



Spring Campaign

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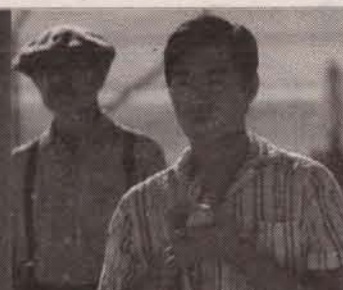
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Since 1929

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



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APR. 20-MAY 3, 2007

A Little Tokyo Rooted in the Philippines

Davao, as the Japanese enclave was called before WWII, is a symbol of the evolving international Japanese identity.

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

In Davao, a bustling city on the Philippines' southernmost island of Mindanao, vestiges of its former life as a Little Tokyo still persevere in the city's fabric of life.

From the early 1900s to the beginning of World War II, Japanese sojourners lured by the financial promise of abaca, the country's cash crop, set up a small enclave in the city and called it Davao. Back then, Japanese restaurants, hotels and even a movie theater lined the streets surrounding San Pedro Cathedral, but today the only small imprints are in



ruins.

An old monument of pioneering abaca plantation owner Kyozauro Ohta still stands in the former Japanese settlement of Mintal alongside the ruins of the Furukawa Fiber Plant and a small Japanese cemetery where the original Japanese settlers were buried.

But perhaps the strongest Japanese imprint in the city hugged by the Davao Gulf and the Mindanao Sea are its people — an



REVERENCE AND SCORN: (left) Davao's Japanese cemetery and (above) a replica of a WWII imperial soldier counting money.

estimated 1,000 children of Japanese-Filipina parentage left behind in Davao just after the end of WWII. Today, there are around 20,000 Philippine Nikkei-jin or descendants of Japanese Issei, said Shun Ohno, a professor at Kyushu University Asia in Japan.

Like many other Japanese enclaves in the United States, war directly affected the rise and fall of

See DAVAOKUO/Page 4

AA Community Mourns Virginia Tech Tragedy

The shooter is identified as a South Korean national. Now AA groups fear a rise in anti-Asian sentiment.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
and LYNDALIN

As the nation continues to grieve the tragic shooting deaths of 32 students and faculty on the Virginia Tech University campus, police have identified the shooter as Cho Seung-Hui, a 23-year-old English major and legal U.S. resident who is of South Korean descent.

Asian American groups across the country expressed sorrow and gave

condolences to the families of those killed and injured. They also hope that this tragedy committed by one individual does not lead to a rise in anti-Asian sentiment against an entire ethnic group.

"We grieve with the families and friends of those who have died, yet we caution against stigmatizing an entire ethnic community," said JAAC National Director Floyd Mori. "The Asian American community understands well the negative impact of such ethnic stigmatizing, and we hope that authorities will assure the future safety of all students and faculty there at Virginia Tech."

But a day after the national tragedy, the backlash has already begun.

"Unfortunately, we have already received calls saying that immi-

See VIRGINIA TECH/Page 6



CHO

Continuing the Tradition of Aikido

Students of the late Rev. Kensho Furuya hope to continue operating the Aikido Center of Los Angeles in his memory.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

The traditional Japanese dojo lined with sage-colored tatami mats, a smattering of antique ceramics, and a tokonoma or alcove in the far corner of the room remains the same. The dozen or so students dressed in their keiko gi or practice gear throwing their partners to the floor in fluid, graceful movements still fills the room.

The only thing that is missing is the dominant presence of the beloved Rev. Kensho Furuya. After more than 47 years of leading and teaching the martial art of Aikido, Kensho Furuya passed away on March 6 at the young age of 59.

Now a dedicated group of his



Kensho Furuya (left) shows his masterful Aikido technique.

longtime students hope to continue his teachings and legacy through Furuya's Aikido Center of Los Angeles (ACLA) in Little Tokyo, even as they prepare to move to a new location in Chinatown.

See AIKIDO/Page 6

Following in Their Fathers' Footsteps

What Fred Korematsu, Min Yasui and Gordon Hirabayashi began during WWII, their children are continuing today in the name of justice for all.

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

Their fathers courageously fought for justice during wartime hysteria, but it's for their grandparents that three Sansei with legendary last names signed onto an amicus brief in support of a class action lawsuit accusing federal officials of racial profiling and wrongful detainment.

It's a different time and a different war, but for Karen Korematsu-Haigh, Holly Yasui and Jay Hirabayashi there are too many similarities between the plight of their Issei grandparents after the bombing

of Pearl Harbor and the struggle of Arab and Muslim immigrants after Sept. 11th. So on April 3, Karen, Holly and Jay filed an amicus brief in support of the plaintiffs in the *Turkman v. John Ashcroft* case.

Like their famous fathers who sued the government during World War II for their wrongful conviction of resisting internment, the plaintiffs in the *Turkman* case sued federal officials, including former Attorney General John Ashcroft and FBI Director Robert Mueller, for targeting, abusively detaining and



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAY HIRABAYASHI



Gordon Hirabayashi (above, right) with his family in 1949 and with son Jay (left) in 2000.

deporting them on alleged immigration violations after Sept. 11th. A New York federal district judge in June 2006 dismissed the plaintiffs'

See AMICUS BRIEF/Page 4

A Hate Incident Brought Her to JACL

A flyer targeting 'Japs' left Patricia Ikeda-Nash confused and angry but her coworkers didn't understand. She turned to the Berkeley JACL and finally got the help she was desperately seeking.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor



IKEDA-NASH

The single piece of purple paper left under the door of the building housing the Buddhist Peace Fellowship office in Berkeley, Calif. seemed unimposing at first glance, but the hateful message typed in bold black ink was filled with anger and a menacing intent.

"Japs are not welcome in our neighborhood," the message read. "The Japs and whites would kill a black man before they would let their property go to a black man. We must do the same."

In total, the word "Jap" appears 12 times in the threatening letter.

"I felt totally shocked," said Patricia Ikeda-Nash, 53, of Oakland, Calif. who was the only Japanese American

See IKEDA-NASH/Page 6

In Music City, Lawmakers Push for 'English-First' Chorus

All eyes are on Nashville, where the mayor recently vetoed a measure to make English the city's official language. With a burgeoning immigrant population, how do APAs weigh in on the debate?

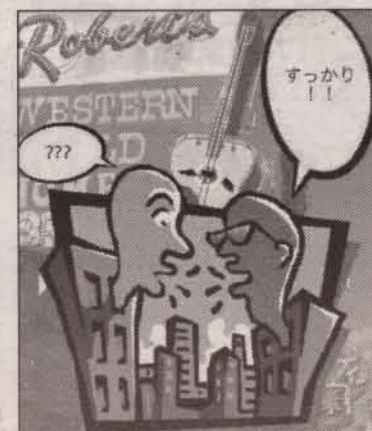
By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

Growing up, Ted Ikemoto spoke to his Issei parents in English and they responded in Japanese. As a Nisei, he was a conduit between the old world and new, but to make sure their American son didn't forget his

native language, he was sent to Japanese school.

"It's better to maintain the mother tongue too," said Ikemoto, 85, who

See ENGLISH-ONLY/Page 12





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•FLOYD MORI•

WASHINGTON WINDOW

Filling Some Big Shoes



Soon after the last national JACL board meeting, I was appointed to try to fill the shoes of our national director for the past seven years, John Tateishi. While I was serving as a vice president of the JACL, the national board at that time was able to hire John as our director. He served well in that capacity and did a lot for the organization, above and beyond what could be expected.

After John became ill last fall and had to suddenly leave the post from which he had some months before announced his intent to resign, I became the interim national director. John and his wife, Carol, and their children sacrificed much for the JACL over the years while John served as national director and previously as redress chairman. We owe John and his family a debt of gratitude for all he did for the organization, and we wish him a complete recovery.

It has been my privilege to have known and worked with John for many years. We met in our younger days while living in the San Francisco Bay Area, where John still lives. John reminded me that when he was involved with forming the new JACL Marin chapter, he had asked me to speak to the chapter as a newly elected California State Assemblyman at the time.

Since I had the opportunity to work closely with John for four years as national president and more recently while I have been the JACL



2007 JACL-OCA D.C. Leadership Conference participants.

director of public policy in D.C., I felt the transition into the position of national director would be a fairly easy one. It has been extremely busy, but I am enjoying the work. I am committed to the goals of the JACL and am glad to be able to serve in this position.

Wash., D.C. is the place where major issues affecting our organization are brought to the forefront. There are many Asian American organizations now, and most have their national directors located in D.C. which is also the center of fundraising activity which has become a vital part of the national director's work.

For these and other reasons, I will currently stay in D.C. for the major portion of my work. The JACL headquarters will remain in San Francisco under the able guidance of Clyde Izumi, our business manager. I generally have daily contact with headquarters and will make regular trips to San Francisco.

Staff positions which have been

unfilled for some time have been or are in the process of being filled. The PSWD regional director, membership coordinator, and the new director of public policy should be announced in the near future.

After I came to D.C. and before John became ill, he and I had discussed the possibility of holding a major JACL event here. "A Salute to Champions," national JACL gala dinner, will be held at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in D.C. on Sept. 12. The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta is honorary chairman of the event. This will be an opportunity to highlight the JACL in the nation's capital and to honor some deserving people who have been champions of JACL causes as well as a major fundraising event.

All who can make it to D.C. this fall are encouraged to try to join the JACL in this celebration which is intended to become an annual event in D.C.

While the major focus of the JACL has always been civil rights

(including internment camps and redress), other areas are emphasized as well. Hate crimes, health disparities, and immigration are some current issues along with camp preservation. Chapters continue to be extremely important in grassroots efforts and in providing social and cultural events to our members.

Maintaining the members we have and increasing the membership base of the JACL is very important for our survival. Most members of the JACL should have little trouble bringing in at least one new member this year. We all have family members, friends and associates who are not members but could benefit from membership. Gift memberships are available. Student memberships are very inexpensive and may be a way to entice people into membership.

The 2007 D.C. Leadership Conference was held in March. From that gathering, some of the younger members in attendance developed the idea for and formed a group of Young Professionals. These are mostly regular JACL members who range in age from 21 to 35, generally college graduates who are in the work force. Anyone interested in learning about this group and getting on their listserve to receive notices should send an email to eric-nakano@mac.com.

There is no way to please everyone. I realize there are and will be those who oppose me or do not agree with me and decisions which I make. I want to assure you that I will strive to do all in my power to work diligently for the benefit of the JACL and its members. Thank you for this opportunity. ■

Floyd Mori is the JACL's current national director.

SPRING CAMPAIGN

Dreaming Big ...

By LISA HANASONO

What do you want to be when you grow up?

This classic childhood question has tapped into the dreams and ambitions of every American generation. While many of my peers aspire to become firefighters, surgeons, and lawyers, I subscribe to a different vision. When I grow up, I want to be a civil rights activist, a communications professor, and a soccer mom. As a JACL youth member, I continue to strive toward this unique dream.

Growing up in the Midwest, I often felt isolated and detached from my Japanese American heritage. I grew up in an era before the emergence of cell phones, instant messenger, and the internet. Although I yearned to become more involved in civil rights activism and cultural education, I felt geographically disconnected from many Asian American communities. How could I become an effective civil rights activist and professor, if I lacked access to current news and information about AA issues? Fortunately, I came across the *Pacific Citizen*.

The *P.C.* serves as a common thread that connects and strengthens the fabric of AA communities. It has played a vital role in the communi-

cation of AA issues nationwide. I am writing this article to ask you to help *P.C.* thrive as a premier publication by donating to its Spring Campaign!

Why should you participate in the Spring Campaign?

Each year, the *P.C.* must raise thousands of dollars to cover expenses that pertain to the production of top-notch newspaper issues. Your active support plays a vital role in the *P.C.*'s ability to remain an award-winning publication. With your help, the *P.C.* will continue to connect our community and rightly redirect the public's gaze to AA issues.

Unfortunately, many forms of mainstream media do not adequately publicize AA issues. The *P.C.* covers stories that are traditionally under-represented in other newspa-

pers. In addition, it provides a forum for AAs to articulate their beliefs and express their ideas. For example, the 2006 Holiday Issue of the *P.C.* featured the voices of JACL youth members. Like many other young writers, I utilized this opportunity to share my stories and perspective to a national audience. The *P.C.* amplified youth members' voices and revealed the diverse viewpoints of a rising generation.

In addition, your donations will contribute to the *P.C.*'s dynamic Web site. The *P.C.*'s Web site (www.pacificcitizen.org) recently received a fantastic makeover! It features top news, entertainment, and sports stories that are available 24/7. In our technology-laden society, providing the public with a professional and polished Web site is extremely important! As a youth member and college student, I satisfy most of my news cravings

through online sources. The *P.C.* Web site is an accessible and convenient channel to communicate — and consume — news around the world. Your funds will make it possible to keep it up and running.

In closing, the *P.C.* serves a key communication role in the AA community. By providing current and insightful news about AA issues, the *P.C.* has enabled me to step closer to my dreams of becoming a civil rights activist and a communications professor.

