A commentary on gun control laws

UC Berkeley honors JA alumni.

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KYLE MIYATA LARSON
The Hapa Japanese American Nascar driver hopes to leave his YouTube crash in the dust.

Page 9
Musician Michael Paulo opens up.
Once more to Pacific Citizen readers: ‘Tis the season to help boost this paper’s finances!

From articles in recent P.C. issues, you are aware of the stresses of the past year. After successive years of declining JACL resources that forced the JACL to eat its allocations to the Pacific Citizen, we lost key P.C. staff there.

Only the selfless intervention of Carol and David Kawamoto, the continued dedicated service of Reporter Nalea Ko and several “temps” saved our paper from total collapse.

The necessarily extended public search for staff replacements put extra pressures on Carol and other part-time staff — a situation hopefully to come to a happy end when the National Board settles on a permanent Executive Editor.

All the more reason for us to dig deeper this spring to support this vital vehicle for communicating with the total Pacific Citizen readership.

You have read that the supplemental resources from past Spring Campaigns helped make it possible for most of the paper’s back issues to be digitally archived and so retrievable, for filling staff positions that would otherwise have remained empty and for upgrading the paper’s electronic equipment — thus sustaining staff efforts to keep improving the quality of the P.C.

So, as I “max out” as an editorial board member this spring, may lone last time strongly urge that you come forth again with generous donations to this year’s Spring Campaign. Let each do our part to help sustain the quality and relevance of our Pacific Citizen.

Hugh Burleson is a four-year P.C. Editorial Board Member and active JACL member since the 1950s.

JACL Health Benefits Trust Undergoes Restructuring Process

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) is being implemented this year, with major changes scheduled to be in place by the beginning of 2014.

To accommodate the requirements of the ACA, members of the JACL Health Benefits Trust have overwhelmingly approved a restructuring of the Trust.

By approving the restructure, members have enabled the Trust to continue to serve the Japanese American community, something it has done for nearly 50 years.

The Trust is closely monitoring the new requirements of the ACA. Regulations are still being determined, but one rule is clear:

On Jan. 1, 2014, it will be mandatory for all Americans under the age of 65 to have a qualified health insurance plan in place. Many individuals will be required to re-enroll in a new, approved plan.

The Trust office will be available to assist community members with understanding their health insurance options and the enrollment process for individuals and small businesses.

Insurance companies will be introducing the new, compliant plans during the summer, and open enrollment begins this fall.

For any questions, please call the Trust office at (800) 966-6157.
I've never considered gun control issues. But as I've noted, I'm always steeped in constitutional issues, and I'm certain there are great complexities beneath even layers of words and all the analyses that are manifest in the issue. It's hard to imagine anyone who wasn't deeply saddened and horrified by the killings at Sandy Hook. We have had other mass killings in America before, and God knows we've had too many such incidents in this country. But this was different. Sandy Hook involved the murder of young children whose innocence and child-joy beauty was taken away. I remember thinking as I watched the news: Who should have to live with this kind of mad violence?

I think I'm like most Americans in that I'm fairly uninformed about gun control policy. What I do know about it is from what I read in the papers or hear on the news, but for the most part, my opinions on gun control are more visceral than anything else. I know and understand well both the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. Both were at the heart of the redress campaign and have been a fundamental part of my work throughout most of my working career. One thing I've learned from my long involvement in public policy matters, which are always steeped in constitutional issues, is that they are always nuanced, that often their complexities lie beneath even layers of text. In policy, the words are there, but it's often what lies behind those words and all the analyses that are manifest in the issue.

I've always considered what it means when it comes to gun advocacy issues. But as I've noted, I'm fairly uninformed about gun control policy.

What comes down to it, it seems to me, is this: 1) either have the right to own a gun, or I don't. But it's the nuanced part of that that creates the problem: What kind of gun, and just who has that right?

Which brings me to Dec. 14 and the horrific tragedy that took place at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., where 20 children and six adults lost their lives at the hands of a deranged shooter with an assault rifle.
UC Berkeley Dedicates Cherry Tree Grove to JA Alumni

The grove of cherry trees was planted along the median of the west gate entrance at the University of California, Berkeley, to honor alumni of Japanese descent.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

Three years of community efforts to honor University of California Japanese American alumni culminated with a dedication ceremony at the cherry tree grove on the Berkeley campus.

A dedication ceremony on April 6 at the University of California, Berkeley, campus drew a crowd of 200 attendees, according to organizers of the University of California Cherry Tree Project.

Thirty-seven cherry blossom trees were planted at the west entrance of the university along with a plaque that recognized graduates of Japanese ancestry and their contributions to the greater society.

"The dedication ceremony was very nice," said Kaz Abey, one of the project's supporters and a 1958 graduate. "A lot of old-timers, a lot of young people and a lot of friends were there."

