

UW and UO to honor former JA students. — PAGE 4

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The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



A Texas Tribute

Jefferson County, Texas unveils a plaque in honor of the Mayumi Family.

NATIONAL PAGE 4

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Shedding Light On Little Known Hawaii Internees' Stories

The number of JAs incarcerated during WWII is small compared to the mainland, but just as important to history.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

Shozo Takahashi started writing his autobiography in the 1990s before his memory began to fade. In his life story, the Kibei Nisei included his experiences returning to his native Hawaii to be interned during World War II.

In 1943, Takahashi spent over a year behind barbed wire at the Honouliuli internment camp in Central Oahu. He missed the birth of his first daughter, Judy, because of his incarceration. After his release at war's end, Takahashi gave his second daughter, Karen, the Japanese name Kazuko, which



Former internees Harry Urata (right) and Chojiro Kageura gather flower petals to throw into the site of the WWII camp during a pilgrimage.

PHOTO: JCCH

means "peace child."

In early March, his "peace child" was able to walk in his footsteps at the first ever pilgrimage to Honouliuli, one of Hawaii's internment camps.

"I am so glad I was given the opportunity to do that," said Karen Murashige, about the March 2 event. "This is part of history. This is what my father went through. It's a part of my father's life, which I believe

shaped him. It's a part of who he is."

Takahashi is one of about 1,400 Japanese Americans living in Hawaii during WWII to be interned in temporary camps scattered across the islands including Honouliuli, Kauai's Kalaheo Stockade, Maui's Haiku Camp, Oahu's Sand Island and Kilauea Military Camp on the Big Island.

See HONOULIULI/Page 12

Governor Who Opposed Detention of JAS During World War II Honored

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER—Motorists who venture along the main north-south highway that bisects the San Luis Valley soon will have a new traveling companion: former Colorado Gov. Ralph Carr.

That's because the Colorado Legislature approved a resolution March 14 naming U.S. 285 from Denver to the New Mexico state line the "Ralph Carr Memorial Highway."



GOV. CARR

Carr, who was Colorado's governor when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, warned others not to trample on the rights of American-born citizens simply

because of their ethnicity.

As a result, the Southern Colorado native killed his own political career when he took the unpopular position in 1942 against putting Japanese Americans in internment camps such as Camp Amache in Southeastern Colorado.

The Republican governor did so at a time when other governors were

See RALPH CARR/Page 7

A Miraculous Moral Campaign

Floyd Shimomura was a recent law school grad when he stepped into a pivotal leadership role.

By CRAIG ISHII
PSW Regional Director

The event was the 1978 JACL Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. The national council had just directed the organization to start a legislative campaign asking for an apology from the U.S. government and \$25,000 in reparations for Japanese Americans who had been interned during World War II.

It was at this very convention

See SHIMOMURA/Page 11

After Criticism Waned, a Controversial Philadelphia Steak Shop Expands

'Chink's Steaks' is set to open in a new, more prominent area just in time for the start of Major League Baseball.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

"Chink's Steaks" is growing.

Four years after Asian Pacific American groups launched a campaign to urge the owner of the Philadelphia steak shop to change its racist name, "Chink's" is still "Chink's." The only difference is that now another "Chink's Steaks" is opening a new location later this month.

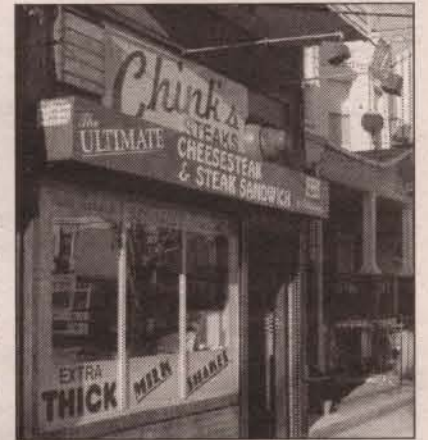
Everything from the original Wissinoming eatery will be available at the new take-out only location at 901 S. Columbus Boulevard just in time for the first pitch of the Philadelphia Phillies' season opener.

APA groups are not amused.

"It's like giving Asian Americans the finger," said Hiro Nishikawa, a Greater Philadelphia resident and former JACL EDC district governor. "It makes me sick."

In 2004 local APA and civil rights groups including the JACL, the Organizations of Chinese

See 'CHINK'S STEAK'/Page 13



The original eatery sparked a name change campaign in 2004.

A Full-on CRAASH at Hunter College

CRAASH (Coalition for the Revitalization of Asian American Studies at Hunter) — their message is in their acronym.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

Olivia Lin, 20, is solidly grounded in her Chinese American identity. After all, she was born in New York's Chinatown to immigrant parents from Hong Kong and immersed in the Chinese culture. Yet it wasn't until her freshman year of college that she had her Asian American identity "aha!" moment.

Back in 2006, Lin enrolled in her first Asian American Studies Program (AASP) course at City University of New York's (CUNY) Hunter College. It was the first time she heard about the brutal murder of



CRAASH members talk strategy.

Vincent Chin, the waves of AAs arriving in the United States, and the history of the Japanese American World War II internment.

What she learned inspired her to delve deeper into the issues, after all this was a part of her own personal history. So Lin, a media studies major, made up her mind to minor in AASP. But she soon learned she was out of luck: the minor had been frozen due to a lack of interest and

See CRAASH/Page 13



16 WEEKS
July 16-20
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Cookie Killer

Derek Shimoda's new documentary dissects the fortune cookie.

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Dice-K Heads Home

After the birth of his son, Dice-K heads to Japan to open the season.

SPORTS PAGE 10

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



250 E. First Street, Ste. 301,
Los Angeles, CA. 90012
Tel: 213/620-1767,
800/966-6157
Fax: 213/620-1768
E-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org
www.pacificcitizen.org

Executive Editor:

Caroline Y. Aoyagi-Stom

Assistant Editor:

Lynda Lin

Office Manager:

Brian Tanaka

Circulation: Eva Lau-Ting

Publisher: Japanese American
Citizens League (founded 1929) 1765
Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA
94115, tel: 415/921-5225 fax: 415/931-
4671, www.jacl.org

JACL President: Larry Oda

Nat'l Director: Floyd Mori

Pacific Citizen Board of Directors:

Gil Asakawa, chairperson; Margie
Yamamoto, EDC; Lisa Hanasono,
MDC; Kathy Ishimoto, CCDC; Judith
Aono, NCWNPDC; Justine Kondo,
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Letters to the Editor

Strategies to Help JACL's Declining Membership

The excellent article by Lynda Lin concerning the JACL member-
ship decline (*Pacific Citizen*, Feb. 15-Mar. 6) has been known for a
while, yet not much was done about it by the leadership.

The boast that JACL is the oldest and largest Asian American
organization may not last long. It will still be the oldest at 79 but may
not stay the largest. Will the projected losses mean becoming a "paper
organization?" In view of this the new vice president of membership
will have to fast start from the "git go."

What must be done? First meet and plan with the newly hired
membership coordinator. Contact the frontline trenches where the
rank-and-file chapter membership chairs are — I mean all 113 chap-
ters. Take names and e-mail addresses and also that of the chapter
presidents and district governors. Communicate and coordinate. Get
to know them. Find out their state of the membership and do some-
thing about it. Set quotas.

In the last three conventions I attended, I conducted an informal
membership survey. I found some chapters did not have a member-
ship chair, one in name only or the president doubling up on the
office. Perhaps one of the reasons for this condition is due to lack of
a mentor.

There is also definitely a need to secure more membership fringe
benefits. The number one is medical insurance.

It may not be the solution but it's a start. Regardless, we must go
all out and support the new vice president of membership. I for one
will do so.

STANLEY N. KANZAKI

New York JACL

Re: Purdue's AA Studies Program

Thank you so much for the outstanding article on Purdue's new
Asian American Studies program! It is such an honor to have a fea-
ture article in the *Pacific Citizen*. The article was extremely well-writ-
ten, fresh, and engaging. Also, the online article looks great.

I've received a steady flow of warm messages from friends,
JACLers, and Big 10 faculty members, and Purdue colleagues who
have come across your article.

Thanks for spreading the word about our new program in such an
eloquent and professional way!

LISA HANASONO

Purdue Graduate Student
P.C. Midwest Ed. Bd. Member

The 442nd/100th Made Redress Possible

Has the JACL membership and public at large forgotten the sacri-
fices made by a certain group of individuals that actually made
Redress possible?

The JACL saw fit to honor the so-called "No-No Boys" in a public
forum in San Francisco several years ago. I don't recall the JACL rec-
ognizing the brave men and women who, despite adverse opposition
and threats from their fellow men in the concentration camps, volun-
teered to join the Army from those concentration camps. The mem-
bers of the 100th/442nd RCT deserve a special recognition for their
performance. These men are now in their 80s and 90s and unfortu-
nately many, many veterans have passed on without recognition due
to them.

Redress was made possible because of these men, who despite their
being deprived of their civil rights and being placed in "camps" vol-
unteered to serve in the Army and distinguished themselves. This
made the American public realize the injustice perpetuated against its
own citizens.

LEO H. HOSODA

WWII and Korean War Veteran

Roseville, CA

Vietnam was an Illegal War

I was bemused by the Socratic exercise in Milo Yoshino's essay "Is
the Iraq War Legal?" (*Pacific Citizen*, Feb. 15-Mar. 6) in which he lists
chronologically the United Nations Security Council Resolutions that
somehow sanctified the war — and only after President Bush's
declared, "Mission Accomplished." Mr. Yoshino has overlooked our
government's campaign of misinformation, disinformation and lies.

Also there is in Mr. Yoshino's exegesis, great irony. He apparently
served in the Vietnam War — a war, which began with our govern-
ment's manipulation of South Vietnam politics and with lies about the
naval incidents in the Gulf of Tonkin. Bending to political pressures
and miscalculations by President Johnson ultimately resulted in a war
resolution endorsed by Congress, the State Department and the mili-
tary.

Furthermore, there was the prevailing aura of the Cold War under-
scored by the domino theory of the region. The Vietnam War was an
illegal war which was lost and from which we learned nothing.

First Lieutenant Ehren Watada, by his action as a patriotic citizen
and soldier, is alone and isolated. He is a ronin just as we were in the
442nd/100th and the concentration camps.

He needs our admiration and support.

EJI SUYAMA

Ft. Meade, SD

NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Making a Case for Annual Conventions

By FLOYD MORI

Six years ago when John Tateishi was
JACL's national director and I was national
president, discussions
were held regarding the
possibility and feasibility
of making the organiza-
tion's biennial convention
an annual event.

John and I favored
annual conventions in
large part because of the
funding benefits. Major
corporate sponsors asked why the JACL did
not hold annual conventions because their
funding mechanisms preferred donating to
organizations that have conventions yearly.

The compelling reason for change is conti-
nuity — continuity in process, in issues, in

relationships, in funding, and particularly in
youth programs and leadership.

The youth scene is extremely mobile, and
young people need to be together in order to
develop a critical mass of activities and inter-
ests. While some youth leaders argue for their
own separate conference in the off years, I
think young JACLers would benefit from an
annual convention that allows separate youth
workshops and plenary sessions.

At the 2004 national convention in Hawaii,
a proposal was presented to make the change
to annual conventions, but it was defeated with
the argument that there was not enough notice
and it needed more review.

David Kawamoto headed up a committee to
study the issue. Two years later at Phoenix, the
annual convention proposal — which was
reviewed and accepted by the constitution and
bylaws committee — was again presented to

the national council. National board members
and others spoke in favor of the change, but it
was again defeated because delegates did not
know enough about it — even though a
detailed report and a fact sheet were provided.

The national council voted to refer the mat-
ter to a committee for study, something that
had been done two years prior. The new com-
mittee chair is Elaine Akagi, PNW district gov-
ernor.

Although this issue has been discussed for
six years, some may think it is a new concept.
Delegates who are chosen to go to the upcom-
ing convention are encouraged to review all
materials on the convention before they arrive
in Salt Lake City. Proposals and resolutions
(except emergency resolutions) are all present-
ed to delegates before the convention.

See MORI/page 11



Maryland Lawmakers Snarled in English-only Debate

If passed, SB 506 would create a task force to encourage multilingualism, but opponents vow to stop it. Similar measures have passed in Tennessee and Wisconsin.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

While other states tangle with English-only policies, Maryland wants its residents to keep their native tongue.

Lawmakers recently introduced a bill to encourage "heritage language" skills in the Old Line State. If passed, SB 506 would establish a task force made up of lawmakers and educators to identify ways to preserve and increase heritage language skills in Maryland.

The bill cites a critical shortage of foreign-language speakers in the United States and recognizes the need for world language skills to maintain a competitive edge in the economy and national security.

Sen. James Rosapepe, one of the bill's sponsors, said although it's important to learn English, world language fluency is becoming more of a necessity in this increasingly global business market.

Rosapepe was born in Italy and served as U.S. ambassador to Romania from 1998-2001.

"I know so many people like myself who came here as children,

who may have known the language of their parents or their grandparents, but in many cases did not keep it," said Rosapepe to the *Capital News Service*. "We see this all the time across the United States."

If the bill passes, the task force would be required to make recommendations in a report to the General Assembly by January 2009. Educators teaching American-born children of immigrants should be a major area of focus, according to the bill.

"I applaud Maryland lawmakers who recognize that language is the key element in understanding one's responsibility whether at work, at play or as a citizen," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

About 14.5 percent of Maryland residents speak a foreign language.

In May 2007, the United Nations General Assembly recognized the importance of multilingualism by declaring 2008 the "International Year of Languages."

But opponents disagree. Delegate Pat McDonough is leading Speak English!, a campaign to put an English-only initiative on the November ballot.

"We need to promote English. It's been the unifying force in this nation and that is the language that people need to learn how to speak," said McDonough.

Maryland is part of a longstanding chorus of English-only debates across the nation.

