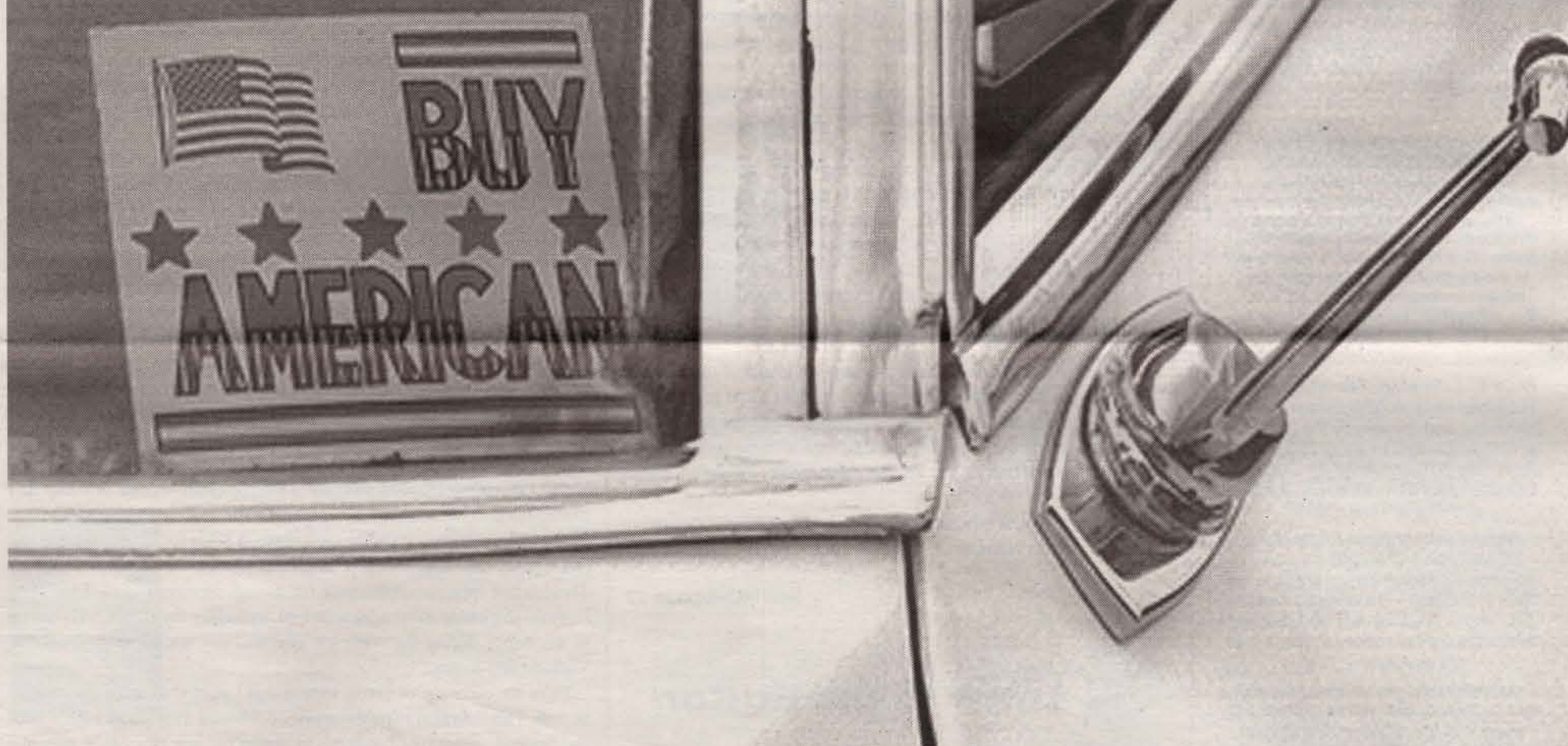


# PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

80  
YEARS



{ IN DEPTH }

## With 'Buy American' Back, is Anti-Asian Sentiment Around the Corner?

Remember **Vincent Chin**? Economic recovery at what cost?

>> page 3

### { TOP STORY }

Bullying of JA students points to a larger problem.

>> PAGE 4

### { SPORTS }

Ultrarunner Glona Takagishi is still going strong at 63.

>> PAGE 10

### { ENTERTAINMENT }

Filmmaker Tad Nakamura makes JA history cool.

>> PAGE 9





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## NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

# A Memorable Tri-District

By FLOYD MORI



The JACL held its CCDC/PSWDC/NCWNPDC Tri-District Conference and a Day of Remembrance celebration Feb. 14 to 16 in Clovis, Calif. Hosted by the CCDC, the conference was held in conjunction with the dedication of the Pinedale Remembrance Plaza to commemorate the Pinedale Assembly Center where Japanese Americans were held during World War II before being shipped to the camps.

Although some JACLers from PSW were unable to attend the conference because of the closure of the Grapevine due to snow, driving to the Fresno/Clovis area from Los Angeles on Saturday morning was a pleasant drive with clear roads and good weather all the way. For those returning to Southern California on Monday after the conference, snow was still falling on the Grapevine and some took alternate routes. Those who attended the conference were well repaid with excellent learning experiences, which were very moving, along with outstanding and enjoyable social functions.

Fourteen people had signed up for the golf tournament on Saturday morning. The opening general event was a catered barbecue dinner on Saturday evening followed by the showing of the "American Pastime" film about baseball and the Topaz internment camp. Associate Producer Kerry Nakagawa was on hand at the viewing to answer questions.

Marcia Chung is the new governor of the CCDC, following outgoing governor Bobbi Hanada. Alan Nishi is governor for NCWNP and Alayne Yonemoto is the PSW governor. Judge Dale Ikeda and his wife Debbie along with a host of volunteers put together an excellent conference with outstanding panelists. Dale has worked diligently with a great committee to bring about the Remembrance Plaza, which is a beautiful memorial on the site of the former Pinedale Assembly Center.

Members of the *coram nobis* legal team who worked on the cases of Fred Korematsu, Gordon Hirabayashi and Min Yasui presented an informative panel discussion. The then-young attorneys told of their firsthand experiences. They realized that their success would have a bearing on the success of the Redress Movement. Presiding Justice James Ardaiz was the moderator.

The Redress panel moderated by Carole Hayashino consisted of former Secretary Norman Y. Mineta, John Tateishi, myself, Ken

See MORI/page 13



## Letter to the Editor

### JACL Fails to Address Economic Problems

I was disappointed with the writers and articles in the New Year's Issue. Each writer seems to miss what is happening to the status of the Nikkei and the goals for the future.

As of this year, the United States and the world are experiencing serious economic woes — and the problems must inevitably have an impact on the Asian community. Young, educated Nikkei, like other segments of American society, are no longer sure of their futures. The pie has shrunk drastically, and groups are fighting for a greater part of the reduced sources.

In the view of this writer, the JACL leaders have missed the opportunity to address more seriously these economic problems.

Today we are summoned to come to grips with the urban crises, poverty, racially disadvantaged, education, housing, financing and other problems.

In effect — the JACL should be moving in the direction of social activism. In 2009, it is high time for us who have accepted the responsibility to pause and ask if our community can properly be charged with the tasks.

**TAKASUMI KOJIMA**  
Berkeley, Calif.



## COMMENTARY

# The Last Full Measure of Devotion

A recent visit to Italy, where my granduncle died during WWII fighting for his country, made me proud to be part of his legacy of military service.

By LT. JANELLE KURODA

Forty meters below the streets of Naples, Italy, I turn a corner and stumble upon World War II-era graffiti illustrating an aerial attack and the infamous trio of those days: Adolf Hitler, Emperor Hirohito and Benito Mussolini.

I am on an underground tour of Naples, making my way through the narrow passages that betray a secret world unknown to many modern day Neapolitans. During the heavy aerial bombardments of WWII, up to 20,000 Neapolitans fled underground to these ancient caves once used by the Greeks and Romans. They lived in these caves and labyrinths for months, often carving pictures depicting their lives into the walls.

Looking at the graffiti, I couldn't help but think of my granduncle, Jack Tanaka.

Growing up on a dairy farm in Pahala, Hawaii, my granduncle was a house painter by trade. He enlisted in the U.S. Army when the call came out for Japanese American volunteers to form the 100th Battalion. Jack was a gunner in Bravo Company, and he was 27 years old when he made the ultimate sacrifice during the Battle of Monte Cassino in Central Italy on Jan. 25, 1944. He was awarded a Purple Heart — one of many that earned his unit the nickname, "Purple Heart Battalion."

My grandparents instilled in me a sense of pride for what my uncle and other Nisei did during WWII despite challenges at home and abroad. These brave men paved the way for the advancement of all JAs. They inspired patriotism in all who followed, including my father, who served in the Army during the Vietnam War and my uncles, who fought in Vietnam and Korea.

From the early age of seven, I knew that I wanted to serve my country as well. This devotion to public service continued throughout high school and college, and it motivated me to obtain my law degree. However, I never considered joining the armed forces until my first year of law school at Boston College.

While serving as an intern at the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General, I met a Navy reserve officer who discussed a career in the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps. I didn't feel that I could be of much service to the military because of my diminutive 4-foot-11-stature. As the discussion continued, I learned that I could serve my country by offering legal assistance to sailors and marines, defending sailors in courts-martial and providing legal counsel to commanding officers on rules of engagement and military justice. Despite my initial reservations, I was up to the challenge.

In the three years since I joined the Navy JAG Corp, I have served in three foreign countries and experienced more than I could ever have imagined. When the call came out asking for volunteers to relieve Army JAGs in Iraq, many of whom were on their second deployment, I was one of the first to raise my hand. I served with Multi-National Force-Iraq Task Force 134 — Detainee Operations in Baghdad. Working with Iraqi attorneys and our JAGs to achieve justice in a budding democracy was a great experience.

Following my tour in Iraq, I returned to Norfolk as a defense attorney, but I longed to return to the Middle East. Luckily, I secured a post in Bahrain. My duties as a staff judge advocate allowed me to experience a

See KURODA/page 13



# With 'Buy American' Back, is Anti-Asian Sentiment Around the Corner?

In bad economic times, history has shown that the 'us' in the 'us versus them' does not include Asian Americans.

By **LYNDA LIN**  
Assistant Editor

On Sundays when the weather permits, Cincinnati resident Jim Berns likes to take American flags and homemade signs to busy street corners. There, he waves at passing cars while holding up signs that say, "Honk if you love the USA" and "Buy made in the USA."

"Motorists go crazy with the signs," says Berns. "Truckers blare their horns, Chevys toot and BMWs go silently by."

The troubled economy has driven him to launch this one-man campaign. Like many Americans, the threat of unemployment looms large for the longtime employee of the budget-strapped University of Cincinnati.

Berns, 60, hopes a renewed commitment to buy American-made products will boost the economy and keep Americans working. It's calling on people's patriotism, he says. But some Asian Pacific Americans worry the resurgence of populist rhetoric like "Buy American" will lead to increased anti-Asian sentiment and worse — Americans violently turning against other Americans.

"I think it's a slippery slope," says Roland Hwang, president of American Citizens Justice, a Michigan-based APA civil rights organization. The "Buy American" slogan, which is embedded in the \$787 billion stimulus package signed by President Barack Obama, creates an underlying "us versus them" mentality.

"Such a mentality might get transferred to some zealot's self-justified violence against APAs, Latinos or other people of color in these bad economic times," adds Hwang.

You don't have to go too far back into U.S. history for an example either. Once upon another economic recession, two out-of-work autoworkers in 1982 Detroit misidentified 27-year-old Vincent Chin to be of Japanese descent and said, "because of you motherf---s we are out of work," before beating him to death with a baseball bat.

## Now and Then: Us Versus Them

Until now, economists called the time between 1979-1982 the worst recession after World War II.

"It was a time of crises," said Frank Wu, a professor of law and history at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. "From World War II, there was a great sense that the U.S. could do anything. That was no longer true."

Americans — who were still grappling with the aftermath of the Vietnam War and Watergate scandal — faced among other things an oil crisis, high unemployment and inflation rates. Competition from Japanese cars led to mass layoffs in the automobile industry and increased anti-Japan sentiment.

Members of the United Auto Workers famously smashed Toyota cars with sledgehammers at union picnics and distributed "Buy American" flyers with frequent references to Pearl Harbor.

With Chin's murder in 1982, it became clear that in the "us versus them" mentality, APAs were counted as "them."

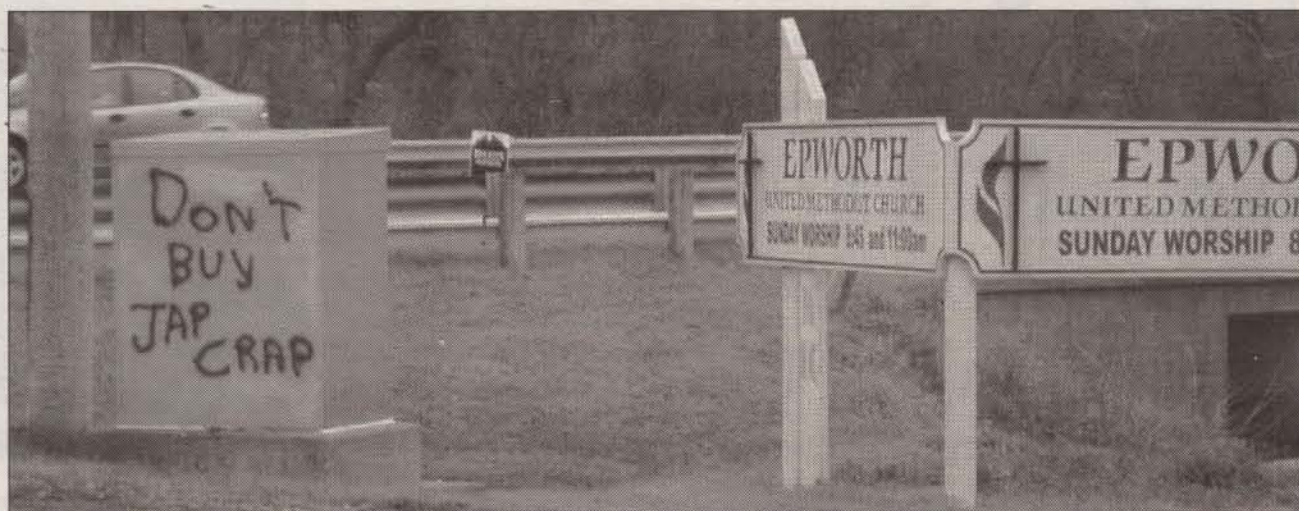
"I fear it's coming back again," said Wu, who is writing a book on the Chin case.

Back then the scapegoat was Japan, now China is being blamed for running up the U.S. trade deficit and putting Americans out of jobs.

"But we all know that whether it's Chinese or Japanese. They think we all look the same," said Wu.

The rhetoric is also making a comeback.