Erica Kato, of KRON 4, served as emcee at the ceremony. UC Berkeley associate professor Michael Omig recalled to those in attendance the hardships endured by Nisei students during World War II and the creation of the Nikkei Student Union. Vice Chancellor Edward J. Denton and Peter Domoto, a former linebacker on UC Berkeley's last Rose Bowl team, also spoke at the ceremony.

"Every time the trees blossom, Domoto said, "We'll be reminded of harsh and bitter times our heroes have transcended to thrive and contribute to the world."

The University of California Cherry Tree Project was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the California Japanese American Alumni Association, the Japanese American Women's Alumnae of UC Berkeley and other community volunteers.

"When I first read the plaque, I was really glad they thanked the university because for me being a Sansei, I kind of had my education handed to me," said Barbara Saito, a Contra Costa JACL member who was also involved with the project. "When I became more involved in this project and started working with these Lunchers . . . then I really came to appreciate all that [the Nisei] accomplished. They had to overcome so much adversity to get where they were."

It was at a dinner held several years ago for the California Japanese American Alumni Assn., when member George Matsumoto first suggested planting the cherry blossom trees to honor Japanese American alumni. The late Bill Fujita reintroduced the project at a Cal Nisei Lunchers meeting.

After raising more than $250,000, the project came to fruition.

"It's amazing that they put this together, that they were able to raise all these funds," Saito said, emphasizing the legacy of Nisei alumni. "The university played a huge part in their lives. That's why they did it. This means a lot to them."

The project is now complete, and the UC Berkeley campus will handle all maintenance of the cherry tree grove.

>> See CHERRY TREE on page 5

National Park Service Announces $1.4 Million in Grants to World War II Confinement Sites

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On April 2, National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis announced 10 grants totaling more than $1.4 million to help preserve and interpret the World War II confinement sites of Japanese Americans.

More than 120,000 Japanese Americans were detained, two-thirds of whom were American citizens, following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. "The confinement of Japanese Americans during WWII is a dark chapter in our nation's history," said Jarvis. "These grants ensure that their stories will never be forgotten."

Projects selected include a plan to rehabilitate two historic buildings at a former Department of Justice Fort Lincoln internment camp in North Dakota; the creation of a free online training course to assist teachers in integrating the subject of the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans into their classrooms; and a traveling exhibit to tell the history of the Tule Lake Segregation Center in California.

The award amounts range from $29,060 for Colorado Preservation to design and fabricate new signage and podcasting tools for a driving tour of the Granada Relocation Center (Amache) in southeastern Colorado to $300,000 for the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville to create an online three-dimensional visualization of the Rohwer Relocation Center during WWII.

The Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program, now in its fifth year, will support projects in seven states. The grants announced April 2 total $1,402,305 and bring the amount awarded since Congress established the grant program in 2006 to $11 million. A total of $38 million in grant funds was authorized for the life of the program.

Grants from the JACSGP may go to the 10 War Relocation Authority camps established in 1942 or to more than 40 other sites, including assembly, relocation and isolation centers.

The goal of the program is to teach future generations about the injustice of the WWII confinement history and inspire a commitment to equal justice under the law. Successful proposals are chosen through a competitive process that requires applicants to match the grant award with $1 in nonfederal funds or "in-kind" contributions for every $2 they receive in federal money.

A list of the winning projects follows. Projects marked with an asterisk (*) indicate that the grantee is from one state and includes a project site in another.

For more details about these projects, visit www.nps.gov/lhps/lhpGlACSI or contact Kara Miyagishima, program manager for the JACSGP, at (303) 969-2885 or email kara_miyagishima@nps.gov.

>> See GRANTS on page 12

JACL PSW Hosts Fundraiser to Benefit Internship Program

TORRANCE, CALIF. — (Right) Alayne Yonemoto (pictured at left), JACL PSW boardmember, and Eri Kameyama, PSW staffer, celebrate a successful “Color Me Mine” fundraiser held on April 6 to benefit PSW’s Collegiate Japanese American Internship program. Approximately 40 children and adults enjoyed painting ready-made ceramic banks, bowls, mugs, animals and other items. “Camp Musubi” representative Jeff Murakami and past intern Lawrence Lau also attended the event and gave presentations.

(Above) Participant Kara Yokoyama, 10, paints a flip-flop bank.

Mike M. Masaoka Congressional Fellowship Application Now Available

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The JACL is now accepting applications for the 2013-14 Mike M. Masaoka Congressional Fellowship.

The fellowship fund was established in 1998 to honor Mike M. Masaoka for a lifetime of public service to the JACL and the nation. Masaoka was JACL’s national secretary, field executive, national legislative director of the JACL’s Anti-Discrimination Committee and the JACL Washington, D.C. representative. He worked tirelessly to advance the cause of Japanese Americans.

