

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



{ Q&A }

## SECRET ASIAN MAN!

On the 10th anniversary of his popular comic strip, **TAK TOYOSHIMA** talks about the future of S.A.M.

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PHOTO: DEREK KOUYOUNJIAN

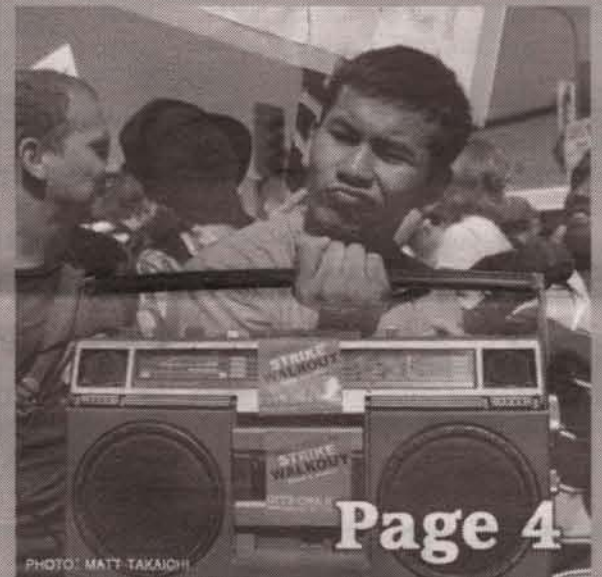
1st Lt. Ehren  
Watada can  
resign from  
the Army.

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Inside the Matsumoto family  
tradition at Washington University.



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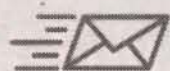
Hear that, UC? APA students  
say the fee hikes are unfair.



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James Kyson Lee talks love, life  
and 'White on Rice.'





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Words are Powerful

### COMMENTARY Power of Words

A new JACL proposal hopes to change euphemisms used to justify the treatment of JAs during World War II.

By Mako Nakagawa



Words do have power. That power can be negative or it can be constructive and become a tool for social change. In 1942 the government deliberately chose words to and as — even deceptively about — the harsh treatment of Japanese Americans imprisoned in concentration camps during World War II.

Two popular euphemisms were "evacuation" and "relocation." The word "evacuation" is almost always

**Pacific  
Citizen,  
Sept. 4-17**

Finally someone is doing something that should have been done many years ago. I totally agree with her movement. It is now over 67 years and people are still using euphemisms perpetrated by the U.S. government during WWII.

As the Mako Nakagawa's commentary states, the government did deliberately use words to distort the unjust treatment of Japanese Americans. What is sad to note is that people still use these terms as if they are still brainwashed by the U.S. government.

Aiko Yoshinaga-Herzig, the former principle researcher for the CWRIC (The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilian) who discovered documents with her late husband Jack on the U.S. government's deception in the Hirabayashi, Yasui and Korematsu wartime cases, has long campaigned in effect to say it as it is and not as it was.

To you, Ms. Nakamura, keep on. And to the Nikkei: stop the brainwashing and say it as it is.

**STANLEY N. KANZAKI**  
NEW YORK JACL

## 'Internment Camp' is the Best Description

I think "concentration camp" is a rather harsh term, especially compared to the Jewish camps. I also think the terms "relocation" and "evacuation" are too watered down and do not reflect an accurate description of the forced move.

In my opinion, I believe "internment camp" best describes the forced move and the camps we were in.

**BILL KOBAYASHI**  
FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA

## Funding for Minidoka Needs Support

It seems that monies provided in a House Bill (PL 109-441) for the acquisition of land bordering the Minidoka National Monument, was not included in the Senate version.

The acquisition of this property and its inclusion into the Minidoka National Monument is important.

It is important for future generations to appreciate the size of these camps. By allowing the inclusion in the Senate bill, this property — about 130 acres — provides a way for people to have a better perspective of the camp's size.

Second, it provides a buffer for the monument area where no other use of this property can occur. This will help keep some of the original scale of the camp.

Third, land adjacent to the camp is not always available. The opportunity to acquire this bordering property may not occur again for a long time.

To preserve what everyone has agreed on is worthy of national monument status and seems a worthy investment for the future.

We are asking all JACL members, especially those who had family in Minidoka, to call their senators and ask them to reinstate funding for this property.

**KARL ENDO**  
POCATELLO-BLACKFOOT JACL

## Reasons for Resisting

When I was 11 years old, I recall the FBI took Mr. Morita, a Japanese schoolteacher, from his home and family. The Moritas' home was ransacked and Mr. Morita was jailed. This left the rest of the family members to fend for themselves. The oldest son, who was about 17 or 18 at that time, became the head of the household.

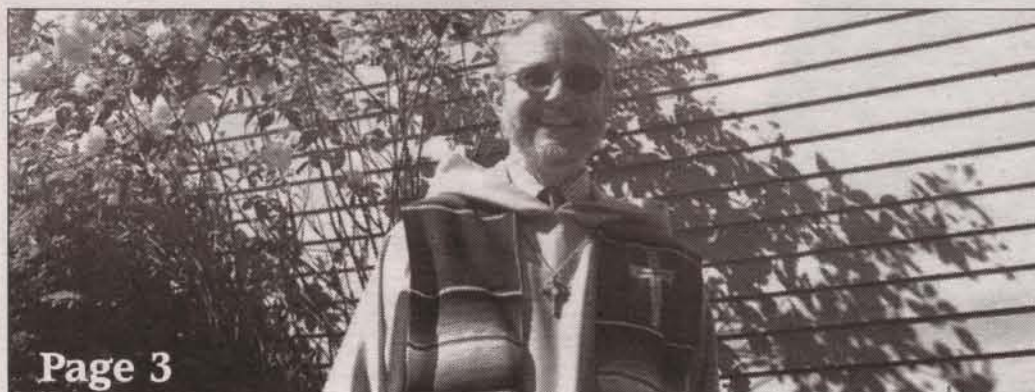
*'The Moritas' home  
was ransacked and  
Mr. Morita  
was jailed.'*

When the oldest son was in Heart Mountain, he was one of the draft resisters. Near the end of the war, Mr. Morita was allowed to reunite with his family in Heart Mountain, Wyoming. In the meantime, the oldest son was incarcerated at Fort Leavenworth Penitentiary in Kansas. He was released after several years in prison. This experience, what this son went through, is understandably why he resisted.

**MITO MIHARA**  
SANTA CRUZ, CA

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PHOTO: RICH IWASAKI

## Finding Strength in his Identity

Rev. David Weekley, a Portland JACL member, says he found strength in the stories of WWII internees.

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University of California APA students recently took to the streets to protest planned increases in tuition.

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The Matsumoto family are part of an extraordinary legacy at Washington University.

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California State University votes to grant honorary degrees to WWII internees.

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## PACIFIC CITIZEN

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# Finding Strength in His Identity

A Minidoka pilgrimage inspired Rev. David Weekley, a Portland JACL member, to share a secret he kept for 27 years.

By Christine McFadden  
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

For the Rev. David Weekley, a pilgrimage to Minidoka outside of Twin Falls, Idaho was more than a just chance to visit history. It was a visit that ran emotionally deeper than the river that cuts through the now-barren land.

The site of the former Japanese American internment camp once held packed barracks of JAs during World War II. Despite his lack of Japanese roots, Weekley's trip inspired him to share a secret that he had kept for 27 years.

Just over a year after returning home to inner Southeast Portland, Oregon, Weekley — a married man in his late 50s and father of five — told his congregation of 221 members at the United Methodist Church that he was born female.

Until now, there has been just one openly transgender Methodist clergyman in the U.S. to retain his ordination. That man, Drew Phoenix, 50, had his ordination challenged by members of the church after coming out publicly in 2007 to his congregation in St. John's of Baltimore United Methodist Church in Maryland.

Weekley has become the second.

In August, he told his congregation that in 1984, just nine years after undergoing extensive sex-reassignment surgeries, he was ordained by the Methodist Church without telling anyone of his original gender at birth.

Weekley is accustomed to being a minority. In fact, he is a minority of a minority, serving as the second-ever Caucasian pastor at Epworth, a church first established in Portland's old Japantown (today's Old Town/Chinatown) in 1893, which later moved to Southeast Portland.

A Portland JACL member, Weekley joined because of his deep "respect for what they stand for, and all that they do to promote real justice and understanding among people."

Taking the Minidoka pilgrimage alongside members of his congregation, which is 95 percent JA, Weekley was touched after hearing the stories of former internees' experiences.

"Going to Minidoka really had a big impact on me," said Weekley.

The stories "became things I could identify with in my own life," and he felt comfortable sharing his past with "others who have experienced having prejudice thrown at you just for being who you are."

## Beloved of God

Born in Cleveland as a girl, Weekley always knew he was different.

"I always saw myself as a little boy," he said. "My best friend was Gary. I liked sports. At a very young age, it didn't seem like it was any problem."

While at a friend's house when she was 16, she overheard her friend's mom talking on the phone to a neighbor about Christine Jorgensen, the first widely known transgender woman to undergo reassignment surgery in Sweden.

At that time, there were only two clinics existed in the U.S. capable of performing sex-reassignment surgery. One happened to be in Cleveland.

"It was a miracle," he remembered thinking.

The first surgery took place in August 1974, when he stayed in the hospital for three weeks after receiving a phalloplasty — cosmetic surgery of the penis. The second surgery took place the following December for chest surgery, and Weekley went back once more for additional treatment in June 1975.

For his new name, Weekley chose David, meaning

"Beloved of God."

Weekley had previously stayed away from church due to the hateful things he had heard regarding homosexuals and other minorities. But after feeling a connection to the United Methodist Church, he joined.

However, once he entered the Methodist church, he reentered the closet.

"One of the greatest ironies and pains is that the church is the place I've had to go back in the closet," he said. "I've stood with colleagues who have said horrific things to me, and they don't even know it."

Gay rights within the Methodist church are undoubtedly political, he said. While the church has its own official stance, progressive members are tolerant toward gay rights, which clashes with the conservatives' beliefs.

The majority of Methodists in the U.S. reside in the conservative Bible Belt. At the last general conference, there was talk of the church formally splitting.

Besides opposing the ordination of gay clergy, the Methodist church also has the power to withhold church membership from openly gay people.

Phoenix had charges filed against him from the clergy in his conference and was brought before the Judicial Council, the church's equivalent of the Supreme Court. The charges proved to be unfounded and Phoenix was able to retain his ordination.

## Looking at his Heart

While the *Book of Discipline* forbids gays from joining the church, nothing explicitly turns away transgender people, which protects Phoenix and Weekley.

Nevertheless, given the current controversy, Weekley and his wife of 13 years, Deborah, 60, prepared for the worst, taking precautions against any potential prejudice.

Following his story, however, the congregation — which had remained silent throughout his talk — broke into thunderous applause.

"It doesn't change him; he's still Reverend David, and that's what counts," said congregation member Robbie Tsuboi, who has been attending Epworth since 1964.

"We at Epworth support him," said congregation member and Gresham-Troutdale JACL member Kazuko Hara, who has been attending Epworth's services for more than 50 years. "I am supportive of him and will stand by him."

"I think that they're looking at his heart," adds Kaau Ahina, who has been attending Epworth for three years. "They love him for who he is, and (his wife) Deborah."

Since coming out, Weekley has received national attention, winning the "Voice in the Wilderness Award" for his courage at the national Reconciling Ministries Network Convocation, a movement to increase the awareness of issues in the gay community and promote inclusiveness in the church.

Weekley describes the feedback as "tremendously positive so far," receiving nearly 200 letters, numerous invitations from radio shows and television stations, and even had a church service dedicated to him in Texas.

