

AUG. 19-SEPT. 1, 2011



PACIFIC CITIZEN



JAPANESE AMERICAN SPARK

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PHOTO: USC SPORTS INFORMATION



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Emergency Resolution to Accurately Implement 2010 Power of Words Resolution Passes

The emergency resolution passed to officially recommend words like "American concentration camps" in the Power of Words handbook to describe the incarceration of JAs during WWII.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter



Power of Words

This ongoing and controversial issue of what to name the World War II incarceration camps has compelled me to write a term which my Mama used: "*shitsukoi*" [stubborn]. It has been over 60 years now since those of Japanese descent were uprooted from their homes, assembled to a certain center and then relocated or concentrated in one location.

What difference does it make what it was called or what it should be called? Those who call it concentration camp, internment camp or relocation camp will never change their mind. Let's just forget all this hullabaloo.

It makes me smile when those who never experienced camp life have the audacity to say what it should be called. Instead, let's be grateful and thankful that many have survived and today are living a life as they please.

I pray that the printed edition of the *Pacific Citizen* will continue since many seniors do not have computers. In general the P.C. is informative of happenings in the JA community.

I have been a member of JACL since 1953. At that time Mas Satow was national director and his wife Chiz was the bookkeeper. Haruo Ishimaru was regional director and I was his secretary. It was also a historical time when the McCarran-Walter Act was passed allowing immigrants to become U.S. citizens. One of my duties at the time was to translate the questions to Japanese for the Issei applying for citizenship.

I note this for the sake of those who have asked what JACL does or who constantly criticize JACL. Let's support the JACL!

Maggie Ishino
Los Angeles

I've been reading in the *Pacific Citizen* about the proper name for the WWII incarceration camps people of Japanese blood were thrown into for what seems to be a year-long or longer issue. So, I decided to look where I always look whenever I have a problem with the definitions of words: "Webster's Third New International Dictionary".

Their definition of concentration camp is as follows: "a camp

where persons as prisoners of war, political prisoners, refugees, or foreign nationals are detained or confined and sometimes subjected to mental and physical abuse and indignity."

It is apparent that the type of treatment in the WWII incarceration camps does not alter the definition of concentration camp.

Shigeo Yuge
Via e-mail

The Sansei have always told me that we should not let others define who we are and what we went through during WWII. So it seems appropriate that we should discard some of the euphemisms that have been used to describe our experiences. Words like "evacuation", "non-aliens" and "relocation center" don't really reflect what we went through.

Use of "concentration camp" as suggested by the JACL sounds too harsh and can give the wrong impression. Many of the people in the camps found them benign, fun and enjoyable.

"Incarceration camp" is an alternative that has been suggested, but I think "incarceration" conjures up an image of bed checks, prison uniforms, guards accompanying you everywhere, etc. That was not our experience. The word "intern" basically means to detain and confine, and that's the word which I feel accurately describes what happened to us during WWII.

Ed Suguro
Seattle, Wash.

Getting My Asian American News

Thank you for your special "Extraordinary APAs" issue and the "Top Chef" edition of the *Pacific Citizen*.

Living on Kauai, we get local news in our *Garden Island* newspaper. *Pacific Citizen* is the only way I can get news of Asians in other parts of the country.

I grew up on a farm in Downey, Calif. in the mid-20s until Pearl Harbor World War II. We were sent to Santa Anita in Arcadia, Calif.. We lived in horsebarns and then were sent to Rohwer, Arkansas.

I met my husband from Kekaha, Kauai in Chicago. We were married for 57 years and he passed away in 2004. Keep up your good work.

Susan Y. Matsumoto
Kauai

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JACL to Honor Lawmaker, Basketball Legend at Gala



Wat Misaka (top) and Rep. Eni Faleomavaega will be honored at the Sept. 29 gala.



The JACL will present an award to Rep. Eni Faleomavaega and basketball pioneer Wat Misaka at its Sept. 29 gala in Washington, D.C. as part of the "Salute to Champions" program.

"We are proud of his great accomplishments and are happy to present an award to a very deserving person who has been a true champion," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director, who met Faleomavaega at Brigham Young University. "He was also an outstanding athlete who performed traditional Samoan dances."

Since 1989, Faleomavaega has served in Congress representing the territory of American Samoa making him the longest serving and only Samoan American in the Congress. He is the first Asian Pacific American ever to chair the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Faleomavaega, a Vietnam War veteran, served in the Army Reserves where he was a captain

in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He was also a member of the 100th Battalion/442nd Infantry Reserve Unit in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Misaka was the first person of color drafted to play in the National Basketball Association (NBA). In 1947, Misaka was the first draft pick by the New York Knickerbockers. Misaka's career with the University of Utah led to his induction into the Utah Sports Hall of Fame in 1999, two years after his induction into the Japanese American National Bowling Hall of Fame.

"There is nobody more humble yet deserving of national recognition for his role in breaking the color barrier in the NBA," said Mori.

In addition to Faleomavaega and Misaka, the JACL will be honoring several outstanding individuals who made a name in sports at the gala. ■

On the web: www.jacl.org

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Japanese American Jamie Hagiya Shoots For Spot on L.A. Sparks Roster



The L.A. Sparks is hosting the Aug. 30 Asian Basketball Night featuring a pre-game clinic with former Trojan basketball player Jamie Hagiya.

**By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter**

Jamie Hagiya was never in short supply of fans from the Japanese American community when she played college basketball, and two of her staunchest supporters were always in the bleachers to cheer her on.

The 26-year-old's grandparents, Joyce and Yas Aochi, never missed the former Trojan's basketball games at the University of Southern California, filming her moves on the court with their video camera. Hagiya's grandfather, who played and coached basketball in the past, would offer her pointers sometimes after a game.

"My grandpa coached. So he'd always come to my games and help me out and tell me what I need to do, what happened and break down my game," Hagiya said with a laugh. "He's excited. Everybody is really pulling for me."

The Aochis will be on hand when Hagiya hosts a basketball clinic from 4:30 to 5:30 on Aug. 30 at the Staples Center prior to the Los Angeles Sparks game against the Seattle Storm. Hagiya will also be available for autographs.

The 5-foot-3-inch tall point guard is hoping to tryout for the L.A. Sparks team next year. There are no other Asian Americans on the 2011 roster.

There are two fans that are guaranteed to be in the stands, if Hagiya makes the team.

"If she makes the team we'll buy season tickets," said Yas Aochi, 85. "We'll have to go watch all her games like at USC."

Joyce Aochi, 82, says her granddaughter should get a spot on the team roster "because she has such a good attitude. She's always cheering her teammates on. She's a real good team player."

Hagiya says she has been on the court playing basketball since about the age of 4, practicing in the Japanese American community leagues, among other teams. Her love of basketball kept her on the courts throughout her life.

While attending South Torrance High School in California, Hagiya led her teams to win the Ocean League title three

years in a row.

In 2003 she began at USC on the women's basketball team. She entered her senior year ranked No. 10 all-time with 284 career assists and was named one of the college's top distributors.

Those who have watched Hagiya play basketball since her childhood say her basketball skills always stood out.

"Jamie is hands down the most talented guard I've coached. From a very young age she possessed amazing court sense. She is definitely a triple threat," said Jayme Kiyomura Chan, who coached Hagiya on the Yonsei VI basketball team.



WNBAer Shay Murphy poses with Jamie Hagiya and her biggest fans, grandparents Yas and Joyce Aochi.

"The girl can shoot, pass, and beat anyone off the dribble. Defensively she's a beast."

Looking up to Natalie Nakase, a former college basketball player who is also small in stature, Hagiya was inspired to play ball for USC. What she lacked in height on the court, Hagiya says she made up for in speed and defensive tenacity.

"What's funny is that when I play with people I don't realize how short I am compared to them," Hagiya said breaking into a laugh. "It's not until I see a picture, when I'm standing next to everybody and I'm like, 'Whoa! They are a foot taller than me!'"

Having grown up in Southern California, Hagiya's name

has come to be well known in the community.

After graduating from college with a communications degree Hagiya played in Greece. When she returned to California Hagiya says she was seeking work and debating whether to continue basketball. A friend encouraged Hagiya to run for Nisei Week 2010. She was crowned Nisei Week's Miss Tomodachi.

Despite her busy basketball schedule Hagiya says it has always been important for her to give back to the community that supported her on and off the court.

"All the support that people have given through high school and college and up until now, I really appreciate it. I know I learned the game and learned all these things because of the community," Hagiya said. "Whether I make the team or not, community is huge to me because we are the future."

Hagiya says she hopes her supporters turn out for the Asian Basketball Night. Organizers are confident that the Asian American community will attend the event in droves.

"We're kind of trying this out this year. I think the results are going to be very good," said Lou Rosenberg, director of sales for the L.A. Sparks. "I got to be honest I didn't know what to expect. I'm very pleased with the results."

Rosenberg says he receives a handful of calls every day from fans in the community wanting tickets. They hope to expand Asian Basketball Night next year to make it a larger cultural event.

Friends and family of Hagiya say they believe she has a good chance of making the team regardless of being shorter than most professional women basketball players.

"She's not blessed with the traditional basketball body, but what she has she uses well," Kiyomura Chan said. "I know with 100 percent certainty she will represent the Asian American community, and more importantly the Los Angeles Sparks organization with pride and class."

Her grandfather says Hagiya may be small in stature but she is quick and skilled on the court.

"That's the only disadvantage she has. Other than that she has a good chance," Yas Aochi said. "Hopefully she makes it next year." He says they will throw their granddaughter a party if she makes the team.

Hagiya says there are no guarantees that she will play for the L.A. Sparks, but she had to give it a try.

"I feel like I have to give it one last shot before I give up playing basketball," Hagiya said. ■

Heart Mountain Center's Grand Opening Marks Milestone in Preservation

The Aug. 19-21 opening promises an impressive slate of speakers and attendees.

By Christine McFadden
Correspondent

A framed copy of George Iwanaga's 1943 iconic photo of Heart Mountain is prominently displayed in Judge Lance Ito's Los Angeles courtroom. Ito, most notably known for presiding over the trial of O.J. Simpson, uses the photo as a constant reminder of the justice denied to his parents.

"I use it as part of my jury selection process to remind citizen jurors of what can happen when our rights as Americans are forgotten and why it is important for citizens to take their right to serve as trial jurors seriously," he said.

His parents Jim and Toshi Ito met as children while incarcerated at Heart Mountain. In late August, Ito will return to the camp to help welcome a new state-of-the-art interpretative learning center. The grand opening ceremony will take place Aug. 19-21.

This will be Ito's third trip to the former American concentration camp located in Park County, Wyoming, near the towns of Powell and Cody. As one of the keynotespeakers for the grand opening ceremony, Ito says his message will be "one of caution."