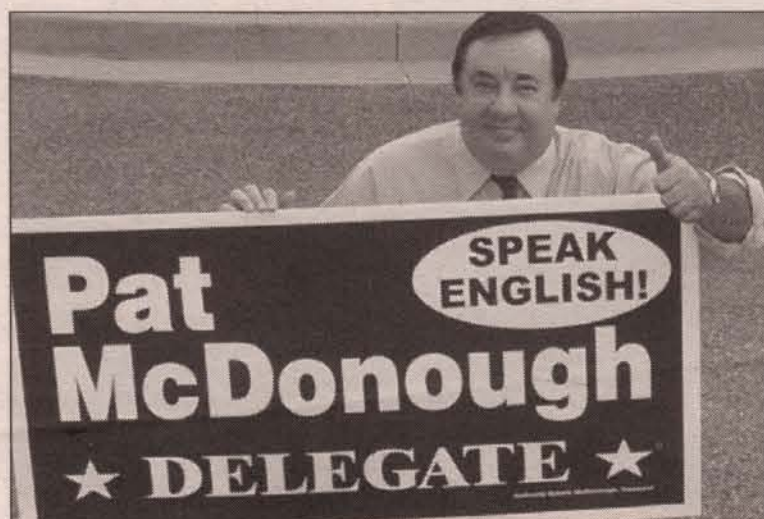


PHOTO: WWW.PATMCDONOUGH.ORG

Maryland's Pat McDonough stands behind his English-only message.

In Tennessee, the state Senate recently approved a bill that would allow employers to enforce English-only policies during the workday. The bill now needs to make it out of the House before Gov. Phil Bredesen can sign it into law.

The "Protecting English in the Tennessee Workplace Act" would require businesses to post signs saying that employees must know how to speak English, but leaves it up to employers to enforce the law.

"Someone owns a Japanese restaurant and back in the kitchen everyone's speaking Japanese and the employers happy with that, then that's fine," said Sen. Jack Johnson in local reports.

U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander sponsored a similar federal bill in Washington, D.C. It passed the Senate, but still has to make it through the House.

And in Wisconsin, the Assembly voted March 13 to make English the state's official language.

The bill would require that English be used by all units of state and local government in written communication except in limited situations.

Government agencies would also have to report how much is spent preparing materials in languages other than English.

"Wisconsin has long been a state of diverse immigrants linked by the

ability to communicate in our common language of English," said Mauro E. Mujica, chairman of U.S. English, Inc., a non-partisan citizens' action group founded by the late Sen. S.I. Hayakawa in 1983.

"As the state welcomes the next generation of newcomers, it must take steps to ensure that these immigrants are on the road to learning English and not being misled by the crutch of perpetual government multilingualism," Mujica added.

To date, 30 states have made English their official language, most recently Arizona in 2006 and Kansas and Idaho in 2007. Currently, legislation is pending in 11 states that have yet to adopt official English laws — Delaware, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

But many APA leaders say that these English-only laws only serve as tools of discrimination.

"The cultural diversity in our communities has been key to the richness of our society as a whole and language is the cornerstone of any culture. Communities and states that mandate the English-only concept are robbing people of heritage and adding to the racial bigotry that is so damaging to all elements of any community," said Mori. ■

For more information:
www.us-english.org

APA Bloggers Slam Rhode Island Fusion Restaurant's Ad as 'Fetishization'

The owner promises to pull the print ad, which features a nearly nude female torso.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

A Providence, Rhode Island Asian fusion restaurant ad featuring a woman's nude torso has been withdrawn by the eatery's owner after it elicited harsh criticism from the Asian Pacific American community.

"I am not printing the ad not because of fear of reprisal," said John Elkhay, of newly opened Chinese Laundry restaurant in an e-mail to political blogger Jenn Fang. "You must agree — to give into militants would be surrendering to an unjust cause."

The mostly black and white ad, which strategically covers female nudity with a black box and suggestive text ("See what you are missing."), ignited a firestorm in the APA blogosphere. Many condemned the ad for objectifying women and relying on exotic Asian stereotypes. The restaurant's name is also spelled out on the torso in Chinese characters.

Brown University student John

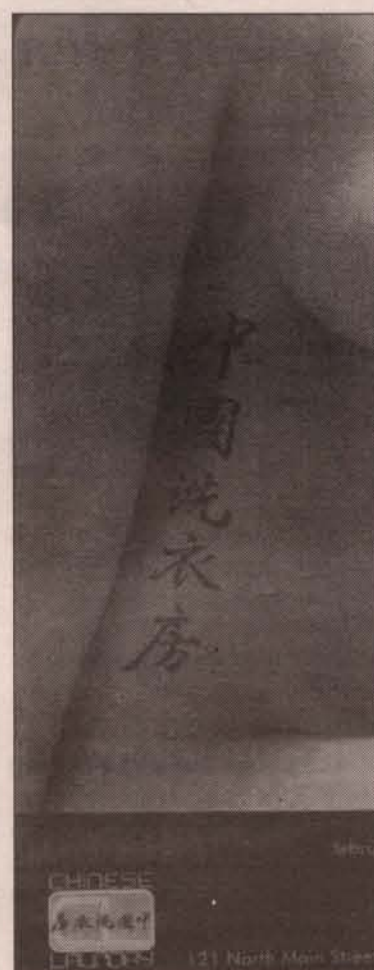
Kawamura first saw the Chinese Laundry ad while he was getting his hair cut.

"At first, I didn't know what to make of the advertisement because I was not expecting to see an essentially nude woman in the magazine that advertised popular restaurants and local events," he said. "After about a second, I realized that the company was playing into the idea of Asian woman fetishes."

"This advertisement is unsettling because it implies that the company believes many people still view Asians in this way. The advertisement shows that there are still many ignorant people and racist views that still exist in our society," added Kawamura.

Elkhay responded to the criticism in various blogs saying the ad, which ran for over three months in *Providence Monthly*, was not meant to be offensive. He said that some of the criticism has turned into threats of violence, but that he would pull the ad because some people were offended.

"I think calling it a victory is premature," said Fang of Reappropriate.com, an APA blog.



A portion of the ad shows a Chinese tattoo on a torso.

"We have not yet had an opportunity to approach Mr. Elkhay with our concerns, and his commitment to pull the ad is not in a format that we can legally hold him to."

In addition to the ad's offensive imagery, the restaurant's takeover of a longtime APA business was seen as another example of gentrification of North Main Street. Chinese Laundry's current location at 121 North Main Street had been the site of several Chinese laundry businesses dating as far back as 1910. The last incarnation, Sam Sing Laundry — which was operated by the Lai family for over a decade — closed its doors for the last time in 2002, according to the *George Street Journal*.

The closure made room for Elkhay's interpretation of a Chinese laundry business.

Chinese Laundry the restaurant celebrated its March 11 grand opening with a party complete with a scantily clad model serving as a human sushi plate and other reported photos of barely dressed women.

Menu items include "Chinese Remedies" like "Geisha Girl," a sparkling sake drink concoction, and "M.S.G. Mojitos."

Despite the APA community's outrage, much of the local mainstream media have made light of the ad controversy by referring to Fang as "the angry one" for being upset over "Oriental symbols."

"Whoa. What if you only wanted a bowl of chow foon?" said the *Boston Herald* in an article about the restaurant's opening.

But Fang is continuing to push for more accountability from Elkhay, who also owns Chow Fun Food Group, the parent company of four other Rhode Island restaurants including one where "East Meets West" in steak and sushi.

Fang and other APA leaders launched an online petition and a letter-writing campaign to hold Elkhay accountable to his promises. ■

To sign the petition demanding a formal apology:
www.petitiononline.com/providence/petition.html

For the latest on the campaign:

www.reappropriate.com

For more information:

www.chineselaundryri.com

www.chowfunfoodgroup.com

Two More Universities to Give Honorary Diplomas to Former JA Students Forced into WWII Camps

At the University of Washington (UW), there were 440 of them, all American citizens and the largest group of minority students on campus in 1941. But these Nisei students' college careers ended abruptly.

They were forced by Executive Order 9066 to depart Seattle by noon on May 16, 1942, for internment camps, leaving behind their education.

While many of these Nisei returned to the UW or received their degrees from other colleges after the war, many were unable to finish their education.

The UW will pay tribute to these students on May 18, when President Mark Emmert will present honorary degrees to those who were forced to leave the university almost 66 years ago.

The move to honor these former UW students was prompted by articles and books published by UW staff and faculty. In a two-part series in *Columns*, the UW alumni magazine, editor Tom Griffin wrote a comprehensive account of what happened to the Nisei students at the time.

The JACL PNW district council has also unanimously endorsed the May 18 event.

At the University of Oregon (UO), the number of former internees to be honored is far fewer, but just as poignant. Among the 19 former students to be honored, Thomas Hayashi will



PHOTO: UW NIKKEI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND DENSHO

Members of the Japanese Student Club pose in front of the clubhouse fireplace. The JSC was a precursor of the current University of Washington Nikkei Alumni Association.

be awarded his honorary master's degree posthumously.

Other former students who will be honored at the April 6 commencement ceremony are: Alice Yoshie Kawasaki Sumida, Silver Star winner Frank Hachiya, Robert Shu Yasui and Sam Naito.

At least nine of the 19 former students are still alive, and about five will attend the event.

Prior to this event, the UO had awarded only four honorary degrees since 1942. ■

A BELATED HONOR

The Universities of Washington and Oregon will award honorary degrees to former Nisei students.

UO Ceremony, April 6

For more info: www.uoregon.edu;

UW Ceremony, May 18, 2 p.m.

Kane Hall, Univ. of Washington, Seattle. Open to the public, but advance registration is required online at www.uwalum.com or by calling the UW Alumni Association at 206/543-0540.

If you or someone you know attended the University of Washington from 1941-1942, but were unable to graduate because of the internment, contact Irene Mano at 206/772-1014 or Beth Kawahara at 206/232-3894 or beth@kawaharas.com.

San Jose Vietnamese American Activists Win Tentative Battle to Name Their Own District

After months of fervent community protests — which included a hunger strike — city leaders in San Jose, Calif. have struck a deal with activists over the name of a retail area.

Earlier this month, city council members withdrew their decision to dub a mile-long strip of mostly Vietnamese restaurants and shops on Story Road, "Saigon Business District" over the more popular "Little Saigon." Now city leaders and community activists have agreed to allow private groups to build one "Welcome to Little Saigon" sign.

The deal, which must still be passed by the full city council, does not establish a formal district under the name "Little Saigon" or any other name, but it was enough to convince activist Ly Tong, a 63-year-old former South Vietnamese Air Force pilot who had been fasting in support of the name "Little Saigon," to end his nearly month-long hunger strike.

Tong had not eaten since Feb. 15 and had reportedly lost 30 pounds.

The name controversy started last year, when the city council voted to name the area "Saigon Business District" galvanizing Little Saigon activists to hold weekly "Black Tuesday" rallies outside city hall. Many carried signs and wore "Little Saigon" stickers. They also criticized the council's first and only Vietnamese American

member, Madison Nguyen, of turning her back on the Vietnamese American community.

"I regret that what was meant to be an economic development project has turned into a stream of political upheaval," said Nguyen in the *San Jose Mercury News*.

Attorney James Chadwick, even filed a lawsuit on behalf of Little



After community members protested (top) and Ly Tong (left) went on a hunger strike, city officials finally compromised.

Saigon supporters alleging the council violated the state's open-meeting law by secretly lining up votes.

For many, "Little Saigon" was a rallying point for those who felt abused by the communist regime in Vietnam.

Some property owners in the retail area have agreed to place signs with the new name on their site. ■

National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Mayumi Historical Marker Unveiled Near Former 'Jap Road'

BEAUMONT, Texas—A historical marker honoring the pioneering Mayumi family legacy has been placed near a street once infamously named "Jap Road."

In 2004, Jefferson County Commissioners unanimously voted to rename "Jap Road" to "Boondocks Road" and place a historical marker to explain how the road's naming was related to Yoshio Mayumi, a Japanese banker, Texas farmer and local benefactor.



Nisei Veterans Committee Successfully Renovate Memorial Hall

SEATTLE—Nisei veterans and their families on March 15 celebrated the opening of their newly renovated memorial hall.

The building located at 1212 South King Street recently underwent a \$2.5 million renovation. It now features a wall commemorating all those killed in action. Eight years ago, veterans and their families raised about \$1.5 million and received over \$900,000 in grants for the project.

University Plans to Allow Gay Couples into Family Housing

HONOLULU—A University of Hawaii official says the school is working on a policy to admit same-sex couples into family housing.

A gay couple is suing the university for not allowing them to return to the housing area they lived in last year because it's reserved for married couples. Joseph O'Leary and Phi Ngo said living off-campus has cost them extra rent, transportation and food.

University Vice Chancellor Francisco Hernandez called the lawsuit surprising and disappointing. He said the university already is working on changing its housing policies to accommodate gay couples.

Congressman Seeks Details of Labor Probe in Indian Workers' Case

NEW ORLEANS—Congressman George Miller, D-Calif. is asking the Labor Department to turn over information about a Mississippi company accused of exploiting and defrauding hundreds of Indian nationals who worked at its Gulf Coast shipyards after Hurricane Katrina.

In a letter sent March 11 to Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, Miller asked the Labor Department to provide him with documentation for any guest worker that Signal International, an oil rig construction and repair company, has employed in the past five years.

A federal lawsuit by a group of workers from India accuses Signal of subjecting the immigrant workers to forced labor and poor living conditions at its facilities in Pascagoula and Orange, Texas.

Affirmative Action Battle is Heating Up

DENVER—Backers of the Colorado anti-affirmative action measure turned in petitions signed by nearly 129,000 people, about 50,000 more than the minimum number required to get it on this fall's ballot. The secretary of state will still have to review the petitions to make sure that at least 76,000 of the signatures are from registered voters.

The Colorado proposal would add a section to the state constitution that prohibits the state from discriminating against or granting preferential treatment to individuals or groups based on race, sex or national origin.

A similar initiative in Oklahoma has been hit with legal protest. Ten Oklahoma voters, including two lawmakers, have filed a legal protest in the Oklahoma Supreme Court challenging the petitions for the so-called Oklahoma Civil Rights Initiative.

Study: Asians, Black Patients More Likely to Die after Injury

HONOLULU—A study finds APA and African American patients have a higher risk of dying than Caucasians after being admitted to hospitals for major injuries.