However, this newspaper depends on the support of its friends and readers. People like you. Please play an active role in the success of the *P.C.* by donating to the Spring Campaign today! ■

Lisa Hanasono is the Midwest representative on the Pacific Citizen editorial board.

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At the end of the rainbow are more upgrades for the Web site.

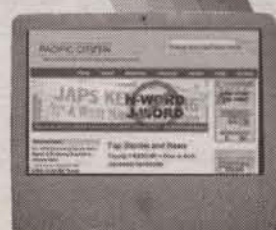
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* "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JACL of a wide range of ideas and issues, though they may not reflect the viewpoint of the editorial board of the *Pacific Citizen*.

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

National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

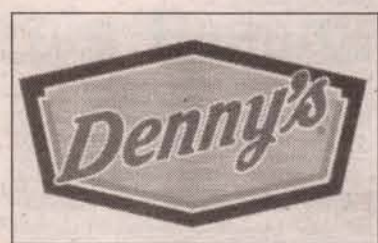
APA Groups Condemns Power 105.1 for Racist Remarks

NEW YORK—Asian Pacific American groups are demanding an apology from radio station 105.1 FM for its April 11 airing of a segment called "Are You Smarter Than An Asian."

During the "Ed Lover Show with Egypt and Ashy" on Power 105.1, a "Mr. Hung Lo" allegedly spoke with a stereotypical Chinese accented broken English, and kung fu fighting music in the background. A call-in listener then competed with "Mr. Lo" to answer stereotypical questions.

The Organization of Chinese Americans is calling for a meeting with radio executives.

Syracuse University Remembers 10th Anniversary of Denny's Beating



SYRACUSE, NY—On the 10th anniversary of the Denny's beating of a group of APAs, Syracuse University Students held a three-day event to spotlight hate crimes.

The April 11-13 event featured a panel discussion and dialogue about intolerance.

In 1997, a group of six Asian American and Japanese students and their white companion were allegedly denied service at a Denny's restaurant in Syracuse and were then beaten in the restaurant's parking lot by a gang of white patrons.

By the time police arrived at the scene, the fight had already ended and the group of whites had left the scene.

APA leaders argued that the students were denied the right to full and equal service from Denny's, including the protection of Denny's hired security guards.

Oregon House Approves Honorary Degrees for JA Internees

SALEM, Ore.—The House unanimously approved a bill April 2 to allow honorary degrees for Japanese Americans, who as college students during WWII, were placed in internment camps or otherwise denied access to higher education in Oregon.

HB 2823 would apply to students enrolled at an Oregon college or university when they were forced into internment camps by presidential executive order in 1942.

Families could request degrees on behalf of deceased relatives. Oregon's universities support the bill, which now heads to the Senate.



Rep. Brian Clem helped introduce HB 2823 in honor of his father-in-law.

Washington Recognizes Korean Immigration to Hawaii

OLYMPIA, Wash.—Gov. Chris Gregoire signed a bill to authorize celebration of Korean American Day every Jan. 13, the day Koreans first arrived in Hawaii.

It wouldn't be a legal holiday that would close schools, banks and government offices, but the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs would help coordinate events across the state to celebrate the contributions of the state's third-largest ethnic population, said Sen. Paull Shin, D-Edmonds.

At last count, the state had 46,000 native Koreans and Korean Americans.

Survey: Asians Opposed Prop 2

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—If Asian Americans were seen as a swing group in the debate over affirmative action and Proposal 2, a recent poll puts that notion to rest, according to University of Michigan law students.

APAs in Ann Arbor, Dearborn and Hamtramck overwhelmingly voted against Proposal 2, which would ban the use of race and gender preferences in public education, contracting and hiring.

The poll results included responses from about 85 Arab Americans because they also may encounter discrimination and language barriers at the ballot box. Ann Arbor was selected as a polling site partly because of the size of its AA community. ■

Two Offensive Ads, Two Very Different Responses

A Chinese restaurant owner in Tucson refuses to stop an offensive flier but a car dealership in Salt Lake City agrees to stop running a similarly offensive TV commercial.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

You decide for yourself.

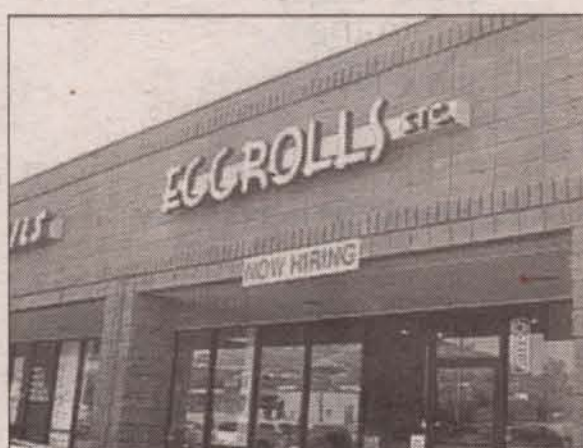
If you received an advertisement flyer from Eggrolls Etc., a take-out and delivery Chinese restaurant in Tucson, Arizona that read — "Every order is delivered via rickshaw by first generation Chinese immigrants ... We really should charge more for delivery, old Chinamen are getting expensive these days" — would you be offended?

Local Asian American groups including the Pan-Asian Community Alliance, the Tucson Chinese Association, and the Chinese American Citizens' Alliance say yes and have all sent letters of complaint to the restaurant's owner Mike Reynolds.

Part of their letters read: "... humor is never an excuse to deride any person or culture ... the ads are very offensive, insulting, and hurtful"

But in response to the complaints, Reynolds has taken a defiant position, telling local media that he has a right to spend his money where he sees fit and insists those that are complaining are only a small group.

"I don't see why I would be required to stop doing what I spend



my money on, because a minority of people are upset," he said in an interview with KOLD News 13.

Local community groups have vowed to keep up the pressure until Eggrolls Etc. stops sending out the offensive fliers.

National JACL is supporting the local community efforts and Bill Yoshino, Midwest regional director, sent a letter to Reynolds encouraging him to pull the offensive fliers.

"Your logic in maintaining the ad is shameful ... Your right to speech is clearly protected, but at what price? The minority of people you mention constitutes the Asian American community throughout this country who do not consider the use of this racial slur as a joke. You are playing a game of racial arrogance that only causes harm to an entire group of people," writes Yoshino.

A similarly offensive ad by a Salt Lake City car dealership received a number of complaints from local AA

groups recently but unlike Eggrolls Etc. the Ken Garff Automotive Group immediately pulled the TV commercials.

The Asian-themed ads were used by the Automotive Group to promote its Honda cars.

In the ad a character representing Chinese philosopher Confucius answers a question posed to him in stereotypical broken English.

The University of Utah's AA Student Association and the Utah Organization of Chinese Americans sent letters of complaint to the Ken Garff Automotive Group calling the ads offensive and perpetuating negative stereotypes. The ads were pulled off the air April 6.

"We are not in the business of offending anybody. We made a huge mistake here," said Steven King, the company's vice president of advertising in an interview with the *Salt Lake Tribune*.

"We're really pleased with the quick action that they're doing to try to remedy this," said local community leader Michael Kwan in the same article. "We got concrete action. I think that shows the level of [Ken Garff's] commitment to diversity within the community." ■

JACL Applauds Firing of Imus for Racially Insensitive Remarks

JACL leaders are quick to point out that national media outlets also need to condemn racial slurs aimed at the AA community.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Asian American groups, including the JACL, are applauding the recent announcement by CBS Radio and NBC News that shock jock Don Imus has been fired as a radio host for making racially insensitive remarks.

Soon after the Rutgers University women's basketball team appeared in the national championship two weeks ago, Imus called the women "nappy-headed hos" during a discussion of the game on his nationally syndicated radio show.

"NBC News and CBS Radio made the right decision ...," said Bill Yoshino, JACL Midwest regional director. "The radio must not be a forum for bigotry, and by their actions NBC and CBS are saying that they will no longer tolerate this type of behavior."

Soon after Imus' remarks were aired on "Imus in the Morning," several African American individuals and groups — including the NAACP, the Rainbow Coalition, and Rev. Al Sharpton — took to the airwaves and newspapers demanding his apology and firing.

Although Imus apologized several



times, including on the "Today" show and on Sharpton's radio show, the issue continued to be pressed by the African American community.

Before long advertisers like General Motors, Corp., American Express Co. and Procter & Gamble Co. began pulling their ads and CBS initially gave Imus a two-week suspension. MSNBC dropped its simulcast of Imus' show on April 11 and CBS announced his firing on April 12.

"We are grateful to see CBS Radio

and MSNBC acting responsibly — along with the corporate sponsors who have pulled their business from the show," said AAJC President and Executive Director Karen K. Narasaki. "This is hardly the first time Don Imus has crossed the line with his malignant racial epithets and we are pleased with the result."

The JACL was quick to point out that national media outlets also need to be sensitive when it comes to racially insensitive remarks directed at the AA community, something that has been sorely lacking.

When "The View" host Rosie O'Donnell recently made her "ching-chong, ching-chong" remarks, the issue was barely covered by the mainstream media and O'Donnell was never reprimanded by ABC News.

"The discussion has rightly focused on slurs directed at African Americans and women because they were the victims of this vicious attack. There must come a time, however, when we condemn the language of hate that is directed at all groups, including Asian Americans," said Yoshino. ■

JACL and ACLU Applaud Introduction of Hate Crimes Prevention Bill in Senate

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The JACL and the ACLU applauded the introduction of the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007 (HR 1592) in the Senate on April 12 by Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-MA, and Gordon Smith, R-OR.

This Act would help local law enforcement fight bias-motivated violent crimes by enabling the Justice Department to assist local and state law enforcement in their investigation and prosecution of hate

crimes based on the victim's sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and disability.

Hate crimes impact entire communities and has an effect of stigmatizing that community. Asian Americans have long been the target of hate crimes since their initial immigration to the U.S. During World War II, numerous AAs were the target of hate crimes as they were under attack solely because of their appearance and language.

"Hate nurtures long-term resentment of various groups of people

who are innocent bystanders and productive citizens in our communities," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

"Hate need no longer be tolerated as an excuse to cause violence against any member of our society. This law is long overdue, and we urge its quick passage."

The bill will also provide financial assistance to help local and state law enforcement agencies meet the extraordinary costs that may occur when prosecuting a hate crime. Most of the nation's law enforcement

organizations are in support of the legislation.

"We are happy to join with many law enforcement organizations in supporting this bill, which will now allow agencies to investigate and prosecute without the fear of overwhelming cost burdens," said National JACL President Larry Oda.

The JACL has long supported the enforcement of hate crimes legislation and has had a long standing program to educate and inform the public and public agencies on the nature of hate crimes and how to respond to

hate crimes.

"The ACLU has a long record of support for both free speech and civil rights, and we are delighted to support a bill that doesn't sacrifice one in favor of another. It punishes acts of discrimination, not bigoted beliefs," said Caroline Fredrickson, director of the ACLU Washington Legislative Office.

"This bill demonstrates that it's possible to vigorously pursue criminal civil rights violations without chilling our First Amendment rights." ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Four Women of the Year to be Honored by Downtown JACL

Four prominent women in the Japanese American community have been selected as the 2007 Women of the Year by the Downtown Los Angeles JACL and the Japanese Women's Society of Southern California.

Vicky Nishinaka-Leon, Fumiye Mary Nishizaki, Aiko Tokunaga Majikina, and Ruth K. Watanabe, will be honored at a May 6 luncheon at the New Otani Hotel & Garden in Downtown Los Angeles.



TOKUNAGA

WATANABE

Nitao, Kinoshita Receive Agricultural Society Award

Itaru Nitao of Watsonville and **Katsumi Kinoshita** of Monterey received the Agricultural Society of Japan's Green and White Award recently at the San Francisco residence of Consul General Makoto Yamanaka and his wife, Yuriko.

The award is given in recognition of agriculture-related achievements, both in Japan and the United States. Nitao and Kinoshita specialize in landscape gardening.

UCLA Appoints Architect Abe as Professor and Chair

Hitoshi Abe has been appointed professor and chair of the UCLA Department of Architecture and Urban Design.

Known for work that is spatially complex and structurally innovative, the work of Abe has been published internationally and received numerous awards in Japan, including 2003 Architectural Institute of Japan Award for Reiho Community Hall, but he is best known for his work on designing the Miyagi Stadium.

Sugiyama Receives Diversity Award from UW

The University of Washington will present its highest award for achievement on behalf of diversity to **Alan Sugiyama**, the founder and executive director of the Center for Career Alternatives.

The Charles E. Odegaard Award will be presented to Sugiyama at the 37th Annual Friends of the Educational Opportunity Celebration May 8.

New NOAA Fisheries Vessel Named After Shimada

A team of five students and their biology teacher from Marina High School in Marina, Calif., won the "Name NOAA's New Ship" contest. The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration selected the entry "Bell M. Shimada" for a 208-foot fisheries survey vessel that is currently under construction in Mississippi. Shimada was an eminent fisheries scientist who specialized in Pacific tropical tuna stocks.

Korean American Sentenced to 9 Years in Prison for Spying

A South Korean court convicted a Korean American of spying for North Korea and sentenced him to nine years in prison.

