

## Spring Campaign

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COUPON PAGE 2



## Lit by Fire

Chinese Canadian filmmaker Julia Kwan explores religion, immigrant life in 'Eve and the Fire Horse.'

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 9



## To Aspiring Journalists:

Get hands-on training by applying to the *Pacific Citizen's* summer internship.

HOW TO APPLY PAGE 2



Since 1929

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

#3056/ Vol. 142, No. 8 ISSN: 0030-8579

MAY 5-18, 2006

## At Age 92, Painter Jack Suzuki Continues to Inspire



A hobby he picked up after the death of his wife, Suzuki's abstract paintings reveal a hidden talent that has caught the attention of many.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM  
Executive Editor

From his pseudo-art studio nestled in the kitchen of his Denver, Colorado home, artist Jack Suzuki creates colorfully elaborate abstract works whose originality has caught the attention of many in this community.

It's a career the 92-year-old began at the young age of 77.

"I didn't know what a crayola was when I first started," said Suzuki, whose first task was to go out and buy the painting supplies he would need. "But one thing led to another and it became interesting. I kept going and even today I'm still going."

Suzuki was introduced to painting after the death of his wife Aiko in 1991. Soon after her passing, his four sons encouraged him to take up a hobby to occupy his time. He decided on painting.

He soon enrolled in the senior program offered at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center's (UCDHSC) College of Arts & Media. It was the first time he would pick up a paintbrush.

See JACK SUZUKI/Page 3



PHOTOS COURTESY NAKASEC



PHOTO: L. LIN



'We're calling for legalization that is tied to a solution, tied to the backlog [of hopeful immigrants] and tied to civil rights issues and workers rights issues.'

— Eunsook Lee,  
executive director of the  
National Korean American  
Services and Education  
Consortium.

The Korean American community in Los Angeles participated in immigration rights rallies in solidarity with Latino groups (far left) May 1.

## APA Groups Continue to Lend Voices in Immigration Rights Debate

By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor

DOWNTOWN, LOS ANGELES—The national "Day Without An Immigrant" May 1 brought an outpouring of humanity onto the streets of major metropolitan areas. Leaving work and school, a large contingency of immigrants and immigrant rights advocates took to the streets waving the flags of their

See PROTESTS/Page 3

## Legal Immigrants Face Huge Hurdles in Becoming Citizens

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK—When Kshitij Bedi recently marked his fourth wedding anniversary, it wasn't much of a celebration, just a long-distance phone conversation.

That's because the Long Island resident has barely seen his wife Shweta in the past four years. She remains in India, waiting and waiting — and waiting — for the visa that would allow her to join her husband, a legal

See BECOMING CITIZENS/Page 3

## Georgia's South Asian Community Alleges Racial Profiling

A government sting to crack down on illegal drug production turns up an overwhelming number of charges against one ethnic group. Some civil rights groups charge racism.

By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor

Matthew Samuel's work day at Tobacco for Less, a small family-owned cigar shop in Georgia, was

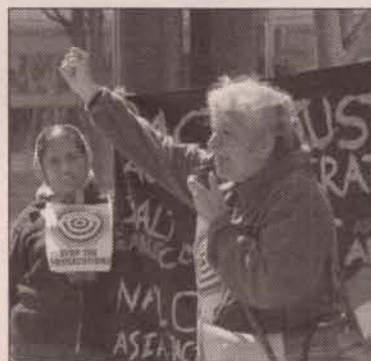


PHOTO: DANIEL BEAR, ACLU

Community members decry racial profiling in a Mar. 15 rally.

business as usual until a customer demanded to buy two cases of ephedrine, a household ingredient popularly used to make methamphetamine. The 23-year-old clerk patiently refused the man while insisting state law rations the purchase of ephedrine to two bottles.

There are signs posted all over the store explaining the law, according to employees. So the customer finally relented, bought his bottles and

See SOUTH ASIAN/Page 12

## JACL Signs Onto Amicus Briefs in Lawsuits Challenging Domestic Spying Program

Lawsuits filed by the ACLU and CCR demand that the Bush Administration cease unwarranted wiretapping of Americans.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM  
Executive Editor

"Japan Pictured As A Nation of Spies." "Japanese Here Sent Vital Data to Tokyo." "The Fifth Column on the Coast." "Suicide Reveals Spy Ring Here."

The weight of the words that blare forth from early 1940s headlines taken from the pages of the *Los Angeles Times* are a chilling reminder of the environment

"If the rights of one group of Americans are threatened, the rights of all of us are threatened. If it's the Arab and Muslim communities today, who will it be tomorrow?"

John Tateishi,  
JACL Executive Director

Japanese Americans experienced pre-World War II when every JA was looked upon as potential spies for Imperialist Japan.

Now replace the country of Japan with the Middle East and insert Muslim and Arab Americans where the word Japanese appears and you will be propelled several decades forward to the current environment that many feel exists in the United States today.

The *New York Times* revealed late last year that the Bush Administration has allowed the National Security Administration (NSA) to conduct warrantless surveillance on Americans since the

See AMICUS BRIEF/Page 6

## Debunking Stereotypes with a Silence, Then Dialogue

Two articles about yellow fever and interracial dating spark Yale APAs to talk about ethnic jokes.

By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor

To be heard they gagged themselves with black cloth. Dressed all in black, Asian Pacific American students at Yale University staged a protest April 20 to demonstrate the effects of a silenced community.

At the center of the protest are two articles in the April edition of



A Yale student demonstrates effects of silence.

*Rumpus*, a student-run university tabloid, which some APAs are calling racist. One article titled "Me

See YALE/Page 6

Phoenix Rising:  
Leadership for a New  
Generation



JACL National Convention  
June 21-24, 2006  
Chandler, Arizona

6  
WEEKS

## IN MEMORIAM Former JACL Pres. Hank Tanaka Passes

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Henry T "Hank" Tanaka, a pioneer in the mental health field and former JACL national president, passed away April 26 at Hillcrest Hospital in Mayfield Heights, Ohio. He was 83.

Tanaka served as the JACL national president from 1983 to

See TANAKA/page 11



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master to include periodicals in  
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## SPRING CAMPAIGN A Labor of Love

By ROGER OZAKI

Greetings and Happy Spring.

This past January, when the  
*Pacific Citizen* board of directors  
attended the annual meeting with  
the *P.C.* staff, Caroline Aoyagi-  
Stom asked the directors to  
volunteer to  
write articles for the Spring  
Campaign fundraiser.

I must admit  
that I am not always the first one to  
volunteer, but the invitation to write  
an article supporting the Spring  
Campaign appealed to me. Of  
course I was aware of the excellent  
credentials of Caroline and Lynda  
Lin, both New California Media  
Award winners and of Gil Asakawa,  
board chair and award winning jour-  
nalist and author of the fabulous  
book, "Being Japanese American."

It was a rainy night in Georgia as  
I gathered my thoughts about writ-  
ing the article supporting the Spring  
Campaign. I was driving from  
Atlanta to south Georgia and  
crossed several rivers — the  
Oconee, the Ohoopie, and the  
Ogeechee. And I realized that my

writing an article for the *P.C.* was a  
labor of love.

Serving as the *P.C.* Eastern  
District Council representative on  
the board has given me much  
insight into how much effort,  
resources, and commitment goes  
into the entire operation of the *P.C.*

The hard-working office manag-  
er, Brian Tanaka, is responsible for  
helping Caroline monitor the annual  
*P.C.* budget and to ensure that all  
expenditures are reasonable and  
within budget. Brian has graciously  
assumed several additional respon-  
sibilities due to staff vacancies, and  
he has done so with a positive atti-  
tude. He maintains the *P.C.* Web  
site. It's like moving from a Model  
A to an SUV. The print edition of the  
*P.C.* is continuing, and Eva Lau-  
Ting, circulation, will be looking for  
better ways to distribute the paper.

Caroline, Lynda, Brian, and Eva  
are the most dedicated, reliable, four  
person newspaper team in the  
United States. They are truly team  
players and keep the big picture in  
mind which is their love for the *P.C.*

John C. Maxwell, author of the  
book, "The 17 Essential Qualities  
Of A Team Player" writes that the  
four qualities of all mission-con-  
scious players are: 1) They know



### Calling All Interns!

Wanted: part-time summer intern for the  
*Pacific Citizen*.

Reward: working with an enthusiastic staff  
and gaining experience in a workplace envi-  
ronment.

The *Pacific Citizen* newspaper, the national  
publication of the Japanese American Citizens  
League, is currently looking for someone to work at its Los  
Angeles office part-time, including some evenings and weekends.

Various duties include reporting, researching, rewriting of press releas-  
es and production duties. Knowledge of the Asian American communi-  
ty and the JACL a plus.

College or grad students currently majoring in English or Journalism  
preferred, but not required. Applicants should also have a California dri-  
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The application deadline is May 22.

If interested, please send a resume and a writing sample to the *Pacific  
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where the team is going. 2) They let  
the leader of the team lead. 3) They  
place team accomplishment ahead  
of their own. 4) They do whatever is  
necessary to achieve the mission.

Without the constant vigilance of  
the *P.C.* team in reporting the news  
throughout the Asian American  
community and beyond, our voices  
and issues would be lost in main-  
stream America. There are incidents  
of racial and ethnic intolerance  
which occur on a daily basis, and  
the *P.C.* is ever vigilant in reporting  
breaking news.

Freedom of the press is guaran-  
teed by the Constitution which  
requires a commitment from the

press to inform and educate every  
generation of Americans and non-  
citizens who live and work in the  
United States.

I applaud the *P.C.* team for all of  
their accomplishments. And now  
the *P.C.* needs your support in mak-  
ing the Spring Campaign 2006 the  
best ever. Be generous and become  
a Wall of Famer for the *P.C.* with a  
donation of \$150 or more. You'll be  
glad that you did.

Thank you for your continuing  
support. ■

Roger Ozaki is the EDC repre-  
sentative for the *P.C.* editorial  
board.

## Letters to the Editor

### A Tribute to Hiromi

Recently, we lost someone who  
was on her way to becoming one  
of the distinguished JACLers in  
the tradition of those who founded  
and have led the organization over  
the years. At age 33, Hiromi Ueha  
had already established herself as  
a great and compassionate leader  
who gave so much of herself.

I'll be the first to admit that I  
didn't take the time to know  
Hiromi as well as I should have.  
She never demanded your atten-  
tion, but she always offered her  
help and led the way to complet-  
ing projects that she thought were  
important.

From her days as a student at  
UC Irvine with the Japanese  
American student club Tomo No  
Kai, Hiromi was active at the dis-  
trict and national levels of JACL.  
She was elected as the National  
Youth/Student Council chair, then  
as SELANOCO chapter president  
and served two terms as PSW dis-  
trict governor.

I think about the last time I saw  
her in person, when she installed  
the board of directors for my chap-  
ter in Riverside, far from her home  
in Irvine. She cheerfully agreed to  
make the trip and I don't remem-  
ber if I had the chance to thank her  
for coming out. I guess I thought  
there was always the next time  
that I could express my apprecia-  
tion.

Her funeral service was attend-  
ed by a large crowd of people and  
Japanese Americans made up only  
a portion of those who honored  
her memory. One insight came  
from her youngest sister, who  
eulogized Hiromi as the big sister  
who took on a bigger role when  
their mother died when Hiromi  
was only 15. Despite their close-  
ness in age, Hiromi took her new  
responsibilities seriously from that

point on.

