so coming in on its heels isn't the best idea of timing. But this is just the way it is.

So we're asking you to take out your checkbooks once again. And contribute to the national JACL Mid-Year Campaign to help us get through the rest of the year. You'll see our ad on page 2 of the P.C. Think big or think small. Any amount will help.

In advance of your support and generosity.

NATIONAL

PACIFIC CITIZEN, JUNE 1, 2005

2


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CAMPAIGN

(Continued from page 1)

Youth (Continued from page 1)

The number of past conferences, said national council representative Moua, amounts to 125—almost 70-percent—of the attendees were from Hmong and other sources are lumping us together who care about the core values and culture. There are a lot of young people who are concerned with where our culture is going and they would like to be a part of changing the course.

The message has not gone unheard.

"This has brought the perspective that I have. I take pride in the fact that I can achieve great things and have all these mentors around me," said Benjamin Moua, 21, a junior at Brigham Young University, who received this kind of an encouragement knowing that I can do this. I'm not alone out there. I have a big support group."
By ROSA CIRIANNI

EDISON, N.J.—Dozens of Asian-oriented businesses line parts of Route 27 and Oak Tree Road in Edison, signaling an emerging population in one of New Jersey’s largest municipalities.

Bridal stores, travel agencies, medical offices and beauty salons, with signposts translated into Chinese, Gujarati or other Asian languages, line the highway and dot the sprawling township.

Come fall, this city of 100,000 people will have a mayor who reflects its rising Asian influence.

Jun Choi, a Korean American with a high-powered pedigree, stands to become this city’s first elected mayor, with his prominence representing a wave of Asian-American influence.

Edison, signaling an emerging population in one of New Jersey’s Chinese, Gujarati or other Asian languages, line the highway and dot the sprawling township.

Choi, 34, grew up in Edison after his family moved to the U.S. from Seoul, South Korea. He has a bachelor’s degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master’s in public policy and administration from Columbia.

He recognizes his win is cause for celebration in the Asian-American community. But Choi says it’s more a statement that anyone who works hard can make it, regardless of ethnic background.

He doesn’t want to be labeled as an AA candidate, but as a candidate who had widespread support from Edison voters of all backgrounds.

The Asian-American community is about 30 percent Asian.

“The politics that I represent is much more inclusive and open in all aspects,” he said.

He visited churches, temples, synagogues and mosques during his campaign.

Choi now plans to kick off a “listening tour” with a municipal workers picnic, house parties and organized events so he can hear complaints and ideas.

“To be a successful elected official here in Edison, to be a good elected official here in Edison, you can’t win with the support of one group. You have to appeal to a wide audience,” he said.

After his primary victory over typical Asian accent to pronounce Choi’s name and made comments that offended some Asians.

Carton later apologized, both on air and in person. Choi called the statements “un-American.” He does acknowledge the flap drew a lot of interest to his campaign, but not the kind of attention he said he would have preferred.

Choi will be favored to win in November as Democrats outturn Republican Carter by 40 percent.

The region, including its alma mater, Columbia University.

Choi’s primary victory was chronicled by several Asian newspapers, magazines and television stations. He’s emerged as a role model for young Asians wanting to get into politics and fields inviting to a wide audience.

Jun Choi

JACL Holds 2nd Annual Golf Tournament

The 2nd Annual JACL Golf Tournament was held June 20 at Rolling Hills Country Club in Rolling Hills, Calif. Fifty-seven golfers beat their best on the short, but challenging course. Perfect drives were keys to success. Results from the three divisions were: Mens Flight: 1st - Teruo Watanabe, 2nd - Benny Yamagata, 3rd - Brian Freeman; Women’s Flight: 1st - Kelko Hyuga, 2nd - Chieko Merz; Callaway: 1st - Bill Coleman, 2nd - Jim Gregory, 3rd - George Tanaka.

Many of the current residents say the large cities in Edison are not a slur and that it was named to honor Japanese immigrants who founded the Kosh Colony in 1908.

Some people, I’m not changing it,” said resident Bill Ogg, 65, to the Enterprise. “It’s no big deal.”