According to the study titled "Racial Disparities in Mortality Among Adults Hospitalized After Injury," 2.1 percent of African Americans and 2 percent of APAs died while the death rate for whites was 1.5 percent. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Matsumoto Could Become Second Ever APA Female District Court Judge

President George W. Bush has nominated **Magistrate Judge Kiyo Matsumoto** as federal district court judge for the Eastern District of New York. If confirmed, Matsumoto would become the second-ever APA woman to serve as a federal district court judge and the third APA federal district court judge outside of California and Hawaii.

Matsumoto is a federal magistrate judge for New York's Eastern District. Prior to her appointment, she served in the U.S. attorney's office.

Lopez is a State Finalist for 'Above and Beyond' Award

Hawaii's **Isamu Lopez** is one of the 51 finalists for this year's "Above and Beyond Citizen Honors." The prestigious award presented by the Congressional Medal of Honor Society recognizes individuals who demonstrate service over self.



LOPEZ

In March 1996, Lopez ran into a burning house and dragged two adults and two children to safety. Learning that two more children were still trapped inside, Lopez ran back into the house. Firefighters discovered his unconscious body later. Although his final rescue attempt failed, Lopez was responsible for saving the lives of four people that day.

One brave citizen was selected from each state and the District of Columbia. This award will be presented to three winners by living Medal of Honor winners on March 25 — National Medal of Honor Day.

MSNBC will broadcast the awards show on March 30.

Chicago Sansei Writer is a Finalist in Amazon.com Breakthrough Novel Contest

Dwight Okita's first novel, "The Prospect of My Arrival," has made it to the final round of Amazon.com's Breakthrough Novel Award contest. Okita can win a publishing contract and \$25,000 advance from Penguin Publishing.



OKITA

Amazon customers will determine the winner of the contest by reviewing and ratings excerpts from the top 10 books.

Okita's fictional story is about a time in the near future when the first baby will be allowed to preview the world before choosing to be born.

Voting closes March 31 and the winner will be announced on April 7.

APA Teenager Wins National Science Award, \$100,000 Scholarship

A Durham, North Carolina high school student beat out 1,600 students nationwide to win a \$100,000 scholarship for developing a model she used to identify stage II colon cancer patients with a high risk for recurrence.

The model created by **Shivani Sud**, 17, also focused on identifying what may be the most effective drugs for treatment for those with a high risk of recurring tumors.

Xiaomeng (Jessica) Zeng, 18, of Iowa City, Iowa, also received a \$20,000 scholarship.

The Intel Science Talent Search competition has previously awarded top honors to students who went on to win six Nobel Laureates, three National Medal of Science winners, 10 MacArthur Foundation Fellows and two Fields Medalists.

Shiomi Wins Sally Arts Award

Rick Shiomi, artist director of Minneapolis' Mu Performing Arts, has won a \$2,500 Sally Ordway Irvine award for his outstanding commitment to the arts scene.

Shiomi, who is a playwright and director, founded Theater Mu in 1992. The company provides opportunities for APA writers, actors and directors in the Twin Cities area.

Winners are selected by a panel of past winners along with representatives of the Minnesota State Arts Board, the media and area arts leaders. ■

Love of Skiing Brings Together Young and Old

The Nisei Ski Club started off as a San Francisco JACL weekend activity. Now the club is gearing up for its Golden Anniversary.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

The advertisement announcing a fun week of skiing in Whistler, British Columbia immediately peaked Liz Slocum's interest. It was the perfect chance to brush up on her skiing and snowboarding skills, she thought to herself. Before long she and her boyfriend were making plans for a trip to Canada.

Liz, a 30-year-old Yonsei from San Mateo, had never heard of the Nisei Ski Club (NSC), the group heading up the Whistler excursion. In a passing mention of her upcoming trip, she was shocked to learn that her parents had been members of the club some 40 years ago.

"When my parents found out, they were very excited," said Liz.

"I didn't even know that the Nisei Ski Club was still in existence," said Virginia Slocum, 67, of Sacramento, who was a NSC member while in her 20s. "It surprised me because my daughter even mentioned a couple of names of people I actually knew."

Seven years after her inaugural Whistler trip Liz is still an active member and former board member of NSC, a club that will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. What was once an annual event sponsored by the San Francisco JACL chapter is now a successful non-profit skiing club.

"The people are friendly and the trips are very organized," said Liz, explaining what attracted her to NSC. "We have a lot of potlucks and it's great to have home-cooked meals."

And of course, "I enjoy being outdoors."

Liz is one of the youngest members of NSC today, a club whose membership is around 200. Although most members are in their 40s and 50s, there are some in their 20s and 60s.

On many of the NSC weekend trips you can still see Hi Fujii, 77, skiing down the blue square runs. As the first NSC president in 1968 and a current board member, Hi has had a first row seat in the development of the club over the years.

"I am amazed at how organized it has gotten today," said Hi, currently the oldest active NSC member. "But it's the same camaraderie today, lots of people who love skiing together."

One thing that hasn't changed are the savory home-cooked meals provided for the skiers on the bus rides to and from the ski resorts. But the amount of alcohol consumption has definitely decreased, joked Hi.

"We used to drink a lot of beer,"



Members of the Nisei Ski Club enjoy a recent trip to Vail (above).



Hi Fujii, first NSU president, with his family: (from left, clockwise): wife Phyllis, Hi, Barbara, Roger, and daughter-in-law Elaine.

sometimes four or six cases on one weekend trip, he said. "Now one case is enough. Now we bring a lot of bottled water."

When Japanese Americans returned to the Bay Area from the internment camps, few recreational organizations welcomed them. The San Francisco JACL chapter became a hub for local JAs to gather. In the late 1950s, the chapter decided to host a weekend ski trip. By the 1960s the trips had become so popular the club had to separate and form its own non-profit.

Although some skiing clubs have moved to change their names today to attract younger skiers and snowboarders, NSC has kept its name largely to honor the pioneering Nisei.

"While there are probably few Nisei in the club at this time, we have kept the name of the club as Nisei Ski Club to pay tribute to the founding members," said Pam Yoshida, 50, former NSC president.

Today, the all-volunteer skiing club works hard to attract a diverse membership. Although Asian Americans make up the majority, there are a number of non-AA members.

"The club is inclusive since it has to be to survive. We believe that you should always attract 'new blood' to keep the club fresh and not stagnant," said Curtis Otaguro, 49, current NSC president. "New members bring enthusiasm, new ideas, and different perspectives."

Each year NSC hosts around five to six weekend trips and also plans one week-long trip, usually out of state. This year the group headed to Vail, Colorado for a week of slopes and fun.

During the non-skiing season activities like hiking trips, picnics, and dances are also planned so members can keep in touch year-round.

"Many of my closest friends are

people I met in NSC. Some are still in the club, some are not," said Yoshida, who no longer attends the skiing trips but is helping to organize the club's 50th anniversary celebration in June.

"Even though I am no longer a member of the club, my heart is still there and I feel welcome at events even after being 'away' for awhile."

NSC has also helped bring a number of couples together. In 1970 Hi met his wife Phyllis on a NSC trip to Sun Valley. Within three months of hitting it off on the slopes they were walking down the aisle.

"We both enjoyed skiing ... and we continued dating after we got back from Sun Valley," said Hi. "The next thing I knew I was introducing her to my parents."

"There are so many people I know who met their spouses through the club."

But like many JA organizations these days, membership numbers are starting to dwindle and fewer young people are joining their ranks. It's a trend the NSC is actively trying to change by offering free weekend trips for newbies getting their first taste of the ski club.

NSC hopes their efforts will pay off in the long run.

Liz often brags about the fun she has on the NSC ski trips but only a few of her friends have taken up her offer to join the club. They would rather drive up on their own and scope out the cheaper hotels, she said.

"But my friends who have tried it, love it." ■

The Nisei Ski Club will be celebrating its 50th anniversary of 'Golden Memories' on June 7 with a number of events including a dinner dance, golf tournament, and bowling social. For more information: www.niseiskiclub.org.

APA Women Targeted in South Seattle 'Groping' Attacks

Police fear the suspect is becoming more violent.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Seattle police officials are looking for a man suspected of targeting Asian Pacific American women in over 22 groping attacks over the past three years.

The incidents all occurred near bus stops on 14th Avenue South and Beacon Avenue in South Seattle. The most recent attack happened during the day on March 14 when an APA woman, walking home from the store, was grabbed by the suspect in her driveway.

Like the other attacks, the suspect ran up behind his victim and put his hand over her mouth, grabbing her private areas. He was wearing a dark



hood, tan shoes and a dark-blue mechanics jumpsuit.

The suspect is described as African American in his 20s, 5-foot-7 and with an average build. In past attacks, he had worn a green ski mask or red scarf to hide his face.

This is the fifth forceful groping attack in the past two months.

Police fear that the man is becoming increasingly violent after he tried to drag another woman into a dark driveway last fall and preyed on two teenage girls walking together in January.

None of the women were raped or critically injured. In November, the man took the victim's wallet and tried to pull her into a dark driveway, but she was able to fight him off with pepper spray.

Most of the attacks have occurred near bus stops during commuting hours between 6 a.m.-10 a.m. or early in the evening.

Detectives hope they have a better chance of identifying him after the most recent attack. But they warn women to call 911 if they feel they are being followed.

Media Action Group Blasts Former 'SNL' Comedian, Radio Host for Use of Racial Slur

Adam Carolla and radio executives agree it was a mistake to allow the anti-Asian slur to air.

The Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA) is criticizing a former "Saturday Night Live" comedian for his use of the racial slur "gooks" on "The Adam Carolla Show," a syndicated radio program.

On the March 5 morning show, comedian Norm MacDonald, Carolla and co-host Teresa Strasser were analyzing the lyrics of the 1969 Kenny Rogers and the First Edition hit "Ruby, Don't Take Your Love to Town," a song about a disabled veteran of "that old crazy Asian war," who begs his lover not to cheat.

In response, MacDonald reportedly said, "he's killed strange gooks."

97.1 Free FM officials said the slur should not have aired.

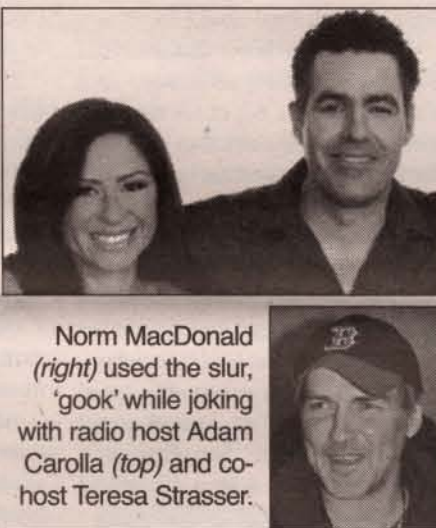
Carolla, who has already been

criticized for racial insensitivity by the Asian Pacific American community, apologized on-air a week later.

"Norm MacDonald was in studio last week ... He used a derogatory term toward some Asian groups," said Carolla. "And we did not dump it, nor did we say anything to Norm. And for that, we apologize."

In 2006, Carolla mocked the Asian Excellence Awards in a skit voiced over with variations of "ching-chongs." After the APA community expressed its outrage, Carolla apologized on-air a month after the recording first aired. Parent company CBS Radio agreed to racial sensitivity training for all its employees.

"It's important to recognize that the term has an offensive, ugly charge to it that traces back historically to the late 1800s and became used especially during the Korean



Norm MacDonald (right) used the slur, 'gook' while joking with radio host Adam Carolla (top) and co-host Teresa Strasser.

and Vietnam War," said Phil Lee, MANAA president. "Like other racial epithets, it can evoke a lot of painful and negative reactions."

Macdonald did not respond to MANAA's calls. ■

On the Web: www.manaa.org

UCLA Establishes Endowment to Study APA Domestic Violence

The University of California, Los Angeles has established a new endowment to support research on domestic violence and abuse in Asian Pacific American communities.

The Martha Ogata Endowment Fund was created by a \$100,000 gift to the university's Asian American Studies Center (AASC) from Drs. Fil and Tobin Barrozo, Ogata's sons.

The endowment will focus on women and children of Asian ancestry who are at risk or victims of domestic violence or abuse. The endowment, which will be administered by the AASC, will be used to support research by UCLA faculty and students, clinical study and other activities that will further the study.

Ogata was born on Feb. 15, 1919, in Mabton, Wash. to hardworking Issei parents. She married Paul Barrozo and had two sons. Fil became a physician and Tobin a university president. After her divorce from Paul, she called many places home including California and earned her general education degree. She was also a successful licensed real estate agent.

"Upon her retirement, our mother did volunteer work with organizations serving minorities and the aged and wanted desperately to believe her life had meaning and purpose. The gift to UCLA is her legacy," said Tobin.

The annual awards from the endowment will be open to UCLA faculty and students from all disciplines.

"We are extremely grateful to Drs. Fil and Tobin Barrozo for entrusting our center and UCLA with this endowment to undertake research and other activities that will serve to document, analyze, and seek solutions to these tragic and oftentimes unreported situations in Asian American communities," said Don Nakanishi, AASC director. ■



OGATA

JA Vets, Tuskegee Airman Share History



Heroes: (l-r) 442nd Veteran Lawson Sakai, Tuskegee Capt. Leon 'Woodie' Spears and Col. Brian Shiroyama honored each other.

PHOTO: JAVA

Japanese American veterans and a former Tuskegee Airman recently came together for a historic union of World War II heroes who fought for their country in segregated units. The event in Morgan Hill, Calif. was the first time members of both segregated Army units were able to swap war stories.

At the event 442nd RCT Veteran Lawson Sakai presented Tuskegee Capt. Leon "Woodie" Spears with a donation to Spears' Tuskegee organization that mentors at-risk youth on behalf of the Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans group. ■

'J Town VOICED!', a Little Tokyo Community Rally, to Take Place April 5

Rally organizers hope to spark meaningful dialogue with developers who have recently bought two hotels and a plaza in Little Tokyo.

J Town Voice will host "J Town VOICED!", a rally to bring attention to the Little Tokyo community's desire for a meaningful dialogue with 3D Investments and American Commercial Equities (ACE), new owners of the Kyoto Grand (formerly New Otani) Hotel, and Japanese Village Plaza on April 5.

The rally — which will feature speakers and a taiko performance organized by Progressive Taiko —

will take place at 1 p.m. at the Noguchi Plaza (244 S. San Pedro St.) following a 12 p.m. "Little Tokyo Tour of Memories."