Masaoka was also instrumental in the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and for the abolition of many discriminatory laws against Asian Americans.

Masaoka passed away in 1991.

The Masaoka Fellowship is designed to develop leaders for public service, particularly at the national level. The JACL Masaoka Fellow will be placed in the Washington, D.C. Congressional office of a member of the U.S. House of Representatives or the U.S. Senate for a minimum period of six months. The fellowship provides the opportunity to experience being part of the process that enables a member of Congress to serve not only his or her own district but also the entire country as a legislator.

Reflecting on his experience, current Masaoka Fellow Adam Kurunishi said: “I was placed in Representative Mike Honda’s (CA-17) office, where I had the privilege of managing the Congressman’s immigration and homeland security policy portfolios. The fellowship was an intensive immersion into the life of a congressional staffer, and my placement was perfect.

“After nearly three years as a community organizer in the immigrant rights movement,” Kurunishi continued, “I was given the opportunity to utilize my prior work experience and advance my skills and understanding of how our federal government and immigration system operate. Weekly, I briefed Rep. Honda on legislative news and policy recommendations and staffed him at events. I served as the liaison with congressional offices, federal agencies and community stakeholders, and coordinated matters related to the Congressman’s Chair position with the Immigration Taskforce of the Congressional Asian and Pacific American Caucus. I also led drafting and introduction of house resolutions and bills. My experience on Capitol Hill was transformative, personally and professionally. I learned firsthand the limitations and possibilities for change and social justice through policy advocacy. Additionally, I observed the hard work and commitment, compassion and care that members of Congress, like Congressman Honda, put into their public service.”

Added JACL National President David Lin: “This opportunity for young people to gain first-hand political experience working in the office of a member of Congress. The fellowship opens the door for our future leaders to create positive social change and develop their leadership.”

Applicants must be college graduates and current JACL members. A completed application and letter of recommendation must be submitted to the JACL Washington, D.C., office by COB on Friday, May 19, via email to inouyefellow@jacl.org.

To download the application and for more information, visit the JACL website at www.jacl.org.
Kyle Larson: A Natural Born Driver

THE HAPA JAPANESE AMERICAN, WHO DRIVES FOR TURNER SCOTT MOTORSPORTS, IS ONE OF THE TOP PROSPECTS IN NASCAR.

Kyle Larson, driver of the No. 32, prepares for the NASCAR Nationwide Series O’Reilly Auto Parts 300 at Texas Motor Speedway on April 12 in Fort Worth, Texas.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

The name Kyle Larson might bring to mind a recent YouTube viral video crash where the NASCAR driver’s car went airborne and smashed into the fence at Daytona International Speedway.

But those within the racing world know Larson, 20, as a rising star on the track and a driver who will likely soon race past accidents that have slightly sullied his rookie season, like that Daytona crash in February.

Over two-dozen people were reportedly injured in that accident when debris, including a tire, flew into the stands. Larson, who says he’s a “pretty calm kid,” walked away from the crash unscathed. He was back a week later behind the wheel at the Phoenix International Raceway.

“It happened really fast,” Larson said in a phone interview from South Carolina about the Daytona incident. “They just started crashing in front of me. You’re going almost 200 miles and hour there so you don’t have much time to react. We all just got kind of caught

Cell phone video of Kyle Larson’s No. 32 car crash on Feb. 23 at the Daytona International Speedway quickly went viral on YouTube.
Kyle Larson celebrates a win on April 14 at the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Carolina 200 at Rockingham Speedway.

‘I’m a normal person, so it’s not like because I’m half-Japanese I’m totally different. We’re all racecar drivers.’

— Kyle Larson

up in the wreck.’

Last year, Larson competed in over 120 races and racked up scores of wins between the USAC sprint car, midget and Silver Crown and stock car divisions. His driving skills in NASCAR caught the media’s attention after he took last year’s title at the K & N Pro Series East in the Gresham Motorsports Park.

The wins kept coming this year. On April 15, Larson won the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series at the Rockingham Speedway, becoming the first graduate of the NASCAR Drive for Diversity initiative to win at the sanctioning body’s national level.

“Kyle Larson’s victory is a truly historic moment in this sport,” said Brian France, NASCAR chairman and CEO. “We applaud his tremendous talent, and this landmark milestone for the NASCAR Drive for Diversity program. Kyle is among a strong crop of young, rising stars who signal a promising and competitive future for NASCAR.”

The Hapa Japanese American, of Elk Grove, Calif., has been a racing fan practically since birth. Larson’s parents — Janet and Mike — were both sprint car fans and took him as an infant to the track.

“When they had me, they didn’t stop going. So, they took me to the races when I was really young,” Larson said about his family’s love of racing. “I’ve been going to races all my life.”