He is writing a book about his coming-out experience whose working title is, *In From the Wilderness: The Practice of Gaman*.

Despite the positive response, both Phoenix and Weekley could potentially have their credentials taken away if legislation is passed at the next general conference in 2012 banning transgender people.

Weekley said that he has, for the past 27 years, thought about switching to a church that is more accepting of his choices, but ultimately decided to stay loyal.

"There have been many times I've thought about walking away and considering a different denomination," he said, "but my heart has always caused me to remain in the hope of effecting change." ■

Christine McFadden is a Portland JACL member.

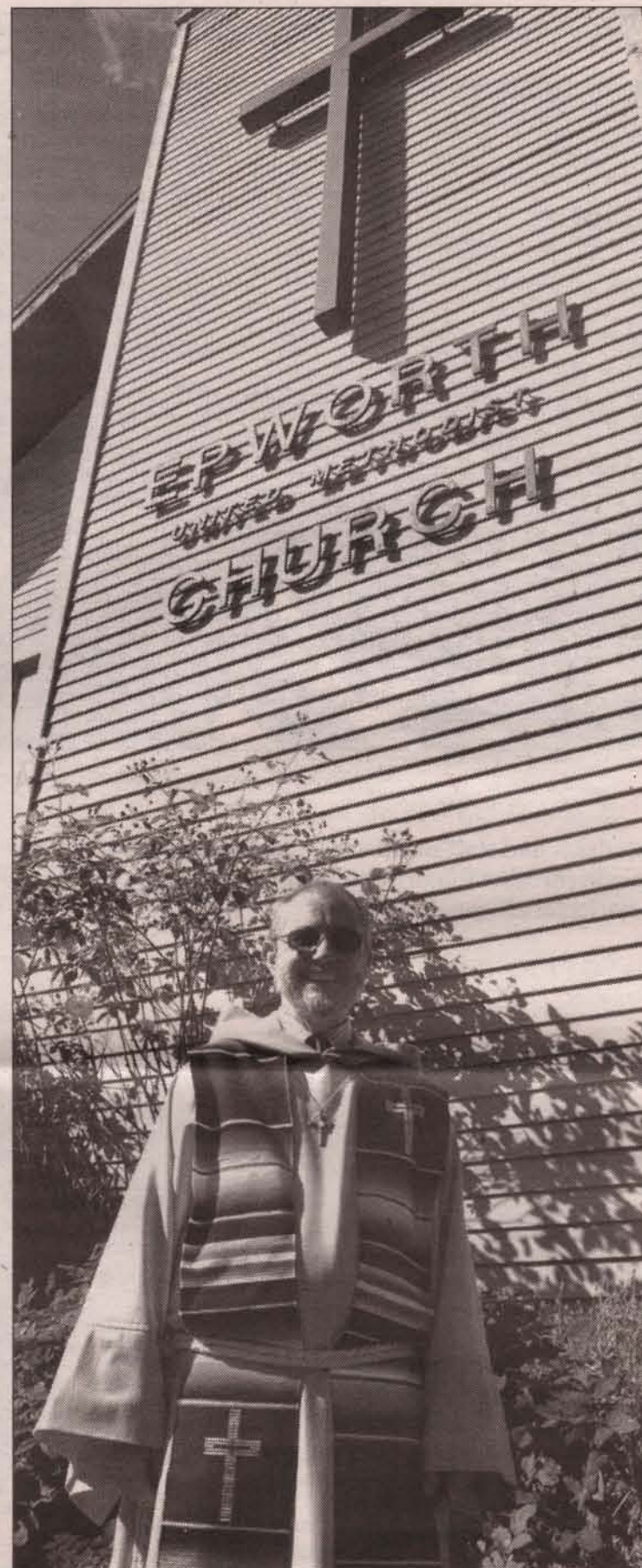


PHOTO: RICH IWASAKI



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBORAH WEEKLEY

*'I am supportive of him and will stand by him.'*

— Kazuko Hara, a longtime Epworth and Gresham-Troutdale JACL member, about Rev. Weekley (above), who leads Epworth's mostly JA congregation.

In 1996, Weekley wed his longtime love, Deborah (left).



# Protesters Say Proposed UC Tuition Hikes Attack the Vulnerable



Students at the University of California, Berkeley walked out of classes Sept. 24 as part of a systemwide protest against proposed budget cuts.

**Students and staff members say the budget cuts would threaten minority students much like the attacks on affirmative action.**

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

University of California students, faculty and staff swarmed their campuses Sept. 24 to protest proposed fee hikes, pay cuts and layoffs.

The systemwide demonstrations came after the UC Board of Regents' recent announcement to reduce instructional budgets, lay off employees, increase tuition and eliminate jobs.

The recommended fee hikes for the 2010 to 2011 school year would mean about \$1,344 more for resident undergraduates and up to \$1,506 for resident graduate students, according to a Sept. 16 university press release.

Graduate students from University of California, Berkeley with the Graduate Student Organizing Committee said the cuts would hit minority students the hardest. They said Proposition 209, which rolled back affirmative action, has already impacted students of color.

"I want to support equal access to California public higher education not just for students of color, but for everyone who lacks the financial means to pay for skyrocketing tuition and fee hikes," said Christopher Chen, an English literature PhD candidate at UC Berkeley.

"Despite the UC system's commitment to diversity, raising fees year after year just flushes students from historically under-represented groups out of the system," he said.

UC officials said they would "mitigate the impact of higher fees on undergraduate students with financial needs," by setting aside 33 percent of money made from the fee hikes.

UC President Mark G. Yudof said the cuts are necessary because of budget shortfalls. About \$814 million was cut from 2008 to 2009, according to a Sept. 16 release. In a YouTube video, he said students are rightfully angry. But he urged protesters to address their frustration at the real culprits: Sacramento lawmakers.

"The state now funds each student by about half of what it did only two decades ago," Yudof said in a press release. "Students have been forced to pick up some of the difference, because when it comes to our core funding, there are only two primary sources — taxpayer dollars from the state and fees paid by students."

## Taking it to the Streets

An estimated 700 demonstrators turned out Sept. 24 at the University of California, Los Angeles. They waved signs that read, "Cut the perks. Not what works" and "Don't block out my future."

Some regents praised the demonstrators for their commitment to the university.

"While I did not participate in the walkout, I am glad that students, faculty, staff, and the community are mobilizing against these budget cuts," said Jesse Cheng, student regent-designate, who added that he would be impacted by the budget cuts as an undergraduate at the University of California, Irvine. "It shows how many people care about the University of California, and in times like these, we need people to care and prioritize high-



PHOTO: MATT TAKAICHI

er education to protect the future of our state and our communities."

Protesters called on the regents to find alternative means to make up for the budget shortfall such as tapping into the reserve funds.

Union members with the University Professional and Technical Employees Communications Workers of America, or UPTA-CWA, held the strike at the UCLA campus along with other unions. UPTA-CWA represents about 12,000 employees. A union representative said Yudof has a legal obligation to bargain with them, but has not done so.

"They're trying to balance the budget on the backs of the workers. None of these people are — they are not big money makers. If they wanted to make big money they wouldn't work in academia," said Lynn F. Kessler, study coordinator with the UCLA Department of Neurology.

Kessler, a member of the UPTA-CWA, is also asking for a contract. She said union members have been without contracts for over a year.

In addition to budget cuts, the UC regents have implemented measures to reduce costs. Furlough days and salary reductions

took effect Sept. 1, which is projected to save \$184 million.

Yudof, as well as other executives, also agreed to take to a salary reduction. But some protesters said the burden of budget shortfalls is not being equally shared.

"You are not sharing the pain equally when you are making these kinds of cuts for the little people," Kessler said.

## Finding a Solution

Some want the UC regents to tap into the reserve funds, where they say there are billions of dollars. Yudof has disputed these claims, saying at an August press conference, "the money just isn't there."

Peter Taylor, the chief financial officer for the UC, released a "myths and facts" statement Sept. 16, indicating that most of UC's assets are committed.

"On a personal level, I think a lot of the personal peace that I've found with these unrestricted net assets, is knowing that those monies are committed to the medical centers of the university," Cheng said. "Without those reserve funds, the quality and service of our medical centers will decline, and we will not be able to serve the communities who attend these medical centers and who can't go anywhere else."

Protesters said that the regents' proposed cuts attack the most vulnerable.

"The fee hikes would have a devastating impact, especially for low-income students," said Kent Wong, director of the UCLA Center for Labor Research and Education. "The worst of all would be the undocumented students who are barely able to stay in school given the current fee structure."

At the Berkeley campus, students tooted around drums, bullhorns and signs in protest of the regents' recommended changes.

Some protesters like Chen say the tuition hikes come after a string of increases. They say the regents' action are "accelerating the privatization" of the UC system. Yudof has said he does not want to privatize the system.

"After the passage of Prop. 209 enrollment of historically under-represented groups at UC plummeted," said Chen. "Average student loan debt rose nearly 20 percent in the first five years between 80 and 100 percent. We feel that higher education is becoming a kind of predatory debt-trap for students of color."

Demonstrators are calling on the regents to fully disclose the budget.

"What we're really asking for — all of us who are involved — we are asking for transparency," Kessler said. "We want them to open the books to show us what is really there." ■

For more information about the regents' proposals:  
[www.universityofcalifornia.edu/regents](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/regents)



# Secret Asian Man on the Loose

On the 10th anniversary of his popular comic strip, Tak Toyoshima talks about the future of S.A.M. Hint: it may involve nanotechnology.

It's hard to believe the bushy-eyebrowed Japanese American guy is a decade old this year. We mean the very cartoony Osamu "Sam" Takahashi, star of the "Secret Asian Man" comic strip — not its creator Tak Toyoshima, of course. Sam has spent the better part of his existence gracing Asian Pacific American newspapers (including this one!) and making you laugh/sigh in empathy/clench your fist. Love Sam (and his friends) or hate him, there's no arguing he's helped to shape APA identity in the 21st century. Now Toyoshima, a 38-year-old Shin Nisei, takes a pause from celebrating a milestone and a transition (after three years of daily syndication, United Features pulled the plug on S.A.M. Sept. 19) to answer our questions from his Boston home.

So let's do as the artist suggested on his Web site to celebrate Sam's birthday: "raise a glass, bake a (yellow) cake and celebrate." — Pacific Citizen Staff

## How has Sam adjusted to the return to a weekly strip?

**Tak Toyoshima:** The last panel of the final daily announced Marie is pregnant so surely things are going to get a lot more hectic for Sam! In real life I'm already spinning a couple of projects that I have been waiting to jump on but was not able to do (or was delayed in doing) because of contractual factors with United Features.

## Has the transition to a weekly affected your 10-year anniversary celebration?

**TT:** To be honest the 10th year snuck up on me. If there's any deep meaning associated with the daily back to weekly format it's all in hindsight. I've always tried to focus on the project at hand or that week's/day's strip. Regardless, I plan on producing the strip for as long as it interests me and for now I can't imagine NOT working on it. Sam will have a long life for sure.

## Do you look back on the first S.A.M. strip like a proud father?

**TT:** The very first strip is very important to me. It was a single full-page comic about the stereotypes seen on TV and movies. Really basic Asian American angst 101. But at the time it was the kind of thing I never saw. That's why I did it. I needed to prove to myself that someone could produce material like that, that someone would print it and that people will read it and respond. I do remember that strip fondly. I gave the original art to my parents.

The newer strips are a lot more nuanced and involve so much more than just Asian American issues. I've been told that I'm straying too far from AA topics, but the truth is if that's all I talked about I would run out of things to say pretty quickly, especially in a daily format. I don't think I'd want to read a strip that was too narrowly focused. But it's a lot of fun applying that kind of critical eye to the many different groups that we all find ourselves identifying with.