Dubios said he led the effort to rename the road because he believes organizations like the JACL and the Anti-Defamation League will file a lawsuit to force a name change in the county.

Last month, neighboring Jefferson County renamed their “Jap Road” after a long battle between several civil rights groups and residents that ultimately resulted in a lawsuit that forced the name change.

The issue was covered by media across the nation and in August 2004 the county renamed the road Boooodocks Road after a former popular calfish restaurant.

City Honors George Nakano

With Naming of New Theatre

Former longtime California State Assemblyman George Nakano was honored with the naming of the “George Nakano Theatre” June 21 in the city of Torrance, an area he represented not only as an assemblyman but as a member of the city council. The mayor and city council recognized Nakano’s many contributions to the community. The theatre is located at 3330 Civic Center Drive.

JAP LANE

(Continued from page 1)

"We just want a peaceful situation," she said. "We see no problem with what we got, but life moves on." Many of the current residents say the large cities in Edison are not a slur and that it was named to honor Japanese immigrants who founded the Kosh Colony in 1908. "If people, I'm not changing it," said resident Bill Ogg, 65, to the Enterprise. "It's no big deal."

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tures and pictures. The hate mail also contained threats, the Asian Pacific American Legal Center.

Japanese immigrant Kichimatsu bonds. •

"Kill Iranian Terrorists!" MPAC (Continued from page 1)

The hate mail also contained pictures of anti-Japanese letters and hyperbolic synapses with needles to members of the Asian, Muslim, and Jewish communities.

As a result of the threats, the Asian Pacific American Legal Center.

Several hundred residents and people attending the ceremony took in another fairway. (Center) Anheuser-Busch's David Kim and JACL Executive Director John Tateishi share a laugh. (Right) Kerry Kaneichi watches his putt sink into the hole on the practice green.

"I'm living the American dream. I feel that my family has been very fortunate in this country," said Choi.

Choi is 34 years old, the mayor of Edison, or about to be the mayor of Edison. That's really remarkable.

The Muslim Public Affairs Council has conducted over 400 interviews of more than a dozen Iranian store owners, and collected more than 50 pieces of hate mail received by one store owner within the span of three months.

One storeowner received a threatening document with the picture of a neighborhood Iranian travel agent, and the words, "Iranian (Persian) Lawyers bring Muslim Iranians to us, a..." MPAC immediately forwarded the information to local law enforcement and provided the FBI with the document.

"In this case, law enforcement's attention to hate mail led directly to the prosecution of the alleged perpetrator," said Stein Sarraf, hate crimes prevention department coordinator of MPAC.

"This underscores the importance of reporting all degrees of hate." After targeting the Asian and Muslim communities in February, Jaroszenski allegedly sent mail to numerous Asian and Muslim residents, often accompanied by a hyperbolic synapse and needle and the statement, "A good Jew is a dead Jew".

Jaroszenski also allegedly sent hate-filled letters to T. Sanchez and LAPD Captain William J. Bratton, and several years ago he was arrested for sending checks to a concrete block with the letter "Arab" scrawled on them.

"This case illustrates how when one group is targeted, we are all targeted," said Salman Al-Marayati, executive director of the Muslim Public Affairs Council.

"We are encouraged by the fact that so many different groups in partnership with law enforcement are building a force of solidarity against hate."
National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Former Internees Inaugurate Interpretive Trail at Heart Mountain

POWELL, Wyo.—A series of eight kiosks about the history of the camp, the social organization inside (Heart Mountain had its own schools and a weekly newspaper, The Heart Mountain Sentinel) and the lives of the internees.

U.S., Vietnam Agree to Resume Adoptions

ST. LOUIS—During his weeklong visit to the U.S.—the first by a Vietnamese prime minister since the war’s end 30 years ago — Phan Van Khai signed an agreement along with President Bush to resume adoptions between the two nations.

The cooperative agreement is aimed at preventing Vietnamese children from being trafficked and exploited. In the late 1990s, Vietnam began requiring countries to sign adoption agreements after police uncovered criminal rings selling children for foreign adoption.

The new agreement is the result of intensive talks and controls, and requires that children come from orphanages, rather than an independent broker in Vietnam working on an agency’s behalf.

