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{ TOP NEWS }

Still Imprisoned



Vigils continue to be organized in support of Laura Ling and Euna Lee.

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Belated Honor

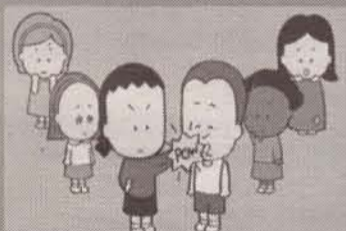


WWII Filipino vets are honored at a Hawaii ceremony

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Not So Angry



Popular 'Angry Little Girls' by Lela Lee, hits YouTube

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First Pitch Honors



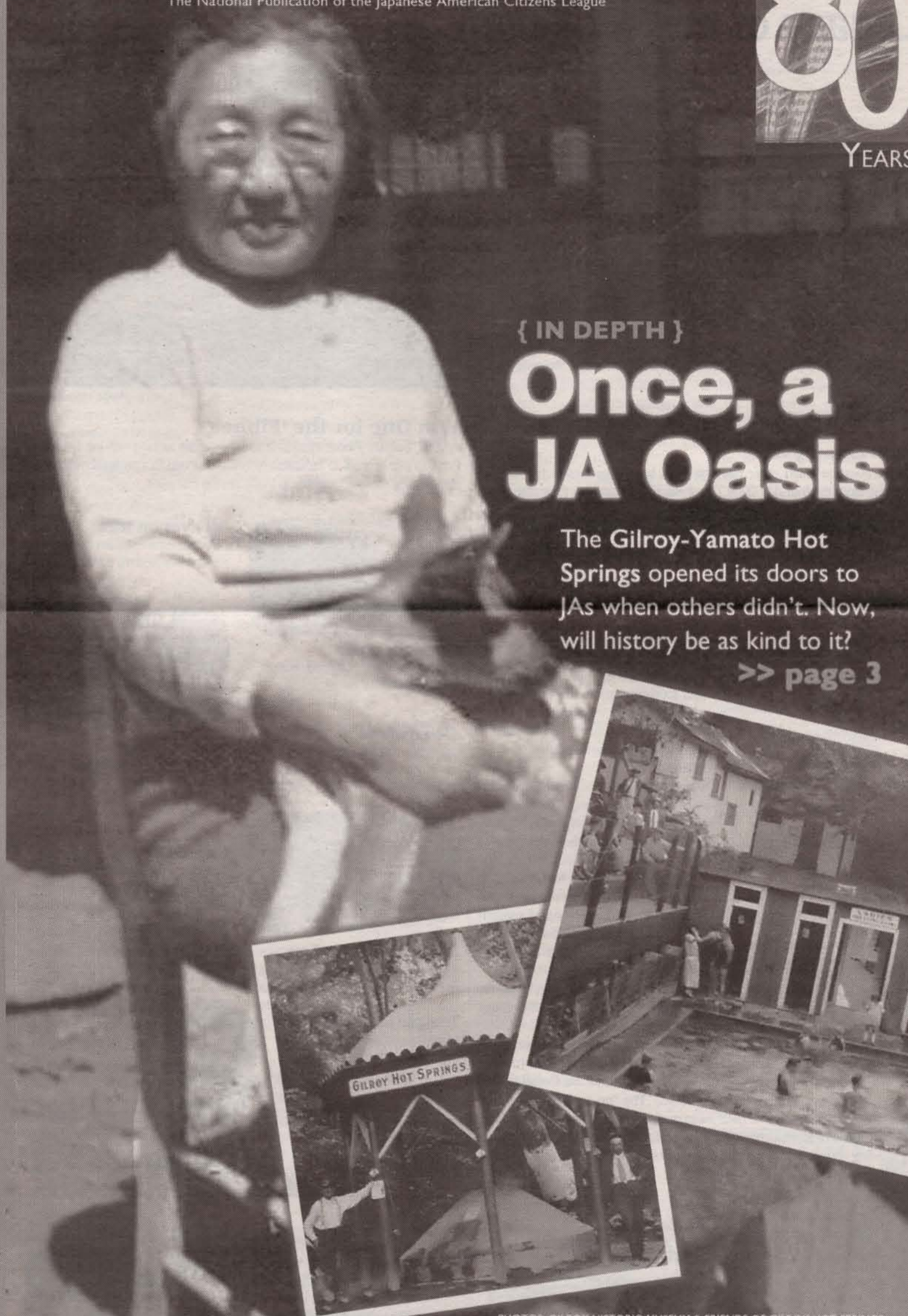
Fibber Hirayama returns to where it all began, the Stockton Ports.

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PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

80 YEARS

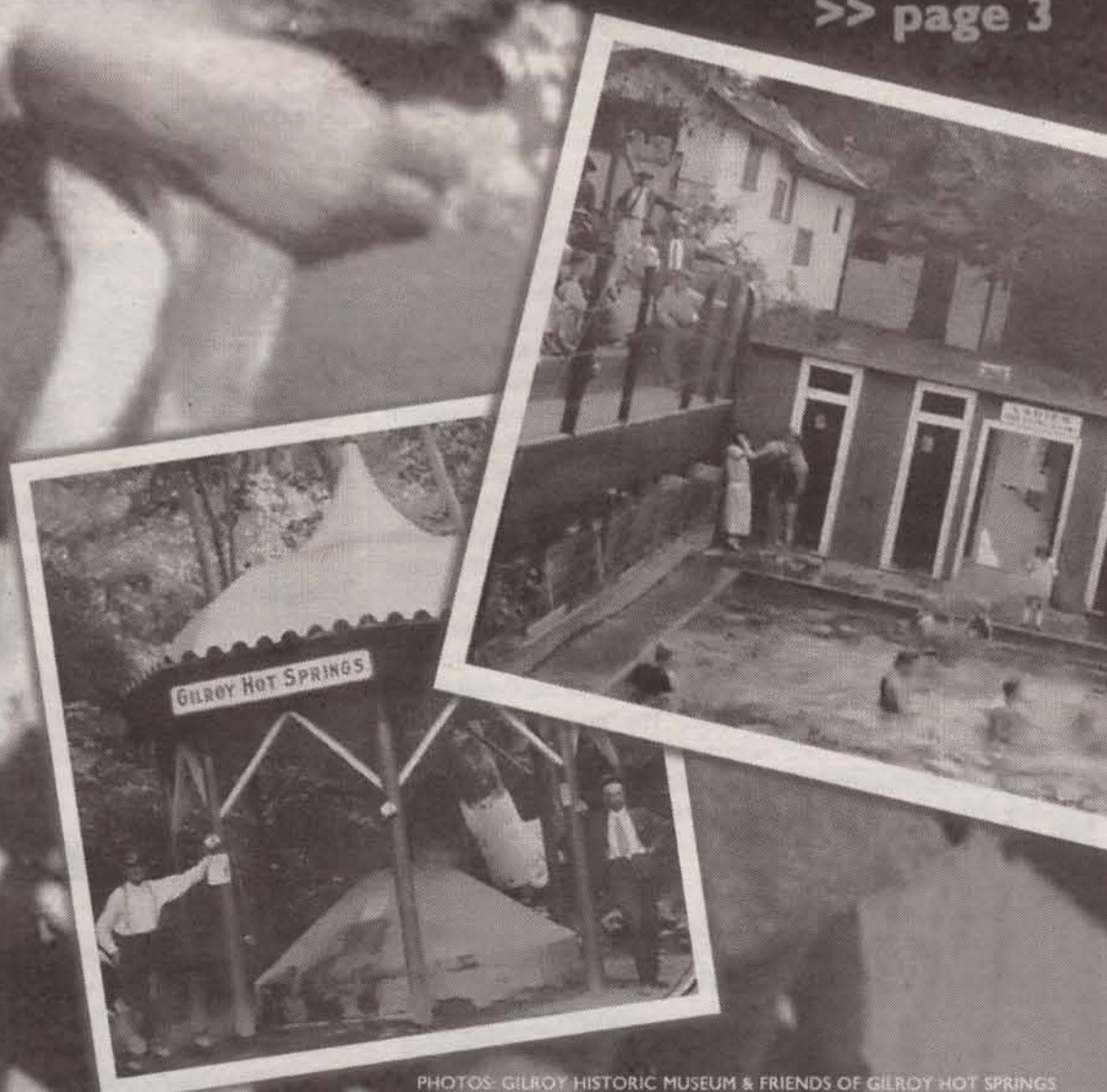


{ IN DEPTH }

Once, a JA Oasis

The Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs opened its doors to JAs when others didn't. Now, will history be as kind to it?

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PHOTOS: GILROY HISTORIC MUSEUM & FRIENDS OF GILROY HOT SPRINGS

COMMENTARY

Remembering the Legacy of the 'No-Nos'

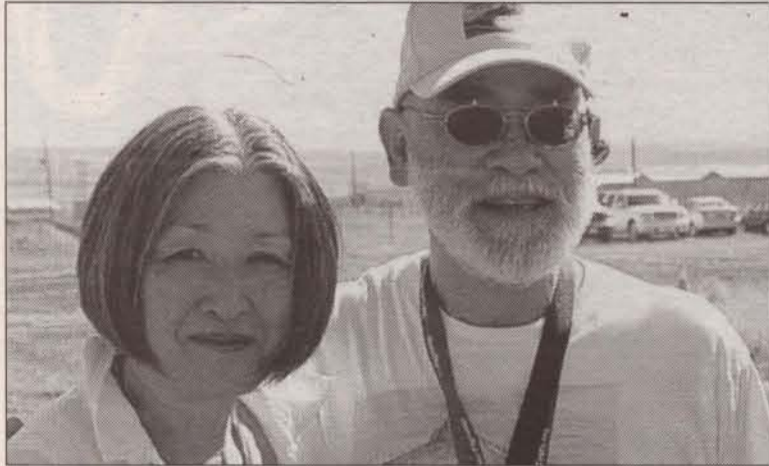


PHOTO: MARGE D'WYLDE

Barbara Takei (left) with Tule Lake committee board member Hiroshi Shimizu.

By BARBARA TAKEI

"How was the pilgrimage?"

It's a question I and other pilgrims have been asked many times since returning from the four-day 2009 Tule Lake pilgrimage that took place over the 4th of July weekend.

As one of the event organizers, it's a question I have trouble answering in a sentence or two.

It was the biggest pilgrimage that our small all-volunteer committee has done. It was also remarkable that of the 400 pilgrims, 56 of them were 80 years of age or older; of that group, 50 had been incarcerated in Tule Lake.

Once at Tule Lake, we had the pilgrims on a demanding schedule — celebrating Tule Lake's new National Monument status, hiking Castle Rock, hearing stories about Tule Lake and the "no-nos", addressing the painful emotional legacy of the wartime incarceration, and multiple workshops —

with accommodations that featured thin mattresses and coarse linens, and long, long lines to eat meals and to use the public toilets and porta-potties.

The "no-nos" were the ones who, in early 1943, protested their incarceration and loss of freedom, using, as their vehicle of protest, the deeply-flawed loyalty questions: #27 concerning military service and #28 ...'

Despite the discomfort and heat, we heard no *monku* about the inconvenience and the waiting. The pilgrims were patient and considerate of one another, encouraging the older folks to go to the front of the lines to make the long trip easier for them. Rather than the expected barrage of complaints, we received "thanks" and words of appreciation. It was really quite phenomenal.

The most important part of the pilgrimage was honoring the "no-nos" who were segregated at Tule Lake, for their courage in protesting the unjust wartime incarceration.

For more than 65 years, the stories of the 12,000 "no-nos" have been hidden away and misunderstood (usually confused with the 315 men who resisted the 1944 draft on Constitutional grounds and served time in Federal prisons). The "no-nos" were the ones who, in early 1943, protested their incarceration and loss of freedom, using, as their vehicle of protest, the deeply-flawed loyalty questions: #27 concerning military service and #28 a disavowal of assumed loyalty to the Japanese

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PHOTO: STOCKTON PORTS

Win One for the 'Fibber'

In 1952, Satoshi 'Fibber' Hirayama spent an entire season with the Stockton Ports as one of the first Japanese Americans signed to a professional baseball contract. He returned recently to throw out the first pitch.



Once, an Oasis

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Remembering the King

After Michael Jackson's death, his Asian fans celebrate his life.