Jang Min-ho, a 44-year-old naturalized American who is also known as **Michael Jang**, played a key role "in delivering national secrets ... to North Korean agents and setting up meetings between North Korean agents" and four other South Koreans, who were also convicted April 16 of espionage by the Seoul Central District Court. ■

AMICUS BRIEF

(Continued from page 1)

allegations and ruled that prolonged detention does not violate equal protection laws.

The similarities between the past and present cases run deep, except that the plaintiffs in the *Turkman* case are non-citizens — immigrants, the brief argued, like the Issei who worked hard to achieve the American dream, but were singled out because of race.

"Basically, the focus for all three of us has been our fathers — we're Japanese American. How could you do this to a citizen? Unfortunately there hasn't been a lot of focus on their immigrant parents," said Karen about her paternal grandparents, Kakusaburo and Kotsui, who were first forbidden by their adopted country from becoming citizens and owning land, and then ordered to live in desolate internment camps.

"I'm sad and sickened about that whole thought. My grandfather

came to the United States, the land of opportunity, to do something to improve his life and to create a family and to add to mankind," said Karen.

The Korematsu family ran a flower nursery business in California's Bay Area before they received evacuation orders that Fred Korematsu — Karen's father — was famously convicted of resisting. The family was taken to the Tanforan Assembly Center and then transferred to Topaz.

"Who knows what was going through their minds, but it was much more difficult to endure that type of trauma when you are an adult. It's harder to bounce back. I know it literally killed my grandmother," said Karen about Kotsui, who died in 1951.

Kakusaburo, however, was an integral part of Karen's life until he passed away at the age of 93 in 1969, the same year she graduated from high school. The hardworking Issei loved watching television and spent

DAVAOKUO

(Continued from page 1)

Davaokuo. What was once a city born out of fear of Japanese control (Davao was made a chartered city with appointive officials instead of elective officials to thwart Japanese Filipinos from taking control) has turned into a Japanese-friendly tourism spot.

"It is good to think that I am a Japanese Filipino," said Glenbelle Baslao, 20, of Davao. "How [the Japanese] were able to rise after World War II is somewhat an inspiration for us down here."

Issei Influence

The first group of pioneering Issei arrived in the Philippines in 1903 and settled in Davao's virgin forests and jungles in hopes of capitalizing on the demand for abaca or "Manila hemp." Although the Issei were prohibited from owning land, they managed to go around the law by making deals with local landowners. With the enriched land, they built an agricultural empire.

Among these entrepreneurs were the founders of the Ohta Development Company and the Furukawa Fiber Plant. Ohta and Furukawa Takushouko were said to employ many local residents to work in the fields. Today, Ohta's legacy is frozen in time with his monument and the remains of the employee barracks still on display. Traces of the Ohta influence also can be seen in Davao City's district of Bago Shiro, which derives its name from Kozo Ohshiro, the vice president of Ohta Development Company and the first president of the Davao Japanese Association.

By the early 1920s, Davaokuo's Japanese population was exploding.

"Japanese residential areas were scattered around Davao City and its surround areas such as districts of Mintal and Calinan. There were almost 20,000 Japanese residents at its peak in the whole of Davao just before the outbreak of the Pacific War," said Ohno, who received his Master of Arts degree in Philippines Studies at the University of the Philippines and his doctorate from the Australian National University.

The Issei created their own school, newspapers and Shinto Shrine. They also easily intermarried with Davao's indigenous peoples, but the symbiotic harmony would come to an end with the start of WWII.

Moving On with Memories of the Past

During the War, the abaca industry

drastically declined because most of the Issei were conscripted as soldiers and ordered to change their farming crop to rice and other food products for the Japanese armed forces that were headquartered in a Davao residence on Legazpi Street.

By the War's end, the Philippines had suffered war atrocities, including reports of Filipina comfort women who were captured by the Japanese as sex slaves, and a loss of over 1 million casualties.

The origins of Davaokuo's Japanese heritage again became twisted in history.

"Filipinos, however, (just like most Asians) don't like to wallow in the past. We have a way of moving on," said Germelina Lacorte, a Davao City resident and journalist for *Davao Today*.

Last November, Lacorte, 38, worked on a photo essay on the children of a remote Mt. Apo village, where she met Erpincita Ayap, an indigenous Bagobo woman who is of Japanese descent.

"She told me that she grew up thinking her grandfather had a 'strange name.' It was only later when she learned that her grandfather was part of the imperial army (she surmised he was an officer) who went into hiding among the Bagobo indigenous peoples after the war. He married her grandmother but she only came upon this fact later," said Lacorte.

The older generations may still harbor strong resentment towards the Japanese, but young Filipinos generally have positive sentiments, said Ohno.

But there is a love-hate dichotomy between the nations, especially since the Japanese account for the highest number of foreign visitors to the city, according to the Department of Tourism.

For 10 pesos, tourists can visit Davao's Japanese Tunnel, which was used by soldiers during WWII. Inside officials have placed replicas of Japanese soldiers watching over slaves and counting money from a bag. In the last decade, new Japanese restaurants have been popping up in place of Filipino eateries and the city officials are ramping up efforts towards preservation.

Finding the Nikkei-jin

Since August 2006, the Federation of Nikkei-Jin Kai Philippines Inc. along with the Philippine Nikkei-jin Legal Support Center (PNLSC) have been trying to locate the Japanese Filipino children who were abandoned or orphaned by their Japanese fathers because of persecution after Japan lost WWII and the

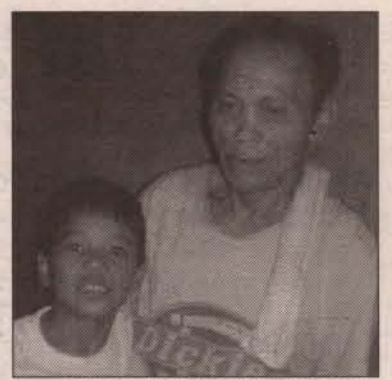


PHOTO COURTESY OF GLEN BELLE BASLAO

HERITAGE: A young Glen Belle Baslao with his maternal grandfather, who is Japanese.

Shin Nikkei, those who were born after the war.

"Every person has a right to know their place of origin, which is one of the fundamental human rights," says the PNLSC Web site. "Our goal is to help Philippine Nikkei-jin to restore their identities ..."

The task is daunting. The Philippine government and Japan have no record of the number of neglected Japanese descendants in the country because their birth certificates show their citizenship as Filipino. And even if some individuals are identified, many Japanese fathers deny blood relations.

Many don't even know they have Japanese blood in their veins.

"Most of them have assimilated, usually you could no longer tell them from the rest of the people who live here in Davao since they already look and speak like everybody else. You could no longer tell the difference until you start asking about their history and descent and you discover they have different names," said Lacorte.

But for other Japanese Filipinos like Baslao, heritage is nothing to be ashamed of.

"I admire the Japanese nationals very much," said Baslao. "Japanese history is no longer a big occasion here, but for some schools like the Phil Nikkei Jin Kai and Mindanao Kokusai Daigaku, they still celebrate the Phil-Japan Friendship Day."

July 23 was declared Philippines-Japan Friendship Day and the year of 2006 was declared Philippines-Japan Friendship Year to commemorate the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations and the Peace Treaty and Reparations Agreement, which required Japan to provide the Philippines with \$50 million in services and goods. ■

For more information about the search for Japanese-Filipinos: <http://www.pnlsc.com/english/index.html>

learn from history are doomed to repeat it? It reminds people of what happened before and how important it is to prevent it from happening again," said Jay in a phone interview from Vancouver, Canada.

The amicus brief, filed by Eric Muller on behalf of Karen, Holly and Jay in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, argues that if it were unjust to single-out JAs during WWII based on race and national origin, then it is equally unjust to have detained the plaintiffs in the *Turkman* case.

"I feel strongly the commitment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 that an episode like the World War II incarceration of people of Japanese ancestry should never happen again. I see no better way to bring my scholarly expertise to bear on current events than to use my skills as a lawyer to work against a recurrence of racial injustice," said Muller, a legal historian at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

The *Turkman* lawsuit was filed

April 2002 by the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) on behalf of a group of Muslims from Pakistan and Turkey who were detained for over six months, allegedly beaten and prohibited from practicing their religion. They were not accused or convicted of any criminal offense.

"The internment of Japanese Americans was a blot on our history we should never repeat. We let fear undermine our democracy then, and we seem not to have learned our lesson," CCR Executive Director Vincent Warren said in a statement.

For these descendants of former internees, it was apparent that they needed to follow in their fathers' footsteps.

"It's my job is to carry on my father's legacy," said Jay, who has told Gordon about his participation in the amicus brief. "He said that it was the right thing to do." ■

For more information: www.ccr-ny.org, <http://www.isthatlegal.org>

Heart Mountain Foundation to Host NHL Ceremony

The Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation will host a formal dedication ceremony on June 23 to celebrate the achievement of National Historic Landmark (NHL) status for the site of the Heart Mountain Relocation Center.

The site received NHL status by the Secretary of Interior as the site has been found to possess exceptional significance in illustrating or commemorating the history of the United States for the benefit and inspiration of the American people.

Fewer than 4 percent of the properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are National Historic Landmarks and this designation is the highest recognition bestowed by the Executive Branch of the Federal Government.

The ceremony will also feature the dedication of a plaque to be placed on the site by Department of



Transportation employees recognizing Norman Y. Mineta, former secretary of Transportation and internee at the Heart Mountain camp. Mineta will be at the ceremony providing comments in addition to Michael D. Snyder, National Park Service regional director and Wyoming State officials. ■

Heart Mountain Ceremony

Open to the public
June 23
10:30 a.m.

Heart Mountain site

For more information:
Pat Wolfe of the Heart Mountain
Foundation at 307/754-2689 or
307/272-3004.

AA Leaders Announce Overwhelming Opposition to Anti-Family Immigration Proposal

Asian American leaders are strongly opposed to what they see as an anti-family immigration proposal created by a group of Republican Senators and supported by the Bush Administration.

"This set of principles is a non-starter — they don't work," said Asian American Justice Center (AAJC) President and Executive Director Karen K. Narasaki. "They don't address the underlying problems leading to undocumented immigration — and, in fact, the policies would actually exacerbate the problems. They offer only false promises to the undocumented already here. And they are very anti-family."

The proposal revealed recently is an attempt to address the some 12 million undocumented immigrants now in the country, while regularizing the flow of low-wage workers. It would create new temporary visas both for those who are currently undocumented, as well as new workers. But it includes no protections, and no path to citizenship for the majority of these immigrants.

One new feature in the proposal is to shift the immigration system to be almost completely based on corporate sponsorship, while either severely curtailing — or even eliminating altogether — the ability of U.S. citizens to bring their parents into the country.

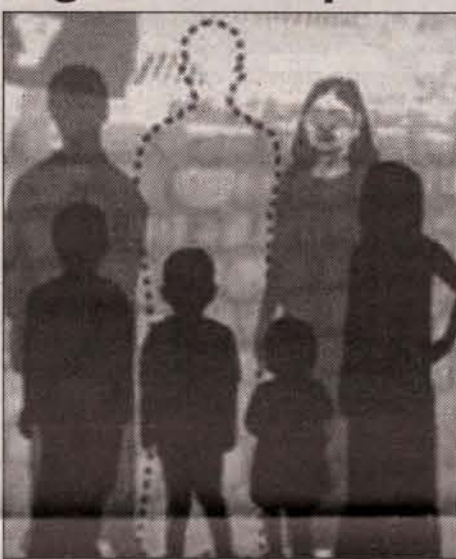
These provisions would also eliminate all other categories of family

visas for sons and daughters over the age of 21, as well as brothers and sisters, of U.S. citizens. This would leave visas available only for spouses and minor children of U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents.

"Our communities will not accept this anti-family proposal from the White House. This is a reminder to Asian Pacific Americans that the current efforts for changing our immigration laws demand our attention and full participation," said Eun Sook Lee, executive director of the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium.

"More than 1.5 million Asians are waiting to join their close family members, many for six to 24 years," said Stewart Kwok, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. "Not only does this proposal do nothing to address this tremendous backlog, it would charge those waiting for long periods because of U.S. immigration policies an additional \$500 fee to keep their place in line and then would eliminate the categories altogether. This is outrageous."

The proposal includes a so-called merit-based point system for green cards which, in addition to employment, would require the ability to pay for health care insurance, own a



A Republican backed immigration law may prohibit families from being reunited.

home and even go so far as to examine how well the children of immigrants are doing in school.

The proposal would allow new workers to come in only temporarily, for two years at a time, then having to return home for six months before coming back again. They would be unable to bring their families with them.

"In barring immigrants from reuniting with their families," said George C. Wu, of the AAJC. "the principles proposed actually make the U.S. all the less attractive to the best, hardest working and most entrepreneurial immigrants who now have many other places in the world to give their talents to." ■

JACL Supports Legislation for Filipino War Veterans

The JACL is supporting the Filipino Veterans Equity Act, which would restore full benefits to those soldiers of Filipino descent who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II.

