



New honor for the Go For Broke regiments?—PG. 4

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens-League



Recognition for Vets

Filipino WWII vets win some compensation as House bill passes.

NATIONAL PAGE 3

#3110/ Vol. 147, No. 7 ISSN: 0030-8579

www.pacificcitizen.org

OCT. 3-16, 2008

Ordinary Family, Extraordinary Legacy

Sixty years ago, California took away their land. By suing and winning, Kajiro and Fred Oyama started the fight for equal rights that is still being waged today in Florida.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

Fred Oyama was six years old when he first became a landowner. It was about six acres of Chula Vista, Calif. farmland — a gift of necessity from his Issei father, Kajiro Oyama.

Back then racism was written into law, and the only solution was a gift.

Kajiro, who immigrated to the U.S. in 1914 from the Wakayama Prefecture, was an "alien ineligible for citizenship" and therefore prohibited from owning land, so he simply deeded the property to his American born son.

"I didn't know why I was there," said Fred, now an 82-year-old retired junior high math teacher, about the day he and his father filed the paperwork for the land.

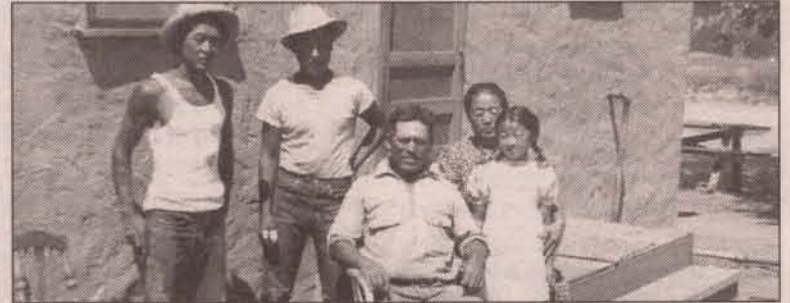
But innocence turned into anger when the U.S. government seized the Oyama land anyway during World War II, saying it had been purchased with intent to evade the Alien Land Law.

"I was so angry," said Fred in

between long pauses. "This is my country. I'm a citizen and you take my land away."

Instead of accepting this fate, Kajiro and Fred with the help of the JACL and the American Civil Liberties Union, took their battle against injustice all the way to the Supreme Court. In the highest court in the land, the Oyamas were vindicated. Their 1948 case, *Oyama v. California*, has been called a turning point for equal rights for Asian Pacific Americans and the country's immigrant communities.

But 60 years later, even with a splashy ACLU event commemorating the landmark case, Fred prefers to duck the spotlight.



With the help of the ACLU and the JACL, Fred Oyama (far left) and Kajiro Oyama (seated, center) sued California for taking their land.

"My role was my name. Everything that happened was because of my dad."

Injustice Atop Injustice

Kajiro was a man of few words. He came to the U.S. at the age of 15 with dreams of attending the

California Institute of Technology and perhaps becoming an engineer.

"But it didn't work out that way," said Fred with a chuckle. When Kajiro arrived in his adopted homeland, he was handed a pair of Levis and told go to work in the field. So

See ALIEN LAND LAW/Page 11

Lessons in English, Explorations in JA Identity

Many younger generations of Japanese Americans are heading to Japan to teach English and finding it's a great way to explore their own identity.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

For many Yonsei like Geoff Tsudama, 25, trying to envision their ancestral home of Japan, images of all-night pachinko parlors, wall-to-wall skyscrapers, and endless crowds of people in highway wide crosswalks are usually the first to come to mind.

But those frenzied images were quickly put to rest when Geoff arrived in Kashiwa, Japan in late



August. His taxi ride to his new home for the next few years revealed lush green rice fields amid a sparse populace living a life of tranquility.

Geoff, like many Yonsei and Sansei these days, recently left Southern California to teach English in Japan. And many of these younger generations of Japanese Americans are finding it's a great opportunity to

explore their own identities.

"In California, Japanese Americans have a great grasp on what they think Japanese culture is like. We always eat Japanese food, and some may even listen to Japanese music, but you don't really understand Japanese culture until you come here," he said.

See JA IDENTITY/Page 16

Little Tokyo Takes a Crucial Step in Building a Neighborhood Gym



HOME COURT: Tournaments like San Tai San may now have its own venue.

The project finally gets a green light, but faces its next obstacle — a \$15 million capital campaign.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

For decades Japanese American leaders in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo have stressed the same point — build a recreational center and the youth will come.

Now with the city council's approval, the JA community is one step closer than it's ever been to having a recreational center built within the boundaries of its historic neighborhood.

It's been a longtime dream for Bill Watanabe, executive director of the Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC). He has always envisioned a place that would attract young Asian

See REC CENTER/Page 13

Jerome County Commissioners Give Final Approval for Feedlot Near Minidoka

The JACL national board passes a resolution vowing to oppose the controversial decision.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Despite last minute appeals from concerned citizens and preservation groups, Jerome County Commissioners gave their

final approval for a controversial feedlot to move just over a mile from the Minidoka National Historic Site in Southern Idaho.

On Sept. 22, Jerome County Commissioners voted 2 to 1 in favor of the 13,000-heifer feedlot. The decision was approved with some minor editing changes still needed, said Emily Momohara, chair of the

Friends of Minidoka.

The decision to approve the confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) stunned many former Minidoka internees and descendants who have long opposed the facility fearing odor, waste management and airborne pathogens.

"Friends of Minidoka is very disappointed," said Momohara.

"We support agriculture ... but the feedlot is in the wrong location."

To lessen the feedlot's impact on the area the commission is requiring South View Dairy, the new owners of the permit for the Big Sky Farms feedlot, to provide a "pull-off" area for school buses

See FEEDLOT/Page 6

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

INDEX

National.....	3-5
Community.....	6-7
Voices.....	8
Calendar.....	14
Obits.....	15



Like Bruce Lee

East West Players' new play puts a spin on a kung fu legend.

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 9



Issei Speed Skater

Issei Kashima is making an impact in the Junior Hockey League.

SPORTS PAGE 10



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

Executive Editor:
Caroline Y. Aoyagi-Stom
Assistant Editor:
Lynda Lin
Office Manager:
Brian Tanaka
Circulation: Eva Lau-Ting

Publisher: Japanese American Citizens League (founded 1929) 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115, tel: 415/921-5225 fax: 415/931-4671, www.jacl.org
JACL President: Larry Oda
Nat'l Director: Floyd Mori
Pacific Citizen Board of Directors: Margie Yamamoto, chairperson; Vacant, EDC; Lisa Hanasono, MDC; Kathy Ishimoto, CCDC; Judith Aono, NCWNPDC; Justine Kondo, PNWDC; Jeff Itami, IDC; Ted Namba, PSWDC; Naomi Oren, Youth.

NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.
Editorials, news and the opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the *Pacific Citizen* do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles.

PACIFIC CITIZEN (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly except once in December and January by the Japanese American Citizens League, 250 E. First Street, Ste. 301, Los Angeles, CA. 90012
OFFICE HOURS — Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time. ©2008.

Annual subscription rates: NON-MEMBERS: 1 year—\$40, payable in advance. Additional foreign postage per year (1st class) — Canada and Mexico \$55, Japan and overseas \$60 (Subject to change without notice.) Postage paid at Los Angeles, Calif.

Permission: No part of this publication may be reproduced without express permission of the publisher. Copying for other than personal or internal reference use without the express permission of P.C. is prohibited.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: *Pacific Citizen*, c/o JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

JACL MEMBERS Change of Address

If you have moved, please send information to:
National JACL
1765 Sutter St.
San Francisco, CA
94115

Allow 6 weeks for address changes. To avoid interruptions in receiving your P.C., please notify your postmaster to include periodicals in your change of address (USPS Form 3575)

PSW GOTV Says 'No' to Proposition 8

By PSW GOTV Committee

On Nov. 4, millions of Americans will go out and vote in a historic election where, for the first time in the history of the United States, we can vote for an African American president or a female vice president from the major political parties. In addition, Californians will have another important decision to make that day — whether or not “only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California.”

This proposition would eliminate the right of gay and lesbian couples to marry, which effectively takes away a right that these couples currently have. Proposition 8 is a contentious proposition. Supporters of the proposition argue that marriage should *only* be between a man and a woman. Those against the proposition argue for equal rights, including the right to marry, for any and all committed and loving couples.

PSW JACL's Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Committee opposes Proposition 8 because it seeks to restrict the civil rights of thousands of Californians by denying marriage equality. We believe that marriage is a fundamental human right for all Californians, including members of the gay and lesbian community.

Our committee is currently working with API Equality-LA, a coalition of straight, gay and lesbian organizations and individuals in the Asian Pacific Islander (API) community, to help with their efforts to oppose Proposition 8.

The impact of this proposition goes beyond the gay and lesbian community, but affects all communities, including our own. Of the 40,000 API same-sex couples in the nation, 10,000 reside in California. Six per-



cent of all same-sex couples in California are API. It is critical for our community to be aware of this issue and act in the best interest of those who are directly affected by this proposition.

Many argue the “sanctity of marriage” as one of the primary reasons why marriage should be solely between a man and a woman. Civil marriage is a state-sanctioned union of individuals, so there's really no religious issue to debate here. We feel that, like everyone else who is entitled to obtaining civil marriages at their local city halls, the gay and lesbian community in California should continue to enjoy that right as well.

As the California Supreme Court put it, one's capacity to establish a committed relationship “does not depend upon the individual's sexual orientation, and, more generally ... an individual's sexual orientation — like a person's race or gender — does not constitute a legitimate basis upon which to deny or withhold legal rights.”

A number of people claim that they're fine with equal rights and civil unions for the gay and lesbian community — as long as they don't actually get married. The statement itself is contradictory since members of the gay and lesbian community would be denied the right to marry and therefore *not* enjoy equal rights.

Even if we did give almost-equal rights

through “marriages” to opposite-sex couples and “civil unions” to same-sex couples, wouldn't this just be a form of segregation all over again? It's not just an issue of semantics. Past segregation laws of separate but equal have proven themselves to be unconstitutional. Why then, would it be acceptable to apply this notion to the gay and lesbian community?

Proposition 8 is reminiscent of the anti-miscegenation laws that formerly applied to communities of color in the United States. Many of these laws, especially in California, were targeted at Asian immigrants to make it difficult for them to marry, establish families, build communities and integrate into American society. It was not until 1967 that all race-based legal restrictions on marriage were eliminated in the U.S. with the landmark civil rights case *Loving v. Virginia*.

JACL supported the Lovings in this case for the same reason why it has joined the “No on Prop 8 Equality for All” Campaign — because the organization advocates for marriage equality for all committed couples. If the proposition passes, it will be the first time in California's history that discrimination is actually written into the state constitution.

The GOTV Committee encourages Californians to vote “no” on Proposition 8 because no one should be treated like a second-class citizen, regardless of their race, gender, ethnicity or sexual orientation. All humans and citizens are deserving of the same rights — including the basic civil right of marriage. ■

The GOTV Committee aids the JACL in addressing the growing issues of political complacency and lack of understanding of minority issues within the JA community.

Lessons in Health Care

Naomi Lim recently completed her Daniel K. Inouye Fellowship focusing on health programs and policy.

By NAOMI LIM

I arrived at the JACL's Washington, D.C. office on Jan. 22 — the day after Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Auspicious, some might say, considering that the JACL is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States.



Thinking I would be attending law school in the fall, I was looking for a position to bide my time, while at the same time exploring my interests. The Daniel K. Inouye Fellowship, with its focus on health programs and policy seemed to be the perfect fit.

I had some background experience in health care and advocacy, and I wanted to explore that avenue further to see if it was something I wanted to pursue career-wise, through further education, or both. What I got out of my JACL experience not only answered that question, but also helped me discover other interests that I hope to continue to pursue.

While Asian Pacific Americans are seen by some as a “model minority,” with this stereotype sometimes making its way into policy

areas, such as education and health care, what is often missed by policy makers is the diversity represented within the various APA ethnic groups, as well as the stark contrasts in income, education, and citizenship, among some of these groups.

In health care, such differences can affect the ability of an individual or community to access health services, which in turn may affect the health of said individual or community. However, while health care is a civil rights issue, it is one that often goes inadequately understood and perhaps overlooked.

The Inouye fellowship seeks to address this gap by offering recent college graduates the opportunity to learn about health policy issues and programs affecting APAs. During my time at the JACL, I had the opportunity to research and learn about the issue of health care access and other current health policy issues affecting APAs and engage in conversations with JACL staff and leaders, as well as staff from other APA organizations, such as Hmong National Development, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center, and Keiro Senior HealthCare.

Through all of this, I learned about the need for programs and advocacy that address the specific needs of APAs as a whole, as well as individually (by ethnic group).

I also worked on a health fair toolkit for use by JACL chapters, which includes information on specific health conditions affecting Japanese Americans, as well as APAs as a

whole, in addition to ways in which JACL members can address health needs in their own communities. Some of this knowledge was put to the test, as I assisted with the coordination of health fairs in Los Angeles and Fresno, which provided me with some hands-on practical experience in coordinating programs and community outreach.

Through it all, I gained much more than I had anticipated, especially in terms of insight into health programs and policy advocacy on a national level.

Additionally, on a personal level, I realized that my passion for health care justice is more suited towards program coordination than advocacy, and although I hope to be active as a health care advocate on some level, I was able to make the important decision not to go to law school, but to continue to work in health programs for the time being.

In the fall, I will begin work as a clinical affairs associate in medical administration at the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, which helps meet the health-related and social needs of underserved APAs in New York City through service, advocacy, education and training, and research.

While my time as a JACL fellow is complete, I will continue to be involved in the JACL, especially in ways that can improve the health of the APA community, and I hope you will, too. ■

Naomi Lim served as the Daniel K. Inouye Fellow in the JACL Washington, D.C. office.

Filipino WWII Veterans Seek Equality from U.S.

A House bill recently passed falls short of what the Senate had approved. The two differing bills will now have to be reconciled.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

MANILA, Philippines—Something is better than nothing, Filipino veterans said Sept. 24 after hearing they could get lump-sum benefit payments from the U.S. government more than six decades after they fought alongside American forces during World War II.

But they also said they will continue to press Washington to put them on par with their U.S. comrades-in-arms, claiming they have been short-changed and that Congress is dragging its feet as remaining survivors die of old age.

The U.S. House of Representatives on Sept. 23 passed the "Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2008" that would make one-time payments of \$15,000 to Filipinos who are U.S. citizens and \$9,000 to non-U.S. Filipino veterans.

"Whatever the Americans give, the Filipinos will receive," said retired Col. Francisco San Miguel, secretary general of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines. He added, however, they "will not stop seeking what is rightfully due to Filipinos. We will still seek equal treatment."

Filipino veterans have been clamoring for decades for the same benefits received by their American comrades who fought the Japanese.

