

JA barn 1st on Historic Barn Register. - PAGE 3

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PACIFIC

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Tri-District Fete

JACLers from the NCWNP, CC, and PSW districts gather in Reno.

COVERAGE PAGES 6 & 7

Nov. 16-Dec. 13, 2007

U.S. Judge Blocks Watada's Second Court-martial

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

TACOMA, Wash.—The Army cannot hold a second court-martial for an Iraq war objector until the resolution of the soldier's claim that it would violate his right against double jeopardy, a federal judge ruled.

The first court-martial for 1st Lt. Ehren Watada, who is charged with missing his unit's deployment to Iraq in June 2006, ended in a mistrial in February. U.S. District Judge Benjamin H. Settle wrote Nov. 8 that the military judge likely abused his discretion in declaring the mistrial.

Watada's second court-martial had been scheduled to begin last month when his lawyers asked the



federal court to step in. The soldier contends a second trial would violate his rights by trying him twice for the same charges.

Watada contends that the war in Iraq is illegal and that he would be

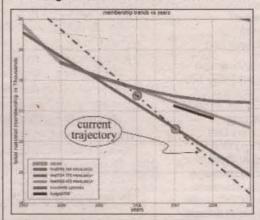
party to war crimes if he served there. He is also charged with conduct unbecoming an officer for denouncing President George W. Bush and the war. If convicted, he could be sentenced to six years in prison and be

dishonorably discharged.

"This is an enormous victory, but it is not yet over," Watada attorney Kenneth Kagan said in a statement.

See WATADA/Page 13

Despite Current Budget Shortfall, JACL is Expected to Pull Ahead by Year's End



DOWNWARD TREND:

Membership numbers are down 1,000 members. The organization, which relies heavily on membership income, is in the projected worst case scenario.

GRAPH: MARK KOBAYASHI

Fundraising is up, but membership continues to slide.

By LYNDA LIN **Assistant Editor**

SAN FRANCISCO-The JACL is currently in a deficit budget, but is expected to end the year with a surplus, reported national board members at the Nov. 10 quarterly meeting.

The organization is expected to close out the year with an approximately \$41,000 surplus.

The year-end surplus can be attributed to lower than expected expenditures. Budgeted staff positions were not filled until the latter half of the year and fundraisers including the Annual Giving campaign and the Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue campaign are expected to help pull the organization out of its current \$20,050 deficit.

JACL will be in the black, but since all budgeted staff positions have now been filled, more emphasis needs to be placed on increasing revenues, said JACL Secretary/Treasurer Mark Kobayashi at the meeting.

"We have a lot of work to do," he added.

Upside of the Fourth Quarter

"Fortunately for our budget picture if we can get our Annual Giving campaign, get membership at our normal pace, and have a healthy Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue, we should come out of the year with a slight revenues over expenditures," added Kobayashi.

Whenever we have vacancies, we will have savings, said JACL National President Larry Oda. "The other effect of a lack of capacity is that you cannot accomplish your mission, mean-

ing that the money you were sup-

See BUDGET/Page 12

Minnesota's Adult Adopted Koreans Connect at AK Connection

With the highest number of Korean adoptees in any state, Minnesota is in a unique position to help build networks.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM **Executive Editor**

At the age of 4, Kimberly "Soon-Young" Therres reached up to touch her mother's eyelids "with their prominent folds" and wondered, 'how come mine don't have folds like that?"

It is the earliest memory Therres, now 29, has of realizing for the first time that she was different from her German American adoptive parents and two older brothers. She is an adopted Korean.

Born in Gimhae, South Korea,

Therres' biological parents made the difficult decision of putting their daughter up for adoption in 1978. By the time she was five months old, her adoptive parents had come to take her to her new home in Chaska, Adopted Korean Lisa Minnesota.

"I don't push away

who I am because of how I was raised. I've always stressed my Korean blood, my Korean heritage. I've always felt a sense of pride



Medici as an infant "I knew I was (right) and at the adopted, even at that Seoul Tower on a young age," she said. recent trip to Korea.



displays her Korean heritage proudly - and literally. The simple tattoo on the small of her back spells out the Korean name her birth parents gave her in 1980: Kim

Korean adoptee Lisa Medici, 27, See AK CONNECTION/Page 11

PACIFIC CITIZEN 250 E. FIRST ST., STE. 301, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

Pioneering Journalist Bill Hosokawa Passes at 92

By GIL ASAKAWA P.C. Editorial Bd. Chair

Journalist, author and diplomat Bill Hosokawa died on Nov. 9, in Sequim, Washington, where he had been living with his daughter, Christie Harveson. He was 92 years

Susan Boatright, Hosokawa's other daughter, said he died peace-



planned yet.

"Bill Hosokawa reflects all that is

has

fully with fampositive in our Nisei heritage," said Floyd Mori, national director of JACL. "Bill was a crusader for that There will be a which was good and he was committed to the betterment of the Japanese American community. While we have lost a great individual, we are fortunate that his legacy pubic event will be with us for generations to come."

That legacy lives on both in

Denver, Colorado, where he lived for decades, and on the national scene, through Hosokawa's farreaching and popular books and commentaries.

His "Out of the Frying Pan" column, which ran in the Pacific Citizen for more than half a century, was first published in 1942. He authored "Nisei, The Quiet Americans," the

See HOSOKAWA/Page 12

INDEX

Letters	2
National	3-5
Community	6-
Calendar	
Obits	



TKO

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ily members

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private family

service, she

said, but no

Actress Grace Park prepares for the end of 'Battlestar Galactica.'

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 9



Ice Princess Mirai Nagasu, 14, is comfortable with being the future of figure skating.

SPORTS PAGE 10



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Letters to the Editor

Bill Hosokawa: Well-respected Journalist and Gentleman

I just received word from Harry Honda of Bill Hosokawa's passing. I have had the pleasure of knowing Bill for about 40 years primarily as a past national JACL president and also being a fellow internee of Heart Mountain Wyoming.

Bill was one of the few people I have met who I have never heard utter an unkind word about anyone. But he was quick to shower praise on his many friends and acquaintances. Bill definitely was a giant among the Japanese and Asian American community.

He patiently, clearly, eloquently and persistently was a voice of reason, moderation, firmness and fairness for the many causes that confronted the Japanese and AA communities.

Bill was a dignified, soft-spoken and well-respected journalist and gentleman who will be remembered for his writings, speeches and special relationship he had with all who met and befriended him.

Although he cannot be replaced for the many and various contributions he made to humankind, he will long be remembered for what he has done for all of us. We will all miss him.

> RAYMOND UNO Past National JACL President

Offensive T-shirts



I recently read in "APAs in the News" about Paul Ogata winning first place in an international comedy competition. I saw him perform at a show in Anaheim this past Spring and thoroughly enjoyed his routine. He had everyone roaring with laughter.

After the show, he was selling these t-shirts that were offensive to me and I think the whole Japanese community. In bold letters it said "JAP ASS." I did not confront him at the time but later e-mailed him at his Web site expressing my concerns. I never got a response.

I checked his Web site and saw to my dismay that he was still marketing the t-shirts.

> ROY OTSUJI Via e-mail

Re: 'EKO House' Column



I read with interest your column "EKO House" (Dusseldorf, Germany) that appear in the Oct. 19 issue of the *Pacific Citizen* but was surprised by the comment: "But what one might not have expected is the emphasis on Buddhism at the center."

EKO Haus was established by the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK), Society for the Promotion of Buddhism of Tokyo, Japan. And, the BDK was established by the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata as an instrument for propagating Buddhism around the world.

One of Rev. Numata's goals was to establish 10 Buddhist temples named "Eko-ji" (Temple of the Gift of Light) around the world, and EKO Haus in Dusseldorf is the fruition of a part of Rev. Numata's dream.

One of the many propagational activities of the BDK is the publication and distribution of "The Teaching of Buddha" largely through hotel rooms around the world. So far, over six million copies of the book in over 45 languages have been distributed free of charge throughout the world.

Cheryl Watamura, you indicated that you might ring in the New Year at the Eko House in a few months and that you could then give us an update on this unique "Japanese Cultural Center." (Incidentally, the New Year Eve service is called *Joya-e* and the gong is struck 108 times to strike out the 108 *bonno*, causes of human suffering.)

Perhaps you might inquire a little more about the background of the EKO Haus and the BDK. I'm sure there are numerous publications there that will tell you more about the BDK and Rev. Yehan Numata.

> SHIGEKI SUGIYAMA Richmond, CA

NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

National Staff: The Lifeblood of JACL

By FLOYD MORI

I have often referred to the individual members of the JACL as the heart of the organiza-

tion that maintains the community's pulse and feelings. The lifeblood that assures that the programs and objectives of the organization are carried out is the staff, Your national JACL staff continues to busily work on a wide variety of



issues and programs to benefit the members of JACL and the community as a whole,

Bill Yoshino, our Midwest regional director, has been with the JACL for over 20 years. His work with former National Director John Tateishi on Redress helped in developing a strong grassroots effort that was key to its passage. Today, he is the go-to person on all hate crimes incidents and issues as well as guiding JACL's new Initiative in Youth Leadership Development and Empowerment.

Carol Saito has been a fixture in the PSWD office for over 20 years, part of the time while her husband John was PSW regional director. She took care of business for some time in the

absence of a regional director. Today, she works with our new PSW Regional Director Craig Ishii who besides his regional responsibilities, oversees the national youth programs and some new youth leadership development programs in that region.

PNW Regional Director Karen Yoshitomi has been guiding the development of a new national JACL Web site and works with Yoshino on the new Youth Leadership Initiative. Patty Wada, the NCWNP regional director, shares the youth programs with Ishii and in addition coordinates much of the education program.

Headquarters in San Francisco continues to maintain the administrative functions of membership and finances. For many years, Clyde Izumi has maintained expert oversight of the revenues and expenditures of JACL and is the key person when it comes to developing our budget. He is aided by our bookkeeper, Mei Kuang. One of the newest staff members is Lotchana Sourivong, the membership coordinator, who is supported by longtime employee, Tomiko Ishmail. Susan Tamai is the new administrative assistant at headquarters.

Debee Yamamoto, director of public policy in Washington, D.C., works on legislative and advocacy matters in the nation's capital. Included in her duties is the important element of our work with the other civil rights organizations in D.C. Her responsibilities include working on the D.C. Gala and the D.C. Leadership Program which is coming up in the Spring (Feb. 29 to March 4, 2008). This premier program has been going on for over 20 years. Information and application forms can be found on the JACL Web site (www.jacl.org).

The Pacific Citizen staff, which consists of Executive Editor Caroline Aoyagi-Stom, Assistant Editor Lynda Lin, Office Manager Brian Tanaka, and Eva Lau-Ting in circulation, helps to inform JACL members of issues of concern to our community through its semimonthly newspaper and popular Web site (www.pacificcitizen.org).

Currently, Elaine Low works with Yoshino in the Chicago office as the Ford Fellow, and Meilee Wong is the first State Farm Insurance Norman Y. Mineta Fellow working in the D.C. office. Another valuable part of the team is Irene Mori, who volunteers on a regular basis.

Your JACL staff deserves a hand for their hard work. It is a privilege for me to work with them.

Once JA-Owned Farm Now First on Washington's Historic Barn Register

In the future, a possible trailhead may bring the turbulent history of the Nakashima farm into light.

