



APAs want an apology for slant-eye photos. — PAGE 3

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



No on Prop 8!

JACL continues its strong support of same-sex marriages.

NATIONAL PAGE 3

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9/11 Seven Years Later: APA Leaders Say Civil, Human Rights is Needed for All

JA leaders continue to draw parallels between present day war policies and the WWII internment.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

It felt like just yesterday that James Yee was at Guantánamo. The 40-year-old former Muslim Army chaplain spent less than a year at the infamous U.S. detention center, but the memories still haunt him. Such is the typical experience of those who come to know the place, especially for Yee who has been both a minister to the prisoners and an accused terrorist spy.

It's been five years since Yee, a West Point graduate and third generation Chinese American, was arrested Sept. 10, 2003, and accused of espionage by his own government. In the years between, life has moved on. Yee has written a book about his ordeal, traveled all over the U.S. to lecture about human rights abuses, and recently helped nominate a Democratic presidential



LOOK FAMILIAR?: Many say wartime policies at Gitmo are echoes of the past.

candidate as a delegate in Denver.

But his voice still crackles with anger when he journeys back to this dark spot in his memory.

"I was in fear for my life," said Yee to the *Pacific Citizen*

about being threatened with the death penalty. In his Navy brig solitary cell, he had to come to grips with being falsely convicted. "That was a reality for me."

All criminal charges against Yee were eventually dropped and he received an honorable discharge in 2005 along with a second Army Commendation medal for "exceptionally meritorious service." The irony isn't lost on the Olympia, Wash. resident — he says his clean slate is proof that the military made a mistake.

"I'm still expecting an official apology," he said. But to get the U.S. to apologize for anything, he added, is not easy.

It took over 40 years for America to recognize and redress its mistakes in the roundup and internment of Japanese Americans

See SEPT. 11TH/Page 10

Bridging the APA Divide

'FOB' and 'Twinkie' are derogatory labels some APAs affix on others to create subgroups. It's an example of internalized racism, experts say.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

Look closely at any community and the fracture lines begin to show. Hyein Lee, 19, noticed one day that the Asian Pacific American students at her university had carefully divided themselves into smaller social groups.

One usually gathered in front of the New York University library while the other hung out at student lounges in another part of campus. Rarely did the two groups ever min-

gle. The dividing factor seemed to be acculturation — the Asians versus the "Americanized" APAs. So Lee wrote an article for her student newspaper calling for the barriers between the two groups to come down.

"I think there is an underlying assumption that because we are of the same racial heritage, we will 'naturally get along' on some common ground," said Lee, a junior at NYU majoring in sociology and history.

But human beings are social animals that tend to group together based on similarities. Under the



PHOTO: BRIAN TANAKA

DIVERSITY: Shin Issei Yo Miyamoto (foreground) with Gosei Stacy Iwata and Yonsei Sean Takai.

umbrella of community, smaller subgroups can form based on anything from national origin and economic status to simple preferences of pop music over rock.

See APA DIVIDE/Page 11

APA Groups Blast LPGA New Rule Requiring Intl. Players to Speak English

The LPGA has taken tolerance and diversity back several giant steps, said JACL National Director Floyd Mori.

By P.C. Staff and
Associated Press

Starting in 2009, the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) will suspend players that cannot speak English well enough to pass an oral evaluation.

The LPGA Tour boasts players from all over the world, and Asian Pacific American groups are speaking out against the new rule, which many say targets South Korean players.

There are 121 international players See SPEAK ENGLISH/Page 12



Angela Park believes the new policy is good for the tour and its players.

Animal Feedlot Near Historic Minidoka Site Gets Commission's Approval

With a 2 to 1 vote, Jerome County Commissioners reverse an earlier decision and approve the Big Sky Farms permit.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

An unwanted neighbor may soon be moving in.

In a reversal of an earlier decision, the Jerome County Commissioners voted 2 to 1 to approve a controversial 13,000-heifer feedlot just over a

mile downwind from the Minidoka Internment Historic Site in Southern Idaho.

The Aug. 11 vote was prompted by a district judge's ruling in June that ordered the Commission to revisit the issue, this time focusing on existing county zoning and feedlot ordinances instead of the county's comprehensive plan.

The approval of the Big Sky Farms confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) permit stunned many former Minidoka internees and descendants who have long opposed the facility fearing odor, waste management and airborne pathogens.

"I was excited when I heard that [the feedlot] was turned down," said Dale Watanabe, a Sansei who recently attended the Minidoka pilgrimage. "I was surprised by the latest turn of events and am shocked that they have now approved it."

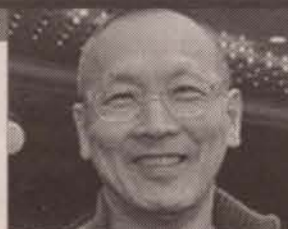
Many of Watanabe's family members — including all of his aunts and uncles — once called Minidoka home, a facility that housed close to 13,000 Japanese Americans during World War II and was the largest of the 10 internment camps.

He believes the Commission's recent vote is stomping on the See MINIDOKA/Page 13

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He's Back!

Filmmaker Wayne Wang talks community, family and new projects.

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Still Racist

APAs in Sac'to protest a showing of offensive 'Breakfast at Tiffany's.'

NATIONAL PAGE 4



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COMMENTARY

A Silver Lining to a Legacy of Leadership

By BRANDON MITA

In the late 1920s, a generation of Japanese Americans, many of whom were still in their infancy of adulthood, took it upon themselves to form a vision. This vision was to be the guiding light for their people as they attempted to traverse the murky waters of discrimination and injustice.

Its culmination led to the formation of the Japanese American Citizens League in 1929 — an organization that was established to defend the rights of the Issei and Nisei.

In those dark days, the JACL paved the way so that our ancestors could remove themselves from the shadows and emerge in the sunlight. It was there that JACL became that beacon of hope, the light that would guide a community. That generation endured internment, racist anti-immigrant legislation, and a hatred that ran deep in American society. In the end, they prevailed as Americans.

As JACL progressed, it incorporated the struggles of the various eras. During the civil rights movement, JACLers linked arms with African Americans as they marched peacefully through the Jim Crow South. JACL raised its voice for the rights of same-sex couples that were denied — and are still very much denied — the freedom to love and marry their partners.

Today, JACL continues in that tradition as it

defends the right to vote, the freedom to immigrate to this country, and to live without fear of oppression.

The examples I have listed are not strictly Japanese American issues. Yes, they may have been the things that JACL cared deeply for upon its conception, but today JACL represents the voice of oppressed peoples everywhere. JACL represents the liberty that we are willing to risk everything for.

At this past national convention in Salt Lake City, students and young professionals, not much different in age than those that came together to form this organization and those that died on the battlefields in Europe, stood together to mark a new chapter in JACL activism. We, the National Youth/Student Council (NY/SC) and the JACL youth, raised our collective voices to bring to light an issue that touched upon our humanity.

In North Korea, there are those that are not able to share in the freedom that we hold dear. In fact, there are many millions of people in North Korea that are living without basic necessities that neither you nor I think about on a daily basis. They are denied necessities like food, water, and shelter.

Reminiscent of the bygone years of Hitler and Stalin, Kim Jong Il holds an iron fist over the North Korean people. Thousands die each year of starvation. Thousands of North Korean women are being trafficked into China as sex



Brandon Mita urges support of the North Korean resolution at the JACL national convention in Salt Lake City.

slaves. Thousands more are imprisoned in Nazi-like work camps. The most saddening part, millions of North Korean children are

See MITA/page 14

CORRECTION



In the Aug. 1-14, 2008, P.C. issue the incorrect photo for Adrian Hong (pictured here), executive director of LiNK, was published on pages 1 and 3. The P.C. apologizes for the error.



Letters to the Editor



Funds Should Go Towards Turlock Monument

I read with interest about a project to build a monument where during WWII the Turlock Detention Center once stood (*Pacific Citizen*, Aug. 15-Sept. 4). This was 66 years ago where 3,699 JAs were unjustly incarcerated.

What is remarkable is this project was initiated by a young non-Nikkei student Kayla Canelo of Cal State, Stanislaus, who learned of this from a history class taught by Dr. Nancy Taniguchi. She was later joined by David Seymour to raise funds to construct this historical monument.

The "note" [at the end] of the article states "all monies raised over the needed \$1,000 will be donated to local JACL chapters." I do not know the reason(s) for this but wouldn't it be more significant to perhaps use this money for a larger monument and/or to beautify the area surrounding the monument?

STANLEY N. KANZAKI
N.Y. CHAPTER JACL

Replacement 'Nihomachi' CDs are Now Available

Replacement compact discs are available for those who purchased the "Nihomachi: The Place to Be," original cast CD on July 18 at the JACL national convention.

Completed just before the convention, a box of CDs was shipped directly to the hotel in Salt Lake City for sale after the Grateful Crane Ensemble's performance of the musical play. However, a technical error on the number 19 track was discovered on a random sampling of CDs after the convention.

Since then, the CD was redone. Replacement copies are now available at no charge.

To request a replacement CD, send in your name and address to the Grateful Crane Ensemble: P.O. Box 29772, Los Angeles, CA 90029, or e-mail Soji Kashiwagi at soji910@msn.com.

SOJI KASHIWAGI
VIA E-MAIL

Re: 'Is it Too Late for Black Reparations?'

If monetary reparations for the eviction and "internment" — that is, confinement of Japanese Americans — is used as a precedent for granting monetary reparations to present day blacks for their ancestors' enslavement, advocates should be reminded that reparations for Japanese American internment were given only to those who were alive when the law granting those payments took effect some 40 years after the eviction and imprisonment occurred.

In keeping with this precedent, monetary reparations should be paid only to former black slaves who are alive when reparations to former American black slaves are approved by the U.S. government.

FLORENCE DOBASHI
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

JACL Opposes Same-Sex Marriage Ban in California

If passed, Proposition 8 would overturn a state Supreme Court decision for marriage equality.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The JACL has joined the "No on Prop 8 Equality for All" Campaign in support of marriage equality in the state of California.

This campaign is an organized effort to defeat Proposition 8 in the November general elections. The proposition would amend the state constitution to recognize marriage as only between a man and a woman.

Proposition 8 is a response to the May California Supreme Court decision extending marriage rights to same-sex couples, making the state the second behind Massachusetts to legalize gay marriage.

"This proposition would blatantly deny a specific group of people the respect and dignity of equal treatment under the law," said Larry Oda, JACL national president.

Steve Smith, senior strategist for "No on Prop 8" campaign said the organization is "proud to work with the Japanese American

Citizens League."

"Together we will work to ensure that no one is singled out for unfair treatment under our constitution," Smith said. "Gay and lesbian people are our neighbors, our friends, our coworkers and our family members. We should not hurt gay and lesbian couples in California by voting to eliminate their freedom to marry the person they love."

Several JACL chapters and the Pacific Southwest District have also made statements against the proposition.

PSW is encouraging Californians to vote against Proposition 8 to oppose what it considers to be a discriminatory and limiting piece of legislation. Marriage is a fundamental human right for all California residents, including the 10,000 Asian Pacific Islander same-sex couples in the state, according to a PSW statement.

"Those who are in love should have the freedom to express that love to each other and have the rights that any other couple has," said Craig Ishii, PSW regional director.

PSW has partnered in this effort with API Equality-LA, an organization founded in 2005 to advocate for marriage equality. The two

groups have worked together by passing out fliers at local community events and raising awareness about the legislation.

At its 1994 National Convention in Salt Lake City, the National JACL became the second non-gay organization after the American Civil Liberties Union to support same-sex marriage.

In September 2007, the JACL as a part of a coalition of over 60 Asian Pacific American groups filed an *amicus* brief in support of same-sex couples in the California Supreme Court case.

Ishii said the district office has been working to coordinate chapter visits to educate members on Proposition 8. He said he hopes acceptance of same-sex marriage will lead to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/Transsexual couples being able to live comfortably in society.

"Marriage is just one step," Ishii said. "This is not the finale." ■

On the Web

www.jacl.org

www.jaclpsw.org

www.apiequalityla.org



Proposal Seeks to Strike Alien Land Law from Florida Constitution

By Pacific Citizen Staff

In November, Florida voters will determine if a longstanding alien land law provision will stay in the state Constitution.

The proposal would eliminate an obscure provision, which can stop those ineligible for U.S. citizenship from owning property in the state. The law was originally targeted at Asian immigrants who could not become naturalized citizens.

Asian Pacific American groups including the Organization of Chinese Americans and the JACL have spoken out in support of the new proposal.

"The law has its roots in racism and has no place in our society," said Larry Oda, JACL national president. "The law is meaningless and should be removed from the books."

Because no ethnic group is barred from citizenship based on race in the U.S. today, Florida Senate Minority Leader Steve Geller called the proposal "purely symbolic" in *The Tampa Tribune*.

Critics of the new proposal say the alien land law serves a purpose in the current age of terrorism. People who pose a threat to national security are ineligible for citizenship and, as a result of the provision, cannot hold property in the state of Florida.

"The argument that the present law prevents national security threats from owning property is an appeal to people's fear but does not speak to the point," Oda said.

Florida adopted its alien land law in 1926, and before 1952, the only aliens who were ineligible for citizenship were Asians, Oda said.

In its decision for the case *Takao Ozawa v. U.S.*, the Supreme Court ruled that Japanese immigrants were ineligible for naturalized citizenship, and the U.S. Immigration Act passed by Congress in 1924 denied U.S. entry to most Asians.

Many states adopted alien land laws, fearing an influx of Asian laborers who were often viewed as an economic threat, according to the Organization of Chinese Americans. However, after Congress eliminated race as a factor in citizenship and the courts struck down such laws, different states began to repeal the alien land laws.

Florida and New Mexico are the only two states where alien land laws are still on the books.

This year is the 20th anniversary of redress for Japanese Americans, and Oda said that those who think the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 alone prevents such injustices from happening again are wrong.

"The fact that the Florida Alien Land Law still remains on the books ... tells me that we still need to be vigilant and to uphold the ideals of the Constitution against those who are bent on curtailing our civil liberties," Oda said. "Let's take these racist laws off the books and make laws that address our concerns, not limit our freedom." ■

'Let's take these racist laws off the books and make laws that address our concerns, not limit our freedom.'