Hiromi's life and her work will  
live on through all of us whose  
lives she touched and especially  
her son Chandler, a young man of  
15. His life has been shaped in  
such a positive way by his mother.

A trust fund for Chandler has  
been established: Dan Dooros,  
Student Affairs Auxiliary  
Services, 405 Administration,  
Irvine, CA 92697-5180. Checks  
can be made payable to: Hiroshi J.  
Ueha, c/o Chandler Smith.

For more information, go to  
www.jaclpsw.org or call the JACL  
office at 213/626-4471.

Douglas Urata

Via e-mail



Agree?  
Disagree?  
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\* "Voices" reflect the active, public discus-  
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\* "Short expressions" on public issues,  
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phone number. Because of space limita-  
tions, 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.



## PROTESTS

(Continued from page 1)

homeland and the flag of the country they want to continue to call their home.

In downtown Los Angeles people draped their bodies in the American flag and families proudly accessorized in red, white and blue. Japanese-themed stores and restaurants closed their doors in observance of the events. The afternoon rally was one of two scheduled events to pressure Congress for fair immigration reform.

Amidst the throngs of people also waving Mexican flags, Asian Pacific American groups also took part in the national May Day rallies. Many did not want lawmakers to forget that immigration reform directly affects the APA communities too.

"We are not calling for legalization just for the sake of legalization. We're calling for legalization that is tied to a solution, tied to the backlog [of hopeful immigrants] and tied to civil rights issues and workers rights issues," said Eunsook Lee, executive director of the National Korean American Services and Education Consortium (NAKASEC).

NAKASEC and the Korean Resource Center are part of the Multi-Ethnic Immigrant Organizing Network, a coalition of organizations that represent low-wage workers and acted as the steering community for the rallies in many major cities. Fighting for immigrants rights to benefits has "been part of a long trajectory" for the organization.

Over 70 percent of the Korean American community are recent immigrants who are directly

impacted by immigration policy. Of that, 18 percent of individuals are undocumented due to large backlogs of families waiting to be reunited. It's because of the backlog that forces many to make drastic decisions to immigrate illegally, said Lee.

At the evening rally in Los Angeles' MacArthur Park, a Korean American speaker talked about having a young family member grow up without a mother, who has been waiting decades in Korea to see her daughter again.

"You have to make difficult choices. The legal system doesn't work as it is and we need to fix the problem comprehensively," said Lee.

Some critics even within the APA communities argue that their struggles to legally gain access to the American dream have been dwarfed by illegal immigrants, who they see as "cutting in line." But Lee argues that right now undocumented workers don't even have access to the line.

"We're not saying one is more important than another ... those who are waiting in line will still be the first in the line, but for [undocumented immigrants] there has to be a line or access point," she said.

The presence of the Filipino American community in MacArthur Park showed another nuance to the immigration debate.

Most Filipino Americans immigrate legally through work visas, but much of the undocumented are made up of those who overstay their visas and are forced to take low wage jobs, said Michael Sarmiento of Pilipino Workers Center.

"We wanted to stand in solidarity

with our brothers and sisters," said Sarmiento.

A House-passed anti-immigration bill, HR 4437, the "Border Protection, Antiterrorism and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005" also known as the Sensenbrenner-King Bill being considered by the Senate has been the focal point of protest. The bill proposed to crack down on illegal immigration and promote national security, and if passed, would make felons out of illegal immigrants, criminalize those who help them and build a 700-mile fence along the U.S.-Mexico border.

At the San Jose, Calif. rally, Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif., urged lawmakers to listen to the national cry for immigration reform.

"If America is to remain prosperous and globally competitive, we must quickly repair our fundamentally broken immigration system while ensuring the integrity and security of our national borders," said Honda in a statement. "This means comprehensive reform that unites families separated by overly restrictive laws, provides a path to citizenship for hard-working, law-abiding immigrants and maintains America's historic commitment to civil rights for all."

A day after the May 1 rallies, NAKASEC along with other organizations including the JACL, are

"We wanted to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters."

— Michael Sarmiento, Pilipino Workers Center



PHOTO COURTESY NAKASEC

Traditional Korean drums ushered in tidings of protest in L.A.

moving quickly to continue to "show the power and presence of the immigrant communities," said Lee. They are working to solidify a "super coalition" to continue to put pressure on Congress.

A national Mother's Day event to reunite families of U.S. citizens and efforts to strengthen the immigrant vote for the June primary election and subsequent November general elections is scheduled. ■

## BECOMING CITIZENS

(Continued from page 1)

permanent resident, in the United States.

Bedi filed for his wife's visa in April 2002, less than three weeks after their wedding. He tries to visit India as much as possible, but for all intents and purposes, "I've been a bachelor since then."

"There's nothing we can do," he said. "We're so helpless."

In all the recent talk about immigration reform, most of the focus has been on the millions of people who are in the United States illegally. But part of the problem, legal experts and immigrant advocates say, is a complicated legal immigration system in which demand outstrips supply on an astronomical level, leading to waits that can span more than a decade.

And that's for the ones who fit into the complicated eligibility categories to apply to move here.

The ones who don't?

Forget it, experts say.

"For the vast majority of people who would like to move to the United States, there is no line to get on," said Julie Dinerstein, deputy director of immigration advocacy and training for the New York Immigration Coalition.

"People aren't choosing to walk through the desert, they're doing that because the front door is closed," said Benjamin Johnson, director of the Immigration Policy Center at the American Immigration Law Foundation. "The only way to get in is the back door."

In general, there are four ways foreigners can get permission to move to the U.S. They can be sponsored by an American citizen relative, or in some cases, a legal

resident relative; they can be sponsored by an employer; they can claim refugee or asylum status; or they can win a visa lottery.

But each one of the categories has specifications and limitations. For American citizens, their spouses, parents, and unmarried children under 18 years old don't have to wait, and can get immediate visas. But any married children or adult siblings have to get in line, and other relations, like cousins, can't be sponsored. Legal permanent residents, like Bedi, can only sponsor spouses or unmarried children, not other relatives.

Some people also try to get here by applying for some kind of refugee or asylum status, which entails proving that they'll face persecution should they stay in their home countries. And a group can get here by winning a visa in the lottery, which is only for residents of countries that aren't already sending large numbers of people here. About 50,000 diversity visas are given out each year.

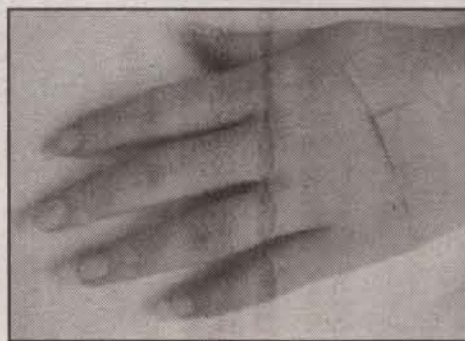
But those totals don't even come near to accommodating the millions of people who want to come here, and hence the massive backlogs. Those backlogs can be even longer in countries like China, India, Mexico and the Philippines, which have among the largest number of people applying for the visas.

The numbers of visas given out is set by Congress; the last adjustment of the formula was more than a decade ago.

The basic framework, that all countries get the same number of visas, was put into place through the Immigration and Natural Services Act of 1965.

Some say it's time to change the law, allowing more people to come here legally and easing problems with illegal migration. ■

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## JACK SUZUKI

(Continued from page 1)

Suzuki began with the basics of the art form but eventually moved onto the abstract painting style, ultimately developing an original style of his own. He credits painters Hans Hoffmann and Wassily Kandinsky as his favorites but emphasizes that his works are not influenced by any particular artist.

"I never look at references," said Suzuki, who does not have a particular strategy or method he relies on for his ideas. "I just sit down and do it. It's like writing a letter."

A few years ago, the Auraria Library at the university noticed Suzuki's paintings and asked to display his works for an Asian arts show the school was holding at the time. The library was so impressed with his paintings that they asked Suzuki if they could permanently display his work. Today over 40 paintings hang on the library walls and Suzuki is constantly adding to the display.

"His work is honest. He has a very spiritual approach to his work. He finds metaphors about life in his paintings," said Vivian George, a UCDHSC visual arts instructor who has taught Suzuki for the past eight years. "He's really dogged about his work and it comes across. His work is very genuine and people relate to that."

Suzuki was born in the small town of Riverside located close to Sacramento, Calif. and attended Fresno State University. During World War II he served in the Military Intelligence Service and ended up in Denver,

Colorado after the war, a place he continues to call home.

Suzuki and his wife ran a grocery store for more than four decades but since her death in the early 90s he has devoted his energies full-time to painting. Twice a week he attends art classes at UCDHSC and he spends the rest of his time working on his paintings.

On most mornings he sets up his 49-by-60 cm canvas and oil paintings in his kitchen taking only about 10 days to complete each piece of work. He has so many paintings now that he has them in stacks around the house.

Although Suzuki has on occasion given paintings away to family and friends, he has yet to sell a painting, something he says was never his intention. But his family and friends continue to encourage his talent.

"You know how kids are, they never praise anything. But secretly I think they admire my effort," said Suzuki of his kids. He describes the comments he has received from his friends as "very favorable."

Suzuki has also displayed his works at the Denver Press Club and the Courtyard Marriott.

Although many continue to be impressed with his energy and talent, Suzuki remains humble and reluctant to talk too profusely about his "hobby."

"I don't know if I'm an inspiration. It's just something a guy does," he said.

"For the other college students he's a strong presence," said George. "His fellow students are in awe of him. They have great respect for him." ■



# National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

## APA Leaders Call Carolla Out on His Radio Show

LOS ANGELES—Heavily criticized radio show host Adam Carolla invited leaders of APIA Alliance onto his show April 26 to talk about recent accusations of racism.



Media Action Network for Asian Americans' Guy Aoki and Teddy Zee, co-chair of the Asian Excellence Awards, confronted Carolla for a Jan. 24 segment that mocked the awards show. Aoki also called Carolla out on his frequent use of the words "Chinaman" and "gook" on his show on 97.1 Free FM as well as on his former show, "Loveline."

Carolla made an on-air apology Feb. 22. While talking with Aoki and Zee, he maintained he is not racist. He ended the show by saying he would "try my best" not to use offensive terms.

In early April, the APIA Alliance met with CBS executives to talk about the dangers of ethnic stereotypes and humor.

## Adidas Pulls Controversial Sneaker with Asian Caricature



PORTLAND—Adidas Group has halted sales of a limited-edition sneaker that features a caricature some APAs found offensive.

The Y1-Huf, a \$250 sneaker designed by Barry McGee, a San Francisco graffiti artist, featured an Asian face with slanted eyes, buckteeth and a bowl haircut. The caricature is a design that McGee, who is

half Asian, has used before and was meant as a representation of himself, he told the P.C. last month.

The German company with North American headquarters in Oregon made the announcement late last month after many APAs complained.

## City Signs a Pact with Developers to Preserve San Francisco's Japantown

SAN FRANCISCO—City officials have reached a pact with developers to preserve the cultural character of two Japantown malls and a hotel whose sale had the local JA community worried about one of the nation's last ethnic enclaves of its kind.

Mayor Gavin Newsom's office finalized a covenant late last month with Beverly Hills-based 3D Investments to have the developers retain ownership of the Kintetsu and Miyako malls for 15 years while striving to maintain Japanese-themed stores and allow the community to use the malls for annual celebrations. The covenant also requires developers to maintain the Japanese character of the Radisson Miyako Hotel. The deal does not cover the Miyako Inn. ■

## APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

## Downtown JACL to Honor Prominent JA Women

Downtown Los Angeles JACL along with Southern California Japanese Women's Society will be honoring the achievements of four women of the year.

