



Watada supporters hold vigil in Little Tokyo—PAGE 3

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



Saved ... For Now

A controversial feedlot near the Minidoka Monument is rejected by Commissioners.

NATIONAL NEWS PAGE 3

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Oct. 19-Nov. 1, 2007

## Youth Voice is Among the Loudest in the Movement to Preserve Little Tokyo

**Action alerts on Facebook, MySpace and Yelp? It's a whole new generation of activism.**

By **LYNDA LIN**  
Assistant Editor

On Yelp.com, a popular social networking and user review site, the online chatter about the best eateries and coffee shops was recently interrupted with an important message: save Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

"Little Tokyo is our home. Little Tokyo is our history. Little Tokyo is our future. And the people who share that home should have a say in what happens to it," read the petition started by J-Town Voice, a multigenerational volunteer activist organization.

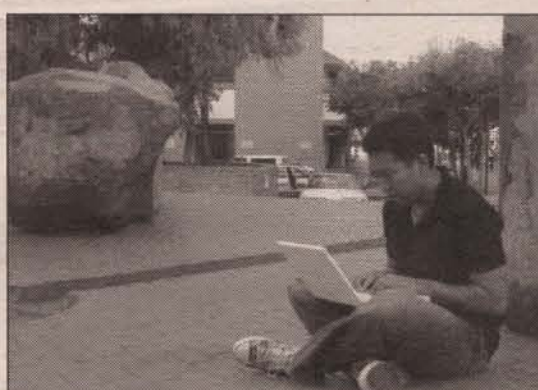
The petition, posted on Yelp.com,

received over 40 personal responses and bumps (an acronym for "Bring Up My Post" to literally raise the thread's profile) from young Yelpers expressing feelings of solidarity about their ethnic enclave.

Ryan Woo, 27, didn't know about the July sale of the Japanese Village Plaza to American Commercial Equities and the August sale of the New Otani Hotel and Weller Court to 3D Investments until he read the petition on Yelp.com.

"My initial reaction was a sharp stab of shock," said Woo of West Los Angeles.

Several incarnations of the petition have also made it onto MySpace.com, popular blogging sites and many e-mail inboxes. For generations of Asian Pacific Americans that have no real tangible ties to the area like older generations,



*'People may see us as the couch potato generation, but if we're given the opportunity to step up ... we're more than willing to do so.'*

— **Geoff Tsudama** (above), who doesn't know who was behind the posters (right) found in Weller Court Oct. 9., but understands the reason.



the passion for preservation seems boundless.

Then it happened.

A team of two men and one woman reported to be of college age were chased away at 3 a.m. on Oct. 9 after they plastered about 16 posters on the walls of Weller Court and the New Otani Hotel, according to security officials.

The posters damaged the walls. No suspects have been identified and no charges were filed.

But the message

was clear: Buying building property does not buy community.

Community groups have condemned the act of vandalism, but many individuals sympathize with its spirit.

"While I feel bad for those individuals who had to clean it up, I couldn't help but agree with what was written on the posters," said Mickie Okamoto, a Shin Nisei and president of the Nikkei Student Union at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"It's amazing how much people actually care about places like Little Tokyo when Little Tokyo isn't even necessarily a place they come to very often," said Geoff Tsudama, a Yonsei from Gardena, Calif.

"I feel like many other young people are having this same surprising

See **LITTLE TOKYO**/ Page 12

## Push for Nisei WWII Veterans Stamp Heading Into Last Stretch

The Stamp Advisory Committee may be meeting any day now. A grassroots campaign supporting the stamp proposal wants to ensure their voices are heard.

By **CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM**  
Executive Editor

It's down to crunch time.

In the next couple of weeks — maybe even the next several days — the U.S. Postal Service's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee will



**VOLUNTEERS:** (l-r) Wayne Osako, Ken Nakano, and Aiko King.

meet to decide the fate of a Nisei World War II veterans stamp proposal.

With time closing in, members of a national grassroots campaign supporting the commemorative stamp are working to ensure their voices are heard, loud and clear.

"It's time we get this stamp created ... 2010 is the next opportunity," said Wayne Osako, a Nisei WWII Veterans Stamp Campaign organizer.

Although the idea of a Nisei veter-

See **NISEI STAMP**/ Page 7

## The Voices of the Past are Written on the Walls

During WWII, PFC Peter Ota befriended Okinawan orphans being held at Fort McDowell as POWs. He hopes their stories and those of other POWs don't fade away.

By **LYNDA LIN**  
Assistant Editor

On an island in the San Francisco Bay, 20-year-old Private First Class Peter Ota met a group of boys in 1945 he would never forget. World War II was winding down and Ota was stationed at a prisoner of war processing center that held hardened soldiers captured in the Pacific.

One day, a ship came in filled with *bo heitai* or boy soldiers from Okinawa. Wide-eyed and devastated from the destruction of their homeland, the boys wandered into the camp like innocent byproducts of war.

See **FORT MCDOWELL**/Page 11

## With SCHIP Veto, Many APA Children May Be Left Behind

Can Congress override the president's veto to save the popular children's health coverage program?

By **LYNDA LIN**  
Assistant Editor

For Sherry Hirota, health is a family affair. Her Oakland-based community health center provides medical care and insurance counseling to thousands of underserved Asian Pacific American families — most are uninsured when they first walk through the doors looking for help.

Access to health care services is key to healthy families, but it's also a matter of life or death.

Hirota, the chief executive officer of Asian Health Services, has seen countless patients walk in for first time care with the ravages of life-threatening illnesses firmly established.

They get diagnosed with diabetes and many other treatable diseases too late, said Hirota.

In a working class family, what choices do they have? Many of Alameda County's APAs are small business owners who can't afford private health insurance.

See **HEALTH CARE**/Page 13



PHOTO COURTESY OF AHS

**SAY AAH:** An Oakland resident gets dental attention from the Asian Health Services clinic, a facility for low-income families.

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### He's Back, Baby

After going mainstream, Justin Lin comes back to his roots with Bruce Lee in tow.

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 9



### A Takei Asteroid

Actor and community activist George Takei is honored with his own asteroid.

SEE NATIONAL PAGE 4



## PACIFIC CITIZEN

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## An Open Discourse

While I respect the opinion of the letter writer for "An Insult to JA Veterans," I believe it essential to correct some of his assertions.

If joining our Armed Forces results in being subject to the military justice system and, as made clear in 1st Lt. Ehren Watada's case, the quirks therein, such as facing prosecution for exercising one's freedom of speech, does it not fall upon us to question the morality of our country's ability to send soldiers off to other nations where they will risk being put in harm's way but not be granted the rights guaranteed by our Constitution?

Furthermore, the letter writer mistakenly states that Lt. Watada has compared himself with World War II "resisters of conscience," but this has simply never been the case. What Lt. Watada and his supporters do believe is that the basis for the Iraq War was built upon misinformation and deception regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction and alleged ties to Al-Qaeda terrorists.

Also, the letter writer misunderstands how it was the judge and prosecution argued for Lt. Watada's earlier mistrial. He and his defense wanted the trial to proceed to verdict. This is the basis for how the prohibition against double jeopardy applies.

Finally, it is unfortunate that the letter writer believes that open discourse on controversial topics is more damaging than silence. I believe that only by discussing such matters can valid information and opinions be dispersed, where they may be engaged in, or, as the letter writer has chosen, dismissed outright. The key point, however, is to air our concerns and not censor them, for that is really how a community develops in a positive way.

DON INO

San Francisco, CA

# Letters to the Editor

## Re: Gala Dinner and Chicago Drowning

I would like to comment on two articles that appeared in the Sept. 21-Oct. 4 issue of the *Pacific Citizen*: "JACL Hosts Inaugural Awards Gala," and "APA Groups: Chicago Drowning Death is a Hate Crime."

The JACL gala dinner was a tribute to outstanding heroes in the Japanese American community including Karen Narasaki whose father was an outstanding leader of the Nisei Veterans Committee. The family includes two outstanding sisters, Karen and Diane.

The Chicago drowning story is a cry for help from Bill Yoshino, JACL Midwest regional director. He needs support to convince the police department of Chicago that two drownings of Vietnamese fishermen was not "a kind of random act."

I hope such support is forthcoming from the national JACL and other civil rights organizations. Count me in if funds are needed to pursue this matter.

ART GORAI

Seattle JACL

## Reader Supports Name Change

I support a name change for the JACL. As people of the world are progressing toward greater mutual understanding and inclusivity, so should the JACL.

Ideally, a civil rights organization should support any group or person that faces the same issues that brought about the establishment of the JACL in the first place. This is what equality is about. But since this asks for a major change of focus or mission, I am not certain that the JACL should or can accommodate this.

STEVEN YOSHIDA

Via e-mail

## COMMENTARY

# Nidoto Nai Yoni: Let it Not Happen Again

By FLOYD MORI

JACL Nat'l Director

Bainbridge is a beautiful, lush island with a population of around 22,000 people. Reaching the island from Seattle takes slightly over half an hour on a pleasant ferry ride. It is also possible to reach Bainbridge by driving across a bridge at the ends of the Island.

After the Pearl Harbor attack, Bainbridge Island received Civilian Exclusion Order No. 1 and became the first group of Japanese Americans along the Pacific Coast to be forced to leave their homes. They were removed with six days notice and displaced to internment camps, also known as concentration camps.

Dr. Frank Kitamoto, who has a dentistry practice on Bainbridge Island, left with that group of 227 Island residents. He was four years old at the time and is depicted in the photo often used to show JAs leaving Bainbridge Island at the former Eaglesdale Ferry Landing on March 30, 1942.

Some Japanese immigrants who settled in Bainbridge Island during the early part of the 1900s returned after the end of World War II. Most have moved on or passed away, and some never returned. Now there are fewer JAs on the island than before the start of the war, but some descendants of the pioneering Issei remain.



Junkoh Harui was a child when the war broke out and is one of those whose family returned. His father owned land and had developed successful businesses on Bainbridge Island. Junkoh has restored a nursery business there which is called Bainbridge Gardens Nursery.

Plans have been in the works for some time to build a memorial near the site where the JAs left the island. The park is a 50-acre site with the memorial being on eight acres. Footbridges, entry gates, and a pavilion have been erected. The first gate was built four years ago and placed outside the local Windsor post office with an explanation about the JA experience on Bainbridge Island.

Plans include the building of a 272-foot "story wall" which will include the names of the 272 people of Japanese ancestry who were living on Bainbridge Island at the time the war broke out. At the end of the wall near the harbor's edge, a 150-foot pier (for the 150 people who returned to Bainbridge Island after the war) will rise from the same spot of the former ferry dock where they left.

The JA community and friends have erected other memorial areas around the Island including a Haiku Noniwa Garden at the grounds of the Library. Their motto is: "Nidoto Nai Yoni, Let It Not Happen Again."

A bill sponsored by Rep. Jay Inslee, D-Wash., to give National Park status to the

memorial site at Bainbridge Island passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 419-0. The legislation would make the site a satellite of the Minidoka Internment National

Monument in Idaho. The bill was introduced in the Senate by Sens. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., and Patty Murray, D-Wash. It came out of committee but has yet to be voted on by the full Senate.

After meeting Dr. Kitamoto at the Minidoka

pilgrimage, I thought I would like to visit Bainbridge Island. After the bi-district conference in Seattle this July, I decided to go to the island. Dr. Kitamoto called together a group of local JAs and friends to meet with me. I was privileged to meet these dedicated individuals who are helping to preserve the JA experience.

Dr. Kitamoto has been president of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community (BIJAC) for more than two decades. Clarence Moriawaki chairs the BIJAC committee in charge of the memorial. The \$5 million memorial project has raised over half of the funds needed for completion.

They are seeking donations to help with the memorial. Plans are to place names on the donor wall of those who donate \$1,000 or more. They are also doing oral histories. Anyone interested may check out the Web site at [www.bijac.org](http://www.bijac.org) or e-mail Clarence: [Clarence@bainbridge.net](mailto:Clarence@bainbridge.net). ■

*'Plans are to place  
names on the donor  
wall of those who  
donate \$1,000 or more.  
They are also doing  
oral histories.'*



# S. Idaho Officials Reject Feedlot Planned Near Minidoka

Former WWII internees and locals cheer the vote by the Jerome County Commissioners. Big Sky has 28 days to appeal the decision and a lawsuit is likely.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

JEROME, Idaho—Southern Idaho officials have rejected a 13,000-animal cattle feedlot proposed for land just a mile from a World War II-era prison camp for Japanese Americans that's been declared a national monument.

The Jerome County Commission voted 2-1 Oct. 9 against the plan by Eden, Idaho, businessman Don McFarland to build the feedlot near the Minidoka Internment National Monument. There, nearly 10,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans were held behind barbed wire during World War II.

The National Park Service has plans to develop the 73-acre parcel set aside in 2001 by President Clinton into an educational exhibit focusing on wartime civil rights and how the government treated minorities in times of fear.

Some nearby neighbors, the Park Service and former internees at the Minidoka camp had opposed the feedlot on grounds it was inappropriate to locate thousands of cattle — and millions of pounds of fly-attracting manure — near a site with so much historical importance.

Meanwhile, McFarland had reduced the size of his proposal from 18,555 animals in a bid to placate foes. McFarland had won the support of the region's agriculture industry.

County lawyers said the decision



Karen Yoshitomi, JACL Pacific Northwest regional director, gives testimony at the recent Jerome County Commission hearings.