Like many other NASCAR drivers, Larson’s childhood is filled with memories of playing with toy cars his mother gave him. As a child, Larson says he looked up to professional drivers like Jeff Gordon and Tony Stewart.

His love of racing would influence Larson to get an earlier start on the track. At 7 years old, Larson was racing go-karts. When he was 14, Larson moved on to driving sprint cars. He became, in 2007, the youngest driver to enter the dirt sprint car race in California and the youngest winner.

Larson says he would like to one day go back to his roots and own a sprint car racing team.

“I’d like to get to the Sprint Cup Series someday. I’m only one step away from that, so I’m close,” Larson said. “I think that would be really cool and something I hope I can do in the next five to 10 years.”

Born in Sacramento, Calif., to a Japanese American mother and Caucasian father, Larson says he was told about how his maternal grandparents were unjustly discriminated against during World War II, when they were incarcerated at Tule Lake. But Larson’s grandparents died when he was just a child, and they didn’t share any personal stories about their camp experience.

Although NASCAR might not be known for its diversity on the track, Larson says as a Hapa Japanese American, he doesn’t feel any different from any other driver.

“I’m a normal person, so it’s not like because I’m half-Japanese I’m totally different,” he said. “We’re all racecar drivers. We’re all doing the same thing out there. So, it doesn’t really make a different to me.”

While most 20-year-olds are focusing on college midterm exams right now, Larson is gearing up for his next NASCAR nationwide series, which begins on April 26 at the Richmond International Raceway.

Despite a rookie season that was tarnished with highly publicized crashes on the track, the Larson is still focused on his career.

“Racing is all I really wanted to do,” he said. “It’s all I’m really good at, too.”

For more information about Kyle Larson’s race schedule, visit www.turnerscottmotorsports.com/schedule.
**SFV JACL Visits Endeavour Shuttle**

LOS ANGELES — San Fernando Valley JACLers, which included Chaper President Brian Moriguchi, Nancy and Yas Gohata, Harold Kameya, Mitzi and AI Kushida, Barbara and Dennis Okita, Marion and Phil Shigekuni, Margie and Frank Naka, Helen Shimizu, Eddie Yoshimura and Annia Wong, visited the Endeavour Space Shuttle exhibit at the California Science Center on March 2. The recently retired shuttle flew 25 orbital missions in space.

**JABA Educational Foundation Set to Host Gordon Hirabayashi Tribute**

The Japanese American Bar Association Educational Foundation will hold a performance of the solo play “Hold These Truths,” the story of the late civil rights icon Gordon Hirabayashi, written by Jeanne Sakata. The event will be held at the National Center for the Preservation of Democracy at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo on Sunday, May 19, at 2 p.m.

This one-time performance of “Hold These Truths,” starring Ryun Yu and directed by Jessica Kubzansky, is inspired by the true story of Hirabayashi’s struggle with betrayal by his country when faced with the forced internment of persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II and his deeply held belief in his rights as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

Hirabayashi passed away in January 2012 and was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama in spring 2012.

Sakata’s play follows Hirabayashi as he attempts to gain a better understanding of America’s triumphs while confronting its failures. Originally premiered as “Dawn’s Light: The Journey of Gordon Hirabayashi” at the East West Player’s David Henry Hwang Theater in Little Tokyo in 2007, this work has been widely praised by critics throughout the country.

Hosted by the Educational Foundation in conjunction with Platinum Sponsors the Japanese American National Museum and the Japanese American Bar Assn., as well as Gold Sponsor Sidley Austin LLP, this tribute to Hirabayashi will include a post-show panel discussion followed by light refreshments.

The Educational Foundation also welcomes the Little Tokyo Service Center and Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress as Community Sponsors.

Tickets for the Hirabayashi event are $65. All proceeds will go toward the Educational Foundation’s scholarship fund.

For more information on tickets and sponsorships, visit www.jabaonline.org or email jefflosangeles@gmail.com.

**Tuna Canyon Supporters Seek Monument Status**

LOS ANGELES — The Cultural Heritage Commission met at City Hall on April 18 to discuss the possibility of granting Historic Cultural Monument status to the Tuna Canyon Detention Station.

Currently the site of the Verdugo Hills Golf Course and slated for development, Tuna Canyon — a gateway to internment camps — was in operation from Dec. 7, 1941, to Oct. 1, 1943. More than 2,500 Japanese Americans, Japanese nationals, Japanese Peruvians, Germans and Italians were held there. A city staff report has recommended against monument status, but the board of VOICE (Volunteers Organized in Conserving the Environment) and Save the Golf Course Committee urged Japanese Americans with ties to the detention station and others who support preservation to attend the meeting.

The National Archives and Records Center at Laguna Niguel recently revealed for the first time that Tuna Canyon was one of two L.A.-area detention centers established at the onset of WWII.