Classical Japanese dancer **Bando Mitsuhiro**, Retired teacher **Takako Osumi**, Rev. **KarenFay Ramos-Young** and **Helene Mieko (Kamiya) Shimane**, a proud promoter of Okinawan culture, will be honored at the May 7 luncheon at Los Angeles' Little Tokyo New Otani Hotel.

## JA Elected Commissioner to L.A. Superior Court

Los Angeles attorney **Paul Ted Suzuki** has been elected commissioner of the Los Angeles Superior Court. Suzuki, along with two others, were elected to succeed a retiring commissioner.

Suzuki, 58, who is an East Los Angeles native, is expected to take the bench June 1.

## JA Appointed as President of Alumni Association



**Yuki Moore Laurenti** was appointed president of the Harvard Alumni Association for the 2005-06 academic year. Laurenti, a 1979 graduate, presides over the three regular HAA directors' meeting held during the current academic year.

A native of Princeton, New Jersey, she is the daughter of an African American letter carrier and a second generation Japanese American "social worker turned caterer."

The aim of the HAA is to keep the university and its alumni linked together.

## Central Valley Honors Local Heroes

Five individuals from Calif.'s Central Valley were recognized at the fifth "Asian Pacific American Heritage Local Hero Awards" ceremony, May 2.

The honorees were: **Dr. Jasbir Kang**, **Mele Leger**, **Steve Ly**, **Wayne Maeda** and **Doug Yee**, DDS. ■

# JACL Announces Edison Uno and JA of the Biennium Awards

**Sandra Tanamachi is recognized for her civil rights works and Cedar Grove Productions is feted for their films that highlight the JA community's story.**

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The JACL has selected Sandra Tanamachi as the recipient of this year's Edison Uno Memorial Civil Rights Award, an award presented to civil rights organizations or individuals for outstanding contributions and leadership in the field of civil rights. For over twelve years, Tanamachi led the effort to change the names of "Jap Road" and "Jap Lane" in her home state of Texas.



TANAMACHI

Cedar Grove Productions founders Chris Tashima and Tim Toyama are this year's recipients of the Japanese Americans of the Biennium Award. Academy Award winners Tashima and Toyama were selected for their excellent work in the category of "Arts, Literature, and Communications." They were also recently nominated for a

Daytime Emmy award for their film, "Day of Independence."

## Sandra Tanamachi

Tanamachi first began her twelve-year effort to rename "Jap Road" and "Jap Lane" in her home state while living in Beaumont, Texas. In addition to contacting local community members, she spoke with the various commissioners and kept the press apprised of her efforts.

In 2001, with encouragement from Thomas Kuwahara, a native of Hawaii, living in Louisiana, Sandra formed the Committee to Change "Jap Road." In December, 2003 the Committee announced a petition was being sent to the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Department of Housing Development (HUD), signed by several civil rights organizations including the JACL.

In 2004, Tanamachi would see her hard work pay off with the Jefferson County Commissioners voting to rename its "Jap Road." In September of that year Fort Bend County also changed the name of their "Jap Road." In 2005, the Orange County Commissioners changed the name of "Jap Lane."

With the Edison Uno Memorial Award the JACL recognizes Tanamachi's dedication, leadership and tenacity in pursuing her goals to erase discriminatory road names.

## Chris Tashima & Tim Toyama

Founded in 1996, Cedar Grove Productions is the independent production company which first brought the heroic saga of Holocaust rescuer Chiune Sugihara to American and International movie audiences with the 1997 Academy Award winning dramatic short film, "Visas and Virtue." They remain dedicated to developing projects which boldly defy mainstream Hollywood by giving Asian Americans the spotlight on stage, or the close-up on screen.

Their latest work is "Day of Independence" which has won numerous honors at many U.S. and International Film Festivals, and is nominated for the 2006 Northern California Emmy award under the Historical/Cultural category. This dramatic film, set in a JA internment camp during World War II, explores one family's experience and examines the sacrifices and triumphs of those who endured and survived through perseverance, courage, and the all-American game of baseball.

With the JA of the Biennium Award the JACL recognizes Tashima and Toyama for their excellence in filmmaking and their commitment to the AA communities.

Both the Edison Uno and JA of the Biennium awards will be presented at the upcoming JACL national biennial convention in Chandler, Arizona June 21-24. ■

# Nisei Veterans to Host 2006 Memorial Day Event

Various Japanese American war veterans groups will gather together May 27 for a Memorial Day Service to honor Japanese Americans killed in action during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Grenada, and Iraq.

Taking part in the event will be the Japanese American Korean War Veterans, the Japanese American Vietnam Veterans and the Americans of Japanese Ancestry World War II Memorial Alliance.

At the Japanese American National War Memorial Court in Little Tokyo, there are 248 names of JAs killed in the Korean War, 819

names of the WWII KIAs, and 115 names of JAs killed in the Vietnam War. In addition, there were five Japanese in the U.S. Navy who were killed on the USS Maine in February 1898, one JA was killed in action in Grenada, and three JAs died in Iraq. A monument is to be built with their names and added to the Memorial Court.

Frank Takeyama (JAKWV) will chair the event and Ken Hayashi (JAVNV) will give the Memorial Day message. Participating in the program will be Gold Star mothers from the Korean War, Vietnam War, and Iraqi War as well as a represen-

tative for Gold Star Mothers of WWII.

All those representing KIAs, veterans groups and communities should call 310/532-2495 to confirm attendance.

The Memorial Day Service program on May 27 will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Japanese American National War Memorial court, JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, 90012.

For more information contact: Frank Takeyama 310/329-9469, Sam Shimoguchi 310/822-6688, or Victor Muraoka 818/368-4113. ■

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• TED NAMBA •

## Early Bird Registration Deadline Extended to May 31



Convention is approaching quickly so get ready for a very special event! Not surprisingly, there are changes in convention plans since our registration forms were printed. Let me share some of this new information with you.

First, our convention committee has extended the early bird registration deadline to May 31. This date coincides with the deadline for room reservations at the Wild Horse Pass Resort. If any JACler has difficulty making their room reservations at the resort, please call Eric Garcia who works at "In House" reservations at 520/796-8278, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (PST).

Next, the registration brochure recommends that seniors ask to stay in the Pima wing of the resort to minimize walking to convention activities. This will no longer be possible as the entire Pima wing will be closed for remodeling during convention.

Resort management just informed us that although the resort is just three and a half years old, they are strongly attempting to jump from their current 4 star/4 diamond status to 5 star/5 diamond status. Therefore, they will soon begin a remodel of every bathroom in the resort (my daughter already thought the bathrooms at this resort were very nice).

We will all now be in the Maricopa wing and would like to recommend that seniors interested in minimizing walking ask for a

room on the third floor, near the lobby.

There will be a unique feel at this convention as JACL 2006 will be the only conference that will be held at the resort during that week. We have now been given 19 of the 20 conference rooms available at the resort.



The exhibits will be held in the beautiful Akimel 1 and 2 banquet rooms and the latest exhibit vendor signed up today will sell various arts and crafts made by the children of the Gila River Indian

Community (all proceeds benefit their school). Also, we are arranging special tours of this unique resort with Ginger Sunbird Martin, Cultural Theme manager at Wild Horse Pass Resort.

Finally, everyone who registers for convention will receive either an e-mail or regular mail questionnaire regarding convention. It will inquire whether you will attend each event (so we don't waste meals), inform you of changes in workshops offered, see if you would be interested in going out to the reservation to see the Gila Monument after the dedication ceremony on June 25, etc.

Please help our registration co-chairs, Joyce Shiota and Seiko Watkins when you receive this questionnaire by responding promptly. Thank you!

See you at convention! ■

*Ted Namba is the chairperson of the 2006 national JACL convention in Arizona.*

## TLC to Purchase Historic Joy Kogawa House

The Land Conservancy of British Columbia (TLC) announced April 28 that it is moving forward with the purchase of the historic Joy Kogawa House in Vancouver and will prevent its demolition.

"While we still need to raise more funds to purchase and operate the house, our 'option to purchase' expires this weekend," said TLC Executive Director Bill Turner. "We are out of time. So TLC has decided to step forward, and take out a mortgage if necessary, to make sure that this important piece of our country's heritage will not be lost."

Turner said that by exercising the option to purchase, it will put the future of Kogawa House under the control of TLC and the community. This, in effect, will take away the threat of imminent redevelopment.

The house had been the subject of a development proposal, and a demolition permit had been requested. The City of Vancouver put that request on hold for three months in order to allow TLC and the Save Kogawa House Committee the time to raise funds to purchase the property.

To date \$230,000 has been raised from over 500 donors. TLC needs \$700,000 specifically to purchase the house and is seeking a total of

\$1.25 million which includes funds for restoration and for an endowment to allow the house to be used both as an educational site addressing the issue of the internment of Canadians of Japanese heritage during World War II and as a site for a 'Writers-in-Residence' program.

"We are confident that, given enough time, we will be able to raise the necessary funds for this project," said Turner. "We have requests in to the City of Vancouver and to the Government of Canada, as well as to many other potential donors, and we remain optimistic that their support for this important project will be forthcoming. In the meantime, TLC is prepared to take on the risk and protect the site."

Noted Canadian Author Joy Kogawa was overwhelmed when told the news that her childhood home would not be demolished. "Words can't express how much this means to me," she said. "This is definitely a miracle. What a won-



PHOTO: DAN TOULGOET

Author Joy Kogawa recalls fond memories of her childhood home (in background).

derful new day!"

Turner said that TLC would be exercising the option to purchase and that the purchase will close at the end of May. During that time, TLC encourages those who want to help protect this important part of Canadian heritage to make their donation as soon as possible.

Donations can be made to TLC at 604/733-2313 or online at [www.conservancy.bc.ca](http://www.conservancy.bc.ca). ■

## Deadline Closing In for Tule Lake Pilgrimage

The Tule Lake Pilgrimage Committee reminds those who wish to attend the 2006 Pilgrimage, not to delay sending in their registrations. The deadline to register is May 31, and this year, space is limited to 300 persons. On June 1, the registration fee increases to \$435 for all categories of registrants.

"Already, we have received registrations for nearly one-third of the spaces," said Hiroshi Shimizu, coordinator of the bi-annual Tule Lake pilgrimage. "We urge those who want to attend — do not to delay sending in your registration forms. We don't want to turn anyone away, but we are limited by the amount of space at OIT, [the Oregon Technical Institute] where the pilgrimage activities are based."

The Pilgrimage 2006, "Dignity and Survival in a Divided Community," will examine stories of Japanese American dissenters who said "No" to America's demand that they prove loyalty, and the loyalty/disloyalty paradigm that led to half a century of marginalizing those who gave up their seemingly worthless U.S. citizenship.

The registration fee is \$385 per person; for those on low or fixed incomes, the fee is \$300. On June 1, the fee increases to \$435. This fee is all-inclusive, and covers transportation, housing, all meals, workshops, excursions, and the pilgrimage's cultural program at the Ross Ragland Theater.

Pilgrimage activities include a tour of the Tule Lake campsite and a

memorial service at the cemetery on the campgrounds. A panel of internees will discuss their decisions to say "No" to the loyalty questionnaire and to renounce their U.S. citizenship, stories that have been erased from a JA narrative that labeled them as disloyal for their protest.

