

JA TRIBUTE BAND MAKES SWING MUSIC YOUNG. **PAGE 9**

PACIFIC CITIZEN

May 21-June 3, 2010

www.pacificcitizen.org

The national newspaper of the JACL



Register now
for the JACL
Chicago nat'l
convention!
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UCLA Restores Justice With Honorary Degrees

Former Japanese American students whose
education was interrupted during World War II
receive belated honors. >> **PAGE 3**

PHOTO: NALEA J. KO

Kei Yamaguchi
gets prepped for
his special degree
ceremony.

MEMORIAL DAY



PHOTO: KRIS IKEJIRI

Memorial Day
at Arlington is
a tradition for
the Kobayashi
family.

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PHOTO: VALERIE SMITH

Will Hawaii's
governor sign
the civil unions
bill?

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CIVIL UNIONS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A New Name?

In recent months, I have been thinking about a new name for the JACL. It has been difficult to obtain funding grants as our organization is but a small portion of the total population. The only way we were able to get attention was to get together with other Asian groups. So for funding purposes only, we generally acted jointly with the other Asian groups.

My feeling (and recommendation) is that the JACL should keep the identity it now has. I do not believe that other Asian Americans will accept us as their representative. But we need a powerful umbrella organization of all Asian Americans, which has more power than the individual Japanese American, Chinese American, etc. On my searching on the internet, I did not find any such organization to fit the bill.

I do not believe that JACL has actively participated in a pan-Asian American group. I hope we find such a vehicle.

Ed Mitoma
Via e-mail

Readers Want the Print P.C.

My family members have been readers of the *Pacific Citizen* for many years and have had associations with JACL as my father, Dr. George Y. Takeyama, was chairperson for the first two national JACL conventions.

I enjoy being able to read the *Pacific Citizen* in many places such as the doctor's waiting rooms, at the airport, on the plane as well as at leisure at home. I have many clippings from the *P.C.* or have sent clippings to friends. I read each article with interest including the obituaries and look forward to receiving my copy of the *P.C.* I have shared the newspaper with friends and students and teachers. This is not easily done by carrying around a computer.

Please continue to print and mail me and others the *Pacific Citizen*.

Joy T. Hashimoto
Salt Lake City, Utah

I will have to cancel my longtime membership if you go digital.

Johnny Yama
Fresno JACL



As a member, I strongly oppose going paperless.

For one thing I don't own all these modern equipment like computers. Besides, I like to clip various articles for personal use.

Masako Hamada
Spokane JACL

Your paper has really improved in the past year. We really enjoy reading it.

Do not go digital. Keep sending us the paper. I am not computerized and have no ambition to learn.

Sakae Ishizu
Sonoma County JACL

Write to Us

Write to: Letters, *Pacific Citizen*
250 E. 1st St., Suite # 301
Los Angeles, CA 90012
or e-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org

NAT'L DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Environmental Justice

By Floyd Mori



When one thinks of the history of the JACL's battles for social justice, it is easy to identify the theme of righting a wrong that was unjustly thrust upon a certain group of people here in the United States.

Early on, Asian Pacific American immigrants found themselves at the short end of the justice balance when it came to securing citizenship and the right to reside in this great nation. The lack of due process afforded to Japanese Americans during World War II is fodder for every law student's class on the Constitution. Voting rights, economic equality, equal access to the nation's economic and social institutions, rights for gay and lesbian

See MORI/Page 11

SPRING CAMPAIGN

Continue Supporting the 2010 Spring Campaign

By Cindi Kishiyama-Harbottle



The Spring Campaign, an annual fundraiser that has been going on since 2003, raises funds to help pay a portion of the *Pacific Citizen's* yearly budget. The *P.C.* has been able to defray its costs of operation each year with monies raised from the Spring Campaign and the Holiday Issue. This year is proving to be exemplary — the *P.C.* has tripled the amount that is usually donated to this fundraiser.

I attribute the success of the Spring Campaign to the generosity of our community. It is the JACL members and *P.C.* subscribers

See HARBOTTLE/Page 11

P.C. Spring Campaign: Keeping Community Stories Alive

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June 30-July 4, Chicago, Illinois

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SEE PAGE 5 FOR REGISTRATION FORM

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To avoid interruptions in delivery, please notify your postmaster to include periodicals in your change of address (USPS Form 3575)

Honoring Japanese American Veterans is a Family Affair



Three generations of the Kobayashi family are behind the Memorial Day service at Arlington National Cemetery.

By Lynda Lin
Assistant Editor

A simple gesture started in 1948 to honor the spirits of fallen Japanese American warriors has become a family-run tradition at Arlington National Cemetery.

Every Memorial Day on the grassy fields of America's most hallowed ground, Turner Kobayashi, 49, coordinates the program that honors men with surnames like Tanamachi, Nakayama and many others who died in battle for their country. Turner has been doing this for over a decade since his father Key Kobayashi, passed away in 1992.

Key, a World War II Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veteran, along with JACL leaders Mike Masaoka and Ira Shimasaki, helped establish the event at Arlington.

"It's the least we can do," said Turner, a Washington, D.C. JACL member.

It's a family legacy that has quietly become synonymous with the event — a son honoring his father and brothers in arms.

"The Key Kobayashi family has paid a key role in memorializing Japanese Americans who gave their lives to America," said Terry Shima of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), a co-sponsor of the annual event at Arlington along with the JACL and the Washington, D.C. JACL chapter.

Every year, the event attracts hundreds — from newcomers to stalwart supporters — to watch the wreath presentation at the Tomb of the Unknown and to decorate the gravesites of Japanese American soldiers.

"It's a sobering event," said Turner. "You can feel the sincerity and depths of it."

Turner has attended every JACL Memorial Day program at Arlington since he was about 5 years old. He had always been close to his father, who gave him the middle name "Masaru" after Mike Masaru Masaoka when he was born on the Fourth of July.

Key was an advocate of civil rights and the JACL, said Turner.

After Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and propelled the U.S. into war, Key and his family were forced to leave their Fresno, Calif.



THE KOBAYASHI CLAN: (l-r): Matthew Oelkers, Turner Kobayashi, Rich Oelkers, Kyoko Kobayashi, Bryan Oelkers, and Forrest Kobayashi.

home for the Gila River internment camp in Arizona. From his barbed wire prison, Key joined the Army.

"It was his answer to the call that was being asked," said Turner.

Honoring the soldiers was important to Key, said Kyoko Kobayashi, 79, his wife. On Memorial Day, Key would tell his children, "You should remember the soldiers that helped protect us."

Those who have attended the Memorial Day event over the years still have fond memories of the man who made it all happen.

"Key was a hardworking person," said Asako "Suzie" Ichijui, who has attended many of the programs along with her husband Joe Ichijui, a WWII 522nd Field Artillery Battalion veteran.

This year, on May 30, the event will mark its 62nd anniversary.

For the most part, Turner hasn't changed the program too much — except for one thing. Every year Masaoka's granddaughter, Michelle Amano, reads the JACL creed, as Sen. Elbert D. Thomas of Utah did on May 9, 1941, in the Senate Chamber.

It's a tradition Turner has started.

"It gets me every year," he said about the reading of the

creed.

This year, Maj. Gen. Susan K. Mashiko, deputy director of the National Reconnaissance Office, will be the featured speaker.

In the crowd, Turner expects to see some familiar faces of longtime supporters including Craig Uchida, executive director of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation. He'll also remember those ones who have passed on, including his father, who is also buried at Arlington.

"Every year is different," said Turner. "It makes you appreciative that freedom is not free. The least we can do is honor our veterans on Memorial Day."

Turner's decision to continue coordinating the Memorial Day event at Arlington is a gift to his father, said Kyoko. "Key would never have pushed to think that the hosting of the event was something he could pass on. It is such an important part of our family history that without question, the family comes to Arlington Cemetery every year. Just like Thanksgiving and Christmas, this is part of our family holiday schedule."

The tradition is also being carefully passed down to the Yonsei generation.

Turner's nephew Matthew Oelkers, 26, of Branchburg, New Jersey, helps coordinate the event every year.

It's Matthew, Turner said, who will be the heir of the event once he is no longer around.

And it's a responsibility Matthew doesn't take lightly.

"To me this is the most important time of the year and something I choose not to miss. It is a great privilege to be a part of an event that honors the service and sacrifice of so many Japanese Americans," said Matthew.

"I look forward to keeping the coordination of the event in our family," he added. ■

Memorial Day Services in Washington, D.C.

May 30

JACL/JAVA will hold a joint Memorial Day Program at Arlington Cemetery with guest speaker Maj. Gen. Susan Mashiko.

May 31

JACL/JAVA will participate in the Department of Defense National Memorial Day Program at the Arlington Cemetery and the American Veterans Center-sponsored National Memorial Day Parade down Constitution Avenue.



Hawaii's civil unions legislation has drawn supporters and opponents to the state Capitol.

Hawaii's Civil Union Bill is in Governor's Hands

Asian Americans and Hawaii residents sound off after a civil unions bill passed in the state House moves to Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle's office for her signature.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

Opponents of Hawaii's same-sex civil unions bill are appealing to the state's governor by the thousands less than a month after its passage in the House.

In a 31-20 vote the state House passed the bill on April 30.

Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle will now determine the outcome of the civil unions bill, or House Bill 444. She has until July 6 to make a decision. Her options: sign it, veto or allow the bill to become a law without her signature.

Since the week of May 3 about 6,062 faxes, letters, e-mails and phone calls have been received at the governor's office,

according to Russell Pang, the chief of media relations.

Pang said 63 percent of the correspondence to date was against the bill, and 37 percent in favor.