In December, O.C. Welch, the owner of a Hardeeville, South Carolina car dealership blasted consumers who bought Japanese cars in a controversial radio ad. Welch, who called the cars "rice ready, not road ready," has since apologized for his comments. That same month, Detroit's WDIV-TV reported that a man was caught on a security camera in a Woodhaven, Mich. strip mall slashing the tires of four parked cars and writing "Buy



**SIGNS OF THE TIMES:** Graffiti near an Indiana church (top) uses racist language. But other signs use a friendlier, more patriotic tone. 'Supporting the home team is not a bad thing,' said Jim Berns, (left), who has taken to the streets to push his message.

USA" on them.

"Buy American [is] just an excuse to be racist," said Lixiao Xu, a freshman from the State University of New York (SUNY) Buffalo.

A few months ago, Xu came across a Facebook.com "Jap Crap" group where members weighed in on the value of American cars versus imports. Many used patriotic and often racist language to prove their point, so Xu decided to join the debate.

"You don't hate imports, you only hate Asian imports because they are not made by a white man," Xu wrote on the group's wall.

"These incidences don't exist in a cultural vacuum," said Dana Frank, the author of "Buy American: The Untold Story of Economic Nationalism" and a history professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Often supporters of campaigns like these resort to nationalism and then racial stereotypes that date back to the 1800s when the first wave of Asian immigrants were perceived to "sneak" things in.

"That's the way U.S. history has unfolded. There's a long history of Asian racism. Economic nationalism can turn into anti-Asian racism in a minute. It explodes so fast," said Frank. "Anytime you're looking for a scapegoat, things are going to get nasty."

## Economic Nationalism Reemerging

Union members are also leading the charge to renew the commitment to "Buy American." A Feb. 9 Harris Interactive poll conducted for the Alliance for American Manufacturing found it to be a popular cause — 84 percent favor "Buy American" requirements.

"Every time you turn around you see 'made in China' and stuff gets imported here. We're losing jobs," United Steelworkers member Gregory Jones, of Lafayette, Indiana, told the *Associated Press* at a recent union-sponsored rally.

According to the U.S. Labor Department, nearly 600,000 jobs were lost in January as the U.S. unemployment rate rose from 7.2 percent to 7.6 percent.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 contains a "Buy American" government procurement provision with the intent to help jumpstart the economy. Union leaders say it's a step in the right direction.

"Given these dire straits, including domestic-sourcing

requirements ("Buy America") in the stimulus ensures that the materials used in infrastructure projects are produced by workers and companies in the United States to the maximum extent possible," said Wayne Ranick, a USW spokesperson. "This is the best and fastest way to get people back to work and create demand in the marketplace."

The USW is also pushing lawmakers to sign their "Buy American" resolution that promises to ensure federal economic recovery dollars go to cities and tax dollars are kept at home to help create jobs. To date, nearly 300 resolutions have been introduced, with more than 70 already approved, said Ranick.

"Buy American" has a certain amount of logic, said Frank. "It creates a national 'we' united under a cause to save American jobs. But who are 'we'? Most people are not that aware of how transnational these large corporations are."

Even iconic American consumer products like Ford and Chevy have foreign-made components. But in this current recession, economic nationalism is making a comeback. When asked if the movement could lead to a rise in anti-Asian sentiment, Ranick points to evidence that we're in a more egalitarian era.

"Nobody associated with the USW or any other labor organization condones racism, violence and murder. While problems like this exist on a societal level, we like to believe much has changed as evidenced by our country recently electing an African American as president."

But Wu thinks the threat is very real. Over 25 years ago Chin's murder and trial caused national outrage. "Up until that moment it occurred did anyone care?"

"The problem is our historical memory is so short. It's so easy to forget our past," said Tony Lam, a filmmaker whose 2008 documentary "Vincent Who?" examined Chin's legacy in the APA community.

Activists like Berns disavow any racism with "Buy American" campaigns. He says he's simply trying to raise awareness in these bleak economic times. Two years ago, he bought his home at a high and could lose it if things don't turn around.

"I wish there were more Americans who see that this economy is like a train barreling towards the mountains," said Berns. "Supporting the home team is not a bad thing. We support our Olympic athletes. It would be a good idea to support our American workers as our home team." ■



# Bullying of JA Students Shows Need For Change

**In school, Katie and Justin Davis were harassed and called racist names until they decided to fight back.**

By **LESLIE K. TAMURA**  
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

Starting a new school in the middle of the year can be tough, but the new kid, Katie Davis, wanted nothing more than to make friends with her fellow fourth-graders.

She had moved from a small community to Burney, Calif. with her parents and younger brother Justin. Her parents, both state park rangers, were transferred there in 2000.

Katie's black hair, almond-shaped eyes and medium complexion had never drawn much attention. However, when she started school, her peers couldn't help but notice that there was something different about the new girl.

They didn't know what to do with a girl who was a quarter-Japanese mixed with "a little bit of everything."

Within a year, questions about her race became name-calling — "flat-face Jap" — which often deteriorated to being spat on. Katie wasn't alone in all of this. Her brother Justin, then a second-grader, also dealt with the physical and verbal harassment.

For nine years, they endured the bullying. In January 2009, things intensified, coming to a head when the siblings became victims of alleged racially motivated threats.

Bullying is not a new issue for Burney High, nor is it new for Asian Pacific Americans in schools across the country.

When State Assemblyman Ted Lieu, D-Calif., signed into law a statute providing students with more protection against bullies, the legislation reminded students, parents and schools that bullying has real and negative consequences for all involved.

"Bullying is a euphemism for child abuse — psychological abuse perpetrated upon children by other children," wrote Elizabeth Englander, director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center, in an e-mail. It traumatizes the victims, the witnesses as well as the bullies.

## Growing Tensions

The unincorporated town of Burney is predominately white, with a population of about 3,300. Burney High, located at 37571 Mountain View Road, serves seventh through twelfth graders.

As the only two Asians in a school of 266, however, Katie and Justin say they have spent their academic careers on the bottom of the social "pecking order."

"If you're the bottom," said Katie, now a senior, "you get eaten alive."

And, she adds, no one at the school helped her, not even her teachers.

On December 7, 2006, Katie's social studies teacher asked her to sit at the back of the classroom during a discussion about Pearl Harbor; this teacher no longer works at the school.

Justin, now 16, also says he never got the help he wanted from the school.

Burney High administrators declined to comment about the bullying of specific students due to privacy concerns, but school principal, Thomas Puskarich said, "[Bullying] is

one of those things that schools don't tolerate."

Justin, a freshman who loves playing football and baseball, said sometimes the harassment forced him to question his identity.

"I wished to actually be anything that wouldn't get me harassed," he said.

In January, Justin had been harassed more than usual, according to his mother, Linda Davis.

Justin's bullies chased him with snowballs, yelling, "Peg the Asian." One student eyed Justin as he held a butter knife to his own throat, while making a slashing motion across his neck with his free hand. These students' names have been withheld for privacy issues.

"Justin called me at work," said Linda, now a real estate agent. "He asked if I could come get him; he was afraid to be there when the lunch bell rang."

On Jan. 8, during her food sciences class, Katie was baking brownies when the same student, who had allegedly threatened Justin with a knife, started grabbing her brownies and calling her, "World War II."

"I finally got mad," Katie said.

She yelled at him, "Shut the f--- up," to which he responded, "You f--- Asian b---."

Over the next month, the Davis family filed a complaint with the sheriff, Katie left school and the administration responded to the racial harassment allegations, expelling one student for a year and suspending others.

"I take all reports of bullying or harassment very seriously," wrote Larry Snelling, superintendent of the Fall River Joint Unified District, in an e-mail. "I deal with the students who are doing the bullying swiftly."

The Davis family, however, does not approve of the school's response.

"There's a very serious problem at this school," Linda said, "when you have staff that does the things they do, and you have an administration that does not take action when things go wrong."

Months earlier, in the fall of 2008, Linda said she complained to the vice principal, Peggy Snelling, who is also married to the district superintendent.

"I expected help," Linda said, "and we got nowhere."

## A Community Problem

"For years, I've told my kids, 'Kids are cruel,'" said Bob Davis, Katie and Justin's father, "but now I don't know what to say; we just need to listen to our kids more."

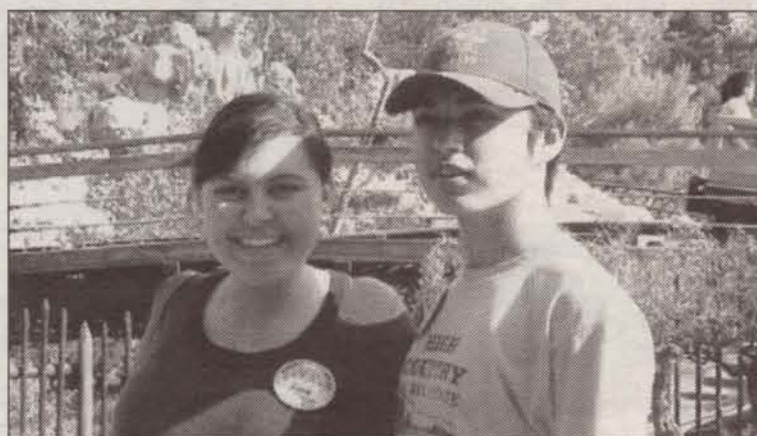
The Davis family's story is not unique.

An average of 13 percent of students in the Fall River Joint Unified District have been harassed because of their race, ethnicity or national origin, according to the most recent California Healthy Kids Survey.

"Kids have reported that they're not feeling safe at school," said Stephanie Papas, school health education consultant for the California Department of Education.

Larry Snelling says he understands the seriousness of school bullying, and he hopes that in the future, a JACL representative will host an "in-service" to raise staff and students' awareness of bullying and racial harassment.

"One of my main goals is to see all the students and staff look forward to coming to school," wrote Snelling, who's worked in edu-



Katie and Justin Davis, of Burney, Calif., said they were targeted because of their ethnicity. It created an identity crisis. Justin (right) said he wanted to 'be anything that wouldn't get me harassed.'

cation for 35 years. "Our job is to try and raise the awareness ... and hopefully in the grand scheme of things make a positive difference."

The Davis family is moving forward.

"It's not over," Linda said. "The situation has been handled because we demanded it, and it took a very long time."

The Davis family's complaint to the Sheriff's Department is now with the district attorney. By March, they expect to learn more about the case.

Angela Chan, staff attorney with the Asian Law Caucus in San Francisco, is monitoring the issue, although she does not represent the family currently.

"Schools have a legal responsibility to address racial harassment and discrimination," Chan wrote in an e-mail. "I am supportive of the family filing a complaint."

As for Katie and Justin, life has improved.

Since January, some of the bullies "have laid off" completely," according to Justin. He now looks forward to finishing high school with his friends.

Katie is finishing school at home.

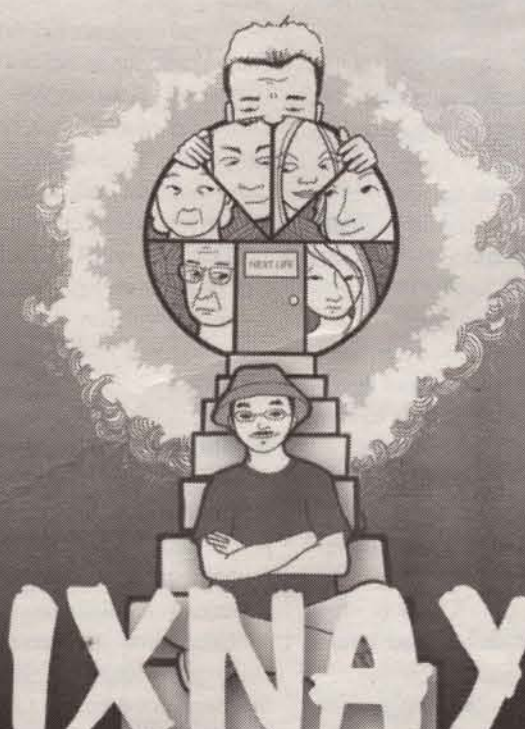
She will be a high school graduate by March, and from there, she plans to move to spend her summer at a national park away from Burney.

When asked about her future, if college is part of her plan, the girl who tried to find her place in a new town, a new school, says she is still afraid.

"Maybe a year without any school would get me to chill out a little bit after years of just being so angry and hating [school] so much," Katie said. "I think I just need to relax and do something I want to do, and be respected for who I am." ■

**"SNAPPY ONE-LINERS...MOVES AT A FAST CLIP...  
LIGHTEARTED...TALENTED ENSEMBLE...  
FLEET-FOOTED COMIC TIMING"**

—LA Times



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## Hawaii Same-Sex Civil Unions Delayed by Tie Vote

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

HONOLULU—Hawaii legislators have stalled a proposal to bring same-sex civil unions to the islands, but Democratic leaders plan a bold move to bring the issue to a vote of the full Senate.

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 3-3 Feb. 25, which is short of the majority needed to advance the bill through the normal legislative process.

Senate leaders have said they intend to yank the measure from its committee and force a vote before the 25-member Senate, which is allowed under a rarely used provision of the Hawaii Constitution if more than one-third of senators approve. As many as 18 senators have said they favor civil unions, which has already passed the House.

If it passes and Republican Gov. Linda Lingle doesn't veto it, Hawaii would become the fifth state to have civil unions. Lingle is uncommitted on the issue.

Only Massachusetts and Connecticut allow gay marriage, while Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey and New Hampshire allow civil unions. Californians voted in November to overturn a court ruling

that allowed gay marriage, but the state still offers domestic partnerships that guarantee the same rights as marriage.

In 1994, JACL passed a resolution in favor of same-sex marriages — the first national Asian American organization to do so — and continues to support the rights of same-sex couples.

Impassioned crowds swamped the Hawaii Capitol and testified for more than 15 hours before the committee vote at 3 a.m. Feb. 25. Two Democrats joined the one Republican on the committee to vote against it. The Legislature is more than 80 percent Democratic.

Hundreds of gay marriage and civil union opponents, wearing red shirts in a show of unity, outnumbered gay rights advocates at the Capitol, with many overflowing from the auditorium into the halls to watch the testimony on TVs set up for the occasion. It was the largest turnout for a Capitol hearing in years.

"In my Bible, God has not changed and his words have not changed," said Dennis Dutton, assistant pastor of Calvary Chapel West Oahu. "This is about upholding the first institution established by our Lord."

Civil union backers wore gold stickers with the word "Equality" written on them in green.

"Why is the world's most diverse location still discriminating against its homosexual brothers and sisters?" asked Bryan Oran, who identified himself as a 19-year-old service member of the military.

Those opposed to civil unions argued that they're the same thing as marriage, which should be reserved to couples of one male and one female. Nearly 70 percent of Hawaii voters approved a constitutional amendment in 1998 granting the state Legislature the power to reserve marriage for opposite-sex couples.

"We have already made it clear that we oppose same-sex marriage in Hawaii. ... Our mistake was when we assumed our representatives would represent us," said testifier

Lisa Poulos.

"Do not try and sneak same-sex marriages through the back door by calling them civil unions."

Civil union proponents told lawmakers that



equality is a civil rights issue that should be settled based on principles rather than a dated majority vote.

"It is plain old dirty nasty discrimination," said Kapolei resident Michael Golojuch Jr.