State Budget Crisis Threatens Another Part of JA History

During WWII, Central California's Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs was an oasis for Japanese American families resettling after their internment. Its restoration may now be stopped indefinitely.

By LESLIE K. TAMURA
P.C. Correspondent

Tucked away in Henry W. Coe State Park in the foothills east of Gilroy, Calif. are the remnants of a once thriving part of Japanese American history. The Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs, where warm, healing waters flowed from natural sulfur springs, was once a respite for JA families in the years following World War II.

It was also the first home of Laura Dominguez-Yon.

Dominguez-Yon was three years old when her family moved from an internment camp in Poston, Ariz. to the wooded area of the Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs.

"We lived there 10 years before we moved out," she said. "I was a little kid, so it was a very playful place."

Thousands of prominent families and businesspeople from the Bay Area retreated to the resort during its 150-year history. After the war, the area became an oasis for JA families looking to rebuild their lives after their internment. Dominguez-Yon's family lived and worked at the resort, which featured hotels, restaurants, redwood cabins, hot tubs, and gambling and dance halls.

"It was quite a rip-roaring place," said Matt Bischoff, California State Parks historian with the Monterey District.

Dominguez-Yon's uncle, Henry Kato was the manager at the hot springs from 1950 to 1967, when the resort closed due to safety, sanitation and property ownership concerns.

In the winter of 2007, Dominguez-Yon returned to her first home.

"I wanted to see what it would take to give my [now 88-year-old] uncle access again to the water," she said. "However, in the process of doing this I've developed relationships and gathered a lot more of the history."

The Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs has become a passion for Dominguez-Yon. In the summer of 2008, she helped establish Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs (FOGHS), a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving, restoring and reopening the hot springs to the public.

Visitors can now come to the hot springs, experience the wilderness and learn the history in private tours organized by FOGHS.

"We'd like to see the place open again to the public," Bischoff said, "and hopefully have the baths usable again someday."

The future of California's state parks, however, is uncertain. And as part of the Henry W. Coe State Park, the Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs is in danger of being lost yet again.

Legislators continue to table discussions about the California state budget, but as it now stands, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger plans to close the state's budget gap by shutting down 222 of the 279 state parks — including Henry W. Coe.

"The closures would devastate us," Bischoff said. "We'll lose more of the history, more of the tangible, hands-on history of that site."

In May 2009, about 200 people visited the hot springs, learning about the bygone era of turn-of-the-century resorts.

"We have more and more interest [in the hot springs]," Dominguez-Yon said. "Our event in May was extremely successful."

Throughout the year volunteers have been working on the site, clearing debris and repairing some of the buildings.

But if the budget proposal passes, any momentum gained at the hot springs would probably be stopped, according to Eddie Guaracha, park superintendent of the Gavilan sector in Monterey.

"All the work the FOGHS and state parks staff have done would cease," he added, "and the potential to open that to the



It was a place 'to get peace of mind and healing from the mineral waters.'

— Laura Dominguez-Yon, about the hot springs. After WWII, Capt. Masuo Kitaji (top) let JA families move to the resort.

public would be postponed indefinitely."

An Oasis For the Wealthy and the Discriminated

The Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs was a retreat for many throughout its history.

"It was a place," Dominguez-Yon said, "where the elderly, the ill came to relax, to refresh, to get peace of mind and healing from the mineral waters."

Wealthy San Francisco industry leaders, during the 1860s to 1920s, escaped the city to the Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs.

When H.K. Sakata, a prominent lettuce grower from Watsonville, purchased the area in 1938, he welcomed Japanese and JAs to his new facility. He incorporated Japanese-style baths and nurtured traditional Japanese plantings throughout the grounds.

"Many swore by the curative properties of the [hot spring mineral] waters," Bischoff wrote in an e-mail. "The site is also significant for its association with the Japanese community, offering a much-needed respite from the larger political-social environment that was often hostile."

During WWII, the resort served as a hostel. After the war, Sakata used his property to help JA internees resettle before reopening it as a resort to the public.

Under the leadership of Captain Masuo Kitaji, who was the Northern California Japanese Salvation Army leader and a former Poston internee, 60 JA families moved to Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs before finding other homes across the country.

"Its role in the post-war, post-internment lives of numerous families is also important," Bischoff added, "and not widely known."

Although the resort closed to the public in 1967, it changed hands several times until 2003 when Henry W. Coe State Park acquired the hot springs.

Now a California Historic Landmark and part of the National Register of Historic Places, the Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs has promise to rebuild and restore itself to its former glory.

"Gilroy Hot Springs is a very historically significant site," Bischoff said. "With more attention on the site, I hope we can gain more partners and raise funds for its preservation and rehabilitation."

Saving a Resort

With two other state parks, Henry W. Coe State Park has an estimated \$2.5 million budget, much of which goes to supporting maintenance and visitor service employees.

Since Schwarzenegger announced his budget proposal to shut down the majority of state parks, campground use has increased, according to Guaracha.

With the current staff, Henry Coe employees incorporate the Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs into their patrols. If the park were to close, Guaracha says he does not know if there will be

enough park staff to monitor the area.

If the governor's proposal goes forward unaltered, Henry W. Coe will shut down after Labor Day weekend with more than 200 other state parks.

"At this point I do not know the actual ramifications," said Guaracha. "[The park] could be placed in caretaker status with minimal staff patrolling the region."

Closing Henry W. Coe, they say, also creates a greater liability for the area.

"Every park needs to be maintained," Dominguez-Yon said. "[Closing the parks] would make parks more subject to the danger of fire, vandalism, intrusion and all these other kinds of horrors, plus the basic maintenance."

FOGHS and park services have been working together to reopen the hot springs to the public. This has involved repairing buildings, preventing vandalism, clearing fire hazards as well as studying the history of the area; there are rich Native American and Mexican stories as well.

"Our first goal is to see what it will take to get it open for day trips, picnics and hikes," Dominguez-Yon said. "The second goal is part of preserving the buildings, the property."

To make this happen, however, an on-site caretaker is needed.

Prior to Schwarzenegger's proposal, Dominguez-Yon said at least \$650,000 was needed to stabilize the area, hire an on-site camp host and provide a livable residence for the caretaker. This amount did not include maintenance fees.

"It's a starting place," she said.

The state budget crisis has put a wrench in her plans, however.

"We the people who own the parks entrust the management of it to our legislators and our governor," she added. "They're evicting us from our own property and closing it, leaving it subject to vandalism and everything else."

As the state continues to consider its budget options, FOGHS and state parks representatives say there is still time to help the parks remain open.

"We're state park employees so at this point we support the governor's proposal," Guaracha said, "but there are a lot of opportunities for volunteering; help support the park as it is open ... support organizations such as FOGHS, contact your local representatives."

The Gilroy Hot Springs represent a bygone era of elaborate resort establishments as well as a part of Japanese heritage in California.

If the park closes, said Bischoff, "we lose very important parts of our history." ■

On the Web

www.friendsofgilroyhotsprings.org

Lisa Ling Says U.S. Clemency Could Free Imprisoned Journalists



Lisa Ling (left) said she is hoping to 'ignite a campaign for amnesty' for her sister Laura Ling (top, left) and Euna Lee. On June 8, Laura and Euna, American journalists working for Current-TV, were sentenced to 12 years of hard labor for what North Korea called 'hostile acts.'

Supporters hope Laura Ling and Euna Lee's recent apology will help them gain amnesty.

By NALEA J. KO
Reporter

Journalist Lisa Ling led a vigil of hundreds at the California state Capitol two days after her imprisoned sister, Laura Ling, recognized breaking North Korean law in a 20-minute phone conversation.

Laura Ling, a Chinese American, and Euna Lee, a Korean American, were sentenced to 12 years of hard labor June 8. They were charged with what North Korean news agency KCNA called "hostile acts." North Korean authorities accused the two of illegal entry and grave crimes, said Lisa Ling in an interview with KCRA-TV in Sacramento. They were filming near the China-North Korea border for a Current-TV story about trafficking women, when guards arrested them.

On July 7 at about 10:30 p.m. Laura called Lisa with a "clear" and "deliberate" message, saying the two journalists broke North Korean law and needed help getting United States government amnesty. It was the third time Lisa Ling heard her sister's voice since March 17, when they were initially detained.

Five gatherings for the women were organized on June 9 across the nation, including one in Paris, France. Those at the Sacramento gathering said about 200-350 people turned out. They said the crowd's mood was somber but hopeful.

"A few speakers, such as Laura's friends from Del Campo High School, struggled to hold back tears as they addressed the crowd," said Dawn Capp, 37, who is going on a "one bowl sympathy strike" to support the journalists.

Capp and her friend Jacqueline Marshall plan to strike July 17, subsisting on a handful of rice, beans and corn. The same daily diet Capp said she read that labor camp prisoners are allotted.

Laura Ling and Lee are being held in a North Korean guest-

house, said Han Park, University of Georgia political scientist. He told South Korea's *JoongAng Ilbo* newspaper that, "North Korea's move not to carry out the sentence suggests that it could release them through a dialogue with the United States and they could be set free at an early date, depending on the U.S. gestures."

North Korean Hostile Acts

Laura Ling's phone call to her sister came three days after a suspected North Korean cyber attack was aimed at the U.S. and South Korea. The Korea Communications Commission, in South Korea, said five Internet Protocol addresses were used to spread computer viruses. U.S. targeted Web sites include *The Washington Post*, the White House and the New York Stock Exchange, among others.

The attack began on the Fourth of July. It froze Web sites such as the Treasury Department and Federal Trade Commission, according to the Associated Press. Remnants of the attacks lingered for days as Web sites continued to have problems.

"If Pyongyang is behind the attacks, it probably establishes a new pattern of behavior," said Rod Beckstrom, who is the former head of the U.S. cybersecurity center, in an AP interview. "If this is them, they are now in the club, and they're probably only going to get better."

Cyber security companies are now analyzing the "malicious code" to verify the source. The cyber attack is one of a string of hostile provocations over the months directed toward the U.S., South Korea, Japan and northeast Asia. In May, North Korea was punished with United Nations sanctions after its second nuclear test. This month there were more weapons threats.

U.S. Navy vessels tracked the North Korean Kang Nam ship after it left the country's port in Nampo June 17. Believed to be carrying arms, the ship continued to travel south and southwest for about a week

before turning around toward North Korea. Supporters of Laura Ling and Lee hope the recent acts by North Korea will not jeopardize their release. Capp also expressed concern about other news, particularly the death of Michael Jackson, eclipsing the plight of Laura Ling and Lee.

'Right now we need the help of our government. ... At the end of the day Laura and Euna are journalists and they were doing their job. And they made a mistake on March 17, for which they are paying.'

— Lisa Ling at a Sacramento rally in support of her sister Laura and Euna Lee.

"We're not going to stop until the women are home," said Rebecca Delgado Rottman, vice president of the community and governmental relations at the Academy of Art University. "We do not want these women to be forgotten. We want people in our country to be aware of what is going on with these women."

To raise awareness, Delgado Rottman organized the July 9 San Francisco vigil at Academy of Art University, where Lee attended college.

"These students are mad. They have been expressing their concerns and support. And it's really amazing the outpouring of compassion," Delgado Rottman said.

It has been nearly four months since the reporters were first detained. Laura Ling suffers from a reoccurring ulcer and Lee is believed to have lost 15 pounds since being imprisoned.

The Ling and Lee family are asking supporters to do three things for the women: sign their petition, write letters and raise awareness on social networking sites.

The petition has gathered 3,119 signatures as of July 10, with a goal of 1 million signatures. Celebrities like Ashton Kutcher are tweeting about the jailed journalists on Twitter to spread the word, said Delgado Rottman. Lisa Ling said she is hoping to "ignite a campaign for amnesty."

Vigil organizers and supporters hope Laura's recent phone conversation with her sister will benefit their call for U.S. clemency.

"I hope that their admissions of guilt satisfied North Korean government and grants them amnesty through the North Korean system," Delgado Rottman said. "We hope that the government of the United States and North Korea can come to an agreement that will result in the release of Laura and Euna."

Attendees at the Sacramento vigil held signs that read "Free Euna Lee and Laura Ling" while they chanted "bring them home!" Event speakers such as Laura Ling's husband, Iain Clayton, and Lisa Ling echoed those chants.