Many believe the testimony of the former internees had a direct impact on the no vote of the commissioners.

AP PHOTO

sets the stage for a lawsuit by McFarland, who has 28 days to appeal.

"This is likely headed for court," said Jerome County Attorney Mike Seib, who during the hearing urged commissioners to be more explicit about their decision. "You haven't weighed any of the evidence. There needs to be a discussion of how the evidence supports the decision you're making."

McFarland told The Associated

Press that he didn't think the county commission considered his application properly.

"We did spend a considerable amount of money and time — it was 18 months or more — to ensure that the application was correct and complete and complied with Jerome County planning and zoning requirements," he said. "We're discussing our options with our attorney."

Feedlot opponents said they were

pleased with a decision they hope will protect the site's historical integrity — and their quality of life.

"I'm thrilled," said Dean Dimond, who lives near the site. "It's for the best. I'm glad the county stood up to him."

"I believe that those that testified to the importance of the Monument made a difference in the outcome of this decision," said Neil King, NPS superintendent. "One side benefit is that the Monument made many new friends during this 11 month ordeal."

Since the former camp was declared a national monument, Idaho governors have annually declared a "Day of Remembrance" of the former internees held here. Late last year, President Bush signed a \$38 million grant program to help the NPS restore and pay for research at 10 such camps, including Minidoka.

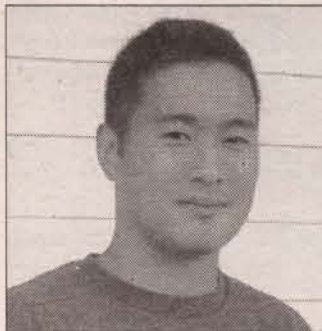
The NPS has plans to expand the monument, in hopes of attracting as many as 80,000 visitors a year. ■

## Federal Judge Blocks Court-martial of War Objector who Claims Double Jeopardy

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

TACOMA, Washington—A federal court judge has temporarily blocked a military trial scheduled for a U.S. soldier who is an Iraq war objector.

The second court-martial of Army 1st Lt. Ehren Watada had been scheduled to start Oct. 9. The first ended in a mistrial in February when the judge said he did not believe Watada fully understood a pretrial agreement he had signed.



WATADA

Watada's lawyers argue the Army is violating his constitutional rights by trying him twice for the same crime. After an Army court disagreed, the defense filed an emergency motion to block the court-martial in federal court Oct. 3.

Watada is charged with missing his unit's deployment to Iraq in June 2006 and with conduct unbecoming an officer for denouncing President George W. Bush and the war.

U.S. District Judge Benjamin Settle in Tacoma has decided his court has jurisdiction to issue the stay and that Watada's double jeopardy claim is not frivolous. Now the judge has asked for more briefs by both sides on the issue.

In a statement issued Oct. 5 by Fort Lewis, the Army said: "Every soldier is entitled to due process in answering charges made against him, and this case is no different. 1st Lt. Watada has always been, and will continue to be, treated fairly and according to law and military justice procedures."

Jim Lobsenz, one of Watada's lawyers, said Watada had been informed of the stay and "he's very happy — and I'm very happy too."

Watada contends the war is illegal and that he would be party to war crimes if he served in Iraq. The Army refused his request to be posted in Afghanistan or elsewhere.

The Army Court of Criminal Appeals has ruled that Watada can be court-martialed again, but Watada appealed that decision to the U.S. Circuit Court for the Armed Forces, which has not ruled, his attorneys wrote.

Watada lives in Olympia and continues to perform administrative duties at Fort Lewis, south of Seattle. His term of service ended in December, but the pending legal proceedings have prevented his discharge.

This past August, the national JACL board voted to strengthen its support for Watada, calling for a fair and impartial trial and reinforcing his right to be protected from double jeopardy. ■

## Community Groups Hold Protest in Support of 1st Lt. Ehren Watada, Launch Online Petition



PHOTO COURTESY OF NCRR

UNITED FOR A CAUSE: Supporters of 1st Lt. Ehren Watada take their message to the streets of Little Tokyo.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Coming out in support of 1st Lt. Ehren Watada, about 40 community members and peace activists gathered in Little Tokyo Oct. 8 to protest the pending second court-martial for the officer who refused deployment to Iraq.

Watada's second court-martial was to begin the day after the protest on Oct. 9 but a U.S. District Court in Tacoma, Washington issued a stay postponing the trial likely until Oct. 26.

Watada and his attorneys are arguing double jeopardy and are asking the court to drop all charges against

the first lieutenant. Watada believes the Iraq war is immoral and illegal but had been willing to serve in other areas of the world including Afghanistan.

The protest was organized by Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress (NCRR) and Asian American Vietnam Veterans Organization (AAVVO). They are also planning another vigil for Oct. 22 in Little Tokyo.

They hope to use the vigils to publicize the injustice of a second court martial and to gather support for Lt. Watada as part of a broader effort to support all military resisters to the Iraq war.

In addition to the vigils, NCRR and AAVVO have started an online petition supporting Watada at: <http://justiceforwatada.2mpower.net/>.

The petition reads in part: "Lt. Ehren Watada has dutifully refused participation in the U.S. war on Iraq, ... since the war violates International law and was initiated by the Bush Administration's deception of U.S. Congress and the American people. ..."

For more information, contact NCRR at 213/680-3484 or call 310/710-1449, 626/482-6637; e-mail: [ncrrla@yahoo.com](mailto:ncrrla@yahoo.com) or AAVVO at [aavvo.com](http://aavvo.com). ■



## Wisconsin Hunter Found Guilty of Lesser Charge in Hmong Man's Killing

The jury's decision to convict James Nichols of 2nd-degree murder instead of the 1st-degree charge has some in the APA community, including JACL, calling for a hate crime sentence enhancement.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

MARINETTE, Wis.—A guilty verdict provided little solace for the family of a Hmong hunter killed by a white former sawmill worker when they crossed paths while hunting squirrels in northern Wisconsin woods earlier this year.

Relatives of Cha Vang, 30, of Green Bay said they were angered and disappointed the all-white jury found 29-year-old James Nichols guilty of second-degree intentional homicide Oct. 5 instead of the first-degree charge he originally faced, reducing the possible penalty from life in prison to 60 years.

"In my native country, if you are guilty you are guilty. There is no first- or second-degree," said Yee Vang, the victim's older brother, through an interpreter.

Sentencing for Nichols was scheduled for Nov. 28.

Leaders of several Hmong groups expressed similar sentiments at the



CHA VANG

outcome of a case that has rekindled racial tensions in northern Wisconsin, where a Hmong deer hunter fatally shot six white hunters three years ago.

"The message sent to the Hmong community is that someone can shoot a Hmong hunter and not get the maximum sentence," said Tou Ger Xiong, spokesman for the Coalition for Community Relations in St. Paul, Minn. "What we found today was more division and broken bridges between our communities."

The second-degree homicide sentence had many in the Asian American community calling on the state of Wisconsin to pursue a hate crime sentence enhancement.

"Your efforts to connect Nichols actions to his hatred for the Hmong people was important," said Bill Yoshino, JACL Midwest regional

director, in a letter to Roy Korte, Wisconsin's assistant attorney general. "Nichols statement to police together with the testimony of his former employer clearly shows his bigoted attitudes toward the Hmong people. To secure the future safety of the Hmong community, in addition to securing the safety of the larger Asian American community residing in Wisconsin, the JACL urges that you pursue a sentence enhancement under the Wisconsin hate crime statute."

Nichols, a former sawmill worker from Peshtigo, claimed he acted in self-defense when he shot and stabbed Cha Vang during a confrontation last Jan. 5 in the Peshtigo Wildlife Area.

But prosecutor Korte said in closing arguments that Nichols took advantage of the isolation in the woods to act on an "ugly trait" of prejudice against the Hmong.

Nichols also was convicted on charges of hiding a corpse and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The jury foreman said it reached agreement on the second-degree charge after realizing it could not do so on a first-degree charge. Gerald Heroux, 63, of Pound, said the jury still had to vote three or four times on the lesser charge before finding Nichols guilty on that charge. ■

## Asteroid Named for Actor George Takei

The JACL offers its congratulations to Takei, a longtime community activist and supporter.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

George Takei already had a place among the stars in the minds of millions of "Star Trek" fans. Now he's taking up permanent residence as the namesake of the asteroid formerly known as the 1994 GT9.

The asteroid, located between Mars and Jupiter, has been renamed 7307 Takei in honor of the actor, who is best known for his role as Hikaru Sulu in the original "Star Trek" series.

"I am now a heavenly body," Takei said Oct. 2, laughing. "I found out about it yesterday. ... I was blown away. It came out of the clear, blue sky — just like an asteroid."

The celestial rock, discovered by two Japanese astronomers in 1994, joins the 4659 Roddenberry (named for the show's creator, Gene Roddenberry) and the 68410 Nichols (for co-star Nichelle Nichols, who played Lt. Uhura). Other main-belt asteroids are already named for science fiction luminaries Robert Heinlein and Isaac Asimov.

"It's in general considered quite an honor," Lars Lindberg Christensen, spokesman for the



International Astronomical Union, said of the latest renaming, which was approved by the union's Committee on Small Body Nomenclature.

About 14,000 asteroid names have been approved by the panel, while about 165,000 asteroids have been identified and numbered, he said.

Unlike the myriad Web sites that offer to sell naming rights to stars, the IAU committee-approved names are actually used by astronomers, said Tom Burbine, the Mount Holyoke College astronomy professor who proposed the name swap.

"This is the name that will be used for all eternity," he said.

Under the committee's policies, whoever discovers an asteroid has 10 years in which to propose a name. After that, the panel considers other suggestions, although it warns would-be namers to avoid anything "in questionable taste" and any names honoring political or military figures sooner than 100 years after

their deaths.

Takei, 70, said he and his "Star Trek" co-stars had always stuck to discussing more earthly honors.

We were "privileged to work on a show that had this kind of a vision for our future, but we're actors," he said by telephone from his Los Angeles home. "Yes, we all lobbied ... for a star on Hollywood Boulevard, but never a star up in the heavens."

Burbine, who also has put a number of his astronomy colleagues up for consideration, said he suggested Takei's name in part out of appreciation for his work with the JACL and with leading gay rights group Human Rights Campaign.

Takei, a spokesman for HRC's Coming Out Project, was cultural affairs chairman of the JACL, and he was appointed to the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission by former President Clinton.

"George has been a real friend and supporter of the Japanese American community for many years. We applaud him for this honor and commend Mr. Burbine for his role. George is well deserving of this and any recognition," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

Most recently, Takei has appeared on NBC's "Heroes," playing Hiro Nakamura's father. He also appears regularly on Howard Stern's satellite radio show. ■

## National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

### Son of Murder Victims Sets Up Foundation to Help Others



KWOK WAI-HO

PHILADELPHIA—The son of an elderly APA man who was killed in July by a group of teens has established a foundation to help other APA victims of violence.

Tom Ho, 33, recently established The Kwok Wai-Ho Foundation, named after his 69-year-old father who was attacked and thrown to the ground while returning from a walk through the neighborhood. His skull was crushed and he died soon after.

A 17-year-old was charged with his murder.

The foundation, administered by the Citizens Crime Commission, will set up monetary rewards on behalf of APA families to help lead to arrests.

### Apartment Tenants Say Recent Attacks are Race-Based

EDISON, N.J.—Tenants in an apartment complex are calling on the police and Mayor Jun Choi to investigate what they believe is violence targeted against Indian immigrants.

Indian tenants say they have suffered up to 50 attacks and vandalism, but some victims never called the police. The police have received reports of eight incidents dating back to June.

In a Sept. 23 attack, a 28-year-old suffered a broken jaw, police officials said.

Choi has met twice with the tenants both at the apartment complex and the municipal building to establish better communication between the tenants, the police and township.

### Study: Fewer APA Students Getting into their First Choice College



LOS ANGELES—A study at the University of California, Los Angeles has found that more APA students are facing problems in accessing higher education opportunities than ever before.

The study, "Beyond Myths: The Growth and Diversity of Asian American College Freshmen, 1971-2005," is the largest compilation and analysis of data on APA college students ever undertaken.

The study found that fewer APA students are getting into their first choices of colleges and universities and that they are also coming more often from low-income homes with limited abilities to pay for the rising costs of a college education.

### APA Pit Boss' UAW Suit Signifies the Struggle to Unionize Dealers

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—An APA casino pit boss and his wife are suing the United Auto Workers for \$100 million for libel and slander during an organizing drive at the casino.

The alleged harassment was prompted by Atlantic City Hilton Casino Resort management's recruitment of longtime employee Wayne Chiw, who is Chinese American, in January to help discourage Chinese and other APA dealers from joining the UAW, according to the lawsuit that was filed Oct. 12.

A Hilton supervisor allegedly accused Chiw of threatening to take away dealers' green cards and have them deported if they voted to unionize, according to the lawsuit.

### City Council Delays Vote on Measure to Ban China-Made Goods



PALM BAY, Fla.—City Council members have postponed "until the end of the year" a vote on prohibiting the city from purchasing goods manufactured in China.

The ordinance, proposed by Mayor John Mazziotti, would prohibit the city from buying items in which at least half the components were manufactured or assembled in China. But he failed to muster enough support to hold a public hearing and final vote.

