



### Japan Remembers

The country solemnly marks the 62nd anniversary of the atomic bomb attacks.

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### Death on the Lake

One man has been arrested in Satendar Singh's killing.

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### Dear Rob Schneider

Has Hollywood progressed since 'Breakfast at Tiffany's' Mr. Yunioshi?

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Since 1929

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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### Community

PNW-IDC Bi-District conference takes over Tukwila, Wash.

PHOTOS PAGE 6

## The Last Victory Over Japan (V-J) Day Commemorations in America?

The tradition of celebrating the end of WWII still happens every year. Proponents say the holiday has nothing to do with the Japanese and everything to do with remembering history.

By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor

Since 1945, the city of Seymour, Indiana has celebrated the second weekend of August with a parade. Bands march, multi-hued antique cars roll slowly by with waving drivers — it's all the standard customs of a good old-fashion holiday celebration for American veterans who sacrificed for their country.

It's the city's 62nd year hosting this parade, said Toby Milroy, commander of the Veterans of Foreign

Wars Post 1925, to the *Pacific Citizen* days before the Aug. 12 festivities. The veterans' group has traditionally organized the annual event for the city of 20,000 that prides itself in its small town feel. This was Milroy's first year at the helm of parade planning. Some of the highlights in this year's parade were a float that depicted the famous American flag raising on the island of Iwo Jima and a horse drawn hearse.

What began as a day to celebrate the defeat of Japan and the end of World War II is now the city of Seymour's official salute to all American war heroes.

"It's to honor our soldiers and celebrate all veterans from all wars," said Milroy about the parade.

Despite broadening its scope beyond honoring WWII heroes,



AN HONOR TO ALL VETERANS: (above) Participants march in the Moosup, Connecticut annual V-J Day parade. The tradition of the 1945 celebration in Indiana (right) carries on today.



Seymour is one of the few U.S. cities that still celebrates Aug. 14, 1945 — the end of WWII or Victory Over Japan (V-J) Day.

### Carrying on the Tradition

Moosup, Connecticut proudly calls its own V-J Day parade one of the last in America. This year's Aug. 12 event themed "Spirit of Freedom" tried to recapture the jubilant emotions that poured out into the streets in 1945 when news broke about the end of the war.

Across the nation these days, the feelings are mixed about the historic day.

Seymour's and Moosup's parades are the last of a fading tradition that has taken on a different meaning over the years. On the other side of the world, a different type of remem-

See V-J DAY/Page 2

## Fighting Against Shadows for an Olympic Dream



Grace Ohashi (right) takes a breath from practice before the recent Pan American Games.

At a recent doctor's visit, she received a glimmer of hope — contact lenses.

PHOTO: USJUDO.ORG

'It's hard,' said Grace Ohashi about her visual impairment. 'Judo is everything for me. I won't quit until I get old.'

By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor

Atop a mountain overlooking Rio de Janeiro last month Grace Ohashi came face-to-face with her

redeemer. It was her first time in Brazil, so like many other tourists she snapped pictures of herself with her friends in front of the famous statue. But Grace, 18, wasn't there just for leisure. She was there to represent the United States in the Pan American Games in judo.

It was the first time the Fukushima, Japan-born athlete competed with the U.S. team so she soaked up the entire experience.

"It was cool," said Grace to the *Pacific Citizen* by phone from her Colorado Springs apartment two weeks after she returned from the

See GRACE OHASHI/Page 7

## Yamato Cemetery: Continuity of a Community

Built out of necessity in the early 1910s for the Japanese community in Salinas, Calif., the cemetery represents a vital link between the early pioneers and today's JA community.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM  
Executive Editor

The names on the heavy granite headstones are all Japanese — "Noguchi," "Tanimura," "Onitsuka," "Yuki" — just some of the dozens of families buried at the Yamato Cemetery, families whose generations span two and three generations in Salinas, Calif.

Within this two-acre plot of land, stories of bygone eras, struggles and triumphs can be heard inside its fenced walls and among its blossoming cherry trees. Here, one finds a vital link between the old and new Japanese American community.

Gary Tanimura, 58, recalls often visiting the Yamato Cemetery as a child during the popular Memorial Day Services. Today, he continues to bring his own two kids to the annual event.

"This place is unique. It's one of



the few one hundred percent Japanese American cemeteries," said Gary, a Sansei.

Two generations of the Tanimura family are buried here including his pioneering Issei grandparents who suffered the indignities of World War

II internment at Poston, Arizona. Gary's father, Charlie, passed away five years ago and he often accompanies his mother on visits to the gated cemetery.

"From my perspective there are very few pure Japanese cemeteries in the United States," said Douglas

Iwamoto, 58, a former president of the Buddhist Churches of America. "Most Japanese are buried in American cemeteries or Japanese sections in American cemeteries."

See YAMATO CEMETERY/Page 4

## Philadelphia's Community Arts Center Faces an Uncertain Future

'It's fairly awful,' said Gayle Isa (right) about the Asian Arts Initiative's temporary home.

The arts organization was forced to move in June.

PHOTO: HIRO NISHIKAWA



By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor

Sylvia Wright first came to the Asian Arts Initiative (AAI) in Philadelphia the summer after the eighth grade. One of her friends invited her there to work on art projects and attend a dramatic performance where the actors pulled her onstage. She was instantly hooked.

Since then, Wright, 15, has taken a mural arts class at the community arts center. She has also appeared in several Asian Pacific American plays in roles that stretch across the racial spectrum.

"It's like home," said the Philadelphia native who aspires for a career in graphic design. "There's no type of prejudice. No 'hey, you look this way. You suck.'"

But in June, Wright had to help pack up her "home" and move to a new temporary location. They needed to make room for a bigger and better

See ARTS CENTER/Page 4



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'We're just carrying on the tradition in memory of our freedom.'  
— Toby Milroy, commander of the VFW Post 1925 in Seymour, Indiana



Seymour's annual parade always includes patriotic floats.

## V-J DAY

(Continued from page 1)

brance is held each year in Japan to mourn the hundreds of thousands of victims of the atomic bomb attacks.

Milroy's voice softens when he mentions this point. A few years ago, some Seymour elected officials questioned the political correctness of the parade, especially since Japanese companies like Aisin USA, an automotive parts manufacturer, has its 650,000 square-foot manufacturing and 100,000 square-foot logistics facilities within Seymour city limits.

But the Japanese businesses and residents don't see the V-J Day parade as a personal malign, officials say.

"It's nothing against anyone," said Milroy. "We're just carrying on the tradition in memory of our freedom."

In Moosup, uniformed marchers of all generations, including a Revolutionary War fife band, march in unity. For many residents and community members the event is carefully guarded tradition important to commemorate rain or shine especially for those who fought in the war and remember the day vividly.

WWII MIS Veteran Grant Ichikawa saw both sides of the his-

toric day. On Aug. 14, 1945, Ichikawa was in the Philippines when news of Japan's surrender reached his ears like triumphant music.

"Had Japan not surrendered and if the invasion of Japan proper took place, I may not have had the opportunity to enjoy the life I did have after World War II," said Ichikawa.

He celebrated along with the rest of America on that day and three months later witnessed the other side of victory as part of a U.S. inspection team that visited the devastated cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in November 1945.

Sixty-two years after the original V-J Day, a few cities like Moosup and Seymour still hold onto the tradition of celebrating the historic day despite the modern day debate on its political correctness. To many, V-J Day is an important reminder of the absolute end of war atrocities. But to critics, the day and its parades are the last vestiges of a discriminatory commemoration.

### A State Holiday

In Rhode Island, there is no Victory in Europe (V-E) Day holiday in May, but V-J Day is an official state holiday. On the second Monday

See V-J DAY/Page 11

## NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT Relevance Today

By FLOYD MORI  
JACL Nat'l Director

Do you wonder about the relevance of JACL in today's world? The JACL national staff and board officers as well as chapter leaders work to ensure civil rights for members of the JACL and others. Although our problems are different today than when the JACL was first organized, the JACL is still relevant.



Recently, my wife and I arrived at the Chicago/Midway Airport for a connection when we found that we had been put on another airline which does not give assigned seats. Our boarding passes were in the last group so we expected middle seats far apart from each other. Upon boarding the plane, we were surprised when a window and an aisle seat were available in the exit rows. I asked my wife if she wanted to take the inner seat and I would take the aisle seat in the next row.

A flight attendant who had gray hair like mine was standing across the aisle. She said disparagingly, "Do you speak English? You have to speak English to sit in an exit row." I am not sure if she did not hear me talk or she tuned me out expecting us to not speak English.

I generally request and receive exit row seating. When my wife flies with me, she usually sits next to me. We understand the requirements and are willing to help. Although the flight attendant initially tried to insinuate that we were not qualified to sit in an exit row, she relented and said we were seasoned travelers after all.

There are many caring and kind people in service occupations. I have had good experiences as well

as bad. Unfortunately, there will always be those who are ignorant, mean, and inconsiderate. It is difficult to eliminate racial discrimination.

Injustice remains.

A young Japanese American woman was pushed to the ground and her purse was stolen by teenage thugs. A young boy of mixed race was called a Chinese monkey and ridiculed by other children. A man of Asian descent was assaulted as he approached his car in a parking lot. People of some prominence say that the internment of JAs was justified. Businesses are even doing racist things occasionally. Fourth generation JAs and more recently Arab Americans are told: "Go back to where you came from."

These are isolated incidents, but they show that discrimination exists. The JACL works in coalition with other groups to ensure human and civil rights.

Although both Republicans and Democrats fight for equality in the halls of Congress and presidential candidates express views against racism and prejudice, there will always be people who think they are superior and expect ethnic minorities to be foreigners and immigrants. They fail to realize that many people who look "different" may have family members who have been in the United States for over a hundred years.

People often ask what they can do for the JACL. The main thing that we can do is to get more members to join the JACL and to help retain members by having a vibrant local JACL chapter to involve members. JACL membership is open to everyone even if they are not JAs. Let's expand our membership by being more open, and let's make everyone feel welcome. More members will help the national JACL to continue its work. ■



## Letters to the Editor

### 'A Meaningless (Column)'

I wonder how JACL National President Larry Oda would feel if President Reagan had not signed legislation that had the U.S. government formally apologize to Americans of Japanese ancestry for their treatment during World War II.

How would JACL members feel? Would apologies by congresspersons have been enough? By a president, but without the affect of legislation? How would the incarceration story be accepted today if the government had not formally apologized? How believable would it be?

On another note, in the grand scheme of things, does Oda really believe that HR 121 could harm U.S. relations with Japan and that the U.S. bases in Okinawa and the conduct of servicepersons would not?

To paraphrase Oda, "It's unfortunate that we would involve ourselves in a meaningless [column]."