The Hawaii Constitution allows a bill to be recalled from a committee 20 days after it was referred to that committee, so it couldn't be pulled to the Senate floor until March 10 at the soonest. ■

## Removal of Display on WWII's End Raises Question on Balance Between Historical Accuracy and Racial Sensitivity

The 1945 headline trumpeted the end of war with a term now seen as derogatory to JAs.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

An Indianapolis VA hospital's decision to remove a framed newspaper with the headline "Japs Surrender" has sparked a nationwide letter-writing campaign among veterans, who say taking down the display amounts to an effort to whitewash history.

Roudebush Veterans Affairs Medical Center director Tom Mattice said he removed the 1945 *Indianapolis Times* front page after receiving a complaint from a new employee offended by the term "Japs," a common slur during World War II.

But a group of retired Marines says the action amounts to offering an apology that isn't due, and they want the artifact put back on the wall where it hung next to other WWII memorabilia for a decade.

"We feel it's a slap in the face of the U.S. military. That newspaper is history, part of United States history," Ronald "Bud" Albright, commandant of the local Marine Corps League chapter and leader of the letter-writing campaign, told *The Indianapolis Star*.

But U.S. history also includes dedicated Japanese American military service, and the use of derogatory terms like "Jap" revives past racial discrimination, said Robert Nakamoto, president of the Japanese American Veterans Association.

"JAPA supports efforts to eliminate the use of racial epithets including the display of a past newspaper headline that has a racial slur," he said.

Over 30,000 JAs served in the U.S. military during WWII as a way to defeat the discrimination at home, Nakamoto added.

The term "Jap" reflects the racial prejudice that was promoted during WWII. Such terms are often part of an effort to dehumanize the enemy, said Guy Burgess, a co-director of the Conflict Research Consortium at the



University of Colorado.

"If you think of them as humans, you can't do the things war compels you to do," Burgess said.

In 1986, Congress passed a joint resolution calling the term "Jap" racially derogatory and offensive.

Museums often strike a balance by pairing controversial displays with detailed explanations. The National World War II Museum's exhibit of propaganda posters, for example, includes captions that put the images into context.

"You would never want to put up an object without interpreting it," said Kacey Hill, a spokeswoman for the New Orleans museum.

Mattice argues the VA hospital is a different case and says he has contacted the VA's national ethics office for a ruling on how to proceed.

"We are not a museum," he said. "A museum is where people go to understand the history. We are a medical center."

He said he has asked a staff member to find a different front page that carries the news of the war's end in more delicate terms.

"Something like 'Victory in the Pacific,'" he said. "Or, 'Japanese Surrender.'"

John Gromosiak, an artist whose paintings of American warships line the VA's hallway near where the newspaper used to hang, says the headline depicts life as it was in 1945.

"The war's over, but if you're going to tell it like it is, then you tell it like it was, and that's the way it was, just like that newspaper said it," said Gromosiak, a Korean War veteran. "You cannot hide history, or you shouldn't." ■

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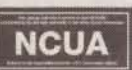
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## Washington State House Passes Joint Memorial Calling for a Nisei Veterans Commemorative Stamp

By Pacific Citizen Staff

For Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos, heroism is worth a stamp.

Since her arrival to the Washington State Legislature a decade ago, Santos has hosted an annual Day of Remembrance in the Washington State House of Representatives to honor the Japanese American internees and World War II veterans.

This year, Santos sponsored House Joint Memorial 4005, which calls on President Barack Obama and Congress to urge the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp commemorating the Nisei veterans.

The measure passed the state House unanimously on Feb. 18.

"Washington needs to be on record because prior to the war, we were second — after California — in the population of Japanese Americans on the mainland," said Santos.

The accomplishments of the Nisei WWII veterans are legendary. The 442nd RCT/100th Battalion is the most decorated unit for its size and



length of service in U.S. history. Among the numerous awards, there are 9,000 Purple Hearts and 21 Medals of Honor. Many of these men volunteered even though their families were being held in internment camps.

Speaking from the House floor, Santos said that the remaining Nisei veterans are now in their 80s and 90s — their twilight years.

"A commemorative stamp would be a fitting tribute to the Nisei vets' years of service under the worst of conditions."

HJM 4005 now goes to the

volunteers — makes direct recommendations to the U.S. Postal Service and can either reject a stamp proposal, recommend it, or continue to keep the proposal under consideration.

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

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

Washington State Senate for consideration.

Other cities and states have also joined the campaign to recognize WWII Nisei veterans.

The stamp committee — comprised of

## Obama Chooses Locke to Run Commerce Department

AA groups, including JACL, call for the swift approval of Locke's nomination.

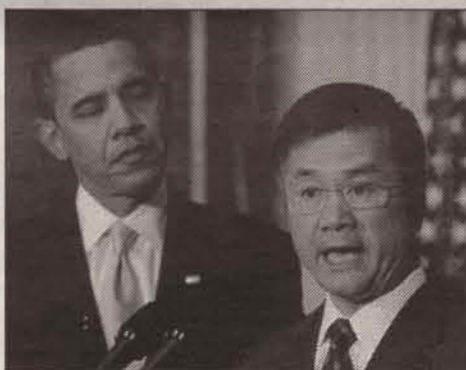
By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

WASHINGTON—President Barack Obama introduced former Washington Gov. Gary Locke as his nominee for Commerce secretary Feb. 24, trying a third time to fill a key Cabinet post for a country in recession.

"I'm sure it's not lost on anyone that we've tried this a couple of times. But I'm a big believer in keeping at something until you get it right. And Gary is the right man for this job," Obama said, standing with the fellow Democrat in the Indian Treaty Room at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building near the White House.

The president's two top earlier choices for the post dropped out — New Mexico Democratic Gov. Bill Richardson faced questions about a donor and Republican Sen. Judd Gregg of New Hampshire had a change of heart about working for a president from the opposite party — well before the Senate had a chance to confirm them.

Obama praised Locke, a Chinese American, as a man who shares his vision for turning around the moribund economy, and as someone who



is committed to doing what it takes to keep the American dream alive.

"Gary will be a trusted voice in my Cabinet, a tireless advocate for our economic competitiveness and an influential ambassador to American industry who will help us do everything we can, especially now, to promote our industry around the globe," Obama said.

In turn, Locke said he was committed to making the sprawling agency an "active and integral partner" in advancing Obama's economic agenda, as the agency nurtures innovation, expands global markets, protects ocean fisheries and fosters growth.

"The Department of Commerce can and will help create the jobs and the economic vitality our nation needs," Locke said.

If confirmed by the Senate, Locke would assume control of a large agency with a broad portfolio that includes overseeing many aspects of international trade, oceans policy

and the 2010 Census.

Asian American groups, including the JACL, called for swift confirmation of Locke.

"The JACL is very pleased that Gary Locke has been nominated to become the Secretary of Commerce. He is well qualified and will be a great asset to the President's Cabinet," said

Larry Oda, JACL national president.

"Gary Locke has been a great example to the Asian Pacific American community. We endorse his candidacy and encourage a swift approval for Gary Locke to fill the important position of the United States Secretary of Commerce," added Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

Locke, 59, was the nation's first Chinese American governor, serving two terms in Washington from 1997 to 2005. He currently works for the Seattle-based law firm Davis Wright Tremaine on issues involving China, energy and governmental relations.

"Over the years, I have traveled extensively with Gary, visiting Asian American communities around the country, and know that he has a nuanced understanding of ethnic, cultural, and linguistic diversity within all our communities," said Rep. Mike Honda, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus chair. ■

## National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

### Protesters Rally Against Philadelphia Casino

PHILADELPHIA—Dozens of people recently rallied against a casino planned for downtown Philadelphia, saying it will lead to gambling problems and prey on those who can least afford it.

The Foxwoods casino once slated for the South Philadelphia riverfront is now expected to be built at The Gallery mall near Chinatown.

Opponents rallied outside the Bellevue building, where both Gov. Ed Rendell and the mall's owner have offices. The protesters chanted "No slots!" and held up anti-casino signs in English and Chinese.

APA groups have been vocally opposed to the development. And the Rev. Ellis Washington, head of the 200-member Black Clergy of Philadelphia, says a casino at The Gallery is a bad idea. He says it will make gambling more accessible because the mall is also a hub for public transit.



### Construction Begins at Pearl Harbor Shipyard

HONOLULU—A \$25.5 million construction project has broken ground at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, the first of 30 projects in a major modernization plan.

The Pentagon could spend up to \$800 million on modernizing the shipyard over the next three decades to meet the needs of the Pacific Fleet. Most of the shipyard's structures were built between 1913 and 1945.

Sen. Daniel Inouye presided over the groundbreaking of the first project — permanent facilities for the distribution of water, compressed air, welding gases and other utilities to shipyard dry docks and piers.

Inouye said the modernization is important, "if we are to stay in the front lines" of the Asia-Pacific Region.

### APA Communities Get Preservation Grants

LOS ANGELES—Five APA communities will share in a \$250,000 grant aimed at preserving their history. The city's Community Redevelopment Agency will nearly match the grant.

The grant, to be shared by neighborhood groups in Little Tokyo Chinatown, Filipinotown, Koreatown, and Thai Town, comes from the National Park Service as part of a White House initiative.

It will be matched by \$211,327 in CRA funds, according to the city agency.

### Study: Diabetes Risk Higher Among APA Children

HONOLULU—A 10-year diabetes study finds that APA children in the United States have higher rates of diabetes than children in many Asian countries.

The University of Hawaii's Dr. Beatriz Rodriguez says researchers found data indicating higher rates of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

Type 2 diabetes was expected to be more common in American children because the disease is closely linked to obesity. But the causes of type 1 diabetes, an autoimmune disorder involving the pancreas that requires patients to take insulin, are less clear.

Rodriguez suspects a combination of infections at birth, toxins and early cessation of breast-feeding are responsible.

### Judge: Top Obama Officials Should Review Hmong Case

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—A federal judge has urged top Obama administration officials to decide whether to continue to pursue the case against 11 Vietnam War veterans accused of trying to overthrow the communist government of Laos.

U.S. District Judge Frank C. Damrell Jr. told prosecutors they should take the case "to the top" of the new administration before deciding whether to keep prosecuting former Laotian General Vang Pao, former U.S. Army officer Harrison Jack and nine other members of California's Hmong community.

Jack and the Hmong community leaders were accused in June 2007 of plotting to overthrow the communist Laotian government and face charges that include violating the federal Neutrality Act.

It could be another four months before prosecutors decide what charges they could face at trial. ■



## APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

### French Camp Chapter Awards Scholarship, Installs New Officers



**Stephanie Kuwahara** (pictured, left), an honors student at Tokay High School in Lodi, was the winner of the French Camp JACL's chapter scholarship award. Kuwahara was presented with the award at the chapter's annual New Year's and installation luncheon on Feb. 28.

At the same event, JACL NCWNP Gov. **Alan Nishi** installed the following slate of officers: **Dean Komure**, president; **Kent Higashiyama**, 1st vice president; **David Morinaka**, 2nd vice president; **Fumiko Asano**, treasurer; **Jeannie Matsumoto**, corresponding secretary; **Katy Komure**, recording secretary; **Kimi Morinaka**, historian; and **Hideo Morinaka**, membership.

### APALC Elects New Board Chair

Attorney **John Lim** has been elected the new chair of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center's board of directors, making him the first Korean American in the position.

Lim is a senior partner in the transactions group of Lim, Ruger & Kim LLP and specializes in real estate development and financing, representing developers, financial institutions and investment entities.

The longtime board member began working with APALC in 1992 to help Korean storeowners and families recover from the losses incurred during the Los Angeles riots.

### 2 APAs Win Engineer of the Year Awards

Northrop Grumman Corporation employees **Nora Lin** and **Harry Chen** were recently recognized for their contributions to science and engineering at the 2009 Asian American Engineer of the Year.

The awards, presented by the Chinese Institute of Engineers-USA, are given to APA professionals in academia, public service and corporate entities for their personal achievements.

Lin is a manager of supportability engineering for Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems sector in Rolling Meadows, Ill. Chen, an integrated product team manager and technical fellow for the Aerospace Systems sector, has helped the company field some of the nation's most complex antenna systems for space applications.

### Post Office is Named in Honor of Gordon N. Chan



A North San Jose post office has been named in honor of **Gordon N. Chan**, a respected community leader and agricultural pioneer who died in 2001. A plaque has been installed at the building on Lundy Avenue.

Chan, the first Chinese American president of the Santa Clara Farm Bureau, was a well-known mentor to many APA community activists and politicians. He was on the board and served as executive director of the Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI), the county's largest and oldest nonprofit agency serving APAs.

He was a member of the county planning commission and served on the county's redistricting commission. He was also the founder of the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project and Hee Shen Benevolent Association.

### NYU's Lee Wins Education Leadership Award

**Dr. Vivian S. Lee** of New York University Langone Medical Center has received the Asian Pacific Fund's 2009 Chang-Lin Tien Education Leadership Award, which honors the legacy of the first APA to head a major American research university.

As one of two recipients of this prestigious award, Lee received a \$10,000 unrestricted grant in recognition of her exceptional record of accomplishments in higher education.

Lee is the inaugural vice dean for science, senior vice-president and chief scientific officer of NYU Langone Medical Center. ■

## Hawaii Takes Land Dispute to Supreme Court

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—A congressional resolution apologizing for the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1893 does not strip the state of its authority to sell or transfer any of about 1.2 million acres of land, Hawaii Attorney General Mark Bennett told the U.S. Supreme Court Feb. 25.

Bennett and Kannon K. Shanmugam, representing the state's Office of Hawaiian Affairs, argued against each other in the state's appeal of a Hawaii state Supreme Court ruling blocking any sale of land conveyed to the state as part of the 1959 act that led to Hawaii becoming the 50th state.

After years of legal wrangling, the state court last year halted sales of the "ceded lands" until Native Hawaiian claims to those lands are put to rest.

The state court's decision, rested in part on a joint congressional resolution acknowledging and apologizing for the role that the United States played in the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii on Jan. 17, 1893.

Bennett stressed two points. First, the resolution marking the 100th anniversary of the overthrow was an apology that did not change who had proper title to the lands in question.

"It was, as the sponsor said at the time, a simple apology, and no more," Bennett said.

But he also urged the court to go a step further and confirm the state's sovereign authority over the land.



Several justices voiced a reluctance to do so.

"Why is it necessary? Why isn't it sufficient just to say that this resolution has no substantive effect, period," asked Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs sued the state to prevent it from selling some of the property in question. Speaking for the office, Shanmugam discounted the apology resolution's effect on the state court's decision. He said that state law created the fiduciary duty ensuring that interests of Native Hawaiians were properly addressed.

The state court made clear that it was relying on the apology resolution only for the acknowledgment that Native Hawaiians had unresolved claims, he said.

Ginsburg didn't seem to agree though.

She said the Hawaii Supreme

Court stated that its decision was "dictated by" the apology resolution. Those representing Native Hawaiians in the legal battle were "treating it now as sort of window dressing, icing on the cake, really didn't matter."

Shanmugam replied it was more than window dressing. The resolution confirmed the factual predicate that lands were illegally taken away. But he said the original lawsuit only focused on state law.