If signed into law the bill would essentially extend to same-sex civil unions the "same rights, benefits, protections, and responsibilities" that are given to heterosexual married couples.

"This is an important bill about equality," said Rep. Blake Oshiro, who introduced the bill, in a statement to the Pacific Citizen. "It has been mischaracterized as being about marriage and about religion, but that is inaccurate. It is simply about how the government treats its citizens and that it should not discriminate, regardless of gender or sexual

orientation."

Five other states — including California, Nevada, Washington, New Jersey and Oregon — have similar domestic partnership or civil unions rights. However same-sex marriage is not allowed in those states.

Same-sex marriage is legal in Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and the District of Columbia.

For those like Garrett Hashimoto, who oppose the bill, the outpouring of anti-HB 444 correspondences can be summed up in one word: vindication.

"I've always stated publicly that the vast majority of Hawaii's populace are against this bill because they are against legitimizing homosexual behavior, especially when it threatens traditional marriage," said Hashimoto, who is with the Hawaii Christian Coalition.

One proponent compared the deluge of opposition correspondence to the treatment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

"I am sure the number of racist Americans who favored the internment of Japanese Americans during the 1940s was far greater than the number of bigots e-mailing our governor today," said Kim Coco Iwamoto, Hawaii Board of Education member.

"Denying liberty and freedom from certain Americans because they are in the minority wasn't the right thing to do then and it isn't the right thing to do now."

The final decision on the bill's fate, Lingle said in previous interviews, will be based on what is right for Hawaii in the long term. The governor has not said whether or not she will sign the bill. But Lingle has said in the past that she would not veto legislation allowing domestic partnership.

This is not the first time same-sex legislation has been introduced in the Aloha State.

In 1993 the issue of same-sex marriage gained national attention when the constitutionality of limiting marriage to heterosexual couples was

questioned in the Hawaii Supreme Court. Three years later Congress enacted the Defense of Marriage Act, defining marriage as a union between a man and woman.

The civil unions bill was first introduced in January of 2009. Oshiro revived it April 29. Opponents like Rep. Gene Ward said it was unfair to do so on the last day of session.

"Whatever Governor Lingle decides to do with HB 444 will have a huge impact on the 2010 elections in Hawaii," said Sen. Mike Gabbard. "There are many extremely disappointed people who rightly feel the civil unions bill was snuck in at the last minute and is in direct conflict with the will of the

people."

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community members and supporters wearing rainbow lei quietly celebrated inside the legislature when the bill passed.

Outside they shared hugs, smiles and tears. Supporters said the news brought a sense of hope.

"We all walked out real slowly, silently. People were stunned. But the first reaction then was they started to cry," explained Jo Chang, a Sansei and co-founder of the Da Moms, a LGBT support group. "I cried, everybody cried [laughs]. ...We cried and then we smiled and celebrated."

Other parents of children in the LGBT community said they are surprised at the sentiments expressed by those leading the opposition.

"I have a daughter who told us that she was gay in 1988, 22 years ago," said Harold Kameya. "I am offended by people saying that she should have fewer rights than their children."

But some opponents say the bill is not about equal rights, but biblical principles.

"My reaction to people that support this bill is also one of sadness, that they believe

this bill is all about equal rights, when in fact it is about trying to make something acceptable to the public that should be kept private," said Barbara Ferraro, director of Concerned Women For America.

Before this civil unions bill the Reciprocal Beneficiary Act was passed in 1997. It essentially extended to couples — which could not marry under state law — benefits allowed to heterosexual married couples.

"The fact is same-sex couples already receive survivorship benefits through our reciprocal beneficiary law," Gabbard said.

"Marriage is not just a word — it's the foundation, the bedrock of our society, the cornerstone of civilization and impacts every aspect of our lives."

While public comments continue to collect at the governor's office, some

supporters of the civil unions bill are already thinking about what they will do if it becomes law.

"First thing we'll do is change the deed to reflect our new status," said supporter Valerie Smith, who was married to Nathalie Sowers in British Columbia. "We don't need to be loved and accepted by everyone, and it is an impossible burden to expect us to appeal to the public's support in such a way."

"However, if the bill passes, we'll at least have the confidence in knowing that anyone's 'disapproval' remains just that — a sentiment — without any real power over our lives." ■



'First thing we'll do is change the deed to reflect our new status.'

— Valerie Smith (above, left) with Nathalie Sowers on their wedding day.



The program will include the former site of the Manzanar interment camp.

JACL Receives NPS Grant

JACL has been awarded a \$151,790 National Park Service (NPS) grant for its program, “Passing the Legacy Down: Youth Interpretations of Confinement Sites in the Western United States.”

“These grants will allow the JACL and other organizations to tell the important story of the Japanese American internment experience,” said Larry Oda, JACL national president.

“Passing the Legacy Down” includes Manzanar, Tule Lake, Poston and Minidoka.

NPS awarded 23 grants totaling \$2.9 million to help preserve and interpret historic locations where Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II.

In 2006, Congress authorized up to \$38 million to establish the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant program.

The program seeks to teach and inspire present and future generations about the injustice of the JA WWII confinement.

Congress appropriated \$3 million in the current fiscal year for grants, matching \$2 in federal money for every \$1 in non-federal funds and “in-kind” contributions raised by groups working to preserve the sites and their histories.

“The JACL is grateful to the NPS and to Congress for this grant, which will help us to continue to tell the Japanese American story in order to ensure that no other people will have to endure the horrific experiences which Japanese Americans did during World War II,” said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

“We appreciate the efforts of Craig Ishii, the JACL Pacific Southwest regional director, for his work in the grant application process necessary to secure this funding,” he added. ■

For a complete listing of 2010 winners:
www.pacificcitizen.org

More Than Just the JACL National Convention

The Chicago JACL’s Windy City Activities will give attendees a unique view of the ‘City of Big Shoulders.’

By Lisa Sakai

“Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men’s souls.” These famous words by Chicago architect Daniel Burnham, guided the Chicago JACL in their planning for the 2010 JACL national convention. The organizers are optimistic that the city’s attractions will help increase attendance.

“We hope the convention will be viewed as an opportunity to visit Chicago for the first time or to explore the city in a new or different way,” said Lary Schectman, spokesman for the Chicago committee.

Chicago is a friendly, sophisticated and accessible city to visit. Whether you are a neighbor from Wisconsin or a tourist from its sister city Osaka, the “City of Big Shoulders” provides visitors with an eclectic mix of food, culture, sports, and nightlife. To take advantage of it all, the Chicago committee is offering a variety of Windy City Activities (*see descriptions below*) during the week of the convention.

Synonymous with blues music and the Cubs, no visit to Chicago would be complete without hearing one or seeing the other. The plans include a night at the famous blues club Buddy Guy’s Legends, as well as an outing to historic Wrigley Field to watch the Cubs play.

To taste some of the city’s global dining



Explore the dark side of Chicago’s Chinatown.

options, two of the tours include meals in celebrated Chinatown and Greektown. For a more concentrated dining experience, the city’s famous Taste of Chicago festival will also be occurring that same week.

When planning your time at the convention, visitors should heed Burnham’s words to “make no little plans” and take advantage of as many of the Windy City activities as possible. There are more things to do than there is time for, but the convention is the perfect opportunity to try or see something new in Chicago.

Remember, you don’t have to sign-up for other convention events to enjoy the Windy City Activities, but you do have to register through the convention. Space is limited on many events so sign-up early!

For a complete listing of times and prices, visit www.jacl.org and click on the “2010 JACL National Convention” icon. ■

Lisa Sakai is chair of the Windy City Activities Committee for the JACL national convention.

2010 JACL National Convention

June 30th - July 4th - Swissôtel Chicago

Embracing Change

Registration Form

A separate form must be completed for each individual registration. Additional registration forms are available online, by email at chicago2010@jacl.org, or by calling 773.728.7170.

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Contact: email chicago2010@jacl.org, call 773.728.7170 or visit www.jacl.org and click on the 2010 JACL National Convention link.

Convention Hotel

Swissôtel Chicago Phone: 888.737.9477
Book early! Reservations must be made by June 10th to guarantee the JACL Convention rate.

Registration Packages

Packages include Individual Events

	Before 6/10	After 6/10	
Convention Package	\$250	\$300	_____
Youth/Student Package (for ages 25 and under)	\$200	\$250	_____

Individual Events

Sayonara Banquet	\$120	\$150	_____
(Student Members)	\$100	\$125	_____
Welcome Reception	\$60	\$75	_____
Awards Luncheon	\$60	\$75	_____
Youth Luncheon	\$60	\$75	_____

Optional Events

Credit Union Luncheon	\$65	\$65	_____
(Credit Union Members)	\$30	\$30	_____
A Night at Club Chicago	\$30	\$30	_____
Youth Entertainment	\$20	\$20	_____

Windy City Activities

Limited availability, so sign up early.

	Before 6/10	After 6/10	
Devil in the White City Tour	\$70	\$80	_____
Absolutely Segway Tour	\$65	\$75	_____
Specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Wed <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs <input type="checkbox"/> Fri			
Architecture Walking Tour	\$15	\$25	_____
Art Institute of Chicago Tour	\$30	\$40	_____
Trolley Tour	\$25	\$35	_____
Specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs <input type="checkbox"/> Sat			
Supernatural Chinatown Tour	\$45	\$55	_____
Horseshoe Casino	\$30	\$40	_____
Buddy Guy's Legends	\$55	\$65	_____
Museum Campus Visit	\$75	\$85	_____
Specify: <input type="checkbox"/> 9a <input type="checkbox"/> 1p			
Chicago Cubs Baseball	\$45	\$55	_____
Architecture River Cruise	\$30	\$40	_____
GRAND TOTAL			_____

WINDY CITY ACTIVITIES

Devil in the White City Tour

Based on the best-selling book and hosted by professional ghost hunter Richard Crowe, this tour takes you to the sites frequented by diabolical serial killer, H.H. Holmes (includes lunch).