Lloyd Kajikawa  
Los Angeles

### An Act of Courage

First Lieutenant Ehren Watada's decision to refuse deployment to Iraq is a courageous act.

Lt. Watada refused deployment because of his firm belief that the U.S.'s preemptive attack against Iraq was based on false information to Congress.

His right and obligation to refuse an illegal and immoral order has precedence dating back to the Nuremburg Trials of Nazi generals in World War II.

Kathy Reyes  
Golden Gate Chapter

### A Critical Responsibility

While the writer of the letter "442: The True Heroes" in your Aug. 3-16 edition correctly identifies as heroes those individuals who served in the U.S. Army during World War II, as well as recognizing the "Resisters" as having noble intentions, he fails to note the basic similarity of their

actions with that demonstrated by 1st Lt. Ehren Watada.

Specifically, every one of these men made choices that were doomed to run contrary to the popular opinions of the time and to deliberately place themselves at risk of actual physical harm or ostracization and, in the case of Lt. Watada, imprisonment. Thus, these are all obvious acts of courage, none of which were taken lightly and all of which demand our collective support and appreciation.

Lt. Watada did in fact swear an oath to serve his country. The folly of the Iraq War is that were he to lead his troops into Iraq, they would not be defending our country, rather they would be damaging it. The widely published accounts of Iraqi public opinion clearly state an overall rejection of our military presence there. Additionally, with more than 3,700 dead and 27,000 wounded military personnel, it is obvious that Lt. Watada has, in his act of defiance, done much towards limiting the damage already inflicted upon all of the people involved.

We, as a community, have the critical responsibility to be at the forefront of supporting his efforts and we need to do so now, prior to his court martial. We cannot afford to remain silent, for to do so infers a tacit approval of the status quo, and clear-

ly, that is an unacceptable and unjust course of action.

Don Inoa  
San Francisco



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\* "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 Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

## Big Sky Feedlot Hearing Postponed

JEROME, ID—The public hearing for a controversial feedlot near the Minidoka National Monument has been postponed indefinitely after commissioners decided the county's planning and zoning administrator may not have allowed the public due process.

The board ruled Aug. 6 to postpone the hearing to grant the public and Big Sky due process because the deadline for testimony was unclear. The hearing will be rescheduled at a later date.

The proposed feedlot has angered some residents, who say they have little input in the county's livestock permit process. The National Park Service also opposes the proposed feedlot because it is near Minidoka.

## Asian Supremacist Gets a Year of Mental Health Treatment

NEW YORK—Kenneth Eng, a former *AsianWeek* columnist and self-described Asian supremacist who enraged many community members with his "Why I Hate Blacks" column, has been sentenced to a year of mental health treatment for waving a hammer at a neighbor's face and threatening to kill her and her family.

Eng, 24, of Bayside, New York, pleaded guilty in Queens County Court Aug. 9 to an indictment charging him with attempted assault and harassment. Queens County Judge Dorothy Chin-Brandt ordered Eng to attend a 12-month outpatient mental health program. If Eng fails to comply with the program's requirements and fails to take his medication, or if he violates his neighbors' orders of protection, he can be re-sentenced to up to four years in prison.

## Japanese Cabinet Ministers to Avoid Visiting War Shrine on WWII

TOKYO—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his Cabinet will not visit a shrine that is criticized for glorifying Japan's militaristic past on the anniversary of the country's World War II surrender.

Every year, dozens of lawmakers pray at Yasukuni Shrine during its spring and fall festivals and on the Aug. 15 anniversary of the war's end.

Abe, under pressure from a powerful lobby group supporting the Shinto shrine, has refused to publicly state his intentions.

Yasukuni honors Japan's 2.5 million war dead, including executed wartime leaders convicted as Class-A war criminals, and is vilified by critics at home and abroad as a symbol of the country's militaristic past. ■

# APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

## GLAS Names Scholarship Winner

This year's Hana Uno Shepard Memorial Scholarship winner is Narumi Nakayama, a graduate of Narbonne High School in Harbor City, Calif.

Nakayama will pursue her love for dance this summer at the Colburn School of Performing Arts.

The Greater L.A. Singles JACL awards the \$1,000 scholarship annually to a graduating college bound high school senior from a single parent household.

## JACL Ford Fellow Announced

Elaine Low has been selected to serve as the JACL's Ford Fund Program Fellow. Low is a recent graduate of Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois with a degree in journalism.

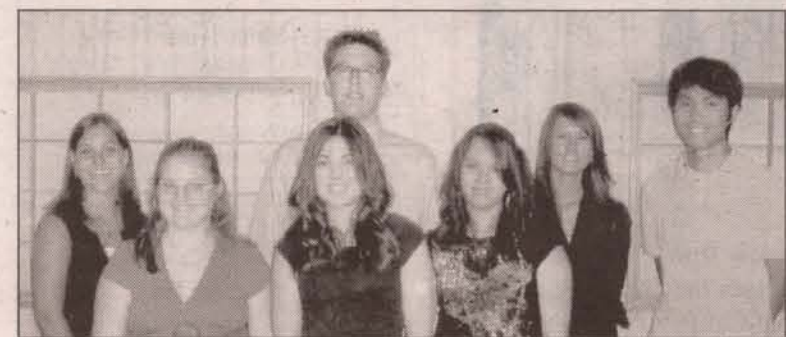
Low will complete her fellowship at the JACL Midwest Office in Chicago where she will work on programs related to hate crimes, education, youth and leadership.

The fellowship, which is sponsored by the Ford Fund, is offered on an annual basis.

## Cleveland JACL Recognizes Seven Scholars

The Cleveland JACL and the Cleveland Japanese American Foundation recently awarded scholarships to seven students.

Pictured below are the winners (back row, l-r): Marley McDonough, Gaven Wandrey, Anne Benco, Felipe Matsunaga (front row, l-r), Jessica Yost, Jacqueline Ohmura and Beverly Doyle.



## Oda to Direct Utah's Asian Affairs

Linda K. Oda, emeritus professor at Weber State University, has been named Utah's newest director of Asian Affairs.

She will be replacing Edith Mitko, who left after four years to become a teacher. The position is part of the Office of Ethnic Affairs under the Utah Department of Community and Culture.

Oda is vice governor of the JACL Intermountain District Council and is a past coordinator for the Utah Partnership with the Japanese American National Museum. ■

# JACL Decries 'Chuck and Larry' Film for Degrading Caricature of APAs

Comedian Rob Schneider's use of yellowface in the recently released feature film, "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry," has struck alarm and deep disappointment within the Asian Pacific American community, including the JACL, in which Schneider's characterization displays a blatant disrespect for APAs.

"In a time when the use of racial mockery should be a distant memory, it is both surprising and disappointing that filmmakers are still engaging in such demeaning portrayals of Asians and Asian Americans," declared JACL in a letter to Universal Pictures. "What many people fail to comprehend is that caricaturing Asian Americans in the media not only perpetuates stereotypes, but thumbs its nose at the community."

JACL believes Schneider's characterization furthers the emasculation and degradation of APA males in the media, promotes the outright ridiculing of APAs, and inadvertently admits that some members of Hollywood would still rather put actors in yellowface than hire quali-



Rob Schneider in 'Chuck and Larry.'

fied AA actors to play roles in a dignified manner.

The national organization believes Schneider also draws an uncomfortable parallel to Mickey Rooney in "Breakfast at Tiffany's" and more recently, Jonathan Pryce in the theater production of "Miss Saigon," in a time when these depictions have since been acknowledged as demeaning and disrespectful.

JACL notes the fact that Schneider is part-Filipino does not lend itself to his brand of comedy, and reporters from major news outlets such as MSNBC's *Newsweek*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and the

Associated Press have all been quick to point out, as a writer from *Newsday* does, that Schneider's character is the "most offensive Asian caricature since Mickey Rooney's notorious yellowface performance in 'Breakfast at Tiffany's.'"

More than simply offending the community, JACL believes the mainstream degradation of APAs in the media encourages the public to participate in degrading behavior, ranging from verbal mockery to even outright violence. Incidents of racism and violence against APAs are manifest in the history of the United States, and according to the JACL, "to overlook this particular depiction as mere 'comedy' would be egregiously naive."

The JACL is urging Universal Pictures to desist in stereotyping APAs by going for the cheap laugh at the expense of an entire community, instead encouraging the media company to find creative ways to promote a more tolerant and modern approach to comedy. ■

# One Arrested, One Sought in Death of Fijian Immigrant in U.S.

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, California—Sheriff's deputies in California arrested one man and were searching for a second following the death of an immigrant from Fiji that authorities have labeled a hate crime.

Aleksandr Shevchenko, 22, was arrested at his home Aug. 6 on suspicion of intimidating and interfering with a victim's rights.

The sheriff's department said a second man, Andrey Vusik, 29, had fled to Russia. They said they were working with the FBI to find and extradite him to face charges of



SATENDAR SINGH

involuntary manslaughter and intimidating and interfering with a victim's rights.

Satendar Singh, 26, died July 5, four days after officials say he was struck by Vusik following a confrontation between a Russian-speaking group and a group of Fijian and East Indian immigrants in a picnic area at Lake Natoma, a state park east of Sacramento.

Wolfgang Chargin, who was visiting the park that day, called authorities to report that trouble was brewing between the two groups. He said the Russian-speaking group seemed to be offended because Singh was dancing to ethnic music with both men and women. When Singh's group went into the water, one of the Russian-speaking men went over and spit on their blankets, Chargin said.

Sheriff's officers also said witnesses reported that the Russian-speaking group hurled "homophobic and racial slurs" at Singh's group.

But Vusik's wife, Tatyana, and her sister, Dasha Yakovchuk, said Singh's group started the trouble by drinking alcohol, swearing loudly and dancing provocatively. Singh's group, after being asked to quiet down, verbally attacked the other group, telling them to go back to Russia.

She then left with the children while her husband and another friend remained behind.

That night, her husband told her that there had been a confrontation, that he acted in self-defense and threw a "soft punch" when Singh pointed a broken glass bottle at him. She said he had no idea Singh had died when he left on a business trip in early July. ■

# Japan Observes 62nd Anniversary of Atomic Bomb Attack

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO—All nuclear powers should eliminate their stockpiles and Japan should turn its no-nuclear weapons policy into law, the mayor of Nagasaki said Aug. 9 at a ceremony marking the 62nd anniversary of the world's second atomic bomb attack.

The city observed a moment of silence at 11:02 a.m., when the B-29 bomber Bock's Car dropped its atomic payload in 1945, killing about 74,000 people.

The attack on Nagasaki came three days after the Enola Gay dropped a bomb on Hiroshima in the first atomic attack in history. That bombing killed at least 140,000.

Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, 1945, bringing World War II to an end.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe was among 5,500 people at a memorial service at Nagasaki's peace park, along with other officials, diplomats and survivors.

"The United States and all other nuclear powers should not only advocate nuclear nonproliferation, but also eliminate their weapons," Mayor Tomihisa Taue said at the cer-



THE HIROSHIMA MEMORIAL

emony.

He also asked the Japanese government to work hard to make Northeast Asia a nuclear-free zone following North Korea's first nuclear test explosion last October. The region has two other nuclear powers, China and Russia.

"As the only country that suffered nuclear attacks in the history of mankind, we have the responsibility to pass on this tragic experience in the international community," Abe said at the memorial. "Japan will take the initiative to lead the world toward nuclear abolition and eternal peace."

The anniversary comes amid

signs of change in Japan, as memories of the attacks fade and survivors grow older.

Some prominent Japanese politicians have suggested that Japan should at least discuss developing nuclear weapons, and former Defense Minister Fumio Kyuma recently said the U.S. nuclear bombings in 1945 may have been inevitable.

Kyuma's remarks were particularly upsetting to many Nagasaki residents because he is from the prefecture. He resigned under pressure in June and did not attend this year's ceremony despite an invitation sent earlier, according to the city.

Abe has repeatedly said Japan will stick to its long-standing principles of not possessing, developing or allowing nuclear weapons on its soil.

But the mayor said that is not enough.

"Today, some people express incorrect perceptions about the bombings and talk about possibilities of possessing nuclear weapons even in Japan, a victim of nuclear bombings," Taue said. "We need not only to make the three principles a national policy, but also to make them into law." ■

## YAMATO CEMETERY

(Continued from page 1)

The Iwamoto family plot is just two plots over from the Tanimuras, part of the 38 Japanese families and dozens of individuals buried within its grounds. Douglas and his mother often visit the site to honor three generations of the Iwamoto family including his grandparents, father, and sister.

"The Yamato Cemetery is really a shining example of the commitment and purpose of the early Issei pioneers," said Sandy Lydon, noted historian and author of "The Japanese in the Monterey Bay Region: A Brief History." "I believe that we are in death as we are in life — cemeteries are a mirror in which to view our history."

### The Early Pioneers

In 1898 there were as many as 200 Japanese living in the Salinas Valley. At the time, loved ones were buried at the County Hospital Cemetery located near the entrance of the Monterey County Hospital. Close by was an existing Chinese cemetery.

Realizing the need to better honor their ancestors, the Japanese Association began a campaign to raise monies for the Yamato Cemetery and by 1911 the acreage had been purchased and its first residents welcomed.

"I'm amazed that these people bought the land for the cemetery. That they could donate, collect money and put up a monument to the Japanese community," said Gary, noting the financial hardships of the early Japanese pioneers.

By the early 1940s JAs on the West Coast were being sent off to various internment camps and

Salinas was no exception. Most of the local JA families, including the Tanimuras and Iwamotos, ended up in Poston.

With the departure of the JA community, no one was left to care for the Yamato Cemetery. Instead, Henry Struve, manager of the Salinas Funeral Parlor, was given limited power of attorney to care for the site until their return.

But with the onset of War came an escalation in anti-Japanese sentiment. In Salinas the feelings were especially negative after several members of their National Guard tank company were captured and killed by the Japanese Army.

"Salinas took out their grief and frustration on the Japanese living in the valley. And, on the cemetery," said Lydon. "The Yamato Cemetery became something of a lightning rod for wartime anti-Japanese sentiment, and it was heavily vandalized."

The anti-Japanese sentiment in Salinas made it difficult for many JAs to return after the War and many never did. Instead, post-War Japanese immigrants came to make up a large portion of the local JA community.

The Tanimuras headed to Gilroy for several years after the War before finally resettling in Salinas during the 1950s. The Iwamoto family had owned property before the War and thanks to the generosity of a neighbor they were able to immediately return to Salinas.

"People who didn't own land had no reason to come back," said Douglas.

### An Inherited Responsibility

With the Yamato Cemetery overgrown with weeds and goats chewing up the site's foliage in 1948, the newly reactivated Salinas Valley JACL chapter made cleaning up the

cemetery one of their first goals. Since its early days, the chapter has been responsible for the cemetery's finances and day-to-day operations.

Salinas Valley JACL has also long appointed an executive committee to oversee the non-profit site, one of the few accredited cemeteries in the State of California. Gary and Douglas, both in their late 50s, are the youngest members of the committee; the others are in their 80s and 90s.

It's a position that has largely been inherited by family members whose relatives once served on the committee. Although they rarely meet today, the semi-perpetual care cemetery has a part-time caretaker who ensures the day-to-day maintenance of the site.

"It's a way to pay respects to those who have passed on before us," said Henry Hibino, 72, chair of the committee and former Salinas mayor. "There are some old time families buried here. It's important to me that this be carried out."

Henry's parents, Frank and Sen, are both buried here at the Yamato Cemetery. For the past 20 years he has served on the executive committee and even today he regularly visits the site.

### A Community Link

A few years ago, a Japanese woman asked to have her Caucasian friend buried at the Yamato Cemetery. Today, he is the only non-Japanese to be interred at the site.

The cemetery is still located on the



The Yamato Cemetery is a popular destination on Memorial Day for the local JA community in Salinas (above).



Local flower growers (left) volunteer their time and a variety of flowers to decorate the graves of Japanese families buried at the Yamato Cemetery.

corner of Abbott St. and Merrill St., on the outskirts of the city. Its location on the south side of Salinas makes it less than ideal, but the Issei pioneers who purchased the land had little available options.

"I believe that you can tell a lot about a community by analyzing the locations of Chinese and Japanese cemeteries — in this case, the majority community's feelings are reflected in the distance they were out of town," said Lydon.

Gary's five uncles on his father's side plan to eventually be buried in the Tanimura family plot at the Yamato Cemetery. By that time the family plot will be filled, but Gary thinks that one day he too may join

his family.

"It would be nice to be buried in town," he said.

"The Yamato Cemetery is one of the few places in the Salinas Valley that represents the continuity of the community — connecting the newer, reconstituted postwar community with the original Issei pioneers," said Lydon.

"Everyone should visit the cemetery and be introduced to the Issei pioneers — and those who followed. In the late afternoon, when the persistent wind blows up the Salinas Valley, if you listen you can hear the voices of those Issei pioneers. Everyone needs to learn how to hear them." ■

## ARTS CENTER

(Continued from page 1)



PHOTO: ASIAN ARTS INITIATIVE

With guidance from the Asian Arts Initiative, Philadelphia's APA youths learn to express themselves through painting and other art forms.

Pennsylvania Convention Center, she was told.

Ironically, the temporary location is located across an alley from AAI's original site.

"It feels weird walking down an alleyway to knock on a door like it's some kind of secret society. People are probably thinking what is that child doing?" said Wright with a laugh.

### Functioning in Limbo

For almost 10 years, the non-profit AAI has nurtured young artists at the Gilbert Building, an eight-story brick building less than a mile north of the convention center and a few blocks from Chinatown. Because of its low rent and convenient location within center city, the building became an "accidental art center"

with multiple art organizations and artists working in the same space, said Gayle Isa, AAI executive director.

But the building is also in the path of a million dollar expansion project that when completed will boast the largest contiguous exhibit space in the Northeast and the largest convention center ballroom on the East Coast.

How could a comparatively small arts organization stand in the way of economic revitalization?

After receiving official notice to vacate their building, AAI identified their dream location: 12,000 square feet of space at 1219 Vine Street in Chinatown that needed a lot of renovation work. With the help of the state redevelopment authority, AAI was given temporary refuge across

the alley.

But their new home is anything but sweet.

"It's fairly awful," said Isa, a 36-year-old Yonsei originally from the San Fernando Valley in Southern California. She moved east to attend Swarthmore College and started out at AAI as an intern. "This temporary location is also in the path of destruction, so basic city services don't seem to be working."

There is no trash pick-up, so staff members have been trying to figure out the most efficient way of dumping their garbage. Hot water is unpredictable, and worst of all, there's no centralized air conditioning. In a city where August temperatures can soar well into the 90s and humidity can reach up to 50 percent, the absence of a clean and cool place can kill most creative energy.

But the kids still come.

"The rooms are hot, but the kids are so passionate about their art they hardly notice the heat," said Sovansuny Uy, an assistant teaching instructor.

### A Refuge for Kids

For many young APAs, visual literacy is not engrained in their cultures, said Eliseo Silva, a second-

See ARTS CENTER/Page 5



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**ARTS CENTER**

(Continued from page 4)

generation Filipino American artist and former lead artist of AAI's Big Picture Program.

"It's important to paint the cultural landscapes. Collectively we're defining ourselves in a more diverse, but connected way," he said.

Most of the AAI students are first generation with parents who don't speak English. Most are from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. For these kids, art is their only escape. Studies have shown that an interest in the arts leads to better academic success.

For a year, Silva ran the Big Picture, an after-school program for teens 11-18 years old to conceptualize and create an indoor and outdoor mural.

"It gives kids the opportunity they can't find anywhere else. They get a chance to work on something permanent. They choose the stories that need to be told."

Everyday, AAI is buzzing with activity. Paint gets thrown on a canvas, dialogue is rehearsed and the next great American masterpiece is being sketched. But all around them, debris boxes and electrical wires remind them of their temporary status.

"Most of the youth have been real troopers," said Isa. "It's been scary for them just like it's been for all of us. Before we identified where we were going, we thought this space would not exist."

When word got out that AAI was

getting pushed out in the name of economic development, angry residents signed an online petition to pressure the state to help the community arts center find a new space.

"Describe any Asian American talent can rehearse and perform on a regular basis," wrote Charles Ramirez.

**Looking into the Future**

The renovations on AAI's permanent location is slated to end in September, but Isa is afraid of getting kicked out of the temporary location before the new one is done.

"That's part of the larger reality of gentrification. There are good and positive things about it," said Silva, who pointed out that Philadelphia's Chinatown had been bisected by a highway leaving the northern part of the ethnic enclave underdeveloped.

For Silva, AAI's new site signifies a new future. "I see it more of a way of changing landscape — planting the seeds on the other side."

While many AAI staff members remain optimistic about their new location, others see the convention center expansion as a potential



PHOTO: ASIAN ARTS INITIATIVE

Community members enjoy a traditional dance performance at the old Asian Arts Initiative location.

threat. The two-block convention center casts a shadow on nearby Chinatown.

"They built it with its back facing Chinatown," said John Chin, executive director of the Philadelphia Chinatown Development Center (PCDC).