The U.S. Senate passed a bill on veterans' affairs in April that provided additional pensions for many of the surviving veterans but has not acted on the House legislation. The senators could either approve the House version or hold a joint committee to work out differences before a final version is signed into law by the U.S. president.

Japan invaded the Philippines, then a U.S. colony, in December 1941.

When Filipinos were conscripted into the U.S. Army, they were promised full benefits as veterans. But after the war, the U.S. Congress reversed the promise in the Rescissions Acts of 1946.

Veterans who began receiving benefits before the Rescissions Acts continued to receive them.

Benefits for other veterans, many of whom fought in the Philippine jungles in U.S. uniforms and were forced by Japanese captors on the infamous Bataan Death March with their American comrades, were discontinued because they were deemed not to have been on active duty.

San Miguel, 81, said Filipino veterans "are getting older and they are dying one by one."

"What the Americans plan is when you die, too bad for your family. Only the living are going to receive benefits," he said, referring to proposals, cut from the House bill, that would have provided a \$4,500 annual pension for a married eligible veteran living in the



P.C. FILE PHOTO

Sen. Daniel Inouye (third from right), who has been pushing for decades to restore benefits, is pictured here in 2004 with Filipino veterans at the JACL national convention.

Philippines and \$3,600 annual pension for an unmarried eligible veteran.

Enrique Aquino, a retired Filipino American naval officer, told the *Manila Bulletin* newspaper that if those benefits are not be restored, the House bill "will be worse than the Rescissions Act of 1946."

Teodoro Torres, a 91-year-old former sergeant from Batangas province who survived the Bataan Death March, said he currently receives about \$1,000 in a monthly disability pension. His one-time payment under the U.S. House legislation would be equal to only nine

months of his pension.

Cesario Canlas, an 83-year-old former wartime guerrilla, said he would agree to the latest U.S. offer. He receives only \$106 in a monthly pension.

"For me, that will do because I am already old," his daughter, Violy, quoted him as saying. Canlas has hearing difficulties.

The Bataan Death March started after U.S. forces surrendered in Bataan province west of Manila in April 1942. Japanese troops forcibly marched an estimated 70,000 men 65 miles to a prison camp. Only 54,000 survived. ■

Civil Rights Groups Demand Tourism Chief Resign Over Racist, Sexist E-mails

Honolulu JACL calls Rex Johnson's e-mails 'deeply hurtful' and in 'conflict' with Hawaii's diversity.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

HONOLULU—Several civil rights groups recently called for the resignation of the state's top tourism executive because of racist and sexist e-mails forwarded from his government computer.

"As the head of the HTA (Hawaii Tourism Authority), [Rex] Johnson's mission is to work toward attracting people, from all over the world, of every race and ethnic background, to visit Hawaii," said Karen Nakasone, former president of Honolulu JACL. "These e-mails reflect attitudes which undermine this mission, and call into question the effectiveness of an individual who finds such bigotry humorous."

Alphonso Braggs, president of the Hawaii branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said Johnson has "damaged the mission and integrity of the Hawaii Tourism Authority with his totally inappropriate and unethical behaviors."

Braggs, along with members of the Hawaii NAACP and other civil rights organizations, marched down Waikiki's Kalakaua Avenue on Sept. 27 to protest Johnson's continued employment as the state's top tourism executive. The protesters were able to gather over 300 signatures calling for Johnson's firing, said Braggs to the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*.

Meanwhile, HTA's board will consider Johnson's status as president and chief executive of the state's tourism agency at an Oct. 2 meeting.

Johnson already had been reprimanded and

had his pay docked by the board in August for using his state e-mail account to relay pornographic material, including X-rated movie clips, slideshows and photographs, which were discovered by the state auditor during a review of HTA's major contractors.

The latest e-mails containing racist and sexist jokes were disclosed recently by *The Honolulu Advertiser*, which obtained them in an open-records request.

Johnson did not write the e-mails but relayed them to friends. They included several off-color jokes involving blacks, Hispanics and women.

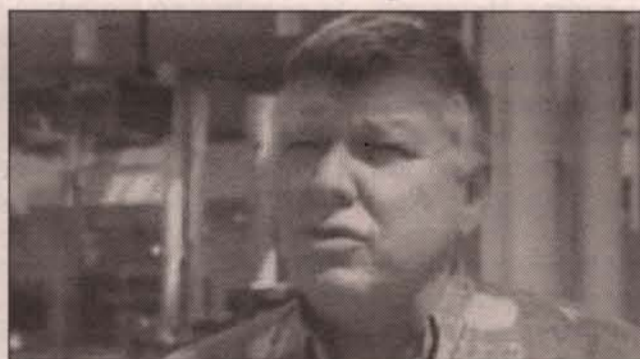
Sens. Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton were the target of one joke. Obama was referred to as a "coon" and Clinton as "beaver" in a March 22 e-mail forwarded by Johnson.

"Simply put, we have lost all confidence in Mr. Johnson's ability to objectively administer the Hawaii Tourism Authority's mission in an objective manner," Braggs said.

In addition to the NAACP and Honolulu JACL, the African American Association of Hawaii, African American Lawyers Association and the Hawaii Women's Political Caucus also joined in protesting Johnson's actions.

Johnson was traveling on official business to Japan and was unavailable for comment. However, he has repeatedly apologized for the e-mails, calling it a stupid mistake.

"It was not an inadvertent mistake. It was a pattern of behavior," said Sen. Gordon



Hawaii Tourism Authority CEO Rex Johnson forwarded an e-mail joke that called Hillary Clinton a 'beaver.'

Trimble, who represents the tourist district of Waikiki and is a member of the Senate Tourism Committee.

The Republican said enough damage had been done to Hawaii's image and demanded Johnson resign so the industry could move on and focus on the tourism downturn.

Hawaii's No. 1 industry is slumping as it deals with the nation's credit crisis and more Americans tightening their spending.

The demands come a week after Gov. Linda Lingle called for Johnson to step down or be removed by HTA's board. Lingle called the e-mails "disgusting," and said they went against the "very core of who we are as a people, that we're a place where all people will feel welcome and comfortable."

Kelvin Bloom, chairman of the HTA board, said the latest batch of e-mails was unknown to the board when it discussed Johnson's fate in August.

The board considered Johnson's fate for three weeks before deciding to keep him. As punishment, his annual pay was cut by \$40,000 to \$200,000 and his four-year contract

was reduced to one year.

"I'm concerned," Bloom said about the latest e-mails. "I know other board member are concerned, thus the reason for calling a special board meeting as soon as possible to address the matter."

When asked if the situation has tarnished Hawaii's image, Bloom responded: "I don't think it has helped."

Trimble said the 12-member board must act swiftly this time around.

"If they don't have a problem with this, they should submit their letters of resignation, as well," he said.

Many in the tourism industry have supported Johnson, who has held the position since 2002.

"I'm frankly surprised at the characterizations that are being made about him," said Eric Masutomi, vice president of planning for Outrigger Enterprises, Inc. "Rex, as far as I'm concerned, made a foolish, foolish mistake. But it's not representative of the person I know. He's one of the finest individuals I know. He's a real standup guy."

Masutomi credited Johnson for turning HTA around and working well with the Legislature to increase the funding to market Hawaii.

But many are still pushing for Johnson's resignation.

"These emails were deeply hurtful to the women and minorities who were denigrated within them," said Nakasone. "They conflict with Hawaii's strong tradition of tolerance, and our community's bedrock principle — that diversity is one of our greatest strengths. We call upon Mr. Johnson to resign, or that the HTA board remove him." ■

New Bill Seeks to Honor JA WWII Veterans



Lawmakers want to give the 100th Battalion (above) and the 442nd RCT the Congressional Gold Medal.

Another bill passed by the House would allocate \$4 million for a new Go For Broke facility in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Over 60 years after their service in World War II, members of the highly decorated 442nd Regiment Combat Team and the 100th Infantry Battalion may be able to add another medal to their collection — the Congressional Gold Medal.

But it would literally take an act of Congress.

If passed HR 7058 would pay tribute to the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd RCT, commonly known as the Go For Broke regiments, by awarding them the highest civilian honor from Congress.

Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Pasadena, introduced the bill Sept. 24 to honor the men who waged wars both against racial injustice at home and abroad against U.S. enemies. During WWII, many young Nisei men fought bravely to protect the country that imprisoned their families behind barbed wire internment camps.

"At a time when they could have easily turned their backs on a country which had seemingly turned its back on them, these men chose the nobler, bolder, and more difficult route," said Schiff in a statement.

"It would certainly be an honor," said Toke Yoshihashi, who served over two years with the 100th Battalion A Company during WWII. "We don't get enough credit for what we did as a unit."

Among other medals, the 85-

year-old San Gabriel, Calif. resident received a Bronze Star for his service.

The Go For Broke regiments earned several awards for their distinctive service in combat, including: seven Presidential Unit Citations, 21 Medals of Honor, 52 Distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars, 22 Legion of Merit Medals, 15 Soldier's Medals, and nearly 10,000 Purple Hearts, among numerous additional distinctions.

"The brave Japanese Americans who fought in the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team have received several awards for their heroic actions during World War II," said Matsui in a statement to the *Pacific Citizen*. "It is time for Congress to award the Congressional Gold Medal to those who fought so bravely for our country's principles, even as these principles were not being adhered to at home."

Many say honoring the 100th Battalion and the 442nd RCT with the Congressional Gold Medal recognizes a long legacy of JA war heroes.

"... [It] is a recognition of the contributions made by 33,000 Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II and the some 5,000 Japanese Americans who fought with gallantry in each of the Korean and Vietnam Wars to preserve our democratic system," said Robert Nakamoto, president of the Japanese American Veterans Association.

"It will honor especially those Japanese Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice, 717 in WWII, 256 in the Korean War, and 115 in the Vietnam War. We salute Rep. Adam Schiff for initiating this

action," added Nakamoto.

On the same day the Congressional Gold Medal bill was introduced, the House also passed another bill that included \$4 million requested by Schiff for the construction of a Go For Broke National Education Center in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

HR 2638, or "The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act," passed the House and Senate, and is now awaiting a signature from President George W. Bush, said Christine Sato-Yamazaki, president and CEO of the Go For Broke National Education Center. It's something that supporters expect soon, she added.

The new facility, which will be located near the Go For Broke Monument in Little Tokyo, will serve the WWII veterans and their families by documenting their oral histories, providing volunteer veteran docents and conducting teacher training.

"We're really excited about the funding," said Sato-Yamazaki, who said it would help continue the organization's mission of telling the stories of WWII JA soldiers.

Headquarters for The Go For Broke National Education Center is currently located in Torrance, Calif.

A new location in the heart of Little Tokyo would be welcomed by veterans like Yoshihashi, who is also a docent at the monument.

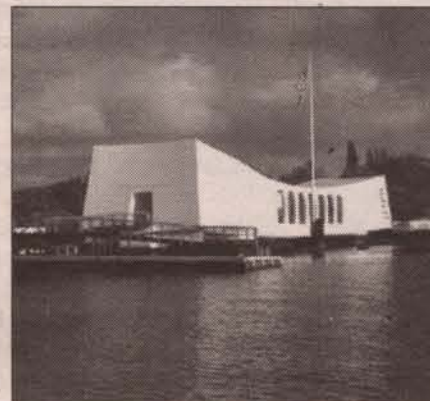
"It would be an attraction for people to come to our Nihonmachi," he said. ■

On the Web:
www.goforbroke.org
<http://schiff.house.gov>

National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

New Pearl Harbor Museum Scheduled for 2010



HONOLULU—A \$33 million contract has been awarded for the construction of a new visitors center at the USS Arizona Memorial, which is getting nearly twice as many tourists as its facilities were designed to handle.

Construction on a new museum, shop and a second theater is expected to begin before the end of the year. The new museum, with a total expected cost to reach \$54 million, will allow

visitors to see items currently not on display, including some of the thousands of donated artifacts now kept in a warehouse.

The memorial is expected to remain open while the new visitors center is being built, with completion expected by the 69th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack in December 2010.

Judge Drops Murder Count in Miura Case

TORRANCE, Calif.—A murder count has been dismissed against a Japanese businessman in the 1980s death of his wife, but a conspiracy case can proceed.

On Sept. 26, a Los Angeles County judge ruled on motions concerning Kazuyoshi Miura. He has been detained in the U.S. territory of Saipan. The judge ruled against the murder count on grounds of double jeopardy. Miura was tried in Japan and convicted, but that verdict was ultimately overturned.

Miura and his wife were shot during a visit to Los Angeles in 1981. She was shot in the head and died a year later in Japan. The businessman was wounded in the leg.

Fire Ravages Chinese American Museum



CHICAGO—After a fire destroyed a large part of its facility, officials of the Chinese American Museum of Chicago said they would rebuild.

The building, located at 238 W. 23rd Street, is a total loss after a fire destroyed the third and fourth floors and the roof of 12,000-square-foot museum. Priceless artifacts were also lost in the blaze.

The cause of the fire is still unknown, but fire department officials have ruled out foul play, Dr. Kim K. Tee told the *Chicago Sun-Times*.

Tee, the museum's co-founder and president, said the now-shuttered facility would be open again within a year.

California Tuition Break for Undocumented Students Can be Challenged

SACRAMENTO—A state appellate court has ruled that a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a California law, known as AB540, that grants in-state tuition to undocumented immigrants can move forward.

In 2005, a group of out-of-state students and parents filed a lawsuit in Yolo County Superior Court alleging that they were being charged higher tuition and fees than undocumented immigrants. A lower court dismissed the suit, but the 3rd District Court of Appeal in Sacramento ruled Sept. 15 the case could continue.

The out-of-state students argue that federal law requires states that provide in-state rates to undocumented immigrant students to offer the same benefit to out-of-state students. The defendants maintain that California's law does not violate the federal statute. They say that more U.S. citizens benefit from AB 540, than undocumented immigrants.

To obtain in-state tuition in California, students must have attended three years of high school in California, graduated and gained admission to one of the state's colleges or universities. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Inafuku is Named Manzanar's New Superintendent



Les Inafuku, a 33-year veteran of the National Park Service, is the new superintendent of Manzanar National Historic Site.

Currently serving as the acting superintendent of Manzanar, Inafuku will permanently relocate to Manzanar in January from his post as chief ranger at Kaloko-Honokūhau National Historical Park and Pu'uhonua o Hō'naunau National Historical Park on the Big Island of Hawaii.

He previously served as a park ranger at Yellowstone National Park.

Yamaichi to Receive 'Spirit of Japantown Award'

For his untiring commitment to the San Jose Japantown community, **Jimi Yamaichi** will be receiving the "Spirit of Japantown Award" at the Oct. 4 Spirit of Japantown Festival.

Yamaichi served as a founding member of Fuji Towers, Nikkei Matsuri Festival and the Japanese American Museum of San Jose.

As a board member or advisor, Yamaichi has supported the JAACL, Yu-Ai Kai Senior Service Center and the San Jose Buddhist Church.

