



PACIFIC CITIZEN

THE NATIONAL
NEWSPAPER OF
THE JACL

Nov. 14-Dec. 11, 2014

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Veterans meet for their
last reunion.

PHOTO: TERRY LUIVE



JAPAN IMPERIAL DECORATION AWARDED TO JUDGE RAYMOND S. UNO

The Salt Lake City resident is named as the 2014 recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette by the Consulate-General of Japan in Denver.

Judge Raymond S. Uno of Salt Lake City has been named the 2014 recipient of the Japan Imperial Decoration, the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette by the Consulate-General of Japan in Denver.

The conferment of this decoration, which is awarded by the emperor of Japan to individuals worldwide, recognizes lifetime achievement and a commitment to excellence, particularly including significant positive contributions to the mutual understanding and friendship between the United States and Japan.

Previously, Uno also received the Commendation of the Foreign Minister of Japan in 2012.

As a leader in the Japanese American community of Utah, Uno previously served as president of the Salt Lake Chapter of the JACL from 1964-65. From 1969-70, he served the National JACL as coordinator of the organization's Civil Rights Program. He became president of National JACL from 1970-72 and helped spearhead efforts toward an official public apology and redress for Japanese American citizens who had been detained in internment camps during the 1940s, which was eventually finalized with the signing of the Civil Liberties Act in 1988. In 1974, Uno was

named the Japanese American of the Biennium by the JACL for his commitment and community work with the organization.

At the local level, Uno led the Japanese Community Preservation Committee, a community drive to preserve the historic Japantown area of Salt Lake City from development. He has also been involved in a multitude of voluntary service and civic activities throughout his long career and has served on a variety of boards and committees for various community organizations, many of which are related to Japan, legal organizations and toward the promotion of diversity, civil and human rights.

Born in Ogden, Utah, in 1930, Uno moved to California in 1938, and his family was later evacuated to the Heart Mountain internment camp in Wyoming from 1942-45. Uno then served in the U.S. Army between 1949-52 and was stationed in Japan for a significant time as part of a military counterintelligence unit.

He received a bachelor's degree in political science in 1955, a juris doctor degree in 1958 and a master's in social work in 1963 from the University of Utah and an honorary doctor of humanities degree in 1994 from Weber State

University.

During his distinguished legal career, he has served both privately and publicly as a referee in the Juvenile Court, Deputy Salt Lake County Attorney and Assistant Utah Attorney General. In 1976, he became a judge for the Salt Lake City Court and in 1984 became a judge in the 3rd District Court, State of Utah. He retired in 1990 and served as a senior judge

for the 3rd District Court, State of Utah, from 1993-2002.

Throughout his long dedication in public and community service, Uno has contributed greatly to building stronger human relations and mutual understanding throughout society as well as between the people of the U.S. and Japan.

A conferment ceremony for the Imperial Decoration will take



UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1) Publication Title: Pacific Citizen 2) Publication Number: 0030-8579 3) Filing Date: 10/01/14 4) Issue Frequency: Semi-monthly, except once in January & December 5) Number of Issue Published Annually: 22 6) Annual Subscription Price: \$40 7-9) Mailing Address/Publisher: Japanese American Citizens League dba Pacific Citizen (Los Angeles County) 250 E. 1st Street, Suite 301 Los Angeles, CA 90012-3819 Contact Person Manager: Allison Haramoto Telephone: (213) 620-1767 10) Owner: Japanese American Citizens League dba Pacific Citizen 1765 Sutter Street San Francisco, CA 94115 11) No. of Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities: 12) Tax Status Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months 13) Publication Title: Pacific Citizen 14) Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: 9/30/13 15) Extent and Nature of Circulation: Membership Benefit and Paid Subscription a. Total Number of Copies (Not Press Run) Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 8,424 No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 8,350 b. Paid Circulation 1. Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 Average: 7,514 Single Issue: 7,422 2. Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 Average: 725 Single Issue: 750 c. Total Paid Distribution Average: 8,239 Single Issue: 8,172 f. Total Distribution Average: 8,239 Single Issue: 8,172 g. Copies not Distributed Average: 185 Single Issue: 178 h. Total Average: 8,424 Single Issue: 8,350 i. Percent Paid Average: 100% Single Issue: 100% 16) Publication of Statement of Ownership: Publication of this statement will be printed in the 11/14/14 issue

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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.