Out of 200,000 Filipino veterans who were recruited from the Commonwealth of the Philippines and fought under the American flag, only about 20,000 remain, all of them now in their senior years. Initially, these soldiers were granted full pay and benefits for their service during the war, but were later stripped of their veteran status and benefits by Congress in 1946.

"It is time that the United States honors its promise to these veterans," said JACL National President Larry Oda. "These gallant men and

women served bravely and honorably throughout World War II, and the Filipino Veterans Equity Act would reinstate the full recognition that they deserve."

'It is time that the United States honors its promise to these veterans.'

— Larry Oda, JACL Nat'l President

The National Alliance for Filipino Veterans Equity (NAFVE) reports that Filipinos are the only national group singled out for denial of full U.S. veterans' status.

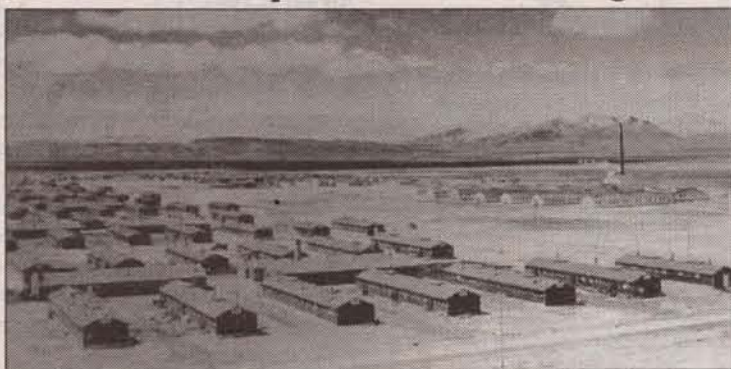
The Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2007 was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Daniel Inouye (S 57) and in

the House by Congressman Bob Filner (H.R. 760).

"The JACL has long supported the Filipino veterans," said JACL National Director Floyd Mori. "As far back as 1997, the JACL has backed legislative efforts to have this injustice corrected, only to see Congress fail time and time again. It is unconscionable that so many of these veterans have passed on, and those that remain are still waiting for our government to fulfill its responsibility to them."

The JACL sent out an action alert to its 112 chapters, and called on them to urge their respective representatives to support the legislation. The bill is currently in the Veterans Affairs Committee in both the House and the Senate. ■

Utah WWII Camp Gets Federal Designation



By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

organizations.

DELTA, Utah—A World War II internment camp for Japanese Americans was declared a National Historic Landmark by the federal government.

The announcement came April 4 from the U.S. Interior Department. In December, President Bush signed a law setting aside \$38 million to preserve camps in Utah and other states.

"They are designated as National Historic Landmarks so that we may all enjoy and learn from them," said Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne, who made the announcement.

The Topaz camp was one of ten WWII internment sites that imprisoned over 120,000 JAs.

In addition to the Topaz internment camp, Tule Lake in California, Amache in Colorado, and Heart Mountain in Wyoming have recently been designated National Historic Landmarks with the support of the JACL and civic

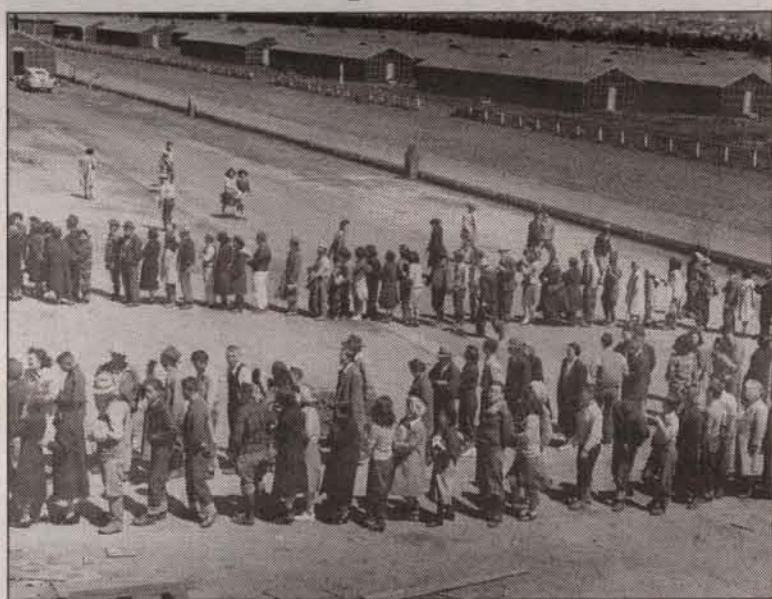
"While I grew up in Utah and I had learned about the camps, seeing the place where over 8,000 people had to endure years of confinement at Topaz was an overwhelming emotional experience," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

"The JACL hopes that this site will be a continuing educational resource on the importance of the Constitution and help us to learn that even in times of war, basic due process should be maintained as outlined in that great document."

The Millard County camp known as Topaz, 140 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, mostly had JAs from northern California. More professional artists were confined there than at any other camp.

The 730-acre site still has many concrete foundations and the bases of guard towers, the government said. Topaz opened in September 1942 in the desert, 15 miles northwest of Delta. ■

Former Internees to Reunite at 'Journey to Tanforan'



After President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 in February 1942, nearly 8,000 Japanese Americans from the San Francisco Bay Area were first evacuated to Tanforan Racetrack in San Bruno before being sent to various concentration camps.

On June 2 at The Shops of Tanforan — the site of the former Tanforan Assembly Center — the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC), over 20 community-based organizations and hundreds of former internees will reunite for a "Journey to Tanforan."

The event will feature a reenactment of the evacuation and arrival at Tanforan — with actors dressed in period clothing arriving on an old Greyhound bus — and speakers including former internees, political guests and Fred Nicholas, a military guard at the Tanforan Assembly Center who went on to become owner of the former Tanforan

Shopping Center in the 1970s.

"Equally as important will be the opportunity to heal the wounds of an aging generation — most of whom are now in their late 80s and early 90s — whose memories of the internment still bears much pain, even after so many years," said JCCCNC Executive Director Paul Osaki.

There are approximately 2,000 former internees alive today, most in their late 80s and early 90s. "Journey to Tanforan" will be the first time that a formal organized national gathering of past internees will be held at Tanforan where buses will depart from the former Bay Area communities where the internees left their homes for Tanforan.

As part of this historic reunion, a luncheon will be held immediately after the program that will begin at 10 a.m. Former Tanforan internees and those interested in attending can call the JCCCNC at 415/567-5505 ext. 234 or e-mail tono@jcccnc.org for further information. ■

AIKIDO

(Continued from page 1)

"With the passing of Furuya Sensei, there were so many things which crossed my mind about the future of the dojo. But one thing remained clear, that what would do the most justice to the legacy of Sensei was for us to continue to practice in his dojo," said Maria Murakawa, 32, a Shin-Nisei second degree black belt who has been with ACLA since 1994.

The students have now formed the Rev. Kensho Furuya Foundation, a group "dedicated to preserving the Dojo and its continued operation maintaining the highest standards of practice and the work of Furuya Sensei...."

Many of the black belts are taking on the role of instructor, volunteering their time and leading the various classes. Although many have full-time jobs and families to attend to, they are committed to seeing that Furuya's beloved dojo continues to teach the traditions of Aikido.

"Right now I try to help out as much as possible with whatever my senior black belts and other students need," said Murakawa. "I think everybody working together is what will continue this tradition of Aikido which Sensei lived for."

Aikido and Life Lessons

Shin-Nisei Ken Watanabe, 38, a fifth degree black belt who is currently serving as one of the ACLA instructors, wanted to learn a type of

martial art when he stumbled across Aikido in 1987.

"I joined because I wanted to learn a martial art and Aikido seemed to be the most Japanese, the most practical," said Watanabe, who passed on karate and judo which seemed more sport-like than a true martial art.

David Ito, a fourth degree black belt, has been an accomplished instructor of the dojo for the past few years and has taken on the added role of vice president of the Kensho Furuya Foundation.

Although Furuya was his Aikido instructor, Ito credits his teacher with not only training him in martial arts but in important life lessons.

"He taught me the greatest lessons in life and I am the person I am today only because of having been his student," said Ito, in a written tribute to Kensho Furuya.

"One of the quotes from an internet posting from Sensei was, 'If you happen to find the right dojo and teacher in your life, you are considered blessed.' I truly consider myself blessed," he said.

Murakawa was looking for a way to begin learning the martial art of Aikido in 1994 when she flipped open the local yellow pages and called up the first listing: the ACLA. It only took one visit to a weekend class before she was hooked.

One of the few females currently in the dojo, she credits Kensho Furuya's traditional instruction for providing balance and tranquility in her life. One lesson she was glad to learn was to "pay attention," not

only to her practice partner and her Sensei's teachings, but to proper etiquette and to her surroundings.

"His sudden passing made it seem more apparent to me that nothing ever stays the same, a wake up call that our lives on earth is so limited," she said. "His teachings continue to inspire me to become a better person."

A Beloved Teacher

On March 6, Rev. Kensho Daniel Masami Furuya was amongst his students teaching a class and laughing when he suddenly passed away. For many of his students, it was a fitting way for their beloved teacher to leave this life.

A man of many skills — teacher, author, speaker, community activist — it was his love of Aikido and his strong belief of teaching and passing on the purist form of Aikido that is his legacy.

Furuya began his martial arts career at an early age. By the age of 14 he was a first degree black belt in Aikido and at his death he had achieved sixth degree black belt sta-



Kensho Furuya (above, center) with his students at an Aikido demonstration.

tus.

Sensei Furuya's passion for traditional Aikido likely sprouted from his studies at the Aikikai Foundation Hombu Dojo — the world headquarters of Aikido in Tokyo. It was upon his return to the United States in 1974 that he opened his first ACLA dojo in Hollywood. In 1984 he established the ACLA in Little Tokyo.

Over his many years of teaching, Kensho Furuya has touched the lives of thousands of students and today there are now a dozen affiliated branches of ACLA operating throughout the world including Monza, Italy; Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Paris, France; and Rehovot, Israel.

A New Chapter

Contractors and architects are currently disassembling the ACLA dojo piece by piece and preparing for its transfer to new digs in the next few weeks. As the dojo leaves Little Tokyo and heads to its new location in Chinatown, the traditional Japanese dojo will look exactly the same as when Kensho Furuya was alive.

After more than two decades in Little Tokyo, the ACLA's lease has ended and new condominiums will be going up in its place. For many of Kensho Furuya's students, the dojo's reincarnation in Chinatown will simply be the next chapter in the history of the ACLA.

"Aikido is a traditional martial art and we need to hand it down to the younger generation. We need to preserve Sensei's Aikido the best we can," said Watanabe.

Although the future remains unclear, the students hope to see Kensho Furuya's beloved dojo continue to pass on the legacy of Aikido to a new generation of students. For them, this is their gift to their beloved teacher.

"I hope the dojo will continue on and forever remember Sensei," said Murakawa. "I also hope that it will become a vital part of the community, a place where students can learn a bit of culture and a different way of life from the past, so important in this busy modern lifestyle we live in." ■

For more information: www.aikido-centerla.com.

IKEDA-NASH

(Continued from page 1)

working at the Buddhist Peace Fellowship (BPF) office at the time. "I felt threatened by the flier."

When the angry letter first arrived at the BPF office a little over a year ago, Ikeda-Nash was not at work. Although her coworkers at the time recognized the hateful tone of the letter they decided not to report the incident to the police. They later discovered that several businesses and residents in the area had received the same letter.

Her coworkers also never thought to call Ikeda-Nash to let her know about the threatening letter directed at JAs. A few days later she would see the flier for the first time as it was passed around at a staff meeting. The letter left her speechless.

In the weeks that followed, Ikeda-Nash was saddened by the apathy of her coworkers and requested another staff meeting. She wanted her coworkers to understand how scared and hurt she was that no one seemed to take the threat to "Japs" seriously or understand the direct impact it was having on her. She even brought a friend as an ally.

"I felt desperately isolated at the time. I wanted [my coworkers] to understand the effect the word 'Jap' had on me as a JA," said Ikeda-Nash. But still, "No one made eye contact and no one asked me how I felt about it. No one said anything about the word 'Jap'."

The hateful letter, they later found out, was written by a black woman whose father had once owned a music store a few doors down from the BPF office but had had his property repossessed. She blamed the "Japs" for moving into her father's home at 1866 Alcatraz Ave. and for taking over the largely African American neighborhood.

Although the author of the hate letter identified herself as Barbara Dobard, even leaving her phone number and e-mail address, no one was ever able to get in touch with her.

The Only JA

Sansei Ikeda-Nash was born in



Patricia Ikeda-Nash with her partner Chris and their son Joshua.

Cleveland and grew up in Akron, Ohio — a small city with very few Asian Americans. Her family members were the only JAs in the neighborhood.

"Ever since I was a kid ... it was communicated from my father that being called a 'Jap' was just about the worst thing that could happen to you," said Ikeda-Nash. Her father had grown up in Indiana, often facing discrimination.

For her, the word "Jap" brought to the surface "the internment, racism, suffering, and the cruelty that my father in particular had experienced."

It was during Ikeda-Nash's ordeal with the hate letter that she recalled seeing a certificate on the wall of her former JA dentist's office. The award was from the "Japanese American Citizens League" and she remembers thinking she never knew such a JA organization existed.