The recognition ceremony will take place 1:45 p.m. center stage, on the day of the festival.

AAJC to Host American Courage Awards Reception



YAMAMOTO



HIRANO

An elite group of APA leaders will be honored at this year's "American Courage Awards," presented by The Asian American Justice Center (AAJC).

Carrie Ann Inaba of "Dancing with the Stars" will host the event, which recognizes Americans with exemplary community service to the APA and other minority communities.

This year's honorees include: **Eric Yamamoto**, a University of Hawaii School of Law professor; **Irene Hirano**, president and CEO of the Japanese American National Museum; and **John C. Yang**, a Washington D.C. lawyer.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America will also receive the Bridge Builder Award for its diversity and inclusion initiatives.

Sen. **Daniel K. Inouye**, Congresswoman **Doris O. Matsui**, Former Sec. of Transportation **Norman Y. Mineta** and the Hon. **Amul R. Thapar** will serve as presenters for the event.

The American Courage Awards takes place Oct. 8 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

First APA Reaches Pinnacle of Wine Expertise



Jeannie Cho Lee, 40, has become the first APA to obtain the title of "Master of Wine" from the Institute of Masters of Wine.

Only 277 people worldwide have received the honorable title so far.

Lee, who was born in Korea but moved to the U.S. at the age of seven, received a master's degree in public policy from Harvard. But she was captivated by wine while she was studying at Oxford. She is currently a wine expert working in Hong Kong.

Esquire Names Most Influential APAs

Esquire Magazine's recently published list of "The 75 Most Influential People of the 21st Century," includes eight APA leaders.

Included in the list are: **David Chang**, a New York chef; **Deng Xiaoping**, Chinese communist leader; musician **M.I.A.**; Louisiana Gov. **Bobby Jindal**; **Lakshmi Mittal**, CEO of ArcelorMittal; **John Maeda**, president of the Rhode Island School of Design; **Gao Xiqing**, manager of the China Investment Corporation; and **Parag Khanna**, geopolitical analyst. ■

Back to School: Kindergartners Urged to Learn Key Foreign Languages



AP PHOTO/LAWRENCE JACKSON

Chinese language teacher **Grace Yuan** teaches a class at Providence Elementary School in Fairfax, Va. The class is a result of the National Security Language Initiative introduced by President Bush in 2006.

A 2006 Bush initiative spurs unprecedented interest in learning 'critical needs' languages. Chinese is the most popular in one Virginia county.

By **CAROLE FELDMAN**
Associated Press Writer

FAIRFAX, Va.—The first-graders in Grace Yuan's class are playing "Jeopardy," eagerly responding to clues about animals and their habitats, diet and movements.

Sound routine for a group of seven-year-olds? Well, look again. These clues are in Chinese.

One girl, a bit uncertain, pondered the Chinese characters and pictures of animals. "Believe in yourself, Rachel," a classmate yelled. Applause rang out when she gave the correct response.

The class is a result of the National Security Language Initiative, introduced by President Bush in 2006 to teach the youngest students Chinese and other foreign languages considered critical to the nation's future security.

"We're going to teach our kids how to speak important languages," he said. One goal, he added, was "to advance America's interests around the world, and defeat this notion about our — you know our bullying concept of freedom by letting people see what we're about."

At Providence Elementary School here in Fairfax, principal Joy Hanbury believes that learning Chinese will be a benefit to today's children.

"We are looking at how global our world is," she said.

The federal program is based on the premise that you can engage foreign governments and their citizens more effectively when you speak

their language. The emphasis is on "critical needs" languages, including Chinese, Arabic, Russian, Hindi and Farsi.

The Education Department, one of four federal agencies involved in the program, has awarded 88 grants totaling about \$26 million to communities around the country to expand instruction in these languages beginning in kindergarten.

Chinese, thus far, has been the most popular.

"People understand in a competitive world, you've got to be fluent in the languages where business is booming, and China is one of those places," said Holly Kuzmich, the Education Department's deputy chief of staff.

Studies have shown that young children are much quicker than adults to pick up foreign languages. Other research suggests that elementary school students performed better in other subjects if they also took a foreign language.

"We do have pretty compelling data that show there are really good reasons to put in good programs at the elementary level," said Marty Abbott of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Fairfax County, Va., now offers Chinese, Arabic, Japanese, Latin and Italian, in addition to the more traditional Spanish and French. Arabic and Chinese were selected by parents, primarily to give their kids a future economic edge, said Paula Patrick, foreign language coordinator for the county schools.

The county is using the nearly \$622,000 grant it received through the National Security Language Initiative in part to train teachers in those two languages.

Grace Belyea, 7, is a first-grader at Providence Elementary and a student of Chinese. "I like counting and I like doing activities on the smart

board," she said.

Yuan demonstrates on a computer the individual strokes needed to write Chinese characters. She creates computer games, like the animal "Jeopardy" that the children were playing this recent day.

"Games are a good teaching tool," she said. "It lets them feel Chinese is not like a boring language."

Yuan, a Taiwan native, intersperses language instruction with lessons about Chinese culture. And she works with the classroom teacher to support regular lessons: When the children learned about the food pyramid in regular class, for example, they also studied fruits in Chinese.

The Providence first-graders have two 30-minute Chinese classes each week. Language instruction will continue through sixth grade. At that point, they can choose to continue Chinese or pursue another language.

The county school board aims to have each student competent in at least two languages by the time they graduate from high school.

The Education Department believes there's room for foreign language instruction even as schools work to meet the math and reading requirements in the No Child Left Behind law.

"There are ways to integrate subjects into one another," Kuzmich said.

The six-year-old education law also requires that teachers be highly qualified — generally that they have at least a bachelor's degree in the subject they teach or pass a subject-matter test. But many people fluent in critical languages don't meet the requirements.

Under the Bush initiative, grants are provided to help people with those language skills get training and certification. The goal is to add 1,000 new foreign language teachers by the end of the decade. ■

FEEDLOT

(Continued from page 1)

and take steps to protect the North Side Canal before it begins operating any facility on the land.

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

Obenauer said she did not vote in favor of the feedlot again because of previous reports that the area is prone to sinkholes.

"There were two opponents who testified at the first public hearing that they had personally seen sinkholes on the proposed site but their testimonies were disputed by the applicant's agricultural consultant," said Obenauer in an e-mail to the *Pacific Citizen*.

Dick Helsley, who lives just a quarter-mile from the site, told the *Times-News* that sinkholes have opened up in his property within the last year and that the land should have been inspected more closely.

Opponents of the proposed feedlot continue to voice their disapproval at the meeting. They said the county is using out-of-date regulations and public health ordinances when they approved the project.

At the meeting, representatives from the National Park Service, the Idaho Concerned Area Residents for the Environment and the National Trust for Historic Preservation urged commissioners to reopen the record to address a number of issues, including water quality.

The trust placed the Minidoka site on its list of 11 most endangered historic places last summer

Since the feedlot controversy first broke, the NPS has pressed Jerome County to reject the Big Sky permit, fearing the impact of a feedlot so

close to a historic site As part of her presentation on the site, Wendy Janssen, of the NPS, said as many as 80,000 people are expected to visit the improved Hunt Camp each year, providing \$5 million to the local economy, according to the *Times-News*.

But far more important is the history of the Minidoka site. Once upon a time Minidoka was the largest of the 10 interment camps and home to about 13,000 Japanese Americans.

Friends of Minidoka — a national organization working to preserve Minidoka's legacy — will continue to work with preservation groups and local residents to determine what their next legal step will be.

"We are actively investigating our legal options," said Momohara, who added that the organization is still pushing forward with an environmental impact report to study the effects of contaminants on Minidoka.

In August, the Jerome County Commissioners reversed an earlier decision and voted 2 to 1 to approve the controversial feedlot. 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.

"I haven't heard the fat lady sing," said Obenauer about the Sept. 22 commission decision. "But I hope there is a higher authority that can bring about a more satisfactory conclusion to this proposal..."

Various community groups, including the JACL, are now look-



The chimney from Minidoka's waiting room entrance still stands today.

ing at what they can do in the wake of the Jerome County Commission's decision.

At its Sept. 27 meeting in Washington D.C., the JACL national board passed a resolution in support of working with coalition members to oppose the feedlot.

"It is shameful that politics were more important than community welfare in the Jerome County decision to approve the feedlot," said JACL National Director Floyd Mori. "It is clear that the commissioners turned a deaf ear to the Minidoka community. While on one hand they have given lip service to the historical and tourist importance of Minidoka, they are allowing a contamination of the actual site itself as well as the spirit of the basic purpose of this national monument."

The Minidoka site's only proponent on the Jerome County Commission agrees.

Minidoka "deserves a place in our history," said Obenauer. ■

JACL Seeks Applicants for Popular D.C. Leadership Conference



Alumni of past JACL/OCA Wash., D.C. Leadership Conferences.

Successful applicants will get an up close look at the inner workings of the nation's capital. The conference is scheduled for March 6 to 10, 2009.

National JACL is currently seeking candidates for the popular JACL/OCA Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference scheduled for March 6 to 10, 2009, in the nation's capital.

The annual leadership conference is an outstanding opportunity for members of JACL to experience the Washington scene and to learn valuable leadership skills.

The deadline for districts to have their applicants submitted to the JACL Washington, D.C. office is Jan. 15, 2009.

State Farm Insurance is once again a sponsor of the D.C. Leadership Conference. The various districts pick up some of the cost for tuition; most chapters pay the airfare for the JACL participants unless the district has other arrangements.

Each of the seven JACL districts is guaranteed two slots. Each chapter may submit applications to the district governors, who will be in charge of the selection process for their districts. Districts are encouraged to submit alternates if they have more than two candidates as districts do not always fill their two slots, and alternates may be chosen as participants. The selection of alternates is determined by the Washington, D.C. JACL office.

Young adults are encouraged to apply for the Leadership Conference. Much of what participants learn can be used to benefit the various chapters and their communities. Participants are also encouraged to consider a run for public office in the future.

For further details and the application form, visit: www.jacl.org. ■

PACIFIC
Job Opening Circulation/Receptionist

The Pacific Citizen, a national publication of the JACL, is currently seeking a part-time circulation/receptionist for its downtown Los Angeles office.

The focus of the position is to maintain and update the P.C. database of non-member subscribers, coordinate the member mailing list with JACL headquarters, handle subscription invoicing and all inquiries and duties related to the circulation of the newspaper. Position also requires the answering of telephones and correspondence.

A minimum of two years college education or business training required. Experience in circulation management and marketing a plus. Knowledge of MAC and Microsoft Office are preferred.

Please send a cover letter and resume to: Caroline Aoyagi-Stom, Executive Editor, 250 E. First Street, Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or email: editor@pacificcitizen.org.

APPLY TODAY WWW.PACIFICCITIZEN.ORG
(800) 966-6157

CITIZEN

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. RC has made no determination that the businesses listed in this directory are licensed by proper government authority.

Oakland, Calif.	Greater Los Angeles	Seattle, Wash.
<p>KITAZAWA SEED CO. SINCE 1917 The Asian Vegetable Seed Source for Gardeners, Retailers, Growers Request a Catalog P.O. Box 13220 Oakland, CA 94661-3220 ph: 510/595-1188 fx: 510/595-1860 kitaaseed@pacbell.net kitazawaseed.com</p>	<p>Cambridge Dental Care Scott Nishizaka D.D.S. Family Dentistry & Orthodontics 900 E. Katella, Suite A Orange, CA 92867 • (714) 538-2811 www.cambridgedentalcare.com</p>	<p>UWAJIMAYA ...Always in good taste.</p> <p>For the Best of Everything Asian Fresh Produce, Meat, Seafood and Groceries A vast selection of Gift Ware</p> <p>Seattle, WA • (206) 624-6248 Bellevue, WA • (425) 747-9012 Beaverton, OR • (503) 643-4512</p>
<p>Greater Los Angeles</p> <p>Dr. Darlyne Fujimoto, Optometrist & Associates A Professional Corporation 11420 E. South St, Cerritos, CA 90703 (562) 860-1339</p>	<p>HOWARD IGASAKI, D.D.S., INC. ALAN IGASAKI, D.D.S. Dental Implants / General 22850 Crenshaw Blvd., Ste. 102 Torrance, CA 90505 (310) 534-8282</p>	
<p>Paul Jay Fukushima ATTORNEY AT LAW Wills & Trusts Probate & Conservatorships paul@fukushimalaw.com 12749 Norwalk Blvd. Suite 111 Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 864-2575</p>	<p>Phoenix, Ariz.</p> <p>YUKI TADANO REALTOR®, GRI</p> <p>RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE (602) 565-1630 yuki.tadano@azmoves.com www.azmoves.com</p>	

JACL Responds to Chaffetz's Proposal for 'Prison Camps' for Undocumented Immigrants

The JACL recently released a statement strongly disagreeing with Jason Chaffetz who proposed the construction of "prison camps" surrounded by barbed wire to confine undocumented immigrants.

The JACL noted that they have advocated for a policy of comprehensive immigration reform that includes a pathway to citizenship for the approximately 12 million undocumented immigrants living and working in the U.S. so that they can emerge from the shadows and legalize their status.

At the same time JACL stated they do not condone violations of law but also understand the plight of undocumented immigrants who come to the U.S. to avoid economic and political hardships.

"Mr. Chaffetz has fumbled the

ball on the important issue of immigration and turned it into an engine of fear towards immigrants," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director, who was born to immigrant parents and raised in Utah.

"The spirit of immigrants was the key to the growth and development of the state of Utah and the nation. Mormon and Asian immigrant pioneers tilled the soil and laid the infrastructure for this great state. The notion that modern day immigrants are less important raises the specter of exclusionism and economic and historical ignorance."

Chaffetz, a Republican currently running for Congress, has taken issue with criticism of his proposal by stating that his plan has nothing to do with targeting ethnicity notwithstanding studies suggesting the great preponderance of undocumented immigrants are identifiable minorities.

The JACL renewed their concern to avoid the specter of camps similar to the Topaz concentration camp near the town of Delta, Utah, where approximately 8,000 Japanese Americans were imprisoned during World War II.

The JACL also cautioned against inflating the emotional rhetoric surrounding the issue of immigration. They stressed that meaningful and comprehensive reform is needed in any immigration policy without extreme proposals reminiscent of a dark episode in our past. ■

Reuniting Families Act Would Protect Families Going Through Immigration Process

Rep. Mike Honda introduces the bill in the House. The legislation is endorsed by national JACL.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Legislation was recently introduced in both the House and Senate to help protect family reunification during the often difficult immigration process.

Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif., and U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez, D-New Jersey, introduced the Reuniting Families Act to ensure the immigration system emphasizes family reunification in its distribution of entry visas.

"We have an immigration system right now that penalizes families," said Honda, chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus. "Family values start with family unity and we need to put these values back into our immigration policy. This bill ensures that children and their parents, husbands and wives, get a chance to live the American dream together."

Currently four million potential immigrants are stuck in an entry backlog, many of whom are family members of U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents. The Reuniting Families Act would direct thousands of unused visas from previous years to family members of U.S. citizens and legal residents, reclassify spouses and children of legal residents as immediate family and would raise the per-country cap for visas from



MIKE HONDA

seven percent to 10 percent.

"We need to focus on the families. After all, family reunification is the bedrock of our immigration system — it upholds American values and reinforces our economy," said Menendez. "Families are at the core of the American community."

The Reuniting Families Act seeks to support the reunification of American families by also:

- Increasing per country limits from 7 percent to 10 percent so that nations with a higher demand for workers can better equip the American economy with talent;
- Allowing families to reunite despite the death of a petitioner;
- Recognizing the sacrifices of the military by exempting children of World War II Filipino veterans from numerical caps; and
- Allowing family members to reunite despite bars to reentry.

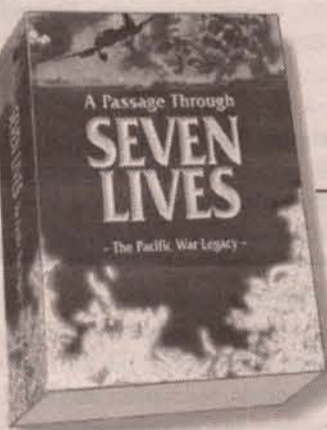
In addition to national JACL, other APA organizations supporting the legislation include: Asian Law Alliance, Asian Pacific American Legal Center and the Korean Resource Center. ■

For more information about the legislation and its supporters, visit <http://honda.house.gov/legislation/2008/family-reunification>.

Fox Company Gathers for Annual Las Vegas Reunion



Members of the Fox Company of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team gathered once again for their annual reunion in Las Vegas where they had a chance to talk about the 'good times.' In addition to a '21 balloon' salute, a list of Fox Company veterans who had passed away during the past year were read. Pictured here are Fox Company veterans (l-r): Frank Fukuzawa, Ocean Miyake, Ike Ikeda, Stan Matsumura and Wataru Kohashi. The next reunion will take place April 2009 in Las Vegas. For more information, e-mail Ron Oba at ronoba@hawaii.rr.com.



What does war solve?

"A Passage Through SEVEN LIVES is a stunning and perceptive memoir/history of Japanese culture and imperialism before and after the World War II.

"Kyo Takahashi weaves a majestic tapestry, using the history of Japan and bloody battlefields as the warp, and lives of people who were involved in the war, as the weft. Every fact was blended in carefully with artistic illustrations, creating a shocking and enlightening panorama.

"This book is a valuable addition for those not familiar with Quaker Friends' supportive actions for Japanese Americans who were sent to the internment camps." —from Reviews

A Passage Through SEVEN LIVES
—The Pacific War Legacy—
by KYO TAKAHASHI

6" x 9" paperback, 504 pages includes over 250 illustrations, 25 maps, and charts.
\$23.99

10% goes to the AFSC Peace Fund available at **Amazon.com** and **Alibris.com**

Visit— <http://KyoVision7.com>

PACIFIC

Job Opening — Web Reporter

Are you a journalism or English major looking for a part-time job? Then the *Pacific Citizen* needs you! The *P.C.* is a national Asian American newspaper and is in need of a part-time Web reporter for its downtown Los Angeles office.

The focus of the job is writing news stories and features for the *P.C.* Web site. Other duties will include general editing and production duties, rewriting, research and taking photos. Assignments may include some evenings and weekends.

The ideal candidate has two years news reporting experience or 2 years of college journalism experience. Individuals with knowledge of Quark X-Press and Dreamweaver a plus. Knowledge and experience with the Japanese American and Asian American community is also preferred.

If you want to gain experience towards your career, then please send a cover letter, resume and two writing samples to: Caroline Aoyagi-Stom, Executive Editor, 250 E. First Street, Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or email: editor@pacificcitizen.org.

APPLY TODAY **WWW.PACIFICCITIZEN.ORG**
(800) 966-6157

CITIZEN

REVERSE MORTGAGE

Call for a free information package

If you are 62 or older and own your house, a Reverse Mortgage may benefit you!

- Turn Home Equity into Tax Free Cash
- You keep title to your home
- No Monthly Mortgage Payments
- Safe FHA Program Designed for Seniors

"I pledge to provide excellent customer service with the highest standard of ethics"

25+ Years Experience as a Financial Professional

David C. Miyagawa Chee
Certified Public Accountant **1-800-967-3575**
CA Dept. of Real Estate - Real Estate Broker #01391106



[JOHN TATEISHI]
FOR THE RECORD
Endgame

Earlier this year there was an Internet blog report claiming that the Bush Administration had given a single-bid contract to Halliburton subsidiary Kellogg, Brown and Root (KBR) to build secret detention centers around the country under the aegis of the Department of Homeland Security under the codename "Endgame." Because I tend to be skeptical about some of the "breaking news" stories that pop up on blogs (either from the left or the right), I viewed this report with guarded skepticism until I made inquiries and learned a few months later that there were congressional hearings on this program.

The report also claimed that rail cars had been ordered for transporting large numbers of individuals, some even fitted with shackles. The purpose of all of this preparation, it seems, is for purely speculative reasons, the administration's purpose being to prepare in case it should become necessary to transport and detain large numbers of troublesome or suspicious aliens (i.e., immigrants) or to detain unruly protesters.

In the 1960s the government attempted to do something similar when protests against America's war in Vietnam turned violent. An incident in the nation's capital became a test case when a few thousand protesters, mostly

However much I try to understand the reasoning for this program and to see it in some understandable context, I'm unable to do so and always come back to what can only be a dark and ominous side to all of this.

students, marched against the war and ended up scuffling with the police and were detained at RFK Stadium. The court found that the detention was unconstitutional and ordered the detainees set free.

If it was found unconstitutional then, why would the government spend over a billion dollars in preparation for something that would be struck down by the courts? Or is this some nefarious, cloak-and-dagger operation uncovered by some bloggers? Actually, neither. Congressman Henry Waxman has held hearings not, it seems, to get at the more troublesome question of why these preparations are being made, but to ask why these no-bid contracts are being given to Halliburton, which has ripped off the American tax-payer of untold millions of dollars already through America's war against Iraq.

And why would Waxman, the Democrats' governmental watchdog, ignore the more significant issue of these detention centers? The question should be why, what's the intent? In digging around for answers to what I find troubling about all of this, I learned that the questions apparently weren't asked because the president has legal authority to implement these plans under the Patriot Act. And because Congress doesn't seem to be terribly bothered by no-bid contracts to Halliburton, as evidenced by the millions already granted to the company and by something as troubling as these types of detention centers being allowed.

However much I try to understand the reasoning for this program and to see it in some understandable context, I'm unable to do so and always come back to what can only be a dark and ominous side to all of this. What can the government be thinking to see a future need for special detention centers in almost every state in the country and to create this program under a cloak of secrecy? (Single- or no-bid contracts, in addition to favoring friends, are a way to keep things under the radar).

I'm reminded of seeing documents in the National Archives during redress days of plans as early as 1939 for a future need for detention camps should there be war with Japan. Such creations are not spontaneously borne of a need: it's the forethought that should tell us something important about what may lay ahead.

With the Endgame program as with so many things related to the USA Patriot Act and the Bush Administration, I'm reminded time and again of Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson's dissenting comment in *Korematsu* that the Court's decision on the use of executive power "lies about like a loaded weapon ready for the hand of any authority that can bring forward a plausible claim of urgent need." ■

John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.



[YUMI SAKUGAWA]
MEMOIRS OF A NON-GEISHA
The Present

It wasn't enough that on our last day of class, my high school girls surprised me with a goodie bag of gifts containing a hair band, a necklace, and a new nose-piercing stud to replace the one that I had been wearing the whole year.

The very next day, they presented me with a framed photograph of me standing with the entire class, taken the day before, and an envelope containing personal, hand-written letters from each and every one of them.

This was my last week as a conversational English teacher in Japan, and throughout the week, I was surprised with gifts from my students. A beautiful ceramic dish from my oldest, a 64-year-old lady. Original crayon drawings from my five-year-old and his little brother. An incense kit from my working mother of two. The funniest one — a pair of silky underwear from my adult female student who refuses, to this day, to tell me her real age.

At the end of every class, I made sure someone took a picture of me with my students. After this week, I was most likely never going to see these people again.

And yet, in spite of the gifts and the tearful farewell hugs, I had a hard time believing that it was all going to be over.

The last day came too quickly. I put away my books, cleaned the whiteboard and wiped down my table like it was any other day. Instead of being weighed down by the ceremonial burden of having finished my first real job after college, I left the building with an almost buoyant sense of nonchalance.

Two days later, I was suddenly depressed. Perhaps it was the sudden gaping hole in my day-to-day schedule. That, or the sudden chill in the autumn air was giving me sensory déjà vu and transporting me back to the autumn of last year when I had just arrived in Japan. Twenty-two, just out of college, knowing absolutely nothing.

However many Facebook messages I had written to my girlfriends back home, waxing poetic about how much I had grown up and how much this job had taught me about myself and life, something about the sudden end of the my job dissipated all the precious life epiphanies I had gathered in the last 12 months and instead, replaced them with the old doubts and anxieties of the scared 22-year-old girl that I was a year ago.



Have I really grown? Have I really learned anything?

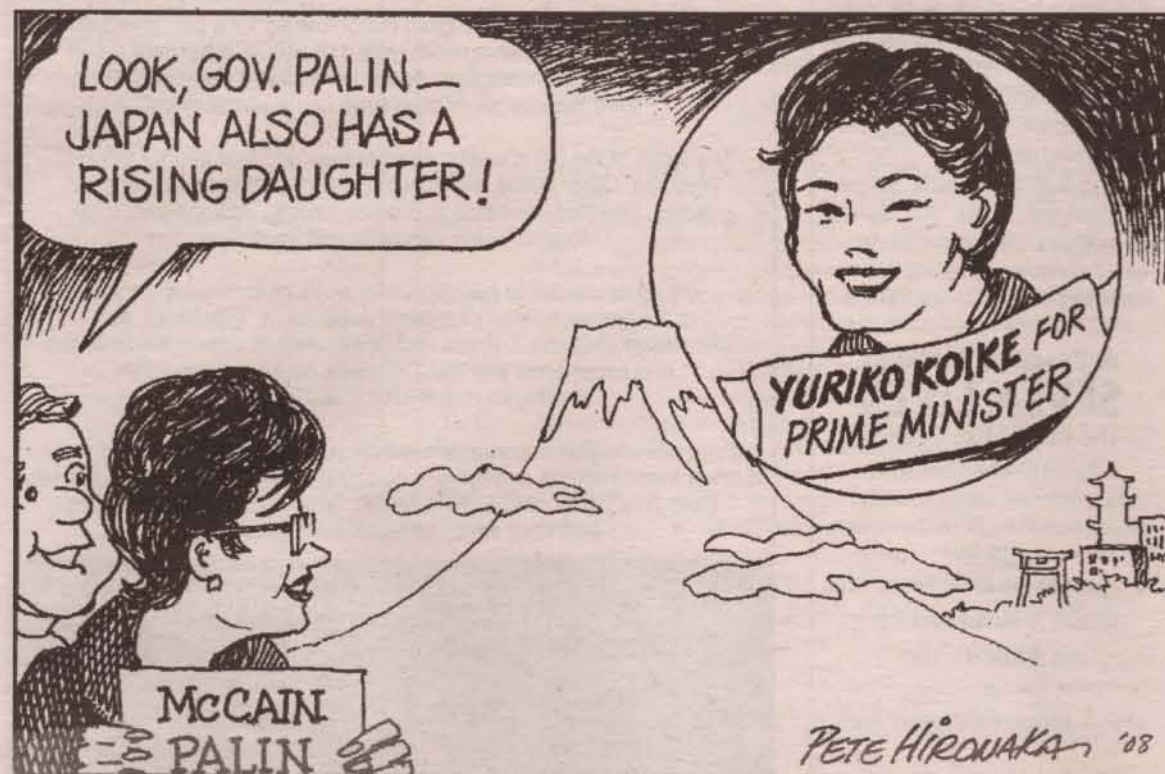
If anyone should have been giving gifts last week, it should have been me. I should have been showering my students with gifts.

I should have switched the tables and been their students for a year. To my five-year-olds, I would ask them to teach me the ability to play and laugh more earnestly and worry less. To my 11-year-olds, I would ask them to teach me the magical life perspective that only 11-year-olds are capable of having. To my high school girls, I would ask them to teach me how they manage to be 17 and already have the confidence and poise of responsible adults. To my adult students, I would ask them how they pull the magic act of raising children, having a successful career, being a wonderfully positive person, and still finding the time and dedication to learn a second language.

A year has already gone by. Already tomorrow, my mother is arriving in Japan and staying with the family for three weeks. In three weeks, my mother and I will be gone from Japan and back in California. In three weeks, my students will have already gotten used to the new teacher and forgotten that I was a part of their lives for a year.

I have one more gift to savor before I leave, and this is from life itself. It is the gift of time wisely spent with family and loved ones. This time, I am hoping I will really pay attention and learn. ■

Yumi Sakugawa is currently wrapping up her life in Japan, where she taught English.



Like Bruce Lee, My Friend

Los Angeles' East West Players presents 'Be Like Water,' a play as fluid and dynamic as the martial arts legend who inspired it.

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

Thirteen-year-old Tracy Fong's fondness for twirling nunchucks over dancing with nice Japanese American boys at the local Nisei community center has her parents worried.

The teenager loves Bruce Lee.

Amidst fluorescent polyester jumpsuits and disco era fever, Tracy (Saya Tomioka) wears her heart on her sleeve — literally. Bruce Lee T-shirts, Bruce Lee posters, sheets and even a bobblehead doll reveal her devotion. But it isn't just a teenage crush on a martial arts icon with ripped muscles and a cocky smile.