Research: Forced Assimilation Spurs Cultural Trauma

HONOLULU—A Big Island researcher says the stress of being forcibly assimilated into Western Culture has spurred unhealthy eating habits or “suicide by lifestyle” among some Native Hawaiians.

Bud Pomaika‘i Cook, education director for Ka Mahuhia Learning Center, said the tobacco habit and ignoring advice to eat healthier foods are the most common manifestation of the difficulties of assimilation to a newly arrived culture.

Research estimated that 20.8 percent of Native Hawaiian smoke. This compared with 17.6 percent of Filipinos, 11.6 percent of Caucasians and 7.7 percent of Japanese surveyed.

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen staff

Student Launches Campaign for City Council

Eugene Kang, 21, a university undergraduate, is running for Michigan’s Ann Arbor City Council against former Republican, Stephen Rapanos. Kang, a Democrat, decided to run at the end of the winter term, but he had considered running since last fall. It is a chance to give back to the community he grew up in, he said.

Kang said one of his major concerns for the city is the five-year running budget deficit that could be fixed by either cutting city services or implementing an income tax.

Matsumoto Receives Honorary Green Beret for Heroism

Master Sergeant Roy Matsumoto, U.S. Army Ret., was presented with a Green Beret bearing the Special Forces Command Flash and Regimental Crest, naming him an Honorary Green Beret.

He was one of the 14 Nisei selected to serve with 3,000 strong 5307th Composite Unit or the Merrill’s Marauders in Burma. Matsumoto was interested at Jerome where he volunteered for the Army in 1942.

Masunaga Becomes First County Superior Court

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger recently appointed Laura Masunaga to the Superior Court judge to Siskyou County. She is the first woman in the county to hold this position. Laura is the daughter of John Masunaga, a Colorado JACL president in the 1990s and niece of George Masunaga, a Denver JACL chapter president in the 1940s.

49ers: Mea Culpa

San Francisco-49ers officials recently promised Chinese-American leaders they would overhaul the team’s diversity policies to address anger over offensive training videos. One clip featured racial slurs about the Chinese.

At a pacific meet in a Chinatown community hall June 14, 49ers owner John York apologized on behalf of the team and vowed to strengthen the franchise’s ties to the Asian American community.

York told the audience he is working with city officials to develop a diversity awareness program before players start training camp this month.

As former 49ers lineman Jesse Sapopu shook hands with young fans, leading AA city officials praised the team’s efforts to work with San Francisco’s Human Rights Commission to improve its anti-bias program.


“But the second step is harder: repentance.”

Associated Press contributed to this article.

Camp Scrapbook Acquired by U. of Idaho

The University of Idaho Library, with financial assistance from the Library Associates, has acquired a unique photographic resource relating to Idaho’s World War II history. It is a hand-made scrapbook of 148 original photographs (and two drawings) of activities and buildings related to the Koozika Internment Camp on the Lochsa River.

In 1943 the federal prison at Lewersworth, Kansas, chose to remote work camps, one of which was a road-building site in a former CCC camp on the Lochsa River in Idaho. The inmates were extending the Lewis and Clark Highway (now US 12) into the river toward Montana.

Completion of the road was declared a wartime necessity and so it continued under the authority of the INS using paid Japanese alien volunteers from the larger internment camps. Although called the Koozika Internment Camp, it was actually some seven miles upstream from Lowell, Idaho.

The photographs in the scrapbook, taken about 1944, are the work of either one of the Japanese inmates or one of the federal guards.

The signed sketches are by one of the inmates. The son of a deceased guard discovered the scrapbook among family memorabilia and offered it to the University of Idaho.

The photographs are an extensive record of life in the camp, with multiple views of the mess hall, the canteen, and the recreation facilities, as well as scenes of the heavy equipment and the construction work on the highway where the

Maryland Nat’l Guard, Commission Honor APA Veterans

The Maryland National Guard, in conjunction with the Maryland Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, held an event at Warfield Air National Guard Base recently to honor APA veterans and service personnel.