— Larry Oda, JACL national president

APA Groups Condemn Teams' 'Slant-Eye' Photos

Four photos have emerged of Spanish and Argentinean sports teams, which include some familiar faces, making the gesture. APAs groups want an apology from the NBA.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The National Basketball Association has yet to comment on the photo of the Spanish men's Olympics basketball team pulling back the skin around their eyes, but Asian Pacific American groups are demanding a public response from the organization that employs some of the players.

NBA players Pau Gasol, Jose Calderon, Rudy Fernandez and Marc Gasol are featured in the photo, which surfaced on the internet shortly before the Olympic Games in Beijing.

The slant-eye gesture is considered by many APAs to be racially offensive.

Members of the Spanish team have said the picture was meant to be a tribute to the host country, but National Asian Pacific American Bar Association President Helen B. Kim dismissed such explanations to downplay the racial slight.

"The emphasis placed by Spanish basketball players Pau Gasol and Jose Manuel Calderon on an allegedly benign — even affectionate — intent behind the photo misses the point entirely," said Kim.

NAPABA said continued silence regarding the photo sends a message that the NBA does not fully support APA Olympians and Olympic coaches.

NBA star and Team USA participant Jason Kidd also spoke out against the photo, saying the NBA's silence presents a double standard.

"We would've been already thrown out of the Olympics," he said to Yahoo! Sports. "At least, we wouldn't have been able to come back to the U.S."

A public statement regarding the incident would not be the first time the NBA condemned anti-Asian actions. In 2003, the NBA criticized player Shaquille O'Neal for making derogatory remarks about Houston Rockets star Yao Ming, who was also a member of the 2008 Chinese Men's Olympics basketball team.

During NBC's coverage of the Beijing games, anti-Asian stereotypes were even made by journalists. In a



recent episode of "The Today Show," host Kathie Lee Gifford imitated a personal voice message left by her co-host Al Roker, according to Gawker.com.

"You married to old man," said Gifford in a mock Asian accent.

APA groups including the JACL and Organization of Chinese Americans in Washington, D.C. have condemned these racist gestures.

"This is coming from grown men who are supposed to be representing their nation," said Sarah Smith, a spokesperson for the OCA, to ABC News. "It's something that I haven't seen since I was a kid."

JACL National Director Floyd Mori condemned the team's racially offensive pose in a letter to Jacques Rogge, president of the International Olympic Committee.

Mori said that because the Olympics puts the Spanish basketball team in contact with fans and players from around the world, there is "an expectation that the Spanish team will regard their opponents and the people of other nationalities with dignity and respect."

The photo, which was reportedly a part of a good luck send-off, ran on a full page in the Spanish sports daily, *Marca*. The Spanish women's basketball team also posed in a similar photo.

This is not the first time a Spanish athletic team has made the slant-eye gesture. Spain's 2008 Federation Cup Tennis team made the same pose for a picture when they beat China to move to the Federation Cup finals, and the Spanish women's Olympics basketball team also posed slanting their eyes.

However, Spanish athletes are not alone in making the gesture. Argentina's Olympic women's soccer team also took a photo using their fingers to slant their eyes.

Because Madrid is one of the four sites under consideration for the 2016 Olympics, Mori said the Spanish Olympic Committee should have learned to be sensitive from this incident. ■

Sacramento Cancels 'Breakfast at Tiffany's' Showing After Complaints of Anti-Asian Racism

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

The city of Sacramento has cancelled a showing of the 1961 film "Breakfast at Tiffany's" after Asian Pacific American groups complained about Mickey Rooney's stereotypical performance as Mr. Yunioshi.

Dr. Christina Fa of the San Francisco-based Asian American Media Watch said "Breakfast at Tiffany's" is "arguably the most racist anti-Asian film in American cinematic history." She told the *Pacific Citizen* that she would have never thought Sacramento would make such a mistake considering the city's large APA community influence.

"It would not reflect well upon Sacramento for its vice mayor to be showing such a racist film for entertainment in a free, public venue," Fa said in her letter to Vice Mayor Steve Cohn.

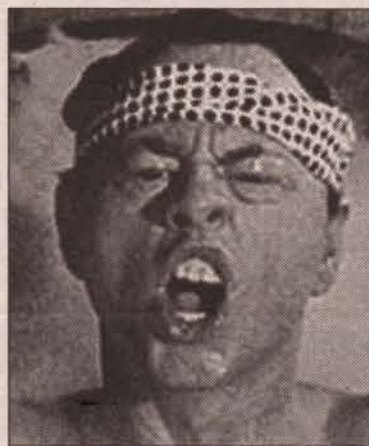
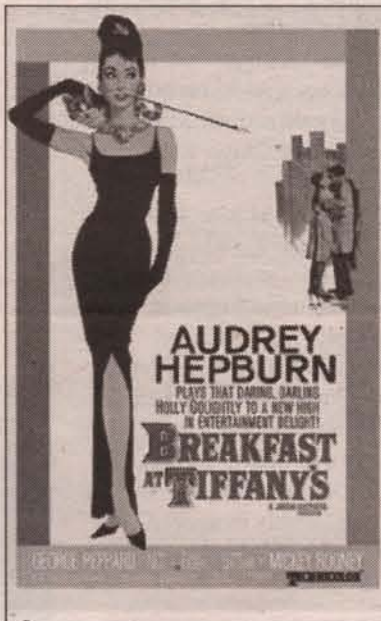
Jerry Chong, legal counsel for the Council of Asian Pacific Islanders Together for Advocacy and Leadership (CAPITAL), said the film goes far beyond just entertainment.

"This is not a question of Asians being overly sensitive or lacking a sense of humor. It is a question of people perpetuating and propagating offensive, derogatory and hateful racial stereotypes that is detrimental and destructive to society," CAPITAL said in an e-mail to city council.

In the film, Mr. Yunioshi is the bumbling Japanese neighbor of Holly Golightly, played by Audrey Hepburn. Rooney's performance includes a thick accent, squinted eyes and buckteeth.

Cohn chose the film to be played as part of the city's "Screen on the Green" free movie series. Once the community voiced its opposition, Cohn apologized, but said they could not replace "Breakfast at Tiffany's" because the distribution company had already sent the film. He proposed showing a version of the film with a disclaimer and scenes with Rooney's character removed.

"I will explain this issue to the audience at the beginning of the film, and hopefully it will be an educational opportunity to foster a better understanding with the



Mickey Rooney's Mr. Yunioshi (top) is a bumbling Japanese neighbor many consider to be racist.

audience of the need for cultural sensitivity," Cohn said in an e-mail to Fa and others who protested the film.

Fa said a mere disclaimer was insufficient, and she did not want scenes to be deleted because she did not want to censor the film. After receiving e-mails from the community continuing to call for the cancellation of the film, the city instead chose to show "Ratatouille," an animated film about a rat who cooks.

The city has previously screened "Charlotte's Web," "Hairspray" and "The Goonies."

"We're looking for movies that people of all ages, races and ethnicities can enjoy," Cohn said. "We were unaware of this racist content."

Rooney recently told the *Sacramento Bee* he had never received complaints and that if he knew people would be offended, he would not have done it.

"Every place I've gone in the world people say, 'God you were so funny.' Asians and Chinese come up to me and say, 'Mickey you were out of this world,'" he said in the article. "I wouldn't offend any person, be they black, Asian or whatever."

Fa said the film could be shown in a public forum educating about the history of race depiction but not in a summer series for families.

"People are free to see the film privately," Fa said. "It was just wildly inappropriate to show it as part of a city-sponsored event for families." ■

Hollywood Thriller 'Cellular' Gets Chinese Remake

For the first time, roles that were once played by Caucasians will now be replaced with Asians.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Hollywood has been mining Asian movies for years — but now an American studio is remaking one of its home productions as a Chinese-language movie with local partners.

Warner China Film HG, a joint venture between Warner Bros. and China's state-run China Film Group and Hengdian Group, is releasing "Connected" on Sept. 25. The film is a remake of the 2004 New Line Cinema thriller "Cellular," starring Chris Evans and Kim Basinger.

In the Hollywood version, Basinger plays a kidnapped woman who makes a call to a random mobile phone seeking help.

Billed as the first Chinese remake of a Hollywood movie, "Connected" changes the setting to Hong Kong and features a cast of Chinese-speaking actors including Hong Kong's Louis Koo, China's Liu Ye and Taiwan's Barbie Hsu.

Hong Kong director Benny Chan, who directed "New Police Story" and "Rob-B-Hood," says "Connected" improves on the original with its Hong Kong-style action sequences.

"In my movie, I added many elements that Hong Kong action movies do best — human combat, action, flying cars," said Chan.

"What the world lacks most is good stories. If there's a story that investors think will work in the market and that I like, I don't think there's anything wrong with remaking it," Chan said.

Guy Aoki, founding president of the Media Action Network for Asian

Americans (MANAA), said he does not see this as a reversal of a trend, comparing the Chinese remake of an American movie to the dubbing of English-language films.

"They're just hungry for things from America," Aoki said. "America exports a lot of television shows and movies abroad."

Hollywood producer Roy Lee, who produced recent American remakes of Asian movies including "The Ring" and "The Departed," says the effort makes financial sense "because it is taking ideas that worked well in one market and adapting them for others."

Although Aoki said MANAA is "not that excited" about "Connected," he said he is upset with how producer Lee places Caucasian actors in Asian roles.

"He could have helped the cause a lot more if he used Asian American actors in those films," Aoki said. ■

National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Lawmakers Respond to Immigrant's Death in Detention

NEW YORK—The death of Hiu Lui Ng, a 34-year-old computer engineer in the custody of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, has spurred action from lawmakers.

Rep. Zoe Lofgren and Sen. Robert Menendez are sponsoring legislation that would set mandatory standards for healthcare in immigration detention, according to the *New York Times*.

Last July, Ng — who was married to a U.S. citizen and had two American-born sons — was swept into the immigration detention system. Five days before his death Aug. 6 from complications of cancer and a fractured spine, Ng reportedly complained of extreme back pain.

Family members have established a temporary fund for donations to Ng's widow and children.

First Nuclear Reactor Designated as a Landmark



RICHLAND, Wash.—The nuclear reactor in Washington state that produced the plutonium for the bomb that was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan during World War II is now a National Historic Landmark.

The Hanford nuclear reservation's B Reactor also produced plutonium for the first man-made atomic blast, the Trinity test in New Mexico on July 16, 1945.

Although the designation does not necessarily prevent the reactor from being torn down, it likely opens the door for more public tours and the possibility of a museum.

University Settles Gay Housing Lawsuit

HONOLULU—The University of Hawaii has settled a discrimination lawsuit by a gay couple that claimed the school wouldn't allow them to return to the housing area they had previously lived in because it was reserved for married couples.

The university revised its policy on family housing to include same-sex couples as a result of the settlement. The policy took effect for the 2008-09 school year.

A \$5,000 settlement was also reached for Joseph O'Leary and Phi Ngo, who have since moved to Virginia.

Ohio Man Sentenced For Racially Hateful Letters



CLEVELAND—A man who wrote hate letters to Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter was sentenced on Aug. 26 to three years and 10 months in prison.

David Tuason, who is of Filipino descent, apologized in federal court and said he never meant to hurt anyone. He said the letters were the result of an African American man who "stole" the girlfriend he planned to marry.

In 20 years, Tuason has sent more than 200 letters or e-mails with threats of violence, many to mixed-race and black men seen with white women.

Manhattan Nightclub Sued Over Firing of Minorities

NEW YORK—Two minority women have filed a lawsuit in Manhattan Federal Court against a Manhattan nightclub claiming the owner fired them because of their race.

The lawsuit was filed by a bartender and a waitress who said they lost their jobs at 10AK, a nightclub in lower Manhattan, because of their race.

APA waitress Cecilia Shum said that a manager at the club told her the owner wanted "white girls."

Club attorney Ken Sussman said the two women were fired along with four Caucasian employees for poor work performance.

NFL Increases Number of Asian Players

MIAMI—The National Football League slightly increased the ranks of minority players, earning a B+ in an annual diversity study.

The study showed a small increase in Latino and Asian players. African American players made up 66 percent of NFL players in the 2007 season while white players made up 31 percent of the total. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Gold Medal Decathlete Clay Gets his Own Day

Hawaii has declared Aug. 29 "Bryan Clay Day" after Clay took home the gold medal in the decathlon at the Beijing Olympics.

Gov. Linda Lingle praised Clay's accomplishment in becoming the "world's greatest athlete" and winning the United States' first decathlon gold since 1996.

Clay will also get his own special edition Wheaties boxes in September, according to General Mills Inc.

Other APA Olympians who medaled in Beijing include: **Kevin Tan** and **Raj Bhavsar** (gymnastics); **Lovieanne Jung** (softball); **Nathan Adrian** and **Natalie Coughlin** (swimming); **Logan Tom** and **Robyn Ah Mow-Santos** (volleyball).



Historical Society Honors Odoi

The Mukilteo Historical Society recently named **Mas Odoi** its "Pioneer of the Year." Odoi, a WWII veteran, was born in Mukilteo, Wash. when it was once a thriving JA enclave.

Odoi, who was interned at Minidoka, was wounded while fighting for the U.S. Army in Italy.

He is slated to ride in a 1920s Model-T during the city's Lighthouse Festival Parade on Sept. 6.

JACL Credit Union Announces YouTube Contest Winners

The National JACL Credit Union recently named **Austin Aoyama** the first place winner of its YouTube Contest. The runner-ups were **Emily Teruya** and **Brandon Mita**.

The contest called on credit members between the ages of 14 to 25 to produce a video commercial on the organization's history, products and services. All videos entered in the contest were shown at the credit union's luncheon during the JACL national convention.

Aoyama received a \$500 scholarship for his winning submission.



Tanaka Appointed to JANM's Board of Governors



Masaaki Tanaka, Union Bank of Calif. president and CEO, has been appointed to the Japanese American National Museum's board of governors.

A graduate of the University of Tokyo, Tanaka studied law at the University of Michigan. He was formerly the executive officer of the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd. in Tokyo.

Members of the board of governors serve as advisors and ambassadors. **Sen. Daniel Inouye** of Hawaii is the chair of the body.

Tanabe to Receive Community Service Award

James Tanabe was recently selected by the Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society for the 2008 Na Lima Kokua Mawaena O Makua (Helping Hands Across the Ages) Award in the Community Service Award category.