Two films about people in Tule Lake who renounced their U.S. citizenship are scheduled. "From a Silk Cocoon," a film made by psychotherapist and filmmaker Satsuki Ina, who was born in the Segregation Center, will be screened as part of the opening night ceremonies. The film explores her family's life in the Segregation Center, questioning a future in a country that did not want them, and their decision to renounce their U.S. citizenship.

Manhattan-based filmmaker, Linda Hattendorf created "The Cats of Mirikitani," a story about her post-9-11 evolving friendship with street-artist Jimmy Mirikitani, a WWII Tule Lake detainee and renunciant; both plan to attend the pilgrimage for the film's first West Coast showing.

Intergenerational discussion groups provide an occasion to share experiences and help heal the wounds of the incarceration experience. The cultural program of music, dance and spoken-word is open to the public and will be held at the Ross Ragland Theater in downtown Klamath Falls.

The 2006 pilgrimage will also celebrate the recent designation of the Tule Lake Segregation Center site as a National Historic Landmark. A dedication ceremony will be held July 3 as part of the evening of cultural performances at the Ross Ragland Theater.

Registration forms are available from the contact persons listed below or may be downloaded from the Tule Lake website [www.tule-lake.org](http://www.tule-lake.org). For more information, contact: San Francisco-Hiroshi Shimizu, [hshimizu@pacbell.net](mailto:hshimizu@pacbell.net), 415/566-2279; San Jose-Jimi Yamaichi, [jimiyama@aol.com](mailto:jimiyama@aol.com), 408/269-9458; Sacramento-Grace Kajita, [tule-lake@att.net](mailto:tule-lake@att.net), 916/392-5416; Seattle-Stan Shikuma, [sktaiko1@mac.com](mailto:sktaiko1@mac.com), 206/919-1465; Los Angeles-Sharon Yamato, [syamato@comcast.net](mailto:syamato@comcast.net), 310/578-0090; Japan-Sachiko Takita, [stakita@yokohama-cu.ac.jp](mailto:stakita@yokohama-cu.ac.jp), 045-787-2099. ■

### Convention Registration Form

(Return with payment)

|                          |  |   |   |     |
|--------------------------|--|---|---|-----|
| Name<br>(Please print)   | Last                                     | First                                   | MI  | Age |
| Address                  |  |   |   |     |
| City                     |  |   |   |     |
| State                    |  |   |   |     |
| Zip Code                 |  |   |   |     |
| Daytime Telephone Number |  |   |   |     |
| Evening Telephone Number |  |   |   |     |
| E-mail address           |  |   |   |     |
| Chapter                  |  |   |   |     |
| Category                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate        | <input type="checkbox"/> Booster        | <input type="checkbox"/> Millennium Club      |     |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate       | <input type="checkbox"/> 1000 Club      | <input type="checkbox"/> National Board/Staff |     |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth           | <input type="checkbox"/> 1000 Club Life | <input type="checkbox"/> Masaoka Fellow       |     |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |   |   |     |

Mail Check and this form together to: JACL 2006 - Registration  
P.O. Box 3455  
Phoenix, AZ 85030-3455

Make check payable to JACL 2006

To pay by charge card, fill out credit card information below  
and mail to above address:  
(Print legibly)

|                   |                                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cardholder's Name | MasterCard or Visa (circle one) |
| Account Number    |                                 |
| Expiration Date   |                                 |
| Signature         |                                 |

Note: Registration will not be processed without accompanying payment (check or charge card). This form is for convention registration only and NOT for hotel reservations, which should be made directly with the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Spa and Resort at Gila River, Phoenix, Arizona. If you are registering for more than one person, please use additional forms or copies.

### Registration Fees

#### CONVENTION PACKAGE REGISTRATION (includes Individual Events listed below)

|  | Before 5/31 | After 5/31 |    |
|--|-------------|------------|----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Package | \$225       | \$250      | \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Package   | \$115       | \$125      | \$ |

(A reduced registration fee for Youth/Students who are 25 years of age or younger or currently enrolled in a college, trade school or university. Youth Package includes all of the events in the Regular Convention Package.)

#### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (all included in package registration)

|   |       |       |    |
|---|-------|-------|----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops        | \$25  | \$30  | \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Mixer    | \$50  | \$60  | \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awards Luncheon  | \$50  | \$60  | \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sayonara Banquet | \$100 | \$110 | \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Luncheon   | \$50  | \$60  | \$ |

#### SPECIAL EVENTS (not included in Regular Package Registration)

|   |      |      |    |
|---|------|------|----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camp Dance Dinner & Show | \$85 | \$95 | \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camp Dance Show Only     | \$25 | \$30 | \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Tournament          | \$75 | \$85 | \$ |

(Join the AZ Nikkei Golf Club at the Whirlwind Golf Course on June 25, 2006)



|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Convention Package | \$ |
| Individual Events  | \$ |
| Special Events     | \$ |
| Total              | \$ |

Early Bird Registration Deadline: May 31

### HOTEL INFORMATION:

Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort and Spa  
(800) 325-3535  
\$95/night, mention JACL National Convention  
R.S.V.P by May 31



## YALE

(Continued from page 1)

Love You Long Time" takes the old yellow fever formula — Caucasian man plus Asian woman — and, in one instance, uses anonymous quotes to compare APA females to SARS ("because they take my breath away"). The controversial article is accompanied with a picture of a semi-nude man pouring rice in his mouth.

The other article, "Miscegenation Station," takes swipes at Asian men's poor dating prowess.

"Taking a girl to play Dance Dance Revolution is not sexy," wrote Kai Thaler, who also mentions African American women's "purple vaginas" in the article about interracial dating.

In the following days students complained, bloggers debated the appropriateness of racial humor and the dean of undergraduate admission blasted the articles as "puerile stereotypes."

*Rumpus* has since issued an apology while underscoring its mission to be ironic and absurd. "This is a social debate," the publication's editorial board said in a statement.

For Yale seniors Christine Hung and Annette Wong, it was indeed a social issue that needed to be aired out. This latest racial incident signified a full circle of events for Wong, who arrived at Yale when the United States was teetering on the brink of

war with Iraq for the second time. Back then, political tension lead to protests and eventually hateful acts.

"Things were happening on campus that you wouldn't think would happen at Yale," she said.

Four years later, Wong was frustrated to see the underlining tensions still bubbling at the surface. Two other Yale newspapers also drew criticism this year for their alleged stereotypical depictions of APAs. The *Rumpus* articles were the last straw for Hung and Wong who wrote a guest column in the "Yale Daily News" condemning the articles' "blatantly uninformed generalizations about minority communities."

Like most cases dealing with free speech, outrage was met with disdain.

"There was this general notion for Asian Americans to chill out," said Wong. "It signals to a general unawareness that things like this really do affect people and to the lack of awareness of racialization. There is a history of 'othering' and thinking Asian Americans are the passive minorities. We have to say, 'No. We will make a fuss.'"

Lead by the Asian American Student Alliance (AASA), an umbrella organization for APA groups on campus, students of diverse ethnic backgrounds protested and hosted a forum with newspaper editors to discuss issues of race.

"It's saddening that these articles are using tired tropes of racial



PHOTO COURTESY ANNETTE WONG

**It's NOT FUNNY:** Yalies talk racial humor and stereotyping April 29.

humor," said Hung. "Personally, the problem isn't so much [*Rumpus*] making fun of Asian Americans along with other groups. It's that they are not realistic depictions of Asian Americans, so it's easier to misconstrue these stereotypes as truth."

At the April 20 forum, editors of *Rumpus* and the *Yale Herald* listened to feedback and explained their positions, said Wong, who added it was the first time an open dialogue about race was fostered on campus. Another forum April 29 continued the discussion, which many hope will be ongoing.

"This is not just a phenomenon that has happened this year. The school does not have an institution-

al memory," said Hung. "To me it's notable how the same stereotype gets repeated."

Racial humor and stereotyping have become a part of the college life and are not confined to the Yale campus, according to Don T. Nakanishi, director of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"It is widespread and has a long legacy in American society and culture. Making fun of and taunting Asian Americans happens from K-12 to mass media and the general public," he said in an e-mail to the *Pacific Citizen*.

In 1967, classmates with water balloons bombarded Nakanishi, then a freshman at Yale. The date

was Dec. 7, the day Pearl Harbor was bombed and the day that changed the course of many Japanese American lives. Two years later, he helped establish the university's AASA with the goal to debunk myths and stereotypes.

"As a field we have done some important work along these lines, but there is so much more to do," said Nakanishi.

Next year, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center will host an exhibit that explores 100 years of APA racial stereotypes and images in performance arts.

At Yale, the controversies have opened an avenue for dialogue, a goal both Hung and Wong hope to achieve before they graduate this year.

Brian Hauss, the author of "Me Love You Long Time," told the *P.C.* he was trying to poke fun at some of the responses he collected while researching the yellow fever topic.

"Unfortunately I failed to evoke the irony I intended in my writing, and as a result of poor journalism and bad writing on my part, a lot of people were understandably hurt and offended," said Hauss, who publicly apologized at the forum.

In the aftermath of the controversies, he said the dialogue is flowing.

"I hope it will improve everyone's understanding of both racial and media issues on campus," said Hauss. "It certainly has raised my awareness." ■

## AMICUS BRIEF

(Continued from page 1)

tragic Sept. 11 attacks of 2001, especially on those who have been in contact with Muslim persons and Middle East countries. In response to the disconcerting disclosure, several groups and individuals have raised their voices in protest charging the White House with violating the constitutional rights of privacy and free speech of Americans and violating FISA (Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act) rules.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) have filed lawsuits challenging the NSA's current domestic surveillance program and are calling for the immediate dissolution of the NSA. And recently several civil rights groups, including the JACL, and business leaders have thrown their support behind the lawsuits signing onto amicus briefs. Joining JACL are: the NAACP, American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ), and the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF).

"The JACL can't stand idly by without considering the profound impact of the issue of domestic surveillance on the rights of citizens, especially in light of the years of surveillance placed upon the Japanese American communities prior to the outbreak of war with Japan," said John Tateishi, JACL executive director. "The sweep and arrest of Issei leaders didn't make this country any safer, and one has to wonder if the current policies of this administration has a basis in fact."

"During World War II, a misguided case was made that the pool of potential spies for Japan who might cause horrific damage to our country were limited to people of Japanese descent," said Laila Al-Qatami, ADC communications director. "Thus, focusing on Arabs and Arab Americans not only flies against our constitutional dedication to equality under the law, but it is also 'dumb' law enforcement and retroactive thinking."

No JA was ever charged with and convicted of spying for Japan prior to or during WWII. But throughout the years leading up to and during the war several newspapers and rhetoric from national leaders and military officers vocally accused members of the JA community with spying for their ancestral home.

The accusations and vitriol would ultimately lead to the internment of 110,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast, most of them U.S. citizens.

In the ongoing debate on the war against terrorism the experiences of the JA community has often been referred to again and again in protesting the Bush Administration's handling of those from the Muslim and Arab American communities.

"Japanese Americans of the World War II era were unjustly painted with a broad brush of suspicion; the same thing is happening to Arab Americans and Muslims today," said Shayana Kadidal, CCR staff attorney.

"We've been through this, we know the devastation it causes to families and communities, especially when such action is taken without substantial evidence of the need to do so. We know too well that if you threaten the rights of one group of citizens, it threatens the rights of all Americans," said Tateishi.