The council agreed to send a resolution within a month to President George W. Bush and federal representatives asking Washington to take action against Chinese imports. ■



## APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

### MOH Recipient Hershey Miyamura to be Honored with Statue



Medal of Honor Recipient **Hershey Miyamura** will be honored with a bronze statue in his hometown of Gallup, New Mexico.

The McKinley County Commission agreed to spend \$39,000 to build a larger than life statue of their hometown hero. The statue will be placed at the new Miyamura high school that is being named in his honor.

In addition to the statue, the city plans to contribute a series of mural paintings depicting various aspects of Miyamura's life.

### Sourivong Hired as JACL Membership Coordinator



**Lotchana Sourivong** was recently hired as the new national JACL membership coordinator. She will be located at the San Francisco headquarters office.

Prior to joining JACL, Sourivong was the community outreach coordinator for the Senior Action Network (SAN) where she worked as a policy advocate on issues of healthcare and safety for seniors.

Originally from Laos, she is a graduate of San Diego State University where she earned a bachelor's degree in Asian American Studies and Political Science.

### Yoshida Becomes First AA Female Prison Superintendent in Washington

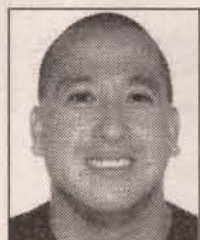


**Hisami Yoshida** was recently appointed as superintendent of the Cedar Creek Corrections Center, a 400-bed minimum custody male institution.

She is the first Asian American female to hold the position of superintendent of a prison in Washington State.

Hisami has worked for the Department of Corrections for 18 years. She is a former JACL PNW district governor and is currently the Olympia chapter president.

### Akiyama Appointed to Board of Congressional Award Foundation



**Cliff Akiyama** was recently appointed to serve on the Congressional Award Foundation Board of Directors. He becomes the only Asian American on the current board.

A member of the JACL Philadelphia chapter, Akiyama is a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing where he teaches victimology, forensic mental health, and forensic science.

He is a former Los Angeles County deputy sheriff.

### Nakamoto Nominates Tenn. for Freedom Award

**Robert S. Nakamoto** nominated his employer for the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Award. Out of over a thousand nominees, Nakamoto's nomination was one of the 14 winners.

While deployed in Iraq in 2004, the state of Tennessee paid 100 percent of the cost of his civilian health, dental, disability and life insurance benefits.

The Freedom Award was created in 1996 by then Sec. of Defense William Perry to publicly recognize employers who provide exceptional support to their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve. It is the highest in a series of Department of Defense Awards.

### Paul Ogata Wins International Comedy Contest

**Paul Ogata**, a comedian and radio deejay from Hawaii, recently took first place at the San Francisco International Comedy Competition taking home a prize of \$25,000.

Ogata becomes the first Asian American to win the coveted award among a field of 30 talented finalists. Past winners include Dana Carvey of "Saturday Night Live" and movie star Sinbad. Comedian **Henry Cho** placed fourth in the competition in 1989.

In 2004 Ogata was named the Funniest Asian Comedian. ■

## 'Desperate Housewives' Filipino Joke Draws Criticism; ABC Apologizes, Considers Editing Show

By LYNN ELBER  
AP Television Writer



The women of Wisteria Lane.

LOS ANGELES—A scene in TV's "Desperate Housewives" that used Philippine medical education for a punchline prompted angry calls from viewers, an online petition demanding an apology and criticism from Philippine officials.

In the season premiere that aired Sept. 30 on ABC, Teri Hatcher's character, Susan, goes in for a medical checkup and is shocked when the doctor suggests she may be going through menopause.

"Listen, Susan, I know for a lot of women the word 'menopause' has negative connotations. You hear 'aging,' 'brittle bones,' 'loss of sexual desire,'" the gynecologist tells her.

"OK, before we go any further, can I check these diplomas? Just to make sure they aren't, like, from some med school in the Philippines?" Susan fires back.

Viewers called the network to complain but the number of callers wasn't available, an ABC spokesman. As of Oct. 10, 117,454 names were attached to an online petition seeking a network apology.

"A statement that devalues Filipinos in healthcare is extremely unfounded, considering the overwhelming presence of Filipinos and Filipino Americans in the medical field," the petition read in part.

ABC, owned by The Walt Disney Co., responded with a statement Oct. 3. ABC said it was considering editing the episode.

"The producers of 'Desperate Housewives' and ABC Studios offer

our sincere apologies for any offense caused by the brief reference in the season premiere. There was no intent to disparage the integrity of any aspect of the medical community in the Philippines," the statement said.

"As leaders in broadcast diversity, we are committed to presenting sensitive and respectful images of all communities featured in our programs," it concluded.

The TV episode even became an international incident, with reports on it topping Philippine news shows and drawing newspaper headlines as officials there registered their displeasure. Filipinos could judge the scene for themselves when it was posted on YouTube.

In Manila, Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said he was writing the producers of the show to seek an apology and note the country's "vehement protest." Senior cabinet member Eduardo Ermita told reporters that an apology should be sought "on behalf of our Filipino professionals."

Kevin Nadal, 29, a Filipino

American college lecturer who lives in New York, posted the online petition calling ABC to task for the scene.

"I had to rewind it over and over again to make sure I heard it right," said Nadal. He watched the episode online after hearing about it from a friend.

"I was immediately offended and, really, just hurt. These days, people are supposed to be more sensitive or more aware of what's considered appropriate," he said, adding that he was hearing from people worldwide who were distressed by the scene. He appreciated ABC's apology, he said, but said he also wanted to see the dialogue removed from future airings and DVDs.

Nadal also suggested that the show's producers and ABC executives could make a more substantial gesture than an apology, through scholarships or donations for Filipino and Filipino Americans and community groups.

Filipinos and other minorities also should be depicted on TV as "prominent, positive role models," Nadal said. ■

## Mississippi Vietnamese Community Rely on Each Other

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

BILOXI, Miss.—Bien Bo lost track of his love, Tuat Nguyen, about 40 years ago when he joined the South Vietnamese army and war tore his country apart before expelling him from his homeland altogether.

Bo, 71, lost everything again in 2005 to Hurricane Katrina; his Biloxi home, two cars, his shrimp boat that was his livelihood, all of which were uninsured. He wandered in a daze around town following the storm after barely surviving the surge, depressed and mentally adrift, until he decided to visit an old friend.

He walked into the living room and there she was, Nguyen, his love lost so long ago.

Bo's friend was Nguyen's sister, and Nguyen, 63, was visiting from California after Katrina to help.

They cried, hugged, laughed and have been merrily side-by-side ever since, she a widow and he with a wife severely disabled by stroke.

Bo and Nguyen's story illustrates how South Mississippi's Vietnamese community has survived the sometimes debilitating mental strain of post-Katrina life.

The Vietnamese community came together for support and healing. Despite the destruction in the center of their community, Point Cadet, they have shown remarkably few outer signs of strain or mental decay.

The Vietnamese community, already slightly separated from their neighbors by language and cultural barriers, sought refuge within themselves. The post Vietnam war Vietnamese community service organization, Boat People SOS, set up offices in Biloxi for the first time ever post-Katrina, and many in the Vietnamese community received help and support from it.

Many in the Vietnamese community here were expelled or fled from Vietnam after 1975 and are war refugees. Some may say that because they survived a horrible war, perhaps Katrina was not that bad for them.

Not so, said William Gasparini, who runs the Applied Psychology Center in Biloxi and has studied post-traumatic stress disorder in depth.

"That wouldn't necessarily fit with the theoretical understanding of PTSD," said Gasparini, adding that

often, PTSD sufferers are made worse and prone to flashbacks after experiencing additional traumatic events.

"It's normally thought that earlier traumatic stress events don't inoculate you. It could be strong community ties or preference to not reveal emotional stress."

Thao Vu, who manages the Biloxi office of Boat People and is a Biloxi native, said it is a healthy combination of the two.

"There hasn't been any easy time at all," Vu said, adding that domestic violence and alcoholism are on the rise, but only slightly, post-Katrina amongst the Vietnamese on the coast.

Vu said she works hard to help others to deal with the storm's strain.

Both Catholic priest Dominic Phan Duc Dong and Buddhist monk Thien Tri claim none of the several hundred Vietnamese people who regularly attend their places of worship in Biloxi have reported storm-related emotional problems to them.

Mostly, they talk about spiritual crises or joblessness or a lack of affordable housing, but almost never depression. ■



## Vacaville Buddhist Church Approved as Calif. Point of Historical Interest



By Pacific Citizen Staff

The Vacaville Buddhist Church in Solano County has been approved as a California Point of Historical Interest Site.

The historic Buddhist Church was built in 1912 and was located on the corner of Dobbins Street and East Monte Vista Avenue (formerly North Street).

As the center of the Japanese community, many events and gatherings were held at the church until World War II. Like the rest of the Japanese American community on the West Coast, the Vacaville JAs were rounded up and sent to various internment camps.

After the War ended, the Buddhist church was once again a refuge for the returning JAs who used the building for housing and assistance. Unfortunately, in 1951 a devastating fire would destroy the church. The Buddhist church never reopened.

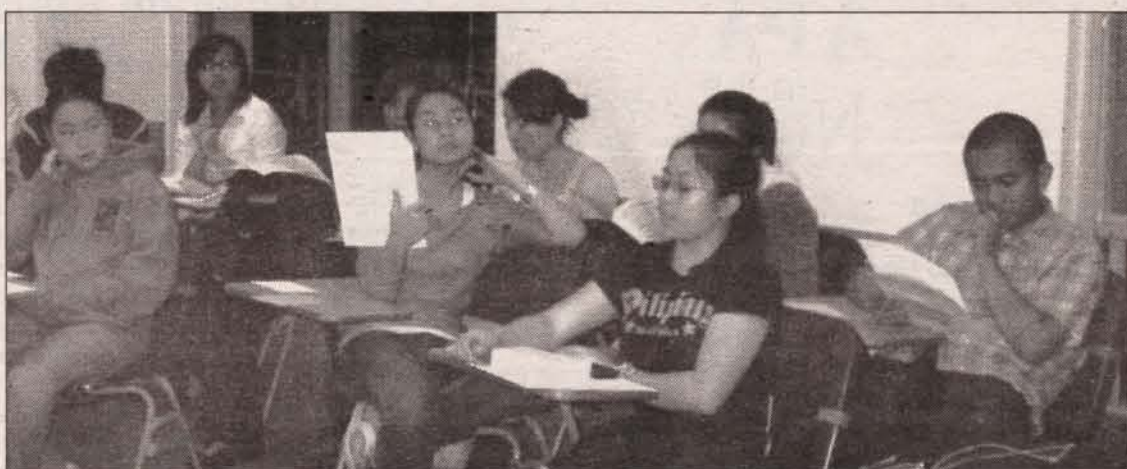
Also destroyed in the fire was the neighboring Japanese language school. Children attended the classes five days a week and were often taught by the Buddhist minister and his wife.

In 1956 the church property was sold to Walter C. Hansel. Today, the only remaining item from the Vacaville Buddhist Church is the "san gai ban rei" stone which was eventually moved to the Vacaville-Elmira Cemetery. Every year a Memorial Day service is still held at the cemetery.

In 2001 a stone monument in honor of the Vacaville Buddhist Church was dedicated and placed near the former site of the church.

The nomination of the historic Buddhist church as a California Point of Historical Interest Site was a combined effort between Takashi Tsujita, members of the Vacaville Heritage Council, and the California Office of Historic Preservation.

The group is now working to place a monument at the former site of the Buddhist Church before the end of this year. A formal dedication ceremony will take place at that time. ■



## UC Berkeley APA Groups Host 'Teach In' to Dismantle 'Asian American'

Student senate group is slated to take up a resolution in support of the campaign.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Imagine this: 30 students are given cards that represent the diversity of the UC Berkeley undergraduate population. Each card is called out and the students sit down — all except for one.

That person represents the 2.5 percent of the university's student body that fall under the "Other Asian" category.

This exercise demonstrated by the Asian Pacific American Coalition (APAC) highlighted the importance of the Count Me In Campaign. UC Berkeley's APAC along with a coalition of other APA groups held teach-ins during the second week of October to promote the campaign to disaggregate the University of California's collection of data under the umbrella category of "Asian American."

UC Berkeley's Count Me In Campaign is a part of a larger drive to enhance admissions policies by:

- Including data collection on students of Bangladeshi,

Cambodian, Hmong, Indonesian, Laotian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, and Thai backgrounds.

- Separating Pacific Islander into a new racial category within admissions.

- Providing financial support for outreach projects that specifically target APA groups facing severe educational inequity.

In addition to the teach-in, UC Berkeley's highest student authority is slated to consider a resolution this week to support the Count Me In Campaign. The Associated Students of the University of California Senate is a 20-member senate representing the campus' student government.

"Other Asian" encompasses dozens of ethnicities, and the lack of representation on campus makes it difficult for many to claim that the student population is truly diverse, said the teach-in facilitators.

Recent reports on campus diversity revealed that "women and non-Asian minorities are particularly underrepresented," a troubling conclusion for many supporters of the campaign.

The assumption that APAs are no

longer minorities within the UC system does not correlate when the myriad of ethnicities fall under the APA umbrella, critics say.

A postcard signature campaign is under way, and a rally to raise awareness and gain support is slated for later this month.

While the university campaign continues to gain momentum, a similar California bill — which would have required state agencies governing health, human services, employment and civil rights to also expand their data collection from additional APA ethnic groups — was ultimately axed by the governor.