Shoho Uyemura, gerontology project coordinator at California State University Fullerton, nominated Tanabe for making a positive difference in the community and the lives of seniors.

The ceremony will take place Sept. 15 at the Hawaii Convention Center.

Nakahara Named Wildlife Officer of the Year

The Shikar-Safari Club International has named **Miles Nakahara** its "Outstanding Wildlife Officer of the Year."

Nakahara, a wildlife biologist for the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, is credited with overseeing the suppression of six Big Island wildfires last year that burned more than 10,000 acres. ■

Report: High Family Conflict Leads to Higher Rates of Suicide Among APAs

Almost 3 percent of the APAs interviewed have attempted suicide and 9.1 percent reported having had suicidal thoughts.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

A new study by the University of California, Davis shows that interpersonal conflict in Asian Pacific American families increases the risk of suicide attempts.

Referred to as "the first nationally representative investigation of family conflict and suicidal behaviors among Asian Americans" by author Stanley Sue, the study shows that APAs with a high degree of interpersonal conflict in their families have three times the risk of attempting suicide compared with APAs overall.

"Because of the great emphasis on harmony and family integration in many Asian cultures, family conflict is an important factor to consider when studying suicidal behaviors among Asian Americans," said Sue, a professor of psychology and Asian American Studies at UC Davis.

The findings were presented at a recent meeting of the American Psychological Association in Boston. The study has not been published yet.

The study was a further investigation into data from the 2002-03 National Latino and Asian American Study, the first nationally representative survey conducted with APAs. Funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and conducted by Dr. David Takeuchi at the University of Washington, this survey involved in-person interviews with 600 Chinese, 508 Filipinos, 520 Vietnamese and 467 other Asians, according to Janice Cheng, a psychology graduate student.

A reported 2.7 percent of the APAs interviewed said they had attempted suicide at some point, and 9.1 percent of the total group reported having had suicidal thoughts.

Sue and lead investigator Cheng compared suicide-prone individuals' answers to survey questions about family income and depression with those of interviewees who had not reported suicidal thoughts or suicide attempts.

The researchers found that among APAs in the national survey, "high family conflict has an independent and



additive effect in predicting lifetime suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts," said Sue.

Cheng said research on suicide among APAs is very limited, and such studies may be important for understanding suicide prevention studies in the APA community.

"I believe suicide is an important public health problem to study," Cheng said to the *Pacific Citizen*. "I am a Chinese immigrant and have witnessed many people in my community face a lot of hardship in America."

Previous studies by other researchers have shown that certain APA subgroups, including college students and women older than 65, have relatively high rates of suicide or suicide attempts compared with the rest of the nation. The UC Davis study did not compare rates of suicide among different groups.

"We hope to extend this line of research to other understudied Asian subgroups that were not included in the current study," Cheng said.

Cheng and Sue are currently collaborating with Drs. Tonya Fancher and Milin Ratanasen at the UC Davis Medical Center and Drs. Paul Duberstein and Kenneth Conner at the University of Rochester Medical Center on a manuscript.

Sue said the new study shows that there is still more work to be done.

"Our study suggests that we need to more precisely determine the kinds of family conflicts that are associated with suicide risk among Asian Americans, and find means of preventing these family problems," Sue said. ■

Minority Coalition Demands HIV/AIDS Nat'l Strategy From Presidential Candidates

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Over 30 national organizations and leaders representing minority communities including Asian Pacific Americans have joined together to demand a national plan to fight HIV/AIDS. The advocates have called on presidential candidates Barack Obama and John McCain to support a comprehensive national strategy to address the epidemic.

Lina Sheth, director of community development and external affairs at the Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center, said the coalition brings together African American, Latino, Native American and APA communities.

"After a really long time, representatives from different communities of color ... have come together with one unified voice," said Sheth.

According to new estimates from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), communities of color make up 65 percent of the approximately 56,300 new HIV infections occurring in the U.S. Although the U.S. requires foreign countries receiving HIV/AIDS assistance to have a national strategy, the U.S. itself does not have such a strategy.

Although APAs make up a small percentage of total

HIV/AIDS cases, the largest proportionate increase in HIV/AIDS diagnosis rates was among APA males who have sex with males aged 13 to 24.

In August, the coalition met at the Ford Foundation in New York City to formulate a response to the new administration that will take office next year. The organizations agreed on a seven-point action plan, which demands that the federal government improve data gathering methods, increase awareness of the issue and strengthen prevention methods.

Sheth described the current administration's strategy on HIV/AIDS as "lousy," pointing to the lack of attention to the issue when HIV is "burgeoning in the African American and Latino communities" and becoming increasingly prevalent in the APA community. She said the next administration needs to incorporate different federal agencies in an effort to stop the epidemic.

With the election months away, Sheth said there is still more work ahead for the coalition.

"We plan to continue pressure on the candidates ... to be accountable for concrete progress on HIV/AIDS and to use this platform to continue our advocacy work with congressional members and senate members," she said. ■

For more information: www.apiwellness.org

JACL Announces Gala Honorary Committee

The JACL has announced the honorary committee for the second annual National JACL Gala Dinner, which will be held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 25.

The honorary committee members for the 2008

JACL Gala include Sen. Daniel Akaka, President of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Wade Henderson and NAACP Washington Bureau Director Hilary Shelton.

Honorary committee members in the U.S. House of Representatives are Xavier Becerra, Eni Faleo-

mavaega, Howard Berman, Rob Bishop, Jim Costa, Sam Farr, Mazie Hirono, Mike Honda, Jerry Lewis,

Doris Matsui, Bobby Scott and Max-ine Waters.

Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii will serve as the honorary chairman, and Congressman



HIRONO

Honda will be master of ceremonies for the event.

The JACL is highlighting the redress movement throughout this year on the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which paved the way for an apology and reparations to Japanese

Americans who were interned during World War II.

The "Champions of Redress" to be honored at the gala are former Sec. of Transportation Norman Mineta, former JACL National Director John Tateishi, Grayce Uyehara, former executive director of the JACL Legislative Education Committee, and the American Jewish Committee. The corporate partner to be honored is AT&T. ■

2nd Annual National JACL Gala Dinner
Sept. 25

Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington D.C.

Register now at www.jacl.org

For more information, contact the JACL Washington, D.C. office at 202/223-1240 or gala@jacl.org.



AKAKA

PSW Announces New Fellowship Opportunity

The Pacific Southwest JACL is seeking applicants for its new Mike Honda Fellowship Program.

The fellowship recipient will focus on advocacy and public policy awareness/programming, education, and projects associated with the JACL National Youth/Student Council.

The fellowship is named after Congressman Mike Honda in recognition of his lifelong commitment to public service, civil rights and exten-

sive history with working with Asian Pacific American communities.

The fellowship is funded by a generous \$25,000 grant from Southern California Edison (SCE).

"We are very pleased to have this opportunity to support JACL and this fellowship program to promote civic engagement and leadership development for the Japanese American community," said Wes Tanaka, SCE public affairs director.

"We are extremely fortunate to be partnering with So Cal Edison, a company that is sensitive to the needs of our community and understands the challenges we face," said JACL National Director Floyd Mori. ■



HONDA

Apply Now

What: The Mike Honda Fellowship

Where: The JACL PSW office located at 244 South San Pedro St., # 406, Los Angeles, CA 90012

When: The 10-month fellowship starts this September

How: Interested applicants should download the application form at www.jacl.org, or www.jaclpsw.org and submit it along with a resume, cover letter, and writing sample by Sept. 15.

For more information, contact Craig Ishii at the JACL PSW office at 213/626-4471 or psw@jacl.org.

WWII Infantrymen May Apply for Bronze Star Medal

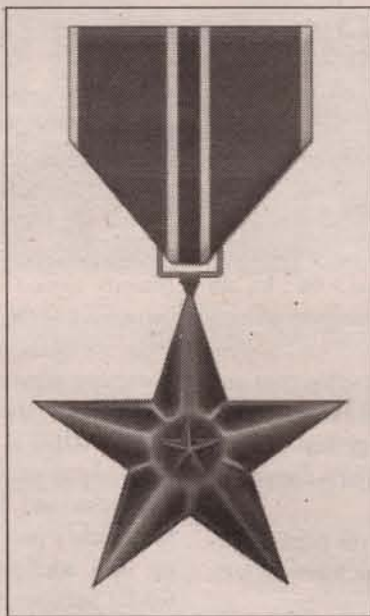
The U.S. Army Human Resources Command reminds World War II infantrymen who served in ground combat that they are eligible to apply for a Bronze Star Medal (BSM).

Under Army Regulation 600-8-22, infantrymen who served against an armed enemy between Dec. 7, 1947, and Sept. 2, 1945, can request the BSM. Next of kin can apply for a posthumous award under this program, and veterans who previously received a BSM during WWII for a specific act of bravery are also eligible.

Those who served in an infantry brigade or other unit of smaller size are qualified, and any member of the Merrill's Marauders who was awarded a Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB) is also eligible to receive the Ranger Tab in addition to the BSM.

Approval for the recognition is almost certain for recipients of the CIB or the Combat Medic's Badge.

When the CIB was established by



the War Department in 1943, Secretary of War Henry Stinson acknowledged the accomplishments of U.S. infantrymen.

"It is high time we recognize in a personal way the skill and heroism of the American infantry," he said.

Infantryman continuously operated under poor conditions and performed hazardous missions. An infantryman's mission was to "close with and destroy the enemy and to seize and hold terrain," according to the Japanese American Veterans Association. ■

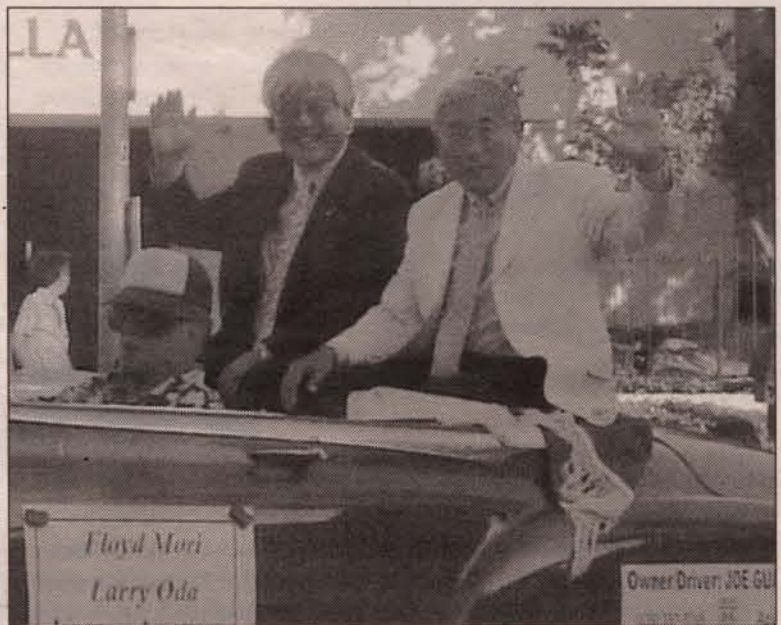
Bronze Star Medal

To request the medal, individuals who meet the criteria or their next of kin must send a letter with the veteran's full name, permission to access the veteran's file, the veteran's service or serial number, and the veteran's social security number to:

Ms. Kathleen E. Miller
Army Human Resources Command
200 Stovall Street, Suite 3567,
Hoffman II
Alexandria, VA 22332-0474

For more information, contact Terry Shima at 301/987-6746 or ttshima@worldnet.att.net.

Nisei Week Festival Pride



On the 20th anniversary of Redress, the Nisei Week Foundation honored the JACL with its community service award.

JACL President Larry Oda (above, left) and National Director Floyd Mori represented the JACL in the parade and at the awards dinner.

The Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (NCRR) formerly named the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations was also recognized with a community service award. Both organizations were instrumental in the success of the Redress Movement.

The Nisei Week festival was established in 1934 during the Great Depression to attract business to Los Angeles' Little Tokyo area, and to promote goodwill. The nine-day Nisei Week Japanese Festival is the longest running ethnic festival in the United States. ■



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- Mar 16** Best of China - 11 days - \$2795. Beijing & Great Wall - Xian & Terra Cotta Warriors - Guilin & Li River Cruise - Shanghai.
- Mar 30** Japan Classic "Cherry Blossoms" 11 Days - \$3895. Tokyo Takayama - Nara - Kobe - Takahashi - Miyajima - Hiroshima - Inland Sea Cruise - Shodo Island - Kyoto.
- Apr 13** Japan "Off the Beaten Track" 11 Days - \$4295. Fukuoka - Hirado - Amakusa - Kurume - Kokura - Bullet Train - Shizuoka Lake Kawaguchi - Nasu Highlands - Nikko - Toshogu - Tokyo.
- Apr 26** Welcome Korea "TV Drama Hilites" 12 Days - \$3595. Jeju Isle - Busan - Gyeongju - Yongpyong - Mt. Seorak - Chuncheon - Seoul.
- May 16** NCL - Hawaii Cruise - 8 Days - From \$2440 - Balcony \$2669. Honolulu - Kahului - Hilo - Kona - Nawiliwili, Maui - Honolulu.
- May 30** NCL - British Isles Cruise - 15 Days - From \$4246. London - Le Havre, France - Falmouth, England - Cork, Dublin & Belfast, Ireland - Glasgow, Inverness & Edinburgh, Scotland - Amsterdam - Brugge.
- Jun 29** Summer Japan Family Tour - 10 Days - \$3595 - Child \$3295. Tokyo - Nasu Highlands - Nikko - Bullet Train - Kyoto - Miyajima - Hiroshima - Inland Sea Cruise - Shodo Island - Osaka.
- Jul 18** Trains Colorado Rockies - 9 Days - \$2395. Denver - Rocky Mt. Grand Junction - Silverton - Durango - Mesa Verde NP - Colorado Springs.
- Aug 1** NCL - Scandinavia/Russia Cruise - 14 Days - From \$3783 - Balcony \$4133. London - Copenhagen - Warnemunde - Germany - Tallinn, Estonia - St. Petersburg - Helsinki - Stockholm.
- Aug 22** NCL - West Mediterranean Cruise - 15 Days - From \$3219 Balcony \$3769. London - Lisbon - Vigo, Seville & Granada, Spain - Gibraltar - Sardinia - Naples - Rome - Livorno - Cannes - Barcelona.
- Sep 11** Egypt Deluxe - 10 Days - \$5495. Grand Hyatt Cairo - 4 Day Nile Cruise - Abu Simbel - Conrad Hotel Cairo.
- Oct 12** Hokkaido/Tohoku - Oct 19 - Uranihon "Japan Sea Coast"
- Nov 2** Fall Japan Classic - Nov 12 Okinawa/Kyushu/Shikoku
- Jan 16** NCL - Panama Canal Cruise - 12 Days - from \$2368 Balcony \$3168. Miami - Cartagena - Daylight Transit of Panama Canal - Costa Rica - Guatemala - Huatulco - Acapulco - Cabo de LA.