"While more recent judicial discourse about the internment focuses on the great wrongs done to the Japanese American community, the underlying tenets of the Korematsu decision remain 'on the books' as legal precedent for future situations," Ito said. "The learning center is one important way to make certain future generations understand and appreciate the many, many lessons to be learned."

The notion of having a permanent educational facility at Heart Mountain has been a part of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation's (HMWF) vision since its establishment in 1996.

"The completion of the interpretative learning center represents the end of one journey and the beginning of another as we now have a base from which to expand our educational efforts and our desire to be a catalyst for further study and research," said Shirley Higuchi, HMWF chair.

Like Ito, Higuchi's parents met as children at Heart Mountain. Her mother Setsuko Saito Higuchi was involved in the initial effort to purchase land at Heart Mountain and build something on the site. When her mother passed away in 2005, Higuchi joined the HMWF board.

"The dream of building the interpretive learning center became my dream too as a way of honoring both my parents and making sure the lessons of their experiences reach future generations," she said.

Heart Mountain Experience

According to Higuchi, the new learning center is designed to resemble three barracks allowing visitors to "really capture a sense of what it was like to live at Heart Mountain."

Among its features are an introductory film by Academy Award-winning director Steven Okazaki, a model of the camp complete with interactive displays and exhibits and two re-created barrack rooms.

"I think people will find the re-created barrack rooms particularly moving because you can imagine yourself standing in that room as a child, as a parent, as a grandparent," said Higuchi.

Christy Fleming, a Powell, Wyoming native, is the learning center's incoming local manager. She describes the center as being all from the first-person perspective complete with life-size cutouts in the exhibits.

"Visitors become part of the experience ... It will be a very powerfully emotional experience for the people that come through," she said.

The HMWF has already been responsible for restoring the honor roll marker at the site and creating a paved 1,000-foot walking tour of the camp. Since then, the focus has been on the construction of the new learning center.



THEN AND NOW: During World War II, Heart Mountain (top) incarcerated many Japanese Americans behind barbed wire. The new interpretative center (left) will help teach lessons about the JA experience.

The theme for the grand opening weekend is: "Lessons from the Past, Guidance for the Future." Joining Ito will be a panel of other influential leaders from across the country to speak on their perspectives of the Japanese American experience.

Grand Opening Ceremony

The ceremony begins Aug. 19 with a pilgrimage dinner and reunion photos at the Park City Fairgrounds in Powell. Among the first grand opening speakers are Higuchi, Bacon Sakatani, Raymond Uno, Norman Mineta, and NBC News Special Correspondent Tom Brokaw.

At the dedication ceremony, Okazaki's new film, "All We Could Carry: The Story of the Heart Mountain Relocation Center" will make its debut performance.

Okazaki, who has been nominated for four Academy Awards (winning the documentary short subject for "Days of Waiting: The Life & Art of Estelle Ishigo"), is a Sansei born in Venice, Calif. Okazaki's father, who passed away over 10 years ago, was incarcerated along with his parents and three sisters in Heart Mountain, while his mother was sent to Topaz, Utah.

"I wanted to be part of this project to honor the Nisei, to contribute to Japanese American culture and for my dad," said Okazaki.

Okazaki first went to Heart Mountain in 1990 while filming "Days of Waiting." He is no stranger to films about the incarceration; he began making documentaries in the 1980s during the Redress movement and *coram nobis* cases, creating "Unfinished Business" in 1985 about Min Yasui, Gordon Hirabayashi and Fred Korematsu.

"My goal with all of my films, whether it's this film or a film about heroin addiction, is to explore the subject and let the people in the film tell the story," he said. "I hate films with predetermined messages. My films are about the

inherent dignity and goodness of people ..."

Okazaki's eight-year old daughter Daisy will accompany him to the grand opening.

"I learned a lot, not just for the film, but about myself," he said. "I think for the Sansei, Yonsei, Gosei and continuing on for generations, the camps are a huge part of who we are. Whether we admit or not, it's part of us."

Remembering Heart Mountain

Among the attendees will be Shig Yabu, author of children's book "Hello Maggie!" about his experiences as a boy at Heart Mountain. He is also one of the directors on the HMWF board.

Yabu was sent with his family to Heart Mountain when he was 10 years old. While in camp, Yabu had a pet magpie that he captured after its mother had rejected it. The bird, named Maggie, died in 1945 before he left camp.

"School had closed, friends were all gone, mess halls had consolidated, and my one and only friend was Maggie," Yabu recalled.

Maggie has continued to serve as an inspiration for Yabu. In July, he released two baby magpie birds in Cody, Wyoming.

The learning center will be a "catalyst for further research and study about the JA experience during WWII, and a voice in contemporary civil rights discussions," said Higuchi.

The HMWF also expects to have educational outreach programs to bring the story beyond the walls of the museum and into classrooms and virtual learning experiences.

"The idea of teaching about the past in order to influence tomorrow's discussions and decisions is really our central mission," said Higuchi. ■

On the web:
www.heartmountain.org



Adam Chang, 25, is one of about 825 Asian Pacific Americans living with HIV/AIDS in the city of San Francisco as of 2010, according to the city's Department of Public Health AIDS Office.

San Francisco APA Community Calls For More HIV Treatment, Prevention Funds

Healthcare workers and community members call on city officials to continue funding HIV prevention and treatment services in the Asian Pacific American community.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

As a teenager Adam Chang came out to his parents as gay, but years later he would divulge another secret.

After discovering that he was HIV positive, the 25-year-old who was born and raised in San Francisco gathered his family together to share the bad news.

"I came out around 17 years old," Chang said from his workplace in Oakland, Calif. "But with this news it was coming out all over again, but a lot harder than the first time actually."

It was 2009 when Chang says he received an anonymous message online indicating his last sexual partner had HIV, or human immunodeficiency virus, which attacks disease-fighting cells and weakens the immune system. An HIV test confirmed Chang's fears.

Chang says he never thought he would become a statistic, but he has. He is one of about 825 Asian Pacific Americans who are living with HIV/AIDS in the city of San Francisco as of 2010, according to the San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS Office. That is an increase from the 2007 figure showing 722 APAs living with HIV/AIDS.

Data collected in 2010 shows that 50 percent of newly diagnosed HIV cases are white, 21 percent Latino, 14 percent are African American, 11 percent APA and 1 percent Native American.

Funding distributed by the city to organizations that provide HIV treatment and prevention services reflects those statistics, city officials say.

"We align our funding based on as much as possible, based on the makeup of HIV cases in San Francisco," said Grant Colfax, director of HIV prevention and research with the San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS office. "So as much as possible we try to align our funding across all of our programs to reach at least 8 to 10 percent of Asian Pacific Islanders at risk for HIV."

But others say funding under the city's new HIV prevention plan called New Directions excludes APAs and primarily focuses on supporting organizations working with African American, Latinos and transgender females.

"We've been funded by the city for over 25 years," said Lina Sheth, director of community development and external

affairs with the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center. "Our biggest concern wasn't so much that we weren't getting funded, it was that the API community would really be impacted negatively."

Colfax says in terms of services there was \$1.13 million cut since the 2004 Request For Proposals, or RFP process, that seeks bids from prevention programs for communities affected by HIV. For 2010 the San Francisco Department of Public Health is awarding \$6.6 million for HIV prevention services.

After an Aug. 1 community meeting, the A&PI Wellness Center was verbally promised funds, said Sheth. Colfax



Critics say funding under the city's new HIV prevention plan called New Directions excludes APAs.

explained that the center would receive \$680,000 to provide HIV prevention and holistic health services to transgender females and males. The center will also receive \$150,000 to provide HIV prevention and substance abuse services to APA gay men, he said.

However those city funds have yet to be received and the future of certain programs at the center are still at risk, Sheth said.

The possible cuts in San Francisco could threaten to close down the A&PI Wellness Center's AQUA 25 and RAMEN programs. The center previously received over \$350,000 for prevention services, Sheth says.

Healthcare workers say they understand this is a challenging economic climate, but they are concerned about APAs getting access to needed HIV treatment and services.

"I mean we're in this really tight economic situation and HIV prevention dollars have been reduced," Sheth said.

"I've been in this field for about 15 years. I've seen HIV prevention dollars wither away."

Those who have benefitted from the resources available at the A&PI Wellness Center say they hope the programs that they have attended in the past continue into the future.

"I thought that was a shame that the funding was about to be cut for the program because it really opened up a lot of social as well as educational opportunities for APIs in the city," said Johnny Liang, a 35-year-old Taiwanese American who attended the RAMEN program.

Others echo Liang's hopes that the programs will continue. They say the A&PI Wellness Center is important because staff members are culturally competent and speak numerous languages such as Hawaiian, Cantonese, Japanese, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese and others.

"They target Asian and Pacific Islanders in a way that a lot of other programs don't seem to serve them," said Athila Lambino, a 27-year-old Filipino American. "A lot of APIs face internalized homophobia, dealing with heteronormativity and cultural and family processes. And it's really important that they have these HIV prevention services and education to really be aware of the issues facing them."

The center served 2,800 clients last year through San Francisco funded HIV prevention programs, Sheth says.

Chang was one of the clients who participated in the AQUA program while he was in high school and after college. It is a program designed for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth that encourages advocacy through peer leadership.

"They're specifically working with our particular community," said Chang. "It just broke down all those barriers and walls that you usually have up when you're talking to new people about specific particular health issues."

A law student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Chang was working over the summer in Oakland, Calif. He hopes to someday practice law in Hawaii or California.

As the eldest of seven siblings, Chang said he wanted to speak publicly about being HIV positive to educate others. Programs like those offered at the A&PI Wellness Center, Chang says, helped him bring up topics about HIV.

Finding out he is HIV positive has helped Chang live a more meaningful life, he says, and helped him to live everyday like it is his last.

"There's a saying: live each day as if it were your last," Chang explained. "My prayer before I go to sleep at night is basically a meditation of some sort where I say, 'Adam, can you go to sleep tonight knowing that you might not wake up tomorrow?' I mean that's a sad way to live, but it really makes me check myself and to say, 'yes I can.'" ■

Will JACL Follow in NAACP's Footsteps, Bouncing Back From Membership Loss?



JACL national board members convene at the recent national convention in Los Angeles. High on the agenda was the organization's declining membership.

With a dip in membership and a forecasted budget deficit, JACL leaders discuss the future of the organization and its ability to reach out to the broader Asian American community.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Looking at how the NAACP was able to rebound from a membership loss, JACL leaders discuss the future of the organization and its ability to reach out to the broader Asian American community to boost its membership.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the NAACP was a standard-bearer of the struggle for voting rights, desegregated schools, and equal access to everything from water fountains to bus seats. But by four decades later — with a black president in the White House — the NAACP's prominence had trickled to a place in history books.