By ELAINE LOW Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

A farm once owned by Japanese Americans will now be one of the first to be placed on the Washington state Heritage Barn Register, preserving the memory of a once-beautiful barn and recalling an uglier era when the law prohibited many Asian Pacific Americans from owning land.

The Nakashima farm, which at one point spanned over 1,000 acres and was the first to have registered Guernsey cattle, served as home to Kamezo and Miye Nakashima and their family for decades before it was forcibly taken from them after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

While they had lived and worked on the farm for decades, the Nakashimas only owned the farm for five years when its previous owners transferred the deed to 24year old Takeo Nakashima, their son and an American citizen. Discriminatory land laws of the time prevented non-citizens from owning land.

The family then had to sell the farm in 1941 for only \$10 an acre, far below market value, before complying with the World War II evacuation order, according to Tracy Tallman, vice chairwoman of the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission.

"The Nakashimas would still be living here if they weren't forced out. I think people need higher awareness of that," said Tallman, who also noted that there weren't many farmers in the county, let alone JA farmers.

Now the only farm in Washington's Snohomish County to have ever been owned by APAs will be commemorated for its historic



HONORING HISTORY: The Nakashima barn, (top) as it stands today, was part of the Nakashima family (right) business until their WWII internment.

legacy and hopefully, restored to its former prime.

"It was a beautiful barn at one time. But now there's canary grass that's overrun the place, and the farm's been neglected," said Loren



Kraetz, a farmer in Arlington about eight miles south of the former Nakashima property, and a member of the County Historic Commission. Like Tallman, he also believes it's important for people to be aware of the turbulent history behind the barn.

JACL PNW Director Karen Yoshitomi agrees, "Time may ease the sting of discrimination, but it should not erase the lessons that can be learned from the past." While some of the Nakashima descendants are reportedly indifferent to the project, locals like Kraetz want to see the barn rebuilt.

The barn, built around 1910, needs cosmetic restoration, according to Kraetz. Snohomish County purchased over 80 acres of the land over a decade ago and is currently in talks to make it over as a park trailhead. Old railroad tracks that go through the Nakashima farm could serve as part of the trail, and the barn itself would need cleaning and revamping.

Kraetz would like to see the land renamed Nakashima Park, in honor of the family. ■

Elaine Low is currently a JACL fellow in the Midwest regional office.

Woman Collects Heart Mountain Internment Camp Artifacts

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALSTON, Wyo.—Among the Heart Mountain treasures LaDonna Zall loves, perhaps most is a rock that took five grown men to move.

A Japanese American poet, pen-name Azeka Shikai, spent months chiseling his thoughts into the granite. Then, he buried it on the grounds of the Heart Mountain relocation camp during World War II. A time capsule. A message etched for eternity in Wyoming stone.

The man was one of the more than 11,000 JAs whisked from their homes against their will by a federal government caught in the clutches of war hysteria.

"I was 10 years old," Zall says from her modest home outside Ralston. "I knew they were out there. I just couldn't understand it."

The poet-prisoner-sculptor understood it. His haiku poem was translated by his daughter. It reads: Mountain peak at my shoulder. Thousand barracks under an autumn moon.

"These," says Zall, "were some pretty special people."

Collecting and sorting artifacts from the Heart Mountain relocation camp has been Zall's passion these last 10 years. She's met hundreds of camp survivors and their families. And, she says, she's always amazed at how willing most are to share their stories.

"They want people to know what happened to them," she says. "So it doesn't happen again."

Zall grew up in the shadow of Heart Mountain. She remembers the guard houses you were forbidden to photograph. The relocation service didn't want the images made public.

She remembers the stories. A JA farmer in Montana taken from his home because he released a carrier pigeon everyday. Some neighbors were convinced the birds were headed to Tokyo, laden with American secrets. "Just didn't make any sense," she said.

And it bothered Zall all her life. Through the years she taught physical education in Cody schools. She dedicated her life to the kids then. Zall was a moving force in reviving girls athletics in Wyoming.

She retired and was looking for something to do. The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation needed someone to keep track of the artifacts. And that gnawing need to know put Zall in the right place at the right time.

The thing is, Zall says, you meet the people, the survivors, their children, their grandchildren, and you talk with them, and eat with them, laugh with them and it hits you. There just aren't that many differences.

This is what knows for certain after 73 years on this earth.

This is why the vanity plate in her four-wheel drive is her own form of haiku. It reads simply: NJOY. ■

South Idaho Feedlot Opponents Irked by Commission Document

Former JA WWII internees and local residents had protested the proposed site just a mile from historic Minidoka.

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

TWIN FALLS, Idaho— Opponents of a 13,000-animal feedlot proposed for land just a mile from a World War II-era Japanese American prison camp say the lone Jerome County commissioner who voted for the feedlot is now trying to undercut the commission's rejection of the plan.

Last month, commissioners voted 2-1 against a plan by Eden, Idaho, businessman Don McFarland to build the feedlot near the Minidoka Internment National Monument.

There, nearly 10,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were held behind barbed wire following Japan's Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

"It's almost like those who voted to grant the permit are trying to undercut" the commission's rejection, to get it overturned on appeal, Patrick Brown, a lawyer representing several Jerome County residents who oppose the feedlot, told *The Times-News*.

Charlie Howell, the lone "yes" vote, said that's not his intention.

"I don't believe in sabotaging the board," he told The Associated Press on Nov. 2. "I support the board."

At the time of the vote, the county's top lawyer said the decision set



Jerome County Commissioners listen to recent testimony regarding the controversial Minidoka feedlot. Pictured are (*I-r*): Commissioners Joe Davidson, Charlie Howell, and Diana Obenauer.

the stage for a lawsuit by McFarland.

"This is likely headed for court," Jerome County Attorney Mike Seib said then. During the earlier hearing, Seib urged commissioners to be more explicit about their decision, saying there needed to be a discussion of how the evidence supported the decision.

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.

On Nov. 1, Howell and Commissioner Joe Davidson signed a memorandum decision, formally denying the feedlot application and outlining their reasons. Seib wrote the document.

A third commissioner, Diana Obenauer, was not present at the Nov. I meeting and had asked the board to postpone the meeting until she could draft a document listing her reasons for rejecting the feedlot. She said the current document doesn't adequately include her reasons.

But Howell and Davidson decided to sign the document without her.

"The board thought (Obenauer) was taking too much time with her reasons," Howell said.

The commissioners had 180 days to sign the document following their Oct. 9 vote.

Feedlot opponents say this week's document is so flimsy that it gives McFarland grounds to appeal.

"It should be appealed either way, to make sure everybody is doing their job," Howell said.

At the time of the Oct. 9 vote, McFarland told The AP he didn't think the county commission considered his application properly and he was discussing his options with a lawyer.

Hispanics See TV Hiring Progress; Asians Still Lag Behind

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

LOS ANGELES—The TV season that brought Emmy honors to "Ugly Betty" star America Ferrera also saw a rise in employment opportunities for Hispanics at the major networks, according to a report released recently.

The eighth annual survey by a coalition formed to push for more minority hiring for on- and off-camera jobs in broadcasting found Hispanics made encouraging if "incremental" progress.

The same survey showed dismal results for other minority groups, including Asian Americans.

Network programs created to foster diversity "are now bearing fruit, and it is not unreasonable to expect that the present numbers will continue to climb and that there will be no backsliding," said Esteban Torres, head of the National Latino Media Council.

The analysis of 2006-07 season scripted and reality shows was based on information supplied by the networks.

ABC, home of "Ugly Betty" and its Hispanic star, led in diversifying its work force, with CBS, NBC and Fox all earning commendations for improvement. The networks earned overall grades of A and B on the council's "report card."

Fox, however, was rebuked for what the council said was its failure to match other networks in fully disclosing hiring data.

Fox responded recently saying that "while we will be happy to pro-





Masi Oka of "Heroes" and Sandra Oh of "Grey's Anatomy" were a couple of the bright spots for Asian Pacific American actors on TV.

vide the numbers of actors, writers and directors of color, we believe they have a reasonable expectation of privacy and will not provide their names."

The network statement said Fox "remains steadfast in our diversity efforts"

The TV picture was deemed less bright by other minority groups that are part of the diversity effort.

In a report card issued by the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition, none of the networks improved their overall grade from last year.

A total of 29 AAs were cast in regular roles in prime-time programs, just two more than last year, and many roles lacked "significant air time," the coalition found.

"When compared to other racial groups, (Asian Pacific Americans) are still far less likely to be in starring roles in prime-time programming, although a number of shows are set in cities" with large AA populations, the coalition said in a statement.

The group singled out two "standout shows" with choice roles for AA actors: " G r e y 's Anatomy," with Korean Canadian star Sandra Oh, and "Heroes" with Japanese American Masi Oka.

It was heartening to see the number of AA writers and producers rebound from a severe drop last year, the group said, but the numbers remained inadequate. The ranks of Asian Pacific directors were cut from 27 the previous year to 23 last season.

When it comes to hiring of American Indians, the networks earned overall grades of D or C in an analysis that focused on scripted shows.

"Behind the camera, American Indians remain invisible. ... We are still misunderstood and underrepresented in front of the camera," said Mark S. Reed of American Indians in Film and TV.

The group lauded the hiring of Adam Beach ("Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee," "Flags of Our Fathers"), a Salteaux Indian from Canada, as a series regular on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit."

An original partner of the diversity, the NAACP, has not participated in recent evaluations. ■

National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Proposal Filed for Ballot Measure Against Affirmative Action

PHOENIX—Supporters can now begin collecting signatures for a proposed Arizona initiative to ban race and gender based preferences by state or local governments.

The initiative has been officially filed.

Maricopa County Attorney Andrew Thomas is chairman of the campaign for the so-called "Arizona Civil Rights Initiative." Supporters have until July 3 to file the signatures of 230,000 voters to win a spot on the November 2008 ballot for the proposed amendment to the Arizona Constitution.

Police Plan Would Map Muslims

LOS ANGELES—Critics say a police counterterrorism effort to identify and map Muslim communities amounts to religious and racial profiling.

There are an estimated 500,000 Muslims in Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties. The police department is trying to identify the location of Muslim enclaves to determine which might be susceptible to "violent, ideologically-based extremism."

But city officials defended the effort, depicting it as "community engagement" aimed at welcoming sometimes insular Muslim groups into all aspects of city life. It is about transparency, not clandestine surveillance, they said.

Several Muslim groups and the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California have sent the LAPD a letter expressing "grave concerns" about racial profiling.

Group Says Micronesians Suffer Housing Discrimination

HONOLULU—A legal aid group says Micronesians migrating to Hawaii often suffer housing discrimination.

Kokua Legal Services has settled one lawsuit and is pursing a second one, while pursuing a half dozen other landlords. In an ongoing project, the group



has been having Micronesians and Caucasians pose as potential renters with the same landlord to determine whether there's discrimination.

Members of Hawaii's growing Micronesian community say the project is helping raise awareness among both renters and landlords.

As residents of a former U.S. territory, Micronesians are free to emigrate to the U.S. Estimates put Hawaii's Micronesian population at between 10.000 and 20.000.

Manzanar Committee: Grant Monies Should be Used to Preserve All Confinement Sites

WWII assembly centers, Department of Justice camps should be included too.

Funds distributed under a federal grant program should be used to acquire property, preserve and develop educational facilities at

World War II internment sites, said the Manzanar Committee in a recent statement announcing its support of Public Law 109-441.

