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**BLAGO FOREMAN**

James Matsumoto says not enough justice was served.



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**WHITEWASHING?**

Who will play Minoru in the 'Runaways' film?



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**WONDER DRUG?**

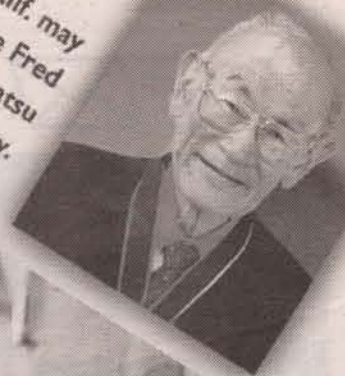
Prescription drug abuse is on the rise among APAs.

SEPT. 3-16, 2010

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

The national newspaper of the JAACL

Calif. may  
celebrate Fred  
Korematsu  
Day.  
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**EXCLUSIVE!**

## BROKEN LIVES IN THE GULF COAST

Inside the world of Asian American fishermen post hurricanes, oil spill and mainstream media attention.

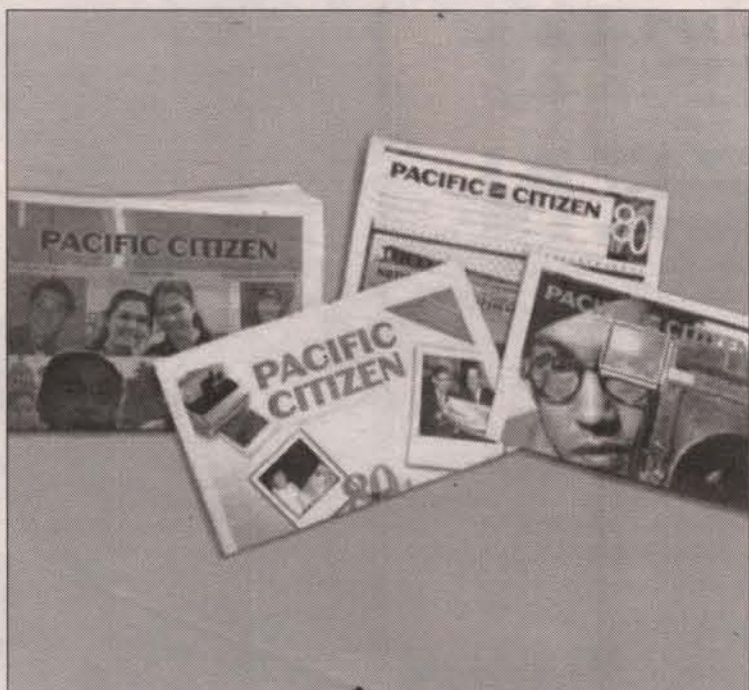
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PHOTO: NALEA J. KO





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



## Continue Printing the P.C.

Progress is wonderful. The newspaper is going digital. I do not like it, but who am I to complain? In another 10 years I'll be 100 years old. Thirty years ago after an exam, my medical doctor told me, "You have nothing the matter with you. You'll live to your 100th birthday."

I had a minor stroke in 2004 and am now living in a senior center.

I never learned modern gadgets meaning digital — I do not understand.

Please for people like me continue the print version of the *Pacific Citizen*!

**Mabel "Shoji" Boggs  
Corvallis, OR**

\*\*\*

## Honor Our Vets, Not Illegals

You are quick to publish pro-illegal material and are constantly comparing illegals with the plight of the Issei. Did you just fall off the turnip truck? Those who would place law abiding Americans in the same category with illegals, who have no respect for our laws, need an attitude adjustment.

Instead of trying to tell us how great illegals are, why are you not reporting on, for instance, the monthly luncheons of the

remaining members of the 232nd Eng. Batt.? I proudly accompany my father-in-law to these luncheons. Why are you not reporting more on these heroes? The remaining members of the 100th, MIS and 442nd RCT in the Los Angeles area also deserve more recognition.

**George Apker  
Vietnam Veteran  
Member Air Force  
Security Forces Assn.**

## WRITE TO US

Send signed letters with your name and contact information to:

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or

Letters

*Pacific Citizen*

250 E. 1st St.

Suite # 301

Los Angeles, CA. 90012

## PACIFIC CITIZEN

### HOW TO REACH US

E-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org

Online: www.pacificcitizen.org

Tel: (213) 620-1767

Fax: (213) 620-1768

Mail: 250 E. First Street, Suite 301  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### STAFF

Executive Editor

Caroline Y. Aoyagi-Stom

Assistant Editor

Lynda Lin

Reporter

Nalea J. Ko

Business Manager

Vacant

Circulation

Eva Lau-Ting

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JACL President: David Kawamoto  
National Director: Floyd Mori

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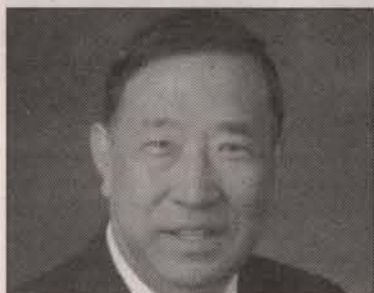
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## NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

# Membership is the Life Blood of JACL



By David H. Kawamoto

Membership has always been the lifeblood of the JACL. We are so fortunate to have wonderful members who generously support the organization.

As most of you know, for the last eight years my wife Carol and I have voluntarily managed the National JACL Scholarship Program. We have continuously sought out ways to improve the program. Recently, one of the challenges with the program was the limited earnings from the scholarship endowment. After considering alternative investments, the JACL's Investment Policy Committee recommended that any growth within the endowment should come from fund raising.

Carol and I agreed with this plan and two years ago we personally

took on the job of a fund raising campaign for the scholarship program. Annually, we have sent out solicitations to the past recipients of national JACL scholarships. The return from this mailing was gratifying. The 2008 solicitation brought in over \$10,000, and the 2009 solicitation brought in almost \$8,000. Since Carol and I financed the solicitation, all of the donations were added to the corpus of the scholarship endowment.

We also asked the past recipients whose membership had lapsed to please consider renewing their membership. Since membership renewals can go directly through the chapter or through JACL headquarters, we were unable to keep any records of memberships obtained by the solicitation. However, we are extremely pleased to report that at least one of the past scholarship recipients renewed his membership at the Millennium Club level (\$1,000).

We know that the *Pacific Citizen* reaches all JACL members and many past members. So, we share this information in the

hopes that more JACL members will donate to the scholarship program. Also, it would truly help national JACL's financial challenges if more members would upgrade their membership level. Please upgrade to whatever you

there is Thousand Club membership which is basically \$100 per year and the Century Club level which is \$175. These are not large increases over a regular membership when you consider it is for a full year.

*'The 2008 solicitation brought in over \$10,000, and the 2009 solicitation brought in almost \$8,000. Since Carol and I financed the solicitation, all of the donations were added to the corpus of the scholarship endowment.'*

can comfortably afford. Our Thousand Club Chair Frank Sakamoto of Denver points out that in addition to the Millennium Club,

the above telephone number.

Thank you so much for all that you do, and thank you for your consideration in this matter. ■

## JACL MEMBERS Change of Address

If you've moved, please send new information to:  
National JACL  
1765 Sutter St.  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
Allow 6 weeks for address changes.

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



# Asian Pacific American Gulf Coast Fishermen's Frustrations Teem Over Four Months After the Spill

Scientists say the deepwater plume at the BP well site has vanished, but Gulf Coast fishermen are still feeling the financial and emotional impacts from the oil spill.

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

BILOXI, Mississippi—The sun rose over the horizon a few hours before 62-year-old Sung Nguyen stood dockside with tears steadily flowing down his cheeks.

The new day brought the same stress of being out of work with few prospects. The Vietnamese American fisherman watched his nearby docked boat, wrapped partially in "Dream Girls" movie posters, as it rocked gently in a Biloxi, Mississippi harbor.

Wiping his tears with a sodden tissue, Nguyen pointed to the boat, explaining through a translator how he lost his house following the Gulf Coast oil spill and now calls the "Dream Girls" decorated vessel his home.

His worries have heightened he says because his compensation from BP has decreased each month from \$5,000 to \$1,800. "And now for August he hasn't gotten anything," said translator Lan Nguyen, a program associate with OCA.

Without work opportunities Sung Nguyen and other nearby fishermen sit idly at the docks hoping for their luck to change.

"There's no shrimp to be caught and no one is coming to buy the shrimp," said Sung Nguyen through a translator about consumers' fears of potentially contaminated Gulf seafood.

Frustrated fishermen say work opportunities have dried up, just like the well that was capped in mid-July.

Information gathered in late August from scientists aboard NOAA's (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) research ship, the Pisces, one of some 10 vessels researching at the site, shows that the oil plume at the failed BP well site has vanished.

But other researchers dispute those findings.

Scientists with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution found that the "deep-sea microbes were degrading the plume relatively slowly." Those findings are based on about 57,000 chemical tests conducted from June 18 to 28.

Oil has disappeared from the water's surface near the failed well, but some out-of-work fishermen say their troubles are overflowing.

A few blocks down the street from Sung Nguyen in a harbor outside of the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, fishermen angrily voiced their concerns about not being called to work for BP's Vessels of Opportunities program.

Rumors among the fishermen are swirling that those who speak out against BP in the media or seek help from community organizations are blacklisted from work opportunities or aid.

With rumors circulating, some fishermen are hesitant to express their feelings of the

company that is responsible for the Deep Water Horizon explosion on April 20 and Gulf Coast oil spill.

Out of work, Ta Hai Hong questions the process of placing workers with BP's Vessels of Opportunity program, but adds that the company is his only lifeline.

"People who bring back oil to say that there is still oil out there they get fired," Hong said through a translator about fishermen who have worked on the clean-up efforts for BP. "And the people who are cleaning but say there isn't oil, then they continue to work."

"The community and everyone just wants to work," added Ricky Nguyen, a Mississippi fisherman. "But no one is able to do work." He has been fishing the Gulf waters for about 28 years and there has never been a year like this, he said.

As a community, fishermen in the area send out one or two boats daily to see if there's anything to catch. They say there is nothing to be caught. Some blame dispersants that they say have sunk the oil down to the bottom of the Gulf.

Others say it does not matter if they did return with a hefty seafood catch because customers will not buy it.

"[I] caught about 500 pounds worth of shrimp," said Tua Van Ta, a boat owner. "I called the seafood company and they don't buy. They say no customers [will] buy it."

Officials with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries reopened Aug. 21 commercial crabbing in waters east of the Mississippi River and north of Pass a Loutre.

The emergency reopening came after crab samples underwent sensory and chemistry testing by the Food and Drug Administration.

About 4,281 square miles of the Gulf waters reopened Aug. 27, according to NOAA's Jane Lubchenco. Seafood samples at NOAA undergo the "sniff" test by sensory technicians to determine if there is an odor or taste from the oil or dispersant. Samples then undergo chemical analysis.

The contaminant of most concern is the potentially cancer causing polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, or PAHs. PAHs are usually released in to the environment by car exhaust, forest fires or volcanoes. They are also present in tobacco smoke.