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The Music Man

DYNAMIC JAZZ SAXOPHONIST MICHAEL PAULO’S NEXT GIG TAKES HIM TO CALIFORNIA’S TEMECULA WINE AND MUSIC FESTIVAL ON MAY 4.

By Allison Haramoto and Lauren Arii

A l Jarreau. Kenny Loggins. James Ingram. Bobby Caldwell. Jeffrey Osborne. Kalapana. Patti Austin. David Benoit, Ray Parker Jr. The list goes on and on. Jazz saxophonist Michael Paulo, 56, has played and toured with all of these musical greats during his eclectic career in the world of pop, soul and contemporary jazz — and he’s not stopping anytime soon.

The Japanese/Filipino Paulo, who was born in Hawaii and raised in a musical family — his father, Rene, is an accomplished pianist who has performed with his son — only picked up the saxophone at age 15 and has since traveled the world over, releasing hits such as “One Passion” and “My Heart and Soul” and several jazz cds along the way, as well as establishing a successful full-service music production company, Apaulo Prods., which puts on annual events like Hawaii’s Pacific Rim Jazz Festival.

Paulo’s next stop is the ninth annual Temecula Wine and Music Festival on May 4 in California’s Temecula Valley Wine Country. Also produced by Apaulo Prods., the event provides world-class entertainment along with unique wine tastings and food from local vendors.

The always on-the-go musician spoke recently with the Pacific Citizen on his achievements and upcoming engagement.

You come from a musical family. Did you always want to pursue a professional music career?

Michael Paulo: Music was always around, and everyone performed at family parties. I never imagined that I would become a musician, too.

I took up band class in high school and first started playing the oboe. I really wanted to play the trumpet, but my band teacher said I didn’t have the embouchure for it. I was at a private school and they didn’t have a lot of band instruments, I asked if I could borrow an instrument from someone. My uncle had a sax, so I asked him, and that’s how I started. I enjoyed playing the sax so much that I couldn’t stop.

Your father, who is a pianist — what are your most memorable moments of the two of you performing together?

Paulo: My father is a Lifetime Achievement Hoku Award recipient in Hawaii. My most memorable experience was recording with him at his home for my Christmas CD. It was just me and him in his living room at 2 a.m. in the morning. Publicly, one of my most proudest moments was when I produced my first big jazz festival in Hawaii, the Pacific Rim Jazz Festival, and I was able to feature him.

Watching clips of you performing onstage, you have such an amazing energy. From where do you draw all that passion?

Paulo: It’s just being happy and enjoying the moment of playing the sax. That’s what got me started, and it never went away.

We can’t help but notice the impressive list of performers with which you’ve worked. How did you get discovered by Al Jarreau?

Paulo: He used to see me play at clubs in L.A. and took notice. When it came time for him to hire a full-time saxophonist, I came highly recommended by the members of Seawind and other friends who knew him. So when my name popped up, he already knew who I was. When I met him for the first time at rehearsal, he said, “I’ve been watching you!”

What’s next for you?

Paulo: The Temecula Wine and Music Festival on May 4, my first-annual Michael Paulo and Friends Golf Tournament on May 5 and the Pacific Rim Jazz Festival in November. I’m also touring Russia and Japan this coming month.

What is the highlight of your career?

Paulo: There are a few, Getting hired by Kalapana at 19. Playing with Herbie Hancock at 20. Getting hired to play with Al Jarreau in 1983 and my first solo deal with MCA in 1988. Most recently, launching the Pacific Rim Jazz Festival in Hawaii.

What is the delivery of it will change due to technology, but the content will always come from the heart.

For more information on the Temecula Wine and Music Festival, visit www.temeculawineandmusicfestival.com. And Michael Paulo’s new CD, featuring David Benoit and the Magna Orchestra, is available online at CDBaby.com.
A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

A Little Peace Dessert Tasting Fundraiser
BOSTON, MA
April 27, 7-9 p.m.
SEIU 1199 Boston
160 Mt. Vernon St.
Cost: $20/Advance tickets; $27/At the door; $10/Kids
Thirty Asian American bakers will show off their skills at this event. Proceeds benefit the Asian American Resource Workshop, Asian Pacific Islander Movement and Activist Training Institute and Boston Korean Adoptees. Payments must be received by April 24.
Info: Call (617) 942-8176 or email bestanddessertnight@gmail.com.

The 44th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage
OWENS VALLEY, CA
April 27
Manzanar National Historic Site
U.S. Highway 395
Each year, hundreds of students, teachers, community members, clergy and former internees attend the Manzanar Pilgrimage. The event is sponsored by the Manzanar Committee. Participants are advised to bring their own lunch, drinks and snacks, as there are no facilities to purchase food at the site. The day program begins at Noon.
Info: Call (323) 662-5102 or visit www.jaccc.org.