The bill, which was signed into law in December 2006,

authorizes up to \$38 million for the preservation and interpretation of WWII Japanese American confinement sites. The National Park Service, which hosted a series of public listening sessions last September through October, is in charge of administering the grant program.

Preservation and development is crucial to the history of the JA intern-

ment, said the committee.

"The Manzanar Committee fully supports all efforts to preserve each camp, as well as other sites used during the internment," said Bruce Embrey, committee co-chair. "That said, we believe the most important task will be to maintain and expand

'Supporting and expanding these facilities will ensure the most developed and established sites can continue to effec-

the existing facilities being administered by the National Park Service.

tively explain the camp experience.'

"Supporting and expanding these facilities will ensure the most developed and established sites can continue to effectively explain the camp experience," he added.

The committee believes that the grants should be used to acquire, preserve and develop facilities at Amache, Gila River, Granada, Heart Mountain, Jerome, Manzanar, Minidoka, Rohwer, Topaz and Tule Lake.

The grants should also be used for development at the assembly center sites, Department of Justice camps and other sites used to imprison JAs during WWII.

"To be sure, there is nothing more effective, educational or moving than seeing where history was made—at the camps themselves," said Embrey. "That said, we would also support use of the grant funds for projects

proposed by the site(s) where interested parties work in conjunction with them to inform the American people about the camp experience."

Founded more than three decades ago, the Manzanar Committee worked to establish Manzanar as a California State Historic Landmark, a National Historic Landmark, and ultimately, as a National Historic Site

Cornell's Student Assembly Passes Mental Health Initiative for APAs

ITHACA, NY—The Student Assembly has passed a resolution encouraging the university to better support mental health services for APA students.

The resolution was based on a 2004 report that found that APA students at Cornell were less likely to utilize mental health resources. The resolution also said many APA students that graduated in 2000 were unhappy with the accessibility of advising and counseling services.

The 2004 report called for the establishment of an APA cultural center on campus and recommended that a staff position be established to support APA students.

Former 'Comfort Women' Seek EU Help to Secure Apology from Japan

BRUSSELS, Belgium—Three survivors of sexual slavery in Japanese camps during World War II appealed to the European Parliament as part of an international campaign to pressure Japan to give a wider apology for the abuse of women by its military.

Gil Won Ok, 79, from South Korea is seeking an official apology from Japan. She said she was forced to work as a "comfort woman" for Japanese soldiers at the age of 13. She joined Menen Castillo from the Philippines and Ellen van der Ploeg, a Dutch woman captured by the Japanese in Indonesia, in an Amnesty International campaign to persuade the European Union to raise the issue with Japanese authorities.

Historians say the Imperial Japanese Army forcibly sent as many as 200,000 women, mainly from Korea, China and the Philippines, to wartime Japanese military brothels to work as prostitutes in the 1930s and 1940s. ■

APAs News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Miyagishima Sworn in as Mayor



Ken Miyagishima has been sworn in as Las Cruces, New Mexico's mayor. But the former city councilor won't have any official duties until Nov. 19 when the current mayor William Mattiace's term ends.

Miyagishima was sworn in during a Nov. 9 private ceremony at City Hall. A judge administered the oath of office. A public swearing-in ceremony is set for Nov.

Miyagishima beat Mattiace in the mayoral election by 80 votes. Mattiace has said he plans to challenge his narrow loss in his bid for a second term as mayor of New Mexico's second-largest city.

Wong is Fitchburg's First APA Mayor

For the first time in its 243-year history, Fitchburg, Massachusetts has elected a minority mayor. Lisa Wong, a daughter of Chinese immigrants, cruised to victory with more than 74 percent of the ballots cast in a hotly contested race.

Wong, 28, will become the city's first APA mayor, as well as being the third-youngest person to hold the job and the second woman.

Wong is the former executive director of the Fitchburg Redevelopment

Santa Clara Heroes Honored

Six Santa Clara APA leaders and two organizations were recently recognized for their work at the Asian American Hero Awards.

The seventh annual awards program recognized: Hema Alur-Kundargi for educating the public about Indian traditions; Samreth Nuon for her work as a mental health counselor; Dr. Larry Kwan for his work with the homeless; Sumbul Ali-Karamali for her work with children's camp; Sit Piu Fung for his volunteerism at Self-Help for the Elderly; and Nabuko Saito Cleary for her support of the Community School of Music and Arts.

The San Jose Buddhist Judo Club and the Asian Americans for Community Involvement were also recognized for their community leader-

Three Community Leaders to Receive California Peace Prize



The California Wellness Foundation (TCWF) honored three community leaders with its 15th annual California Peace Prize at a Nov. 14 ceremony in recognition of their efforts to prevent violence and promote peace.

The honorees will each receive a cash award of

The honorees were: Casey Gwinn, the chief executive officer of the YWCA of San Diego County;

Patricia Lee, managing attorney of the San Francisco Public Defender's juvenile office, and co-director of the Pacific Juvenile Defender Center; and Cora Tomalinas, a former nurse, and a current full-time volunteer and community activist

Legendary Japanese Group to be Inducted into Hollywood's RockWalk



The B'z - the bestselling artist in Japanese history - have been inducted into Hollywood's RockWalk in California.

Guitarist Tak Matsumoto (left) and vocalist Koshin Inaba were honored in the only sidewalk gallery dedicated to artists who have made a significant impact and lasting contribution to the

growth of rock 'n' roll, blues and R&B.

The B'z have released 15 albums and 43 singles over their 19-year career. The B'z 16th original studio album will be released this December and the B'z will celebrate their 20th anniversary will a 59date tour of Japan in 2008.

Teachers Get First Hand Glimpse of Tule Lake Internment Camp History

TULELAKE, Calif.—Although Kasey Bird grew up in Southern Oregon, she was not prepared to teach about the violation of civil rights symbolized by nearby Tule Lake Segregation Camp.

"I basically didn't know anything. I knew there was an internment camp here but I didn't know any details," said Bird, a third-grade student teacher at Peterson Elementary School in nearby Klamath Falls.

Now "I have a pretty good broad overview about what happened and an opportunity to research it further so I can pass it on to kids."

Bird was one of nearly 30 educators from Northern California and Southern Oregon who gathered at Tulelake High School on Nov. 3 for lectures, panel discussions and videos to learn about the internment of 120,000 persons of Japanese

Participants received books, sample lesson plans and Web site sources to aid in their teaching of internment history. Participants and community members also had the opportunity to attend a musical performance of "Camp Dance" and a guided tour of the Tule Lake site in Newell.

"We wanted to reach out to Tulelake and Klamath Falls teachers so they can educate their students about the Japanese American incarceration," said organizer Barbara Takei. "We also hoped they would develop a interest in preserving the site and its history."

The efforts of the planners — the Tule Lake Committee, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the Tule Lake Segregation Center and its history, and the Tulelake Unified School District — were not wasted on Beverly Prescott, principal at Klamath Adult Learning Center and Klamath Institute. Two teachers from her school joined her at the workshop.

"If we are going to teach about liberty and justice and the Constitution, then how can we overlook such an



Jimi Yamaichi (far left) gives a tour of the Tule Lake campsite.

obvious example of how we as a nation believe and how we can get confused," she said.

Prescott grew up in Newell, where her childhood home was the officers' recreation center, one of the few original Tule Lake buildings that

"My parents owned what is Newell Market and I didn't know what it was," she said. "So I wanted to learn more and I encouraged my teachers to come. If we don't really dissect the good and the bad, we can't learn.'

Prescott attended all the activities that were offered

"My favorite part was the narrative," she said. "Getting the first hand information from people who lived this history is wonderful. The voice of someone who has actually been there has a great deal more

Prescott referred to the voices of Nikkei who had spent years in Tule Lake: Jimi Yamaichi, Eiko Tanaka Yamaichi, Sadako Kashiwagi, Hiroshi Kashiwagi, Bill Nishimura and Hiroshi Shimizu.

Greg Marutani, member of the National JACL Education Committee, asked the educators to respond to questions 27 and 28 of the loyalty review program that the incarcerated were asked to answer. The questions of willingness to serve in the Armed Forces and unqualified allegiance to the U.S. sparked lively discussion among the teachers.

Amanda Mahan, a teacher at Tulelake Elementary School, better understood the resulting segregation at Tule Lake.

"People who said 'No' on both questions - they were standing up for their rights and that's what Americans believe in," Mahan said, "They had good reasons for answering 'No."

Renunciant Nishimura talked about his father being separated from his family for more than two years while imprisoned in Lordsburg Internment Camp in New Mexico.

Shimizu told the group that the imprisonment made his grandfather so depressed that he attempted suicide by drinking gasoline. After his unsuccessful attempt, he refused to speak, Shimizu said.

Hiroshi Kashiwagi said he gave up his citizenship so his family could remain together. "It was always in the back of my mind," he said of his uncertain status.

Without the workshop, these voices would not have been heard, said Bill Cross, special education teacher at Henley High School in Klamath Falls. "People here aren't aware of Manzanar and Tule Lake," he said. "I think this training should have been mandatory for teachers, especially in this area."

JACL Praises Vets on Veterans Day

On Veterans Day, the JACL saluted all the veterans who have and continue to serve their country.

"The JACL recognizes and thanks those brave individuals who are currently serving in the various branches of the military. They are putting themselves in harm's way to ensure that the liberties that are so often taken for granted remain intact," the organization said in a prepared state-

JACL noted the special importance of the Nisei veterans of World War II in the history of the JA community. The veterans who fought in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service provided the avenue for Japanese Americans to prove their loyalty to the United States.

The 442nd went on to become the most highly decorated military unit of its size in the history of the U.S. Armed Forces with 21 Medal of Honor recipients, many other awards, and numerous Purple Hearts. It is believed that the war in the Pacific was ended much sooner because of the efforts of the MIS.

Many of the JA soldiers of WWII were born in the United States and many enlisted from the internment camps where family members were still being interned.

"Today Japanese Americans enjoy general acceptance and assimilation into the mainstream of American society. The position and stature achieved by many Japanese Americans in the world today is largely due to the efforts and sacrifice of the Nisei veterans. We owe them a great deal," said Floyd Mori, JACL national direc-

NCWNP/CC/PSW TRI-DISTRICT

Tri-District Tackles Civil Rights, Community Issues



TALKING WATADA: Panelists (I-r) William Simpich. JACL National Director Floyd Mori, Karen Kai and Robert Rusky talk about Watada, the JACL and the Constitution.

PHOTO: GARY MAYEDA

By GARY MAYEDA Special to the Pacific Citizen

RENO, Nev.—This year's Tri-District conference brought together old friends and introduced new enthusiasts to the JACL at the Nov. 2-4 event hosted by the Northern California Western Nevada Pacific, Central and Pacific Southwest districts.

These three California districts currently have the most number of members and chapters in the JACL and can be considered the bellwether of the organization. Participants of the conference, themed "Making a Difference in Our Communities" honored leaders and discussed civil rights and community issues.

JACL National Director Floyd Mori talked about a new JACL in his opening address. While keeping true to important traditions he also stressed the need to look for new ways of doing business.

"We often look at what is good for this chapter or that district when we ought to be looking at what is good for the organization as a whole. As we look at the future in a new JACL we need to see what impact we are making on the total organization and the community at large and not just our chapter and our district," said Mori.