On Oct. 11, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed AB 295 calling it "unnecessary."

But its proponents continue to disagree.

"AB 295 galvanized some of the broadest and deepest support we have seen from the community because of our recognition of the diverse cultures, languages, and needs of the APIA population," said Angela Chan of the Asian Law Caucus. "AB 295 is necessary for uncovering these differences and addressing unique community needs." ■

## JAVA Announces First Scholarships in Honor of WWII Vets

By Pacific Citizen Staff

For the first time the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) will offer scholarships in honor of Japanese American World War II veterans.

Three memorial scholarship fund awards will be given to students in honor of Orville C. Shirey, Jack T. Tashiro, and Douglas Ishio, all members of JAVA who have generously agreed to fund the scholarships.

Major Shirey, 442nd Regimental Combat Team G-2 (Intelligence), served in campaigns in Italy and France. A graduate of the University of Maryland, Shirey is the author of

"Americans: The Story of the 442nd Combat Team."

Tashiro served in the Military Intelligence Service. Following his military service he obtained a Masters Degree from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. He then joined the Central Intelligence Agency, where he was promoted to the ranks of the Senior Executive Service.

Ishio is a MIS veteran of the Buna, New Guinea, and Philippines campaigns and JAVA's founding president. He worked for 15 years at Litton Industries as an electrical engineer before his passing in 2005. His parents, Col Phil, USAR (Ret)

and Connie Ishio live in Maryland.

The JAVA scholarship program is open to any applicant:

- who is or who is related by blood or marriage to a veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and all other units that were associated with them;
- who is or who is related by blood or marriage to a veteran of the MIS;
- who is of Japanese descent who serves or has received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces; and
- who is a person who is a member of JAVA for a period of no less than one year prior to the date of submission of the application. ■

### At a Glance: JAVA Scholarships



The scholarships are open to any student entering, or already enrolled, in an accredited undergraduate, graduate, or a specialized school.

JAVA will award its first scholarships in May 2008.

Policies, rules and procedures plus the application form can be found on the JAVA Web site: [www.javadc.org](http://www.javadc.org).

The deadline for the scholarship applications is April 1, 2008. For questions, contact Calvin Ninomiya, scholarship program chairman, at: [calvinnino@aol.com](mailto:calvinnino@aol.com) or 301/652-8135.



## NISEI STAMP

(Continued from page 1)

ans stamp has been in the works for years now, the grassroots campaign has amplified its efforts during the past several weeks. On Sept. 24, Osako received a letter that the Nisei stamp proposal would finally be taken up by the Stamp Committee.

Volunteers have been hitting the pavement in full force collecting over 8,000 letters of support and they have recently taken their campaign into cyberspace, launching an online petition. Celebrities like George Takei and a number of politicians, including U.S. Rep. Mike Honda, have also added clout to the campaign.

For everyone the goal is the same: to honor the heroic Nisei veterans of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Infantry Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service.

Campaign supporters hope their tireless efforts will pay off with a positive announcement from the Stamp Committee. But for now, all they can do is wait.

"This is a critical time for us. We need to keep campaigning until we get an official announcement. It could happen any time this month," said Osako.

### A No-Brainer

The accomplishments of the Nisei WWII veterans are staggering. The 442nd/100th Regimental Combat Team is the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in U.S. history. Among the numerous awards, there are 9,000 Purple Hearts and 21 Medals of Honor. Many of these men volunteered even

though their families were being held in internment camps.

For those who support the campaign to get a Nisei veterans stamp, the issue is a no-brainer.

"I was too young during World War II to realize what we were doing to these people. That was a sad, unfortunate time in U.S. history. I truly hope they are honored with a U.S. postage stamp," wrote Mary Beth McLean of Fruitland, Idaho on the online petition.

Like McLean, the Nisei stamp campaign hasn't been relegated to just the Japanese American community. All walks of people — Latinos, African Americans, and Caucasians — have added their support to the campaign.

And many of those who are lending their support are the descendants of the 211 men of the "Lost Battalion" who were rescued by the Nisei soldiers during WWII.

"My dad was one of the 211 36th 'Texans' rescued that day, so I am somewhat prejudiced here, but the record of the 100th/442nd stands on its own. They deserve a commemorative stamp," wrote James J. Tortolano.

So far the grassroots campaign's efforts have been paying off, exponentially.

In addition to the thousands of petition supporters, the city of Monterey Park, Calif. became the first city to pass a resolution of support. Soon after the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Independent Cities Association followed suit.

"Despite President Franklin Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066, relegating their families, friends, and colleagues to internment camps,

over 20,000 Japanese American served our country proudly during World War II," said Supervisor Mike Antonovich.

Now Rep. Honda's office has started circulating a congressional letter of support calling on members of congress to add their signatures to the campaign. In August, the national JACL unanimously voted to support the campaign and is currently working to gather letters of support from its members.

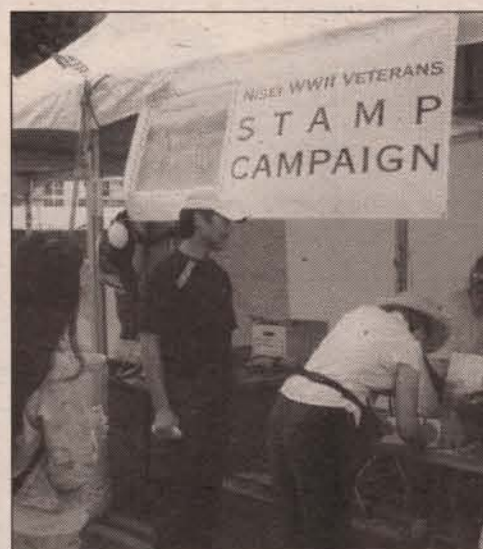
"What is more fitting than to recognize the patriotic valor of this group of soldiers than to honor them with a commemorative stamp," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

### The Big Decision

Although the stamps for the 2008-2009 cycle have already been chosen by the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, members of the grassroots campaign hope the Nisei stamp will be among the 2010 selections.

Although the Stamp Committee will be meeting to discuss the various stamp proposals any day now, an exact date of the meeting has not been disclosed.

The stamp committee — comprised of volunteers — makes direct recommendations to the United States Postal Service and can either reject a stamp proposal, recommend it, or continue to keep the proposal



The Nisei Veterans Stamp Campaign gathered thousands of signatures at the recent Nisei Week Festival in Los Angeles.

Supporters hope the recent surge of support will be enough to convince the Stamp Committee to approve a Nisei veterans stamp.

under consideration.

Many stamp proposals never see the front side of an envelope.

To date, there has never been a stamp honoring the heroic JA WWII soldiers although a stamp honoring Latino soldiers was issued in 1984 and there was also a "Buffalo Soldiers" stamp honoring African Americans in 1994.

Many hope a Nisei veterans stamp will finally become a reality.

"We have to do something. The veterans are in their 80s and 90s," said Osako. "Their patriotic service through some of World War II's darkest days and darkest places has helped remind our nation since World War II that loyalty to America

is not dependent on one's ancestry."

He added: "We're going to keep going until we hear from the Postmaster General that we have a stamp." ■

For information and to sign the online petition: [www.niseistamp.org](http://www.niseistamp.org).

Mail original letters and petitions to: Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, U.S. Postal Service - Stamp Development, 1735 North Lynn St., Ste. 5013, Arlington, Virginia 22209-6432.

If possible, mail photocopies to: National JACL, Nisei WWII Soldiers Stamp Campaign, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, Calif. 94115.

## JANM Sets Nat'l Conference, 'Whose America? Who's American?', for Denver in July 2008

The conference will examine the relevance of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

As part of its year-long commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, the Japanese American National Museum's "Enduring Communities: The Japanese American Experience in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas and Utah" project will organize a national conference that will examine the successful fight for redress within these five states on July 3-6, 2008, in Denver, Colorado.

"Whose America? Who's American? Diversity, Civil Liberties & Social Justice" is part of Enduring Communities, a three-year initiative partially funded by Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and organized by the National Museum in collaboration with educators, students and communities located in the five states.

"Whose America? Who's American?" is the third national conference organized by the National Museum since 2002 when it presented the All-Camps Summit in Los Angeles. That was followed by "Camp Connections: A Conversation About Civil Rights

and Social Justice in Arkansas" in Little Rock in 2004, part of the larger "Life Interrupted: The Japanese American Experience in World War II Arkansas" project which was a partnership between the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the National Museum and funded by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation.

Enduring Communities was organized on the Arkansas model. It recognizes the importance of this region to the history of Americans of Japanese ancestry, since a high percentage of those living on the West Coast during WWII were imprisoned in government-run domestic concentration camps located in these states or fled their homes and businesses in the face of the forced removal and settled in one of the five states.

All of these states had pre-existing JA communities before WWII as well, creating a situation in which thousands of JAs were unconstitutionally imprisoned by their own government in prison camps, while just outside the barbed wire, other Nikkei moved about freely and without supervision.

Over 30 years after the end of WWII, JAs began campaigning for redress for their unlawful treatment. The eventual passage of the Civil

Liberties Act of 1988 by Congress and the signing into law by President Reagan has been called "the impossible dream," since no one during WWII or in the post-war years thought such a piece of legislation would ever succeed.

Several of the sessions for "Whose America? Who's American?" will be devoted to redress, including an overview led by Prof. Mitch Maki, co-author of the book, "Achieving the Impossible Dream: How Japanese Americans Obtained Redress," and a panel of individuals who participated in the redress campaign who will provide first-person accounts of the challenges they faced at the time.

Another major topic will be "Nikkei Incarceration: World War II Assembly, Relocation, Isolation, Segregation, and Internment Camps," which will focus on imprisonment of people of Japanese ancestry by government agencies other than the War Relocation Authority (WRA). Many of these other camps were located in states like Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

For more information, contact the Japanese American National Museum at 213/625-0414 or [nara-ki@janm.org](mailto:nara-ki@janm.org), or go to [www.janm.org/projects/ec](http://www.janm.org/projects/ec). ■

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## Timelines for Little Tokyo and Tie-Ins



**W**HAT FASCINATES ME about the future, preservation and good looks of Little Tokyo is that I've been in and out of *Nihonmachi* all my life. I missed a recent session where a question was raised dealing with non-Japanese purchasers of the New Otani Hotel, Weller Court and whatever else that might be in the smokehouse. As one might say, *déjà vu*?

But at a session about a year ago where participants discussed similar concerns, the Japanese-speaking group came up with a "future" look while other tables pondered on "what" to preserve and "how" to improve the image of Little Tokyo. The Japanese-speaking participants wanted to move the boundaries of Little Tokyo toward East Fifth Street and zig along Fourth Street to a block next to the river.

One resident writer in *Downtown News* responded to a *Washington Post* article (Sept. 30) picturing that part of Los Angeles as turning the corner from "Skid Row to Banana Republic at warp speed." To her it was more hype than reality. Among other challenges, she adds "the lack of relatively affordable housing for friends and colleagues who want to live here."

Back in the 80s, she pointed out that one could rent space in the Arts District for what seemed like pennies per square foot "for a million dollar view and space you could roller skate through." Now, rent can hit \$3 per square foot in the most faded old building.

\*\*\*

Geography here may not mean much to some. But East Fifth Street happens to be a part of downtown long known as Skid Row. The news last week (Oct. 3) reveals the beefed-up police program of 2006 has city officials calling the Safer City Initiative a success, to wit: (1) a significant drop in crime since September 2006 when 50 extra officers were deployed to Skid Row; (2) a 32 percent decrease in violent crime, and (3) the number of non-homicide deaths fell from 92 last year to 68 this year.

Parking in Little Tokyo has been a major problem that has checkmated us by condos and apartments. You'll find Japanese churches and temples in Little Tokyo now offering car space for funerals and weekend festivals.

What I had in mind dealt with "preservation" in an academic sense — a timeline for Little Tokyo and tie-ins. Here are some samples.

\*\*\*

1871 — Terminal Island is "born" when the federal government plans breakwater between two islets: Rattlesnake (renamed Terminal Island) and Dead Man's Island.

1884 — Shigeta Hamanosuke opens Charlie Hama's Restaurant, 340 E. First, in an ethnically mixed area east of Main Street.

1893 — Forty-one Japanese attend celebration of Emperor Meiji's birthday in November, the first imperial birthday celebration in L.A.

1902 — Signs of Little Tokyo growth: Matsuura Co. tailored ready-made suits for short-stature Issei, barber shops with Western-style baths, *sembi* factory, Maruyama-san's *daikon* and *gobo* gardens in the Riverside area (north of Elysian Park) and vendors selling Maruyama's vegetables door-to-door.

1913 — Ethnic make-up of East First Street merchants changing. Jewish and African American merchants move out as Japanese businesses move in.

1925 — So. Calif. Alliance of Christian and Buddhist Fujinkai, forged by charismatic Koyasan leader, Sachiko Furusawa, cooperates with Japanese Chamber of Commerce in social welfare work among immigrants and in hospitality programs when Imperial Japanese midshipmen arrive.

1934 — August: Nisei Week becomes an annual festival. Trying to climb out of the Depression, Japantown merchants and Los Angeles JACL merge to produce the first Nisei Week Festival.

1942 — Feb. 25: Newspaper headlines scream "Jap planes" fly over during "Battle of Los Angeles."