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

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NIKKEI VOICE

FOR JAS, GOING TO JAPAN IS LIKE GOING HOME

By G. Asakawa

I just returned from a two-week trip to Japan with my wife and in-laws, and I'm reminded once again that Japanese Americans should take the time and expense to visit the country of our roots. Whether you're one generation or five generations removed from Japan, being in Japan will enrich your life and give you a renewed sense of identity.

We went first to Kumamoto on the southern island prefecture of Kyushu, where my father-in-law's family is from. It's an agricultural area — the air in the farmlands surrounding the city was hazy with the sweet blue smoke of burning rice straw, a by-product of the region's harvest.

The four imperatives for JAs who travel to Japan are family (*kazoku*), sightseeing or tourism (*kanko*), food (*tabemono*) and buying souvenirs (*omiyage*). We accomplished all four in Kumamoto, visiting my father-in-law's elderly sister, who's hospitalized, for a reunion, dining at some terrific local fare and shopping for gifts to take back home. It helps that the city's mascot is an adorable black bear cartoon character named "Kumamon" (*kuma* is Japanese for bear), so we bought a lot of

Kumamon souvenirs.

The family members we met were welcoming and incredibly generous. Between our combined poor Japanese and some relatives' passable English, we were able to communicate pretty well.

My father-in-law's cousin, who's now the CEO of the Mount Aso Volcano Museum, took us on a drive to the beautiful area that includes the still-active volcano, as well as an enormous land area that includes the city of Aso and a lot of farmland that sits inside a 75-mile diameter caldera, the largest in the world, created by an ancient eruption. We also went sightseeing on our own to the grand Kumamoto Castle, which is right downtown in the shopping district.

The area's cuisine is notable for Tonkotsu ramen, made with a rich pork broth, and Basashi, raw horsemeat. Basashi Samurai who were trapped in Mumamoto Castle for 57 days in the 1800s were forced to eat horsemeat, and the practice has become tradition. It's not bad! I also had cooked horsemeat in udon. But exotic food isn't the only reason to go to Japan.

We left Kumamoto after five days and went to Hiroshima,

our next stop.

The must-see sight is the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and Peace Memorial Museum, which are stark but inspiring reminders of the atomic bomb that destroyed the city and helped end World War II. Some of the exhibits and the famous dome building at ground zero that was left standing as a memorial can be emotionally draining, but they're also life-affirming.

Then we took a tram to a ferry to Miyajima Island, where there's a famous Shinto shrine. The shrine has a torii gate in the water offshore. At Miyajima, you can taste the local specialty pastry, called Momiji Manju, with sweet bean paste inside a shell shaped like a maple leaf.

Back in Hiroshima, we had dinner at a famous Okonomiyaki restaurant called Hassho. Okonomiyaki is a sort of pancake made with meat, seafood, vegetables, ramen noodles and a batter, cooked on a tabletop grill. It's delicious.

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FROM THE MIDWEST

'DEAR WHITE PEOPLE': A MIXED-RACE PERSPECTIVE

By Christine Monteaux
JACL Assistant Program Director

Last week, I watched a film called "Dear White People," which follows the experiences of four black students at a predominately white, fictional Ivy League university. It was refreshing to see a movie that focused on the experiences of people of color, rather than the mainstream movies I usually watch that are almost exclusively about white people. Even though I know very little about black identity struggles specifically, as a person of color, there were many moments that I found relatable, familiar and funny.

I enjoyed the film overall, but as a mixed-race Japanese American, I was bothered by the portrayal of a biracial black character named Samantha White. Sam is the outspoken, radical leader of the Black Student Union's protests against discriminatory university policies. She hosts a controversial campus radio show that speaks to the black experience, is well-versed in the history of civil rights and is the new head of an all-black residence hall.

The film follows Sam's struggle with her identity as a biracial black woman. The fact that she is half-white is highlighted throughout the film as the reason she feels the need to "overcompensate" through her activism as a way to prove her blackness. Sam's white boyfriend, Gabe, whom Sam repeatedly pushes away as she organizes protests

and implements new policies in her residence hall, tells Sam that she is denying her true self by being so militant — after all, he knows she secretly listens to Taylor Swift. Meanwhile, Sam's white father (literally, Mr. White) is suffering from health issues, adding a sense of urgency to Sam's feeling that she must "choose a side."