Ginsburg said she was concerned that the state court used the federal law as its basis for its decision, and that it used the federal law as a crutch. "What that does is it removes it from the Hawaii political process."

Some legal analysts say a ruling against the state of Hawaii could set a precedent for other native populations to make claims to lands they once inhabited. A decision in the case is not expected until June. ■

## Court Reverses Ruling Bringing 17 Chinese Muslim Detainees to U.S.

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—A U.S. appeals court reversed a ruling Feb. 18 that would have transferred 17 Guantanamo Bay detainees, none of whom are labeled enemy combatants, to the United States. The ruling casts further uncertainty on the fate of the Turkic-speaking Muslims from western China.

Because there is no evidence they plotted or fought against the United States, the government has no authority to hold them at Guantanamo Bay, but deciding what to do with the men has been a diplomatic problem for years.

The military says the men have ties to a militant group that demands separation from China. The United States will not release the Uighurs to their home for fear they will be tortured. Earlier this month, Beijing warned other countries not to accept the men, creating a potential diplomatic roadblock to President Barack Obama's plan to close the facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, within a year.

U.S. District Judge Ricardo Urbina ruled in October that, since they are not enemy combatants, the Uighurs must be released to the United States. But the U.S. Court of Appeals overturned that ruling.

Only the executive branch, not the courts, can make decisions about immigration, the appeals court said. That fact doesn't change, the court said, simply because the United States has held the men for years without charge.

"Such sentiments, however high-minded, do not represent a legal basis for upsetting settled law and overriding the prerogatives of the political branches," Judge A. Raymond Randolph wrote.

The decision has ramifications beyond the Uighurs. The Supreme Court has held that Guantanamo Bay detainees can go to court to challenge their imprisonment. The ruling, however, says a judge can hear the case but has no authority to actually free the detainees.

In ordering the Uighurs released last year, Urbina strongly rebuked the Bush administration for holding men who were not enemy combatants indefinitely, without charge.

The appeals court ruled that Urbina lacked the authority to right that wrong.

The court, made up of one Democratic and two Republican appointees, unanimously overturned Urbina's decision. But Judge Judith Rogers, who was appointed by former President Bill Clinton, wrote a separate opinion saying Urbina had the authority to release the men but only after hearing from U.S. immigration officials.

The U.S. released four Uighurs from Guantanamo Bay in 2006, sending them to Albania because it was the only country that would take them. A Swedish immigration court granted asylum to one of those men on Feb. 18. Adil Hakimjan applied for asylum in Sweden because his sister lives there. ■





[ JOHN TATEISHI ]

## FOR THE RECORD Honoring Fibber

My wife Carol and I visited Clovis recently to attend the Tri-District conference hosted this year by the CCDC. It was a Day of Remembrance conference that featured the dedication of the Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial, built on the old fairgrounds site in then-rural Clovis.

After a day of plenary session panels on the experience of being incarcerated at Pinedale, on the *coram nobis* effort, and Redress, the district hosted a tribute dinner to recognize the achievements of individuals who have contributed to the community.

One of the recipients honored that evening was Satoshi "Fibber" Hirayama, who was given the President's Medal of Distinction by Dr. John Welty, president of CSU Fresno. Hirayama was being recognized for an extraordinary career in athletics at Fresno State and his post-college career in sports.

Now get this.

A few years after the war, Fibber entered Fresno State on a football scholarship and played halfback, where he averaged five yards per carry throughout his football career at Fresno (the great Jim Brown averaged 5.2 yards over his career). As Welty put it, Fibber also decided to play baseball because the baseball season overlapped the beginning of football practice and Fibber could thus escape the early summer workouts with the football team!

He didn't just play baseball. He set records all over the place: 76 stolen bases in one season, with 5 stolen in one game. (Neither Rickey Henderson nor Lou Brock ever did that). He was twice All-Conference, and in 1950, led the league with a .420 batting average. For those unfamiliar with batting averages, hitting .400 is so rare that it's beyond the stratosphere in baseball terms. And baseball wasn't even Fibber's chosen sport!

He was such an exceptional athlete that he was signed by the St. Louis Browns and played for their Stockton farm team (where he hit .409) until he was drafted into the Army. He played professional baseball in Japan for 10 years and made the All-Star team twice. Fibber was profiled in the Aug. 4, 1958, issue of *Sports Illustrated*.

He's been described as, "pound-for-pound the greatest athlete to ever come out of Fresno State." And that's quite an achievement when you consider that Fresno State is often nationally ranked in both its football and baseball programs.

The thing about Fibber is that he's a small guy. You'd think that the best halfback ever to come out of a really good football program like Fresno State's would be some big, beefy no-neck guy with tree trunks for thighs. Not Hirayama. He was 5'3" and played at 140 pounds. Okay, granted that guys like Eddie LeBaron and Doak Walker, both also considered small of stature, could play pro football in those days, but they were exceptions.

I grew up with twins Mike and Marlin McKeever, who were both two-year All Americans at USC and played linebacker for the L.A. Rams. Those guys were huge and would pulverize anyone who got in their way, even in sandlot football games. These are the kinds of guys Fibber ran against. I always tried to make sure I was on Mike and Marlin's teams when we chose sides at the playground because small but fast isn't nearly good enough against guys who were as ferocious as they.

I had a chance to talk very briefly with Fibber after the dinner and told him how impressed I was with his many achievements, especially with his .420 batting average. His response was, "Well, you know how they like to exaggerate those things."

As I listened to Dr. Welty read off Fibber's many athletic feats and his other contributions to the Fresno community, I kept thinking of how fearless someone his size had to be against the big bruisers whose one goal was to crush him. For me, it characterized something about the Nisei. I was reminded of the White House ceremony when President Clinton presented Medals of Honor to 21 Nisei vets. Clinton towered over each of the vets, and as their citations were read, I kept thinking about how these Nisei summoned up such enormous courage to do what they did and thinking that stature isn't measured in how big one is but by the size of one's courage and heart. The same can be said about Fibber.

This humble and remarkable man has accomplished so much in his life but is clearly self-conscious about being given the recognition he so deserves. Like so many people who truly achieve great things, he doesn't have to tell you about them.

You have to like that about Fibber. ■

John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.



[ YUMI SAKUGAWA ]

## MEMOIRS OF A NON-GEISHA One Identity

My roommate has gone through many identities in her lifetime.

I first met her in December when I was looking for an affordable living situation in Los Angeles. Out of all the potential roommates I met, the empty room in her two-bedroom apartment seemed the most inviting, and also the most affordable. Though she was 61 years old and I had never lived with a stranger who wasn't my age, I moved into her apartment the very next day.

From our first meeting, I assumed she was a light-skinned woman with Middle-Eastern origins. It was clear from the *hijab* that covered her hair and the copy of the Koran she had on her coffee table that she was a devout Muslim woman. It wasn't until after I moved in that I realized this assumption was completely wrong.

Beneath her *hijab* and conservative dress, my roommate was a Caucasian woman born in Indiana, once raised in a fundamentalist Christian home. She officially converted to the Islamic faith 10 years ago, and now began her multiple daily prayers from the crack of dawn. She no longer went by her American legal name, and instead, signed her e-mails and introduced herself to people by the Muslim name given to her by her Sufi teacher.

In the following weeks, a friendship grew between us as I learned more and more about her life. This usually happened when I was preparing breakfast in the kitchen, or enjoying a cup of tea after work. She would wander into the common room, and somehow our conversation about the day would meander into stories from the many lives she had lead within her lifetime.

Some days, I listened to what it was like growing up in a farm in Indiana. Another time, I listened to how she once lived on a hippie commune with her hippie friends, and unofficially adopted a neighborhood autistic boy until his emotionally abusive mother took him back and disappeared from her life forever. I heard stories about counseling Muslim women prisoners, her

mother's funeral, her spontaneous decision to drop out of college to move to New York.

It would be an understatement to say that my roommate had lived a colorful life. She had been a Christian, a hippie, a daughter, a wife. A devout Obama supporter, she had grown up in an era when her father's black friend wasn't even allowed to step inside their white family home. Once married to a black Buddhist artist, she was a mother to two grown biracial children, and a grandmother to a baby girl in Hawaii.

Now at 61-years-old, my roommate was a peacemaker. These days, she spent nearly all of her free time doing interfaith work — building bridges and organizing events between different religious groups in Los Angeles.

Hearing the different transformations my roommate had undergone within her life makes me wonder what transformation awaited me, a second-generation Japanese American woman, in this new chapter of my life. Though I still valued my Japanese heritage, I no longer felt as compelled to explore my Asian American roots with the same fervor as I did when I was a college student at UCLA.

What new identity would I discover within myself next? And how

would I use this new identity to help others?

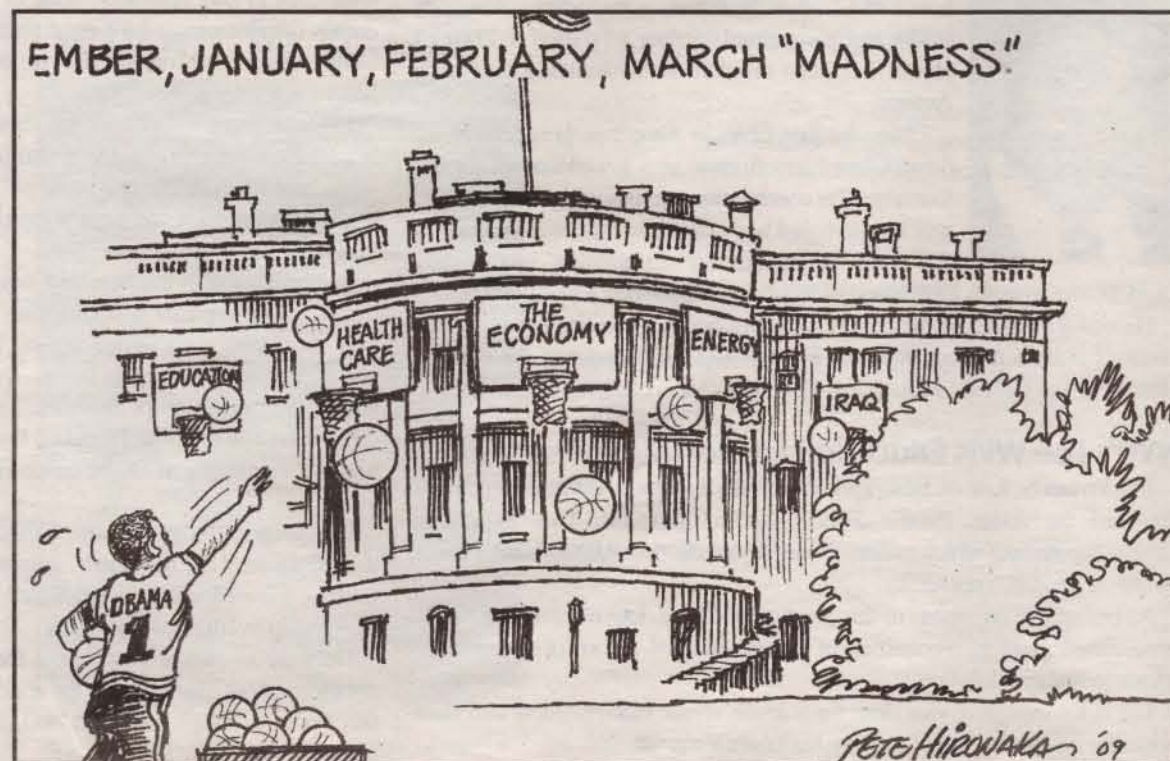
Last week, my roommate held a group meditation session in our living room. Seven women sat in chairs in a circle in the darkness of our apartment, lit only by a single candle and a lamp.

For an hour and a half, we meditated to our own breathing, to my roommate's guided words, to the eerie and beautiful echo that vibrated from a metal singing bowl. Though we were all of different ages, ethnic backgrounds and religions, we were all sitting together that evening for similar reasons. We wanted peace for ourselves, our loved ones and the world.

For one brief evening, all of our individual and differing identities were besides the point. ■

Yumi Sakugawa writes from Los Angeles.

*'Beneath her hijab and conservative dress, my roommate was a Caucasian woman born in Indiana, once raised in a fundamentalist Christian home.'*

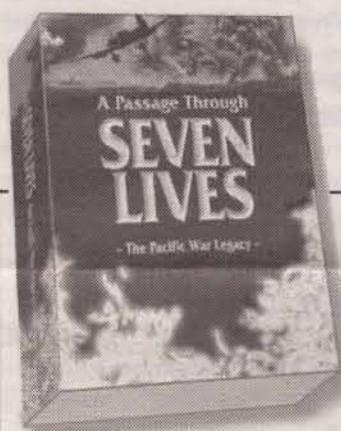
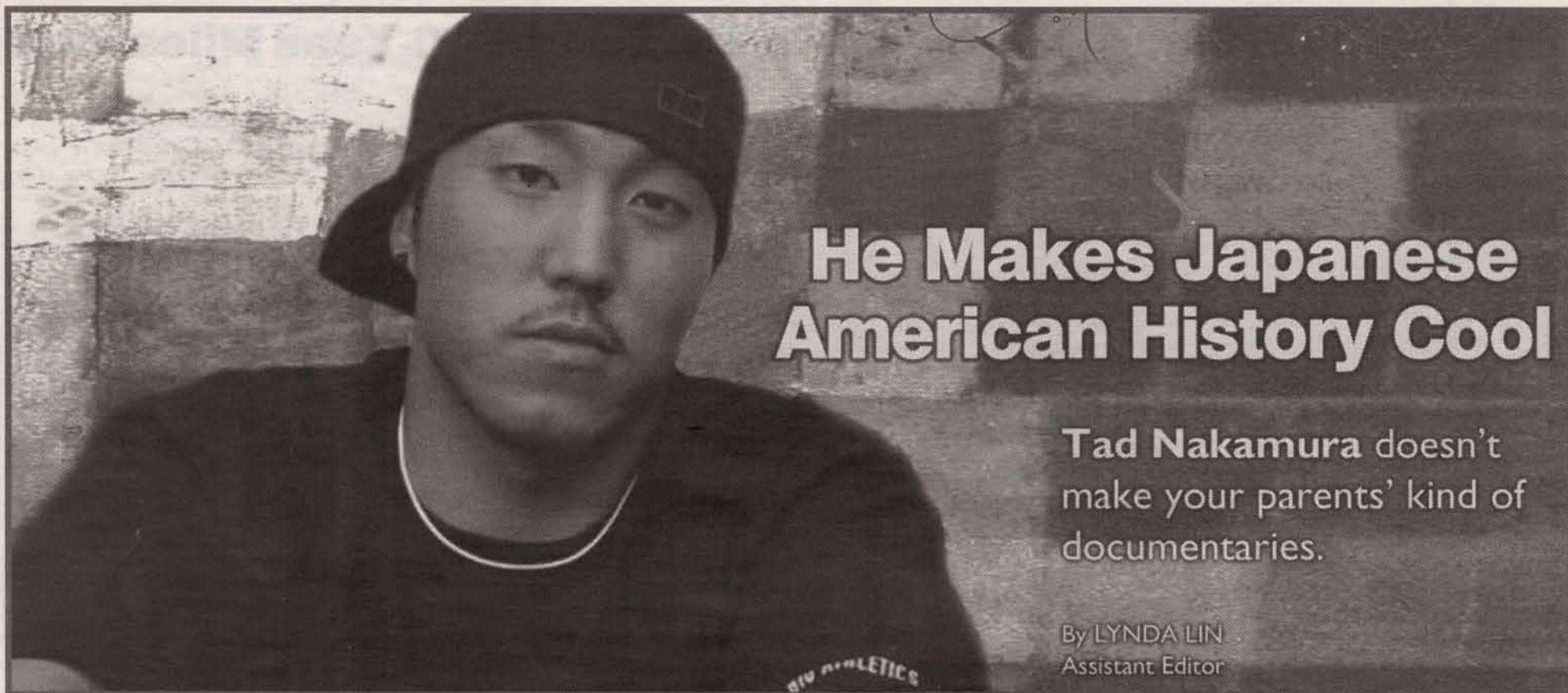




# He Makes Japanese American History Cool

Tad Nakamura doesn't make your parents' kind of documentaries.