"Laura and Euna are deeply deeply sorry for what they did. They made a mistake — we've all made mistakes," Lisa Ling said before the Sacramento rally. "Right now we need the help of our government. ... At the end of the day Laura and Euna are journalists and they were doing their job. And they made a mistake on March 17, for which they are paying." ■

To learn more about Laura Ling and Euna Lee, or to sign the petition, visit www.lauraandeuna.com.

Filipino WWII Veterans Honored



By ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU—Men and women from the Philippines were promised recognition and benefits when they enlisted to fight alongside U.S. troops during World War II. Many of those honors are only arriving now, 64 years after the war ended.

About 140 Filipino veterans of World War II were given commemorative medals July 3 at a Honolulu ceremony saluting their bravery in helping repel Japanese forces.

They're also set to receive long-awaited benefits that the United States pledged during the war.

"I feel like a little boy going up to heaven," said Jose Ortego, 83, a former infantry sergeant.

Some 250,000 Filipinos enlisted in 1941 to help defend the Philippines, a U.S. commonwealth at the time. They were promised that they could become U.S. citizens if they chose and receive benefits

under the G.I. Bill.

Congress took away that offer in 1946 when the Philippines became an independent nation.

Congress passed legislation this year rewarding the soldiers for their service with \$9,000 payments for non-U.S. citizens and \$15,000 for those with citizenship.

"I'm saddened and embarrassed that you had to wait this long," U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye told the assembled veterans. "But I'm proud that my country was strong enough and big enough to admit that it was wrong and to rectify that wrong. I hope you'll forgive us."

About 18,000 Filipino veterans, many in their 80s and 90s, are still alive.

Some soldiers like 85-year-old Artemio Caleda recalled how they risked their lives in advance units determining lines of attack.

Caleda said his unit rescued a downed U.S. pilot, helped capture

'I'm saddened and embarrassed that you had to wait this long. But I'm proud that my country was strong enough and big enough to admit that it was wrong and to rectify that wrong. I hope you'll forgive us.'

U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye

Japanese holdout Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita and fought for long months in the jungles.

"We did it not for the benefits that were promised to us, but to defend our country," said Caleda, who served in the 11th Infantry Regiment. "It was the U.S. and multinational presence that made us a target, but it was up to us to defend our freedom and democracy."

Former Army corporal Salome Calderon, who gathered intelligence during the war, said she's grateful that the U.S. government is finally paying up, but she's dismayed that the checks still haven't arrived, five months after the legislation was approved.

"They give us honors, honors, honors, and we're thankful," said Calderon, 84, the only female soldier at the event. "But we haven't received any money yet. It's always in our minds: 'How long shall we wait?'" ■

Bill Introduced to Name S.F. Chinatown Post Office After Lim Poon Lee



Lee was appointed as postmaster of San Francisco in 1966.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

San Francisco's Chinatown post office may soon be named after its founder. A bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives to name the building located at 867 Stockton Street after Lim Poon Lee, the nation's first Chinese American postmaster.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi has introduced the "Lim Poon Lee Post Office Act," to honor the former postmaster, who died at the age of 91 in 2002.

Co-sponsors include Reps. Mike Honda and Doris Matsui.

Lee helped open that post office in 1977. By naming it after Lee, said Pelosi in a July 7 statement, "we honor the life of a dedicated public servant and proud American."

President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Lee as postmaster of San Francisco in 1966. At the time, it was the highest federal appointive post ever held by a Chinese American.

"I have very little experience," said Lee in the *San Francisco Chronicle* when he was sworn in. "But I don't think I'll foul up the mails. If I flunk the (Civil Service) exam, I may run for Congress."

During his tenure, Lee transformed the face of San Francisco's postal service, increasing the hiring of women, minority, and disabled postal employees.

Lee was born in Hong Kong in 1911 and moved to San Francisco with his family as an infant. He attended the College of the Pacific and Lincoln University Law School after serving as a U.S. Army counterintelligence specialist during World War II.

"Lim was a powerful guy," said Mel Lee, Lim's friend, to *New America Media* in 2007 at the 30th anniversary of San Francisco's Chinatown post office. "He knew how to handle people." ■

New York Assemblywoman Wants to Bar Use of 'Oriental'

By Pacific Citizen Staff

New York Assemblywoman Grace Meng has introduced legislation to bar the use of the word "Oriental" from state documents.

"There is nothing good about this relic and it needs to be removed from our official discourse," said Meng in the *Queens Chronicle*.

The lawmaker and other Asian Pacific Americans say the word 'Oriental' has racist overtones from a bygone era.

She was spurred into action after one of her constituents was labeled as "Oriental" on a police document.

"It's about basic decency," said New York State Sen. Craig Johnson.

The proposed legislation, which was unanimously approved in the Assembly, would eliminate the use of the term "Oriental" in documents used by state, public and city agencies. The term would be replaced with "Asian."

Flushings is home to a growing APA population. According to the 2000 Census, APAs made up almost 20 percent of the population.

In 2001, Washington State Sen. Paul Shin introduced a similar measure to prohibit the use of the word "Oriental" in all state and local legislation. The bill passed in 2002. Meng's bill awaits a vote in the Senate. ■

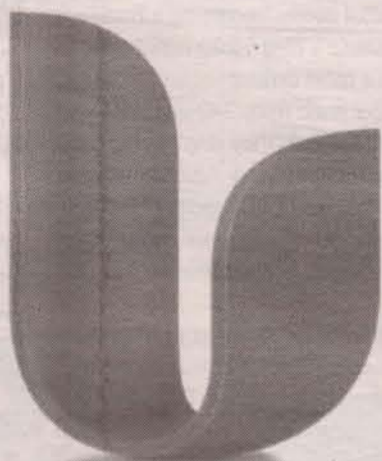


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WWII Internment Led to Ornate E. Oregon Temple



Local JAs worry about the dwindling church membership.

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

ONTARIO, Ore.—A unique Buddhist temple with roots in a dark chapter of World War II faces an uncertain future, along with this Snake River town's once-thriving Japanese American community.

On some Sundays, only about 60 people attend services at the Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple. Most are in their 70s and 80s, and a half-dozen are 90 or older.

"The backbone of our people is dwindling," said the Rev. Joshin Dennis Fujimoto, 57, spiritual leader of the Shin Buddhist membership. "These are major concerns."

The single-story brick temple, with carved wooden doors and a golden altar, traces its origins to the suspicion that fell on Americans of Japanese ancestry after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

Two months later, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the infamous Executive Order 9066 ordering the West Coast's 123,000 JAs — including 4,500 in Oregon — to move inland. Many were forced into quick, pennies-on-the-dollar sales of farms, businesses and homes.

With little more than what they could carry, they resettled in 10 internment camps, 18 isolation areas or a scattering of "free zones" — including Ontario and nearby Weiser, Idaho.

Across the Snake River in Idaho, "No Japs Allowed" signs were common, and then-Gov. Chase Clark was outspokenly anti-Japanese.

But in Ontario, "this area welcomed them to work and develop businesses and build families," said City Councilman John Gaskill, interim director of the Four Rivers Cultural Center, a museum, art gallery and performing arts theater where exhibits include a traditional Japanese garden and plans for a tea room this fall.

The area's JA population ballooned practically overnight from 157 at the start of the war to 1,500, according to figures from the War Relocation Authority.

Today, JAs comprise about 1.5 percent of Malheur County's 31,000 residents, five times the state average, according to Charles Rynerson, an analyst for Portland State University's Center for Population Research and Census.

Cathy Yasuda, executive director of the Treasure Valley Community College Foundation and a member of the JACL's board, is among Ontario residents with relatives who were interned during the war. Her grandparents were compelled to walk away from a successful Portland produce stand.

Her father, born in Portland, and her mother, born in Hood River, were teens then. Their families were housed initially in horse stalls at fairgrounds near Portland. Her father's family was then sent to the grim Tule Lake Relocation Center in California and her mother's to the wind-blown Minidoka Relocation Center east of Twin Falls, Idaho.

Some "probably never really got over it," said Yasuda, 53. "The conditions were bad; bitterly cold in the winter and blistering hot in the summer."

Fujimoto, the temple leader, had three uncles and an aunt who were sent to camps. His U.S.-born father, meanwhile, spent the war years in Japan, where he'd gone to study for the Buddhist ministry. Authorities restricted his travel but didn't detain him, Fujimoto said. Fujimoto's parents met and married in Japan, and Fujimoto was born in Tokyo, celebrating his first birthday on a ship to America.

After the war, many Nisei stayed in the Ontario area to farm. A temporary Buddhist temple was built west of town in 1946. Six years later, the existing temple site was dedicated by the Buddhist lord abbot of Kyoto, Japan, and construction was completed in 1957.

"We still have members today who tell me stories of sand and bricks being carried in wheelbarrows," said Fujimoto, who grew up near Sacramento and worked 20 years as a sculptor and artist before becoming a Buddhist minister in 2004. The temple's altar ranks beside one in Seattle as the Northwest's most ornate.

But membership has declined from 240 in 1996.

JAs "go off to college, and then they don't come back to Ontario," said lifelong resident Mary Ann Shimojima, 63. While early JAs farmed, later generations often went into business, education or health care, said John Breidenbach, executive director of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

Fujimoto noted that Shin Buddhists don't proselytize. "We see other religions doing that. It seems so pushy." Plus, he said, some JAs forsake Buddhism as a statement that they are American. Some marry outside the faith. Still others "lose interest in the relevance of Buddhist practice in their lives."

On the bright side, about 10 percent of those who attend adult dharma services are Caucasian, Fujimoto said.

In addition, he said, Buddhism deals with difficulty and suffering. He thinks of people as waves in a sea that is the source of all life. Life, then, must be treated as something precious.

"Every single moment is so significant," he said. "Everything becomes of the highest concern." ■

National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Lt. Dan Choi Will Fight Discharge

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—A military administrative board has recommended that Lt. Dan Choi, a New York National Guard officer who publicly announced he's gay, should be discharged for violating the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Choi would be the first New York National Guard member discharged for violating the policy against homosexual conduct. He has vowed to keep fighting the discharge recommendation.

About 10,500 military and National Guard members were discharged for violating the policy between 1997 and last year.

Site of Riverside's Former Chinatown Still in Limbo

RIVERSIDE, Calif.—The site of the city's former Chinatown still faces an uncertain future after a July 9 court date.

Judge Sharon Waters said the property owner, Riverside County Office of Education, did not follow laws when it sold the land to a developer. But she also said the city of Riverside did not violate environmental laws when it approved the office building last year, according to the *Press-Enterprise*.

Waters did not say when she would issue her final ruling.

Preservationists and community group say the site at Brockton and Tequesquite Avenues is rich with artifacts and structural remnants from the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Save Our Chinatown Committee sued to protect the historic Chinese settlement.



Uighur Protesters March in D.C. to China's Embassy

WASHINGTON—An exiled Uighur leader accused by China of inciting ethnic violence is accusing the Chinese government of being responsible for rising tensions.

Rebiya Kadeer, president of the Uyghur American Association, said during a rally in downtown Washington that peaceful Uighur demonstrators have been targeted in China as part of the government's ongoing repression in the region.

Many Uighurs believe the Han Chinese, who have been flooding into the region in recent years, are trying to displace them. They often accuse the Han of prejudice and waging campaigns to restrict their religion and culture.

On July 7, about 100 protesters marched nearly two miles to the Chinese Embassy in Washington, as reports of violence by Uighur and Han Chinese men continued.

Feds Could Seize Calif. Parks if Closed by Budget

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—California officials say they are trying to avert the federal government's threat to seize six parks — including Angel Island — that could be closed to help reduce the state's ballooning budget deficit.

Angel Island is a former federal military and immigration facility in San Francisco Bay that also served as a clearinghouse for many Asian immigrants. It was dubbed the "Ellis Island of the West."

Angel Island is among the 220 state parks Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has proposed closing to save \$143 million. Legislators are considering the move as part of efforts to close a \$26 billion budget deficit.

City May Reconsider Renaming a Street After Filipino Hero

CARSON, Calif.—City council members have postponed a decision to rename a street after Filipino revolutionary hero Jose Rizal after residents voiced opposition to the change.