At the end of the film, Sam casts off her "black rebel" persona to reconcile with Gabe and embrace her white identity. Her relationship with Gabe, which suffered as Sam doubled down as a black activist (even as he dismissed her commitment to her cause), is restored when Sam apologizes for rejecting him. Instead, Sam veers toward the other extreme, moving out of the all-black dorm, distancing herself from her black friends, questioning the future of her radio show and even changing her hair.

Being mixed race myself, I felt frustrated and betrayed by this ending. My issue isn't that Sam chose to reject her blackness; she has the right to define her identity for herself. What I found problematic was the implication that her identity as a black activist was somehow inauthentic because she is half-white. What I saw in the ending was a white man imposing his own vision of a mixed-race woman's identity upon her, leading Sam to break with her previous understanding of who she is.



>> See PERSPECTIVE on page 12

LITTLE TOKYO HISTORICAL SOCIETY SEEKS ENTRIES FOR 2015 SHORT STORY CONTEST

'Imagine Little Tokyo' expands to include Japanese and youth divisions.

Expanding to include Japanese-language and youth divisions, Little Tokyo Historical Society seeks fictional short stories for its second annual "Imagine Little Tokyo" writing contest. The deadline is Jan. 31, 2015.

The first-place winners of the English- and Japanese-language competitions will each receive a cash award of \$600; the winner of the youth division (18 and younger) will get \$400. The purpose of the contest is to raise awareness of Little Tokyo through a creative story that takes place in Little Tokyo. The story has to be fiction and depict the current, past or future of Little Tokyo as part of the City of Los Angeles.

"We had great success with our inaugural contest this year," said Bill Watanabe,

chair of the Imagine Little Tokyo Committee. "As there is obviously great interest in writing stories that celebrate our community here in Los Angeles, we wanted to expand the contest to include entries written in Japanese as well as encourage young people to participate."

The winning stories will appear in the *Rafu Shimpo* and Discover Nikkei website. A public award ceremony and readings are also planned in 2015.

Financial supporters of the contest include Sansei Legacy, other organizations and individual donors.

For more information on the complete rules and guidelines, refer to the LTHS website at www.littletokyohs.org.

APAs in the News

RECORD NUMBERS OF ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS RUN FOR OFFICE IN THE 2014 MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Four U.S. states saw six AAPIs run for governor. Emerging victorious were:

South Carolina: Incumbent Republican Nikki Haley was elected to her second term as governor with 56% of the vote. She is the first woman to serve as governor in the state and is of Indian American descent.



Haley



Ige

Hawaii: Democrat David Ige won a seat as the governor of Hawaii, earning close to 50 percent of the vote, beating two other AAPI candidates, Duke Aiona and Mufi Hannemann. Ige will serve along with Lt. Gov. Shan Tsutsui.

Along with Republican Governor of Louisiana Bobby Jindal, there are now three AAPI governors in the U.S.



Amata



Lieu



Takai

Most of the AAPI members of Congress were re-elected, however, newly elected members include Republican Amata Samoa of America Samoa, who was

elected to serve as a non-voting delegate to the U.S. House. She becomes the first woman to be elected to represent American Samoa in the U.S. Congress; Ted Lieu, a Democrat from Torrance, Calif., was elected to replace Democratic Rep. Henry Waxman in California's 33rd Congressional District; and Mark Takai, who defeated Republican Charles Djou to represent Hawaii's 1st Congressional District (Honolulu). He has served for nearly 20 years in the Hawaii House of Representatives.

Also claiming victory were Rep. Judy Chu (D-Pasadena), chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus; Rep. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), who won a second term and has served in office since 2012; Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-Hawaii), who represents District 2 (rural Oahu and the other islands); Rep. Mike Honda (D-San Jose), CAPAC chair



Chu



Duckworth



Honda



Iwamoto



Scott



Takano

emeritus; Democrat Jani Iwamoto, a member of Salt Lake JACL and elected to Utah Senate District 4 who becomes the first female JA Sansei to serve in Utah; Rep. Doris Matsui (D-Sacramento), who was re-elected by a wide margin over Republican Joseph McCray Sr.; Rep. Grace Meng (D-N.Y.) who is the first Asian American to represent New York in Congress; Rep. Bobby Scott (D-Va.), who ran unopposed in his bid for his 12th term; Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, who was re-elected as the Northern Mariana Islands' Congressional delegate; and Rep. Mark Takano (D-Riverside), who won a second term and serves as CAPAC whip. As of press time, Ami Bera (D-Rancho Cordova) held a slim lead over Republican challenger Doug Ose.