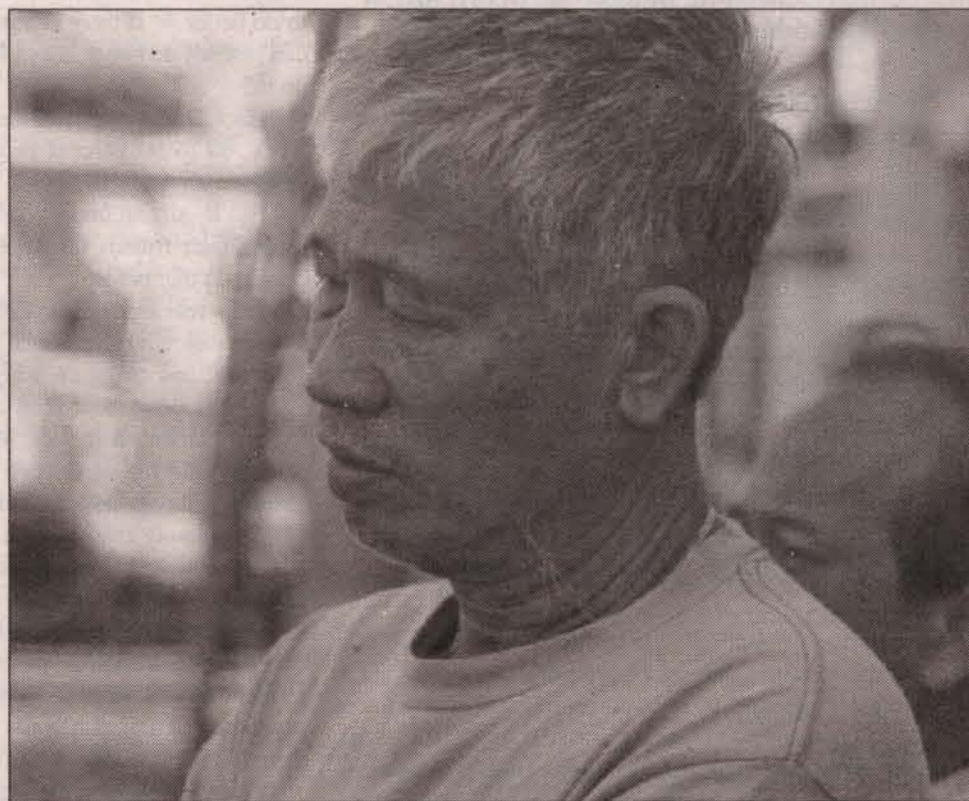
NOAA scientists say fish like the grouper, snapper, croaker and tuna are less likely to have an accumulation of PAHs because of their efficient metabolism.

Reopening protocol of Gulf waters requires seafood samples pass testing at NOAA.

President Barack Obama, who recently visited Florida, has also been promoting the safety of Gulf Coast seafood. Still, some fishermen and their families are not convinced.

"My son don't eat no more seafood," Tua Van Ta said about his 11-year-old son Levi. "He doesn't want it because he's scared of poison."

"He said, 'Mom I'm not eating them crabs.' And he is a crab eater," said Eva Ta about her son as he giggled at her side. "He can sit and eat about 30 or more by himself. Now he won't even touch them."



PHOTOS: NALEA J. KO



Sung Nguyen (above) burst into tears while discussing how his life has changed in the last few months following the Gulf Coast oil spill.

Other fishermen in Mississippi (left) say there is nothing to be caught, even though officials have reopened areas of the Gulf.

The three Ta children are not the only ones skeptical of eating Gulf seafood. Tua Van Ta says when he does catch shrimp, the only people who buy it are friends and community members.

"Doing shrimping is really dangerous," Tua Van Ta said at a town hall meeting. "But it's good money for fishermen. We don't want to work flipping hamburgers or work in a factory."

Community organizations like JACL, OCA, Boat People SOS and others were a part of a town hall meeting Aug. 17 in Biloxi, Miss. The meeting, one of a series of town hall discussions, was held to address the questions and concerns of fisher families that have been impacted by the oil spill.

Ideas to possibly create new jobs for displaced fishermen were also discussed.

"We hear this a lot, 'We need jobs,'" said Floyd Mori, JACL national director, at an Aug. 17 community organization meeting in Mississippi. "We have got to look at what the structure of the economy here is. What is the future? When you take a fishermen, who that's all he knows. How can you retrain a 50-year-old guy that has limited English to do something new?"

Switching occupations is a scary prospect for some families who have relied on fishing.

"They won't hire you without a high school education," Eva Ta explained about

seeking other jobs. "See I didn't graduate. Back then it wasn't a big issue. Now it is. Everything that I've known has been taken away."

The Mississippi town hall meeting was held days before the five-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. Areas residents say they were still recovering from Katrina when the oil spill occurred.

"It's not just jobs lost," said Thao Vu, coordinator for the Mississippi Coalition for Vietnamese American Fisherfolk and Families, about how Katrina affected the job market. "Particularly for many ethnic minorities these resources like housing programs, we were the last to get it. ... We've always been underserved, overlooked and marginalized."

Gulf coast residents say at least after the hurricane they could still fish.

"His friends who do the shrimping, they [used to] go out come back and catch 500 pounds a day and it will be gone in two hours," Lan Nguyen said, translating for Sung Nguyen. "Now they have 200 pounds and they won't be able to sell even that."

"He had a house before. Now he lives on his boat," she said. "All he wants is to work on his boat." ■

First in a three-part series on the Asian American community in the Gulf Coast.



# Model Minority Myth and the 'Miracle Drug'

**Asian American college students are increasingly misusing dangerous prescription drugs like Adderall to help get good grades.**

**By Christine McFadden  
Correspondent**

College student David, a marketing major at Oregon State University (OSU), crams for his exams during finals week. With a busy schedule and difficult classes, he stresses about the limited time he has to study. Like many students, he has a tough time focusing.

"Try this," a friend says, handing him a Tylenol-sized red pill. "This might help."

A second generation Chinese American and native Oregonian, David accepts his friend's offer and experiments with the drug Adderall for the first time. He likes the results.

"It helps me focus a lot more when it comes to crunch time," David says. "I can sit there for four to five hours straight studying without having to hit a wall or anything. It's great."

Chemically composed of the psychostimulants dextroamphetamine and amphetamine, Adderall is a prescription drug used to treat the symptoms of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). When used correctly, it can help to control focus and maintain movement amongst people who suffer from ADHD. When used illegally, it is a handy study tool to many.

David is one of many college students who use and abuse prescription drugs. According to the U.S. Department of Education's Higher Education Center, that number is on the rise on most campuses. More specifically, it is believed to be on the rise among Asian Pacific American students — but data measuring APAs as a subgroup, for various reasons, is widely unavailable.

## Prevalence of Prescription Drug Use

Despite being one of the fastest growing minority populations in the United States, current data on prescription drug abuse is slim to none.

According to "Asian-Americans, Addictions, and Barriers to Treatment" by Dr. Timothy Fong and Dr. John Tsuang from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine: "Due to model minority stereotypes and a lack of empirical data, AAPIs (Asian American and Pacific Islanders) have been thought to have lower than expected rates of substance use disorders and behavioral addictions."

"We don't have really good studies," Dr. Tsuang said, noting that much of the information currently known is from survey studies, which can be very unreliable.

Similarly, Bradford Stone, acting director of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Office of Communications under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, said that there is not much data available for APAs.

However, Dr. Tsuang believes that the abuse of prescription drugs among both APA students and college students in general is on the rise. He described two different subgroups of users among APA students: one group that misuses prescription drugs to enhance their academic performance and a second group looking for experimentation.

David first began taking Adderall to make the grades he wanted. Feeling pressure from his first generation Chinese parents to succeed and added stress to graduate this year as a super senior, David started using what many have dubbed the "Miracle Drug" for college students.

"I need to succeed," David says. "I can't let my parents down." However, he believes that all college students face a similar attitude from their families to some extent. "I assume it's the same [for everybody else]. We're here for a reason."

Additionally, he does not notice a particular prevalence amongst APA students specifically.

"I don't think it [race] really matters to be honest with

you. It's just anybody. It's that feeling that everyone wants to succeed. Everyone wants to do better — if there is a method that you can [use to] do better, they [students] would do it."

In fact, David estimated that, during finals week, 80 to 90 percent of the students at OSU are on Adderall.

"You'll sit around, you'll see people asking their friends for Adderall. I've seen people do that before."

The increasing pressure to do well in every class, balance a full plate of extracurricular activities, and maintain a high grade point average is often described as succumbing to the "Model Minority Myth" of APA students being overall high achievers. Dr. Tsuang believes that the Model Minority Myth is simply that: a myth. Nevertheless, he acknowledges that APA students do face pressure in school that can cause many to look for alternate routes to success.

"I think the academic pressure to succeed sometimes will pressure some of the use of psychostimulants that's not prescribed to them [APA students]," he said.

A research report at the University of Michigan Substance Abuse Research Center by acting director and assistant research scientist Sean Esteban McCabe entitled, "Non-medical use of prescription stimulants among U.S. college students: prevalence and correlates from a national survey," concluded that, in a 2001 survey, the most frequent users were Caucasian, male, members of fraternities and sororities, earned lower GPAs, and were at colleges with competitive admissions located in the Northeastern United States.

While statistics for APAs may be lower than Caucasians — SAMHSA's 2000 survey revealed approximately 5 percent of AAPIs had used some category of illicit drug within the past year — Fong and Tsuang's publication further notes that the percentages differ based on APA subgroups:

For example, Japanese Americans "... were found to have substance use and abuse rates similar to those of Caucasians, while Vietnamese Americans reported the lowest level ..." Additionally, "AAPIs of mixed-heritage reported much higher rates of substance use and abuse as compared to unmixed racial groups."

Furthermore, usage differs within APA generations. Fong and Tsuang reported that nearly 70 percent of AAPIs who met the criteria for substance use disorder were foreign-born.

## 'Miracle Drug'

Beginning with taking half of his friend's red 20-milligram pill, David experimented with various doses until he found an amount he was comfortable with. Consequently, his current, go-to dosage is the same as his initial trial: 10 milligrams. While on Adderall, David says he experiences both physical and psychological effects.

"It can be a mental thing," he says.

Despite the differing dosage of Adderall that students take, David references a placebo effect that comes with simply taking the drug at all. "[You think] since I'm on Adderall, I should be able to focus right now."

Physically, David does just that.

"I just zone in on one thing; everything else really doesn't matter. When I take it sometimes I put on my headphones and I sit there and go to town on whatever I'm doing. I usually just sit there and complete it without distraction. I usually don't need a break; I'm good to go the entire time."

Conversely, taking Adderall can lead to the opposite of the intended results. According to David, the drug enables one to focus intensely on whatever their current activity is — whether or not it is homework is up to the user. He recalled how, on multiple occasions, the drug took effect in the middle of leisure activities, causing accidental hours of



wasted time to fly by unnoticed.

"I sat there for like two-and-a-half to three hours playing video games," David remembered. "I got stuck on Facebook for like four hours in the library. It happens. I snap out of it after a little while."

On Adderall-time, however, David says that a little while often means a few hours.

"I'm aware of what I'm doing, it's just time flies. You're not aware of time."

He noted that there are certain methods to try and guarantee that the drug is used for its intended purpose.

"I usually go to the library before I take one [pill] or [stay] in my room with my textbooks open. I can do my six-hour studying in four hours or three hours. I think the reason why I do it is because the benefits outweigh whatever could possibly happen. I'm here to make the grades. You better be safe than sorry."