## Speaking of being a proud papa, you've just become one for the second time. How's it going this time around?

**TT:** [Our] second son was born 9/3/09. It's been great. He lets us sleep a lot more than our first son ... so far. Since the final strip just announced that Marie is pregnant, we're still a good few months away from a baby showing up in the strip. I like to time some major events in my life about a year off from real time. That way I can look back and reflect on the experiences instead of reacting purely in the present.

## What are some ideas knocking around in your head right now for a weekly strip?

**TT:** This return to weekly strips will be interesting for a couple reasons. While I do have to be more selective and have less of an ability to string along a story arc, I've learned how to set up an idea, build it up and deliver an ending pretty effectively.

The other thing I'll have to get used to is timing. When I was originally doing weekly strips, I could draw a strip about something I saw on the news that night, send it out to the weekly papers and it would be on the streets the next day or two. With Sundays, I usually have to work about a month out. Since this time around I'll still be producing for Sundays, I have to maintain that timing distance from current events.

I'll also be returning to a weekly with a cast of characters I didn't have before syndication, so I really look forward to developing those characters more and exploring new characters.

## Which is your favorite character? Which is the most controversial?

**TT:** I really have come to love them all. They are all bits and pieces of friends, family and myself so I guess that would make sense. I love Charlie's entrepreneurial nature. To me it's so American. Simon is the bitter Asian guy I used to be (and still fall back into from time to time), so he's great for getting out my aggressions. Richie always has the best intentions and I'm grateful for all the wonderful things he does, but his quest for extreme political correctness makes my stomach turn. I'm not sure who the most controversial character is, but no doubt Simon has the most extreme views (like supporting how Asian American gunmen on college campuses are helping to change AA men's weak and passive image).

## We've been hearing some bad news about APA newspapers shutting down. Where do you see the industry going?

**TT:** My day job is working as a creative director for a weekly newspaper. I feel the squeeze on both sides of the business. As an artist it's hard to convince a paper to a.) change what they are doing by picking up a new strip and b.) convince them to pay for content. I've always heard that ethnic media have been growing while mainstream papers have been shrinking. But from what I see everyone is hurting. The big question is: Is there a future for print news in general? I don't foresee print media completely disappearing in the next five years, but 10 years? 20 years? Who knows.

I think the nature of news has changed, and



PHOTO: DEREK KOUYOUNJIAN

Toyoshima, 38, says the 10th anniversary of drawing 'Secret Asian Man' snuck up on him.

so has the consumer of news. Once upon a time, people watched and listened to the news. Now they listen to the commentary that they agree with. Once upon a time, there was a thing called journalism that took time and research. Now we have up to the second tweets from whoever happens to be there at the time. I predict a split in the class of news consumers. Those who are willing to pay for well-researched information and those who will consume anything put in front of them.

## In an ideal world, who would Sam hang out with?

**TT:** Sam would have liked to been at the beer summit at the White House, go to a museum with Bjork and then gorge himself at any of Iron Chef Morimoto's restaurants. I always imagined Sam walking into a 'Peanuts' strip and wondering what those kids' reactions would be to him.

## What will Sam tackle in the next 10 years?

**TT:** Nanotechnology, environmental disasters, the concept of the United States dividing into two separate countries, Millennials, his son learning to drive and — if Charlie gets his calculations right — an early form of teleportation.

## And you?

**TT:** With daily syndication over, the field is waaaay open. Without giving away too much, I'll be expanding Sam beyond the comic strip medium and I'll also be working on some other non-S.A.M. related projects that I've been putting off for years. Stay tuned! ■

On the Web: [www.secretasianman.com](http://www.secretasianman.com)

## WHO'S WHO IN S.A.M.



### SAM

An optimistic dreamer. An art director at a newspaper, but hopes to one day become a comic strip artist.



### MARIE

An editor at a publishing company and Sam's supportive wife.



### SHIN

Sam's five-year-old son and future social justice lawyer.



### CHARLIE

Sam's best friend since grade school. An unemployed IT tech who invents seemingly useless things.



### RICHIE

Shin's preschool teacher. Richie has a heart of gold, but his political correctness makes people uncomfortable.



### SIMON

Sam's younger cousin. He is our typical angry Asian guy. Hot-headed and quick to decry 'racist'!



### GRACE

Simon's new girlfriend. She is teaching him all about the positive cultural aspects of APAs.



# At Washington U. it's a Family Tradition



THREE GENERATIONS: (L-r) Andy Matsumoto, Chancellor Mark Wrighton, Yoshio Matsumoto and Joe Matsumoto.

## His grandfather's World War II experience has spurred Andy Matsumoto, 19, to walk in his footsteps.

By Lynda Lin  
Assistant Editor

On his way to and from classes at Washington University at St. Louis, Andy Matsumoto, 19, passes campus landmarks that make him pause and think about the path that led him there.

Decades earlier, his grandfather Yoshio Matsumoto, 88, was a student at the same university walking the same route past the campus chapel and the YMCA.

"I wonder what it was like for my grandfather 60 years ago," said Andy, a freshman, to the *Pacific Citizen* by phone from Washington University.

At universities, it's common for families to build an alumni roster with generations of fathers and sons. But the circumstances of Yoshio's education — war and displacement — make their family legacy at Washington University extraordinary. It's also made Andy, a hip-hop and rock music loving Yonsei, into an enthusiast of World War II Japanese American internment history.

"It's a part of my life now," he said.

Andy first learned about the details of his family's WWII experiences when he interviewed his grandfather for a school project three years ago as a sophomore at Mayo High School in Rochester, Minnesota.

Before that, his knowledge was limited to the "one or two pages" dedicated to the internment in his history books, said Andy.

And for the most part, Yoshio never really talked about it. That's true of most Nisei, said Yoshio, a Twin Cities JACL member, to the *P.C.* He's not sure why.

"Maybe we're trying to forget."

For the project, Andy asked his grandfather questions that opened a floodgate of details he never knew.

When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, Yoshio was a mechanical engineering student at the University of California, Berkeley. And like many other Nisei during that time, he was swept up in wartime hysteria and taken to the Tanforan Assembly Center in San Bruno, Calif. under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066. There, Yoshio turned 21 behind barbed wire with about 7,800 other JAs.

"He had to pack everything up and leave. It changed his life," said Andy.

At Tanforan, Yoshio watched other internees board buses bound for the Topaz internment camp in Utah. Sooner or later, he knew he would've been among those in the buses. But hope came from St. Louis.

A group of religious, academic, and civic leaders formed The National Japanese American Student Relocation Council to help affected students continue their studies. Several colleges and universities away from the West Coast — including Washington University — were allowing JA students to continue

their studies.

Yoshio was among the 30 JAs in October 1942 who became Washington University students.

For his high school project, Andy stood in front of his classmates and told Yoshio's story in a first-person narrative. He received an "A" for the project and learned an important lesson.

"I ask more questions now," he said.

Growing up in Rochester (population 100,845), Andy played basketball, ran track and played the cello. His hobbies include Minnesota sports and now internment history. His friends don't think it's too strange, said Andy. Most don't know much about the WWII camps and the government's official apology over 40 years later, so he's happy to tell them.

When it came time to apply for college, Andy submitted applications to the University of Minnesota, the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Washington at St. Louis. He got accepted to all three.

His grandfather didn't pressure him to choose his alma mater, said Andy. He did, however, visit Washington University's campus with Yoshio as his unofficial tour guide. There the Nisei grandfather showed his Yonsei grandson the places he had frequented as a student.

A lot had changed since Yoshio's undergraduate days, but he did recognize the grand chapel and the old engineering building, said Andy.

After Yoshio graduated in 1944, he was drafted into the Army and journeyed to Germany where he was stationed with the engineering corp. After the war, he returned to Minnesota, and worked for 3M for 26 years until his retirement.

Andy just recently started his new life as a college freshman. He, of course, chose Washington University.

"They showed goodness to our family before," he said. "I'm happy here."

Already, Andy has met with Chancellor Mark Wrighton and chatted with national reporters about his family's story.

"I'm proud of him," Yoshio told the *Associated Press*. "Kind of a family tradition."

Some of Andy's professors, who have read the articles, continue to ask about Yoshio. For now, Andy is still undecided on a major, but Yoshio has suggested he think about engineering.

"For Andy, the history of his family has made him more sensitive to social injustices that arise from racial stereotyping or fear," said his father, Joe Matsumoto.

When classes started, Yoshio gave his grandson advice: have fun, but not too much. And study hard.

"I'm doing that," said Andy with a laugh.

This fall, Washington University announced it would be hosting an ethnic profiling series and several other events focusing on the JA internment. In between studying and not having too much fun, Andy said he would be there. ■

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

# National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

## Ileto's Killer Renounces Racism

LOS ANGELES—The gunman who killed postal worker Joseph Ileto in California's San Fernando Valley has renounced racism and expressed remorse for his crime, according to the *Philippine News*.

Buford O'Neal Furrow, Jr., 47, recently wrote in a letter from the federal prison where he is serving two life sentences that he feels "a life based on hate is no life at all."

A decade ago Furrow, an avowed white supremacist, told authorities he chose to shoot Ileto because he was a minority and an employee of the federal government.

## Nichi Bei Comes Back as a Weekly

SAN FRANCISCO—A group of community leaders have filed for non-profit status with the Internal Revenue Service to publish the new *Nichi Bei Weekly*.

The foundation has raised about \$40,000 in private donations to fund about three months of a 12-page weekly edition, according to the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

In September, the Northern California Japanese American newspaper printed the last edition of its former daily edition.

## Death of APA Businessmen Raises Concern

MACON, Ga.—An Asian Pacific American businessman is leading a new association that hopes to make business safer after three men who shared his last name were slain during robberies.

Macon police statistics show that robberies jumped 20 percent in 2009.

Lou Patel and 10 other business leaders have formed the Middle Georgia Asian American Business Community Association, which held a training session on security cameras and may create self-defense classes.

## Group Moves to Dump Calif. Gay Marriage Ban



SAN FRANCISCO—A group is pushing ahead with a campaign to repeal California's same-sex marriage ban, even though some other gay rights organizations think it's too soon for another expensive ballot fight.

Los Angeles-based Love Honor Cherish proposed ballot language to strike the ban approved by state voters last November. The new ballot proposal

says religious institutions would not be required to perform same-sex unions if it conflicts with their beliefs.

Submitting wording to the California attorney general is the first step in qualifying a measure for an election. Once approved, backers would have until mid-April to gather the 695,000 signatures needed to put the initiative on the November 2010 ballot.

## New Radio Program Encourages APA in Census

LAS VEGAS—A local liaison with the U.S. Census Bureau is hosting a weekly in-language afternoon radio show to try to boost APA participation in the 2010 Census.

For the next 10 months, Salve Spensko-Edelman will host a Tuesday afternoon radio show on KLAV AM-1230 featuring APA leaders to try to raise awareness for the count next spring.

The effort reflects the government's awareness that minority and immigrant communities are traditionally undercounted.

## Administration Wants to Continue Surveillance Law

WASHINGTON—The Obama administration is frustrating Democratic lawmakers by declining to say whether it backs their demands for more civil liberties safeguards in anti-terrorism surveillance and property seizures.

Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee kept pressing Assistant Attorney General David Kris to go beyond previous administration statements that it supports continuing provisions of the USA Patriot Act that will expire at year's end.