Watada, JACL and the Constitution

Following the actions of the national JACL board to support 1st Lt. Ehren Watada's right to a fair trial, the NCWNP District Civil Rights Committee sponsored a workshop to raise understanding about the issue.

Dialogue between panelists and participants centered on Constitutional rights and the legality of the war in Iraq a lightning rod for controversy in the Asian Pacific American community.

The panelists were: William Simpich, a civil rights attorney; Mori; Karen Kai and Robert Rusky, both attorneys who served on Fred Korematsu's coram nobis legal team; and David Forman, co-chair of the NCWNP District Civil Rights Committee.

Kai and Rusky compared Watada to community leaders like Korematsu, Gordon Hirabayashi and Min Yasui who defied government orders during internment.

But workshop attendee Milo Yoshino, of the Diablo Valley JACL, asked how this war is still illegal given that the United Nations has passed multiple resolutions requesting other member UN nations to contribute troops to Iraq after the government has asked for assistance.

Crisis in Japantown

Sponsored by the PSW district, the workshop entitled 'Crisis in Japantown! Why JACL Community Advocacy is needed NOW!" focused on the three remaining Japantowns in California and how to preserve their history, culture and community.

To many, the J-Towns have special meaning both nostalgic and current. As developers continue to purchase buildings and develop land in and around the Japantowns, community members have become fearful that the character of the Japantowns will diminish.

The community needs to ask itself exactly what does it want to retain? How can it be retained? And what role

Advocacy methods were discussed in small groups.

Parts of San Francisco and Los Angeles Japantowns were purchased by 3D Investments and the future development is unclear. San Jose's Japantown has been more proactive in implementing artwork, exhibits and landmarks to educate people about the history of the community funded in part from SB 307.

The PSW district also elected members of its 2007 board at the Tri-District. The board members are: Gov. Alayne Yonemoto (Torrance); Vice Gov. Kerry Kaneichi (Venice-Culver); and Treasurer Nancy Takayama (San Fernando Valley).

The at-large board members are: Jason Jackson (Imperial Valley); Helen Kawagoe (Gardena Valley); Jefferson Kunisaki (Ventura County); Gary Mayeda (APAN); John Saito (East L.A.); Todd Sato (Progressive Westside); and George Tanaka (SELANOCO).

Gary Mayeda is currently the president of APAN JACL and an at-large board member of the PSW district.

National JACL Board Q & A

National board members took questions from the audience at the NCWNP/CC/PSW Tri-District Conference. Below is a snapshot of the dialogue.

By GARY MAYEDA Special to the Pacific Citizen

What will be done to help chapters start a youth group?

Kimberly Shintaku: Understand the demographic of the youth, where they are and what they are involved and interested in. Set up district and chapter youth programs.

Why isn't JACL taking a stronger stand on civil rights issues?

Larry Oda: In regards to the immigration issue, a lot of activity was done by the national director. Because of a shortage of staff, dissemination of this activity fell short. In regards to the Watada issue, the national board did take a strong stance in support of Watada getting a fair trial and defining what a fair trial is.

How do you plan on dealing with a possible \$18,000 budget deficit? Are you going to be asking all the chapters to give more money again?

Mark Kobayashi: At the next national board meeting, the projections will be showing an expenditure over revenue of \$20,000. However, a majority of JACL's income will come in at the end of the year in the form of Annual Giving and the P.C. Holiday Issue. It is expected that this should carry the organization at \$40,000 in revenues over expenses:

What is the status of the annual conference and is raising funds the only reason?

Elaine Akagi: Currently, we are looking at a 3.5-day conference for each district to have its own conference meeting at the same location at the same time. One day will be set aside for a national council meeting. Funding and addressing issues on a more current basis are the reasons for an annual convention.

When will a national student director be hired?

Oda: Until we can get our revenues up, we are not in a place to hire

Would the convention run more smoothly or efficiently if we had a convention committee as opposed to or instead of a vice president of operations?

Sheldon Arakaki: Many organizations are moving away from a local host committee and the trend is moving to be more nationally organized. We need a professional that will head this up and we need people with experience in professional planning.

What changes are needed to move our national headquarters to Washington, D.C. and why not Sacramento?

Oda: We will not sell the building. We are looking at the description of where the national director can base his operations out of within the JACL constitution without moving the other positions such as the business manager or membership coordinator. We want to give flexibility to where a national director can operate.

Akagi: We will be presenting a national bylaw amendment to the JACL constitution at the national convention. It has nothing to do with the staffing at the San Francisco building nor selling the building.

PALM Aims to Grow Asian American Officers

By MICHELLE TAN Courtesy of Army Times

A group of retired officers recently launched a new nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering the Army careers of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs). Backed by former Army Chief of Staff General Eric Shinseki, the Pan Pacific American Leaders and Mentors Organization (PPALM) officially launched on Veterans Day in Washington,

The idea for PPALM was born in March 2006 when a group of retired Army officers spoke about doing something for fellow Army

officers who are Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

"We have a group of Army officers and volunteers who are truly con-

cerned about the representation of Asian American Pacific Islander officers at the current rate," said retired Major General

Antonio Taguba, who is involved in the group. 'We were determined to create an avenue to help the Army sustain its growth,"

In proportion to the active Army officer population, approximately 4.5 percent are AAPI. Also, at the lieutenant colonel and colonel levels, these populations are about 1.9 and 1.5 percents respectively.

Major concerns include the selection rates for promotions, key leadership positions and education opportunities at the lieutenant colonels and colonels were 3 percent lower among AAPI officers as compared to the other ethnic groups.

"In our assessment, these rates have an impact on lieutenants, captains and majors who are trying to rise through the ranks," said

PPALM's three themes are service to nation, responding to the call of duty and assisting the

Army's "Army Strong" campaign or its recruiting program. PPLAM provides a forum to help the Army continue its growth, with specific focus on AAPI officers, but the group is open to all active and retired soldier civilians.

"Membership can take on many forms," Mike Yaguchi, a retired USAF Lt. Colonel and a PPALM member said. "We're not a special group. We just want to be able to reach out to a lot of our officers."

On Nov. 11, PPALM was unveiled as part of a ceremony on Veterans Day hosted by the Japanese American Veterans Association. The group also launched its Web site, www.ppalm.org, the same day.





JACL National President Larry Oda at the Welcome Mixer.

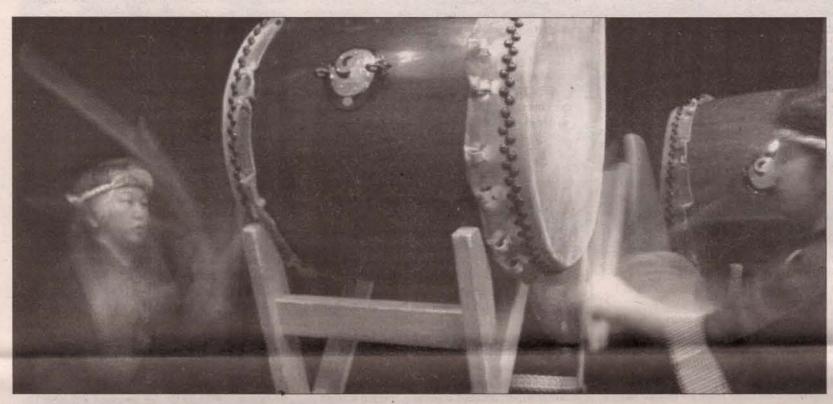


NCWNP-CC-PSW

TRI-DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Making a Difference in our Communities

Photos by Gary Mayeda, Tom Nishikawa and Andy Noguchi



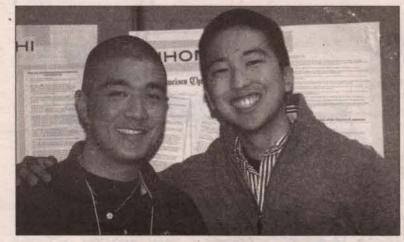
'These three
California districts
currently have the
most number of
members and chapters in the JACL
and can be considered the bellwether
of the organization.'

— Gary Mayeda, APAN president

BOOM, BOOM, BOOM! The Reno Taiko group kicks off the Awards Luncheon.



HONOREES: (I-r) Grace Kimoto, on behalf of the Livingston-Merced JACL, and Bob Taniguchi accept an award with CCDC Gov. Bobbi Hanada; PSW Gov. Alayne Yonemoto with PSW honoree Miyako Kadogawa; Stockton JACLer Aeko Yoshikawa accepts her award from NCWNP District Governor Alan Nishi.



Kenyon Mayeda (*left*) and PSW Regional Director Craig Ishii lead the discussion about saving the last three remaining Japantowns.



Chizu liyama speaks at the Connecting with Nikkei Cuban Community Workshop.



David Forman of the Honolulu JACL participates on the 1st Lt. Ehren Watada, JACL and the Constitution workshop panel.

• HARRY HONDA • VERY TRULY YOURS

In Closing — Bill Hosokawa's 'Out of the Frying Pan'



BILL WAS RESPECTED as dean of Nisei journalism. We remember the Q & A in "Now and Then with Bill Hosokawa" (1993 *P.C.* Holiday Issue) that candidly relate much of his life as a journalist and editor. We found in Bill's book, "Out of the Frying Pan" (1998), that the *P.C.* questioner was Gwen Muranaka, then assistant editor.

Here we repeat most of the questions and show some answers — many too long to repeat.

- 1. How are you doing these days; how's your health? I'm old.
- 2. What were the early days of JACL like?

Well, the organization and its members were all young ...

- 3 As a journalist reporting on the past and present, what do you think of JACL's position as it relates to society and government today? Are we tuned in, are we effective, are we being listened to? Basically, where are we? The situation has changed since 1935. Back in those days ...
- 4. You wrote a book about JACL's great leader Mike Masaoka, who died [in 1991]. How did he influence your life? How about Min Yasui? Joe Grant Masaoka? Mike was a man of action, he had vision, he had know-how ... I credit Min for Denver's avoidance of great violence during the "burn baby burn" time ... Joe Grant and Min worked together during the war years here in Denver. Joe was a real bulldog in pursuing the rights of Japanese Americans.
- 5. How would you compare the leadership from those days to today? That is a very difficult question because the problems today are different ...
- 6. After Redress, has the leadership today articulated its own vision? I think that our leadership today is more interested in the problems of all minorities, rather than Japanese Americans themselves.
- 7. You have written much about the Issei and Nisei generations with humor, warmth and insight. You have written that the Sansei, the 30-50 age group, is here. What advice would you give to those who are making their way in business, leadership and government? Giving young people advice is really presumptuous. That's very difficult ...
- 8. In your view, has JACL been proactive enough? Have we reacted more to crisis and problems, rather than having a game plan? Have events shaped the image of the organization or has the organization been able to shape events in relation to its own goals for the Japanese American community? Well, that is a very complex question ...
- 9. U.S.-Japan relations are controversial even among members of the JACL. Some members still feel it is not a worthwhile organizational pursuit. What is your feeling about this topic? In other words, why? Even though we are 100% Americans, we are affected profoundly by the state of relationships between Japan and the United States ...
- 10. Harry Kitano says that the out-marriage rate of Japanese Americans will become increasingly higher in years ahead. Do you think this will mean the loss or diffusion of the Japanese culture? I think very definitely it will.
- ...11. You have been a staunch supporter of the P.C. and a constructive critic when necessary. What do you think P.C. can do better at this point? I think that one thing P.C. needs is an editorial column ...
- 12. You've written many books from a historical perspective. Are we missing any of the lessons of history? Yes. I think that ...
- 13. Is JACL leadership missing any significant issues? Sometimes I get a feeling we are looking for issues to become indignant about ...
- 14. What about the future? What are your plans?
- 15. Here's an old interview question: When you are gone what would you like people to say about you? The kind of person you were, your career, your contributions to JACL? I'd be interested in hearing what they say (laughs) ... I don't know. That's a very difficult question. I think I would be pleased if somebody said: "He cared." Two words.