The ACLU lawsuit (*ACLU vs. NSA*) and the CCR lawsuit (*CCR vs. Bush*) both accuse the White House of warrantless eavesdropping and monitoring of phone calls and e-mails of Americans, including U.S. citizens. They argue that the U.S. government is violating FISA rules established in 1978 which requires the government to head to a FISA court for a warrant within 72 hours of setting up a domestic wiretap.

The amicus briefs filed on behalf of the civil rights organizations note how previous administrations have used domestic spying tactics to deliberately intimidate and monitor civil rights leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and wholesale groups of individuals such as the JA community pre-WWII.

"Throughout history, whenever we have allowed the executive to conduct surveillance without a war-

rant — without proving probable cause for suspicion to a judge — we've seen both things happen: minority groups become targets because of the prejudices of law enforcement, and in the end following those prejudices proves to be a waste of law enforcement resources as well as a national disgrace," said Kadidal.

The Bush Administration has been candid about their current domestic surveillance program. The administration argues that Bush's constitutional powers as the president and a congressional resolution passed shortly after the 2001 terrorist attacks give him the legal authority for the current wiretap program. And on April 6 Attorney General Alberto Gonzales did not rule out the possibility of warrantless surveillance on domestic calls of Americans in congressional testimony.

Since the Bush ordered surveillance was revealed, several corporations and their handover of confidential client information has been exposed in the media, including companies like AT&T, Yahoo!,

AOL, and MSN. CCR recently filed a class action lawsuit against AT&T accusing the company of housing secret spying rooms to gather electronic client data.

The Justice Department is expected to file a response to both the ACLU and CCR lawsuits May 19. Oral arguments are set for June 12.

"Today's NSA program is already proving to be inefficient and ineffective ... It remains to be seen who

they were listening in on, but if history is any guide, it will turn out to be people selected for the worst of reasons: because of their ethnicity, national origin, or political beliefs," said Kadidal.

"If the rights of one group of Americans are threatened, the rights of all of us are threatened," said Tateishi. "If it's the Arab and Muslim communities today, who will it be tomorrow?" ■

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Papeete, Raiatea, Tahiti, Bora Bora, Moorea. RADISSON'S PAUL GAUGUIN
- AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND HOLIDAY TOUR** NOV 1-18  
Cairns, Great Barrier Reef, Sydney, Melbourne, Christchurch, Mt. Cook, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Rotorua, Auckland.
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- Oct. 29 **Fall Japan Classic "Fall Foliage"** - 11 Day - 24 Meals - \$3295  
Tokyo, Takayama, Nara, Kobe, Takahashi, Miyajima, Hiroshima, Inland Sea Cruise, Shodo Island & Kyoto.
- Nov. 9 **Okinawa, Kyushu & Shikoku** - 12 Day - 28 Meals - \$3695 - 3 Days Okinawa - Karatsu - Nagasaki - Unzen - Kumamoto - Beppu - Kyushu - Ashizuri - Kochi - Takamatsu, Shikoku & Osaka.
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## BASEBALL

### South Korean Lee Right at Home on Japan's Team

TOKYO—Lee Seung-yeop is having no trouble adjusting to what is easily the toughest job in Japanese baseball: batting fourth for the Yomiuri Giants.

Lee went into an April 30 game against the Chunichi Dragons with a .309 batting average, five homers, 18 RBIs and a Central League-leading 23 runs scored.

The South Korean slugger signed with the Giants in the offseason after failing to get enough playing time last season for the Chiba Lotte Marines under Bobby Valentine.

Lee declined to comment on his reasons for leaving the Marines.

"All I'm thinking about now is putting up some good numbers and helping this team win a championship," Lee said. "We're off to a good start and hopefully we can keep it going."

Batting cleanup for the Giants carries a lot more weight than hitting fourth for other teams in Japan. The Giants are Japan's most popular team and the highly-coveted fourth spot is normally reserved for home-grown talent.

Previous occupants have included Sadaharu Oh, Shigeo Nagashima and Hideki Matsui. Foreign players have batted fourth for the Giants in the past but few have lasted more than one season.



Lee Seung-yeop broke Sadaharu Oh's Asian record of 55 homers with 57 in 2003.

Other prominent foreign players who have batted cleanup for the Giants over the years include Roberto Petagine, Shane Mack, Phil Bradley, Lloyd Moseby and Reggie Smith.

The Giants, who haven't won a Japan Series since 2002, couldn't be happier with Lee's seamless transition to the new job. The team is in first place with a 17-6-2 record and is off to one of its best starts in the last 10 years.

Lee arrived at the Giants with an impressive resume.

In 2003, he hit 56 homers for the Samsung Lions in the Korean League, surpassing Oh's mark of 55

and setting a new Asian record for the most home runs in a single season.

In nine seasons in Korea, Lee had a career .350 batting average, 324 homers and 948 RBIs, while earning the nickname Lion King.

His numbers in two seasons with the Lotte Marines were equally impressive — 44 homers, 132 RBIs — but he wasn't playing everyday and sought a regular job with another team.

Lee led South Korea to the semifinals of the inaugural World Baseball Classic in March. He batted .333 and led all players in the tournament with five homers and 10 RBIs.

South Korea beat Japan twice in the tournament before losing to the eventual winners in the semifinal. It was Lee's two-run homer in the top of the eighth inning that lifted South Korea to a 3-2 win over Japan in the final Group A game of the tournament at Tokyo Dome.

"The fact that two Asian teams made it to the semifinal shows you just how far baseball has progressed in this part of the world," said Lee. "We were mentally tougher than Japan in the first two games but they had the mental edge in the third game." ■

## GOLF

### Michelle Wie Arrives in South Korea for Men's Tournament

SEOUL, South Korea—Michelle Wie will tee it up against the men again.

Wie arrived in South Korea as a professional golfer for the first time April 29. She'll play in the Asian Tour's SK Telecom Open starting May 4, her eighth attempt to make the cut in a men's tournament.

The 16-year-old Wie, whose parents were born in South Korea, is regarded by many Koreans as one of their own. She played in South Korea in 2003 for the LPGA CJ Nine Bridges tournament, where as an amateur she finished last in the 69-player field.

"I feel really good (to be back)," Wie said in Korean. "I want to learn a lot, have a lot of Korean foods and have fun."

Wie has failed to make the cut in her previous appearances at men's events, including four tournaments on the PGA Tour. No woman has made the cut on the PGA Tour since Babe Zaharias in 1945.

"I practiced hard," Wie said. "Even if I fail to make the cut, I want to learn from other players and play with fun."

Wie was born and raised in Hawaii, but speaks fluent Korean, has a Korean name—Wie Sung-mi—and many of her relatives, including grandparents, live in South Korea.

Because of that background, many South Koreans consider her Korean. Local media often include Wie among "Korean" golf stars playing in the United States, and the domestic Yonhap news agency referred to her latest trip to Korea as a "visit to homeland."

In the days leading up to this visit, newspapers and broadcasters carried interviews with Wie, focusing on her Korean background. They said Wie speaks only Korean at home and many of her favorite foods, songs, TV shows, movies, and actors and actresses are Korean.

Wie played in the PGA Tour's

Sony Open in Hawaii in January and is scheduled to play in two more PGA Tour events this season — the John Deere Classic in July and the 84 Lumber Classic in September.

And recently Wie's charity is getting as much attention as her golf.

The 16-year-old donated \$500,000 to the Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund when she turned pro last October. Now, she has donated \$300,000 to an endowment at the Yonsei University Severance Hospital and Korea University Medical Center that will pay for operations for more than 30 children who could not otherwise afford them.

"Before she made a commitment to play in the SK Telecom Open, Michelle wanted to do something in her first trip to Korea as a professional golfer and she wanted to help children with illnesses but whose parents don't have the money to pay (for) the surgery," her father, B.J. Wie, told *The Honolulu Advertiser*. ■

## BASKETBALL

### Yao Recovering Well from Surgery, May Appear at World Championships

SHANGHAI, China —Houston Rockets center Yao Ming is recovering well from foot surgery and could still make an appearance at this summer's world championships, his agent has said.

Yao will start a physical rehabilitation program soon and plans to be back on the court by late June, Zhang Mingji was quoted as saying by the Web site of China Radio International.

Yao underwent surgery April 14 in Houston to repair the fifth metatarsal bone in his left foot, which was broken during a game against Utah. Rockets general manager Carroll Dawson said Yao's injury could take 4-6 months to

heal.

"I believe there is still a possibility for Yao to participate in the world championships," Zhang was quoted as saying in the report posted April 26. Calls to Zhang's mobile phone were answered by a message saying the power was off.

China's chances in the tournament would be considerably bleaker without their star player, and Zhang's comments appeared gauged to stave off panic among fans and the national basketball association. Yao had the third highest average points per game in the 2002 edition. This year's tournament in Sapporo, Japan begins on Aug. 19.

Separately, Yao was quoted as saying in an interview with Shanghai's *Oriental Morning Post* on April 27 that former Miami Heat center Wang Zhizhi should take his place if he was unable to play at the worlds.

Wang recently ended a feud with the Chinese Basketball Association over his refusal to return for national team duties following his 2001-2002 rookie NBA season.

"I think it will be harder than in past to make it to the final eight but that is definitely our target," Yao told the paper. ■

Stories by P.C. Staff and  
Associated Press



• BILL YOSHINO •  
MDC REGIONAL DIRECTOR

## FROM THE MIDWEST



### A Debt of Gratitude to Hank Tanaka

After learning about Hank Tanaka's passing, I began leafing through some old files to help freshen my memories about him. I came across his resume from some 20 years ago.

Born in Salem, Oregon. Married to Sachie Fukiage; four sons. Education: Willamette University; Earlham College; Western Reserve University, School of Applied Social Sciences. 1960 – present: executive director, Hill House. national president, JACL; JACL Legislative Education Committee and on and on.

The resume presents the outline of a life with a glimpse of some facts that show accomplishment, but fails to tell the whole story. A part of Hank's life was devoted to the JA community, an involvement that was shaped by his experience as a young man during WWII.

In 1981, Hank testified about the effects of internment at the redress hearing of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in Chicago. In his testimony, Hank described 1942 as a year of bitterness and betrayal by his own government. His anxiety was heightened because he didn't know whether he would be drafted or whether he would be separated from his family.

Hank recalled that the FBI came to his home because his Issei father was an officer in a Japanese fraternal organization. He also recalled that the family restaurant was vandalized, and that people stopped patronizing the business, causing it to close. He said that his life at Tule Lake reinforced the feeling that he was a second class citizen and he felt fortunate when he was admitted to Earlham College in spite of warnings that folks in Richmond, Indiana weren't putting out a welcoming mat for JAs.

After two years at Earlham, Hank returned to Tule Lake to help his parents and sisters relocate to Cleveland. He said his bitterness returned when he found that his father had lost his spirit and given up any hope of returning to the restaurant business. Hank said that this set him on a path to disassociate himself from his heritage and

from the JA community.

After about 10 years in Cleveland, Hank indicated that he finally came to his senses. In his redress testimony, he said, "For having allowed myself to be incarcerated by my own government, I experienced a heightened feeling of shame. It made me bitter again; but more at myself. I feel fortunate that I survived the experience of being uprooted and interned. I owe it to my upbringing for having survived. It is an experience that will remain with me forever."

Hank's good friend, Toaru Ishiyama, once allowed that the government's actions during WWII had a devastating psychological impact on the community; that when this country abandoned JAs during WWII, it said that they were not worthy and not to be trusted. Toaru observed that when JAs first began making pilgrimages back to the camps, "the tears that were not shed then now come, and come, and come. We cry because of what we lost. And the loss goes beyond property issues, beyond physical hardships."