"We are concerned that 3D and ACE have not taken steps to engage in meaningful dialogue with our community," said J Town Voice member Kei Nagao. "Finally, we want to call upon Kajima/East West Development (previous owners of Weller Court and the New Otani) to recognize the years of financial and community support of their institution."

L.A. Little Tokyo's Weller Court.



J Town Voice's petition to "Preserve L.A.'s Little Tokyo!" has accumulated more than 5,500 signatures since October 2007 and will be delivered to ACE, 3D, and Councilwoman Jan Perry following the rally. The petition is available at: <http://www.petitiononline.com/jtv1/petition.html>.

The Little Tokyo Tour of Memories will be an interactive historical tour of Little Tokyo, with an emphasis on sites that demonstrate significant changes in the neighborhood over the past 100 plus years.

"We hope that this will give people an opportunity to better understand Little Tokyo's history as well as connect to Little Tokyo on a per-

sonal level," said J Town Voice member Grant Sunoo.

J Town Voice is a multigenerational volunteer organization committed to sustaining Little Tokyo as a haven for immigrants, and as the historic home of the Southern California Japanese American community. They believe in the principle that a community has the right to determine how development happens in their neighborhood and encourage everyone with a personal connection to Little Tokyo to get involved in action for the future of the neighborhood. ■

For more information, e-mail: jtvoice@yahoo.com.

Youth Activities and Programs Planned for JACL National Convention

JACL youth members will have a chance to enjoy a variety of activities and programs during their stay in Salt Lake City, Utah July 16-20 at JACL's 40th Biennial National Convention titled "Legacy of Leadership" at the Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown.

This is a chance for the youth to become better educated about JACL, mix and mingle with their peers, make new friends, discuss current events, attend workshops, and enjoy the sights and sounds of Salt Lake City and its many attractions.

The Youth Convention Activities Committee has been planning a program that not only includes traditional convention events but also visits attractions including Olympic Park, Park City and the Alpine Slide.

Activities will include:

Wednesday, July 16

Youth Mixer at the Salt Palace — The youth will head to the Salt Palace after the Welcome Mixer for music, refreshments, desserts and mixer activities.

Thursday, July 17

Thursday morning workshops include Kendo, martial arts and API identity that focuses on topics including civil rights and health topics. There will also be a youth luncheon.

The youth will also have the opportunity to visit Olympic Park, where athletes in the 2002 Winter Olympics competed in bobsled, long jump, luge and skeleton events. Afterwards they are invited to visit



JACL National Youth Council members mingle before the 2006 Youth Luncheon. (Clockwise): Brigham Walker, Blake Honda, Megumi Kaminaga, Kimberly Shintaku, Leilani Savitt and Caroline Kawaguchi.

Historic Park City for dinner as well as outlet shopping. Transportation will be provided for the attendees.

Friday, July 18

There will be morning workshops, the Vision Award Luncheon and the Minoru Yasui Oratorical Contest in the afternoon.

Other youth workshops include: **Are You The Next Apple.com?** — Learn how to start your own business. The Small Business Administration (SBA) is here to help you through the process. Learn about SBA programs and services and hear from local business owners on how they started their business.

Who Said JACL Can't Be for High Schoolers? — This workshop will provide an opportunity for youth to have an open discussion amongst their peers about their experiences as a young JACLer. High

schoolers will be paired up with young adult mentors to get to know each other and share ideas, thoughts and questions.

Saturday, July 19

There will be a convention mentorship session. The youth will also have the opportunity to experience the Alpine Slide near the top of Snowbird Ski resort. The Alpine Slide winds down Chickadee Run through twists, turns and tunnels. The slide ends 1,300 linear feet later.

Young professionals in JACL will also have a chance to attend a job fair with recruiters from corporations and federal government agencies. The JACL national convention ends with its finale, the Sayonara Banquet. ■

For more information:
www.jacl.org or www.utjacl.org

Lush Farms Traced Back to WWII Internment Camps

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

PHOENIX—Something positive has come out of a painful time in U.S. history when Japanese Americans were forced to live in internment camps in western Arizona during World War II.

Today, thanks to the sweat and labor of JAs held prisoner in the Poston Relocation Center, irrigation ditches flow with water, hay bales rise above the landscape and farm fields are lush and green.

While living at the camp, the internees dug irrigation canals and built adobe schools. Once barren desert was transformed into farms.

"Their suffering and their misery, if it's any consolation to them, changed our path," said Michael Tsosie, Colorado River Indian Tribe museum director.

For those imprisoned in western Arizona, seeing the fertile land does provide some comfort.

"It's all green with alfalfa; it's productive. That matters. That's important," said Leon Uyeda, 83, who was brought to the Poston camp when he

was 17. "You don't want to be forgotten. We are old now. I am old. But here, we will not be forgotten. It is the land now. It is all around us."

In 1942, more than 120,000 JAs and Japanese immigrants were sent to 10 remote camps across the country when President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066.

All across the Parker Valley of western Arizona, the work the JAs accomplished is visible.

One of their biggest and most difficult jobs was digging irrigation ditches to bring water from the Colorado River to thirsty farm fields.

They cleared and leveled desert turning wilderness into the farmland of today.

Local Indian officials said there is no doubt that the work 60 years ago helped to create a foothold in the Parker Valley.

"Things happened for us a lot quicker," said Dennis Patch, a Colorado River Indian Tribes councilman and the education director for the tribe. "Our infrastructure was built by the government and Japanese labor." ■

RALPH CARR

(Continued from page 1)

threatening "that there would be Japs hanging from every pine tree" if the federal government tried to relocate West Coast JAs to their states, according to a new book, "The Principled Politician: The Ralph Carr Story," by 9News reporter Adam Schrager.

To honor him, Reps. Rafael Gallegos, D-Antonito, and Rob Witwer, R-Genesee, and Sen. Josh Penry, R-Grand Junction, introduced a joint resolution to rename the highway.

Lawmakers from both sides of the political aisle praised the man and the resolution.

"We're obviously honoring a gentleman who had courage of his convictions," said Rep. Tom Massey, R-Poncha Springs. "Ralph Carr gave up a promising political career for something that he believed in," added Rep. Paul Weissmann, D-Louisville. "It's right we stand up for American citizens no matter who they are. That's what Ralph Carr stood for."

The resolution, which passed the House and Senate unanimously, calls for erecting two signs along

U.S. 285 naming it after Carr, one near the New Mexico border just south of Antonito and the other where it meets W-470 in Jefferson County.

The resolution also calls for erecting a memorial plaque commemorating Carr on Kenosha Pass east of

Fairplay, which is to be paid for through grants and donations.

Born in Rosita west of Pueblo and growing up in various locations around the region, Carr was an attorney for 10 years before being picked by President Herbert Hoover in 1929 to be U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado.

In 1938, he would be talked into running

for governor, easily winning that race and sending his political star rising.

But because of his stance on President Franklin D. Roosevelt's order to forcibly relocate JAs from the West Coast after the Hawaii attack, and later to put them in internment camps, Carr, Colorado's 29th governor, was quickly denounced.

"He died in 1950 never having been given any recognition for his beliefs," Witwer said. ■

Name _____
(Please print) Last First MI

Nickname _____

(Name for your badge) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Chapter _____

Category ☐ Delegate ☐ Booster ☐ Millennium Club
☐ Alternate ☐ 1000 Club ☐ National Board/Staff
☐ Youth ☐ 1000 Club Life ☐ Masaoka Fellow
☐ Other (Specify) _____

Registration Fees

CONVENTION PACKAGE REGISTRATION
(Includes individual events listed below)

	Before 6/30	After 6/30	
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Package	\$225	\$250	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Package <small>(Youth Package are for Youth/Students who are 25 years of age or younger or currently enrolled in a college, trade school or university. Youth package includes all of the events in the Reg. package.)</small>	\$150	\$175	\$ _____

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (all included in package registration)

	Before 6/30	After 6/30	
<input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Mixer	\$50	\$60	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Workshops (2)*	\$25	\$35	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Awards Luncheon	\$50	\$60	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sayonara Banquet	\$100	\$110	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Luncheon	\$50	\$60	\$ _____

* For a listing of all Workshops go to www.utjacl.org.

OPTIONAL EVENTS (not included in package registration)

	Before 6/30	After 6/30	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golf Tournament	\$65	\$70	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Nihonmachi Show	\$25	\$30	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth 18 and under	\$10	\$15	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 1000 Club Wing Ding	\$25	\$30	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 1000 Club + Nihonmachi	\$40	\$45	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> JACL Credit Union Luncheon	\$20	\$25	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth 5 - 18 years	\$10	\$15	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-members	\$25	\$30	\$ _____

Convention Package \$ _____

Individual Events \$ _____

Special Events \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Make check payable to: MWT Tours & Events

or to pay by credit card

Cardholder's Name _____

☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

Account Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

NOTE: Registrations will not be processed without payment (check or credit card). This form is strictly for registration only and NOT for hotel accommodations. You must call the Marriott Downtown. Submit additional forms for additional registrants.

Mail Check and this form together to:

2008 JACL Convention, c/o MWT Tours & Events
2984 E. Russell Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89120

East West Players' to Honor Carrie Ann Inaba, Velina Hasu Houston

Los Angeles' East West Players is celebrating its 42nd birthday by honoring a dance judge and a playwright.

This year the theater organization's "Visionary Awards Dinner and Silent Auction," which recognizes Asian Pacific Americans in the performing arts, will honor "Dancing with the Stars" judge Carrie Ann Inaba and internationally acclaimed writer Velina Hasu Houston.

Inaba, who is a dancer and actor, also starred in ABC's reality TV competition series "Dance War." She will be receiving the "Visionary Award."



INABA



HOUSTON

Houston will take home the "Made in America Award" for penning over 20 plays as well as poems, essays and screenplays. She is also a commissioner of the Japan-U.S.

Friendship Commission.

The evening's master of ceremonies will be the Three Filipino Tenors — Antoine Reynaldo Diel,

Randy Guiaya and Lito Villareal — a trio formed by East West Players.

"Every year, attendees anticipate what East West Players has in store for this star-powered and talent-packed event and each year we continue to top the previous year's event," said Tim Dang, producing artistic director. ■

East West Players' 42nd Anniversary Visionary Awards Dinner & Silent Auction

Monday, April 28
Hilton Universal City
555 Universal City Drive
Universal City, CA 91608.

The dinner and awards program will start at 7 p.m.
Tickets are \$175-\$1,250

For more information: www.eastwestplayers.org or contact Lisa Tang at 213/625-7000 ext. 17

JAKWV Announces Possible Last Return Trip to Korea

In September, the Japanese American Korean War Veterans (JAKWV) is returning to Korea, a place where 251 JAs gave their lives in defending South Korea.

The six-day Korea trip will include visits to the DMZ (demilitarized zone) at Panmunjom, the Freedom Bridge near Imjin-Gak — where Hershey Miyamura was released as a prisoner of war and awarded the Medal Of Honor for his heroic action during the Korean War — and a short memorial service at the JAKWV War Memorial at Imjin-Gak Memorial Park.

In 2001, the JAKWV built and dedicated a Memorial at Imjin-Gak Memorial Park in Paju City. The original memorial listed 247 Killed in Action but since then, four more names were obtained and will be added to the memorial by the time the tour takes place.

Other parts of the tour include visits to a traditional Korean village, sightseeing at the Peace Dam and a visit to the Seoul World Cup stadium.

This may be the last organized trip taken as a group to Korea. The members of the JAKWV, like their counterparts, the WWII veterans, are get-

ting older and this trip may be the last chance to revisit old battle-grounds.

Though South Korea is now a modern country, and most battle areas are built over with new cities and homes, the tour will rekindle memories of those who served there. Friends and family will also learn about their veterans' experiences in this foreign land.

This trip is open to anyone, but make your reservations soon since the tour will be limited to 80 people. ■

Return to Korea with the JAKWV

Sept. 14-19

Under \$2000 per person, double occupancy, and will include three meals a day, all tips, entry fees, tours and plane fare.

For more information:

Sam Shimoguchi — 310/822-6688, samkuni@verizon.net;
Victor Muraoka — 818/590-6724, v.Muraoka@verizon.net;
Paul Ono — 310/532-2495, sgmpto@aol.com; Min Tonai — 818/591-1269, tonaim@pac-bell.net



[HARRY HONDA]

VERY TRULY YOURS Are We at Another Crossroad: A Different Name

SOME ARE THINKING it's time to change the name of JACL, an organization about to celebrate its 80th anniversary. Organized in 1929 by a group of civic-minded Nisei to promote and protect the welfare of the Japanese in America, they paved "Security Through Unity" as the JACL road and motto.

Without question, Issei naturalization, the repeal of the Japanese exclusion law, riddance of alien land laws and rich harvest of scholarship funds were born in JACL's name.

For good measure, fighting racial discrimination, hate crimes and promoting ethnic concerns continue in conjunction with other like organizations. This has been a key JACL endeavor, known a generation ago as "coalition building." Long-range, these kinds of encounters will hardly diminish.

In the mid 1970s, an opinion poll revealed that more than 75 percent of Americans consider the Japanese among "our most dependable allies." Mike Masaoka (1915-1991) pondered: Is there a real need for an organization like JACL now? Is it vital for persons of Japanese ancestry in this country to have an organized public voice of its own? Is it necessary for a JACL to safeguard the general welfare of persons of Japanese ancestry in America?

There was a time when the Houston JACL — lead by Sandra Tanamachi — called for removal of the "Jap Road" and "Jap Lane" road signs. Cincinnati JACL rebuked baseball owner Marge Schott for her racist language. Spokane JACL rebuked discriminatory actions of the Washington State Democratic Party based on ethnicity. And a racist fire-bombed the Sacramento JACL office.

Times-Warner Cable pulled a Bugs Bunny cartoon from its video stores after Sacramento JACL complained of its racist and offensive slurs. New York JACL got its Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato to apologize for mocking Judge Lance Ito on a radio show in 1995, but Chicago JACL couldn't get Cubs broadcaster Harry Carey to apologize for his "slanty-eye" reference of Dodgers pitcher Hideo Nomo.