Of the 159 AAPI candidates for state legislatures in 26 states, 95 emerged victorious in 19 states. Notable victors include Rady Mom, the first Cambodian American in Massachusetts' House of Representatives; Stephanie Chang, the first Asian American woman to enter Michigan's House of Representatives; Pramila Jayapal, the first Indian American in Washington's State Senate; and Ervin Yen, the first Asian American in Oklahoma's state legislature.

— P.C. Staff, APAICS and Associated Press

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FABRICATION BEGINS FOR THE FUTURE USS DANIEL INOUE

Bath Iron Works celebrated the start of fabrication of the future USS Daniel Inouye (DDG 118) during a ceremony at BIW shipyard in Bath, Maine, on Oct. 31.

The first major ship milestone symbolizes that the first 100 tons of steel for the ship have been cut.

Construction on Arleigh Burke-class (DDG 51) destroyers is in full swing on the East and Gulf Coasts," said Capt. Mark Vandtroff, DDG 51-class program manager, Program Executive Office Ships. The restart DDG 51s benefit from a mature and stable design with increased air and missile

defense capabilities. These build on a legacy of success, providing outstanding combat capability and survivability characteristics."

The ceremony came just a day after BIW ceremoniously laid the keel for the future USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115), and a month following the start of fabrication on the future USS Paul Ignatius (DDG 117) at the Huntington Ingalls Industries shipyard in Pascagoula, Miss.

USS Daniel Inouye will be equipped with the Navy's Aegis Combat System, the world's foremost integrated naval weapon system. This system delivers quick reaction time, high firepower and increased electronic

countermeasures capability for anti-air warfare.

The ship is part of the Navy's latest flight of destroyer, Flight IIA, which enables power projection, forward presence and escort operations at sea in support of low intensity conflict, coastal and littoral offshore warfare as well as open-ocean conflict.

First-in-class ship, USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) was laid down at the BIW shipyard in 1988. Since, BIW and HII have laid keels for an additional 67 Arleigh Burke-class destroyers, including the USS Daniel Inouye.

Destroyers have been a mainstay of the



Navy's surface fleet since the first U.S. Navy destroyer, USS Bainbridge, was commissioned in 1902. Able to operate independently or as part of carrier strike groups, surface action groups, amphibious ready groups and underway replenishment groups, today's destroyers provide the fleet with multimission offensive and defensive capabilities.

NATIONAL JACL KICKS OFF 2015 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Patty Wada
NCWNP Regional Director

The National JACL announces its National Scholarship and Awards Program for the 2015 academic year. The JACL annually offers approximately 30 college scholarships for students who are incoming college freshmen, undergraduates and graduates, as well as those specializing in law and the creative/performing arts. There are also two student aid scholarships to address the challenge of rising tuition costs.

JACL, in partnership with Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo, also offers a U.S.-Japan Scholarship for an incoming college junior who wishes to study in Japan. Meiji Gakuin University, founded in 1863, is one of the oldest universities in Japan. This two-year scholarship will lead the recipient

to a bachelor's degree in international studies. All classes are taught in English.

A scholarship program brochure and applications for 2015 can be found on the JACL website (www.jacl.org) under the "Education" menu bar. The National JACL Scholarship program requires that all applicants be a student or individual member of the organization.

The freshman applications must be submitted directly by the applicant to his/her local chapter, postmarked no later than March 1, 2015. Students who require the mailing address for their chapter may contact JACL Membership Assistant Tomiko Ismail (tismail@jacl.org) or by calling (415) 921-5225.

JACL chapters will then have one month to screen the applications and forward their most outstanding freshman applications to the National JACL Freshman Scholarship

Committee, c/o the San Diego JACL. Chapters must submit their top freshman applications to the National Committee, postmarked no later than April 1, 2015.

Applications for the "other" scholarship categories (undergraduate, graduate, law, creative/performing arts and student aid) are to be sent directly by the applicant to the following address: National JACL Scholarship Committee, c/o Washington, D.C., JACL, 5406 Uppingham St., Chevy Chase, Md., 20815.