A highlight of the event was the presentation of a gubernatorial proclamation acknowledging the contributions of Asian Americans and expressing the appreciation of the citizens of Maryland.

Acting on behalf of Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Dr. Warren Minami, Muris Hrabinski, and Joan Lok, members of the Maryland Commission on APA Affairs, presented the proclamation to Brig. Gen. Charles A. Morgan III, Maryland assistant secretary general for air, and Robert Finn, Maryland assistant secretary of veteran affairs for outreach and advocacy.

In addition, two Japanese American veterans spoke of their experiences. Joseph Ichihui, a veteran of the 442 Regimental Combat Team during WWII, gave a stirring account of his experiences. Retired Col. Henry Wakabayashi focused on the fact that today the AA community has achieved a large step toward equality.

Minami and Ichihui are board members of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation that built the National Memorial to Japanese American Patriotism During World War II in Washington, D.C. This National Memorial is now under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.

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1.800.400.6633 or visit

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In awarding the proclamation to Bray

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“But the second step is harder: repentance.”

Associated Press contributed to this article.
Historic Memorial for JA Vets Dedicated in San Diego

By JOYCE NABETA TEAGUE
Special to the Pacific Citizen

As Japanese American World War II veterans and their families and friends looked on, an historic Japanese American Veterans Memorial was dedicated in honor of all JA veterans at San Diego’s Mount Hope Cemetery recently.

The memorial, etched with the insignias of all branches of military service, is believed to be the only memorial in the United States dedicated to all American veterans of Japanese ancestry who served their country in both war and peacetime.

The stately rectangle of black granite faces north and a simple engraved inscription states: “Dedicated to all Americans of Japanese ancestry who defended their country for the right to be called Americans.”

“This monument will be a lasting testament to our Japanese American Veterans of San Diego,” said George Furuya, Jr., co-chair of the event who first came up with the idea for the memorial.

“Sadly, many of our veterans are not with us today, but their memories and spirit have inspired our community to create this beautiful memorial, and with this memorial we shall not forget them,” he said.

The two-year planning of a committee of 12 men and women, and the generous donations of over 300 individuals and organizations, made the historic dedication possible.

The event was hosted by the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego (JAHSSD), which spearheaded the memorial project. The dedication was held in conjunction with the annual interfaith service conducted jointly by the San Diego Japanese Christian Church, the United Church of Christ, and the Buddhist Temple of San Diego.

During the service, the Pioneer Ocean View Unitarian Church in San Diego, the Village Unitarian Church in La Jolla, and the San Diego Japanese Christian Church were represented.

The Twin Cities JACL:s 42nd Annual Scholarship Awards Program was held recently at the St. Anthony Event Centre in Minneapolis, MN. Scholarship awards exceeded $8,000. Recipients are: Jamie Judkins, Benjamin Kimitch, Mathew Girard, Anthony Morimoto, Keiko Osada, Christopher Grant Tsuchiya. Not pictured: Jamie Judkins, Benjamin Kimitch, Mathew Girard, Anthony Morimoto, Keiko Osada, Christopher Grant Tsuchiya.
Marc Stillman, 20, from Salt Lake City, watches as his name is translated into kanji ...

Caroline Kawaguchi, 24, of Boise Valley masters the beat of the taiko drum ...

and a young JACLer proudly takes a picture of her work with her camera phone.

JACL National President Ken Ishi at the Vision Award Dinner

Congressman Mike Honda

Why Did You Come to the Conference?

'My parents always taught me to embrace my heritage and that's what I'm doing here. I'm really glad to be here and learn. And it beats working on the farm.' — Benjamin Tateoka, entering freshman, BYU

'I wanted to get out of Caldwell. I think it will be fun.' — Caroline Kawaguchi, 24, Boise Valley

'I came here to see what other people are doing in the community.' — Karin Hayashida, 19, Boise Valley
Kim Takes U.S. Women's Open With Miracle Shot

By EDINE PELLS
Associated Press

CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE, Colo.—She changed her name to Birdie so everyone would know who she was, and even that wasn't enough at a field of dreams where historic moments belonged to everyone else.