Councilman Elito Santarina, who is Filipino American, proposed the idea to change Moneta Avenue to Jose Rizal Avenue in honor of the hero. But residents opposed the change, arguing that they didn't want to change their address on official documents.

The proposal has been referred to a committee on signage, which meets July 20.

Rizal is considered the Philippines' national hero. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

New York JACLeR Receives Order of the Rising Sun

Longtime New York JACLeR member **Dr. Setsuko Matsunaga Nishi** has been honored with the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, the highest medal given by the Japanese government in its program to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions in furthering relations with Japan and the awardees' country.

The consulate, in a statement, called Matsunaga Nishi a "beacon of the community, serving as both a leading scholar and a tireless social activist throughout her career and right up to the present."

From 1965 until her retirement in 1999, she was professor of sociology at Brooklyn College and the Graduate School at City University of New York.

Diablo Valley JACL Awards Chapter Scholarship



The Diablo Valley JACL awarded its 2009 chapter scholarship to **Justin Batcheller** at a luncheon held at Dragon2K Restaurant in Walnut Creek.

Batcheller is a recent graduate of Campolindo High School in Moraga. He will be attending Brown University in the fall.

Pictured above (l-r): Bruce Batcheller, Justin Batcheller and Joanne Wong.

Union Posthumously Honors Hawaii Activist

A national teacher's union has honored the late Hawaii activist **Ah Quon McElrath** with a human and civil rights award named after labor rights leader Cesar Chavez.

The National Education Association posthumously presented the award at its annual meeting in San Diego.

McElrath pushed the state Legislature to increase unemployment benefits for workers and improve workers compensation and disability insurance.

Watanabe Heads Census Bureau's Advisory Committee

Paul Watanabe, director of the Institute for Asian American Studies and associate professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts Boston, has been selected by **Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke** to serve on the U.S. Census Bureau's Advisory Committee on the Asian population.

As a member of the nine-person committee, Watanabe will advise the Census Bureau on ways to achieve a more accurate count of the APA population in the 2010 Census.

API Equality-LA Wins City of Los Angeles Pride Award

As part of the city of Los Angeles' Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) pride celebration, API Equality-LA has been recognized for its organizing work in the APA communities.

API Equality-LA is a coalition of organizations and individuals working to build support for equal marriage rights and fair treatment of LGBT people in the greater Los Angeles APA community.

Pictured above (l-r): API Equality-LA member Tim Ky, Mike Bonin from Councilmember Bill Rosendahl's office, Deanna Kitamura, Doreena Wong, Ellen Kameya and Harold Kameya.

JA Leaders Receive Congressional Recognition

To celebrate Little Tokyo's Japanese American Cultural & Community Center's 29th anniversary, Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard presented honorees with "Certificates of Congressional Recognition."

The honorees were: **Archie Miyatake**, photographer; **Madam Kansuma Fujima**, classical Japanese dance instructor; **Madam Sosei Shizuye Matsumoto**, tea ceremony instructor; **John Naka**, Japanese garden landscaping expert; **Seiichi Tanaka**, taiko instructor; and **Masi Oka** from the NBC television series "Heroes."

The JACCC is the preeminent presenter of Japanese, JA, and APA performing and visual arts nationally. ■

House Committee Vote on Akaka Bill Delayed

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

HONOLULU—A key vote in a U.S. House committee studying legislation to give Native Hawaiians similar rights as American Indians is being delayed.

The House Natural Resources Committee was to vote on the co-called Akaka Bill on July 9. But that was postponed for a week or two.

A spokesman for Hawaii Democratic Sen. Daniel Akaka says the delay will ensure that "everyone is coordinated and on the same page" before a vote.

The bill would create a process for self-governance by Native Hawaiians. But some Native Hawaiian lawyers have recently criticized the bill.

The Native Hawaiian Bar Association contends it would give the federal government too much immunity from claims by Native Hawaiians regarding land or other



issues.

"The bill's provisions on claims and federal sovereign immunity appear to be overly broad and may prohibit lawsuits by individual Native Hawaiians," the bar association wrote. "They create an extraordinarily unusual circumstance in which Native Hawaiians are barred from bringing an action."

What is at stake here is the control

of approximately 1.8 million acres of land that many Native Hawaiians believe was illegally taken from them by the United States' annexation in 1898.

Passage by the committee would send the measure to the full House. Akaka hopes the measure will be

taken up by the full House before the August recess.

The Senate has not considered it yet. The first test in the Senate will come before the Indian Affairs Committee where Sen. Daniel Inouye is a senior member.

The Akaka bill was originally proposed in 2000 and has passed the House but has been stalled in the Senate. ■

Minorities are Majority in 7 W. Wash. Districts

Latinos and Asians are among the fastest growing minority groups.

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE—Not long after Edward Lee Vargas was named superintendent of the Kent School District, he stood on a playground where most of the students playing soccer, swinging from the jungle gym or batting tetherballs were Asian, Hispanic or black.

Eight years ago, the students at this school, Scenic Hill Elementary, as well as at many other Kent schools, were largely white.

But this past school year the Kent School District became the seventh Seattle-area district in which the majority of students are minorities, joining Seattle, Tukwila, Highline, Renton, Federal Way and Tacoma.

The change is part of a demographic shift that's happening in

districts across Washington and the nation.

It's fueled in part by immigration and, in Washington, by the fact that the minority population is younger and growing faster than the white population, whose birth rate is declining, according to a draft report by Washington State University professor Annabel Kirschner.

Washington's white population continues to rise, but minority groups especially those of Hispanic and Asian descent are growing faster, especially among residents under age 18, the report said.

In Kent, where students speak more than 100 different languages, district administrators require mandatory diversity training for staff and their families and beefed up the district's English-language programs.

The growing diversity in Washington schools "has huge

implications for how we teach," said Marge Plecki, associate professor of education at the University of Washington.

New and veteran teachers alike, she said, say they need more help in meeting the needs of all their students.

With the exception of Seattle and a few small districts, all the school districts in King and Snohomish counties have a higher percentage of minority students than they did five years ago.

Tukwila, which had the highest percentage of minority students in the 2003-04 school year, has even more now a nearly equal mix of whites, Asians, Hispanics and blacks.

Kent the state's fourth-largest district has undergone the most rapid change among Puget Sound districts, from about one-third minorities five years ago to about 51 percent this past school year. ■

Actor Kal Penn Starts Work as White House AAPI Liaison

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—Actor Kal Penn started a new job July 6 as a liaison between the White House and Asian American communities.

The Indian American actor is taking a break from Hollywood to work as an associate director in the Office of Public Liaison, with a focus on connecting Obama with the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, as well as arts groups.

Penn had a recurring role on Fox's

TV show "House" and starred in several films including "Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle" and its sequel, "Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay."

Penn, who backed Obama during the campaign, said the new job has nothing to do with his life as an actor.

"I expect to be treated just like any



other staff member," he told reporters on a conference call.

He is even applying this quest for a fresh start to his identity, saying he will use his given name, Kalpen Modi, while working

for the Obama administration. Asked about the differences between the new job and his work in Hollywood, Penn joked that he now wears a suit. ■



VERY

truly yours

BY HARRY K. HONDA

Admiring Chu, Remembering Tanaka

A QUICK GLANCE at any Nikkei face, especially in *The Economist* news magazine (July 4), invites me to immediately read the story. It turned out to be about Steven Chu, America's new secretary of energy, the second Chinese American following Elaine Chao (Sec. of Labor in the Bush Administration) to sit in a president's cabinet.

A co-winner of the Noble Prize for physics (1997), Chu "wants to save the world by transforming its largest industry — energy," the *Economist* highlighted. When president-elect Barack Obama nominated the UC Berkeley physicist last December, it was "a signal to all that my administration will value science, make decisions based on facts and understand that facts require bold actions."

Now, I realize I should have taken physics as my second physical science class for college prep.

Chu, as the news magazine points out, faces "some politicians from softer intellectual backgrounds [who] often seem to forget: You cannot negotiate with nature. Nor can you ignore it, for it will not go away."

Spotting and promoting technologies in energy and weaning ourselves from fossil fuels may be our No. 1 priority as we face the return of higher prices at the pump. But oil is too convenient to become obsolete any time soon.

No. 2 looms over the field of alternative energy — so advanced that it includes nuclear, which was Chu's field as director at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory for the past five years at Livermore. I read where solar energy is more expensive to produce than wind power and the hope for cheaper solar power is alive.

No. 3 might be his idea of a "global glucose economy." To explain, fast-growing crops would be planted in the tropics, especially in the equatorial nations, where sunlight is abundant. They would be converted into glucose, of which cellulose makes up much of the dry weight of a plant, and the polymer would be shipped around the

world much like oil today. From polymer, the eventual conversion would be biofuels and bioplastics.

An example (No. 4) of his unorthodox thinking, is his observation of painting the rooftops around the world white and using light-colored road surfaces to reflect a lot of sunlight back into space "to have an effect on global warming."

And (No. 5) Chu doesn't believe in nuclear waste dumps like Yucca Mountain. He's looking to burn them in special reactors to "transmute them into benign elements." Such is my steadier look (and yours) with the Department of Energy.

* * *

THE NATION'S press recently ran the obituary of Togo W. Tanaka this past week and it was he who christened my column, "Very Truly Yours," in 1941 when contributing pieces from the *Nichibei Shimbun* in San Francisco. He was a young-looking chap graduating Phi Beta Kappa in political science at UCLA in 1936. Among the Nisei in Little Tokyo entering journalism at *Rafu Shimpō* when he was editor (1936-1942) would include Robert Hirano, Bob Ohama, Henry Mori, Vincé Tajiri, Naomi Kashiwabara, Richard Homma and me.

Fred Hoshiyama of Culver City reminded me Togo had served on the Federal Reserve Board for the Ninth District, classifying him as "a millionaire." And Fred would know, he being a fund raiser all his life with the YMCA and with Nikkei organizations.

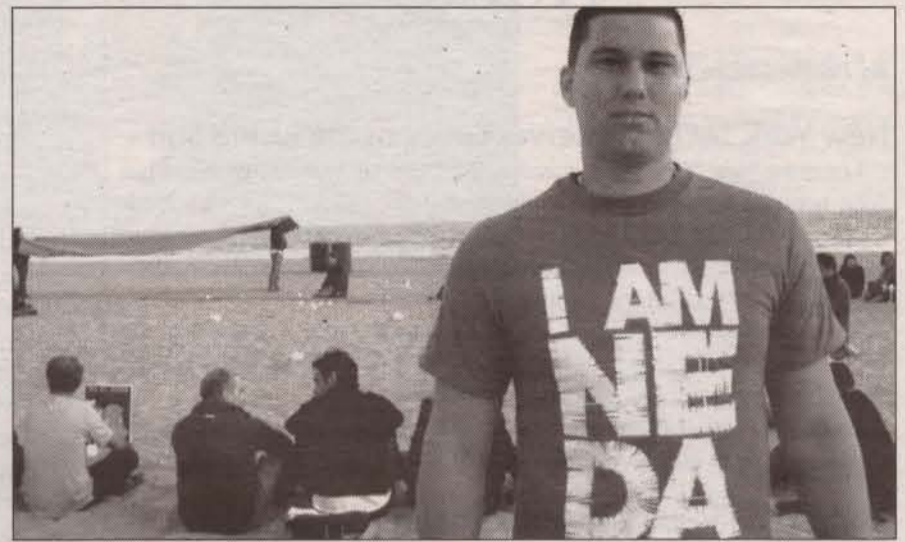
Togo was also the first Japanese American to be elected president of the prestigious Los Angeles Rotary Club of several thousand members. During Little Tokyo's redevelopment era, Togo was a commissioner on the Community Redevelopment Authority. People have acclaimed him a legendary icon in the JA community. Amen to that! ■

Harry K. Honda is the Pacific Citizen editor emeritus.

THE SHIGEKI SHAKE DOWN

The World is Watching Iran

BY PETER SHIGEKI FRANSDEN



The orange-red glow of the setting sun cast a warm light on the Santa Monica pier a week or so after the disputed election in Iran.

A large green flag solemnly flapped in the wind and the soft sound of meditative bowl gongs traveled through the air.

People wore green headscarves, armbands, wristbands and bandanas. Old bald men wore green "Where Is My Vote?" silk-screened T-shirts identical to their young would-be hipster nephews.

Small candles and green glow sticks delineated a large circle where a hundred or so individuals — including myself — sat on the beach in solemn solidarity at a candlelight vigil in honor of Neda and the Iranian struggle for democracy.

Compare that to the horrific images that leaked out of Iran each day from brave citizen journalists via Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and other Internet proxies. There were amateur videos of people marching in the streets despite threats of violence. There were images of women being beaten with batons, riot police on motorcycles indiscriminately abusing ordinary citizens, and the unforgettable live footage of the murder of Neda, the young woman killed by what appears to be a single sniper shot on the streets of Tehran.

The contrast is staggering.

From the sunset beaches of L.A. to the crowded streets of London, citizens of the world have taken notice and lent their support to the protesters in Tehran. They've sought to bring focus to the growing opacity that is enveloping Iran. Indeed, the whole world is watching.

These historic events in Iran have captivated my attention for various reasons. Mostly, it's the fact that in 2009, the desires of a society are the same ideals that individuals sought while remaking our country hundreds of years ago — freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of suffrage, freedom of a representative government.

It's fascinating to me that certain human stirrings find resonance across time, country, culture or race. People want what people want regardless of history, background or upbringing.

Yet, despite the timeless yearning for freedom, I cannot help but wonder if the

resistance movement in Iran would have been possible without modern technology. Both inside and out of Tehran, Facebook and Twitter have served up rallying cries, protest instructions, and news of solidarity movements to enable people to gather force. YouTube, blogs, and user-created content have given voice and direction to the now unified masses.

Social media has mediated society.

Even as the autocratic regime has blocked satellite feeds and internet portals, broadcasted misinformation on its state media networks, and attempted to cast blame elsewhere, the people have rallied. Using internet proxy, relatives and strangers in other countries to tweet messages and information for them, the Iranian people have spoken and the world has heard them. We are watching.

As my wife and I were driving to the vigil in Santa Monica, she invited one of her friends to join us. Her friend asked, "Is it safe?" The fact that it was safe for us in Los Angeles and not safe for others in Tehran to do the same brought pangs of sadness.

Despite the inherent risks and dangers, the rallying masses hit the streets every day. It's encouraging to know that the spirit of the unconquerable human soul will not be suppressed. It is incredible to me that people will face violence, even death, to demand inalienable rights that need to be afforded to all people in all countries.

The stories of brave individuals overcoming enormous obstacles in pursuit of the greater good for themselves and others around them emulate the purest elements of hope. I take heart in their courage and hope they can achieve the change they desire.

It's your move Iran. Make the right choice. The whole world will be watching. ■

Peter Shigeki Frandsen will be serving as a U.S. Air Force dentist at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi. He is a Mount Olympus JACL member.



Not So Angry Little Asian Girl



Lee created 'Angry Little Asian Girl' in college as a way to express her anger. The characters have become a pop culture success.

Artist and actress Lela Lee has turned her childhood frustrations into a successful business.

By NALEA J. KO
Reporter

Artist and actress Lela Lee has found creative outlets to express her anger and worked to transform how Asian Americans are represented in the media. Frustrated with racism she experienced in her childhood, Lee created "Angry Little Asian Girl" as an undergraduate at UC Berkeley. Lee says she is still a "hot-blooded Korean," but she is not as angry now. Her change of demeanor has not stopped her from giving a voice to peeved women with her cartoon, "Angry Little Girls."

"I expanded Angry Little Asian Girl to Angry Little Girls because as I was selling the shirts out of my trunk, I got to talk to the people and get their feedback," said Lela Lee. "All of the non-Asians would say, 'I would totally rock that shirt, but I can't because I'm not Asian.' I heard that enough to realize that everyone knows what it's like to be judged for what they look like, especially females."

Lee's once-fledgling business has now expanded to a full-time job. The cartoonist is currently working on a new Angry Little Girls book set, which will be a compilation of five books. And on July 5, the original Angry Little Asian Girl cartoons hit YouTube for the first time. Her recent success is perhaps sweeter considering the rejection and frustration Lee experienced in the past.

"I'm very lucky to be able to have this be my job," Lee said. "But I also worked really hard and had to go through four years of rejection and people telling me, 'there's just no market for Asians.'"

Lee said she grew up in a Caucasian neighborhood in Southern California, where she was constantly teased for being Asian. She spent her childhood in a "very strict Korean household" and was not allowed to speak her mind.

True to her life story, the first Angry Little Asian Girl cartoon showed a little girl, Kim, being belittled on the playground by two Caucasian boys. The boys taunted Kim, telling her they could blindfold her with dental floss because of the size of her eyes. The creation of Kim gave Lee the opportunity to finally stop being nice.

"I couldn't talk about the hurtful things that happened to me on the playground because my parent's response was, 'you be

nice,' which put the burden on me to suffer and take it and be nicer to these mean kids." Instead of expressing her anger, Lee bottled it up. In college she finally unleashed it, creating an early sketch of what would become Angry Little Asian Girl.

Lee was initially embarrassed by the cartoon's finished product and stuffed it away in a drawer. Then in 1997, while working at her mother's dry cleaners business, her cartoon was featured at a film festival. It was a hit. Soon the *Los Angeles Weekly* and *Los Angeles Times* were praising her work. The artist said she never expected the positive response to her work, which was initially drawn with Crayola markers.



Creating angry girls is now a fulltime gig for Lela Lee.

"I grew up without any real meaningful representations of Asians in media," Lee said. "So for me to have created a character that is a part of the pop culture is something I'm pretty proud of. Asian females feel empowered to be angry, not submissive and it really resonates with them."

The Angry Little Girls' cast of characters includes Deborah "the disenchanting princess," Maria the "crazy little Latina" and Wanda the "fresh little soul sistah," among others. Each character has their own blog and is featured on merchandise like wallets, bags, shirts and hats. But, the Angry Little Asian Girl maintains a prominent role in the cartoons and merchandise.

The Angry Little Asia Girl cartoon on YouTube, starring Kim, depicts a cute girl with pigtails who defies Asian stereotypes. With a mouth like a sailor, Kim says everything Lee bot-

tled up as a bullied child. Many share Lee's concerns about media's representation of AAs, so her success should not be a surprise.

"I think anger is a pretty common response from most people, especially from artists who are capable of providing a creative response to their dissatisfaction," said Shinae Yoon, executive director of the Visual Communications, Southern California Asian American Studies Central Inc.

"But I think Lela, as well as other artists, are suffusing this anger with a healthy dose of humor and self-determination, which allows us to move past the anger to something that is ultimately healthy and healing."

Yoon said she is concerned about media's stereotypical depictions of AAs and a lack of representation. AAs represent 4.3 percent of the United States population, according to the latest survey by the U.S. Census Bureau. Although there have been improvements over the years in representing the AA population accurately and fairly, many explain there is still room for greater awareness.

"One of our current projects is protesting the lack of Asian American actors in the upcoming film *The 'Last Airbender'*, which is based on a children's cartoon that very clearly depicts an Asian universe and Asian/Inuit characters," explained Lori Kido Lopez, a board member of the Media Action Network for Asian Americans, or MANAA. "It is this kind of treatment that makes Asian Americans so mad that Lela Lee was compelled to make a cartoon about her frustrations!"

Lee has appeared on "Scrubs," "Curb Your Enthusiasm" and "Friends" among other TV shows. As an actress Lee said she is not interested in "token Asian parts." Although there was a time when she had to take those roles to bolster her resume.

She has been invited to schools to speak with students about AA representation in media. Students ask her how they can fix the absence and misrepresentation of Asians in the media. Lee has found that answer is not always clear-cut.

"I don't have a definite answer for that, but that they are aware of it and talking about it is an important first step," Lee said. It is important to create images representative of Asians, she said.

For those who have not found an outlet to express their frustration, Lee offers a bit of advice: "Find something you like to do and channel your frustration into that, Good things can come from doing that." ■

For more information: www.angrylittlegirls.com

'He Knew How to Give Because of the Gift He Was Given'

Todd Sato's life and untimely passing underscored the importance of organ donation.

By **LYNDA LIN**
Assistant Editor

Todd Sato, the former JACL national youth representative, was everyone's go-to guy. He would drive the farthest, stay up the latest and volunteer the most of his time to get jobs done. His family and friends said he did this because he loved people. He was a giver.

"You could always count on Todd," said Donna Masada-McHenry, his aunt.

Some attributed his selflessness to his heart — literally, a gift he received from a stranger at 18. Todd, who battled heart problems from birth, knew he was lucky. It fueled his activism.

"Someone gave me the gift of life," he told the *Pacific Citizen* in late January when he learned that he needed a second heart transplant.

By all accounts, the 29-year-old did everything he could to help others until his heart could take no more. On June 27, Todd died of heart failure leaving behind a legacy

much larger than most people his age.

At his July 8 funeral service, about 400 friends and family members gathered at the Gardena Valley Baptist Church to say their final farewells. There was an overflow of people — evidence of the lives he touched.

"It's always sad to lose a young person with a passion for his community," said Josh Spry, JACL secretary/treasurer in a statement. "Todd served at all levels of this organization and in several others. His faith, conviction for his community, and loyalty to his friends are commendable, and he will be missed."

At the JACL Pacific Southwest office, Todd was a constant.

"He was often the first to show up for board meetings and one of the last to leave — he was always among the group that hung out after the meetings to catch up," said Alayne Yonemoto, PSW district governor. "It was very rare for Todd to miss a meeting or an event."

He was born with "Blue Baby Syndrome," a cardiac defect that causes inadequate oxygenation of the blood. At eight months old, Todd underwent an experimental opera-



Todd Sato poses for a picture (above) for a story that appeared in the *Pacific Citizen* this past January on his organ donation efforts.



Todd as a toddler in 1981.

tion that seemed to correct the condition. But three weeks after his high school graduation in 1998, Todd relapsed and went into the hospital for his first heart transplant.

He called the scar on his chest his "badge of honor," and became an outspoken advocate for organ donation. He rode on parade floats promoting organ donation. Because he was one of the success stories, Todd would put on a suit and wave at the crowds.

But in his personal life, he didn't

really talk about his leadership roles.

"It was typical Todd. He was quiet about his activism," said Donna.

Last July, they celebrated the 10th anniversary of Todd's heart transplant at a swanky steakhouse in Beverly Hills. His mom joked that he was an expensive guy.

But it was as Donna described it — a monumental milestone. The average life expectancy of a heart transplant patient is seven years. Todd beat those odds.

Then in January, the heart that

treated him well for a decade needed to be replaced. He was put on the waiting list.

"I have seen my surgeon, a psychologist and had a CT scan done," Todd wrote in an April 8 e-mail.

As of July 10, there are 102,422 people on the waiting list for organ donation, according to United Network for Organ Sharing.

Todd, in his last effort to give back, helped some people on the list. He donated kidneys, cornea tissue and heart valve — family members say this was most significant.

He was given that heart, said Donna, and it saved another life.

"The gift of life to someone else was a generous way he was able to help another in need," said Gary Mayeda, a former JACL national board member.

To celebrate his life and to continue his work as a spokesperson for organ donation, a rose in a 2010 Rose Parade float will be dedicated in Todd's name. He would've appreciated this generosity of spirit.

"He knew how to give because of the gift he was given," said Donna. ■

On the Web:

www.jaclpsw.org

www.onelegacy.org

New Exhibit To Feature Japanese American WWII History

Coming next year to the Ellis Island Museum, the exhibit will tell the stories of the Nisei soldiers.

Historian Eric Saul hopes to capture the Japanese American World War II experience in an exhibit slated to open early next year at New York's Ellis Island Immigration Station Museum.

The exhibit, "Go For Broke: Japanese American Soldiers Fighting on Two Fronts, the Enemy Abroad and Prejudice at Home," will be a "Japanese American community project" that requires community members to loan family photographs and war memorabilia, said Saul at a recent luncheon with the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA).

Through photographs, oral histories and historical documents, the exhibit will tell the history of the 100th Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, and Military Intelligence Service (MIS). And it will examine how these Nisei veterans influenced postwar JA experiences.

"The war record of the Nisei soldier had a significant impact on the postwar civil rights

of Japanese Americans, and contributed to the successful passing of the House Resolution 442, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988," said Saul.