Immediately, Ikeda-Nash did an Internet search for the JAACL and found the local Berkeley chapter. She wrote them a letter explaining her situation and asked for help. Within a couple of weeks chapter members contacted her.

Finally, Ikeda-Nash had found people who understood what she was going through.

"I thought, who can I turn to? I also thought a group called the 'Japanese American Citizens League' ought to be able to help me," she said.

Jim Duff and Alison Satake of the Berkeley JAACL chapter toured the

neighborhood and met with various people who lived in the local area. They also held a community meeting at the BPF office all in an effort to bring peace to the neighborhood.

"I was so impressed by the caliber of their activism," said Ikeda-Nash. "They were firm but understanding ... they provided a presence for education, for enlightenment, and for healing in the community."

It was during one of their walks around the neighborhood that Duff and Satake were confronted by a woman yelling profanities at them from across the street, directly in front of the house listed on the hate flier. While on her way to work, this same woman repeatedly yelled, "God is watching you," to Ikeda-Nash.

"All the windows were filled with hand written signs containing messages of hate and violence similar to the ones on the flier. The yells seemed to be directed more toward Ms. Satake than me," said Duff.

To this day they strongly suspect the woman was the same person

who signed the hate letter as Barbard Dobard. Later on the police would find firearms at the home listed on the hate letter, something that still sends chills down Ikeda-Nash's spine.

"At that time I thought, 'this is what JAACL is about,'" said Duff, "we need to act now and be a positive force in dealing with this type of incident and supporting Patricia Ikeda-Nash, who had asked for our help."

A Difficult Decision, Happier Times

After months of contemplation, in April 2006 Ikeda-Nash turned in her resignation letter to BPF. For too many weeks she had longed for understanding and comfort amongst her coworkers but in the end, it never came.

Although Ikeda-Nash is no longer working at BPF, her experience has led to many changes in how BPF — an organization that works for social justice — now responds to hate crimes and incidents, includ-

ing diversity training for its staff.

Today, Ikeda-Nash is continuing her work as a self-employed copywriter, proofreader, and teacher. And while her experience with the hateful letter was a trying time for her and her family, she notes that it was because of this incident that she is a member of JAACL today. She currently sits on the Berkeley chapter's Civil Rights Committee and she has signed up every single member of her family as a JAACL member.

"What I learned the most is that even among the community in the Bay area ... on JA history and the significance of the word 'Jap' in some cases are forgotten, and some are never known."

"But it has also reinforced my commitment to do my part so that this historical lesson can be known and never be repeated," she said. ■

For more information on the Berkeley chapter go to www.berkeleyjaacl.org.

VIRGINIA TECH

(Continued from page 1)

grants aren't welcome in this country because look what happened," said Eun Sook Lee, executive director of the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium (NAKASEC). "The actions of one individual does not reflect on the entire community," she added.

Cho was a senior at Virginia Tech when he committed the worst shooting rampage in modern U.S. history. According to newswire reports he and his family have been living in the U.S. for 14 years.

As media outlets continue to run wall-to-wall footage of the tragedy, Cho's headshot is a visible reminder of the tragic events that occurred the morning of April 16. Media reports across the nation continue to underscore Cho's ethnicity and legal status — all points that are irrelevant, said Aimee Badillo, director of programs of the Asian American Justice

Center.

"Unfortunately, we have experienced situations when tragic events have occurred, the race and national origins of the suspect are examined. It's a difficult situation," said Badillo.

Although a motive for the shooting is still not clear, media reports indicate that Cho first entered one dormitory in the early morning killing two students. He then waited over two hours before heading across campus to Norris Hall where the majority of the killings occurred.

By the time the police were able to locate the shooter on the 2,600-acre campus, Cho had shot himself in the head.

Now AA students on the Virginia Tech campus, especially those of South Korean descent, are concerned that Cho's actions will lead to a backlash against all AAs on campus, whether students or faculty.

"I'm from South Korea, so I am a little bit scared," said Yoo, 24, in an

interview with Reuters. One individual was responsible for the horrific shootings, she said, "but maybe it will affect all South Korean students."

But a potential backlash against Asian students never even crossed the mind of student Andrew Rush, 20.

"There is a huge community on campus and we're all together in class all day. It's so integrated I don't think this will change anything," he said to Reuters.

The South Korean government immediately released a televised statement of mourning in response to the tragedy and expressed condolences to the families.

Currently, 1,655 students of Asian ancestry attend Virginia Tech, about 6.2 percent of the student population. ■

For more information on hate crimes or hate incidents, go to www.jaacl.org.

'I'm excited to move. It's a bit of a change for me, but it'll be a good change.' — Apolo Anton Ohno



AP PHOTO

SPEEDSKATING

Ohno is Moving to Utah to Train for 2010 Olympics

SALT LAKE CITY—Olympic speedskater **Apolo Anton Ohno** will move to Utah later this year to train for the 2010 Winter Olympics.

"I'm excited to move. It's a bit of a change for me, but it'll be a good change," Ohno said.

Ohno has been training in Colorado Springs, Colo., with the rest of the short-track team. U.S. Speedskating recently moved its headquarters from northeastern Ohio to the Utah Olympic Oval, where many of the top American skaters already train.

He said he is still looking for a

house in Utah.

Ohno made his remarks during a photo appearance recently with Gov. Jon Huntsman and Julianne Hough of Sandy, Ohno's partner on ABC's "Dancing with the Stars."

He took nearly a yearlong break after winning the 500 and taking two bronzes at the Turin Games in 2006. He started training again only two months ago and won the eighth national title of his career at the U.S. championships in Cleveland in February. At the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics, Ohno won gold in the 1,500. ■

BASEBALL

American Managers a Hit in Japanese Baseball

TOKYO—As more of Japan's top players head to the major leagues, American managers are making their mark in Japanese baseball.

Former New York Mets manager Bobby Valentine guided the Chiba Lotte Marines to the title in 2005, becoming the first American to win the Japan Series. Last year, Trey Hillman led the Nippon Ham Fighters to the championship.

This season, the Orix Buffaloes hired former Houston Astros and Anaheim Angels skipper Terry Collins.

Along with Marty Brown of the Hiroshima Carp, American managers now hold one third of the managerial positions in Japanese professional baseball.

Overcoming obstacles like a new language and a different approach to the game are just some of the challenges facing American managers overseas.

"I wake up every morning with a whole new set of questions that I want to find the answers to," Collins said. "Obviously, the biggest challenge is the language barrier."

Collins was working in the Los Angeles Dodgers organization last season when he got an offer to manage the Buffaloes.

"I was looking for something different to do," he said. "This is what I love to do. I love to manage a game and compete, and I missed that."

Since he arrived, Collins has noticed more than a few things that

are unique about the Japanese game, including the amount of practice teams expect from their players.

Valentine's success in Japan has spurred the trend toward American managers.

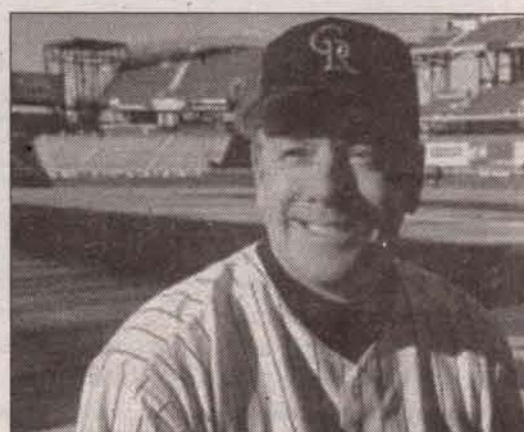
He is in his second stint overseas, after he was fired following the 1995 season, despite leading the Marines to a second-place finish — their best in 10 years.

Nobody is arguing with Valentine's methods now, after returning to Japan in 2004 and leading his team to the title in 2005. The 56-year-old manager says creating the right atmosphere on a team is a key to success.

"A non-Japanese manager will do things before and after the game that will allow players to relax and enjoy the game a bit more than a Japanese manager might," Valentine said. "The way the player feels about playing the game can often be responsible for improved performance."

After a successful career as a minor league manager in the Yankees organization, Hillman jumped at the opportunity to manage in Japan and is now in his fifth season with the Fighters.

"I did all I could do to learn about



Collins (above) defected from the Houston Astros to join the Orix Buffaloes and Hillman (right) led the Nippon Ham Fighters to the championship last year.



Japanese baseball before coming over," said Hillman, who even rented the Tom Selleck movie "Mr. Baseball," about a fading major leaguer whose career finds new life in Japan.

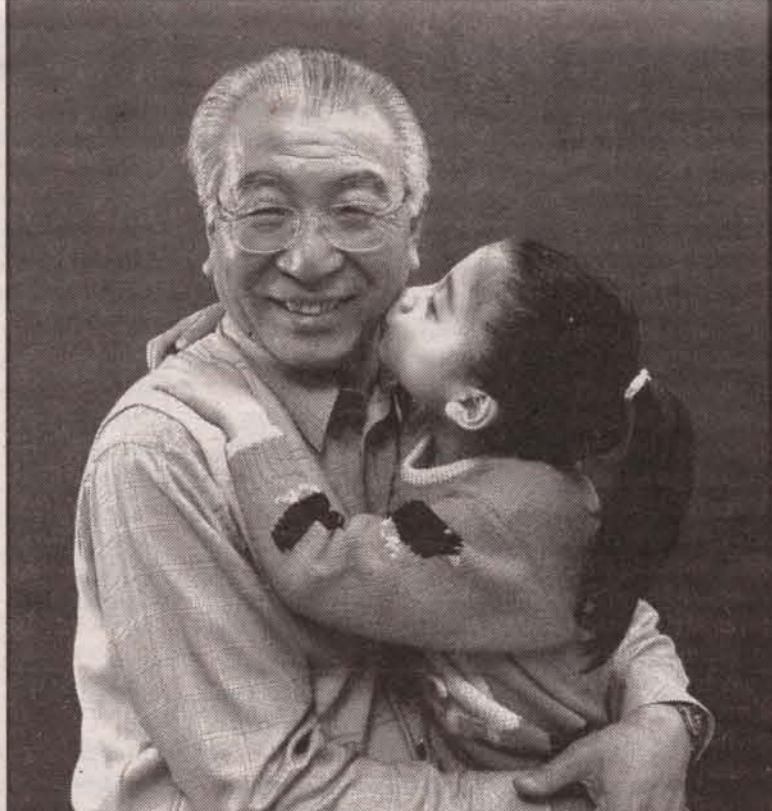
All the studying paid off when Hillman's Fighters upset the favored Chunichi Dragons for the championship last season.

Hillman interviewed with three major league teams in the offseason but ended up back in Japan, where he is proud to be part of the American wave.

"I think it's cool that one third of the managers here are American," he said, "but if I was a Japanese manager I guess I wouldn't be too happy about it." ■



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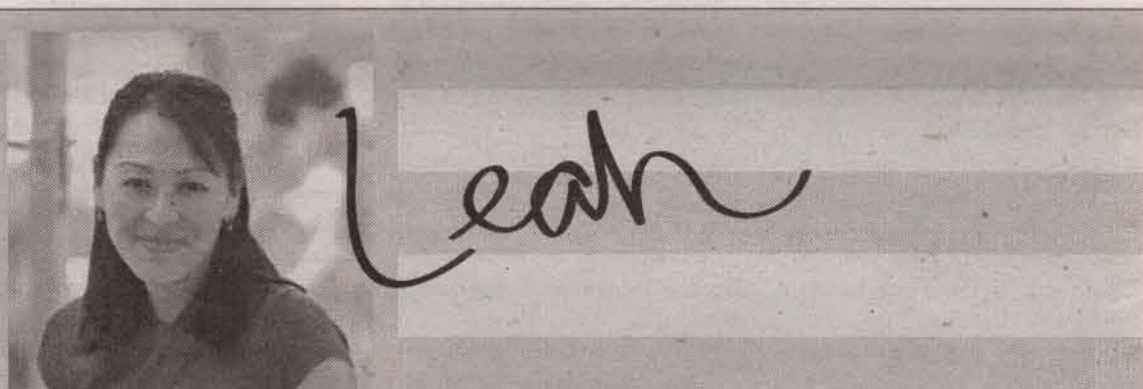
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• HARRY HONDA •
VERY TRULY YOURS

Teaching Children Their National Identity



DO YOU MIND exploring an international problem this week? Nations are teaching children about their nation's past. This topic came up at a recent Sunday morning chat over coffee and doughnuts. When Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan paid a visit to Yasukuni Shrine, it was explained that he was trying to imbue patriotism in the young children.

But Japan is not the only nation confronting the issue of national identity. The *Economist* last month gave a splendid review of how children in other countries are being taught nowadays.

For 750 years after the first invasion of an English king, children were taught Ireland suffered oppression as late as the 1950s and that her sons rose against English tyranny the Easter of 1916, when the leaders were shot but their cause prevailed. The fact that Catholics and Protestants fought for Britain during the two world wars was hardly mentioned in the schools.