DEAN OF NISEI
JOURNALISM:
Bill Hosokawa
(left) shares a
laugh with Harry
Honda, former
Pacific Citizen
editor, at a 1999
event in Denver,
Colorado.

CHERYL WATAMURA MARTINEZ
 A BROAD VIEW

Children of Camp Internees

Ithough the two cannot in any way be compared in their scope and severity, I do sometimes find myself overwhelmed by the similarities between Nazi Germany's treatment of people of Jewish descent, and our own government's handling of Americans of Japanese descent during World War II. In both countries those in power faced virtually no hurdles in their drive to roundup and sequester innocent people, who were singled out purely on the basis of their genes.

Those feelings of analogy have once again been brought to the surface due to recent news items regarding Holocaust victims here in Germany. One of those concerns an Israeli charity, which plans to launch a class action lawsuit against Germany on behalf of thousands of children of Holocaust survivors who need psychological treatment.

The charity, called The Fisher Fund, claims that survivors' children have been traumatized by their parent's experiences which had them growing up in largely dysfunctional homes. Now, they suffer from depression, anxiety and other psychological problems.

Attorney Gideon Fisher set the Fisher Fund up seven years ago in Israel. His parents Mali and Yosef were Holocaust survivors. The fund helps where other organizations are not able to, and it also grants scholarships. While Fisher himself has become successful, other children of survivors have not been so lucky.

According to a spokesperson for Amcha, an Israeli organization that provides psychological treatment to Holocaust victims and their children, the second generation grew up "under the shadow of impending catastrophe and constant mourning," which scarred them deeply.

In many cases the problems have been so severe that those affected could not study or hold steady employment. Since about one third of Holocaust survivors in Israel are living in poverty, most family members have not been able to provide the necessary funding for psychological aid.

And so, The Fisher Fund has been holding unofficial meetings with German government officials to try to raise money for the treatment of these second-generation Holocaust victims. So far the talks seem to have elicited a positive response from Germany, but if this turns out not to be the case, the charity says it will go ahead with a class action suit on behalf of thousands of potential plaintiffs. The fund claims that the amount needed would amount to about 10 to 20 million euros per year.

This topic has become part of the already sometimes heated debate about Holocaust reparations, which is most readily apparent in various German online forums. Young Germans tend to be of the opinion that they should not be made to pay for the mistakes of their grandparents. Other writers believe that payment is justified and necessary.

There's a good amount of animosity between the two groups, with much silent shouting going on within the black ink. There's also much comparison to slavery in the Americas and the killing of Native Americans at the hands of European immigrants, to name just a few examples. The question always arises about how far back retribution must be made.

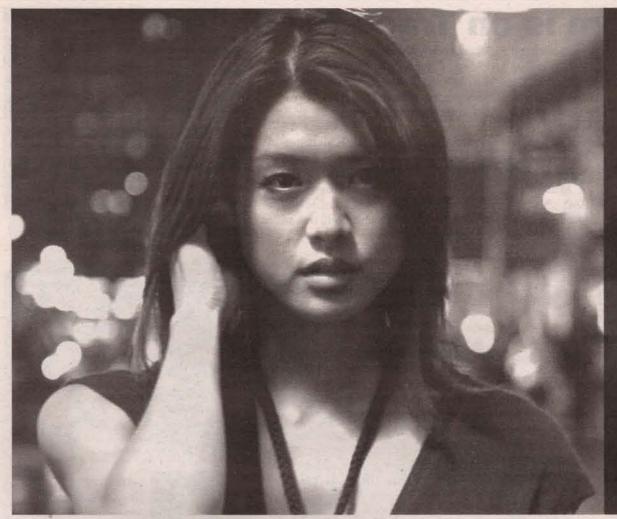
But strangely, in all the pages and pages of opinions I've read, no one has made comparisons to or even mentioned the camps that our fathers, mothers, grandfathers, grandmothers, uncles, aunts, cousins, brothers, sisters and/or ourselves, were herded into a mere half-century plus ago. Have we, unlike other groups, been so silent that this not-solong-ago outrage was allowed to be forgotten in most parts of the world? Or, not even known or taught about in the first place?

As time goes on, the danger of completely forgetting the grave injustices suffered by the Japanese Americans and of course the Japanese Canadians during WWII becomes bigger. First-hand witnesses are becoming scarcer by the day and there will soon be no one left to tell the JA story.

It seems to me that many JAs have often rather tried to forget the problems those years in the camps caused instead of working them out or asking for help. And yet, haven't the children of camp internees also been scarred by the experiences of their parents? And so I've wondered, while reading about the efforts of The Fisher Group, and the controversy it has rekindled: Are their aspirations something we too should be trying to emulate?

You can reach Cheryl Watamura Martinez at: Cheryl@texter-koeln.de





Gracefully Heading Towards a Galactic End

With 'Battlestar Galactica' ending this season, Grace Park has her sight fixed on the future.

By LYNDA LIN Assistant Editor

"It's very alive right now," said Grace Park during a break from Cylons, vipers and raptors.

She's in Vancouver reprising her role as Lt. Sharon "Boomer" Valerii (and all of her Cylon incarnations) for the fourth season of the Sci Fi Channel's "Battlestar Galactica" — for now at least. As she's checking in with the *Pacific Citizen*, Hollywood writers teeter on the brink of a strike.

Who knows what's going to happen tomorrow? Production may stop. Cameras may stop rolling — the rumors are running rampant.

But one thing is for sure: this is the last season of "Galactica." Twenty-two episodes are slated and then, no more.

"Certainly going into the final season, the mood was very different. The other day, I walked by the camera truck — the ugliest thing in the world — and I got teary-eyed! It's a different feeling of the past and present coming together," said Park, 33. "It's kind of a sad sweetness. Like it's your last bite of cake."

'Galactica' Glory

In this last season of the critically acclaimed television show, expect Park's Boomer character to become more involved in the search for Earth while her other robot doppelganger, Athena, struggles with racism. That's the beauty of science fiction: it can be pure superficial entertainment with good-looking robots and it can be a philosophical study of mankind at the same time.

"It's a metaphor for many other things in real life like racism and the war in Iraq," she said about the show.

So when the producers announced this summer that "Galactica" was burning out, the show's legions of loyal fans poured their misery on blogs and online forums like it was the end of life itself.

"Sci fi fans are so passionate when they express how much they like the show," said Park, who is second generation Korean American/Canadian (She was born in Los Angeles, but moved to Vancouver when she was very young. She likes to call herself "North American.")

Park's fans are diverse — they're everyone from women who thank her for being a strong role model to the male fans who have every angle of her body memorized from her various stages of undress on the show. Hey, robots just don't have qualms.

A female fan once sent Park "a massive box" filled with stuffed animals and transcripts of chat room conversations about her "Galactica" characters.

"It was so kind."

She's also gotten CDs and DVDs, but no marriage proposals from prison yet.

But her husband Phil Kim, a businessman, is hardly jealous. When her "Maxim" pictorial began to clog the internet, people asked how he felt about other men salivating over his wife.

"He would always say, 'that's my girl!" Park laughed. "He's actually more like an actor than me. He has this big personali-

After One Door Closes

'Sci fi fans are

so passionate

when they

the show.'

express how

much they like

"I think I finally realized this weekend that the highest value goes to doing stuff that makes you feel good."

Modeling was fun while it lasted, but she wouldn't want to go back to that. Besides, she only did it for a short time in Asia after her mom said she was pretty enough. But Park comes from a practical family who balked when she divulged her act-

ing aspirations. She said she would try it for a year to see if anyone would hire her.

Now with "Galactica" under her belt, Park is continuing to expand her horizons. She just won a part on an A&E Channel pilot called "The Cleaner," a "stylized drug intervention show about the real life effects of drug abuse" with Benjamin Bratt.

She's also working on a film about crystal meth (working title "Meth") where she plays the sister of an addict.

"It's not a pretty story. It's raw," said Park. "It's like an animal that I just got on the back of and started riding — I don't know where it's going yet."

Park is rounding out her drug *oeuvre* as Lila Lee in Michael Kang's feature length crime drama "West 32nd" where she plays the sister who gets sucked into New York's Korean underworld.

"She's a good girl, but when you put people in different situations like [Lila] having to save her brother, you'll see how boundaries are crossed," said Park.

In "West 32nd," which is set to open domestically next year and in limited release in Korea starting Nov. 15, Park comes face to face with breakout Korean American actor John Cho who taught her a thing or two about being in the moment.

"He's like water coming down out of a waterfall," she said

about Cho's acting method.

And like Cho, she doesn't shirk from the title of being an Asian Pacific American role model.

"The fact is we do something that is beamed into millions of homes and movie theaters. I don't see that as a burden. But at the same time, I don't see myself as some trailblazer clearing a path.

"I feel there's always unlimited opportunity. It's easier now. Maybe there are more opportunities. I hope that it's because eyes are being opened to the rest of the world and people are willing to step outside of their backyards."

The new season of 'Battlestar Galactica' kicks off with 'Razor,' a two-hour premiere Nov. 24 on the Sci Fi Channel. For more information: www.scifi.com/battlestar/razor.

For more information on 'West 32nd': www.w32nd.com.



PHOTO: CAROLE SEGAL, SCI FI CHANNEL

ROBOT BABIES: (I-r) Lily Duong-Walton looks warily at onscreen mom Grace Park on 'Battlestar Galactica.'

Figure Skating Phenom is on Track for Olympic Glory

Before 2010, Mirai Nagasu will compete against the 'big girls' at two competitions. The biggest thing on her mind is homework — ugh!

By LYNDA LIN Assistant Editor

ARCADIA, Calif.-Without the help of her skates, Mirai Nagasu easily gets lost in a crowd. The 14-year-old walks anonymously through a busy mall dressed in a sweatshirt, shorts and bright pink knee socks. It happens a lot, she says sheepishly. Her high school classmates don't even know about her success.

She thinks it's because she's so short (4foot-11, for the record), but the squeaky teen in real life is a far cry from her image as a champion figure skater who last year faced a roomful of reporters after winning her first national competition with shoulders thrown back, back straight and hands clasped while artfully answering every question.

On ice, Mirai floats and bends her body into impossibly beautiful positions like art in motion. But on land, she says she's a normal teenager.

"Just more stubborn," she laughed.

She likes to read Harry Potter books and enjoys "High School Musical." Ask her about her first year at Arcadia High School and she will sigh about homework. There are no boyfriends on the horizon either - she just does not have the time.

Mirai is every inch a normal teen if you don't count the national gold medal sitting on her parents' fireplace mantel and the constant nagging about being the future of figure skating. Most other teenagers would fold under the pressure, but Mirai beams from ear to ear.

"I want to be the future. I have to work hard to become the future."

'She just wanted to play.'