The NAACP's membership dipped from a high of 625,000 in 1964 to less than 300,000 by the mid-2000s. Today the organization's national membership is 230,000.

JACL board members say like other civil rights groups, the organization is employing a similar strategy to diversify its agenda and reach out to the broader APA community.

"JACL has looked to other organizations to see what has been done to sustain and grow membership, but not specifically NAACP," said Larry Oda, JACL national secretary/treasurer and former national president. "The national board is hoping to gather some bright minds together in the near future to examine what we need to do to revitalize the organization, to look for a new business plan. If JACL is to remain relevant, we must find our niche."

The JACL at its national convention in July emphasized boosting its membership numbers to offset its deficit. Membership dues are budgeted for \$686,694 for 2011. In 2012 it is budgeted for \$719,049 but that number is also expected to decrease.

Some JACL leaders say to boost membership revenues the organization needs to broaden its reach, appealing to the larger immigrant populations.

"Given the present day demographic changes within the

Japanese American community, bi-cultural marriages and the lack of immigration, it will [be] absolutely necessary for the JACL to involve the broader Asian American community," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "The discrimination faced by the Asian Americans of the past, mainly Japanese and Chinese, is being experienced by the new Asian immigrants."

The NAACP's strategy has enabled the organization to bounce back after becoming irrelevant.

Five out of seven regional headquarters had closed and an old-guard leadership appeared aloof from young people, who were mainly concerned with the dearth of economic opportunity. The organization itself was ailing, operating for five years in the red, after revenues dipped to \$9 million.

The NAACP's current operating budget is \$31 million.

"There was a great sense in the 1990s that the NAACP had become a museum piece," said Earl Ofari Hutchinson, a Los Angeles-based civil rights activist and columnist. "It was missing in action."

But the organization has seen a resurgence in recent years, spearheaded by a new president, Benjamin Todd Jealous, in 2008.

Jealous, who had headed a foundation and worked for human rights organization Amnesty International, embarked on a major revitalization campaign by reaching out to young African Americans and people of varied minority groups, broadening the scope of the organization to end discrimination on all fronts.

"By focusing on the nexus of great civil rights issues and human rights issues that are keeping people of color trapped in poverty, folks have responded," Jealous said, noting that the recession has resulted in a lot of shared interests among different groups. "It's much easier to get folks together to build coalitions and break barriers."

JACL board members say the organization's budget woes are similar to problems seen by other civil rights groups.

"In my discussions with other of the older civil rights groups that have been based on ethnic backgrounds, they are having similar problems as the JACL," Mori explained.

"The key in the revitalization of most national membership

organizations is the revitalization of the local chapters in attracting new members and funding needed programs."

The JACL has forged alliances with other APA communities across the nation, broadening its reach. In July the newly formed JACL Gulf Coast API chapter held its first meeting, attracting many Vietnamese Americans in the area.

Some say JACL is viable because other APA ethnic groups today can relate to the civil rights injustices experienced by Japanese Americans during World War II.

"We have begun with the Vietnamese community in New Orleans and are reaching out to other groups," Oda said. "Our core mission is to fight for equal opportunity for all Americans because of the experience of Japanese Americans. We have lived the experience of widespread discrimination and have overcome many of the barriers that were placed in front of our progress and can accept and embrace the diversity that exists in other ethnic groups."

At the 2011 national convention, JACL delegates also passed an amendment 56 to 17 — with one abstaining vote and five splits — to create three new monthly membership categories in an effort to boost the JACL's monthly income.

The new membership categories include a platinum membership of \$100, a gold membership of \$50 and a silver membership of \$25.

For the NAACP a flood of new interest has pushed the organization into the black with a \$31 million budget that has been pumped up by donations from foundations and major donors — \$4 million in Jealous' first year — as well as a doubling in the number of small donors to 20,000. By fall, it will have reopened all of the five shuttered regional offices.

To ensure that the JACL rebounds like the NAACP from its current financial downfall, JACL board members say membership numbers need to be increased.

"The short answer is, what is needed is to replenish the members we are losing," Oda said. "The long answer is to develop programs that attract members and to market ourselves in such a way that people will want to be a part of our movement." ■

Associated Press contributed to this story.

Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony Date Awaits Approval From Congress

Pending approval from both the House of Representatives and the Senate, the ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to World War II Japanese American veterans will take place during the period Oct. 31-Nov. 2 in Washington, D.C., according to the National Veterans Network (NVN).

The date will be confirmed once the concurrent resolution for use of Emancipation Hall in the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center for the gold medal ceremony is passed in both Congressional chambers.

NVN, a coalition of 25 JA veteran and civic organizations, has been registering veterans, widows and next of kin who are interested in attending the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony. To date, over 3,800 have registered.

Attendance is by invitation from Congress and is therefore limited. NVN is recommending the following

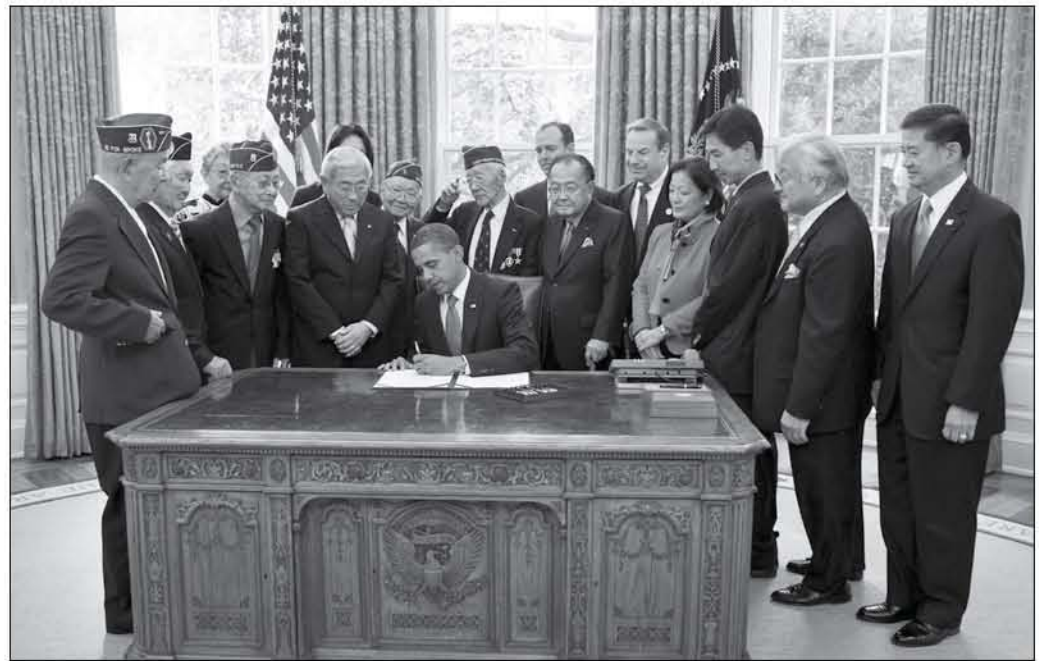
categories to be invited by Congress: a veteran and guest, a widow and guest, one representative for a veteran killed-in-action, and one representative for a deceased veteran. Additional family members and friends will watch the ceremony via live video feed at a nearby location.

Honor Flight, a non-profit organization whose mission is to fly veterans to see "their" memorial in Washington, D.C., will provide free or discounted airfare for all eligible veterans.

Registration for the next of kin of deceased veterans closed Aug. 8.

Registration will officially close for veterans, widows and next of kin of those killed in action Aug. 20. Those who register after Aug. 20 will be placed on a waiting list. ■

On the web: www.nationalveteransnetwork.com



Last October, President Barack Obama hosted six veterans and their supporters at the Oval Office signing ceremony for the Congressional Gold Medal.

Asian American Groups Oppose Controversial Immigration Enforcement

Under the Secure Communities program, fingerprint data of people arrested by local and state law enforcement agencies can be shared with other federal authorities.

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Immigration and civil rights groups are gearing up for a battle after the Department of Homeland Security announced that it would terminate all existing agreements with state and local jurisdictions over a controversial immigration enforcement program that requires local law enforcement agencies to submit fingerprints of any person they arrest to a federal immigration database.

Asian Pacific American groups, including the JACL, have been blasting the move.

"By terminating agreements with the states that allow them to opt out of the program, this allows a continuing practice by Immigration and Customs Enforcement that encourages racial profiling, promotes the separation of families, and encourages the violation of basic due processes as guaranteed by the Constitution," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

On Aug. 5, John Sandweg, counselor to DHS secretary and deputy secretary, announced that DHS would rescind all signed memorandum of agreement with states.

Under the Secure Communities program, fingerprint data of people arrested by local and state law enforcement agencies can be shared with other federal authorities to check for immigration law violations.

"We believe states and counties have some say over what happens to this information," Angela Chan, an Asian Law Caucus attorney, told the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Critics argue that while U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement promoted the program as a way to identify and deport dangerous criminals, it was also sweeping up undocumented immigrants who had committed minor crimes like traffic offenses or who had not committed crimes at all.

Immigration advocates also say it could actually make communities less safe by making immigrants afraid of contacting police when they have witnessed a crime or been a victim.

The debate over Secure Communities has intensified in recent months, as local and state officials weigh the benefits against the negative aspects of the program, which the Obama Administration has said it hopes to implement nationwide by 2013.

The governors of Illinois, New York and Massachusetts have chosen to opt-out of Secure Communities. ■

Nagasaki Remembers A-bomb



As in past years at the Nagasaki bombing ceremony, a bell rang out in a prayer for peace, and bomb victims who were children during the attack sang a song called "Never Again."

By Yuri Kageyama
Associated Press

TOKYO—The United States sent a representative for the first time to the annual memorial service for victims of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, one of two nuclear attacks that led Japan to surrender in World War II.

The U.S. bombing of Nagasaki 66 years ago killed some 80,000 people. Three days earlier, the U.S. had dropped another atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima, killing up to 140,000.

U.S. Charge d'Affaires James P. Zumwalt, the first American representative to attend the Nagasaki memorial service, said in a statement that President Barack Obama hoped to work with Japan toward his goal "of realizing a world without nuclear weapons" — a commitment Japan has made repeatedly since the war.

Obama last year sent Ambassador John Roos to the 65th anniversary of the bombing in Hiroshima, and Roos visited Nagasaki twice last year on other dates, according to the U.S. Embassy in Japan.

Zumwalt joined Nagasaki's residents and mayor in observing a moment of silence at 11:02 a.m. —

the moment the bomb dropped on the city on Aug. 9, 1945, in the closing days of the war. Six days later Japan surrendered.