It started with Annika Sorenstam and her quest for the Grand Slam. Then came 17-year-old Morgan Pressel playing the lead role in a parade of teenage contenders, poised to become the youngest major champion in golf history.

Ultimately, the most compelling moment of a riveting week at Cherry Hills belonged to Birdie Kim.

With a spectacular shot that allowed her to live up to her nickname, the 25-year-old from South Korea holed a 30-yard bunker shot on the 18th hole to win the $3.5 million LPGA Tour Championship.

"It's an old guy, right?" Michelle Wie, the 15-year-old from Hawaii coming off a runner-up finish in the last major, double bogeyed the first hole on her way to an 82.

"I wish I wasn't struggling," said Wie. "I wish I had a good idea what to expect. She needed all the help she could get, coming into the final hole, and laying up in more rough. She gave her shot out of the thick grass, the ball dribbled only 25 feet. We went out in 42 and was never a factor the rest of the day."

"I have to give my ball a GPS because it was lost," she said.

The victory gave Kim a five-year exemption on the LPGA Tour and three of the majors; she gets to keep her membership in the Women's Open for the next 10 years.

Kim let out a "Whoop!" when told the biggest payoff of her career was a big silver trophy she never thought she would win.

"I never think about it," she said. "I was never a good ball-strking player. Finally, I make it.

In two years on the LPGA Tour, Kim had made only 10 cuts in 34 starts and only once finished in the top 10 at the Women's Open. But her earnings were a measly $79,832.

One shot that ranks among the most dram "If we had confidence to make close to the pin. Maybe get close, maybe really close. It goes in."

The U.S. Women's Open champion went by her given name, Kim, as a rookie last year, but decided to use "Birdie" this season to stand out from the other five players with Kim as a surname on the LPGA Tour.

"I saw her landing and her roll, so the green is not that fast, not that hard," Kim said. "I have confidence to make close to the pin. Maybe get close, maybe really close. It goes in."

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**COMMENTARY**

Shikata Ga Nai?**

By BARBARA TAKEI

Based on the lies of a “confidential informant,” in January 1942, the FBI invaded the home of my husband’s grandfather, a prosperous businessman in Seattle’s International District. The FBI ransacked the house and took his address books, Japanese-language books and magazines, and even raffle tickets. He was arrested and held with no charges, without being sentenced, and without the representation of a lawyer.

He was incarcerated in a Department of Justice prison in Bismark, North Dakota as a dangerous alien enemy despite his innocence and the lack of any evidence. He was eventually paroled, financially drained, stripped of his dignity, his health destroyed, and his good name ruined. He died of a massive heart attack before the war ended.

Earlier this month in the small farming community of Lodi, California a disturbingly familiar scenario was unfolding. Ice cream truck driver Umer Hayat and his son Hamid were arrested as alleged “terrorists” who planned to attack shopping centers and hospitals. The allegations appeared in an FBI agent’s affidavit that was widely distributed and the source of hundreds of newspaper and television news stories that fanned fears of terrorist bombings in the Sacramento valley.

Once the media was saturated with the threat of terrorist attacks, the FBI affidavit was withdrawn and described as a “mistake.” A different affidavit was filed in court, reported the New York Times on June 11, one that deleted any mention of terrorist attacks on shopping centers and hospitals.

Within days of the arrests, amidst growing clamor of terrorism in Lodi, half a dozen members of the Florin chapter of the JACL organized under the leadership of Florin chapter civil rights chair, Andy Noguchi, attended an emergency meeting at a Stockton mosque. The mosque was filled with fathers and sons and wives and children — all of whom feared for their safety and protection, not from the supposed Islamic “terrorists” among them, but from Federal law enforcement officials.

The scene at the mosque was a vivid and haunting reminder of the mistreatment of our Japanese immigrant forebears during World War II, something many of us thought could not happen again after the success of the Japanese American redress movement and the Presidential apology in 1988. How wrong we were.

The Muslim community in Stockton and Lodi reported the threatening and intimidating presence of the FBI, feeling themselves the target of aggressive FBI surveillances and interviews.

