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{ TOP NEWS }

APAs in Austin, TX



Sculptor Isamu Taniguchi is one of the city's pioneers.

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Saving Honouliuli



A visitor's center for the WWII internment camp?

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Being Lynn



Lynn Chen talks broken dreams and Hollywood.

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{ COMMUNITY NEWS }

Belated Degrees



The College of San Mateo wants to honor JAs.

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PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

80
YEARS

SAVE
OUR
HISTORY

{ IN DEPTH }

Saving Riverside's Chinatown is a Pan-Asian Fight

One ethnic community can hold ongoing meaning for a broader audience.

>> page 3



Chinatown in the 1970s



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In 1995 Bugliani reunited with Sakamoto, his WWII hero.

COMMENTARY

A Debt of Gratitude

During WWII, a meeting with a 100th Battalion member named Paul Sakamoto changed my life.

By AMERICO BUGLIANI



My encounter with the Nisei soldiers bivouacked at Valdicastello as a 12-year-old boy remains forever etched in my heart.

Although my father was American, I was born in Italy in the small Tuscan village of Strettoia in the municipality of Pietrasanta. I was 11 years old in July 1944 when the Germans began building up fortifications in our vicinity.

The Allies arrived in Pietrasanta on Sept. 19, 1944. We kids intermingled with American soldiers at the front, hoping that they would give us something because we were starving and had nothing. Late in the afternoon of April 3, 1945, a Nisei soldier gave me a few things. The following morning, just as they were preparing to leave to go into combat at the front, the same soldier gave me a few more things. I would learn later he was from Hilo, Hawaii.

Then he turned and went inside his pup tent. He gave me a tube of Colgate toothpaste, a toothbrush and his cap. It was his woolen Class-A uniform hat with the infantry insignia — the two crossed rifles. Then he gave me a small photograph of himself sitting on a jeep and said: "My name is Paul Sakamoto," with a warm smile.

Those gestures, those fleeting acts of generosity and kindness had a tremendous impact on my life. I have never forgotten them. They were among the very few happy moments I had during the war.

In 1954 I moved to the U.S. I was drafted and taken to Fort Dix, New Jersey to start my U.S. Army basic training. I became an interpreter with clearance for secret and confidential assignments and served in Austria, Germany, and Italy.

It wasn't until 1991 that I discovered and then joined the Chicago

See BUGLIANI/page 13

P.C. Wins New America Media Award



The *Pacific Citizen* recently won first place at the New America Media Awards. Assistant editor Lynda Lin (above) won in the Arts, Sports and Entertainment category for her series on APA female directors.

SPRING CAMPAIGN

Mochi, Tweeting and 'Top News'

By MARGIE YAMAMOTO



Chocolate and peanut butter *mochi*! That was the sign I saw in the window of a *manju* shop when I was in L.A. a couple of months ago. I had to go in. Unfortunately they were out of the chocolate, but still had the peanut butter. Inside of a slightly sweetened soft *mochi* shell was a teaspoon of crunchy peanut butter. Interesting ... but not good enough to make me want to give up the more traditional *an* filled *mochi*.

I always have to travel West, out of the New England shell that separates me from the latest happenings, food fads, and cultural fusion of things Japanese and American. I have mixed feelings about certain foods straying from their origins. Out here we have a lot of sushi shops and Japanese restaurants, but few of them are owned and operated by Japanese. I've learned to stay away from a restaurant that boasts Chinese, Korean and Japanese food — they've spread their talents in too many directions to be good in any one.

My favorite restaurant is a little Japanese mom and pop operation nearby and in every dish I find attention to small details that I may be the only one who notices. It's something as simple as having grated daikon and ginger to put in the tempura dipping sauce or finding the rice in the bento box molded into a gourd shape with a sprinkling of *furikake* on top.

On this last visit to California I came across the ultimate in fusion cuisine aided by technology. I was walking around Little Tokyo one evening with some friends when we came across a long line, about a half a block long. At first we thought people were lined up for an event at the Japanese American National Museum. Out of curiosity, we followed the line and saw they were all patiently waiting to buy food from a catering van.

It wasn't until later I found out we had come across one of those events that happen when people communicate by "tweeting." The van was selling tacos (the Mexican kind) made with Korean *kalbi* beef and it had become so popular that people "tweet" its location to others and a crowd shows up wherever the van goes. To me, it's an amazing example of how effective electronic communications can be.

I may not "tweet" and often profess to being a technophobe, but one of the first things I do every morning, is check my e-mail. The other day, I had an interesting addition to my incoming e-mail; it was from the *Pacific Citizen* and called "Top News from the *Pacific Citizen*." It highlighted three top news stories from the upcoming issue of the P.C. The e-mail linked directly to the news articles and to the P.C. Web site. All this, days before I received my print version of the P.C. in the mail. It's one of the "wow" features of the new updated P.C. Web site.

I'm sure you are all aware of how quickly communications technology changes. As soon as I got used to the term instant messaging (probably two or three years too late), I learned from my 18-

See YAMAMOTO/page 13

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Fight to Save Riverside's Chinatown is a Pan-Asian Effort

Sites associated with one ethnic community can hold ongoing meaning for a broader audience.

LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

Protecting old Chinatown isn't just for Chinese Americans. In Riverside, Calif., the secrets that lie below a weed-covered plot of land convinced the Riverside JACL to help save it.

"Preserving our history is crucial," said Meiko Inaba, a Sansei.

Here at the corner of Brockton and Tequesquite Avenues, artifacts of a lost Chinese community that dates back to the late 1800s are buried deep. Preservationists say it's likely the last undisturbed Chinatown archeological site in the country. And in time, it could be paved over to build a new medical building.

"If Riverside's Chinatown goes, everyone in California loses. It's a loss of American history," said Deborah Wong, an ethnomusicology professor at the University of California, Riverside.

But with phrases like "our history," the fight to save Riverside's Chinatown has transcended the borders of just one ethnic community. The potential loss of such a rich history has touched many residents both young and old, Asian Pacific American and beyond.

"This is beyond just a Chinese American issue," said Frank Hiroyasu, a UC Riverside student and Riverside JACL member. Places like this Chinatown, he said, become a part of people's identities and heritage.

The 4.2-acre site is nothing to look at. The buildings, like its people, are long gone. They were torn down three years after Chinatown's last resident and property owner George Wong, passed away in 1974. The only onsite reminder of its past is a small red sign on a chain link fence surrounding the area.

The empty lot was once home to Riverside's second Chinatown — after historians say the Chinese workers who helped build the city's citrus industry were driven out of their original community near downtown.

In 1984, an excavation on only one part of the site uncovered over three tons of artifacts including coins and pottery. Experts, who believed that much more remains buried, pushed for preservation. Among city, county and state landmark designations, Riverside's Chinatown is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

But these historic designations do not provide permanent protection, said Wong.

"It all depends on the owner."

The land owned by the Riverside County Office of Education is in escrow, but developer Doug Jacobs wants to build a three-story medical building with parking on old Chinatown. In February, the Riverside City Council approved an excavation plan for the site that requires archeologists to oversee work and for developers to preserve items of cultural or historic importance.

"I believe that on balance the city will be better served by having an important new medical building than by leaving the site as it has been for over 30 years; an overgrown unmaintained lot," said Mike Gardner, city councilman for Ward 1, which includes the Chinatown site.

The site has been zoned for office use and the city's general plan encourages medical office use in that location, said Gardner.

On Valentine's Day morning, residents driving by the site saw large construction equipment removing dirt around the lot. They said it was not the sign of a true archeological dig. Less than an hour later, many members of the Save Our Chinatown Committee (SOCC) gathered outside of the chain link fence to witness what they called a "massacre."

They carried "Save our History" signs, took pictures and video and successfully stopped the tractors with the help of Riverside police officers who cited the workers for violating noise restrictions on a federal holiday — President's Day.

Committee members say the artifacts have not been destroyed, but to prevent any more damage from being done, they won a temporary court injunction on work on the site. The

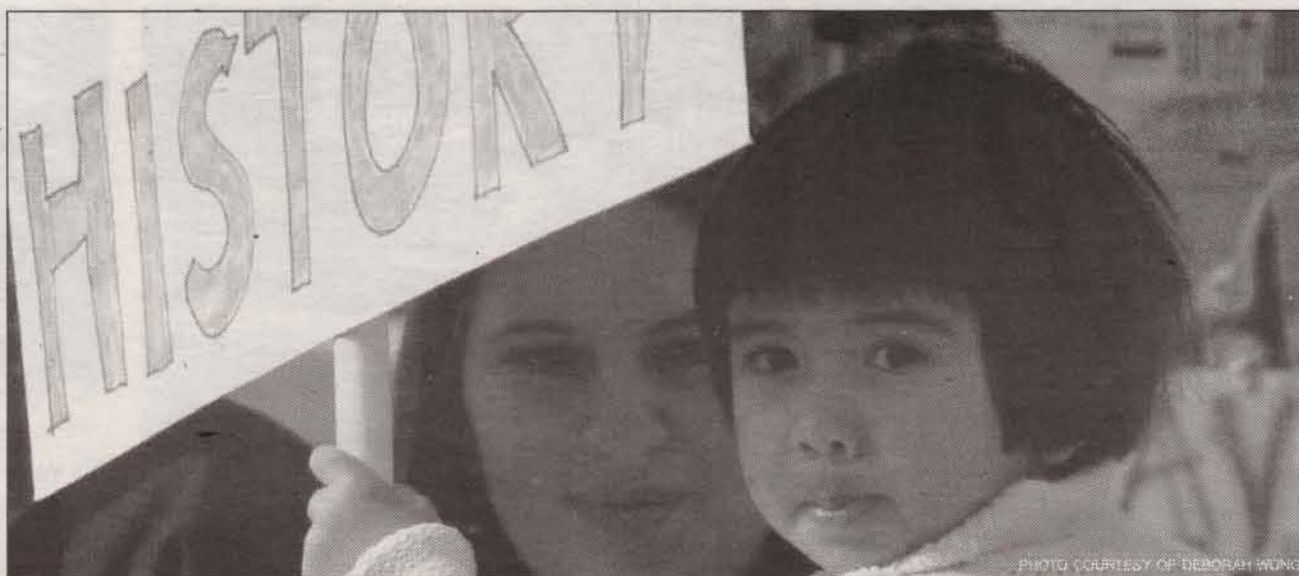


PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBORAH WONG



PHOTO: JULIE WONG DUNCAN

'It's a loss of American history.'

— Deborah Wong, about Riverside's Chinatown (left), which has languished since its last resident passed away in 1974. Residents turned out in February to protest a developer's destruction of the archeological site (top).

hearing is scheduled for March 20. A lawsuit against the city and the developer on Riverside's Chinatown is also expected to get its day in court on June 26.

"A government with vision should never put commercial interest in front of culture and heritage preservation," said Leon Liu, an SOCC member.

Jacob's lawyer did not respond to the *Pacific Citizen's* request for comment.

The controversy has captured media headlines and galvanized a community that otherwise did not know about their city's Chinese American history.

"It's only gotten news because of the dramatic turn of events. Prior to that it's been languishing," said Julie Wong Duncan, whose father knew George Wong.

"When I first heard of it, I was shocked," said James Lu, who has lived in Riverside for 14 years. He teaches multicultural literature at California Baptist University, which includes APA writers. Even with his background, Lu didn't know his city once had a Chinatown.

"You feel miserable and sad. I felt sad. For so many years, I've lived in this city and literally nothing was talked about."

In many cities across the U.S., the same tension between new development and preservation is prevalent in Thai, Filipino, and Koreatowns. California's last remaining Japantowns continue to face threats of gentrification. Often, like in Los Angeles and San Francisco where a development company has bought up many of the landmarks, the changes touch off emotional debates about cultural changes.

"There is always tension because some change is, of course, healthy for cities and neighborhoods," said Donna Graves, program director of Preserving California Japantowns project. "But the health of our communities also relies on understanding and honoring our past, in all its complexity."

Historically, many Japantowns sat alongside or overlapped with Chinatowns and Filipino communities, so the range of people with a stake in preserving a neighborhood can be much larger than a single ethnicity, said Graves.

"Sites associated with one ethnic community can hold ongoing meaning for a broader audience," she added.

For Margie Akin, saving Riverside's Chinatown has many personal reasons. The archaeologist has lived in Riverside since 1964. Over the years, she's heard many stories about the site, many verging on folklore about Chinatown's last resident, George Wong, who was rumored to protect the ruins with a shotgun.

The SOCC member, who is of Eastern European descent, and her husband Kevin consulted on the 1984 excavation of the site. But beyond that, their two-year-old granddaughter Ella, who is

of Chinese descent, gives the couple the extra push to continue the battle to save history.

"I want her to know about the many brave people who, like her mother, left home and family and came to the United States," said Akin.

The efforts to save Chinatown have created a chorus of opinions from community members. SOCC is pushing for preservation not excavation, said Deborah Wong. The committee wants a memorial park built on the site and the archaeological site sealed until the appropriate resources, including funding, trained staff and curation are organized.

"Ideally, important sites such as this one should be protected until there is a really good reason to excavate," said Akin. "Putting in a very redundant medical office building is not sufficient reason to excavate."

The Riverside Chinese Culture Preservation Committee (RCCPC) hopes for preservation as well, but if the city and the developer cannot be stopped, "we want to be there projecting a strong voice, making sure mitigation measures be implemented to preserve the history," said Lu.

All sides are now waiting for the outcome of the lawsuit. The consensus is simple, however: once Riverside's Chinatown is lost, there is no going back.

"It's an Asian American issue and perhaps even beyond," said Lu. He eventually wants to incorporate local history in his teachings and take students to the site where Asian American history started in the city.

"These stories need to be told."

And the committees have the support of other community groups that understand the importance of cultural preservation.