As in past years, a bell rang out in a prayer for peace, and bomb victims who were children during the attack sang a song called "Never Again."

Mayor Tomihisa Taue called on Japan to change its nuclear policy and reject not just atomic weapons but also nuclear power — as decades-old fears of radiation sickness were renewed in March by a nuclear power plant disaster following a massive earthquake and tsunami.

"Why must this nation that has so long fought for bomb victims once again live in fear of radiation?" Taue said. "The time has come to thoroughly talk about what kind of society we want and make a choice."

He called for a shift from nuclear reactors — Japan has 54 along its coast — to renewable energy sources.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan promised that Japan would work to become less dependent on nuclear energy with the aim of "becoming a society free of dependence on nuclear power."

"We must never forget," he said of Nagasaki, "and it must never be repeated." ■



for the RECORD

BY JOHN TATEISHI

Pledge of Allegiance ... JACL Style

For the record, did you know that the JACL national board took an official position not to include the phrase “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance whenever recited at JACL functions?

I don’t remember the exact date of that board action (it’s in the minutes of the meeting, so it can be looked up easily enough if you want/need to know), but it was sometime during my tenure as the national director.

Mas Hashimoto, from the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, was at that meeting and addressed the board on this issue. He gave an impassioned plea when he spoke about how, as a Buddhist, he had always felt excluded from the meaning of the pledge when that simple phrase, “under God,” was spoken.

Mas urged the board to eliminate the phrase whenever the pledge was recited at JACL functions.

It was not a controversial request, nor was it a hotly debated matter by board members. It’s not that the phrase is sacrosanct or that it would be patriotically blasphemous to exclude it whenever the pledge is given at JACL functions.

Actually, “under God” was inserted into the pledge in the 1950s during the Cold War era by a vote of the Congress. It was, if anything, more political than anything else as a statement to the world that the United States was guided by Christian values, unlike atheistic Russia, our most feared enemy during the Cold War.

I was in junior high school at the time, and although I was raised a Methodist, I couldn’t help feeling a discomfort when “under God” was first introduced into the pledge. My uneasiness had nothing to do with my personal views about religions but had more to do with being Japanese American.

“One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all” for some reason had, for me, a sense of not really applying to me. “With liberty and justice for all” — well, I knew that wasn’t true from our camp experience. But “under God” seemed to be saying yes, if you’re white. As crazy as that seems to me today, I knew that’s where my discomfort lay, in large part because there were so many Buddhists among us in our community.

In those days, we always began our school days with the pledge, and it felt awkward to say those words. It didn’t flow with the rest of the pledge; it was an intrusion, both in rhythm and in thought. For a while, half the class would say it and the other half stumbled over it. Eventually, we got used to it, but it always felt awkward to me. The pledge became a statement of true patriotism in the days of the Cold War, but it seemed to place non-Christians into a category of second-class citizens.

I may have felt the sting of the phrase for my Buddhist friends, but I also recognized that there was a determination to the ways in which social and political walls were being constructed around us. And in those days, it was about being American. If you

were a second-class citizen, which we most certainly were, it didn’t take much to remind us that the flag stood for something different for mainstream America than it did for us.

The decision by the national board to eliminate “under God” from the JACL’s use of the pledge of allegiance was a right decision. Just as adding the phrase by Congressional action in the Cold War era was purely political, the JACL’s taking the phrase out is also political, but our action is one of inclusion. It’s one that says we’re all first-

class citizens under the meaning of the pledge.

Here’s a thought: at your next chapter event where you say the pledge of allegiance, if you announced before beginning the pledge that as a national policy, the JACL does not include “under God” as part of the pledge and explain why, think of the educational value of that. For the non-JAs in the audience, it will doubtless make for interesting conversation with your members.

I guarantee that it will make them think of something they’ve never considered and will help them understand that there are multitudes of dimensions to the JA community.

Much ado about nothing? Yes, it is, it definitely is. And it definitely was when these two words were inserted into the pledge.

But words matter. They say a lot. ■

John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.



the right PLACE

BY JAMES KUMPEL

U.S. Needs Skills-Based Immigration Laws

The euphemisms for those people who have entered our country without proper registration or visa status has evolved from illegal aliens to illegal immigrants to guest workers to undocumented immigrant. Regardless of what phrase is used or how necessary the work may be, the bottom line is that laws were broken due to porous borders, lax enforcement efforts, or conscious intent.

Let’s be frank. Most Americans buy into the view that this country owes much to its immigrant heritage. That includes Republicans, Southerners, Arizonans and Tea Partiers. I realize that this concept must be hard to believe for the mainstream media, Nancy Pelosi or Harry Reid because racism is so central to their irresponsible ad hominem attacks on Republicans. But the transparently political reason for Democratic politicians to support greater college aid and drivers licenses for illegal aliens is to build up another voting bloc beholden to the party during a period of center-right ideological orientation.

There needs to be some strategy to bring long-standing residents into the societal fold in order to ensure true naturalization, language training, civics lessons, tax collections and government identification. However, this process has to begin after we have established secure borders that stem the flow of more people who live “off the grid” and off the books. While some might balk at the idea of building fences or guarding national boundaries, there are excellent rationales for doing so, including national security, fiscal responsibility, civil order and property rights.

As a society, we recognize the need to show government-issued ID to enter a bar, board a plane, cash a check or pick up a package. We accept the consequences of parking for too long on a certain street. We accept the responsibility of filing taxes annually and applying for the right to properly zone properties. It should not be viewed as biased, unfair, or intolerant to expect those seeking to permanently work and live in the U.S. to file the proper forms, adhere to basic standards, learn the national language, understand our democratic traditions and maintain proper identification.

Virtually all Americans understand the contributions of immigrants to our country’s success and progress. Everyday we observe the work ethic, entrepreneurship, and ambition of first generation immigrants who are trying to establish a better way of life for themselves

and their families.

However, many citizens in Border States endure the costs of caring for sick or pregnant illegals whose hospitalization bills are passed onto the state or local governments. Border States absorb undue and disproportionate societal costs in dealing with the drug or human trafficking, heightened educational and social services demands, and inhumane living conditions in various facilities that house illegal aliens.

The federal government should enforce its own laws and stop leaving the states with the tab. It is unfair to our citizens and to the migrants who are subject to manipulation by employers or others to allow the status quo to continue.

Given our country’s dire financial

‘The federal government should enforce its own laws and stop leaving the states with the tab.’

condition, we have a demographic time bomb that threatens to destroy many institutions that are unsustainable without fundamental change. Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid all need to be

overhauled (whether by Rep. Paul Ryan’s approach or the Deficit Commission’s approach) because the worker-to-retiree dependency ratio is declining as more baby boomers enter retirement.

An increase in LEGAL immigration should be a major part of this reform. With the right policy in place, immigration should help bring down the age of the workforce (thus lengthening the time to contribute into these programs), ensure that millions of job openings are filled, and create new opportunities from the skill sets and capabilities of the newly naturalized.

Canada’s western provinces feature thriving Chinese communities, in part, due to strategic immigration policy that attracted entrepreneurs and highly productive immigrants in advance of the 1997 Hong Kong handover.

Our Washington representatives should pursue immigration legislation that increases legal immigration with an emphasis on skills and resources. Our country faces a distinct shortage in physicians, nurses, engineers, scientists, and mathematicians. We can and should promote reasonable immigration reform that helps the U.S. plug holes in our economic engine, while fostering opportunities for the hard-working, ambitious, and proud immigrants who want to share in the American Dream. ■

James Kumpel is a JACL New York chapter board member and former JACL scholarship winner.

Tess Gerritsen Speaks Up With 'The Silent Girl'



PHOTO: LEONARDO GENDAMO

For the past 25 years, Gerritsen has rejected "Asian themes" and chosen to hide her ethnicity, scared of how being seen as a Chinese American author might affect her potential readership.

In her latest crime thriller, the 'Rizzoli and Isles' author Tess Gerritsen incorporates the Asian American experience, a subject she has avoided for years.

By Christine Fukushima
Contributor

Bestselling author Tess Gerritsen's wildly popular crime thrillers are known for their creepy and complex plot twists that keep readers wondering "whodunit" until the very last chapter.

But with the release of "The Silent Girl," the newest novel in her series that inspired the television show "Rizzoli and Isles," Gerritsen has pulled perhaps her best twist yet: she's Chinese American and she's no longer afraid to write about it.

"Years ago I was told by a publisher that readers just won't buy books like that," Gerritsen said in a phone call from her home in Camden, Maine. "But this time I thought, you know, I'm not getting any younger. I want to tell this story from my own childhood while I still can, while it's still fresh in my mind."

As a romance novelist at the beginning of her writing career, a publisher informed Gerritsen that their statistics showed that books featuring Asian Pacific American heroes or heroines did not sell well.

So for the past 25 years, she rejected "Asian themes" and chose to hide her ethnicity behind her Dutch married name, scared of how being seen as a Chinese American author might affect her potential readership.

"The Silent Girl" is Gerritsen's "coming out" novel.

The ninth book in the "Rizzoli and Isles" series hit number three on *The New York Times* Best Sellers list after its release on July 5.

Its popularity doesn't come as a surprise: Gerritsen's medical and crime thrillers have been translated into 40 languages and more

than 25 million copies have been sold around the world.

Many of her dedicated fans, such as her oldest son's wife Danielle Gerritsen, who vows that she reads Tess' books for their "suspense and mystery" and not just to get in her mother-in-law's good graces, say that "The Silent Girl" is one of Gerritsen's best books yet.

"I anxiously await every new release, and I picked it up while on vacation, visiting a friend who just had a baby. I read it in two days, with a week old infant sleeping in my right arm, and the Silent Girl on my left," said Danielle. "It is one of my favorites of Tess' novels."

Like her novels, Gerritsen's career path contains more than one unexpected plot twist.

Although she knew that she wanted to be a writer since the age of 7, Tess succumbed to the parental pressures of being a second-generation Chinese American and became a doctor instead, graduating from the University of San Francisco, California with her M.D.

"I think anybody who's raised in an Asian household knows how conservative [Asian parents] are about their children's future occupations," said Tess, explaining why she went into medicine. "So my dad just said 'there's no money to be made in the arts, you better go into the sciences.'"

Gerritsen worked as a physician until

the birth of her first son, Adam. While on maternity leave, she took advantage of the time off to pursue her childhood dream. She started out writing romantic suspense, publishing her first novel in 1987.

"It's something that we sort of didn't even pay attention to because it was just our mom at the desk writing and it didn't really seem like she was doing anything," said her youngest son Josh Gerritsen, laughing.

But when the now-former physician and mother of two earned a million-dollar book deal and made her debut on *The New York Times* Best Sellers list for her first medical

thriller "Harvest," her family realized that mom wasn't just twiddling her thumbs.