Mirai's first sport was a little less icy - golf. "Yeah, it's a little random," said Mirai. Her Shin Issei parents, Ikuko and Kiyoto, were golf Poland in early December. enthusiasts who took their only daughter along on games. But one rainy day changed the course of their lives when Ikuko took Mirai, then five, to the ice skating rink. She enjoyed it so much, she turned her back on golf and even stopped Japanese language school to learn to glide, spin and jump.

"She just wanted to play, so we said okay," said Ikuko, who was born in Matsumoto, Japan and came to the U.S. in 1990.

But it wasn't just playtime on the ice for Mirai. She won competitions, gained a topnotch team of coaches and skated almost flawlessly at the 2007 U.S. Figure Skating Championships in January to become the new U.S. junior ladies champion beating the heavily favored and previously undefeated Caroline Zhang, 14.

"It was big," said Mirai about her first place finish at the tender age of 13. At the press con-

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the future."

ference following the upset, Caroline talked about going sledding with Mirai to dispel any talks of a rivalry. But almost a year later, Mirai says although there are no ill feelings, they are not close friends.

"We don't live very close. We don't really hang out or anything, but when we see each other we're like 'hi!' and stuff. That's it though."

Maybe it's all for the better because Mirai is slated to go head to head with Caroline in an upcoming competition - a rematch at the nationals in St. Paul, Minn. in January. Caroline has gone on to compete at the senior level ahead of Mirai, who hopes to progress there next year.

"She's going up against the big girls at nationals," said Charlene Wong, Mirai's coach.

When asked if she's nervous about the nationals, Mirai shrugs and admits she hasn't really thought about it yet. She's concentrating on the Junior Grand Prix Final in Gdansk,

Mirai, Caroline and Bebe Liang, 19, are also the only three Asian Pacific American ladies singles on Team B of Team USA.

"I'm taking it step by step."

Training a Champion, Raising a

To prepare for the Junior Grand Prix, Mirai practices before school six days a week. Which means she gets up at 4 a.m. to be driven by Ikuko to the Burbank, Calif. rink where she skates for two hours.

Just two hours, she laments.

"I heard Mao [Asada] is on the ice for four to five hours. That's more than twice my time," Mirai said about the 17-year-old Japanese skater who was the first woman to make a triple axel at the junior level.

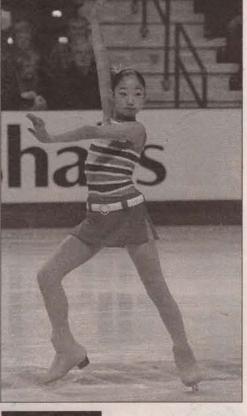
But it's choices like these that set Mirai and her family apart from many other aspiring figure skating champions out there - it's the desire for normalcy. Mirai shakes her head vigorously against the idea of home schooling.

"You can be sure this young girl has a balanced lifestyle. She has a lot going on in her life by choice. She's chosen to be busy and not make the sacrifices that other athletes at her level would do. She's been adamant about staying in regular school because that's where her friends go. It's a choice she made for this season," said Wong.

After school, Mirai heads over to her parents' sushi restaurant, Kiyosuzu, to eat and work on her homework before going to bed at 9 p.m. They're currently looking for weekend ballet classes, but she's struggling with the workload of high school a bit.

"It's really hard," said the skating star, who is either painfully unaware of the high expectations of her talent or is simply unfazed.

The Web is bursting with videos of Mirai's performances, fan sites and discussion forums about everything from her being the next Olympic champion to in-depth analysis on her costumes — but she says she never has time to surf the Web for tidbits of information about





SHOWSTOPPER: Mirai Nagasu (above) wowed at the 2007 Nationals, but in real life she's just a normal teenager with a gold medal.

herself.

Not even the "Mirai Nagasu Fans!" group or the more cheekily named "Caroline Zhang and Mirai Nagasu are the next Michelle and Sasha" group on the popular social networking site, Facebook.com.

"My job is to have fun skating and keep getting better," she said.

But the fact is, many skating pundits are predicting Olympic glory for this young group of

See NAGASU/Page 13



"Fine-grained tour de force..."

-Lewis Segal, Los Angeles Times

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AK Connection Brings Together Minnesota's Adult Adopted Koreans

(Continued from page 1)

Moon Jung.

Medici was born in Seoul, South Korea to the Kim family but by the time she was eight months old she was in Richfield, Minnesota with her adoptive Italian American parents and a very Italian last name.

"It can be an emotional rollercoaster," said Medici of growing up an adopted Korean. "We look at ourselves in the mirror and realize we're not white, we're Asian. It can be weird, bizarre, awkward, and it can also affect our self-esteem."

It's an experience Medici shares with over 13,000 adopted Koreans in Minnesota, the state with the largest population of adoptees from Korea. Nationally there are over 100,000 adopted Koreans.

With so many Korean adoptees in the Land of 10,000 Lakes, a number of support and social groups have cropped up including AK Connection, a non-profit network for adult adopted Koreans. Medici is its current president and Therres is the board's secretary.

At regular meetings and social events throughout the calendar year, adopted Koreans get a chance to build friendships with people from similar backgrounds and share life experiences, with both its ups and downs.

"Being with a group of people with the same experiences, that have been asked the same awkward questions ... it's a shared experience that is powerful and brings people in and keeps them there," said Kim Park Nelson, 36, a former AK Connection board member.

Growing Up Asian Among Non-Asians

Therres grew up in the tiny Minnesota suburb of Chaska, a population of about 17,000. In her public school of 300 students, she was one of two Asians; the other Asian was also an adoptee.

Although her parents openly encouraged her to learn about her Korean heritage, resources in Chaska were limited. Her mother once tried to cook Korean barbecue with rather disastrous results. They ended up at a Chinese restaurant instead.

"Of course that was totally different," said Therres.

Her mother eventually found a summer "cultural camp" and from the second grade until the end of high school Therres got a brief, annual look into her Korean heritage.

But more importantly, this is where she was able to meet fellow adopted Koreans and make lifelong friends.

"I can relate to a lot of people. I have friends from all walks of life but my closest friends are adopted Koreans," she said. "It's a strange experience a lot of people have a hard time understanding. Our identity is very different from other people so there's a bond there."

It's a bond that exists among the hundreds of members of AK Connection and why she stays involved. At their board meetings, lecture series, and bowling leagues she feels at home.

"AK Connection has connected me to people," said Therres.

When people inevitably ask Medici how she identifies, her answer is always the same: "a Korean adoptee." It's something she makes sure to list on her resume, just in case a potential employer expects to see a white woman walk through their doors.

Unlike Therres, Medici grew up in the city of Richfield and was surrounded by diversity. Still, her closest friends were mostly Asian Americans with many of them adopted Koreans. Since she was 18 she's only dated Asian men, a sticking point with her mother who believes she's limiting herself and being close-minded.

"They raised me American so they think I should be American," said Medici. "My parents are very conservative people and I am not, so we bump heads. But I had a great childhood. I love my parents."

"It's about learning who you are. It's a feeling of belonging," she said about her Korean identity. "That it's cool to be Asian, to be proud to be Asian American."

A Search for Birth Parents

It was shortly after the Korean War that the first group of adopted Koreans headed to the United States. In the 1970s there was a resurgence with the largest group of adopted Koreans coming in the mid-1980s.

For many of these adopted Koreans, the urge to seek out and reconnect with birth parents is common. Depending on each adoptee, their experiences can vary widely.

Melissa Brown, 27, was in high school in 1995 when she headed to South Korea with her adoptive parents to meet her biological family. At the adoption agency she saw for the first time her biological father, older sister, and extended family.

Through a translator the two families reconnected. Brown also got the sad news that her birth mother had already passed away.

"It was a difficult mindset change to give up on the idea of meeting my birth mother and to want to meet the father," she said. "Meeting my birth family was something that I wanted to do from an early age. It was very emotional, but it started a continuous relationship with my birth family."

Lisa Ellingson, 25, grew up in northern Minnesota and always knew she wanted to visit her birth-



place. In 2004 she got her chance. On a visit to South Korea she decided to stop by her adoption agency and try to locate her birth parents.

Within two weeks she was sitting face to face with her birth mother, aunt, and a cousin.

"It went pretty well," she said.

With the help of a translator, Ellingson learned that her mother had not been married when she became pregnant with her. She still hasn't tried to locate her birth father, at least not yet. Instead, she's focusing on her new relationship with her birth mother.

For many adopted Koreans, the opportunity to reunite with birth parents never materializes. Strict adoption agency rules, poor records, or a wish by birth parents not to be found are some of the problems adoptees run into.

"It can be really painful for people. It's hard to reignite those family relationships and remember, there's always a reason a child was given up for adoption," said Nelson, who is working on a Ph.D dissertation about adopted Koreans. "The circumstances are oftentimes complicated and it can open up wounds for the family." Medici is hearing impaired and always wondered if she was born with the impairment or whether it was a result of a childhood illness. She may never know.

In 2001 Medici visited her adoption agency in South Korea to try to find her birth parents. She learned that her biological parents had been divorced when she was conceived so they decided to put her up for adoption. She also discovered she has two older biological brothers.

Although it was a comfort to learn the truth about her adoption, there was too little information in her file to locate her birth parents. The adoption agency also made little effort to help her in her search. In the end, she did not want to bring shame to her biological family.

"My real family and brothers don't know that I'm out there," she said. But "My real parents have new lives now. With age you understand their side, they have their own families."

AK Connection is Home

This year Medici finally came to grips with the reality that she may never be able to reunite with her bio-

Adopted Koreans (*left*) gather at the August IKAA Gathering in Seoul, Korea. Adoptee Soon-Young Therres (*above*) reunited with her birth father in 2005.

logical parents.

"This year I came at peace with whether or not I'll meet my real parents. It took a while. Either way I can live with it. I need to go on with my life." But "Korea is a place I'm always going to visit."

Medici knows her fellow adopted Koreans have a unique understanding of what she is going through. That's why for her, AK Connection is like a second home.

"Adopted Koreans were adopted into mostly white families, we didn't see any Asians. So finding a place like AK Connection you find people 'who grew up like me," said Nelson. "It's the first time you don't have to be racially isolated. It's also the first time you don't have a lot of questions to explain.

"I have a love hate relationship with both the United States and South Korea. I don't deny either one ... I'm in the middle of two worlds. What helps is connecting with people who understand it," said Therres.

For more information about AK Connection: www.akconnection.com.

JAHSSC Seeks Writers for Fourth Installment of 'Nanka Nikkei Voices'

What is the Japanese American family? The Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California hopes to get some answers to this question as they prepare to publish the fourth volume of "Nanka Nikkei Voices" with the theme: "Living JA: The Japanese American Family."

As in the previous three volumes, the JAHSSC is asking for submissions from JAs either residing currently in Southern California or former residents of Southern California residing elsewhere but have stories to share of their lives in Southern California.

The stories need to focus on a particular aspect of a person's JA family. Family histories, autobiographies and biographies will not be accepted as lengthy stories lacking a single

What is the Japanese American topic focus cannot be accommodat-

Stories that illustrate family experiences with Issei values and practices, such as "gaman," "shikata ga nai," "enryo," "koden," "orei," "tanomoshi," to mention a few examples, are sought. Also sought are stories of how Nisei and Sansei parents are continuing or perpetuating these values and practices, or, if not, why not?