"I think it's important that history leads to education today," said Inaba, a Riverside JACL member. ■

On the Web: www.saveourchinatown.org

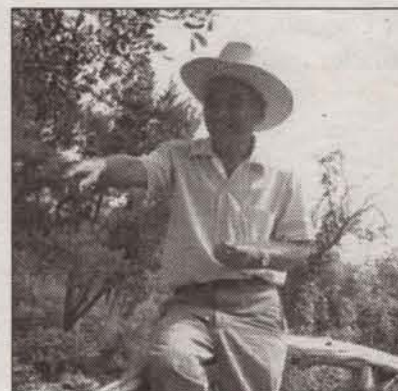
Update: San Jose Japantown

The \$200 million mixed-use development plan on the roughly six-acre site bound by Sixth, Seventh, Jackson and Taylor Streets has hit a snag. The Exclusive Negotiations Agreement (ENA) has expired between developer Williams & Dame and the city of San Jose, said Tamon Norimoto, development director of Asian Americans for Community Involvement. "By allowing for the ENA to expire, the city is free to entertain conversations with other developers regarding this project while continuing conversations with Williams & Dame."

The Japantown Community Congress of San Jose (JCCSJ) will hold an April 4 town hall meeting at Yu-Ai Kai to discuss priorities.

For more information: contact Tamon Norimoto at 408/373-8119 or tamon.norimoto@gmail.com.

Austin's Local Asian American History Comes to Life



WONG AND SING PHOTOS COURTESY OF AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER, AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Wong family (left), pictured here in 1943, was one of the first Chinese American families to settle in the Austin area. Isamu Taniguchi and Joe Sing (far right) were Austin pioneers in their own right.

The Austin History Center is working with the AA community to document and archive their rich and diverse history.

By **CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM**
Executive Editor

When Mary Frances Aguillo's aunt passed away two years ago she set about cleaning her aunt's garage expecting to find the typical knickknacks and sentimental items. What she discovered was a treasure trove of family history.

In plain cardboard boxes, the life of her late grandfather Jo Fung Sheng (also known as Joe Sing), a pioneering Chinese American in Austin, Texas, came to life. Her Mexican American grandmother had lovingly preserved her late husband's belongings, including letters, photos and books.

By chance, Mary Frances' daughter Terry had been reading the newspaper when she recently came across an ad. The Austin History Center was looking for archival materials to tell the stories of the local Asian American community. Now Joe Sing's story will be preserved for all future generations.

"Everything was written in Chinese so we couldn't read it," said Mary Frances, 78, who noted that among her grandfather's possessions was his U.S. certificate of residence. The document shows he first arrived in Louisiana in the 1890s.

Although Sing passed away before Mary Frances was born, she remembers her grandmother often talking about her late husband.

"All these years we could never have known she had [his possessions]. Now we want it to be preserved."

Sing was one of a handful of Chinese bachelors who made their way over to Austin in the late 1800s.

"It was mostly Anglos, no Asians," said Esther Chung, 33, the project's AA neighborhood liaison. "This is a pioneering area because no railroad was built through here. They had to come here and make their own way."

The Austin History Center has documented the local African American and Latino communities. Now, it's the AA community's turn and Esther is reaching out to local members to contribute their stories.

"The history books don't represent us at all. We don't see local history on Asian Americans. That's why centers like us doing this is so important," she said. "We contributed to the city and this society and we need a voice here."

The Pioneers

Along Austin's Congress St. once stood the Hong Lee Laundry, a successful business run by Joe Sing and his wife.

Mary Frances' mother Senovia would often tell stories of riding along with her three siblings in her father's buggy on their way to get ice cream.

Sadly, Sing's legacy would come to an abrupt end after being hit by a car while crossing the street. No one was ever arrested in his death.

For many of the early Chinese bachelors, finding a spouse

was made even more difficult by the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act which severely banned immigration from China. Americans who married these men had their own citizenship taken away.

That's what happened to Mary Frances' grandmother. Unbeknownst to her, marrying Sing had nullified her citizenship, something she discovered after applying for her old age pension. She would eventually reapply but it would be years before she received her first check.

"Being Latina then wasn't like it is today," said Mary Frances. "There are a lot of little things people would say because she married a Chinese, a lot of people didn't like her." But "I think they had a good marriage."

Today, five generations of the Sing family have called Austin home.

In 1875 only 20 AAs were living in Austin but by 1970, 332 AAs were residing in the area. The 2000 Census shows that 45,000 AAs were in Austin although Esther believes these numbers are conservative and the 2010 Census should better reflect Austin's rapidly growing Vietnamese American community.

Austin also boasts a large Indian American and Chinese American community, the latter even has its own small Chinatown. Several Vietnamese businesses call North Austin home and a small Koreatown is also located here. The nearby University of Texas' student population is 17 percent AA.

Residents of Austin say the warm climate, the friendly atmosphere and an economy that is still relatively strong attract a growing AA population.

But even in the late 1930s AAs were calling this city home. One of the first Chinese American families to arrive in Austin was the Wong family in 1938.

Fred and R.C. Wong had been living in San Antonio when they decided to buy property and start a grocery store in Corpus, Texas. But soon after their arrival, locals in the area made sure they had an unwelcome reception.

So they decided to move onto Austin with just \$1,000 and a dream to build a home.

"They were welcomed into Austin. It was a friendly city and they bought a store on Red River and I still have it," said Dr. Mitchel Wong, 69, the oldest of the three Wong kids. "It was one of the best things that could have happened to [my parents]."

Today, four generations of the Wong family continue to call Austin home. The family has done well for themselves, owning several properties throughout the city.

"We never had a reason to think we were not welcomed," said R.C. Wong, 93. "I personally love living in Austin and the people we know."

The Wong family archives are now a part of the Austin History Center's AA collection.

"I've been here 70 years and our history has never been recorded in an organized manner," said Mitchel. "It's beneficial to start to record these histories in perpetuity."

Local JA History

Although Austin's JA community is relatively small, one JA man continues to be a beloved figure in this city.

Isamu Taniguchi's legacy can be found at the Taniguchi Japanese Garden at the Zilker Botanical Garden, a place that hosts more than 400,000 tourists each year. At the age of 70, Isamu donated his skills and time to help beautify the city of Austin.

With very little equipment and only a handful of assistants, he converted a three-acre plot of land into a harmonious Japanese garden that continues to be popular today.

My grandfather was "one of those old time Nisei guys," said grandson Evan Taniguchi, 57, a second-generation architect. "The garden was something he wanted to do for the city."

Isamu was born in Osaka in 1897 and by the age of 17 had immigrated to Stockton, Calif. During World War II he was sent to the Crystal City internment camp. He had lost all his farming equipment and property after the war, so he made his way to South Texas.

"It was very inexpensive out there at the time and it reminded him of the area he was from. So he started another family business," said Evan.

Isamu began farming in the Rio Grande Valley, raising two sons: Alan and Isumu. Both sons would be educated at UT and after his arrival in 1958, Alan decided to stay in Austin. After Isamu's retirement, Alan convinced his father to join him in 1967.

Today, four generations of Taniguchis have called Austin home.

"There's a nice quality of life here, it's outdoorsy," said Evan. "There's no where I would rather be."

Collecting Histories

Esther is the sole staff person at the Austin History Center working to collect local AA stories. She's been working on the project the past two years and has so far amassed an impressive collection.

But more work still needs to be done.

In addition to the pioneering local individuals, businesses and organizations, she hopes to collect information on more recent history and is encouraging AAs in Austin and Travis County to contact her. The collection will eventually be a repository for researchers.

Chung herself immigrated to the U.S. from South Korea at the age of nine. She attended UT and decided to stay in Austin. She's lived here the past 11 years.

Before working on the project she admits she never felt close to the AA community. But now that has changed.

"For me personally I feel more connected to this community now," she said. "I feel like it's a personal mission to advocate for more historical items for the Asian American community — so we're not lost, we're not forgotten." ■

The Austin History Center is currently showing its first AA exhibit: "Vietnam to Austin: Restoring Community" until July 17. For information, 512/974-7394 or visit <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/ahc>.

President Signs Funding Bill for Confinement Sites Program

The Omnibus Appropriations Act that President Barack Obama signed into law on March 11 includes \$1 million for the Confinement Sites Preservation Program. These funds will be available immediately.

This new program was authorized in December 2006 (Public Law 109-441), but funding has been delayed until now. The Japanese American National Heritage Coalition, of which JACL is a member, worked with Members of Congress on shaping the legislative initiative and has been working to secure funding over the past two years.

"This funding will start preserving World War II confinement sites so that they will serve as teaching venues about the hardships and contributions made by persons of Japanese ancestry who were imprisoned in America's concentration camps," said Gerald Yamada, Heritage Coalition's national coordinator.

Securing initial funding for this federal grant program was difficult since President Bush did not include funding for the program in his last two annual budget requests to Congress although he signed the law creating the program.

Yamada credited Congressman Norman Dicks, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, for the funding in the Omnibus Appropriations for the Confinement Sites Grant Program in response to the funding request led by Congresswoman Doris Matsui and 22 other House Members.

He also acknowledged the help of Congressman Mike Honda, a member of the full House Appropriations Committee, and Sen. Daniel Inouye, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"The burden is now on the 33 organizations making up the Heritage Coalition to accelerate developing their preservation projects," said Yamada. "We need to keep the pipeline full with worthy projects so that the full \$38 million authorized for this program will be made available to them." ■



Hope for a Visitor's Center at Honouliuli May Become Reality

Community leaders are continuing talks with the site's owner on how to honor a little-known part of Hawaii's WWII history.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

In Oahu during World War II, Honouliuli was a prison in paradise. After the Pearl Harbor attack, hundreds of Japanese Americans living in Hawaii were taken to this internment camp because of their ethnicity. But because of the lower numbers of internees compared to the mainland, their experiences are not often talked about.

Preservationists and community groups including the JACL are working to make sure Honouliuli gains its rightful place in American history.

"Honouliuli has been mostly hidden from our mainland efforts of preservation," said JACL National Director Floyd Mori, who added that the JACL is working with the local community and lawmakers to support the preservation efforts.

An archaeological survey has found that the Honouliuli site is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. And the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i (JCCH), which spearheaded the preservation efforts, is talking with the site's owner about setting aside acreage for a visitor's center.

In 2007, Monsanto Corp. bought the land that used to house Honouliuli. The company has proposed a seven-acre parcel for a parking

lot, walking path and visitor center, according to the *Honolulu Advertiser*.

Community leaders hope to have Honouliuli designated as a historic site and managed by the National Park Service.

"This site is a part of Hawaii's history and whose story is slowly being pieced together and told," said Sheldon Arakaki, JACL vice president of general operations. His grandfather was interned at Honouliuli in 1944.

After the Pearl Harbor attack, government officials began imprisoning JA community leaders who were suspected to have ties to the Japanese government.

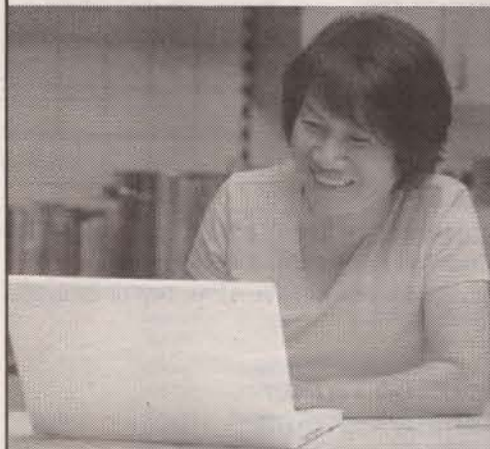
Less than one-percent of local JAs were interned in temporary camps scattered across the islands including Honouliuli, Kauai's Kalaheo Stockade, Maui's Haiku Camp, Oahu's Sand Island and Kilauea Military Camp on the Big Island. Honouliuli, the largest of those camps, held about 320 people, including Germans, Italians and prisoners of war.

"Camp Honouliuli is the physical evidence that internment was a part of Hawaii's Japanese American community history, and its preservation means the site can be used to educate future generations about past, current and future struggles for justice and civil rights in this country," said Arakaki. ■

The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i is trying to locate more former Honouliuli internees. If you or a family member were interned at Honouliuli or anywhere else in Hawaii during WWII, call the JCCH resource center at 808/945-7633, ext. 42.

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VA Hospital Permanently Replaces WWII Display

JAs believed the "Japs Surrender" headline dishonored the heroic legacy of the 442nd/100th/MIS.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

INDIANAPOLIS—A VA hospital director who upset veterans by removing a framed newspaper with the headline "Japs Surrender" said March 4 that he has permanently replaced it with a later headline declaring "Peace!"

The front page of the Aug. 14, 1945, edition of *The Indianapolis Times* has been replaced with the next day's "Peace!" headline because it better reflects what soldiers who served in World War II were fighting for, said Tom Mattice, director of Roudebush Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

He said the new display is also not offensive to any particular group of veterans.

"What we really want to do is honor all of the veterans who come through our medical center to make sure that they feel respected and to make sure that their service is just as honored as everybody else who has served this country," Mattice said.

He said he consulted the VA's National Center for Ethics for advice and he said they supported his decision to permanently remove the initial newspaper display.

Mattice removed the "Japs Surrender" headline earlier this year after receiving a complaint from an employee offended by the term "Japs,"

a common slur during World War II.

The removal sparked a national letter-writing campaign among veterans, who say taking down the display amounts to an attempt to whitewash history.

Ronald "Bud" Albright, commandant of the local Marine Corps League chapter and leader of the letter-writing campaign, says he plans to fight the VA's decision and still wants the original headline returned.

He says the chapter is discussing writing more letters, circulating a petition, or possibly holding a peaceful protest.

"We don't intend to let this die. This politically correct stuff has to stop. Next thing you know, they'll start taking down war memorials and museums," Albright said.

Mattice said he received about 25 letters and 40 e-mails opposing the removal of the newspaper. But he said there were also letters supporting the removal.