Gerritsen has since written three more medical thrillers and nine crime thrillers in the "Rizzoli and Isles" series, including "The Silent Girl."

Set in Boston's Chinatown and featuring the Chinese legend of the Monkey King, the story influenced by Gerritsen's childhood also introduces her first major APA character, detective Johnny Tam.

"The Asian female seems to be able to be perceived as not only a sexy person but also a capable person,

a powerful person. Asian men still feel like they get the short end of the stick," she says. With the detective, Gerritsen wanted to bring in a "sexy" character who would challenge negative stereotypes of APA male masculinity and be attractive to the other characters in the story.

Through Tam's character, Gerritsen also wanted to convey how she felt growing up as an APA.

One scene in which Johnny's relative is

told not to go out with dirty clothes because it would make people think all Chinese people don't know how to dress well, was taken directly from a childhood memory.

And the detective "talks about the things that I felt, such as this collective sense of guilt when any Asian commits a crime somewhere in the country [and] we all sort of cringe and how we always feel that our behavior reflects on the rest of our race. White people never feel this stuff," she says.

"But anybody who is a visible minority is going to feel that way and I think it doesn't get explored enough."

Just as popular as her novels is the television version of "Rizzoli and Isles."

"When I read Tess' books, I thought, 'this is a series,'" said Janet Tamaro, executive producer of "Rizzoli and Isles."

Starring Angie Harmon as police detective Jane Rizzoli and Sasha Alexander as medical examiner Dr. Maura Isles, it has been renewed for a third season and is the number two show on cable television.

The twin successes of the "Rizzoli and Isles" television and book series haven't given the author a big head, though. She still remains accessible to her fans, blogging for mystery and crime website murderati.com, answering comments on her posts and reading fan reviews for her books, "The Silent Girl" included.

With the popularity of the book and in particular the Johnny Tam character, who will be reappearing in the book series and might be written into the television program, Tess isn't sure that the statistics given to her by that publisher years ago still apply.

Instead, she has found that "people are really loving this book more than my other stories and a lot of the praise is coming from non-Asians, from Caucasians, who it turns out are quite fascinated by the legend stuff."

"It's 25 years later and I think people are maybe more open minded ... I think we're more willing to read about experiences that are unlike our own," she added. ■

'The Asian female seems to be able to be perceived as not only a sexy person but also a capable person, a powerful person. Asian men still feel like they get the short end of the stick.'

Ed Lee Files Papers to Run for S.F. Mayor



Interim San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee has been criticized for changing his mind and deciding to now run for the full, four-year term that he once rejected.

By Jason Dearen
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO—Interim Mayor Ed Lee filed papers Aug. 8 to run for a full, four-year term, marking a stark shift from his position seven months ago that he had no intention of joining the crowded mayoral race.

Flanked by family members as he announced his run, Lee said he changed his mind after seeing the tone of City Hall improve during his short tenure. That, and the urging of California Sen. Dianne Feinstein and others, persuaded him to run for the office, he said.

"I think these seven months have been a demonstration of how this city could work with less politics and more getting the job done," Lee said.

"That's what I want to do, and while I changed my mind ladies and gentlemen, I haven't changed. It's still Ed Lee, it's still me doing the work and I want to continue doing that work," he said, standing in front of the city's Board of Elections office in the basement of City Hall.

Lee, the city's first Asian American mayor, reluctantly agreed in January to serve out the

remainder of Gavin Newsom's term after Newsom was elected lieutenant governor. At the time, Lee expressed eagerness to eventually return to his city administrator post and said he had no interest in joining the race for mayor.

The crowded field of candidates also includes city supervisors David Chiu and John Avalos, who were on the board that appointed Lee to the job.

Lee, who was expected to attend a candidates forum Aug. 8 in the Castro District, said he has been busy reaching out to members of the board of supervisors to discuss his change of mind.

"I do owe them an explanation ...," Lee said. "I will reach all of them by the end of today and explain why I changed my mind here."

Lee said his top accomplishments as mayor included a tax break and other city proposals to keep technology companies like Twitter Inc. and Zynga in San Francisco.

The tax break effort was aided by Supervisor Chiu, the board president, who was an important supporter of Lee's agenda.

Chiu told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that Lee's successes

over the past seven months were based on trust, and he expressed disappointment that Lee "broke his promise to our city."

City Attorney Dennis Herrera, who is also among the crowded field of mayoral candidates, said Lee's biggest liability is not his flip-flop about whether he would run, but his connection to the area's most powerful political players.

"To my mind, Ed Lee's biggest problem isn't that he's a dishonest man — it's that he's not his own man," Herrera said about Lee's comments on Sen. Feinstein and others who urged him to run.

"The fact is, if Ed Lee is elected mayor, powerful people will continue to insist on things," Herrera said. "And I don't think San Franciscans can be blamed for having serious doubts about whether Ed Lee would have the courage to say no."

Other candidates welcomed Lee to the race.

"I look forward to discussing the important issues facing our city with the interim mayor and finally seeing him at the candidate debates," state Sen. Leland Yee, D-San Francisco, said in a statement. ■

JACL Announces New District Governors

Two new district governors have been elected to serve on the JACL national board.

David Unruhe, a Placer County JACL member since 1992, was elected governor of the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District after serving on the district executive board for two years. He is currently involved in the effort to build a statue honoring Nisei World War II veterans in Roseville, Calif. He also serves as secretary of the Gold Hill Wakamatsu Foundation and teaches at Tomodachi Gakko in Cortez-Livingston each summer.

Stephanie Nitahara is replacing Michio Murakishi, who began a

term as district governor of the Midwest District this year but resigned for personal reasons.

Nitahara has been involved in multiple JACL National Youth/Student Council activities such as endorsing a resolution for North Korean human rights, managing social events during the 2009 national youth conference, maintaining the NY/SC treasury and planning regional leadership summits for the youth and young professionals of JACL.

"I have known David Unruhe through his JACL work for his chapter and district. Also, I've known him through his active involvement with the Buddhist

Churches of America. I'm very pleased to see him volunteering to serve on the national JACL board. Stephanie Nitahara has been an active member of JACL's Youth Council. It is wonderful to see such qualified young people take on leadership roles within our organization," said David Kawamoto, JACL national president.

The JACL has seven districts

Other governors serving are: Chip Larouche, Pacific Northwest District; Marcia Chung, Central California District; Kerry Kaneichi, Pacific Southwest District; Brian Morishita, Intermountain District; and Toshi Abe, Eastern District. ■

National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Ribbon Cutting at Bainbridge Island Monument



BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, Wash. — An Aug. 6 ribbon cutting ceremony at Bainbridge Island marks the second phase of the development of a monument that memorializes the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.

It's a 276-foot long wall — one foot for each of the islanders who were incarcerated.

Future phases will include an interpretive center and a pier at the site of the former dock where soldiers loaded residents on a ferry in 1942.

The Bainbridge Island memorial is a satellite of the Minidoka National Historic Site in Idaho.

Columbia Quakers Honor Japan Atomic Bomb Victims

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The Columbia Religious Society of Friends held an Aug. 7 vigil to remember the people who died when two nuclear bombs were dropped on Japan 66 years ago.

The Quakers group joined others at the Rutledge Chapel to remember the day when the world's first atomic bombs were dropped by the United States on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the closing days of World War II.

A film about the survivors of the bombing called "Hibakusha, Our Life to Live" was also screened.

Memorial is Dedicated in Honor of Local Japanese Americans

THREE FORKS, Mont. — A memorial to five Japanese American men who served in the U.S. Army during World War II was dedicated Aug. 5.

The memorial honors five local men — George Oiye, Yokichi Itoh and the three Satake brothers, John, Frank and King. Satake's sister Col. Eileen Satake, a member of the Army Nurse Corps, was also recognized.

Three Forks resident Bud Lilly worked to create a permanent memorial to ensure their stories are never forgotten.

500 Register For Native Hawaiian Convention

HONOLULU — The 10th annual Native Hawaiian Convention has 500 people signed up for the event, which begins Aug. 23.

The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement said the event is one of the largest gatherings of Native Hawaiian leaders across the state.

The three-day event at the Hawaii Convention Center in Honolulu will attract Hawaii's congressional delegates, the governor and officials with the Obama White House Initiative on Pacific Islanders.

Issues to be discussed include cultural preservation, education, housing, economic development and self-determination.

U.S. Stamps to Mark 100 Years of Cherry Trees Gift

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service will issue two stamps next year on the 100th anniversary of the gift to Washington of more than 3,000 cherry trees by Yukio Ozaki, the mayor of Tokyo at the time.

The "Cherry Blossom Centennial Forever Stamps" create a single, panoramic view of the cherry trees blooming around the Tidal Basin when two stamps are placed side by side.

The other half of each stamp features blossoming trees arching over a family on a stroll and two girls wearing kimono, and a canopy of pink blooms with the Jefferson Memorial in the background.

The trees have become a symbol of the Japan-U.S. friendship. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

New Nisei Week Queen is Crowned



Erika Mariko Olsen, a graduate of the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at California State University, Long Beach, has been crowned the 2011 Nisei Week Queen.

Olsen, 22, is a member of the Grateful Crane Youth Singers.

Other Nisei Week Queen participants include: **Mimi Mitsuko Yang**, first princess; **Kay A. Yamaguchi**, Miss Tomadachi; **Leann Fumiko Fujinami**, princess; **Jessica Makiko Kanai**, princess; **Michi Renee Lew**, princess; **Melissa Ayumi Nishimura**, princess; and **Amber Akemi Piatt**, princess.

princess; **Michi Renee Lew**, princess; **Melissa Ayumi Nishimura**, princess; and **Amber Akemi Piatt**, princess.

UIUC Names Wise New Chancellor at Urbana Campus

The University of Illinois has chosen a 66-year-old woman with a reputation as a strong fiscal manager and researcher as the next leader of its flagship campus.

The university said that University of Washington Provost **Phyllis M. Wise** will take over as chancellor at its Urbana-Champaign campus on Oct. 1.

Wise is a professor of physiology and biophysics, biology, and obstetrics and gynecology and has been provost at Washington since 2005.

Illinois' student body is 11 percent Asian American, according to university records.

Miranda Du Gets Nod For U.S. District Court Bench

President Barack Obama has nominated **Miranda Du** to serve on the U.S. District Court bench for the District of Nevada.

Du is a partner in the law firm of McDonald Carano Wilson LLP in Reno, Nevada, where she specializes in complex civil litigation and employment law.

Du has appeared before federal and state courts in all phases of litigation, including appeals before the Nevada Supreme Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

New Program Manager Appointed for California Civil Liberties Public Education

Peggy Fish has been named as program manager of the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP), effective Aug. 15.

Fish replaces **Linda Springer**, who is retiring mid-August.

CCLPEP is the result of the California Civil Liberties Public Education Act. The act funds public education activities and educational materials about the World War II internment of Japanese Americans.

UC Riverside Scholar to Study Vietnamese Cinema

A proposal to study 50 years of filmmaking and the role of cinema in Vietnam has won **Lan Duong**, assistant professor of media and cultural studies at the University of California, Riverside, a 2011-12 Fulbright fellowship.

Duong will research the history of Vietnamese cinema for a book titled "Transnational Vietnamese Cinemas: Imagining Nationhood in a Globalized Era." Specifically, she will examine how Vietnamese nationhood has been realized on film and how cinema in Vietnam has changed within the past 50 years.

Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii President Announces Retirement

Lenny Yajima Andrew is retiring from her position as the president and executive director of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii.

Andrew has served in this position for over four years. Under her leadership, the cultural center has grown its educational programs, expanded community outreach events, and made significant strides in the effort to preserve World War II Confinement Sites in Hawaii.

Andrew will remain at the cultural center until a successor is chosen to ensure a seamless transition. The board of directors has begun the search for a new president. ■

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Collecting Stories For JA Book Project



Sunday school kids and members pose in front of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple on March 23, 1930.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL is looking for current or former local residents to share their stories about growing up in Watsonville, Calif. and surrounding areas for a Japanese American history project.

The book project "Watsonville Nihonmachi: Then and Now" seeks to record the area's rich JA history before and after World War II.

Noted JA leaders like **Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston**, author of "Farewell to Manzanar" and **Michie Miyamoto**, who designed the 442nd Regimental Combat Team patch, have called Watsonville their home.

"At the turn of the 20th century, Watsonville was as important as San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, San Jose and Fresno," said **Mas Hashimoto**, of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL. "Our history with its struggles and successes needs to be remembered and, equally important, to give

thanks to those who helped us along the way."

Stories will span from pre-WWII to camp experiences and post-war struggles.

While the project title may center on Watsonville's JA community, stories from all of Santa Cruz County and the Pajaro Valley will also be collected.

August and September have been designated as research months, said Hashimoto. Those who wish to have their family's story published need to look at their family photo albums, marriage and legal documents, letters, and other records.

High school or college age students who write about their family history will get a byline in the project.

James Ong, a historian and graduate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, will be in charge of the "frontline fieldwork portion" of the project as well as undertaking the role of a writer, editor and interviewer.

In the coming months, Ong will be conducting interviews with the Nisei and their families and editing the footage into an archive.

"The Nihonmachi project is also important for a very simple reason; it is interesting and informative for anyone, not just Japanese Americans," said Ong. "It is a story of immigration history, the development of an ethnic community made up of individuals who were basically pioneers in a foreign land, a commentary on social development and evolving views of 'race,' and a survey of how outsider groups interact with the mainstream." ■

Are You a Part of Watsonville's History?

Send your stories, photos and documents for the book project. For more information, contact **Mas Hashimoto** at 578 Vivienne Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076 or hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

Terminology Symposium to be Held in October

A community-wide terminology symposium will be held Oct. 22 at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) in San Francisco's Japantown.

Its purpose is to discuss the euphemistic terminology that the U.S. government employed to describe the Japanese American internment experience, according to a press release by the Tule Lake Committee.

The symposium was established because the National Park Service asked the JA community, and specifically the Tule Lake

Committee, for more guidance on issues of terminology, specifically with regards to the terms "concentration camps" and "American concentration camps."

Barbara Takei, a key organizer of the event, explained that although State Marker plaques labeling Manzanar and Tule Lake as "American concentration camps" were approved in the '70s, in recent years the NPS has avoided using the term with regards to the three WRA sites it manages.

"What is not clear is whose point of view and the choice of words the NPS will use to educate future

generations," she added.

A panel of scholars and activists, which includes **Mako Nakogawa**, the primary author of JACL's Power of Words resolution, will answer questions posed by the community. It will be followed by a discussion process to develop a petition or a document expressing consensus.

Event organizers include the Japanese American National Library, the Tule Lake Committee, and the JCCCNC, with support of **Lane Hirabayashi** and the **Aratani Endowed chair**, Asian American Studies at UCLA. ■

Setting the Record Straight



By Gerald Yamada

In his National Director's Report (*Pacific Citizen*, July 15-Aug. 4, 2011), Floyd Mori provided readers a narcissistic account of how the National Park Service (NPS) grants program came to be authorized by Public Law 109-441. As national coordinator for the Japanese American National Heritage Coalition (Heritage Coalition), I am compelled to set the record straight.

Mori wrongly attributes passage of Public Law 109-441 to support from JACL and John Tateishi. The record shows that the national JACL board initially voted to not join the Heritage Coalition and therefore not to support the Heritage Coalition's initiative to create a new grant program to preserve the confinement sites.

When asked by a member of the audience about the initiative at the Arkansas All-Camps Workshop, Tateishi stated that he did not think the legislation had any chance of passing. Although JACL did eventually join the Heritage Coalition, Tateishi never returned any of my phone calls to discuss the legislation strategy.

The record also shows that not a single communication went from Tateishi or Mori to the JACL chapters asking them to support the legislation. Nor does the record show a single letter of support sent to a member of Congress by national JACL or a JACL chapter. At critical points, when I asked members of the Heritage Coalition to contact their senators and representatives, at every point my friends in the D.C. JACL chapter said that nothing was sent by national JACL to the D.C. chapter about supporting the legislation.

This lack of vision, leadership, and support made JACL largely irrelevant to the successful passage of Public Law 109-441 and its implementation.

Mori was right to say that Congressman Bill Thomas was extremely helpful in moving the legislation through the House. But Mori was wrong about what motivated Thomas. It is simply delusional to say that Thomas, a very, very conservative Republican out of Bakersfield, sponsored the bill out of "close friendship" with Mori.

Thomas, once an instructor at Bakersfield College, told me at our first meeting that he deeply regretted what happened to Japanese Americans during World War II. Thomas was the lead sponsor of the legislation that designated Manzanar as a NPS unit. Mori's characterization of Thomas' support

would have allowed opponents to label the bill as "special interest" legislation and thus kill it in committee.

Mori's awkward attempt to enhance his personal legacy should not come at the expense of JAs whose hard work in fact produced the legislative success. Congressman Bob Matsui had agreed to be the lead Democratic sponsor but died before Thomas was able to introduce the Heritage Coalition's bill in the House. Thomas then asked Congresswoman Doris Matsui and Congressman Mike Honda to join him in a "Dear Colleague" letter sent to other House members asking for their support. It was this joint letter plus the over 200 Heritage Coalition letters that produced 114 bipartisan co-sponsors.

In the Senate, Sen. Daniel K. Inouye was the bill's sponsor. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchinson of Texas was the lead Republican co-sponsor. Sen. Daniel Akaka was the ranking minority member on the committee with jurisdiction over the bill. Sens. Inouye and Akaka successfully opposed unwanted amendments to the bill and created the legislative history making all member organizations of the Heritage Coalition eligible to apply for NPS grants. Today, the Heritage Coalition numbers 33 national and local organizations.

Public Law 109-441 is authorizing legislation. To implement the program, annual appropriations legislation also is needed. Every year since Public Law 109-441 was passed, Rep. Matsui has taken the lead in sending out a "Dear Colleague" letter asking other members to join her in asking the Appropriations Committee to fund the NPS grant program. Rep. Honda has been equally helpful but is constrained because he is a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Two years lapsed before the program received funding. In the last fiscal year, the president requested \$1 million for the NPS grants program. The House Appropriations Sub-committee, chaired by Congressman Norm Dicks, upped the amount to \$2.5 million. The Senate Appropriations Committee, chaired by Sen. Inouye, further increased the amount to \$3 million, which was the amount enacted.

With the tremendous pressure that Congress now faces in reducing the federal deficit, we will need their support, and yours, to continue funding the NPS grant program. ■

Gerald Yamada is the national coordinator of the Japanese American National Heritage Coalition.



Confinement Sites Grant Program Reflection of *Kodomo No Tame Ni*

By Rep. Mike Honda

As most Americans know, Congress has entered a period of drastic budget cuts. Leaders in both political parties have warned that no program — no matter how large or small — is safe from the chopping block. While recognizing the need to root out wasteful spending at all levels, many members of Congress, including myself, have warned against cutting programs that have genuine benefits to our nation, even if the return on investment is not obviously monetary.

In the House of Representatives, the most current spending debate is over the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill, which would fund programs and agencies that protect our environment, sustain and grow our national parks, and preserve our nation's treasures. Debate began on the bill before the House left for its annual August district work period, and is expected to pick up again after Labor Day.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have had the opportunity to work on the FY2012 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill at its early stages. While I strongly oppose the severe, unnecessary, and ideological cuts in this bill, it is worth noting that with all the partisan fighting and budget slashing in this legislation, Democrats and Republicans agree that the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) grant program in the National Park Service should be fully funded at President Obama's request of \$3 million.

This \$3 million annual allocation may not seem like a big deal in terms of the nearly \$10 billion budget of the entire bill. The JACS grant program, however, represents the hard work of our community to preserve the history and story of our internment experience for future generations of Americans, so that such a Constitutional tragedy never occurs again.

The JACS grant program was created in 2006 with the passage of Public Law 109-441, introduced by Calif. Rep. Bill Thomas on the House side and Hawaii Sen. Daniel Inouye on the Senate side, with Sens. Daniel Akaka of Hawaii and Bob Bennett of Utah as original co-sponsors.

Its passage was the result of strong advocacy efforts and personal relationships developed by community leaders including Gerald Yamada of the Japanese American National Heritage Coalition and John Tateishi, immediate former national director of JACL.

Floyd Mori, the current JACL national director, was also a crucial leader in the

introduction and passage of legislation. Floyd had developed a strong friendship with Thomas while the two served in the California State Assembly together in the 1970s and worked to help secure Thomas' critical commitment to sponsor the bill. Together, Gerald, John and Floyd led the effort of countless advocates across the country to educate their representatives and senators on the importance of preserving these confinement sites for future generations.

Public Law 109-441 authorized \$38 million in funding within the NPS and the grant program began receiving annual appropriations in FY2009, in the amount of \$1 million. For FY2010, in coordination with my friend and colleague Rep. Doris Matsui and our community's leaders and advocates, I was able to convince my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, including through my direct advocacy with the chair and ranking member of the Interior and Environment Subcommittee, to increase the annual allocation to \$2.5 million. With the leadership of Sen. Inouye, the level was boosted to \$3 million in the final version of the bill, the level where it continues to be funded.