Stories that show "the ties that bind" would bring in current ties, such as basketball; whereas, for the Nisei, it was the WWII camp experience. Are there geographic differences, such as JA families living in Hawaii, Southern California, or New York? Were you a lone JA, or one of few, growing up in another predominant racial or ethnic community, and how did that affect your JAness?

Stories are limited to four pages, typed (single spaced), minimum 11-font. Stories will not be returned. Also to be submitted with the stories are headshots of the writers, and up to four photos, which relate to the focus of the story. Photos may be sent digitally. Hard copies will be scanned and returned, if requested. Photocopies will not be accept-

Naomi Hirahara, mystery writer, is guest editor. Also on the committee are Jenni Kuida and Kimiyo Ige, layout/design. For questions and address and email addresses to send stories and digitized photos, call Iku Kiriyama, chairperson, at 310/326-0608. ■

KOBAYASI

MARK

BUDGET

(Continued from page 1)

posed to spend on programs, doesn't get spent."

"I remain positive for our prospects of making it through this budget year. However, we will have challenges going forward now that the organization is fully staffed in which we will need to generate the revenue that we said we would in the budget," said Kobayashi.

Fundraising revenue is up thanks to events such as the May 19 John Tateishi tribute dinner, which brought in over \$11,000, and the recent Washington, D.C. Gala Dinner, which brought in almost \$80,000. The next gala dinner is slated for Sept. 25, 2008, in Washington, D.C.

"I feel that our general overall budget is in good shape. We are developing new corporate funding in addition to foundation funding on the revenue side and expenditures are being kept within the guidelines of the budget," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

As of Sept. 30, the Legacy Fund is at \$6.8 million, the Life Trust Endowment is at \$520,326 and the National Endowment sits at \$474,203. The Masaoka Endowment Fund is at \$373,379 and the JACL Reserve Fund sits at \$407,089.

The Investment Policy Committee, which will meet in January, has named Floyd Shimomura as a new member. The IPC will work with Delbert Chang, HighMark vice president and senior portfolio manager, to update the organization's investment portfolio.

Membership, Membership, Membership

The downward trend in member-

ship income is really hurting the JACL.

As of Sept. 30, membership is down over 1,000 members compared to last November. The drop can be attributed to the \$5 dues increase and staff overturn, said Edwin Endow, vice president of membership.

The JACL can easily be down by \$70,000 in membership income by the end of the year, according to Kobayashi.

"We are in the projected worst case scenario," he said about the membership

prediction slide. The organization is in the worst-case prediction curve and is losing membership at a faster pace.

"We, the JACL, need to really work on membership to recruit and get renewals in," said Kobayashi.

"The principle concern is the flow of membership revenue is on the decline. In looking at the future, our programs will be focused on developing a membership and leadership base with the youth of the community with the goal of appealing to a broader Asian American community and a long-term positive impact on membership," said

skewed the EOY 2006 numbers

✓ Long term affects of this need to be evaluated

Revenues vs. Expenses - YTD + 2007/2008

✓ 1000 Club life membership and century club life membership have

✓ Question: has excess rev over exp from 2006 moved from operations

JACL National

"We have a good possibility of losing our older members soon, and there is a likewise possibility of not being able to replace them. To supplement this shortfall in membership revenues, we need to step up the corporate and foundation funding or start making drastic adjustments in expenditures," said Oda.

"Our next year is going to be very interesting if we do not find additional revenues," he added.



Bill Hosokawa is pictured here with his wife Alice. She passed away in 1998.

'Bill was an exceptional person who will be sorely missed and our hearts go out to his family.'

— Larry Oda

HOSOKAWA leave camp with as a copy editor Register. After

first comprehensive historical book about the JA experience. He also published "JACL, In Quest of Justice," and with Mike Masaoka, "They Call Me Moses Masaoka." His latest book is a history of JAs in Colorado.

He was also a citizen diplomat, serving as Honorary Consul General for Japan for almost 30 years, and was honored by the Emperor of Japan for his work bridging the cultural gap between the U.S. and Japan.

First and foremost, Bill will be remembered as a journalist despite early efforts to silence him. As he explained in "Out of the Frying Pan," a half-autobiography, half-compilation of columns from the *P.C.*, he was advised at the University of Washington to change his major from journalism.

"I don't think there's a newspaper publisher in the country who would hire a Japanese boy," he was told. "You'll never find a job. It's not fair, but that's the reality."

He found a job – editing a newspaper in Singapore. But he returned to the U.S. as war loomed in Asia, just in time to be interned from Seattle to Heart Mountain, Wyoming. He maintained his journalism career as editor of the *Heart Mountain Herald*, and was able to

leave camp with his family for a job as a copy editor for the *Des Moines Register*. After the war, he settled in Colorado to work for the *Denver Post* in 1946. He eventually became the editorial page editor of the *Post*.

Even after leaving the daily news grind, he maintained a weekly column in Denver's Japanese community newspaper, the *Rocky Jiho*, as well as contributing to the *P.C.* and the *Rafu Shimpo*.

He was a founding member of the Japan America Society of Colorado and was appointed Japan's Honorary Consul General in Colorado in 1974.

"Bill was a giant in our community not only for his writings, but also for his community involvement," said Larry Oda, JACL national president. "Bill was an exceptional person who will be sorely missed and our hearts go out to his family."

Editor's Note: At its Nov. 10 national board meeting, the board passed a resolution in honor of Bill Hosokawa. The resolution, which passed unanimously, reads: "The National Board of the Japanese American Citizens League on behalf of the membership expresses its great sorrow at the passing of Bill Hosokawa on November 9, 2007. The JACL sends its heartfelt condolences to the Hosokawa family at this sad time and will miss Bill Hosokawa very much."



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NAGASU

(Continued from page 10)

ladies. It's a long three years until the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, but the field has been leveled since superstars like Michelle Kwan have left the ice.

Mirai's eyes gleam when she hears the word Olympics, but she quickly checks herself and says she can't think about that yet. In the next few years, she has no grand predictions or expectations — she just wants to continue skating.

"Talent wise, she's definitely in the running for the 2010 Olympics," said Wong, "But nothing is a guarantee. At the end of the day, it's all going to come down to who wants it the most."

But the sport of figure skating has changed since it was rocked with Nancy Kerrigan—Tonya Harding style drama. It's experienced a renaissance with ice darlings like Kwan, Sasha Cohen and Tara Lipinski. Figure skating is one of the most prominent sports in the Winter Olympics influencing more and more youths to take to the ice each year in hopes of becoming the next big thing.

But for almost every Kwan and Cohen, there is a Nicole Bobek and an Oksana Baiul — young ladies who experienced too much too fast.



There's nothing to worry about with Mirai. She said she'd stop skating when it stops being fun.

"If you don't love it ... it's kind of like someone going to law school but they don't like it and so it just makes them tired. There wouldn't be any point in doing it if I didn't love it."

"She's emotionally resilient," said Wong, who competed in the 1988 Winter Olympics. "It's a good pressure — a pressure by choice. Her parents aren't making her do it. I'm not making her do it. Mirai wants it."

Mirai's official Web site: www.figureskatersonline.com/mirainagasu Watch Mirai win gold at the 2007 Nationals: www.youtube.com/ watch?v=LEPMEIvN_gw

WATADA

(Continued from page 1)

The federal judge did not indicate what the next steps would be.

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

Watada's decision to refuse deployment orders has stirred debate within the Japanese American community. The JACL national board — which voted in September to strengthen its support of the first lieutenant — issued a statement shortly after Settle's ruling pointing out that "serious issues of fairness" have been raised in Watada's case.

"While legal minds and good people can disagree about Lt. Watada's beliefs in this case, the JACL is committed to raising awareness and educating other organizations about his principled stand to ensure he is treated with fairness and receives due process within the U.S. military justice system and under the U.S. Constitution," the statement went on to say.

An Army spokesman at Fort Lewis said Nov. 8 that officials had just received the ruling and could not immediately comment.

Watada supporters in California, New York and Washington are organizing vigils on the first and third Saturdays of each month beginning Nov 3. to urge the Army to drop all charges against Watada.

For more information: www.thanky-oult.org

Arizona JACL Hosts Military Tribute



The JACL Arizona chapter hosted a Military Tribute for members of JACL, Desert Cross Community Church, and the Arizona Buddhist Temple on Nov. 4 at the Glendale Civic Center. Over 180 guests attended the event, including 56 veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Keynote speaker and Medal of Honor Recipient Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura of Gallup, New Mexico (pictured, left) presented a special award to Captain Edward Takesuye, who is currently a Commodore of a Submarine Squadron at Pearl Harbor. Accepting the award for Captain Takesuye are his parents, Jack and Betty Takesuye, and his grandmother, Michiko Tadano. Miyamura also presented awards to 56 U.S. Armed Forces veterans of various wars that were in attendance.

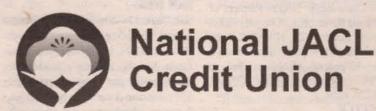
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Calendar

SALT LAKE CITY

July 16-20-2008 JACL National Convention. Info: www.utjacl.org.

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.nishimu-

NEW YORK

Sat., Dec. 8-New York JACL Holiday Fundraiser Luncheon; noon-3 p.m.; Peking Park Restaurant, East 40th St. at Park Ave.; honoring Jimmy Mirikitani, Linda Hattendorf and Masa Yoshikawa; \$50/person. Info and reservations: Aileen, 212/873-4170 or Lillian, 973/680-1441.

TOWSON, Mass.

Through 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 DENVER

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

Pacific Northwest

AUBURN, Wash.

Through Jan. 28—Exhibit, "Courage Untold: The Story of the Japanese American Military Intelligence Service 1941-1952"; White River Valley Museum, 918 H St. SE, Les Grove Park Campus; Wed.-Sun. noon-4 p.m.; exhibit features photographs, artifacts and oral histories; special events: Nov. 10, 4-5 p.m., a presentation by author Ken Mochizuki; Dec. 8, 1 p.m., showing of "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties," a film about the soldiers of the MIS; \$2/adults and \$1/children.

PORTLAND

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.

SEATTLE

Through Dec. 22-Exhibition, "Roger Shimomura's Minidoka on My Mind"; Greg Kucera Gallery, 212 Third Ave.; Tues.-Sat. 10:30-5:30 p.m., closed Sun. and Mon.; exhibit features 30 paintings that explore the artist's personal memories of his family's internment during World War II. Info.



UC Berkeley's Nikkei Student Union will host its 5th Annual Japanese American Culture Show Dec. 2.

www.gregkucera.com.

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.

Nov. 24, 25, Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16-Exhibition, The work of Lewis Suzuki; 11-6 p.m.; 2240 Grant St.; Suzuki will be showing his recent work with the Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studios as well as his earlier posters. Info: 510/849-1427.

Sun., Dec. 2-5th Annual Japanese American Culture Show presented by the UC Berkeley Nikkei Student Union; 6:30 p.m.; show features two plays inspired by pertinent issues facing the JA community, "Step Up" and "What's Your Story?"; event also features a performance by CAL Taiko, a hip-hop dance by Asian American Movement and Yosakoi, a modernized cultural dance in Japan; admission \$5-\$10. Info: Miwa Natsuki, nsucultureshow@gmail.com.

SAN FRANCISCO

Through Jan. 6—Exhibition, "Stylized Sculpture: Contemporary Japanese Fashion from the Kyoto Costume Institute"; Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin St.; exhibition spotlights the sculptural essence of contemporary Japanese fashion through works by Rei Kawakubo, Issey Miyake and Yohji Yamamoto. 415/581-3500 Info: www.asianart.org.