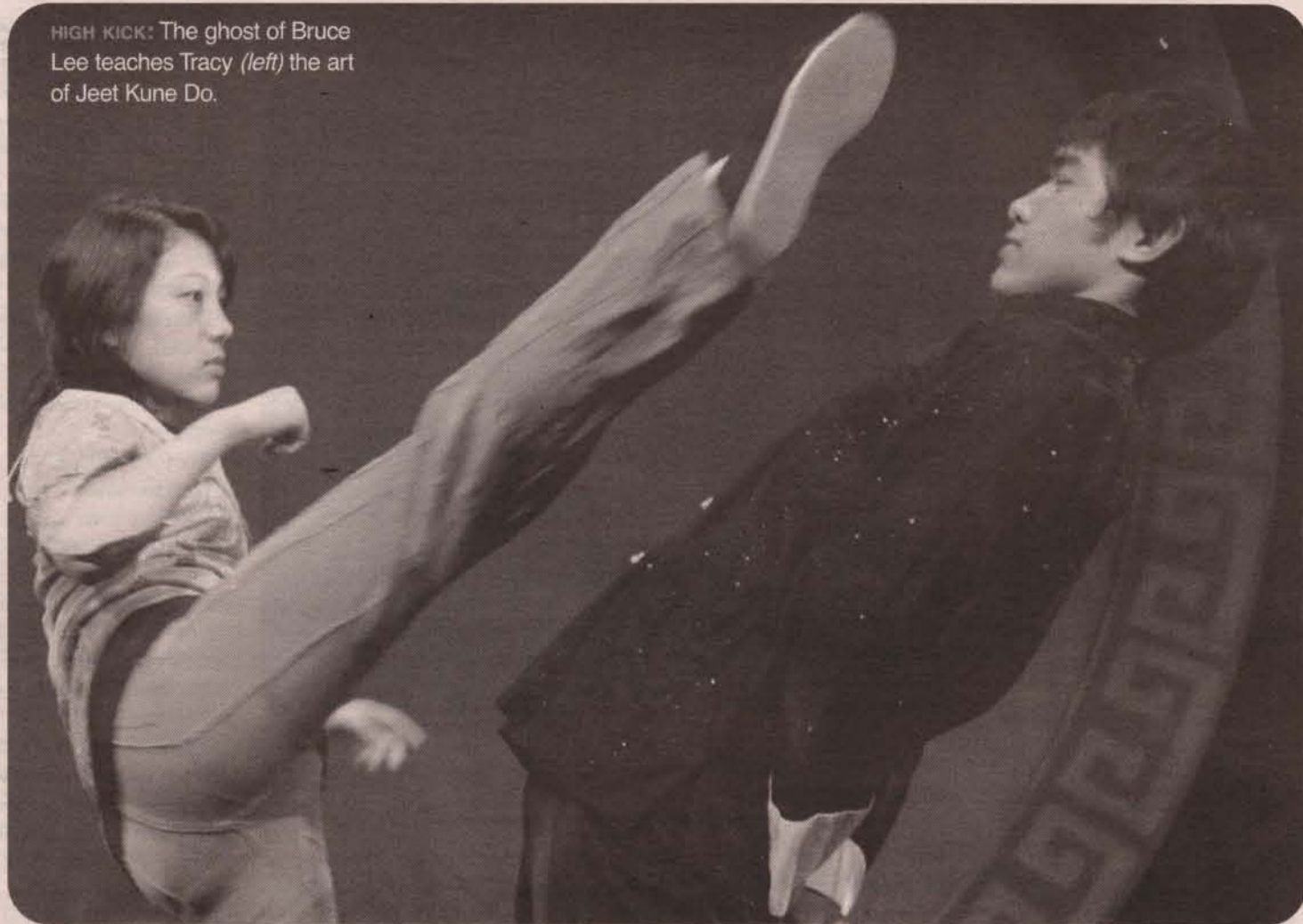
Tracy wants to be Bruce Lee.

But then again, haven't we all at one time or another been guilty of wanting the same? With one blood-curdling scream, Lee has inspired generations of Asian Pacific Americans to flex in the mirror and throw punches, even if only behind closed doors.

Friend or critic, no one can deny the power of Lee's cultural influence. Years after his untimely death in 1973 at 32, Lee's presence still lingers in the deepest recesses of many people's minds as both an ethnic stereotype and beacon of APA empowerment. Dan Kwong's play "Be Like Water," which had its world premiere in Los Angeles' East West Players, resurrects Lee's ghost and examines the community's relationship with the martial arts icon through the eyes of a young girl searching for her own self-image.

Onstage, Lee's ghost comes to Tracy in water — a play on Lee's famous quote about the power of being fluid — whether in a cup or in a fish bowl. He appears suddenly and always in different fashion phases, complete with the famous yellow jumpsuit and always with a wise saying and a lesson. He's like the dream version of Mr. Miyagi.

HIGH KICK: The ghost of Bruce Lee teaches Tracy (left) the art of Jeet Kune Do.



PHOTOS: MICHAEL LAMONT

Lee has been the focus of many documentaries and fiction films, but "Be Like Water" shines a light on the martial arts icon's soft spot — his heart. And it doesn't hurt that the entire play is scored with disco music so funky it'll get you grooving "Saturday Night Fever" style.

A Boy Named Bruce Lee

Channeling Bruce Lee can be tricky — one too many kicks and yells and the play could easily steer into kitsch. "Be Like Water," which is written by Kwong and directed by Chris Tashima, travels the path proudly and uses larger than life elements in laugh out loud moments.

Actor Cesar Cipriano is spot-on as the philosophizing martial arts icon, who loves to cha-cha as much as kick some bad guy butt.

The play, which is set in 1978 Chicago, also stars a boy whose character name is Bruce Lee — that's like the modern day equivalent of naming a child Jackie Chan or Jet Li. Except, the young bowl-cut top Bruce (Shawn Huang) is nothing like his legendary namesake. He prefers boogying down with his walkman over practicing kung fu. And with bell-bottom legs shuffling, the young Bruce provides some of the best light moments of the play as the most un-Bruce Lee guy in the world.

Of course the irony isn't lost on the school bully either. The requisite racist white kid (Jonathan Decker) tortures young Bruce until Tracy swings in with fists in the air.

For a long time before Lee, there was a drought of APA icons. Kids mostly grew up with no one to look up to until movies like "Fist of Fury" and "Enter the Dragon" inspired strength. Playwright Kwong, who is of Japanese and Chinese descent, watched his

first Lee movie as a young adult in a Chicago movie theater and cried when the audience started cheering for the butt-kicking APA. He weaves the same storyline into the play with Frank Fong (a very likable Michael Sun Lee), the APA father in the play.

"If you were an Asian guy," said Frank to his wife Kimiko, "There was nothing out there to look up to until Bruce Lee. It was like growing up in a dry, empty desert. Then one day you walk over a hill — and there's the Pacific Ocean. That was Bruce. He was the ocean."

The Heart of the Dragon

The heart of "Be Like Water" is family — not just the Fongs, who struggle with cultural and communication barriers just like any other American family, but the group of unlikely friends that somehow finds some common ground. The airhead pageant queen, the bully and a demanding mom (Pam Hayashida) cause ripples in Tracy's otherwise stable life. She navigates through these obstacles with Lee in the background waxing philosophical.

But slowly, the pressure begins to create splinters in the Fong family. Kimiko, who was virtually denied a normal childhood because of the lingering effects of her family's World War II internment experiences, begins to live vicariously through her tomboy daughter. Frank struggles to find a place in his wife's mostly JA world, and Tracy is stuck in the middle trying to please everyone.

It's the kind of family drama that occurs in every American household — doors slam shut and a teenage girl crumples in a sea of tears.



Parents Frank (left) and Kimiko (right) confront Tracy after she beats up a bully.

Mother and daughter argue fiercely, but when one reaches her breaking point the other is at the door with a look of panic that can only come from the depths of the most exquisite type of love. The beauty of "Be Like Water" is that it's about families like yours that struggle with identity, racism and insurmountable family expectations. It's about your heartbreak and strength.

Kwong and Tashima craft a story that at a little under two and a half hours is almost epic, but personal and intimate at the same time.

And at the center, at least in this family story, is Lee, who is more than a martial arts icon. He's the ghost in the background and the glue that connects fragmented families. And once his mission is complete, like in his movies, he fades into black. ■

ON STAGE

'Be Like Water'
East West Players
120 Judge John Aiso St. in L.A.'s Little Tokyo
Closes Oct. 12

For tickets and information, call the East West Players at 213/625-7000 or buy tickets online at www.eastwestplayers.org

Minnesota Ice Hawks Boast Speedy Issei Kashima

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROCHESTER, Minn.— Minnesota Ice Hawks coach Nick Fatis believes junior hockey coaches across the country made a huge mistake regarding Issei Kashima.

But boy is he glad they did.

If those coaches had seen what Fatis sees in Kashima, the speedy skater certainly would not be wearing an Ice Hawks sweater this season.

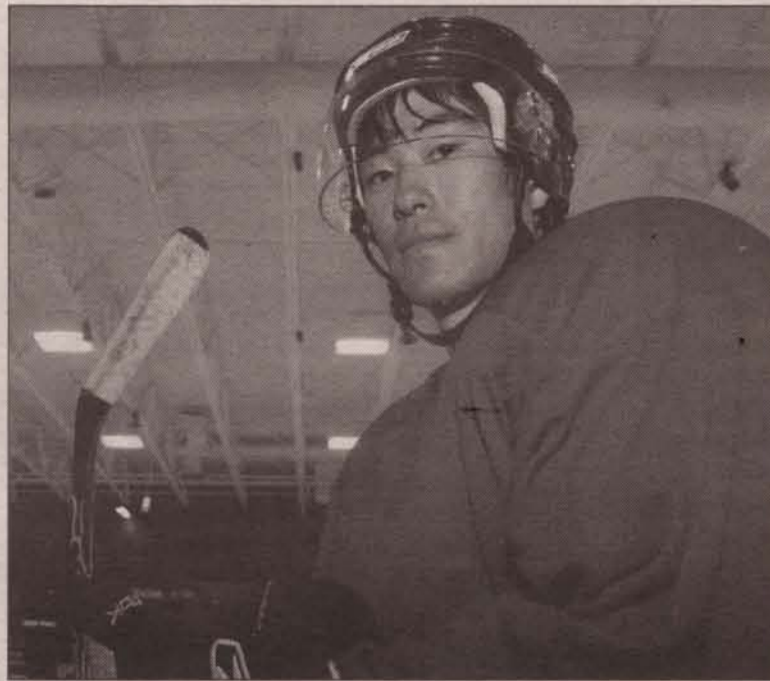
"I think he's got Division I talent and Division I tools," Fatis said of Kashima. "These junior coaches look at him and think he's too small. Well, whatever. He's skating against bigger guys and holding his own against bigger guys, so I don't buy it."

Kashima is a rarity — in more ways than one — among junior hockey players.

He skates like the wind, as fast as any top-end player in the North American Hockey League, Fatis said. "His speed is mesmerizing," he said.

While Kashima's speed sets him apart, his cultural background also is rare. Kashima, who his Ice Hawks teammates have affectionately dubbed "Ice-K," is of Japanese descent. Though he was born in Chicago, his parents — Yoko and Michihiro — were born in different regions of Japan.

Kashima's mother, Yoko, came to the United States when she was 18.



AP PHOTO/ROCHESTER POST-BULLETIN, ELIZABETH NIDA

Rochester Minnesota Ice Hawk, Issei Kashima, brings speed to the junior hockey team.

Kashima's father, Michihiro, attended college in Arizona and later moved to Chicago, where he met Yoko.

The family moved to North Carolina shortly after Kashima's birth.

At age 10, Kashima started playing roller hockey. And at 13, he played ice hockey for the first time.

"I was a late starter," Kashima said. "My dad taught me all the little things about hockey I needed to know. I definitely got my work ethic

from him."

Hockey isn't exactly a big-time sport in North Carolina, which meant training and playing opportunities were scarce for Kashima.

So at age 14, Kashima left his family for a prep school in Canada.

"It wasn't easy, leaving my family when I was that young. But it teaches you a lot of things," Kashima said.

He spent three years at the prep school before joining a Junior B hockey team in New Jersey. Since then, he's bounced around with sev-

eral junior hockey teams in Canada and on the East Coast, including the Northern Massachusetts Cyclones. Ice Hawks fans will remember the Cyclones as the team that eliminated them from the national tournament last season.

Over the last six weeks, Kashima has tried out for two NAHL teams, two teams in the Eastern Junior Hockey League and again with the Cyclones.

They all told him the same thing — he's too small.

"My size hurts, and my age," said Kashima, who is 5-foot-7 and 155 pounds. He has a 1988 birth date, which means he's in his final year of junior hockey. "They see I'm an '88, and they don't think there's potential there. Nobody really believed in me."

Kashima said that's the biggest difference about skating with the Ice Hawks — he has coaches and teammates who have faith in him.

"Last year with the Cyclones, I came in and I was one of the top players," Kashima said. "Then I went through a slump, and the coach basically never gave me another

chance.

"Here, the coach believes in me. He believes in the Ice Hawks."

For the next few months, Kashima will work to polish his hockey skills in hopes of landing a spot on a Division I hockey team. He believes he must become a more physical player for that to happen, especially because of his size.

But there's little doubt in Fatis' mind that Kashima can play at the next level.

"I think the thing that sticks out about Ice-K, aside from his speed, is his work ethic," Fatis said. "He's got some natural talent, but most of what he's done is through sheer determination and hard work."

When asked about that hard work and resolve, Kashima's face lit up.

"My dad, he's always been there for me, and he's shown me how to work hard," Kashima said. "My mom and my dad have done a lot for me, and I couldn't be more thankful." ■

On the Web:

www.mnicehawks.com



KOKUSAI-PACIFICA 2009/2010 TOURS

- Mar 2** Splendors of Croatia - 11 Days - \$2699. Zagreb - Zadar - Dubrovnik - Split - Plitvice National Park - Zagreb.
- Mar 16** Best of China - 11 days - \$2895. 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 \$2470 - Balcony \$2699. Honolulu - Kahului - Hilo - Kona - Nawiliwili, Kauai - 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 \$2369 Balcony \$3169. Miami - Cartagena - Daylight Transit of Panama Canal - Costa Rica - Guatemala - Huatulo - Acapulco - Cabo to LA.

"Early Bird savings - call for brochure"

TOURS INCLUDES - flights, hotels, sightseeing & most meals.

"Fuel Surcharges Additional"

KOKUSAI INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC.

4911 Warner Ave., Suite 221, Huntington Beach, CA 92649

714/840-0455 - FAX 714/840-0457 [1006444-10]



New from Coffee House Press

Famous Suicides of the Japanese Empire

A DEBUT NOVEL
BY DAVID MURA

ISBN: 978-1-56689-215-5 | \$14.95



"Charged and probing, *Famous Suicides of the Japanese Empire* heals and surprises—a moving act of reclamation." —GISH JEN

A sweeping tale of fathers and sons, of secrets and shame, and of unsung heroism, this vivid novel tenderly evokes the legacy of the internment and the devastating aftershocks of suicide.

"A tour de force: luminously written and by turns crafty, tough, wise, and joyful." —JUNOT DÍAZ

Meet author David Mura

University of California—Irvine,
UCI Cross-Cultural Center
Wed., October 8, 12:00 p.m.

University of California—River-
side, Humanities & Social
Sciences Bldg., Room 1500
Thur., October 9, 4:30 p.m.

Japanese American National
Museum, 369 East First Street
in Los Angeles
Sat., October 11, 2:00 p.m.

Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph
Avenue in Berkeley
Mon., October 13, 7:00 p.m.

Seattle Public Library, Beacon
Hill Branch (Sponsored by
Elliott Bay and the Seattle
Public Library)
Wed., October 15, 6:30 p.m.