Then in the 1980s, some began to question elementary Irish history. Ireland was rich and confident and they saw less need to simplify history to children and proceeded to correct its curriculum without much controversy.

In the modern history of Mexico, a big landmark was the introduction of textbooks in 1990 "that were a bit less anti-American."

In Australia, Prime Minister John Howard made history one of his favorite causes. He told educators last summer to "re-establish a structured narrative" about the nation's white settlement of the 1900s. "Settlement" of those days has been replaced by "invasion," and for the first time, with stories of Aborigines and women.

Howard's bid to promote a patriotic view of history has met strong resistance in New South Wales, the most populous state in Australia. However, one educator in history at a girl's high school in Sydney, who grew up as a Chinese child in white Australia in the 1950s, welcomed the approach that includes the dark side of European settlement.

Russia's a country where its national story seems natural to many people. President Vladimir Putin last year introduced a new national holiday, Nov. 4, to replace the old communist holiday, Revolutionary Day on Nov. 7. What Nov. 4 will recall is a moment in 1612 when Russia drove the Catholic Poles and Lithuanians out of Moscow and reinforced the defensive towards western Christendom, despite the positive steps shown when Putin and Pope Benedict XVI held a 25-minute chat last month. As themes and

campus to prove their loyalty on battlefields; some paid the supreme sacrifice with their lives.

Textbooks at Japanese language schools in California do carry the story the 442 *Butai*. Perhaps we can be apprised of other Japanese American stories.

National JACL, I can add, has preceded the above organizations through various national committees to tell and retell our story, though one resolve remains: "To insist Japanese Americans are distinct, separate and independent of Japan." This "therefore be it

'And despite the humiliation, young men enlisted from these camps to prove their loyalty on battlefields; some paid the supreme sacrifice with their lives.'

ideas take time to flow from elite to the classroom, Russian schools are still quite liberal and free-ranging, the *Economist* added.

In South Africa where white rule collapsed in 1996, the new republic seems to have done a better job forging a new national story. The main message of the post-Apartheid story for children looks at primary sources, such as oral histories and documents, "instead of spoon-feeding them on textbooks," a history teacher at Cape Province told the newsmagazine. Dec. 16 used to remember white settlers clashing with the Zulus in 1838; now it's the Day of Reconciliation.

And a popular adjunct to textbooks is the computer and laptops.

About Japanese Americans, the Go for Broke National Education Center, Japanese American National Museum and the Japanese American Memorial Foundation are three active organizations engaged in preserving, telling and publishing the story of the World War II internment of persons of Japanese ancestry. And despite the humiliation, young men enlisted from these

resolved" was passed at the national JACL convention in 1960 in wake of the anti-U.S. demonstrations in Japan that destroyed the projected visit of President Eisenhower.

The Washington JACL Office had received phone calls demanding why "we" didn't do something to control "your" young people [in Japan]. And don't say, "the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor," but "when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor."

In 1996, the National JACL Education Committee produced a three-ring binder curriculum and resource guide, "A Lesson in American History: the Japanese American Experience" (\$15), to also help local chapters develop an effective education program. I'm sure, the committee has added material to fatten the binder with points on PowerPoint presentation slides. ■

Agree? Disagree?

Tell the community what you think.

pc@pacificcitizen.org

• JOHN TATEISHI •
FOR THE RECORD



The Shame of a Nation

At a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee in January, U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales made one of the most outrageous statements ever uttered by an attorney general when he said there could be exceptions to *habeas corpus*.

Exceptions to *habeas corpus*?

Plainly stated, *habeas corpus* is the right of a prisoner to go before a judge to ask for release, to ask for due process. This is a fundamental right of American jurisprudence taken from the Magna Carta of 1215 and included as part of the Constitution. It's fundamental to American justice and to the American sense of fair play and moral rectitude. It's something that should never be questioned in this country, but it's been seriously challenged by the Bush Administration.

Last year, in a challenge of the administration's detention policy, the D.C. Court of Appeals ruled in the administration's favor in confirming that prisoners at Guantanamo, as "enemy combatants," have no right of *habeas corpus*.

The Supreme Court, however, reversed the Appeals Court ruling and stated that enemy combatants do in fact have *habeas corpus* rights. In response, the Bush administration found a way to skirt the court's ruling by introducing the Military Commission Act, which was approved by the Republican-controlled Congress last year. This Act denies *habeas corpus* rights to enemy combatants and goes even further by stripping the courts of the authority to rule on abuses committed against enemy combatants.

One only need look at the Jose Padilla "Dirty Bomber" case, an American citizen who was declared by Bush to be an enemy combatant and was imprisoned for four years without access to an attorney and without due process. Regardless of whether he was guilty or innocent of any crimes or terrorist acts, a fundamental basis of American law guarantees him the right to due process. How else would someone like Padilla be able to argue his innocence? Or how else would prosecutors be able to prove his guilt?

On a much larger scale, we have the prison at the Naval Base at Guantanamo, where we have held several hundreds of so-called enemy combatants, none of whom have had an opportunity to plead their cases. They have no *habeas corpus* rights based on the current Bush Administration policy derived from the Military Commission Act.

They were captured from a war zone, you argue?

It's true that those at Guantanamo were brought there from the war in Iraq or Afghanistan, but it's never been clear why. While it's reasonable to assume that some at Guantanamo deserve to be there for the right reasons, over 80 percent were captured and turned over by mercenaries, who were paid large amounts of cash for each person captured. Guilt or innocence sometimes has little to do with anything when it comes to making large amounts of money, especially in

wartime.

So why should the JACL be concerned about Guantanamo?

Why? Because the denial of *habeas corpus* is both a constitutional and moral issue, and Guantanamo is the symbol of how far we have gone wrong as a nation. Jose Padilla is a living example of how far we've fallen.

The American legal system has always demanded that evidence be presented to demonstrate that the imprisonment of an individual is warranted. Granted, this hasn't always worked as it should, and in many instances hasn't worked at all. But it's still a fundamental basis of how our judicial system works. Not perfect, true, but it's set up as it is for a reason, and that's to avoid authorities being able to railroad someone into prison and to the hangman's noose with bias.

One hears the argument that there's a war on, that we can't understand these people and can't trust them, that this is one of the sacrifices of war, and look at what they did on 9/11. And on and on.

Sound familiar? It ought to, because those are echoes of 1942 all over again. We've put civilians in our prisons because someone identified them as dangerous. And once again, no one questioned it enough to stop it.

In 1942, *habeas corpus* was essentially suspended. Today, it's been side stepped by an Act of Congress signed by the president. And the consequence is that we have a government policy that ignores the dangers it creates to the foundations of democracy in America.

Just like 1942.

The basic premises between then and now are too eerily similar not to draw comparisons. Imprisonment because of ethnicity. Denial of *habeas corpus* rights despite questions of how and why these people are imprisoned. Suspensions because of culture and belief. These factors have brought prisoners to places like Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib, just as they did to places like Manzanar and Topaz and Minidoka and all the other camps.

"The enemy is among us," words spoken by General John L. DeWitt, by Earl Warren, by Karl Bendersen, by John McCloy ... and by George Bush, by John Ashcroft, by Dick Cheney. *Those exact same words.* Innocent people imprisoned to ensure the public's safety. "Military necessity" in 1942, "public safety" in today's vernacular.

You can't tell me that we shouldn't be concerned as Americans. *Habeas corpus* is about as American as you can get, and if we don't feel alarmed and outraged at what's going on, then I begin to wonder what the organization is about. We should be as alarmed about this issue as we should about First Amendment ones. We turn our backs on these and we need to re-think ourselves as an organization. ■

John Tateishi is the immediate past national JACL director and also served as the JACL's redress chairman. His column appears regularly in the Pacific Citizen.



PHOTOS: MATT MORGAN/
WARNER HOME VIDEO

*Desmond Nakano's
'American Pastime'
is more than a movie
about baseball.*

By **LYNDA LIN**
Assistant Editor

This 'Pastime' Triumphs on Both Sides of the Fence

Lyle Nomura's pitches whiz through the air and land in the catcher's glove, but the umpire's strike zone is a little biased. In an impromptu game between Japanese American prisoners and their white guards on the baseball field behind barbed wire, there are divisions already drawn in the sand.

After arguing about the unfair calls, one guard scornfully asks why the perceived alien enemies of World War II think they know the all-American sport.

"It's not about baseball," the other responds.

And despite the inferences of its title, Desmond Nakano's "American Pastime" isn't just a sports movie about keeping score while rooting for the underdogs rounding the bases. It's about you and hundreds of thousands of other JAs reading this newspaper since the day the government took away your innocence.

Many documentaries and fictional films have been made about the internment — some good, many bad and almost all cursed by the disease called "low budget" — but then there's "American Pastime," a film that somehow discovers a fresh perspective on historical events that still run in our community's collective unconscious like a broken record.

Stark Beauty, Personal Stories and Some Change-ups

Recreating the past can be tricky — just one too many loud crescendos of music or emotional outbursts can steer a historically based movie into the realms of a made-for-television Hallmark movie. "Pastime" walks the line perfectly.

Yes, there are requisite montages of thorny barbed wire piercing the eternally

blue Utah sky and the imposing guard tower rising out of the sand, but there are also moments of artistic genius that rival the still images of Ansel Adams — a sweeping shot of the fractures in the parched land and dust gently covering Lyle's (Aaron Yoo) young face.

The heart of "Pastime" is the people — a community of many uncommon friends including a ukulele-playing Hawaiian and a loose-tongue Issei with a penchant for gambling and making moonshine. At center is the Nomura family, led by Kaz (Masatoshi Nakamura, a famous Japanese singer and actor, in a powerhouse American debut) and Emi (Judy Ongg), the Issei parents of teenagers Lyle and Lane (Leonardo Nam) who are forced to abandon their home and flower shop business to live in the co-ed barracks of Topaz.

Slowly, the injustice begins to create splinters in the Nomura family. Lane and Lyle, who are named after Desmond's real life late father and uncle, adjust to their incarceration differently. Lane volunteers for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Lyle, who lost a college baseball scholarship because of his incarceration, finds solace in drinking and, of course, baseball.

It's not just a game — baseball for the internees was a way of life and a much-needed diversion from reality. The Nomura family story is so painfully intimate and powerful, it seems to be hewed out of the ribs of writer/director Desmond and Associate Producer Kerry Yo Nakagawa, who is also the author of "Through a Diamond: 100 Years of Japanese American Baseball" and founder of the "Nisei Baseball Research Project."

Delving Into the Other Side

of the Fence

But what makes "Pastime" outstanding is its exploration of the effects of the war on all Americans, including those on the other side of the fence.

Desmond skillfully avoids the pitfalls of overarching evil-white-people stereotypes (although there are a couple of bad eggs) with Billy Burrell (Gary Cole), an embittered Topaz guard and former major league prospect. Like Kaz, Billy is brimming with silent frustration over unrealized dreams and irreversible circumstances.

All around him, the young men — including his own son — are killed in battle in far-off lands and in one scene, he angrily tosses a baseball and confesses to feeling like a babysitter at Topaz. His emotions always bubble at the surface ready to explode into rage especially when he discovers his daughter (Sarah Drew) has fallen in love with Lyle — a sweet love story that casts the Asian American male as a romantic lead.

Even for those who lived through the events recreated onscreen, "Pastime" is a powerful love letter to the Nikkei community and a can't-miss. ■

'American Pastime'

Catch the film at the following screenings:

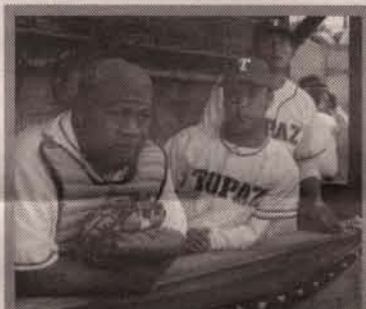
May 5 - Los Angeles Asian American Film Festival
May 18 - The Japanese American National Museum

Buy the DVD starting May 22 from Warner Home Video

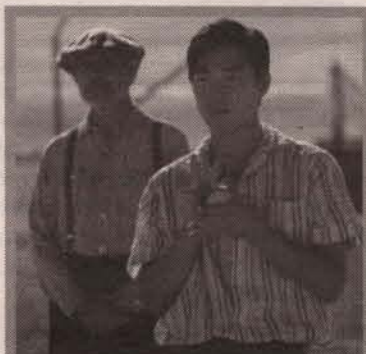
For more information:
whv.warnerbros.com,
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FATHER AND SON:
Kaz (Masatoshi Nakamura)
shares advice with Lyle
(Aaron Yoo).



BATTER UP:
Hawaiian native Buddha
(Big Budah) awaits his
turn.