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San Jose, San Francisco JACL Commemorate Passage of CLA



Attendees of the recent Redress event in San Jose peruse the various booths and informational stands provided by the organizers.

Two JACL chapters recently hosted events commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act, which provided for Japanese American redress.

The San Jose JACL co-sponsored the Aug. 9 program, "Road to Redress and Reparations: Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988," which brought together more than 230 attendees to learn about the Civil Liberties Act and its significance to contemporary society.

The event featured a video, "Redress: The JACL Campaign for Justice," and a panel discussion featuring former Sec. of Transportation Norman Mineta and former JACL National Director John Tateishi.

Following the video, keynote speaker Mineta talked about his efforts during the redress movement as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Tateishi and Susan Hayase, local activist with the Nihonmachi Outreach Committee, also spoke about the long fight for the apology and reparations.

The next day on Aug. 10 — the day President Ronald Reagan signed the bill in 1988 — Mineta and Tateishi participated in a panel discussion hosted by the San Francisco JACL chapter at the San Francisco Main Library. Banagsheh Akhlaghi, president of the National Legal Sanctuary for Community Advancement, also spoke.

Tateishi, who was the former JACL redress director, acknowledged the coalition of organizations like the American Jewish Committee that reached out to offer their support and endorsement of the redress effort.

Pointing to the contemporary significance of JA redress, Akhlaghi said the Arab and Muslim experienced a psychological interment in the aftermath of the Sept. 11th terrorist attacks. She thanked the JA community for its support.

"It is truly an honor to be among those of you who endured the internment during World War II and to know you support the Arab and Muslim communities. It has really meant a lot to so many," she said. ■

On the Web: www.sanjosejACL.org

Pasadena Honors Memory of WWII MOH Recipient

On what would have been his 88th birthday, Medal of Honor recipient Joe Hayashi was posthumously honored by the city where his distinguished military career began.

On Aug. 14 the city of Pasadena, Calif. recently dedicated a plaque to their World War II hero, who was born in Salinas but entered the service in the city famous for its annual Rose Parade.

The plaque for Hayashi, who is Pasadena's only Medal of Honor recipient, is located at Victory Park on the southwest corner of Paloma Street and Altadena Drive.

At the dedication ceremony, 10 of his comrades from the 442nd Regimental Combat Team gathered with the hero's family, friends and officials to commemorate Hayashi, who was killed in action at age 24 in Italy.

Hayashi was laid to rest in Los Angeles' Evergreen Cemetery.

"I'm really thankful that Pasadena is doing this for him," said Chiye Watanabe, Hayashi's sister, to the *Pasadena Star-News*.

Hayashi's family was interned at Heart Mountain during WWII.

In Italy, Hayashi led his men in an April 20, 1945, attack against enemy forces defending a hill command-



ing approaches to Tendola, according to the official citation. He dragged his wounded comrades to safety and then exposed himself to hostile fire.

He suffered a mortal wound from machine pistol fire April 22 when he led his squad uphill towards the enemy.

In 2000, Hayashi was honored with the Medal of Honor, the U.S. military's highest decoration, for his "heroism and devotion to duty in keeping with the highest traditions of military service."

Hayashi's family accepted the award on his behalf from President Bill Clinton in Washington, D.C. ■

Doi Awarded Inaugural 'Order of the Dogwood' for Redress Efforts

Gene Doi, a longtime JACL member, was awarded the first "Order of the Dogwood" by the Southeast JACL for her key role in the redress movement.

The award recognizes a chapter member that has shown dedicated service to the Japanese American community.

In 1988, Doi helped secure the support of Georgia Rep. Pat Swindall and other conservatives for redress by persistently calling the offices. Swindall's "swing vote" helped the measure become signed into law as the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

Doi's advocacy for JAs started early in life. During World War II she was interned at Manzanar where



Gene Hashimoto Doi, recipient of the "Order of the Dogwood" with David Furukawa, president of the JACL Southeast chapter.

Doi found herself living with non-working toilets and insufficient food and supplies. As a teenager in camp, Doi wrote President Franklin D. Roosevelt to complain about the conditions in the camp. She received a response and saw changes in camp life.

Doi worked as deputy clerk for Georgia's DeKalb County for more than 35 years, where she served for

several county commissions and commissioners. She attended monthly meetings, took minutes and maintained the records.

Her husband of 61 years, Michael Doi, is a veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

The dogwood blossom, the state flower of Georgia, was chosen for the award because of "its strength and beauty in any climate." ■

PACIFIC CITIZEN

National business and Professional Directory

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

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[YUMI SAKUGAWA]

MEMOIRS OF A NON-GEISHA

All-Japanese Girl

Less than a month ago, my boyfriend came to visit me in Tokyo for a second time. It had been eight months since we had last seen each other.

When he arrived in Narita Airport, I had been spending almost a week with my childhood friend who had moved to Japan five years ago. We met a long time ago in sunny Southern California, attending the same Japanese language school every Saturday for several years. We kept in touch even after her father's job relocation prompted her family's move to Japan after high school.

We agreed to meet up together during my summer vacation. My summer vacation from my day job as an English conversation teacher not only gave me ample time to reunite with this childhood friend, but something else that I never considered in the first place — a complete break from using any English at all.

The resulting effect felt uncanny. Not only was I always speaking in Japanese, I began thinking in Japanese and reacting in Japanese. The Japanese language possessed more than my verbal thoughts, but my vocal intonations and my physical gestures as well. My voice rose higher in an apologetic tone when I asked a stranger a question or for a favor. Bowing became as natural as breathing. My parents would have been proud.

"Your Japanese has improved," my boyfriend said. Within an hour of his arrival, he had noticed that compared to eight months prior, my intonations and mannerisms have undergone a noticeable change. "You sound just like a native speaker."

But not enough, I found myself thinking. I wanted to appear and sound *more* Japanese. More, more, more! I wanted people to stop asking me where I was from the second I opened my mouth. I felt miffed when police officers responded to my carefully worded questions in English. I considered it a minor victory every time I went through a social interaction without any curious questions about my lineage or geographic origins.

This was an ironic reversal of my middle school days when I would have given my right arm to be white — or at least any other race that didn't require going to a language school every Saturday.

Back in the day, I would have flashed my *Gaijin* card at any given moment. The *Gaijin* card was a free pass for all my lack of knowledge of Japanese manners, simple Japanese vocabulary, even something as banal as taking my shoes off before entering a dressing room in a clothing store. The *Gaijin* card, instead of underscoring my deficiencies, gave me social currency by glamorizing my ability to speak and write proficiently in English.

My desire for this reverse assimilation was also a departure from my enlightened stance in college when enough was enough with wanting to be completely American or completely Japanese, but to simply accept the hyphenated Japanese American identity as it is.

After all, it only took several Asian American departmental classes, several AA student organizations, one summer internship in Little Tokyo and two Nikkei Student Union Cultural Night scripts to finally reach this conclusion.

Too American, not Japanese enough. Or the reverse: too Japanese, not American enough. Identities and loyalties flip-flopped with geographical and social context. Some neuroses of the ethnic minority never go away.

At the very least, trying to be more Japanese brought me closer to my parents and my extended family. Not only in terms of basic verbal communication, but to their inner worlds as well. The particular rhythms and images that can only be unlocked with a Japanese word, a Japanese phrase, a Japanese voice. The language behind the unspoken word that weighs more heavily than the language that is actually spoken.

This was the linguistic cocoon that I was born in, and this was the linguistic cocoon that now surrounded me every morning and every night for weeks and months on end. Mere osmosis has already done interesting things to my all-American behavior. ■

Yumi Sakugawa currently teaches English in Japan.



[JOHN TATEISHI]

FOR THE RECORD

Liberty and Justice ... for Whom?

Before the House of Representatives adjourned for its long election-year recess for re-election campaigning,

Congressman Steve Cohen, D-Tenn., successfully managed a house resolution calling for an apology for slavery.

It'll be interesting to see what impact that resolution has because it called for an apology but no monetary consideration. In today's society, an apology is tantamount to an admittance of guilt, and with that, our courts are replete with lawsuits that demand some form of monetary compensation.

Lawyers are quick to point out never to admit or say anything lest one inadvertently utters those terrible words that could result in a guilty verdict and/or payment of some form of compensation.

From the outset in the redress campaign, we insisted that we were owed an apology from the government but varied in our views on the issue of monetary compensation. We fought long and hard among ourselves over the issue of compensation, but there was little argument about the apology. Everyone wanted that, and recognizing that an apology without compensation was meaningless, the JACL insisted on individual monetary compensation.

The apology carried with it a political backdoor strategy which we hadn't discussed: we campaigned hard to get the commission bill passed and met with strong opposition in the House because there were members who objected to visiting an issue that was already part of our historical past.

But there were some members among the opposition who understood that a report of findings would also require recommendations as remedies should the commission find the events leading to the internment weren't justified. They saw the backdoor on the apology and recognized that if the Congress accepted the report and thereby legitimized the conclusions, it was compelled to accept the recommendations.

They knew full well that the JACL had as part of its demands the apology and the \$25,000 compensation.

Accepting one meant possibly accepting the other, and damned if they would buy the idea of individual monetary compensation for something that happened 40 years earlier to a segment of the population that was likely guilty of some serious infraction against the country. And even if we weren't, we looked like the enemy and, regretfully, honest mistakes were made in the name of national security in a time of war.

The backdoor was recognized by enough members that passage of something as benign as the commission bill

calling for an examination of historical facts that resulted in the internment became difficult.

As I lobbied one member after another among those who strongly opposed the bill, it was the backdoor that was often mentioned. The apology. Why should the government apologize for something that was decided by another administration and Congress in the past? And they saw that an apology would lead to other political considerations, such as monetary compensation. It was setting a precedent and would open a can of worms.

Which brings us back to Congressman Cohen's successful resolution on behalf of African Americans and others whose ancestors were indentured as slaves (some of the earliest slaves included Arabs).

Waiting patiently in the background is the powerful House veteran John Conyers who has repeatedly introduced HR 40, calling for black reparations. Conyers originally rejected the idea of the commission strategy for his purpose. That was completely understandable because everyone knew about the injustices and inhumanity of slavery, and the Congress didn't need a commission to study how it occurred, what its root causes were, and to convince anyone of how much slavery damaged the minds and souls of the victims and their progeny over generations.

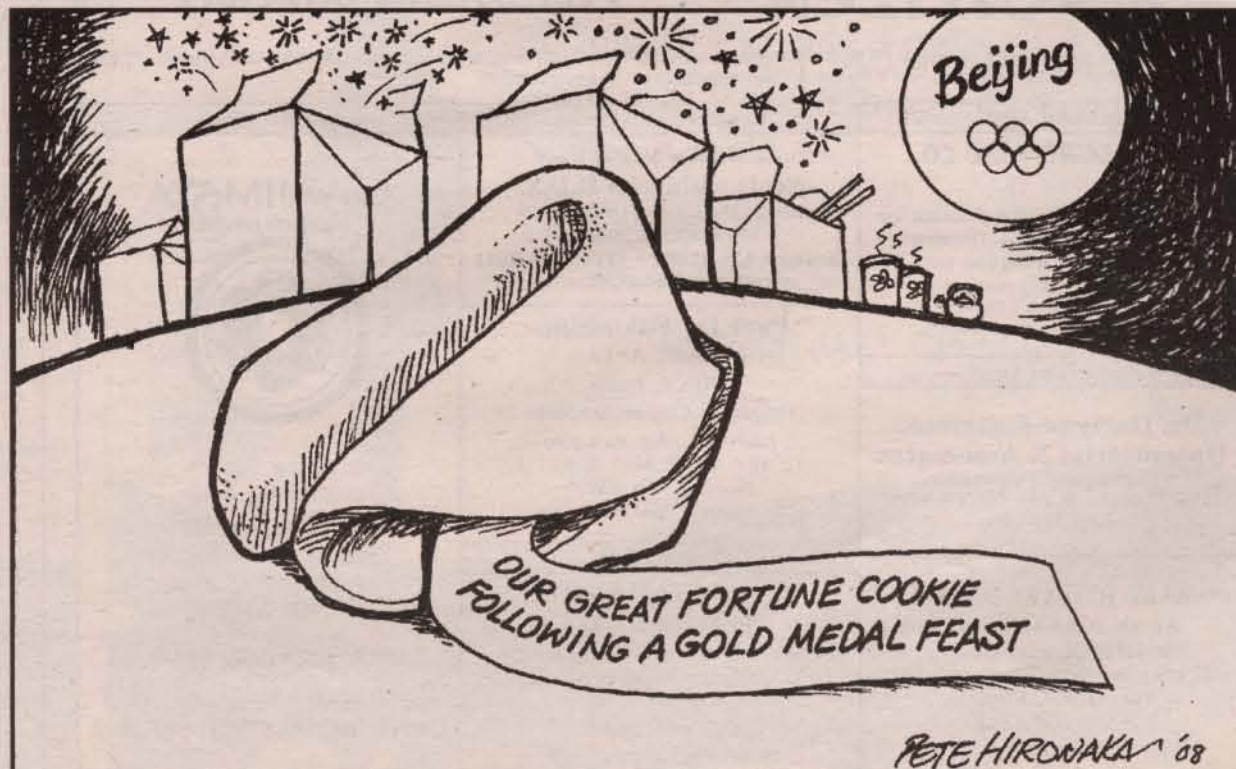
But seeing how the JA redress effort yielded startling results first in the passage of the commission bill, then in the incredible publicity of the commission's work, and in the educational value of the entire process, and ultimately in passage of redress legislation, Conyers re-wrote his legislation and turned to a similar strategy in HR 40.