By LYNDA LIN  
Assistant Editor



## 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**  
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by KYO TAKAHASHI

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Days before the world premiere of "A Song for Ourselves," Tad Nakamura's cell phone is blowing up.

His short documentary on the late singer and activist Chris Iijima has sold out at Little Tokyo's Japanese American Cultural & Community Center. And friends who have waited to the last minute to request tickets have been mostly greeted with Tad's automated voice message.

"I guess it's a good problem to have."

Something about "A Song for Ourselves," Tad's third in an impressive trilogy of short films about the Japanese American community, has touched a nerve. You could argue that it's the film's larger-than-life subject or the powerful black and white images of Chris' face twisted with emotions in front of a microphone. Or you could say it's all the above factors in the hands of a young filmmaker who's somehow managing to make history cool.

"That's been the goal all along," said Tad, 28, whose previous work includes last year's "Pilgrimage," a critically acclaimed documentary about the JA World War II internment set to the unlikely music of Portishead.

"I can reintroduce these parts of history to a younger audience that [other filmmakers] can't."

Highlights of the Feb. 28 premiere of "A Song for Ourselves" included live performances from Kiwi and Bambu, independent Asian Pacific American hip-hop artists whose names would likely draw puzzled looks from most Nisei and Sansei.

But a free mix tape of the hip hop artists' original songs praising Chris' legacy obviously spoke to the core, new media-savvy audience. Since the mix tape was made available online as an early promotion for the film's premiere, it has been downloaded over 1,800 times.

And in the historical documentary genre dominated by college professors, Tad's penchant to be photographed wearing "wifebeaters," (a slang for men's sleeveless undershirts) sets him a bit outside of the norm. It's not to say the Yonsei lacks scholarly chops — he has a Master's degree in social documentation from the University of California, Santa Cruz and is now applying for film school in Los Angeles.

But it is to say that Tad doesn't make your parents' kind of documentaries. And in more ways than one, it aligns the filmmaker with his "A Song for Ourselves" subject.

"He had the cool factor," said Tad about Chris, a family friend. "The Chris that I knew was intelligent and critical. He was always asking me about my views. He was always interested in young peoples' perspective."

In the 1970s when race was seen as purely a black and white issue, Chris and his band members injected Asian America into the dialogue with



Tad (far right) and his dad Robert Nakamura filmed Chris Iijima (left) six months before his passing.

politically conscious songs from their 1973 album "A Grain of Sand." Along with the protests, rallies and the fight for university-level Ethnic Studies programs, Chris was there seemingly every step of the way empowering his people with music.

His activism made him friends with Tad's parents, Robert Nakamura and Karen Ishizuka, who are both filmmakers and community leaders in their own rights. Tad had listened to "A Grain of Sand" as a kid, but rediscovered it years later when he was going through his own political awakening in college at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"By that time, I was hungry for it. There was a whole new significance behind it."

In 2005, Chris, then a law professor at the University of Hawaii, a husband and father, was losing the battle against a rare blood disease. Six months before his death, Tad and his parents

boarded an airplane to Hawaii.

"He'd been sick for many years and he wasn't getting better," said Tad. "We wanted to get his story on tape just in case."

They asked him to talk about the early Asian American movement. Tad was behind the camera and his parents did the interview.

"He gave a three-hour interview while hooked up to an IV [line]. That was what impressed me the most. It was one of the most vibrant interviews I've ever done and he was dying."

Footage from the interview was used at Chris' memorial service — the film grew from there.

"A Song for Ourselves," marks the first time Tad has made a biography. In the film, the lines are blurred between Chris' life and the Asian American movement, mainly because Chris was so embedded in it.

"It's Chris' life you see in the movement."

The film also gives an inside look of Chris as a man, as evident by the people he left behind. Both his young sons are musicians.

"They had never seen some of the old photos of their dad. They knew their dad as the law professor," said Tad. He showed them the film's final cut. As soon as he pushed "play," Chris' voice filled the room.

"They were excited to hear their dad's voice again," said Tad. "The goal was to provide something for them to help with the healing process."

He pauses to search for the next word. And then makes a statement that seems to signify the exchange of batons from one former youth leader to another up-and-coming one.

"I made these films for the community." ■

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# Ultrarunner Gloria Takagishi to Celebrate 30-Year Milestone

**This April she will become the only runner to compete in each of the 30 American River 50-Mile Runs. At 63, she shows little sign of slowing down.**

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM  
Executive Editor

Gloria Takagishi, 63, has a way of making others feel really lazy. Her idea of a weekend workout is to run 20 miles. As a challenge, she enters ultramarathons, events with intimidating distances of 50 and 100 miles.

This year Gloria will be celebrating a remarkable milestone. In April, she will become the only ultrarunner to have run in each of the 30 American River 50-Mile Runs (AR50), an event that has been held annually since 1980.

It's an accomplishment Gloria quietly but proudly acknowledges.

"Ultramarathoning, for people like me, you get a sense of accomplishment that you can do something that is long and hard," said Gloria who is set to return to the AR50, an ultramarathon that will start in her hometown of Sacramento and take her to Auburn, a distance most of us would consider long while driving in our cars.

"I'm competing against myself, not against everyone else. I'm at peace when I'm out on the trails."

In addition to her weekend workouts, Gloria works out a few times a week, sometimes waking up at 4 a.m. so she can get her run in before heading off to her full-time job as a state employee with the Department of Technology. Twice a week, her husband Ken rides his bike to join her in her early morning workouts.

"She's not very athletic but it's something she could accomplish that not many others can do," said Ken, 62, who has supported his wife's interest in ultrarunning from the beginning. "She's not fast but she has endurance."

Gloria, a Sansei, first started running in 1978 as a way to get in better shape. She started running around her neighborhood and soon joined a group of local women runners on regular runs.

She started off with slower distances and in 1979 she entered her first marathon (26.2 miles). But by 1980 a friend had convinced her to try her first ultramarathon, the AR50, and she was hooked.

Now 30 years later Gloria has run in close to 130 ultramarathons.

"When my mother started running, I think my dad and I thought it was just going to be a fad for her and that she would soon try something else," said son Curtis, 43, a clinical psychologist in Tampa, Florida who has attended some of his mom's 50 and 100-mile runs. "Thirty years later I am amazed that she is still running such long distances."

He adds, "I am always impressed because sometimes I do not even like driving 50 or 100 miles and she spends her time running that same distance."

For Gloria, ultramarathons have provided the perfect opportunity to see parts of the country she may never have had the chance to see. She's run a 50-miler in Chicago, three 50-milers in Vermont and she competed in the New



Gloria Takagishi and her two grandkids Alexandra, 8, and Sabrina, 6, take in the Disney marathon in Orlando, Florida.

York Marathon in 1998. Two years ago she ran a 15-K run at Disney World in Orlando where her two grandkids Alexandra, 8, and Sabrina, 6, joined her in their own 1-K kids run.

At 5 feet 2 inches and 119 pounds, Gloria is far from your intimidating muscle bound athlete. But it's her drive and determination that keeps her going on those seemingly endless trails mile after mile.

Although she has run a 3 hour, 36 minute marathon in the past, nowadays she goes at a slower pace with the goal of finishing, something she almost always manages to do.

"It's what you set your mind out to do before the race. Your goal is to get it done. You know how far you need to go," she said. "I see it as a challenge. I wouldn't go out there if I wasn't positive about it."

But as Gloria tries to explain the drive of an ultrarunner, she acknowledges that only her fellow ultramarathoners can truly understand where she is coming from.

So it's no surprise that many of her closest friends are also ultrarunners and training partners.

"I think Gloria is a very goal oriented person, as most ultrarunners are. I think she takes great pride in her ability to run the ultras and to finish them," said Nancy March, 62, an ultrarunner who has known Gloria for 30 years. "She is not one of the faster runners, but she certainly has a very dedicated personality which is necessary in order to complete them."

With all her running commitments, Gloria still finds time for volunteering. She's a treasurer for the Junior League of Sacramento and for the past several years she's volunteered for The Western States 100-Mile Run helping cook breakfast for 600 runners at 4 a.m. Scrapbooking, knitting and puzzles are some of her hobbies and each year she makes sure she visits her grandkids in Florida a few times.

"I'm a pretty regimented person. I'm a planner so I can usually plan my weeks and days out."

On April 4, Gloria will wake up before the crack of dawn and place her sneakers on the starting line at 6 a.m. with the goal of finishing the AR50. If successful, she will become the only person to have finished the race in each of the 30 years of the event.

As always, her husband Ken will be crewing her, meeting her at stops along the route to provide water, food and moral support. He'll also be waiting for her at the finish line to celebrate a notable milestone.

"She's pretty stubborn headed," chuckles Ken when asked about his wife's ability to compete in these tough races. But he quickly adds: "She's very dedicated. It's one of her assets."

At 63, Gloria has no immediate plans to slow down. In March she will also run in the Way Too Cool 50-K run, an event she has competed in every year for the past 19 years.

"I think Gloria will continue to run as long as her body allows," said Bridget Powers, a friend and ultrarunner. "I see that as a very long time from now. She will be 80 and still running. I hope to be running right along side her."

"She is my inspiration and a hero to me for all she has done."

"This is a really awesome accomplishment, that she can do this consistently year after year, avoiding sickness or injury enough to always finish," said Mark Tanaka, a fellow ultrarunner who has competed in the AR50 four times. "I've been running ultramarathons for only six years. If I'm still able to finish these races 25 years from now, I'll be very happy."

And you may still see Gloria running along the trails 25 years from now. Not only are there a number of fellow ultrarunners in their 60s and 70s, one of her close friends is still doing ultramarathons at the age of 86.

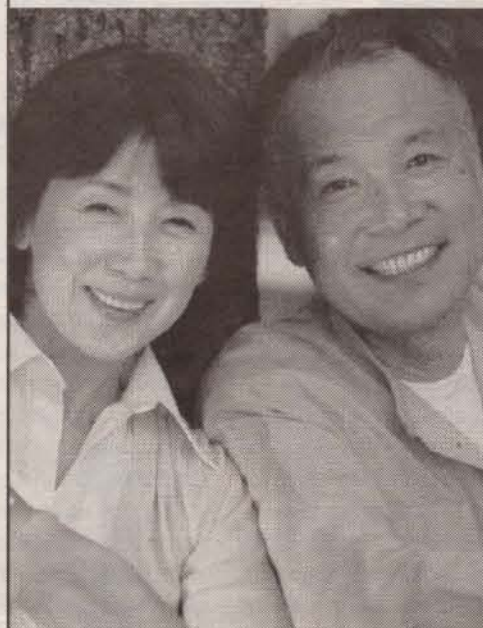
"The key is to go out there and not give up," she said. "You can do almost anything if you set your mind to it." ■

For more information:  
[www.run100s.com/AR50/](http://www.run100s.com/AR50/)



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# DOR Events Commemorate Unjust WWII Internment

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

PHILADELPHIA—Kristine Minami was in college before she learned that her father, grandmother and uncle had been essentially jailed by the U.S. government for the crime of being Japanese American.

The detention of 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II was not discussed in Minami's household. She learned about it in the 1980s through the National Day of Remembrance, which was observed around America on Feb. 19.

The discovery led Minami to greater understanding of her culture — and herself. Many hope the Day of Remembrance will also lead to greater understanding that Americans come in all types of packages.

"It got me more interested in my history and my roots," said Minami, who grew up in Maryland with a Japanese father and white mother, and says her Asian American heritage is not immediately apparent.

"I learned about being Japanese," said Minami, 40, who ended up writing her senior thesis about the effects of the internment. "It led me down the path to my identity."

Executive Order 9066 was signed

by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on Feb. 19, 1942, giving the government power to uproot entire innocent communities due to fears of "sabotage and espionage."

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed a law that apologized and paid \$20,000 to each survivor.

"We have this shared history," said Bonnie Clark, an assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Denver who is excavating materials from a former internment camp. The artifacts were displayed during the university's remembrance program.

"The internment is very much a Japanese American story, but it's all of our stories," Clark said. "It's about the decisions we have to make as a populace, holding our politicians responsible for their behavior, understanding that we all come to the table with these different traditions and trying to balance out a vision for ourselves."

The remembrance also serves as a sort of conscience, a reminder of the balance between security and civil rights in the era of global terrorism, Guantanamo Bay and expanded government wiretapping.

"It shows the fragile nature of our civil and constitutional rights, and the importance of holding people

accountable and remaining vigilant," said Gordon Aoyagi, a board member of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, which held a panel discussion in Washington, D.C. on Feb. 19 to mark the occasion.

The California State Legislature recognized the Day of Remembrance with the passage of Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 21 on Feb. 23, presented by Assemblymembers Mariko Yamada, D-Davis, and Warren Furutani, D-Long Beach.

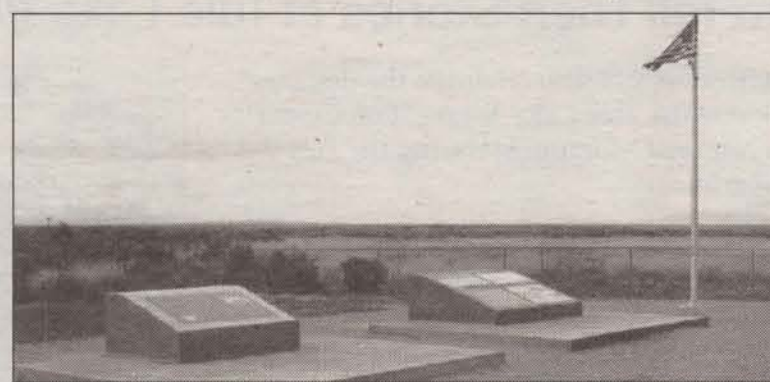
"By carrying this resolution, we revisit the implications of the suspension of constitutional rights and work towards the goal of a more just society for all," said Yamada in a statement.

For Mary Murakami, who spent three years in a detention camp, the day represents something simple.

"It shows that it did happen," said Murakami, now 82.