Applications for these categories must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2015, to be considered.

The Meiji Gakuin JACL Scholarship has its own deadlines and two completely different applications, which can be requested directly from Meiji Gakuin University via the JACL website.

For more information, contact Patty Wada, scholarship program manager, at pwada@jacl.org, or Chip Larouche, national vp for planning and development, at clarouche@jacl.org.



THE LATE PATSY TAKEMOTO MINK AMONG RECIPIENTS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

President Barack Obama announced the names of 19 recipients of the 2014 Presidential Medal of Freedom on Nov. 10, including the late Rep. Patsy Takemoto Mink, who was a Democratic congresswoman from Hawaii.

Mink, who passed away in 2002, served a total of 12 terms from 1965-77 and 1990-2002. Born and raised on Maui, she became the first Japanese American female attorney in Hawaii and served in the Hawaii territorial and state legislatures beginning in 1956. In 1964, she became the first woman of color elected to Congress and is perhaps best known for co-authoring and supporting Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, a federal law that prohibits discrimination

on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program or activity.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the nation's highest civilian honor. Among the other honorees are Alvin Ailey (posthumous), Isabel Allende, Tom Brokaw, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner (posthumous), Mildred Dresselhaus, John Dingell, Ethel Kennedy, Suzan Harjo, Abner Mikva, Edward Roybal (posthumous), Charles Sifford, Robert Solow, Stephen Sondheim, Meryl Streep, Marlo Thomas and Stevie Wonder.

The recipients will be awarded their Presidential Medal of Freedom during an official White House ceremony on Nov. 24.

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Northern Lights Holiday Tour (Emerald Hilda)	March 12-18
Anchorage, Fairbanks, Chena Green-Hot Springs, Aurora Borealis	
Southern Charm Holiday Tour (Bridle Hilda)	March 22-28
South Carolina-Charleston, Beaufort, Georgia-Savannah, Jekyll Island, Florida-St. Augustine, Jacksonville	
Japan Spring Holiday Tour (Emerald Hilda)	April 9-19
Tokyo, Sado Island, Kanazawa, Amurohachida, Fukuoka, Matsuyama, Fukuoka Green, Hiroshima, Osaka to Kyoto	
Italy Holiday Tour (Bridle Hilda)	April 22-May 1
Rome, Assisi, Perugia, Siena, Florence, Venice, Lake Garda, Lugano, Milan	
South America Japanese Heritage Holiday Tour (Emerald Hilda)	May 7-17
Argentina - Buenos Aires, Brazil - Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Iguaçu Falls, Meet with local Japanese for dinner, Option: Peru - Lima, Cusco, Machu Picchu	
Best Coast Island Getaway Tour (Grand Hilda)	May 11-16
Maui, San Rafael & Casano, Myrtle Seaport Village, Rhode Island, New York City, Hamptons, Long Island	
Grandparents-Grandchildren Japan Holiday Tour (Emerald Hilda)	June 22-July 1
Tokyo, Hakone, Aomori, Hiroshima, Kyoto	
Islands of New England Holiday Tour (Bridle Hilda)	Aug 7-15
Providence, Newport, Boston, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Hyannis	
Europe Holiday Tour (Grand Hilda)	September 21-Oct 12
London, Paris, Bruges, Amsterdam	
Classical Japan Holiday Tour (Emerald Hilda)	Oct 11-11
Tokyo, Hakone, Aomori, Gifu-Corona and Fushimi, Hiroshima, Kyoto	
Special Danube River Holiday Cruise (Grand Hilda)	Oct 11-21
Prague, Danube River Cruising, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest, Dunaújváros, Miskolc, MS Amadeus Royal River Cruise Ship	
Korea Holiday Tour (Emerald Hilda)	Oct 19-Nov 1
Seoul, Nami Island, Sokcho, Daegu, Gyeongju, Busan, Cheju Island, Gwangju, Daejeon, Suwon, KBS Drama Center, DMZ Tour	
Kenya Safari Holiday Tour (Grand Hilda)	Oct 29-Nov 10
Nairobi, Amboseli National Park, Mt. Kenya Safari Club, Swahili Village, Safari Camp, Jane Goodall Chimpanzee Sanctuary, Samburu Game Reserve, Game Drive	
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THE LAST REUNION

By Tiffany Ujiiye
Assistant Editor

The Korean War called for Nisei linguist soldiers to serve in a specific and unique way — through the Japanese language. Don Masui was one of thousands of Japanese American linguists who served as Korean War interrogators, translators, message interceptors or interpreters within the branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. It was during his time at Monterey Language School where he met lifetime friends and colleagues, including Neal Hayashida.