The first step he sought has already been accomplished with the Cohen resolution. I'm sure colleagues in the House fully understood the implication of the resolution, but they still did the right thing in approving it. Whether this will lead to anything further is unknowable. I've participated in enough black reparations conferences and meetings and discussions to know how complex this issue is and seemingly irresolvable it can appear.

But Japanese American redress was viewed as impossible in 1978 when we launched the campaign, and look where and how it ended.

I suspect once the dust settles on current events in our troubled history, we'll be talking about redress for members of yet another victimized group: Muslim and Arab Americans. ■

John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.

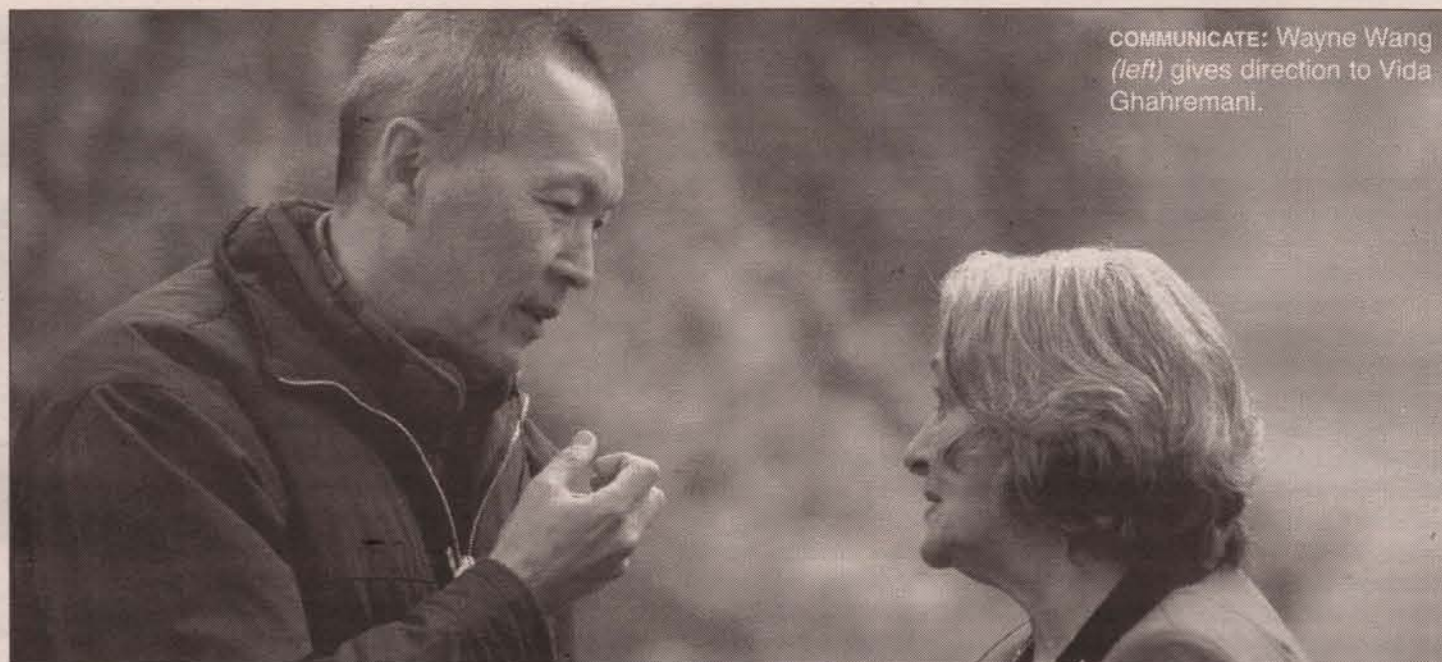


The Return of Wayne Wang

After the groundbreaking 'Joy Luck Club,' the filmmaker jumped on the Hollywood treadmill.

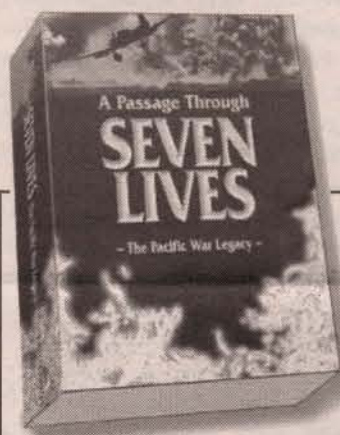
Now he's back to introduce APAs to a princess and good prayers.

By **LYNDA LIN**
Assistant Editor



COMMUNICATE: Wayne Wang (left) gives direction to Vida Ghahremani.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MAGNOLIA PICTURES



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After spending the last few years working with Hollywood leading ladies like Queen Latifah and Jennifer Lopez, filmmaker Wayne Wang found his latest muse in a grizzled veteran actor named Henry O. It's a decided turn away from familiar themes for Wang, who is probably best known for adding a little J-Lo to "Maid in Manhattan."

O is the latest subject of Wang's, 59, artistic fascination — people stuck in two different worlds. After living through the Cultural Revolution, O came to the U.S. and scored bit parts in movies as Jet Li's father and on television, most notably as the priest that blackmailed mob boss Tony in the "Sopranos."

"That did it for me," Wang joked about his decision to cast O in his latest film, "A Thousand Years of Good Prayers." The film, an adaptation of Yiyun Li's short story, centers on a father's noble attempt to save his middle-aged daughter after her divorce.

In many of Wang's more personal projects, art reflects an idealized real life. Wang is married to Cora Miao, an actress and former Miss Hong Kong. They don't have kids, unless you count the furry four-legged kind, he said. But their extended families are enough to inspire a whole lifetime of films.

"Both with my own family and my wife's family ... we've tried all our lives to keep everyone together," said Wang to the *Pacific Citizen* from his Bay Area home. But the inevitable fight happens. "The families in my film are in a way an ideal I work towards."

"A Thousand Years" also marks Wang's return to independent filmmaking and the Asian Pacific American community since 1993, when he made arguably the most important modern APA film for mainstream consumption. You may have heard of it — "The Joy Luck Club."

Getting on the Hollywood Treadmill

"Has it been 15 years?" asked Wang about his movie based on Amy Tan's best-selling novel about the intersecting lives of APA mothers and daughters. It marked one of the few very rare times that APAs appeared onscreen without performing intricate martial arts moves.

"By the time I finished 'The Joy Luck Club' — which was an across the board hit — I was asking myself what can I do next? I didn't want to be stereotyped as the Asian [or] women's filmmaker."

But he was definitely being pushed in that direction with offers of book adaptations and films related to China.

It took a call from Hollywood heavy-weight film producer Harvey Weinstein to change Wang's course. Weinstein had just seen "The Joy Luck Club" and insisted on financing Wang's next project.

The two made "Smoke," a very male-centric film about a New York smoke shop. But Wang admits he's probably best known for "Maid in Manhattan," the Lopez hit that spurred other major Hollywood studio backed projects like "Last Holiday" and "Because of Winn-Dixie."

He compares this time in his life to getting on a treadmill. "Eventually, I knew I would get off at some point when I found something I wanted to do."

"It's a mixed bag of everything," said Wang about working for the studios. Of course, there's the money and resources — want CGI elephants? No problem. But in the battle to stay afloat in Hollywood, creative decisions become the casualty.

Most filmmakers work their entire lives to get a studio nod. When Wang earned the distinction, he was accused of turning his back on the community and becoming "all Hollywood."

Wang isn't resentful. "My heart never left," he said about independent filmmaking. But he has a message for his critics.

"They better come out and support this film," said Wang. "Who else is going to make a film about a 70-year-old Chinese man?"

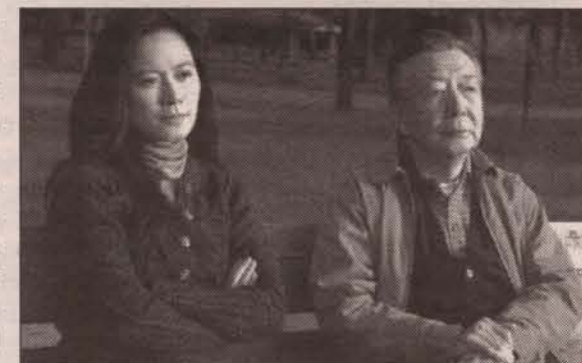
A Father and a Princess

"A Thousand Years" is a poignant examination of life's communication barriers. Mr. Shi (Henry O) can't connect with his only daughter, but is heartbreakingly honest with a stranger he meets in a Spokane, Wash. park. In one scene, Mr. Shi, a Beijing resident, tells his new Iranian friend in halting English that he's a bad father.

The film is also elegantly shot in what Wang calls a classic and minimal style.

"With 'A Thousand Years,' I didn't cut very much. I took my time to let [Mr. Shi's] character take some deep breaths." Much of the film follows Mr. Shi's adventures in a new world, which includes reading the newspaper and trying to relate with his daughter in the only way he knows how — cooking.

Wang watched his film earlier this year with a predominantly APA audience at the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival and has refused to watch it since because it was the perfect experience.



Wang explores family issues in 'A Thousand Years of Good Prayers' (top) and 'Princess of Nebraska'



"People were laughing and crying. They identified with everything and understood everything."

"A Thousand Years" is part of a twin. Its sibling film, "The Princess of Nebraska" features another APA woman on the brink of two overlapping worlds. "Princess" however, is a modern vehicle to showcase Wang's skills not seen since his 1982 cult hit "Chan is Missing."

"It's younger. It's very today," said Wang, so it makes sense that "Princess" will premiere for free on YouTube.com around the same time "A Thousand Years" opens in theaters. Together, the films are testimonies of Wang's ability to tell a good story and still be on the cutting edge of filmmaking.

But even after so many years in the industry, Wang squirms under the pressure to define himself. He grew up in Hong Kong with conservative parents, was educated by Irish Jesuits, and has lived in Quaker Ranch in the Silicon Valley.

"My own journey has been wide and broad and interesting," said Wang. "The Chinese in China don't think I'm really Chinese. Hollywood doesn't think I'm a commercial filmmaker. I'm a weird and mixed up guy."

He prefers his position astride different worlds — it allows him a good view. But it also makes him vulnerable to unwarranted attacks from the rogue film critic or the slighted community group.

"I have been knocked on both sides. Sometimes it's good to be knocked. Maybe that's the rene-gade part of me." ■

See It

'A Thousand Years of Good Prayers' Opens Sept. 19 in New York and Sept. 26 in Los Angeles with a national roll out to follow.

SEPT. 11TH

(Continued from page 1)

during World War II. There is a saying that history unchecked tends to repeat itself, said Yee who sees parallels between the WWII mistreatment of JAs and post-Sept. 11th government policies.

So on the anniversary of his arrest, the seventh anniversary of the Sept. 11th terrorist attacks and the 20th anniversary of redress, Yee and many JA leaders are calling for the restoration of some very basic human and civil rights. Now, they say, is the time to reflect and demand equality for all — both in the U.S. and abroad in a place called Gitmo, where government officials say the law does not apply.

Similar Experiences

It sounds just too familiar for many former internees and their descendants — a barbed-wire-enclosed camp holding wartime enemies indefinitely in the name of national security. Before his passing in 2005, Karen Korematsu-Haigh said her famous father Fred Korematsu was disgusted over the government's roundup and detainment of Muslims and Muslim Americans.

The civil rights icon wondered if anything was learned from his court case, said Karen.

Korematsu along with Gordon Hirabayashi and Minoru Yasui challenged the constitutionality of the wartime incarceration of JAs during WWII in separate cases that ended up before the Supreme Court. Korematsu was convicted of evading wartime evacuation orders, a decision that was upheld during the war, but later vacated in 1983 in a landmark *coram nobis* case.

Today, the cases are sober reminders of the dangers wartime hysteria can pose on civil and human rights.

"In 1942, Japanese Americans did not get their day in court, but they were imprisoned and never charged," said Karen. "Certainly JA organizations, the JACL and individuals like me need to speak out and make the government accountable."

Before he passed away, Korematsu filed a brief in support of Guantánamo detainees' rights. It's a legacy that the next generation of JA leaders is keeping alive. Last April Sansei Karen, Jay Hirabayashi and Holly Yasui also lent their famous last names to an amicus brief in support of the plaintiffs in *Turkman v. John Ashcroft* citing the similarities between the plight of their Issei grandparents after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the struggle of Arab and Muslim immigrants after Sept. 11th.

The Second Circuit Court of Appeals refused his filing of the amicus brief, said Eric Muller, a University of North Carolina law professor. But if the case makes it to the Supreme Court and the "relevant legal issue remains in contention," he will look into filing another brief.

Jay would do it again in a heartbeat. "Here we have a visible group of people, who are perceived to be a threat to the government, and lose all their rights ... we need to prevent these tragic circumstances from repeating."

In times of war, civil liberties often become casualties in the name of national security. With so many milestone anniversaries it's important to reflect on the journey, said Jay.

"The government needs to recognize everyone as citizens and human

beings."

Out of Sight, Out of Mind

It's easier to abuse nameless and faceless foreigners, said Mahvish Rukhsana Khan, a 29-year-old recent law school graduate, journalist and Guantánamo interpreter.

In 2005 while still a law student at the University of Miami, Khan became a Pashto language interpreter for habeas lawyers who represented Afghan detainees.

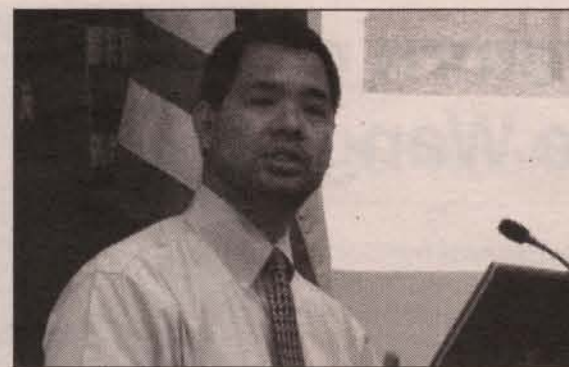
After many trips to Gitmo, she saw that many of the accused terrorists were actually victims. Among them were a pediatrician and an 80-year-old paraplegic man. She heard stories of beatings and torture.

"The Guantánamo detainees are very far off of most people's radar because the government has hidden them in Cuba and has denied press access to the detainees," said Khan, author of the new book "My Guantánamo Diary."