Powell's Books, 3723 SE
Hawthorne Blvd. in Portland
Thur., October 16, 7:30 p.m.

ALIEN LAND LAW

(Continued from page 1)

Kajiro worked hard, especially later in life to support his wife Kohide and children: Lillian, Alice, Fred, Paul and Gloria.

"He was also a good businessman," said Alice Yano about her dad.

In 1934, Kajiro purchased the Chula Vista property located on J Street for \$4,000 to grow celery, tomatoes and peppers. The land was deeded to Fred, an American citizen by birth.

For a few years, the Oyama kids enjoyed a normal childhood mixed with the nomadic existence of farming life. But with the outbreak of WWII and the president's evacuation order of all Japanese Americans from coastal areas, the Oyamas were forced to leave their land in 1942 for Utah.

A seed salesman Kajiro had once worked with offered to lease the Oyamas a farm near Cedar City, Utah, so they could avoid the internment camps.

"I knew our rights were being violated. But not knowing the nuances

of the legal system, what could we do?" said Fred.

In the summer of 1944 when Fred was 16 years old, a deputy marshal notified the Oyamas that California was filing an "escheat" suit under the Alien Land Act to take away their Chula Vista property.

Oyama v. California

The Alien Land Law, which passed in California in 1913 and 1920, were primarily targeted at JAs who were perceived as threats to local farmers. The escheat suits were like salt on an open wound.

But it took a visit from civil rights leaders to convince the Oyamas to fight back. The ACLU and JACL's Mike Masaoka arrived on the Oyama's doorstep one day to encourage Kajiro to let them take his case to court, said Alice. They said Kajiro's conscientiousness in putting the property in Fred's name gave their case the best chance of winning.

At first, the Issei farmer was reluctant, but he eventually agreed.

"I think it was because he had the backing of the JACL," said Alice,



PHOTO COURTESY OF ACLU

OYAMA LAND: After purchasing the Chula Vista, Calif. property in 1934, Kajiro Oyama put the land in his American born son's name.

83. "He was doing it for all Nisei."

Oyama's case lost in the lower courts, but ACLU attorney A.L. Wirin took the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, where Dean Acheson, the secretary of state under President Harry Truman, presented the case for the Oyamas.

There, the justices agreed by a vote of 8 to 1 that Fred had been deprived of federal and state equal protection guarantees.

The Oyama decision set a crucial precedent for later Alien Land Law cases and the 1952 lifting of racial restrictions in California.

But growing up in the Oyama household, the Supreme Court case was simply called "the land case with the ACLU," said Phyllis Oyama, Fred's daughter. It wasn't brought up much and almost never in the context of its historical signif-

icance.

"It was never talked about in that way in our family," said Phyllis. It was simply ordinary people doing the right thing.

The ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties recently commemorated the landmark court decision. At the dinner, Sept. 24 was official declared "Kajiro Oyama Day" in San Diego.

San Diego JACL Chapter President Miyo Reff, who attended the dinner with other JACLers, said the event gave "the JACL and the ACLU a chance to celebrate a shared historic event and renew our ties."

"Alien Land Laws were efforts to limit our participation in society and were found to violate the 14th Amendment guaranteeing equal protection, and JACL was there at a

time when we needed an advocate," said JACL National President Larry Oda.

Phyllis thinks Kajiro, who passed away in 1998 at the age of 99, would have been thrilled that his land case made an impact on equal rights.

"That's what our country is built upon," she said. "We need to protect everything we can."

It's especially important now because Kajiro's fight for justice is still being waged today in another part of the country where the Alien Land Law is still on the books.

Racism's Last Stand

Florida is the last state in the nation to still have the Alien Land Law in its constitution. And for the last six years, Sen. Steven Geller, D-Cooper City, has been the law's biggest opponent.

Ever since Geller read about the Alien Land Laws in a national legislative magazine, he's been fighting to rid Florida of the discriminatory law. For the upcoming Nov. 4 General Elections, he successfully got such a measure on the ballot. Which means Florida voters will have the chance to get rid of this last vestige of racism by voting for Amendment 1. But Geller is afraid.

"Right now, I think it's going to fail."

Florida's existing Alien Land Law is obsolete and unenforceable. If the measure passes, it would just be symbolic.

"But it discriminates against Asians. It's comparable to a state law

See ALIEN LAND LAW/Page 12

American Holiday Travel

2008 Tour Schedule

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/Ibusuki, 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.

We can also assist you with:

Low-cost fares to Japan, Japan Individual Tour arrangements, Japan Railpass, Hotels, Cars, Cruises, Hawaii arrangements, Individual Tour Packages, Organizations/Clubs/Family group tours and cruises.

For information and reservations, please write or call to:

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL
312 E. 1ST ST., #510, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213) 625-2232; Fax: (213) 625-4347
Ernest & Carol Hida
CST #2000326-10

Car Loans As Low As 4.50% APR*

100% Financing on New Cars • 100% Financing on Used Cars



Refinance Existing Loans
No-Fee Auto Loans
New or Used Cars



*OAC (on approved credit) does not include: Tax, License, & Extended Warranties

**This offer not valid to existing car loans with the credit union

National JACL Credit Union

(800) 544-8828

www.jaclcu.com



ADL Unveils New Curriculum on WWII Internment

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) unveiled a new online curriculum that teaches students about the dangers of stereotyping, prejudice and racial profiling, and how those fears led the U.S. government to intern more than 120,000 people from the Japanese American community during World War II.

"Voices of Japanese-American Internees" is an ADL Curriculum Connections lesson for high school students which coincides with the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, a law that provided an official government apology for the grave injustices committed against JA citizens and legal residents during WWII.

"This new curriculum teaches important lessons about the dangers of prejudice and racial profil-

ing, and how they can lead to disastrous consequences," said Ed S. Alster, ADL's director of education.

"These lessons are particularly important today, in the post 9/11 world, as our country faces the difficult task of balancing national security needs with the protection and preservation of individual rights and liberties. The best way to avoid repeating history is to study and learn from it."

The "Voices of Japanese-American Internees" curriculum includes video, oral and written testimonies of JA internees who discuss the discrimination they faced, and the impact that the Civil Liberties Act had on their lives.

Students will also learn about the Act itself, and discuss whether it was a sufficient remedy for the mistreatment.

The League also prepared a background, "Understanding the Civil Liberties Act of 1988," which provides a more detailed account of the history surrounding discrimination against JAs, legal challenges to internment, and the role ADL played in securing the enactment of the Civil Liberties Act itself — in an effort to ensure that this dark chapter in U.S. history never be forgotten nor repeated.

Curriculum Connections is a collection of original lesson plans and resources that help elementary, middle and high school educators integrate multicultural, anti-bias, and social justice themes into their curricula.

Each issue is organized around a particular topic or theme and is distributed via e-mail three to four times per school year. ■

TOTALLY CLICKABLE.
FULLY INTERACTIVE.
ALL ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY.

www.pacificcitizen.org

ALIEN LAND LAW

(Continued from page 11)

saying African Americans can be slave even though the U.S. Constitution bars it," said Geller.

Opponents have also said striking the law would help "terrorists and illegal aliens."

"They can't distinguish the nuanced difference between illegal aliens and aliens ineligible for citizenship," said Geller, who is ending his career in the legislature this year because of term limits.

The measure needs a 60 percent vote to pass. But if voters go to the polls and misconstrue the measure as a benefit for undocumented immigrants and terrorists, they will vote against it, said Geller.

"Nobody but me has been advocating this," he said. "This is a one-time shot."

The loudest silence has come from the local APA community. No one showed up to testify when Geller was trying to get the measure on the ballot. He's received some general promises from APA leaders, but with no follow-up.

"If there is not a well-funded educational campaign behind it, then I think it fails."

APA leaders say now is the time for the community to act. At its Sept.



PHOTO: PHYLLIS OYAMA

Alice Yano (left) and Fred Oyama were recently honored by the ACLU-San Diego.

27 meeting in Washington D.C., the JA national board passed a resolution to support the repeal of Florida's Alien Land Law. The resolution also called for staff members to conduct outreach and educational campaigns on the ballot initiative.

Any law that restricts rights based on race should be stricken, said Fred.

"It is important to rid all vestiges of the Alien Land Laws, because discrimination is wrong whether it exists in a codified law or a gentlemen's agreement," said Reff. ■

On the Web:
www.aclusandiego.org
www.jaclsandiego.org

ARE YOU IN THE RETIREMENT DANGER ZONE?

Attend one of these free seminars

LITTLE TOKYO
Saturday, October 18
9AM to 11 AM
JACCC
244 S. San Pedro St.

GARDENA
Saturday, October 25
9AM to 11 AM
Ken Nakaoka Center
1670 W. 162nd. St.

Strategies for financial success during a recession. Learn how to better protect your retirement and estate. Guaranteed income using an annuity. And more!

Seating is limited. Make reservations at
626-449-7783 (24 hrs)
or fax 626-449-7785

Free Book
Alan Kozicki's "Path to Annuity"
A Japanese American Guide to Retirement Securities

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title Pacific Citizen		2. Publication Number 0 0 3 0 - 8 5 7 9		3. Filing Date 9/22/08
4. Issue Frequency Semi-monthly except once in Jan. and Dec.		5. Number of Issues Published Annually 22		6. Annual Subscription Price \$40
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) Japanese American Citizens League 250 E. First Street, Suite 301 dba Pacific Citizen Los Angeles, CA 90012 Los Angeles County				
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) same as line 7				
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)				
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Japanese American Citizens League dba Pacific Citizen		250 E. First Street, Suite 301 Los Angeles, CA 90012-3819		
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Caroline Aoyagi-Stom dba Pacific Citizen		250 E. First Street, Suite 301 Los Angeles, CA 90012-3819		
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) n/a				
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation, immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)				
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address		
Japanese American Citizens League dba Pacific Citizen		1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115		
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None				
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address		
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)				
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1 of 3 (Instructions Page 3)) PSN 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com				
13. Publication Title Pacific Citizen		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 9/16/07 - 9/4/2008		
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation membership benefit and paid subscription		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		13,309		12,750
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	1,853		1,804
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	11,158		10,720
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	0		0
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®)	0		0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		13,011		12,524
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0		0
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0		0
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	0		0
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0		0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))		0		0
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		13,011		12,524
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		298		226
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		13,309		12,750
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		100%		100%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 10/3/08 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.				
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>C. Oyama Executive Editor</i>				Date 9/22/08
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).				
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)				

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED - HOUSING

I am a writer relocating to the San Francisco bay area. I'm interested in renting a two bedroom with good lighting, security, safety and a nearby park to walk my dog. I have moved from Europe and can offer references. Please email: mariacalifornia@gmail.com.

REC CENTER
(Continued from page 1)

Pacific Americans back to Little Tokyo. And after nearly 15 years of working on a campaign for a recreational center, Watanabe finally heard three words that were like music to his ears: memorandum of understanding (MOU).

The L.A. City Council unanimously voted Sept. 23 to grant LTSC an MOU to build their long awaited multi-use facility for sports and community activities. The center will sit on a 36,000-square-foot city-owned lot on the west side of Los Angeles Street between Second and Third Streets.

The MOU, a formal document between the city of Los Angeles and the LTSC, provides the overall structure for an agreement to build on city property.

"To us it's the green light that we can go ahead with this," said Watanabe to the *Pacific Citizen* moments after the city council's approval. "We can go ahead and say we have a site and we can proceed. It's pretty exciting and kind of surreal after all this time. Is it really happening?"

A Longtime Dream

The idea for a gym or recreational center in Little Tokyo is not new. Over 35 years ago, the original plans to build a basketball court around the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center were nixed in

favor of a plaza designed by famed sculptor Isamu Noguchi. But the support for a recreational facility never waned.

In 1998, a task force was formed dedicated to getting a gym built. Since then, community leaders have continually advocated for a centrally located recreational facility to host popular JA basketball league tournaments, martial arts events and programs for Little Tokyo's many senior citizens.

But there were many false starts along the way, said Watanabe.

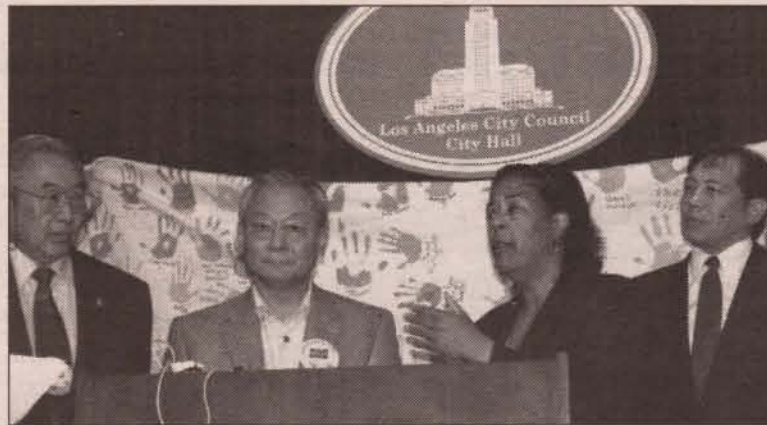
In 2000, the community struggled with another location for the gym on First Street near the Japanese American National Museum and the Go For Broke Monument. Opponents wanted a park instead.

So about five years ago Councilwoman Jan Perry, whose district includes Little Tokyo, and then Chief Legislative Analyst Ron Deaton proposed the current location near the historic St. Vibiana's Cathedral and the Little Tokyo Library to Watanabe.

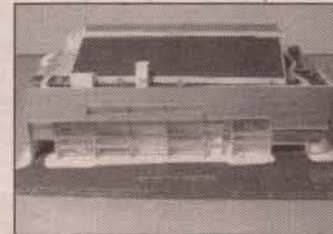
The city purchased an entire block of land to build facilities for the new police headquarters, which is currently under construction. The location had the right configuration for the gym.

"For us, that was a dream," said Watanabe.

At a press conference immediately after the city council approval, Perry said the recreational center is "an amenity for the immediate com-



(Top, l-r) Edward Takahashi, Bill Watanabe, Councilwoman Jan Perry and David Nagano take part in a Sept. 23 press conference after the city council's approval of the gym. (Right) The facility's concept design.



munity [that] gives another face to the future of Little Tokyo."

The Hard Work Begins

"Now that we have this MOU, it's great," said Edward Takahashi, president of the Little Tokyo Recreational Center. "Now the hard work really starts."

The "hard work" means raising money. The goal is to raise \$15 million dollars in two years. Then if everything goes according to plan, construction of the facility designed by Hayahiko Takase will be complete two years after the fundraising campaign.

Takahashi can't wait for the grand opening. "I want to toss the first

ball!"

The dream has always been to have a place for many different cultural and community activities under one roof — youth and adult sports events at night and programs for seniors during the day. On weekends instead of going to recreational facilities in Gardena and other surrounding cities, young APAs will come to Little Tokyo.