One letter from the child of a Japanese American veteran thanked the VA for its decision. The writer's father served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, a segregated unit primarily made up of JAs that is the most decorated for its size in U.S. military history.

"My father returned from the service only to encounter many situations in which he was told that 'Japs' were not wanted," the letter states. "That slur has a long history in our country, and the 442nd veterans should not be subjected to it." ■

Groups Still Pushing For Marriage Equality

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Asian Pacific American groups like the JACL are continuing their efforts to overturn California's ban on same-sex marriage.

The state's top election official recently gave the green light to supporters to start collecting signatures for a proposed ballot measure that would strike the word "marriage" from all state laws.

Supporters of this ballot measure want to replace it with the term "domestic partnership," while keeping all the rights of marriage in place.

If passed, the new measure would repeal the ban, and define domestic partnerships as unions between all couples, regardless of sexual orientation.

About 700,000 signatures are needed by early August to get the initiative on the ballot.

The measure is the grassroots effort of two heterosexual college students.

Following passage of Proposition 8, the JACL joined with other civil rights groups to submit an *amicus* brief in support of the Petition for Writ Mandate in the case of *Strauss, et al v. Horton, et al.*

The Writ requests that the Calif. Supreme Court issue an order invalidating Proposition 8 in its entirety.

As an *amicus*, JACL supports the petitioners' claim that no Californian should be denied equal protection.

"Proposition 8 seeks to limit the participation in society from a distinct group of people and JACL feels that this is wrong," said JACL National President Larry Oda. "We were the victims of many discriminatory laws and were successful in having them overturned. We continue to fight to protect others from being targeted as we were."



APAs say the *Loving v. Virginia* case is a precedence for marriage equality.

The JACL has been a longtime supporter of marriage equality. In 1967, the organization was an *amicus* in the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Loving v. Virginia*, the seminal case that struck down antisegregation laws in 17 states.

"Mixed-race marriages once violated the laws of many states. Rooted in bigotry, such laws were judged to violate equal protection by the California Supreme Court in 1948 and by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1967," said Ron Katsuyama, JACL vice president of public affairs.

"Since then, the JACL has continued to help secure justice and equal opportunities for all, including those who experience discrimination based upon their sex or sexual orientation." In 1994, the JACL was one of the first civil rights groups in the nation to affirm its support for marriage equality. The organization stated in a resolution that marriage equality "was a constitutional right that should not be denied because of a person's sexual orientation."

"Marriage equality is a JACL issue not only because there are JAs affected, but more importantly because Proposition 8 is a discriminatory law that seeks to remove a right that was determined by the California Supreme Court to be one that all citi-

zens enjoy," said Oda.

According to a new AP field poll, California's electorate would be just as divided today than it was in November when a gay marriage ban passed with 52 percent of the vote.

The poll of 761 registered voters found that 48 percent of those surveyed would support a new ballot initiative repealing Proposition 8, the same percentage that voted against it four months ago.

The California Supreme Court has been asked to throw out the November ban on the grounds that it represented such a significant change to the state constitution that approval from the Legislature or a constitutional convention was needed to qualify it as an initiative. A ruling is due by June 3.

Last May, the court decision to legalize same-sex marriage led to as many as 18,000 such marriages.

"We agree with the California Supreme Court's decision that marriage is a fundamental right, and that constitutional protections should also apply to same-sex couples. Accordingly, a state ballot initiative must not abridge marriage equality, denying the right of some couples to enter into loving and enduring relationships as recognized for others," said Katsuyama. ■

Support for Hawaii Civil Union Vote Wavering

By MARK NIESSE
Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU—The drive to make Hawaii the fifth state in America to allow same-sex civil unions is on the verge of failing, despite support from most state lawmakers.

Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey and New Hampshire are the other states that allow civil unions.

Only two states, Massachusetts and Connecticut, allow gay marriage, while California, Oregon and Washington allow same-sex couples to enter into domestic partnerships.

Hawaii Senate leaders had planned a vote before the full Senate as early as March 10, but deep divisions have emerged over whether Democrats should take an extraordinary legislative step to revive the

measure after a tie committee vote.

A tie vote in committee usually is enough to kill a measure, but the bill could advance under a rarely used provision of the Hawaii Constitution if more than one-third of senators approve.

The Democratic leadership wants more than half the Senate to agree to put the bill before the full Senate. Some rank-and-file senators who support the bill, however, are unwilling to circumvent the normal legislative process.

The measure already has passed the Hawaii House.

Lawmakers' hesitation comes after more than 6,000 opponents, most of them from religious groups, rallied against the legislation Feb. 22

at the state Capitol. Civil union supporters held their own event at the Capitol on March 7.

"I'm hopeful in the end, the majority can come together and reach a consensus," said Majority Leader Sen. Gary Hooser, a Democrat who supports civil unions.

If the bill doesn't come out of committee, the issue may not come up again until near the end of this year's legislative session in May, or lawmakers could decide to drop the issue entirely.

Legislators could also compromise by approving a watered-down version of civil unions that affirms gay partnerships but reserves some marital rights for heterosexual couples only. ■

"I'm hopeful in the end, the majority can come together and reach a consensus."

— Sen. Gary Hooser

National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Memorial Fund Created for Sushi-Man Restaurateur



SAN FRANCISCO—The family of a slain restaurateur has set up a memorial fund in honor of Ryosuke Yoshioka, longtime owner of Sushi-Man restaurant on Bush Street.

In January, Yoshioka, 59, was stabbed to death in the parking garage above Office Max at 3700 Geary

Blvd. His alleged assailant, 45-year-old Peter C. Fong, is scheduled to be arraigned March 24.

Send contributions to the Yoshioka family to the "Ryosuke Yoshioka Memorial Fund," Account No. 2119185011, Wells Fargo Bank, 2055 Chestnut St., San Francisco, CA 94123.

Group: Omaha Rules Violate Affirmative Action Ban

OMAHA, Neb.—A legal group is calling for Omaha to repeal rules that give preference to minority and female contractors, saying the rules violate Nebraska's affirmative action ban.

The California-based Pacific Legal Foundation said Omaha's contracting ordinance lets female- and minority-owned businesses submit bids 30 days before other businesses. It also requires 10 percent of the city's contracting dollars to be awarded to female- and minority-owned businesses.

In November, voters approved an amendment that prohibits state and local governments from giving preferential treatment to people on the basis of race, sex, ethnicity or national origin.

Myanmar Refugees Get Help in Frederick

FREDERICK, Md.—Community groups have come together to help Myanmar refugees transition to their new lives in the U.S.

It's the start of a collaboration among LIFE and Discovery, Lutheran Social Services, the International Rescue Committee and Frederick County Public Schools, and others. The goal is to offer services for a growing number of Myanmar refugees in the Frederick area.

If this partnership proves successful, many say it could be expanded and replicated with other immigrant groups in the area.

The biggest challenges are learning the language and finding work.

Pa. APAs Fearful After Rash of Crimes

PHILADELPHIA—The local APA community is on edge after a series of home invasion sprees that seem to target APAs.

At least 14 robberies, including three times in a single day, have been reported in the last few months. The victim was always APA.

The criminals staked out a business, sometimes calling to ask for closing times, then trailed the owners home. After parking their cars, the victims were confronted at gunpoint, forced inside and robbed of jewelry, cash, and other valuables. The scenario was repeated at least 14 times in recent months, including three times in a single day.

Police say the victims were targeted by criminals who believed they would be easy marks because of stereotypes about cash-based businesses.

The crime wave came amid the murders of three APAs, two of them also by home invasion.

McCain, Honda Face Off on Twitter About San Jose Japanese Museum



WASHINGTON—Sen. John McCain, while slamming "pork" in a budget bill, made the San Jose Japanese American Museum the focus of his anger.

McCain used the social networking tool Twitter to single out projects he deemed unworthy of funding in a

\$410 billion bill in the Senate — including \$237,500 for expansion of the Japantown museum.

Reps. Zoe Lofgren, D-San Jose, and Mike Honda, D-Campbell, secured that money to help the museum, which has raised \$50,000 privately but lost a \$600,000 state grant to budget woes. Construction has been halted for lack of funds, said museum board member Roy Matsuzaki.

Honda tweeted right back to McCain in Twitter shorthand: "Jap. Museum boost tourism (thus jobs) in SJ Japantown, last of 3 authentic US Japantowns. Zoe & I proudly supported its funding." ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Taguba to be Honored for Courage, Inspiration



Major General Antonio Taguba, whose report on Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison in 2004 drew international attention and created accusations of prisoner abuse, will receive the distinguished Special Recognition Honor at the Sixth Annual Asian Heritage Awards.

Taguba is only the second Filipino American to attain the rank of major general in the U.S. Army.

Each year, Asia Media Inc. and the Asian Heritage Society honor an individual who has shown a commitment to the APA community. The July 25 gala ceremony will be held aboard the USS Midway.

Norimoto Receives Human Relations Award



Tamon Norimoto has received the Santa Clara County Human Relations Award for his leadership and volunteer work with South Bay First Thursdays, a forum for professionals to learn more about the APA community. Norimoto is the development director for Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI).

Each year the Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission and the Office of Human Relations hold an awards breakfast to honor the work of individuals and organizations.

Los Angeles Theatre to Honor APA Entertainers



East West Players, the Little Tokyo-based APA theatre, is honoring Academy Award winning filmmaker Jessica Yu, actor John Cho, MTV's "America's Best Dance Crew" winner Quest Crew (pictured above) and the California Community Foundation at its 43rd Anniversary Visionary Award Dinner & Silent Auction. The April 27 event will take place at the Hilton Universal City. Proceeds from the event will benefit East West Players' educational and artistic programs.

Taubkin Receives High JAVA Award, Honorary Life Membership



The Japanese American Veterans Association has honored Kiyoko Tsuboi Taubkin with their prestigious "Honor, Courage, Patriotism" Award for her support in preserving the legacy of the JA experience during World War II.

Taubkin received a JAVA lifetime membership and a JAVA coin inscribed with her name.

In late 2008, she donated a generous amount of New York Times stock to JAVA. Taubkin was married to the late Irvin S. Taubkin, who was the director of public relations of the Times.

Mori Receives Diversity Award



Cheryl Miyuki Mori, a Utah Bar member and JACL member, is the recipient of the Raymond S. Uno Award for the Advancement of Minorities in the Legal Profession.

She was recognized for her dedication to promoting issues related to racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession.

Mori, a staff attorney in the Enforcement Division of the Securities and Exchange Commission in Salt Lake City, was a member of the Salt Lake County Council on Diversity Affairs and the Access to Justice Council.

The award is named for the Hon. Raymond S. Uno, a judge in the district court in Salt Lake City, Utah and a past JACL national president. ■

EPA to Withdraw from Idaho Feedlot Agreements

Late last year a lawsuit was filed to stop a proposed feedlot from being built near the historic Minidoka Monument.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

TWIN FALLS, Idaho—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is withdrawing from two agreements with Idaho concerning the regulating of animal feed lots, an officials says.

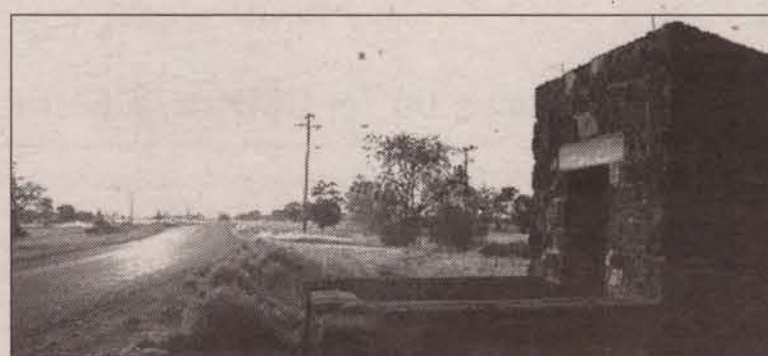
Ed Kowalski, head of EPA's regional enforcement group, said confined-animal feeding operations have become a national priority with the agency and it plans to play a more direct role in inspection and enforcement.

The agreements concerning the state's dairy and beef-cattle operations regulate such things as discharges of animal waste into state waters.

"A lot has changed since those memoranda were entered into," Kowalski told *The Times-News*.

In April last year, a six-month extension of an emergency moratorium on new confined-animal feeding operations passed by Jerome County commissioners in south-central Idaho was struck down by a Fifth District Court judge after the Idaho Dairyman's Association and Idaho Cattle Association sued.

*And late last year, a lawsuit was filed in an effort to prevent a 13,000-



The Minidoka Internment National Monument is a national historic site.

animal dairy from being built near the Minidoka Internment National Monument, a national historic site in south-central Idaho where about 9,000 Japanese Americans were confined during World War II.

In a March 3 letter obtained by *The Times-News*, attorneys for the EPA say the agreements with the Idaho Department of Agriculture and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality limit the federal agency's powers to monitor the industry.

The agriculture department handles inspections while environmental quality and the EPA provide technical expertise.

The dairy agreement, a version of which was first signed in 1995, is scheduled to expire at the end of April. Kowalski said the beef-cattle agreement, which began in 2001, required a notice of 60 days, and it will end about the same time as the first agreement.

He said the EPA intends to play a more direct inspection and enforcement role nationwide. For Idaho, he said there won't be much change, with the federal agency still working with the state's department of agriculture, but with no official agreement.

Officials with the two Idaho agencies said they were still studying the EPA's letter.

Bob Naerebout, executive director of the Idaho Dairyman's Association, said he was disappointed the agreements would end but didn't think it would mean much change.

"The advantage of the (agreement) was it made government efficient," he said.

Of Idaho's nearly 500,000 cows, about 70 percent are in southern Idaho, a number that some area residents fear could damage the quality of life due to odors as well as possible pollution to ground water. ■

After Years in the Brig, Al-Marri Gets His Day in Court

JACL signed on as an *amici* in *al-Marri v. Spagone*, a case that questions the indefinite military detention.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

The attorney for Ali al-Marri repeated a phrase many Japanese Americans have been saying since World War II: may what happened to his client never again be repeated in the United States.