Over the years, many of these alleged terrorists have been set free and never charged. Like Yee, Khan has not met a suspected terrorist during her time at the island prison, but she acknowledges that not all the prisoners are innocent. Separating the good from the bad can easily be done through trials, a right given in the U.S. to rapists and murderers, she said.

JACL Action

In the years following the Sept. 11th attacks, the JACL has continuously spoken out against the erosion of civil liberties. The organization has signed onto amicus briefs in support of accused American bomber Jose Padilla and spoken out against



James Yee, who was held in solitary confinement under suspicion of espionage, is still waiting for his apology.

warrentless wiretapping.

At its July national convention in Salt Lake City, the organization made history again with the passage of a New England chapter resolution in support of detainees' rights. On the national council floor, chapter co-president Ken Oye urged members to see the importance of the resolution, especially in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision to restore detainees' right of habeas corpus.

This spring, the House and Senate Judiciary Committees held a series of hearings on detainee abuse.

"It is important for JACL to be on the record supporting further investigations," said Oye. "These issues should not be swept under the rug for 30 years, as the internment was."

Championing human rights runs in the family for Oye, a political science and engineering systems professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 2007, his daughter Mari Oye gained national attention as the presidential scholar who handed President George W. Bush a letter calling for the end of torture.

On the same day the JACL national council was considering a resolution supporting detainees' rights,

New England chapter members Paul Watanabe, Taka and May Takayanagi, and Mari were speaking at the Kennedy Presidential Library on national security and civil liberties.

Copies of the JACL resolution will be sent to key members of the administration and Congress.

"The Constitution and its proclamation of civil liberties and human rights should be the standard for treatment of human beings by the government of the United States," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

Yee agrees. He believes that everyone held in U.S. custody should have due process rights.

Looking forward, Congress may be considering legislation on the legality of extraordinary rendition and the possibility of compensation for the victims.

"As Japanese Americans with intense memories of abuses of civil liberties in the name of national security, our voice matters. We need to ask the hard questions, to press on the justifications, to demand evidence, and to serve as a voice for those under suspicion," said Oye. "If we do not, who will?" ■

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CITIZEN

APA DIVIDE

(Continued from page 1)

In the APA community, the division lines are drawn between "FOBs" and "Twinkies." These aren't strange ingredients of a fruit salad, but the factors that for centuries have created intra-ethnic tension between generations of APAs who chose to keep or cut ties with their ethnic heritage.

Lee, who came to the U.S. from South Korea in 2006 to attend NYU, says that between the two groups she identifies as more of a "FOB." Her hobbies aren't unlike any other American college student's — she watches popular television shows like "Entourage" and rocks out to "Queen" on her iPod.

"I also like to look through Korean news/entertainment sites as well as to talk to my high school friends in 'Konglish' about life in America."

Internalized Racism

"FOBs" and "Twinkies" — the first literally means "fresh off the boat," while the latter is used to describe extreme Americanization — are broad and derogatory terms usually used by APAs to describe others within the community.

"The term [FOB] is a receptacle of derogatory anti-Asian stereotypes," said Karen Pyke, a sociology professor at the University of California, Riverside, who studied the use of the terms in the APA community for a 2003 published study, "'FOB' and

'Whitewashed': Identity and Internalized Racism Among Second Generation Asian Americans."

As part of the research, Pyke and her team interviewed 184 second generation Korean and Vietnamese Americans about their family lives. The word "FOB" kept popping up.

The term could be used to describe a recent immigrant or someone who dresses in a style not seen as cosmopolitan, said Pyke. It can also be used to describe people who speak their native languages with their friends in public or those who strongly identify with their ethnic groups.

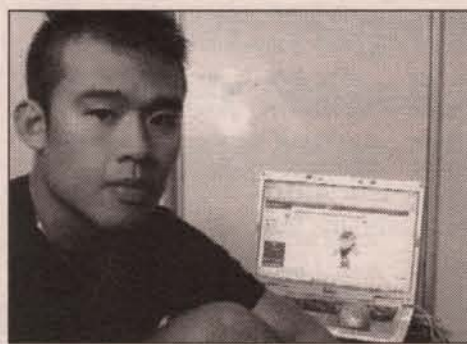
In broad strokes, the APA community uses these words to create social stratifications.

During one of the interviews for the study, one respondent defined a "FOB" as someone with "long heels and short tops," said Pyke, who added that there isn't one stable stereotype for the catchall word.

"The common denominator is that [the use of the word 'FOB'] captures the desire to distance oneself from another part of your own community," added Pyke.

It's a feeling that Dan Nguyen, 20, can understand. Growing up in predominantly white Lancaster County, PA, he never hung out with other APAs and barely spoke his native language of Vietnamese.

In high school, he joined the "Twinkie" group on the popular social networking Web site Facebook.com. And in real life, Nguyen never associated with any of



Dan Nguyen, 20, is a member of the 'Twinkie' group on Facebook.com.

the few neighborhood APAs he believed to be "FOBs" — partially, he admits, because he was embarrassed that they were so different.

"In high school I just asked myself 'why can't they talk normally?'" said Nguyen. It took going to a diverse college like Temple University to break down the social barriers. Now his circle of friends is diverse like a "crazy appetizer [plate] with 20 different kinds of starters."

"FOB" and "Twinkie" — like other urban slang — are most often thrown around in middle and high school. It was at her small Denver high school where Denise Nissen first heard the word "FOB." Her then-boyfriend used it as a label for a specific group of APAs.

"He used it to describe the Asian kids that always sit on the floor in a certain corner at our high school," said Nissen, 27. "I knew right away it was not okay to use that term to describe people."

In high school, the so-called "FOBs" would only hang out with each other, said Nissen, who is of Korean, Danish and German descent. But over the years, the divide has not been bridged. The professional dancer said that although she does not avoid any types of people, she has never connected with anyone in "those circles."

"I do think that a lot of 'FOBs' stick together and welcome only each other. I suppose they do not believe people will treat them as warmly," said Nissen. "I think this is due to their own experiences of racism and oppression."

The desire to distance oneself from the "other" within the community is indeed a byproduct of racial domination and having to deal with being stereotyped, said Pyke. "It's internationalized racial oppression."

And it goes both ways.

'Asian-Asian'

Kuan Sng, 42, was born in Singapore where he spent most of his formative years until at 17 he came to the U.S. in 1982 to attend the University of Utah. The transition of going from being a part of the majority to a minority was nothing short of a shock, so Sng joined a fraternity where he was the only self-described "Asian-Asian."

Among his fraternity brothers there was only one other APA from Oklahoma, who Sng thought he would have the most in common with.

"At the end of the day he was 'just like them.' He had no idea what my cultural references were. We didn't understand each other," said Sng.

Later at Yale for business school, Sng took part in a class assignment that again reminded him of the social

divide. Students were told to break into groups with others they most identified with.

There were two groups Sng chose from: the APAs and "Asian-Asian." He chose the latter.

"It was like two groups lobbing grenades at each other. We were all friends but we felt that we needed to represent our subcultures."

In college the differences are also vast. At the University of California, San Diego, the Japanese-interest cultural groups and the Nikkei Student Union share only a few of the same members, said Yo Miyamoto, a 21-year-old Shin Issei and president of the NSU.

"I always took it as our communities are different enough that they warranted separate organizations," said Miyamoto, who added the JAs are particularly diverse with both pre- and post-war immigrants.

"Those are very different levels of Americanization that you're trying to aggregate under one community. So I can see where some of this segregation could occur."

"Twinkie" behavior is most commonly seen in the second generation APAs, said Ayako Ito, a 28-year-old student who came to the U.S. 10 years ago to attend college.

They have to straddle two worlds with two identities: their American public one and their ethnic self at home, she said.

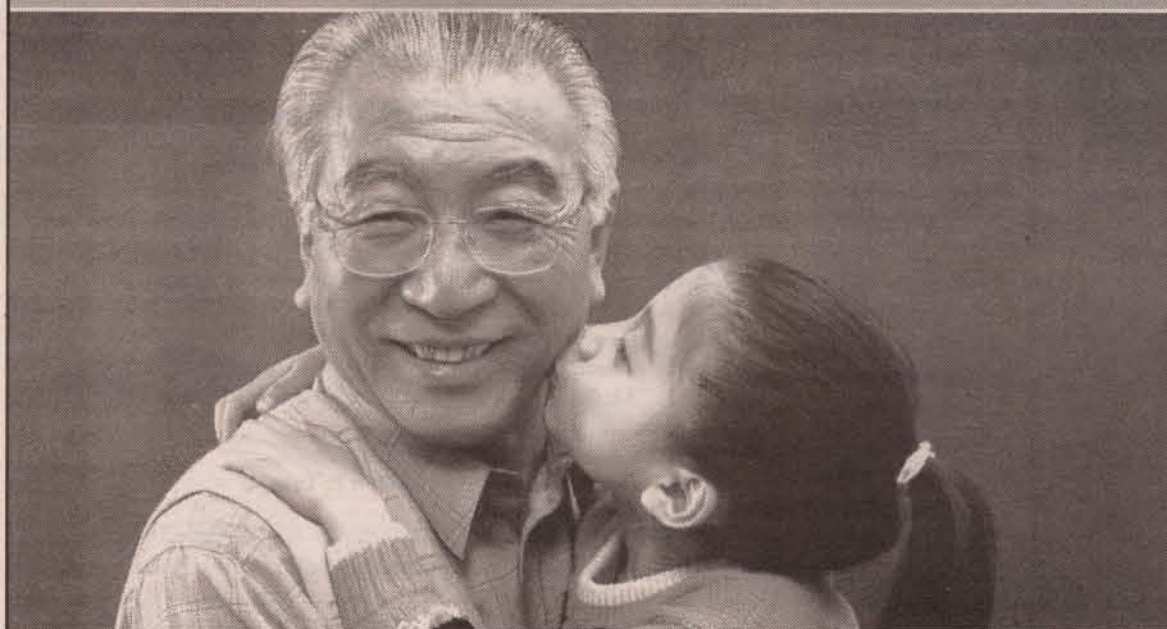
Between the two groups, many APAs tend to self-identify somewhere in the center — the "bicultural middle," as coined by Pyke in her study.

Last month, Sng became a naturalized U.S. citizen.

"Technically I've become an Asian American," he laughed. But he still feels caught in the middle. "Maybe it's because I consider myself more Asian than Asian American." ■



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CITIZEN

SPEAK ENGLISH

(Continued from page 1)

from 26 countries on the LPGA Tour, including 45 players from South Korea.

The new rule, which was first reported in *Golfweek* magazine, was announced at an Aug. 20 meeting with international players during the Safeway Classic. Some tournament directors say the change is necessary to attract sponsors and be more marketable.

But JACL National Director Floyd Mori said the new policy is ironic because of the recent completion of the Olympics where sport is the common language that builds international relationships.

"The LPGA has had a sorry history of placing factors that do not con-

tribute to the game itself as more important than the skill of playing golf," said Mori. "The LPGA has taken tolerance and diversity back several giant steps after there have been some great strides of progress toward opening the game of golf to all people."

Calif. Assemblymember Mary Hayashi is planning to organize hearings on the LPGA's new policy and possibly considering a bill to end such policies.

Other APA groups have also expressed outrage, including the Asian American Justice Center (AAJC).

"This policy is tantamount to national origin discrimination, which is prohibited under the Civil Rights Act," said Vincent Eng, deputy director of AAJC. "The poli-

cy is an affront to our American principles of diversity and equality."

The AAJC issued a statement urging LPGA sponsors to withdraw support of the tour until the English proficiency policy is retracted.

"There is already a strong endorsement incentive for players to learn English to increase their global marketability," said Tuyet G. Duong, AAJC senior staff attorney. "The new LPGA policy along with their actions to have a special meeting with the South Korean players, smacks of clear discriminatory targeting of those players."

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association is calling for the LPGA to follow the examples of every other U.S. professional sports organization that welcomes foreign-born players by rescinding

what they call an "unfair and unsportsmanlike language requirement."

Ted Lieu, Calif. assemblymember, made a modest proposal to the LPGA.

"The LPGA should also ban accents and direct players to achieve the 'Stepford Wives' look," said Lieu in a statement.

So far there has been no written explanation from LPGA commissioner Carolyn Bivens about the new rule. Deputy Commissioner Libba Galloway told *Golfweek* that the tour would not simply dismiss those who struggle under the new policy.

"We wouldn't just say, 'Come back next year,'" Galloway said. "What we would do is work with them on where they fell short, provide them the resources they need, the tutoring ... and when we feel like they need to be evaluated again, we would evaluate."

Steven Jacobs, attorney for a recent case involving a Connecticut sheet-metal factory mandating English, told *Sports Illustrated* the LPGA has a difficult case to make if the policy is challenged in court.

"The LPGA is making English a precondition of access. That's a classic no-no," he said. "I don't see how this will stand up in court if a player challenges it."

Galloway has said that players can speak any language they want, but



SEON-HWA LEE

they will be expected to speak English well enough to address the media and make victory speeches.

Angela Park, who was born in Brazil of South Korean heritage and raised in the U.S., said the policy is fair and good for the tour and its international players.

"A lot of Korean players think they can be targeted, but it's just because there are so many of them," said Park.

Seon-Hwa Lee, the only Asian with multiple victories this year, told *Golfweek* that everyone "can do a simple interview." She works with an English tutor in the winter, and she said she has improved in her ability to answer questions without a translator while on tour.

"The economy is bad, and we are losing sponsors," Lee said. "Everybody understands." ■

Professor Hirabayashi to Present WRA Photos at Interactive Forum

At an Oct. 11 forum, professor Lane Hirabayashi will give a presentation on War Relocation Authority (WRA) photos of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Between 1942 and 1945, the WRA created a photographic record of all phases of the JA incarceration. Thousands of these photos are now available online. Hirabayashi will demonstrate how online sites can be searched and explored.

To make the forum interactive, Hirabayashi, who is the chair of the University of California, Los Angeles Asian American Studies Department, has offered to do research for the first 50 registrations by e-mail. The results will be shared

with forum participants during a demonstration of how online sites can be searched and explored.

Iku Kiriya and George Nakano of the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California board of directors are assisting Hirabayashi with the program.

Local organizations that have signed on as co-sponsors with the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California include Gardena Valley JCI, Go For Broke National Education Center, Japanese American Bar Association, local JACL chapters, Torrance Historical Society and Okinawa Association of America.