SAN JOSE

Sat., Nov. 17-San Jose JACL Bowla-thon; 2:30-5 p.m.; Fourth Street Bowl, 1441 N. Fourth St.; help raise funds for the chapter's leadership development and outreach program; \$35 minimum donation to bowl; shoes, 3 games, refreshments and prizes will provided. www.sanjosejacl.org 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 GARDENA

Sun., Nov. 18-Seminar, "Protecting the Elderly from Scams and Other Financial Abuse"; 1-4 p.m.; Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1700 W. 162nd St.; seminar will focus on elder financial abuse, ponzi schemes, bogus lotteries, free gifts or other schemes; presented by the Gardena Pioneer Project. Info: Karen Uyekawa, 213/894-3235.

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

Through Nov. 16-William Tokeshi Art Exhibition; 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.

LOS ANGELES

Sat., Nov. 3-Opening Reception, "Giant Robot Biennale: 50 Issues"; 6-10 p.m.; JANM, 369 E. First St.; featuring the works of 10 artists previously featured in the magazine or earlier Giant Robot exhibitions; free. Info: Clement Hanami, 310/415-0513, Eric Nakamura, eric@giantrobot.com or www.janm.org.

7-Dec. 2—Performance, Nov. "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.eastwestplayers.org.

Fri., Nov. 30-Theatre Night sponsored by the Japanese American Bar Association; "Dawn's Light: The Journey of Gordon Hirabayashi" at the East West Players; \$30 payable to JABA, attn: Michelle Sugihara, Esq., 601 S. Figueroa, Suite 3900, Los Angeles, CA 90017; there will also be a post show discussion.

Sat., Dec. 15—6th Annual Spirit of the Season Christmas Show featuring Hiroshima; 7:30 p.m.; Aratani Japan America Theater, 244 S. San Pedro St.; show features Hiroshima, Tetsuya Nakamura, Yvette Nii and Terry Steele. Info: www.jaccc.org.

Nevada

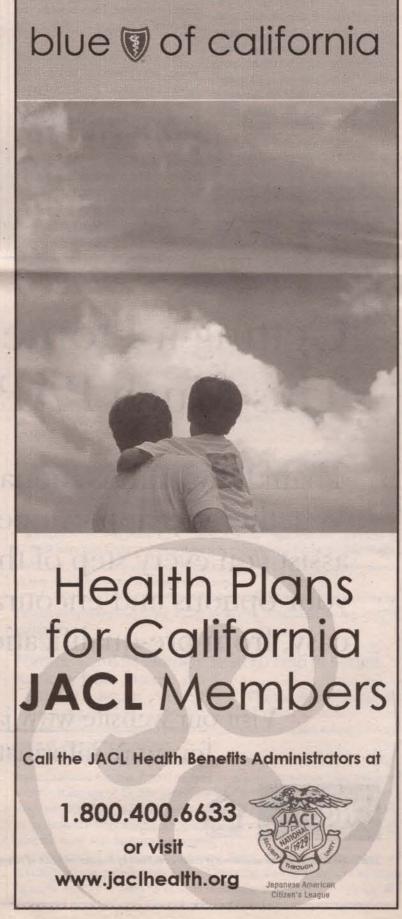
RENO

Sun., Nov. 18—Reno JACL

Mochitsuki Potluck; noon; Knights of Pythias Hall, 980 Nevada St.; families are asked to limit thier mochi to one batch (max 3 pounds of sweet rice); please bring corn starch and wax

HONOLULU

Sat., Dec. 1-Book launch, "Life Behind Barbed Wire"; 10:30-noon; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, first floor Gallery Theater; book launch commemorates the printing of the first English language edition of Yasutaro Soga's Life Behind Barbed Wire: The World War II Internment Memoirs of a Hawaii Issei; admission is free; books are available of \$25. (808) 945-7633 www.jcch.com.



IN MEMORIAM

Paul Tibbets, Pilot of Plane that Dropped Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima Dies at 92

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS. Ohio-Paul Tibbets, who piloted the B-29 bomber Enola Gay that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, died Nov. 1. He was 92 and insisted almost to his dying day that he had no regrets about the mission and slept just fine at night.

Tibbets died at his Columbus home. He suffered from a variety of health problems and had been in decline for two months.

Tibbets had requested no funeral and no headstone, fearing it would provide his detractors with a place to protest.

Tibbets' historic mission in the plane named for his

mother marked the beginning of the end of World War II and eliminated the need for what military planners feared would have been an extraordinarily bloody invasion of Japan. It was the first use of a nuclear weapon in wartime.

The plane and its crew of 14 dropped the five-ton "Little Boy" bomb on the morning of Aug. 6, 1945. The blast killed 70,000 to 100,000 people and injured countless others.

Three days later, the U.S. dropped a second nuclear bomb on Nagasaki, Japan. Tibbets did not fly in that mission. The Japanese surrendered a few days later, ending the war.

Tibbets is survived by his wife, Andrea, and three sons, Paul and Gene, and James, as well as a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ruth Chinn, Bank Empire Pioneer, Dies at 92

Ruth Chinn, who along with her husband Robert founded the first Asianowned bank in the U.S, died in her Seattle home Oct. 21. She was 92.

The first branch of the United Savings and Loan opened in 1960 in Seattle's Chinatown International District and continued to grow. In 2003, it was sold for \$65 million.

Chinn supported the Asian Pacific American community by serving on the boards of several groups including the Wing Luke Asian Museum and the ACT Theatre. She also co-founded the Asian Resource Center, an International District community center funded by the foundation named for her late husband, who died in 1984.

The Los Angeles native was sent to college in China, where she met her husband, a Seattle native. They married in 1935 and raised three children in

Chinn is survived by her daughters Valerie Hom and Karen; son-in-laws David Wong and John Hom; son Derek Chinn; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



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Mar. 31-Apr. 14 Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour to Japan - 15 days visiting Tokyo, Sendai, Niigata, Tak Peggy Mikuni April 1-7 Yamato Washington D.C. Cherry Biossom Tour - 7 days visiting Philadelphia, I

Lilly Nomura Washington, D.C., Mt. Vernon and the U.S. Naval Academy Yamato Mackinac Island with Collette Vacations - 10 days visiting Southfield, Frankenmuth May 1-10

Holland, featuring the Tulip Festival, Grand Rapids and Mackinac, then to Green Bay, Wisconsin and Chicago Yamato Exclusive Southern Cities Tour - 6 days visiting New Orleans where you will visit Oak May 5-10 Alley Plantation and to Avery Island, home to Tabasco Sauce; Camp Sheiby/Hattiesburg where the

442nd/100th military troops trained; Vicksburg to visit the National Military Park, site of a Civil War Battle and Memphis to visit Evis Presley's Graceland.

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In Memoriam - 2007

This compilation appears on a space-

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Akiyama, Roy, 88, Spokane, Wash., Oct. 4; WWII veteran, U.S. Army; survived by wife, Hisako; daughters, Karil Mukai and Grace Coldsnow-Chastain; son, Marc (Sally); son-in-law, Dorian; 8 gc.; 11 ggc.; sister, Mary Hisayasu; sistersin-law, Sue (Jack) Ehama, Shizulo (Kay) Mita and Jean Okasaki; and brothers-in-law, Harry and Yutaka

Furukawa, Fred Y., 83, Yakima, Wash., Sept. 16; WWII veteran, 442nd, Korean War veteran, 24th Infantry; survived by sister, Marie Nakata.

Higashi, Akira, 91, Renton, Wash., Oct. 1; survived by daughters, Kathleen (Ronald) Yamamoto and Christine (Ruby Jim) Higashi; 4 gc.; brother, Ken (Akiko) Higashi and sister, Mary (Steve Iwago) Hirata.

Ishihara, Tom Tamotsu, 87, Oct. 23; survived by son, Donald (Valerie); daughters, Roberta (William Martinez) Ishihara and Phylllis (Dan) Fukumoto; 2 gc.; and sister, Kiyoko Nii.

DEATH NOTICE

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.

Matsui, Richard G., 93, Camarillo, Oct. 30; survived by son, Glenn (Nancy); daughters, May (Ron) Kato and Jeanne Matsui; 6 gc.; 2 ggc.; brother, George (Virginia); brothers-inlaw, Manabu (Namiye) Okada and Shigeru (Amy) Okada; and sisters-in-law, Masako Matsui and Blanche Okada.

Nakashima, Alice Ayako, 89, Nov. 7; survived by daughter, Kay (Arthur) Cappilla; sons, Gary (Mitzi), Harvey (Diana) and Steven (Diane); son-in-law, Richard Kawano; 12 gc.; and 1

Ono, Iwao, 76, Las Vegas, Oct. 17; Korean and Vietnam War veteran; survived by wife, Anna; sons, Thomas and Raymond; and

daughters, Anna Rogers and Eleonora.

Tome, Richard Yeikichi, 86, Honolulu, Hawaii, Oct. 5; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by daughter, Dorothea Aguigui; 4 gc.; 6 ggc.; and sister, Margaret Chung.

Toyooka, James "Jim," 88, Portland, Ore., Aug. 13; survived by wife, Frances; daughter, Janet (Tom) Thibault; sons, Ronald (Elana) and Daniel (Karen); 11 gc.; and 2 ggc.

Yabui, Gordon Yoshio Lani, 68, Honolulu, Hawaii, Oct. 23; survived by wife, Karen; sons, Mark and Bryant; and sister, May Yoshioka.

Yahagi, Hiroshi H., 87, Renton. Wash., Aug. 18; survived by son, Brian (Muoi); daughters, Diane Woods and Debra (Kenji) Arai; and

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RAY ISAMU KITAYAMA

Ray Isamu Kitayama passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his family on, Sept. 29, after a lengthy illness. Born July 24, 1924 on Bainbridge Island, Wash., to Takeshi and Masuko Kitayama, flowers and the flower business became Ray's life and passion. Along with his brothers and sisters (Tom, Yoshiko, Kee, Ted and Martha) Ray worked in the family greenhouse growing flowers and veg-

In April 1942, the Kitayama family was sent to Manzanar, In 1943, Ray left camp and attended Ohio State Univ. then returned to California for work. He joined his brothers in purchasing land in Union City and the Kitayama Brothers Inc. flower business was born.

Ray married Kiyo Kato in 1952 and had four children: Jean, Stuart, Robert and Scott. Kiyo passed away in 1976 after a long battle with cancer. In 1977, Ray married Kimiko (Kimi) Fujii.

Ray's passion for flowers took him to Brighton, Colo. in 1952. There he built a second warehouse which later became the largest nursery in Colorado. When Ray needed a market for his flowers, he opened several wholesale flower outlets in Texas that grew into Greenleaf Wholesale Florists, Inc., one of the largest wholesale florist chains in America. Ray, Kimi and son Stuart later moved to Homestead, Fla. to set up a foliage plant growing business. Ray and Kimi retired to Union City in 1991.

Ray is survived by his wife, Kimi; daughter, Jean (Terry) Kitayama Gehrke; sons, Stuart (Carol), Robert (Karen) and Scott (Eva); and grandchildren, Eileen, Lauren, Kathryn, Maya and Grace.

A celebration of Ray's life with family and friends was held Oct. 6 at San Lorenzo Japanese Christian Church.

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