"The community plays basketball basically 11 and a half months out of the year everywhere," said Takahashi. Now with the Little Tokyo gym, there will be something for everyone whenever they want.

And the gym couldn't come at a better time, especially after the sales of some key Little Tokyo landmarks to real estate developers that initially had no discernible community ties.

Little Tokyo's New Otani Hotel and Weller Court were sold to 3D Investments, the same private Beverly Hills, Calif.-based real estate developer that also purchased two hotels in San Francisco's Japantown.

The sale of the Japanese Village Plaza and the Little Tokyo Shopping Center also stirred fear of loss of community.


At its peak, Little Tokyo was home to about 30,000 JAs. Over the years, the neighborhood and its people have endured much hardship from internment to present-day redevelopment threats.

"I think this is a big, big deal for Little Tokyo," said LTSC Project Manager Thomas Yee about the recreational center.

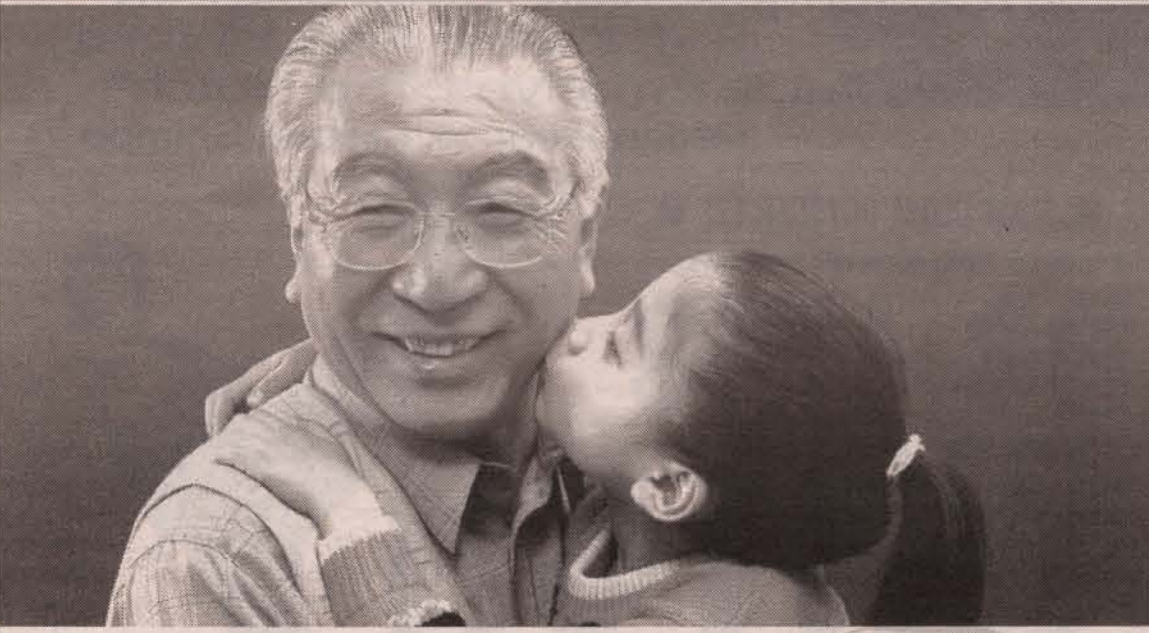
Yee, who first became active in 2001 as a community organizer for the recreational center coalition, points out the strong impact of the basketball court at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California on San Francisco's Japantown.

"That's kind of been the missing piece of Little Tokyo," he said. "The rec center has always been a symbol of the hopes and dreams of not just the JA community, but API communities in general. And it's really become a model of the kind of community development that all our communities would like to see in our neighborhoods." ■

For more information or to make a donation to help build the Little Tokyo recreational center, call LTSC at 213/473-3030 or visit their Web site: www.ltsc.org.




Blue Shield of California
An Independent Member of the Blue Shield Association



**Health Plans for California
JAACL Members**

Call the JAACL Health Benefits Administrators at
1.800.400.6633
or visit www.jaclhealth.org



Kosakura Tours & Travel Presents:

2008 Escorted Tours & Cruises
Dec. 5-18 Ancient Egypt & Jordan

2009 Escorted Tours & Cruises
Jan. 10 20th Annual Tour Reunion Party
Mar. 30- Spring Japan "Cherry Blossoms & Fuji-san"
Apr. 9
Apr. 17-30 Korea Highlights & Drama/Movie Tour "Cherry Blossoms"
May 6-17 Spain & Portugal
May 21- 4th Bikkuri Japan "Hidden Surprises of Japan"
June 2
June 8-22 Eastern USA & Canada Discovery
July 6-16 Summer Japan "Fun for the whole family"
July 20- Alaska Cruise & Land Tour "Diamond Princess"
Aug. 1
Aug. 19-31 Gems of Malaysia & Singapore
Sept. 7-18 Northern Japan "Hokkaido & Tohoku"
Sept. 15-28 Greek Isles Cruise
Oct. 1-15 Exotic China
Oct. 22- Autumn Japan "Fall Highlights"
Nov. 1
Nov. 3-13 The Best of Kyushu
Dec. 5-14 South America Escape "Rio de Janeiro, Iguassu Falls, Buenos Aires"

We will be glad to send you a detailed brochure!
We also sell:
International & Domestic Air Tickets including ANA, JAL, UAL
Japan & Euro Rail Pass, Hotels, Car Rental, and Cruises
Packages to any destination around the world.



Kosakura Tours and Travel
4415 Cowell Road, Suite 110, Concord, CA 94518
Tel: (925) 687-4995, Calif. Toll Free 1-800-858-2882

Calendar

Midwest

GRINNELL, Iowa

Through Oct. 26—Exhibition, "Return of the Yellow Peril" A Survey of the Work of Roger Shimomura, 1969-2004; Grinnell College, Bucksbaum Center for the Arts, Sixth Ave. and Park St.; gallery hours, Sun.-Wed. noon-5 p.m., Thu.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Info: 641/269-4660.

MANITOU SPRINGS, Colo.

Sat., Nov. 1—9th Annual Japanese Cultural Festival and Bazaar; 10-3 p.m.; The Business of Arts Center, 515 Manitou Ave.; featuring entertainment, bazaar items and food. Info: Josie Caruso-Rathe, 719/576-2229 or www.jassc.org.

Pacific Northwest

BELLEVUE, Wash.

Tue., Oct. 7—Lecture, "The Consequences of Nuclear Use and the Role of Hope: A Personal Testimony" by Hideko Tamura Snider; 6:30 reception, 7 p.m. lecture; Bellevue Community College, 3000 Landerholm Cir. S.E. Info: Nora Lance, 425/564-6150 or nlace@bellevuecollege.edu.

KENT, Wash.

Through Dec. 19—Exhibit, "Kenjiro Nomura: An Artist's View of the Japanese American Internment"; Wed.-Sat. noon-4 p.m.; Kent Historical Museum, 855 East Smith St.; Nomura's work provides scenes of daily life, as well as a sense of the architecture and landscape of Minidoka. Info: www.kenthistorical-museum.org.

PORTLAND

Oct. 18-Nov. 2—Chrysanthemum Festival; 10-4 p.m.; Portland Japanese Garden, 611 SW Kingston Ave.; free with garden admission; \$8/adults, \$6.25/seniors and college students with I.D., \$5.20 kids 6-17, under 6 are free. Info: www.japanesegarden.com.

Through Jan. 11, 2009—Exhibit, "Oregon Nisei Baseball: The Early Years"; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave.; hours: Tue.-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.

SEATTLE

Sat., Oct. 4—Screening, "Citizen Tanouye"; 2 p.m.; Nisei Veterans Committee Memorial Hall, 1212 S. King St.; tells the story of Medal of Honor recipient Ted Tanouye by students at Torrance High School; free but donations accepted. Info: dkashino@aol.com, 425/830-3928 or www.citizenanouye.com.

Northern California

BERKELEY

Sun., Oct. 12—Play reading and

book signing; 11 a.m.; Berkeley Buddhist Temple, 2121 Channing Way; Hiroshi Kashiwagi, author of "Shoe Box Plays" will conduct a play reading and book signing; the reading will be from Kashiwagi's play "The Betrayed."

SAN FRANCISCO

Oct. 8-11—An Intimate Evening with Hiroshima; The Razz Room at Hotel Nikko, 222 Mason; tickets start at \$40. Info and tickets: www.therrazzroom.com.

Sat., Oct. 11—Book signing and lecture, "Mine Okubo - Following Her Own Road"; 1 p.m.; JACL Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St.; Greg Robinson will speak on the book he edited; copies of the book will be available for purchase. Info: sfjaci@yahoo.com.

Through Dec. 31—Exhibit, "Transforming Kami — The Art of Origami"; NJAHS, 1684 Post St.; 12-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and the first Sat. of the month. Info: 415/921-5007 or njahs@njahs.org.

SAN JOSE

Sat., Nov. 1—San Jose JACL Recognition Dinner; 5:30 p.m. no host cocktails and silent auction, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. program; Holiday Inn - San Jose, 1740 N. First St.; \$75/person, \$750/table of ten; honoring Warren Hayashi, Ray and Lucy Matsumoto, James Peckham Sr., James Peckham Jr. (both posthumously), Jimi and Eiko Yamaichi and Nihonmachi Outreach Committee. Info: Jeff Yoshioka, 408/363-8191 or jyoshioka@msn.com.

Southern California

ALHAMBRA

Thu., Oct. 23—Film screening, "The Rebel"; 7:30 p.m.; Edwards Alhambra Renaissance 14, 1 East Main St.; director Charlie Nguyen and lead actor Dustin Nguyen are slated to appear and participate in a Q&A session following the screening; \$10/general, \$8/students, seniors and Friends of Visual Communications members with I.D.

GARDENA

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

LOS ANGELES

Sat., Oct. 4-Nov. 8—Creative Writing Classes; JANM, 369 E. First St.; each class involves six sessions on consecutive Saturdays; \$150 or \$125/JANM members; classes include: Stories Make Us Real: Introduction to Fiction with Noel Alumit, The World is a Poem: Introduction to Poetry with Neil Aitken, Claiming Your Voice: A Memoir/Personal Writing Class with Naomi Hirahara and Lights, Camera, Write: Introduction to Screenwriting with Koji Steven Sakai. Info: www.aapw-la.org.

Sun., Oct. 19—Performance,

"Nihonmachi: The Place to Be" by the Grateful Crane Ensemble; 1 p.m.; Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple's Multi-purpose Facility; \$20/person, group rates available. Info: Dianne Odagawa, 626/571-1336.

Sat., Nov. 15—Go For Broke National Education Center's 7th Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner; Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 404 S. Figueroa St.; Ret. Gen. Eric Shinseki is the keynote speaker; food prepared by Roy Yamaguchi and Chris Yeo. Info: www.goforbroke.org/eoa or 310/222-5702.

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.

VENTURA COUNTY

Sun., Oct. 12—18th Culture Day; 1-4 p.m.; Camarillo Community Center, Carmen Dr. at Burnley St.; \$7/adults, \$5/students with I.D., seniors and children 5-17 yrs. Info: Jeff Kunisaki, 805/493-1824 or Mariko Chilcott, 805/231-1392.

Arizona

PHOENIX

Tues. Oct. 7—ASU Asian Pacific American Studies 10th Anniversary Event, "Justice Reclaimed: Japanese American Redress and Civil Rights"; 7 p.m.; Xavier College Preparatory, Virginia Piper Performing Arts Center, 7th Street and Highland; John Tateishi will speak. Info: apas.clas.asu.edu.



'The Rebel' returns to Alhambra, Calif. on Oct. 23 for a special screening. Director Charlie Nguyen and star Dustin Nguyen (above) are slated to appear in person after the screening.

Tues., Oct. 7—Exhibition, "Line of Exclusion" by Mona Higuchi; 5 p.m.; Xavier College Preparatory, 7th Street and Highland; Higuchi will showcase her site-specific artwork on the JA internment. Info: www.monahiguchi.com.

Sat., Oct. 18—Screening, "Passing Poston, An American Story"; 4 p.m. reception, 5 p.m. screening; Univ. of Arizona College of Medicine, 550 E. Van Buren St.; a Q&A session with Ruth Okimoto and Mary Higashi will follow the screening; tickets at the door will be \$20. Advance tickets: Ted Namba, 602/571-0247 or Cindi Harbottle, 480/710-8296.

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.

Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Oct. 14-16—2008 Manzanar High School Reunion; California Hotel; events include a mixer, slot tournament, photos and memory books; Manzanar rangers will participate with displays and presentations. Info: Cherry Uyeda, 818/981-2629, Grace Deguchi, 310/968-1666, Michi Osaki, 323/463-5143, Venice area: Kats Marumoto, 310/836-3565, Gardena: Jun Okimoto, 310/372-7133, Maryknoll: Seigo Yoshinaga, 626/576-1196, and San Fernando Valley: Victor Muraoka, 818/368-4113. ■

"A ROUNDHOUSE KICK TO THE EMOTION"
~F. Kathleen Foley, LA Times
"Powerful & Emotive... Top Notch"
~ Jordan Ikeda, The Rafu Shimpo

★ MUST CLOSE OCTOBER 12! ★

A humorous family drama with Bruce Lee spirit.

BE LIKE WATER

BY DAN KWONG
DIRECTED BY CHRIS TASHIMA
WORLD PREMIERE NOW—OCTOBER 12, 2008

East West Players

www.EastWestPlayers.org (213) 625-7000

David Henry Hwang Theatre at the Union Center for the Arts
120 Judge John Aiso Street in the Little Tokyo district, downtown L.A.



EWP

In Memoriam - 2008

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Akiyama, Tokiko "Toki," 90, Spokane, Wash., Sept. 12; survived by brothers, Yasumasa and Utaka Akiyama.

Arimitsu, Takeshi, 80, Montebello, Aug. 31; survived by wife, Hisako; son, Tommy (Tracie); daughter, Margaret (Akira) Takemoto; 4 gc.; sister, Tamayo Hayashi; brother-in-law, Terumi (Fumiko) Arata; and sisters-in-law, Taeko (Kaneyoshi) Matsuyama, Sumiko (Minoru) Seshita, Tamiko (Ichiro) Kurose and Ikuko (Nobuaki) Tsuji.

Asawa, Robert Sakai, Sept. 3; survived by wife, Sue; and brother, George (Masako).

Fujimoto, Kathryn Ann, 52, Santa Clarita, Sept. 4; survived by husband, Derek; parents, Charles and Anne Goehring; brother, Michael; sisters-in-law, Debbie, Corrine and Nancy; and brothers-in-law, Donald, Rick, Eddie and Lowell.

Hayashi, Joseph Ichiro, Ellensburg, Wash., Aug. 26; Vietnam veteran; survived by wife, Doris; son, Joseph (Jenny); daughter, Jennifer (Rob); 3 gc.; mother, Kimiye; brother, Michael (Sylvia); and sisters, Kiku Hayashi, Elizabeth

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.