If you are interested in locating

someone in a WRA photo, e-mail a request and a reservation for the forum to Kiriya at goiku@sbc-global.net. Send the name of the person, birth date, camp and areas of activity that may have been photographed. Only the first 50 requests will be researched. ■

WRA Photos Demonstration with Lane Hirabayashi

Oct. 11, 2 to 4 p.m.

Gardena JCI in the Veterans Hall, 1964 West 162nd St., Gardena, CA. 90247

If your organization is interested in being listed as a co-sponsor, contact George Nakano at kusenji@aol.com, or 310/325-2473.



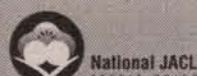
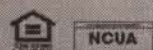
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(Continued from page 1)

memory of those who were once interned here.

"As far as I am concerned, it is sacred ground," said Watanabe. "The feedlot is another way to diminish [the internees'] experience. There are many places in Idaho for another feedlot — there is only one Minidoka."

The recent Commission voice vote will now be followed by a written memorandum that is scheduled to be finalized in early September.

Although opponents are hopeful that the feedlot can still be stopped, time may be running out.

Environmental Impact

"We of course don't want a negative impact on Minidoka, period," said Emily Momohara, chair of Friends of Minidoka. "But we have to work with the locals. We have to work with them on how to remedy this."

Friends of Minidoka — a national organization working to preserve Minidoka's legacy — has largely tried to stay out of the ongoing feed-

lot debates, preferring to rely on locals to do the right thing.

But with recent news that the controversial feedlot has been approved by County Commissioners, Friends of Minidoka is now pressing hard for an environmental impact study to be paid for by a National Historic Trust grant.

"There are so many lessons to be learned about Minidoka, not just for me but everybody," said Momohara. "We don't want to jeopardize that message. That's why this has to be done in the right way. Something this substantial should be studied so a National Park has no negative repercussions."

Since the feedlot controversy first broke, the National Park Service has pressed Jerome County to reject the Big Sky permit, fearing the impact of a feedlot so close to a historic site.

Like Friends of Minidoka, they want an environmental study done to look at the various factors that may affect the historic site including traffic, odor, airborne pathogens, and waste management.

"By its recent vote to approve this permit, JCBC (Jerome County Board of Commissioners) has failed

to require and present clear evidence that this industrial-sized animal facility can operate without creating actionable adverse affects on neighboring properties, including Minidoka National Historic Site," said Scott Eckberg, interim superintendent for Minidoka, in a statement.

"Lacking such evidence, NPS continues to believe that the operation's magnitude and proximity will adversely affect public enjoyment and experience of the historic site."

2 to 1

Commissioner Diana Obenauer is the lone member of Jerome County's Commission that has consistently voted against the Minidoka feedlot.

"I'm not pleased with it," she said of the Aug. 11 vote to approve the feedlot.

Obenauer says she voted against the feedlot for several reasons including an incomplete traffic study, questionable dates of some documents, and the importance of preserving the Minidoka Internment National Site.

She also believes that enough factual information was presented — including a 22-page document she



had prepared — to deny the Big Sky permit application.

"Certainly, our Japanese Americans and supporters of the historical Hunt site are disappointed with the decision that was made," said Obenauer. "No doubt legal challenges will be forthcoming by those who feel the best interests of the general public were not served by this decision."

But Commissioners Charlie Howell and Joe Davidson ultimately voted to approve the feedlot citing the recent ruling by Judge Richard Bevan, even though the judge did not order them to approve the feedlot.

"It has nothing to do with what's right or wrong," Davidson said in an interview with the Associated Press. "It's what the judge said to do."

"If the applicant meets all the requirements of the Jerome County ordinances, the application must be approved," said Commission Chair Howell. "In my opinion (our attorneys also) that is what the judge said in his ruling."

County Prosecutor Mike Seib is currently working on a written memorandum and the commissioners are scheduled to take the issue up again in early September.

Legacy

For Yonsei Momohara there were no family stories about Minidoka while she was growing up. It wasn't until her family received their letters of apology from former President George Bush that she learned of their WWII experiences.

"It was the first time I was able to hear real personal stories," she said.

Now as chair of Friends of Minidoka, Momohara believes the

designation of Minidoka as a National Historic Site earlier this year speaks volumes about its significance.

"It's an acknowledgment that [internment] was wrong," she said.

Watanabe agrees.

"As the project to recognize the [Minidoka] site as a National Historic Landmark has grown in size and become part of the National Parks Department, the commissioners need to be aware that this part of American history cannot be simply overlooked," he said.

"National Parks are set up for all to visit, enjoy and maybe even learn something about our nation — not just for the people that live nearby."

Various community groups, including the JACL, are now looking at what they can do to reverse the Jerome County Commission's Aug. 11 vote, a vote that ironically took place a day after the 20th anniversary of the historic Redress bill.

"The JACL will examine what avenues are open to curtail the development of an offensive environmental development near an important national monument," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

"We owe the residents of the area, the memory of those who were incarcerated at Minidoka, and the education of future generations an all out effort of the JACL to exhaust all means to keep the site an enjoyable place to visit."

In the meantime, groups like Friends of Minidoka are talking to locals and various conservation groups.

"Everyone is huddling together and talking about how to attack this," said Momohara. ■

American Holiday Travel

2008 Tour Schedule

JAPAN AUTUMN HOLIDAY TOUR NEW TOUR	OCT 12-23
Tokyo, Sado Island, Nagano, Takayama, Kanazawa, Yamanaka Onsen, Kyoto.	
CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY CRUISE	OCT 13-24
Ft. Lauderdale, St. Maarten, St. Lucia, Barbados, Martinique, Tortola, Half Moon Cay. HOLLAND AMERICA Maasdam Ship	
AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND HOLIDAY TOUR	NOV 8-23
Sydney, Melbourne, Cairns, Great Barrier Reef, Auckland, Rotorua, Christchurch, Mt. Cook, Queenstown, Milford Sound.	

2009 Tour Schedule Preview

EGYPT-NILE RIVER TOUR I (SOLD OUT)	JAN 16-26
Cairo, Luxor, Nile River Cruise, Kom Ombo, Aswan, Abu Simbel.	
HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL TOUR	FEB 2-11
Sapporo, Abashiri, Lake Akan, Sounkyo, Asahikawa, Otaru, Shiraoi, Noboribetsu. See 5 Snow/Ice Festivals. Ride icebreaker ship "Aurora".	
EGYPT-NILE RIVER TOUR II NEW TOUR	FEB 21-MAR 3
NEW ORLEANS GETAWAY TOUR	MAR 16-20
French Quarter, Steamboat River Cruise, New Orleans Cooking School, Mardi Gras Mask-making Workshop.	
KOREA DRAMA SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR	MAR 27-APR 8
Seoul, Cheju Island, Busan, Daegu, Daejeon, Chuncheon/Namiseom Island.	
JAPAN SPRING COUNTRYSIDE TOUR	APR 15-25
Tokyo, Tendo Onsen, Akita, Hirosaki, Lake Towada, Morioka, Matsushima, Higashiyama Onsen.	
EASTERN CANADA HOLIDAY TOUR	MAY 3-11
Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara Falls.	
GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR I (SOLD OUT)	JUN 28-JUL 7
Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Kyoto, Nara.	
GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR II	JUL 7-16
Kyoto, Nara, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Atami, Hakone, Tokyo.	
ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE	JUL 26-AUG 2
Seattle, Glacier Bay, Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, Victoria City. HOLLAND AMERICA Westerdam Ship.	
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN/GREECE HOLIDAY CRUISE	AUG 22-SEPT 3
Venice, Croatia, Athens, Istanbul, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Santorini, Olympia. HOLLAND AMERICA Oosterdam Ship.	
PANA CONVENTION SOUTH AMERICA TOUR	SEPT
PANA Convention - Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil. Option to Peru.	
NEW ENGLAND HOLIDAY TOUR	OCT 1-8
Boston, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Day trips on historic trains: Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad, Conway Scenic Railroad, Green Mountain Flyer Railroad, Essex Steam Train.	
OKINAWA-KYUSHU HOLIDAY TOUR	OCT 11-23
Naha, Kagoshima/Busuki, Miyazaki, Nobeoka, Takachiho, Mt. Aso, Beppu, Kumamoto, Nagasaki, Fukuoka.	
CANYONLAND GETAWAY HOLIDAY	NOV 8-13
Laughlin, Grand Canyon, Valley of Fire Park, Mesquite, Bryce Canyon, Zion Canyon, Las Vegas.	

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Calendar

National

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thurs., Sept. 25—National JACL Gala Dinner, "Celebrating Champions of Redress"; 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner; Grand Hyatt Hotel, 1000 H St. NW; honoring Norman Mineta, John Tateishi and Grayce Uyebara; \$200/person, \$150/non-profits, \$100/JACL members; sponsorships available. Info: 202/223-1240.

Midwest

ALBUQUERQUE

Sun., Sept. 28—New Mexico JACL Annual Aki Matsuri Festival, "Bamboo: The Way of Living Green"; 10-6 p.m.; National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St.; featuring entertainment, food, arts and crafts for sale, etc. Info: Leo Gomez, 505/291-1062 or hanayagi@spinn.net.

ST. PAUL

Sun., Sept. 21—Twin Cities JACL Golf Tournament; first tee, 11 a.m.; Highland National Golf Course, 1403 Montreal Ave.; \$55/JACL members, \$65/others (includes green fees, cart, course reservation fee and prizes); send registrations by Sept. 11 to Jake Nakasone, 1995 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105, late registrations will not be accepted. Info: Jake Nakasone, 651/248-1896 or

jake@paintingbynakasone.com.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Sept. 14-Jan. 11, 2009—Exhibit, "Oregon Nisei Baseball: The Early Years"; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave.; hours: Tues.-Sat. 11-3 p.m. and Sun. noon-3 p.m.; \$3/admission; exhibit honor the 10th anniversary of the ONLC. Info: 503/224-1458 or www.oregonnikkei.org.

Sun., Sept. 28—Oregon Nikkei Endowment Annual Banquet; 5 p.m. reception, 5:30 p.m. dinner; Multnomah Athletic Club, 1849 SW Salmon St.; honoring Sho Dozono and June Arima Schumann; \$100/person. RSVP by Sept. 19 to 503/224-1458 or info@oregonnikkei.org.

Northern California

HAYWARD

Sun., Sept. 21—NJAHS's Fall Event, "Cultural Connections: Global Engagement/Activism"; 11-4 p.m.; Mt. Eden Business Park, 25941 Industrial Blvd.; featuring dialogue, performances, food and exhibits; \$35/person, \$65/couple, children 12 and under are free. Info: 415/921-5007.

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Sat., Sept. 13—Midori Kai, Inc.'s Annual Fundraiser Boutique; 9-4 p.m.; Mountain View Buddhist Temple Hall, 575 N. Shoreline Blvd.; featuring over 60 vendors showcasing Asian arts, crafts, jewelry, clothes, etc. Info: Phyllis Osaki,

925/596-1770 or Marsha Baird, 510/579-1518.

OAKLAND

Sat., Sept. 20—"Japanese Heritage Day" hosted by the Oakland A's; festivities begin at 11:30 a.m., game at 1:05 p.m.; A's vs. Mariners, McAfee Coliseum; featuring sake barrel breaking, Cherry Blossom Queen introductions and a taiko performance; \$30 for Field Level Outfield. Tickets: 510/638-4900 ext. 3013.

SAN FRANCISCO

Thurs., Sept. 11—Discussion, The Women of The Tale of Genji; 6:30-8 p.m.; San Francisco State Univ., Downtown campus, 835 Market St., 6th Floor, Rm 607; panel includes Dr. John Wallace, Dr. Liza Dalby and Dr. Ellen Susan Peel; \$5/Japan Society members, \$10/general admission; advanced registration recommended. Tickets: www.usa-japan.org or 415/986-4383.

Sun., Sept. 14—Screening, "Transcending: The Wat Misaka Story"; 1 p.m.; Sundance Kabuki Theater, 1881 Post St.; documentary film about the first Asian American pro basketball player and star player from the Univ. of Utah; free; RSVP to 415/567-5505 by Sept. 10.

STOCKTON

Sat., Sept. 27—Stockton JACL Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser; Stockton Buddhist Church, 2820 Shimizu Dr.; \$7/adults, \$4/children 10 and under; proceeds benefit the chapter education fund. Info: 209/476-8528.

Southern California

GARDENA

Sat., Oct. 11—WRA Photo Demonstration with Lane Hirabayashi; 2-4 p.m.; Gardena JCI Veterans Hall, 1964 W. 162nd St.

GLENDALE

Sat., Sept. 13—AADAP's 15th Annual Benefit Show, "Changing Lives and Saving Families"; 7 p.m.; Alex Theatre, 216 North Brand



Kenny Endo (above) and Noel Okimoto headline 'Rhythm Summit 2008' on Oct. 24-25 at the Cupola Theatre in Honolulu.

Blvd.; \$60/orchestra (reserved seating), \$40/orchestra (open seating), \$20/balcony (open seating); featuring Jasmine Trias, Na Kama and Keali'i O Nalani. Info: 323/293-6284 or www.aadapinc.org.

LONG BEACH

Sat., Sept. 13—PSW District Awards Dinner, "PSW Heroes from Redress: 20 Years of a Living Legacy"; The Grand Long Beach Event Center, 4101 E. Willow St.; \$100/person. Info: psw@jaci.org or 213/626-4471.

LOS ANGELES

Sat., Sept. 6—Program, "Nikkei in Cuba: Reflections from Three U.S. Nikkei Groups"; 2 p.m.; JANM, 369 E. First St.; Tsukimi Kai, Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress and Choo-dee Without Borders will have representatives recount their experiences with Nikkei in Cuba. RSVP: 213/625-0414 ext. 2222 or rsvp@janm.org (subject: Nikkei in Cuba).

SAN DIEGO

Sat., Nov. 15—Screening, "Daniel K. Inouye: An American Story"; 1-2

p.m.; Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Public Library, 9005 Aero Dr.; this biographical film tells the story of the senator from Hawaii who is now the 3rd most senior senator in the U.S.; presented by the San Diego JACL.

SANTA BARBARA

Sun., Sept. 14—Annual Santa Barbara JACL Community BBQ; featuring games, raffle, prizes, food and stuff for the kids; \$10/adults, \$6/kids under 11 years old. Info: Wade Nomura, wnomura@verizon.net or 805/448-9912.