When legislators spoke of "Americans first and our own people" with respect to immigrant bills, then Congressman Norman Mineta found some were openly hostile to Asian Pacific Americans. He pointed to a Republican welfare reform proposal to cut off legal immigrants from Aid to Families with Dependent Children and all but emergency medical care under the Medicaid program. The Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus responded with support from JACL through its Washington office and grassroots network.

At a major JACL event in Los Angeles in 1994, Mineta said: "Time and time again, we have stood up as an organization for our own rights, and the rights of others. That leadership must continue. As a member of JACL, and as someone who owes much of the success in my life for your support, your encouragement and your dedication, I know the strength of our community can summon when we are challenged."

As one from the school of Nisei who knew what it was like being a Japanese American in the 1930s, I remember ...

"Being called *you Jap* were fighting words." My judo teacher was angry when accosted by a police officer. He got out of his car, grabbed the officer's collar and flipped him to the ground.

"Being a *dual citizen* became a Nisei problem" as U.S.-Japan relations deteriorated. Nisei traveling to visit relatives in Japan might have been drafted into the Japanese military.

"We didn't want to go to *Nihon Gakko*." Classes were held after regular school time or a good part of Saturday. But today we are blessed by those who did and made MIS history.

"We felt proud of the fact that Nihonjin stayed out of trouble." For instance, going on public welfare was *haji*, a no-no tattooed in our make-up.

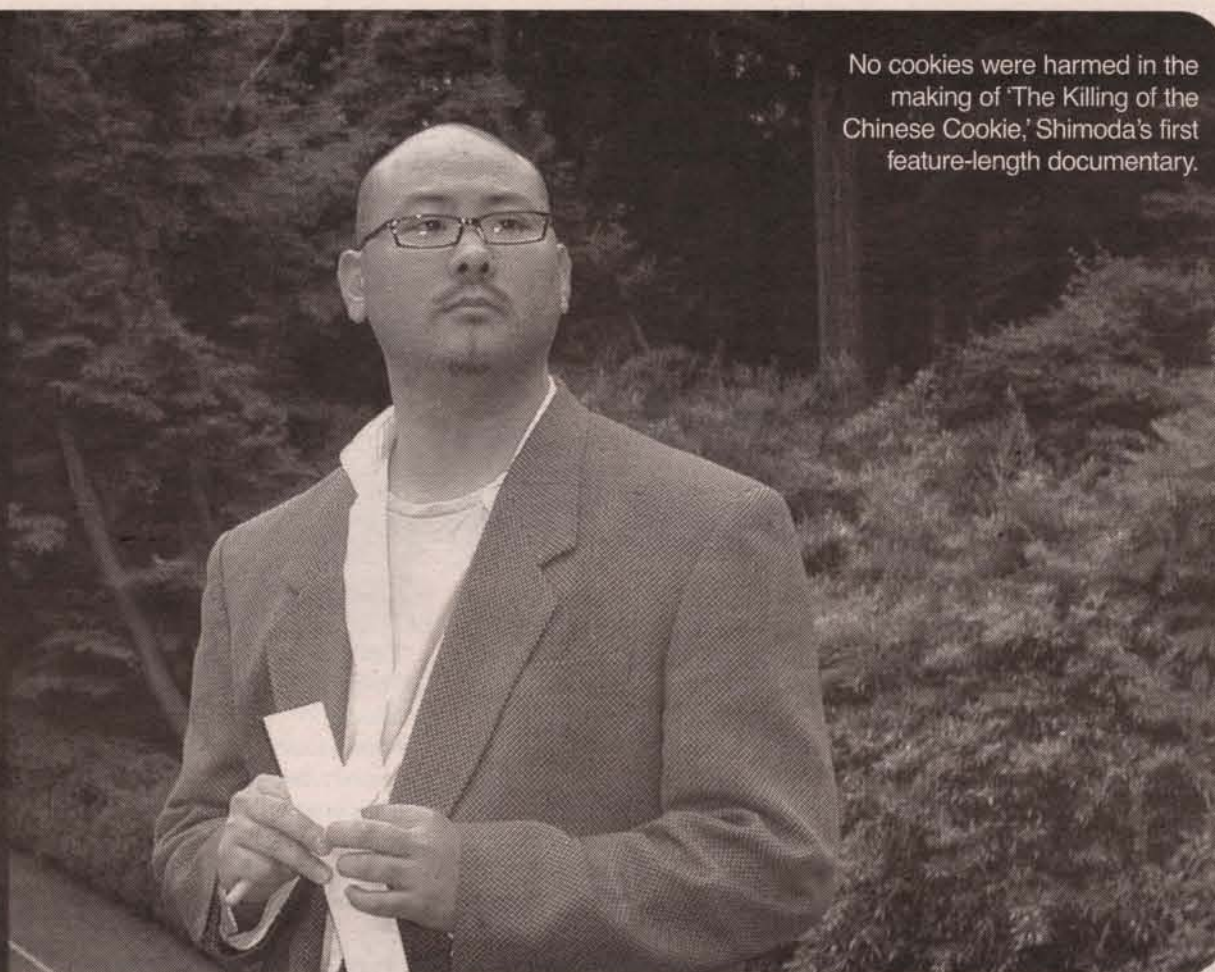
"And some were timid about their ancestry. *I am an American period*." And feeling proud then was like being (as sociologists would say) a *110 percent American*. ■



Cracking the Fortune Cookie

Chinese?
Probably not, according to
Derek Shimoda's first feature
length documentary.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor



No cookies were harmed in the making of 'The Killing of the Chinese Cookie,' Shimoda's first feature-length documentary.

In 2005, Derek Shimoda was watching the news when a story about lotto fraud caught his attention. Over 100 people came up winners at the March 30 Powerball lottery drawing — just too many to be a coincidence. At the center of the controversy was the fortune cookie.

The curvy, crunchy after-dinner snack actually yielded winning lotto numbers.

"That put a bug in my ear," said Shimoda, a 39-year-old filmmaker and researcher who has worked on documentary series for cable television networks like "National Geographic" and "A&E."

Everyone knows the sliver of paper tucked inside each cookie espouses predictions general enough to cover all of North America, but what do we really know about the fortune cookie?

Shimoda's mother had always said Los Angeles' Little Tokyo was the birthplace of the cookie. But he, like everyone else, thought the cookie was Chinese. After all, they are given out at every Chinese restaurant from here to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

Shimoda decided to dissect the contentious history in the fun documentary "The Killing of a Chinese Cookie," which took the Los Angeles native from San Francisco to Japan.

"I didn't think I would go to Japan. If anything I thought I would go to China."

Chinese or Japanese?

"The fortune cookie is an icon," said Shimoda.

In America, the fortune has permeated every part of popular culture. In China, however, if a piece of paper were found inside a cookie there would be an uprising and rabid complaints to the Chinese equivalent of the U.S. Health Department, according to one "Chinese

Cookie" interviewee.

If there were a hall of fame for universally palatable Asian foods, the cookie — along with neon glowing orange chicken — would be legends. But with legendary icons come epic lore and individual claims of ownership.

A slate of U.S. companies and families have staked claim on the creation of the famed cookie including San Francisco's Golden Gate

Park's Japanese Tea Garden, Los Angeles' Fugetsu-Do and Hong Kong Noodle Company, which has physical evidence — an old unopened can of the cookies.

A court trial was even fought out in San

Francisco's mock Court of Historical Review in 1983 where Los Angeles took on San Francisco and lost a bitter battle to call itself the birthplace of the fortune cookie.

Brian Kito, owner of the Fugetsu-Do confectionary shop, had an epiphany about his family's role in the making of the fortune cookie after watching an episode of "Ripley's Believe It Or Not," which explained that the fortune cookie may have Japanese American ancestry. Kito is part of three generations of confectioners who maintain that the fortune cookie was hewed out of their hands.

For "Chinese Cookie," Shimoda assembles an impressive cast of characters to wax philosophical about the cookie. But it wasn't an easy feat — many of the claiming families gave up their attempts for boasting rights.

Many thought since there would be no financial gain, why ruffle any feathers?

And some of these characters are really *characters*, including the white lawyer from the mock trial who dressed up in a traditional Chinese outfit for his interview.

"There are certain interviewees where you clinch your teeth and go, 'am I getting this?'" said Shimoda.

Too Much Success Too Soon

At first Shimoda, a Shin Nisei, had doubts that a cookie would — pardon the pun — have enough meat for a feature length documentary, but the people he met along the way carried the film.

Production began in 2006 with funding out of Shimoda's pockets and post-production financial help from Cherry Sky Films.

Shimoda always wanted to do something creative. He went to film school at San Francisco State and completed all of the requirements for a degree, but just never really officially applied for the certificate.

"I think I was itching to get out of there."

Perhaps the itch came from success. Before film school, Shimoda went to community college in Los Angeles where he met Mike Sakamoto. They talked about independent filmmaking and decided to make a short documentary about one-man band genius Arthur Nakane, a street performer often seen at Los Angeles' Santa Monica Pier playing three musical instruments at once.

"Secret Asian Man" was Shimoda's first foray into filmmaking. In 2000, the film made it into Sundance.

"We felt like we cheated the system," said Shimoda with a laugh. "Here were all these seasoned filmmakers, and here we were — newbies."

But too much success too soon may have proved difficult to swallow.

"Mike pulls me aside one day and says I have something to tell you and now that some time has past maybe you'll forgive me for it."

The news is funny ... now.

After Sundance, several big Hollywood studios were interested in meeting with the filmmakers. Mike, completely overwhelmed, never called them back.

"I could've killed him, but I've forgiven him. I mean we went to Sundance, got an interested call, but never called back. It's like the whole point of Sundance."

In the grand scheme of things, it worked out. "Chinese Cookie" is fun and irreverent as it navigates into other traditions of the cookie like adding "in bed" after reading your fortune out loud.

Still, Shimoda often wonders what would've happened if they had called the studios back after Sundance.

But that's just the way the cookie crumbles.

'The Killing of the Chinese Cookie'



San Francisco International Asian
American Film Festival
Sun., March 23

Also Screening At:

Chicago Asian American
Showcase in April
DisOrient Asian American Film
Festival of Oregon — April 24-27
The Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film
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— May 1-8

Watch the trailer at:
www.killingofachinesecookie.com

BASEBALL

Matsuzaka to Start in Japan Against Oakland A's

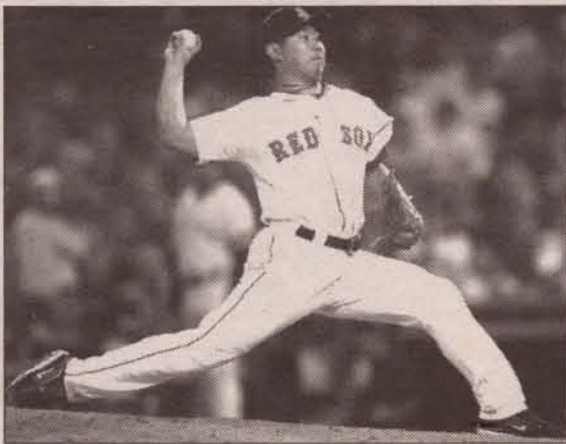
FORT MYERS, Fla.—Daddy Dice-K will be heading home to Japan after all to start the earliest season opener in baseball history.

The Red Sox right-hander's wife gave birth March 15 to their second child, their first son. That allows **Daisuke Matsuzaka** to travel with his teammates to Tokyo and allows the team to discard its contingency plans for its four games there.

"I think it's a relief for Dice-K knowing that there was uncertainty certainly up until early this morning," Boston pitching coach John Farrell said. "So the fact that she's healthy and the baby's healthy, this is one thing that he can put behind him now."

Matsuzaka will start the regular-season game in Tokyo on March 25 against Oakland. Both teams will play two exhibition games against Japanese pro teams before then.

There was a chance Dice-K would not accompany his teammates to



Major League Baseball is opening its season in Japan for the third time. Matsuzaka will start Mar. 25.

Japan if his wife, Tomoyo, had not given birth by March 19. The baby was born at 7:30 a.m. They did not release his name.

"We couldn't have scripted it any better," Farrell said.

Matsuzaka was a star for eight years in Japan before signing with the Red Sox before last season. He went 15-12 with a 4.40 ERA. Boston also added reliever Hideki Okajima

last year and he went 3-2 with a 2.22 ERA for the Red Sox.

"I'm sure they have rock star status over there," said pitcher Tim Wakefield.

Farrell doesn't expect Matsuzaka to be overwhelmed by the spotlight.

"He's been one who's been in the limelight and the attention seemingly all his adult life and I'm sure it will be an exciting time for him." ■

If Hideo Nomo Makes a Comeback, it will be as a Reliever

SURPRISE, Ariz.—If **Hideo Nomo** succeeds in his comeback attempt with the Royals, it will be as a reliever, not a starter.

The 39-year-old was informed of the decision March 16 in a meeting with manager Trey Hillman, one day after he gave up five runs and seven hits, including a three-run homer, in three innings against the Milwaukee Brewers.

"Plain and simple, we're not going to consider him a starter,"

Hillman said. "We wanted to do what we felt like was the right thing to do and being honest with him right now in our evaluation."

"We asked him what his wishes were with less than two weeks left in Arizona, and if he felt like he wanted to go elsewhere and compete for a starting role."

Nomo — who struck out five Brewers without a walk — has struck out 11 in 11 innings, allowing 17 hits. He is 1-0 with a 5.73 ERA.

"He choose to stay here, which was exciting to me," Hillman said.

Nomo, who has a 123-109 record and is the winningest Japanese pitcher in major league history, has made only two relief appearances in 320 games.

He had not pitched in the majors since 2005, going 5-8 with a 7.24 ERA in 19 starts with Tampa Bay. He had elbow surgery in 2006 and did not pitch at all last season. ■

Baseball Wraps Up First China Trip



The San Diego Padres played the L.A. Dodgers at China's Wukesong Stadium.

PHOTO: MLB.COM

BEIJING—Now that Major League Baseball has completed its first trip to China, it's looking ahead to a repeat visit.

"I would love to come back," Los Angeles Dodgers chairman Frank McCourt said March 16, when his team lost to the San Diego Padres 6-3 in the second of a two-game exhibition. "I feel we would be making a mistake if we felt that by playing these exhibition games the job was done. The job has just begun."

Padres pitcher Josh Geer picked up the victory, and Scott Hairston hit a tiebreaking double for San Diego, which overcame a three-run deficit.