According to the U.S. National Library of Medicine under the National Institutes of Health, misusing Adderall is anything but safe. The combination of the compounds in Adderall may become habit-forming as well as cause serious problems such as stroke, heart attack and even sudden death.

Tsuang noted that a significant problem arises when students use more than what is recommended. When interviewed, David was not aware of any effects and insisted that he is not dependent.

"I'm not a druggie. I take it rarely," he said, estimating that, on average, he uses Adderall three times a quarter for approximately a three-day period. "Students who take it all the time usually take it every day."

"I personally have a really strong will against drugs; I don't get addicted easily," David continued. "I can stop whenever, but I believe some people need to keep taking it. They need the feeling to actually focus."

Coupled with the rising number of APA college students abusing prescription drugs, Tsuang says that current treatment methods need some improvement. He notes that treatments that may work for some ethnic groups are not always suited for APAs, such as group treatment. "It needs to be more culturally sensitive," he said.

While Tsuang is concerned about treatment methods, David is more focused on his upcoming studies.

Staying at OSU for the summer quarter to take classes, David predicts that he will most likely take Adderall again in the coming week for his finals. However, after thinking for a moment, he changes his mind.

"[It] depends on how hard the class [is]," he added. "I'll only take it if I need it. If you have your own personal will [to study], I don't recommend taking it." ■



# Blagojevich's Foreman Says Verdict was 'Not Enough Justice'



PHOTO: NUCCIO DINUZZO/AP

James Matsumoto, foreman of the jury in the Rod Blagojevich federal trial, speaks to reporters in the backyard of his home on the northwest side of Chicago, following the Aug. 17 verdict.

**James Matsumoto brought his military and family internment history to one of the nation's most anticipated trials.**

By Lynda Lin  
Assistant Editor

James Matsumoto has a question for Rod Blagojevich if their paths happen to cross again.

"I'd say, 'What were you thinking?'" said Matsumoto, the jury foreman in the former Illinois governor's corruption trial.

He pauses then says it may be a hopeless attempt.

"[Blagojevich has] convinced himself he's not guilty."

From the nation's most anticipated trial, Blagojevich emerged Aug. 17 guilty of one count of making false statements to the Federal Bureau of Investigations. The jury failed to reach a verdict on 23 other corruption charges.

Matsumoto, 66 a retired video librarian from Chicago, believes Blagojevich was guilty on all 24 counts.

"I'm disappointed with the verdict. It's not enough justice."

For over two weeks during deliberation in the jury room on the 25th floor of the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse, Matsumoto said he felt he had to allow other jurors to voice their opinions first. He wanted everyone to be heard.

Deliberation, he said, was stressful. As foreman, he raised his voice a few times to regain order and keep the six women and six men from unraveling, particularly as tensions grew over a lone holdout on key charges.

Matsumoto assumed this leadership role naturally.

Two people had already volunteered when a fellow juror asked Matsumoto if he would also consider being their spokesperson. Matsumoto accepted, and was confirmed by secret ballot.

"I thought I could bring order and a sense of fair play," he said. Perhaps, he added, it was his military background. In 1964, Matsumoto joined the Marines after years of reading books about the hardest and toughest branch of the military.

"He was definitely the person we needed," Erick Sarnello, a fellow juror told the *Associated Press*. "If he wasn't the foreman, who knows what would have happened in there."

"I have always known of his calm, even tempered trait that served him well in and out of service," said George Matsumoto, his older brother. "This would be an invaluable asset in keeping in-line the more excitable and vocal jurors."

Matsumoto, the youngest of seven children, was born to

Morikichi and Kura Matsumoto, Issei pioneers who became victims of wartime hysteria after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor.

In the wake of the attack, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 ordering over 100,000 Japanese Americans into desolate internment camps.

Stripped of his freedom and civil rights, Matsumoto said his father became angry. Morikichi urged his sons to answer "no-no" to the loyalty oath issued by the U.S. War Department and the War Relocation Authority (WRA). As a result, three of Matsumoto's older brothers were taken to Tule Lake, but avoided deportation to Japan when officials found out Kura was pregnant with their youngest. In 1944, Matsumoto



Matsumoto (center) with sisters Grace and Mae in 1946.

was born in a barbed wire desert prison called Manzanar.

After the war, his family resettled in Chicago. His parents locked their resentment away and rarely talked about their internment experiences. Too young to remember, Matsumoto said he was nevertheless affected through his brothers and sisters who did talk about their experiences of growing up in Manzanar.

Despite their bitterness, four out of five of the Matsumoto brothers joined the military to defend the country that once unjustly incarcerated them, including a brother who answered, "yes-yes" to the loyalty questionnaire and joined the famed all-Nisei 442nd Regimental Combat Team late into WWII.

He approaches his family's difficulty with the internment experience much like he tackles other complicated decisions — pragmatically.

Matsumoto, who attended a junior college before getting his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Chicago, prides himself on his ability to think logically. He sees more than just one facet of a problem, he added.

For months, Matsumoto listened to the prosecution present "layers and layers of evidence" including the now famous recordings of Blagojevich's profanity-laced conversations about plans to sell President Barack Obama's former Senate seat.

"Looking at the totality of it all, I couldn't leave with any other verdict except for guilty."

During the trial, Matsumoto would look over at the former governor, who he said was often joking with his defense attorney.

"I thought to myself, 'You've got to take this more seriously. You could go to jail for a long time.'"

For the single guilty count, Blagojevich faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, though how and when he is sentenced depends on a host of factors, including plans by prosecutors to retry him on 23 deadlocked counts and Blagojevich's own vow to appeal the conviction.

Lying to authorities carries the least severe penalty of the charges Blagojevich faced in that first trial, and some legal observers believe that — based on sentencing guidelines — he could get six months to three years on that charge alone.

His second trial is expected to start in January.

Since the verdict, Blagojevich has been working the national media circuit proclaiming his innocence.

And through their unexpected intersecting paths, Matsumoto has also been working the same media circuit proclaiming Blagojevich's guilt.

Just hours after the verdict, Matsumoto returned home to find reporters camped outside. For days his phone rang off the hook. It's part of a new reality for the former foreman, but he's taking it all in stride.

For 18 years he worked at WTTW, the public television station where he established an archiving and cataloging system, so he said he's used to the media.

But post trial, he looks forward to returning to a normal life with his wife Barbara. He can mow the lawn and install the windows he bought long before he became the subject of national headlines.

And in the tradition of jurors of high-profile cases, he's even thinking of penning a book about his experience.

He's been kicking around a title too, "Without Rancor", said Matsumoto quoting his own note to the judge about their deliberation process before the verdict.

"Librarians always think they have a book in them," he said with a laugh. ■

*The Associated Press contributed to this article.*



## Calif. Legislature Urges Swift Funding for Filipino Vets

In unanimous votes, both the Senate and Assembly want to lessen the amount of required documentation for the veterans.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Filipino veterans were elated when the Obama administration signed legislation in February 2009 to award compensation for their military service long ago during World War II.

But more than a year and a half later many of these same veterans are still waiting for their lump sum payments, \$15,000 for those living in the United States and \$9,000 for those living abroad. Many vets are being denied, or are still waiting, because they have lost or no longer have the necessary documents to prove their military service.

It's a situation the California Legislature hopes to remedy with Senate Joint Resolution 25, the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund.

In unanimous votes in August, the Senate and Assembly are urging the President, Congress and the Department of Veterans' Affairs to expedite funding, and lessen the amount of required documentation that allows the veterans to receive payments under the fund.

"We were fortunate when the Filipino veterans came to our aid when we asked; the federal government should return that kindness and support," said Sen. Leland Yee, D-San Francisco/San Mateo, who authored the bill. "Filipino veterans cannot and should not wait any longer. With the additional funds appropriated by President Obama, it is hoped that the process is expedited for these veterans, especially those whose original claims were denied. This money is essential for many of our Filipino elders to live out the remainder of their life with dignity."

Filipino veterans served alongside their American counterparts during WWII. For their service they were promised equal pay and benefits but under the Rescission



For their WWII service, Filipino veterans were promised equal pay and benefits.

sion Act of 1946 these benefits were stripped.

Over sixty years later the U.S. Congress sought to right this wrong with the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund which was included as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in early 2009.

According to the American Legion there are currently 60,000 Filipino veterans of which 45,000 live in the Philippines and 15,000 reside here in the U.S. As of Jan. 1, 2010, close to 40,000 claims have been received but only 11,345 benefit payments have been made.

The average age of these veterans is 86. According to the Philippine embassy in Washington, it is likely that all of the Filipino veterans will have passed away by 2015.

"Benefits and recognition should be applied to all U.S. military veterans of the same rating and time in service, regardless of their place of birth or where they currently live," said Sen. Lou Correa, D-Santa Ana. "As a country, we owe them our gratitude and we must fulfill our promise to compensate them for their service and sacrifices." ■

## Police: Pa. Asians Targeted Again by Criminals

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

PRIMOS, Pa.—Police in suburban Philadelphia say Asian American business owners are apparently being targeted again by criminals.

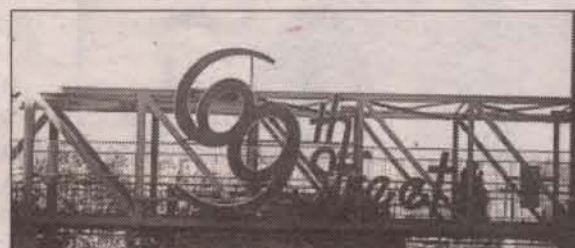
Upper Darby Police Superintendent Michael Chitwood says there have been three home invasions in recent weeks targeting Asian owners of shops in Delaware County.

Chitwood says the most recent crime was Aug. 8 in Haverford, while other home invasion robberies were reported July 22 and July 27. The victims were the Asian Pacific American owners of a nail salon, restaurant and beer distributor in the area of 69th and Market Streets.

Officials say the victims may have been followed home and targeted in the belief that they might be less likely to use banks.

In an interview with the *Delaware County Daily Times*, an APA who owns a beauty shop on 69th Street said she's heard about the home invasions from reading the newspaper.

"I am aware robbers target Asian owners," said the woman who asked that her name not be used. "I used to have a business in West Philadelphia for six years and never had a problem. It's worse here. I'm very afraid here. I've been here for nine months and it seems we are just targeted in Delaware County."



Businesses have been targeted along 69th Street.

She has recently installed an alarm and has her patrons use a security door to enter her store.

"Robbers have experience. They're crazy. We don't save our money at home. We use banks. I do see the cops constantly driving around here."

Because of the violent nature of the crimes, local police have released an alert about the attacks against Asian business owners.

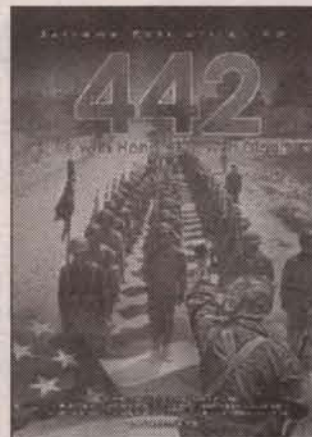
"We put an alert out to the patrol guys. The robbers really are animals," said Chitwood to the *Delaware County Daily Times*. "These critters are either from Upper Darby or Philadelphia. They get in and out with guns. Our fear is they are definitely going to kill somebody charging into these houses for money."