Hank's and Toaru's observations succinctly capture the deep trauma their generation felt, but it's also a testament to their strength and the distance they came in the remarkable success they achieved.

Hank turned his attention to his heritage and to the JA community replacing the sense of shame with a vigorous pride by contributing his talents and leadership to the JACL and to his local community. I came to know Hank in 1979, during the years that the JACL began the campaign to seek remedies for the internment. There are few who toiled on this issue as relentlessly as did Hank. His care, concern and action went beyond redress to other issues of social justice and to the well-being of the JACL.

He told me on several occasions that he owed any success that he achieved to his upbringing and to the JACL for raising his level of consciousness.

But, it is we who owe Hank our gratitude for his many contributions to our causes and for preserving and passing on the finest of our ancestral values. ■

• YUMI SAKUGAWA •

## MEMOIRS OF A NON-GEISHA



### Beyond Boba

Aside from the fact that I drink a lot of boba, I generally do not take the time to familiarize myself with the Taiwanese American community.

Which is why I was slightly nervous when the president of the Taiwanese American Union asked me and several other people involved in Asian American organizations on campus to help out as student conference leaders for the Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Student Association (ITASA) that was held at UCLA several weeks ago.

Essentially, the purpose of a student conference leader is to be responsible for a small group of Taiwanese American high school and college students in the gaps of time between conference events and lectures, with responsibilities that range from leading goofy icebreaker activities to facilitating group discussions on hate crimes within the AA community.

While the majority of the student conference leaders were obviously Taiwanese American, there were also Japanese Americans like me, Vietnamese Americans, Chinese Americans, Indian Americans and other non-Taiwanese people who volunteered a good chunk of their weekend to help out with the conference.

I guess in the end, it didn't matter that we weren't Taiwanese American and were not intimately acquainted with the politics that affect the Taiwanese people, such as the clash between those who want reunification with the mainland and those who want to create an independent Taiwanese republic.

It didn't matter because while our cultures and histories are very different, we empathized with their desire to define themselves as a growing immigrant community and to become more politically active in the larger sphere of mainstream America.

The more I think about it, the presence of other minorities within minority-specific organizations is not a very unusual around here. In

our Nikkei Student Union, for example, many group members are not JA even though they actively participate in Little Tokyo community events, take on big leadership positions or help plan the annual Nikkei Student Union Cultural Night.

Even within the AA theater group that I am a part of, Caucasians, black-Hispanic and half-Moroccan people are strongly involved within the organization for a mutual passion for acting and performing.

Perhaps this is an important point to make here. Struggles for ethnic communities shouldn't be thought in such insular terms JAs represent JA issues, Chinese Americans represent Chinese American issues, and so on. Doing so completely ignores the hyphenated American that comes with being a minority in this country and fails to acknowledge that we are all communities intimately connected together within a much larger community.

Yuri Kochiyama got the point when she got heavily involved with the black civil rights movement in the 1960s. She understood that it wasn't just a black struggle, but a struggle for all oppressed minorities everywhere. Thusly, a step up in the black community meant a step up for everybody else.

This is why AAs should be aware of the immigrant rights movement that is taking place right now because while it largely affects the Latino community, it also deeply involves the Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and other undocumented Asian immigrants who are working hard to make a living in this country.

It doesn't have to be this serious all the time, though. Sometimes being involved with another community can just be a matter of expanding your horizons and having fun.

By being a student conference leader for a Taiwanese American student conference, I not only learned a great deal about the Taiwanese American community, I also got to watch a Taiwanese puppet show, get to know a lot of cool Taiwanese American college students, and have hook-ups with free, delicious Taiwanese food.

Now how sweet is that? ■

Yumi Sakugawa is currently attending UCLA.



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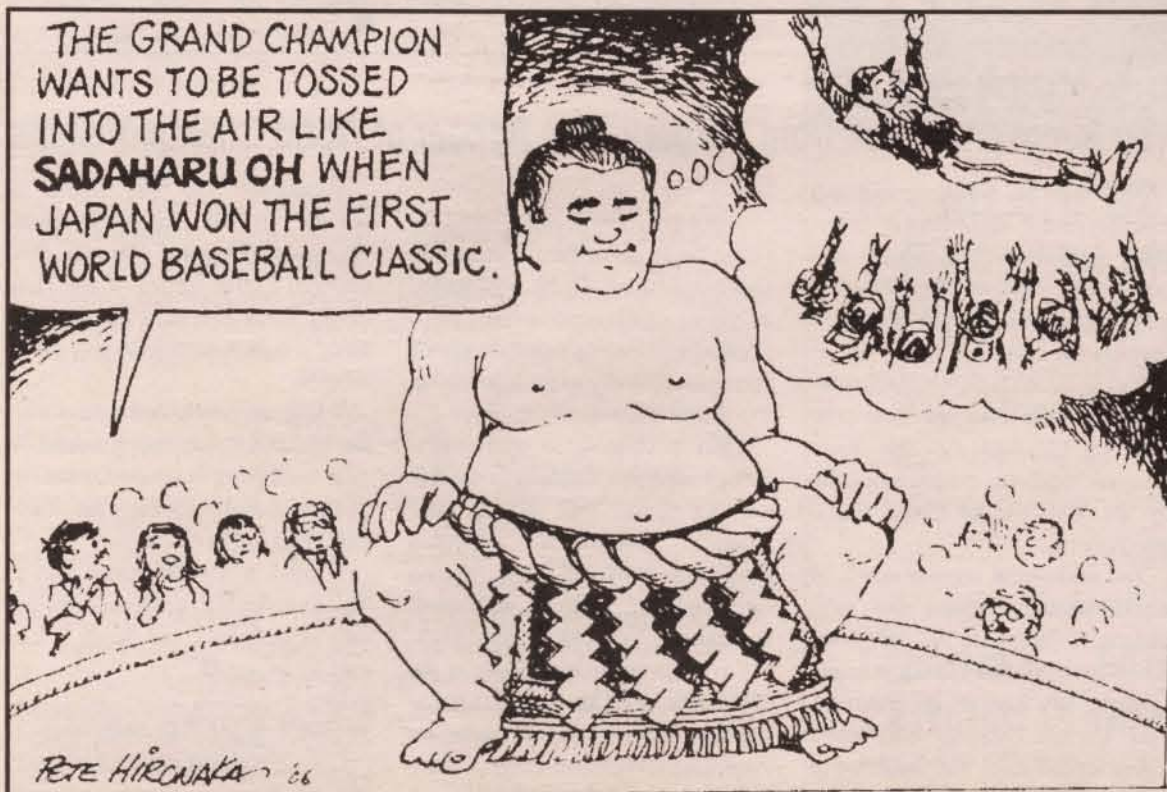
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# Calendar

## National

CHANDLER, Ariz.

June 21-24—JACL National Convention; Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort. Info: [www.azjacl.org](http://www.azjacl.org).

SAN FRANCISCO

Mon., Oct. 2—3rd Annual National JACL Golf Tournament, "Swing for Justice"; Harding Park Golf Course, 99 Harding Road; \$200 before July 1 and \$250 after; sponsorships are available; field is limited to 144 spots; committee is also looking for golf stories from camp, email to Mas Hashimoto at [hashi79@earthlink.net](mailto:hashi79@earthlink.net). Info: Dean Suzuki, 925/212-1137 or Tom Maruyama, 650/400-1070, co-chairs.

## East Coast

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.

Thurs., May 11—Middle East Meets Far East: A Tabla and Taiko Drumming Event; 7 p.m.; MIT, Building E25, Room 111; Master percussionists Karim Mohammed and Elaine Fong demonstrate Egyptian Tabla and Japanese Taiko, and then offer a joint performance; sponsored by the Arab American Antidiscrimination Committee, JACL, Asian American Resource Workshop, MIT Center for International Studies and MIT council for the Arts.

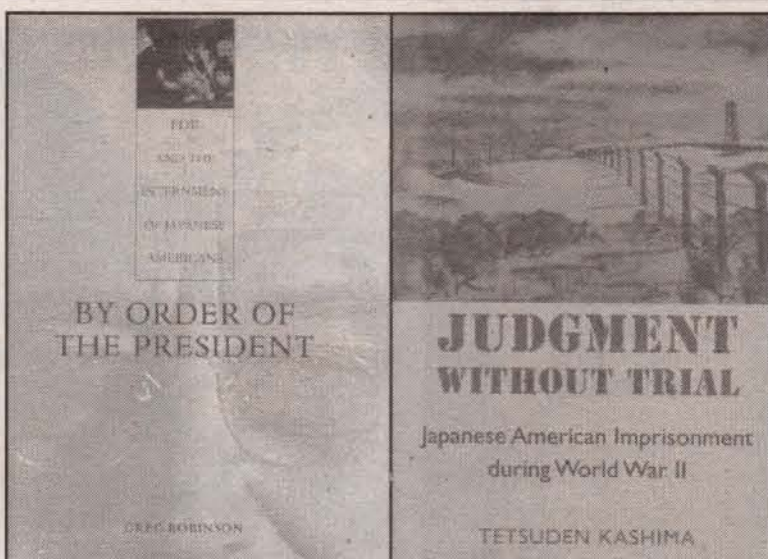
CHEVY CHASE, Maryland

Sat., May 13—"Nisei Memories" My Parents Talk about the War Years; 3 p.m.; Somerset Town Hall, 4510 Cumberland Ave.; Alice Takemoto, her husband Ken and their son Paul discuss the experiences of JAs during WWII as documented in the book, "Nisei Memories"; sponsored by the Oberlin Club of Washington, DC and the Asian Pacific American Alumni of Oberlin College.

NEW YORK

Sun., May 7—27th Annual APA Heritage Festival; 11-dusk; Union Square Park.

Fri., May 12—Meet author Delphine Hirasuna; 3:30 p.m.; JAA Hall; prior to the New York JACL's chapter meeting, Hirasuna will talk about her book "The



Authors Greg Robinson and Tetsuden Kashima will be part of a May 10 panel discussion on the Hawai'i experience and the government's decision not to intern Japanese Americans in Hawai'i.

Art of Gaman" about arts and crafts made in internment camps.

May 18-20—Meet author/photographer Kip Fulbeck of "Part Asian, 100% Hapa" who will sign his book and take photos of individuals on an appointment basis; May 18, 6:30 p.m.; NYU Asian Pacific American Institute, 41-51 East 11th St., 7th Floor; book signing; May 19, 6:30 p.m.; JAA, 15 West 44th St., 11th Floor; book signing and video screening; May 20, 9-noon; Hapa photo shoot; RSVP for each event by May 15 to 212/869-4000 or [nlyum@darumany.com](mailto:nlyum@darumany.com).

## Midwest

CHICAGO

Sat., May 20—Teacher Training Workshop, "What it Means to be An American"; Hubbard High School, 6200 S. Hamlin; will explore the similarities of the JA's WWII experience and the Americans of Middle East descent post 9/11; \$20/reg. fee; primarily for social science teachers K-12; co-sponsored by Chicago JACL and the Chicago Public Schools. Info: 773/728-7170 or [chicago@jacl.org](mailto:chicago@jacl.org).

CLEVELAND

Sun., June 4—Cherry Blossom Festival; 11:30-3 p.m.; Cleveland

Metroparks, Brookside Reservation. Info: Chiaki Nakayama, 440/684-0860.