1951 — March 10: Army approves Buddhist symbol inscription (not the swastika) for grave markers at national cemeteries. (P.C., 3-17-51)

1969 — June 12: U.S. Supreme Court rules anti-miscegenation laws in various states unconstitutional.

1970 — Japanese population: Los Angeles 117,190; California 213,277; national 587,246

1980 — Jan. 1: Leslie Kawai reigns as first Japanese or Asian American queen of Tournament of Roses parade

1994 — Sept. 1994 to Oct. 1995: Judge Lance Ito, 44, becomes an international luminary after permitting TV cameras into his courtroom during the murder trial and acquittal of O.J. Simpson.

2000 — Japanese population: Los Angeles 104,994; California 288,854 (J), 394,896 (combination); national 796,700 (J), 1,148,932 (combination). ■

• CHERYL WATAMURA MARTINEZ •  
A BROAD VIEW

## EKO House



**L**ast month I wrote about the Japanese community in Düsseldorf and explained how so many Japanese came to live in this German city in the first place. After describing the shopping area with its many restaurants, I ran out of room for more! So today, I'm going to take you on a little visit to the Eko House of Japanese Culture.

In fact, the Japanese cultural center was opened almost 15 years ago, in 1993. It's located in a suburb of Düsseldorf called Niederkassel, which has a significant Japanese population. The center was established so that the Japanese in the area could continue to cultivate their customs in Germany, and also so that Germans could get to know a bit about Japanese traditions.

There are many events taking place here all year round. These include the types of things one would expect from a Japanese Cultural Center such as exhibitions, theatrical events, tea ceremonies, and musical performances. And then there are courses teaching some of the Japanese arts such as brush painting, calligraphy, Ikebana, music, dancing and cooking.

But what one might not have expected is the emphasis on Buddhism at the center. Buddhist festivals are regularly celebrated and the public is invited to attend. There are also readings of Buddhist texts and Buddhist ceremonies. And every second Sunday anyone can attend a Buddhist service with recitations from Shinran.

Celebrating Buddhism at the Eko House of Japanese Culture does not appear to have caused any kind of hostilities among the neighbors. There is even a temple there, with a large statue of Buddha Amida in the main altar. This acceptance of Buddhism is in stark contrast to the public outcries that the building of an Islamic mosque in the neighboring city of Cologne has caused. The mosque has been so controversial that it's made the news around the world. But Germans seem to be very tolerant of Buddhism.

In fact, a recent study showed that Germans prefer the Dalai Lama to Pope Benedict, which is odd since Christianity is the major religion here. About 64 percent of the population are official members of Christian churches. Church and state are supposed to be separate in Germany, but the Finanzamt, which is equivalent to our Internal Revenue Service, actually automatically deducts around 9 percent from each church member's

paycheck and gives it directly to the churches. But that's a story best left for another article.

The acceptance of Buddhism was underscored a few weeks ago, when our Chancellor, Angela Merkel, invited the Dalai Lama for a visit. Strictly private, as she kept emphasizing. But this "private" event has left the Chinese government angry and led to much dismay among German businessmen doing business with China. The visit prompted the Chinese to suddenly cancel an important meeting between German and Chinese industry representatives. And the ruffled feelings don't look to be soothed soon.

But all these political problems are quickly forgotten back in the temple's garden. It is impressively designed, with azaleas, cherry blossoms and a sparkling pond. Here is where the visitor really has a sensation of having been taken out of Germany and into Japan. The impression continues upon viewing the "guesthouse with tea room," which was built to invoke the feeling of old Japan. The small house is laid out with tatami mats, sliding screens and polished wood.

But the Eko House is more than just a place to learn about culture. Here, classes in Japanese language are also offered. There's also a well-stocked library and a scientific program. And to round it all off, there's even a kindergarten, for both German and Japanese children. For each class, there is a German and a Japanese teacher too.

One of the highlights of the cultural center is New Year's Eve, where bonfires burn all night and visitors can sample sake and eat Japanese delicacies. And when 12 o'clock midnight strikes, bells are rung over 100 times to mark the New Year. Visitors are also encouraged to take part in the bell ringing, which apparently stems from an age-old Buddhist tradition. It is said that each ring will eradicate a vice, so that one can meet the New Year in a pure state. Hmm, but is that possible after all that sake?

Perhaps I'll ring in the New Year at the Eko House in a few months, and then I can give you an update on this unique Japanese Cultural Center. In any case, if you're ever in Düsseldorf, you won't want to miss it! ■

You can reach Cheryl Watamura Martinez at:  
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# Justin Lin is Back in the 'Hood

*Don't hate him just because he comes back a little richer, a lot more confident and uncensored.*

By **LYNDA LIN**  
Assistant Editor



Justin Lin loves the independent film world. "This is where I came from," he said.

Remember that little movie that changed modern Asian Pacific American film? You know the one about APAs selling cheat sheets, killing and paying for prostitutes? That indie flick helped him go mainstream. Lin has spent the last five years navigating the ins and outs of real Hollywood studio filmmaking — big stars, big explosions and big money.

Now he's back, baby. And he's bringing Bruce Lee with him.

"Finishing the Game" — a comedy spoof about the search for a replacement for the iconic movie star after his 1973 drug-induced death — has been burning up the film festival circuit as Lin's much hailed return to the indie world.

It's also the filmmaker's return to the APA community. You know the one that loves him, but at the same time continually attacks his creative vision and project choices.

"The community has a way to build you up and break you," said Lin. "At the end of the day, it's my decision to play that game or not."

## Gots to Pay the Bills

"I'm always really baffled when words like 'sell-out' get thrown around," said Lin. "Man, people need to realize there's a price for everything you do, and a consequence."

When he left the indie scene to make "The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift," people scoffed. But critics need to get their facts straight, he said. The reality is, he famously maxed out 10 credit cards to make "Better Luck

Tomorrow." His first studio film helped him break even.

"The studio films made me the filmmaker I am today. The studio films helped me buy my independence. 'Finishing the Game' would not be made if it weren't for the 'The Fast and the Furious' money."

He's struggled all the way to the top. And from the studio lots, he's continued to cast APA actors and fight for colorblind casting. After "Better Luck Tomorrow," every Jet Li project came to him. He said no.

Studio executives were perplexed. What did this promising young filmmaker want to do? So Lin pitched "Finishing the Game," and one studio offered \$12 million for a martial arts comedy like "Kung Fu Hustle." Lin gracefully declined.

"That's a choice I made. If I wanted to get into bed with them, it would've been a completely different movie."

Lin has learned a thing or two as a filmmaker along the way. Back in 1997 when Lin was screening "Shopping for Fangs" in Toronto, Roger Ebert walked through the doors. "Of course I was excited,

*I'm always  
really baffled when  
words like  
'sell-out'  
get thrown  
around."*

but there were knots forming in my stomach. I kept feeling like I wanted to go up to him and say, 'if we had more money, I would've shot it this way.'"

Now he's learned. Whether it's a \$2 or a \$200 million movie, he shouldn't have to explain anything. The film should speak for itself.

Recently, Lin was invited to moderate a screening of "Lust, Caution" with Ang Lee.

"Now if Ang Lee called me a sell-out, then I'd have to worry!"

## Bittersweet Relationship

The "Finishing the Game" crew has been traveling the country in a grassroots campaign to promote their movie. In small midwestern towns, Lin has seen women fawn over actor Sung Kang.

"That's the power of the studio films. I'm not saying it's perfect. But I'm not here to complain. As an Asian American I should be empowered to try new things."

But then the politics get into it.

In 1995, Justin was excited to attend his first APA film festival in San Francisco. Oh cool, he thought, I'll be with my own community. But then the backstabbing started.

"That was my big lesson," he said. The idea of people accepting his work just because of his ethnicity was completely thrown out. He came away with a different idea of community: the people who spend two-hours in the dark watching his films. Those are people he wants to connect with. Those shared experiences are what make a community.

"I grew up in a working class family where my parents would always say, 'don't use your credit cards.' I maxed out all these cards [for 'Better Luck Tomorrow']. It was the Asian Americans who were telling me f—k off."

"But it is what it is."

It may sound new age-y, but Lin has found a way to just focus on the positive.

After getting into Sundance with "Finishing the Game," Lin opted for the APA film festival circuit instead of mainstream ones.

"With Asian American cinema, we're not on a level playing field yet. It's still third world cinema," he said. The next challenge is exhibition and Lin is stepping up his game.

"Finishing the Game" opened in select theaters Oct. 5 and is also available to 42 million homes "on demand" from local cable or satellite providers.

In their first weekend, the On Demand numbers reached 20,000 — huge for a small independent movie.

And yes, it's true. Lin just moved into his studio office for the fourth "Fast and the Furious" with all the original stars slated to return.

He really wanted to stay indie, but after months of bleeding money, Lin decided to go back to his day job.

"You gots to pay the bills," he said.

## Meet Some New Bruces



**Tarrick Tyler** — (McCaleb Burnett) He's more passionate about APA issues than most APAs.



**Raja** — (Mousa Kraish) He promised his mom he would become a doctor. He does. Then he quits. He's based on someone Lin met in real life.



**Breeze Loo** — (Roger Fan) A blatant Bruce Lee imitator with a strong denial of being an imitator.



**Troy Poon** — (Dustin Nguyen) the real actor who turns his nose up at playing a body double.



**Cole Kim** — (Sung Kang) an insecure actor who relies on his girlfriend/manager — and arguably his fantastic hair — for validation.

**Watch the trailer:**  
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## GOLF

## Given a Mulligan, Wie Would Not Have Played This Year

PALM DESERT, California—Michelle Wie is playing her final U.S. LPGA Tour event of the year.

She wishes it were her first.

After a disastrous season filled with wrist injuries, a feud with Annika Sorenstam and only one round under par, Wie said Oct. 9 her biggest mistake was not taking the year off to get healthy.

"The only thing that I would do differently (is) I wouldn't have played this year. It's as simple as that," she said at the Samsung World Championship. "The only thing that I did wrong this year is that I did not take my injuries as seriously as I should have."

One thing she is taking seriously is her role as a student, though not necessarily by choice.

Wie started her freshman year at Stanford University last month, taking courses such as humanities, Japanese and calculus.

She has access to Stanford's golf course, although she can't practice or play with the team as a professional. But she said she has learned to balance the books with practice, and she said this is the best her wrists have felt all year.

"I just feel like a cleaner, healthier person," she said.

Wie received a sponsor's exemption in March to play the Samsung World Championship, a 20-player field that carries a mixed bag of memories for Wie, who turned 18 on Oct. 11.

It was at Bighorn Golf Club where she made her professional debut in



2005. Wie played well enough to finish fourth until she was disqualified for what was deemed an improper drop in the third round, an infraction that a magazine writer did not bring up until the next day.

Wie showed up at the Sony Open on the U.S. men's tour in January with a tender wrist. She broke the other wrist a few weeks later when she fell while jogging in a park.

And that was the start of her free fall.

Wie has played seven times on the U.S. women's tour, completing only two tournaments. She made the cut on the number at the U.S. LPGA Championship and made the cut at the Evian Masters. Both tournaments, she failed to break 80 in the third round.

But the scores were only part of the problem.

She returned at the Ginn Tribute, hosted by Sorenstam, and was 14 over par through 16 holes when she suddenly withdrew. Two bogeys would have disqualified her from the American tour for a year, and some thought she was evading the tour's "Rule 88." Worse yet, she was seen

at the LPGA Championship hitting balls two days later, drawing an angry response from Sorenstam.

"I just feel that there's a little bit of lack of respect and class just to leave a tournament like that and then come out and practice," Sorenstam said.

Wie didn't apologize that week, and she made a weak attempt at one Oct. 9 when asked if she would have apologized to Sorenstam if she could start the year over.

"I never really said that," Wie said. "I still don't feel like I did something wrong. But if I felt if Annika or anyone felt like I disrespected them, of if I'd done anything wrong to them, I do apologize for that. But I don't really feel like I've done anything wrong as with myself." ■

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## FORT MCDOWELL

(Continued from page 1)

They were teenagers conscripted into the Japanese army to pack ammunition for the soldiers.

"We were shocked. They were kids," said Ota, now 82 and living in Tustin, Calif. "They looked like kids who were lost."

The years have worn away most of Ota's distinct memories of the boy soldiers. He can't recall many features. He can't even remember their names, but anything that connects children with devastation tends to stick to your guts.

"What we went through with those kids ... it was the most meaningful part of my service."

### An Island POW Center

Angel Island may be best known historically as the site of the immigration station where approximately 175,000 Asian immigrants were processed on their way to the U.S. But during WWII, Angel Island was Fort McDowell, a U.S. Army compound. The immigration station's barracks and the hospital were rehabilitated to house German, Italian and Japanese POWs before they were sent to inland camps or deported.

"Fort McDowell was often a POW's last glimpse of America," said Casey Lee, an interpreter with the Angel Island State Park.

That view was obscured by a barbed wire topped fence built around the barracks for more security.

During wartime, Fort McDowell was also an embarkation site for soldiers leaving and coming home from

the Pacific Campaign and a station for replacement troops, said Lee.

For Ota, Fort McDowell was home from August 1945 until he was discharged in April 1946.

"I remember the isolation," he said.

But the journey to Fort McDowell was filled with hardship. Ota's father, Kamato, ran a produce market in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo before the war. The family was eventually taken to Amache — without Ota's mother, who died in a sanitarium from tuberculosis during relocation.