Segway Tours of Millennium Park, Grant Park and Museum Campus

A 2-hour tour around Millennium Park, Grant Park, the Museum Campus and Soldier Field. A Segway is a 2-wheeled, self-balancing, electric transportation device.

Architecture Walking Tour of the South Loop

A 2-hour tour of the South Loop to view the architecture and innovative designs.

Trolley Bus Tour of Chicago's Landmarks

A 2-hour tour of Chicago's landmarks, classic movie locations and hottest attractions, including the Willis/Sears Tower, Hancock Center, the Magnificent Mile and Millennium Park.

Supernatural Chinatown Walking Tour

Led by professional ghost hunter Richard Crowe, this walking tour of Chicago's historic Chinatown visits supernatural and haunted sites (includes dinner). Time will be allotted to visit stores where ginseng, rare teas, *ba-gua* mirrors and other unique items can be purchased.

Blues Night at Buddy Guy's Legends

Enjoy an authentic blues experience at the city's best blues club according to AOL CityGuide and CitySearch, (includes dinner).

Casino Night at Harrah's Horseshoe Casino

Horseshoe Casino is Harrah's newly remodeled casino offering a full range of gambling options: slots, blackjack, roulette and table poker (includes buffet dinner).

Chicago Cubs vs. Cincinnati Reds Baseball Game

A visit to historic Wrigley Field and a chance to watch the Cubbies break their 101-year curse!

Museum Campus Day

Visit the Field Museum, which has one of the largest anthropological, natural and historical collections in the world; Shedd Aquarium, home to the Oceanarium, wild reef and Beluga whales; Adler Planetarium, America's first planetarium; and Soldier Field.

Art Institute Visit and Docent-Led Tour of Asian Galleries

With over 300,000 works of art, including a substantial Impressionist collection and a new Modern wing, the visit includes a 1-hour docent-led tour of the Asian art galleries.

Architecture River Boat Cruise

A 90-minute cruise along the Chicago River showing over 50 architecturally significant sights.

JACL, Civil Rights Groups File Legal Challenge to Arizona Racial Profiling Law



Arizona resident Jim Shee alleges that he was twice asked by law enforcement to produce 'papers.'

Citing parallels between the treatment of minorities under SB 1070 and the World War II JA incarceration, JACL challenges the constitutionality of the new law.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The JACL and a coalition of civil rights groups have filed a class action lawsuit challenging Arizona's new law requiring the police to demand "papers" from people they suspect are not authorized to be in the U.S.

The lawsuit charges Arizona's new immigration law with inviting racial profiling, violating the First Amendment and interfering with federal law.

The JACL national board voted 8-6 May 17 in favor of joining the litigation to challenge the constitutionality of SB 1070, which was signed into law April 23.

Under the new Arizona law, immigrants unable to produce documents showing that they are allowed to be in the U.S. could be arrested, jailed for up to six months and fined \$2,500. Currently, many U.S. police departments do not ask about people's immigration status unless they have run afoul of the law in some other way.

The law's supporters say it's necessary because of the federal government's failure to secure the border. Arizona is home to an estimated 460,000 undocumented immigrants, according to the *Associated Press*.

"This is an attempt at government sanctioned racial profiling and parallels the injustice that was experienced by the Japanese American population during World War II," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "This opens the door to allow local law enforcement officers to stop and detain on the basis of race."

Jim Shee, an Arizona JACL member, is a plaintiff on the case, *Friendly House et al. v. Whiting et al.* Shee, a U.S.-born 70-year-old American citizen of Spanish and Chinese descent, told the *Pacific Citizen* that he was pulled over twice in April and asked to produce his "papers."

In the complaint, Shee says that he will be more vulnerable to racial profiling under the law.

"I see how current actions have alienated the Brown-skinned people in Arizona because of the persistent lies that our law-makers insist on perpetuating," said Shee.

"We feel it our duty and obligation to stand with our friends in the civil rights arena to challenge the constitutional validity of this new law," said Larry Oda, JACL national president.

The JACL national board's decision to join the litigation was

the result of local activism, Arizona JACL members say.

Kathy Nakagawa, Arizona JACL president, sees parallels between the WWII treatment of Japanese Americans and current anti-immigration laws.

"Unfortunately during WWII, Arizona had two of the largest Japanese American concentration camps in the country, and we're now the site of one of the worst anti-immigration laws in the country. We see the parallels between what happened during WWII and SB 1070, which will also infringe on an individual's civil rights," said Nakagawa.

Because of these shared experiences, it was important for the Arizona JACL to take a stand, said Cindi Kishiyama-Harbottle, a JACL Lifetime Member and Scottsdale, Ariz. resident.

APA groups in Phoenix are hosting a May 22 educational forum on SB 1070 to discuss the legal and constitutional issues and its impact on the APA community.

"My feelings are very strong because I believe that history is repeating itself in Arizona with this new law," she said. "It angers and disappoints me that in a country composed of immigrants this can happen

again."

The Arizona JACL has introduced a resolution calling for SB 1070 to be overturned. The resolution, which cites similar anti-Asian and anti-immigrant sentiment during the 1920s, will be voted on at the June 30-July 4 JACL national convention in Chicago.

The coalition filing the lawsuit includes: the JACL, ACLU, MALDEF, National Immigration Law Center (NILC), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), ACLU of Arizona, National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON) and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), a member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice. ■

SB 1070 FORUM

May 22, 10 a.m.-12 noon
A.E. England Building
424 N. Central Avenue
Phoenix, Ariz.

What does SB 1070 mean for APAs Arizona? Attend the forum — which will feature Ronald Lee from the Asian American Justice Center in Washington, D.C. — to find out how it will be enforced and how it relates to immigration reform.

Info:

SB1070education@gmail.com

APA Judge Nominee Shows Community's Progress

Goodwin Liu's confirmation hearing for the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals marks a turning point for politicization in the community.

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Goodwin Liu, associate dean and professor at the University of California, Berkeley law school, has cleared a hurdle in his nomination to become only the second Asian Pacific American judge currently on the nation's federal appeals courts.

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 12-7 along party lines May 13 to recommend Liu be confirmed.

It's only the first step. Unless Republicans filibuster, the full Senate will vote on Liu next, although it's unclear when that will happen.

Liu's confirmation hearing not only galvanized APA groups like the JACL to urge the Senate Judiciary Committee for a confirmation, but it also captivated the attention of Asian Pacific Americans like Wendy Chang, a partner at a Los Angeles law firm, who is a statistical rarity in the APA community.

"He's a big deal simply because we only have one (appeals court) judge out of 175," Chang said.

APAs are 5 percent of the U.S. population and 15 percent of the doctors, but about 3 percent of the lawyers. When it comes to lawyers becoming federal judges, which requires strong networks and political connections, APA representation is even smaller.

Chang helped organize a gathering in Los Angeles to watch Liu's confirmation hearings on television, and similar events were organized in Atlanta, Chicago, San Francisco and Houston.

Ten of 875 active federal judges, just over 1 percent, are APA, according to the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association



(NAPABA). On the appeals court level, which has outsized influence in shaping the nation's laws, only one of 175 judges is APA: Denny Chin, who was confirmed just last month.

If Liu is confirmed, he would join Chin and Harold Koh, former dean of Yale Law School and currently a State Department legal adviser, as potential candidates to be the first APA judge on the Supreme Court.

APAs constituted 8.1 percent of law school students in the fall of 2009, up from 7 percent in the fall of 2000, according to the Law School Admissions Council. And President Barack Obama has accelerated the pace of APA nominations to the federal bench. George W. Bush placed four APAs on the bench and Bill Clinton five; Obama has nominated eight so far, including Liu.

Republicans have strongly opposed Liu's nomination, calling him a liberal activist who would rewrite the Constitution — possibly from the Supreme Court.

The fierce opposition is actually exciting, said Karen Narasaki, president of the Asian American Justice Center.

"Wow, people are afraid he might get on the Supreme Court! That's a new problem," she said. "It's a breakthrough, in a way."

■

P.C. Receives \$20,000 Grant

The 2010 CCLPEP grant will help digitize the P.C. archives from 1944-1955.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The *Pacific Citizen* has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from The California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) to continue the preservation and digitization of its archives.

"Preserving Our Legacy: Digitizing the *Pacific Citizen* Archives" is an ongoing project to make historic issues of the newspaper accessible online to JACL members, P.C. subscribers and educators.

The 2010 CCLPEP grant will help digitize the *Pacific Citizen* newspaper archives from 1944 to 1955, a tumultuous time in the lives of Japanese Americans of incarceration, release and re-entry into mainstream America.

The P.C. has been chronicling JA and Asian Pacific American issues from the Great Depression to the current fight against Arizona's anti-immigration law. The P.C. is the oldest continuously published English language chronicle of the Japanese experience in America.

And until now, the P.C. archives have faced the threat of disintegration, and with it, its rich history.

In 2009, the P.C. received a CCLPEP grant to digitize issues of the P.C. from 1936-1943. Once complete, the archives from this time period will be integrated online at www.pacificcitizen.org. ■



VERY
truly yours

BY HARRY K. HONDA

Boys Town Father Flanagan's JACL Connection

THERE IS A JACL "footnote" to recent headlines about Catholic child abuse scandal rumbling on in Ireland (and elsewhere) — though old-timers have never raised the connection. The angle appears in the story about "the whistle-blower priest (from) Boys Town founder (who) exposed mistreatment of Irish children six decades ago."

Underneath that headline from *Our Sunday Visitor*, a Catholic weekly in Huntington, Indiana, last month was a file photo of Father Edward J. Flanagan. And there's the JACL "footnote" for this column. Omaha JACLers knew him well as Boys Town just outside Omaha.

In 1942, Nikkei in Santa Anita Assembly Center may remember that Father Flanagan got permission to allow about 50 Japanese Americans to go to Omaha to replace workers who had been called into military service.

Kiyoshi "Pat" Okura was offered a position as Boys Town staff psychologist, which he held for 17 years (1942-1959). He then worked for the state of Nebraska as chief probation officer until 1970.

In 1934 he was executive secretary at the Los Angeles JACL office, which had opened at 124 South San Pedro Street, and with colleagues Clarence Arai, Kay Sugahara, Mas Satow and Eiji Tanabe (to name a few), they launched the Nisei Week Festival with Issei businessmen.

In 1938, Okura worked with the Los Angeles Civil Service Commission as a personnel examiner, the highest office then held by a JA. At one point, a newspaper columnist accused him of plotting to sabotage the city's water and power plant. The columnist also said the U.S.-born psychologist was trying to pass as Irish by spelling his name "K. Patrick O'kura." Mayor Fletcher Bowron labeled Okura the "most dangerous Japanese in the city" and twice asked him to resign but he refused.

Soon after the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt signed E.O. 9066, authorizing the Army to remove 120,000 Japanese from the West Coast. He and his wife Lily were sent to Santa Anita to live in an 8x8-foot tack room in a horse stable for nine months. His prewar account appeared in the Feb. 5, 2005 *Washington Post* obituary. Pat was 93 years old.

And now about the Irish-born Father Flanagan's trip to Ireland in 1946. He left Boys Town, the interna-

tionally renowned home for abandoned and wayward boys. Father had heard reports that Irish children were being abused and mistreated in the country's orphanages and reformatories. He knew such institutions were little more than crime schools where older boys corrupted the younger ones.

His trip was to propose to the speaker of the Irish Parliament and Archbishop John Charles McQuaid of Dublin that they establish an Irish Boys Town. Father Flanagan was treated like a celebrity in every Irish city and town because of his reputation in America for caring for children no one wanted, as portrayed in the 1938 MGM film, "Boys Town."

In Dublin, Father Flanagan declared that fear of punishment would never correct the character of a wayward child and denounced the brutal methods in Ireland's so-called "training schools."

In Cork, he bluntly told his audience, "You are the people who permit your children and of your communities to go to those institutions of punishment. You can do something about it; first, by keeping your children away from those institutions." The audience applauded.

But in the Irish Parliament, the minister of justice denounced Father Flanagan's "offensive and intemperate language." Those schools are "under management of religious orders who are self-effacing people and who do not require any commendation from me."

Back in the U.S., Father Flanagan continued his criticism of the Irish system. Letters from Irish Americans defending Father Flanagan were sent to Irish newspapers.

"If he could not shake the conscience of the Church in Ireland, of the Irish government, of the Irish press, of the Irish people, who could?" the *Our Sunday Visitor* story by Thomas Craughwell concluded. "The Catholic Church in Ireland is responsible for the scandal of the reform schools and orphanages ... In the case of the Irish scandal, there is plenty of guilt to go around."

Boys Town is now known as Girls and Boys Town, and is not a Catholic institution. It is non-sectarian, but the director is always a Catholic priest in tribute to the memory of Father Flanagan. ■

Harry K. Honda is the Pacific Citizen editor emeritus.

THE SHIGEKI SHAKE DOWN

BY PETER SHIGEKI FRANDSEN



War and Peace

The summer after my first year of dental school, I was broke (student loans don't cover summer break) with only a handful of months before the most grueling academic year of my life began. I was living in one of the most expensive cities in the country and I needed something to occupy my mind besides cranial nerves, cell biology or anatomy flashcards.

This was the summer that I met Leo Tolstoy.

As an undergraduate, I set a strict schedule to reach graduation in the fewest number of semesters as possible, which limited my opportunities to take unnecessary, but desirable, humanities, arts, or philosophy courses.

Feeling like I short-changed my own education, that special summer — broke, with time to burn — I set out to make things right. I jumped on the 1 train to Union Square, walked two blocks to the Strand Bookstore to peruse their "18 miles of books." This was where the hefty *War and Peace* spoke to me.

It took me the majority of the summer, on subway rides, park benches, and in waiting rooms to read all 964 pages. What a masterpiece! In the end, amidst the sense of accomplishment and enlightenment following such a feat, I felt sad that I would no longer be able follow the lives of the Rostovs and Bolkonskis.

Reading Tolstoy, or any great classic author, I always marvel how they can write for their generation and speak to all generations. The themes, the trials, the conflicts all endure. Societies and civilizations adapt and change, but the conflicts remain the same. Through his characters, you realize certain truths that remain relevant today in our society.

In his day, it was difficult for a common man to gain esteem among the elites, save through exemplary conduct on the battlefield. Military service and acts of heroism and leadership allowed average citizens access to the finest balls that high society had to offer. Upward mobility could be obtained through fighting the good fight.

Is that still true today?

Much has been written recently about why we fight in modern times, as nations, as cultures, as civilizations, as individuals. Redemption, retaliation and social mobility most definitely find themselves among the long list of motives for today's war fighters. The more salient question is, I believe, what reciprocity does our society offer for these motives? Do we grant redemption, honor, respect or social mobility to our soldiers returning from deployments in far-off places? Do we truly offer our brave men and women a hero's welcome beyond the first week or month following their return?

As poignantly dramatized in the Oscar-winning film, "The Hurt Locker", re-socialization our war fighters remains one of the most difficult obligations we, as a society, face in regards to the wars we wage.

In his new book, *War*, Sebastian Junger seeks to elucidate the psyche of the modern soldier chronicled from his five-month stint with a U.S. Army platoon in the remotest of remote location in the Afghan mountains. A pertinent quote from his recent article in *Newsweek* is indeed apropos of the relationship between soldier and society. He states, "Society can give its young men almost any job, and they'll figure how to do it. They'll suffer for it and die for it and watch their friends die for it, but in the end it will get done. That means only that society should be careful about what it asks for."

The demands on our military are immense. The demands to care for our war fighters must be equal to or greater in immensity, and that means caring for our soldiers and veterans in both war and peace. ■

Peter Shigeki Frandsen is living in Biloxi, Miss. He is a Mount Olympus JACL member.



UCLA 'Restores Justice' By Awarding Nisei Honorary Degrees



PHOTOS: NALEA J. KO



Michiko Doihara Tamaki (above) straightens her cap and gown in the mirror shortly before the May 15 UCLA honorary degree ceremony.

Bob Naka (left), who was forced to leave UCLA as a sophomore, was one of the many speakers who addressed the Nisei graduates at UCLA's Schoenberg Hall.

UCLA officials award 48 degrees May 15 to Japanese Americans who had their education interrupted during World War II, but JA youth say their generation needs to continue raising awareness about past injustices.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

WEST LOS ANGELES—Before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Nao Takasugi was a freshman tennis player for the University of California, Los Angeles.

He left UCLA during his sophomore year to help with the family business, Asahi Market in Oxnard, Calif. The Japanese American returned to UCLA in the fall of 1941, but again his studies would be interrupted in the wake of the Pearl Harbor attack.

He would never resume his studies at UCLA again, but his son Ron Takasugi said his father "was always a Bruin at heart."

"My only regret is that this ceremony could not have occurred earlier," Ron Takasugi said. "Dad passed away a few months ago and I know that he would have loved to have attended the program."

"I am proud to be able to participate and fulfill this dream my father had for his kids and now I can fulfill it for him."

Ron Takasugi was one of 19 honorees or their family members who traveled from across the United States to accept honorary degrees from UCLA officials at the May 15 ceremony.

In total 48 degrees were given in honor of former Nisei students whose education was interrupted during WWII.

Printed on the degrees distributed was the Latin phrase, "inter silvas academi restituere iustitiam," meaning to restore justice within the groves of academe.

Executive Order 9066, the president's directive to incarcerate JAs, impacted over 200 students at UCLA. Seven hundred University of California students were affected in total.

"It is a symbolic measure that acknowledges that these things were lost and an attempt toward reparations and healing to

acknowledge them publicly in this fashion," said Lane Ryo Hirabayashi, chair of UCLA's Asian American Studies Department, about the ceremony.

Former UCLA students left their Westwood campus to live behind barbed wire during WWII.

Nao Takasugi was interned at Tule Lake, but he was able to pursue a higher education with the help of a Quaker organization. He later graduated from Temple University and received a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Others like Takasugi were not deterred from pursuing a college degree despite having their education at UCLA interrupted.

Bob Naka was forced to end his studies at UCLA, but the JA said he knew it was not the end of his college career.

Naka was 18 years old, a sophomore at UCLA when over 120,000 JAs had their lives altered. Manazur would be Naka's new home with his parents.

"That was a devastating experience. Naturally you asked yourself, 'Why me? What have I done to deserve this?'" Naka explained. "And you simply conclude that it's an accidental birth and that you had nothing to do with."

Traveling 3,000 miles from Massachusetts, Naka was the honoree who trekked the furthest to be at the UCLA event.

Honorees like 86-year-old Naka — and those accepting degrees on behalf of former students — spent the morning of May 15 getting dressed in caps and gowns. UCLA students crafted lei for the honorees using dozens of yards of ribbon.

"[The ceremony is] mostly about saying thank you for everything," said 21-year-old Edward Kobayashi, president of UCLA's Nikkei Student Union. "The significance of the ceremony doesn't just end on the ceremony date. It's really up to our generation."

This was not the first time UCLA awarded a former student a diploma. Officials in UCLA's Asian American Studies Center helped award Aki Hirashiki Yamazaki a diploma in 1992. Yamazaki had to abandon her studies as a senior at the college.

More honorary degrees will be distributed statewide. The UCLA ceremony is one of many planned in May with the help

of the California State University's Nisei Diploma Project.

San Diego State University, San Jose State University, California State University, Fresno and Dominguez Hills will also hold ceremonies. The California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo ceremony is scheduled for June 7.

The college's Honorary Degree Task Force, chaired by professor emeritus Don Nakanishi, lead the hunt to find former UCLA students. They sent press releases and flyers to churches and community groups to find the Nisei.

For some former UCLA students the ceremony was a chance — just like attending college — to appease their parents.

"My father was the one who choose UCLA, and he really wanted me to get a degree. He's passed away, but I'm doing this to make my father happy," said 89-year-old Misao Natsumeda Okada. "I'm sure he's watching from up there some place."

As the UCLA Faculty Center filled with honorees May 15, Okada explained how she left UCLA as a junior and went to business college in Salt Lake City. Across the room, Naka was putting on his cap and gown surrounded by a frenzied crowd.

"I have received all kinds of honors over the years, lots of ceremonies. So, my neighbors have said to me, 'What another one?'" Naka said, who went on to receive his PhD from Harvard University. "I've got all kinds of plaques. My wife said that we should have an 'I love Bob Naka room [laughs]."

Honorees ended the day in Schoenberg Hall for the UCLA commencement ceremony that they never received as college students.

Although his father was forced to leave UCLA, Ron Takasugi said he never expressed bitterness.

"He would be very proud of this degree," Ron Takasugi explained. "Even though he completed his undergraduate and graduate studies back East, Dad was always a Bruin at heart. He followed their sports programs and always noted special accomplishments by the university and its faculty and staff whenever something occurred."

"It would have fulfilled a dream for him." ■

Web Info: www.calstate.edu/Nisei/index.shtml



Japanese American Tribute Band Makes Swing Young Again

The Minidoka Swing Band bridges generations in a tribute to the music that uplifted World War II internees.

By Christine McFadden
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

When husband and wife Todd and Elaine Yuzuriha, both residents of Vancouver, Wash. and members of the Portland-based Minidoka Swing Band, saw a need for a new trombone player, their band experience suddenly became a family affair.

Todd, who plays trumpet, and Elaine, who plays tenor saxophone, recruited their son Ken, then 17, to play band — a tribute to Japanese Americans who kept their spirits alive by playing jazz and swing music while incarcerated in internment camps during World War II.

Coming from a musical family, Ken Yuzuriha grew up learning how to read music, playing the piano, trumpet, and eventually the baritone after getting braces. However, he had never before played the trombone. That's when band member and professional trombone player Alan Pierce stepped in.

"Alan was somewhat of a mentor to Ken," Todd said of Pierce, an Oregon Symphony member, who taught Ken the ropes. He was able to learn and play trombone for the band and accompany them on the Minidoka internment camp pilgrimage in June 2008, where they performed for several audiences.

"It's probably the only opportunity that parents and kids can get together in a band, that's not just the family doing it," Elaine said.

The Minidoka Swing Band provided several other families the rare chance to play alongside their children as well.

With band members ranging in age from 15 to 83, Ken was among several youth members who benefited from the mentorship of the older players, the opportunity to play music from a different era, and the firsthand experience of learning about a crucial period of JA history. Todd and Elaine Yuzuriha had family interned in Minidoka, Heart Mountain, Gila River and Tule Lake during WWII.

However, Ken has since moved to California to attend Stanford University, leaving the band along with several other graduated youth members. Hoping to avoid complete depletion of its youth, the band is actively looking to recruit younger players.

"Our average age is getting to be pretty old," joked Todd.

Mentorship Within the Minidoka Swing Band

In a band with members spanning several generations and a total age disparity of 68 years between the youngest and oldest member, it is safe to say that it is not your typical music group.

Despite youth members being what band music director and conductor Larry Nobori calls "the cream of the crop," youth-

mentor relationships have formed, making the band "even better." Several professional musicians have contributed, such as Pierce, as well as veteran vocalists Henry "Shig" Sakamoto and Nola Sugai-Bogle, both former Minidoka internees.

"The young people learn a lot from them," said current band manager Laura Baxter. "They [the youth] sit right beside them, and if they have any questions for them, they ask." Baxter's son Kyle, her husband Karl, and her husband's brother, Terry, play lead trombone, trumpet, and coronet in the band, respectively.

Nobori, a retired teacher from Portland who was incarcerated in Jerome, Arkansas as a child, initially expressed doubts about having such young members participate.

"Here's the problem: when you get young musicians, you don't know the level of their talent... That's a hard thing to deal with," he said. "In our case, we were able to pull it off and it sounded pretty good with the youth."

Nobori was able to use his experience teaching jazz music in schools to help handle the mixed group.

"Because I'm a former music teacher, I know how to deal with kids and I know who to look for... This became second nature to me."

Toyomi Yoshida, 24, plays piano for the band. A Lewis and Clark College graduate with a degree in music composition, she is appreciative of the musical connections to older members.

"For me, it's been an extremely valuable experience," Yoshida said. "As a young musician, it's important for me to get exposed to as many great players and their playing as possible. The more you see great performances, the better a musician you can become."

Yoshida is one of three current youth members, alongside local college student Yuki Inoue (trombone) and high school freshman Anna Shida, 15 (clarinet).

Daniel Griffith, a current freshman at Seattle University, joined the band in January of his junior year in high school, playing 2nd alto saxophone until he had to leave for college. He notes how older members were encouraging mentors both on and off the stage.

"I asked Shig Sakamoto a number of times to help me with school-related things; he even came to my school to give a presentation about the internment to students," Griffith said.

Yoshida's younger brother, Sammy, a current sophomore at Oregon State University, played trumpet with the band while in high school. He was grateful for not only the mentor relationships, but also the special, distinctive bond they all shared.

"It was great to find that everyone had the common goal of reviving jazz from the 40s," he said.

'Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy' Born Again

In today's music scene dominated by pop, rap, and hip-hop, among other current trends, one might find it surprising to encounter a group of youth members so enthusiastic about jazz and swing music that was popular decades before they were

even alive.

"Swing is not that far off from being hip to them [the youth]," Nobori said. "Even though we're playing Glenn Miller, it's still something you can dance to and have a good time." By resurrecting music that was considered a hit generations ago, he believes they are keeping it in style — and the younger members agree.

"I love to play older music," Toyomi said. "I played some jazz in school, but was not really exposed to some of the older swing styles until I joined the band. I got to see how jazz as a genre developed over the years." Her favorite swing tune is "All of Me," sung by Sakamoto. Griffith prefers "Moonlight Serenade," although he gives an honorable mention to "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," which he still can't seem to stop whistling.

The youth members more importantly expressed an acquired deeper, more significant understanding to the music and its historical meaning to those who played it so many years before them.

"The music was very significant to the JAs interned during WWII, and I think as JAs, it is up to us to remember those memories and pass them on for generations through that music," Sammy said. Both he and Nobori equate the musical freedom jazz music enables to the freedom so desired by the internees behind barbed wire.

High school junior Schafer Durgan, who accompanied the band to Minidoka and performed alongside them with other youth from the Portland JACL youth group Unite People as a swing dancer, said carrying on "memories of the internment camps" is the driving force of the group, which pulls together to "spread awareness."

However, in order to continue the legacy of the music, the band must maintain its youth membership. The majority of the younger band members have left the area for college, including founding member Michael Loy, currently a freshman at Harvey Mudd College in California.

JACL community leader and Minidoka Swing band manager Robbie Tsuboi passed away May 8 of cancer. She was responsible for all of the youth members who have joined thus far. As the band's manager, she spearheaded recruitment efforts, coordinated band practices, scheduled performances, led the pilgrimage to Minidoka and relayed endless amounts of passion and energy toward the band.

"She's the person who kept the band together," Elaine Yuzuriha said. "Robbie really was the driving force."

Tsuboi, who was diagnosed with colon cancer last year, had transferred her position to Baxter, who recently finished the transition to band manager.

"If it weren't for her, there wouldn't be a band," Baxter said.

On the Web: <http://minidokaswingband.blogspot.com>



PHOTO: MAXWELL LEUNG

APA residents rallied in front of San Francisco's City Hall to protest a spate of violence.

Attacks on APAs Lead to Racial Tension

By Juliana Barbassa
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO—Mrs. Cheng feels like she's living under siege in her own home.

In January, an 83-year-old neighbor, also a Chinese immigrant, was beaten into a coma. Days after he died in March, Mrs. Cheng, 53, was attacked and pushed off a public transit platform, coming to minutes later with her front teeth knocked out and her mouth full of blood.

Such attacks and the death of a Chinese immigrant from San Francisco who was assaulted during a visit to Oakland have focused the anger of Asian Pacific Americans, pushing them to vent in emotional rallies their long-simmering perception that they are targets of racially motivated violence. In all cases, the perpetrators were African American teenagers, police said.

"This just sent them over the top. This is an activist city, but this isn't an activist population at all," said Chia-Chi Li, one of the organizers of a rally that drew hundreds of mostly older Chinese Americans to the steps of San Francisco City Hall bearing signs saying, "Asians are not punching bags," and "Stop attacking the elders and the vulnerable."

In this bastion of diversity and tolerance, the tension between two of its minorities has become painful.

Although both groups have suffered discrimination over the decades, the African American community has been declining in San Francisco faster than in any other major city, while the APA community has been growing, partly due to immigration.

Now almost one in three San Franciscans is of Asian descent, and many have moved into affordable, historically black neighborhoods.

Street violence in these neighborhoods is not new, say people in the black community. They've suffered it for years. It just never drew much attention, they say.

But seeing this violence serve as a wedge dividing two ethnic minorities that have much more to gain from working together is particularly hard, said Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, who represents the district where Mrs. Cheng lives.

Police Chief George Gascon has played down the role of race in the attacks, and point-

ed to statistics to show APAs are not disproportionately targeted in street crimes in San Francisco.

APAs make up 30 percent of the city's population, and account for 19 percent of the victims, Gason said. African Americans are 7 percent of the population, but make up 21 percent of victims.

These are crimes of opportunity, agreed Greg Suhr, police captain of the Bayview district where Mrs. Cheng lives. Victims tend to be vulnerable — the elderly, the young, women, "whoever's easiest."

Mrs. Cheng is about 4 feet 10 inches tall, he said. One of her assailants, a 15-year-old who was arrested and charged with felony assault, is 6 feet tall.

Thirty-two officers have been reassigned to foot patrol to reduce violence in Mrs. Cheng's neighborhood and other areas where assaults have occurred.

The department opened drop-in centers where Chinese Americans can find officers who speak their language and who will take reports of crimes and offer information.

Some of the violence suffered by APAs in San Francisco comes from the fact they are moving into neighborhoods that have crime, said Rev. Amos Brown, pastor of the Third Baptist Church of San Francisco and head of the city's NAACP chapter.

"Without diminishing the seriousness of what happened to the Asian seniors — this has been happening to African American seniors for a long time," Brown said. "If you move into a community where there is violence, you will be a victim."

The incidents have led community organizations to develop a plan to involve as many kids as possible in jobs, programs and community organizations.

Zhinui Wang — whose husband, Tian Sheng Yu, died in April — is quietly calling for an end to violence.

The San Francisco painter and contractor hit his head on the sidewalk after being punched in broad daylight in Oakland. Two 18-year-olds were arrested with help from numerous witnesses, who were outraged by the attack.

"Everyone is asking, 'What about justice?'" To the Yu family, it is simple," she said through a translator. "True justice is when there will be no more violence." ■

Retired Professor Gives \$50 million to UCLA



Paul Ichiro Terasaki developed the international standard method for tissue typing.

PHOTO: LESLIE BARTON/UCLA

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

A retired University of California, Los Angeles professor and organ transplant expert has pledged \$50 million for a university life sciences building and to fund an endowed chair in surgery.

The donation by 80-year-old Paul Ichiro Terasaki, who spent three years of his childhood at the Gila River internment camp during World War II, is one of the largest single gifts to UCLA.

In recognition of the gift, UCLA's new Life Sciences Building will be named the Terasaki Life Sciences Building.

A pioneer in organ transplant medicine, Terasaki in 1964 developed the test that became the international standard method for tissue typing, a procedure that assesses the compatibility of organ donors and recipients.

"I owe my whole career to UCLA," said Terasaki, a West Los Angeles JACL member. "UCLA gave me the opportunity to do the research that led to the development of tissue

typing. At many other universities, I would not have had that kind of freedom in the lab."

Most of the \$50 million pledge will be paid from his estate after his death and that of his wife, Hisako.

Terasaki's gift includes \$2 million to endow the Paul I. Terasaki Chair in Surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine. UCLA is California's largest university.

"Dr. Terasaki is an inspirational role model and a great scientist who has had a nearly lifelong relationship with UCLA, as a student, professor, donor and father of UCLA alumni," said Gene Block, UCLA chancellor.

The Terasaki Life Sciences Building, scheduled to open this October, includes 33 laboratories.

"I'm happy to have my name on this state-of-the-art Life Sciences Building at UCLA, where many new and amazing discoveries will take place," said Terasaki. "For me, it is exciting to know that the clinical research I began in the life sciences will continue in collaboration with the transplant groups at UCLA." ■

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MORI
(Continued from page 2)

individuals, and more recently health care reform have been legislative debates in which the JACL has been a strong voice for those who have been left out of the conversation.

A new arena of social justice in which we find ourselves already immersed is that of environmental justice or “environmental racism” as characterized by many. While the discussion of developing an environmentally healthy society rages on, we have begun to discover that environmental neglects have consequences that fall heavily on minority communities.

There are two recent cases to note, one a local issue and one a problem of global proportions. The first has to do with the Holy Vietnamese Martyrs Mission, a Catholic church near Atlanta, Georgia. The planning commission recommended that a solid waste transfer station should not be built next to the church, but the County Board of Commissioners voted 3 to 2 to allow this contrary usage. The church, made up of some 4,500 members, was told that if they did not like their new neighbors, they should move to a new location. The members are immigrants who happen to be non-white. If this were a mainstream Caucasian church, would the commissioners come to the same conclusion?

While we read in the newspapers about BP (British Petroleum) taking measures to mitigate the environmental and economic disaster in the form of a giant oil spill lurking near the Gulf Coast, the little known fact is that the APA fishermen, who are a large part of that

Gulf Coast economy, are being neglected again.

Here many of the fishermen have difficulty with reading and writing English, yet the BP relief effort has been focused totally in English. This has led to confusion in the Vietnamese community and fear that their experiences of being forgotten during Katrina will be repeated.

We were requested by Father Vien The Nguyen, with whom I worked with in the aftermath of Katrina, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to assist the New Orleans and Mississippi APA fishing communities get some attention during the crisis of the BP oil spill.

Nguyen is pastor with the Mary Queen of Vietnam Church in New Orleans. We arranged a conference call, which included the White House, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, among other federal agencies. The Gulf Coast APA fishing community was also involved. The discussion allowed the fishing community to express their concerns directly to those overseeing the relief and prevention programs. We are seeing results, but we have a long way to go to avoid repeating the neglect that the Vietnamese American community faced during Katrina.

As we move toward the future, environmental justice will be an issue in which the JACL will be engaged in as an advocate and educator. We will work to make sure a good environment is part of everyone’s lives, not just the rich and the privileged. ■

Fred Korematsu Day Bill Awaiting Vote

The bill recognizes the importance of preserving civil liberties and the Constitution.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

A California bill that would designate Jan. 30 as “Fred Korematsu Day” is headed for a vote before the full Assembly.

AB 1775, introduced by Assemblyman Warren T. Furutani, has passed the Assembly Committee on Education.

The bill recognizes the importance of preserving civil liberties and the Constitution, proponents say. Fred Korematsu fought the World War II evacuation orders issued against Japanese Americans after the attack on Pearl Harbor. His conviction was vacated in 1983.

Korematsu, who passed away in 2005 at 86, would have celebrated his 91st birthday on Jan. 30.

“AB 1775 serves as a vehicle to remind us of the importance of actively preserving civil liberties and the guarantees of the United States Constitution,” said Furutani. “The decision to overturn his conviction in 1983 is a milestone for modern civil rights because it sends a message that even during times of real or perceived crisis, we must protect our fundamental civil



Korematsu, who passed away in 2005 at 86, fought the WWII JA evacuation order.

liberties.” The JACL and other civil rights groups, including the Asian Pacific American Legal Center and the American Civil Liberties Union, have announced support of the legislation.

During the hearing, Karen Korematsu, daughter of Fred Korematsu testified in support of the legislation.

“Honoring my father on Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution on his birthday keeps his legacy alive,” said Karen Korematsu. ■

HARBOTTLE
(Continued from page 2)

who I believe have rallied around our newspaper. This year, more than ever, we have seen the many challenges the P.C. has faced and we have become more proactive to save one of the few remaining quality national Asian Pacific American newspapers around. We are generously supporting their efforts by donating to the Spring Campaign.

I was recently informed by the P.C. staff that there have been a number of large donations made to the Spring Campaign so far, but there have also been many checks for \$10, \$15 and \$20. Seeing the difficulties facing our newspaper, more community members have opened not only their hearts, but also their checkbooks.

I often stop and think about how for 81 years the staff has ensured that quality APA news is sent right to my mailbox. I would like to applaud and commend the current staff for their professionalism and dedication. This staff works together to cover vital APA news and to produce a high caliber newspaper every two weeks with a very stringent budget and a skeletal

crew. Kudos to Caroline, Lynda, Eva and Nalea.

The P.C. has always covered both national and local news professionally. News that is important and informative about our community. News that will one day be a part of our history.

Recently, it was suggested that the P.C. should eliminate its print edition and go completely digital. But our readers voiced their support of the print edition. Now there is a real push to move the P.C. office and staff to San Francisco. The JACL has always been a “grassroots” organization that depends on the thoughts and opinions of our members to shape the decisions made by the leadership. What you say has great impact on their actions. Please make sure to voice your opinions on our APA issues, including the P.C.

Let’s show our support to one of the oldest APA newspapers by supporting the Spring Campaign. ■

Cindi Kishiyama-Harbottle is the PSW representative on the P.C. editorial board.



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The JACL and other APA groups are denouncing the Texas curriculum standards.

Calif. Senate Passes Bill to Block Texas Textbook Changes

Critics say the Board of Education-approved curriculum is historically inaccurate and dismissive of the contributions of minorities.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

California has taken a stand against proposed changes to social studies textbooks ordered by the Texas school board, as a way to prevent them from being incorporated in California texts.

Legislation by Sen. Leland Yee, D-San Francisco, which seeks to protect the nation's largest public school population from the revised social studies curriculum approved in March by the Texas Board of Education, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee May 17 with a 6-3 vote.

Under the new law, the California Board of Education would be required to look out for any of the Texas content as part of its standard practice of reviewing public school textbooks. The board must report any findings to both the Legislature and the secretary of education.

Critics say if the changes are incorporated into textbooks, they will be historically inaccurate and dismissive of the contributions of minorities.

"These curriculum changes are completely unacceptable," said Yee. "Our children deserve better."

The bill describes the Texas curriculum as "a sharp departure from widely accepted historical teachings" and "a threat to the apolitical nature of public school governance and academic content standards in California."

The Texas recommendations, which face a final vote by the Republican-dominated board on May 21, adds "the regulation of some foreign nationals" in explaining the Japanese American internment during World War II.

To demonstrate that the internment was not racially motivated, board member David Bradley wanted to emphasize that German and Italian Americans were also incarcerated.

About 120,000 JAs were forced into internment camps during WWII, many lost their homes and businesses.

"At stake is the revision of history into something that is factually incorrect and politically colored," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "Racism and bigotry were one of the main factors that motivated the evacuation [of JAs]."

In addition to the JACL, many other Asian Pacific American groups have denounced the curriculum.

'At stake is the revision of history into something that is factually incorrect and politically colored.'

Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

"Americans need to know this information — fully documented in the Library of Congress and the National Archives and Records Administration — so this experience will not be inflicted again on any racial group," said Robert Nakamoto, president of the Japanese American Veterans Association.

States that place the largest textbook orders have traditionally held significant sway over the

materials used in American classrooms. Texas is the country's second-largest textbook buyer, behind California, which has more than 6.2 million public school students in grades K-12.

"While some Texas politicians may want to set their educational standards back 50 years, California should not be subject to their backward curriculum changes," Yee said. "The alterations and fallacies made by these extremist conservatives are offensive to our communities and inaccurate of our nation's diverse history." ■

JA Veterans Groups to Host First Joint Memorial Day Service

To honor all Japanese American soldiers who gave their lives in our nation's wars, the Japanese American Veterans Memorial Committee and the Japanese American Korean War Veterans will, for the first time, hold a joint Memorial Day service May 29 in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

The event will be held adjacent to the Japanese American National War Memorial Court at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center.

The master of ceremonies is Ken

Hayashi and the keynote speaker is Ron Yamada, the founder of the Overseas Floral Tribute Program, a group that places flowers on Memorial Day at the European graves sites of JA soldiers who perished in World War II.

Representatives from the many veterans and community organizations throughout the Southern California area will be participating in the event, including the Koyasan Buddhist Temple Boy

Scout Troop 379 and the El Rancho High School Marine Corp Junior ROTC. ■

MEMORIAL DAY

May 29
National JA National War Memorial Court
JACCC
244 S. San Pedro Street
Suite 505
Los Angeles, CA 90012
For more information:
Min Tona, 818/591-1269
or
tonaim@pacbell.net



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Dec. 8-11	Yamato Best of Branson Tour 4 days/ 3 nights including 4 shows, Branson sightseeing and visit to Silver Dollar City.	Peggy Mikuni

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Senate Committee to Hold Hearing on Wakamatsu Preservation Act



PHOTO: CALIFORNIA RICE COMMISSION

By Pacific Citizen Staff

JACL leaders are urging members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to pass a bill that would help preserve the site of the first Japanese settlement in the United States.

Committee members will hold a May 19 hearing on S. 1596 or "The Gold-Hill Wakamatsu Preservation Act", introduced by Sen. Barbara Boxer last August.

In a May 12 statement, the JACL called on its members to support the bill.

The bill's passage is urgent because the Veerkamp family, who bought the property in 1875 and has helped maintain it over the years, wants to sell the land.

"This legislation is important to America because it serves to memorialize the beginning of the Japanese American experience and, by extension, the experience of all the immigrants who sought a better life in the land of opportunity," said Larry Oda, JACL national president.

Several JACL chapters — including Sacramento, Placer and Florin — have been working with preservation groups like the American River Conservancy (ARC) to protect and restore the site.

This site, which was the location of the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony from 1869 to 1871, is recognized by the state of California and the JACL as the first Japanese settlement in the United States.

In 1869, seven Japanese citizens and a European expatriate fled turmoil in Japan and sailed to San Francisco to purchase land in Gold Hill. Within two years, the colony grew to 22 Japanese settlers and began producing crops such as tea, silk, rice and bamboo. Drought and financial problems forced the group to resettle throughout California.

The 272-acre ranch encompassing the original colony site has been passed down for generations through the Veerkamp family.

The gravesite of Okei Ito or Okei-san, a 19-year-old girl believed to be the first Japanese to be buried on American soil in 1871, is also located in the Gold Hill Ranch. ■



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAN DIEGO STATE

Carl Yoshimine and June Kushino received their honorary degrees May 17 at San Diego State University.

Cal State Campuses Hold Special Nisei Ceremonies

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

More than 70 Japanese Americans whose college careers at California State University campuses were derailed when they were sent to World War II internment camps are getting their diplomas.

Six CSU campuses are awarding honorary degrees over the next three weeks to former students who were unable to complete their studies once they were forced into the camps established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1942.

Some of the aging alumni plan to attend the special ceremonies and those who are deceased or unable to travel will be represented by their families.

San Diego State University held the its commencement May 17, followed by California State University, Fresno May 20, among other ceremonies.

Cal State officials say they have tracked down more than half of the 250 to 300 internees whose studies at CSU campuses were cut short.

The CSU chancellor's office also received a \$23,000 grant from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program of the State Library to capture the Nisei stories

on videotape and in print to create a "living memorial" to the former students.

The stories will be available on campus websites and DVD. ■

Upcoming Ceremonies

California State University, Dominguez Hills
May 21, 7 p.m.
Home Depot Tennis Stadium
18400 Avalon Blvd. in Carson
CSU Dominguez Hills has been selected as the host campus for any former students living in the greater Los Angeles area who cannot travel to their home campuses.

Assemblymember Warren Furutani will be the keynote speaker. A reception to honor WWII-era CSU Nisei students is also planned for May 19, at 6 p.m. in the Library South Wing on campus.

Info: Colleen Bentley, 562/951-4801

San Francisco State University
May 21 & 22
The May 21 evening ceremony will be for three former students during the Alumni Hall of Fame event. Families of former students will take part in the university's commence-

ment ceremony on May 22.

Info: www.sfsu.edu/commencement/nisei.htm

San José State University
May 29
Spartan Stadium
1257 South 10th Street
Breakfast reception and degree conferral as part of the university's commencement ceremony. IBM Senior Vice President Jon Iwata is the commencement speaker. Local JA community organizations will host a luncheon following the ceremony in San Jose's Japantown. SJSU was home to more than 100 JA students in 1941-42, the largest number at any CSU campus.

Info: www.sjsu.edu/commencement

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
June 7, 11 a.m.
University House
Approximately 15 former students or their family members will receive degrees at a special commencement ceremony. A private luncheon for graduates and their guests will follow.

Info: www.calpolynews.calpoly.edu/nisei.html

National business and Professional Directory

Your business card in each issue for 22 issues is \$15 per line, three-line minimum. Larger type (12 pt.) counts as two lines. Logo same as line rate as required. P.C. has made no determination that the businesses listed in this directory are licensed by proper government authority.

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GO SEE DO

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS*



PHOTO: LIZZIE FOX

Colma Cemetery Clean Up

Colma, Calif.
May 22, 10 a.m. to 12 noon
Colma Japanese Cemetery
1300 Hillside Blvd.

Join the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California in a youth and family clean up day at the Colma Japanese Cemetery. The cemetery is the final resting place for over 5,000 people. JCCNC will provide clean-up supplies.

For information: www.jcccnc.org or 415/567-5505

East

JACL's Salute to Champions WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sept. 16
The National JACL Gala Awards dinner is an annual fundraising event that seeks to honor individuals and organizations that have championed the causes of the JACL.
Info: www.jacl.org

APAICS Golf Classic

ARLINGTON, VA.
June 28, 9 a.m.
Army Navy Country Club
1700 Army Navy Drive
The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies invites you to the 2nd Annual Golf Classic.
Info: Rosemary Hoffmann at 703/683-7500 or RHoffmann@epiphanyproductions.com

Leadership Training

ARLINGTON, VA.
June 10
Doubletree Hotel
300 Army Navy Drive
The Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN) is hosting this conference for senior executives to share their experiences

and insights.

Register: \$295/early bird; \$325/after May 27; \$175/ banquet fee.
Info: www.aagen.org

Midwest

National JACL Convention

CHICAGO, IL
June 30-July 4
Swissotel
323 E. Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60601-9722
Join other JACL members from across the nation in this biennial convention hosted by the Chicago JACL. Activities include workshops, special speakers and banquets.
Register: \$250/before June 10; \$200/youth ages 25 and under before June 10.
Info: www.jacl.org/news/2010ChicagoJMTEMP033009/home.html

Mame Daiko Performance

CLEVELAND, OH
May 22
Asia Plaza
2999 Payne Avenue
Cleveland Asian Festival
Come see a performance from Mame Daiko, sponsored by the Cleveland JACL.
Info: 216/556-2277

or Mame.daiko@gmail.com

Intermountain

2010 Minidoka Pilgrimage

TWIN FALLS, ID
JUNE 24-27
The Seattle JACL, Nisei Veterans Committee and Friends of Minidoka invite everyone to the pilgrimage. In addition to the pilgrimage, a symposium on civil liberties will be held at the College of Southern Idaho.
Register: \$300/before June 4; \$250/children ages 12 and under.
Info: MinidokaPilgrimage@gmail.com

SEE!

N Calif. W Nev. Pac

Nisei Veterans 442nd Photo Re-creation

HONOLULU, HI
June 5, 2-9 p.m.
Iolani Palace
364 South King St.
\$15/general public, \$13/military; free/children 12 and under
A re-creation of the 1943 photo depicting 442nd Regimental Combat Team soldiers in formation. The ceremony marks the 125th anniversary of the arrival of the Kanyaku Imin, or Japanese contract plantation workers.
Info: www.125kanyakuimin.eventbrite.com or kanyakuimin@gmail.com

Eden Township Chapter Bazaar

SAN LORENZO, CA
June 12-13
Eden Japanese Community Center
701 Elgin Street
The Eden Township JACL is hosting this fundraising bazaar. Enjoy teriyaki chicken and rib combo dinners, udon, curry and more. There will be games for children and bingo for adults.
Info: Ron Sakaue at 510/276-0752 or Ed Oda 510/538-6380

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL

Community Picnic
APTOS, CA
June 26, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Aptos Village Park
100 Aptos Creek Rd.
Everyone is welcome to attend this community picnic, including races, bingo, a raffle and a Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarships presentation.
Info: wsc.jacl@gmail.com or visit www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org

Stockton JACL Spaghetti Feed

STOCKTON, CA
Sept. 25
Stockton Buddhist Temple
2820 Shimizu Dr.
Stockton JACL needs workers to help with the Stockton spaghetti feed and raffle and silent auction. Organizers are also looking for prize donations by Sept. 18.
Info: Nelson Nagai at 209/476-8528

Berkeley Methodist United Church Food Bazaar

BERKELEY, CA
May 30, 12 noon to 4 p.m.
Berkeley Methodist United Church
1710 Carleton Street
Enjoy homemade Japanese cuisine, a silent auction, arts & crafts, entertainment and game booths.
Info: 510/848-4680
www.gbmg-umc.org/bmuc

Tule Lake Pilgrimage

Tulelake, CA
July 2-5
The Tule Lake Segregation Center
This pilgrimage will focus on the "No-Nos" and those who renounced their U.S. citizenship.
Info: 415/566-2279 or www.tulelake.org

Pacific Southwest

PSW 14th Annual Awards Dinner

LONG BEACH, CA
Oct. 9, 6 p.m.
The Grand
4101 E. Willow St.
Join the JACL PSW district to celebrate the 14th Annual Awards Dinner.
Info: 213/626-4471

DO!

George and Sakaye Aratani UCLA Community Advancement Research Endowment

LOS ANGELES, CA
May 22, 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon
JACCC
244 S. San Pedro St.
Learn how you and your organization can apply and qualify for new project and research funding that will benefit the Japanese American communities.
Info: David K. Yoo at 310/825-2974 or dkyoo@uda.edu

17th Annual Benefit Concert: Showtime 2010

LOS ANGELES, CA
Aug. 28
Aratani Japan America Theatre
244 South San Pedro St.
Come for a night of music, laughter, silent auction, dessert reception and drawing sponsored by the Asian American Drug Abuse Program.
Info: Paulina Hong at 323/293-6284 or phong@aadapinc.org

JAKWV Portugal-Spain Trip

LOS ANGELES, CA
Nov. 4
The Japanese American Korean War Veterans is planning a 12-day trip to Portugal and Spain. Those on the tour will depart from the Los Angeles International Airport.
Cost: \$3,599 per person (including airfare).
Info: Victor Muraoka at 818/368-4113 or v.muraoka@verizon.net

Go For Broke Monument Anniversary

LOS ANGELES, CA
June 5, 10 a.m.
Go For Broke Monument
Alameda and Temple in Little Tokyo
To celebrate its 11th anniversary, the Go For Broke National Education Center will honor Japanese American WWII veterans.
Info: www.goforbroke.org

JAKWV & JAVVMC Annual Memorial Day Service

LOS ANGELES, CA
May 29, 11 a.m.
JACCC Plaza
244 S. San Pedro St.
The Japanese American Vietnam Veterans Memorial Committee and Japanese American Korean War Veterans are hosting this memorial jointly for the first time to honor those that gave their lives to serve in war.
Info: Min Tonai at 818/591-1269 or tonaim@pacbell.net

Pacific Northwest

Nisei Veterans Committee Memorial Day Service

SEATTLE, WASH.
May 31, 10-11 a.m.
Lake View Cemetery
1554-15th Ave. East
Pay tribute to our veterans with the Nisei Veterans Committee by celebrating their heroism on Memorial Day.
Info: www.seattlencv.org

Minidoka Reunion Committee

SEATTLE, WASH.
Sept. 4, 12 noon to 4 p.m.
NVC Memorial Hall
1212 South King St.
The Nisei Veterans Committee will hold a "bento lunch social" where attendees can get the chance to have their dishes "table hop" and visit with friends. Attendees may also win a door prize.
Cost: \$20
Info: Tak Todo 206/362-8195

Portland's Japanese American Historical Plaza: 20 Years

PORTLAND, OR
July 30
Tom McCall Waterfront Park
1020 SW Naito Pkwy
The Oregon Nikkei Endowment celebrates its 20th year with an exhibit honoring the JA Historical Plaza.
Info: Nicole Nathan at 503/224-1458
Nicole@oregonnikkei.org

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TRIBUTE

Dorothy N. Tsuboi

Dec 30, 1926 - Feb 8, 2010



Tsuboi, Dorothy N., 83, Seattle, WA; February 8, survived by her husband of 59 years, Frank A. Tsuboi; sons, Frank Louis, Don (Marilyn), Tony; and daughters Carmen (Paul) Chan, Normalea; and granddaughters Mika, Mariko, and Michelle Tsuboi; sisters Toshi Iwahashi, Dixie Nakamoto, Reiko Ohno; brother Yosh Honda; preceded in death by mother Shinae and father Tadae "David" Honda.

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Harvey Itano was a Groundbreaking Pathology Professor



Harvey Akio Itano, a University of California, San Diego emeritus professor of pathology who was the first Japanese American to become a member of the National Academy of Sciences, died May 8 in La Jolla, Calif., of complications from Parkinson's disease. He was 89.

Widely honored for his pioneering work in establishing the molecular and genetic basis of blood diseases, graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1942 with highest honors in chemistry. He was unable to attend his own graduation ceremony because of the World War II JA internment, but then-UC President Robert Gordon Sproul personally awarded him the University Medal during his internment.

After the war, Itano earned his medical degree from the St. Louis School of Medicine, and his PhD in chemistry and physics in 1950 from the California Institute of Technology.

While working on his PhD thesis, Itano identified distinguishing

chemical characteristics in the hemoglobin in the red blood cells of patients with sickle cell anemia using electrophoresis, a technique that was new at that time. His finding, published in the journal Science in 1949 was the first demonstration of a "molecular disease."

In 1970 Itano was recruited to the faculty of the young UC San Diego School of Medicine where he continued his work in sickle cell disease and abnormal blood cells until his retirement in 1988.

Itano was named JACL's JA of the Biennium in the field of medical science.

A memorial service will be held June 20 at the Ida and Cecil Green Faculty Club at UC San Diego. ■

John L. Fugh was the Army's First Chinese American General Officer



Maj. Gen. John L. Fugh, the first Chinese American general officer in the U.S. Army who spent his 33-year military career in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, died May 11 in Bethesda, MD, after a heart attack. He was 75.

Fugh (pronounced "foo"), a Beijing native, was judge advocate general of the Army from

July 1991 until his retirement in June 1993. His service included a tour of duty in Vietnam as a judge advocate at the height of the war.

His military decorations included the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal and two awards of the Legion of Merit. ■

Robert T. Mizukami was a WWII Veteran, Community Leader

Robert T. Mizukami, a World War II veteran, JACL leader and seven-year mayor of Fife, Wash. died April 24 at the St. Joseph Medical Center in Tacoma from complications of a heart attack. He was 87.

During World War II, Mizukami served with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in France where he

was wounded in the face. In the U.S., Mizukami's family was incarcerated at the Minidoka internment camp in southern Idaho.

After the war, Mizukami and his family returned to Fife and bought back the flower business they had to sell when they were interned. Mizukami and his brother owned

and ran the Gardenville Greenhouse.

Mizukami also helped lead the campaign to make Fife a city. He served as the city's mayor from 1980-87.

A public memorial service is scheduled for May 22 at the Puyallup United Methodist Church. ■

Jadin Wong Opened Doors For Other APAs



Jadin Wong, a pioneering television actress who later in her career started a talent agency specializing in finding jobs for Asian Pacific American performers, died March 30 at the age 96.

The Marysville, Calif. native ran away from home to Hollywood at a young age where she was discovered by a 20th Century Fox producer, according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

Her first film was "Mr. Moto Takes a Vacation," in 1939.

She went on to appear in dozens of movies, including "The Pink Panther" in 2006.

She was also a star on the nightclub circuit, performing at San Francisco's legendary Forbidden City on Sutter Street, among others.

On May 24, the Museum of Chinese in America in New York will be hosting "A Celebration of Jadin Wong's Life" at 5 p.m. ■

Honor Your Loved Ones

'Tributes,' which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$20 per column inch. Text is reworded as necessary.

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