The National Park Service is commissioning the exhibit.

Saul was the founding curator of the Military Museum at the Presidio of San Francisco from 1973 to 1986.

JA Soldiers Fighting on Two Fronts

Got WWII photos or memorabilia? Make them a part of the exhibit. Contact Eric Saul:

810 Windwood Pl.
Morgantown, WV 26505
304/599-0614
VisasForLife@cs.com

In 1980, he co-founded the Go For Broke 100th/442nd/MIS Foundation, later called the National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) in San Francisco. He was curator from 1981 to 1987, producing exhibits including "East to America," which chronicled the story of JA immigration to the U.S.

Saul has also produced an exhibit entitled "Unlikely Liberators" on JA soldiers of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, which liberated a sub camp at Dachau extermination center in March 1945.

Historian Ted Tsukiyama and Daisy Uyeda Satoda, a San Francisco-based community leader, are also working on the project.

After the New York premiere, the exhibit will be shown at Los Angeles' Simon Wiesenthal Center Museum of Tolerance and then tour the U.S. and Canada, said Saul. ■

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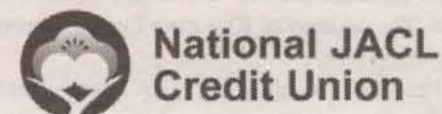
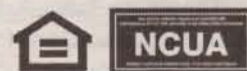
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S.F. Luncheon on U.S.-Japan Relations to Feature High Power Lawmakers, Diplomats

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye and Japan Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki will be the keynote speakers at the July 18 luncheon event, "Between Friends: Opportunities and Challenges in U.S.-Japan Relations."

The luncheon is being held in conjunction with the Japanese American Leadership Delegation (JALD) Summit, a gathering of Japanese American leaders from across the country who have gone to Japan to increase their knowledge and involvement in U.S.-Japan relations.

Each year, the JALD selects 10 to 15 JAs who are active in their community to meet with top business and governmental leaders.

While the July 17-19 summit, with its scheduled workshops and activities, is limited to former JALD delegates, the luncheon is open to the public.

"We are honored to have both Senator Inouye and Ambassador Fujisaki together in one venue to address the mutual interests and concerns of our two nations," said Kaz Maniwa, summit chairman. "This luncheon is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to hear the senator and ambassador discuss the new presidential administration and how this change

in leadership could shape U.S.-Japan relations."

Inouye is the third most senior member of the U.S. Senate. He has a distinguished record as a legislator and as a World War II combat veteran with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Fujisaki has been ambassador to the U.S. since June 2008. Previously, he was the political minister of the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C. from 1995-1999.

The luncheon will also feature Consul General of Japan Yasumasa Nagamine and representatives from the Japan Foundation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and business leaders from both the U.S. and Japan.

Veteran newsman James Hattori will be moderating.

"This event will allow us to hear how Senator Inouye, Ambassador Fujisaki and others interpret U.S.-Japan relations in today's climate, and the role that Japanese Americans might play in strengthening this bilateral relationship," said Diane Matsuda, a former JALD delegate and member of the summit organizing committee. ■

JA Leadership Delegation Luncheon

July 18, 11:30 a.m.

Hotel Kabuki
1625 Post Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
\$75 for individual tickets

For more information:
Diane Noguchi
Diane.Noguchi@sbcglobal.net



PHOTO: STOCKTON PORTS

Satoshi 'Fibber' Hirayama, 79, still showed perfect form on July 10.

A Ceremonial First Pitch Honor For 'Fibber'

The former Stockton Ports' team member is honored for his contributions to baseball.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

For Fibber Hirayama, 79, the Stockton Ports' logo — two bats centered with a baseball — has special meaning. It symbolizes the beginning.

"It was my first step with professional baseball," said Hirayama by telephone to the *Pacific Citizen*.

Back in 1952, he spent an entire season with the Stockton Ports' as one of the first Japanese Americans signed to a professional baseball contract.

Stockton treated him well, said the Nisei. "I've always remembered that."

July 10 was a homecoming of sorts. As a part of the Ports' JA Baseball Heritage Night, Hirayama was honored for his contributions to baseball. Before the Ports took on the Bakersfield Blaze, he stood on the field at Banner Island Ballpark and threw out a ceremonial first pitch.

Before the event, Hirayama joked that maybe he would have to stand closer to home plate.

He was born Satoshi Hirayama in Exeter, Calif. They were the only JA family for miles, and people struggled to pronounce "Satoshi," so the solution seemed simple at the time — since he was born in February, he was called "Febber" and that became "Fibber."

This turned into a nickname that would stick for his entire life.

He grew up playing sports — football first. It won him a scholarship to Fresno State where he played halfback.

"I didn't care for the spring workouts,"

said Hirayama. So he turned to baseball and set a college record with five stolen bases in one game, 76 in a season. He batted .420 in 1950, reigned as team captain for two years and was twice voted the "Most Popular Player" at the National Baseball Congress tournament.

In 1952, Hirayama was signed by the St. Louis Browns, becoming one of the first JAs signed to professional baseball contracts. He spent the entire season — his only one in any American professional baseball league — with the Stockton Ports.

It was a good season. He batted .264 and stole 20 bases. He walked 71 times with just 23 strikeouts in 92 games.

In 1955, Hirayama signed with the Hiroshima Carp and played baseball in the Nippon Pro Baseball (NPB) league in Japan. He was a two-time All-Star in the NPB, in a career that spanned to 1964.




After he retired from playing, Hirayama worked as a scout for the California Angels and the Hiroshima Carp. He was also a Clovis Unified School District teacher and administrator for 30 years. But he always loved baseball.

It always challenged him, said Hirayama.

At the July 10 ceremony, several other former Nisei players from Stockton and Lodi JA semi-pro baseball teams were also honored alongside Hirayama, including Ted Kamibayashi, one of the few living members of the 1940 Stockton Yamato Northern California championship team.

It was an honor being a part of the team's first JA Heritage Night, said Hirayama. "It's an honor to represent the group because I'm a part of that group." ■

On the Web:
www.stocktonports.com

 National business and Professional Directory	
<small>Your business card in each issue for 22 issues is \$15 per line, three-line minimum. Larger type (12 pt.) counts as two lines. Logo same as line rate as required. PC has made no determination that the businesses listed in this directory are licensed by proper government authority.</small>	
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Paul Jay Fukushima ATTORNEY AT LAW Wills & Trusts Probate & Conservatorships paul@fukushimalaw.com 12749 Norwalk Blvd. Suite 111 Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 864-2575	Oakland, Calif. KITAZAWA SEED CO. SINCE 1917 The Asian Vegetable Seed Source for Gardeners, Retailers, Growers Request a Catalog P.O. Box 13220 Oakland, CA 94661-3220 ph: 510/595-1188 fx: 510/595-1860 kitaseed@pacbell.net kitazawaseed.com
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Catches of the Day



The fish were biting at this year's Youth Fishing Derby — four young anglers reeled in their catches.

The event, sponsored by the San Francisco JACL, took place at San Pablo Dam Reservoir with over 30 young participants.

Pictured (l-r) are: Austin Poli, Ryan Wong, Mikey Lee and Thomas Lee.



JACL Hosts First Collegiate D.C. Leadership Conference

"I have never been to such an inspiring and intimate conference," said one of the participants of JACL's first Collegiate Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference. "The issues and discussions here have opened my eyes and I really can't wait to bring this back to my community and make a huge difference."

Thirteen students from across the U.S. took part in the June 19-22 conference.

This newest component of JACL's leadership programs was designed to provide participants with information on the federal government's decision-making process as well as give students the chance to get to know peers from throughout the country.

The participants interacted with White House officials, government agencies, educators and Asian Pacific American community leaders. The students also attended workshops on ethnic identity and public policy in campus organizations.

Highlights of this year's conference included a session

with APAs in the Obama Administration, a session on hate crimes presented by Nawar Shora with the Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee and a historical overview of APAs by Phil Nash with the University of Maryland. Participants also toured the Capitol and the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

The conference participants included: Tiffany Hiramine, University of California-Davis; Sean Miura, USC; Sean Palmer, University of Colorado; David Motoyoshi, University of Minnesota; Niralee Shah, Williams College; Cynthia Chang, University of Florida; Vena Amber Thichangthong, Old Dominion University; Ashley Vij, George Washington University; Cindy Xie, Fordham University; Gloria Yun, St. Michael's College; Christopher Batalon, University of Washington; Sondra Morishima, NYU; Annie Kim Noguchi, University of California, Berkeley.

The conference was sponsored through a grant from the UPS Foundation. ■

Inouye Institute Hosts Creative Arts Camp



Seidi Inouye, (center) leads an early childhood music class.

The grandchildren of Charles Inouye and Bessie Murakami wanted to continue the legacy of giving back to the community.

In late June, they — all 20 grandchildren — boarded planes from Los Angeles to Shanghai bound for Gunnison, Utah, where they hosted a creative arts camp for local children to discover themselves through music and art.

This is the third year The Inouye Institute for the Arts — a non-profit, family-run, community partnered educational venture — has hosted this event. Its purpose is to give back to the community that nurtured their family's pursuit of the American dream.

The theme of this year's creative arts camp, which ran June 29 to July 3, was "Making History."

Ninety-six participants took part in activities including early childhood music, creative writing, drama, visual arts and music classes.

The legacy started with Charles and Bessie, who met and married in 1943 behind Heart Mountain's barbed wire. After the war they moved to the desert of southern Utah to work as laborers on produce farms. And in 1963, they bought their own farm in the rural community of Gunnison.

"The theme this year was perfect for all the celebrating in Gunnison and helped the kids to understand our history a little better," said Vicki McArthur, a mother of two of the young participants in this year's camp. ■

For more information: www.inouyeinstitute.org

JACL Thanks Lawmakers For Supporting Camp Preservation

The JACL is recognizing Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif., and other lawmakers for their work to preserve the Japanese American internment camps of World War II.

Honda, a former internee, recently increased the House Budget amount for Public Law 109-441, which authorizes \$38 million towards the preservation of campsites.

The 2009 federal budget originally allocated \$1 million of the authorized funding. The House version of the 2010 federal budget increases the amount to \$2.5 million.

"We are aware that Congressman Honda spent a lot of time discussing the issue with the House Leadership. He put forth great effort in gaining support from his colleagues for preserving the camps sites," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "We thank him for his work and his commitment to educating the public about the story of the World War II internment."

Honda said he was "extremely pleased" for the \$1.5 million increase in funding. He added, "... I was proud to advocate for this needed increase."

The JACL is also recognizing



MIKE HONDA



NORMAN DICKS

Rep. Norman Dicks, D-Wash., chair of the Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies on the House Committee on Appropriations, for his support of camp preservation.

"We are also grateful to Chairman Dicks for his support, to Congressman Mike Simpson, R-Idaho, for his efforts for the Minidoka funding and the Minidoka Heart Mountain land acquisition legislative rider, and to all who support the camp preservation," said Mori.

PL 109-441 was the result of HR 1492, which was passed by Congress and signed into law by

President George W. Bush on Dec. 21, 2007.

The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee showed strong support for JA camp preservation by including \$2.5 million in the House bill for the confinement sites grant program, Minidoka and Heart Mountain amendments to PL 109-441, \$350,000 for Minidoka land acquisition, and funding to begin the Tule Lake General Management Plan (GMP).

"The historic preservation of confinement sites will play a critical role in educating current and future generations about this episode in our history," said Honda. ■

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Oct. 22-Nov. 1	Autumn Japan "Fall Highlights"
Nov. 3-Nov. 13	The Best of Kyushu
Dec. 1-Dec. 03	Christmas in Las Vegas: Shows: Cher & The Lion King
Dec. 5-Dec. 14	South America Escape "Rio de Janeiro, Iguassu Falls, Buenos Aires"

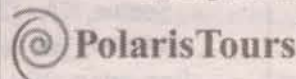
2010

Feb. 17-Feb. 25	Natural Wonders of Costa Rica
Feb. 22-Mar. 8	South Pacific Wonders: Australia & New Zealand
Mar. 15-Mar. 24	Onsen Meguri
Mar. 29-Apr. 7	Spring Japan: "Cherry Blossoms & Fuji-san"
Apr. 9-Apr. 22	Korea Highlights & Drama "Hallyu" Tour
Apr. 26-May 6	Discover Croatia
May 20-May 31	The Best of Malaysia
June 8-June 10	Summertime in Las Vegas: Shows TBA

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TAKEI

(Continued from page 2)

Emperor.