"It's as un-American as it can get. Thank God he's the only one who has suffered as much as anyone has," said Andy Savage after his client recently appeared in a U.S. criminal court in Charleston, South Carolina on terror charges.

Al-Marri, 43, is an alleged al-Qaida sleeper agent. He was studying at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill. as a legal U.S. resident when he was arrested in late 2001 as part of the investigation of the Sept. 11 attacks. He was initially indicted on fraud charges, which were dropped in 2003 when President George W. Bush declared him an enemy combatant.

He had been held in a nearby Navy brig as an enemy combatant without charge for more than five years.

"What the administration now calls 'national security,' we knew as 'military necessity' in 1942," said JACL National President Larry Oda.

The JACL has also signed on as an *amici* in *al-Marri v. Spagone*, a case that calls to question the constitutionality of indefinitely holding U.S. residents in military detention.

After the Pearl Harbor attack, hundreds of thousands of JAs were rounded up and imprisoned in internment camps because of their shared ancestry with the "enemy" nation during World War II. In the current war against terror, many community leaders have pointed out the similarities.

Last month, President Barack Obama ordered al-Marri be surrendered to civilian authorities after he was indicted on federal charges of providing material support to terror and conspiracy.

"While we never got a court ruling to justify our detention, at least now, the Supreme Court has ruled that the president does not have the power to

order the indefinite military detention of legal residents of the United States," said Oda.

After the Sept. 11th terrorist attacks, the JACL was one of the first organizations to take a stand against war hysteria and racial prejudice.

"We need to stay vigilant so further efforts to erode our civil rights are dealt with quickly," added Oda.

When al-Marri, a native of Qatar, returns to the Charleston federal court, his attorney says he'll ask for bond.

Until his transfer or release, prosecutors and defense attorneys agreed to keep al-Marri in a civilian cell at the Navy brig where he's been held since 2003. That will allow him more access to his attorneys than he had during his years of detention as an enemy combatant.

Savage said his client was glad to get out of the brig, if only for a short time.

"He was very pleased to be outside and very pleased to be in a court environment but it was dark outside and he was disappointed he didn't get to see much of 'Charleston,'" Savage said. ■



[HARRY HONDA]

VERY TRULY YOURS

'Thumbs Up' for CCDC's Tri-District

SO IT'S NOT remarkable to negotiate the Grapevine through pelting rain and soft snowflakes Friday morning (Feb. 13) to attend another great JACL Tri-District Conference hosted by the Central California District Council. The snow "alert" apparently didn't stop national director Floyd Mori, who had been at the Nisei VFW reunion in La Mirada, and who wrote the road was clear the next morning.

Many Southern Californians intending to drive over the Grapevine on Saturday were advised the I-5 was closed because of snow — a situation that prevailed for four days, forcing us to drive home after a rain-soaked Pinedale Remembrance Plaza dedication Monday afternoon via the scenic coast highway US 101, an extra 130 miles.

That the *Fresno Bee* (Feb. 14) gave its "Thumbs Up" compliment to the Clovis Veterans Memorial District was heartwarming. It focused on their assuming "financial stewardship (\$65,000) of the Remembrance Plaza at Pinedale." Their contribution provided for about \$150,000 of the committee's portion of the monument: the Tsutakawa fountain sculpture, \$60,000; the fountain \$45,000; the story boards \$40,000; the California Registered Historical Landmark No. 934 \$3,500; and the balance for photos and miscellaneous expenses.

"Thumbs Up" to the Central California Nikkei Foundation, Central California JACL District Council and developer of the site, Granum Partners, to establish the memorial. This editorial assured our weekend was off to a grand start.

CCDC's optional bus trip to visit the Japanese Institute of Art at Clark Center in Hanford was another reason for driving a day ahead. Special exhibit of *medake* (new bamboo) and rattan pieces was a great surprise.

The Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial Project Committee, led by Superior Court Judge Dale Ikeda, can stand proud for its work to preserve a rare remnant of Japanese American history.

Bainbridge Island evacuees come to mind whenever Pinedale, one of the 15 assembly centers, gets mentioned. They were briefly housed there and moved to Puyallup Assembly Center (near Seattle) when it was ready.

Very timely was Brad Wong's recent story in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* (Jan. 29) of Fumiko Hayashida with baby Natalie of three months asleep in her arms, waiting to board the ferry from Bainbridge Island to Seattle in March 1942.

The Seattle JACL honored Mrs. Hayashida, 98, "for raising awareness about the wholesale denial of civil rights to a group of about 110,000 people." Incidentally, Wong is a graduate of UC Santa Cruz. His story appeared in the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL newsletter this month. "Thumbs up" to editor Mas Hashimoto.

The Tri-District's three sessions on "Internment and Redress Remembered" was without a doubt, one of the best I've attended in years. I recall two other joint district council sessions in the mid-90s: the EDC-MDC-MPDC's "Nikkei Identity and Youth" at Albuquerque and the PNW-IDC celebration at Jackpot, Nevada, of the birth of the 1000 Club. They're like jewels in the memory of one retired P.C. editor.

During the Q&A part of session two on *coram nobis* cases, Nancy Taniguchi (wife of former CCDC governor Bob) seemed to have stumped the panelists. She wondered why the Supreme Court (as I understood her query) vacated the felony convictions of Fred Korematsu, Gordon Hirabayashi and Min Yasui but not the rule that resulted in their conviction.

Comment followed that the justices dodged the matter during the appeal. Justice James Ardaiz of the state appellate court at Fresno, the moderator, offered what must have crossed their minds in rendering the decision, which I thought was candid and priceless to hear.

The spontaneity of this panel was explosive, informative and unique. Then having the first Mexican American U.S. ambassador, Phillip Sanchez, recollecting extemporaneously of his youth at Pinedale postwar, was a delightful treat.

Serious words for the day came from keynote speaker, Hon. Norman Mineta. "The point we sought to make at that time [when E.O. 9066 was promulgated], and pursue to this day, was that the issues raised by the internment were not Japanese American issues, but American issues. Test lingers today.

"The first test came in 1991. After Iraq invaded Kuwait, loyal Iraqi Americans found themselves being asked inappropriate loyalty questions by the U.S. government ...

"We as Americans place great trust in each other through our Constitution ... It is a license to pursue a 'more perfect union' ... And every Feb. 19, Japanese Americans remember not only a day when that experience was lacking, but also the day decades later when the American oath affirming personal justice finally prevailed." ■

Harry K. Honda is editor emeritus of the Pacific Citizen.



[PETER SHIGEKI FRANDSEN]

THE SHIGEKI SHAKE DOWN

Twitter-pated: It's a Hyper-Broadcasted Life

Since I got married just a few short months ago, one of the most annoying questions that I have been asked is: "So, are you guys going to start a blog now?"

I usually toss out some awkward rejoinder about how "I was blogging way before I ever got married" or that "blogs aren't exclusively for married people." But in the back of my mind, I know I was partially annoyed because the answer would inevitably be "yes" and I would fall prey to yet another societal cliché.

Several weeks ago, my wife and I joined the throngs of other young couples and launched our own couple's blog laced with all the essentials: a blogspot suffix, dual authorship with cute screen names, a played-out template design, a list of links of all our blogging friends and family members, and some snarky title that illustrates our wit.

It's perfect and perfectly predictable.

Never mind the fact that if you check my blogger profile it will say "member since October 2005," every time I set up a blog (this is my fifth in under four years) I feel like I'm buying a house in the town that discovered Edward Scissorhands with its identical colored houses and clockwork simplicity. I wonder, is this bland and stereotypical existence avoidable?

Surely even the masterminds that run the Googleplex in Mountain View, Calif. couldn't have predicted the depths in which Blogger has penetrated and permeated our social norms. It has become a forum for politics and religion, a vehicle for bloviating over music and movies, and a mass communication device that periodically replaces even e-mail and phone calls.

And it's only going to get worse.

The latest trend bouncing all over pop culture is called Twitter. The concept is simple enough: you update your status and your "followers" get an inside, up-to-the-second look at what you are doing, thinking, reading, smelling or eating.

Even though Twitter has been around for a couple

years, it has recently been on a rampage picking up new users rapidly. In the beginning, its users were mainly techies that read blogs like Gizmodo or Engadget. From there, it caught on among college kids who wanted to broadcast their every thought to anyone who would listen. Then it spread to young

professionals in metropolitan areas trying to network and get the skinny.

But lately, showbiz types like David Gregory from NBC's "Meet the Press" and George Stephanopoulos of ABC's "This Week" have been "tweeting" (sending out updates) just before their big interviews.

Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill even tweeted her thoughts during the closed-door stimulus debate negotiations so that constituents

back home would be kept in the loop. Bottom-up and top-down again, it seems that this Twitter-pation nation is unavoidable.

All of this self-promotion and hyper-broadcasting is enough to make me dizzy. It's incredibly odd to me that we have become a society narcissistic enough to think that other people actually want a minute-by-minute account of our thoughts and actions.

It's even more bizarre that it happens every day, many times over. People actually subscribe to other people's feeds to be in the know.

It begs the pitiable question: will we ever get our lives back? Do we even want to? I feel bad for my kids. They won't even have a chance to be shy because even my friends in the remotest locations will witness their every development on our newly minted blog. They won't stand a chance.

With Blogger, Twitter, and all the inevitable follow-ups, is it possible to avoid getting Twitter-pated and selling our souls to each socially mandated new obsession? I think the answer is yes. But the real question is: for how long? ■

Peter Shigeki Frandsen is currently a student at Columbia University, College of Dental Medicine. He is also a Mt. Olympus JACL member.

OUR SPRING SENSATION

"WHEN EVERYONE TOLD HER NO,
SHE REWROTE THE RULES"

"GOING 'AGAINST THE GRAIN'
WITH A JAPANESE AMERICAN IN PERU"

"ONCE, THEY WERE KAMIKAZE"



PETE HIROKAWA '09



Purely a Struggling Artist Thing

Lynn Chen, best known for her role in 'Saving Face,' talks about life in flux and 'White on Rice.'

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

Hollywood in 2009

is still a golden oasis surrounded by deferred dreams and broken promises. Lynn Chen knows the intersection well.

Five years ago, she was among the new faces of young Asian Pacific American actors who represented hope of a new kind of town — one that dared to make "Saving Face," a romantic comedy about an APA lesbian couple (Chen playing one-half of that couple), and distribute it in theaters.

Now, Chen, 32, is taking a self-imposed break from show business. No agent. No manager. She is the master of her own destiny now appearing in mostly independent, Asian Pacific American film projects like "White on Rice" (which at press time is in contention for an Audience Award at the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival).

"In Hollywood, it's a money game," she says over the phone. "You can philosophize all you want about success in this business, but the reality is in the money. I've been fortunate for many, many years that acting could be my full-time job."

Then suddenly, it just wasn't cutting it anymore.

There were so many moments of heart-break: coming close to landing roles, getting roles in pilots that never see the light of television screens — it's a complete crapshoot. In one breath, Chen likens the experience of being a struggling actor in Hollywood to sleeping on the floor.

"It's like when you're young and you stay out all night and then don't even think twice about sleeping on the floor or crashing at someone else's pad." Then you grow up and you need ... more.

In another breath, she likens it to going back to an abusive boyfriend. Don't worry, in real life Chen is happily married to her Wesleyan University sweetheart, Abe Forman-Greenwald.

Onscreen, Chen often plays an intangible love interest like her character Ramona in "White on Rice." Flowing raven hair and steady gazes send her onscreen admirer Jimmy (Hiroshi Watanabe of "Letters from Iwo Jima") in a tailspin for her affection. But in the first moment the two meet onscreen, Chen's

expression says it all — the 40-something man/boy who relies on the kindness of others to live has no chance.

She captures the same steeliness in "Lake View Terrace" when she faces off against a rampaging Samuel L. Jackson. Her appeal is almost sublime, and somehow balanced by a girl-next-door sensibility. Just when she's in danger of losing her relatability in "White on Rice," Chen sports a Super Mario Brothers-style mustache in a scene at a Halloween party.

"Lynn is amazing," said filmmaker Dave Boyle "Every scene you see with Lynn is the first take. She doesn't have to be directed."

When she read the "White on Rice" script, Chen was sure she was Ramona. A hardworking graduate student who had a thing for an old flame? It was so her. She auditioned and didn't hear back. Then Chen heard they were auditioning other girls for the role.

She thought, "Okay, maybe I'm not so Ramona-esque."

Boyle disagrees. "She was someone we were thinking about from the start. She had a different interpretation with the part." While other actresses auditioning for the same role flirted with Jimmy, Chen "didn't give him any reason for hope."

But these days, the film projects are few and far between. Chen supplements her independence with a few odd jobs, including teaching "Man of La Mancha" to young students at a Los Angeles theater company.

"It's purely a struggling artist thing."

Chen has roles in upcoming independent films like "Why Am I Doing This?" and "The

People I've Slept With." But for the most part, she's waiting for the projects to come to her.

"I'm still being called in [for auditions]. When it happens, it happens."

Over the summer, she huddled in front of the television to watch Olympic athletes try to capture glory, and felt most like the ones at the end of the competitions — the ones who, through no fault of their own, are breathing hard, grimacing in pain and can't take one more step "because they're tired of it all."

"Saving Face" opened a lot of doors, she admits. It was her first major leading role and her first film. It won her many unlikely fans that chanced on her MySpace page featuring some songs from Chen's band, YPOK2. On the track "You're Gone," described as indie electro sound, she sings, "Just a break. Just a little chance to escape."

The truth is the band — made up of Chen, her husband and their friend Nate Smith — is a joke.

"We did it for fun after college."

They initially put it on the Web for their families to see, especially Chen, who has music in her blood. Her mom is an opera singer and longtime performer at the Metropolitan Opera House, where a young Chen also sang with the children's choirs.