(Doug) Frisch and Katherine (Gary) Kiyonaga.

Hiraishi, Misako, 77, Montebello, Sept. 16; survived by sons, Kelvin and Jeffrey (Carolyn); and 4 gc.

Inagaki, Christopher, 55, Sept. 13; survived by sister, Patti Ueda; niece, Joanne Castillo; and nephew, Scott Ueda.

Ito, Bill Shoichi, 87, Pacific Grove, Sept. 14; U.S.

Army veteran; survived by wife, Grace; sons, Ronald (Gail) and Gary (Sylvia); daughters, Beverly (Chris) Takaoka and Donna (Dennis) Hallett; 6 gc.; and sisters, Grace Nakamura and Kim Matsumoto.

Iwama, Kenneth Yukio, 53, Sept. 11; survived by father,



INAGAKI

Tsuyoshi; step-mother, Noriko; and brothers, Dan and Rob.

Iwanaga, Aki, 88, Torrance, Aug. 27; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by wife, Tayeko; son, Carl; daughter, Colleen (Ed) Kobayashi; 1 gc.; 2 ggc.; and brother, Ross.

Kadomatsu, Masao, 93, Anaheim, Sept. 2; survived by daughter, Patrice (Ryan) Mito; sons, Steven (Susan) and Gary (Marilyn) Kadomatsu; 5 gc.; and 2 ggc.

Kajikawa, Kinuko, 94, Los Angeles, Sept. 6; survived by daughter, June (Charles) Honma; sons, Calvin (Virginia), Rodney (Barbara) and Lloyd (Silvina Rubinstein); 10 gc.; 17 ggc.; brother, Isami (Mary) Kurasaki; and sisters, Elsie Oshita, Betty (Richard) Omori, Evelyn (Richard) Hanki and Marian Kubota.

Komatsu, Tokiye, 83, Gardena, Sept. 6; survived by husband, Aike; daughter, Karren (Darren) Shiroma; brother, Masami Sakomoto; and sisters, Harumi (Jack) Miura and Nancy Sakomoto.

Matsumi, Shoharu Sho, 80, West Los Angeles, Sept. 2; survived by wife, Kimiko; daughters, Eileen (Walter) Sasaki and Linda Matsumi; 2 gc.; and sister, Suiko (Koichiro) Kakimoto.

Matsumoto, George J., Aiea, Haw., Sept. 4; MIS veteran; survived by wife, Kiyeko; son, Jon; daughter,

Susan; stepsons, Gary and Alan Nakamoto; stepdaughter, Sandra Fujioka; 2 gc.; and brothers, Thomas, James, Light and Perry.

Matsuo, George Minoru, 86, Yuba City, Aug. 23; WWII veteran; survived by companion, Thelma Evans; son, John (Carrie); daughters, Mikki (Kaz) Seo and Phyllis (Hayami) Fujii; 5 gc.; 5 ggc.; sister, Tamaye Morino; brother, Joe; and previous wife, Betty.

Miura, Judy, 67, Ontario, Sept. 6; survived by sons, Mark, Lance (Cindy) and Lyle (Romy); daughters, Dawn (Adam) Cortez and Stacy (Al) Jurado; 9 gc.; and brother, Glenn Shiosaki.

Motoda, Lawrence Susumu, 69, Honolulu, Haw., Aug. 26; Army veteran; survived by daughter, Liann Seki; 2 gc.; mother, Eleanor; brothers, Maurice and Earl; and sister, Merle Mitsuyoshi.

Nishiyama, Ronald Hiroyuki, M.D., 76, former Chief Emeritus, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Maine Medical Center; survived by wife, Jean; son, Dr. Stephen; daughter, Nancy Nishiyama Terry; 2 gc.; and one brother, Robert.

Okumura, Wayne Kunio, 66, Honolulu, Aug. 10; U.S. Army veteran; survived by wife, Carole; sons, Ross and Reid; mother, Hatsumi; and sister, Gail.

Oyama, Masayoshi, 66, Vista, Sept. 14; survived by wife, Tomi; son, Mark; daughter, Stephanie (Travis) Iseri; 1 gc.; sisters, Sumiko Fukuda and Chieko Oya; and sister-in-law, Carol Oyama.

Shinoda, Seiichi, 79, Saugus, Sept. 4; survived by daughters, Diana (Steve) Furuyama, Janice (Tom) Nagatoshi, and Nancy (John) Hicks; 8 gc.; brothers, Kenji (Ruth), Kiyu (Janet), Muto (Donna) and Akira; sister, Taye (Frank) Abe; sis-

ters-in-law, Chieko Shinoda and Marie Shinoda; and brother-in-law, David Kikuchi.

Takahashi, Irene Fumie, 95, Arroyo Grande, Sept. 14; survived by daughter, Roberta Godsey; son-in-law, Spencer; and sister, Louise Stewart.

Takaoka, Shunichi, 89, Los Angeles, Aug. 27; survived by daughter, Sharon (Paul) Nakagawa; son, Robert; and 1 gc.

Taketa, Sumiye, 78, San Jose, July 15; Air Force Flight Nurse; survived by brothers, George and Tak Taketa.

Tsuruda, Gary, 61, Sept. 9; survived by mother, Kayo; and sister, Nancy Santo.

Uruu, Lawrence Shoichi, 77, Aiea, Haw., Aug. 9; Korean War veteran; survived by wife, May; stepsons, Ray, Ron and Roy Imamura; stepdaughters, Amy Tomi and Betsy Yamaoka; 4 step-gc.; and sisters, Gladys Ebisuya, Margaret Branciere and Katherine Sakai.

Yamada, Takeshi Tom, Simi Valley, Sept. 10; U.S. Army veteran; survived by wife, Toyoko; daughters, Kumiko (Tim) Yuge, Naomi and Harumi; 3 gc.; sister, Miyoko (Haruto) Oshima; brothers, Norio (Yoshiko), George (Sheryl) and Bobby (Priscilla); and brother-in-law, Glen (Mira) Kitamura.

Yamamoto, Masayoshi, 85, Honolulu, Haw., Sept. 3; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by son, John; daughter, Sharon Lum; 6 gc.; and sister, Misae Imai.

Yamamoto, Irene Sumie, 74, San Diego, Petaluma-born; survived by husband, Sachio; daughter, Susan; sons, Steven and Robert; 4 gc.; brother, Roy Otamura; and sister, Jane Kitano.

Yamamoto, Taneo "Tony," 86, Sacramento, Sept. 8; survived by son, Gary; daughters, Joyce (Mel), Debbie (Rocky) and Lori (Layne); and 3 gc.

Yoshii, Shigehisa, 85, Los Angeles, Sept. 3; survived by son, James (Dawn); daughter, Janet; 1 gc.; and sisters, Chieko (Tak) Takamura and Sachiko Kawasaki. ■

JACL HAS THE RIGHT INSURANCE PROTECTION PLAN FOR YOU

Nothing is more important than helping to protect your family. JACL understands. That's why JACL sponsors economical insurance plans available exclusively to JACL members and their families. So, no matter what your stage of life, JACL offers these plans to help cover all your needs:

- Long-Term Care Plan
- Customized Major Medical Insurance (available to non-California members)
- Group Catastrophe Major Medical Insurance Plan*
- Short-Term Medical Plan
- Medicare Supplement Insurance Plans**
- Group Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance*
- Term Life Insurance***



For your FREE, no-obligation information kit (including costs, exclusions, limitations and terms of coverage) on any JACL-sponsored Insurance Plan,

CALL TOLL-FREE
1-800-503-9230

OR VISIT

www.jaclinsurance.com

Administered by:
MARSH
Affinity Group Services
a service of Seabury & Smith

Our hearing-impaired or voice-impaired members may call the Relay Line at
1-800-855-2881

3124851 32756/34019/34020 (2008)

All plans may vary and may not be available in all states.

* Underwritten by: The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York, a subsidiary of American International Group, Inc. (AIG).

** Underwritten by (depending on your state of residence) Transamerica Life Insurance Company, Cedar Rapids, IA 52499; Monumental Life Insurance Company, Cedar Rapids, IA 52499; For NY residents, Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company, Purchase, NY.

*** Underwritten by: Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company, Simsbury, CT 06089.

AG6545
6990125

Whereabouts

This section runs on a space available basis at no charge.

FUMIYO FUKUDA

Grace Uyesaka of Fresno, Calif. is looking for Fumiyo Fukuda. Fumiyo has four children named Becky, Kay, Jeffrey and Casey. Three of them live in the Bay Area. Grace would like to reconnect with Fumiyo. With any information, please call Grace at 559/434-8162.

福井 FUKUI MORTUARY
Four Generations of Experience
FD #808

707 East Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Ph. 213/626-0441
Fax 213/617-2781
Gerald Fukui
President

KUBOTA NIKKEI MORTUARY
久保田日吉屋葬儀社
RELIABLE, COMPASSIONATE, PERSONALIZED.
911 VENICE BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015
TEL (213) 749-1449
FAX (213) 749-0265
日本語でも親切にお世話させていただきます。
www.kubotannikelmortuary.com

Yonsei English Teachers Find Opportunities to Explore Their Identities

(Continued from page 1)

"In my one month of experience, I feel that a JA can learn much about their heritage while being in Japan."

Lisa Tanaka, a 21-year-old Yonsei from Hacienda Heights, Calif., was studying abroad at Meiji Gakuin University in Yokohama when she decided to apply for the JET program, one of the largest work abroad programs of its kind.

Now she's teaching in the small town of Motoyama on the island of Shikoku. In between her hectic class schedule she often finds herself looking outside her window in appreciation of the nearby rolling mountaintops and flowing river.

"Living in Japan has given me the opportunity to be constantly surrounded by Japanese speakers and it has helped me learn more of the language. It is important for me to learn about my culture because these are my roots," said Lisa. "I think learning about any culture is an advantage because it opens one's eyes to the bigger world outside of America."

Different Pathways to Japan

Yumi Sakugawa, 23, of Anaheim Hills, Calif., has spent the last year teaching English in her ancestral home of Kimitsu. She admits the novel experience of living with her relatives and taking on a new job wasn't easy at first.

"I'm not going to lie. It's been a really, really difficult year," she said. "I think having just graduated from college, I was pretty clueless, insecure and arrogant in all the wrong ways."

"I had a lot of growing up to do, and I had a hard time adjusting to not living in a metropolitan city and not having my own private space in a house full of relatives I haven't seen in over eight years."

She admits her frustration with life in Japan led her to be a less than ideal English teacher at first.

"Anyone who had my class within that window of time deserves a refund," she joked.

But her frustrations soon led her to appreciate the country and its people and she says she would "do it all again in a heartbeat!" Along the way she also discovered some important lessons about her own identity as a Shin-Nisei.

"Teaching English in Japan is a great way for younger generations of JAs to learn about their heritage. After all, when you are immersed in the actual country for a year or longer, you pick up on a lot of cultural knowledge that you otherwise wouldn't have ever known back home."

"There are a lot of cultural experiences in Japan that are simply not accessible in America, no matter



Yumi Sakugawa shares some Halloween spirit with her students in Kimitsu (top). Reed Nakamura poses for a classroom shot in the town of Itsuki.

how much you think you are in touch with your Japanese roots."

For Yumi, visits to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial, the Yasukuni Shrine, going to a summer festival and actually riding a train during rush hour in Tokyo were the most memorable.

Like Yumi, 24-year-old Reed Nakamura of Honolulu had a difficult time adjusting to life in Japan at first as a JET instructor. Having very little grasp of the Japanese language in a world where no else spoke English, life here was less than ideal.

But soon he began to make friends and started seeing his students grasp some of the English concepts he was introducing. It all made him fall in love with the small town of Itsuki in Kumamoto and he recently renewed his teaching contract.

"The majority of the positive experiences are made through the simple connections I've made with the students," he said. "When you can't fluently communicate, you begin to cherish what would be considered trivial to most. A smile here, a question clarified there, everything makes a difference."

Although Reed doesn't think teaching English in Japan is a great way to learn about your heritage — rarely are you placed in the actual hometown of your ancestors — he believes the experience is a great way to explore your identity.

"The answer I've come up with is that since I've come to Japan, I've embraced the positive parts of all of

the distinct backgrounds I have come from," he said. "I think there are many valuable lessons I've learned from all of my Japanese American experiences in Hawaii, Los Angeles and Japan."

Taichi Hanzawa, JET program liaison, recently attended the

Japanese American National Museum's conference in Denver to promote the program and saw a lot of interest among younger JAs, especially recent college graduates.

He believes programs like JET are an ideal way for younger JAs to learn about their own heritage.

"To find out about their own roots, it is a great program."

JA vs. Japanese Culture

Many of the Sansei and Yonsei teaching English in Japan have quickly discovered that the JA culture they grew up in has little resemblance to the culture of their ancestors.

Most of them agree the Japanese food is a lot better in the motherland and the *onsens* are quite nice. The people here also seem to stress politeness in every situation, even in crowded rush hour trains.

"Easily, my favorite thing about the culture and country is the various people I have met. There are so many nice and interesting people in Japan," said Yumi. "There are runner-ups, though. Such as food, the amazing service, the insane plethora of vending machines, and decent and affordable public transportation."

Living in Japan has also provided a different perspective of historical events. For many of these younger JAs, stories of WWII always dealt with the internment. Now for the first time they are seeing how the Japanese experienced this painful period.

"JAs learn so much of the internment experience, but they rarely learn about their great-great-uncles and aunts that suffered through the retaliation," said Geoff, who recently visited the Edo-Tokyo Museum. "This was my first time seeing the other side. I stood right next to a bombshell that was almost as big as me, and I couldn't even imagine thousands upon thousands of those being dropped on Tokyo."

For many of these Yonsei, living in Japan has been a personal journey.

For Reed, the recent passing of his grandmother made learning about Japan and its traditions that much more important.

"There was no one left in the family who truly knew about the ways and customs of the past," he said. "I am of the belief that knowing the past is important to understanding the future."

All of them agree that encouraging younger JAs today to learn about their own culture and history is important.

"Living in Japan and teaching English was the best way for me because I am completely immersed in Japanese culture," said Yonsei Shauna Imanaka, 23, of Honolulu who is currently teaching in Fujioka.

"It is one thing to read it and say it, but to live it is completely different."

On the Web

www.jetprogramme.org

www.reedinitsuki.blogspot.com



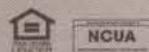
Think it's expensive and tough to get a home loan?

Think again!

We have mortgage loans with zero fees*

Don't believe everything you read! In fact, now is a fantastic time to buy or refinance. Interest rates are low and there are hundreds of homes for sale at reduced prices, making your negotiating power stronger than ever. Plus, pay no origination fee! Getting a home loan is easier than you think and we're here to help. Hurry, this is a limited-time offer!

800-544-8828 • www.jaclcu.com



*Origination fee, tax search fee, processing fee. Based on approved credit. Eligibility and membership required.