The March 15 opener ended in a 3-3 tie after nine innings. The March 16 game drew a near-sellout crowd of 11,890, down slightly from 12,224 the previous day.

Both had the feel of games played almost anywhere in America with hot dogs and peanuts on sale and vendors selling beer and soft drinks. Many of the vendors even wore shirts patterned after the Texas flag, with Dodgers and Padres caps selling briskly.

The only hints this was China came from a Chinese flag waving in left field — the U.S. flag was alongside — and a stadium of mostly non-baseball fans cheering foul balls and ordinary outs.

"I absolutely think it's been a memorable weekend for the fans and for us in a different environment,"

Padres third baseman Kevin Kouzmanoff said. ■

Stories by Associated Press and P.C. Staff



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NCUA

MORI

(Continued from page 2)

Opponents of the annual convention idea say it's difficult enough to convince chapters to host biennial conventions — not to mention yearly ones. Perhaps if chapters understood the benefits they would be more willing. Planning a convention provides opportunities to develop leaders, make new friends and earn money.

Some chapters may be afraid of what is involved with hosting a convention, but even smaller chapters could do it. Although the elaborate decorations often prepared by host chapters are impressive, such aspects of the conventions could be done on a smaller and simpler scale.

A staff person would be hired to handle the annual convention. This does not mean that chapters would not still be heavily involved, but it would relieve much of the logistical and planning aspects of a convention. Other staff members will continue to have the responsibilities that they do now.

Some also argue that smaller chapters cannot afford to send delegates each year. But chapters and

districts are involved with bi and tri-district conferences every other year, so most are incurring similar costs of an annual convention.

The election of officers can continue to be held on the even years for two-year terms. By conducting business each year, we would be more up-to-date on issues and the reeducation process would be minimal.

Boosters (attendees who are not delegates) have been lacking in

recent years. Membership numbers have been declining. Although the organization is trying to be more open and is working to increase membership, corporate funding is vital for the JACL to survive and thrive.

Annual conventions would help us obtain more financial support and provide more visibility for the JACL. Most organizations hold annual conventions — it makes a lot of sense. Although it is human nature to resist change, sometimes change is necessary for growth and progress.

The proposal to switch to an annual convention will again be presented this July at the Salt Lake City national convention. I urge delegates to study the issue and to vote "yes" for annual conventions. ■

'I urge delegates to study the issue and to vote "yes" for annual conventions.'

Floyd Mori, JACL director

SHIMOMURA

(Continued from page 1)

that Floyd Shimomura, a recent law school graduate and member of the Sacramento chapter, was elected as vice president of public affairs. He would later be elected to president in 1982, solidifying his legacy as a pivotal player in the formation of the Redress campaign.

In the days before the start of the Redress campaign, Shimomura, a Sansei, became convinced that the movement was morally correct after reading Michi Weglyn's book, "Years of Infamy." The book, although irksome to some Nisei, was really the catalyst for the sociopolitical activism of the Sansei generation.

At the time of his election to JACL national president, Shimomura was only 35 years old — the youngest national board member (and to this day the youngest national president) ever elected after WWII.

"I think those of us who started the campaign did it because we knew it was the right thing. I don't think we did it because it was the smart thing. I think that most of us thought it was doubtful that we would get anything," he said.

Although the decision to embark on the Redress campaign was a large undertaking, Shimomura said it was

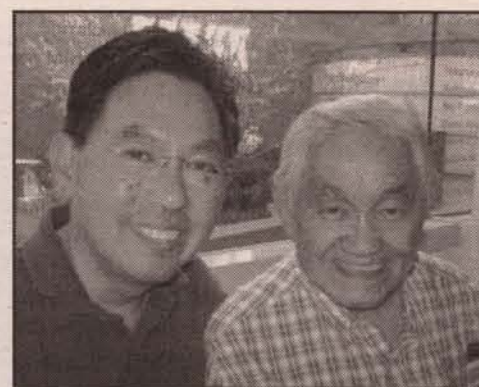
important for the honor of the community.

As a University of California at Davis law professor, he had keen legal insight into the proper methodology for the Redress campaign. Because of his knowledge on Washington, D.C.'s policy of monetary equity claims, Shimomura helped to craft the legislative approach for monetary reparation. During his two-year tenure as JACL national president, Shimomura helped craft JACL's legal brief for individual monetary payment and saw the first Redress bill go to Congress.

But what was really important about Redress to Shimomura?

"I remember when I was national v.p., John Tateishi and I met with Justice Goldberg of the Supreme Court; he was involved with the Jewish claims against Germany," said Shimomura. "When we went and talked with him, he thought we had a good case and claim, and that we should pursue it. But his other advice was to hire some lobbying firm to do it for us. We were all convinced that he was absolutely right, but there was no way that a lobbying firm would do it. So community action had to do it."

Looking back on the campaign he



Shimomura (left), former nat'l JACL president, with Harry Honda, former P.C. editor.

says, "One thing that makes me so proud is that the community did it itself. The way it was done through community action, support from our Nikkei congressmen and not some law firm was what made the whole struggle so pure."

Although the Redress movement seemed impossible at times, it was that principle of community action that drove the campaign.

"Redress was something you had to do for moral reasons and for reasons of honor," said Shimomura. "Personally, to be part of such a miraculous moral campaign is very gratifying." ■

This is one in a series of 'Redress, 20 Years Later,' articles written by JACL board and staff members to mark the 20th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act.

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HONOULIULI

(Continued from page 1)

Less than one-percent of local JAs were interned, a relatively small number in comparison to the mass evacuation of over 120,000 on the mainland. Because of this, the WWII experiences of JAs in Hawaii are usually not included in the discourse of internment history. Now, Asian Pacific American leaders are pushing this little known part of history into the light.

War is War

"It is important to recognize the importance of Hawaii's internment camps because of the different circumstances," said David M. Forman, vice president of the Hawaii JACL, who called JAs the "majority-minority" on the Hawaiian Islands during WWII. "Rather than being subjected to a mass roundup, a smaller group of mostly Japanese Americans was specifically targeted for internment."

After the Pearl Harbor attack, government officials began imprisoning JA community leaders who were suspected to have ties to the Japanese government — most were male community leaders, but there were a few women who were also rounded-up. Gradually, Henry Urata's friends began disappearing one by one.

"I think maybe [it's] me next," said Urata, 89.

Urata, who was born in Honolulu but sent to Japan for his education at a young age, returned to Hawaii without remembering how to speak English. He had to learn his native language all over again. In 1941, Urata was attending Mid Pacific Institute when he heard the roar of plane engines and watched Pearl Harbor get attacked.

"I saw everything. I was so shocked. About 300 airplanes came in."

Later Urata was summoned out of class and arrested. His crime was his ethnicity and his Japanese education. In 1943, 24-year-old Urata was taken to Honouliuli, which opened its doors March 1 of that year. The camp, located in a gulch, was built to hold up to 3,000 people, but its population peaked at only 320 including some local Germans, Italians and prisoners of war.

Honouliuli was where Urata's mother was allowed to visit a few times a month before he was transferred to Tule Lake in California.

"She was really sad. But what can we do? War is war," said Urata softly.

Some of the local JAs who were rounded up were eventually released, but most stayed until war's end and were never convicted of any crime. And unlike on the mainland where entire families were relocated,

in Hawaii only the men were taken, leaving behind broken families.

"Most of the former internees were citizens who lived their lives with a lot of courage, dignity and strength," said Gail Honda, an author who researched Hawaii's JA internees. "What struck me was their triumph of spirit. They made the best of a bad situation."

However once the camps were closed, they were virtually forgotten.

"Honouliuli was not on the forefront of Hawaii's consciousness for a long time," said Honda.

Finding Their Way Back

Many of Hawaii's internment camps cannot even be located anymore. Over the years, the land used to house the camps were developed or simply forgotten. Until recently, historians did not even have maps, said Jeff Burton, an archeologist who worked on Manzanar and Honouliuli.

Recently, a former internee came to one of Burton's lectures with a map of Honouliuli in hand. In February, Burton and a team of volunteers from the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i (JCCH) spent five days at Honouliuli exploring and excavating remnants of the former community. Concrete slabs believed to be part of camp structures were found along with bottles and other daily living accessories.

A dilapidated WWII era building, which was used by chicken farmers up to the 1980s, was also located on the site.

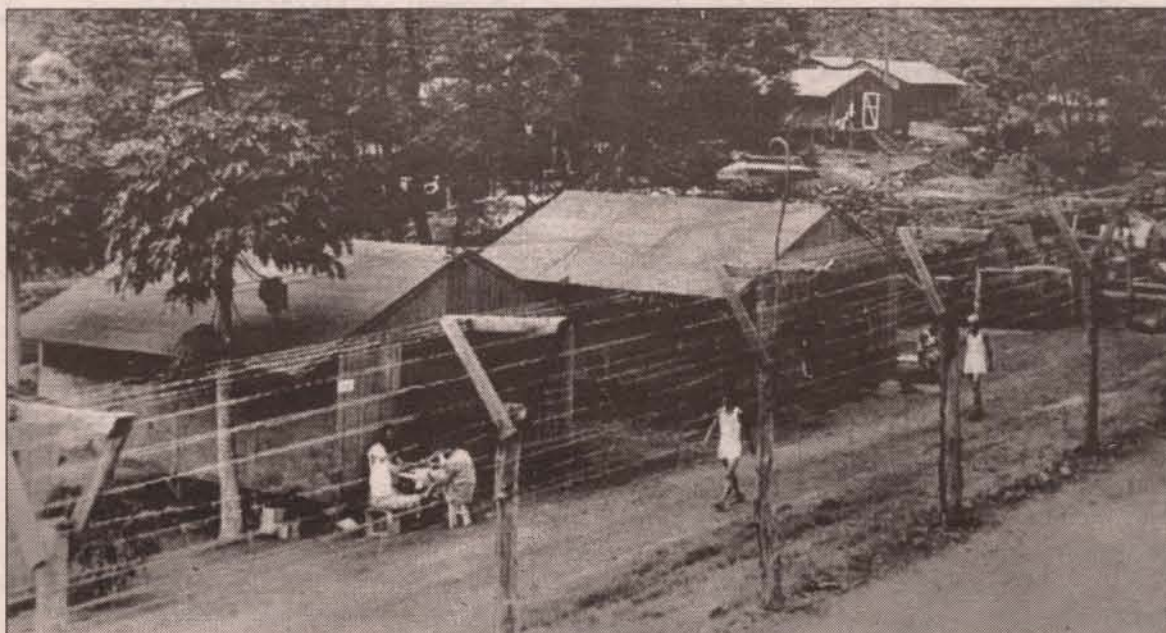
"Of all the camps there [in Hawaii] it's in the best condition. It tells the complete story," said Burton about Honouliuli.

Unlike sprawling and flat confinement sites on the mainland, the Hawaii camps were restricted to canyons and had smaller buildings. Security was also higher at Honouliuli than any other camp other than Tule Lake because it was built by the military and functioned as a POW camp for prisoners from the Pacific Theater, Burton added.

Community members are now pushing for Honouliuli, which is currently owned by Monsanto Corp., to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. There has also been a push for an onsite interpretative center.

On the first Sunday in March, some former internees and their families returned to Honouliuli, now barely recognizable with overgrown bushes and weeds. The event, "Never Again: E.O. to 9066 Honouliuli" attracted three of what is believed to be 12 of the surviving Hawaiian internees.

This first ever event sponsored by JCCH and the Hawaii JACL, coincided with an ongoing JCCH exhibit, "Dark Clouds Over Paradise: The Hawai'i Internees Story." Currently,



PHOTOS: JEFF BURTON AND JOCH



'Of all the camps there [in Hawaii] it's in the best condition. It tells the complete story.'

— Jeff Burton about Honouliuli.

At its peak, Honouliuli (above) held over 300 JAs during WWII. A recent site survey uncovered ghostly remains of a lost civilization (left).

no other Honouliuli pilgrimages are set, said Shayna Coleon of the JCCH.

On his return to Honouliuli, many positive memories came flooding back to Chojiro Kageura, 88.

"Not bad!" Kageura exclaimed about his time at Honouliuli.

He was interned for one year when he was 24 most likely because of his dual citizenship. Being single and given three meals a day among friends made the overall experience tolerable.

Urata agreed that the treatment and the food were better at Honouliuli, but he still saw two internees go mentally insane. During his three total years of incarceration, he kept asking himself how a government could do this to its own citizens.

He fights against his natural tendency to be quiet in order to talk about his internment experience.

"We weren't criminals. Why hide everything?" ■

EXHIBIT

'Dark Clouds Over Paradise: The Hawai'i Internees Story' Closes April 11

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CRAASH

(Continued from page 1)

funding.

"How can there be no funding for an academic program? You offer a miserable minor and then you freeze that?" said Lin, recalling her anger and frustration.

Inspired by the activists she had read about in her AASP course, Lin began spreading the word about AASP's demise. Before long she was meeting in her dorm room with a core group of people determined to help rejuvenate Hunter's AASP.

The result of those early meetings was the formation of the Coalition for the Revitalization of Asian American Studies at Hunter (CRAASH) in April 2007.

"This has a lot to do with activism in the Asian American community," said Lin. "Someone says the N-word and the whole African American community is in your face. The same is done to the Asian American community and nothing happens."

"If you have Asian American Studies, you educate people to do something and speak out. This ties into so many things, that's why it's so important."

A Program in Turmoil

Lin soon learned that the frozen minor was just the tip of the iceberg when it came to AASP's woes. For several years now the program has not had a department director, there is no permanent office space and besides \$500 for supplies, the program has zero funds allocated in this year's budget.

How could this have happened to a program that was created in 1993 after students demanded the formation of an AASP? With an AA student population of 26 percent,

Hunter is still the only college within the CUNY system to offer AASP courses.

"We're one of the most diverse colleges in this country, we have a huge Asian American student population," said Jessica Lee, 21, of CRAASH and a political science major. "Asian Americans are rising but we are struggling to be heard and seen."

"This program is unique because it came out of student protests years ago. We want to revive that struggle."

CRAASH has spent the past three semesters rallying their fellow students together. So far they've gathered 1,000 petition signatures, created a popular Facebook.com group page, and started an ongoing e-mail campaign.

Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab has yet to respond to CRAASH's inquiries but some of the students met with Dean Shirley Scott last fall to air out their concerns. So far, the students say they've received only a lukewarm reception.

"It's been a really antagonistic response," said Chris Eng of CRAASH, a 19-year-old English Literature major. "From the very start we've tried to be very professional, courteous, and every single time they have been indifferent. They tell us it was only meant to be a program" not a full-scale department.

The students believe much of the problems stem from the administration's lack of knowledge of the differences between Asian Studies and AA Studies. They also believe the school's assertion that there is not enough interest in the AASP program is resoundingly false.

"Every single class is full to the brim; every chair is taken," said Lin.

"It's an endless cycle. The Asian American Studies Program has no budget so you can't offer any new courses. The program sucks so there is no student interest, no student interest so the program sucks."

President Raab did not respond to *Pacific Citizen's* requests for an interview. Dean Scott declined to answer questions and instead referred the *P.C.* to Hunter's media relations department.

Small Steps

So far CRAASH's efforts seem to be having an impact, if only a small one. By 2007 Hunter students were once again able to minor in AASP.

"Nothing brings people together like a crisis," said Jennifer Hayashida, AASP's current part-time program coordinator and instructor.

She sees more interest now in the AASP and students have rallied around the efforts of CRAASH. More faculty members are also showing their support of the program, even attending some of the student group's meetings.

With zero dollars budgeted for AASP, Hayashida is looking for outside grants and funding but her limited hours have made it difficult. Although she has been able to organize some AASP events — including a Q&A with "Finishing the Game" Director Justin Lin last year — much more still needs to be done.

"I love my job but my hands are tied," she said. "We need to find new instructors. It's hard to build a program with a constantly changing faculty."

"The students are really motivated by the program; they get very little of their history from anywhere else," said Professor Margaret Chin who

See CRAASH/Page 16

I'm disappointed our efforts didn't pan out the way we had hoped. — Tsiwen Law, about the 2004 name-change campaign.



The steak shop is named after a former owner who had slanty eyes.

'CHINK'S STEAK'

(Continued from page 1)

Americans (OCA), the Asian American Bar Association of Delaware Valley and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) took on "Chink's Steaks" owner Joseph Groh in an unsuccessful name change battle.

The clash of civil rights groups and a steak shop owner stole media headlines and elicited feelings of outrage both over the offensive nature of the steak shop's name and what some called a politically correct assault on a private business.

But after all the dust settled, the controversial name remained. Now a few of the same APA groups are talking about starting up a new campaign to fight the expansion of "Chink's Steaks."

This time the stakes are higher, said Philadelphia ADL Regional Director Barry Morrison "because the battle was lost once already."

'A lot of our idealism and optimism died out.'

There are many reasons why the name change campaign failed four years ago, especially when you ask those who were involved. Most blame Groh for his refusal to budge, while others say it was the lack of sustained pressure that literally let the "Chink's Steaks" owner off the hook.

"My sense then was that the effort failed because there was not a strong enough campaign from local Chinese Americans," said Morrison.

Back then the grassroots movement was buoyed by a coalition of groups including the Persons for the Elimination of Racially Insensitive Language (PERIL) and Susannah Park, a West Philadelphia resident and campaign spokesperson. Their efforts became national news that eventually lead to a meeting with Groh mediated by the Philadelphia Human Relations Commission (HRC).

Park, now 25, was disappointed after that meeting.

"He felt like I was trying to force him to change the name. I was just trying to make him see my point of view as an Asian American," she said.

The original "Chink's Steaks" on 6030 Torresdale Avenue has been a popular cheesesteak neighborhood destination since 1949 when its founder Samuel Sherman began slinging steaks onto bread. The place is named after Sherman's lifelong nickname — "Chink," reportedly because he had slanted eyes. Sherman was not of Asian descent. When Groh bought the eatery from Sherman's widow in 1999, he kept everything the same.

During the height of the campaign, Park hoped that all parties could come to an amicable agreement without resorting to legal action. But when talks broke down, she said members of the grassroots movement simply became preoccupied with other engagements and moved on.

"I'm disappointed our efforts didn't pan out the way we had hoped," said Tsiwen Law, general counsel of the Greater Philadelphia OCA. He said it was Park who never stepped forward to file an official complaint with the HRC.

"For whatever reason I don't know," he said. If Park had filed a complaint, Law said the HRC — which enforces civil rights laws and mediates inter-group disputes — would have held fact-finding hearings to see if customers were turned away from the steak shop by the offensive name.

In 2006, the HRC filed a discrimination complaint against Geno's Steaks, the popular South Philly eatery that gained notoriety when its owner Joseph Vento posted a sign telling customers, "This is America: When Ordering 'Speak English.'" The hearings are ongoing.

Park said there was a lot going on behind the scenes of the 2004 campaign. She was both maligned and lauded in the media, by other residents and even within the APA com-

See 'CHINK'S STEAK'/Page 16



National business and Professional Directory

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Calendar

National

SALT LAKE CITY

July 16-20—2008 JACL National Convention; Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown, 75 South West Temple; \$225/regular, \$150/youth; early bird registration through June 30; events include, welcome mixer, youth luncheon, awards luncheon, sayonara banquet and a golf tournament. Info: www.utjacl.org.

East

BROOKLYN

May 3-4—27th Annual Brooklyn Botanic Garden Cherry Blossom Festival; 10-6 p.m.; Brooklyn Botanic Garden; enjoy 220 trees in bloom and celebrate with more than 60 events and performances; free with Garden admission. Info: www.bbg.org.

PHILADELPHIA

Sat., Mar. 29—Philadelphia JACL Installation Luncheon; noon-3 p.m.; Maggiano's Little Italy, 205 Mall Blvd., King of Prussia; speaker, Delphine Hirasuna; \$35/members, \$40/non-members. Info: Toshi Abe, 609/683-9489 or toshiabe1@mac.com.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Tue., May 20—APAICS Gala Dinner; 7-10 p.m.; JW Marriott Hotel; honoring Sen. Daniel Akaka, former U.S. Rep. Patricia Saiki, APALC Executive Director Stewart Kwoh; entertainment by Hiroshima.

Midwest

AMACHE, Colo.

Sat., May 17—Amache Pilgrimage; 6 a.m. bus departs from Simpson Methodist Church, 7 a.m. bus departs Tri-State/Buddhist Temple; \$25/bus fee. RSVP: Rose Shibao, 303/426-7874, Youko Yamasaki, 303/429-4129 or Hiroko Hung, 303/979-4127.

CLEVELAND

Sun., April 20—Cleveland JACL Reunion 2008; noon-4 p.m.; North Olmsted Party Center, 29271 Lorain Rd.; celebrating the 61st anniversary of the chapter, 20th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and honoring all JA veterans, community members that testified at the Redress hearings and contributors to JACL; \$16/person, \$8/children under 10. RSVP by April 12 to Karen Sodini, 440/238-3416 or Hazel Asamoto, 216/921-2976.

DENVER

May 26—Community Memorial Day Service; 11 a.m.; Fairmount Cemetery, Nisei War Memorial, 430 S. Quebec St.; 12:45 p.m. potluck lunch at Tamai Towers Penthouse. Info: Brian Matsumoto, 303/916-9998 or matsi22000@yahoo.com.

July 3-6—Conference, "Whose America? Who's American? Diversity, Civil Liberties and Social Justice"; commemorating the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, the conference will examine the connections between the WWII JA experience and the historical and contemporary issue surrounding democracy and civil rights. Info: www.janm.org.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

April 11-20—Exhibition, "Ceramic



The 7th Annual Southern California Cherry Blossom Festival comes to Little Tokyo April 5-6. The weekend will be filled with cultural performances, martial arts demonstrations and a health expo.

Art from the North: An Exhibition of the Hokkaido Pottery Society"; Portland Japanese Garden; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue.-Sun., noon-4 p.m. Mon.; featuring the works of 24 artists from the Hokkaido Pottery Society.

Through April 27—Exhibit, "Passing the Fan"; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center; exhibit features Oregon's master teachers of traditional Japanese dance; \$3 admission, free to ONLC members. Info: ONLC, 503/224-1458.

Northern California

CASTRO VALLEY

Sat., April 5—Asian Bone Marrow Donor Registration; 9-3 p.m.; Castro Valley High School, 19400 Santa Maria Ave.; hosted by the Eden Youth Group (Junior JACL).

HAYWARD

Thurs., April 10—"Dust Storm - Art and Survival in a Time of Paranoia"; noon-1:30 p.m.; University Theatre, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd.; performance will incorporate the art of the late Chiura Obata and the solo performance of Zachary Drake; free.

MANZANAR

Sat., April 26—39th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, "Manzanar ... The Legacy Continues"; program starts at noon, Manzanar at Dusk starts at 5 p.m.; buses will be departing from the Little Tokyo area. Info: 323/662-5102 or www.manzanar-committee.org.

OAKLAND

Sat., April 5—Japanese American Women Alumnae of UC Berkeley Annual Meeting; 11:45-3 p.m.; Yoshi's Restaurant and Night Spot, 510 Embarcadero West, Jack London Square; speaker, Betty Kano. Info: www.jawauch.org.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sun., May 18—Kimochi, Inc. Celebrates the 25th Anniversary of Kimochi Home; 2-4:30 p.m.; Hotel Kabuki, Imperial Ballroom; program features performances, light refreshments and a raffle drawing; RSVP by May 8 to 415/931-2294.

TULE LAKE

July 3-6—2008 Tule Lake Pilgrimage; four-day program includes: bus tour of former campsite, cultural performances in Klamath Falls, Ore., speeches from survivors of Tule Lake, discussion groups and a memorial service;

Equity; Sheraton Park Hotel. Info: www.nationalcapacd.org.

LOS ANGELES

Sat., Mar. 22—Little Tokyo Historical Society Collection Day; 10-2 p.m.; JANM, 369 E. First St.; the LTHS will be collecting materials related to Little Tokyo's history; pictures will be scanned for preservation and returned to you.

Sat., Mar. 22—Screening and discussion, "Resettlement to Redress"; 2 p.m.; JANM, 369 E. First St.; after the screening will be a discussion with Adam Schrager, author of *The Principled Politician: The Ralph Carr Story*. Info: www.janm.org.

Tue., Mar. 25—2008 Cherry Blossom Festival VIP Reception and Silent Auction; 6-9 p.m.; Los Angeles City Hall, Tom Bradley Tower, 27th Floor.

Fri., April 4—Japanese American Bar Association 32nd Annual Installation and Awards Gala; 6 p.m. no-host cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner; The Center at the Cathedral Plaza, 555 W. Temple St.; keynote speaker, Dale Minami with special tribute to Mitsuye Endo, Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu and Minoru Yasui; \$110/person. Info: Audra Mori, amori@perkinscoie.com, Dennis Yokoyama, dyokoyama@swlaw.edu or James Toma, james.toma@doj.ca.gov.

Sat., April 5—Community Rally, "JTown Voiced!! Rally for Our Community"; noon Little Tokyo Tour of Memories, 1 p.m. community rally; 244 S. San Pedro St.; come support and the join the community vision for Little Tokyo.

April 5-6—7th Annual Southern California Cherry Blossom Festival; Sat. 10:30-6:30 p.m., Sun. 10:30-5 p.m.; streets of Little Tokyo; featur-

ing entertainment, kids activities, cultural pavillion, health expo, food and a Hawaiian Village. Info: www.cherryblossomfestivalsocal.org.

THOUSAND OAKS

Sat., May 3—3rd Annual PSW District Golf Tournament; 11 a.m.; Los Robles Golf Course; 229 Moorpark Blvd.; \$115/golfer, \$400/foursome (must register at the same time); fee includes lunch, tee prizes, awards, shirt, dinner and voucher for a free round of golf; sponsorship opportunities are available. Info: PSW office, 213/626-4471, www.jaclpsw.org or golf@jaclpsw.org.

Arizona

CHANDLER

Sun., Mar. 30—Arizona JACL Chapter Picnic; 10-3 p.m.; Desert Breeze Park; enjoy food, games, fishing, prizes. Info: J.C. Kobashi, jkobashi@pvschools.net or 602/361-4524.


GLENDALE

Sun., April 27—Sara Hutchings Clardy Scholarship and Gold Saguaro Tribute Awards Luncheon; 1 p.m.; Glendale Civic Center; speaker, Joanne Oppenheim, author of "Dear Miss Breed." Info: Michele Namba, m.namba@cox.net or 623/572-9913.

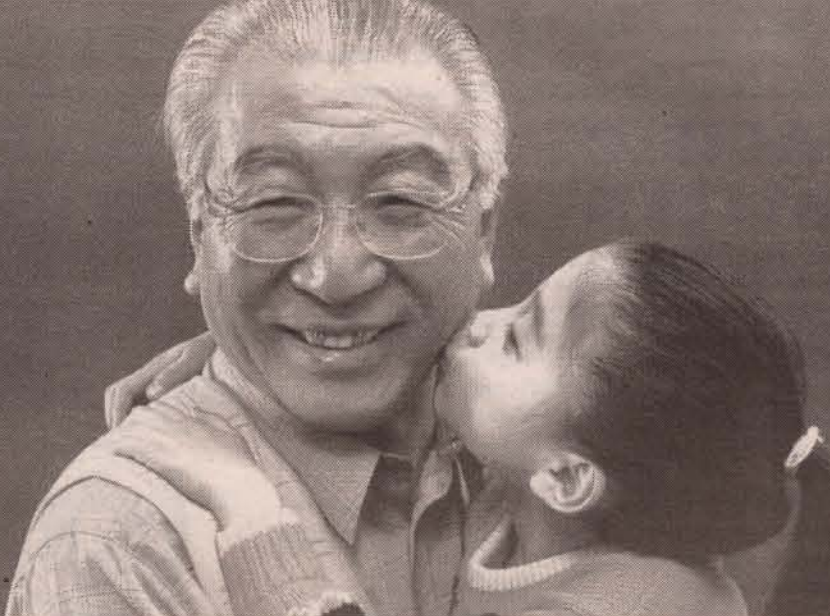
Hawaii

HONOLULU

Sat., July 12—Honolulu JACL Annual Membership and Awards Luncheon; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii's Manoa Grand Ballroom; honoring Bob Bratt, Jane Kurahara and Betsy Young. Info: Shawn Benton, 808/523-8464 or slmbenton@gmail.com. ■




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In Memoriam - 2008

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Ando, Esther Shinobu, 92, Los Angeles, Mar. 4; survived by daughters, Patricia (Jim Butler) Ando-Nakashima and Nadine (Mickey) Shintaku; son, Ronald (Andrea); 5 gc.; and 5 ggc.