AAWA’s Exhibit ‘Undercurrents and the Quest for Space’
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
May 2-25
SOMArts Cultural Center
934 Brannan St.
The Asian American Women Artists Assn. and Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center are teaming up to present the exhibit “Undercurrents and the Quest for Space.” The opening reception will be held May 2 from 5-8 p.m. Admission to the exhibit is free.
Info: Call (415) 963-1414 or visit www.somarts.org.

Hanamatsuri Flower Festival
WATSONVILLE, CA
April 7, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Watsonville Buddhist Temple
423 Bridge St.
Celebrate the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha at a special Hanamatsuri service. There will be talko, food and Japanese dance. Exhibits will feature bonsai, ikebana and more.
Info: Call (831) 724-7860 or visit www.wtbtemple.org.

The Sakura Kai Health Fair
EL CERRITO, CA
April 27, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
El Cerrito Open House Senior Center
6500 Stockton Ave.
The Sakura Kai Health Fair will include stations for blood tests, bone-density tests, hearing tests, blood pressure tests and more.
Info: Call (510) 724-7860 or visit www.wtbtemple.org.

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A Book Talk on ‘Tiger Writing’ by Gish Jen
LOS ANGELES, CA
April 18, 4-6 p.m.
University of California, Los Angeles, Humanities, Room 193
3230 Campbell Hall
Author Gish Jen will talk about her book “Tiger Writing,” which explores the “aesthetic and psychic roots of the independent and interdependent self.”
Info: Email aasorsvp@aas.ucla.edu or call (310) 825-2974.

Film Screening of ‘Little Tokyo Reporter’
LOS ANGELES, CA
May 12, 3 p.m.
CGV Cinemas, Theater 2
621 S. Western Ave.
As part of the 29th annual Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival, the film “Little Tokyo Reporter” will be screening. The film takes place in 1935 and tells the story of newspaper publisher Sei Fujii. There will be a Q&A session following the film.

May 5, Noon
Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant
4999 Old Orchard Ctr., Ste. A2
Cost: $45/General admission
This event celebrates Chicago JACL chapter scholarship winners. RSVP by April 23. Send checks payable to Chicago JACL at 5414 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640.
Info: Call (773) 728-7171 or visit www.jaclchicago.org.

Heart Mountain Pilgrimage
CODY & POWELL, WY
July 19-21
Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
1639 Road 19
The 2013 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage will celebrate the acquisition of the root cellar and the restoration of the hospital chimney. There will also be a dedication ceremony of the James Ito Victory garden. Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta will give the opening remarks at the opening ceremonies.

May 22, Noon
Cedar Creek Casino
14456 California 16
The Contra Costa JACL casino excursion registration is gearing up for its annual The day program begins at Noon.
Info: Contact Ron Sakaue at (510) 276-0752 or Ed Oda at (510) 559-7677.

REFERENCES:
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SOMArts Cultural Center
934 Brannan St.
The Asian American Women Artists Assn. and Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center are teaming up to present the exhibit “Undercurrents and the Quest for Space.” The opening reception will be held May 2 from 5-8 p.m. Admission to the exhibit is free.
Info: Call (415) 963-1414 or visit www.somarts.org.

A Book Talk on ‘Tiger Writing’ by Gish Jen
LOS ANGELES, CA
April 18, 4-6 p.m.
University of California, Los Angeles, Humanities, Room 193
3230 Campbell Hall
Author Gish Jen will talk about her book “Tiger Writing,” which explores the “aesthetic and psychic roots of the independent and interdependent self.”
Info: Email aasorsvp@aas.ucla.edu or call (310) 825-2974.

Film Screening of ‘Little Tokyo Reporter’
LOS ANGELES, CA
May 12, 3 p.m.
CGV Cinemas, Theater 2
621 S. Western Ave.
As part of the 29th annual Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival, the film “Little Tokyo Reporter” will be screening. The film takes place in 1935 and tells the story of newspaper publisher Sei Fujii. There will be a Q&A session following the film.

May 5, Noon
Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant
4999 Old Orchard Ctr., Ste. A2
Cost: $45/General admission
This event celebrates Chicago JACL chapter scholarship winners. RSVP by April 23. Send checks payable to Chicago JACL at 5414 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640.
Info: Call (773) 728-7171 or visit www.jaclchicago.org.
In Memoriam

Enomoto, Miyoko, 88, Phoenix, AZ; Feb. 18; predeceased by her husband, Minoru Tanaka; survived by children, Nakami and John (Alison); siblings, Masako (Ko), Yumi (Terry) Nakada, 4 gc.