## COLUMBUS

Sat.-Sun., May 27-28—Asian Festival; Franklin Park; Ichio Daiko and Sho-Jo-Ji performing; free parking and admission.

GRANADA, Colorado

Sat., May 20—Amache Spring Pilgrimage; 11 a.m. arrival at Amache camp site and ceremony, noon Granada High School and program, 1:30 p.m. Amache museum tour; potluck with refreshments provided by Friends of Amache; \$20/person. Info: Jim Hada, 303/237-2159.

## Intermountain

DELTA, Utah

Mon.-Fri., June 12-16—Training class for teachers, "Specialized History: WWII and the Internment of Japanese Americans; 8-5 p.m.; Millard District Office, 285 E. 450 N; \$250 (shared lodging) due at registration; registration form available at [www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/soc/st/prof\\_dev/workshops.html](http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/soc/st/prof_dev/workshops.html); registration deadline is May 15; includes a field trip to Topaz. Info: Robert Austin, 801/538-7708, [robert.austin@](mailto:robert.austin@)

[schools.utah.gov](http://schools.utah.gov) or Elaine Jones, 801/538-7977, [elaine.jones@schools.utah.gov](mailto:elaine.jones@schools.utah.gov).

## Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Through June 10—Exhibit, Kimono: Tradition in the Modern Age; Tues.-Sat. 11-3 p.m., Sun. 12-3 p.m., April 9 1-3 p.m.; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave.; featuring discussion of kimono design, past and present, kimono demonstrations and reception with refreshments; \$3 admission fee, free to ONLC members. Info: Katrina Gilkey, 503/224-1458.

## Northern California

MANZANAR

Through May 21—Manzanar Art Show and Sale; 9-5:30 p.m. daily; Manzanar National Historic Site, 5001 S. Highway 395.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sun., May 7—Kimochi, Inc.'s 35th Anniversary Event; 2-4 p.m.; Radisson Miyako Hotel, 1625 Post St.; in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of San Francisco's Japantown, Kimochi, Inc. will present their Spirit Award to Japanese American and Japanese-speaking centenarians who will be 100 years old or older in 2006 or a descendent of those who have reached 100 years prior to their deaths; proceeds from the event will benefit Kimochi's programs and services; free. Info and to RSVP: Kimochi, Inc., 415/931-2294.

SAN JOSE

Sat., May 20—San Jose Chidori Band's 53rd Anniversary Concert; 7 p.m.; San Jose Buddhist Church, 640 N. Fifth St.; tickets are \$10/each. Info: 408/260-2533.

SAN MATEO

Fri., May 12—Candidates Night; 7-9:30 p.m.; Central Recreation Center, 50 E. 5th Ave.; invited candidates include those for County supervisor in two districts, State Senate, State Assembly, Congress and a few other races; refreshments will be served; co-sponsored by the San Mateo JACL, San Mateo County Chapter of OCA and the Filipino American Coalition.

## Southern California

BUENA PARK

Thurs., May 18—40th Annual Suburban Optimist Club Youth Recognition Night; 6:30 p.m.; 7000 Beach Blvd.; featured speaker is Hon. Vincent Okamoto. Reservations: Garry Wada, 714/595-3795.

CALABASAS

Sun., May 7—Hawaiian Feather Lei Making; 2-3:30 p.m.; Soka University, 26800 W. Mulholland Hwy.; serves as a prerequisite for three workshops on July 2, 9, 16; free and open to the public. Reservations and info: 818/878-3741 or [nativegarden@soka.edu](mailto:nativegarden@soka.edu).

OXNARD

Sat., May 13—Ventura County JACL Annual cleanup of the Japanese Cemetery; 8-noon; corner of Etting and Pleasant Valley Rd.; volunteers are welcome and should bring their own gloves and tools; refreshments will be provided. Info: 805/987-1470.

RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA

Sun., May 7—1st Annual JACL PSW Golf Tournament; noon shotgun start; Tijeras Creek Golf Course; \$95/person or \$380/foursome; sponsorships still available. Info: Kerry Kaneichi, [kkaneichi@aol.com](mailto:kkaneichi@aol.com); PSW Office, 213/626-4471 or [www.jaclpsw.org/golf.htm](http://www.jaclpsw.org/golf.htm).

WEST COVINA

Sat., May 6—2006 Cherry Blossom Festival; noon-7 p.m.; West Covina Civic Center Courtyard, 1444 W. Garvey Ave.; free parking.

## Hawaii

HONOLULU

Wed., May 10—The Fortunate Exception: Hawai'i and the Internment of Japanese Americans During World War II; 6-7:30 p.m.; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, Fifth Floor, Manoa Room; free. Info: 808/945-7633, [info@jcch.com](mailto:info@jcch.com) or [www.jcch.com](http://www.jcch.com).

## Nevada

RENO

Sun., May 21—Reno JACL Mother's and Children's Day Potluck; noon; Knights of Pythias Hall, 980 Nevada St.; RSVP by May 11 with Grant Hayashi, 775/770-2160; don't forget your potluck dish. ■

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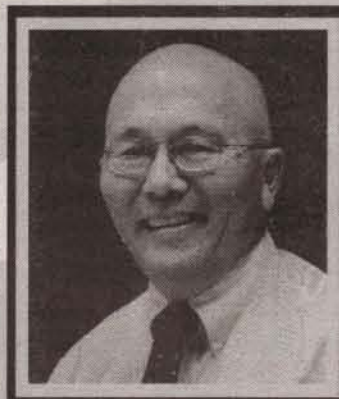
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**DEATH NOTICE**

**GEORGE W. TAKEYAMA**

Funeral services for the late George W. Takeyama, 71 year-old Los Angeles-born resident of Northridge, who passed away April 17 at Northridge Hospital Medical Center, were held on April 26 at Centenary United Methodist, 300 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles. He is survived by his sister, Joy T. Hashimoto; nieces, Joy Douglass, Ann (Hal) Pos; nephew, Dr. Edward (Roopa) Hashimoto; grandnieces, Katherine Hashimoto and Hannah Pos, all the above of Utah; grandnephews, Danny and Michael Hashimoto of Calif.; also survived by cousins and other relatives.

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Chi Mui, First Asian Mayor for San Gabriel, Dies at 53

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN GABRIEL, Calif.—Chi Mui, who was sworn in this past March as the first Asian American mayor of San Gabriel, has died. He was 53.

Mui died of cancer April 27 at San Gabriel Valley Medical Center, city officials said.

“Chi was a dear friend, an inspiration and greatly loved by all of us in San Gabriel,” said vice mayor David Gutierrez, who will serve as interim mayor.

Mui became mayor March 21



after serving three years on the City Council. His historic appointment symbolized San Gabriel's rise as a bustling Chinese community east of Los Angeles.

At the meeting where he took the mayor's seat for the first time, Mui said his journey represented a classic American success story for immigrants from China, who have long referred to the United States as Gold Mountain.

Born in Guangzhou, China, he said relatives in his homeland were “so proud a son has gone to America and realized the Golden Mountain dream and brought back pride to the elders and ancestors.”

Mui immigrated with his family to New York City in 1963, when he was 10. The son of a seamstress and

a cook, he studied civil engineering at Polytechnic Institute of New York and graduated cum laude in 1980.

He later moved to California and was a community activist in Los Angeles' Chinatown, where he helped develop affordable housing for seniors and led the effort to save a former 50-acre cornfield north of downtown as an open space.

Mui was on the staff of state Assembly members Lucille Roybal-Allard and Richard Polanco and state Sen. Gloria Romero before he was elected to the city council in March 2003.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Tse, and two sons.

Funeral arrangements are pending. ■

TANAKA  
(Continued from page 1)

1985. He was also a longtime leader on the JACL Cleveland chapter and the Midwest district boards. Tanaka was a member of the *Pacific Citizen* editorial board for several years and served on the JACL Long Range Planning Committee and the Personnel Committee.

During the redress movement of the 70s and 80s Tanaka played a pivotal role serving on the MDC committee and the JACL Legislative Education Committee. He also provided moving personal testimony during the redress hearings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in Chicago.

“Although I was aware that Hank had been ill for quite some time, I was deeply saddened by the news of his passing. He was part of a disappearing breed of JACLer, those Nisei who devoted their lives to helping others and to supporting the mission of the JACL,” said John Tateishi, JACL executive director.

“Leaving the presidency of the national board didn't mean for Hank, disappearing from the organization as happens so often. He con-

tinued his active involvement at all levels of the JACL and had that passion in his bones, even as he struggled with his own illness. The passing of Hank Tanaka is especially sad because of his life-long devotion to the JACL and his commitment to social justice.”

Tanaka, a pioneering psychiatric social worker, was the first executive director of Hill House, a community mental health agency which has developed innovative projects and ways of delivering mental health services. After 39 years in the field of mental health, Tanaka retired in 1990.

Born and raised in Salem, Oregon, Tanaka attended Willamette University until he was evacuated to the Tule Lake Relocation Center in May, 1942. He eventually completed his undergraduate work at Earlham College in 1944 and went on to serve in the U.S. Army Medical Corps for two years. After the war he enrolled in Western Reserve University where he earned a master's degree in social administration. It was also here that he met his longtime wife Sachi Fukiage.

“I came to know Hank during the years that the JACL began the cam-

paign to seek remedies for the internment. There are few who toiled on this issue as relentlessly as did Hank. His care, concern and action for issues of equity and for the JACL drew respect and admiration,” said Bill Yoshino, MDC regional director. “He told me on several occasions that he owed any success that he achieved to his upbringing and to the JACL for raising his level of consciousness. But, it is we who owe Hank our gratitude for his contributions to us and for preserving and passing on the finest of our ancestral values.”

Tanaka is survived by his wife Sachi, sons David F. Tanaka (Deidre), Steven M. Tanaka, MD (Carol), Robert T. Tanaka, DVM (Michiko) and John C. Tanaka (Joan); seven grandchildren; sisters Helen Watanabe, Hazel Asamoto, and Aiko Ebihara.

Funeral services were held May 1 at the Church of the Covenant in Cleveland, Ohio followed by a burial service at Lakeview Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to: Hill House, 11101 Magnolia Drive, Cleveland 44106; JACL Scholarship Fund, c/o Keith Asamoto, 2783 Lancashire Road, Cleveland Heights 44106. ■

In Memoriam - 2006

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Fujisaki, Sumi, 91**, Los Angeles, Mar. 4; survived by sons, Kiyoshi (Susan) and Robert (Kathy Yoshihara); 2 gc.; and sisters, Florence Sakata, Mary (Mits) Takayama and Flora (Kay) Teramura.

**Furukawa, George T., 84**, Gaithersburg, Md., Mar. 31; survived by daughters, Barbara (Harvey) Hayashida and Corinne (Nils) Westphal; 3 gc.; and brothers, Kazumi, Jimmy, and Hisashi.

**Hayashi, Hon. Yoshimi, 83**, Honolulu, April 23; WWII veteran, MIS; first JA named to the position of U.S. attorney by President Johnson in 1968, named the first chief judge of the state Intermediate Court of Appeals and the only person who had served on the bench at all four levels of state courts; survived by wife, Eleanor; son, Scott; and 2 gc.

**Iriye, Koji (Indian), 78**, Seal Beach, Mar. 4; survived by wife, Yoshiko; daughters, Christine (Jim) Rotan and Pamela (Luke) Shiroma; and 4 gc.

**Nakamura, Horace K., 79**, Norwalk, Feb. 28; survived by wife, Teruko; daughters, Marilyn and Irene (Keith) Long; 1 gc.; brother, Robert (Misuko); half-brother,

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 \$18 per column inch. Text is reworded as necessary.