“Planes and helicopters are flying over and around our neighborhood,” the government agents question innocent people at work and at their homes; they follow innocent people around the block as though they are guilty of something,” said Hamid El-Nakhal, describing the constant surveillance.

Nakhal is president of the Sacramento Valley chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, a nationwide Islamic civil rights and advocacy group that has monitored the FBI’s activities in the Pakistan community in Lodi.

“They force people to take lie detector tests by threatening to put them in jail if they do not take the test. At one home agents wanted to search, they kicked the door open and pointed weapons at the heads of families.”

“Instead of feeling that these law enforcement agents are here to protect us, it seems more like the contrary is true, as you are being invaded by over 100 FBI agents,” said El-Nakhal.

“We are not supporting terrorism. America is our country. If anyone harbored terrorists, we would be the first to report it. We are innocent but we feel that we are being treated as criminals in the same way that Japanese Americans were treated as the enemy after Pearl Harbor was bombed,” said El-Nakhal.

“People in our community are filled with fear and worry that the same things that happened during World War II will happen now once again.”

As our group from Florin JACL drove home from Lodi, we pondered the events taking place and wondered what to believe.

I couldn’t stop thinking about the way my husband’s grandfather was treated as a dangerous criminal even though he was innocent. I also wondered if people would immediately ostracize me for the Japanese-speaking poseur that I really am. Not surprisingly, in any Japanese-speaking environment, I come off as a very shy and withdrawn person.

But I want to change all of that. I want to be the smooth cosmopolite who, by unexpected circumstances found herself stranded in the middle of Tokyo, could effortlessly glide through all the obscure idioms and formalistic language rules that characterize a culture built on high arches of respect and authority.

I want to be able to converse freely with all my relatives back in Japan, most of who do not speak a single word of English.

Most of all, I want to be able to effectively argue with my parents because good grief, it’s hard to argue and defend yourself over adult matters such as apartheid and choice of major if you’re stuck with a language capacity that hasn’t really improved much since sixth grade. If there is any time for me to become really fluent in Japanese, the time is NOW!

So I’ve been taking little baby steps to nurture my Japanese-speaking side. I decided to minor in Japanese, so I’ll be forced to write reports and make presentations in Japanese on a regular basis. When I watch Japanese movies, I try to avoid looking at the English subtitles as much as possible. Herein begins my redemption as a J-school failure.

At the very least, it gives me a good excuse to buy more mango every time I go to Little Tokyo.

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PACIFIC CITIZEN,

are so loving though and they embrace all the musicians.

I've never been so happy. In Pittsburgh, there were 50,000 and I was like, "Wow, I'm touring with Buffett, Jake reports a little cloudy coverage, but it's nothing his ukulele (pronounced "oo-koo-LEH-Ieh") and a little aloha spirit can't clear up. "It's a strange thing, but it looks like it's my right hand that works harder, but it's actually my left hand that's mightier. The right is very relaxed, no tension," said the 28-year-old Hawaiian native.

"A lot of times, I get a massage and the massage therapist says, 'Your right side is so loose, but your left side is rock hard!'"

Jake's hands have landed his new album "Dragon" (forthcoming in the U.S. this August) in the number-one spot in Japan, Canada and Australia. As an obsessed musician, and also in Margaritaville alongside Jimmy Buffett, together, they have created tropical paradise islands in cold East Coast states playing "Just a Little Less Conversation.

Talking exclusively to the Pacific Citizen from Boston where he's currently touring with Buffett, Jake reports a little cloud coverage, but it's nothing his ukulele (pronounced "oo-koo-LEH-Ieh") and a little aloha spirit can't clear up.

"What? That's a lot of people! Are you insane?" (Laughs) Jimmy Buffett fans agree. "What? That's a lot of people! Are you insane?" (Laughs) Jimmy Buffett fans are so loving though and they embrace all the musicians.

"Do your Japanese fans treat you differently? "Yes! My parents were so excited when they heard I was going to tour with the Jimmy Buffett band. My parents have always been very supportive of my music."

"That title with just a few plucks of his instrument of choice - a blurry mirage against the ukulele tucked against his stomach."

"That's a favorite of mine."