Several Democrats in both chambers said they not only want to revise the expiring provisions but review the entire Patriot Act, to prevent what they contend were civil liberties and privacy abuses by the Bush administration. ■



## APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

### Igasaki Makes History

Louann Igasaki has been named appellate administrative judge for the U.S. Social Security Administration. She is the first APA to hold that position. Igasaki has served as an attorney with Social Security Administration in the Oakland and Sacramento field offices as well as in the Office of Hearings and Appeals in Virginia. She also served as the JACL's assistant Washington, D.C. Representative. She is a graduate of Martin Luther King, Jr. Hall, the University of California, Davis Law School. She lives with her husband and daughter in Alexandria, VA.

### Salinas Valley JACL Awards Scholarships



SAISHO

YONEMITSU

The winners of this year's chapter scholarships are **Terri Yonemitsu** and **Daniel Saisho**. Saisho, who was awarded Salinas Valley Gatanaga Scholarship, will be attending UC San Diego this fall. Yonemitsu, the recipient of the Salinas Valley JACL President's Scholarship, will be attending San Francisco State University.

### Former 'JA of the Biennium' is Elected Sociological Association President

Sociologist **Evelyn Nakano Glenn**, a professor in the Asian American Studies division of the Department of Ethnic Studies at University of California, Berkeley has become the first APA elected president of the American Sociological Association (ASA) in its 104 year history.

She taught at several East Coast universities before moving to Berkeley in 1990. While living in Boston, Glenn was active in the New England JACL. She was named the JA of the Biennium for Education by the JACL in 1994.

### Kim Becomes First APA to Lead Ivy League School

**Jim Yong Kim**, the first APA to lead an Ivy League school, officially took over as Dartmouth University's president after his Sept. 22 inauguration.

He is a former director of the World Health Organization's HIV/AIDS department. He helped establish Partners in Health to support health programs in poor communities worldwide and came to Dartmouth from Harvard Medical School, where he was chairman of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine.

### Chow is Appointed to Maryland's Dept. of Veterans Affairs



Chow (center) gets sworn in as the first APA to head Maryland's VA Dept.

Former U.S. Army Captain **Edward Chow, Jr.**, has been appointed as secretary of Maryland's Department of Veterans Affairs. If confirmed by the Maryland Senate, Chow will be the first APA to achieve this position, according to the **Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA)**.

The JAVA member served in the U.S. Army from 1956 to 1967, and was awarded the Bronze Star in 1967. ■

## Army to Allow Iraq War Objector to Resign

**First Lt. Ehren Watada will be granted a discharge Oct. 2, 'under other than honorable conditions.'**

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

The Army is allowing the first commissioned officer to be court-martialed for refusing to go to Iraq to resign from the service.

First Lt. Ehren Watada will be granted a discharge Oct. 2, "under other than honorable conditions," attorney Kenneth Kagan said.

Watada told the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* he was happy the matter has finally been closed.

"The actual outcome is different from the outcome that I envisioned in the first place, but I am grateful of the outcome," he said.

Fort Lewis spokesman Joseph Piek wouldn't confirm Watada's type of discharge, citing privacy rules. But he said that Watada's manner of resignation is described in Army regulations as "resignation for the good of the service in lieu of general court martial."

Watada, 31, refused to deploy to Iraq with his Fort Lewis, Wash.-based unit in 2006, arguing the war is illegal and that he would be a party to war crimes if he served in Iraq.

The Honolulu-born soldier was charged with missing his unit's deployment and with conduct unbecoming an officer for denouncing President Bush and the war — statements he made while explaining his actions.



His court-martial ended in mistrial in February 2007.

The Army wanted to try him in a second court-martial, but a federal judge ruled such a trial would violate the soldier's constitutional protection against double jeopardy. The judge said a second court-martial on key charges, including missing troop movement, would violate his constitutional right to be free from double jeopardy.

Watada's attorney said the soldier had handed in his resignation before, but the Army refused to accept it.

If convicted, he could have been sentenced to six years in prison and be dishonorably discharged. In an e-mail to the *Pacific Citizen*, Kagan said he sees no other legal challenges on the horizon for Watada.

Watada's father, Bob Watada, welcomed the news.

"I'm happy, very happy for Ehren. I'm happy for our family," he said.

Kagan said he felt history would treat Watada "more favorably" than the U.S. Army.

Some argued that his refusal to deploy was a stain on the legacy of

the heroic World War II Japanese American veterans and that he broke an oath to serve his country. Others have argued that Watada's stance against the Iraq War was honorable.

Through his trial, JACL said this was a military matter and took no stand other than to ask that his civil rights be maintained, said Larry Oda, JACL national president.

"An 'other than honorable discharge' is the best he could hope for out of this ordeal since his court martial was declared a mistrial," he said.

In interviews with the *P.C.*, Watada has said that he was willing to serve in other areas of the world, including Afghanistan.

"I may not know much, but one thing is certain. Japanese American men and women did not sacrifice their lives and freedoms throughout history, so that today's leaders could invade and occupy another country, then strip the people of their democratic rights when it didn't suit their interests," said Watada in a Feb. 1-14, 2008 commentary in the *P.C.* "To believe otherwise, is to bring dishonor upon their memory." ■

## JLA Commission Bill Faces Delay

**APA leaders say a majority vote from House Judiciary Committee is a must.**

By Pacific Citizen Staff

A bill that would establish a federal commission to investigate the U.S. government's treatment of Japanese Latin Americans during World War II has been delayed in the House Judiciary Committee.

The "Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Latin Americans of Japanese Descent Act", or H.R. 42, was scheduled for discussion and editing on Sept. 16, but the Judiciary Committee adjourned for the week without getting to the bill, according to the Campaign For Justice, a group dedicated to gaining redress for Japanese Latin Americans (JLAs).

The next committee markup session has not been scheduled, but Asian Pacific American leaders say it's now more important than ever to

ensure a majority vote from committee members before the JLA commission bill is next scheduled for markup.

Only six of the 40-member committee are co-sponsors of H.R. 42. They are: Reps. Howard Berman, Sheila Jackson-Lee, Dan Lungren, Pedro Pierluisi, Darrell Issa and Luis Gutierrez.

"Time is truly of the essence as our surviving internees are advanced in age and soon may be unable to testify before Congress about their experiences," said Christine Oh, legislative director of the Campaign For Justice.

APA groups including the JACL and Campaign For Justice have been urging for the bill's passage.

The plight of WWII's JLAs remains largely unknown. The federal government financed and coor-

minated the relocation of almost 2,300 men, women and children of Japanese ancestry from 13 Latin American countries to internment camps throughout the U.S., from December 1941 to February 1948.

During this time, more than 800 JLAs were included in two prisoner of war exchanges between the U.S. and Japan. Although many JLAs who remained in the U.S. secured permanent residency status

and/or became U.S. citizens, they did not benefit from the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which formally apologized and compensated JAs interned under Executive Order 9066. Since then, JLAs have sought their own redress. ■

For a list of Judiciary committee members: [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org).





# for the RECORD

BY JOHN TATEISHI

## Heroes in our Midst

In his younger days, Ben Gim felt the fire in his belly. He was a young attorney who burned with a passion against social injustice and racism against Asian Pacific Americans.

He graduated with honors from the Columbia Law School when APAs were told not to bother because there was no interest among New York's big law firms in hiring APA attorneys. The best jobs available for people like Ben in those days were probably in some local NYC Chinatown restaurant.

Ben got none of those lucrative offers that went to the top graduates of Columbia Law. But undeterred, he went to work for the NYC district attorney's office. A social liberal and a die-hard Democrat, being a prosecutor was anathema to Ben's very being. So he resigned and instead went into solo practice and opened an office on Park Row. Not the famous Park Avenue in the pricey upper eastside or bustling midtown, but Park Row in Chinatown.

Ben's first client was a Chinese immigrant whose request for political asylum in the U.S. had been denied and who now faced deportation. Although he had no background in immigration law, Ben took his case, which evolved into a complex and challenging case that would have taxed even an experienced immigration attorney. Ultimately, Ben took his client's case (*Wong Wing Hang v. INS*) all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and became the first APA attorney to argue a case before the nation's highest court. Others have followed, but Ben was the first.

Ben is a legend among immigration attorneys. For decades, he played an important role in mentoring and encouraging young attorneys to get involved in the APA community. He was one of the principal founders of the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund in NYC during the days when there were very few community-based legal services for APAs.

No longer active because of the aches and pains of getting older, Ben still has the fire in his belly about civil rights and the state of Asia America. He's done his share of fighting and extolling and

arguing. These days he leaves that to those much younger than he.

And there is someone who has more than ably filled the huge void left by Ben. Cut from the same cloth but with just a different pattern is attorney and legal scholar Bill Hing. Bill is the nation's leading authority on immigration law as it pertains to APAs and brings an unusual kind of sensitivity to the often heartless immigration debate. He views the issue in terms of human beings instead of simply numbers.

He went from teaching law at Stanford University to the University of California, Davis Law School, where for 15 years he's urged his students to contribute their talents to the APA community. Bill is the founder of the Immigrant Legal Resource Center in San Francisco, which is in San Francisco's Mission District, the heart of the city's Latino population. It provides free legal assistance to documented and undocumented Latino immigrants as well as others.

Bill (who lives in San Francisco and commutes to Davis) is one of those rare attorneys who works the streets when he's not teaching students. Like Ben, he's argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court (*INS v. Carodza-Fonesca*).

I once heard Bill give a speech on U.S. immigration policy during which he described the United States' refugee policy as the most noble in the world. His speech made me reconsider how I view this nation's refugee policy.

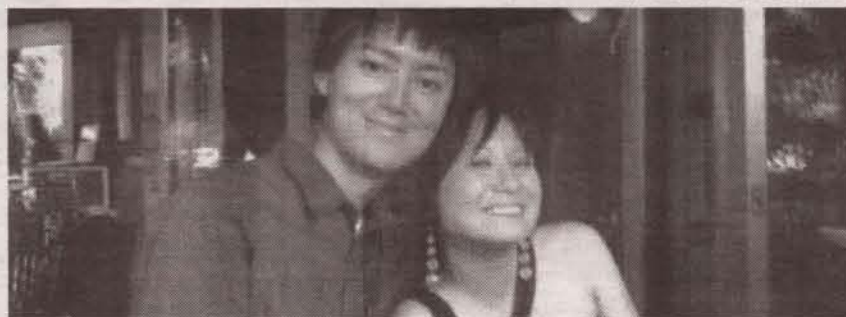
As the scene in Washington continues with the never-ending struggle with immigration reform, I'm just thankful that we have people like Ben Gim and Bill Hing and the hundreds of young APA legal minds they've helped nurture. If you think our nation's immigration policy is often heartless, think how much worse it would be without people like these two helping to shape the immigration debate.

It's nice to know we have such heroes in our midst. ■

*John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.*

## MEMOIRS OF A NON-GEISHA An Asian American Wedding

BY YUMI SAKUGAWA



Yumi attended a Vietnamese American wedding with her boyfriend David Chien.

Last weekend, I attended a Vietnamese American wedding.

The ceremony took place in the banquet hall of a fancy Vietnamese restaurant, where a Christian priest led the wedding vows. The reception afterward took place in the adjacent dining area, where Vietnamese soup, seafood and fried rice were served one course at a time.

During the dinner, family and friends stood up to give their heartfelt wishes to the newly married couple in Vietnamese and English. At one point, the bride changed out of her white wedding gown and into an elaborate ao dai with a matching khan dong headdress in red and gold. This was the dress she wore when she and the groom walked over to each table to thank them for their attendance.

As this was my first time attending the wedding of a person my age, simply imagining the meticulous planning that went into the wedding was overwhelming. Which family pays for what part of the wedding? Who decides what orchid centerpiece decorates which table? How do people know how big the wedding cake has to be and how big the individual slices have to be so that each guest gets a piece?