Eji, George, 85, Chicago, Mar. 5; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by son, Wayne (Ryma Epel); daughters, Cheryl (Joe) Muszynski and Michelle (Jim) Corbett; sisters, Helen (Bob) Ishikawa and Kimiye Kashiya; and sister-in-law, Nathalie Eji.

Fukuda, Fred Masao, 89, Los Angeles, Mar. 4; survived by brothers, Hiroshi (Frankie), Jim (Kimi) and Dick (Marilyn); and sister, Nancy (Bob) Toguchi.

Hirata, Dorcas Asako Tanaka, 79, Feb. 16; survived by son, Kenneth; and brothers, Frank and Thomas.

Horiba, Jimmy Masatada, 86, La Palma, Feb. 13; survived by wife, Josephine; sons, Craig (Amy) and Wayne; brother, Saburo (Sets); and sister-in-law, Michi Horiba.

Imamoto, Mitsunori "Mits," 79, Torrance, Feb. 22; survived by wife, Marie; son, Daniel (Nancy); daughter, Linda (Gerard) Jensen; 5 gc.; and brothers, Takanori and Yoshinori.

Iwasaki, Toshio, 79, Gardena, Feb. 20; survived by daughter, Alice (Larry) Kikuchi; and 2 gc.

Kakehashi, Chiyo, 82, Gardena, Feb. 11; survived by husband, George; son, Burton (Ruth); daughters, Kathi, Amy (Paul) Pederson and Suzanne (John) Swanton II; 4 gc.; and siblings, Miyo Uratsu and Takuro Nakae.

Kawaye, Harry Harumi, Los Angeles, Feb. 28; MIS veteran; survived by wife, Hiroko; daughters,

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcomed. "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.

Carey (Patrick) Morrison, Janice and Diane; son, Jonathan (Mary); 2 gc.; and sister-in-law, Teru Kawaye.

Kitaoka, Harvey Norisada, 81, Rancho Palos Verdes, Feb. 24; WWII and Korean Conflict veteran; survived by wife, Kazy; brothers-in-law, Jack Furumura, Sam Yoshimura and Roy (Sachiko) Yoshimura; and sisters-in-law, Suzanne Kitaoka, Mihoko Saito and Amy (Frank) Nishikawa.

Koda, George, 88, Torrance, Feb. 9; survived by wife, Hiroko; sons, Jimmy, David and Steve; daughter, Susie (Glen) Nakao; 3 gc.; sisters, Mitsue Imanishi, Haruye Koda, Fujiko (Jack) Oriba, Sumiye (Ted) Takeuchi and Kazuko (Bob) Yamamoto; and brothers, Noboru (Masako) and Kenji (Shinobu).

Koga, George, 81, Monterey Park, Feb. 16; survived by wife, Josefine; daughters, Lisa (Bob) Solomon and Carrie Koga; son, Kevin Koga; stepdaughters, Christine Regis, Katherine Regis, Barbara (Elmer) Biscocho and Dr. Margot Regis; 7 gc.; and brother, Frank.

Maeshima, Naoko, 82, Lake Forest, Mar. 2; survived by son, Norman (Georgia), Karen (Charles) Yockey and June (Michael) Lindensmith; brother, Tomiya (Fumiko); and sister, Kayo.

Marumoto, Keiko Helen, Fullerton, Mar. 3; survived by husband, Dr. Benjamin; daughters, Tracey, Kimberly (Lance) Nakamoto and Kristin Marumo; and sister, Mitsue (George) Kaihara.

Masada, Sadamu, 85, Culver

Medal of Honor Recipient Shizuya Hayashi Dies at 90

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Shizuya Hayashi, a World War II 100th Battalion veteran and Medal of Honor recipient, passed away March 12. He was 90.

Hayashi was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on Nov. 29, 1943, when his platoon was attacking enemy soldiers in the Italian town of Cerasuolo. During the attack, he charged and overtook an enemy machine gun position and forced enemy troops to withdraw. A bullet grazed Hayashi in the neck.



He took four prisoners, including a teenage German boy in uniform who Hayashi could not bear to shoot.

Hayashi earned a Distinguished Service Cross, which was later upgraded to a Medal of Honor on June 22, 2000, when President Bill Clinton awarded the nation's highest military award for valor to Hayashi and 21 other Asian Pacific American veterans of WWII.

Hayashi was born in Hawaii on Nov. 28, 1917, and grew up on the Waialua Sugar Plantation.

Six months after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Hayashi and about 1,400 other Japanese American soldiers went to Camp

McCoy in Wisconsin on their way to the European Theater. During his year in combat, Hayashi was never critically wounded. He was discharged in July 1945.

Later in life, Hayashi toured the country and spoke about his experiences as a Medal of Honor recipient.

"Mr. Hayashi's passing reminds us of the impact Nisei veterans had on the history of our state and our country," Sen. Daniel Akaka said to the *Honolulu Advertiser*.

To date, there are only 105 living Medal of Honor recipients, according to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. ■

Mary; sons, Wayne (Donna) and Wendell (Jane); 3 gc.; brother, Roy; sister, Katie; and sister-in-law, Nori.

Satow, Russell William, 55, Maricopa, Ariz., Jan. 15; survived by daughter, Brooke; son, Joshua; sisters, Pam (Tadashi) Chiba and Gwyn (Ken) Schlothman; and brother, David (Karen).

Suda, George S., 92, Jan. 13; survived by sons, Donald (Joy), Dale (Julie) and Norman (Kathryn); daughter, Georgis (Michael); 8 gc.; 5 ggc.; and sister, Bernadette.

Suehiro, Richard Yoshio, 84, Honolulu, Feb. 24; WWII veteran, MIS; survived by wife, Maude; son, James (Gerin); daughters, Jan (Benjamin) Tamura, Jill (Mitch) Blaisdell and Julie Suehiro; 4 gc.; and sister, Nancy Sakazaki.

Sugai, Tetsuo, 86, Hilo, Haw., Feb. 26; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Itsuko; sons, Ted and Myles; 1 gc.; brother, Takao; and sister, Nobue Watanabe.

Tanabe, Bob Akira, 74, Auburn, Wash., Mar. 2; U.S. Army veteran;

survived by brother, Dan (Alice); and sisters, Florence (Tad) Fujita, Betty Kuwano and Tsuruko Tanaka.

Tominaga, Joe Tomeo, 82, Shelley, Idaho, Mar. 4; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by wife, Natch; daughter, Sandy (Joe) Wise; sons, Jerry (Sandra) and Robert (Melanie); 8 gc.; 1 gc.

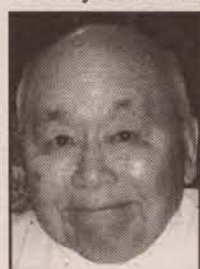
Tsumori, Paul Takeshi, 80, Long Beach, Feb. 29; survived by wife, Emiko; daughters, Judi (Warren) Kusumoto and Nanci (Dale) Sueda; 4 gc.; and sister, Bernice Kodama.

Yasuda, Joe Minoru, 87, Los Angeles, Feb. 25; survived by wife, Sonoye; son, Chris (Kathy); daughter, Ann; 2 gc.; and sister, Mary (Kay) Futamase. ■

DEATH NOTICE

MASAYOSHI "MAS" HARADA

Services and Interment for Masayoshi "Mas" Harada of Crystal Lake III, formerly of Minneapolis, Minn. will be private.



Mas was born on Sept. 17, 1915 in Los Angeles, Calif. He passed away quietly after a brief illness on Mar. 2, 2008 in Woodstock, Ill.

He attended the University of California at Berkeley. Later with the late Richard Burger, he founded Qualitone Hearing Aids and Audiometers. Mas is a holder of numerous patents for his innovations in hearing aid technology. After selling Qualitone to Seeburg Industries, he became involved with numerous private investment activities and he enjoyed travel, fishing and skiing.

Survivors include his children: Gary K Harada and his wife, Lori of Oakwood Hills, Ill. and Robert G. Harada and his wife, Catherine of Lafayette, Colo. Two grandchildren: Dr. Caroline Harada and Matthew Harada and their spouses, Fredrick Vars and Teal Bathke Harada. Two great-grandchildren: Jackson and Eleanor Harada, and one brother, Fred and his wife Aiko.

He was preceded in death by his wife Nobuko and a brother Tom.

Donations can be made in memory of Mr. Harada to: National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, 1620 I St. NW, Suite 925, Washington D.C. 20006.

Sign the guestbook at www.legacy.com.

EDWARD M. KANEMORI

After a short illness, Ed at the age of 84, passed away on Mar. 13.

He is survived by his wife Amy, sister Yoshiko Kadota of Hawaii, son Gary (Sandra), daughter Gail (Eugene) Minamoto, and his four grandchildren Kelly, Lisa, Evan, and Lindsay.

Ed was born and raised on the Big Island of Hawaii. During WWII, Ed served in the MIS. He also served in the Air Force during the Korean War and later settled in San Francisco where he met and married Amy Yoshida. After his children were born, Ed & Amy moved to Santa Clara, their home for the past 49 years. Ed worked for United Airlines for 31 years and retired in 1988.

Per Ed's request, no memorial service will be held. Ed will be interred at Skylawn Memorial Park in San Mateo.

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CRAASH

(Continued from page 13)

supports the efforts of CRAASH. "Our campus is extremely diverse and many of the students feel they want to learn about the various groups in the U.S."

An East Coast-West Coast Dichotomy

When Jackie Fernandez, 20, decided to leave California State University, Northridge (CSUN) to attend Hunter she knew she would see fewer balmy days. What she didn't know was she would also be giving up her beloved Asian American

Studies courses.

"I went to CSUN and took so many Asian American Studies courses. Now I know it's something I took for granted. I never thought Asian American Studies would be so few and far between. It's a joke," said Fernandez, a film and media major.

"This is New York City, this is not Middle America, and we are fighting for Asian American Studies. We are fighting for the education we were promised."

AASPs on the West Coast flourished after the student strikes 40 years ago demanding ethnic studies. At colleges like the University of

California at Los Angeles, established AA Studies departments have a number of full-time faculty members with burgeoning budgets.

At Hunter there are currently no full-time AASP faculty members. Most of the teachers in the program are adjuncts or professors who also teach in other departments. Many of the AASP courses are also funded by the English department.

"It's the twilight zone. Most people from California don't believe me when I tell them what is happening here," said Hayashida, who is originally from the Bay Area and attended UC-Berkeley.

CRAASH is now planning an April 16 conference at Hunter entitled: "Strengthening Education: Empowering Asian American Studies." A number of speakers have been invited and the group hopes to strengthen their current campaign.

"Our end goal is to see CRAASH die so the Asian American Studies Program can survive on its own," said Lin.

location of the new "Chink's Steak" on South Columbus Boulevard. The street bordering the Delaware River attracts a lot of residents and visitors to its shopping centers and big box retailers, said Gayle Isa, executive director of the Philadelphia Asian Arts Initiative.

The chances of it being ignored are slim, said Morrison.

"Obviously, it's disappointing that despite the community protest, the business owner would open up another place choosing the same name," said Isa.

Its new address also puts "Chink's Steaks" just over a mile away from Geno's, making the area an epicenter for controversial steak shops.

In 2004, Groh argued that changing the name would affect his business. The steak shop has bore the same name for over 50 years and changing it could make customers assume that it was under different ownership.

But critics say in the new site, there is no existing clientele so the same theory would not hold up.

"He's a businessman. He's trying to make money the best he can, but you would think in this multicultural world it would be better not to offend the population," said Nick Shenoy, executive director of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia.

"I can't say I'm surprised that there is another one opening up. I guess I'll really know what I feel once it opens," said Park, who added that her busy work and school schedule prevents her from spearheading another campaign, but she would support it if someone else takes the lead.

If there is another campaign, Law said they need to hit "Chink's Steaks" in the pocketbook by targeting their customers.

"This time the message needs to be louder, clearer and more vigorous," said Morrison. ■

For more information

www.home.earthlink.net/~phila_jacl

www.oca-gp.org

www.adl.org



Olivia Lin (left) and Jackie Fernandez take CRAASH's message to the airwaves. The two members were recently interviewed by Falloutcentral.com to discuss Hunter College's AASP.

But until then, the students plan to keep on fighting.

"The administration hopes to hold off so they can wait until we graduate and then leave," said Fernandez. "But we are not going to stop." ■

The CRAASH conference will be held April 16 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Hunter College campus.

For more information, e-mail: HunterCRAASH@yahoo.com.

'CHINK'S STEAK'

(Continued from page 13)

munity.

"Interestingly, other Asian American individuals and activists didn't take our campaign so seriously. I think they thought there were other more important issues. I personally think the issue is a great starting point for dialogue into other issues," said Park, who added that by the end "a lot of our idealism and optimism died out."

New Location, New Battle

Some of the original APA groups are in the preliminary stages of possibly launching another campaign against "Chink's Steaks."

This time, they have more experience.

"We have to have a broad-base educational campaign," said Law. "Last time, there were people who dismissed the campaign as being silly. Then there were questions about whether the campaign actually gave the steak shop additional business. It's a balancing act."

Because "Chink's Steaks" is a neighborhood eatery, people reacted like it was an attack on their neighborhood, which it wasn't, added Law. It was an attack on the use of the racially offensive word.

The steak shop promotes itself as part of a throwback to the 1950s, an era when using a racial slur for a nickname and a trade name was acceptable, said Paul Uyehara, a Philadelphia JACL board member.

"Well, this isn't the 1950s and there is no justification for the toleration of throwback racism. We're not going back to Jim Crow. We're not going to repeal the Civil Rights Act of 1964. We don't think Mrs. Cleaver's housewife in pearls [image] is something to strive for. We don't want lead in our gas or paint, so why should we tolerate morons who think racial slurs are neat?" he added.

Groh did not respond to the *Pacific Citizen's* requests for comment.

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