"That's a lot of people! Are you insane?" (laughs) Jimmy Buffett fans agree. "You're right side is so loose, but your left side is rock hard!"

"My main thing is that music should be fun. When I perform I'm having a blast and that's what I think the album and the teamwork of everyone involved."

"That's a little cloud coverage, but it's nothing his ukulele (pronounced "oo-koo-LEH-Ieh") and a little aloha spirit can't clear up."

NJ: "I perform I'm having a blast and that's what I think the album and the teamwork of everyone involved."

"That's a little cloud coverage, but it's nothing his ukulele (pronounced "oo-koo-LEH-Ieh") and a little aloha spirit can't clear up."

NJ: "$100,000 worth of new songs?"

"It was very, very different. It was fun but it kind of brought me in a real guitar player (laughs). I just like the [ukulele's] nylon string and acoustic element. The electric guitar if it's in the right hands, can produce beautiful music, but it mimes just makes noise.

"When you play 'tukulele' a lot of people think about Don Ho and the slow ballads. Do you come up with those stereotypes?"

"I love 'Come Monday,' whenever he plays it, I have to stop and listen."

"What do you hope your fans will take away from your music?"

"The best single thing that music should be fun. When I perform I'm having a blast and I always want people to walk away smiling and feeling good. If they had a bad week, I want them to forget about their bad week. I think music is the best medicine."

"I think it's positive in the sense that I've had people come up to me after shows and say that they didn't know that a ukulele could sound like that! It feels good that I help people look at the ukulele differently."

"As a Japanese fan? No! I never thought I would be a professional musician. I just thought it was a hobby. ... I was always really low key playing at family parties. I never thought I would be standing in front of 50,000 people!"

"How did you feel when you heard your new album was No. 1 in Japan?"

"I was so blown away. It's such a big thing because "Dragon" is self-produced ... I've always worked with producers in the past and it was such a different experience this time because I was involved in each step. So when I got the news, I felt so proud, not for me but for the album as a whole would feel for his child (laughs)."

"PC: "Does your Japanese fans treat you differently? "Yes! My parents were so excited when they heard I was going to tour with the Jimmy Buffett band. My parents have always been very supportive of my music."

"That's a lot of people! Are you insane?" (laughs) Jimmy Buffett fans agree. "You're right side is so loose, but your left side is rock hard!"

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See Jake in July

July 14—Twilight Concert Series in Salt Lake City UT
July 15—Mojave Desert Festival in Barstow, CA
July 16—Cafi Worldfest in Grafton, VA
July 21—Japan Expo, Japan at Hawaii Tourism Japan Event at Ala Moana Center

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Volleyball Tournament
Friday, August 5
Saturday, August 6

The Park Center
at Murray Park
Murray, Utah

Regardless of your age or skill level, this is an event that you won't want to miss! Each team must include at least 3 female and 3 male members. Up to 4 alternates are optional. Each member will receive a commemorative t-shirt and gift package. Grand prizes will be awarded to the winning "recreation" and "competition" teams. Submit your completed registration form and your team's $125 registration fee by Friday, July 29, 2005 to:
The National JACL Credit Union
242 South 400 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
or call: 800/544-8828 or 801/355-3040

*Participants must be members of JACL. JACL CU or 1/16 Asian and/or spouse.*
OKURA
(Continued from page 1)
vice-president of the national board. And trust me, she was there to serve tea and cookies to the Nisei men who served with her! said John Tateishi, JACL executive director. "She visited her husband Patrick, who also passed away earlier this year, founded the Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation with redress participants, approved during the late 80s. The foundation provides annual scholarships to Asian Pacific American students who wish to study the field of mental health. The Okuras were also active in the annual JACLCA Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference that brought promising young APA leaders to the capital for an intense week of seminars and activities. Each year they would open up their home to the participants, passing on their knowledge of the JACL.