Yet, instead of celebrating their refusal to cooperate with the government's demand to answer these questions, our community has labeled them as "disloyal" and "troublemakers" and treated them with derision and scorn — the "dirty linen" to be hidden away.

It's as if black people called civil rights movement heroes like Rosa Parks and Medgar Evers "troublemakers" and "agitators" because they protested injustice. Imagine black folks adopting the views of the white Southern bigots and segregationists instead of supporting racial equality.

The myth of the 200 percent Americans who didn't protest and who shed blood to prove loyalty, became the post-war image that was used to help white America view Japanese Americans in a positive light — a strategy to help reverse the Tojo-loving subversive buck-tooth "Jap" propaganda that helped foster the incarceration.

Of course, these positive stereotypes existed to manipulate public opinion as much as the negative ones. The "model minority" image helped defuse hostile attitudes, making it easier for JAs struggling to get jobs and housing after the war.

The "loyal" stereotype, however, demonized civil rights protesters as pro-Japan fanatics and Emperor worshipers. Perversely, as a result, many JAs have internalized the racism of the War Relocation Authority and the Western Defense Command, and learned to stigmatize protest in the American tradition, viewing it as disloyalty and support of enemy Japan.

The stories of the 12,000 protesters who were segregated at Tule Lake have gone untold for the past 67 years because of this stigma. They learned their protests at Tule Lake were viewed as disloyalty and should be hidden away; consequently, most have not talked about their dissent.

We wanted to make sure that we don't lose their stories forever, which is why we organized this off-year pilgrimage to Tule Lake. We hope to motivate those who care about civil rights to do what they can to fill those missing pages, to honor the courage of our unsung civil rights activists and to welcome these heroes back into the community.

We hope that others will feel and do the same. ■

Barbara Takei was one of the organizers of the 2009 Tule Lake pilgrimage.

At 84, Murata Finally Gets High School Diploma

Because of his WWII service, the Colorado native had to wait over 65 years to call himself a high school graduate.

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREELEY, Colorado—There's at least one guy with a new high school diploma who's not worrying about getting into college or finding a job.

After all, Takeshi Murata is 84.

Murata was 18 and a student at University High School in Greeley, Colorado, in 1944 when he was drafted to fight in World War II, according to the *Greeley Daily Tribune* newspaper.

Though he was the son of Japanese immigrants, he grew up speaking English. In the Army, he

was trained in an intelligence unit and given some studies in Japanese. After the war, he was sent to serve in U.S. military headquarters in Tokyo.

"I really didn't know Japanese that well," Murata told the *Tribune*. "But I'd learned a little in the intelligence schools, so they sent me."

He met his wife, Chikako, there, he said. They married in Japan and in 1947 returned to northeast Colorado.

Murata approached his old school, thinking his military intelligence classes should suffice for any coursework he missed when he left school at 18.

"The school officials told me I wasn't qualified to graduate," he told the *Tribune*.

Murata dropped the diploma quest and followed in his father's foot-

steps, becoming a farmer. He raised five children — each of whom earned college degrees.

But Murata still had no diploma of his own until a teacher at the school, Jeanne Lipman, heard his story last year. She found Murata's report cards, got an original diploma from one of his old classmates and turned them over to University of Northern Colorado President Kay Norton. The high school is now called University High; the university ran it when Murata attended.

Norton presented the diploma to Murata on July 8, and his family celebrated with cake and a party. Murata, smiling, joked about the lengthy process.

"I'm 84 years old now," he said. "What am I going to do with a diploma? Look for a job?" ■

Marching For More Perfect Unions



(L-r) Greg Marutani, Lia Shigemura, Helen Zia, Geri Handa, John Handa and Supervisor Eric Mar.

With this year's theme, 'To Form a More Perfect Union,' members of the San Francisco JACL joined the API Equity Coalition to march in the city's Gay Pride Parade. Community Grand Marshal Helen Zia and her spouse Lia Shigemura were also part of the Asian Pacific American contingent. "It wasn't that long ago that in many states, including California, Asians were not permitted to marry Whites," said Greg Marutani. "Imagine how many mixed marriages in our community alone would not have been possible if the law was not overturned."

JACL Unveils New Scholarship Directory for APA Students

To help Asian Pacific American students gain better access to higher education, JACL, State Farm and other community groups have created a directory of scholarships, internships and fellowships.

The directory, "2009-2011 National Directory of Scholarships, Internships, and Fellowships for Asian American and Pacific Islander Students," was unveiled at a July 14 briefing in Washington, D.C.

JACL, State Farm, OCA and the Asian American Studies Program at University of Maryland collaborated on the directory, which includes information and resources for APA students and their families.

"Education and scholarship is basic to the values of the AAPI family," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "We are happy to provide this resource to assist our youth gain information and access to opportunities that are often hidden from their view."

The directory will be made available at OCA & JACL events and online at www.aast.umd.edu.

"State Farm is pleased to offer this publication to assist students and parents make informed decisions about higher education. Our commitment to education excellence for all students is a top priority as we help build safer, stronger, better-educated communities," said

Leslie Moe-Kaiser, corporate public affairs staff assistant at State Farm.

OCA National President Ken Lee said the directory would help APA students "to be future leaders."

"The directory is a handy reference that can be used by all students and parents who are interested in finding the financial means and experiential resources to pursue higher education," said Larry Shinagawa, director of the University of Maryland's Asian American Studies Program.

"The adage that education can never be taken from you and enables you to persevere and succeed continues to be the age-old truth," he added. ■



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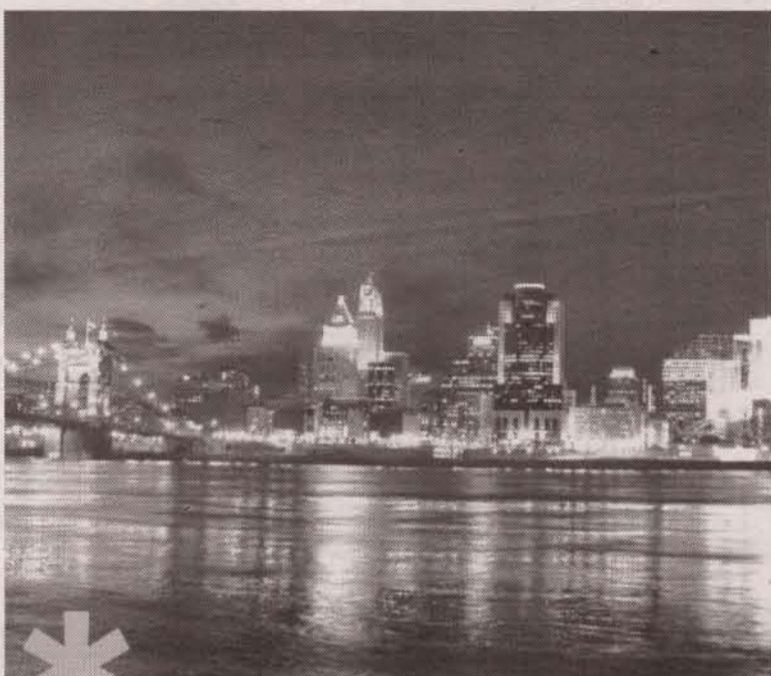
- Postponed to 2010 Yamato Hokkaido Tour** – 12 days/10 nights visiting Sapporo, Sounkyo, Furano, Lake Akan, Kushiro, Ikeda, Obihiro, Lake Toya, Hakodate. **Peggy Mikuni**
- Aug. 28-Sep. 10 Yamato Tour to China** – 14 days/12 nights visiting Beijing, Xi'an, Yangtze River Cruise from Chongqing to Yichang (3 nights), Hangzhou, Shanghai. **Peggy Mikuni**
- October 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**
- October 15-29 Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan** – 15 days/13 nights visiting Tokyo, Kagoshima, Ibusuki, Kirishima, Kumamoto, Fukuoka, Hiroshima, Kyoto. **Peggy Mikuni**
- November 9-13 New Orleans Getaway with Collette Vacations** – 5 days/4 nights. New Orleans includes sightseeing and a scenic river cruise, plus a Collette Foundation feature where you spend the morning giving back to the children of New Orleans in a special service project. Space is limited. **Sharon Seto**
- November 9-17 Costa Rica – Nature's Museum, A Smithsonian Journeys Tour** With Collette Vacations - 9 days/8 nights visiting San Jose, Poas Volcano, Braulillo, 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 European Christmas Markets of Europe Tour** – 10 days/8 nights visiting Prague, Rothenburg, Romantic Road from Dinkelsbuehl to Ulm, Neuschwanstein, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Saizburg, Vienna. **Philippe Theriault**

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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS*



JACL MDC/EDC Conference

CINCINNATI
July 24-26

It'll be the last JACL bi-district, so make sure you're there. 'Partnering for Change: Building Bridges in our Communities' takes place at the Cincinnati Marriott River Center and will feature workshops, speakers and activities.

Info and registration:

Bill Yoshino, midwest@jacl.org or 773/728-7170
www.jaclmdc.org

National

JACL IDC-PNW Conference
ONTARIO, Oregon
July 30-Aug. 2

JACLers are gathering at the bi-district, 'Atarashii Hajimari ... A New Beginning' for fun workshops, speakers, and a round of golf at the Idaho's Scotch Pines Golf Course. Info. and registration forms: www.jacl.org. Have questions? Janet Komoto, 208/739-2777 or janetkomoto@gmail.com

JACL Gala Dinner
WASHINGTON, D.C.
Thu., Sept. 17

"A Salute to Japanese American Veterans"; J.W. Marriott Hotel. Info: www.jacl.org or 202/223-1240.

East

Illuminate the Night
PROVIDENCE, R.I.
Sat., Aug. 8

3:30 p.m.

SEE!

Sport in Society honors the contributions of Wat Misaka for his groundbreaking role as the first person of color to play in the National Basketball League. Reception at 3:30 p.m., film screening at 5 p.m.

WaterFire show at 8 p.m.
Info: Bylee Maxfield, 617/373-8481 or b.maxfield@neu.edu

Midwest

JACL Potluck Dinner
CINCINNATI, Ohio
Sun., Aug. 23

4 p.m.
Hyde Park Bethlehem Methodist Church
Cincinnati JACL's annual potluck dinner will feature guest speaker Jim Kariya, who has been the recipient of a Mansfield Fellowship to study in Japan. Kariya has also worked collaboratively with Japanese scientists. The event will also feature the Sakura Ladies Chorus and Bon Odori.

East Meets Midwest

ST. LOUIS
Sat., Sept. 6
10 a.m.

Missouri Botanical Garden
Featuring taiko, sumo, bonsai trees, kimono fashions, bunraku puppetry and more. Held Labor Day weekend. Sat. and Sun., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Mon., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Info: 314/577-9400, 800/642-8842 or www.mobot.org

JACL Annual Summer Picnic
WEST CARROLLTON, Ohio
Sun., Jul. 26

2 p.m.
350 Wilson Park Drive, parking on the left
Featuring food, great company, music, and games for children and adults.
Info: Jane Katsuyama, 937/294-8815

Pacific Northwest

Bon Odori
OLYMPIA

Sat., Aug. 8
5 p.m.
Between 5th Ave. & Legion St. on Water St.

Featuring food, martial arts demonstration, obon dancing and a peace observance at Capitol Lake at 9 p.m.
Info: Bob Nakamura, 360/556-7562 or sgtmilehibob@yahoo.com.

Northern Calif.

Toro Nagashi Celebration
FRESNO

Sat., Aug. 8
7 p.m.
Woodward Park
Sponsored by the Shinzen Japanese Garden Society; the Toro Nagashi, or floating lantern cultural celebration, festivities begins after the opening ceremonies of taiko drumming. If you're unable to attend, a docent will launch your lantern for you.
Deadline: Aug. 1
Info: 559/297-1041

APCC Dragon Reception & Fundraiser

SACRAMENTO
Fri., Sept. 11
5:30 p.m.
Sacramento State Alumni Center
The Asian Pacific Community Counseling will be honoring Marielle Tsukamoto, president of Florin JACL.