After camp, Ota was drafted into the Army out of Chicago, Illinois and went to Fort Knox for basic training. He was transferred many times before arriving at Fort McDowell as a POW interpreter attached to the Transportation Corp.

In 1945, Ota and some Nisei interpreters escorted a group of Japanese POWs to Yokohama where they saw a city in ruins. When the Okinawan boy soldiers later arrived at Fort McDowell, Ota knew they had nothing to go back to.

### Boy Soldiers

"We got pretty close to the boys. They helped around the compound doing office work," he said. "We'd ask them, 'aren't you homesick?' And they would respond: 'No. We don't have any family to go back to.'"

They were lonely and Ota and the other U.S. soldiers took the time to get to know them and listen to their harrowing war stories.

"Mentally, they were strung out," said Ota. "They were kids. They had

stories to tell and we listened. It was somewhat of a comfort to them."

They lost their families and Okinawa was bombed beyond recognition. The island had a large civilian population and the battle killed hundreds of thousands of natives.

The Okinawan orphans spent most of their time in the barracks, but they were given some time every day to come outside and breathe in some fresh air.

"They were treated well," said Ota. "There were other POWs who were belligerent because they didn't believe that Japan had lost the war ... but these were kids."

The boys lived at Fort McDowell for only a few months, until they were ordered deported.

"We were shocked when we found out they had to go home," said Ota, who added that some of the best memories he had were getting to know them.

He remembers they were marched to a boat bound for Japan.

"Some of them came running back crying. They didn't want to go. They were forcibly taken on the boat," he said. "What could you do? It was sad. You can't do anything about it."

"I think about them often. You wonder what might have happened to them."

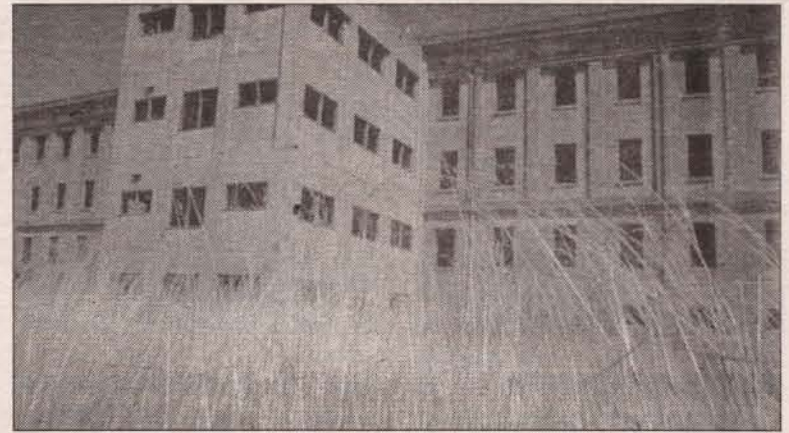
### The Writing on the Walls

Fort McDowell was like a transit camp, but POWs spent enough time there to write on the barrack walls.

POW inscriptions have been found as early as 1943, said Dr. Charles Egan, an associate professor

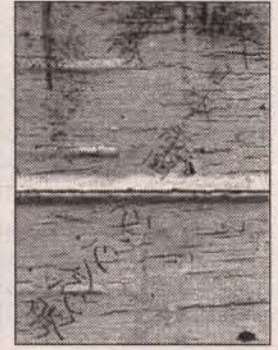
*'It's that voices of the past talking to us. Where else is there a site like this?'*

— Dr. Charles Egan, about Fort McDowell



POWs were held in the island's barracks (above) before getting transferred or deported. They too wrote messages on the walls (far right).

Memories of some young POWs still haunt Peter Ota.



of foreign languages and literatures at San Francisco State University.

Unlike the Chinese immigrants who famously carved poetry and messages into the wall, the POW inscriptions were made in pen or pencil on top of the paint. The building has been painted over at least seven times while in its existence making it more difficult to chart history.

Unlike the Chinese writings, the POWs did not write poetry. They seemed to be leaving records for other members of their groups.

"It was bare bones. Places, names and dates," said Egan.

One of the most interesting inscriptions reads: "Dangerous person coming from Saipan. Osuka?? Beware!!"

Then later, the name "Osuka" was deliberately scratched out with the tip of a sharp object.

"It seems like Osuka came and didn't appreciate his name being there," said Egan, who is working on a book about the new collections of material on the walls including the

POW writings.

It's a lot of miscellaneous stuff on the wall, he added, but it's important to study.

A restored Angel Island immigration center is set to reopen in Fall 2008, and park officials are trying to balance POW stories with the immigration stories, but the POW story may be endangered of becoming a footnote in history.

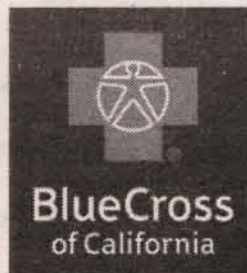
"There were two uses of the site, but the primary history is the immigration experience," said Lee.

"When you walk into the building, you can't see [the writing] very well. You have to walk right up to the walls. I think that it's inevitable where people ask, 'what's the big deal?'" said Egan. "I see it as a time capsule. This isn't someone's interpretation of history — it's raw data."

"It's that voices of the past talking to us. Where else is there a site like this? People's thoughts are locked into place." ■

**For more information on Fort McDowell:**

[www.angelisland.org/mcd02.htm](http://www.angelisland.org/mcd02.htm)



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## LITTLE TOKYO

(Continued from page 1)

experience, and the reason why I think it's surprising is because people have such low expectations for youth. People may see us as the couch potato generation, but if we're given the opportunity to step up and support a worthy cause, we're more than willing to do so."

At press time, the online petition, which calls for more dialogue between community members and the new owners of the Japanese Village Plaza, Weller Court and the New Otani Hotel, has received over 5,000 signatures.

3D Investments, the same Beverly Hills-based investment company that last year bought a majority of San Francisco's Japantown, has broken its wall of silence by meeting with members of the Little Tokyo Community Council and J-Town Voice. The family-owned company has also asked community members to help rename the hotel — a gesture many consider to be empty.

"Just by keeping a name relevant to the community does not ensure much. The community should have the voice and command in considering where to go from here," said Sally Kikuchi, a Shin Nisei who has been keeping active with the Little Tokyo preservation movement from her University of California,

Berkeley campus.

Her NSU members are planning a walking tour of San Francisco's Japantown and highlighting the issue of the sales in a skit for their annual cultural show.

"Little Tokyo means something different to each person, but there is a commonality. It's a gathering point," said Kei Nagao of the J-Town Voice. "I think it's a sense of place that draws people into Little Tokyo even with the economic changes."

For years, Nagao has watched much of her neighborhood get swallowed up by high-priced lofts and chain eateries.

The Japanese American community has not been without voice in the dialogue about progress and preservation, but in many community groups, an established hierarchy at times does not allow for young people to speak.

With J-Town Voice, ideas flow without any encumbrances of age, rank or social position.

"The way we function, we like to participate and share ideas. It gives everyone an opportunity to ask questions and discuss long-term solutions. It's a way for young people who don't work in Little Tokyo to feel inclusive as possible," said Nagao.

Their Oct. 4 meeting galvanized community members who have not

participated in these discussions in the past to talk about what they hope to see in Little Tokyo in the future.

The voices of the youth were among the most passionate.

Growing up in South Pasadena, a suburb about 10 miles from Little Tokyo, Okamoto often frequented the restaurants and karaoke places with her Japanese school friends.

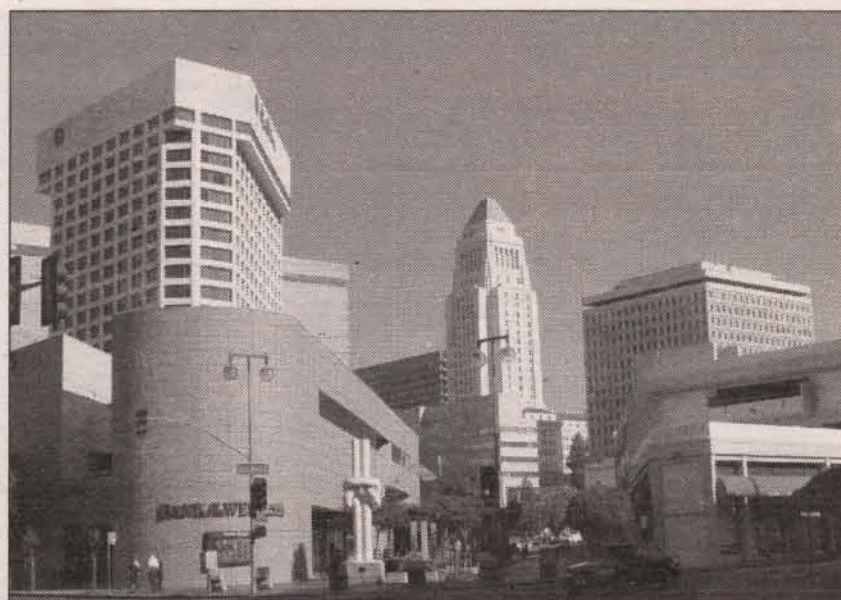
"Much like the original Issei generation, Little Tokyo was a place for me and my family and friends in the Japanese community to get a taste of the homeland culture," she said.

Besides being one of his favorite hangout spots, Michael Le Page sees Little Tokyo as a place for inspiration.

"To me that place is the best example of the American dream — sounds corny, but it's true," said the 19-year-old from Long Beach, Calif., who read about the petition on a friend's MySpace blog.

The fear is palpable. Could Little Tokyo continue to slip into a more generic version of an ethnic enclave that just masks its gentrification with architectural facades?

"Much of my initial attachment to Los Angeles arose out of my time



**SAVE THIS SPACE:** Community members have quickly mobilized since the sale of the New Otani Hotel and Weller Court this summer. Among the most vocal in the cry for preservation are the youth.

spent in Little Tokyo while in college," said Woo of West Los Angeles. "It was refreshing to have an area that lent legitimacy to L.A.'s multiethnic historical demographic."

Woo's attachment to the area stems from family-owned establishments like Haru Ulala, an *izakaya* restaurant. But Second Street has already been taken over by commercialized lofts, he points out.

"For [the sale] to happen to Weller Court makes me feel as another piece of the area is open for infection."

"I may be only speaking for myself, but if I wanted to go to one of those places, I could go a few blocks away," said Tsudama about chain stores. "No one goes to Chinatown to go to Starbucks. They go to get good Chinese food or to experience the many shops that represent the Chinese culture. Why shouldn't it be the same for Little Tokyo?" ■

**To sign the 'Preserve LA's Little Tokyo' petition:** [www.petitiononline.com/mod\\_perl/signed.cgi?jtv1](http://www.petitiononline.com/mod_perl/signed.cgi?jtv1)

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# Future of Health Care for Low-Income APA Families Hangs in the Balance

(Continued from page 1)

ance, so AHS has been fighting since 1973 to bridge the gap and save lives.

This month, their jobs became more difficult when President George W. Bush vetoed a bipartisan bill to extend the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), a federally funded health insurance program for children of families who fall into the bureaucratic limbo of making too much money to qualify for Medicaid, but not enough to buy private health insurance.

"Asian Americans make up a big

portion of the uninsured and will be greatly affected by the absence of SCHIP," said Hirota.

## A Historic Veto Override?

SCHIP was created in 1997 to help curb the increasing number of children with no health care coverage. They come from families that work hard to make ends meet. Many have full-time jobs that can only pay for basics like food and housing. For these families, affordable health insurance is a pipe dream without programs like SCHIP.

The program currently costs \$5 billion a year and provides coverage

for 6.6 million kids 18 years old and younger. Since its inception, the number of uninsured children in the APA community has dropped from 18 percent to 8 percent in 2004, according to a study by Families USA.

AHS has about 1,300 children insured in the Healthy Families Program, the California version of the SCHIP.

"We did some studies in Alameda County and found that immigrants, who make up a high portion of the APA population, lack coverage. These are working class people who are not eligible for Medicaid, so SCHIP was a good fit," said Hirota.

At one point 100 percent of the clinic's children were insured.

"That was fabulous," she said.

Then the money problems began. New estimates from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities show that 14 states face federal funding shortfalls this year for SCHIP. Though the program officially expired Sept. 30, some states have had to dip into emergency funds to maintain enrollment and care.

Congress had already passed legislation to reauthorize and expand the program by adding \$35 billion over five years to cover an additional 4 million children. Increasing the federal cigarette tax from 61 cents to \$1 per pack would have funded it.

Though the president said he opposed the expansion because it moved the country a step closer to government-run health care, APA leaders called the veto a blatant disregard for low-income children.

"We sent him a bill that costs \$19 million a day to protect American children and he vetoed it. In the meantime, the president is burning through \$720 million a day in Iraq," said Rep. Mike Honda in a statement. "The president seems confused about the meaning of fiscal responsibility."

The SCHIP expansion bill was only the President's fourth veto. With the House reconvening Oct. 18, a possible veto override could make history as the first in Bush's career as president.

The Senate approved the increase by a veto-proof margin, but the House fell about two dozen votes short of a two-thirds majority, according to the Associated Press.

Many APA groups say SCHIP's only hope lies in the hands of House members — a reality that is striking fear in many APA families.

## 'I've got mine, you worry about yours'

AHS hosted a townhall meeting Oct. 11 in Oakland to discuss heightened concerns about health access. At the meeting, concerned parents



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AHS

**HEALTHY FAMILIES:** (top) SCHIP helps APA working families that make too much to qualify for Medicaid, but not enough to buy their own health insurance. The possible end of the program has created panic at AHS, which recently hosted a town hall meeting (bottom).

and community members talked openly about their fears for the future.