There are additional cultural issues to address when you are involved in an Asian American wedding. Should the ceremony be conducted in English, the mother tongue, or both? Should the guests bring envelopes of money (the Asian way), open a gift registry (the American way), or leave it to the guests to decide for themselves? Wearing the traditional ethnic dress to the ceremony: yea or nay?

Things get even more complicated when the bride and the groom are of different ethnicities. Earlier this year, I met a Japanese woman who married a Jewish man when she moved to America. She took Jewish conversion classes before the wedding, had a small ceremony in Los Angeles, and then went out of the country for several weeks to have a reception for her family in Japan and another for the groom's family in Israel. Where is the wedding planner who specializes in organizing the cultural and geographical logistics of a multi-racial wedding?

After all, many of the long-term couples in my circle of friends are of mixed-

race, which means that should a wedding occur in the future, they would have their own unique set of cultural challenges to confront when they plan their own respective weddings. Such as my other Vietnamese American friend, who may one day marry her boyfriend who is a quarter-Chinese and three-quarters white. Or my Hindu friend who dreads telling her parents that her Taiwanese Hapa boyfriend does not fit into her parents' mold of an ideal husband who is of the family's geographical region, language, caste and nationality. Or my Muslim Cham friend who has yet to tell her parents about her Caucasian boyfriend of eight years for fear of disappointing them that she will probably not continue the shrinking lineage of the once-great Champa kingdom of Southeast Asia.

In the latter cases, these couples need a great wedding planner who good at planning multi-racial weddings and diffusing multi-racial family drama.

At the ceremony I attended, the bride and the groom had a sand-mixing ritual before they exchanged their wedding vows. The bride held a glass flask filled with red sand, and the groom held a glass flask filled with gold sand. Together, they poured their respective glasses into a larger glass vase that now contained both the red and the gold sand. As the priest explained to the guests, the multicolored sand symbolized the union of their once-separate lives combining inseparably to create completely new patterns that would have never existed.

This ritual was a symbol of their own union, but the mixing of multi-colored sand may as well be a symbol for the institution of Asian American marriages, and the entire Asian American community as a whole. We are creating new patterns simply by living and breathing here. Two completely different cultures are combining by the second to create a completely new way of thought that would have been unheard of a decade ago. Every day, cultural traditions are broken, tinkered with or reimagined.

We have the freedom to create these new patterns for ourselves. ■

*Yumi Sakugawa writes from Los Angeles.*





# Breaking Barriers With Actor James Kyson Lee



James Kyson Lee and actress Lynn Chen make a toast in a scene from the movie, 'White on Rice.'

**The 'Heroes' star talks about love, smashing stereotypes and the superhero ability to instantly metabolize.**

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

In 2001, actor James Kyson Lee sold his car for \$1,800 and moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in the entertainment industry. He has never regretted that decision despite the hurdles he has faced as a fledgling actor.

He's currently reprising his role as Ando Masahashi on NBC's "Heroes," which premiered in its fourth season Sept. 21. One of Lee's latest feature film projects is "White on Rice," which is being released theatrically across the country in select cities.

In the film, Lee plays Tim a close friend of lead actor Jimmy (Hiroshi Watanabe). Jimmy has fallen on hard times following a divorce and is sharing a bunkbed with his 10-year-old nephew. Their friendship becomes frayed when Jimmy unsuccessfully attempts to steal Tim's girlfriend. Lee said the movie, which has a mostly Asian Pacific American cast, is purely about family dynamics and "those you love, but can't stand."

Lee, who is Korean American, said he recognizes that there are limited roles for APA actors and hopes to help change that.

The *Pacific Citizen* recently caught up with the busy actor while he was en route from the airport in Washington, D.C. to his hotel room.

**Your new movie 'White on Rice' was released last month in select cities and is slated to be screened in Washington, D.C. Oct. 3. Tell me about your character Tim.**

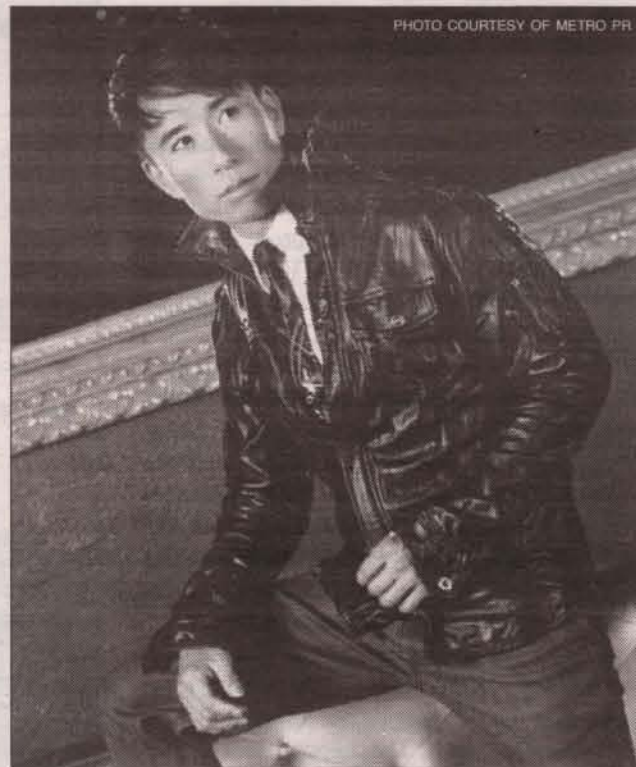
**James Kyson Lee:** So, Tim is a young musician, who has a good corporate job and is really interested in following his true passion, which is music. He reconnects with his high school sweetheart Ramona [Lynn Chen]. Tim tries to give Jimmy [Hiroshi Watanabe] love advice, but instead he becomes obsessed with my girlfriend.

**Have you ever been in a love triangle like that before?**

**JKL:** I'm trying to think. I think I've had friends in high school who were interested in girls that I was dating or liked me. You know, that's all part of high school.

**I understand you learned to play guitar for your role in 'Rice.' Was it difficult to learn?**

**JKL:** The first day we got to Salt Lake City I bought my first acoustic [guitar]. My character was based on a real person, Tim. I got to take some guitar lessons from him. I was writing non-sensical songs in my trailer.



**Do you still play the guitar?**

**JKL:** I do. It's in my room back in L.A.

**What does it feel like to be a part of a movie with a mostly-APA cast?**

**JKL:** Yeah, it definitely is not common. You know, I was very fortunate I was pretty young when I started in 'Heroes.' But, you know we [Asian Americans] still make up a very small portion of the pie. It takes movies like these to break new ground and show that times have changed.

**Do you see yourself continuing to do independent films like 'White on Rice'?**

**JKL:** I think it really depends on the story and the character. In 'White on Rice,' the fact that it is an Asian American family is really secondary. It was really charming. It has a sense of humor that I could enjoy myself.

**Have you ever thought of working behind the scenes?**

**JKL:** Possibly. It's funny because I've never really consciously thought of it. Being on set you naturally notice things. Being a curious person makes me want to explore that side. You learn how complex the filmmaking process is. It's so intricate and it's such a collaboration.

**Your character Ando on 'Heroes' has evolved since the show's inception. You now have superpowers of your own. If you could have a superpower in your real life what would it be?**

**JKL:** Instant metabolism. I love desserts. That's my weakness. Every slice of cheesecake is how many hours at the gym? It would be awesome to eat whatever I like.

**How was it learning Japanese for your role as Ando?**

**JKL:** The language part was definitely the most difficult part of the process. I wanted to do it right. It's still a work in progress. I feel like I've gotten better. I have friends who are very honest about my speaking proficiency in Japanese.

**You were on TVGuide.com recently showing off your muscles. What is your workout regimen like?**

**JKL:** Yeah, I eat really well. I'm a foodie. I try to eat well and be healthy and exercise regularly. You know, I love ultimate Frisbee. I used to play in high school and in college.

**Do you have any regrets, looking back at your decision to move to L.A. and begin an acting career?**

**JKL:** No. It was a tough process. I literally went there with a one-way ticket and the first night I had to sleep in my rental car.

**What type of roles would you like to take in the future?**

**JKL:** I definitely want to keep continuing to break stereotypes. Asian American males are very rarely portrayed in the media. I want to see if I can continue to, you know, blaze that path. ■

To find out more information about show times for 'White on Rice,' visit <http://whiteonricethemovie.com>.



# JACL Holds Successful Gala



PHOTO: KRIS IKEJIRI

(Standing, l-r) Go For Broke's Christine Sato-Yamazaki, Alhambra Council Member Gary Yamauchi, Sen. Daniel K. Inouye and Rep. Mike Honda. (Seated, l-r) JAVA's Bob Nakamoto, Sen. Daniel K. Akaka and NJAHS' Rosalyn Tonai.

By Irene Mori  
Special to the Pacific Citizen

JACL members and friends gathered in the nation's capital on Sept. 17 for the JACL Gala Awards Dinner to pay tribute to Japanese American veterans who served in the Armed Forces during World War II and the Korean War.

While the JACL did not single out individual veterans for awards, it did honor a senator and veterans' groups for their work in keeping the legacy of JA veterans alive.

Awards were presented to: Sen. Daniel K. Akaka, chair of the U.S. Senate Veterans Affairs Committee; the Japanese American Veterans Association, the Japanese American Korean War Veterans, the Go for Broke National Education Center, and the National Japanese American Historical Society.

The emcee was Vice Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr., one of the highest-ranking Asian Pacific American officers in the U.S. military. Maj. Gen. Antonio Taguba (U.S. Army Ret.) introduced the color guard and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rep. Mike Honda, who was the honorary chairman, gave welcoming remarks.

Members of the Honorary Committee who attended the event were: Sen. Daniel K. Inouye and his wife Irene and Reps. Madeleine Bordallo, Judy Chu and Eni Faleomavaega. Also present were Wade Henderson of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Richard Foltin of the American Jewish Committee and Hilary Shelton of the NAACP.

The Hon. Ichiro Fujisaki, ambassador of Japan to the U.S. and a great friend of the JA community, addressed the gala attendees.

JACL also commemorated its 80th anniversary. Since it was formed in 1929 by young Nisei leaders, the organization has become the oldest and largest APA civil and human rights organization.

Video presentations at the gala highlighted the JA experience, the beginning of the JACL and the contributions of the veterans and honorees. The videos were produced by Brandon Mita, JACL national youth representative. A PowerPoint presentation was prepared by Ide Viriya, an intern in the Washington, D.C. JACL office.

The life enjoyed by most JAs today is a direct result of the sacrifices and efforts made by early leaders, including veterans of the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team, the Military Intelligence Service (MIS), and others who served in regular units during WWII and veterans of the Korean War. They are credited with helping to usher in the civil rights movement.

Members of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) were well represented with many WWII veterans present. There was a strong presence of JACL members including bronze sponsors: JACL National President Larry Oda and his wife Anne; Sheldon Arakaki, JACL vice president of general operations; and JACL Vice President of Planning and Development David Kawamoto and his wife Carol; The

National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

JACL district governors who were present were: Toshi Abe (EDC), Elaine Akagi (PNW), Brian Morishita (IDC) and Alayne Yonemoto (PSW). Lillian Kimura, past JACL national president and JACL Millennium Club member, attended as did these other members of the Millennium Club: Richard Amano, Judge Dale Ikeda and Etsu Masaoka.

Vocal soloist Edward

Ozaki, of Chicago, stirred the audience with his tenor voice and renditions of the national anthem, "We're the 442nd Infantry," and "The Impossible Dream." His wife of 27 years, Marina, accompanied him on the piano.

JACL Fellows and staffers who worked on the gala were Shirley Tang and Ide Viriya with assistance by new fellows Jean Shiraki and Phillip Ozaki. Bill Yoshino, JACL Midwest regional director, and the JACL Ford Fellow Christine Munteanu were present as was Kristin Fukushima from the PSW JACL office.