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Also featuring John Christgau, author of "Kokomo Joe: The Story of the First Japanese American Jockey in the United States."

Tickets are \$40/person with free wine drink ticket.
Info: Effie Shum, 916/383-6784 ext. 135.

JACL Spaghetti Dinner
STOCKTON

Sat., Sept. 19
5 p.m.
Stockton Buddhist Temple Gym
Eat for a good cause! The proceeds benefit Stockton JACL Education Fund. Tickets are \$7/adults, \$4/children (10 and under).
Info: 209/476-8528.

Tabemasho (Let's Eat!)
SACRAMENTO

Sat., Sept. 19
4 p.m.
The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California will celebrate 140 years of Japanese food in America and will honor the JA food industry in America.
Info: Joy Iwasa, 415/567-5505 or jiwasa@jccnc.org.

NJAHS Exhibit
SAN FRANCISCO
Through Dec. 31

The National Japanese American Historical Society is hosting an exhibit, "From Our Land," on Japanese American rural legacies.
Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri., 12 p.m.-5 p.m., first Saturday of the month, 12 p.m.-5 p.m.

Southern Calif.

The Party
LOS ANGELES

Sat., Jul. 18
5 p.m.
JACCC Plaza
TN KAT/ Tuesday Night Project celebrates a decade of producing by featuring live DJs, special guest performances, live painting, a silent art auction and community gathering.
Info: Alison De La Cruz, 310/850-1287 or tnkatpr@gmail.com

www.tnkat.org.

69th Annual Nisei Week
LOS ANGELES

Aug. 15-23
Themed "A Year of Celebrations," the festival showcases free Japanese cultural events, activities, and exhibits, with entertainment, food and fun for all ages.
Info: Nisei Week office, 213/687-7183 or www.NiseiWeek.org.

Kokeshi: From Folk Art to Art Toy

LOS ANGELES
Through Oct. 4
Japanese American National Museum
The Los Angeles Toy, Doll & Amusements Museum and Japanese American National Museum bring together the traditional Japanese doll with hundreds of examples of contemporary and custom *kokeshi* created by American and international artists.
Info: 213/625-0414 or www.janm.org.

Nevada

National Singles Convention
LAS VEGAS

Sept. 18-20
Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall
The 12th annual singles convention will include a golf tournament (if sufficient interest), welcome reception, workshops, gala dinner-dance and Sunday brunch \$160/full registration; hotel \$89.99/night, single or double occupancy.
Info: www.jaclsc.com or Yas Tokita, 702/866-2345.

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TRIBUTE

MARGARET MISAO YASUDA

Aug. 7, 1923-May 29, 2009



Margaret was born on August 7, 1923, in Seattle, Wash. to Goroku and Mika Baba as their third child, and died on May 29, 2009, at Seattle Keiro Nursing Home at the age of 85.

She graduated from Garfield High School in 1942 and was interned at Minidoka, Idaho during WWII with her family. She left Minidoka to attend Seton Nursing School in Colorado. She was a member of the Nisei Cadet Nurses of WWII.

To receive her B.S. in nursing she attended the College of Mount St. Joseph on the Ohio, in Cincinnati, OH., and received her degree in Public Health Nursing from the University of Washington in 1949. Margaret was a nurse with the King County Public Health Department where she worked in the well-baby clinic, travel immunizations and visiting nurse division.

She married Ted Takashi Yasuda in 1950, her husband for 58 years, who cared for her lovingly until her death.

She is preceded in death by her parents, and brother Seiji Baba. Her survivors include a sister, Toshiko Yoneji, sister-in-law Alice Baba; children: Roderick (Roxanne Marie), Beverly Ikeda (Thomas M.), Roxanne Guion (Eric); grandchildren: Lauren & Erika Yasuda, Collin & Allison Ikeda, Amy, Anne & Kate Guion.

Her affiliations include Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church Tuesday Ladies, Garfield High Golden Grads, Founding Family of Japanese Culture & Community Center of Washington, Japanese American National Museum, Nisei Veterans Committee Women's Auxiliary, Ohara Flower Arranging School, UW Alumni, Japanese American Citizens League, Densho, Omoide group and Seattle Hiroshima Club.

A memorial service to celebrate Margaret's life was held June 13, 2009, Saturday, at 3 p.m. at Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church, 3001 24th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98144. Remembrances may be made to: Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church-Yasuda Scholarship Fund (scholarship fund for students at Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church), or your favorite charity.

TRIBUTE

FUMIO TOYA

February 1, 1926 - June 28, 2009



Fumio entered into rest June 28, 2009, at the age of 83. Fumio was a beloved husband to Vivian. He was a loving father of Calvin Toya, Janice Toya, Barry Toya and daughter in-law Carmen Melendez; proud grandfather of Gabriel Toya-Melendez. A native of Hawaii, Fumio was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII and Korea and a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley. Fumio was an avid reader and in 2008 published his own novel. A memorial service was held July 10 at Lima & Campagna Sunnyvale Mortuary. Private inurnment.

TOGO W. TANAKA 1916-2009

JACLeR Was an 'Uncompromising Advocate For Civil Rights'

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Togo W. Tanaka, a longtime JACLeR and a former journalist who helped launch the *Manzanar Free Press*, has died. He was 93.

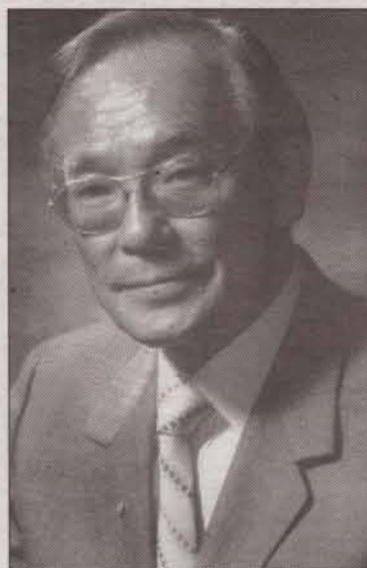
Tanaka died of natural causes May 21 at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. A memorial service was held July 17.

JACLeR National President Larry Oda called Tanaka an "uncompromising advocate for civil rights and fair treatment for our community."

Tanaka was a Thousand Club Life Member with the West Los Angeles JACLeR. From 1940 to 1942, he was a JACLeR national board member and also served as the *Pacific Citizen* editorial board chair from 1944 to 1948, according to Harry K. Honda, *P.C.* editor emeritus.

The Los Angeles resident attended the University of California, Los Angeles and wrote for the *Daily Bruin*, the student newspaper. For six years before World War II, Tanaka worked as the English language editor of the *Rafu Shimpo*.

But after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, the FBI arrested Tanaka and held him for over two weeks without any charge. During that time, no one was allowed to see him, not even his wife Jean who was nine months pregnant with their first



child.

"I was worried about my wife and sore as hell about what I considered an infringement of my constitutional rights as an American citizen," Tanaka said later in Bill Hosokawa's "JACLeR: In Quest of Justice."

Tanaka was eventually sent to Manzanar, where he helped launch the *Manzanar Free Press*.

He advocated cooperation with the government, a position that made him a target of anger and sometimes violence. On the first anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack, Manzanar internees rioted and sought out Tanaka for favoring cooperation with the U.S. gov-

ernment.

"Tanaka was known to favor cooperation with the camp authorities because to fight them would be counterproductive, and this made him a scapegoat for the otherwise powerless," said Oda. "It's interesting that even though he favored cooperation, his writings show that he was a constant and vocal critic of the policy that created the camps and the conditions the internees were forced to live under."

He chronicled Japanese American life in camp and outside of the barbed wire after resettlement.

In the Dec. 21, 1946 *Pacific Citizen*, Tanaka wrote about the unlikelihood of former internees returning to the coastal cities where they lived before the war.

After the war, Tanaka left journalism for real estate. In 1963, he founded Gramercy Enterprises, a estate holding company.

"We live in his shadow," said Oda. ■

'In Memoriam' appears on a limited, space-available basis at no cost.

'Tributes,' 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. For info.: busmgr@pacificcitizen.org.

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TRIBUTE

JOHNNY K. SAKIOKA

Passes away peacefully at age 82

Johnny Katsui Sakioka, a California born resident of Newport Beach, peacefully passed away June 19 at his home surrounded by his family. He was 82.

Memorial services for the late Johnny Sakioka were held on July 2, 2009. Rev. Noriaki Ito of the Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple officiated at the services held at Mesa Verde Country Club in Costa Mesa.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Grace Miye Sakioka; daughter, Sherry Sakioka (Ken Honda); sons, John Jr. (Shirleen) of Michigan and George (Stephanie) Sakioka; grandchildren, Jennifer, Lauren, and Mark Sakioka; sisters, Masako Mitsuuchi, Hisako Kawabe, and Nobuko (Tom) Shiokari; brother, Arthur (Marilyn) Sakioka; sisters-in-law, Mary

Sakioka and Mary Nakayama; brother-in-law, Dr. Tommy (Kathy) Nakayama of Arizona, many nieces, nephews, and relatives in Japan.

In lieu of flowers or "koden" (monetary expression of sympathy) a donation may be made in memory of Johnny K. Sakioka to one of the following organizations:

American Cancer Society,
Newport-Mesa Unit
1940 E. Deere Ave, Suite 100
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Boys and Girls Club
P.O. Box 10297
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple
505 East Third Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

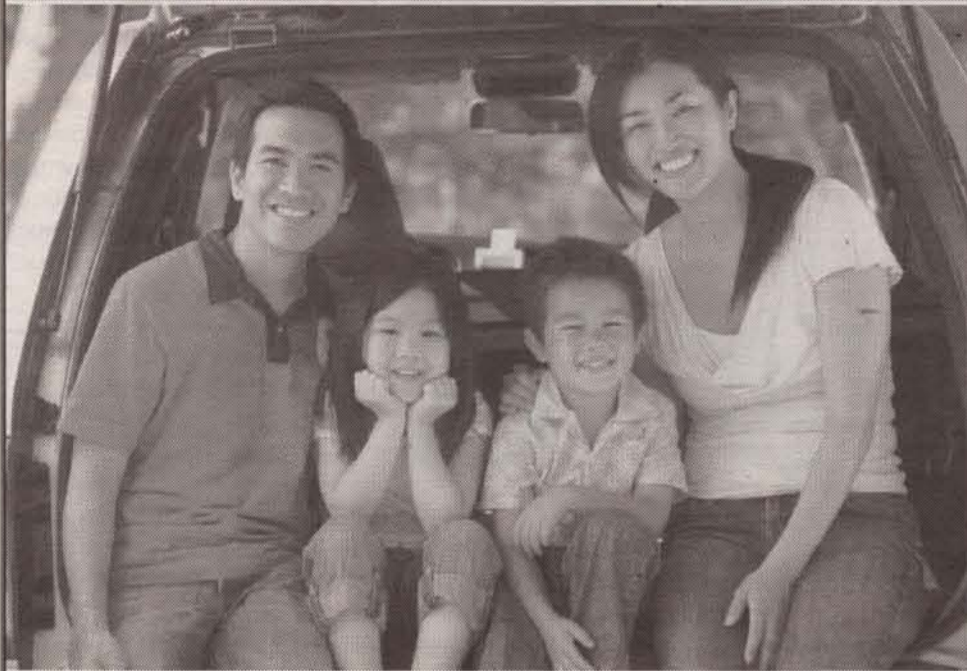
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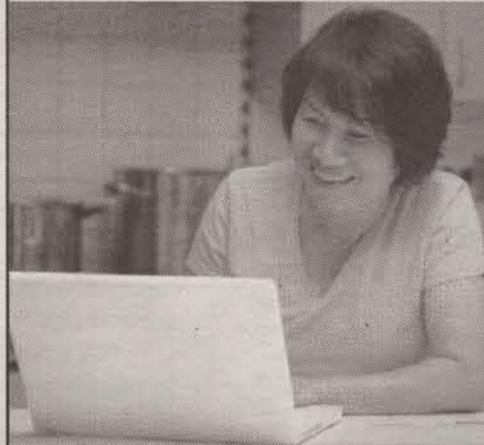
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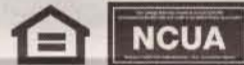
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