Murakami was 14 when she saw a notice posted on a telephone pole outside her San Francisco home saying that all Japanese families would be "evacuated" and taken to camps.

Her parents, fearful that they would be separated from their children, took a portrait of themselves and gave a copy to each child.



More than 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were interned at various internment camps during WWII, including Topaz (above).

Murakami still has the photo.

Families were told to take only what they could carry. The Murakamis and other families stored their belongings in their church, but thieves soon broke the door down and ransacked the storage room.

Murakami lived with her family behind barbed wire at a camp on a dry Utah lake bed. Instead of sharing family meals, they ate in a mess hall. Toilet stalls faced each other and had no doors. She slept on an Army cot, the family's single room warmed by a potbellied stove.

In 1943 the government decided to test the loyalty of the detainees with a questionnaire, Murakami remembers. One of the questions was, "Would you be willing to serve

in the U.S. Army?" Her brother answered "yes" and was drafted out of the detention camp.

After three years of confinement, Murakami's family was released. They were given \$25 each to start over.

Today, Murakami shows little bitterness over this history, just a determination that it not be forgotten.

"We don't want it to happen ever again," she said.

Minami calls the internment saga "a really powerful story about democracy."

"It's an ugly part of American history, but it's important for people to know," she said. "Because of that ugly chapter, we had a renewal of the American democracy." ■

## COMMENTARY

### Plan Now to Take a Bite Out of Your 2009 Tax Bill

By STEVE OKAMOTO



As many Americans engage in writing big checks for their 2008 tax bills, it may be time to look for ways to avoid the same pain again next April. One strategy may substantially reduce your income taxes — charitable planned giving.

This approach makes it possible to make a tax-deductible gift to a charity while retaining the right to use the asset or to

derive income, or payments, from it. The most popular vehicles are bequests, charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts.

Through charitable planned giving it is possible to:

- Minimize taxation on individual retirement accounts or other pension plans.
- Turn highly appreciated property into income through charitable remainder trusts while removing assets from the estate. This eliminates payment of capital-gains taxes and federal estate taxes (which combined can add up to 55 percent).
- Gain more income-tax deductions and eliminate capital-gains taxes on cash, securities, real estate, collectibles, insurance and personal property.

Charitable planned giving, which pays large dividends for millions of taxpayers each year, is encouraged by federal and state governments. Our lawmakers have protected and enhanced provisions in the tax code that encourage charitable giving because it supports the important work nonprofit organizations like the JACL do for individuals and communities across the United States.

A carefully conceived charitable gift plan can help taxpayers win in at least three ways in 2009. It can reduce taxes, generate income, and provide crucial support for

an important cause.

For those who enjoy giving to charity, you may want to look at the amount and timing of your gifts in order to maximize tax savings and income production this year. After all, charitable deductions as a method of reducing taxes are totally within your control.

Did you know that you're allowed — encouraged — to deduct up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income to a fully accredited charity with the IRS 501(c)(3) designation? A family with an income of \$100,000 would be allowed to deduct \$50,000, which means tremendous tax savings.



If more than 50 percent of your adjusted gross income is given to charity this year, you can carry the excess over for five additional years.

In addition to cash, the IRS allows tax deductions for gifts of appreciated property, including real estate and securities (stocks, bonds, and mutual funds). Investments that have decreased in value during the recent economic and stock market downturn can be sold with cash proceeds being donated to charity. This could create a double deduction — the capital loss and the cash donation. In some situations the combination of deductible loss and charitable deduction may result in a total deduction more than the current value of the investment.

In my experience with charitable planned giving, tax savings and other financial advantages of charitable planning loom especially large for older Americans.

Begin planning now for charitable giving this year so that you can make decisions deliberately and wisely. I urge you to consult with a professional advisor — an accountant, estate attorney, or stockbroker, for example — before finalizing decisions. ■

Steve Okamoto is the chair of the JACL planned giving committee and the director of estate and asset services with the American Cancer Society, Inc.

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## "No-nos" and Those Who Renounced Encouraged to Tell Their Stories at Tule Lake Pilgrimage

Attendees will also celebrate the designation of the Tule Lake Segregation Center as a National Monument during the July 2-5 pilgrimage.

"No-nos" and those who renounced their U.S. citizenship during World War II are being encouraged to attend this year's Tule Lake Pilgrimage so they can share their stories of courage and be heard by those who may still be unfamiliar with their legacy.

This year's July 2 to 5 pilgrimage will vary with tradition and take place during an odd year. It will also be a time for attendees to celebrate the Tule Lake Segregation Center's recent designation as a National Monument.

"The people who protested their incarceration and were segregated at Tule Lake are the core of what the Tule Lake Segregation Center was all about," said pilgrimage chair Hiroshi Shimizu. "We want to know why they took the risk of protesting the loyalty questions, especially because these stories have not been heard or validated much."

As always, former Tule Lake internees 80 years and older will be offered free registration to the pilgrimage.

Mamoru "Mori" Tanimoto, age 88, plans to be there. Tanimoto hopes to see the Civilian Conservation Corps camp where he was imprisoned, before segregation, with over 100 others who protested the flawed loyalty questions that the Army used to distinguish the "loyal" from the "disloyal."

"I would do it again. Guess I'm just hardheaded. I'd be more hard-headed next time because I know what the rules are on that," he said, referring to the fact they were never charged with a crime. "We were protesting [because] we weren't being treated like American citizens."

For the six decades since WWII, Tule Lake has been stigmatized as the camp for "troublemakers" and "bad" and "disloyal" people, a carryover of the government's loyal/disloyal paradigm forced on Japanese Americans. That stigma contributed to a post-war suppression of stories of protest in the camps, said Shimizu.

"Stories about legitimate and courageous acts of grass-



roots civil disobedience were shunned in favor of stories that enhanced an image of Japanese American loyalty and cooperation," he said. "Sadly, the 'disloyal' stigma remains so pervasive that the Nisei who refused to cooperate with the government's demand to prove loyalty don't want to talk about it."

Added Shimizu, "Now that Tule Lake Segregation Center is a National Monument, perhaps it's time to start talking openly about what happened to the 12,000 courageous Japanese Americans who responded to the injustice of mass incarceration with protest and resistance." ■

### 2009 Tule Lake Pilgrimage

**Date:** July 2 to 5

**Registration:** \$395 per person; \$325 for students and those on fixed incomes (Registration fees waived for former Tule Lake internees 80 and older)

**Deadline:** May 15; afterwards registration goes up to \$450

**Registration forms:** [www.tulelake.org](http://www.tulelake.org)

**For more information:** Hiroshi Shimizu, [hshimizu@pacbell.net](mailto:hshimizu@pacbell.net), 415/566-2279 (S.F.); Jimi Yamaichi, [jyamaichi@att.net](mailto:jyamaichi@att.net), 408/269-9458 (San Jose); Grace Kajita, [tulelake@att.net](mailto:tulelake@att.net), 916/392-5416 (Sacramento); Stan Shikuma, [sktaikol@mac.com](mailto:sktaikol@mac.com), 206/919-1465 (Seattle); Soji Kashiwagi, [soji910@msn.com](mailto:soji910@msn.com), 626/351-1073 (Los Angeles); Sachiko Takita, [stakita@yokohama-cu.ac.jp](mailto:stakita@yokohama-cu.ac.jp), 045/787-2099 (Japan)

## Amache Reunion Set For Las Vegas

It could be the last chance to catch up with old friends who lived a few barracks over. The Amache Historical Society is hosting its final large reunion of former camp internees from May 4 to 6 in Las Vegas.

The three-day and two-night reunion will be held at Downtown Las Vegas' Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino. For \$125 each, participants will enjoy buffet dinners and other activities. Room rates are \$45 per night.

At the event, a designated hospitality room, filled with exhibits and memorabilia of Amache, will be open for old friends to get together.

When Amache closed its doors in 1945, families moved and resettled all over the country. Over the years, the reunion has provided for many a rare opportunity to share both good and bad memories of their lives behind barbed wire.

A charter bus has been contracted to pick up participants from three locations in the Los Angeles area: the Venice Japanese Community Center, the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, and the San Gabriel Japanese Cultural and Community Center.

Amache was one of 10 camps built by the War Relocation Authority to incarcerate Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants, most from California, during World War II. At its peak, Amache held more than 7,500



internees and was the 10th-largest community in Colorado. ■

### '09 Amache Reunion

**May 4-6**

Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino in Downtown Las Vegas

\$125 and \$45 per night room rate

Space is limited!

**For more information:** Irene Furuya 626/791-0547 or [mfuruya82@gmail.com](mailto:mfuruya82@gmail.com); Min Tonai 818/591-1269 or [tonaim@pacbell.net](mailto:tonaim@pacbell.net).

## VFW Reunion Brings Together Nisei Veterans



Vietnam war veteran Judge Vincent Okamoto (left) and MOH winner Hershey Miyamura catch up with each other at the reunion.

War heroes, their friends, and family members recently rendezvoused at a Holiday Inn. They swapped stories and caught up with old friends during the 59th Annual Nisei Veterans of Foreign Wars Reunion held Feb. 13-15 in La Mirada, Calif.

Two Medal of Honor recipients George "Joe" Sakato, E Company, 442nd, and Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura, H Company, 7th Regiment, 3rd Division, greeted friends and autographed books.

The Hon. Vincent H. Okamoto, considered the most highly decorated Nisei in the Vietnam War, was on hand to sell and autograph his new book, "Wolfhound Samurai."

The reunion allowed aging World War II veterans the opportunity to recount stories of heroism.

The general chairman of the reunion was Robert M. Wada of the Kazuo Masuda Memorial VFW Post 3670. Others posts which jointly hosted the reunion were: Gardena Nisei Memorial VFW Post 1961, San Fernando Valley VFW Post 4140, East Los Angeles Nisei Memorial VFW Post 9902 and Los Angeles Memorial VFW Post 9938.

JACL National Director Floyd Mori, who is a former U.S. Army reservist during peacetime, said it was an honor to be among heroes.

"The entire Japanese American community owes these brave individuals a debt of gratitude for all they did to make life better for all of us. The courage, sacrifice, and loyalty they exhibited during extremely difficult times of war are exemplary and admirable," said Mori. ■

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**Oct. 3-16** Exotic China (New Tour Date)

**Oct. 9-22** Korea Highlights & Drama/Movie Tour (New Tour Date)

**Oct. 22-** Autumn Japan "Fall Highlights"

**Nov. 1**

**Nov. 3-13** The Best of Kyushu

**Nov. 8-16** Train Adventure through Copper Canyon (New Tour)

**Dec. 1-3** Christmas in Las Vegas: Shows: TBA

**Dec. 5-14** South America Escape "Rio de Janeiro, Iguassu Falls, Buenos Aires"

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## Topaz Museum Hires Architectural Firm



(L-r) Shah Kawasaki associate Michael Britt, Topaz Board members Steve Koga and Scott Bassett, Mayor Gayle Bunker, architect Alan Kawasaki, and Topaz Museum Board members Jane Beckwith, Susan Stefanoff, and Lorlei Draper recently discussed the design of the Museum Complex.

The Topaz Museum Board has hired the firm Shah Kawasaki Architects of Oakland to design its museum, with Alan Kawasaki as lead designer.

Kawasaki will design a museum complex which will be located on Main Street in Delta, Utah, 16 miles from the Topaz site. The construction of the museum will proceed in phases beginning with the preliminary design of the building.

Kawasaki's mother's family, the Hayashidas, lived on Topaz Block 7 during the internment.

The Topaz site was named a National Historic Landmark in 2007. The Museum Board, which owns 626 acres of the 640 acre site, will begin working with the National Park Service to write a management plan that will guide the board in how to protect and interpret the site.

This coming spring, The Topaz Museum Board plans to sponsor informational meetings to show the museum plans and talk about the three phases of the plan.

In addition to the architect, the board will hire another Oakland firm, West Office Exhibition Design, Andy Kramer, principal, as the exhibit interpretive designer. Lisa Ferrier and Julie Min will also be part of the design team.

Two other museums in the Delta area will have space in the museum complex: the Great Basin Museum and the Daughters of Utah Pioneers. Delta City will also partner with the Topaz Museum in building the complex. ■

## Scholarships Honor WWII Vet Eiro Yamada

College-bound high school seniors, undergraduate and graduate students who are descendants of World War II Japanese American veterans are invited to apply for the Eiro Yamada Memorial Scholarship, it was announced recently by the Go For Broke National Education Center. The application deadline is April 6.

Established by the Yamada-Scott Family Foundation, the program honors the memory of the late Eiro Yamada, who was attending the University of Hawaii when WWII erupted. Yamada went on to serve with distinction in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Europe and was subsequently transferred to serve with the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific. After the war, he devoted his life to his family and to helping others.

Applicants must be direct descendants of those JAs who served during WWII in any military unit. In addition, direct descendants of non-JAs who served in the 100th Infantry Battalion Separate, 442nd RCT, MIS and 1399th Engineers may apply. Descendants



who are once removed, such as a grandniece or grandnephew, are also eligible to apply if the qualifying military personnel was killed in action.

Although there is no residency or grade point requirement, students will be asked to submit an essay on a topic relative to the JA wartime experience. Previous scholarship recipients and applicants are eligible to re-apply. Scholarship amounts range from \$500 to \$1,000.

Applications and scholarship information are available online at [www.goforbroke.org](http://www.goforbroke.org) or may be obtained by emailing [cayleen@goforbroke.org](mailto:cayleen@goforbroke.org) or by phone to Julia Tominaga at 310/222-5710. ■

## MORI

(Continued from page 2)

Yokota, Kamal Abu-Shamsieh and Joanne Kagiwada. Another panel about the internment was moderated by Dr. Lane Hirabayashi with panel members Dr. James Hirabayashi, Kiyo Sato, Rev. Saburo Masada and Marielle Tsukamoto.

Jeanette Ishii served as emcee for the Saturday evening dinner at which a number of people were honored. Her husband, Judge Tony Ishii, escorted the honorable Mineta to the various events. Many local dignitaries were present including Congressman Jim Costa.

John Tagami, a member of the Washington, D.C. chapter, came from Virginia to speak about the role of the WWII veterans. His brother, Randy, drove up from Riverside. Their father, who is featured on one of the storyboards at the Pinedale Memorial, was a member of the Military Intelligence Service and was a translator for General Douglas MacArthur. He was born in Selma which is just south of Fresno, but this was the first visit to the area for his two sons.

Dr. John Welty, President of California State University, Fresno, presented the President's

Medal of Distinction Award to Satoshi (Fibber) Hirayama, who was a star athlete in football and baseball at Fresno State College, setting records which have stood for more than 40 years.

The Spirit of Pinedale Award was presented to Ambassador Phillip V. Sanchez, and the Spirit of Education Award was presented to Dr. Peter G. Mehas. The Spirit of Justice Award was given to Dale Minami, Don Tamaki, Professor Lorraine Bannai, Karen Kai and Robert Rusky. The Spirit of Public Service Award was presented to Sen. Daniel K. Inouye and accepted by Mineta, who received the award last year.