"It's something that is very personal to me," says Chen about her singing and music. When she's not working, she plays the piano and writes.

"I'm trying to figure out plan B. I would love to get some writing done. I'm trying to enjoy my life."

Chen recently attended a college alumni event where she met film students who were

wide-eyed over the idea of Hollywood. It took her back to her "sleeping on the floor" days, so she decided not to go into a diatribe about how the town sucks.

"I wouldn't tell anyone not to go into [show business]. By all means it can be a fun ride."

But what people don't often talk about is how bumpy the ride really is. "Enjoy the high times, but there are down times and that's normal."

"Dreams can come true here, but if they don't that's okay too." ■

www.lynnchen.com

SNAPSHOT



PHOTO: JONATHAN CANLAS

Dave Boyle, 27

Think you know him? Here are three little known facts that may surprise you.

He speaks Japanese.

The Tucson, Arizona native who is of Swiss descent, majored in Japanese at Brigham Young University. He also flexed his language skills while on a Latter Day Saints mission to Australia, where he lived in Japantown.

He had an inner Charles Schultz.

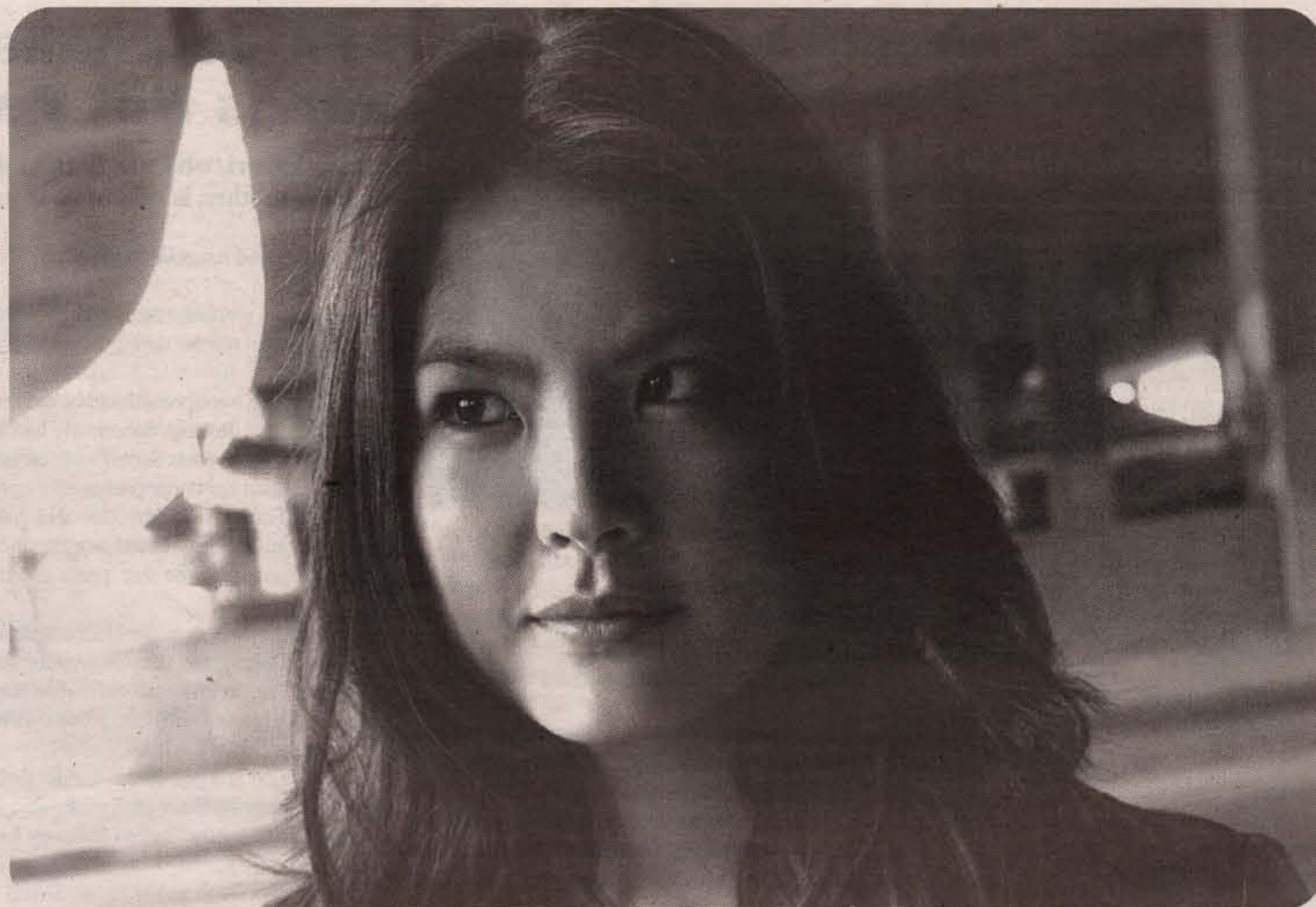
Growing up, Boyle wanted to become a newspaper comic strip artist.

His first job on a major film was as a security guard.

"I don't know what I would've done if someone tried to steal something. Maybe run away."

For screening dates:

www.whiteonricethemovie.com



Chen with 'White on Rice' co-star James Kyson Lee.

Dartmouth Students Send Racist E-mail About School's Next President

JACL responds, expressing dismay at racist letter.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

HANOVER, New Hampshire—Dartmouth students recently apologized for writing a tongue-in-cheek news report full of racial slurs directed at the school's next president, who will be the first Asian American to lead an Ivy League school.

The e-mail was sent March 3, a day after the college announced that Dr. Jim Yong Kim would become its president in July. It referred to Kim as a "Chinaman" and warned the campus to prepare for "Asianification."

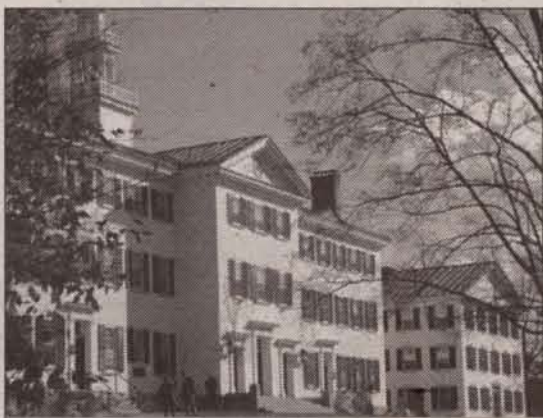
Kim, who heads the Global Health and Social Medicine Department at Harvard Medical School, was born in South Korea and grew up in Iowa.

"On July 1, yet another hard-working American's job will be taken by an immigrant willing to work in substandard conditions at near-subsistent wage, saving half his money and sending the rest home to his village in the form of traveler's checks," the e-mail said. "Unless 'Jim Young Kim' means 'I Love Freedom' in Chinese, I don't want anything to do with him. Dartmouth is America, not Panda Garden Rice Village Restaurant."

The e-mail was sent to about 1,000 students and alumni from the Generic Good Morning Message, a daily news report. It is not an official college organization and receives no support from the school.

Kim responded with an e-mail to all Dartmouth students.

He said he was concerned the "unfortunate e-mail" would undermine Dartmouth's work to build a diverse and inclusive campus "that cherishes free speech, but also nurtures mutual respect and civility."



In an e-mail sent to everyone who received the original report, the report's staff apologized.

"The writer is full of regret; did not intend to offend anyone, and has committed to meeting with others, from diverse backgrounds, to learn as many lessons as possible from this experience," the note said.

President James Wright called the e-mail an offensive attempt at humor.

"This does not represent the mood that we share and it will not deter us from our plans to warmly welcome Dr. Kim and his family to this open and gracious community," he said in a statement.

In a letter to Wright, JACL offered to meet with the Dartmouth administration to teach about the social and individual impact that such racial slurs have upon the APA communities and the community at large.

"While Dartmouth positions itself as a premier Ivy League school with excellence in academics, it should be a leader in promoting more tolerant human relations and educate its students that racial slurs and dehumanizing comments should not have a part of today's society," said Floyd Mōri, JACL national director.

"We urge a more pro-active direction rather than an apologetic condoning of this action. Humor should not attempt to destroy character nor integrity." ■

Livingston-Merced JACL to Host Teacher-training Workshop

The Livingston-Merced JACL is sponsoring an April 4 teacher-training workshop to help the current and next generations of educators carry on lessons of the World War II Japanese American internment.

This workshop, which is a part of the Merced Assembly Center Project, will focus on the Redress Movement and draw parallels from the Pearl Harbor attack to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

To increase the reach, the workshop will be filmed. The local education committee is working to create three 30-minute segments about the internment for local viewing through the Merced County Office of Education.

This workshop is designed to give information and curriculum guides to up-and-coming teachers.

The chapter's previous workshop helped educate more young students about the internment experience than any other single event. As a result of that workshop, a speaker's bureau was formed to fill the demand for the Nisei to tell their stories in classrooms.

Currently, there are five active speakers who visit schools to educate students and teachers

about this part of WWII history. The Merced Assembly Center Project's next step is to expand the speaker's bureau to include Sansei who can talk about their parent's experiences.

The Merced Assembly Center Project has two main goals: to build a monument to commemorate the 4,669 individuals who were detained at the assembly center, and to educate local educators and would-be teachers about the importance of internment history. ■

Teacher-Training Workshop

April 4, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Merced County Office of Education,
Building J-2
632 W. 13th St.
Merced, Calif.

The workshop will be geared for teachers, but anyone interested in becoming a member of the speaker's bureau is encouraged to attend. The limit is 40 and teachers get first priority.

For more information: contact Bob Taniguchi at taniguchi.r@mced.edu

APA Journalist Being Held in Iran is Not Being Tortured

Roxana Saberi, who was born in the U.S. to an Iranian father and Japanese mother, is said to be in good spirits.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

An American journalist detained in Iran showed no signs of physical torture during a recent prison visit from a lawyer.

Abdolsamad Khorramshahi said he did not see any visible signs that Roxana Saberi, 31, had been tortured. But her father Reza Saberi said "certainly, they have interrogated her under pressure."

The Iran Foreign Ministry has said Saberi was detained because she continued working in Iran after the government revoked her press credentials in 2006.

Saberi, who was born in the United States to her Iranian father and Japanese mother and grew up in North Dakota, has lived in Iran for six years working as a freelance journalist for many media outlets, including National Public Radio.

Media outlets and journalism groups, including the Asian American Journalist's Association, are calling for Saberi's release.

"Her situation is a palpable reminder that journalists are at risk in parts of the world where freedom of the press is not protected," said Ellen Endo, AAJA executive director.

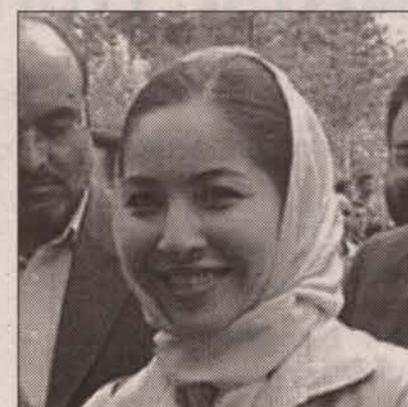
A spokesman for the Iranian judiciary has said she was being held in Evin prison north of Tehran.

In a brief phone call to her father, Saberi said she was detained in Iran after buying a bottle of wine.

Human rights groups have repeatedly criticized Iran for arresting journalists and suppressing freedom of speech. The government has arrested several Iranian Americans in the past few years, citing alleged attempts to overthrow its Islamic regime.

Saberi's father had said she was finishing a book on Iran and was planning to return to the U.S. this year.

"It's been very tough," he said. ■



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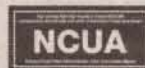
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JACL, OCA Hold Successful Leadership Conference

The JACL and OCA recently hosted their 11th annual joint D.C. Leadership Conference to help train community members to become community leaders.

The four-day conference in Washington, D.C., which was sponsored by State Farm, featured many national experts and lawmakers.

This year's participants were: Scott Chan, Jason Chang, Pearl Chin, Kelly Tuyet Dang, Megumi J. Kaminaga, Jessica Miyeko Kawamura, Nikun Khoongumjorn, Kenshin Kubo, Theodore Lau, Annie Lee, Michelle Lee, Ian Lim, Kam Liu, Linda Louie, Jacqueline Mac, Erin Hashimoto Martell, David McKnight, Lisa Miyake, Jude Nazareth, Stephanie Nitahara, Liza Normandy, Poonam Patel, Dawn Rego, Tomoko Roudebush, Suzuho (Suzy) Shimasaki, Matthew Tashima, Stan Tsai, Kayomi Wada, Zoua Xiong, Keen Yee, Suzan Yoshimura, and Jason Yu.

Conference sessions were presented by: Phil Nash, Charmaine Manansala, Parag Mehta, Deanna Jang, Priscilla Huang, Soumary Vongrassamy, Tuyet Duong, Lisa Hasegawa, Amado Uno, Lori



Conference participants met with Sen. Daniel K. Inouye at the Capitol in Washington, D.C. The JACL held its first Leadership Conference in 1983 and the program remains a popular one today.

Aratani, Betty Lin, Lori Hamamoto, Abby Levine, Traci Hong, Angela Arboleda, Van Luong, Larry Shinagawa, Terry Ao, Wayne Kei, Michael Lieberman, Deepa Iyer, Charles Kamasaki, Richard Foltin, Hilary Shelton, Paulo Pontemayor, Kory Caro, Floyd Mori, and George Wu.

State Farm representative Leslie Moe-Kaiser presented a workshop on leadership and JACL Vice

President of General Operations Sheldon Arakaki and OCA board member Duy Nguyen also spoke to the group.

Participants visited the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During World War II, where Warren Minami talked about the internment experience and the heroism of the 442nd/100th/MIS members who served during WWII.

Special speakers included: Stuart

Ishimaru, Vice Admiral Harry Harris (U.S. Navy), Captain Bruce Yamashita (U.S. Marines), Franklin Odo, and Congressman Mike Honda.

Other members of Congress who met with the participants were: Sen. Daniel Inouye, Congressman David Wu, Congressman Ahn "Joseph" Cao, Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo and Congressman Gregorio Sablan. ■

APAICS Creates Mo Marumoto Memorial Fund

The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) has established a memorial fund in honor of their late president, William H. "Mo" Marumoto.

The William H. "Mo" Marumoto Memorial Fund has a fundraising goal of \$50,000 by May, in time for the APAICS Gala, and \$100,000 by the end of this year.

Marumoto served as APAICS' president and CEO since 2006. Last June, he was given the Lifetime Presidents Volunteer Award for giving more than 40,000 volunteer hours to 35 nonprofit organizations in his lifetime.

Before APAICS, Marumoto served in the Nixon administration as the special assistant to the president and in the U.S. Departments of Health, Education and Welfare.

He passed away last November of a heart attack at the age of 73. ■

To Donate

Send contributions to: William H. "Mo" Marumoto Memorial Fund, c/o APAICS, 1001 Connecticut Ave., NW., Suite 530, Wash., D.C. 20036. For credit card contributions, contact Helen Ruggiero at 202/296-9200.



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Philippe Theriault

July 30-Aug. 7 **Yamato Canadian Rockies & the Majestic British Columbia Coast Tour** - 10 days/9 nights visiting Calgary, Banff, Jasper, rail to Prince George, rail to Prince Rupert, ferry through the Inside Passage to Port Hardy, Campbell River, Victoria.

Philippe Theriault

Aug. 28-Sept. 10 **Yamato Tour to China** - 14 days/12 nights visiting Beijing, Xi'an, Yangtze River Cruise from Chongqing to Yichang (3 nights), Hangzhou, Shanghai.

Peggy Mikuni

Oct. 2-11 **Yamato East Coast Fall Foliage Tour** - 10 days/9 nights visiting Niagara Falls, Cooperstown/Baseball Hall of Fame, Williamstown, Loon Mountain, Kancamagus Highway, Boston, New York City.

Philippe Theriault/Lilly Nomura

Oct. 15-29 **Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan** - 15 days/13 nights visiting Tokyo, Kagoshima, Ibusuki, Kirishima, Kumamoto, Fukuoka, Hiroshima, Kyoto.

Peggy Mikuni

Nov. 9-17 **Costa Rica - Nature's Museum, A Smithsonian Journeys Tour** - With Collette Vacations - 9 days/8 nights visiting San Jose, Poas Volcano, Braulio Carrillo and Tortuguero Nat'l Parks, Sarapiquí, San Carlos, Arenal Volcano, Cano Negro Wildlife Refuge. Includes stay at a rain forest resort.

Nov. 30-Dec. 9 **Yamato Christmas Markets of Europe Tour** - 10 days/8 nights visiting Prague, Rothenburg, Romantic Road from Dinkelsbühl to Ulm, Neuschwanstein, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Salzburg, Vienna.

Philippe Theriault

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College of San Mateo Seeks to Honor its Former JA Students



Main entrance to Coyote Point Campus at College of San Mateo in the 1940s.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PHILIP PROJECT, COLLEGE OF SAN MATEO LIBRARY

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Over 60 years after wartime hysteria forced some of its students to discontinue their education, the College of San Mateo is hoping to put a checkmark next to a long-held goal: put honorary degrees in those students' hands.

On May 29, the San Mateo, Calif.-based college will be awarding honorary associates degrees to its former Japanese American students who were forced into internment camps during World War II.

But the college still needs to find some of these individuals.

Lewis Kawahara, an ethnic studies professor who is spearheading the initiative for the college, has found 45 names of former JA students whose education was interrupted. But he's found less than 10 addresses. Many have passed away or changed their names.

He needs your help to honor these former students.

"The conferral of honorary degrees to our Nisei is the 'unfinished business' of our time," said Calif. Assemblyman Warren Furutani, who will be keynoting the event.

In the last few years, California lawmakers have pushed for similar efforts. In 2004, AB 781 was enacted into law authorizing high schools, unified school districts or county offices of education to retroactively grant diplomas to JAs whose high school education was interrupted during WWII.

Last year, Furutani introduced a similar measure, AB 37, in the legislature. If passed, it would direct all California higher education institutions to grant retroactive college degrees. At press time, AB 37 still needs to get through the Higher Education Committee to make it

onto the Assembly floor for a vote.

The College of San Mateo "is ahead of the curve," said Furutani. "We recognize that the conferral of honorary degrees to our Nisei is the final step in what has been a long journey to properly honor those whose academic pursuits were unjustly disrupted." ■

Degree Ceremony

Honoring former JA students whose education was interrupted during WWII.

College of San Mateo, May 29
Former students and their family members are welcome at the ceremony. If you or a family member attended the College of San Mateo and were not allowed to graduate because of the WWII internment, please contact Lewis Kawahara at KawaharaL@smccd.edu or 650/378-7301, ext. 19056 or ext. 6614.



U.S. Sen. John F. Kennedy poses with Frank Chuman, Frank Kurihara, Meri-Jane Yokoe and James Mitsumori at a Democratic Club function at the Biltmore Hotel in 1956.

Miyatake Photos That Tell Nikkei Story Are Now Online

Not all of the photos have accompanying information. The museum is asking for help in identifying the people, places and events.

Los Angeles' Japanese American National Museum recently added 500 more images to its Web site from its Toyo Miyatake/*Rafu Shimpo* Collection, a series of over 9,500 negatives and photographs taken by Toyo Miyatake Studios for the *Rafu Shimpo*.

Now the national museum is asking for the community's help in identifying the people, places and events in the photos.

From the 1950s to the 1980s, the *Rafu Shimpo* hired Toyo Miyatake Studios to take photos of local news events. But not all the photos were published in the newspaper, so many lack identifying information.

The photos, which were originally kept at the studio, have been digitized and included on JANM's Web site to view for free.

"This collection, representing the work of two family businesses — Toyo Miyatake Studios and the *Rafu Shimpo* — provides a unique view of the Southern California Nikkei community for over 30 years," said Akemi Kikumura Yano, president and CEO of JANM.

"I think almost anyone who is familiar with our Japanese American community from this era will recognize people immortalized in this photo collection," she added.

"The national museum needs the support of everyone to continue to maintain its collection," said Kikumura Yano. ■

See the photos: www.janm.org

Send information on the photos along with the corresponding identification number to the Hirasaki National Resource Center at hnrcc@janm.org.

JACL, OCA Host Reception for White House Staffer Tina Tchen



George Wu, OCA's executive director, Tina Tchen and Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

The JACL and OCA recently hosted a joint reception for Tina Tchen, director of Public Liaison for the White House, at the OCA National Center in the nation's capital. The event was well attended by several members of the Asian Pacific American community.

Tchen was a law partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom where she had worked since 1985. She has been appointed to run the Office of Public Liaison for the White House. Tchen says the White House is making a concerted effort to reach out to the APA community and she is working to develop a long and prosperous relationship with community members. ■

JANM to Celebrate 10th Anniversary of Pavilion Opening



PHOTO: NORMAN SUGIMOTO

Thousands came out for the opening of the Japanese American National Museum Pavilion in 1999.

The April 25 annual dinner will recognize major Pavilion donors and former JANM national president Irene Hirano.

The Japanese American National Museum plans to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the opening of its pavilion with a year-long slate of programs and special events that will review the work by the national museum in the last decade.

The first event will be JANM's Annual Gala Dinner, "The Pavilion: Home, Community, History — Celebrating Ten Years of Building a Legacy," which will be held at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza Hotel on April 25.

The National Museum's 85,000-square-foot pavilion opened on Jan. 23, 1999, culminating the efforts of a community to construct a new home for its history and a gathering place open to everyone. The museum's gala dinner will recognize those major donors who helped build the

pavilion and how their contributions have impacted a million visitors since 1999.

Major donors include: George and Sakaye Aratani; Manabi and Sumi Hirasaki; Koichi and Toyo Nerio; Dr. Paul and Hisako Terasaki; Dr. Toshio and Chizuko Inahara; Reiso and Shizuka Miyamoto; Shoon and Shizuko Yamauchi; Takeo and Miyoko Yuki Family; Taul and Sachiko Watanabe; George Takei; Frank H. Watase; and Sig Kagawa.

"The Japanese American National Museum, and the Nikkei community in general, owes a great deal to the individuals and their families that we are recognizing at our Annual Gala Dinner," said National Museum President & CEO Akemi Kikumura Yano. "They have been role models in terms of how they have prospered in their businesses, while consistently supporting community organizations like the National Museum."

This year's gala will also pay special tribute to former national museum president & CEO Irene Hirano,

who led the institution for two decades. Under her leadership, the national museum renovated a former Buddhist temple in downtown Los Angeles' Little Tokyo for its headquarters in 1992, and then constructed its current facility, the modern pavilion, which opened in 1999.

In 2008, Hirano stepped down and married U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye. Kikumura Yano became the new president and CEO, while Hirano has served as executive advisor to the institution.

"The Japanese American National Museum is extremely grateful to Irene Hirano for her leadership over the past 20 years," said Ernest Doizaki, chairman of the Board of Trustees for the national museum. "She presided over our institution when it went through several critical stages, including three major expansions."

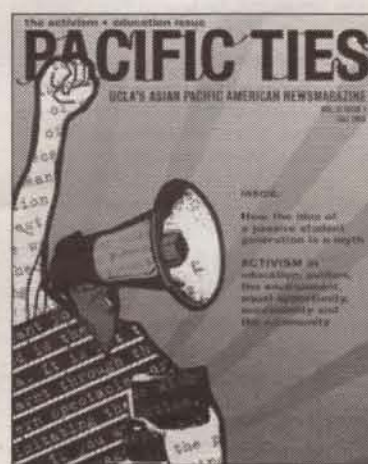
For more information on the gala dinner, contact the national museum at 213/ 625-0414. ■

UCLA Receives Grant to Revive Oldest Student-Run API Magazine in Nation

Student journalists at UCLA have been awarded a \$1,500 publications grant from the nonprofit Campus Progress to continue the production of the magazine *Pacific Ties*. Founded in 1977, *Pacific Ties* is the oldest student-run Asian American Pacific Islander magazine in the nation.

Pacific Ties offers commentary and analysis on issues relevant to the Asian American Pacific Islander community, focusing on politics, culture and entertainment.

"By producing dynamic coverage of a range of issues including campus life, local news, politics, arts, entertainment and cultural awareness, *Pacific Ties* creates an ongoing dialogue that offers insight into the dynamics of being an AAPI



in America," said Maria Iu, the editor of *Pacific Ties*. "The magazine serves to challenge the perceptions of AAPI identity and celebrates the achievements of the communities of which we are all a part."

As part of its national effort to strengthen progressive voices on college and university campuses across America, Campus Progress provides grants from \$500 to \$3,000 to online and print publications run by undergraduate, graduate, and professional students.

In addition to funding, Campus Progress helps student publications expand print runs, build a web presence, report major stories, sponsor speaking events, attend Campus Progress training sessions and conferences with leading journalists, and network their Web sites and content with other publications and with CampusProgress.org.

You can read *Pacific Ties*' official blog online at <http://pacificties.org>. ■

YAMAMOTO

(Continued from page 2)

year-old friend, "That's so yesterday." People now "tweet" with information about every second of their day and they communicate through chats on Facebook. Things keep evolving at a rate that defies my ability to keep up.

We're very fortunate to have a techno-savvy P.C. staff, one that keeps on top of all the latest means of communicating the news while still meeting the needs of people who, like me, want to have it both ways, a printed newspaper and instant news on my computer. Our entry into the Web arena in such a meaningful and professional way has been made possible entirely by your donations to the Pacific Citizen Spring Campaign.

We are kicking off this year's Spring Campaign this month and we need your help in making it possible for the P.C. to continue its outstanding work. It's been a tough economic year for all of us, but I look at my newspapers, be it the *Boston Globe* or the *Pacific Citizen*, as a basic part of my budget. They keep me in touch and informed about my local community and my Asian American community. Please join me in showing your support. ■

Margie Yamamoto is co-president of the New England JACL chapter and is the current chair of the Pacific Citizen editorial board.

BUGLIANI

(Continued from page 2)



Bugliani has carried this photo of Sakamoto with him for nearly 50 years.

Nisei Post. I served as second vice-commander, first vice-commander, commander, and historian. One of the greatest honors of my life was being made commander of the American Legion Chicago Nisei Post 1183. The men who liberated me from the German Nazis and the Italian Fascists made me their commander! Hard to believe, but true.

In the meantime, I often wondered about the fate of that young soldier named Paul Sakamoto. The name stuck in my mind because it's a Japanese name, and with all those vowels. It's similar to Italian. I still carried Paul's photograph with me after nearly 50 years. Finally, I said to myself that I had to see if I could find him.

I began my search on the West Coast and then I extended it to Hawaii. Eventually, I found out that he lived in Hilo. I telephoned. And after nearly half a century I once again heard his voice. It did not matter to me that he could not specifically remember meeting me. I could understand why. He was such a wonderful, generous man. No matter where he went, in France or Italy, he was always surrounded by kids.

Paul, who was drafted into the Army before the Pearl Harbor attack, served with the Hawaii territorial guard and later the 100th Infantry Battalion. After the war, he became a nursery specialist at Foster Gardens in Honolulu. After his retirement, he settled in Hilo.

Over the phone that first time, I asked him why he had given me his hat. "I felt that I didn't need anything anymore," he replied. "I thought I was gonna get killed that day."

In 1995, Paul and I had a beautiful reunion in Hilo. Once again, Paul's generosity was moving. He gave us a lot of things — all kinds of Hawaiian goodies and many fruits from his garden. His wife Jane gave my wife two beautiful island necklaces.