At the annual Korean War Military Intelligence Security Veterans Reunion on Nov. 5 at the Garden Buffet BBQ and Seafood restaurant in Artesia, Calif., Hayashida and Masui met for the first time in 60 years — and perhaps the last.

Less than 35 attendees arrived at the reunion where group organizer and MIS veteran Shuji "Bob" Miyasaki suggested the remaining balance of the reunion funds be donated to the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

"This is going to be the last one — the last reunion," Miyasaki announced. After 16 years of coordinating reunions, finding Korean War MIS veterans and educating the Japanese American community, Miyasaki has decided to retire his responsibilities.

Unless someone else

decides to continue the reunions, this is it," Miyasaki said.

With 47 years of active duty and federal service, Miyasaki began the reunion group looking to connect lost friends and create a space for veterans to discuss, laugh and share their wartime experiences. Their brotherhood and stories are incomplete and "remains generally known, even among the Japanese American community," wrote MIS Veteran Sam Miyamoto in a personal blog post, "because of the highly sensitive nature of MIS, the full contribution of the Nisei soldier to the war effort is not recognized."

A roundtable of veterans with their

friends and wives recalled how Japanese American linguists were often ordered to operate behind enemy lines and collect intelligence — and many never returned.

"I'm very proud of the veterans and my friends here," 508th MIS veteran Dan Hakikawa said to his table. "It's a brotherhood."

Many Nisei soldiers, including Masui, Miyasaki and Hakikawa, were called to fill communication gaps between the U.S., Korea and China with an unrelated third language — Japanese. The MIS soldiers were trained as interrogators and were assigned at every level from the front with the U.S. and South Korean Divisions to the Corps, Army and even POW levels.

Past Korean War MIS activity, while sensitive militarily, is relevant in today's tense political landscape both on the Korean peninsula and the global stage. Even after the war, individuals like Miyasaki continued to serve by interrogating prisoners and North Koreans fleeing to the South.

"It's funny," Yoshio Oyama explained

about the reunion's importance. "You know what they're talking about. You don't have to explain yourself here."

The group's last meeting, while bittersweet, encouraged veterans to continue sharing their stories and memories.

"After this, please contact each other and keep up the relationships," Miyasaki said before the reunion group. "I would really like to see that."

Masui and Hayashida exchanged numbers after reminiscing and correcting each other's memories.

"I can't believe it's been 60 years," Masui said to Hayashida. The two men laughed as Hayashida leaned over and gave Masui a pat on the back, waving a piece of paper with Masui's number on it and said, "Now, I know where to find you."



A collection of Shuji Miyasaki's personal photo album books



Korean War veteran hats were given to lunch guests.



Dan Hakikawa browses through Korean War MIS photo albums.



Neal Hayashida (left) and Don Masui meet for the first time in 60 years.



Shuji Miyasaki motions to approve the remaining group's funds be donated to JANM.



(From left) William Oune, Kinuko Oune, Mariko Kayano, Hui Kayano, Masaru Izuno, Sam Takahashi and Betsy Takahashi together at the reunion.

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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, Katsaburo 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 proprietary 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® Jyeshinko, and Diamond K® Rice Flour. (Organic & conventional versions available.)

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NEW CROP 2014

WELCOME HOME



Community organizers, builders and activists shared and discussed ways to create resources and strategies to expand gender and sexuality activist work at JANM during the "Movement Building in the Nikkei Community" workshop.



(Above) ri Ku Matsuda welcomes guests and explains preferred gender pronouns; (right) JANM CEO and President Greg Kimura delivers his opening remarks.



PHOTO: IF PAPER JOURNAL



Okaeri committee takes a group photo before opening its doors.

PHOTO: NIKKEI JOURNAL

After a year of planning, Okaeri holds the largest Nikkei LGBTQ gathering to bring visibility, resources and understanding to the L.A. community.



Aiden Aizumi (left) and his mother, Marsha, share the stage to encourage community members to listen, learn and be inspired by Okaeri's message and discussion.

By P.C. