



PACIFIC CITIZEN

Oct. 31-Nov. 13, 2014

THE NATIONAL
NEWSPAPER OF
THE JACL

Page 5

PRESERVING MINIDOKA

An estimated \$3 million settlement with South View Dairy is in need of funding to stop a proposed animal feedlot operation.



It's Here! The P.C.
Launches a Brand-
New Website.

Page 2

Personal Stories From
'A Nikkei LGBTQ Forum
for Everyone'

Page 8

'Witness' Spurs
Conversation at
WSU.

Page 9

P.C. ANNOUNCES BRAND-NEW WEBSITE

We're back! The *Pacific Citizen* is proud to announce the launch of our brand-new website — completely redesigned, the site has been made with you, our readers, being our No. 1 focus.

You'll find everything you need to know on our new site (www.pacificcitizen.org) regarding AAPI news, in-depth features, a completely up-to-date calendar, commentaries and, of course, all news and information regarding the JACL right at your fingertips in an easy-to-navigate site.

Thank you for your patience, support and loyalty these past few years. We hope you'll find the finished product was well worth the wait!

And please let us know your thoughts, as this is your site as much as it is ours. We're on this journey together!

— The Pacific Citizen Staff



THE SIGNIFICANCE OF YOUR VOTE

By Nicole Gaddie
JACL NY/SC chairperson

Midterm elections are often met with apathy.

What impact could a single vote have on our increasingly polarized government? Maybe it's hope. Maybe it's American citizenship.

As Americans, we have the opportunity to be problem solvers, contributors in a self-governing community. Yet, voter turnout for youth ages 18-29 ranks far below any other age category (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2014pubs/p20-573.pdf>). Additionally, only about three-in-10 Asian American eligible voters have cast ballots in midterm

elections since 1998.

Sitting out of local elections seems to be a trend for youth. According to the Pew Research Center (<http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/files/2010/10/millennials-confident-connected-open-to-change.pdf>), during the presidential election in 2008, Millennials represented 21 percent of all Virginians who cast their vote. One year later during the gubernatorial election, less than 10 percent of the voting population were Millennials. The nonvoting pattern stretched across the United States.

These numbers might seem bleak, especially when Asian Americans make up 5.6 percent of

the total U.S. population and youth make up a quarter of the population (and a third of the electorate). However, they also prove that we have a large potential force.

We can use this force to elect quality leaders who represent our voice. We can sway any election, especially local elections. Whether it be governor, mayor, city council member or state senator, all have a serious impact on our communities and daily life.

Don't know who to vote for or what issues are being contested? Read the local newspaper or watch televised debates. Attend political forums and become an informed and engaged citizen. We have a plethora of information and opportunity at our fingertips — it is wasteful not to use it.

>> See VOTE on page 9

HOW TO REACH US

Email: pc@pacificcitizen.org
Online: www.pacificcitizen.org
Tel: (213) 620-1767
Fax: (213) 620-1768
Mail: 250 E. First St., Suite 301
Los Angeles, CA 90012

STAFF

Executive Editor
Allison Haramoto

Assistant Editor
Tiffany Ujiye

Business Manager
Susan Yokoyama

Production Artist
Marie Samonte

Circulation
Eva Ting

The *Pacific Citizen* newspaper (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly (except once in December and January) by the Japanese American Citizens League, *Pacific Citizen*, 250 E. First St., Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Periodical postage paid at L.A., CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to National JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

JACL President: David Lin
National Director: Priscilla Ouchida

P.C. EDITORIAL BOARD

Carol Kawamoto, chairperson;
Leona Hiraoka, EDC; Kevin Miyazaki, MDC; Roberta Barton, CCDC; Jim Duff, NCWNPDC; Gabrielle Nomura, PNWDC; Gil Asakawa, IDC; John Saito Jr., PSWDC; Kevin Mori, youth rep.

SUBSCRIBE

Get a one-year subscription of the *Pacific Citizen* newspaper at: www.pacificcitizen.org or call (800) 966-6157

ADVERTISE

To advertise in the *Pacific Citizen*, call (800) 966-6157 or e-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org

LEGAL

No part of this publication may be reproduced without the express permission of the *Pacific Citizen*. Editorials, news and the opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the *Pacific Citizen* do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles. © 2014

Periodicals paid at Los Angeles, Calif. and mailing office.

JACL MEMBERS Change of Address

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

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



Help the P.C. complete
our archive.

Donate \$150 or more to become a **WALL OF FAMER**; \$200 or more for a chance to win a cruise!

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$150

JACL member? ☐ Y ☐ N

☐ \$200 ☐ other _____

Name

Address

City

State Zip

Phone

Email



Pacific Citizen
250 E. First St., Suite # 301
Los Angeles, CA. 90012

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
(800) 966-6157
www.pacificcitizen.org

WHAT'S NEW AT THE JACL

JACL REGIONAL OFFICE HAPPENINGS

By Christine Munteanu, Stephanie Nitahara, Patty Wada and Bill Yoshino

This column from JACL's regional staff members is intended to provide information on JACL national programs, district and chapter activities and occasional commentary on important issues. It is vital for members of JACL to be informed of national programs that are managed by each of the JACL offices. In addition, we believe our membership will gain greater insight into the national scope of the JACL by learning about the projects and activities that take place in other regions and chapters.

Thanks, Karen

The JACL regional staff was saddened by the resignation of Karen Yoshitomi, who was the PNW regional director for nearly 25 years. Karen was a valued member of the staff whose extraordinary service cultivated goodwill within the PNW community for the JACL and truly made a difference for our organization. We wish her well in her new endeavor as executive director of the Japanese Cultural & Community Center of

Washington. Thanks, Karen, and best wishes.

Teacher Training Workshops

The JACL Midwest Office has been managing a series of teacher training workshops titled "JACL Teacher Training: Incarceration and Confinement Sites." This program is funded through a grant from the National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. Christine Munteanu wrote the \$98,328 proposal, which was accepted in September 2013.

So far, we've conducted workshops in Albuquerque, N.M.; Phoenix, Ariz.; Bellevue, Wash.; and Merced, Calif. The attendance for these four workshops was 120. At each workshop site, we've received the assistance of the local JACL chapter, who arranges for the venue, catering, panelists and outreach. We thank Jennifer Yazawa in Albuquerque, Donna Cheung and Megan Gately in Phoenix, Stan Shikuma in Seattle and Bob Taniguchi in Merced

for their assistance in coordinating the trainings.

The primary workshop presenters are Sharon Ishii-Jordan and Greg Marutani. Greg has also been invaluable in volunteering his time to assist with all the workshop logistics.

One of the unique aspects of this grant is that it provides substitute teacher reimbursement to school districts for attendance by teachers. The workshops last approximately five hours, and teachers receive copies of the JACL curriculum guides "A Lesson in American History: The Japanese American Experience" and "The Journey From Gold Mountain: The Asian American Experience."

The final workshops are planned for Houston, Texas, and Minneapolis, Minn., and possibly another workshop in Phoenix in 2015.