After my wife retired in 2003, we moved to Pietrasanta where a statue of Sadao Munemori stands today. My gratitude to all the gallant Nisei remains. I am thrilled that this gratitude is now cast in bronze and carved in marble and that I am joined by all the people of Pietrasanta in saying, "Thank You!" ■

SFSU Web Video Honors Famed JA Artist

A new web-based video feature is celebrating San Francisco artist Ruth Asawa's legacy as an artist and community activist.

"Ruth Asawa: Community Artist," a nine-minute feature, was produced by filmmaker Dianne Fukami and is narrated by journalist James Hattori.

Asawa was a 16-year-old student when she and her family were evacuated to an internment camp in Rohwer, Ark. She later would become nationally recognized for her intricate wire sculptures and as a champion for the continuation of teaching art in public schools. Her public art projects include the renowned origami sculptures in San Francisco's Japantown.

Asawa also created San Francisco State University's Garden of Remembrance, which honors former Japanese American students who were interned during World War II.

The Garden of Remembrance was completed in 2002 and has become one of the university's most popular gathering spots. Nestled in a quiet but central part of the campus, the



Ruth Asawa poses here in front of her San Francisco Japantown sculpture.

garden features an array of boulders that symbolize the 10 internment camps and a waterfall that celebrates the rejuvenation of the JA community after their release from the camps. The garden is dedicated to 19 SFSU students who had to drop their studies because of the internment.

"Ruth Asawa: Community Artist" was made possible by a grant from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program. The grant also supported the development of a mul-

timedia feature, "Transcending Generations," in which a group of JAs representing different generations share perspectives about the internment experience. "Transcending Generations" was produced by journalists Donna Tam and James Woodward. ■

Watch it now on the Journalism Department's Bay Voices ethnic news Web site: www.xpress.sfsu.edu/bayvoices/

Work Wrapping Up On Phase 1 of Heart Mountain Interpretive Center

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation is hoping for a grand opening in 2010.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

CODY, Wyo.—Work is wrapping up on the first phase of an interpretive center at the site of a World War II internment camp for Japanese Americans.

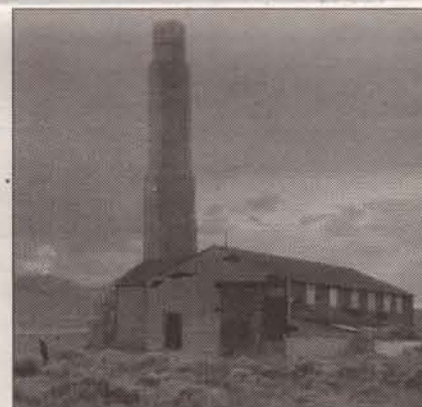
The new structure off U.S. Highway 14-A on Road 9 is the first phase of a \$5.5 million project developed by the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation. Once complete, the 11,000-square-foot educational complex will include replicated barracks, a reflection garden and guard tower.

The foundation is hoping for a grand opening for the learning center in summer 2010.

During the war, as many as 11,000 JAs were sent to the Heart Mountain camp out of concern they might collaborate with the Japanese government.

Workers built hundreds of barracks at Heart Mountain in just two months in 1942. This time, years of planning have gone into the interpretive center and construction on the center began in August.

Only a handful of the original buildings and a brick chimney still remain on the site about 12 miles northeast of Cody. Backers of the



THE HEART MOUNTAIN CHIMNEY

interpretive center nonetheless hope to recreate the gritty details of life at the camp.

"This is history. It's a big deal. I'm just so proud and pumped about being part of it, and it's going to mean so much to a lot of people," said Allen Rapacz, president of Schutz Foss Architects. The firm has designed the center to resemble the original barracks. Similar materials are being used and the new building has windows resembling those in the old barracks.

"We're trying to replicate what it looked like then, but using modern materials," Rapacz said.

A section of the proposed interpretive center will be named "The Mineta/Simpson Friendship Hall" in honor of former Heart Mountain internee and U.S. Sec. of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta and U.S. Sen. Alan K. Simpson, R-

Wyoming.

The men met during a Boy Scout Jamboree held in the shadows of the Heart Mountain guard towers nearly 65 years ago and went on to serve side by side in Washington, D.C. after Mineta was elected to Congress.

"The Mineta/Simpson Friendship Hall will recognize their unique and longstanding relationship, which has come to symbolize the enduring bond between the former internees and their Wyoming friends,"

said Dave Reetz, president of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation.

The foundation has raised nearly half of the project's \$5.5 million budget, said Reetz. That includes a \$150,000 donation recently announced by the Kresge Foundation. The foundation has pledged an additional \$750,000 when the project nears completion.

Other gifts include \$100,000 from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, \$25,000 from the UPS Foundation and \$150,000 from The Atlantic Philanthropies. Reetz said the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded a \$500,000 grant and individuals and families also have made significant contributions. ■

For more information: www.heartmountain.net

Calendar

East

BOSTON

Aug. 7-12—Asian American Journalists Association's J Camp; J Camp's goal is to develop the next generation of journalists; no fee to apply. Info: Nao Vang, 415/346-2051, ext. 102 or programs@aaja.org.

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.

Tue., May 19—APAICS 15th Annual Gala Dinner; 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner; JW Marriott Hotel; black tie optional. Info: www.apaics.org or 202/296-9200.

Thu., Sept. 17—JACL Gala Dinner; focus will be on the JA veterans from World War II and beyond. Info: 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.

Intermountain

DENVER

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

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Apr. 2-May 24—Exhibit, "Katazome: Textiles by Karen Illman Miller"; Tue.-Sat. 11-3 p.m., Sun. noon-3 p.m.; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW Second Ave.; \$3 general admission, free for Friends of the Legacy Center; special reception Apr. 2 from 5-7 p.m. Katazome is the art of stencil and paste-resistant dyeing of cloth that can then be sewn into wonderful textiles. Info: www.oregonnikkei.org. **Sat., May 16**—Performance, "PT from A to Z" by Portland Taiko; 3 and 8 p.m.; Fir Acres Theatre, Lewis and Clark College, 0615 SW Palatine Hill Rd.; performance is a

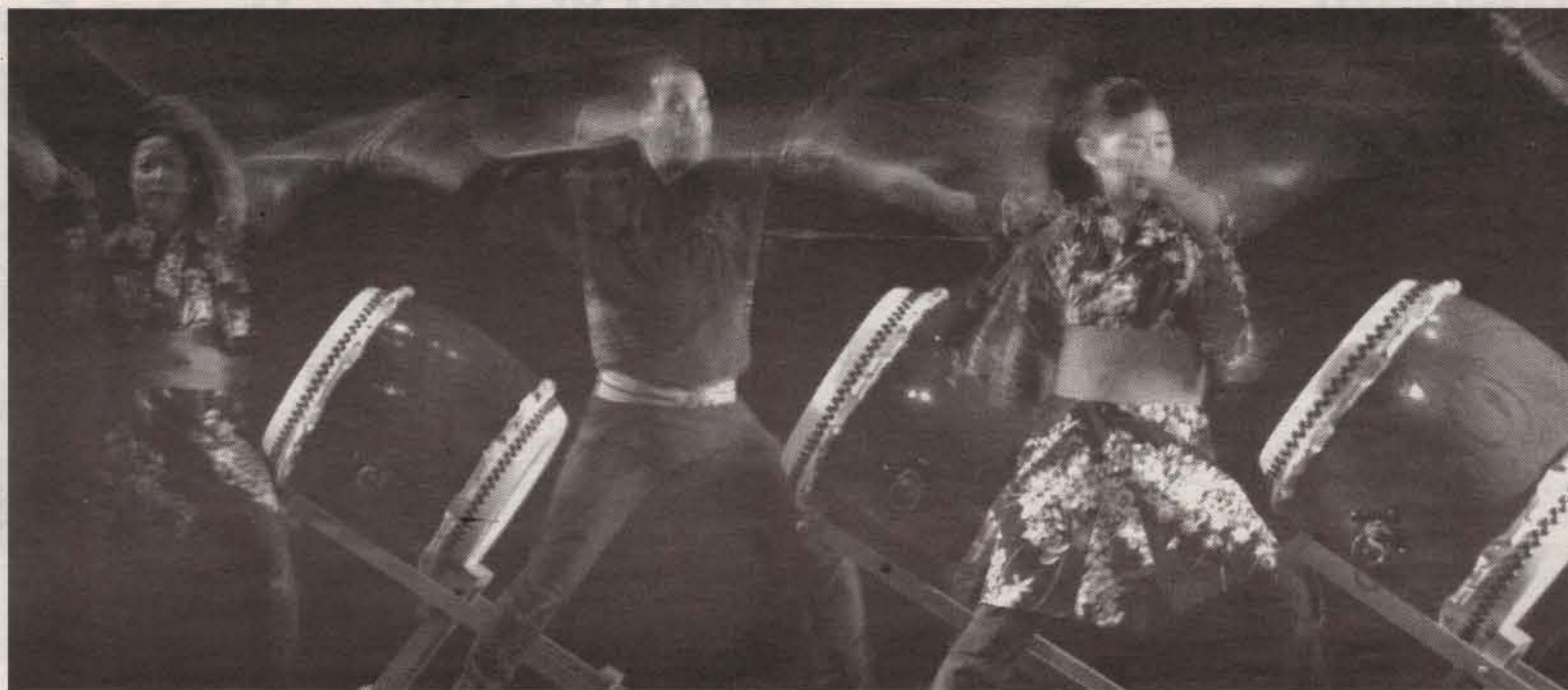


PHOTO: RICH IWASAKI

Portland Taiko celebrates its 15th anniversary season with a special reunion concert on Sat., May 16 at Lewis and Clark College. Two reunion concerts and performances from guest artists are scheduled for the taiko group this season.

reunion concert. Info: www.portlandtaiko.org.

Northern California

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.

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).

Through June 30—Exhibit, "The Many Faces of Manga"; gallery hours Mon.-Fri. noon-5 p.m., and the first Sat. of the month; NJAHS Peace Gallery, 1684 Post St.; featuring works by Osamu Tezuka, Stan Sakai, Tak Toyoshima and many others. Info: www.njahs.org.

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.

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, [\[ki@gsmanagement.com\]\(mailto:ki@gsmanagement.com\) or Aggie Idemoto, 408/294-3138, \[aggie@jamsj.com\]\(mailto:aggie@jamsj.com\) or \[www.midorikai.com\]\(http://www.midorikai.com\).](mailto:posa-</p>
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STOCKTON

Sun., April 19—Stockton Day of Remembrance; 11:30 p.m.; Stockton Buddhist Church, 2820 Shimizu Dr.; teaching the JA internment experience to students through interactive learning activities; lunch will be provided after the program; RSVP by April 15 to May Saiki, 209/465-8107. Sponsored by Stockton JACL, Stockton Buddhist Church Dharma School and UOP Nikkei Student Union.

TULE LAKE

July 2-5—2009 Tule Lake Pilgrimage; activities include a tour of the campsite, and a memorial service at the cemetery on the campgrounds, cultural programs and discussions; \$395/person, \$325 for students and people on fixed incomes, free for those who were incarcerated in Tule Lake, age 80 or older (fees include transportation, housing, meals, workshops, excursions and the cultural program at Ross Ragland Theater; early bird registration ends May 15. Info: www.tulelake.org, Hiroshi Shimizu (SF) 415/566-2279, Jimi Yamaichi (SJ) 408/269-9458, Grace Kajita (Sacto) 916/392-5416, Stan Shikuma (Sea) 206/919-1465, Soji Kashiwagi (LA) 626/351-1073, Sachiko Takita (Japan) stakita@yokohama-cu.ac.jp.

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 or 323/662-5102.

Southern California

ALISO VIEJO

Through May 15—Exhibit, "Manzanar Pilgrimage Photographs"; Founders Hall Art Gallery, 1 University Dr.; photographs were taken by Mark Kirchner from 1983-2008. Info: www.soka.edu, info@soka.edu or 949/480-4000.

LOS ANGELES

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

Thu., April 23—LTSC's "Mystery of Sake"; 7-9:30 p.m.; California Science Center, 700 State Dr.; \$60/presale, \$70/at the door, subject to availability; must be 21 years and older. Info: Jennifer Kim, 213/473-1615 or <http://sake.ltsc.org>.

Fri., April 25—JANM's 2009 Annual Gala Dinner, "The Pavillion: Home, Community, History; Celebrating Ten Years of Building a Legacy"; 5:30 p.m. silent auction and reception, 7 p.m. dinner and program; dinner will recognize those major donors who helped build the pavilion. Info: www.janm.org.

Mon., April 27—East West Players' 43rd Anniversary Visionary Awards Dinner and Silent Auction; reception and silent auction 6 p.m., dinner and program 7 p.m.; Hilton Universal City, 555 Universal City Dr.; \$175/person. Info: Lisa Tang, 213/625-7000 ext. 17 or www.east-westplayers.org.

Through May 24—Exhibition, "Gokurosama: Contemporary Photographs of the Nisei in Hawaii"; JANM, 369 E. First St.; beginning in 2002, Brian Sato began shooting members of the Nisei generation, acutely aware that this important group was passing quickly. Info: www.janm.org or 213/625-0414.

Through May 31—Exhibition, "Asian Roots/American Reality";

Photographs by Corky Lee"; gallery hours 10-3 p.m., Tue.-Sun.; Chinese American Museum, 425 N. Los Angeles St. in the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument; \$3/adults, \$2/seniors and students, free for museum members; Lee's trademark images capture the personal stories amidst a public sphere of social and political movements from the 1970s to the present day. Info: www.camla.org.

Mon., June 15—Japan America Society of Southern California Centennial Dinner and Gala Celebration; the Globe Theatre, Universal Studios Hollywood; celebrating 100 years of Japan-America relationship building. Info, sponsorship opportunities and tickets: 213/627-6217, ext. 207 or www.jas-socal.org.

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 or Min Tonai, 818/591-8815.