While it is important for our community to take strength in remembering how this legislative victory was realized, we can all agree that the principal achievement was the creation of a grant program that will ensure future generations have the opportunity to visit some of these sites and reflect on the *gaman* of our community to get through this dark period of American history.

I often smile while I envision the day when, long after I'm gone, my three grandsons will take their kids to Camp Amache in Colorado, where my family and I were held, and teach them about the internment, the Constitution, and our roots in the United States of America. Ultimately, the creation of the Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program is a reflection of the same motto that our parents and grandparents used to struggle through the hard times of the camps: *kodomo no tame ni* — for the sake of the children.

I encourage you to contact your member of Congress and your Senators to ask that they maintain the \$3 million funding level for the confinement sites grant program in the FY2012 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill. ■

Rep. Mike Honda is the chairman emeritus of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus. He has represented California's Silicon Valley in Congress since 2001.

Concert Series Showcases Asian Pacific American Talent

The Seattle concert featured Far East Movement and internet artists.

An Asian Pacific American concert series has kicked-off its 2011 concert tour in Seattle to showcase up-and-coming artists of the internet generation.

The International Secret Agents (ISA) July 31 concert featured singer David Choi, Far East Movement, New Heights and Wong Fu Productions among other performers.

"Seattle definitely had one of the loudest and most spirited crowds we'd ever performed for," said James "Prohgress" Roh, a Far East Movement member.

Concert tickets sold out in two weeks. ISA has also held shows in Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco.

In a special Aug. 1 post-concert meet and greet, YouTube sensations KevJumba and

Ryan Higa greeted over 500 fans for several hours.

"We couldn't have asked for a better city than Seattle to kick-off our 2011 tour," said Philip Wang, an ISA co-founder and member of Wong Fu Productions.

Since 2008, ISA has been showcasing the brightest and most talented rising artists to a diverse audience. Future

'We couldn't have asked for a better city than Seattle to kick-off our 2011 tour.'

— Phillip Wang,
Wong Fu Productions

concert dates will be announced on ISA's website. ■

On the web: www.isatv.com



PHOTO: AX3 MULTIMEDIA

Far East Movement performed at the Seattle International Secret Agents concert.

Densho Receives Grants to Teach JA History

With funds from two new grants, a Seattle-based non-profit organization plans to create a curriculum package on the World War II Japanese American experience and upgrade its existing web-based photograph and document collection.

Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project, which owns the largest archive of visual testimonies on the JA WWII experience, has been awarded two grants totaling \$544,713 from the National Park Service Japanese American Confinement Sites program.

Densho will create a curriculum package and partner with four community and historical organizations to make accessible more than 50,000 digital objects related to the JA confinement sites.

"The key to success for the projects will be partnerships," said Tom Ikeda, Densho executive director. "The depth and diversity of the photo and document collection will increase dramatically as we work with organizations in California, Hawaii, Oregon

and Wyoming. Our reach into the classroom will expand as we train and support hundreds of classroom teachers on an ongoing basis."

Densho has been developing and conducting teacher training and curriculum on the WWII incarceration story for over 10 years. The grant will increase its teacher education library and build critical thinking skills in upper level elementary through high school students by utilizing historical and primary source materials.

Densho will also create a web-based repository that enables community and historical organizations to make their digital objects available online. Densho will design and create a digital archive system while working with four partnering community organizations: Japanese American Museum of San Jose, Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, Oregon Nikkei Endowment, and Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Hawaii. ■

On the web: www.densho.org



Arizona Summer Program Empowers Youth

College-bound participants of an Arizona State University summer program learned about hate crimes and how the World War II internment has affected the Asian Pacific American community.

The Asian Lead Academy's 17th annual graduation program included a session on hate crimes and lessons from the 1982 murder of Vincent Chin in Detroit, Mich. Participants also visited Gila River to gain insight on the WWII Japanese American experience.

Twenty-three high school students were awarded certificates of achievement after completing the two-week program. Ten college-bound students also attended the program. Two received awards from the Mark Saka Scholarship.

The LEAD Academy's goal is to provide APA youth with the tools to become trusted and informed leaders of the future.

The Arizona JACL and other APA organizations sponsored the program. ■



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ESCORTED TOURS & CRUISES SCHEDULED FOR 2011

Sept. 26-Oct. 5	Yamato Eastern Canada Fall Foliage Tour - 10 days/9 nights visiting Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Cape Breton.	Philippe Theriault
Sept. 30 - Oct. 13	Route 66 with Balloon Fiesta with Trafalgar Tours - 13 days/12 nights visiting Chicago, St. Louis, Branson, Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Albuquerque (Balloon Fiesta), Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, Hollywood, Los Angeles.	Sharon Seto
October 17-31	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan - 15 days/13 nights visiting Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima, Hiroshima/Miyajima, Kyoto, Tokyo.	Peggy Mikuni
Oct. 31-Nov. 14	Yamato South Pacific Wonders with Collette Vacations - 15 days/12 nights visiting Cairns (Great Barrier Reef) & Sydney, Australia; Christchurch, Mt. Cook Nat'l Park, Queenstown, & Milford Sound, New Zealand.	Collette Escort
November 3-16	Blue Danube Discovery with AMA Waterways - river cruise aboard m/s Amalrya, including 2 nights in Budapest, 7-night cruise to Bratislava, Vienna, Durnstein, Melk, Linz, Passau, Regensburg, Hilpoltstein, Nuremberg and 3 nights in Prague.	Sharon Seto
December 3-12	Yamato Christmas Markets of Europe Tour - 10 days/8 nights visiting Prague, Rothenburg, Dinkelsbuehl to Ulm, Neuschwanstein, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Salzburg, Vienna.	Philippe Theriault

PROPOSED TOURS FOR 2012

Feb. 29 - Mar. 8	Discover Panama: The Land Between the Seas with Collette Vacations - 9 Days/7 Nights visiting Panama City, Monkey Island, Galeta Marine Lab, Panama Canal Railway, Gamboa, Panama Canal Cruise, Embera Indigenous Village, and Playa Bonita.	Sharon Seto
April 4-18	Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour to Japan - 15 days/13 nights visiting Tokyo, Hakone, Nagoya, Takayama, Kanazawa, Hiroshima, Miyajima and Kyoto. <i>Ask about partial tour participation.</i>	Peggy Mikuni
May 16 - 28	Yamato RCI 9-day Cruise on the "Enchantment of the Seas," starting from Baltimore and cruising to Bermuda, Boston, Newport (Rhode Island) and back to Baltimore.	Peggy Mikuni
June 17-28	Yamato Hokkaido Tour - 12 days/10 nights visiting Sapporo, Sounkyo, Kawayu Spa, Kushiro, Ikeda, Obihiro, Lake Toya and Hakodate.	Peggy Mikuni
October 15-29	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan - 15 days/13 nights visiting Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Kyoto and Tokyo. <i>Ask about partial tours.</i>	Peggy Mikuni

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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS



PHOTO: RICH IWASAKI

Museum Day Featuring the Minidoka Swing Band

PORTLAND, OR

Sept. 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Washington County Museum

17677 NW Springville Rd.

In celebration of National Museum Day the Minidoka Swing Band will hold a free

performance. Bring the family and a picnic lunch to the museum. Two exhibits "Taken FBI" and "The Day We Left" will be on display.

Info: 503/645-5353 or

www.washingtoncountymuseum.org

EDC

New England JACL Presents A Book Talk With Debra Samuels

LINCOLN, MA

Sept. 10, 2-4 p.m.

Lincoln Library

3 Bedford Rd.

The New England JACL presents Debra Samuels' book "My Japanese Table," a collection of stories and recipes for Japanese food that she gathered over 40 years. She is a New England JACler.

Info: 781/259-9444 or yamamoto@nejacl.org

GO!

NCWNP

Jeanette Du 'Fun With Ancient Chinese Poems' Book Reading

BERKELEY, CA

Sept. 25, 3 p.m.

Eastwind Books of Berkeley

2066 University Ave.

Jeanette Du launches her new book "Fun with Ancient Chinese Poems in Multimedia," which offers resources to the study ancient Chinese poems.

RSVP: www.asiabookcenter.com

or 510/548-2350

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Film Screening

WATSONVILLE, CA

Aug. 27, 2-4 p.m.

JACL Kizuka Hall

150 Blackburn St.

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and the Watsonville Public Library invite you to the premiere of "An American Story of WWII." The film is a collaboration to collect and record the stories of Japanese Americans during WWII.

Info: www.watsonvillesantacruzjaci.org

SEE!

Lewis Suzuki Art Exhibit Showings

BERKELEY, CA

Aug. 1 to Sept. 26

La Pena Cultural Center's Hall of Fame

3105 Shattuck Ave.

Japanese American artist Lewis Suzuki will have two one-man shows in August and September. His art will also be on display at the Alta Bates Hospital from Aug. 20 to Sept.

30.

Info: 510/849-1427 or mbonzo@earthlink.net

The Midori Kai's 11th Annual Boutique

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA

Sept. 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Mountain View Buddhist Temple Hall

575 N. Shoreline Blvd.

Midori Kai, a nonprofit professional business women's organization, will feature its eleventh Annual Arts & Crafts Boutique, featuring artists, food vendors and a raffle drawing.

Info: Contact Phyllis Osaki at 925/596-1770 or Marsha Baird at 510/579-1518

PNW

The 14th Annual Japanese Cultural Arts Event

BELLEVUE, WA

SEPT. 10, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sept. 11

from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Bellevue College

3000 Landerholm Circle SE

This two-day program showcases Japanese cultural and educational events for all ages. The matsuri includes on-stage performing arts and martial arts demos.

Info: 425/861-7865 or info2011@enma.org

PSW

San Diego JACL Free Film Screening

SAN DIEGO, CA

Oct. 29, 11:45 a.m.

Serra Mesa-Kearney Mesa Public Library

9005 Aero Dr.

The San Diego JACL is holding a free film showing of the film "Bad Day at Black Rock." A discussion with Coronado's Mayor Casey Tanaka will follow the film.

Info: 858/573-1396

Museums Matter Night

at Dodger Stadium

LOS ANGELES, CA

Aug. 26, 7:10 p.m.

Dodger Stadium

1000 Elysian Park Ave

The public is invited to celebrate museums and cheer on the Los Angeles Dodgers as they take on the Colorado Rockies. There will be fireworks following the game.

Info: 323/224-4232

JACL Summer Bowling League Banquet & Book Signing

GLENDALE, AZ

Aug. 21, 5-8 p.m.

JACL Hall

5414 W. Glenn Dr.

The 2011 JACL Summer Bowling League banquet will kick off with a special book signing with Bill Staples, Jr. who wrote "Kenichi Zenimura, Japanese American Baseball Pioneer." The book follows the life of baseball player Zenimura.

Info: www.jaclaz.org or www.zenimura.com

DO!