It was wet and cold through the dedication ceremonies for the Pinedale Remembrance Plaza on Monday morning, but the rain subsided just in time for the ribbon cutting ceremony. Mineta gave an eloquent keynote speech.

It is very gratifying to see so many dedicated members of the JACL who are working for the good of the JACL and their fellow men. The JACL is an important organization which has accomplished great things and deserves to continue on way into the future. ■

## KURODA

(Continued from page 2)

different side of the Middle East — one of peace and prosperity. It gave me hope of what Iraq could become. It was also during my tour in Bahrain that I had the opportunity to assist our office in Naples. My time in Italy allowed me to learn more about my granduncle. Since my arrival, I've been pouring over books and movies that chronicle life in Italy during WWII.

The culmination of my research came during a recent trip to Monte Cassino. It was here in January 1944 that my granduncle gave his life in hopes of driving out the Germans entrenched behind the ancient walls of the Abbey of Monte Cassino. Approaching the mountain, I was amazed to see just how steep it was. The thought of scaling the mountain

with full battle gear while under fire was incomprehensible. I'm proud that six decades later I could carry a Hawaiian flag to the peak of Monte Cassino in his honor.

As I emerge from the darkness of subterranean Naples, I return to the present day where the city is alive and explodes with a type of passion that can only be found in Naples. Thanks to the efforts of brave men like my granduncle and the countless others who landed ashore in Southern Italy, I am able to experience the paradox that is everyday life in Naples.

I am humbled by the sacrifice of the veterans who have served before me and am proud to be part of their legacy of military service. ■

*Lt. Janelle Kuroda is a member of the U.S. Navy's Judge Advocate General's Corps.*

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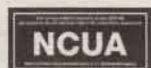
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# Calendar

## East

### PHILADELPHIA

**Sat., Mar. 28**—Philadelphia JACL Installation and Graduate Recognition Luncheon; noon; Maggiano's, 205 Mall Blvd., King of Prussia; speaker is Prof. Eric Muller, author of "American Inquisition: the Hunt for JA Disloyalty in WWII"; RSVP by Mar. 22; \$40/members, \$45/non-members, \$20/children. Info: Toshi Abe, 609/683-9489 or Scott Nakamura, 610/878-2237.

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

**Thu., Sept. 17**—JACL Gala Dinner; focus will be on the JA veterans from World War II and beyond. Info: [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org) or 202/223-1240.

## Midwest

### MINNEAPOLIS

**Sat., Mar. 28**—Performance, "Baseball Saved Us"; 7 p.m.; Mixed Blood Theater, 1501 S. 4th St.; based on the book by Ken Mochizuki; \$10.50 for children and adults before Mar. 11. Tickets: Joanne Kumagai, [joannekumagai@comcast.net](mailto:joannekumagai@comcast.net).

## Intermountain

### DENVER

**Sun., April 5**—Mile-Hi Chapter Installation; noon; Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec; featuring Adam Schragar, author of "The Principled Politician: The Ralph Carr Story." Info: Charmaine Palmer, 303/449-8526.

## Pacific Northwest

### PORTLAND

**Through Mar. 15**—Exhibit, "Desert Sands: Photographs by Emily Hanako Momohara"; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave.; exhibit hours Tues.-Sat., 11-3 p.m. and Sun., noon-3 p.m.; \$3 admission, free for center members. Info: [www.oregonnikkei.org](http://www.oregonnikkei.org) or 503/224-1458.

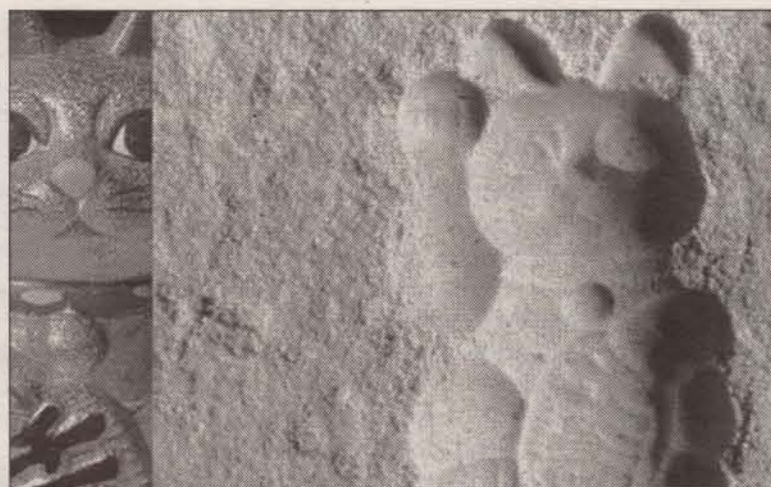
### SEATTLE

**Sat., Mar. 21**—64th Annual Nisei Veterans Committee Installation Banquet; 11:30-3 p.m.; Rainier Golf and Country Club, 11133 Des Moines Memorial Dr.; keynote speaker, Judge Vincent Okamoto; \$30 early bird registration (Mar. 13), \$40 thereafter.

## Northern California

### EL CERRITO

**Sat., Mar. 14**—Screening, "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties"; 1:30-4 p.m.; East Bay Free Methodist Church, 5395 Potrero Ave.; film tells the story of the MIS during WWII; Marvin Uratsu and filmmaker Gayle Yamada will be on hand for questions. Info: Mary Ann Furuichi, 510/526-8020.



See photographer Emily Momohara's 'Desert Sands' exhibit at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center.

## SACRAMENTO

**Sat., Mar. 28**—Workshop, "Lost and Found ... Connecting with your Japanese Roots"; 2 p.m.; Asian Community Center, 7375 Park City Dr.; speaker Leo Goto has traced his family history back 36 generations; \$5 donation. Information: Leo Goto, 916/395-2589 or [jkpca21@yahoo.com](mailto:jkpca21@yahoo.com).

## SAN FRANCISCO

**Mar. 25-27**—Asian and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education APAHE Conference, "Passing the Torch: The Next Generation of APA Leaders"; Hotel Kabuki, 1625 Post St.; registration fees begin at \$270; rooms available at Hotel Kabuki for \$169/night, 800/533-4567 (must mention APAHE).

## SAN JOSE

**Sun., April 26**—32nd Annual Nikkei Matsuri; 9:30-4 p.m.; San Jose Japantown; featuring arts, crafts, food booths, cultural displays, entertainment, children's activities and a health fair. Info: [www.nikkeimatsuri.org](http://www.nikkeimatsuri.org).

**Sat., May 16**—"Talking Story: An Intimate Conversation with Asian American Authors"; 1-5 p.m.; Northside Community Center, 488 N. 6th St.; featuring: Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, Janice Mirikitani, Delphine Hirasuna, Marlene Shigekawa and Gail Tsukiyama; \$20 before April 30, \$25 after and at the door, \$15 for seniors (65+) and students with ID. Info: Phyllis Osaki, 925/596-1770, [posaki@gsmanagement.com](mailto:posaki@gsmanagement.com) or Aggie Idemoto, 408/294-3138, [aggie@jamsj.com](mailto:aggie@jamsj.com) or [www.midorikai.com](http://www.midorikai.com).

## Central California

### MANZANAR

**Sat., April 25**—40th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage; noon; featuring speakers, taiko, interfaith service, tributes, ondo and Manzanar At Dusk program (5 p.m., Lone Pine High School Auditorium); buses will depart from Little Tokyo. Info: [www.manzanarcommittee.org](http://www.manzanarcommittee.org) or 323/662-5102.

## Southern California

### LOS ANGELES

**Sat., Mar. 14**—Symposium, "Asian American Artists in California"; 9-1 p.m.; Armand Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd.; examines the lives and work of artists past and present and offers insights into issues of cultural hybridity, race, social climate and transnationalism; free; RSVP is requested. Info and RSVP: 310/825-2974.

**Wed., April 8**—Staged reading of "The Last Resort" a new play by Velina Hasu Houston; 6 p.m.; Performance Cafe, USC.

## RIVERSIDE

**Sat., Mar. 14**—Riverside JACL Installation Luncheon; noon; Riverside Golf Club, 1011 North Orange Street; W.T. Wimpy Hiroto is the guest speaker; \$20/person; RSVP by Feb. 28. Info: Meiko Inaba, 951/682-8116, [imeiko@earthlink.net](mailto:imeiko@earthlink.net) or Dolly Ogata, 951/684-7962.

## SAN DIEGO

**Sat., Mar. 7**—UCSD Nikkei Student Union's Culture Show 2009: The Price of Progress; 7 p.m.; Price Center East Ballroom, UC San Diego; play follows the campaign of a young JA who is hoping to become the first APA governor of California; free. Info: [www.ucsdnsu.com](http://www.ucsdnsu.com).

## Nevada

### LAS VEGAS

**May 4-6**—Amache Reunion; Golden Nugget Hotel; relatives and friends are invited. Info: Irene Furuya, 626/791-0547, [mfuruya82@gmail.com](mailto:mfuruya82@gmail.com) or Min Tonai, 818/591-8815. ■

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Balcony \$5,116 - REDUCED TO \$3624

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 - Nikko - Bullet Train - Kyoto Inland Sea Cruise - Shodo Island - Miyajima - Hiroshima - Osaka.

### Aug 1 NCL - Scandinavia/Russia Cruise - 14 Days

Window \$3,783 - REDUCED TO \$3,389 - SOLDOUT

Balcony \$4,133 - Reduction \$464 - REDUCED TO \$3,669

London-Copenhagen-Warnemunde, Germany-Tallinn, Estonia-St. Petersburg, Russia-Helsinki, Finland-Stockholm, Sweden.

### Aug 22 NCL - West Mediterranean Cruise-15 Days

Window \$3219 - Reduction \$170 - REDUCED TO \$3,049

Balcony \$3769 - Reduction \$170 - REDUCED TO \$3,598

London-Lisbon, Portugal-Vigo, Seville, Granada, Spain-Gibraltar Sardinia-Naples-Rome-Livorno, Italy-Cannes, France-Barcelona.

### Oct 12 Hokkaido/Tohoku - 11 Days

\$4195 - Sapporo-Sahoro - Ainu - Lake Toya - Hakodate Aomori - Hachimantai - Matsushima - Sendai - Tokyo.

### Oct 19 Uranihon "Otherside of Japan" - 11 Days

\$4095 - Tokyo-Japan Sea-Sado Isle-Kanazawa-Amanohashidate-Kinosaki-Matsue-Izumo-Mt. Daisen-Kyoto.

### Nov 2 Fall Japan Classic-11 Days

\$3995 - Tokyo - Takayama - Nara - Takahashi-Miyajima Hiroshima - Inland Sea Cruise - Shodo Island-Kyoto.

### Nov 12 Okinawa/Kyushu/Shikoku - 12 Days

\$4295 - 3-Day Okinawa - Nagasaki - Unzen-Kumamoto Beppu - Cape Ashizuri - Kochi - Takamatsu - Kyoto.

### Jan 16 NCL - Panama Canal Cruise - 12 Days

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Balcony \$3,169 - Reduction \$294 - REDUCED TO \$2,875

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## DEATH NOTICE

## PAUL YOSHIO TANI

9/7/25 - 2/19/09

Paul Yoshio Tani, of Ashburn, Va. passed away Feb. 19, 2009. He was born September 7, 1925 in San Francisco, Calif. He and his family were relocated to the Topaz Relocation Center in October 1942. Paul graduated from Topaz High School in June 1943, and was a freshman at Heidelberg College (Tiffin, Ohio) from September 1943 through May 1944.

Paul was drafted into the Army in November 1944, and was trained to be a replacement for the 442nd RCT. The war in Europe ended before he could be deployed and he completed his enlistment with the Military Intelligence Service Language School and the Counter Intelligence Corps School.

Paul completed his college education at Stanford University where he earned a BS (1949) and an MS (1951) both in mathematics. He was among the first to write programs for IBM's (and the nation's) first commercially available electronic digital computers.

During the first 12 years of his 41 year professional career in the computing industry, he worked for companies that used IBM equipment; Honeywell, North American Aviation, and Union Carbide. Then, IBM was his employer for 29 years; mostly in technical positions. He interacted with technical and management personnel at IBM as well as at IBM customer sites. For three years, he was the IBM manager of mission programming in support of early Gemini and Apollo space flights from 1963-1966.

Paul retired from IBM in 1991 and moved to Brevard, NC in 1993. He moved to Ashburn, Va. to be closer to his family in 1999. He was an active member of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), of JACL (Japanese Americans Citizen's League). He was a volunteer docent at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington, DC. He also worked on transcribing interviews with fellow Nisei veterans about their experiences.

Paul was married in 1955 to Sumiko Watanabe, who predeceased him in 1999. He is survived by two sons and their families: Thomas, his wife Christine and grandson Philip (Morris Plains, NJ), and James, his wife Jaye and grandchildren Julia and Brian (Vienna, Va.). He is also survived by his fiancée, Florence Dobashi (San Francisco, Calif.) as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins who love and miss him.

A "Celebration of Life" reception was held at the Money & King Funeral Home in Vienna, VA on February 25. Notes can be sent to Thomas Tani, 19 Keenan Place, Morris Plains, NJ 07950. Interment and memorial service will take place at the Tani Family Plot in Colma, Calif. at a later date. In lieu of flowers, Paul's family request that donations in his memory be sent to: The National Japanese American Historical Society ([www.njahs.org](http://www.njahs.org)), 1684 Post St., San Francisco, CA 94115 or (415) 921-5007.

## DEATH NOTICE

## ROSE OHTAKI

Rose Oda Ohtaki passed away on Feb. 20 in Menlo Park, Calif. Born Rose Toshiko Oda, Jan. 3, 1921, in Syracuse, Utah to Mitsugu and Mitsuye Oda, she was a resident of Menlo Park for 39 years, and previously lived in San Francisco, Seattle, Salt Lake City and New York.



After graduating from Davis High School, she attended beauty culture school and LDS Business College, and owned and operated a beauty salon for 10 years in Salt Lake City. In 1953, she moved to San Francisco and worked for J. Magnin initially as a secretary, then became the first Asian salesperson and assistant hat buyer.

In 1955, she married Pete Ohtaki when he was opening new routes for Japan Airlines and offices in Seattle, Portland and Vancouver. In Seattle, she worked for I. Magnin. In 1970, they moved to New York when he was promoted to director of advertising and sales promotion for North and South America, before they moved to California.

They were deeply involved in community services. His favorite was Rotary International, and Rose was elected president of the Japan-America Society Women's Auxiliary. She also enjoyed being responsible for exchanging sister city queens.

She was active in the PTA, and fought against racial quotas in her local high school district, with the encouragement of her friend Edison Uno. In 1996, she wrote an article for the Japanese Americans in Utah Centennial book titled, "Issei Pioneers in Syracuse," followed in 1997 with a similar article for Davis County, Utah.

Most important, she had great pride and joy raising their only son, Peter Jr., for his outstanding achievements and accomplishments. He graduated magna cum laude from Harvard and Stanford Business School. He worked for Morgan Stanley in New York, and is now director of a non-profit organization.