Fujishige, Toshiko Carolyn, 81, Anaheim, CA; March 11; the wife of the late Masao; predeceased by her husband, Kunio; survived by children, Robert Jr., Mark and Sue; siblings, Fumiko Hiroshima, Judy Sakata and Tom and Roy Kuni­sawa; survived by children, Beth, Joyce (Frank) Yada, Brian (Soo) and sisters, Nancy (Tom) Komatsu, 5 gc.

Fukumoto, Setsuko, 78, North Hills, CA; March 25; she is survived by her husband, Eiji Fukumoto; son, Dennis (Jill) Fukumoto; daughter, Mary (Jim) Tanimine; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; 4 gc.

Fukuma, Herbert Sakaye, 96, Harbor City, CA; March 4; he is predeceased by his wife, Kiku Tanaka; survived by his daughter, Lorraine Ryuku.

Hamamoto, Eiko, 79, Stockton, CA; April 2; a longtime member of French Camp JACL; predeceased by her parents, Harry and Sumi Horita; sister, Helen Horita, and brothers, Tak and Frank Horita; survived by her husband of 57 years, Tak; daughter, Gail Hines; son, Ron; siblings, Mitzi Adachi and Aiko Ochi, and brother, Tom Horita (Mayko); 2 gc; 2 ggc.

Hashimoto, Shirley, 81, Gardena, CA; March 21; predeceased by her husband, Robert, and her son, Robert Jr.; survived by son, lan; sister of Shigeki "Gag" (Roy) Kogaichi, June Burton and Masakazu Cornell.

Inoue, Yasuo, 80, Tarzana, CA; March 5; he is survived by his wife, Kumiko; daughter, Utami (June) and brother-in-law, Kenji Kojima; her father, Sam; brother, Brent; his children, Karen and John; sisters-in-law, Misao Higa, Elsie Nakamura, Edna Chung, Leona Sanders, Doreen (David) Mac Cuish and Janett Komatsu; 5 gc.

Iwakiri, Jack Kumeo, 81, Stockton, CA; March 5; he is survived by his wife, Sumiko; daughter, Utami Teshima; brother, Tom Horita (Mayko); son, Ron; siblings, Harry (June), John and Ned; 4 gc.

Iwama, Yoshiho, 94, Long Beach, CA; March 31; survived by his wife, Sumiko; daughter, Susan (Alan) Nomoto; 2 gc.

Inoue, James (Elanor) Nakada, 80, Stockton, CA; April 1; he is survived by his children, Mark, Jeff, Carl, John, Ann, Steve and Ruth; his wife, Mary; his mother, Ruth; his father, James; his brother, David; and sisters, Marjorie, Mary and Elizabeth; 1 gc.

Iwamae, Yoshio, 94, Long Beach, CA; March 15; he is survived by his wife, Masako; children, Takuya and Reiko; 4 gc.

Iwamae, Yoshio, 89, Stockton, CA; March 31; survived by his wife, Sumiko; daughter, Utami Teshima; brother, Tom Horita (Mayko); son, Ron; siblings, Harry (June), John and Ned; 4 gc.

Kinoshita, Kazuko, 94, Montebello, CA; March 14; she is survived by her daughters, Ei, and Janet Nakama; 2 gc.

Kobayashi, Seihi, 73, L.A., CA; March 15; he is survived by his wife, Masako; children, Takuya (Shino) and Rika (Richard) Saito; 1 gc.

Kondo, Kay Kuzuoka, 89, Pasadena, CA; March 5; a longtime San Gabriel resident; predeceased by her husband, Harry; survived by daughter, Annette (Jonathan) Vivani; son, John (Donna) and Vincent (Sue) Kondo; brother, Tetsuo Asato; 4 gc.

Koyano, Sumi, 88, Thousand Oaks, CA; March 13; survived by her husband, Wesley; children, Duane (Karen) and Yoko (Wayde) Shimoda; siblings, Tomochi, Hatsuko Moriwuchi and Katherine Doi; in-laws, Setsuko (Roy) Mikawa, Roy Koyano, Arthur (Tamiko) Koyano and Lily (Bernie) Breenes; 3 gc.

Miyagi, Natsuko, 87, Azusa, CA; March 22; survived by her husband, Harry; children, Alan (Murry), Michael (Susan), Patricia, James and Karen; sister, Yoneko Toshiki; 4 gc.

Nakamura, George Suguru, 93, Fullerton, CA; March 20; veteran of WWII; survived by his children, Alice (Hank) KADOWASHI, Sharon (Glenn) Sugita and Gail (Ken) Nishida; siblings, Yutaka (Hisako) Nakamura, Fusae (Joe) Endo and Hideko Noriyuki; 3 gc; 1 ggc.

Nakamura, Mary C., 91, L.A., CA; April 5; survived by her husband, Shimm; daughters, Jackie, Christine, Donna (Pete) Mastromione; 3 gc.