MDC

JACL Chicago JACL Film Screening of

'A Village Called Versailles'

CHICAGO, IL

Aug. 24, 7 p.m.

JACL Chicago Office

5415 N. Clark St.

The Chicago JACL is hosting a screening of the film "A Village Called Versailles," a film about the Vietnamese American community in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

RSVP: Chicago@jacl.org or 773/728-7171

New Mexico JACL Annual Aki Matsuri

ALBUQUERQUE, NM

Sept. 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

National Hispanic Cultural Center

1701 Fourth St., SW

Cost: \$5

This cultural sharing event offers activities for all ages, including Kabuki mask painting, a cosplay costume contest and more! There will also be a \$10,000 raffle.

Info: Steve Togami at 505-565-2185 or ast361@aol.com

Roger Shimomura Exhibit

SPRINGFIELD, MI

Sept. 17-Nov. 13

Springfield Art Museum

1111 E. Brookside Dr.

The series "Roger Shimomura: Minidoka On My Mind" features paintings and lithographs exploring the artist's family experience during World War II. Roger Shimomura will be available for a discussion on Sept. 24 at 1:30 p.m. in the museum auditorium.

Info: 417/837-5700 ■

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IN MEMORIAM

Egashira, Ichio "Kaz," 78,



Huntington Beach, CA; June 12; born and raised in the Los Angeles area; he established Kiichi Egashira Memorial Scholarship to honor his late brother, Kiichi; survived by wife, Shirley.

Hirata, May Nakanishi, 83, July 13; survived by her husband, Toshio; sons Robert and Thomas.

Ito, Mitsue, 98, Cleveland, OH; April 10; wife of the late Soze; survived by children Joel (Joyce); Dianne (Marshall) Arisman; sister of late Josie Uyeda, late Sue Morikawa, Itty Nakatsuka, Katie Morikawa and Jim Morikawa; 2 gc; 4 ggc.

Kawai, Tomiko, 79, Los Angeles, CA; June 14; she went to college in Missouri and received her teaching credentials from the University of Hawaii; she retired to help her husband, Satoru run the Jodo Shu Betsuin; survived by husband Satoru and son Kent.

Kimura, Shoichi, 94, Richmond, CA, Aug. 1; born in Kauai, served in 442nd Regimental Combat Team; became schoolteacher in Oakland; survived by his wife, Junko, and sons, Mark and Bruce (Kim); 2 gc.

Kishiyama, Ben, 88, Santa Monica, CA; July 28, 2011 in Santa Monica; he is survived by his wife, Hanako Kishiyama; children, Ronald (Joy) and Greg (Marianne) Kishiyama; grandchild, James Kishiyama; brother, Shige (Nancy) Kishiyama; sisters-in-law, Emi Kishiyama, Anna Taka, Tomiye (James) Hatanaka and Tsuyeko Shishido; brothers-in-law, Yoshio (Kay), Ichio Shishido and Kei Wada; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Kurakazu, Chisaye, Helen, 89, Walnut Creek, CA; July 12; preceded in death by her husband, Shizuo Ken on January 13; survived by her son, Ed of Phoenix, AZ; daughter Sharon (Gary) Takahashi or Arlington Heights IL; sister, Sumako Fukumori of San Francisco, CA; brother, Ray Fukumori of Alhambra, CA; sister, Masuye Makishima of El Cerrito, CA; brother-in-law, Rick Kurakazu of Fairfield, CA; and brother-in-law, Jerry (Jane) Kurakazu of Las Vegas, NV; and many nieces.

Miyagishima, Tak, 83; Aug. 4; he was the Panavision senior vice president of engineering and received an Academy Award in 2005; he was one of the first employees hired by the founder of Panavision, Robert Gottschalk; survived by his wife, Yoshie; sons, Daryl, Bryan, and Paul; and grandsons, Nathan, Miles, and Matthew.

Nakano, Miyoshi Wada,



92, Alameda, CA; May 19; predeceased by husband, Toshiyuki; survived by daughter, Carolyn and son, Randy, granddaughter Marissa, nephew Steven Sano, and daughter-in-law, Shirlene Leong Nakano; she was a life-long member of the Berkeley Buddhist Church and JACL.

Nakashige, Sam, 81, Cleveland, OH; April 17; predeceased by wife Jeanette Setsuko, son Timothy (Lisa) and brother Thomas (Terry) Nakashige; brother of Kiich Furukawa; survived by daughter Suzanne Ullman (Marc); 5 gc; 1 ggc.

Okazaki, Chieko Nishimura, 84, Salt Lake City, UT; Aug. 1; she joined the LDS Church in 1942, and graduated from the University of Hawaii in 1948; she met Edward Yukio Okazaki at the university, a World War II veteran, and they married in 1949; predeceased by Ed, and brothers, Hiro and David; survived by sons Kenneth A. (Kelle); by Robert K. (Christine); her brother Tsugio Nishimura, and her sister-in-law Pat Nishimura, the widow of Chieko's oldest brother, Hiro; 4 gc.

Oriba, Jack Kazuto, 81,



Santa Monica, CA; Aug. 2; survived by his wife, Fujiko Oriba; daughters, Joanne and Kathy Oriba; siblings, Fusaye Kurosaki, Mary Jenner, Bob (Kiyoko) and Roy (Kimiko) Oriba; brothers-in-law, Noboru (Masako) Koda and Kenji (Shinobu) Koda; sisters-in-law, Sumiye (Ted) Takeuchi and

Kazuko (Robert) Yamamoto.

Osada, Miekko, 91, Torrance, CA; Aug. 11; survived by her son, Hideya (Ignacia) Osada; daughters, Atsuko Yomogida and Mariko (J.) Kobata; grandchildren, Darren and Liane Yomogida, Manning (Melissa), Michael (Chloe), and Michiko Osada; great-grandchildren, Nathan, Jioni, Lehonnie, Ethan, and Evangeline Osada; siblings, Masumi and Akio Nomura and Etsuko Oka; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives here and in Japan..

Sasaki, Katherine, 84, Farmington, NM; July 13; survived by her son, John and daughter Nina.

Shiba, Yoko, 76,



Anaheim, CA; Aug. 10; survived by her children, Richard Seiji (Janelle) Shiba, Dianne Shoko (Jeff) Reynolds and Juliet Mikiko (Martin) Tromburg; grandchildren, Jacob, Joy Shiba and Josef, Maya Tromburg; siblings, Michihiro (Aiko), Yukisato (Midori) Shiba, Yuiko Miyagishima, Yoshimi Fushimi, Mineko Tobita and Funayo Sugawara; brothers-in-law, Tasuke and Masaharu Eguchi; sisters-in-law, Hatsue Fukuman and Fumiko Shiba.

Yee, Carolyn M., Los Angeles, CA; July 26; she was a valued member of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center; she had a long and distinguished career serving the community as an attorney; survived by her husband Bill Lann Lee, former assistant attorney general for the United States Department of Justice Civil Rights; children, Mark, Nicholas, and Angela Manese-Lee. ■

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES

'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes, which honor the memory of your loved ones with original copy and photos, appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch.

For more information:
pc@pacificcitizen.org or
(800) 966-6157

TRIBUTE

Louise H. Stewart

August 1, 1920 - August 5, 2011

Louise Hisae Baba was born August 1, 1920, at Mandeville Island in the San Joaquin valley to immigrant parents, Yoshitaro and Toyo Baba of Japan.

She graduated from Stockton High School in 1939, and attended business college and later art school which prepared her for the work she enjoyed most.

Her job as graphic artist for the state of California lasted over 30 years. She was married briefly to Harold Stewart but did not have any children.

Her single regret was that she never learned to drive an automobile. She loved to read, to eat Japanese food of any kind, and to treat herself to See's candies.

Louise passed suddenly on August 5, 2011, at Sutter Gen-



eral Hospital in Sacramento, CA, after a fall at her home. She was the last sibling in her family, and is survived by numerous nieces and nephews. We will miss her quick wit and engaging smile. She will be inurned next to her sister, at Mountain View Cemetery in Reno, NV.

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Japan Earthquake Survivors in Hawaii Share Stories

By Associated Press

KAHULUI, Hawaii—Japan earthquake and tsunami survivors visiting Hawaii to get away from the destruction and grief are sharing poignant stories of their experiences.

About 70 survivors of the disaster have traveled to Maui through the Aloha Initiative, a program that has raised about \$150,000 for Japanese citizens to stay with Hawaii host families. The group is trying to raise more money to bring in more survivors before the summer ends, said co-founder Lynn Araki-Regan.

Some survivors recently spoke through interpreters at Kahului Hongwanji Mission, the *Maui News* reported.

At the recent event, Daisuke Tanaka recalled his final moments with his wife, who had contracted pneumonia when her lungs filled with seawater and oil while swimming for her life during the March tsunami. She had vowed the couple would find their 2-month-old daughter, who went missing during the disaster.

But Tanaka's wife died the day after the tsunami, and Tanaka still



A woman stands in the middle of rubble, looking at the city submerged under water in Ishinomaki in Miyagi Prefecture March 13, two days after the catastrophic earthquake-triggered tsunami hit northeastern Japan.

awaits DNA confirmation that his infant's body has been found. Now he wants to honor his wife's memory by running in the Maui marathon and scattering her ashes in the ocean off Maui, the island she loved visiting.

The couple married in Hawaii and had pondered moving to Maui. Tanaka said he might make the

move someday.

"It's part of the reason I haven't lost my hope completely," he said. "I want to help here by cleaning the highways and beaches, to give back."

Aloha Initiative co-founder and Maui County Managing Director Keith Regan said he and his wife wanted the community to hear

survivors' experiences firsthand.

"It is so much more powerful than watching the events on TV or reading about it on the Internet," he said. "I think it's good for them, too, because they get to share and heal as they speak."

Tanaka, who has flashbacks and trouble sleeping, has been diagnosed with post-traumatic

stress disorder. Regan said the group is helping Tanaka get the help he needs.

The Japanese survivors can stay in Hawaii up to 90 days, depending on travel visas, Araki-Regan said. The Aloha Initiative has corporate sponsors that include Hawaiian Airlines and Japan Airlines, various banks, churches and community groups.

For some survivors, there's a feeling of anger amid the sadness. Yumiko Nishimoto lived a few miles from the nuclear power plant damaged in the disaster. She spoke of looters who still roam the streets at night and of children from the area who are ostracized as though they are radioactive.

"Nothing's getting better," she said. "There's no work, no money coming in. People are living on their life savings."

She urged people to be careful of where they're sending donations for relief efforts.

"We want the world to know what's really going on, and be careful where you send your money, because the government has failed us," she said.

"The donations don't reach us now." ■

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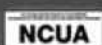
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