A similar rash of crimes targeting Asians about 1 1/2 years ago included the murder of a businessman who died after he was left bound and gagged in his suburban home. ■

## National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

### JA Veterans Documentary to Screen



HONOLULU—A documentary film about Japanese American veterans of World War II is due to be shown in Honolulu starting Sept. 10.

The movie, "442 — Live with Honor, Die with Dignity," tells the story of the mostly Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It features interviews with Hawaii veterans, including Medal of Honor recipients U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye and Barney Hajiro.

The documentary is due to play at Ward Stadium theaters.

### Group Seeks to Drop Suit Against Los Angeles Schools

LOS ANGELES—A group has asked a judge to dismiss its lawsuit challenging a race-based program for teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

The Pacific Legal Foundation said the program violated the state Constitution by considering teachers' race when assigning them to a school.

The foundation said Aug. 25 it requested dismissal of the 2005 lawsuit because the school district agreed to discontinue the program and paid \$45,000 for legal fees.

The school board voted in March to discontinue the program and agreed not to reinstate it.

### Lingle, Inouye Criticize Hannemann's Campaign Flyer

HONOLULU—Gov. Linda Lingle and U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye are criticizing a flyer sent to voters by the gubernatorial campaign of Democrat Mufi Hannemann.

The flyer notes that Hannemann, a former Honolulu mayor, was born in Honolulu and his rival, former U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, was born in New York.

It also named Hannemann's Japanese American wife and Abercrombie's Caucasian wife. Inouye, a Democrat, said it's "not nice" to highlight the ethnic differences of candidates' spouses.

Hannemann's campaign declined to comment. But the candidate's spokeswoman has previously defended the flyer.

### Justice Department Clears Georgia Voter Checks System

ATLANTA—The Justice Department has given Georgia approval to again verify voters' identity and citizenship.

Federal officials have precleared a modified new program designed to confirm that prospective voters are U.S. citizens. The Justice Department's Civil Rights Division had repeatedly rejected similar versions of the Georgia program.

In their legal filing, Justice Department officials made clear that the state had modified its plan so that it finally passed muster with the federal Voting Rights Act.

Justice Department lawyers had earlier argued the program was flawed and subjected minority voters to heightened scrutiny.

### Chinese American Museum Reopens After Fire

CHICAGO—Two years after a fire gutted its inside and destroyed rare artifacts, the doors of the Chinese American Museum of Chicago are scheduled to reopen Sept. 25.

A Sept. 19, 2008, blaze gutted the inside of the museum located at 238 W. 23rd St. The cause of the fire in Chicago's Chinatown is still a mystery.

The museum needs \$200,000 more to keep its doors open. A fundraiser is set for Nov. 6. ■



## APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

### Commission Approves Calif. Chief Justice Nominee

A key state judicial commission has confirmed Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's nominee for chief justice of the California Supreme Court.

The three-member Commission on Judicial Appointment unanimously confirmed **Tani Cantil-Sakauye**, whose name now will be placed unopposed on the November ballot. If voters approve the nomination, she will serve a 12-year term.

### U-Md. Picks Iowa Provost to be New President



Wallace D. Loh has been appointed as president of the University of Maryland's flagship campus in College Park.

Loh, the provost of the University of Iowa, has more than 30 years of experience in higher education and will become the first APA to serve as U-Md. president.

Loh has served as provost at Iowa since 2008, overseeing personnel and budgets. He has also worked as a dean and professor at Seattle University, the University of

Colorado-Boulder and the University of Washington Law School.

### Yamate Becomes JANM Board Chair

Attorney **Gordon Yamate** of San Jose has assumed the position of chairman of the board of trustees for the Japanese American National Museum.

Formerly vice president and general counsel of Knight Ridder until its acquisition in June 2006 by the McClatchy Company, Yamate worked as a partner at McCutchen, Doyle, Brown and Enersen (now Bingham McCutchen).

### Baltimore County Police Department Gets First Female APA Cop

**Rosa Park**, 27, has become the first APA woman on the Baltimore County force.

Park, who is of Korean descent, is currently working in the Towson precinct, but hopes to one day serve in the Cockeysville precinct, which has a large Asian community.

### Greater L.A. Singles Announces Winner of Hana Uno Shepard Memorial Scholarship



**Kristen Deignan**, of Torrance, Calif., is the recipient of the **Greater L.A. Singles JACL 2010 Hana Uno Shepard Memorial Scholarship**.

Deignan, who graduated from Torrance High School with a 3.89 grade point average, plans to attend the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. There she will be in the animal studies program working towards her goal of becoming a veterinarian.

### Chinn is Awarded Presidential Citizens Medal

**Betty Chinn**, of Eureka, Calif., has been awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal, the second-highest civilian award in the United States.

Since its creation in 1969, the Presidential Citizens Medal has been given to Americans who have "performed exemplary deeds of service for their country or their fellow citizens."

Left homeless as a child in China, Chinn became mute. When she came to America, she found both her voice and her mission: helping the homeless. ■

## Korematsu Day Bill Closer to Becoming Law



PHOTO: SHIRLEY NAKAO COURTESY OF THE KOREMATSU INSTITUTE

In 1998, Korematsu received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The California State Legislature has passed Assembly Bill 1775 to establish Jan. 30 as Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution. The bill is now on the governor's desk for a signature.

The bill sponsored by Assemblymember Warren T. Furutani uses the wrongful conviction of Fred Korematsu during World War II to emphasize the importance of preserving civil liberties and the Constitution.

"Fred Korematsu was an ordinary man who did an extraordinary thing during a time when his Constitutional rights were violated, and as a consequence, changed the course of history," said Furutani. "The Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution will provide an important teaching moment for California and its students."

During WWII, Korematsu refused to comply with the military exclusion order that led to the incarceration of more than 100,000 JAs. His arrest and conviction of violating the exclusion order affected his ability to obtain employment long after he was released from camp.

Although Korematsu's conviction was upheld in

1944, he along with a legal team made up of young Japanese American and Asian Pacific American attorneys petitioned for a writ of error *coram nobis* in 1983 to overturn his conviction. Judge Marilyn Hall Patel overturned Korematsu's conviction, and her decision acknowledged that:

"A grave injustice was done to American citizens and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry who, without individual review or any probative evidence against them, were excluded, removed and detained by the United States during World War II."

"After my father's conviction was overturned in 1983, his mission was education," said Karen Korematsu. "He thought it was important to teach about his struggle for justice and the Japanese American incarceration so that the mistakes of history would not be repeated in the future. This day would enable students the opportunity to learn and discuss the lessons of American history relevant to the current discussions of the Constitution and our civil liberties."

An elementary school in Davis and an academy in Oakland currently bear Korematsu's name, with a third one to open in San Leandro.

A dedication ceremony is being held Sept. 24. ■

## Calif. Lawmakers Address WWII Treatment of Italian Americans

By Robin Hindery  
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Lawmakers have passed a resolution acknowledging an often-overlooked group — the thousands of Italian Americans who were displaced, arrested and harassed during World War II.

The resolution, approved unanimously by both the Senate and the Assembly recently, expresses regret for their treatment, calling it a "fundamental injustice."

According to the legislative analysis, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 in 1942 designated more than 100,000 Californians as aliens. Most were of Japanese descent, but at least 10,000 Italian Americans were forced from their homes. Others had to carry identification cards, limit their travel and obey curfews.

"The treatment during World War II of people who were unjustly considered 'suspicious' because of their ethnic background was a sad chapter for our state," the resolution's author, state Sen. Joe Simitian, said in a statement. "For survivors of that experience and their descendants, I hope this resolution will provide a long-due measure of recognition and respect."

Simitian said the resolution was suggested by one of his Italian American constituents, Chet Campanella of San Jose, as part of his office's annual "There Oughta Be a Law" contest. Campanella's relatives were subjected to a curfew and searches of their home during the war, Simitian said.

The Legislature previously has passed several resolutions recognizing the contributions of Italian Americans. Last year, Calif. lawmakers designated October as Italian American Heritage Month. ■





# for the RECORD

BY JOHN TATEISHI

## APA Judicial Confirmations

In August before the congressional recess, the Senate confirmed President Obama's nomination of Elena Kagan as the 112th person and fourth woman to serve on the United States Supreme Court.

Score one for women.

In the same week, the Senate rejected the president's nominations of Goodwin Liu to the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and Edward Chen to the U.S. District Court in San Francisco. Both nominations were blocked by Senate Republicans.

Score two against Asian Pacific Americans.

It was pretty much a given that Kagan would win confirmation despite her lack of judicial experience and her liberal leanings on issues such as abortion, gun control, and gay rights. She had earlier sailed through the confirmation process when she was nominated for the post of solicitor general and no one, not even Republicans, envisioned any problems with her confirmation.

The two APA nominees, on the other hand, faced harsh attacks from the Republican Right from the outset. Both Liu and Chen were given a nod of approval in a 12-7 party-line vote of the Judiciary Committee but have not been able to get a floor vote in the Senate over Republican objections.

Both are well-qualified nominees. Chen, currently a federal magistrate who earned his law degree at Boalt Hall at UC Berkeley, He was an ACLU staff attorney for 15 years, specializing in language discrimination cases before being selected in 2001 to an eight-year term as a federal judge.

Liu, a Stanford graduate in biology, attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar where he earned a Masters in philosophy and physiology and subsequently earned his law degree at Yale Law. He clerked in the D.C. Appeals Court and for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. He is currently an associate dean and professor at Boalt Hall.

The Republicans' objection to Chen is his 15-year background as an ACLU lawyer (always a red flag for the Right), and the strong objections voiced against Liu are for his support of affirmative action, abortion rights, same-sex marriage, and his outspoken criticism of the Bush administration practice of water boarding.

It's apparent that one of the long-reaching concerns of Senate Republicans is that Liu, if confirmed at the appellate level, will clearly be a consideration one day for the U.S. Supreme Court. And I dare say that his bone fides stand up extremely well against the qualifications of some currently on the

Court at the time of their nominations.

The rejection by Senate Republicans of Chen and Liu represents more than just philosophical differences. It's for the same reason that, for decades, there were no Black or women judges. The exclusion of APAs in the federal courts is an issue that should concern us all.

The Fall 2009 issue of the "Network Update", the JACL's report of its anti-hate crimes program run by the Chicago office, includes an article that articulates these issues. Written by Christine Munteanu, the Ford program fellow, the article is a succinct analysis of the importance of APA appointments to the federal bench. Christine's comments are an intelligent distillation of the subject, so I quote directly from her article, with thanks:

"The underrepresentation of APAs on the federal bench reflects, in part, lingering historical stereotypes of APAs as the 'perpetual foreigner' or the 'yellow peril' – beliefs that imply that APAs will never be considered 'true' Americans. ... A proportional number of APA federal judges would be a powerful symbol to counteract these negative stereotypes. Such symbols create a positive self-perpetuating cycle; a visible APA presence on the federal bench would create mentors and role models, inspiring younger APAs to pursue careers as judges that may have otherwise seemed closed to them.

"But this is more than just an issue of representing diversity. There are still legitimate legal concerns affecting the APA community, concerns that often must be disputed and resolved in the courts. Issues like immigration reform, workplace discrimination and hate crimes require work of both activists at the grassroots level, as well as support and understanding from the federal government, including the judiciary.