Lyle finds a mentor in Mr.
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Sept. 16-26 **Yamato New England: Islands & Mountains with Collette Vacations** - 10 days visiting Hyannis, Cape Cod, Provincetown, Martha's Vineyard, Lincoln (New Hampshire), Cruise Lake Winnepesaukee, Woodstock, Danvers, Salem and Boston. **Sharon Seto**

Oct. 3-10 **Yamato Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta** - 8 days visiting Roswell UFO Museum, Carlsbad Caverns, White Sands National Monument, Albuquerque Balloon Festival mass ascension, cable car to Sandia Peak, Taos, Durango (Colorado) to board the Narrow Gauge Railway to Silverton, Mesa Verde National Park and Gallup. **Phillipe Theriault**

Oct. 15-25 **Yamato Italian Treasures with Globus** - 11 days visiting Rome, Pisa, Lucca, San Gimignano, Siena, Florence, Verona, Venice, Ravenna, Assisi and Orvieto. **Grace Sakamoto**

Oct. 20-Nov. 13 **Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan** - 15 days visiting Kagoshima, Kumamoto, Hiroshima, Yonago, Kyoto and Tokyo. **Peggy Mikuni**

Nov. 8-18 **Yamato Tour to Okinawa & Japan** - 11 days visiting Naha, Manza Beach, Kagoshima, Kumamoto, Nagasaki, Fukuoka and Hiroshima. **Lilly Nomura**

Dec. 3-7 **Yamato New York City Holiday Tour with Collette Vacations** - 5 days w/ sightseeing including Statue of Liberty, Metropolitan Museum of Art, lunch at Tavern on the Green, Broadway show, Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular featuring the Rockettes. Plus you will see the Christmas tree lit at Rockefeller Center; the ice rink will be open and the stores will be decorated for the holidays. A very special time to visit this exciting destination. **Grace Sakamoto**

PROPOSED TOURS FOR 2008

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4/6-4/12 **Yamato D.C. Cherry Blossom Tour** - 7 days visiting Philadelphia, Lancaster, Washington, D.C., Mt. Vernon and the U.S. Naval Academy. **Lilly Nomura**

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National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

APA Groups Condemns Power 105.1 for Racist Remarks

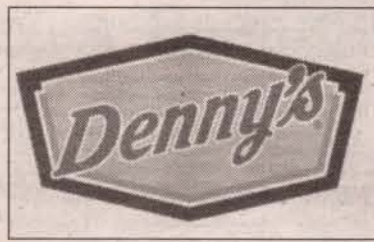
NEW YORK—Asian Pacific American groups are demanding an apology from radio station 105.1 FM for its April 11 airing of a segment called "Are You Smarter Than An Asian."

During the "Ed Lover Show with Egypt and Ashy" on Power 105.1, a "Mr. Hung Lo" allegedly spoke with a stereotypical Chinese accented broken English, and kung fu fighting music in the background. A call-in listener then competed with "Mr. Lo" to answer stereotypical questions.

The Organization of Chinese Americans is calling for a meeting with radio executives.



Syracuse University Remembers 10th Anniversary of Denny's Beating



SYRACUSE, NY—On the 10th anniversary of the Denny's beating of a group of APAs, Syracuse University Students held a three-day event to spotlight hate crimes.

The April 11-13 event featured a panel discussion and dialogue about intolerance.

In 1997, a group of six Asian American and Japanese students and their white companion were allegedly denied service at a Denny's restaurant in Syracuse and were then beaten in the restaurant's parking lot by a gang of white patrons.

By the time police arrived at the scene, the fight had already ended and the group of whites had left the scene.

APA leaders argued that the students were denied the right to full and equal service from Denny's, including the protection of Denny's hired security guards.

Oregon House Approves Honorary Degrees for JA Internees

SALEM, Ore.—The House unanimously approved a bill April 2 to allow honorary degrees for Japanese Americans, who as college students during WWII, were placed in internment camps or otherwise denied access to higher education in Oregon.

HB 2823 would apply to students enrolled at an Oregon college or university when they were forced into internment camps by presidential executive order in 1942.

Families could request degrees on behalf of deceased relatives. Oregon's universities support the bill, which now heads to the Senate.



Rep. Brian Clem helped introduce HB 2823 in honor of his father-in-law.

Washington Recognizes Korean Immigration to Hawaii

OLYMPIA, Wash.—Gov. Chris Gregoire signed a bill to authorize celebration of Korean American Day every Jan. 13, the day Koreans first arrived in Hawaii.

It wouldn't be a legal holiday that would close schools, banks and government offices, but the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs would help coordinate events across the state to celebrate the contributions of the state's third-largest ethnic population, said Sen. Paull Shin, D-Edmonds.

At last count, the state had 46,000 native Koreans and Korean Americans.

Survey: Asians Opposed Prop 2

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—If Asian Americans were seen as a swing group in the debate over affirmative action and Proposal 2, a recent poll puts that notion to rest, according to University of Michigan law students.

APAs in Ann Arbor, Dearborn and Hamtramck overwhelmingly voted against Proposal 2, which would ban the use of race and gender preferences in public education, contracting and hiring.

The poll results included responses from about 85 Arab Americans because they also may encounter discrimination and language barriers at the ballot box. Ann Arbor was selected as a polling site partly because of the size of its AA community. ■

Two Offensive Ads, Two Very Different Responses

A Chinese restaurant owner in Tucson refuses to stop an offensive flier but a car dealership in Salt Lake City agrees to stop running a similarly offensive TV commercial.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

You decide for yourself.

If you received an advertisement flyer from Eggrolls Etc., a take-out and delivery Chinese restaurant in Tucson, Arizona that read — "Every order is delivered via rickshaw by first generation Chinese immigrants ... We really should charge more for delivery, old Chinamen are getting expensive these days" — would you be offended?

Local Asian American groups including the Pan-Asian Community Alliance, the Tucson Chinese Association, and the Chinese American Citizens' Alliance say yes and have all sent letters of complaint to the restaurant's owner Mike Reynolds.

Part of their letters read: "... humor is never an excuse to deride any person or culture ... the ads are very offensive, insulting, and hurtful ..."

But in response to the complaints, Reynolds has taken a defiant position, telling local media that he has a right to spend his money where he sees fit and insists those that are complaining are only a small group.

"I don't see why I would be required to stop doing what I spend



my money on, because a minority of people are upset," he said in an interview with KOLD News 13.

Local community groups have vowed to keep up the pressure until Eggrolls Etc. stops sending out the offensive fliers.

National JACL is supporting the local community efforts and Bill Yoshino, Midwest regional director, sent a letter to Reynolds encouraging him to pull the offensive fliers.

"Your logic in maintaining the ad is shameful ... Your right to speech is clearly protected, but at what price? The minority of people you mention constitutes the Asian American community throughout this country who do not consider the use of this racial slur as a joke. You are playing a game of racial arrogance that only causes harm to an entire group of people," writes Yoshino.

A similarly offensive ad by a Salt Lake City car dealership received a number of complaints from local AA

groups recently but unlike Eggrolls Etc. the Ken Garff Automotive Group immediately pulled the TV commercials.

The Asian-themed ads were used by the Automotive Group to promote its Honda cars.

In the ad a character representing Chinese philosopher Confucius answers a question posed to him in stereotypical broken English.

The University of Utah's AA Student Association and the Utah Organization of Chinese Americans sent letters of complaint to the Ken Garff Automotive Group calling the ads offensive and perpetuating negative stereotypes. The ads were pulled off the air April 6.

"We are not in the business of offending anybody. We made a huge mistake here," said Steven King, the company's vice president of advertising in an interview with the *Salt Lake Tribune*.

"We're really pleased with the quick action that they're doing to try to remedy this," said local community leader Michael Kwan in the same article. "We got concrete action. I think that shows the level of [Ken Garff's] commitment to diversity within the community." ■

JACL Applauds Firing of Imus for Racially Insensitive Remarks

JACL leaders are quick to point out that national media outlets also need to condemn racial slurs aimed at the AA community.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Asian American groups, including the JACL, are applauding the recent announcement by CBS Radio and NBC News that shock jock Don Imus has been fired as a radio host for making racially insensitive remarks.

Soon after the Rutgers University women's basketball team appeared in the national championship two weeks ago, Imus called the women "nappy-headed hos" during a discussion of the game on his nationally syndicated radio show.

"NBC News and CBS Radio made the right decision ...," said Bill Yoshino, JACL Midwest regional director. "The radio must not be a forum for bigotry, and by their actions NBC and CBS are saying that they will no longer tolerate this type of behavior."

Soon after Imus' remarks were aired on "Imus in the Morning," several African American individuals and groups — including the NAACP, the Rainbow Coalition, and Rev. Al Sharpton — took to the airwaves and newspapers demanding his apology and firing.

Although Imus apologized several



times, including on the "Today" show and on Sharpton's radio show, the issue continued to be pressed by the African American community.

Before long advertisers like General Motors, Corp., American Express Co. and Procter & Gamble Co. began pulling their ads and CBS initially gave Imus a two-week suspension. MSNBC dropped its simulcast of Imus' show on April 11 and CBS announced his firing on April 12.

"We are grateful to see CBS Radio

and MSNBC acting responsibly — along with the corporate sponsors who have pulled their business from the show," said AAJC President and Executive Director Karen K. Narasaki. "This is hardly the first time Don Imus has crossed the line with his malignant racial epithets and we are pleased with the result."

The JACL was quick to point out that national media outlets also need to be sensitive when it comes to racially insensitive remarks directed at the AA community, something that has been sorely lacking.

When "The View" host Rosie O'Donnell recently made her "ching-chong, ching-chong" remarks, the issue was barely covered by the mainstream media and O'Donnell was never reprimanded by ABC News.

"The discussion has rightly focused on slurs directed at African Americans and women because they were the victims of this vicious attack. There must come a time, however, when we condemn the language of hate that is directed at all groups, including Asian Americans," said Yoshino. ■

JACL and ACLU Applaud Introduction of Hate Crimes Prevention Bill in Senate

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The JACL and the ACLU applauded the introduction of the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007 (HR 1592) in the Senate on April 12 by Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-MA, and Gordon Smith, R-OR.

This Act would help local law enforcement fight bias-motivated violent crimes by enabling the Justice Department to assist local and state law enforcement in their investigation and prosecution of hate

crimes based on the victim's sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and disability.

Hate crimes impact entire communities and has an effect of stigmatizing that community. Asian Americans have long been the target of hate crimes since their initial immigration to the U.S. During World War II, numerous AAs were the target of hate crimes as they were under attack solely because of their appearance and language.

"Hate nurtures long-term resentment of various groups of people

who are innocent bystanders and productive citizens in our communities," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

"Hate need no longer be tolerated as an excuse to cause violence against any member of our society. This law is long overdue, and we urge its quick passage."

The bill will also provide financial assistance to help local and state law enforcement agencies meet the extraordinary costs that may occur when prosecuting a hate crime. Most of the nation's law enforcement

organizations are in support of the legislation.

"We are happy to join with many law enforcement organizations in supporting this bill, which will now allow agencies to investigate and prosecute without the fear of overwhelming cost burdens," said National JACL President Larry Oda.

The JACL has long supported the enforcement of hate crimes legislation and has had a long standing program to educate and inform the public and public agencies on the nature of hate crimes and how to respond to

hate crimes.

"The ACLU has a long record of support for both free speech and civil rights, and we are delighted to support a bill that doesn't sacrifice one in favor of another. It punishes acts of discrimination, not bigoted beliefs," said Caroline Fredrickson, director of the ACLU Washington Legislative Office.

"This bill demonstrates that it's possible to vigorously pursue criminal civil rights violations without chilling our First Amendment rights." ■

In Memoriam - 2006-2007

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Azuma, Shinsuke, 81, Whittier, Mar. 27; survived by wife, Kazumi; son, Yoshiaki (Marian); daughters, Kumiko Yamamori and Nancy (Bryan) Fujii; 10 gc.; 2 ggc.; brother, Mike; and sister, Yuriko.

Hayashi, Yaeko, 84, Chula Vista, Feb. 21; survived by husband, Tadashi; sons, Alan (Nancy) and Dr. Ron (Phyllis); daughter, Sharon (Dr. Jim) Kunugi; and 4 gc.

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcome. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$20 per column inch. Text is reworded as necessary.

Hitomi, Haruko, 88, Spokane, Wash., Apr. 2; survived by son, George; and sister, Tsuruko (Tsuneo) Otsuki.

Honbo, Marie, 83, Granada Hills, Mar. 20; survived by husband, Kazuo; sons, Itsumi, Gary, Russell (Nancy) and Roger; 4 gc.; 2 ggc.; sisters, Suzie Terasawa, and Betty (Frank) Sakata; and brothers, Hiroshi, James, Kay, Roy (Joy) and Terry.

Hongo, Russell Ken, 53, Los Angeles, Mar. 25; survived by mother, Miyoko; brothers, Ronnie and Raymond; and life partner, Karen Hernandez.

Imura, Grace Takayo, 79, Whittier, Mar. 16; survived by brothers, Daniel (May), Denby (Setsuko), Dwight and Delano (Dawn) Kawahara.

Inouye, Chiyo, 81, Garden Grove, Mar. 24; survived by son, Ken (Donna); brother, Tomio (Lynette) Kanegae; sisters, Joyce (Skee) Tabata and Michi (George) Shigaki; sister-in-law, Tsuneko Kanegae; and brothers-in-law, Fred Kozuwa and Ed (Hathy) Inouye.

Kamei, Hiroshi, 79, Anaheim, Mar. 30; survived by wife, Tami; daughter, Susan; sons, Robert, Alan and John; and 6 gc.