One AHS client, a mother of three, talked about falling between the cracks of health care. Ironically, she is a health care provider herself whose employer provides coverage for her, but not her children. Recently, she discovered she makes too much to qualify for the SCHIP program's sliding scale, said Tina Diep of AHS.

"It's a nightmare for her," said Diep.

With so much at stake for APAs, the statistics belie a grim truth — and the culprit is, once again, the Model Minority Myth.

In the Japanese American community, there is a lower uninsured rate, but "there is a lot masked in much of the data," said Rea Pañares, director of the Minority Health Initiatives with Families USA.

Under the APA umbrella, subgroups with large immigrant populations like Korean Americans and Vietnamese Americans have a large percentage of uninsured. Compared to other minority groups, some APAs have higher incomes and higher education levels, which leads to the misperception that APAs face fewer barriers in accessing health care.

But that myth is far from reality.

Recent U.S. Census reports indicate that overall 15.5 percent of APAs and about 21.7 of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders are uninsured.

"We shouldn't be misled that Asian Americans are well served by our nation's healthcare system," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

In the wake of the president's SCHIP veto, the JACL issued an action alert to urge House members for an override.

"Newer immigrant communities and their children, who find it difficult to afford health insurance as well as the hard working middle-class of Asian Americans, who also lag in access to health insurance, would see great benefit from SCHIP. We in JACL need to avoid the 'I've got mine, you worry about yours' mind set," added Mori.

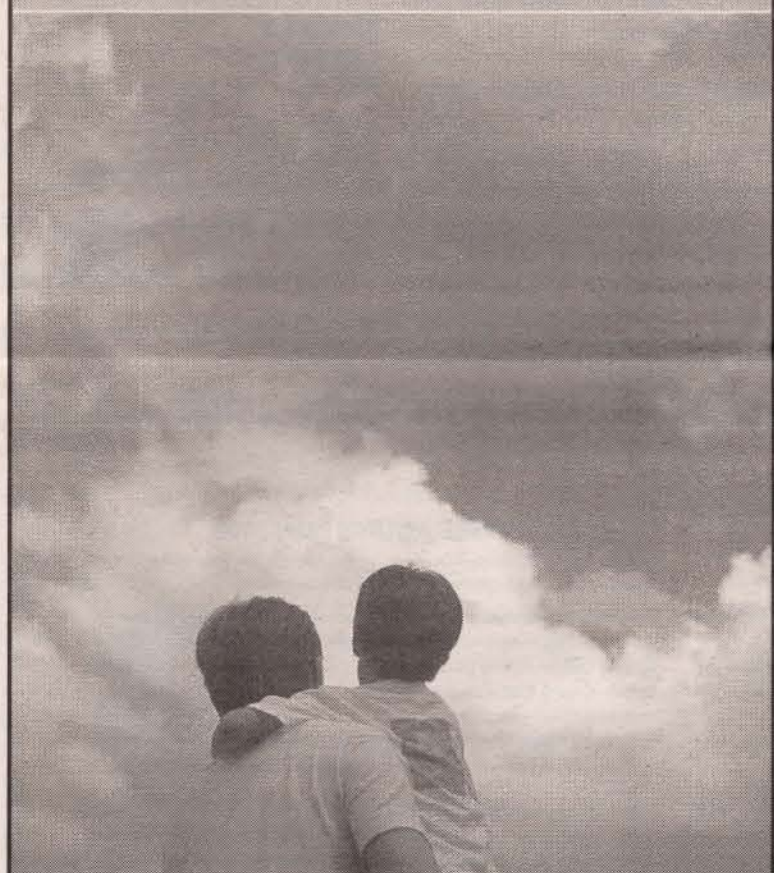
President Bush has said he would compromise on funding the SCHIP program, but not up to the \$35 billion Congress had initially passed.

But the bill's proponents say any less would not be enough.

"It's really a no-brainer," said Hirota. "It's for our children." ■

**For more information on SCHIP:** [www.ahschc.org](http://www.ahschc.org) and [www.familiesusa.org](http://www.familiesusa.org)

blue of california



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1.800.400.6633

or visit

[www.jaclhealth.org](http://www.jaclhealth.org)





# Calendar

## National

### RENO, Nevada

**Nov. 2-4**—"Making a Difference in Our Communities" the NCWNP-CC-PSW JACL Tri-District Conference; Circus-Circus Hotel and Casino; registration fee \$100, youth group \$50 (early registration deadline is Sept. 30); hotel rooms are \$89.99/night with a deadline of Oct. 13; events include an award luncheon, workshops, bowling, mixers, etc. Info: Thaya Mune Craig, 916/652-0093 or thaya@vfr.net.

### SALT LAKE CITY

**July 16-20**—2008 JACL National Convention. Info: www.utjaci.org.

## East

### FAIRFAX STATION, Virginia

**Sat., Dec. 8**—Washington, D.C. JACL Mochitsuki; 12:30-2:30 p.m.; Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lake Haven Ln. Info: Clyde Nishimura, c.nishimura@verizon.net

### TOWSON, Mass.

**Oct. 20-Dec. 8**—Exhibit, "Art of Vietnam: 20th Century"; Asian Arts Gallery, Towson University; gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat. 1-4 p.m.; featuring works from five Vietnamese artists.

## Midwest

### CLEVELAND

**Sat., Nov. 3**—38th Annual JACL Holiday Fair; 1-5 p.m.; St. Ignatius High School.

### DAYTON

**Fri.-Sat., Oct. 26-27**—3rd Biennial Ohio Asian American Health Conference; Wright State University Student Union; Fri. noon-9:30 p.m., Sat., 9-5 p.m.; conference goals are to reduce health disparities by promoting health and wellness in Asian American communities through strong partnerships; \$65/health care professionals, \$25/general public. Info: Ron Katsuyama, 937/294-9915.

### DENVER

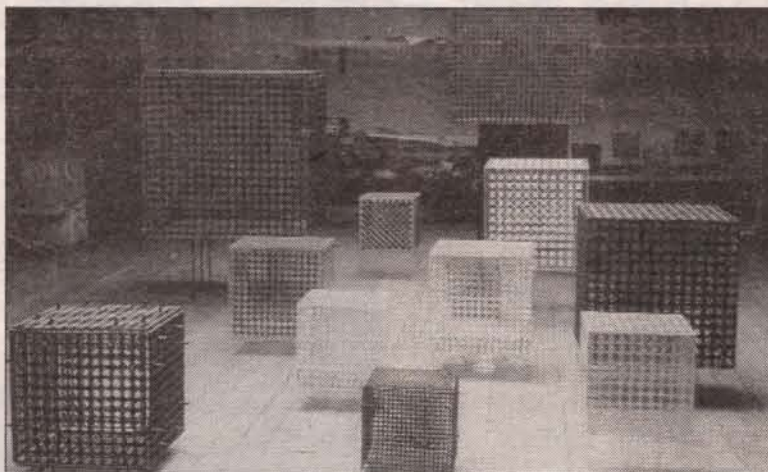
**Fri., Oct. 26**—Reception with Sen. Daniel Inouye and Hon. Norman Mineta; 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Hyatt Regency, 650 Fifteenth St.; proceeds from the event will fund all-inclusive conference packages for Colorado students to attend JANM's National Conference, "Whose America? Who's American" Diversity, Civil Liberties and Social Justice in Denver, July 3-6, 2008. Info: Florence Ochi, 800/461-6244, ext. 5652.

**Sat., Nov. 3**—Japanese Craft Workshop with Kimiko Side; 9-4 p.m.; Japan Association office, 1215 19th St., Suite A; \$10 charge includes all materials and instructions. RSVP: JASC at jascolorado@att.net or 303/592-5364.

**Sat., Nov. 17**—Performance, "Camp Dance" by the Grateful Crane Ensemble; 2 p.m.; Teikyo Loretto Heights Theater, 3001 S. Federal Blvd.; \$5 admission. Tickets: Tom Migaki, 303/986-3267.

### MEDICINE LAKE, Minn.

**Sun., Nov. 18**—Twin Cities JACL's 61st Anniversary Chrysanthemum Banquet; 3 p.m.; The Chateau, 10715 S. Shore Dr.; featuring comedian, magician and TV host, Bob Kubota; \$30/members, \$35/non-members,



**WORK ON DISPLAY:** The Pioneers' Museum in Imperial, Calif. will display the artwork of the late William Tokeshi from Oct. 27 through Nov. 16.

\$20/children under 12; RSVP deadline, Nov. 3. Info and reservations: Joanne Kumagai, 763/420-6639.

## Pacific Northwest

### PORTLAND

**Fri., Oct. 19**—Presentation, "The Art of Gaman" by Delphine Hirasuna; 5 p.m.; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave.; books will be available for purchase and signing. Info: June Arima Schumann, 503/224-1458 or jschumann@oregonnikkei.org.

**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.

## Northern California

### BERKELEY

**Through Nov. 25**—Play, "after the quake"; Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St.; adapted from Haruki Murakami's book of the same name; tickets begin at \$27. Info and tickets: 510/647-2949, 888-4-BRT-TIX or berkeleyrep.org.

### SACRAMENTO

**Fri., Nov. 9**—Presentation, Sumo or less?; 7 p.m.; Asian Community Center, 7375 Park City Dr.; program includes a lecture and video presentation by Andrew Freund; reservations required as seating is limited to 80 people; \$5/person donation. Info and RSVP: 916/422-8783 or jkpc21@yahoo.com.

### SAN JOSE

**Sat., Oct. 27**—6th Annual San Jose JACL Community Recognition Dinner; Holiday Inn San Jose; \$75/person; dinner will also feature a silent auction and benefit drawing. Info: Jeff Yoshioka, 408/363-8191 or jyoshioka@msn.com.

## Central California

### HANFORD

**Through Dec. 1**—Exhibit, "Dances and Masks: The Art of the Noh Theater"; The Clark Center for Japanese Art and Culture, 15770 Tenth Ave.; featuring masks, robes, prints and paintings from the Noh Theater. Info: 559/582-4915 or www.ccjac.org.

## Southern California

### BURBANK

**Oct. 25-Nov. 11**—"Louder, Faster, Funnier!" by the 18 Mighty Mountain Warriors; GTC-Burbank, 1111-B W. Olive Ave.; performances are Thurs., Fri. and Sat. at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sun.; \$15/person, \$13/seniors and students with I.D. Info or RSVP: 818/754-4500, 18mightymountainwarriors@gmail.com or 18mmw.com.

### GARDENA

**Sat., Nov. 3**—Song Sparrow Writing Workshop; 8:30-4 p.m.; Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St.; workshop will present various sessions on how to research, write and publish family and community histories; \$45/person, \$50 at the door; optional \$8 bento lunch also available; send registration fee to: Midori Books, P.O. Box 60614, Pasadena, CA 91116; bento checks should be made payable to JAHSSC and sent to same address. Info: bachi@naomihirahara.com or www.naomihirahara.com.

### GARDEN GROVE

**Sat., Dec. 15**—SELANOCO JACL Mochitsuki; 8-3 p.m.; Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, 13711 Fairview St.; annual chapter fundraiser helps to send students to the Presidential Classroom in Washington, D.C.; mochi available for \$3.50/lb, contact Jun Fukushima, 562/865-5039 or BJ Watanabe, 714/779-4140 or bjwatanabe@aol.com to order; deadline for orders is Dec. 10 and mochi must be picked up by 3 p.m. on Dec. 15.

### IMPERIAL

**Oct. 27-Nov. 16**—William Tokeshi Art Exhibition; Imperial Valley Pioneers' Museum, 373 E. Aten Rd.; an opening reception with members of the Tokeshi family will be held Oct. 27 from 6-8 p.m. Info: Tim Asamen, 760/344-2627 or timasamen@yahoo.com.

### LONG BEACH

**Sat.-Sun., Oct. 27-28**—Annual Chrysanthemum Show; 10-5 p.m. both days; Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden at Cal State Long Beach; \$7/adults, \$6/seniors, \$5/Japanese Garden Members, children under 12 are free. Info: 562/985-8885.

### LOS ANGELES

**Nov. 7-Dec. 2**—Performance, "Dawn's Light: The Journey of Gordon Hirabayashi"; David Henry

Hwang Theater at the Union Center for the Arts, 120 Judge John Aiso St.; performances are Wed.-Sat. at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sun.; tickets are \$60 for opening night, other performances: \$35/orchestra, \$30/balcony. Info and tickets: 213/625-7000 or www.east-westplayers.org.

### SAN DIEGO

**Sun., Nov. 11**—San Diego JACL Tea Tasting; 2 p.m.; John Yato Studio, 7847 Dunbrood Rd., Suite D; featuring a selection of teas from Infusions of Tea and a tea ceremony demonstration by Erika Hiramatsu; RSVP by Nov. 5 to 619/230-0314; \$10/person payable to San Diego JACL.

### VENICE

**Through Oct. 28**—Play, "Innocent When You Dream," a play by Ken Narasaki; Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave.; about a JA war veteran who finds himself returning to a lost memory while his third generation children struggle to interpret his wishes and unravel his past.; \$20/tickets and can be purchased at www.brownpapertickets.com or 800/838-3006. Info: Sharon Omi, 310/592-1160 or www.myspace.com/innocentatelectric.