Without proper marketing, the convention center has not helped Chinatown businesses. The PCDC is not happy with the design of the expansion either saying it would create a parking nightmare.

"All ethnic enclaves are gateways for new immigrants. They provide temporary housing, instant employment and affordability. Any new change like this would change the character of the community," said Chin.

For now, AAI is still trying to navigate out of the path of destruction. They have negotiated a long-term lease and an option to purchase the building in Chinatown for \$2.5 million, so fundraising is also a priority.

The organization has received funding support from the city and state, said Isa. But AAI is eligible for additional funding from the Pennsylvania state budget, which is legislatively controlled. That means the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the governor are in charge of getting the AAI their much-needed funds.

"There is bureaucracy," said Isa. "We're hoping it's going to be a win-win situation in the long run." ■

To donate to the Asian Arts Initiative go to: [www.asianartsinitiative.org](http://www.asianartsinitiative.org).

**PNW-IDC BI-DISTRICT CONFERENCE**

**COMMENTARY**

**'Changing Faces, Transforming Communities'**

By SHELDON ARAKAKI

From start to finish the PNW-IDC bi-district conference stayed on message during the long July weekend conference with its theme "Changing Faces, Transforming Communities." Although the bi-district formally kicked off with an evening mixer of *obon* dance lessons, I personally felt the conference kicked off an hour earlier a few miles north at the Nihonmachi Terrace in the International District.



There some 100 people, including national JACL board and local JACL members, came together with Asian Pacific American community leaders and friends to celebrate what would have been Tatsuo (Matthew) Nakata's 30th birthday on July 26 and to launch the Tatsuo Nakata Legacy Fund. The thoughts expressed during this celebration set the tone for the weekend for me.

Taken away too early from us last fall, Tatsuo's life embodied the theme of the weekend conference. The bi-district opening keynote speaker, State Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos, said it well when she said there were elements of Tatsuo's life that are distinctive to his generation. He embraced his bi-racial identity and adopted multicultural values. He was much more open to developing relationships with those of other backgrounds and he chose to place his time and talent where his voice mattered, where he could provide a forum for his generation. And at 25 years, Tatsuo was the youngest Seattle JACL chapter president.

There is no disagreement about the changing demographics of the Japanese American community and its impact on JACL. You saw the changing face of our community through the attendees in the "Identity and Diversity" workshop

and heard the personal stories told by the two mealtime emcees, KCPQ Fox news co-anchor Lara Yamada and Seattle chapter board member Nate Caminos, and the Saturday keynote *NW Colors* magazine editor Naomi Ishisaka. All three are bi-racial and all spoke of embracing their bi-racial identity and multicultural values.

More than one person commented during the weekend that our existence depends on our relevance to current and future generations and our ability to adapt to meeting the needs of our current and potential future members. National Director Floyd Mori once again spoke about the need to reach out to a younger and more diverse generation of Asian Americans. The strategic plan focus group workshop began the process to address these comments.

The PNW strategic planning shifted into the market research phase with this bi-district. Attendees convened to comment on the market research methodologies presented and to provide input on survey participants and questions. The goal is to identify the interests and needs of the existing and potential members as well as key donors and funders.

The district plans to receive the final report by early next year and will present the findings at the 2008 national convention in Utah. Change is here with the Yonsei and Gosei coming of age but rather than make decisions based on anecdote, the district will determine a path forward based on data.

I looked forward to the next steps of Governors Elaine Akagi and Silvana Watanabe as both districts continue to keep the spirit of "Changing Faces, Transforming Communities" moving. ■

*Sheldon Arakaki is the national JACL vice president of general operations and represents the PNW district on the Pacific Citizen editorial board.*

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Oct. 12-17	Yamato/IDC Northern California Sampler - 6 days roundtrip from San Francisco, visiting San Luis Obispo, San Simeon/Hearst Castle, Monterey, Napa Valley including lunch aboard the Napa Valley Wine Train, plus visits to 3 wineries and the Marin Cheese Factory in Petaluma. Additional nights in San Francisco can be arranged after the tour.	Peggy Mikuni
Oct. 30-Nov. 13	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan - 15 days visiting Kagoshima, Kumamoto, Hiroshima, Yonago, Kyoto and Tokyo. WAITLIST BASIS	Peggy Mikuni
Nov. 8-18	Yamato Tour to Okinawa & Japan - 11 days visiting Naha, Manza Beach, Kagoshima, Kumamoto, Nagasaki, Fukuoka and Hiroshima.	Lily Nomura

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May 5-10	Yamato Exclusive Southern Cities Tour - 6 days visiting New Orleans where you will visit Oak Alley Plantation and to Avery Island, home to Tabasco Sauce; Camp Shelby/Hattiesburg where the 442nd/100th military troops trained; Vicksburg to visit the National Military Park, site of a Civil War Battle and Memphis to visit Elvis Presley's Graceland.	Peggy Mikuni
June 5-17	Yamato Spectacular Scandinavia with Collette Vacations - 13 days visiting Stockholm, Sweden, Oslo, Lillehammer, Loen, Stalheim and Bergen, Norway and Copenhagen, Denmark.	Sharon Seto
July	Yamato Tour to Hokkaido	Peggy Mikuni
Sept. 11-21	Yamato Colors of Canada & New England, aboard Holland America's new ms Eurodam - 10 days sailing from Quebec to Saguenay, St. Lawrence River, Charlottetown/Prince Edward Island, Sydney and Halifax/Nova Scotia, Bar Harbor/Maine, Boston, Newport/Rhode Island and New York.	Sharon Seto
October	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan	Peggy Mikuni
November	Yamato Tour to China	Peggy Mikuni
Nov. 2-8	Yamato Southern Charm with Collette Vacations - 7 days visiting Charleston and Beaufort, South Carolina, Savannah, Jekyll Island and St. Simons Island, Georgia and St. Augustine and Jacksonville, Florida.	Peggy Mikuni

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# 2007 PNW-IDC Bi-District Conference 'Changing Faces - Transforming Communities'



(Left to right): Carol Kawamoto, Elsie Taniguchi, Elaine Akagi, Consul General Kazuo Tanaka, Larry Oda, Floyd Mori, and Sheldon Arakaki in Tukwila, Washington.

PHOTOS BY RICH IWASAKI



Seattle JACL chapter president Kyle Funakoshi presents a gift to Recognition Luncheon emcee Lara Yamada.



Carol Kawamoto, v.p. of planning and development, discusses the CD, "This is Your JACL", for chapter presidents.



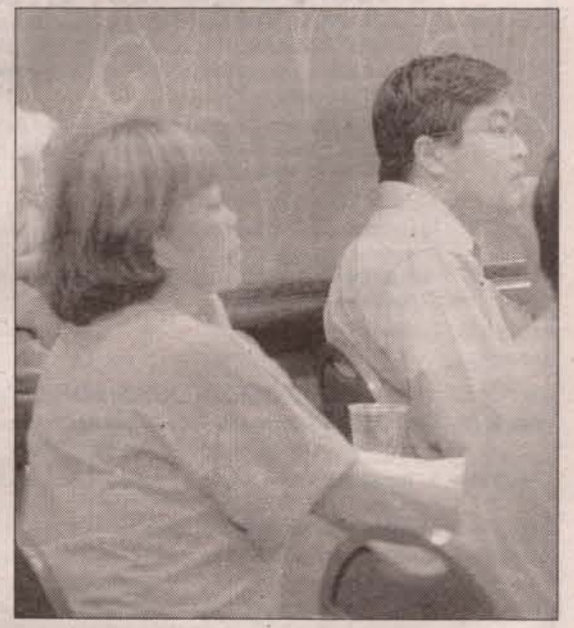
JACL Youth Representatives Chris Batalon (left) and Peter Yamamura report on the youth conference



Seattle JACL member Shea Aoki visits during the 2007 JACL IDC & PNWDC Bi-District Conference.



Youth representatives Chris Batalon (left) and Peter Yamamura (right) meet with Thu-Huong Nguyen (back left) and national board member Sheldon Arakaki during the 2007 JACL IDC & PNWDC Bi-District Conference



Attendees listen during a workshop session.



Hugh Burleson talks with fellow member Bob Mizukami.



Puyallup JACL chapter president Elsie Taniguchi (right) presents the Don Kazama Recognition Award to Seattle JACL member Arlene Oki at the Recognition Luncheon



The PNW district's Strategic Plan Focus Group workshop participants meet at the bi-district conference.

**GRACE OHASHI**

(Continued from page 1)

competition. "We went to see Jesus Christ ... If I could see it more, it would [have] been more cool."

Then it becomes all too clear — the nationally ranked judo athlete is nearly blind. She's always had vision problems since she was a baby, but starting in May her eyesight started deteriorating more and more each day. One morning she woke up and her world was a fuzzy cloud.

"Right now in my left eye, I cannot see nothing."

**A Black Belt in One Week**

Grace has come too far to let a little setback like vision impairment hold her back. She came to the U.S. — her mother's country — six months ago to be a champion. She is ranked third nationally among her sighted competitors.

At the Pan American Games Grace forced Melissa Rodriguez, the 2006 Pan Am silver medalist, into two penalties and threw her for a *koka* (a small point). But Grace was ultimately thrown and eliminated from the tournament.

Her reaction drips with competitive spirit: "When I was fighting, I almost threw her. It was a matter of a few steps."

It is a spirit that manifested itself early.

Grace is the middle daughter of ministers Pat and Tomio Ohashi who met and fell in love at a sushi store in Fukushima. In junior high school, the Ohashi family moved to the Tochigi Prefecture, where her teacher Makoto Takaku noticed Grace playing basketball and told her she would be good at judo.

In the sport of judo, matches are won by knocking your opponent over, holding your opponent on his/her back for 25 seconds or administering some variations of choke holds and arm locks until your opponent begs for mercy.

So Grace gave judo a try. At 15, she earned a black belt by winning five matches — in a week. When she told Takaku about her achievement, he marveled that it was perhaps the fastest black belt achievement in Japan's history.

"That's when I was thinking maybe I'm good at judo."

She transferred to another school in Japan that had a stronger emphasis on judo and practiced up to five hours daily while maintaining perfect grades.

All the while, she yearned to move to the U.S. to learn English and chase her Olympic dreams. She e-mailed Eddie Liddie of USA Judo expressing her wishes to compete on his team.

"We get a lot of those e-mails," said Liddie, adding a lot of times they don't pan out. "Grace was a little more persistent. She wrote again and again. And she had good questions."

**Seeing Shadows**

In six months, Grace has adjusted to American life while training at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs and majoring in social work at Pikes Peak Community College. She has her own MySpace page where she lists Disney movies and all books except for schoolbooks as some of her interests. She also wants to help orphans, but only after winning an Olympic Gold Medal, of course.