Lawrence (Fumiko) Sasano; and sister-in-law, Toshiko Sasano.

**Nakamura, Toshiko, 82**, Los Angeles, Mar. 13; survived by brothers, Yoshinori (Sueno) and Mitsuo Nakamura; and sister, Akiko Taiyoshi.

**Nishikawa, Ronnie, 60**, Los Angeles, Feb. 23; survived by wife, Linda; mother, Joyce; brothers, Walter (Bernice) and Dennis (Jackie); sister, Sherry (David) Nakaishi; mother-in-law, Michi Osaki; and brother-in-law, Jimmy Osaki.

**Ohta, Mary Shizuko, 89**, Los Angeles, Mar. 2; survived by brother, Teruaki (Taeko) Marumoto; and sisters, Aiko Omata and Yoshiko Minami.

**Onodera, Ray, 79**, Monterey Park, Feb. 27; survived by wife, Mieko; daughter, Susan; son, Steve; brother, Ken (Joan); sisters, Ruth Toyama and Lily Okimoto; and sister-in-law, Sumi Onodera-Leonard.

**Reyes, Miyoko, 96**, Glendale, Mar. 7; survived by son, Rex; daughters, Sarina (Philip) MacMillan, Rizalina (Jerome) Tong and Rita Kline; 11 gc.; and 4 ggc.

**Shintaku, Grace Masako, 71**, Arcadia, Feb. 20; survived by husband, Kunio; sons, Gary and Norman (Kristi); daughter, Janet (John) Martin; 6 gc.; sister, Yoshie Sasaki; and brothers, Eiichi, Ray (Fusaye), Masaaki, Utsushi (Sally) and Fujio (Mie) Norihiro.

**Teramoto, Hanae, 84**, Mar. 7; survived by sons, Kenny (Yoko), Toshihiro (Debbie) and Mamoru; daughters, Yoshie (Sumio) Yasutake and Yumiko (Hidehiro) Kono; 8 gc.; 4 ggc.; and brothers, Masao and Yoshio (Michiko) Santohigashi.

**West, Marianne, Spokane, Wash., April 11**; survived by daughters, Lynda Wright, Mayre (Walter) Washington, Ella Washington, and Patricia West; sons, Clarence, Allan (Kathie) and Charles (Linda); brothers, George (Anna) Sumihiro and Roy (Peggy) Sumihiro; sisters, Ruth (Emmitt) Adkins and Ginger (Stan) Tanaka; 15 gc.; and 13 ggc.

**Yanari, Harry, 90**, Denver, Feb. 8; survived by wife, Betty; brothers, George, James (Kimie) and Sam (Aki); sisters, Mary Miyazawa, Amy Tsumura and Sally (Kaz) Sakamoto; and sisters-in-law, Emma and Kimi Yanari. ■



## SOUTH ASIAN

(Continued from page 1)

said he had to "finish up a cook."

Cooking with ephedrine does not require gourmet skills — it's a delicate balance of boiling and mixing chemicals to make the illegal drug. But Samuel said a lot of customers come into the store looking for ingredients to accompany weekend barbecues and dinners. How was he supposed to differentiate?

Samuel was one of the 49 individuals charged in a 2003 sting organized by local law enforcement and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. Like 44 of the 49 individuals charged, Samuel is of South Asian descent. Twenty three out of 24 stores targeted were owned or operated by South Asians, many with limited English skills.

For the sting, code-named Operation Meth Merchant (OMM), informants were sent to convenience stores between December 2003 to May 2005 to buy ingredients used to make drugs and were instructed to make statements like "I need it to go cook."

"It's a slang. How are we expected to know?" said Mitul Patel, 30, owner of Tobacco for Less. "What does 'cook' mean to anyone? My wife calls me every night and asks what to cook? Am I supposed to think about methamphetamine?"

"I don't see anywhere where my employee has done anything wrong," said Patel. But that's not the point anymore, he said.

"The point is 24 businesses were named. Why were 23 of those Indian owned businesses?" he asked.

The American Civil Liberties



PHOTO: DANIEL BEAR, ACLU

Georgians protest racial profiling. Another event is planned May 5.

Union is alleging ethnic bias. In legal filings last month, the ACLU is seeking a dismissal of charges against convenience store owners Falgun Patel and Sudhirkumar Patel based on newly discovered evidence of bias. Trials for the remaining cases are pending start dates.

The U.S. District Court in Rome, Georgia rejected a similar motion last November because of lack of evidence. So far, 23 defendants have pleaded guilty and eight cases have been dismissed because of misidentification.

According to the legal filing, South Asian owned or operated stores only accounted for 19.3 percent of the businesses in the area, but they were 95-times more likely to be targeted by the sting. The ACLU also secured sworn statements from informants who worked the OMM case saying they ignored leads directed at white-owned busi-

nesses.

Samuel along with Patel's corporation took a deal offered by prosecutors to plead guilty in exchange for a fine of \$31,900. Charges against Samuel would also be dropped.

Patel took the deal rather than see his employee go to jail.

"The corporation can cover the money losses. The employee has a family, one kid and a beautiful wife. We didn't want to risk him going to jail for 10-15 years," he said.

But he said the negative publicity has been a drain on his business.

At the end of 2004, the store was earning a profit, but last year they suffered a \$10,000 deficit because of unexpected expenses of lawyer fees and fines.

The sting has also affected his personal and family life.

"We are hard working people. We are part of America. The Indian

community is very small here, so everybody knows everybody. When we go to the temple, people look at you like [you've] done something wrong even though you are not charged. They look at you like you're a criminal," said Patel.

More upsetting for the businessman is the evidence of what he calls racial profiling. According to Patel, the informant's audio recorder malfunctioned during the sting, so when it came time to identify who had sold him the ingredients, another agent who was parked in the lot jotted down the license plate of a white van allegedly after he saw a South Asian man exit the vehicle. The police later arrested a woman to whom the car was registered, said Patel. Her last name was also Patel, but she had never been to the store.

"Her only crime was having the last name 'Patel,'" he said.

"These people are human beings. They are an important and valued part of their communities. Because of this racially targeted operation, their lives have been ruined. Families have been torn apart, people have lost their health and well-being, and many are in a perpetual state of fear. More than anything,

they feel like the U.S. government has unfairly betrayed them," said Deepali Gokhale, a campaign organizer for the Racial Justice Campaign Against Operation Meth Merchant.

On March 15, about 400 protesters rallied in front of U.S. Attorney David Nahmias' office. Nahmias has publicly denied any wrongdoing.

Even more of an affront to Patel is the fact that larger chains like Wal-Mart carry much more of the same ingredients, but are never targeted. His store was the only one in the large strip mall to be targeted.

"People are feeling beaten down by a system that has long been unfair to communities of color. They are having a hard time trusting that law enforcement has an interest in protecting them, and are instead living in fear of being harassed because of their skin color.

"Unless the charges are dropped, it will take a lot of time and effort on the part of the government for people in this community to be able to trust law enforcement again," said Gokhale.

OMM critics are planning a May 5 protest at the Rome, Georgia federal court to coincide with the sentencing of three defendants. ■



### Ingredients for Addiction

Ephedrine and pseudoephedrine are commonly found in over-the-counter cold and sinus products like Sudafed, Tylenol Cold and Sinus,

and many other cold and sinus products. Clandestine production accounts for nearly all of the methamphetamine trafficked and abused in the United States, and has increasingly become a problem in Georgia. Many states now limit the sale of cold medicine.

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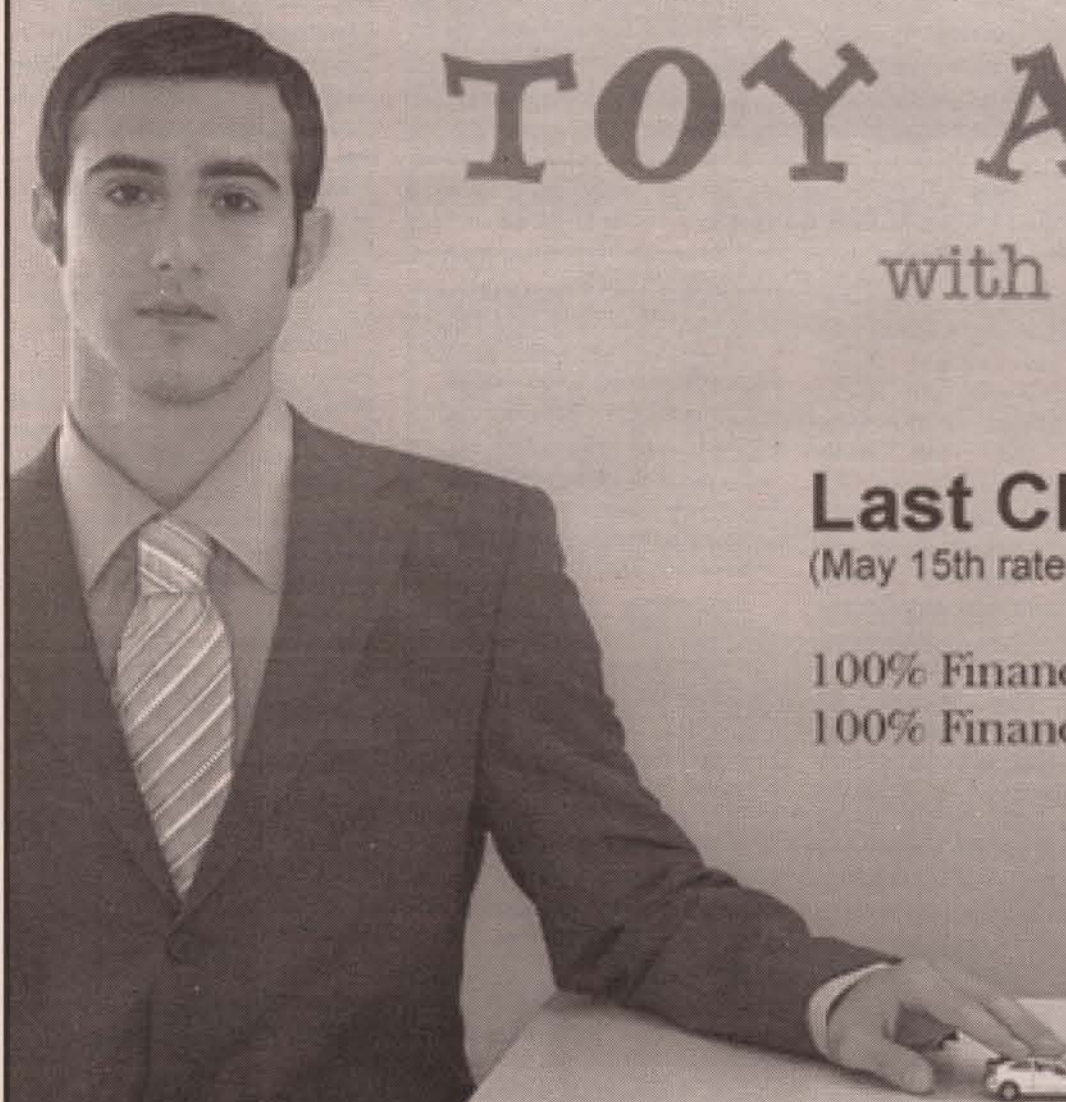
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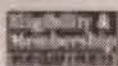
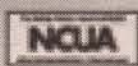
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