She is survived by her son Peter, his wife and her two grandchildren, of Menlo Park, and her brother Davis Oda of Torrance, Calif., as well as nieces and nephews and their children. She is preceded in death by her parents and her husband in 1990. Her older brother Sam died during WWII, and her younger brothers Jack in 1994 and Henry in 2008.

Rose enjoyed ikebana flower arranging, kamakura bori wood carving, and golf. She appreciated many compliments on her neatly manicured Japanese garden.

She requested no service, and will be interred next to her husband at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, Calif. and Ogden City Cemetery in Ogden, Utah.

## In Memoriam - 2009

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Funai, George Teruo, 93**, Leland, Wash., Feb. 16; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by wife, Fusaye; daughter, Gwen Jefferson; son, Keith (Brinn); 4 gc.; 1 ggc.; brothers, Toshio and Frank; and sisters, Lilly Uyeda, Alice Waterer and May Otani.

*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.*

**Funo, Jack Yoshikazu, 81**, Monterey Park, Feb. 7; survived by wife, Sumiko; daughter, Leslie; brother, Masuo (Fumie); and sisters-in-law, Tomiko Domoto, Chikaye Sande Hashimoto and Masami Azeka.

**Furushima, Frank Roy, 86**, Los Angeles, Feb. 14; survived by wife, Fumie; sister, Pearl Akutagawa; and brother, Henry (Chieko).

**H a m a d a ,**

**Roy Takashi, 72**, Pearl City, Haw., Feb. 14; Korean War veteran; survived by wife, Judith; son, Paul; daughters, Carol Nagamine and Diane Hamada; 4 gc.; brothers, Thomas and Hale; and sisters, Dawn Pung and Jewel Carnett.

**Hayakawa, Herbert Hiroshi, 80**, Torrance, Feb. 6; survived by wife, Pauline; son, Mark; daughters, Dana (Dr. Stephen) Ludwig and Lisa (Jonathan) Kaji; and 5 gc.

**Hayashibara, Reynold Tadao, 79**, Anaheim, Feb. 19; Korean War veteran; survived by wife, Shizuko; son, Todd; daughter, Teri; 1 gc.; and sisters, Ruth, Doris and Betty.

**Inouye, Takashi, 91**, Kingsburg, Feb. 14; WWII veteran, MIS; survived by wife, Tokiye; sons, John (Lisa), Lyndon (Cindy) and Tim; daughters, Jessica, Rachel and Florence Hamamoto; 8 gc.; brother, Richard; and sisters, Miwa Takayama, Sumiko Ota, and Lily Araki.

**Ito, Pamela Michi, 46**, Honolulu,

Haw., Feb. 11; survived by husband, Berwyn; son, Bryson; parents, Ben and Karen Mizusaki; brother, James and in-laws, Walter and Eva Ito.

**Kanno, Thomas Kanjiro, 100**, Los Angeles, Feb. 5; survived by daughters, Michiyo (Shirow) Ogata and Helen Kanno; son, Kiyoshi (Madge); 4 gc.; and 4 ggc.

**Kazunaga, Betty Ayako, 76**, Monterey Park, Feb. 6; survived by husband, Sakai; daughter, Karen Samuelson; sons, Ronald and Jon; 1 gc.; and sisters, Ellen Nakashima, Alice Watanabe and Yoko (Roland) Miyagishima.

**Masui, Donald Michiaki, 81**, Honolulu, Haw., Feb. 6; survived by wife, Helen; son, Myles; daughter, Diane Arakawa; and 3 gc.

**Matayoshi, Natalie Nobuko, 82**, Paramount, Feb. 16; survived by husband, Dave; daughters, Lynette (Bryan) Ishino and Doreen (Neil) LaBarge; son, Duane (Lillian); 3 gc.; brothers, Tamotsu (Shizuyo), Kenneth (Jen) and Ronald; sisters, Patsy Souza and Jeanette Nakata; sisters-in-law, Inez Nakata, Chiyo Matayoshi, Pat Ige, Toyo Miyashiro, Yemi and Minnie Matayoshi; and brother-in-law, John Matayoshi.

**Mikami, Kiyoto, 87**, survived by daughters, Marnie (Bud) Stocking, Julie (Tommy) Leong, Pamela (Eric) Tokunaga and Janice (Curtis) Marr; 7 gc.; brother, Tuk (Yoyo); and sisters, Haru (Robert) Hironaka and Yaeko Mikami.

**Monji, Tomi, 80**, Seal Beach, Feb. 7; survived by husband, James; son, Michael (Evette); step-son, Gary (Elaine); 4 gc.; brothers, Joe and Takashi Ono; and sister, Taeko Joanne Iritani.

**Nakayama, Shunya, 82**, Lakewood, Co., Dec. 20, 2008; survived by wife, Sandie; son, Stanley (Paula); daughter, Randy Hiraki; 2 gc.; and brother, Yosh.

**Oita, Katashi, 85**, Seattle, Wash., Feb. 11; WWII veteran, MIS; survived by daughter, Julie (Bill) McDermott; 4 gc.; and sisters, Nasue (George) Hirozawa and Aileen Oita.

**Okita, Sueko, 83**, Los Angeles, Feb. 7; survived by daughters, Linda Okita and Barbara (Thomas) Carney; 2 gc.; sister, Mary Shimotani; and sisters-in-law, Utano

Okita, Michiko Muramoto and Fujiye (Tatsuo) Endo.

**Osumi, David Takeshi, 83**, Yuba City, Feb. 9; WWII veteran, MIS, Marysville JACler; survived by wife, Mitzi; daughter, Karen (Larry) Ito; sons, Bruce (Doreen), Mike, and Kirk (Laurie); 6 gc.; sister, Fumi Fujishige; and brother, Jerry.

**Saburomaru, Yoshiaki, 88**, Anaheim, Jan. 11; survived by brother, Yoshitsugu (Hiroko).

**Sasaki, Eddie, 86**, Chicago, Feb. 15; WWII veteran, MIS; survived by wife, Catherine; son, John (Christine); daughter, Nina; and 4 gc.

**Sato, Ted, 86**, Ogden, Utah, Feb. 14; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by sisters, Rhoda (Moon) Haramoto and Aiko (Hideo) Yanagida; and brother, Wallace (Yuki).

**Tagami, Tom T., 87**, Ojai, Feb. 12; survived by daughter, Yoshiko (David) Novicki; brothers, Sam (Betsy) Tagami and Jack (Michiko) Hirai; and sisters, Ayako Kondo, Kikue Horikawa, and Tsuyako (Jim) Nakamura.

**Tanikawa, Scott Masanori, 58**, Honolulu, Haw., Feb. 16; Army veteran; survived by wife, Chizuko; daughters, Julie and Lisa; brothers, Roy and Bernard; and sisters, Amy Chun and Janice Ishikawa.

**Watanabe, Hideo, 80**, Santa Monica, Feb. 17; WWII veteran; survived by daughter, Deborah; and brother, Kenji (June).

**Yamashiro, Haruo, 77**, Gardena, Feb. 12; Korean Conflict veteran; survived by wife, Takako; sons, Dennis, Chris (Margaret) and Stuart; daughter, Dr. Amy Yamashiro (Dr. John McLaughlin); 5 gc.; brothers-in-law, Choye and Akira Sugita; and sisters-in-law, Chiyeko Tsukashima and Fusae Sugita.

**Yanaga, Irene Wakabayashi, 78**, Lomita, Feb. 14; survived by daughters, Susan Wada-Fimbres and Judy (Edward Weisberger) Wada; step-sons, Elmer and Steve Yanaga; step-daughter, Susan (Richard) Kawasaki; 2 step-gc.; sister, Thelma (Masanori) Tsuchida; and sister-in-law, Lylis Wakabayashi;

**Yanagimachi, Frank S., 89**, Jan. 7; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by sons, Frank (Mary) and Steven; and 2 gc.

**Yokoyama, Satoshi T., 91**, Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 15; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by wife, Mitsuko; sons, Glenn (Dana) and Ken (Janene); daughter, Patti (Dale) Carsel; and 6 gc. ■

## DEATH NOTICE

## SHUNZO NAKAYAMA

Shunzo Nakayama, 82, of Lakewood, Colo. passed away Dec. 20, 2008. He is survived by his wife Sandie; son, Stanley (Paula); daughter Donna (Randy) Nakayama-Hiraki; 2 gc.; and brother, Yosh.

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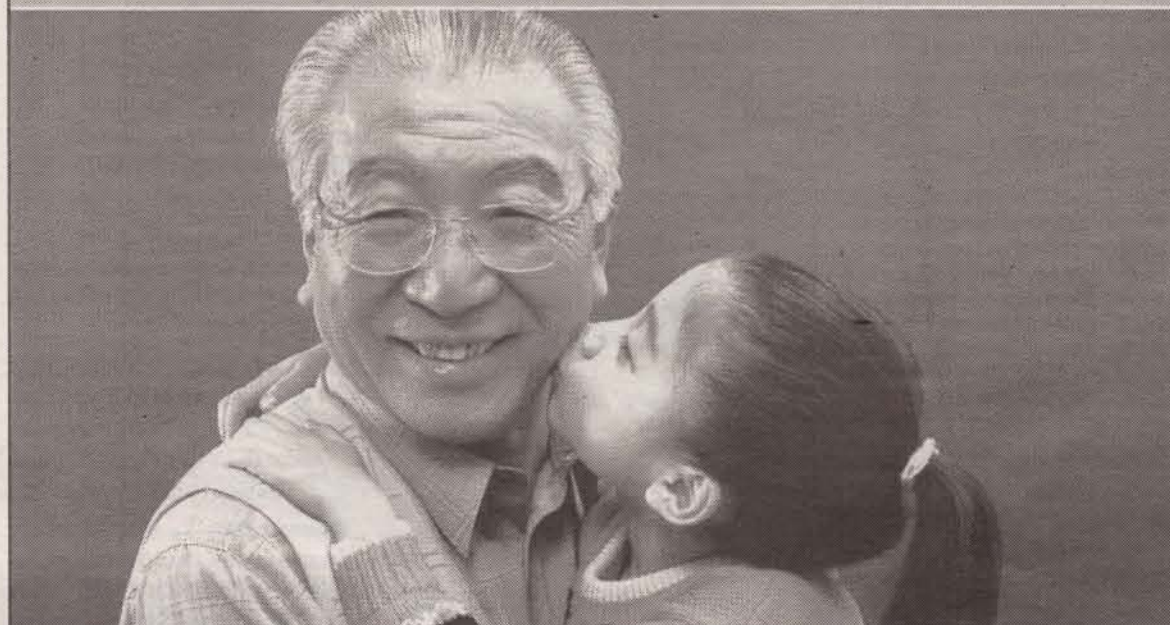
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## American Holiday Travel

### 2009 Tour Schedule

<b>KOREA DRAMA SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR</b> Seoul, Cheju Island, Busan, Daegu, Daejeon, Chuncheon/Namiseom Island.	<b>WAITLIST</b>	<b>MAR 27-APR 8</b>
<b>JAPAN SPRING COUNTRYSIDE TOUR</b> Tokyo, Tendo Onsen, Akita, Hirosaki, Lake Towada, Morioka, Matsushima, Higashiyama Onsen.		<b>APR 15-25</b>
<b>EASTERN CANADA HOLIDAY TOUR</b> Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara Falls.		<b>MAY 3-11</b>
<b>GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR I (SOLD OUT)</b> Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Kyoto, Nara.		<b>JUN 28-JUL 7</b>
<b>GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR II</b> Kyoto, Nara, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Atami, Hakone, Tokyo.	<b>WAITLIST</b>	<b>JUL 7-16</b>
<b>ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE</b> Seattle, Glacier Bay, Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, Victoria City. HOLLAND AMERICA Westerdam Ship.		<b>JUL 26-AUG 2</b>
<b>JAPAN OBON FESTIVAL TOUR</b> Tokyo (Tsukiji Obon Festival), Gujo Hachiman (Summer Odori Festival), Kyoto, Jozankei Onsen Sapporo, Kitami (Tsubetsu Obon Festival).		<b>AUG 5-16</b>
<b>EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN/GREECE HOLIDAY CRUISE</b> Venice, Croatia, Athens, Istanbul, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Santorini, Olympia. HOLLAND AMERICA Oosterdam Ship.		<b>AUG 22-SEPT 4</b>
<b>PANA CONVENTION SOUTH AMERICA TOUR</b> PANA Convention - Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil. Option to Peru.		<b>SEPT</b>
<b>NEW ENGLAND HOLIDAY TOUR</b> Boston, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire. Day trips on historic trains: Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad, Conway Scenic Railroad, Green Mountain Flyer Railroad, Essex Steam Train.	<b>NEW DATES</b>	<b>OCT 2-9</b>
<b>OKINAWA-KYUSHU HOLIDAY TOUR</b> Naha, Kagoshima/Ibusuki, Miyazaki, Nobeoka, Takachiho, Mt. Aso, Beppu, Kumamoto, Nagasaki, Fukuoka.		<b>OCT 11-23</b>
<b>CANYONLAND GETAWAY HOLIDAY</b> Laughlin, Grand Canyon, Valley of Fire Park, Mesquite, Bryce Canyon, Zion Canyon, Las Vegas.		<b>NOV 8-13</b>

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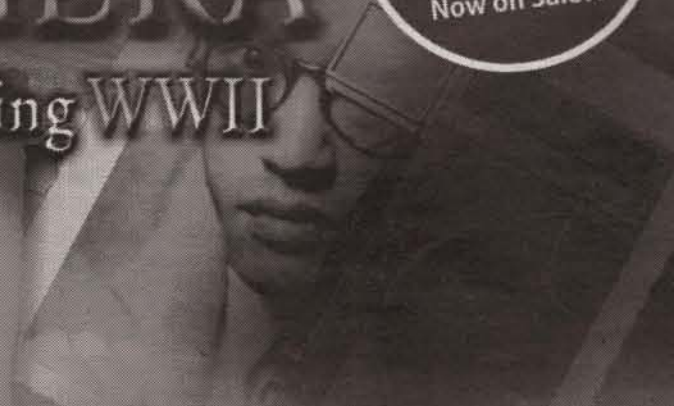
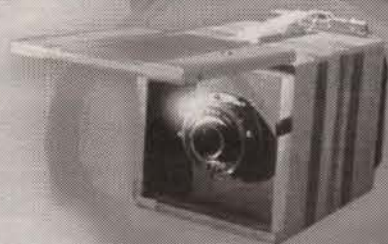
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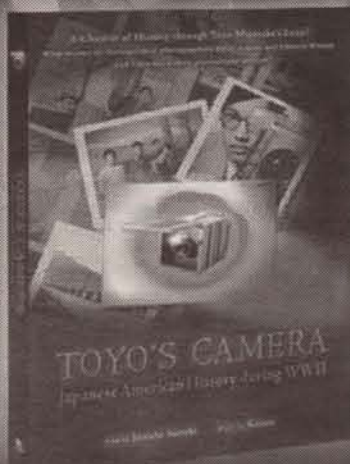
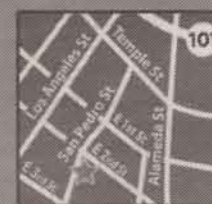
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