Okaeri: A Nikkei LGBTQ Gathering

For the past year, the JACL Pacific Southwest Office has been part of an amazing team for a one-day conference called Okaeri: A Nikkei LGBTQ Gathering. In case you're wondering what all that means, here are some quick definitions:

Okaeri = "Welcome home" in Japanese
Nikkei = Those of Japanese descent living outside of Japan

LGBTQ = Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning

The team is comprised of community members from diverse backgrounds who are united in the common goal of making

the Nikkei community in Los Angeles, starting with Little Tokyo, a safe and inviting space for all. Through Okaeri, we are seeking to engage people who are looking for support and resources, would like to connect with others to build greater inclusion in the Nikkei community, want to learn about and be more involved with the LGBTQ community and are interested in the intersection of the faith and LGBTQ communities.

To prepare for Okaeri, the PSW Office has been hosting preconference events, organized by PSW Program Coordinator Traci Ishigo. Three preconference events have been held at a different location in Los Angeles County, reaching over 200 people. We would like to thank the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, Centenary United Methodist Church (also a part of the Okaeri organizing team) and the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute for hosting these important events and supporting the organization of Nikkei LGBTQ events. Each of these incredible events featured a different panel of Nikkei LGBTQ community members, focusing on storytelling and encouraging participants to critically analyze the messages they have received concerning gender and sexuality.

Okaeri will be a time to continue the dialogue that has already started. "Okaeri: A Nikkei LGBTQ Gathering" will be held at the Japanese American National Museum on Nov. 15. Please see okaeri-la.org for more information and to register. We hope to see you there! ■

Make Your Voice Heard in this Election! Please Remember to Vote November 4th



100% Vote! Campaign

Polls open across the country on:

Nov. 4th

Visit our page jaclvotes.weebly.com to see:

- Your closest polling location and when it opens.
- Candidates in your district.
- What to bring to your polling location.

Help Spread the word:

- Make a pledge on our website to vote in this election.
- Share our page on facebook and twitter to help friends and family vote too.

AUTHOR NAOMI HIROHARA WINS MYSTERY AWARD FROM INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLERS

Murder on Bamboo Lane,” the first in a new mystery series by Edgar Award-winning author Naomi Hirahara, was awarded the 2014 T. Jefferson Parker Award for best mystery by the Southern California Independent Booksellers Assn. at its annual banquet on Oct. 18 at the Beverly Garland Hotel in North Hollywood, Calif.

The book, published by Penguin Berkley Prime Crime, follows the exploits of Officer Ellie Rush, a 23-year-old hapa bicycle cop for the Los Angeles Police Department. Other finalists were Drew Chapman (“The Ascendent”) and David Putnam (“The Disposables”).

The retail price of the mass-market paperback and ebook is \$7.99 each.

For more information about Hirahara and her future events, visit www.naomihirahara.com.



Author Naomi Hirahara was awarded the T. Jefferson Parker Award for best mystery for her book “Murder on Bamboo Lane” from the Southern California Independent Booksellers Assn. on Oct. 18.

News Bytes

California Drought Takes a Bite Out of the Rice Harvest

WOODLAND, CALIF. — California’s deepening drought is shrinking its rice harvest, and that’s bad news for farmers, migratory birds and sushi lovers.

The \$5 billion industry exports rice to more than 100 countries and specializes in premium grains used in risotto, paella and sushi. Nearly all U.S. sushi restaurants use medium-grain rice grown in the Sacramento valley.

The rice harvest is just the latest victim of California’s historic drought, which has sharply reduced crop production as it enters its fourth year. With 95 percent of the state in “severe” to “exceptional” drought, farmers are leaving fields unplanted, cattle ranchers are reducing herds and almond growers are tearing out orchards.

California, the nation’s second-largest rice-growing state after Arkansas, usually produces more than 5 million pounds of rice and sells about half of it abroad.

But this year, rice farmers only planted 420,000 acres — 25 percent less than last year — because of water restrictions, according to the California Rice Commission.

Farmer Mike DeWit, who usually plants 1,000 acres of rice on his family farm in Woodland, outside Sacramento, said he only planted 700 acres this year because his water supply was cut by 30 percent.

“I think it’s the worst as far as the California rice industry is concerned on record,” DeWit said. “One more dry year, and I think the impacts on California rice farmers will be devastating.”

The reduced plantings also impact migratory birds and other wildlife that depend on flooded rice fields as habitat. Every fall, millions of waterfowl fly south from Canada and Alaska to spend their winters in California’s Central Valley.

After the fall harvest, farmers usually cover their fields with water to break down the rice stalks, creating wetlands habitat for millions of ducks and geese that can feed on uncollected grains and other plants.

“It is environmentally a very nice crop to have in the system. It mimics the natural system of a couple hundred years ago, when that area was wetlands,” said Bruce Lindquist, a rice researcher at the University of California, Davis.

In a typical year, rice farms flood 250,000-300,000 acres in winter, but this year as few as 50,000 acres may be flooded because of water restrictions, according to the CRC.

Conservationists are worried that waterfowl and shorebirds will be at greater risk for disease as they crowd together in fewer rice fields and wetlands.

“When you have less rice out there, the impacts are significant for our environment, our economy, for the farms as well,” said Jim Rice, a CRC spokesman.

This year, conservation groups are renting 14,000 acres from rice farmers and temporarily flooding them, turning the fields into “pop-up wetlands” for birds traveling along the Pacific Flyway.

The CRC doesn’t track prices, but Taro Arai, who runs eight Japanese restaurants in the Sacramento area, said he paid 8 percent more for rice this year and expects to pay even more next year.

Arai, “chief dreaming officer” of the Mikuni Restaurant Group, is concerned about the reduced supply and rising cost of California sushi rice, but he’s reluctant to buy rice from outside the state.

So, he’s looking into growing and harvesting his own rice as he prepares to open more restaurants in Northern California.

“Sushi rice makes or breaks sushi for every restaurant in California or the United States,” Arai said. “I hear rumors there’s a cheaper rice, but you want to eat high-quality California rice.”

Lava Stalls Short of Big Island Town’s Main Road

PAHOA, HAWAII — Lava from a vent at Kilauea volcano has been sliding northeast toward the ocean since June. Last month, scientists said it was two weeks away from hitting the main road in Pahoa, a small town of about 950 residents. On Oct. 29, it was about 225 yards away from Pahoa Village Road, Hawaii County civil defense officials said. It was traveling about 5-10 yards an hour.

The languid pace has given residents time to pack their valuables and get out of the way, as well as a moment to question how they will cope once the lava blocks the only roads in and out of town.

Once the lava crosses the road and the bypass road, effectively slicing Pahoa in half, most residents won’t be able to get to the area’s only supermarket. The rural, mostly agricultural community of Puna, for which Pahoa is its commercial center, will be cut off even more if the lava makes it all the way to the ocean, some six miles away.

Authorities have alerted about 50 households in Pahoa that they should be prepared to evacuate.

On Oct. 30, the Hawaii National Guard deployed 83 troops to Pahoa to help provide security, as well as help with a roadblock and other safety issues.

— P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Double Your Tax Return

Rates are as low as 6.5%*

Pay off bills!

Take that well
deserved vacation!

Pay off higher rate loans!

Consolidate debt!

Double Your Tax Return

Deposit your tax return and we will give you a loan for twice the amount**. You can pay off bills, consolidate debt, or buy that new item you’ve been looking at.

After you pay off your loan, you still have money from your tax return in your savings account!

*On approved credit. Offer ends 7/31/14

**Up to \$5,000 maximum on loan

Call today to get your loan or for more information.



801-424-5225 800-544-8828
www.jaclcu.com



National JACL
Credit Union

NISEI VETERAN RECALLS HIS COMBAT MEDIC DUTIES IN OPERATION OVERLORD

DR. SEIYA OHATA IS THE ONLY JAPANESE AMERICAN TO PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION OVERLORD: NORMANDY AND THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

By Former Capt. Seiya Ohata, Army Medical Corps

(Following is the first-hand account of First Lt. Seiya Ohata, the only Japanese American who is known to have served in Operation Overlord: the D-Day Invasion of the European continent that began on June 6, 1944. Serving in the Army Medical Corps, Ohata recalled his story during the recent JAVA annual luncheon at the Harvest Moon Restaurant in Falls Church, Va. For Ohata's full report, visit www.javadc.org.)



Capt. Seiya Ohata (left) and Hiroshi "Harold" Ohata, a younger brother who served in the Occupation of Germany. Another younger brother, Dr. Yasushi "Roy" Ohata, served in the Korean War in the Dental Corps.

I was born in the town of Lahaina, Maui, spent my childhood in Paia, now known as the windsurfing capital of the world, attended Maui High School, the University of Dayton, Ohio, and received my medical degree from the University of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri.

"When the war started on Dec. 7, 1941, I was a senior medical student. Those were very tough times. I was thoroughly investigated by the FBI because of the status of my father, a physician and a leader in the Japanese community on Maui. When World War II broke out, he was immediately detained and all of his assets were frozen. I needed financial aid desperately, so I went to the Army recruiting office to enlist.

"I was rejected repeatedly but was accepted in March 1943, when I received my medical degree and was commissioned

as a First Lieutenant.

"Following training and duty at various camps, I was assigned to the 165th field hospital, Camp Grant, Ill., for deployment to Europe. We left New Jersey in the spring of 1944 — the convoy zigged-zagged their way through the Northern Atlantic to avoid the German U-boats. Finally, in about two weeks, we arrived in England. D-Day started on June 6, when Gen. Eisenhower unleashed the mightiest onslaught imaginable and the Allies invaded Normandy. We waited and when the Allies established a beach-head, we were ordered to proceed. I think it was around midnight on June 7 when our landing craft brought us to the shores of Omaha Beach in Normandy. The tide was low and the landing craft could only go so much — we had about 50 yards to go — it seemed like a mile. We had to

wade in. My comrades were six-footers — the water came up to their knees so it was not a problem, but being only five foot, the water came up to my waist! I had to carry my backpack over my head — it was very difficult. We finally arrived in the wee hours on June 8.

"The Army Corps of Engineers did a superb job of setting up the tents and buildings of our field hospital in the outskirts of Cherbourg in Normandy. It was a heart-wrenching site to see the severe destruction of the area. I remember the little village of Saint Lo — it was totally demolished — not one building was standing. The casualties were high, and we worked caring for the wounded. Then came the Battle of the Bulge. The Battle was fierce — the casualties high. In early spring of 1945, I received orders to be transferred to Collecting Company 8, a medical unit attached to the 286th Infantry Regiment, 97th Infantry Division of Patton's 3rd Army. We were on the outskirts of Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, awaiting orders to attack. Instead, we received orders to cease fire! The war was over!

"Soon we were on our way home. As our troop ship neared the United States, we saw the Statue of Liberty — what a sight that was — our Company Commander announced, 'Good news! You will all get 30 days' leave — visit your loved ones, your family and friends. Return to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, for regrouping, then we

>> See VETERAN on page 12

SPECIAL OFFER FOR JACL MEMBERS

San Francisco writer and photographer Tom Graves spent a decade with the *Nisei* (Japanese American) soldiers of World War II and the Korean War, determined to share their unlikely story—one that must be told. That story is now being told in *Twice Heroes: America's Nisei Veterans of WWII and Korea*, winner of the 2014 Benjamin Franklin Award in History.

All current members of the **JACL Millennium Club** will receive an autographed copy of *Twice Heroes* in appreciation of their outstanding commitment to JACL. **JACL Members who upgrade to Millennium Club by December 31, 2014, will also receive an autographed copy of *Twice Heroes: America's Nisei Veterans of WWII and Korea*.**

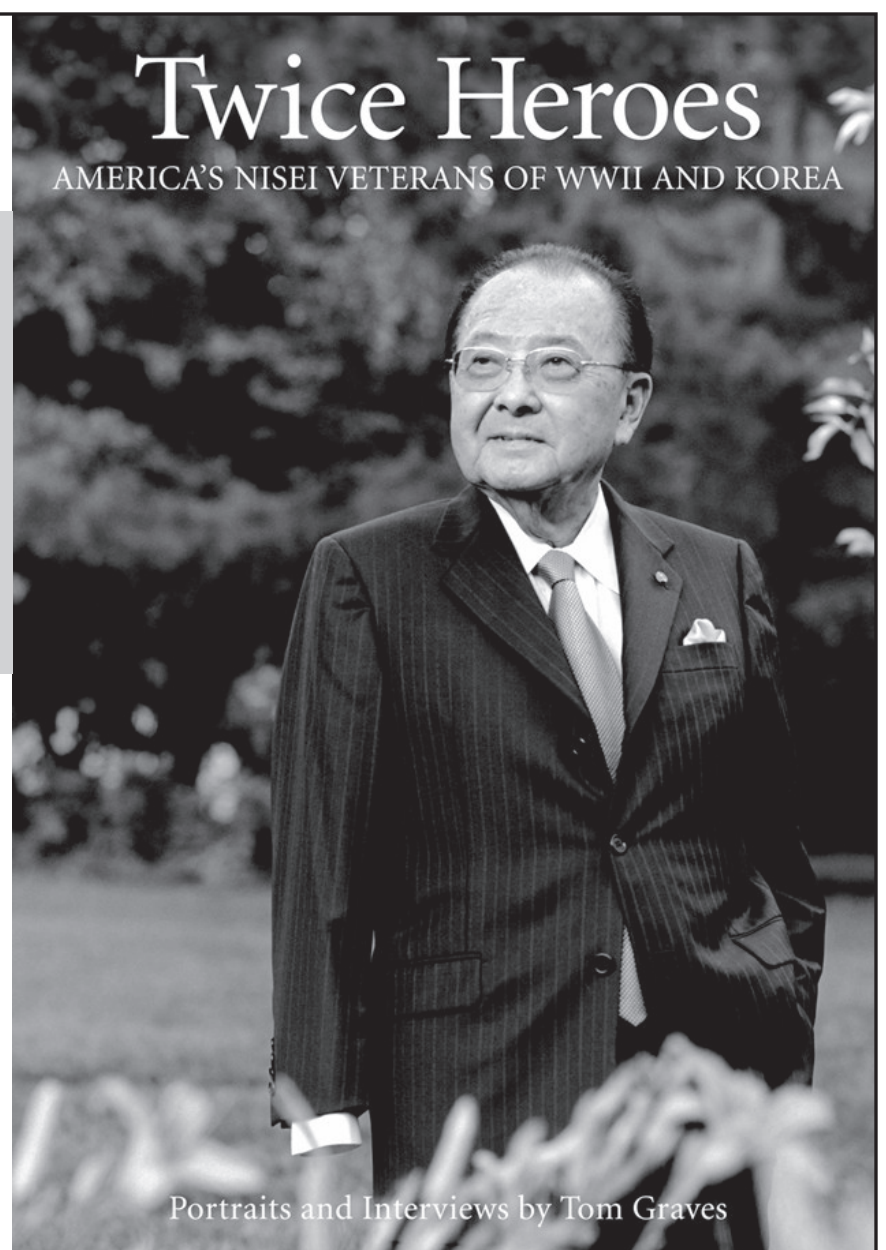
PRAISE FOR TWICE HEROES

"As a fellow WWII veteran, I salute these great Americans who are indeed 'Twice Heroes' and whose stories come to life in Tom Graves's work."

—Senator Bob Dole

"This book adds an important chapter to the history of the WWII era in which some proud Americans suffered discrimination and internment simply because of their Japanese ancestry. The interviews go a long way to help us understand how wartime hysteria can make governments make poor decisions."

—Lt. General Lawrence Snowden, USMC retired



POTENTIAL BUYOUT TO SAVE MINIDOKA CAMP FROM FARM WASTE AND STENCH

An estimated \$3 million settlement with South View Dairy is in need of funding to stop the 13,000 cattle confined animal feedlot operation.



By Tiffany Ujue
Assistant Editor

Located in southern Idaho, northeast of Twin Falls, Minidoka was one of 10 American concentration camps where persons of Japanese ancestry were imprisoned during World War II. It was here where notable Minidoka internees like Japanese American lawyer Minoru Yasui were incarcerated and soon where the smell of pungent manure odor will move in.

The National Park Service and the Conservation Fund negotiators are working on an agreement with South View Dairy, a proposed confined animal feedlot (CAFO), to purchase the landowners' development rights or, more blatantly, the smell and waste.

Based on a preliminary estimate of value, the easement could cost \$3 million. An agreement, while unofficial, may include a mix of public and private funding, involving private donations to meet match requirements for nonfederal funding.

Should the NPS negotiations team succeed with funding secured to purchase a conservation easement, the NPS and partners would permanently extinguish the right to develop the property as a feedlot or other industrial agricultural operation. Landowners would still retain the right to engage in traditional farming.

In addition to buying the permit development rights, the proposed buyout could also secure the water rights. Privately owned farmland would therefore lack the necessary size and water rights to support an operation of South View Dairy's size. There would be no chance in the future that another CAFO or large farming operation could sustain itself without the water rights.

Following a decision by the Idaho Supreme Court in 2011, the landowners have the rights to develop the property to raise young cows (heifers) for nearby dairy farms. The site would also be the largest Southview Dairy site, a private land plot.

If developed, as many as 13,000 cows would generate



If developed, Minidoka's new neighbors will be over 13,000 cows.

large amounts of waste that would "negatively impact visitors to the park, local residents and water quality in the Snake River basin," according to a case statement issued by the Friends of Minidoka (FoM), a coalition to stop the CAFO.

Coalition members include the Idaho Concerned Area Residents for the Environment, Idaho Rural Council and the Diamond and Sloan families, which are struggling to stop the CAFO development that sits 1.2 miles away from Minidoka, a unit of the National Park System.

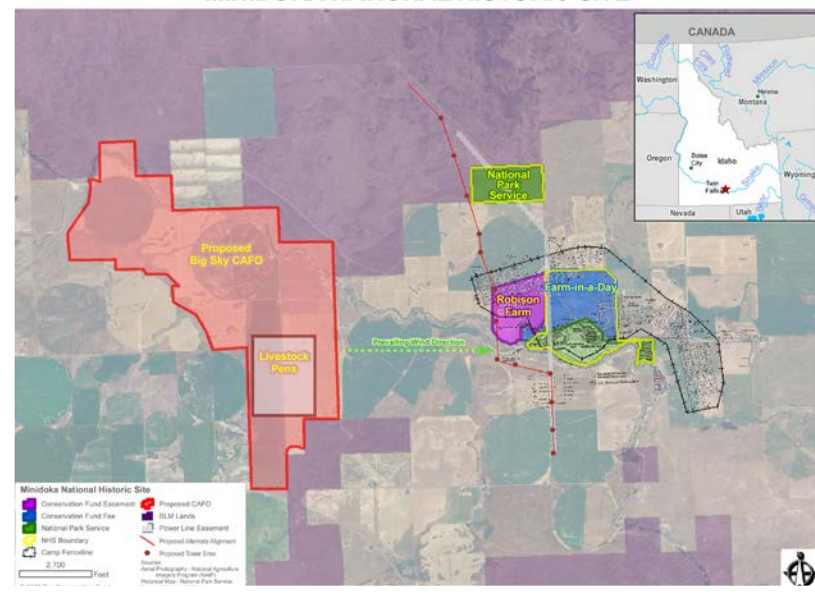
In an air-quality study performed by FoM, the smell of cattle and feces would directly blow into the historic site as CAFO sits upwind (west).

"The proposed CAFO would undermine Minidoka's educational and economic benefit and over a decade of progress by the Japanese American Community, conservation partners and NPS at Minidoka," according to the case study.

Opportunity to purchase the development rights is shrinking. FoM is seeking to increase the level of interest in the Japanese American, historic preservation and nonprofit communities to pledge financial support to save Minidoka as the four-year endeavor is a limited window and subject to South View Dairy.

In 2008, Jerome County, Idaho, issued a permit to the landowners for the CAFO. As a response, FoM raised significant private funding to engage in a legal battle to block

MINIDOKA NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



the CAFO, which succeeded in 2012. The Supreme Court ruling delayed land development, giving Minidoka an opportunity to buy out the permit.

"We have a limited period of time to preserve our nation's heritage" FoM urged. "Your support is critical to preserve the investment in the park and ensure that it can tell the story of Minidoka to local and national visitors."

Over the past 13 years, the Japanese American community, FoM, the Conservation Fund (TCF) and the NPS have added nearly 150 acres of land, including the Residential Barracks Blocks 22 and 23.

Other successful efforts include adding the Bainbridge Island Eagle Dale Ferry Dock unit in Washington State, eliminating the threat of a high-voltage power line that would have ran through Minidoka, land acquisition, new trails, interpretive signage, reconstruction of the Honor Roll and a reconstructed guard tower.

More recently, a new visitor center is set for construction sometime between 2015-16, complete with a new design and master plans.

Community members can help by joining the Friends of Minidoka, donating funds to FoM to support the work of the NPS or pledge support for the CAFO buyout. All three options can be done at www.minidoka.org.

"You can make a difference," FoM urged, "to prevent a second injustice from being committed."

For additional information, please contact FoM Chairman Alan Momohara at alanmomohara@hotmail.com or FoM Board Member Dan Sakura at tellyah@gmail.com.

PHOTO: RYAN KOZA

KODA FARMS®

A Family Legacy in California Farming Since 1928

New Crop 2014

Here on our farm in the Central Valley, it's that time of the year when broad swaths of rice are slowly turning gold awaiting harvest. Year after year, this cycle repeats as we carry on in the tradition of our grandfather and Koda Farms founder, Keisaburo Koda.

Our family has now been farming in California for over 85 years and we look forward to our approaching centennial. To some that may seem far and distant, but in farming, the long term picture is always in sight. This was especially true for our grandfather who during the World War II internment of Japanese Americans lost over 90% of everything he owned. After the family's release from Amache, Colorado, he fought tooth and nail to re-establish his farm and milling operations and instilled in those around him an indomitable sense of hope for a better future.

With the daily reminders of the changing seasons and imminent harvest, we extend our sincere gratitude to all of you folks that have made the aforementioned possible.

- The Koda Family

Koda Farms is the oldest, continuously family-owned and operated rice farm and mill in California. We oversee all facets of production – from growing and harvesting our propriety heirloom strains, to milling and packaging in our own facilities. Our trademarks and products include Kokuho Rose® Japanese style rice, Sho-Chiku-Bai® Sweet Rice, Mochiko Blue Star® Sweet Rice Flour, Kokuho Rose® Jyoshinko, and Diamond K® Rice Flour. (Organic & conventional versions available.)

Koda Farms, Inc., South Dos Palos, CA 93665
kodafarms.com



SHO-CHIKU-BAI™

糯米



Superior
Sweet Rice

KOKUHO
ROSE®



Heirloom
Varietal

MOCHIKO

BLUE STAR®



Sweet Rice
Flour

NEW CROP 2014



Present at “South Bay Stories: A Nikkei LGBTQ Forum for Everyone” were (from left) PSW Program Coordinator Traci Ishigo, panelists Traci Kato-Kiriyama, Melvin Fujikawa, Janet Uradomo and moderator Diane Ujiye.

GARDENA VALLEY JCI HOSTS ‘SOUTH BAY STORIES: A NIKKEI LGBTQ FORUM FOR EVERYONE’

By Traci Ishigo

More than 70 community members gathered at the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute for “South Bay Stories: A Nikkei LGBTQ Forum for Everyone” on Oct. 4. With the goals of initiating meaningful dialogue around gender, sexuality and LGBTQ stories in the Japanese American community, the event engaged attendees through personal stories and provided ample opportunities for questions.

Diane Ujiye, outgoing executive director of API’s CAN and longtime community organizer, moderated the panel and encouraged audience participation throughout the event.

Attendees were invited to participate in an interactive activity, which asked them to write down their answers to two specific questions: “What are your experiences with discussing sexuality with your family and other Japanese Americans?” and “What are some gender expectations you have heard from our family and other Japanese Americans?”

The activity’s answers revealed a large trend: Many attendees had never discussed sexuality with their family, but learned that there were specific roles and responsibilities for girls and boys for which to conform. As Ujiye reviewed these trends at the beginning of the program, she also showed the need to uplift Nikkei LGBTQ narratives in our community.

Three community members from the South Bay area shared their personal narratives from unique perspectives.

The panel began with Melvin Fujikawa, former senior

pastor at the Christian Layman Church in Oakland, Calif., and now a spiritual director and voice coach in Torrance, Calif. Fujikawa shared his story of coming out later in life as gay-identified in his mid-50s, at a time when he felt much more comfortable and proud of who he is as a man.

In addition, Fujikawa shared his thoughts on how he reconciles with his gay and Christian identity with the interpretation that God made him the way he is for a reason, rather than it being a sin, and he sees his gay identity as a true gift.

Janet Uradomo also proudly shared her story of being the mother of a young transgender 8-year-old daughter and the various challenges her family has faced. As a toddler, Uradomo’s trans-daughter exhibited gender nonconforming behavior, such as her interest with feminine dresses and choosing to play mostly with girls rather than boys.

While Uradomo and her husband thought it was “just a phase” in their child’s development, they have realized over the last couple of years that their child is far happier with identifying as a girl.

Following their trans-daughter’s lead of how she wants to identify her gender, Uradomo and her husband recently enrolled their daughter in a Torrance public school that supports gender nonconforming youth. The couple fully supports their trans-daughter, and they want to focus on making sure she is happy with being her whole self.

Traci Kato-Kiriyama, an artist/writer/community organizer, next read from her 2011 piece in the *Rafu Shimpo* called “LGBT(JA)Q” under the “Through the Fire” column. She described some of her experiences of being queer, her mother’s support of accepting her daughter’s decision to openly identify her sexuality and also the interesting

reactions of Nikkei community members who read her 2011 piece.

While Kato-Kiriyama expected people to engage with her further about her story at the time, instead, people did not go any deeper than telling her that they read it. She moved on to encourage the attendees about the importance of opening up the dialogue, and she expressed her hope that one day it will be considered “really JA” to be actively inclusive to the LGBTQ community.

The JACL Pacific Southwest (PSW) District, the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute, the South Bay JACL chapter, the Greater Los Angeles JACL chapter and the Torrance JACL chapter were very proud with the large attendance of “South Bay Stories: A Nikkei LGBTQ Forum for Everyone.”

This event was a part of PSW’s Nikkei LGBTQ Initiative, which also intends to encourage community members to save the date and attend “Okaeri,” a Nikkei LGBTQ Gathering coming up on Nov. 14 and 15 at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

Okaeri, which means “welcome home” in Japanese, is a gathering of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning individuals, family and allies. Attendees can expect to find support, resources and motivation through informative workshops and moving speakers, as well as the opportunity to connect with others to build greater inclusion in the Nikkei community.

For more information and to RSVP to Okaeri, visit www.okaeri-la.org or email or call Traci Ishigo, program coordinator, at tishigo@jacplsw.org or (213) 626-4471 with any questions.



Pictured in front of Roger Shimomura's most-recognized painting "Shimomura Crossing the Delaware," which is currently on display at WSU's Museum of Art, are (from left) Daniel Bernardo, WSU provost and executive vp; David Ono, co-producer of "Witness"/ABC7 Los Angeles news anchor; Patti Hirahara, WSU donor; Jeff MacIntyre, co-producer of "Witness"/owner of Content Media Group; Jeff Snell, WSU IT specialist; and John Streamas, WSU professor.

DOCUMENTARY SPURS JAPANESE INTERNMENT CONVERSATION AT WSU

By Steve Nakata

The first wet and stormy evening of fall didn't dampen the spirits of those who watched the Emmy Award-winning documentary "Witness: The Legacy of Heart Mountain" at Washington State University on Oct. 15.

Following the special screening of the film, co-producers David Ono, a news anchor for ABC7 Los Angeles Eyewitness News, and award-winning editor and videographer Jeff MacIntyre, who also owns Content Media Group, received the question that they hoped they would hear.

WSU freshman Chandler Shannon said he was so moved by the film, and he asked the duo, "What can I do to make sure this story isn't forgotten?"

The question provided Ono and MacIntyre the perfect opportunity to urge everyone in the audience to keep the story alive by sharing it with family members,

college roommates, teachers and anyone who will listen.

The Oct. 15 screening of "Witness" was part of an unprecedented series of campus events designed to educate citizens about the internment of Japanese and Japanese Americans during World War II. The event coincided with a special Roger Shimomura exhibition in the WSU Museum of Art (closing Dec. 31), an exhibit put together by WSU's Student Entertainment Board in the Compton Union Building Gallery displaying internment artifacts donated by WSU alumni (closing Nov. 14), and a photo collection display of WSU's George and Frank C. Hirahara Collection in the Terrell Library MASC. The father and son team snapped more than 2,000 photos of life in the Heart Mountain Relocation Camp in Wyoming while they were interned there during the war.

It was the WSU Hirahara Family Collection that inspired Ono and MacIntyre to

create the "Witness" documentary.

"With the racial profiling we've seen since 9/11 and issues surrounding Fifth Amendment rights, this is one of those stories that should be at the top of everyone's mind who is American," Ono told the audience. MacIntyre added, "The lessons I learned while working on this documentary changed my life. History is not made by the weak and ordinary, but rather the strong and extraordinary."

WSU junior Gregory Lew's grandparents were sent to the Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona. Based upon the limited information they shared about their camp experience to Lew, he knew his grandparents had to be strong to survive.

"They told us stories of living in stinky stalls and feeling like animals," Lew shared with the audience. "I'm so glad I came tonight to learn more about what so many Japanese Americans went through"

Prof. John Streamas said that many high

school and college textbooks don't include the topic of Japanese internment, and people are often shocked to learn something like this occurred in American history.

College of Communications staff member Jeff Snell grew up in Powell, Wyo., about 20 miles away from Heart Mountain. His family frequently drove by the Relocation Center, but said the U.S. government kept so quiet about what was happening there, the locals didn't even know.

"Everybody called it the 'Jap Camp,'" Snell recalled. "But it was never really talked about. In fact, it's still not talked about much in Wyoming."

Anna Maria Shannon, associate director of the WSU Museum of Art, said the film definitely got people talking on the WSU campus and in the Pullman community.

"Since the screening, people have been stopping me on the street and all around town asking how they can see the film and learn more about Japanese internment."

By donating her grandfather and father's photos to her father's alma mater, Patti Hirahara wanted them preserved for future generations to see and learn from.

"It's our hope that the WSU Hirahara Family Collection spurs conversations about Japanese internment for years to come," Hirahara said. "I encourage all universities to plan similar campus-wide events."

Numerous WSU colleges and departments organized lectures and hosted Japanese American alumni this fall. They include Architectural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences; History; Engineering; School of the Environment, Critical Culture, Gender and Race Studies; Murrow College of Communication; and Athletics.

The day after the film screening, KWSU-TV and KTNW-TV aired the documentary on Northwest Public Television and plan to show it again in the new future.

"This has been a great series of events for our university," said Daniel Bernardo, WSU provost and executive vp. "This important chapter of history is fading from memory, and it is important that we continue to tell the story."

To view a complete list of Japanese internment events and activities at WSU, visit <http://museum.wsu.edu/events.html>.

2014 ARATANI COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT RESEARCH ENDOWMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS OPENED

LOS ANGELES — The University of California, Los Angeles' Asian American Studies Center is pleased to announce that the 2014 George an Sakaye Aratani CARE grant applications will be accepted for review between Oct. 24 and Dec. 12. Awards will be announced during the winter quarter, 2015, and should be completed within a year or less.

The Aratani "Community Advancement Research Endowment," or Aratani CARE, grants are designed to promote projects

that will (1) benefit and advance the Japanese American community, as well as (2) strengthen ties between the Japanese American community and UCLA students, staff and faculty.

Applications that include a campus partner (e.g., faculty, staff, students or alumnae) will be prioritized, as will events or programs where the grantee agrees to acknowledge the Aratani CARE grant, UCLA's Asian American Studies Center as a co-sponsor on public relations and programs.

Nonprofit organizations and qualified individuals are invited to apply for grants that generally range from, but are not limited to, \$1,000-\$5,000. Past awardees include the Little Tokyo Historical Society, Kizuna, the Japanese Community Cultural Center; the UCLA Nikkei Student Union; and the PSW chapter of the JACL.

Information about the grant and how to apply is available on the Aratani CARE website at www.aratanicare.org.

VOTE >> continued from page 2

Congress might be gridlocked, but that doesn't need to stop our communities from progressing. Voting can mean the difference in allowing two people to get married. It can determine how firearms are sold. It can direct where our energy comes from or how leaders respond to a racialized attack.

Ultimately, if you don't turn out to vote, you can't complain about a government that doesn't represent you.

Voting takes place on Nov. 4. Take pride in electing your congressmen. Generations marched, fought and died for the right to vote. As AAPI youth, we can't let that right be wasted. ■

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ishibashi/Stonebridge Presents

★ ★ ★ *The* ★ ★ ★

GREAT NISEI REUNION

Featuring

THE JIMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA & THE MILLS BROTHERS

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS THE ISLAND CROONERS

CALENDAR

'The Great Nisei Reunion'**Los Angeles, CA****Nov. 16; 2 p.m.****The Aratani Theatre****244 S. Pedro St.****Price: \$45 and \$60**

Ishibashi and Stonebridge present 'The Great Nisei Reunion,' honoring an inspiring generation and their music. A feature performance by the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra and the Mills Brothers are set to hit the stage with special guests the Island Crooners. Don't miss out on this fun-filled evening to celebrate great music and community. Mention the *P.C.* to inquire about a special free ticket offer. Special bento lunches are available. Inquire when calling.

Info: Call (310) 627-7272 or visit**www.stonebridgeentertainment.com.**

EDC

2014 Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival
Philadelphia, PA
Nov. 12-22

Locations may vary

The 2014 Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival presented by HBO presents 16 features, five free short programs and other events this year. This year will also feature the new PAAF+ peripheral program, including three new sections: PAAFF Eats, PAAFF Pulse and PAAFF Pride — which refer to the food, music and LGBTQ programming, respectively.
Info: Visit www.paaff.org or contact Festival Director Rob Buscher at rob@phillyasianfilmfest.org.

Nam June Paik: Becoming Robot
New York, NY
Through Jan. 4, 2015
Asia Society New York
725 Park Ave.

Price: \$12 General Admission
 "Becoming Robot" is the first exhibition dedicated exclusively to the artist to open in New York City in more than a decade. It focuses on Paik's process and his philosophy toward technology and the body.
Info: Visit www.asiasociety.org/new-york/exhibitions/nam-june-paik.

NCWNP

Heart Mountain Town Hall Event
San Jose, CA

Nov. 22, 2:30 p.m.
San Jose Buddhist Church
Betsuin
640 N. 5th St.

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation and Japanese American Museum of San Jose will be hosting a Town Hall event and a screening of the award-winning documentary "The Legacy of Heart Mountain."
Info: Visit www.jamsj.org or call (408) 294-3138.

Kimochi Silver Bells Arts and Crafts Faire
San Francisco, CA
Dec. 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
The Event Center at St. Mary's Cathedral
1111 Gough St.
Cost: Free

Don't miss out on this one-stop shopping event for holiday gifts this year. Exhibit booths will include Kelley's Kookies, Kimochi Arts and Crafts, Cynthia Sasaki, Dardie Ishida, Ono Memories, Tobi-Mulan Designs and Little Buddha Baby. The event is expected Asian and Pacific Islander themed arts and crafts.
Info: Visit www.kimochi-inc.org or call (415) 931-2294.

Na Leo 2014 Holiday Concert
San Francisco, CA
Dec. 14, 4-5:30 p.m.
JCCCNC
1840 Sutter St.
Cost: \$45 General Admission and \$75 VIP

Share the holiday season with Na Leo for their first mainland

holiday tour in 10 years. Na Leo has won the most Hoku Awards of any Hawaiian music group, becoming the most-recognized music group from the islands. Enjoy the holidays and listen to the most popular, award-winning and biggest-selling female Hawaiian group in the world, Na Leo.
Info: Purchase tickets at <http://bit.ly/naleoconcert>.

PSW

Okaeri
Los Angeles, CA
Nov. 15 (Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)
Japanese American National Museum
100 N. Central Ave.

This gathering will bring Nikkei people together to talk about their identities and how they intersect with social justice issues for an evening. The event will discuss gender, sexuality, racism, ableism, classism, xenophobia and the unique experiences from community members.
Info: Register at www.okaeri-la.org.

Conversations With Mary Adams Urashima
Los Angeles, CA
Nov. 22, 2 p.m.
Japanese American National Museum
100 N. Central Ave.

Join historian and author Mary Adams Urashima as she traces the fascinating history of Wintersburg

Village, a vanished Japanese American pioneer community located in present-day Huntington Beach, Calif.
Info: Visit www.janm.org.

Photo Exhibition by Sanjiro Minamikawa
Los Angeles, CA
Dec. 6-27
George J. Doizaki Gallery
244 S. San Pedro St.

Come see works of Sanjiro Minamikawa and photographs of the masters of the later 20th century and their studios, including Joan Miro, Marc Chagall, Salvador Dali and de Chirico.
Info: Call Stewart Himeno at (213) 249-5439 or email himeno3@gmail.com.

PNW

Live On: Mr.'s Japanese Neo Pop
Seattle, WA
Nov. 22
Seattle Art Museum
1400 E. Prospect St.
Price: \$5

In response to the devastating nuclear accident in 2011, Japanese Neo-Pop artist Mr. composed a massive installation of everyday objects from Japanese life in a series of new paintings and other work.
Info: Visit www.seattleartmuseum.org or call (206) 654-3100.

MDC

Chicago JACL Annual Meeting and Dinner

Chicago, IL
Nov. 12, 6 p.m.
JACL Office
5415 N. Clark St.

Come share a meal with fellow JACL members and learn about the chapter's programs. The meeting will cover new projects and events in the coming year. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.
Info: RSVP at Chicago@jacl.org or call (773) 728-7171.

Ghosts and Demons in Japanese Prints
Chicago, IL
Through Jan. 4
Art Institute of Chicago
111 S. Michigan Ave.
Price: \$23

This exhibition showcases the most special works of the Clarence Buckingham Collection of Japanese Prints, including chilling images of ghouls, Shoki and the Demon Queller. The images were printed to ward off disease and bad luck.
Info: Visit www.artic.edu.

ADVERTISE HERE

Events in the calendar section are listed based on space availability. Place a 'Spotlight' ad with photos of your event for maximum exposure.

FOR MORE INFO:
tiffany@pacificcitizen.org
 (213) 620-1767



Memoriam

Coddington, Betty, 90, Los Angeles, CA; Oct. 7; she is survived by her children, Kenneth (May) Inouye and Marie (Bob) Petrie; gc: 3; ggc: 2.

Endo, Robert Toshikatsu, 79, Torrance, CA; Oct. 14; he is survived by his son, Fred Endo; daughter, Christina Endo; sisters, Julie Takahashi, Betty Fukuwa and Louise Tanaka; also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Hirata, Frank Hironobu, 88, Spokane, WA; Sept. 27; he is predeceased by his daughter, Darlene Hirata; brother, Ted Hirata; he survived by his wife, Patricia Hirata; children, Curtis and Alice (Randy) Miketa; sister, Grace (Masami) Kayamoto; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Ikeji, Fumi, 95, Pacific Beach, CA; Sept. 27; she is survived by her children, George Toshikazu (Yukiko) Ikeji, Elain Hideko (Kenny) Kinjo, Susan Yoshiko (Bob) Batistic and Marion Reiko (Scott) Shiroma; she is also survived by many relatives; gc: 8.

Kajikawa, Fred, 96, Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 28; he is survived by his wife, Chiyeko Kajikawa; daughter, Virginia (Bob) Baker; sons, Ric (Steve Marsden) Kajikawa

and Kendric (Lauri Manaka) Kajikawa; brother, Jim (Mae) Fukumoto; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Kawaratani, Kiyoshi, 88, Monterey Park, CA; Oct. 23; he was the owner of Rafu Bussan, Inc.; he is survived by his wife, Aiko Kawaratani; siblings, Tsutomu (Atsuko) and Yukio (Lillian) Kawaratani, Yoshiko Tanaka, Fumiko Ozaki and Toshiko (Isamu) Masumoto; he is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Kobayashi, Sachiko Janie, 86, Woodland Hills, CA; Oct. 12; she is survived by her loving husband, Chiaki Kobayashi; nephew, Steve (Bridget) Hazeyama; nieces, Diane (Daniel) Kim and Anna (Edward) Hudson; she is also survived by many other relatives.

Koda, Dan Noboru, 88, Gardena, CA; Oct. 23; he is survived by his wife, Masako; son, Richard (Carolyn); daughter, Shirley Dohzen; brother, Kenji (Shinobu) Koda; sisters, Sumiye (Ted) Takeuchi, Kazuko (Robert) Yamamoto and Fujiko Oriba; sister-in-law, Hiroko Koda; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 4.

Koshimizu, Haruko, 93, Los Angeles, CA; Oct. 19;

she is survived by her children, Eiko Koshimizu, Judy (Ko) Igashira, Irene Hino, Robert and Michael Koshimizu; brothers, Tom (Kinu) Shishido; also survived by many other relatives; gc: 4.

Masushige, Marie Toyeko, 95, Gardena, CA; Sept. 25; she is survived by her children, Harry (Sylvia) Masashige and Rose (Robert) Mayebo; sister, Lilly Kakita; gc: 8; ggc: 13; ggg: 9.

Okihara, Toshio, 89, Torrance, CA; Oct. 14; he is survived by his son, Craig (Jodi) Okihara; daughter, Karen Okihara; brothers, Kazuto Okihara and Ralph Okihara; sister, Joan (Ken) Oyama; gc: 2.

Sada, Irene Murata, 85, Modesto, CA; she is survived by her son, Michael (Rosanna) Murata; brothers, Tadashi Arakaki and Danny Arakaki; sisters, Teru Higashi and Michi Arakaki; she was

predeceased by her husband, Hitoshi "Hito" Murata.

Sakaji, Shiro, 100, Northridge, CA; Oct. 15; he is survived by his wife, Harue Sakaji; children, Jack (Junko) Sakaji, Tomoko (Matsuda) and Keiko (James) Hishinuma; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Saruwatari, Mary Haruye, 88, Harbor City, CA; Oct. 15; she was predeceased by her beloved husband, Tom Saruwatari; daughter, Lin Heath; she is survived by her sons, Tom (Donna), Ken (Darcie) and Glenn (Carolyn) Saruwatari; son-in-law, Terry Heath; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 6.

Suzuki, Yoshiye M., 92, Fountain Valley, CA; Oct. 3; she is survived by her nieces and nephews, Janice (Curtis) Mizufuka, Kenneth (Brenda) Harada, Jane (Dane) Yagi and

Taro Suzuki; she is also survived by many other relatives.

Tanida, Barney Hoshio, 92, Laguna Woods, CA; Oct. 11; he is survived by his wife, Aileen Tanida; daughter, Sue (Rick) Tanida; siblings, Teruzo (Misako) Tanida and Katsuko (Johnny) Yamada; sisters-in-law, Rose Woods and Helen Worrall; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Terasawa, Isoe, 64, Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 23; she is survived by her siblings, Yukie Gotanda, Hiroe Kaya, Sumiko Terasawa.

Yoshinaha, Amy, 87, New York, NY; Oct. 13; she was a former internee at Jerome, Ark.; she is survived by her brother, Tsugio John (Lucienne) Yoshinaga; sister, Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga; she was also survived by many nieces, nephews, friends and other family members. ■

TRIBUTE

KIMIYE MORIMOTO

Morimoto, Kimiye, 93, Richmond, CA; Sept. 24; survived by her daughter, Luana; sons, Ron and Tim; sister, Utako Narahara; brother, Kosaku (Julie) Ota; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by her husband, Naoto Eddie Morimoto; sister, Kosumi Oka; and brother, Gary Hiromichi Ota. A memorial service was held on Sunday, Oct. 19, at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple.

TRIBUTE

SHIZUYE ISHIBASHI



Shizuye Ishibashi (1914-2014) passed away peacefully on Sept. 18, 2014. She enjoyed and was known for her batik and shodo works. She is survived by her loving children, Amy (Aki) Niwa, William (Priscilla) Ishibashi, Johnny Ishibashi, Jean (Alberto Saldamando) Ishibashi; grandchildren, Stephen Niwa, Katherine (Lawrence To) Ishibashi, Lauren (Jon Asaoka) Ishibashi-

Asaoka, Shizu Saldamando; grandchildren, Sage and Willow Ishibashi-To, and Melanie Asaoka.

Shizuye was a survivor of the U.S. concentration camps for Japanese Americans during WWII and raised a family with her husband while working as a waitress, seamstress, farmworker, domestic and more. She valued education and modeled creating beauty in the midst of adversity. Her spirit lives on in the lives of all who came to know her and kodomonotameni. www.fukuimortuary.com (213) 626-0441.

2014 HOLIDAY ISSUE THEME



Home for the Holidays

This year's Holiday Issue theme 'Home for the Holidays' focuses on a celebration of 'home.' The *P.C.* is interested in seeing pictures of what readers' homes look like during this magical time, from decorations inside and out to table spreads filled with delicious holiday food, including New Year's *osechi* dinners. From traditional to not-so-traditional, we'd like to see 'inside' your homes.

Please send your favorite high-resolution photos by Nov. 21 (along with caption information) to the *P.C.* at 250 E. First St., Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or email pc@pacificcitizen.org.



PLACE A TRIBUTE

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

Contact:
tiffany@pacificcitizen.org
or call (213) 620-1767

久保田日系葬儀社
KUBOTA NIKKEI MORTUARY
Reliable, personalized care
日本語でも親切にお世話をさせていただきます。
T (213) 749-1449
F (213) 749-0265
911 VENICE BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA 90015
www.kubotanikkimortuary.com

福井 FUKUI MORTUARY
Five Generations of Experience
FD #808
707 East Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Ph. 213/626-0441
Fax 213/617-2781
Gerald Fukui
President

DEFECTIVE AIRBAGS PROMPT URGENT AUTO RECALL OVER POTENTIAL RUPTURES

Cars from makers including Honda, Mazda, Nissan and Toyota are included in the recall.

By Associated Press

DETROIT, MICH. — A potential safety crisis over defective airbags widened Oct. 21 as the U.S. government issued an urgent plea to more than 4.7 million people to get their cars fixed.

The inflator mechanisms in the airbags can rupture, causing metal fragments to fly out when the bags are deployed in crashes.

Safety advocates say at least four people have died from the problem and there have been multiple injuries. They also say more than 20 million vehicles in the U.S. are equipped with the faulty air bags.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration warned people whose cars have been recalled during the past two years for faulty air bag inflators to take them to dealers right away. The inflators are made by Takata Corp., a Tokyo-based supplier of seat belts, airbags, steering wheels and other auto

parts. So far, automakers have recalled about 12 million vehicles worldwide because of the problem.

"This message comes with urgency," the NHTSA said in a statement. The agency has been investigating the problem since June and has cited reports of six inflators rupturing, causing three injuries.

The warning covers cars made by Toyota, Honda, Mazda, BMW, Nissan, General Motors and Ford. Passenger or driver air bags or both could be affected depending on the vehicle.

Toyota issued the latest recall Oct. 21, covering passenger airbags in 247,000 older model vehicles, including the Lexus SC, Corolla, Matrix, Sequoia and Tundra.

Like many of the other recalls, the Toyota recall covers vehicles in south Florida, along the Gulf Coast, in Puerto Rico, Hawaii, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Saipan and American Samoa — all areas that have high absolute humidity. Toyota, in documents posted on the NHTSA website, said the company and Takata are still trying to pinpoint the cause of the rupture and to gauge the influence of high absolute humidity.

Absolute humidity is a measurement of water vapor in the air, while relative humidity,

which is commonly used in weather reports, measures air moisture content relative to the air temperature.

Toyota has been testing the airbags, and it found an unusually high incidence of inflator failures along the coasts, according to spokesman John Hanson. The investigation continues, and the recall could be expanded to more areas, Hanson said.

Neither Toyota nor the NHTSA could say exactly how far inland the recall area goes or what states it covers.

The NHTSA urged people to check if their car has been recalled by going online to <https://vinrel.safercar.gov/vin> and typing in their vehicle identification number.

Clarence Ditlow, executive director of the nonprofit Center for Auto Safety, estimated there are 20 million-25 million cars in the U.S. alone that are equipped with the faulty air bags.

Toyota said repairs will be done for free. People who live in areas that are outside of the recall zone who are afraid of driving their cars should contact their dealerships, Hanson said.

"Based on NHTSA's open investigation, the agency will take appropriate action, including expanding the scope of the recall if warranted," an agency statement said. ■

VETERAN >>
continued from page 5

will proceed on to the Asiatic Theatre to fight Japan!" Then he added, "Except Lt. Ohata because no one goes from the zone of interior (Z1) (continental U.S.) to the combat zone (Hawaii) for a vacation." "But it is my home," I cried. To make a long story short, I was given a telephone number in Washington, D.C., to explain my plight. I called, and the officer whom I talked to also said he never heard of anyone going from the Z1 to the combat zone for a vacation period. Success! I was granted permission to go to Hawaii. "So, off to the nearest Army airfield I went. I arrived at Hickam — still had a short flight to Maui. When I arrived on Maui, a captain in his Jeep gave me a ride and took me right to the doorsteps of my home. When I knocked on the door, my mother burst into tears. Tears of joy! My mother was a very stoic person. This was the first time that I saw her cry. "I had a wonderful three weeks. I then headed back to Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. Upon arrival, I was told that no ethnic Japanese could go to the Asiatic Theatre unless he was in the Intelligence Corps as an interpreter. While my unit was shipped to Asia, I was reassigned to Camp Atterbury. Following my discharge from service, I returned to Paia, where I began my private medical practice." ■

ANYONE TOLD YOU LATELY HOW GREAT YOU ARE? OUR VOLUNTEERS HEAR IT ALL THE TIME.

Volunteers for AARP Foundation Tax-Aide get a lot of appreciation from the people they help.

And with good reason. We're one of the most effective community-based volunteer programs in the nation. We offer free, individualized and no-strings-attached tax preparation assistance to millions of low- to moderate-income taxpayers—especially those 60 and older—and make sure they get all the deductions and claims they deserve. And there's a volunteer role for everyone: we need greeters and tax preparation volunteers, along with communications, technology and administrative coordinators. We're 35,000 volunteers strong. Join us.

**AARP FOUNDATION
TAX-AIDE**

aarp.org/taxaide

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered
in conjunction with the IRS.

AARP®
FOUNDATION