Major corporate sponsors of the event were: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, AT&T, Eli Lilly, State Farm, Comcast, National Education Association (NEA), Vice Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr. and the United States Navy, UPS, Anheuser Busch, The Aratani Foundation and Red Cross. ■

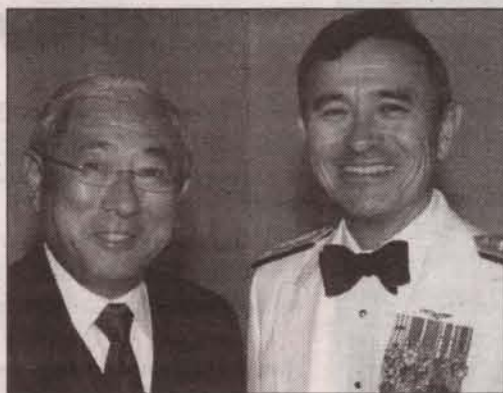


PHOTO: KRIS IKEJIRI

JACL National Director Floyd Mori (left) with Vice Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr., the event's emcee.

## Dec. 17 is Designated 'Day of Inclusion'

It's part of an ongoing effort to address past discrimination against Chinese Americans.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance accepted an apology by state leaders for past anti-Chinese immigration laws, but some say minorities continue to struggle for equality.

On Sept. 12, the State Senate passed a resolution to designate Dec. 17 "Day of Inclusion," in hopes of remedying past wrongs to the Chinese American community.

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 prohibited Chinese immigration to the U.S. because laborers were endangering the "good order" of the country. In 1943 the act was repealed, but some insist



that anti-immigration sentiments persist.

"Although the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act marks a significant turning point in American society, some minorities still struggle for fairness and equality," said Assemblyman Mike Eng, D-Monterey Park, who authored the legislation.

The city of San Francisco also acknowledged its role in the Chinese Exclusion Act, passing a recent resolution to raise awareness about Chinese American contributions to the country. ■



## KOKUSAI-PACIFICA 2009-2010 TOURS

### Oct 12 Hokkaido/Tohoku - 11 Days

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

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

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

### Nov 3 SPECIAL - Fall Japan - 10 Days - \$2995

Tokyo - Fall Colors in Nikko - Toshogu Shrine -  
Nagano - World Heritage Site Shirakawa - Kanazawa -  
Ninja Temple - Kutani Pottery - Kyoto - Meiji Village -  
Shizuoka - Mt. Fuji - Kamakura - Tokyo.

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

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

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

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Sep 20 - New England/Canada Cruise  
Dec 18 - Holiday Caribbean Cruise - Epic

### 2010 Preview

Feb 26 - Sunny Portugal - Mar 15 - Best of China  
Mar 29 - Japan "Cherry Blossoms"  
Apr 12 - Japan "Off the Beaten Track"  
May 5 - Great Lakes "Mackinac Island"  
Jun 28 - Summer Japan "Family Tour"  
Jul 20 - Niagara/DC - Aug 2 - Black Sea Cruise  
Oct 11 - Hokkaido/Tohoku - Oct 18 - Uranihon  
Nov 11 - Okinawa/Kyushu/Shikoku

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## Teen Sues National Retailer for Religious Bias

The lawsuit claims that the Muslim American teen was not hired because of her headscarf.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

A Muslim American teenager says she was denied a job at an Abercrombie & Fitch clothing store because of her headscarf, according to a Sept. 17 federal lawsuit filed in a Tulsa, Oklahoma District Court.

In the lawsuit filed by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 17-year-old Samantha Elauf said she applied for a sales position at the Abercrombie Kids store in the Woodland Hills Mall in June 2008. The teen wears a *hijab* — a type of head covering traditionally worn by Muslim women — in accordance with her religious beliefs. Elauf claims the manager told her the headscarf violated the store's "Look Policy."

"These actions constitute discrimination against Ms. Elauf on the basis of religion," the lawsuit states.

This isn't the first time the retail giant has been accused of discrimination. In 2002, JACL took part in a national campaign to eliminate Abercrombie & Fitch's line of T-shirts that many Asian Pacific American leaders called racially insulting. The controversial T-shirts were emblazoned with phrases like, "Wong Brothers Laundry Service: Two Wongs Can Make it White."

Abercrombie & Fitch CEO Michael Jeffries apologized and pulled the T-shirts amidst



Abercrombie & Fitch was heavily criticized in 2002 by JACL for its anti-Asian T-shirts.

mounting protesting and calls for boycott.

In 2004, the retail company agreed to pay \$50 million to settle a lawsuit also filed by the EEOC that accused the company of promoting whites over minorities and cultivating a practically all-white image in its catalogs and elsewhere.

A spokeswoman for the New Albany, Ohio-based retailer declined to comment on the current lawsuit but told the *Associated Press* the company has "a strong equal employment opportunity policy, and we accommodate religious beliefs and practices when possible."

An attorney for the EEOC claims the company violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which protects workers from discrimination based on religion in hiring.

The suit seeks back pay for the teen and a permanent injunction against the retailer from participating in what it describes as discriminatory employment practices. ■

## COMMENTARY

# Get Counted in the 2010

Our community will lose \$800 to \$1,000 per person not counted in the Census.

By Bob Nakamura



The 2010 U.S. Census is approaching soon. The mailings should be out next March.

The Olympia JACL recently had a U.S. Census Bureau representative attend our yearly *Bon Odori* event. The census representative set up a table to help our Obon attendees answer questions about the required Census taking.

The Pacific Northwest JACL also had a U.S. Census Bureau representative attend our March 21 meeting in Fife, Wash. The representative explained that the census helps to ensure that all communities receive their fair share of political representation and government funding.

My particular role in the census is a more personal one. I plan to be open to anyone in my area as a volunteer if assistance is needed.

Census data directly affects how more than \$500 billion per year in federal and state funding will be allocated to local, state and tribal governments. This means that our community will lose over \$800 to \$1,000 per person not counted.

Data about how our community is changing is crucial to many planning decisions such as neighborhood improvements, emer-

gency preparedness and disaster recovery, public health, education, transportation, senior services and much more.

The U.S. Census Bureau collects census information every 10 years, as mandated by the U. S. Constitution. It counts U.S. residents in all 50 states including Washington's District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, commonwealth of the Northern Mariana islands and American Samoa. This count includes people of all ages, races and ethnic groups — both citizens and non-citizens.

The Census Bureau holds and protects the personal information that is collected in safekeeping for 72 years. Census Bureau employees — whether they are regular, temporary or former employees — are bound by oath for life. They are not allowed to divulge or keep in their possession any information they collect. Failure to comply means current and former employees are subject to prosecution by the government.

The questionnaire is in written form and simple to complete. It would only take a few minutes of anyone's time. I've taken the Census several times in the past. It is very easy to complete and is very comprehensive.

When the questionnaire is received, please take the time to complete it. It is important that we are counted. The Census is a tool that assists to enhance our infrastructure and the basic programs that we enjoy.

For more information about the 2010 Census, including where to find regional offices: [www.census.gov/2010census](http://www.census.gov/2010census). ■

Bob Nakamura is the Olympia JACL chapter president and a retired U.S. Army Finance Corps noncommissioned officer.

*'The census is a tool that assists to enhance our infrastructure and the basic programs that we enjoy.'*

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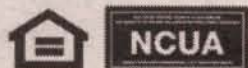
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National JACL Credit Union

## It's in Our Hands to Get Counted

JACL has recently partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau to promote full participation in the 2010 Census.

Here are a few ways JACL districts and chapters can help:

- Publicize the census in your chapter or district newsletters and/or Web site.
- Take an active role by working full- or part-time for the Census Bureau — Between now and March 2010, the Census Bureau is seeking motivated individuals to work as field and office workers. For more info or to apply: <http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/>
- Fill out your census form — the shortest and simplest form in history will be sent to your home in March. Do your job: 10 questions in less than 10 minutes. ■

United States  
Census  
2010





## CSU Votes to Grant Honorary Degrees to WWII Internees



PHOTO COURTESY OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed (left), presents the first posthumous honorary degree to Vivian Uwate Nelson, who accepted for her mother Aiko Nishi Uwate. Board of Trustees Chair Jeffrey L. Bleich (right) and Assemblymember Warren Furutani also attended.

**Supporters, including the JACL, say the conferral of honorary degrees is 'the unfinished business of our time.'**

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

California State University is set to begin granting honorary degrees to former Japanese American students who were sent to internment camps during World War II.

The CSU board of trustees unanimously approved the measure Sept. 23 to honor former students like Aiko Nishi Uwate whose education was interrupted over 60 years ago.

During WWII, Nishi Uwate was among the many JAs forced to discontinue her studies at San Francisco State University to live behind barbed wire in Arizona's Gila River internment camp.

After the historic vote, the CSU board of trustees posthumously awarded Nishi Uwate's degree to her daughter Vivian Uwate Nelson.

About 250 JAs were studying at CSU campuses in 1942, said college officials.

"The internment of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants during WWII represents the worst of a nation driven by fear and prejudice. By issuing honorary degrees, we hope to achieve a small right in the face of such grave wrongs," said CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed.

In July, the University of California similarly voted to confer honorary degrees to its former Nisei students.

Assemblyman Warren T. Furutani, D-South Los Angeles County, has called the conferral of honorary college degrees "the

unfinished business of our time."

Last year Furutani introduced Assembly Bill 37 to call on California's higher education institutions to confer honorary degrees to former internees.

"AB 37 is an opportunity for our state to honor Americans of Japanese descent who suffered a significant injustice," said Furutani, who addressed the CSU board before their vote.

The JACL has championed the passage of AB 37 as a way to honor JAs who were denied their college education. JACL chapters throughout California sent in letters to support Assembly Bill 37.

JACL National Director Floyd Mori testified at the March 17 Assembly Higher Education Committee hearing in support of the measure.

"It is unfortunate that anyone be prevented from completing their college education and receiving their degrees because of racism, war hysteria and ineffective political leadership," said Larry Oda, JACL national president.

"While the injustice suffered by Japanese Americans during World War II can never be totally reversed, the University of California and the California State University system are to be commended for recognition of the wrong and providing this

long overdue acknowledgment to their former students," said Mori. ■

### Education Interrupted

Former CSU students (or families of students) whose studies were interrupted because of the WWII internment are urged to call 562/951-4723 or e-mail [nisei@calstate.edu](mailto:nisei@calstate.edu).

*'While the injustice suffered by Japanese Americans during World War II can never be totally reversed, the University of California and the California State University system are to be commended for recognition of the wrong ...'*

— Floyd Mori,  
JACL national director

## Northern California Events to Celebrate JACL Leaders, Legacy

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz chapter will mark its 75th anniversary, while San Jose and the NCWNP District Council will honor its leaders in three upcoming events.

October is filled with JACL events in Northern California. The NCWNP District Council and two chapters will be hosting separate events to honor its local community leaders and celebrate a diamond anniversary.

### NCWNP 'Founders' Fundraiser

NCWNP JACL is sponsoring "Honoring our Founders - 80th Anniversary of JACL" to recognize the founders of each NCWNP chapter. Proceeds benefit National JACL and the NCWNP.

Oct. 24, 11 a.m.

Doubletree Hotel Sacramento

2001 Point West Way

Sacramento, CA. 95815

\$50/ person and \$500/table

For tickets and info: Thaya Mune Craig at [thayajoyce@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thayajoyce@sbcglobal.net) or 916/652-0093 and Sharon Uyeda at [SUyeda9356@aol.com](mailto:SUyeda9356@aol.com) or 408/259-3656.

### Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL's 75th

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL will host, "Honoring Our Past ... Defining Our Future," to express gratitude to past chapter presidents, senior members and young leaders.

The program will feature Sandy Lydon, author of *The Japanese in the Monterey Bay Region: A Brief History* and Cabrillo College historian emeritus; Tom Ikeda, founder of Densho; the Japanese American Legacy

Project; and Megumi Kaminaga, founder of Nakayoshi, an organization of young professionals affiliated with National JACL.

Oct. 4, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Seascape Golf Course Banquet Room

610 Clubhouse Drive, Aptos, CA. 95003

\$35/person

For tickets and info: Marcia Hashimoto at 831/722-6859 or [hashi79@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hashi79@sbcglobal.net).

### San Jose JACL's Community Recognition Dinner

The San Jose JACL will be honoring its community leaders for their dedication to upholding the chapter's mission at its event, "Continuing Commitment to Community."

This year's honorees are: Sumi Tanabe, president and founder of the San Jose Buddhist Church's Betsuin Sangha Support Committee; Kenji Sakauye (posthumously) and Shizu Sakauye, whose generous donation to the San Jose JACL Scholarships Program allow high school students to realize their dream of attending college; Dale Yoshihara, a San Jose Japantown leader whose dedication culminated in the Jackson-Taylor business district; and the Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMsj) an educational institution dedicated to JA art, history and culture.

All proceeds from this event will allow the chapter to continue to serve the community.

Oct. 17

Holiday Inn

1740 North 1st Street

San Jose, CA 95112

No host cocktails will begin at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

\$80/ticket or \$800/table.

For tickets or info: 408/295-1250 or

[sanjosejACL@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sanjosejACL@sbcglobal.net) ■

## American Holiday Travel

### 2009 Tour Schedule

CANYONLAND GETAWAY HOLIDAY ..... NOV 8-13  
Laughlin, Grand Canyon, Valley of Fire Park, Mesquite, Bryce Canyon, Zion Canyon, Las Vegas.

### COMING FOR 2010:

HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL TOUR  
SOUTH AMERICA HOLIDAY CRUISE  
SEDONA & GRAND CANYONS HOLIDAY  
JAPAN CHERRY BLOSSOM HOLIDAY TOUR  
OUR NATION'S CAPITAL & WILLIAMSBURG TOUR  
FUNTASTIC FLORIDA HOLIDAY TOUR  
SOUTH AMERICA & PERU HOLIDAY TOUR  
SCANDINAVIA-RUSSIA HOLIDAY CRUISE  
GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR  
ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE

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Ernest and Carol Hida

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is **Nov. 6!**

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## Obata, Adams to Reunite For 'Democracy'

The sons of Chiura Obata and Ansel Adams will discuss the internment as part of Washington University's series on ethnic profiling.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

"It was absolutely crazy," Gyo Obata said about the World War II internment of Japanese Americans that forced him to interrupt his studies at the University of California, Berkeley to attend Washington University at St. Louis.

Gyo, is a cofounder of St. Louis-based architecture firm HOK and the son of noted California painter Chiura Obata.

Before the war, Chiura and his family would go camping at California's Yosemite National Park and visit friends who ran a small gallery — famed photographer Ansel Adams and his wife Virginia.

"[Gyo's] father and mother were good friends of my parents and shared a great deal of interest in the art world of the San

Francisco Bay area and in the mountains of Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada, both before and after WWII," said Michael Adams, Ansel's son.

In 1943, Ansel created a series of photographs documenting life in California's Manzanar War Relocation Center, which he published the following year as a book,

*Born Free and Equal.*

"I was with Ansel on two of his four trips he made to Manzanar," said Michael, 76, a retired medical doctor who also attended Washington University. "I saw for myself the conditions at Manzanar."

On Oct. 2, both Gyo and Michael will be returning to their alma mater to take part in a panel discussion about how the internment impacted their respective families. It's a part of

Washington University's semester-long series, "Ethnic Profiling: A Challenge to Democracy."

"I think that my interest in talking with Gyo Obata is sharing what I saw in the camps and what he experienced and also remembered," said Michael.

"A Challenge to Democracy" takes its name from a WWII propaganda film defending the U.S. government's forcible internment of approximately 120,000 JAs.

Gyo, 86, hopes this series will help younger generations learn about the JA

internment.

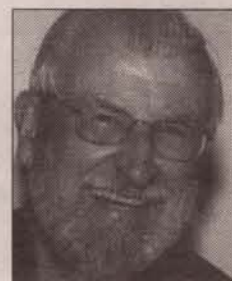
"Young people don't know a thing about it," he said.

Michael agrees. "Relating these experiences to today's problems of ethnic profiling is important to all of us." ■

For a complete list of Washington University's ethnic profiling series visit [www.humanvalues.wustl.edu](http://www.humanvalues.wustl.edu).



OBATA



ADAMS

## Berkeley Thai Temple Can Keep the Food Cooking

Wat Mongkolratanaram temple officials say their Sunday brunch is a community anchor.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

A Thai Buddhist temple in Berkeley, Calif. will continue to dish out their popular Sunday brunch after the city council voted to approve a zoning permit.

The Berkeley City Council unanimously voted Sept. 22 to adopt a resolution, upholding the city's zoning board use permit with recommendations from the city manager.

Those recommendations include expanding food service at the temple to every Sunday instead of only three times a year, which was previously stipulated in the 1993 permit. Other stipulations in the approved permit require temple official to create a parking lot and a 6-foot-high wall, among other construction projects.

The Wat Mongkolratanaram temple, has served up Thai food to the community for about 28 years. The weekly event helps volunteers build karma merit, said temple officials.

The council's decision reverberated through the temple, where members were pleasantly surprised by the



PHOTO: FAITHY LEONG

9-0 city council vote.

"I'm ecstatic that this huge weight has been lifted and that we have a chance to just kind of really work with people in the neighborhood," said Siwaraya Rochanahusdin, a long-time temple member.

Attendees of the Sunday brunch buy tokens, which are exchanged for Thai dishes.

Rochanahusdin said the Sunday food offering is critical to the livelihood of the temple since it is their only source of revenue, aside from personal donations.

The brunch has been so successful in drawing attendees that neighbors soon complained of the crowds, traffic, litter and "offensive odors," from the Thai cuisine.

In response to complaints, temple

officials cut the food offering operating hours in half, holding the event now for three hours every Sunday.

"We tried to respond, but there's a certain point when it is going to infringe on our spiritual practices or it's going to harm the temple," Rochanahusdin explained.

When temple officials applied for a permit to build a 44-foot-high shrine, the debate ignited and shed light on the temple's 1993 permit.

Berkeley JACL was consulted, along with other civil rights organizations.

"Some of us have attended. And the food is pretty good," said Neal Ouye, Berkeley JACL co-president.

"I think it's just like a point of connection," said Rochanahusdin about how the food offering unites the community. ■

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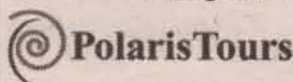
### 2010

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. 7-Apr. 20 Korea Highlights & Drama "Hallyu" Tour  
Apr. 26-May 6 Discover Croatia  
May 19-May 26 Swiss Highlights  
June 8-June 10 Summertime in Las Vegas: Shows TBA  
Jul. 05-Jul. 15 Summer Japan  
Jul. 12-Jul. 23 Alaska Cruise & Tour on Celebrity  
August The Best of Malaysia  
Sept. 16-Sept. 27 Northern Japan: Islands of Hokkaido & Tohoku  
Sept. 20-Sept. 27 Branson, Memphis & Nashville  
Oct. 5-Oct. 17 Exotic China

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# GO SEE DO

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS\*



## 'When Dreams Are Interrupted...'

**BERKELEY**  
Oct., 9-11  
2 p.m.  
1623 Stuart St.  
Berkeley, CA 94703

Jill Togawa and Purple Moon Dance Project present the world premiere of "When Dreams Are Interrupted...", a multidisciplinary work inspired by memories, stories and "interrupted dreams" of the WWII internment experience of JAs in Berkeley. The event is free and open to the public.

Info and reservations:  
415/552-1105,  
project@purplemoondance.org  
www.purplemoondance.org

### East

**Second National Asian American Theater Festival**  
NEW YORK, NY  
Oct. 13-18

More than 100 Asian American theatre artists — playwrights, directors, actors and designers — from across the U.S. will converge in New York for a week of performances.  
\$5 to \$55/tickets  
For info: www.naatf.org, 646/ 522 0931.

**SEE!**

### Midwest

**Screening: 'Most Honorable Son'**  
MINNESOTA  
Oct. 11, 2-4 p.m.  
Minnesota History Center  
3M Auditorium

The Twin Cities JACL chapter presents a documentary that details the life of JA war hero Ben Kuroki.

**Health Screening Day**  
CHICAGO, IL  
Sat., Oct. 24  
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
4427 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60640

The Japanese American Service Committee will be offering discounted health screenings for anyone over age 18. To make an appointment, call 773/275-0097 x226 (Kay) or x229 (Sharon).

### Pacific Northwest

**Yellow Terror: The Collections and Paintings of Roger Shimomura**  
SEATTLE, WA  
Now-Apr. 18, 2010

The Wing Luke Asian Museum  
719 S. King St.

This exhibit features Shimomura's collection of ephemera and art work inspired by discriminatory experiences.  
For info: 206/623-5124,  
www.wingluke.org

### Northern Calif.

**Sequoia JACL Forum**  
PALO ALTO, CA  
Sat., Oct. 17, 2 p.m.  
2751 Louis Rd.,  
Palo Alto  
Guest speaker will be Jeanne K. Smith of Exit Stage Right, LLC. The topic of discussion will be developing an organizational system within one's

home.

For info: Mike Kaku: 408/985-2747,  
Floyd Kumagai: 650/856-9682,  
Misao Sakamoto: 650/493-5508

**Sakura Kai's 'Celebrating Generations'**  
EL CERRITO, CA

Sat., Oct. 24, 1-5:30 p.m.  
El Cerrito Community Center  
7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito  
Help support the new Senior Center Building Fund and take part in this event which features workshops, food seminars, demonstrations, guest performances, food and craft booths. \$15/general admission and \$5/children under 12.  
For info: ECSakuraKai@hotmail.com, 510/621-8085

**Panel: Writers Kazuko Nakane, Stan Yogi and Alan Chong Lau**  
BERKELEY, CA

Sat., Oct. 24, 3 p.m.  
Eastwind Books of Berkeley  
2066 University Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
Eastwind Books of Berkeley will host a panel discussion with authors Kazuko Nakane, Stan Yogi and poet Alan Chong Lau, who will discuss Central Valley immigrant history, stories and poetry. Free event.  
For info: Eastwind Books of Berkeley 510/548-2350, books@ewbb.com.

**DO!**

### Central Calif.

**CCDC Installation Banquet 'Honoring the Camps'**  
FRESNO, CA

Sat., Nov. 14  
Cocktails 5-6 p.m., Dinner 6 p.m.  
The CCDC invites you to their 60th annual installation dinner with guest speaker, Lane Hirabayashi. \$40 to attend.

Send checks payable to "CCDC" to Marcia Chung, 6522 N. Gentry Ave., Fresno, CA 93711  
For info: contact Marcia Chung, 559/273-0397, r\_mchung@yahoo.com

### Southern Calif.

**Advancing Justice Conference**  
LOS ANGELES, CA  
Oct. 29-30

The Center at Cathedral Plaza  
555 W. Temple St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
The inaugural national civil rights and social justice conference aims to bring together groups of stakeholders to address a broad range of issues facing the APA community.  
For info: www.advancingjustice.org

**West Covina Buddhist Temple Craft Fair**  
WEST COVINA, CA  
Sun., Nov. 1  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
East San Gabriel Valley JCC

**GO!**

### SPOTLIGHT

## 'Bill and Sam Naito: A Portland Story'

**PORTLAND, OR**  
Oct. 8-Jan. 10, 2010

The Oregon Nikkei Endowment presents this exhibit, which focuses on the history, work and legacy of the Naito brothers and their relationship with the Portland community.  
Opening reception to be held Oct. 8 from 5-7 p.m.

For info:  
Nicole Nathan, 503/224-1458,  
Nicole@oregonnikkei.org,  
www.oregonnikkei.org



Bill and Sam Naito c1928

1203 West Puente Ave.  
West Covina, CA 91790  
The first annual West Covina Buddhist Temple craft fair will feature Asian and Hawaiian inspired crafts, clothing, gifts and food, and more. Admission and parking are both free.  
For info: Hisako Koga, 909/626-6131

**20th Anniversary of 'Evening of Aloha'**  
ANAHEIM, CA

Sat., Nov. 14  
4 p.m. – registration & silent auction  
6 p.m. – dinner  
Hilton Anaheim  
777 Convention Way  
Anaheim, CA  
Join the Go For Broke National Education Center for their 20th gala dinner honoring Nisei veterans.  
For info: 310/222-5710,  
EveningofAloha@GoForBroke.org,  
www.GoForBroke.org/EOA

**Hirahara Family Exhibit**  
ANAHEIM, CA  
Through Oct. 15

Carnegie Library and Heritage Reading Room at Anaheim's Museo, and the Anaheim Downtown Community Center.  
Anaheim presents an exhibit showcasing the four generations of the Hirahara family from 1909 to present day. Admission is free.  
Info: www.anaheim.net

## Advertise

'Go•SEE•Do' is a free limited listing for P.C. readers. Not all event submissions are listed.

Don't see your event here? Find out how to get a **guaranteed SPOTLIGHT** listing.

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### Arizona

**Arizona JACL 75th Anniversary Celebration**  
PHOENIX, AZ  
Nov. 8, 1 p.m.

Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel  
The Arizona JACL invites you to join them in celebrating their 75th anniversary. National JACL President Larry Oda and Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer will be speaking. \$30/person.

For info:  
Masako Takiguchi,  
602/956-3150, or  
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# IN MEMORIAM

All locations are in California except as noted.

## Fuji, James Naoto, 75

Sept. 2, Mililani, HI. An Air Force veteran. He is survived by wife Ethel Y., son Jimmy H., daughters Cathy Burkitt, Debbie Ikehara, sister Emily Sakamoto; 7 g.c.

## Fujisaki, Sachio, 64

Sept. 13, Santa Monica, CA. Born in Kagoshima, Japan. He is survived by his wife, Kyung Sook Fujisaki, children Rika, Dennis; 2 g.c.

## Ikuma, Mary Yoshiko, 92

Sept. 3, Diamond Bar, CA. She is survived by her sons, Hiroshi, Frank Noboru, Gerald Masaru.

## Inatomi, Harry Hirohiko, 80

Sept. 21, Los Angeles, CA. He is survived by his wife, Haruko, daughters, Diane (Brian) Fujimori, Joanne (Randall) Fung of Orange County; 3 g.c.

## Ishiguro, Hikoe, 96

Sept. 10, Kauai, HI. Resident of Los Angeles, Veteran of WWII. He is survived by his daughters, Karen, Susan.

## Iwata, Tad Tadao, 89

Sept. 19, Orange County, CA. Interned in Rohrer, served in 442nd RCT. Survived by his wife, Kay, daughter Sharon Muro, son Daniel.

## Kamimae, Mary, 76

Aug. 8, Ontario, OR. Survived by her husband, Tom; sons Craig (Rita) Kamimae, Tim (Cindy) Kamimae; daughter-in-law, Janet Kamimae; mother, Noriko; 3 sisters, 1 brother, 8 g.c.; 2 g.g.c.

## Kariyama, Suzuye, 90

Sept. 13, Gardena, CA. She is sur-

vived by her daughter, Naomi, son, Glen.

## Kataoka, Alice Akiko, 70

Sept. 15, Los Altos Hills, CA. survived by her daughters, Sheryl (Rich) Endo, Stacy (Charles) Bove; 4 g.c.

## Kato, Nobuo, 89

Aug. 6, Los Angeles, CA. He is survived by his wife, Kimie, brother, Shinshi Nobuyuki (Yukiko) Kato, sisters Michiko Imaizumi, Sumiye (Harry) Saito.

## Kawanami, Kenneth K., 88

Sept. 7, Calexico, CA. He is survived by his wife, Mary, sisters, Margaret Hatsuyo Borowiec, Kiyo Alice Mathias, bothers Col. Geroge Masao, Dr. Hideo Kawanami.

## Matsuura, Iwako, 95

Sept. 8, San Jose, CA. Interned at Amache, CO. Resided in L.A., San Jose, CA, Brighton and Denver, CO. Survived by 5 children, 10 g.c., 20 g.g.c., sisters, nieces, nephews.

## Norikane, Koji, 95



Sept. 7, Auburn, WA. Interned at Tule Lake and Minidoka. Farmed for many years in the West Auburn area. He was an active member of the community and the JACL. He is survived by his wife Mary, children Bob, Elaine Wetterauer and Patricia Logerwell; 6 g.c. ■

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

'Tributes,' which appear in a timely manner at the 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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## Family of Slain Yale Student Holds Funeral

Annie Le's would have been wedded the day her body was found. Now, she has been laid to rest.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

The family of an Asian Pacific American Yale graduate student whose body was found in the lab building said farewell to her in a private Mass.

A funeral was held at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in El Dorado Hills, Calif. Sept. 26 shortly before Le's family laid her body to rest on a hilltop in a nearby cemetery.

Le was a 24-year-old doctoral student in pharmacology originally from Placerville, Calif.

In New York, a memorial service for Le was held at her fiance's synagogue, Temple Beth El. Her fiance, Jonathan Widawsky, sat quietly beside his father for the California service.

Vivian Le read a poem in Vietnamese dedicated to her daughter.

"Farewell, my child. You are here lying in the cold coffin, leaving behind the wailing of loved ones. I sing you lullabies by your side, so sweet, like I did when you were a baby, wishing you a peaceful sleep. They are now sung through my crying sobs, sung to wish you an eternal blessed sleep," Le's brother Christopher said, translating the poem in English.

The funeral comes over a week after Le's body was discovered in the wall of the Yale Medical School laboratory where she worked. The medical examiner reported the cause of death as asphyxiation. Evidence found near Le's body contained DNA from lab technician Raymond Clark III, who had "unfettered access" to the building.

Clark was arrested at a Super 8 Hotel in Connecticut and charged with Le's murder. He was later arraigned on a murder charge. The 24-year-old is being held on \$3 million bail in a Connecticut prison.

Le, who was Vietnamese American, received her undergraduate degree in bioscience in 2007 from the University of Rochester in New York.



Annie Le was a 24-year-old doctoral student in pharmacology originally from Placerville, Calif.

While at the University of Rochester, she did a summer project at the National Institutes of Health on bone tissue engineering with a goal of regenerating tissue for people suffering from degenerative bone diseases. She said her career goal was to work as an NIH investigator or as a professor.

Her mentor, Rocky Tuan, described her as bright and hardworking.

"She's a very happy person," Tuan said. "Everybody got along with her. She's always smiling, laughing."

Le was initially reported missing by her roommate when she did not come home, according to the *Yale Daily News*. Yale offered a \$10,000 reward in the case while her neighbors, family and friends prayed for her safe return.

The 90-pound California-native was found Sept. 13 stuffed in a basement wall recess of her lab building.

"I feel bad what happened to her," said Anna Beth Funk, who lived across the street from Le. "It broke my heart hearing she was about to get married because I love being married and it must be so hard for her fiance." ■

## APA Groups Fight for to Keep Affordable Education

The coalition says a current law that allows eligible undocumented students to pay in-state tuition benefits the APA community.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

A coalition of 80 Asian Pacific American groups has filed a legal brief urging the California Supreme Court to uphold current legislation that allows undocumented college students eligible for in-state tuition.

California law AB 540, which passed in 2001, allows eligible documented and undocumented students to pay in-state tuition if they attend at least three years of high school in California, graduate from a state high school and promise to apply for permanent residency.

The law breaks financial barriers that often bar undocumented students from seeking higher education, supporters say. Undocumented college students are not eligible for financial aid and cannot work legally to pay for college.

But community and civil rights groups say the

outcome of *Martinez v. Regents of the University of California* could threaten AB 540, which largely benefits the APA community.

"These students came to this country as small children and consider the U.S. their home," said Jung Hee Lee, an immigration rights organizer with the Korean Resource Center. "Korean American students are the most impacted by AB 540, where among APA undocumented students, 60 percent are of Korean descent."

According to the National Immigration Law Center, nine other states provide in-state tuition to undocumented students including Texas, Utah, New York, Oklahoma, Washington, Kansas, Illinois, New Mexico and Nebraska.

"A college education helps people develop into more productive members of society. I aspire to be the United States Ambassador to South Korea, and without AB 540, I could never pursue my dream," said David, an undocumented student at UCLA.

The Japanese Bar Association, the Chinese Americans' Citizen Alliance and the Asian American Justice Center are among the 80 APA groups that signed onto the *amicus* brief — filed Sept. 24 — calling on the California Supreme Court to uphold the in-state tuition law. ■

To download the legal brief: [www.apalc.org](http://www.apalc.org)

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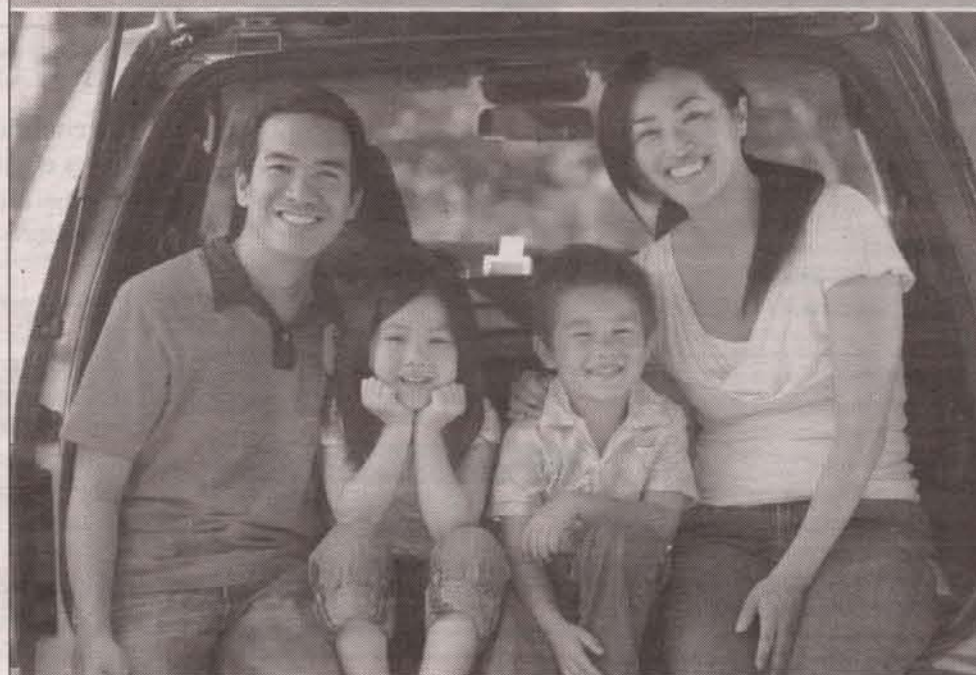
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