"We in EDC were shocked to learn of Lily's sudden passing, especially so soon after the loss of her husband Pat," said Paul Ueyehara, EDC governor. "She was a true role model for women in the national leadership, having been the first to serve as a national officer. She has been a long-time supporter of our chapter, has served with distinction for many years, and brought ele

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Nov. 23 The Best of South America - Brazil, Igwano, Argentina & Chile
Dec. 6 - Holiday Season in San Antonio

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Sept 22 America One More - South -14 Days - 26 Meals - $2295 - By bus to Postina-Gilla-Ela-Paso-San Antonio-New Orleans-Vicksburg, AL.

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Oct 22 Hong Kong - 11 Days - 26 Meals - $3959 Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, Bangkok, Singapore, Phuket, Kuala Lumpur.

CLOSED SOON

CLOSED SOON

CLOSED SOON
Jan 3 Spain - 11 Days - 22 Meals - $3959 Madrid, Barcelona, Seville, Malaga, Lisbon, Cosmo, Tarifa.

CLOSED SOON

CLOSED SOON

CLOSED SOON
Mid-Jan 22 Spain - 7 Days - 10 Meals - $3959 Madrid, Seville, Tangiers, Tangier, Marrakesh, Fez.

CLOSED SOON
Mid-Feb 5 Portugal - 7 Days - 10 Meals - $3959 Lisbon, Porto, Coimbra, Couples, Blaylock, Alcorcon.

CLOSED SOON
ARCHIVES
(Continued from page 1)

It's so important that this group of people saved this material and
were willing to share the depth of the
stories," said Dale Stieber, Occidental's
digital archivist and project manager, who noted
that the letters between the JA students
and Bird are the highlight of the
relocation collection. "We're learn­
ning history through these individ­
ual stories. We can feel the people
talking."

Occidental's JA digital archive
covers the period from 1941 to
1946 and was made possible through
a Haynes Foundation archival grant. In total, six JA stu­
dents attending Occidental at the
time, two alumni, and two
prospective students are featured
including: Sinpachi Kanow, Mary
Kariya, Russell Nakata, John
Nishiya, Ted Tajima, and Iko
Tanzawa; alumni: Shizume Tanaka
(C'26); and prospective students:
Helen Matsunaga and Akira
Shirasib. Although many of the former
students have passed on, Stieber
was able to locate some of them,
including Tajima who was sur­
pried to learn about the digital
archive. He visited them often, recalling
his time at Occidental and his parents and
siblings would end up in the Heart
Mountain and Gila River camps.

They visited them often, recalling
how difficult it was to see them
behind barbed wire. "That was
hard ... very hard," he said.

Tajima can still recall the bitter
taste of discrimination growing up
in Pasadena, California in the early
1940s but with World War II, things
would only get worse for JAs.

"Some places were closed to us.
We knew where to stand, when to
move back," he said.

Tajima was eventually accepted
to several colleges, including
Westover College in Ohio, but
decided to work instead and wait
for his draft papers. He was ulti­
mately drafted after the end of
WWII, serving a year in Counter
Intelligence.

Tajima would make his way
back to Occidental, earning a
degree in English in 1946 and later
his teaching credential. (Four
members of his family, including
his sister Sophie Tajima Toriumi,
are Occidental alumni.) Tajima
would go on to have a lengthy
career as a high school journalism
and English teacher at Alhambra
High School, earning a lifetime
achievement in teaching award.

Through Tajima's story, along
with the other JA students featured
in the digital archive, the history
and lessons of the JA internment
come to life.

"It makes more permanent what
did happen. It helps to preserve the
effort, keep alive what kinds of
things were done," said Tajima,
who sees many parallels between
the JA internment and what is hap­
pening today with the Muslim and
Arab American communities.

"It really hit me when I saw the
photographs, what they had gone
through.

The efforts of the educators and
the strong desire of the students to
continue their education," said
Kathy Lo, assistant digital archivist
for the project.

"It has relevance to what's hap­
pening today.

Many involved with the JA dig­i­
tal archive are hopeful that the stu­
dents today at Occidental College
will gain insight and an understand­
ing of what took place more than a
half century ago.

"I hope they are able to gain an
understanding, a point of view
regarding people of different eth­
nic groups," said Tajima.

"We hope the students here learn
more about individuals of the same
race," said Stieber.

"What individuals do in times of
crisis; what they can do and advo­
cate for ... that they can build on
the past."