"Though we cannot rewrite history or undo the wrongs perpetrated in the past, we can move forward with understanding and compassion. Empathy for the struggles of minority populations, stemming from knowledge and experience, is vital to ensuring that these lessons from history are not forgotten. Fighting for a representative APA federal presence is yet another step in the movement for a government that accurately reflects the needs and concerns of all facets of our diverse population."

Well said. ■

John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.



Toshiko with her husband Lee early in their marriage in Padua Hills, Calif.

### COMMENTARY

## Early Days of Interracial Marriages

By Toshiko Nakamura Wilkinson

Today, interracial marriages don't raise many eyebrows or cause a blip on anyone's screen, but when my husband Lee and I took the plunge, it raised many eyebrows and was met with vociferous objections.

And it was illegal in at least 17 states.

When we applied for our marriage license, the clerk took one look at us and went to confer with someone else in another office.

My parents were adamantly opposed. Lee's parents didn't object loudly or quietly. His father was always warm and friendly towards me, but even he would have been happier had his son chosen a nice girl from Iowa, preferably from a small town like La Porte City.

Lee grew up in a place where there were no minorities. The first time he came face-to-face with a black person was at the University of Iowa. In the Army, he met young men from all over the country of different origins and walks of life, but until then he grew up in a monochromatic place.

I was born in Los Angeles, never very far from Little Tokyo. Each day after school, I attended a Japanese language school for 12 years. My sister and I read books and magazines in English and Japanese. Neighbors and friends from school introduced us to the delights of bagels and lox, tamales and tacos and ravioli made from scratch.

As an Iowan, Lee had never heard of such things. It didn't take long for him to

like taquitos from Olvera Street, pastrami sandwiches from Cantor's. He never took to Japanese food quite as heartily, but I can think of sins far worse.

About the only thing we had in common was that we were recent graduates of the University of California system. He from Berkeley and I from UCLA. While we were

undergraduates, there was an upheaval called World War II. Lee served with the 1st Armored Division in northern Italy and, during this time, I was interned at Manzanar.

When we met, he was working at a bank in South Los Angeles. Having earned my credentials, I was settling in as a rookie teacher with the Los Angeles Unified School District.

We did not enter into a relationship lightly. We dated others and over three years, we had

various interruptions, but in the end we both knew what we had to do.

At the very least we were going to have a proper wedding. We chose the Mission Inn in Riverside, Calif. Both our families lived within easy driving distance of the inn. It was a simple, but a lovely ceremony. The organist played my favorite Bach pieces.

My father did not come.

If our wedding was not the storybook kind, our marriage was.

Did my parents ever come around? A resounding, "yes!" How could they not? Leland Wilkinson was an honorable man, a gentleman in every sense of the word. I speak in the past tense because he passed away November 2005. ■

*'We did not enter into a relationship lightly. We dated others and over three years, we had various interruptions, but in the end we both knew what we had to do.'*



# Marvel is Now Casting Asian Americans for the 'Runaways'



**Asian Pacific American groups are celebrating Marvel Studios' decision to change a casting notice's language for the film adaptation of the 'Runaways'.**

**By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter**

Mindy Nam dreamed of majoring in theater while attending New York University. Theatre was her passion in high school, where she was the president of the drama club. But she said her traditional "Asian parents" urged her to become a lawyer or doctor.

It was not until recently that the college sophomore pursued her acting ambitions despite her parents' reservations. "I told my parents that I'm not taking no for an answer," Nam said, who is 19. "Even if my parents are against it they can't stop me from pursuing acting."

Determined to break into the entertainment industry, the Korean American recently submitted a video audition for a role in the comic book adaptation the "Runaways," from Disney and Marvel.

Asian Pacific American actresses like Nam were being encouraged by Racebending.com to audition for the role of Nico Minoru, a Japanese American character, in a campaign to encourage studio executives to cast an APA lead.

In response to the APA community's concerns, Marvel changed the casting notice Aug. 25 to specifically solicit auditions from APA actresses after what a studio representative called an oversight. Marvel says, in a released statement, it intends to stay true to the legacy of the comic.

"It's such a contrast to Paramount and the production of 'The Last Airbender,' where they ignored repeated calls from Asian American community groups and the fan community," said Marissa Lee, co-founder of Racebending.com. "We're really appreciative of how effectively Marvel responded to our concerns."

Critics of the "Runaways" casting methods say Minoru's role did not specifically call for an APA actress, which is a Hollywood clue that movie executives were attempting to "whitewash" the role.

Community groups questioned why the casting notice had specifically asked for an African American actor to play the character Alex Wilder, when Minoru's role was left open to

any female between 16 to 18 years old.

"To a layperson unfamiliar with Hollywood casting practices, the absence of a mention of her ethnicity would not raise as many red flags," Lee said. "But over the past two years working on the 'Airbender' protest, Racebending.com has gotten pretty familiar with how casting breakdowns work."

APA actresses say the explicit words "Asian American" in a casting call usually piques their interest in a project. "You have to specify the race," said 19-year-old Midori Iwama, an actress who tried out for the film.

Racebending.com, which was one of the groups that protested "The Last Airbender" for replacing Asian and Inuit characters with Caucasian actors, was concerned that APA



Midori Ann Iwama, 19, is among the APA actresses who auditioned for the role of Nico Minoru.

actresses like Nam and Iwama were not being sought out to audition for the "Runaways."

As the deadline to submit a video audition neared, other community groups joined the campaign to convince studio executives to not borrow casting tips from "The Last Airbender."

To ensure all actresses are given an opportunity to audition, a studio representative says the submission deadline has

been extended to Sept. 15.

"We just hope that this extra month gives them enough time to seriously consider the Asian American actresses that this call will reach, and that they are able to match a talented Asian American with the role," explained Lori Kido Lopez, a representative with Media Action Network for Asian Americans.

APA groups that were involved with "The Last Airbender" protests say changing the casting call to specifically solicit auditions from APA actresses signals a "more realistic approach to casting."

"We are happy that Marvel/Disney has responded to the concerns of the Asian American community and now has specified an Asian American actress for the lead role," wrote Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "This is important for our young people to see somebody that looks like them as a heroine."

The "Runaways" is a creation of Brian K. Vaughan and Adrian Alphona. The Marvel comic, as the name implies, follows a group of teen runaways who leave their homes after discovering a sacrificial ritual conducted by their parents.

Their criminal parents are members of the Pride, a hodgepodge group of scientists, time travelers, thieves and others. Minoru, who adopts the moniker Sister Grimm, is a Goth who wields a magical staff called the Staff of One. The teens band together to confront their parents and take on other obstacles.

Those in the APA community say it is important to honor the "Runaways" creators by casting an actress who accurately portrays Minoru's comic book character.

"I believe that it's very vital to stay true to a medium like comics or books because they were written that way for a reason," explained Filipina American Danice Cabanela, 22, who also auditioned for a "Runaways" role. "I think it's honorable to respect the author or illustrator and I think it's also really important to recognize that a lot of us want to be represented too in America."

For hopeful "Runaways" actresses now the waiting game for a call back begins.

"I think I was born to do this role," Nam said, who has been a fan of the comic. "Just waiting is really annoying. I'm just trying to look for other things to occupy my time." ■

**For casting info:** <http://smallfacescasting.com>.



# Browns' Scott Fujita Wants to Save Louisiana Wetlands

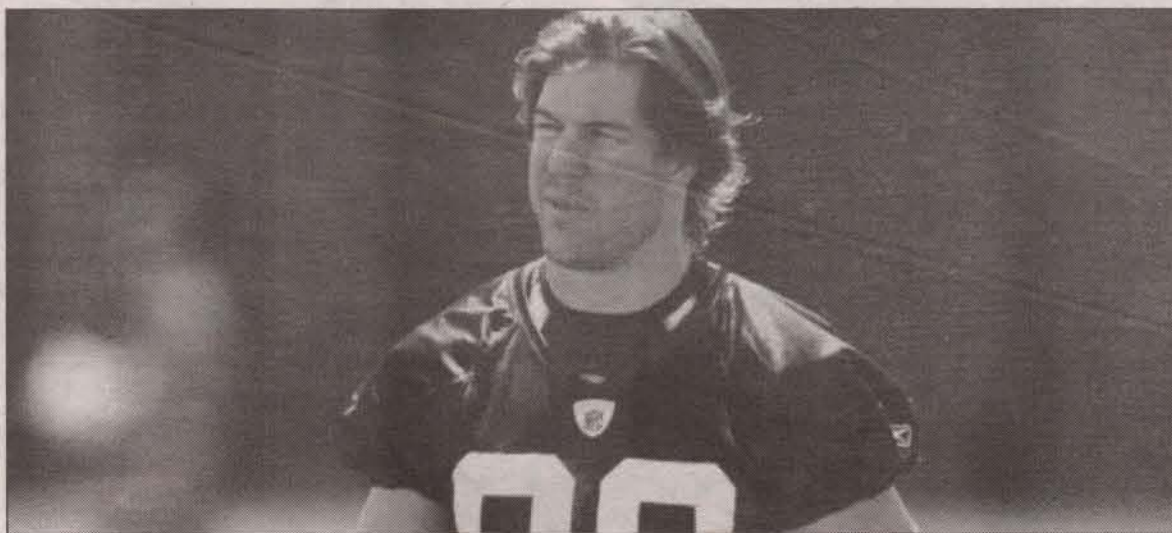


PHOTO: SCOTTFUJITA.COM

Fujita now plays for the Cleveland Browns, but his heart is still in conservation in New Orleans.

By Tom Withers  
AP Sports Writer

BEREA, Ohio—Scott Fujita arrived in New Orleans a few months after Hurricane Katrina blew through the city.

Five years have passed, but Fujita can recall seeing the storm's lethal and long-lasting impact as if it just happened.

"It looked like a bomb went off," the Cleveland Browns linebacker said. "Driving around the 9th Ward for the first time, it felt like I was in a third-world country. It was devastating — unbelievable and mind-boggling."

Fujita played four years in New Orleans, winning a Super Bowl title last season with the Saints, whose victory brought some needed healing. And although he signed as a free agent with Cleveland in March, the 31-year-old's heart is still back in the Bayou.

New Orleans, with its vibrant lifestyle, unique architecture and resilient people, left an indelible

mark on Fujita. He loved the city and wanted to give something back, so he began a personal campaign to help save the Gulf region's threatened wetlands — long before the grasses and marshes would be drenched in BP's oil.

Fujita donated \$25,000 out of his playoff earnings to two Louisiana groups that specialize in coastal restoration. In June, he returned to New Orleans and helped organize a fundraiser to aid the spill's cleanup.

So what sparked this California kid, adopted by a white mother and Japanese American father, to devote time and effort to a place he hardly knew? Fujita said that seeing New Orleans knocked to its knees and struggle to stand had a dramatic effect on him.

"We all watched the CNN coverage and we saw the flooding and we saw all the terror of it, but we didn't know why it got that way," he said. "When I got there, I learned quickly that it wasn't just the storm, it was more the wetlands

and how depleted they were and how that led to the disaster afterward."

Fujita said the film "Hurricane on the Bayou" also touched him to act.