Nakata, Shinta, 88, Pomona, CA; March 5; survived by her children, Joanne and Myra; brothers, Katsuoo (Betty) Nakata, Walter Yamashiro and Hiroshi Nakada; sisters-in-law, Misao Higa, Elsie Nakada, Grace Nakada and Grace Peshkin; brother-in-law, James (Eleanor) Nakada.

Tanaka, Russell Hisao, 92, Ontario, CA; March 17; survived by his wife, Mitsie; daughter, Linda (Victor Cherven), daughter, Eleanor; sons, John (Debbie), John (Susan), son, David; sisters, Lily (Ike, deceased) Kawamura and Nami (Jim) Ishii; sisters-in-law, Joan (Dane) Tanaka and Marge (John) Tanaka; brother-in-law, Jim (Terr) Kurata; 13 nieces and 7 nephews; 1 gc.

Toda, Mary, 90, Medford, NJ; March 16; she was born in Wat­sonville, Calif., and was interned in Poston; she served as the longtime administrative assistant to Mike Masaoka and the JACL office; survived by nephews, Richard (Emily) and Herbert (Miko) Horkawka; nieces, Virginia Slocum, Jan Kuperman, Kathy Lange, Reid Toda, Marcia Oxley; nephews, Mitchell and Lewis Toda.

Tsukishima, Tetsuo, 93, San Jose, CA; April 1; he is survived by his wife, Sumiko; daughter, Susan (Alan) Nomoto; 2 gc.

Wataku, Minoru, 89, Los Angeles, CA; March 12; he is predeceased by his wife, Kiku Kae; his sons, Mark, who passed away in 2007, and Donald; survived by his children, Walter, Michael, James (Elanor) Nakada.

Yamada, Kiyoshi, 92, Gardena, CA; March 3; he is survived by his sons, Mark and Charles; his wife, Sumiko; daughter, Susan (Alan) Nomoto; 2 gc.
Whatever happened to doing what’s right? It makes me wonder if there is anyone in Congress other than Sen. Dianne Feinstein with the moral fortitude to step forward to stop the sale of these insidious killing machines.

Lest we forget, there was once a law banning assault weapons and large-capacity clips. The Federal Assault Weapons Ban was signed into law in 1994 by President Bill Clinton but expired 10 years later with no effort by the Bush White House or congressional Republicans to renew the ban.

We’re left wondering whether Congress has the courage to do anything meaningful, and if you measure from Sandy Hook to today, well, all that rhetoric from Washington after the tragedy has proven to be nothing more than that: empty rhetoric and an equally empty and shameful display of sympathy. If they truly cared, wouldn’t they do something about it? Shame on their cowardice, shame on their putting what has become a perverted constitutional right ahead of the lives of the innocent. And shame on them for not caring enough about the dead children at Sandy Hook.

It all comes down to the Second Amendment, “the right of the people to keep and bear arms.” The Founding Fathers may have gotten that right for their times, but they assumed that political might would always be borne of what is morally right. And boy, did they get that wrong.

*John Tateishi is a former JACL national director.*

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**GUN CONTROL >> continued from page 3**

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**GRANTS >> continued from page 4**

**UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.**
“Rohwer Reconstructed: Interpreting Place Through Experience” $300,378
Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County, Ark.

**TULE LAKE COMMITTEE, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.**
“Restoring the Tule Lake Segregation Center NHL. Jail, Phase II” $192,467
Tule Lake Segregation Center, Modoc County, Calif.

**THE CALIFORNIA MUSEUM*, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.**
“Time of Remembrance” Multiple Sites $103,622

**NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.**
“Tule Lake Teacher Education Project” $73,675
Tule Lake Segregation Center, Modoc County, Calif.

**COLORADO PRESERVATION INC., DENVER, COLO.**
“Amache Site Interpretation” $29,060
Granada Relocation Center (Amache), Prowers County, Colo.

**THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AT FORT MISSOULA, MISSOULA, MONT.**
“Fort Missoula Alien Detention Camp Interpretive Projects” $39,730
Department of Justice Fort Missoula Internment Camp, Missoula County, Mont.

**UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE, BISMARK, N.D.**
“Fort Lincoln Preservation and Rehabilitation” $45,100
Fort Lincoln Internment Camp, Burleigh County, N.D.

**ORE-CAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT AREA COUNCIL*, KLAMATH FALLS, ORE.**
“The Art of Survival: Tule Lake 1942-46” $123,890
Tule Lake Segregation Center, Modoc County, Calif.

**DENSHO*, SEATTLE, WASH.**
“Teach the Teachers — Online” Multiple Sites $194,403

**DENSHO*, SEATTLE, WASH.**
“Online Repository — Japanese American Collections” Multiple Sites $300,378

**TOTAL** 1,402,305