Some say judo is one of the few competitive sports that the visually impaired athlete can participate in fully. Australia's Anthony Clarke battled back from a car accident that blinded him to be ranked top 10 among judo athletes in the world.

Judo requires the least amount of rules adaptation for a visually impaired athlete to compete against a sighted one. Sometimes, the chance to be on equal grounds with a sighted person gives the athlete the extra confidence to excel, said Neil Ohlenkamp, a sixth degree black belt in judo and head instructor of the Encino Judo Club.

For Grace, the worst part is the unknown — the reason for her vision loss remains a mystery. In Japan, she didn't go to an eye doctor often. Now, she has to go regularly for tests, poking and prodding.

"I want to know what is going on. Maybe it can help me get my eyesight back," she said. "Right now, I can see red colors because it's bright. I can see shadows."

One time she fell from a flight of stairs and broke her arm. Another time, she was crossing a street without a traffic light and almost got hit by oncoming traffic.

"You'd see her squinting," said

*'First, I hear the breath and I figure where the person is. Then I grab and don't let go.'*



**U.S. VS. ARGENTINA:** (above, left) Grace faces her opponent at the recent Pan American Games.



The 18-year-old's biggest fans are her family members (left, l-r): mom Pat Ann, Michiko Stephanie, Kanoko Paula, Grace, and father Tomio.

Liddie. "It's progressively gotten worse. I've seen her walk into a water cooler. We don't allow her to do anything without one of the athletes by her side."

But Grace isn't relying on other people's help. On the mat, she's adapted to her impairment.

"First, I hear the breath and I figure where the person is. Then I grab and don't let go," she said. "After I started competing I forgot about my eyes."

Liddie and Grace have worked out a system during competitions to help Grace dominate her opponent — he

shouts out visual cues. If she's backing up against the line and about to cross over and get penalized, he yells out her location. He yells out the time on the clock and the numbers on the scoreboard.

"I become her eyes," he said.

But the question remains: will Grace be able to realize her dream of competing in the Olympics?

"She's moving along the right path," said Liddie. "If I had 20 athletes like her I would be lucky." ■

For more information:  
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• CHERYL WATAMURA MARTINEZ •  
A BROAD VIEW

## Across Borders



I just read a funny story in the newspaper here today. It seems that a picky squirrel in Finland has taken to stealing German chocolate from a store.

Apparently the squirrel goes into the store at least twice a day to savor its favorite treat. It only steals one particular German chocolate, a foil-wrapped chocolate egg whose hollow body holds a surprise, usually a small toy. These chocolate eggs are called "Kinder Surprise" (Kinder = Children) here in Germany, where they are very popular among the young and old alike. The hidden treats are normally miniature toys, which many adults have taken to collecting.

The owner of the store, which is in the town of Jyväskylä, says that the squirrel is not attracted to any other food. He heads straight for the eggs, removes the foil, eats the chocolate and then leaves the store with the toy. Can it be that he is also a "Kinder Surprise" collector? Or perhaps a German squirrel that got lost across borders?

Speaking of eggs, I got a response a few weeks ago from someone who read my last column.

In it, I was wondering why eggs in Germany sit on non-refrigerated shelves for days at a time before being sold. The reader said that eggs actually have a natural protective coating, which keeps them safe to eat even when not chilled. In the USA, the FDA has a directive that eggs must be washed before being sold, thus eliminating the coating, thus making cooling necessary. Wonderful what you can learn from people thousands of miles and many borders away! Thanks Hatsumi!

Still, I wonder if those hard-boiled, colored eggs that are on display for weeks at the checkout counter are safe to eat? Hmm, maybe someone has an answer to that?

Here's something else amazing for today's "across the borders" theme. A woman from the U.S. wrote to me after obtaining my address through my blog [www.strangerinastrangedeutschland.com](http://www.strangerinastrangedeutschland.com). She — Diane — was very upset because her daughter, who lives in Holland, had lost her dog in Cologne, the city I live in. She said she knew it was a long

shot, but she asked me if I could help in any way.

Well, being a dog lover myself, I sent Diane's message for help to the American Women's Club of Cologne and any other organization I could think of. Diane kept me updated about what she and her daughter were doing to find the pet — such as posting notices, making calls, etc. And over the following days we found out a bit about each other.

To our surprise we discovered that all three of us are Buddhists, although Diane and her daughter are both obviously better ones than I am. In celebration of Buddhism, their dog was in fact named "Karma". Diane is currently working on a Ph.D. in Indo-Tibetan Buddhism and her daughter is studying Tibetan Buddhist law and even met the Dalai Lama during a trip to India.

Anyway, after several weeks of uncertainty about the whereabouts of Karma, I got this e-mail:

"I just wanted you to know that your information was invaluable—after many calls and sending photographs to several different places, we were incredibly lucky, and found Karma. It feels like a miracle—I really did not think there was much hope, given the circumstances, being so far from home and in a foreign country, but your information was directly responsible for us finding him. My husband flew from Miami to Amsterdam to support our daughter, and they drove to Cologne, to pick Karma up. It was a joyful reunion to say the least! You, and others, have restored my faith in humanity, and that's (almost) the best part for me."

I would say, it was just great Karma that Karma was found again. And it goes to show that the world hasn't gotten "smaller," as the saying goes. It has actually gotten bigger, because it's less bound by borders — which means that all kinds of amazing things can happen. ■

You can reach Cheryl Watamura Martinez at: [Cheryl@texter-koeln.de](mailto:Cheryl@texter-koeln.de).

• HARRY HONDA •

VERY TRULY YOURS

## My Summer Reading: 'MIS Nisei Linguists' (Part Two)



MAJOR AND MINOR actions of WWII Nisei in military intelligence come alive in James

McNaughton's "Nisei Linguists." Besides interviews with 44 Nisei veterans, his bibliography runs 24 pages. Our P.C. is widely footnoted. Part Two dwells on MIS pioneers from Crissy Field (Nov. '41-May '42) in the South Pacific and Southwest Pacific campaigns.

With over 150 Nisei students recruited, many prewar GIs, at Crissy Field, Col. John Weckerling hired five more instructors: San Francisco newsman Thomas Tanimoto and Tsutomu Paul Tekawa, Domei Radio reporter Satoshi "Bud" Nagase, Meiji University graduate Tadao Yamada and UCLA graduate Toshio Tsukahira, "all U.S. born-citizens ... committed to prepare their students to serve in the war against Japan," McNaughton adds. The course of study would run six months. The school trained nearly 3,000 students during and 3,000 more after WWII.

The two Hakujuin in the first class of 60 were born and raised in Japan. Capt. David Swift, 45, was a customs inspector in San Francisco and a reserve Military Intelligence officer as was Capt. John Burden, 41, who spoke with a Tokyo accent, practicing medicine in Maui. Both received orders to report at the Presidio of San Francisco to refresh their Japanese.

The morning after Dec. 7, 1941, Weckerling gathered the classmates: "Well men, you've heard the bad news. I sincerely sympathize with you boys on your peculiar predicament. I was in the same spot when World War I broke out, as I happen to be of German descent ... Now the time has come to prove your loyalty and I expect each and everyone's utmost."

As Nisei students wondered if the Army would close the school, Weckerling knew the Army needed Nisei "more than ever and was determined to protect his students and instructors alike from the wave of anger and suspicion." On Feb. 9, the War Department directed him to suspend all civilian employees of Japanese ancestry at Crissy Field but sought an exception for the Nisei instructors. A week later, the War Department relented and allowed the instructors to stay.

The War Department then issued an order that "no Japanese American soldier were to be sent overseas." The Military Intelligence Division in Washington had that lifted (Apr. '42).

\*\*\*

In military history, Guadalcanal stands as the first land-battle between the United States and Japan in the summer and fall of 1942. Japanese forces had landed (May '42) on Guadalcanal and Tulagi in the steamy British

Solomon Islands. To counter the invasion, U.S. forces in the South Pacific required and relied on Nisei intelligence personnel.

The first Nisei to ship out from Crissy Field (April '42) to the South Pacific was Masanori Minamoto, who spent many years in Japan, to the 102nd Infantry at Bora Bora, 3,000 miles east of Guadalcanal.

Sgt. Mac Nagata and five Nisei joined (May '42) the Americal Division at Noumea, New Caledonia, 600 miles equidistant from Guadalcanal and Brisbane, site of MacArthur's Southwest Pacific headquarters and ATIS in Australia. Besides interrogating downed Japanese pilots, they translated Japanese letters, magazines and books confiscated from Japanese residents.

At the outbreak of WWII, 1,124 Japanese in New Caledonia were evacuated to Loveday Enemy Alien Camp, 120 miles north of Adelaide. Japanese residents in Netherlands East Indies, New Zealand, Australia and Allied colonies in the Pacific were also interned in Australia for the duration.

After the 1st Marine Division landed (Aug. '42) in Guadalcanal, with only a few Japanese-speaking officers, documents captured at the front had to be translated "long distance" by Nisei linguists in New Caledonia. The Americal Division reinforced the marines on Guadalcanal.

On Tulagi, the marines forwarded a book listing the call signs of all Imperial Japanese Navy ships and air bases. "The Nisei (at Noumea) worked 24-hour shifts for several days to translate it."

One night Burden heard marines at Guadalcanal urgently calling for a language officer. He availed himself, but no orders till he met (Oct. '42) Admiral Nimitz visiting 37th Division headquarters, who said: "They're driving me crazy for one, but I don't know where to find one." Two days later Capt. Burden was in Guadalcanal.

As the U.S. offensive gained momentum, over 200 prisoners were in the stockade. Five marine interrogators, two marine officers and Burden worked around the clock. Burden saw the urgent need for Nisei at Guadalcanal, but met stiff resistance to bring his group in the Fijis, largely due to "a general distrust (then) of all persons of Japanese extraction."

Finally Capt. Burden successfully appealed to XIV Corps commander Maj. Gen. Alexander Patch to allow Nisei into "the forward area" (Guadalcanal). When the fighting was over and Japanese troops had evacuated the island without detection, commanders and intelligence officers came "to rely on the Nisei in action as close to the front as possible. Their quality and timeliness of combat intelligence demonstrated the Nisei could be trusted," McNaughton was to point out in many campaigns to come. ■

## Participate in a Survey of Korean, Vietnam Wars JA Airmen

The Japanese American Veterans Association is currently collecting names, contact information and biographic data for a survey on those Japanese Americans who served in the cockpits of military aircrafts in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The D.C.-based group wants to ascertain the number and the reactions of JAs who served in the cockpit, an area which was off-limits to JAs in World War II.