VENTURA COUNTY

Sun., Oct. 12—18th Culture Day. Info: Jeff Kunisaki, 805/493-1824 or Mariko Chilcott, 805/231-1392.

Hawaii

HONOLULU

Oct. 24-25—Rhythm Summit 2008; 8 p.m.; Cupola Theatre, Honolulu Design Center, 1250 Kapi'olani Blvd.; featuring Kenny Endo and Noel Okimoto with special guest, Dean Taba; \$22 in advance or \$25 at the door. Info and tickets: www.taikoartscenter.org. ■

MITA

(Continued from page 2)

born without the glimmer of a brighter tomorrow that youth in our nation share.

As a result, a resolution by the NY/SC was brought forth to have JACL support North Korean human rights. As John Tateishi noted in his last column, the resolution passed almost unanimously. Many in this organization are not aware of the massive campaign effort that happened, not just at convention, but years and months prior to Salt Lake City.

Each district youth representative toiled long hours to ensure that each delegate was aware of the issue and well educated. Stephanie Nitahara, Midwest district youth representative, largely coordinated the follow-through of our advocacy plan. Greg Stillman, IDC youth representative, actively engaged the convention resolutions committee to ensure its successful presentation to the floor. Jenn Suzuki and Megumi Kaminaga, NCWNP co-youth representatives, traveled great distances to visit individual chapters in their district to answer questions pertaining to the resolution.

Blake Honda, CCDC youth representative; Peter Yamamura and Chris Batalon, PNW co-youth representatives; Amy Munemoto, MDC youth representative; Brigham Walker, EDC youth representative; and Conrad Ohashi, former PSW

youth representative, were integral players in structuring the North Korean human rights information sheet, which many of you received prior to the convention. The finishing touch came from Kimberly Shintaku and Leilani Savitt who orchestrated the dialogue between the youth council and the national board.

We are a dynamic ensemble of talent that joined the JACL to ensure the future of Asian Pacific American activism and civic engagement.

As we have shown throughout the past year, this resolution supporting North Korean human rights is simply one facet of our efforts. We have spoken out on issues pertaining to the Jena Six case, Max Karson's racist article in the University of Colorado at Boulder's student newspaper, discrimination towards Vietnamese Americans in the Terrebonne Parish school system and in New York City public schools against Sikh Americans.

As we embody the future of this organization, we wish for nothing more than for JACL to continue to be that beacon of hope for oppressed and marginalized people. While we may not personally know the degree of despotism, racism or oppression experienced by these aforementioned groups, we know all too well the bitter taste of injustice and we refuse to remain silent any longer. ■

Brandon Mita is the current JACL youth representative.

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EWP

In Memoriam - 2008

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Arakawa, Florence N., 89, Alhambra; Aug. 1; survived by daughters, Geraldine Rodriguez and Pearl (Herbert) Aguirre; sons, Floyd (Sharane) and Baron (Ann); 8 gc.; sister, Sadako Akamine; and brother, Kiyoshi Kaneshiro.

Fuji, Tome, 80, Los Angeles; Aug.; survived by relatives in Seattle.

Fujita, Robert Eiji, 84, Port Clinton, Ohio; MIS veteran; survived by sons, Robert (Darlene) and Richard (Lisa); 3 gc.; and brothers, Henry and Richard.

Hashimoto, Kenneth, 64, Wickliffe, Ohio; survived by daughters, Gwen and Elaine; and mother, Mitzie.

Kaneshiro, Clifford "Droopy," 66, Honoka'a, Haw., Aug. 8;

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.

Vietnam veteran; survived by sister, Janet Saito; and brothers, Roland and Raymond.

Kawamoto, Nobuko "Nobi," 88, Wheeling, Ill., Aug. 25; survived by daughter, Kathy Ravenscraft; 2 gc.; 2 ggc.; brother-in-law, Vic Izui; and brother, David Katagiri.

Kikuta, Kimiyo, 92, Los Angeles; Aug. 5; survived by sons, Henry (Nora), George (Keiko) and Bruce; 8 gc.; 2 ggc.; brother, Noboru (Hana) Suda; daughter-in-law, Leti Kikuta; brother-in-law, Masaji

Kikuta; and sister-in-law, Setsu Sakuma.

Kizuka, Shigeru "Shig," 84, Henderson, Nev., July 17; WWII veteran, 442nd, L Co.; survived by wife, Ruby; daughter, Cynthia (Timothy) Derouin; sons, Craig (Nancy) and Clifford (Mary Anne) Kizuka; 5 gc.; and 1 ggc.

Kochi, Jay Kazuo, 81, Houston, Tex., Aug. 9; The Robert A. Welch Foundation Chair in chemistry at the Univ. of Houston; survived by wife, Marion; son, Sims; daughters, Ariel and Julia; and brother, Clifford.

Masatani, Kunio, 85, Torrance, Aug. 5; survived by sons, Tsunehiro (Letty), John (Bless), Roy and Leo (Laura); daughter, Linda (Jeff) Way; 14 gc.; and 3 ggc.

Masukawa, Misao "Miso," 79, Gardena, Aug. 13; survived by husband, Fred; sons, Alan (Cheryl) and Steven (Coco); daughters, Linda (Mark) Nakashima and Lisa (Daryl) Takata; 8 gc.; sister, Mitzi Tanamachi; and brother, Saburo Nimura.

Miyataki, Masaru "Masa," 84, Kapolei, Haw., Aug. 7; WWII veteran, 442nd, Co. H; survived by wife, Kathryn; sons, Lee, Scot and Wade; brother, Haruto; and sisters, Elaine Takahata and Betty Katzmann.

Muraki, Tom Tatsuo, 84, Sacramento, Aug. 20; MIS veteran; survived by sons, David (Judy), Doug (Dody) and Keith (Sandy);

and 8 gc.

Naito, Chiyoko, 79, Gardena, Aug. 10; survived by son, Masahiro; daughter, Shirley; 3 gc.; brothers, Minoru Imamura and Yoshinori (Hisayo) Miyazu; and sister, Keiko (Mitsuo) Yano.

Ninokawa, Kaneko, 93, Monterey Park, Aug. 10; survived by son, Cary (Cindy); daughters, Jeanne (Tommy) Tanaka and Arlene Ito; 6 gc.; 2 ggc.; brother, Nao (Judy) Takasugi; and sisters, Chiye Sakamoto, Hisaye (Takeshi) Takasugi and Shika Akiyoshi.

Nishiie, Masayoshi, 85, Kilauea, Haw., Aug. 10; survived by wife, Myra; daughter, Evelyn (Shawn) Conant; 2 gc.; 1 ggc.; brother, Kazuma; and sisters, Chizue Kimura and Alice Nishiie.

Nishio, Howard, 66, Sacramento, Aug. 12; Air Force veteran; survived by wife, Trish; son, Connor; brothers, Dick (Sandi) and Ted (Dolly); sister, Jeanne Nishio-Chan; brother-in-law, Pat Drumm; sister-in-law, Ann Drumm; and mother-in-law, Susan Drumm.

Oku, Toshiye, 83, Los Angeles, July 26; survived by sister, Teruko (Jimmy) Isobe.

Oshidari, Helen Nami, 92, Stockton, Aug. 22; survived by sons, Dr. Ken (Jacquie) and Tom (Terry); daughter, Berdi; 4 gc.; and 4 ggc.

Oye, Joe Ryosaku, 94, Gardena, Aug. 4; survived by wife, Mary; son,

Robert (Debbie); 2 gc.; and sister, Shizuka (Kaz) Hayashi.

Schlossman, Kazuko "Kay," 79, Thousand Oaks, Aug. 12; survived by husband, Edward; daughters, Marie (Jim Plympton) Schlossman and Ann (Chris)

Campbell; sons, Paul (Lynn) and John (Katie Marjala); brothers, Takao and Kunio; and sister, Aiko Suzuki.

Shishino, Dr. Takao, 80, Culver City, Aug. 11; survived by wife, Helen; daughters, Karen (Jeff) Jordan, Linda (John) Shishino-Cruz, Julie and Laurie Shishino; 2 gc.; brother, Hayao (Misuko); sisters-in-law, Yuki andn Beth Sakurai and Florence (Michael) Ray; and brother-in-law, Fred (Charlene) Sakurai.

Terasaki, Tomiye, 97, Los Angeles, Aug. 4; survived by sons, Kei (Jane) and John Sakita; and daughters, Eiko (Fred) Sakuda and Adeline (Woody) Manzo.

Ujiye, Miyoko, 79, Los Angeles, Aug. 10; survived by daughter, Diane; 1 gc.; brothers, Mas (Norma Jean) and Nob; sister, Kaz (Kenneth) Nakaba; and brother-in-law, Robert Ueda.

Uyeda, Eiko, 73, Irvine, Aug. 10; survived by son, Davis (Karen); daughters, Susan Herron, Linda (Elmer) Uyeda-Yoshida, and Carol (David) Novasel; and 7 gc. ■

DEATH NOTICE

ALICE A. MORITA

Alice Morita, 80, went home to be with the Lord on Aug. 29, 2008.

She was born on Jan. 1, 1928 in Sacramento, Calif. A San Fernando Valley resident for the last 45 years, she taught elementary school for the Los Angeles Unified School District prior to her retirement.

She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She is survived by her daughter Kimiko; son Kenneth; grandson Roy; brother Paul; and sisters Flora, Grace and Lily. Alice's family will always cherish their wonderful memories of her.

A memorial service will be held at the San Fernando Holiness Church in Pacoima, Calif., on Sat., Sept. 13 at 6:00 pm.

TORU SHIRAKI

Toru Shiraki, 93, peacefully passed away on Aug. 22. He is survived by his wife, Tatsuko Shiraki; children, Phillip (Joan) of Sedona, Ariz. and Evelyn Shiraki; brother, Spud (Trea) Shiraki; sister-in-law, Shiz Shiraki; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A private funeral service was held Tues., Aug. 26 at the Memorial Chapel of Kubota Nikkei Mortuary with Rev. William Briones of LA Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple officiating. Kubota Nikkei Mortuary, Directors, 213/749-1449.

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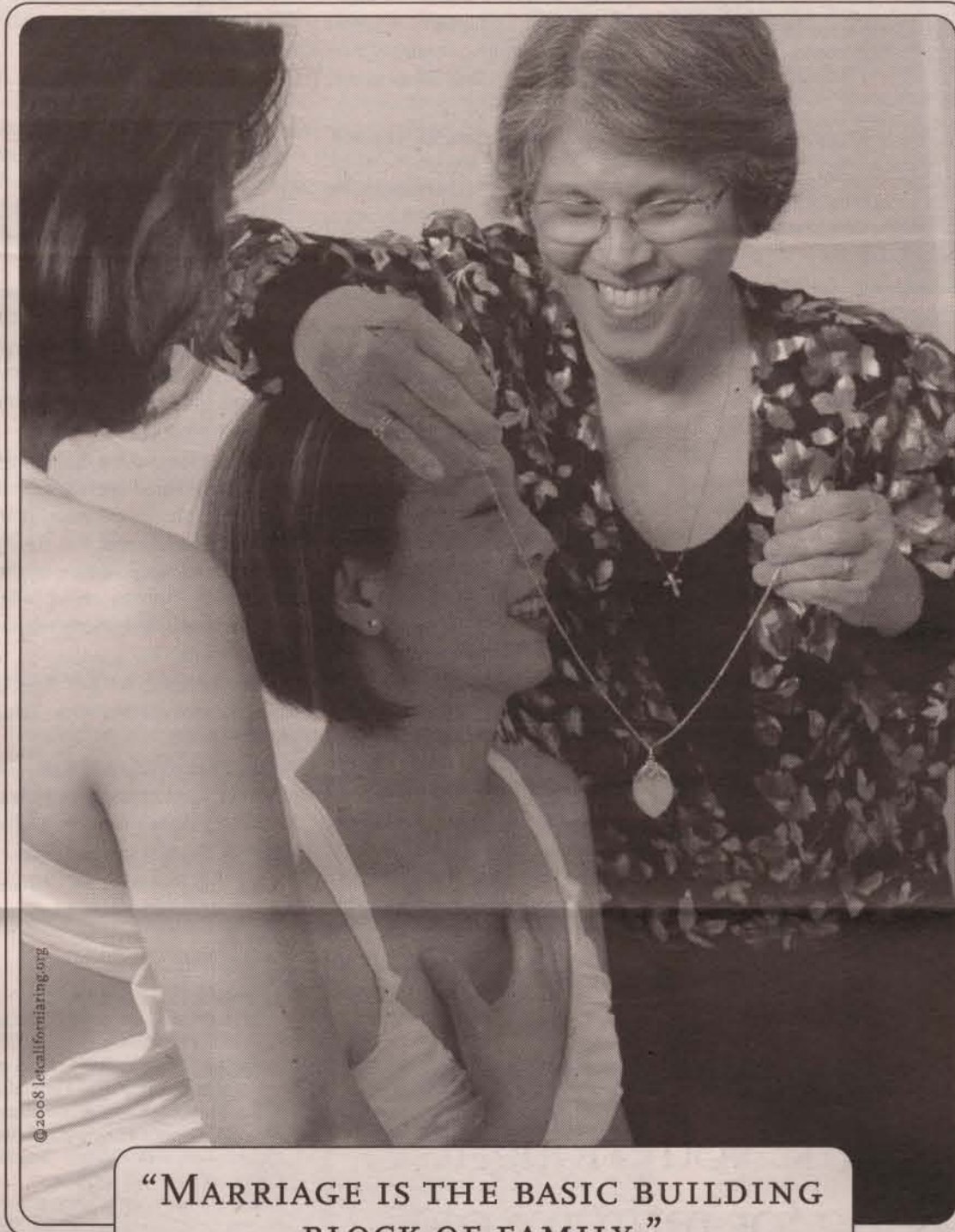
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**"MARRIAGE IS THE BASIC BUILDING
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~Mrs. Lin. Her daughter Jennifer and Jeanne were married 8.8.08

My daughter Jennifer's happiness means so much, especially on her wedding day. Before the banquet I pulled her wife Jeanne aside and gave her a necklace that has been in our family for generations. Tradition is important in our family... it's natural to feel a little uncertain. But they've been committed to each other for 14 years and we've invited Jeanne to participate in our family traditions, because that strengthens our family.

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