Aug. 11-13—Manzanar School Reunion; California Hotel; events include a mixer, banquet and a slot tournament; Info: Hank Nakano, 714/871-8178, Cherry Uyeda, 818/981-2629, Kats Marumoto, 310/836-3565, Jane Tochiara, 714/826-2987 or Victor Muraoka, v.muraoka@verizon.net.

Sept. 18-20—12th National Singles Convention; Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall; events include a golf tournament, welcome reception, workshops, gala dinner-dance and Sunday brunch; \$160/full registration; rooms available for \$89.99/night, single or double occupancy. Info: <http://jaclsc.com> or Yas Tokita, 702/866-2345 or Muriel Scrivner, 702/496-3763. ■

In Memoriam - 2009

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Asanuma, Michiko, 78, Torrance, Feb. 17; survived by daughter, Christine (Dale) Keim; sons, Mike, Robert (Debbie) and Steve (Kathy); 3 gc.; and brothers, Roy (Takeko) and Hugo (Mariko) Kayano.

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.

Boomhower, Michael Yukio, 38, Van Nuys, Feb. 26; survived by father, Elmer; and sister, Traci (John Imperial).

Fujimitsu, Yoshiye Faye, 89, Torrance, Jan. 20; survived by sister, Jane Kuda.

Fujita, Sumako, 87, Gardena, Feb. 13; survived by daughters, Pamela (Mack) Quan and Sharon Fujita; and 3 gc.

Fukuzaki, Toshiko, 91, Harbor City, Feb. 12; survived by sons, Wilbur (Ann) and Steven (Julie); daughters, Georgina (Mike) Cole and Nancy Fukuzaki; 5 gc.; sister, Mitzi Tawa; brother-in-law, Joe Suski; and sisters-in-law, Julie (Ken) Katayama and Betty Fukuzaki.

Furukawa, Dave Torio, 87, Stockton, Feb. 11; survived by wife, Mieke; sons, David and Rickey; 1 gc.; sisters, Susie Hamamoto and Mary Hotta; and brother, Sam.

Hasegawa, Masako, 88, Los Angeles, Feb. 16; survived by son, Yasuhiro (Sun) Yamaguchi; daughters, Lisa (Don) Seno-Marquardt, Kathy Hasegawa and Janice (George) Verdin; step-son, George (Grace) Hasegawa; and 8 gc.

Ichiba, George, 82, Morton

Grove, Ill., Jan. 24; survived by daughters, Karen (Mark) Hotchkiss and Julie Ichiba; sons, Dave (Etsuko) and John (Evelyn); and 6 gc.

Ikuta, Noboru, 91, Los Angeles, Feb. 25; 442nd veteran; survived by wife, Rose; daughter, Elaine (Jerry) Tominaga; son, Ed (Sandra); 4 gc.; sister, Tomiko Nakabara; brother-in-law, Sam (Sai) Ushio; and sister-in-law, Irene (Bill) Koseki.

Ishida, Akiye, 91, Columbus, Ohio, Mar. 2; survived by sons, Dr. Mace (Kalayance) and Dean; daughter, Sharon (Tom) Logan; 2 gc.; 1 ggc.; and sister, Marie (Sam) Ishida.

Ishikawa, Judge Richard Moriye, 76, Seattle, Wash., Mar. 3; served as a King County Superior Court Judge for over 22 years and was the first JA to be elected to the bench in the state of Washington; U.S. Army veteran; survived by wife, June; sons, Kevin and Steven; daughter, Lisaye (Thomas) Manning; 2 gc.; and sister, Yoshie (Martha) Kaisaki.

Ishikawa, Tokuko, Feb. 20; survived by daughters, Naoko (Hajime) Yamaki, Reiko (Kazuo) Hashizume and Michi (Norman) Tamanaha; daughter-in-law, Fumiko Ishikawa; 8 gc.; 3 ggc.; and sister, Katsuko Takei.

Iwamura, Helen Ayako, 94, Yuba City, Feb. 23; Marysville JACler; survived by son, Kenneth Yoshikawa; daughter, Irene (Roger) Tokunaga; 6 gc.; 4 step-daughters; and sisters, Dorothy Ariyoshi and

Amy (Hank) Kuwada.

Kaisaki, Ida, 91, Los Angeles, Mar. 1; survived by husband, Haruo; sons, Glen and Gerald; daughter, Jean; 4 gc.; 3 ggc.; and sister, Fumiye Baba.

Kanzaki, Tsutomu H., 84, Seattle, Wash., Feb. 22; U.S. Army veteran; survived by sons, Michael (Judie) and Norman; daughter, Ellen Matsui; 3 gc.; 3 ggc.; sister, Miyoko Miyahara; and brother, Satoru (Hideko) Kanzaki.

Kawaguchi, Natsuto, 92, West Hills, Feb. 22; survived by daughter, Diane Kawaguchi; 3 gc.; son-in-law, Rev. Masao Kodani; sisters-in-law, Mary and Miki Kawaguchi, Alice (Sammy) Nakagawa and Mae (Dave) Gundlach; and brothers-in-law, Jim, Sam (Peggy) and Glenn (Pat) Bungo.

Kawata, Samuel Saburo, 89, Los Angeles, Feb. 23; survived by daughters, Jeanne (Robert) Egusa and Beverly (Tom) Hori; 3 gc.; brother, Joe Kawata; and sisters-in-law, Lily Endow and Takane Kawata.

Kishimoto, Naoye, 106, Los Angeles, Feb. 10; survived by son, Clark (Juanita); daughter, Helen Miyamoto; 5 gc.; and 7 ggc.

Maruyama, Yayoi, 89, Marina Del Rey, Mar. 4; survived by daughters, Linda (Don) Wamre, Lillian (Robert) Ikeda and Jo Ann Maruyama; 3 gc.; 2 ggc.; sister, Tomie Uetake; brothers, Hiroshi (Sachiko) Isoda and Mikio (Tazuko) Wakatsuki; and sisters-in-law, Sumiye and Grace Maruyama.

Matsui, Takashi, 80, Hilo, Haw., Mar. 2; U.S. Army veteran; survived by wife, Dorothy; sons, Owen and Greg; 4 gc.; sisters, Carol Shinyama, Ruriko Watanabe and Sachiko Tokishi.

Matsumoto, Saku, 104, Torrance, Feb. 20; survived by nieces, Yasuko (Jim) Kaida and Hatsuko Matsumoto; and nephew, Mas (Elaine) Matsumoto.

Mitoma, John Y., Feb. 14; survived by wife, Rasmia Rogong; son, Michael; daughters, Judy and Donna

(Marvin) Inouye; 4 gc.; and 4 ggc.

Miyahira, George Eitoku, 64, Aiea, Haw., Feb. 15; survived by brothers, Eiichi and Alan; and sisters, June Oshiro and Faye Yamato.

Nakanishi, Ikutaro, 84, Honolulu, Haw., Feb. 15; survived by wife, Bessie; son, Dean; daughter, Sandra Lau; 2 gc.; and sisters, Peggy Okada, Akiko Takahashi, Chieno Sakata, Doris, Nancy Yamamoto, and Elaine Yamanaka.

Nakano, Akira "Ken," 78, Seattle, Wash., Mar. 2; U.S. Army veteran; survived by wife, Ruth; sons, Daniel (Ruth), Victor (Karen) and Douglas (Christine); 4 gc.; brother, Kunioki Furuta; and sister, Yoshie Sano.

Nomura, Kenji, 85, Chicago, Jan. 31; MIS veteran; survived by sons, Glenn (Birgit) and Kevin; 2 gc.; sister, Mitsuye Tokunaga; and sister-in-law, Kay Nomura.

Ogawa, Tasuko, 75, Los Angeles, Feb. 12; daughter, Sharon; son, Glenn; 1 gc.; sisters, Sumiko Izumi and Toshiko (Shigeyasu) Ishida; brother, Sueharu (Seiko) Abe; and brother-in-law, Tamaru Ogawa.

Okita, Masayo, 90, Feb. 15; survived by husband, Toshiharu; daughters, Joan (Lloyd) Ishimaru and Martha (Walter) Nakano; son, Richard (Janice); 5 gc.; 8 ggc.; brother, Yoshio Terada; and sister-in-law, Toye Okita.

Osumi, Larry Sadao, Feb. 23; survived by sons, Tony (Jenni Kuida) and Chris (Nina Villa); 3 gc.; and brothers, Megumi Dick (Janice) and Bill.

Taiyoshi, Akiko Mary Hope, 87, Los Angeles, Feb. 26; survived by daughter, Keiko; son, William; brother, Mitsuo Nakamura; and sisters-in-law, Teruko Komaba and Sueno Nakamura.

Takagi, Mary Hiroko, 92, Feb. 19; survived by sons, Alan (Laura) and Ben (Lillian); 4 gc.; sister, Michiko Tanaka; and brother-in-law, Henry Randall.

Tanabe, Sakaye, 85, Torrance, Feb. 14; survived by wife, Yukiko; daughter, Allison; son-in-law, Glenn; 1 gc.; and sister, Mitzi Noda.

Tanaka, Shozo Joel, 71, Fountain Valley, Feb. 26; survived by son, Kevin; daughter, Karen; mother, Shizue; brothers, Hiroshi (Midori) and Roy (Susan); sister, Bessie Tanaka; and mother-in-law, Sadako Kusaka.

Taniguchi, Yuriko, 88, Los Angeles, Feb. 20; survived by sons, Marvin (Susan) and Roger (Shelley); daughter, Karen (Larry) Yoshioka; 6 gc.; and brothers, Seiji and Takeshi (Mieko) Yoshida.

Teraoka, Yaeko I., 79, Los Angeles, Feb. 15; survived by sons, George (Ruth) Hara and Thomas (Kathleen) Hara; daughters, Gloria (Ernest) Stradtman and Alice Hara; 7 gc.; and 2 ggc.

Totsubo, Chisato "Chris," 85, La Mirada, Feb. 20; survived by son, Wesley.

Tsuji, Thomas Hidekazu, 78, Carson City, Nev., Feb. 17; Navy veteran; survived by daughter, Nancy (Dan); sons, Grant (Eri) and Tobin (Anna); and 2 gc.

Uyeda, Hiroshi John, 91, Rosemead, Feb. 17; U.S. Army veteran; survived by daughter, Naomi; and son, Mark (Betty).

Wada, Takeo, 79, Fountain Valley, Feb. 27; survived by brothers, James (Mariko), Ken (Willa) and Tom (Mildred).

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

Yamasaki, Hiroshi, 85, Gardena, Mar. 5; Army veteran; survived by wife, Ann; sons, Ronald (Annie) and Robert (Barbara); daughter, Gay (Norman) Kato; and 8 gc.

Yamashiro, Glenn Hideo, 45, Santa Clarita, Feb. 22; survived by wife, Shannon; son, Justin; daughter, Jenna; step-sons, PJ and Nick; and sisters, Denise (Phil) Scott and Christine Yamashiro.

Yoshimi, Herbert Akio, 81, Monterey Park, Feb. 22; survived by wife, Chie; daughters, Jill Yoshimi, Michelle (Kris) Motschenbacher and Sharleen (James) McLaughlin; and 1 gc. ■

DEATH NOTICE

TATSUKO SHIRAKI

Tatsuko Shiraki, 92, passed away peacefully on Mar. 3. She is survived by her children, Phillip (Joan) of Sedona, Ariz. and Evelyn Shiraki; brother, Manabu Shimizu of Missouri; sister, Mits Kinoshita from Bakersfield, Calif.; brother, Bob Shimizu; brother-in-law, Spud (Trea) Shiraki; sister-in-law, Shiz Shiraki; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

A private funeral service was held on Mar. 10 at the Memorial Chapel of Kubota Nikkei Mortuary with Rev. William Briones of L.A. Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple officiating. Kubota Nikkei Mortuary, Directors, (213) 749-1449.

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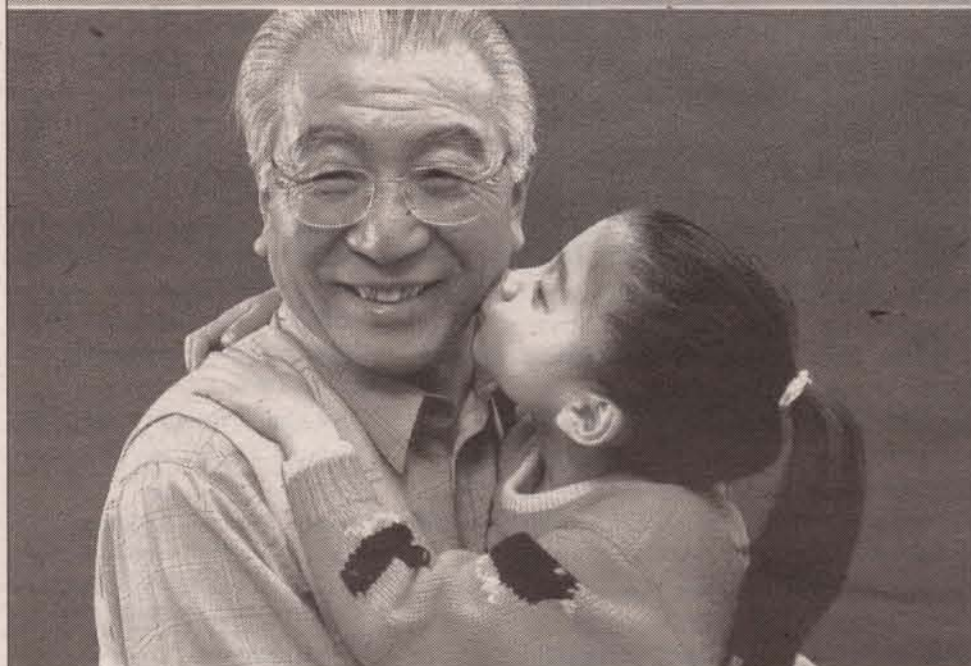
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