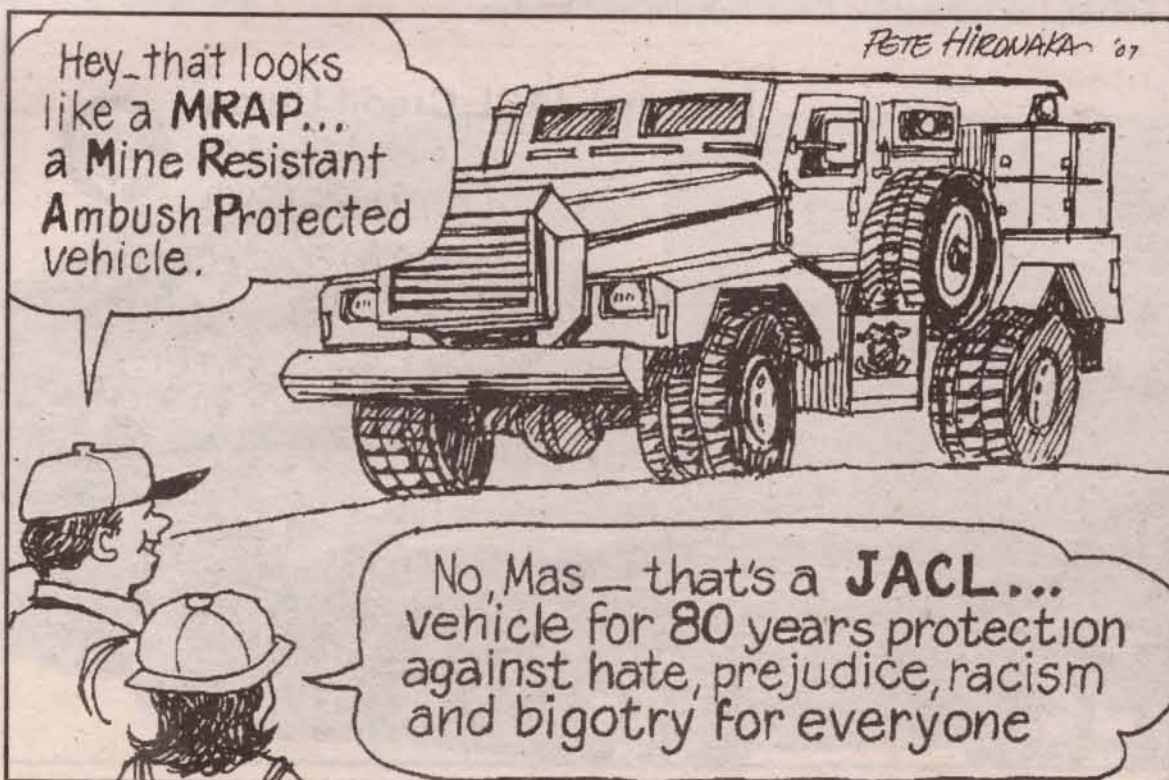
During WWII, there were only three JAs who served in airplanes on combat missions, all as gunners but none in the cockpit. Ben Kuroki, was one of the three. He said he "had to fight like hell" to remain in the Air Corps because some officials wanted him grounded. JAs were not trusted by the government during WWII.

So far the Japanese American Korean War Veterans has identified two JA pilots who served in the Korean War. During the Vietnam War over 20 JAs have been identified as having served in the cockpits of military aircrafts.

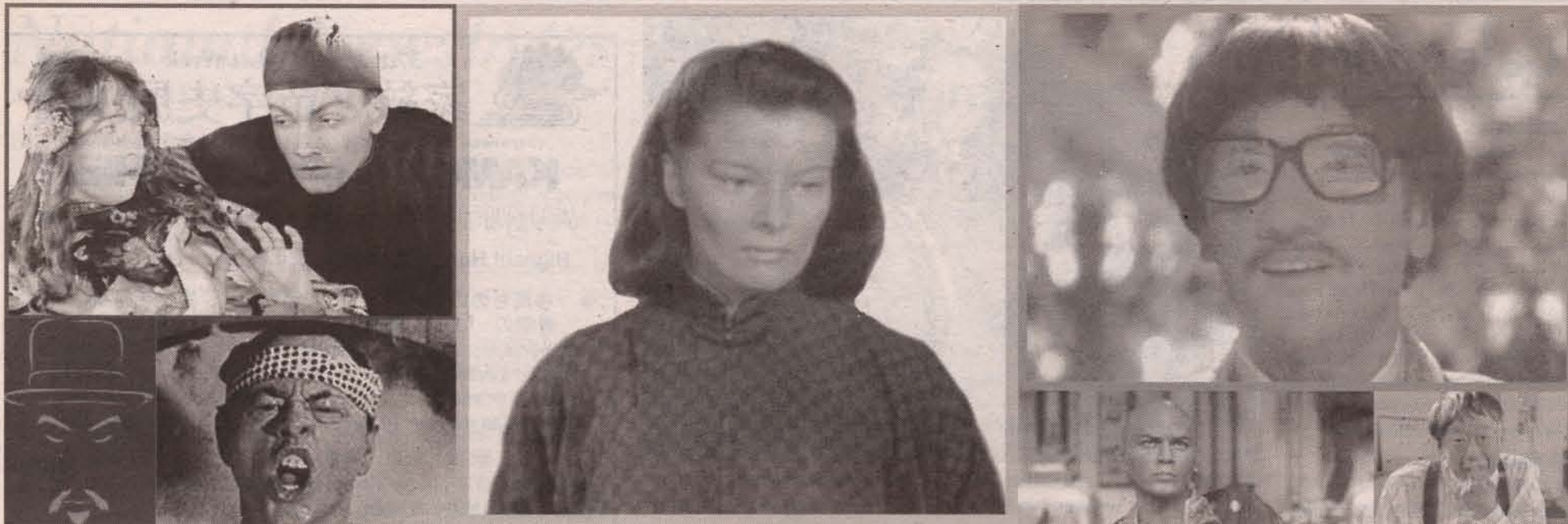
With this survey JAVA hopes to show two points: JAs could compete with the best of them; and JAs have come a long way in occupying key military aircraft positions which were once off-limits.

Col Robert (Bob) S. Kan, USAF, (Ret), pilot of F4C fighter during the Vietnam War, is compiling the data. When the research is complete, it will be placed on the JAVA Web site: [www.javadc.org](http://www.javadc.org).

If you have information, contact Bob at 800/883-8185; [juvat72@cox.net](mailto:juvat72@cox.net); 2516 Edgewater Dr, Niceville, FL 325768. ■







# Your Face, My Face, Blackface, Yellowface

From Rooney to Schneider: how far have we come?

By **LYNDA LIN**  
Assistant Editor

The question is simple: can we call it "yellowface" if the actor beneath the makeup and the pulled back eyes is, in fact, Asian?

Before you answer, consider this: in his last film role the legendary Pat Morita donned a salt and pepper bowl-cut wig and thick rimmed glasses to play an egotistical Chinese newspaper editor in "American Fusion." In fact, Morita's character in the charming film looks a lot like the now reviled preacher character in "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry," played by Rob Schneider.

And yes, Schneider is Asian Pacific American. So when, if ever, is it acceptable for an actor to put on makeup and a thick accent to entertain?

## Yellow Fever

"Here in the 21st century, I think Schneider's performance could only work if he somehow subverted the caricature ... turned it on its head," said David Mills, a screenwriter from Glendale, Calif., who went to see "Chuck and Larry" and then took to his blog to rage about Schneider's "Japanese caricature that turns back Hollywood's clock 50 years."

We can blame old Hollywood for making many APAs feel invisible by historically casting Caucasian actors in Asian roles. It's a deeply psychological wound that continues to bleed today when we see black and white examples of yellowface in films like D.W. Griffith's "Broken Blossoms" and the Pearl S. Buck inspired "Dragon Seed," where some makeup is meant to help us forget Katherine Hepburn is white.

But it is 2007, right? The overt racism of yellow make-up is supposed to be a relic of the past. That's why APAs get so angry when they see a reemergence in the occasional cartoon or used as a tasteless gimmick for bad Chinese fast food.

But has mainstream Hollywood progressed since the days of Mickey Rooney's bucktooth, slanty-eyed caricature in "Breakfast at Tiffany's"?

"[This month], Americans can go see 'Chuck and Larry' or 'Rush Hour 3,'" said James Lu, a 22-year-old moviegoer who was going to see "Rescue Dawn" at an Arcadia, Calif. theater Aug. 5. Earlier, Lu had watched Schneider's performance as the Asian minister in "Chuck and Larry." "I didn't think it was funny," said Lu. But a group of APA girls in front of him seemed to enjoy the portrayal.

"They laughed ... I don't know if that says anything, but what about in states where there aren't many Asians?"

## Asian Enough?

And while APA groups like the Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA) and the JAACL have vehemently condemned Schneider for his monolid character, the internet is alive with qualifying comments about Schneider's ethnicity.

"He was portraying a stereotype in a comedy. He was poking fun at his own people. I thought it was funny. No big deal," one fan wrote on Schneider's IMDB.com profile page.

People wondered, is Schneider half Filipino or one-fourth? He made a passing reference to his ethnicity on his recent appearance on the "Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and attended the Asian Excellence Awards in May with his mom, Pilar.

The underlining question behind all this internet-based dialogue seemed to be: is Schneider Asian enough to pull this off?

If Schneider is deserving of criticism because one-fourth is not "Asian enough," then would one-half be enough? asked filmmaker Eric Byler.

"It's absolutely not acceptable for Rob Schneider or

any other person to portray a racially offensive character regardless of whether the actor is non-Asian, fully Asian or of multiracial Asian descent," said Jenn Fang of the political blog, reappropriate.com. "For an Asian American to portray such a character may be even more harmful because it incorporates into the role a false assurance that the caricature is condoned by the community or even based in reality."

For others, Schneider's role in "Chuck and Larry" isn't even worth talking about — his uncredited role as the Asian minister gave him less than 10 minutes to speak gibberish and interchange his "l's" and "r's." Filmmaker Michael Kang hasn't seen the film, but he imagines Schneider's performance to be so annoying and over the top that it's not even worth getting upset about.

"To me, the really dangerous representations are the more sneaky ones that purport to be positive, but are actually subversive justifications of racist notions," said the "West 32nd" director.

## A Personal Note to Rob

But in the name of research, the *Pacific Citizen* took one for the team. We bought a ticket to see "Chuck and Larry" and invited Schneider to respond to the criticism levied against him by the APA community for not only his Asian minister character, but other unflattering ones he has played in the past (remember his wild-eyed native character named Ula in "50 First Dates"? Yeah, neither do we).

We even tempered our invitation with acknowledgment that he was the first APA to break into "Saturday Night Live." But despite numerous attempts to reach him through his management company and his entourage, Schneider couldn't afford the time to address the APA community who accused him of bringing back yellowface.

"Rob is currently on location for a film," wrote Shara Koplowitz, Schneider's publicist, in an e-mail to the *P.C.* She went on to say that she would ask him again in a month.

It's safe to say that if Schneider were to call the *P.C.* office next month with his side of the story, we will not be taking any notes.

After all, we have to think about our own "face" even if Schneider doesn't care about his. ■

## Better films to see:

www.w32nd.com,  
www.americansethemovie.com

## Better blogs to read about race:

www.undercoverblackman.blogspot.com,  
www.reappropriate.com

But if you must: www.robschneider.com




PHOTO: AZNTV.COM

**YES HE IS:** Rob (right) joined his mom, Pilar, at the Asian Excellence Awards in May.

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

**National business and Professional Directory**

Your business card in each issue for 22 issues is \$15 per line, three-line minimum. Larger type (12 pt.) counts as two lines. Logo same as line rate as required. P.C. has made no determination that the businesses listed in this directory are licensed by proper government authority.

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## SECRET ASIAN MAN™ By Tak

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# Calendar

## National

**Wed., Sept. 12**—Gala Dinner, "A Salute to Champions Gala Dinner"; J.W. Marriott Hotel, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave., NW; honorees include Sen. Daniel Inouye, Ambassador Ryozo Kato, Sen. Larry Craig, Karen Narasaki and State Farm Insurance Company; \$200/person, \$2,000/table of 10; RSVP by Aug. 22; proceeds will help fund a Sen. Daniel Inouye Fellowship; sponsorships and advertising are available. Info: 202/223-1240 or gala@jacl.org.

## Midwest

### CLEVELAND

**Sun. Aug. 26**—2007 Community Picnic; 10-6 p.m.; Brushwood Shelter, Furnace Run, Summit County Metro Park; enjoy food, games, taiko and relaxation.

### ST. LOUIS

**Sat.-Mon., Sept. 1-3**—2007 Japanese Festival; Sept. 1-2 10-10 p.m., Mon. 10-5 p.m.; Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd.; \$10/adults, \$7/seniors (age 65+), \$3/children (3-12); featuring a geisha presentation, sumo wrestling and taiko drumming. Info: 314/577-9400 or www.mobot.org.

## Pacific Northwest

### BELLEVUE, Wash.

**Sat.-Sun., Sept. 8-9**—10th Annual Aki Matsuri Fall Festival; Bellevue Community College, Main Campus, 3000 Landerholm Cir. SE; Sat. 10-6 p.m., Sun. 11-5 p.m.; featuring exhibits, performances, demonstrations and food. Info: 425/861-7865 or www.enma.org.

### PORTLAND

**Aug. 26 through Jan. 6**—Exhibit, "Window on a Community: Nikkei Farmers of the Hood River Area"; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave.; Tues.-Sat. 11-3 p.m., Sun. noon-3 p.m.; \$3/general admission, free to ONLC members. Info: ONLC, 503/224-1458.

**Wed.-Fri., Sept. 26-28**—Annual Moonviewing Celebration; 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Portland Japanese Garden, 611 SW Kingston Dr.; write a few lines of poetry, taste miso soup and toast the rising moon; \$25/members, \$35/non-members and reservations are required. RSVP: 503/542-0280, www.japanesegarden.com/events/moonviewing#reservations or events@japanesegarden.com.

## Intermountain

### ALBUQUERQUE

**Fri., Aug. 31**—The Art of Taiko with Kenny Endo; 7-9 p.m.; Sandia Prep High School, 532 Osuna Rd., NE; tickets \$20; taiko performances with Okinawa dance and songs by Madi Sato; workshops with Kenny Endo are set for Sept. 1 and 2 at New Mexico Shotokan Karate Dojo, 2808 Girard Blvd NE; Info: Anita Gallegos, 505/294-6993, mail@newmexico-taiko.com or www.newmexicotaiiko.com.

**Sun., Sept. 30**—Aki Matsuri 2007 "Shodo: Way of the Brush, Where Writing Becomes Art"; 10-6 p.m.; National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St., SW; \$3 fundraising/admission fee; Info: Esther Churchwell, 6kalan14@comcast.net or 505/883-5320.

## Southern California

### LONG BEACH

**Sun., Sept. 16**—PSW District JAACL's Dinner Show; Long Beach Marriott; reception begins at 5 p.m.; this year's dinner will feature the Grateful Crane Ensemble's production "Nihonmachi: The Place to Be"; \$100/person. Info: 213/626-4471.

### LOS ANGELES

**Aug. 18-26**—67th Annual Nisei Week Japanese Festival; Little Tokyo; events include coronation and dinner, sumo tournament, grand parade, Tofu Festival, cultural exhibits, Pioneer Luncheon, carnival, car show, anime



**MIDWEST MATSURI**—The 2007 Japanese Festival takes place over the Labor Day weekend in St. Louis. Taiko drumming, a geisha presentation and a sumo tournament are the featured events.

festival, ondo and more; this year's grand parade will feature Japan's Grand Nebuta Float and the Japanese American Korean War Veterans. Info: www.niseiweek.org or 213/687-7193.

**Sept. 13**—JANM's 1st and Central Summer Concert Series; National Museum Plaza, 369 E. 1st St.; Sept. 13, Celso Duarte and Sonex. Info: www.janm.org.

**Sun., Sept. 30**—Aki Matsuri Boutique; 9:30-3:30 p.m.; Venice Community Center, 12448 Braddock Dr.; featuring clothing, jewelry; handmade gifts, food and much more; free; vendors accept cash or check only. Info: Jean, 310/390-6914 or Eiko, 310/820-1875.

### VENTURA

**Sat., Aug. 25**—Ventura County JAACL Picnic/Beach Party; 11-3 p.m.; Marina Beach Park; please bring a main dish, side, salad or dessert to share; drinks and paper goods will be provided; RSVP by Aug. 18 to Betty Wakiji, 805/383-2703.

## Hawaii

### HONOLULU

**Fri.-Sat., Sept. 7-8**—Shippoyaki Workshop; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (JCCH); Fri. 1-4 p.m., Sat. 9-12 p.m.; participants will learn the art of shippoyaki and how to make their own ornamental pieces; \$20/members, \$25/non-members; registration due Aug. 24. Info: 808/9457633, www.jcch.com or

info@jcch.com.

**Sat., Sept. 29**—"Celebration of Leadership and Achievement Dinner presented by the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii; 5 p.m.; Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom; event will honor educators in the community as well as a corporate honoree; \$150/person. Info: JCCH, 808/945-7633 or info@jcch.com.

## Nevada

### LAS VEGAS

**Sept. 17-19**—Manzanar High School Reunion featuring the Clubs of Manzanar; California Hotel; highlight will be a slide show of the photos of the clubs and sports teams; Alisa Lynch, a ranger from Manzanar, will present an electronic field trip of Manzanar. Info: Sam Ono, 310/327-5568, Sus Ioki, 310/202-9199, sioki@comcast.net, Henry Nakano, 714/871-8178 or Victor Muraoka, 818/368-4113, v.muraoka@verizon.net.

**Oct. 2-4**—Jerome Reunion, "The Last Round-Up"; California Hotel and Casino; buffet luncheon, \$25/person, RSVP by Aug. 20 to: Jerome Reunion Committee, 519 W. 157th St., Gardena, CA 90248; Nisei Charter Bus Lines is available from Gardena and Long Beach. Info: George Nakayama, 310/323-4789, Masato "Milt" Fukuda, 310/327-3923 or Margie (Nakamura) Tanaka, 562/402-3326.

## Amache Historical Society Seeks Donations for Tornado Victims



Amache Camp during WWII.

The Amache Historical Society is helping collect relief funds for victims of a tornado which recently struck the towns of Lamar and Holly in Colorado — areas nearby the former Amache Relocation Center during World War II.

Many of the victims had their homes, structures and equipment destroyed or damaged. About 60 percent of the towns was destroyed and unfortunately, the insurance companies will not cover the current rebuilding costs.

"When we lived in Amache, we were so very fortunate that no tornado ever sat down in our camp. With our flimsily-built barrack homes, it would have been an absolute catastrophe," said Min Tonai, president of the Amache Historical Society.

Although the tornado did not set down in the town of Granada — next door to the Amache site — many of the students and employees at the Granada School commute from Lamar and Holly.

Tonai noted that the people living near the former Amache camp have given tremendous support to the Granada School's Amache Preservation Society, a group that has studied the wartime injustices suffered by the JA community, especially of those interned at Amache.

With support from the "Denver Central Optimist Club" and its successor "Friends of Amache," the Amache Preservation Society also has been maintaining the Amache site and are currently working on a plan to rebuild some of it.

In a show of support for the residents of Lamar and Holly the Amache Historical Society is requesting donations to the "2007 Tornado Relief Fund From Amache." So far the campaign has collected over \$23,000 but the needs of the victims are great.

The Amache Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, so all contributions are tax-deductible. Checks or money orders can be mailed to: Amache Historical Society, c/o Irene Furuya, Treasurer, 1830 Pepper Drive, Altadena, CA 91001. Please write "2007 Tornado Relief Fund" in the memo space. ■

## 37th Annual Nisei Week 家紋と苗字史展 祭

(Japanese Family Crest & Japanese Surname History)

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Japanese American  
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**V-J DAY**

(Continued from page 2)

of August, businesses are closed and residents enjoy a long weekend.

Rhode Island is the only state in the U.S. that formerly recognizes V-J Day as a state holiday. On paper, it's officially called "Victory Day," but local businesses have always incorrectly referred to the holiday as V-J Day to advertise sales and promotional events, said Sen. Rhoda Perry.

"I hate the fact the state that I have served for almost 20 years now has such a discriminatory holiday," said Perry, who proposed two bills in her first and second term to change the name of the holiday to "Peace Day" or a variation on that. Both attempts failed because of extreme opposition from local veterans' groups and unions who didn't want the holiday changed or eradicated.

"There are people here who are related to the veterans' organization who are proud that Rhode Island is the only state that celebrates V-J Day," added Perry.

Before Perry, Reps. Elizabeth Morancy and Linda J. Kushner also tried to pass legislation to change the name of the holiday with no success. In the 1990s, advocates including attorney Phil Tajitsu Nash and Steve Rabson, a professor at Brown University, sought to file a lawsuit that would require a change of the holiday's name, but this effort failed too because no one volunteered to be plaintiffs.

Since then, the advocates have ended their efforts for change and have resolved to simply ignore the holiday's designation as much as possible, said Rabson.