Kaminishi, Roy Tadashi, 94,

Monterey Park, Mar. 28; survived by son, Dr. Ronald; daughter, Janice (Thomas) Ashimoto; 5 gc.; brother, Satoshi; and brother-in-law, Shig (Mitsie) Nishikawa.

Kashitani, Dawn Asako, 96, Mar. 30; survived by son, Paul (Setsuko); daughter, Joanne (Ken) Okita; 2 gc.; and 6 ggc.

Kawahira, Chiyokiku, 87, Los Angeles, Mar. 26; survived by sons, Tadaaki (Naoko) and Tadahide (Rosa); daughters, Teruye (Art) Musashi and Minako (William) Doran; 5 gc.; and sisters-in-law, Mitsuko, Mary and Itsuko Kawahira.

Kawasaki, Hatsuo, 81, Los Angeles, Mar. 31; survived by sons, Atsushi (Eva), Shoji (Ayako) and Katsuya; daughter, Paulina (Stanton Ogata) Kawasaki; 5 gc.; and 2 ggc.

Kihara, Rev. Join, 62, Gardena, Mar. 25; survived by wife, Hisae; mother, Tsumi; brothers, Joei (Kisako), Yoshiteru (Sugie), Shizumi and Shizuyuki (Nobuko) Kusumura; and sister-in-law, Masako Kawahara.

Kobayashi, George, 83, Gardena, Mar. 22; survived by sons, Kenji and Bruce; daughter, June (Don) Fujimoto; 2 gc.; sisters, Emma Nakaoki and Matsuye (Mas) Chuman; and sisters-in-law, Toshiko (Arthur) Shimizu and Shizue Hirata.

Kobayashi, John Masaaki, 86, Mar. 29; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Masako; son, Kelley (Naomi); sisters, Ruth (Tom) Tanaka, Grace (Charles) Shigeno and Carol Wininger; brother George (Frances); and sisters-in-law, Kazue Okasaki and Molly Shigeno.

Koyama, Taichi, 51, Torrance, Mar. 22; survived by parents, Michihito and Kazuko; and sisters, Michiko (Joe) Fukumoto and Tomoko (Mitsugu) Sugimoto.

Matsushita, Masahiko, 88, Los Angeles, Mar. 15; survived by wife, Michi; and brothers, Kats and Sam.

Ogawa, Grace, 42, Mar. 24;

survived by husband, Curt; daughter, Jordan; parents, Susumu and Hisako Maki; and sister, Jane (Glenn) Shintaku.

Oi, Rev. Shojo, Jan. 2; survived by wife, Kiyono; 4 children; and 9 gc.

Sasaki, Toshio, 60, Nagakute, Japan, Mar. 10; sculptor who did "The First Symphony of the Sea" at the New York Aquarium at Coney Island and was a finalist for the World Trade Center Memorial; survived by wife, Miyo; and brothers, Yasuo, Shigehiko and Morio.

Sugimoto, Fred Shigeo, 87, San Jose, Mar. 18; survived by wife, Mary; sons, Richard (Lynne) and Bill (Lowayne); daughters, Phyllis and Elaine (Michael) Jones; 5 gc.; and sisters, Kimiko Suyemasa and Evelyn Kanada.

Tachibana, Midori, 87, Torrance, Mar. 27; survived by daughter, Janet (Bill) Ota; 1 gc.; brother, Akira Kikugawa, Yoji, Saburo and Shiro (Toni) Uyeda; sisters, Yemi (Yosh) Kamiya, Yone Amimoto, Okuni Yamamoto and Shikako Sogabe; brothers-in-law, Yo (Elsie) Tachibana, Buddy (Fumi) Kasai and Ted (Miyo) Inouye; and sisters-in-law, Yo Kikugawa and Catherine Uyeda.

Tanouye, Tsugio John, 93, Cerritos, Mar. 25; survived by wife, Grace; daughters, Ann, Janet Shigei and Susan Marumoto; son, Craig (Wendy); and 5 gc.

Tatsuda, Charlie, 91, Minneapolis, Minn., Apr. 1; WWII veteran, MIS; survived by son, Chuck Jr. (Jennifer); and 2 gc.

Uyehara, Doris Sadako, 83, Mar. 24; survived by daughter, Paula (Gordon) Abe; 2 gc.; 3 ggc.; sisters, Aiko Luke, Mich Oshiro, Yas Okada, Lillian Kiyabu and Sonnie Muramoto; and brothers, Tom, Buster, Duffy and Dicky Uyehara.

Yanase, Dr. Stanley H., 93, Torrance, Mar. 26; survived by wife, Helen Kawagoe; sons, Dr. Roy (Regina) and Earl (Marthalyn); daughters, Cheryl (Michael) Sinkinson and Sheryl (Dr. Richard) Miyamoto; and 3 gc. ■

IN MEMORIAM

Entertainer Don Ho, Known for Song 'Tiny Bubbles,' Dies at 76

By JAYMES SONG
Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU—Legendary crooner Don Ho, known for his catchy signature tune "Tiny Bubbles," has died, his publicist said. He was 76.

Publicist Donna Jung said the singer died April 14 of heart failure. He had suffered from heart problems for the past several years, and he had a pacemaker installed last fall. In 2005, he underwent an experimental stem cell procedure on his ailing heart in Thailand.

Ho entertained Hollywood's

biggest stars and thousands of tourists for four decades. For many, no trip to Hawaii was complete without seeing his Waikiki show—a mix of songs, jokes, double entendres, Hawaii history and audience participation.

Shows usually started and ended with the same song, "Tiny Bubbles," which Ho mostly hummed as the audience enthusiastically took over.

"I hate that song," he often joked to the crowd, adding that he saved it for the end because "people my age can't remember if we did it or not."

Donald Tai Loy Ho, who was Hawaiian, Chinese, Portuguese, Dutch and German, was born Aug. 13, 1930, in Honolulu and grew up in the then-rural countryside of Kaneohe. ■



Tosiwo Nakayama, Micronesia's First President, Dies in Honolulu

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU—Tosiwo Nakayama, who as the first president of the Federated States of Micronesia helped his country emerge from U.S. control, died March 29. He was 75.

Nakayama died at the Hawaii Medical Center West in Ewa Beach, Hawaii, Micronesian officials said. No cause of death was given, but Bethwel Henry, postmaster general of Micronesia and a former legislative colleague, said Nakayama had



been ill for a while.

Nakayama became the nation's first president in May 1979, when the constitution was drafted, then won a second term and served until 1987.

The islands, formerly part of the U.S.-administered Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, officially became an independent nation under a Compact of Free Association with the United States in 1986.

With a population of about 107,000, the Federated States of Micronesia consists of 607 islands extending 1,800 miles across the archipelago of the Caroline Islands. ■

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ENGLISH-ONLY

(Continued from page 1)

can still string sentences together in Japanese, but admits to being a little rusty.

Now, Ikemoto finds himself living near the epicenter of the English-first debate — Nashville, Tennessee — where residents and lawmakers are embroiled in a dispute over the city's official language. With a growing new immigrant population, the metropolitan city also known as "Music City," is host to a growing chorus of international languages — a cacophony some say lawmakers are trying to silence.

While the immigration debate is still roaring across the nation all eyes are on Nashville where the mayor recently vetoed a city council measure to make English the official language of the local government.

"I don't see necessity for the English-only law," said Ikemoto from his home in Franklin, a suburb of Nashville. Sure, many of the foreign-born immigrants may choose to stay with their own enclaves and speak their own languages ("It's like water — you take the easier course."), but most would learn to speak English eventually, said the Salinas JACL member.

Most of the attention has centered on foreign-born and Spanish-speaking immigrants, but Nashville is also home to a burgeoning Asian Pacific American community whose voice has been lost in the debate.

Beyond Black and White

The Nashville of today has evolved dramatically since it derived its musical nickname from a book of hymns. Tennessee's capital is also known as the "Buckle of the Bible Belt" and the music star's equivalent of Hollywood, where aspiring song-

writers and singers can perform at legendary venues like the Bluebird Café on a stage that has also hosted Garth Brooks and Faith Hill.

In the last 10 years, the mostly homogenous city has seen an influx of immigrants from Mexico, Africa and Southeast Asia. In 2000, one in 10 households spoke a language other than English, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

"Nashville started becoming a melting pot," said Alex Ainza, national president of the National Filipino American Youth Association (NFAYA), which was headquartered in Nashville from 1998-2004.

The city's APA population is small (a little over two percent) and mostly made up of young professionals and students. During his time living and working in Nashville, Ainza noticed a large immigrant population increase. To cater to the demand, multilingual signs began cropping up on major streets and businesses recruited bilingual employees.

"One of my first observations when I moved here was the number of non-Asians who were able to speak Asian languages with moderate proficiency ..." said Curtis Chow, who in 2005 moved to Nashville from his hometown of Columbia, South Carolina to attend Vanderbilt University Law School. "But then again, this must be viewed in context — the Vanderbilt graduate community tends to be fairly diverse."

"As far as I've seen though, the community has seemed relatively ambivalent — neither intolerant, nor particularly receptive," said Chow, 23. "I do feel the need to use my southern accent when communicating here."

In recent years, Nashville and its surrounding cities have seen an increase in the presence of foreign-

owned companies, including Nissan Motor Co. and Toshiba — both members of the Japan-America Society of Tennessee.

Even with the increasing numbers, Nashville is below the national average when it comes to diversity. It's a different lifestyle for Ikemoto, who moved from the Central California area to Franklin to be close to his family.

These days, the Ikemotos are the only Asian faces in their church.

For Every Action there is a Reaction

But what some call progress others call an erosion of U.S. culture.

English-only legislation has been adopted in 29 states and measures are pending in 12 states, said Ron Toonkel of U.S. English, Inc. to the Associated Press.

HR 997, the English Language Unity Act of 2007, was introduced in February in hopes of making English the official language of the United States.

Debate over English first legislation has ignited in communities all over the nation but none as heated as in Nashville, where Mayor Bill Purcell recently vetoed a measure that would have made English the city's official language.

However, proponents say they will place the measure on the ballot in 2008 because it helps a nation of immigrants achieve self-sufficiency.

"Unfortunately, when it comes to language assistance, an immigrant can walk into many government offices and get linguistic assistance today, tomorrow and forevermore," said Toonkel to the *Pacific Citizen*. "At no time during this interaction with the individual does the government make the suggestion that learning English would be better for the immigrant and the immigrant's fam-

ily, perpetuating an existence of lower earnings and isolation from the community at large."

English-first laws only refer to the language of the government, not informal communication or languages taught in schools, added Toonkel.

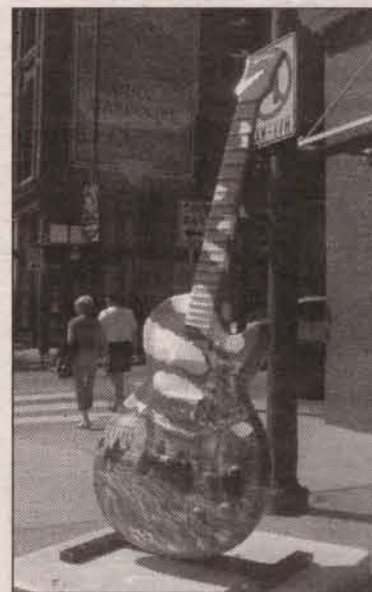
Many APAs agree that English proficiency is important, especially in a city like Nashville where Asian enclaves are nonexistent in comparison with the large Chinatowns and Koreatowns of New York and Los Angeles.

"There is no way that people can be educated, employed, or even treated fairly in the small city like Nashville [without being English proficient]," said Ayaka Sogabe, a professor of Japanese language at Vanderbilt.

But even native Tennesseans say the English-first debate is making the new immigrant experience more complicated.

"The problem is the folks who get so upset about having 'foreigners' living among them aren't smart enough to even know what the English-first laws are all about," said

'Nashville started becoming a melting pot.' — Alex Ainza, nat'l president of NFAYA



Nashville, dubbed 'Music City,' is hearing a multilingual chorus these days.

Henry Cho, a comedian who was born and raised in nearby Knoxville.

Cho's parents, who are originally from South Korea, got married in Ashville, North Carolina and settled in Knoxville to start a family. They worked hard to entrench themselves in east Tennessee culture by speaking English at home.

"I ate beans and combread 10-to-1 over rice and whatever," said Cho. "Others have voiced their opinion that if you're going to live here then you should know the language. I agree to a point, but immigrants have to have the time and resources to learn the language."

"I hear people from all over the country who speak only one language, English, and they butcher it every time they open their mouths," he added. ■

English Reigns Here

These states have official English laws already in place.

Alabama,	Mississippi,
Alaska, Arizona,	Missouri,
Arkansas,	Montana,
California,	Nebraska, New
Colorado,	Hampshire, North
Florida,	Carolina, North
Georgia, Hawaii,	Dakota, South
Idaho, Illinois,	Carolina, South
Indiana, Iowa,	Dakota,
Kentucky,	Tennessee, Utah,
Louisiana,	Virginia,
Massachusetts,	Wyoming.

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