### WEST COVINA

**Sat., Nov. 3**—San Gabriel Valley JACL's annual "Fall Frolic Benefit Dance"; 7-11 p.m.; East San Gabriel

Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave.; music by Jim Ikehara; \$10 donation with proceeds directed to the chapter's scholarship fund. Table reservations: Toshi Ito, 909/861-9676.

## Arizona

### GLENDALE

**Sun., Nov. 4**—Arizona JACL Military Tribute Luncheon; 1 p.m.; Glendale Civic Center; keynote speaker, Glendale Mayor Elaine Scruggs; \$30. Info: Masako Takiguchi, 602/956-3150 or Ted Namba, 623/572-9913.

## Hawaii

### HONOLULU

**Sun., Nov. 4**—Okinawan Family Kimono Dressing; 10-3 p.m.; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii; dress up and be photographed in traditional Okinawan clothing; \$64/JCCH members, \$80/non-members (includes cost for traditional hair and make-up, but not for pictures); RSVP recommended by Oct. 20; Info: 808/945-7633 or www.jcch.com.

## Nevada

### LAS VEGAS

**Nov. 6-7**—All-Minidoka Reunion; Golden Nugget Hotel. Info: Tak Todo, 206/362-8195. ■



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**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  
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## In Memoriam - 2007

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Hamanishi, Arthur "Art," 91,** Payette, Idaho, Sept. 27; survived by wife, Suze; daughters, Carol (George) McClelland and Alice (Peter) Mashimo; son, Henry (Cathy); 6 gc.; 7 ggc.; sisters, Ruth Fulton and Fusae Nakamura; and brother, Tom.

**Hayashida, Chizuko, 91,** Stockton, Sept. 20; survived by sons, Willie, Vernon and Harvey; 8 gc.; and sisters, Haruko Narita, Mary W. Eisel, Grace Narita and Rose Nakayama.

**Hiramatsu, Tsutomu "Tommy," 86,** Torrance; survived by wife, Helen; sons, Neal (Sue) and Warren (Kathleen); 1 gc.; brothers, Kiyoshi (Edith) and Robert (Muriel); and sister, Betty Tanaka.

**Kamo, Tom Mineo, 93,** Vale, Ore., Sept. 23; survived by sons, Ray, Gary (Nancy) and Doug (Bonnie); 6 gc.; 3 ggc.; 1 gggc.; sister, Miyo Morita; and brother, Roy.

**Kawanishi, Toshiyuki "Tosh," 85,** Bainbridge Island, Wash., Aug. 4; WWII veteran; survived by sisters, Alice Kawanishi and Irene

*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.*

Sakaguchi.

**Maruyama, Kazuo "Kay," 88,** Spokane, Wash., Sept. 28; WWII veteran; survived by brother, Yoshio; and sister, Teruko.

**Matsuda, Shigeo, 76,** Torrance, Aug. 29; survived by sons, Ronald, Patrick and Roy; daughters, Marlene (Ron) Abe, Lori (Reed) Shepherd and Ruth and Ruby; 4 gc.; brothers, Miyoshi and Ikuko Matsuda; and sisters, Nobuko Oyakawa and Mieko Nishikawa.

**Nakamura, Hatsuye Sue, 83,** Aug. 29; survived by daughter, Aileen (George) Ikuta; 1 gc.; sister, Mitzi Osumi; and brothers, Bill, George, Min and Hiroshi Tsuji.

**Takii, Masako, 85,** Los Angeles, Aug. 28; survived by son, Alvin; daughter, Karen (Sam) Jacques; 3 gc.; 1 ggc.; sister, Haru Ogawa; and brother, Sam Yamashiro.

**Terashita, Yukiko, 92,** Los Angeles, Sept. 10; survived by daughter, Reiko (Kazuo) Hashizume; 3 gc.; sisters, Tokuko Ishikawa and Katsuko Takei; and sisters-in-law, Yoshiko Terakami and Kimiko Terashita. ■

### DEATH NOTICE

#### FLORENCE L. IMAIZUMI HAMADA

Florence L. Imaizumi Hamada, a resident of Bellflower, Calif. passed away on October 3, 2007. She was born April 10, 1927 in Gardena to Eiji and Mito Furutachi Imaizumi.

She received her education at Amestoy Elementary School (Gardena) Clearwater Junior High School (Paramount), Ammon High School, (Ammon, Idaho) graduating from Davis County High School in Kaysville, Utah in 1944. Florence served in the Women's Air Force in 1951-52 receiving an honorable discharge. She held various positions, her latest being with the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools.

Florence married George M. Hamada in January 1954 who predeceased her in March 1992. They were the parents of Norman (Debbie), Raymond (Sue), Donna (Steve Kawakami), and David. She is survived by seven grandchildren, Jason, Kevin, Heather, Zachary, Benjamin, Harrison and Amy whom she nurtured and adored from the day that they were born. She is also survived by two sisters Yoneko (Shigeru) Kiyomura, and Marjorie Imaizumi Fletcher, sister-in-law Emiko Imaizumi and brothers-in-law, Yosh Hamada, Yuso Hamada, and Henry Hamada and many nieces and nephews in California and Utah. She was predeceased by her parents and her brothers Kenichi, George, and Joe.

Buddhist services are planned for Sat., October 6, at 3 p.m. at the Hillside Chapel in Rose Hills Memorial Park with burial to follow immediately. The family requests in lieu of Koden and flowers, please make donations in memory of Florence to the Long Beach Memorial Hospice, 695 East 27th Street, Signal Hill, CA 90755.



#### SEIKO OTA MURASE

Died peacefully surrounded by her family, following a stroke, on October 1, 2007, in San Francisco. Born on October 9, 1931, Seiko was destined to serve as a "Bridge Across the Pacific" between Japan and the United States.

After receiving an undergraduate degree from Japan Women's University and a master's from Rikkyo University, Seiko received a scholarship to enter the Graduate School of Social Work at the University of Pennsylvania in 1958. She then joined the YWCA in Philadelphia, working with African American youth in North Philadelphia.

She met her husband-to-be Kenji when he was working for the American Friends Service Committee in New York. They married in March 1965 and resided in New York City while Kenji completed his doctoral work at Columbia University. Soon thereafter, daughters Emily and Miriam were born.

The family moved to San Francisco in 1968 when Kenji accepted a teaching position at the Graduate School of Social Work at San Francisco State University. Her son Geoffrey was born shortly thereafter.

Seiko devoted herself to raising her children for 10 years, then became a teacher at Morning Star School in Japantown. She later joined the San Francisco Department of Social Services as a child welfare worker and retired after nearly 18 years of service.

Seiko enjoyed many Japanese cultural activities, including koto, tea ceremony, and shigin singing. She served on the boards of the Japan Women's University Alumni Association Northern California Chapter, the Japanese American Association of Northern California, and the Japanese Speaking Society.

Together with her husband, she was a Founder of the Japanese Bilingual Bicultural Program, now located at Rosa Parks Elementary School, which will be celebrating its 35th anniversary of Japanese language instruction in San Francisco public schools in January 2008.

Seiko is survived by her husband of 42 years, Kenji, children Emily (Neal Taniguchi), Miriam (Greg Zaharchuk), Geoffrey (Christine Miyauchi), and grandchildren Junko, Izumi, Kenji, and Noah, as well as countless relatives in Japan.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, October 28, at 2 pm at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, 1840 Sutter Street (near Webster), in San Francisco.

Donations may be made to the Parent Teacher Community Council of the Japanese Bilingual Bicultural Program, payable to "PTCC-JBBP" indicating "Murase memorial gift;" send to PTCC-JBBP, c/o Rosa Parks Elementary School, 1501 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.

### IN MEMORIAM

## Violet de Cristoforo, Nationally Recognized Haiku Poet, Dies

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO—Violet Kazue de Cristoforo, who received national honors for haikus reflecting the desolation of JA internment camps during World War II, has died. She was 90.



De Cristoforo died at her home in Salinas, on California's central coast, on Oct. 3, her daughter Kimi de Cristoforo said.

For more than 50 years, de Cristoforo wrote, compiled and translated haikus created in the

detention camps. She was also a staunch advocate in the campaign that led to reparations and an apology from the U.S. government to the 120,000 JAs interned in the 1940s.

De Cristoforo was recognized in September by the National Endowment for the Arts and received a National Heritage Fellowship Award for cultural achievement. Soon after, her health declined due to a stroke.

"She had lived to go to Washington, she hung in there, because she felt it was recognition for her life's work," her daughter said.

Born in Hawaii, de Cristoforo was raised in Fresno and Japan. Her more than a dozen books of poetry

were marked by the years she spent in the U.S. camps.

She married her first husband Shigeru Matsuda soon after graduating from a Fresno high school. They had two children and de Cristoforo was pregnant with a third when the family was sent to a detention center in Fresno.

After the war, she married her second husband Wilfred H. de Cristoforo, an officer in the U.S. Army. The couple eventually settled in Monterey, where she worked at the McGraw-Hill Companies. He died in 1998.

She is survived by two daughters, a son and two grandchildren. ■

## Sheriff Harry Lee Dies at 75

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

METAIRIE, La.—Harry Lee, the seven-term suburban New Orleans sheriff whose blunt talk sometimes led to sour relations with black leaders, died Oct. 1, several months after announcing he had leukemia, his chief deputy said. He was 75.



Lee said in April he had leukemia and although he reported in June that it was in remission, it returned in August. Even so, Lee signed up to run for re-election as sheriff of Jefferson Parish in the Oct. 20 election.

Even in a state with a long history of brash and colorful politicians, Lee cut an uncommon figure: a rotund, white-haired Chinese American with a penchant for western wear and a love of country music.

"As a law enforcement professional and as a fixture of Louisiana politics, Harry Lee was one of a kind," Gov. Kathleen Blanco said. "It is sad that Louisiana has lost such an extraordinary and colorful leader."

It was his clashes with black leaders as sheriff of the mostly white New Orleans suburb that often made

news during his nearly three decades as sheriff.

All the brouhahas never seemed to hurt popular support for this true rarity in Louisiana politics. Lee always denied charges of bigotry and said they were hurtful for a man born in the back room of a Chinese laundry in New Orleans at the height of the Great Depression in 1932.

"Even when people disagreed with his techniques, few doubted his dedication," said New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin, who is black. "He was an original, and he will be missed."

Lee's death means qualifying for the Oct. 20 sheriff's race must be reopened, and absentee ballots already sent will not count.

Two challengers had entered the race earlier. If more candidates enter the race the primary will be pushed back to Nov. 17; otherwise the Oct. 20 election date will not be changed. ■

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### DEATH NOTICE

#### MINORU "MIN" SANO

Min Sano, 86, passed away peacefully September 24 at his home in Berkeley, Calif. He was the beloved husband of Yaeko Inuzuka Sano; father of Edwin (Karen), Carol (Glen) Kazahaya, and Kenny (Anne); grandfather of Kristen (Chris) Nishimoto, Brian, and Derek Kazahaya. He is survived by his brothers Yukio, Harlan (Barbara), Tatsuo, and Toshio (Tae); sister-in-law Yone (George) Hara, brother-in-law George (Nobi) Azumano, Mineo (Sachiko) Inuzuka; and many nieces and nephews. Min was the founder of the Berkeley Bears Youth Organization and was Berkeley Chapter JACL President in 1976. He loved Cal sports, golf and his beloved dog "Mutt."

A memorial service was held on September 30.

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# ONLY THE BRAVE

MARK DACASCOS YUJI OKUMOTO JASON SCOTT LEE PAT NORIYUKI MORITA JEFF FAHEY

MISSION FROM BUDDHA PRODUCTIONS presents A LANE NISHIKAWA film "ONLY THE BRAVE" LANE NISHIKAWA JASON SCOTT LEE MARK DACASCOS YUJI OKUMOTO TAMLYN TOMITA JEFF FAHEY PAT NORIYUKI MORITA GUY ECKER Composers DAN KURAMOTO KIMO CORNWELL Costume Designer LARRY VELASCO Production Designer ALAN E. MURADKA Editor CHISAKO YOKOYAMA Director of Photography MICHAEL WOJCIECHOWSKI Producers ERIC HAYASHI JAY KOIWA Producer KAREN CRISWELL Written, Produced and Directed by LANE NISHIKAWA © 2007 MISSION FROM BUDDHA PRODUCTIONS, LLC ALL RIGHTS RESERVED [www.OnlyTheBraveMovie.com](http://www.OnlyTheBraveMovie.com)

MISSION FROM BUDDHA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS  
**Only the Brave DVD Release Screening**  
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## SEE IT ON THE BIG SCREEN!

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH**

Orinda Theater, 2 Orinda Theater Square

Tickets may be purchased online at [www.filmarts.org](http://www.filmarts.org)

For information call (925)943-1790

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH**

Ultrastar Cinemas Mission Valley

7510 Hazard Center Drive #100, San Diego

For information call (619)685-2841

Watch this publication for details of the national screening tour or go to [www.OnlyTheBraveMovie.com](http://www.OnlyTheBraveMovie.com)

Go to [www.OnlyTheBraveMovie.com](http://www.OnlyTheBraveMovie.com) to order DVDs of ONLY THE BRAVE, or send check or money order payable to **Mission From Buddha Productions** to: Mission From Buddha Productions, P.O. Box 420866, San Diego, CA, 92142. Contact Mission From Buddha Productions at (858)565-2021 if ordering 10 or more.

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