But some Rhode Island residents still bristle at the mention of the holiday.

"Victory Day? Victory for what? Victory for war?" asked Mikki Lima of the Rhode Island Japan Society Language and Cultural Center.

Lima, a Shin Issei, vocally criticized the holiday last year in a local newspaper article.

"I had so many nasty phone calls from everywhere," she said about the aftermath.

But for a holiday that some Rhode Island groups fought so hard to keep,

*'I hate the fact the state that I have served for almost 20 years now has such a discriminatory holiday.'*



— Sen. Rhoda E. Perry, about her state of Rhode Island's V-J Day holiday.

not a lot of fanfare goes into the day's commemoration. Some veteran's groups gather in small ceremonies, but no parades wend through the streets of Rhode Island, said Lima.

"... I can't help but think that it's not much of a big deal, at least for young people!" said Carl Takei, a Yonsei from the New England JACL who lived in Providence to attend Brown University. "My guess is that most Rhode Islanders who aren't part of the World War II generation just see it as a day off from work. And I never felt unwelcome or

uncomfortable being a JA in Rhode Island."

Despite the lack of activities, Rhode Islanders do know why there is a day off, said Jessica Kawamura, a Berkeley JACL member who recently graduated from Brown University. Plus, the holiday has the endorsement of the government, she added.

"To me as a JA, it is still significant that Rhode Island celebrates V-J Day and not V-E Day. Perhaps it would be more appropriate if Americans celebrated neither," said Kawamura who also pointed out that Rhode Island has a large and influential Italian American community, but a very small JA population. "I think that this influences the practices in the state; however, my impression is that Rhode Island continues the practice out of habit and tradition rather than distain for the Japanese."

Twenty years have past since Perry last pushed the state's General Assembly to change the holiday's name. She tells the P.C. that perhaps it is time for her to try again; especially since the Asian Pacific American population has grown in the state.

"I think it would be wonderfully sensitive and progressive if Rhode Island eradicated such a discriminatory holiday," Perry added.

One WWII veteran agrees.

"To me, celebrating V-J Day every year would be an embarrassment for the U.S. government for publicizing the use of atomic bombs to win a war, but the war had to be won even if it took atom bombs to win the war," said Ichikawa.

"I celebrated V-J Day once in 1945 and I would say let the history books note the date of V-J Day," he added. ■

**In Memoriam - 2007**

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Cloyd, Joseph L., 74**, Hamilton, Ohio, Aug. 4; survived by wife, Kimiko; daughter, Beth Stapleton; sons, Anthony and Terry; 5 gc.; and 1 ggc.

**Fujii, Lawrence M., 84**, Los Angeles, July 5; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Emiko; sons, William

Annand and Karen Fong; 5 gc.; and 4 ggc.

**Miotke, Sharon Aiko Yaguchi, 47**, June 23; survived by husband, Jeff; son, Tom; daughter, Laura; mother, Margaret Yaguchi; brothers, Steven and David (Cindy); and grandmother, Kikuyo Utsumi.

**Morita, Robert "Bobby,"** Los Angeles, June 21; survived by wife, Mae; daughters, Kathy, Val, Jenni and Cyndie Yee; 4 gc.; sister, Judy Morita; and sister-in-law, Naomi Morita.

**Nonaka, Ted,** June 27; survived by sister, Miko (Walt) Matsui; and brother, Mas (Yasuko).

**Ohashi, Hope N., 80**, Ketchikan, Alaska; July 7; survived by brothers, Neil, Ed and Bob.

**Saito, Amy, 77**, Cypress, July 2; survived by brothers, Hiro (Bobbie) and Mas; and sister, Fudge Ueda.

**Sakabu, Michiko, 79**, Montebello, July 23; survived by husband, John; son, George; daughters, Joyce and Jeanne Sakabu-Aedo; 1 gc.; sister, Takako (Roy) Takei; brother, Hironobu (Ayako) Terakawa; and brother-in-law, H. Fred (Kumi) Sakabu.

**Sugai, Henry, 84**, Los Angeles; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Rose; sons, Edwin (Debra), Raymond (Teresa) and Alan (Cathy); daughter, Laura (David) Mancha; 8 gc.; 8 ggc.; sisters, Alyce Watanabe and Michi Sugai; and sister-in-law, Chiyo Tanaka.

**Toribara, Frank Yoshio, 92**, Spokane, June 5; survived by son, Ted (Christy); and daughter, Terry (Eric) Sorensen; 3 gc.; 1 ggc.; sister, Mary Chaney; and sister-in-law, Masako Toribara.

**Wakabayashi, Mitsue, 81**, Boyle Heights, June 11; survived by son, Glen (Shelley); daughter, Helen; and 4 gc.

**Watanabe, George, 81**, Harbor City, April 26; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Ruby; and sister, Anne (Tad) Sugiyama. ■

*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.*

(Miho) and Robert (Judy) Kiriya; 3 gc.; brothers, Tom, Robert (Clara), Yoichi and Aldo (Joyce); sisters, Jean Nakagawa and Betsy Creech; and sister-in-law, Florence Yamada.

**Inagi, Mitsue, 90**, Redondo Beach, July 1; survived by daughters, Grace (Alex) Oune, Peggy (Sam) Hirasawa and Susan Wong; 5 gc.; 8 ggc.; 1 ggc.; sister, Nobu (Ted) Watanabe; and sister-in-law, Terry Mitobe.

**Kanegae, Akino, 92**, May 21, survived by daughters, Ellen (George) Agcaoli, Marilyn (Ronald) Izumita and Marjory (Ronald) Nakamura; son, Dr. Thomas; 9 gc.; 6 ggc.; sisters, Yukino Eto and Sumi Inamasu; brothers, Toody (George) Yukihiro and Bill (Shige) Yukihiro; and sisters-in-law, Mary Yamami and Toshiko Yukihiro.

**Kosako, Hiroshi "Hiro," 72**, Monterey Park, May 20; survived by son, Paul; daughters, Barbara

**DEATH NOTICE**

**MASAYUKI**

**"MURPHY" TASHIMA**

Masayuki "Murphy" Tashima, 85, died peacefully July 24, in Walton Hills, Ohio. Masy spent many years as Supervisor of the Data Processing Unit at Gray's Drugs and after retirement, was the popular host at Shujiro Restaurant. He served in World War II and graduated from Ohio State University. He was an active member of CARP and the JACL. He was passionate about golf, his golfing buddies, his beloved bowling league and the Buckeyes. Masy is survived by his brother, Yoshiyuki (Yoshie) Tashima, his sister Kimiko (Shiro) Shiozawa, sisters-in-law Mary (Harold) Tashima, Frances (Takayuki) Tashima, Janet (Noriyuki) Tashima, many nieces and nephews and his wonderful Tomi Andow and her family. Memorial services are pending. Family may be contacted through Gail Tashima Downes, 235 S. Mountain Trail, Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

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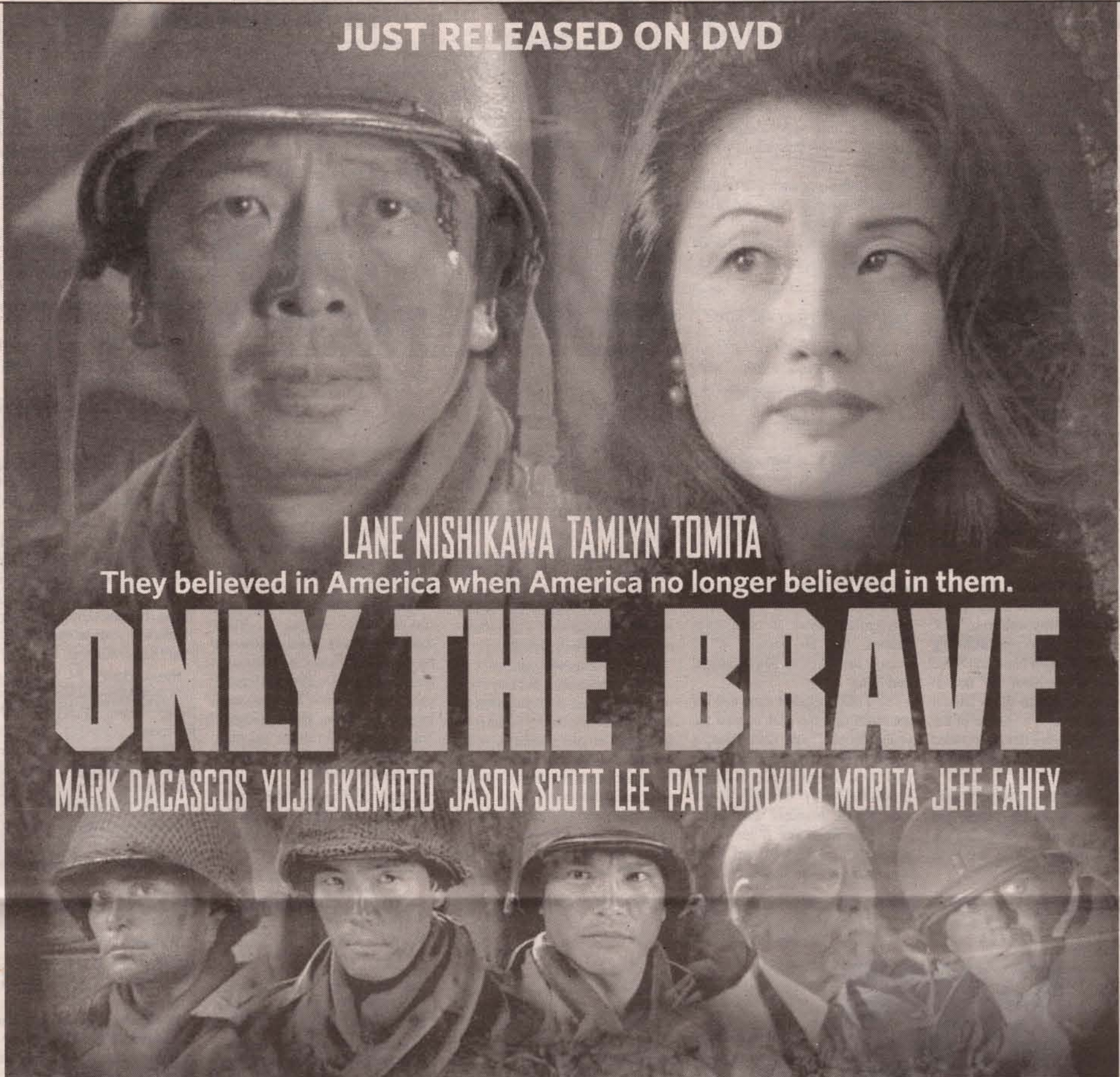
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