"I've always been a little bit of an environmentalist," said Fujita, who graduated from California with a degree in political science and later earned his master's in education. "I don't think people understand how important the wetlands are as the city's first lines of defense. They

talk about how every 45 minutes another football field worth of wetlands is depleted. And, for every mile of wetlands that's depleted, that equals about another foot of storm surge. That's what is going to lead to the downfall of the city if they don't get it corrected."

Fujita has always been socially conscious. His interest in helping others grew during his college years in Berkeley, where he was around many who were active and aware.

"People who thought globally," he said. "They think big picture."

But it was as a young linebacker with Kansas City that Fujita's appreciation for service grew. He was influenced by veteran teammates Tony Gonzalez, Trent Green and Tony Richardson, who donated time and money to local charities and causes.

"They were guys I looked up to, they were really involved in the community with causes they

believed in and it was an inspiration to me," he said.

Fujita and his wife, Jaclyn, have twin daughters. The family has relocated to Ohio, but he intends to maintain a residence in New Orleans.

"Hopefully, forever," he said.

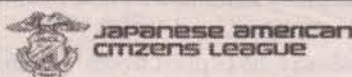
The environmental impact on the Gulf region could be dealt another shot if the forecasts for an active hurricane season are correct. A severe storm could push the oil in the wetlands deeper toward the mainland and potentially cause further destruction and contamination.

Fujita can't bear the thought of seeing an area so special overwhelmed by a man-made disaster.

"Who knows how long it's going to take to get things fixed," he said.

"It could impact generations of fishermen and it's such a huge part of the culture down there. A way of life is being threatened right now."

*I've always been a little bit of an environmentalist*



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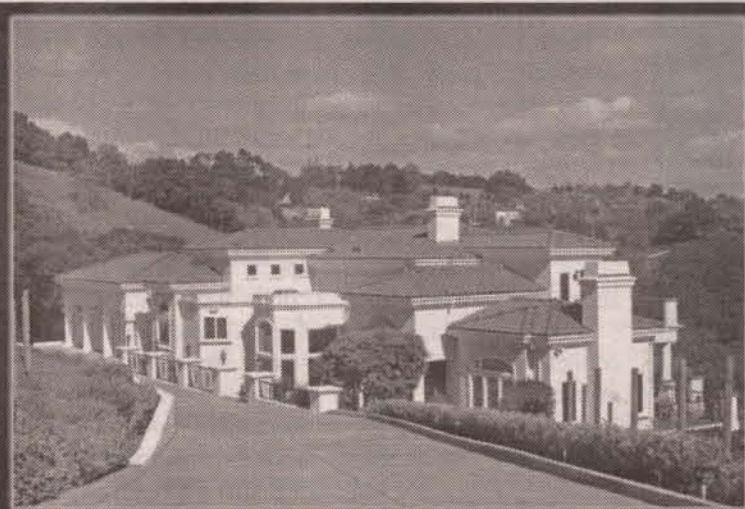
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## NAPABA, AAJC Concerned by Blocking of Judicial Nominees

Edward Chen and Goodwin Liu's nominations have been returned to the president.

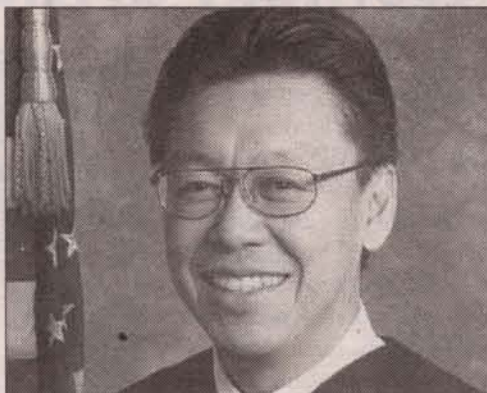
Prior to adjourning for its August recess, the Senate failed to vote on the nominations of Asian Pacific American judicial nominees including Judge Edward M. Chen and Goodwin Liu.

APA groups are speaking out against what they are calling extensive delays that disproportionately affect minority judicial nominees.

Delays in the Senate are disproportionately affecting minority nominees — five of the six longest-pending judicial candidates are minorities, and the sixth is a woman, according to a joint statement from the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) and Asian American Justice Center (AAJC).

"Highly qualified nominees such as Judge Chen and Professor Liu are entitled to a full Senate vote in a timely fashion. All Americans have an interest in having a qualified and diverse judiciary and these nominees deserve a confirmation vote," said Joseph J. Centeno, NAPABA president.

"The Senate's failure to hold full confirmation votes on judicial nominees is hurting our judicial system's efficiency and accessibility," said Karen K. Narasaki, AAJC president and executive director. "These extensive delays and inaction are a critical issue when



Chen's nomination has been returned.

more than 10 percent of federal judgeships are vacant and our courts are overburdened."

In the Northern District of California, the seat that Chen awaits confirmation for has been vacant for more than 860 days, according to the statement.

Both Chen and Liu received unanimous "well-qualified" ratings from the American Bar Association, the highest rating possible.

Chen was nominated last August and has been waiting longer than any other nominee for a confirmation vote. He was favorably voted out of the Senate Judiciary Committee last October but the full Senate did not take up his confirmation before the legislative session ended.

Both Chen's and Liu's nominations have been returned to President Barack Obama. ■



PHOTO: DALE KAKU

Family members don construction hats to place bricks on the memorial wall.

## Seattle JA Memorial to be Dedicated Sept. 5

Donors will get the chance to place bricks bearing the names of honorees.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

A memorial wall in Seattle's International District will be dedicated Sept. 5 in honor of Japanese Americans who were interned, served in the U.S. military during World War II or both.

The Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC) has been raising funds for the \$1.2 million project for over a year offering community members the opportunity to purchase 4-by-12-inch bricks each bearing the name of someone who was interned or served in the military.

The memorial, which spans 90 feet long and about 14 feet high, is located outside the Nisei Veterans Hall at the east end of the International District.

People who purchased the bricks have been given the opportunity to put on hard hats and install the bricks themselves.

About 2,780 bricks will be on the wall, said Steve Finley of the NVC. Another 100 bricks have been sold that will be added later.

The response has been overwhelming,

said Keith Yamaguchi, head of the committee, about the call to families to help build the memorial. Some have waited up to two hours to install their commemorative brick.

The Sept. 5 dedication, which is by invitation only, will give many families the first glimpse of the memorial. Committee members are expecting upwards of 1,600 people for the dedication.

After the dedication, the memorial will be open to the public during daylight hours.

The memorial's success, said Yamaguchi, is its wide appeal.

"There are a lot of memorials that are camp-specific," he said about the World War II camps that JAs were forced into after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. "If not the only, this is one of the few dedicated to all internees regardless of camp."

People have donated bricks in honor of friends not just from the 10 major camps, but also lesser-known assembly centers.

The appeal also extends to veterans because the memorial is not just focused on WWII. Veterans from all wars and campaigns right up to Iraq have been honored, said Yamaguchi. ■

On the web:

[www.seattlennvc.org](http://www.seattlennvc.org)

## JACL to Honor Women Leaders at Sept. 16 Gala

JACL will honor four female community leaders and a corporation at its Sept. 16 Gala in Washington, D.C.

The honorees are: Calif. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, for her civil rights advocacy; Etsu Mineta Masaoka, a dedicated JACLER alongside her late husband Mike Masaoka; actress Christine Toy Johnson, for her work producing a documentary about Wat Misaka, the first person of color to play in the National Basketball Association; and journalist Roxana Saberi for her courage in the face of imprisonment in Iran last year.

The Gala is billed as a "Salute to Champions" to honor outstanding individuals and corporations that have been instrumental in furthering JACL's causes.

Eli Lilly, a generous financial supporter, is also being honored at the event.

"We are grateful to everyone who has supported the JACL Gala in the past and

wish to extend an invitation to all to join with us in this celebration this year as we honor some outstanding women and our corporate partner, Eli Lilly," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

Two U.S. Senators are co-chairs of the honorary committee. Both Sens. Daniel K. Inouye and Daniel K. Akaka have been gala award recipients.

Other members of the committee include: Reps. Mike Honda, Xavier Becerra, Rob Bishop, Anh (Joseph) Cao, Jim Costa, Eni Faleo-

mavaega, Sam Farr, Jerry Lewis, Adam Schiff, Doris Matsui, Madeleine Bordallo and Maxine Waters. Also included are Richard Foltin of American Jewish Committee; Wade Henderson of Leadership Conference on Civil Rights; Hilary Shelton, of the NAACP; and Michael Lieberman of the Anti-Defamation League. ■

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## JACL PSW's High School Advocacy Program Comes to a Close



**Project: Community! recently hosted Culmination with the generous support of AT&T.**

Project: Community! — a program for high school students that empowers the youth voice in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo — came to a close recently with their event Culmination.

The JACL Pacific Southwest District hosted its third annual Project: Community! Culmination event on Aug. 24 at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center. About 130 attendees helped commemorate the end of the program and recognize the accomplishments of the participants.

Project: Community!, a program supported by AT&T, had 23 participants from the Greater Los Angeles area this summer. Through interactive workshops and activities put on by community leaders and JACL staff, the students gained a greater understanding of identity, the power of place, grassroots organizing and community preservation issues.

Project: Community!'s Culmination brought together program participants,

their families, friends and community leaders to celebrate the conclusion of the program in the JACCC's Garden Room.

The event showcased three videos created by the participants with the help of filmmaker Tad Nakamura and the DISKovery Center, a program of the Little Tokyo Service Center. Participants highlighted three important places to the Little Tokyo community and interviewed people who work and dedicate

their time there, including Centenary United Methodist Church, the JACL and Fugetsu-Do.

"Through these interviews, we learned about the importance of working in and helping to preserve the Little Tokyo community," said Zane Miyamoto, a program participant.

This year was also the launch of the alumni portion of the program, where past participants come back to Project: Community! to do hands on work with issues facing the community. Alumni participants invited Culmination guests to "LT Eats," as a means of bringing business to Little Tokyo restaurants, while offering discounted meals.

"AT&T is proud to support Project: Community! for the past three years," said Executive Director of External Affairs at AT&T David Lin who also talked about the development of the program since its inception. Also in attendance was JACL National President David Kawamoto.

For questions or more information about Project: Community! or other programs contact Stacy Toyota at [stoyota@jacpsw.org](mailto:stoyota@jacpsw.org) or 213/626-4471. ■

## CDC Funds Bay Area HIV Project

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently awarded the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center, Asian Americans for Community Involvement and Asian Health Services \$1.9 million over five years to fund a collaborative HIV prevention project specifically targeting Asian and Pacific Islander men who have sex with men (MSM) in the Bay Area.

CDC is funding HIV prevention programs by community-based organizations and collaborations that "reflect local prevention priorities and serve persons at high risk for acquiring or transmitting HIV."

In San Francisco, HIV rates among APIs increased almost six-fold (487%) from 1990 to 2000. Since APIs comprise a third of the general population in the Bay Area, small percentage increases in HIV actually affect large numbers of people.

High levels of HIV risk behavior have been observed among API MSM, yet only one CDC approved evidence-based intervention specifically targets this population — and that intervention was developed more than 10 years ago.

"Traditional HIV prevention programs often overlook the unique needs of the A&PI

community," said Carlos Bermudez, director of health education at A&PI Wellness Center. "Successful HIV prevention programs must address the complex interplay of homophobia, racism and cultural or linguistic isolation to really get A&PI MSM into HIV testing and reduce their risk."

More than two thirds of Asian Americans and half of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have never been tested for HIV, partly due to challenges in reaching diverse API communities with life-saving prevention education information. Other issues, such as cultural stigmas surrounding HIV and immigration status also pose significant barriers to HIV testing and timely access to care for many APIs.

The collaborative will use community and group interventions in addition to counseling and HIV testing to decrease HIV risk at individual and community levels. Community members will share personal stories, interweaving identity, sexuality and health.

"We want this unique approach to have a visionary impact," said Lance Toma, executive director of A&PI Wellness Center. ■

## SF JACL Sponsors Volunteer Workday at AIDS Memorial

The JACL San Francisco chapter is sponsoring its annual workday at the National AIDS Memorial Grove (NAMG) Sept. 18.

Volunteers are currently being sought to help remove weeds, plant a variety of plants and other maintenance work in the 7.5 acres designated as the first National AIDS memorial.

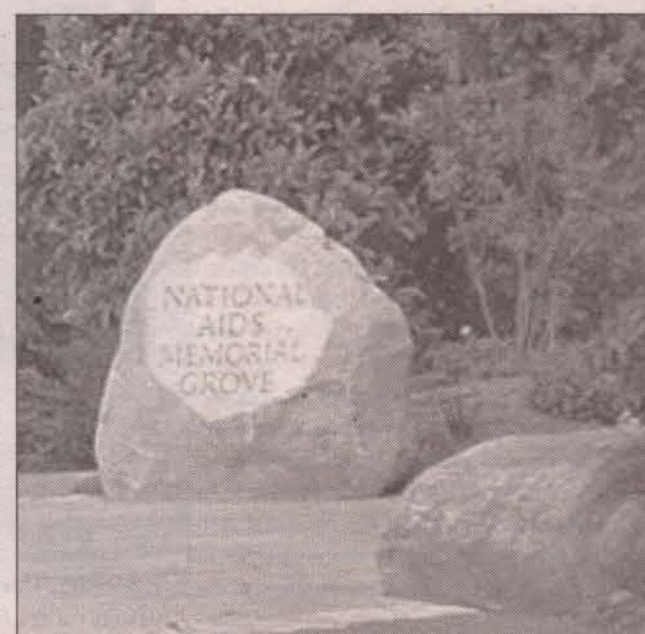
"This event is a rewarding one for everyone who has come out to help no matter how old or young they are, whether pulling weeds or replacing plants," said Greg Marutani of the San Francisco JACL.

Volunteers are urged to dress in layers as the weather conditions in the Grove can vary and gloves will be provided, although some may choose to bring their own. Various tools will be provided by the gardeners at Golden Gate Park. Refreshments and a catered lunch will be

provided to volunteers by supporters of the Grove.

The day begins at 9 a.m. and will end by noon. The Grove is located in the eastern end of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park at the intersection of Bowling Green and Middle Drive East — across from the tennis courts.

For more information or to sign up, contact Greg Marutani at 415/641-1697. ■



### Volunteer Workday

Sept. 18, 9 a.m. — noon  
The Grove, eastern end  
of San Francisco's  
Golden Gate Park  
Info: Greg Marutani at  
415/641-1697

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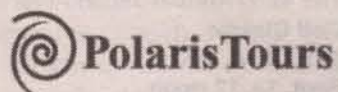
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Oct. 21-Nov. 1	Autumn Japan & Hong Kong
Nov. 2-Nov. 14	The Best of Kyushu
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Dec. 2-Dec. 13	Ryoma-Den Japan Tour

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Chiba, Mito, Aizu Wakamatsu/Higashiyama Onsen, Sado Island, Nagano, Matsumoto, Takayama, Gujo Hachiman, Gifu, Kyoto.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA HOLIDAY TOUR** NOV 8-22  
Bangkok, Cambodia, Vietnam.

**NEW ORLEANS HOLIDAY TOUR** (New Tour) NOV 30-DEC 4  
Stay in French Quarter, City tour, New Orleans Schools of Cooking & dinner, Garden district & Plantation

### 2011 Tour Schedule

**EGYPT-NILE RIVER HOLIDAY TOUR** JAN 15-25  
Cairo, Giza, Luxor, Nile River Cruise, Kom Ombo, Aswan, Abu Simbel.

**HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL TOUR** FEB 6-13  
Sapporo, Lake Shikotsu, Shirai, Otaru, Asahikawa, Sounkyo, Abashiri.  
See 5 Snow/Ice Festivals. Ride icebreaker ship "Aurora".

**AMERICA'S CANYONLANDS HOLIDAY TOUR** MAR 31-APR 7  
Scottsdale, Grand Canyon, Zion & Bryce Canyon, Monument Valley, Lake Powell, Las Vegas. **EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT ENDS OCT 1, 2010**

**JAPAN CHERRY BLOSSOM TOUR** MAR 29-APR 7  
Tokyo, Kofu, Mt Fuji, Lake Kawaguchi, Shizuoka, Magome/Tsumago, Gero Onsen, Takayama, Kyoto.

**GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR** JUN 26-JUL 5  
Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Nara, Kyoto.

**ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE** JUL 16-23  
Vancouver, Sawyer Glacier, Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan.  
HOLLAND AMERICA Zuiderdam Ship.

**SOUTH AFRICA HOLIDAY TOUR** AUG 4-15  
Cape Town, Wine Country, Kruger National Park, Table Mountain, Johannesburg, Livingston, Victoria Falls-Zambia.

**REFLECTIONS OF ITALY HOLIDAY TOUR** SEP 5-14  
Rome, Assisi, Perugia, Florence, Venice, Lugano-Switzerland, Lake Como, Milan.

**HOKKAIDO-TOHOKU HOLIDAY TOUR** OCTOBER

**OKINAWA HOLIDAY TOUR** NOVEMBER

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## JACL's PSW District to Honor Three Outstanding Community Advocates

The Pacific Southwest District of JACL will recognize three honorees for their community work at the upcoming 14th Annual Awards Dinner.

Filmmaker Tad Nakamura, social marketing executive Debra Nakatomi, and activist and educator Iku Kiriya will be honored Oct. 9 at The Grand Long Beach Event Center in Calif.

"The JACL Pacific Southwest District feels compelled to honor Tad, Debbie, Iku and our dedicated chapter members for their many years of dedication to bridging generations of Japanese Americans together for a brighter and prosperous community," said Craig Ishii, PSW regional director.

"As JACL creates new milestones in activism, advocacy and engagement for our community, we build on the momentum and legacy created by these individuals."

By honoring Nakamura, Nakatomi, and Kiriya, the PSW hopes to celebrate its legacy and continued work in the advancement of civil rights for Japanese Americans and all Asian Pacific Islander communities, in community preservation, and in youth leadership development.

Chapter members with the PSW district will also be honored for their service and commitment to their individual communities.

Those honorees include West L.A.'s Jean Shigematsu, Arizona's Doris Asano, Ventura County's Aiko King, Downtown L.A.'s Kitty Sankey, Orange



Filmmaker Tad Nakamura will be one of the honorees at the Oct. 9 PSW dinner.

County's Betty Oka, Louise Sakamoto of Greater L.A. Singles, Venice-Culver's Sam Shimoguchi and San Fernando Valley's Nancy Gohata.

The event will also include a silent auction. ■

**Information** Contact Andrew Yick at 213/626-4471 or ayick@jacpsw.org.

## NJAMF to Honor Code Breakers

The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation will honor Justice John Paul Stevens, Japanese American veterans of the Military Intelligence Service (MIS), and the National Park Service at its Nov. 4 gala luncheon celebrating the 10th anniversary of the memorial's dedication.

At the event themed, "Living History. Our Story. Your Rights. Breaking the Code", Stevens will receive the Award for Constitutional Rights for his code-breaking work with the Navy in the Pacific during his World War II; Grant Ichikawa will accept the Award for Patriotism on behalf of MIS veterans; and the Chairman's Award will be presented to the National Park Service for its stewardship and partnership with the foundation for the care and promotion of the memorial.

"Honoring Justice John Paul Stevens, our hero Grant Ichikawa, and the National Park Service combines to tell a story larger than the sum of their parts," said Dr. Craig D. Uchida, foundation chair.

In 2000, then Attorney General Janet Reno represented the Clinton Administration as the memorial was dedicated.

The foundation's mission is to celebrate patriotism, ensure that mistakes of the past do not reoccur in the future, and to leave a meaningful and accurate historical narrative. ■

### Memorial Luncheon

Nov. 4, 11:30 a.m.

Washington, D.C.

JW Marriott Hotel

## Teachers' Workshop to Look at WWII from Hawaii Point of View

World War II from the point of view of Hawaii's Japanese American and local communities will be the subject of an Oct. 8-9 teacher-training workshop hosted by the Go For Broke National Education Center, the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii and Nisei Veterans Memorial Center.

"Looking Like the Enemy: The Case of Japanese Americans in World War II" will feature presentations from U.S. Army veterans from the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the MIS. Participants will also get an overview of the history of confinement sites in Hawaii and gain ideas for field trips.

A new curriculum is being developed for Hawaii's state standards to teach World War II history. Social

Studies teachers Sean Uwayne and Leisha Bento, who are developing the curriculum, will be using new material featuring Go For Broke's oral histories.

Limited travel assistance stipends for teachers who do not live on Maui are being offered on a first come, first served basis. ■

### WWII History Workshop

Oct. 8-9

Kahului, Hawaii

Maui Waena Middle School and the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center

For more information or to register:

www.goforbroke.org



# GO·SEE·DO

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS\*



John Gengi and filmmaker Cory Shiozaki (right) filming at George Creek.

**Manzanar Fishing Lecture and Walking Tour**  
**INDEPENDENCE, CA**  
 Sept. 4 and 5, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
 Manzanar National Historic Site Interpretive Center  
 5001 Highway 395

For the fifth consecutive year, Cory Shiozaki, a fishing guide and filmmaker, will share stories of some of Manzanar's well-known fishermen, who escaped from camp to fish some of the Eastern Sierra's best local fishing holes. He will also preview his forthcoming documentary, "The Manzanar Fishing Club."

Info: Call 760/878-2194

## EAST

**National JACL 'Salute to Champions' Gala**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**  
 Sept. 16  
 J.W. Marriott Hotel  
 1331 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
**Cost: \$200/person; \$2,000 table of 10; \$1,500 table of 10 for nonprofits**  
 The gala is an annual fundraising event that seeks to honor individuals and organizations that have championed the causes of JACL. This year's honorees include Sen. Dianne Feinstein, journalist Roxanna Saberi, community leader Etsu Mineta Masaoka, actress Christine Toy Johnson and corporate partner Eli Lilly.  
**Info:** Call 202/223-1240 or e-mail [gala@jacl.org](mailto:gala@jacl.org)

**GO!**

**First Asian 'Feastival'**  
**FLUSHING, NY**  
 Sept. 6, 12 noon to 5 p.m.  
 Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel  
 135-20 39th Avenue  
 The first Asian "Feastival" will showcase authentic Asian foods. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Food Bank For New York City. There will be an onsite Asian farmer's market, cooking demos, a bike tour, panel discussions and more!  
**Info:** Visit [www.asianfeastival.com](http://www.asianfeastival.com)

## MIDWEST

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**Oct. 2, 4 p.m.**  
**Christ Church of Chicago**  
 6047 N. Rockwell  
 The Christ Church of Chicago (Tri-C) is hosting its annual food fest where the popular udon special and bento box lunch will be available. There will be an assortment of Japanese sweets and handcrafts as well.  
**Info:** Call 773/338-8170

**Young June Lew Exhibition**  
**CHICAGO, IL**  
 Sept. 10 to Oct. 16  
**Andrew Bae Gallery**  
 300 W. Superior St.  
 The Andrew Bae Gallery, which has featured works by Asian artists since 1990, is pleased to announce Young June Lew's fifth solo exhibition "Redemption." The exhibit marks a bold step forward as well as a return to her roots in abstraction.  
**Info:** Call 312/335-8601 or e-mail [info@andrewbaegallery.com](mailto:info@andrewbaegallery.com)

**DO!**

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**Chinatown Mall Culture Fair**  
**SACRAMENTO, CA**  
 Sept. 19, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Historic Chinatown Mall**  
 427 Chinatown Mall  
 Come join the city of Sacramento and over 16 Northern California organizations for the Chinatown culture fair. There will be live entertainment, food and more! Also scheduled is a film and panel discussion on Autumn Gem, chronicling the life of China's first feminist.  
**Info:** [www.yeefow.com/culturefair](http://www.yeefow.com/culturefair)

**Midori Kai's 10th Anniversary**  
**Boutique and Craft Show**  
**MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA**  
 Sept. 11, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Mountain View Buddhist Temple**  
 575 N. Shoreline Blvd.  
 Midori Kai, Inc., a nonprofit professional business women's organization event, will celebrate its 10th Annual Fundraiser Boutique and Cultural event. The first 200 guests will receive a free Midori Kai recyclable shopping

bag.  
**Info:** Call Phyllis Osaki at 925/596-1770, [www.midorikai.com](http://www.midorikai.com)

**JCCNC's 2010 Annual Fundraiser, Tabemasho**  
**SAN FRANCISCO, CA**  
 Sept. 25, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
**JCCNC**  
 1840 Sutter Street  
**Cost: \$100 per person; \$25 per child (6-12 years old)**  
 Join us for a Japanese American culinary experience, featuring samplings by renowned executive chefs and local restaurants. There will be a silent and live auction as well.  
**Info:** Call 415/567-5505 or e-mail [programsevents@jccnc.org](mailto:programsevents@jccnc.org)

**Lecture & Legacy of John Naka: Father of Bonsai in America**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA**  
 Sept. 7, 6:30 p.m.  
**Terasaki Foundation Laboratory**  
 11570 Olympic Blvd.  
**Cost: \$10**  
 John Y. Naka formed the California Bonsai Society with four others after moving to Los Angeles, Calif. in 1946. Called the Father of Bonsai, Naka has taught bonsai around the world. Speakers Larry and Nina Ragle will discuss the late bonsai master's legacy in the lecture series.  
**RSVP:** E-mail at [japanstudies@nibeil.org](mailto:japanstudies@nibeil.org) or visit [www.nibeil.org](http://www.nibeil.org).

**SEE!**

## PACIFIC SOUTHWEST

**ID Film Festival**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA**  
 Oct. 8 to 10  
**Japanese American National Museum**  
 369 E. First Street  
 The third annual ID Film Fest returns to the Japanese American National Museum. The film "Fog" by Kit Hui has been selected for opening night. "Fog" is the recipient of the Sundance Annenberg grant. The director will be in attendance on Oct. 8 for the screening.  
**Info:** [www.idfilmfest.org](http://www.idfilmfest.org)

**Go For Broke's Evening of Aloha**  
**ANAHEIM, CA**  
 Nov. 13, 5 p.m.  
**Hilton Anaheim Hotel**  
 777 Convention Way  
**Cost: \$185 per person or \$150 per veteran (packages also available)**  
 We invite you to attend the Go For Broke National Education Center's ninth annual Evening of Aloha gala dinner, which will feature a sumptuous meal prepared especially for guests by world-renowned chefs Roy Yamaguchi and Akira Hirose.  
**Info:** Contact Julia Tominaga at [julia@goforbroke.org](mailto:julia@goforbroke.org) or 310/222-5710

**The 42nd Annual Japan America Golf Classic**  
**TARZANA, CA**  
 Sept. 13, 12 noon  
**Braemar Country Club**  
 4001 Reseda Blvd  
 Since 1968 the Golf Classic has been a sold out event, drawing a full tournament of Japanese and American business people. The 42nd Annual Golf Classic will be held concurrently with the sixth annual Tennis Open.  
**Info:** Visit [www.jas-socal.org](http://www.jas-socal.org) or call 213/627-6217 for ticket prices

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST

**JACL White River Valley Second Annual Golf Tournament**  
**TACOMA, WA**  
 Sept. 26, 8 a.m.  
**North Shore Golf Course**  
 4101 Northshore Blvd  
 Attend the JACL White River Valley chapter's golf tournament, lunch and silent auction. The event is a fundraiser for scholarship and diversity teaching awards.  
**Info:** Call 253/951-5278 or 253/218-8639

**Taiko Unleashed and Romp Stomp Boom!**  
**PORTLAND, OR**  
 Oct. 2, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Oct. 3, 2 p.m.  
**Newmark Theatre**  
 1111 SW Broadway  
 Portland Taiko traditionally pulls out the biggest drums and the largest ensemble performances for their annual fall concert finale. This concert combines contemporary and traditional taiko rhythms, dance movement and stunning martial arts displays.  
**Info:** Visit [www.portlandtaiko.org](http://www.portlandtaiko.org)

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## TRIBUTE

### Roberta Lynn Tsuboi

May 14, 1949 – May 8, 2010



Roberta Lynn Tsuboi passed away quietly at Providence/St. Vincent Medical Center at age 60. The second of three children born to Ted and Nobi Tsuboi, Robbie was born and raised in Portland. A lifelong resident of the Rose City, she graduated from David Douglas High School in 1967, attended Portland State University and Western Business College before beginning her career in bookkeeping, accounting and tax preparation. Her most recent affiliations were with Gary Goertzen, CPA, the Oregon Restaurant Association, and Lynch Co.

Though she had a long and successful professional career, Robbie will be best remembered for desire to help others. Robbie's gift of giving led to her involvement with Dignity Village, Goose Hollow

Family Shelter, Unite People Youth Group, Epworth United Methodist Youth Group and Oregon Nikkei Endowment.

She loved to dance and experienced it in its many forms — jazz, tap, ballet and finally, with the Hula Halau He Makana O Aloha, where she also unofficially adopted "The Boys" (Aukai & Ka'au) as her own.

Because of her enthusiasm to keep Japanese American history alive, she was active in the Oregon Nikkei Endowment Project. Even though she did not play an instrument, she formed the Minidoka Swing Band in 2007 to honor the Japanese Americans who were interned during WWII at Minidoka. Even though ill and in discomfort, she continued to recruit swing band members from staff at the hospital as she passed through the emergency room and also in the cancer unit at the hospital.

She rescued many dogs from the Multnomah County Animal Shelter and gave them a second chance at life in a warm, welcome home with her.

Survivors include George and Nobi Azumano; Clifford Tsuboi; Annie Migaki (Gerry); Miko Hoy (Ray, Rylan and Aven); Tim Migaki; the Sho and Loen Dozono family; the Jim and Lois Azumano family; the Gary and Bette Orazio family; and Pickles. Her father, Ted Tsuboi, predeceased Robbie.

Robbie will be remembered by family and friends for her warm, caring and giving spirit. She left a quiet legacy of a life of community service, involvement, and action — particularly with the youth of the community — that will last for generations. Hers was a life well lived and she will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Donations in Robbie's memory may be made to Multnomah County Animal Shelter, Goose Hollow Family Shelter (Portland Homeless Family Solutions), Epworth United Methodist Church or [www.Caringbridge.org](http://www.Caringbridge.org). Arrangements by Rose City Cemetery and Funeral Home.

# IN MEMORIAM

**Arita, Alice Hirao, 90**, Oakland CA; Aug. 6; longtime member of JACL; interned at Topaz relocation camp; predeceased by husbands Henry Arita and Kay Hirao, and son, Milton Hirao; survived by daughter, Jan (Dave) Inouye and son, Wayne Hirao; grandchildren and great grandchildren.

**Fukuda, Lester Rokuro, 94**, Monterey Park, CA; Aug. 6; he is survived by sisters Alyce Nakagawa, Rose Nakagawa and Mae Matsumoto; son, Randy (Gloria) Fukuda; daughter, Nancy (Adam) Geczi; 5 gc.

**Iwata, Ed T., 90**, Spokane, WA; July 26; Ed was reunited with his late wife in time for their 65th anniversary; he was also preceded in death by his parents and brother, Tom; survived by brother, Kay (Marty); son, Eddie (Michael Marie); daughters Shirley (Skip Hancock), Donna (Larry Sieker) and Judy (Keith Smith); 6 gc; 4 ggc.

**Kiyohiro, Leo Yukio, 96**, Spokane, WA; Aug. 3; Leo spent his most of his youth in Japan; he opened his first drug store in Portland, Oregon, but was

forced to leave during World War II; preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Masaaki and Hiroshi, and his sister, Kimiyo Enta; he is survived by his wife of 65 years, Yuriko.

**Mukai, Tommy**, Spokane, WA; Tommy was born on May 8, 1913; he was a commercial fisherman and also ran a cab business; preceded in death by son, Bryan; survived by wife, Shigeko; son, Larry (Susan); 1 gc.

**Nakayama Lillian (Nobuko Okano), 90**, West Riverside, CA; July 23; a long-time resident of Glen Avon, Lillian was interned during World War II at Poston; she is survived by her husband Roy Shigeki Nakayama; sons, Benjamin (Doreen), Roderick (Carol), Clifford (Sharon), and Brian; brother, Howard Chitoshi Okano; 8 gc.

**Shimabukuro, Ronald Hidemi, 66**, Waipahu, Hawaii; July 31; an Army veteran; survived by wife Jeanette; son, Brandon; daughters, Elissa Soma and Shannon Hashimoto; brothers Raymond and Allan Shimabuku; sister Alice Sakihara; 5 gc.

**Yasui, Edward Yasushi, 96**, Pearl City, Hawaii; Aug. 8; he is a retired tour driver and former amateur boxing champion; survived by wife Katherine T.; sons Daniel and Michael; daughters Patricia M. Teeuw and Dianne N. Ishida; 8 gc; 3 ggc.

**Yoshimoto, Frances Tayeko, 97**, Monterey Park, CA; Aug. 6; preceded in death by her husband, Masato Yoshimoto; sister, Chioko Miyakawa; brothers, John and Tom Shiroishi; and son, Dennis Keiichi Yoshimoto; survived by her children, Glenn Mikio (Cathryn) Yoshimoto, Joyce Yukiko (Masayuki) Sato, and Virginia Sanaye (Gregory) Young; siblings, William Shiroishi, Betty Kurakake, Robert Shiroishi, and Noriko Gardiner; 9 gc; 9 ggc.

**Kon, Satoshi, 46**, Tokyo, Japan; Aug. 24; a Japanese filmmaker and comic book artist; he died of pancreatic cancer; his 2006 film "Paprika" received a standing ovation at the Venice Film Festival; Kon was working on film "The Dream Machine" at the time of his death; he is survived by his wife, Kyoko. ■





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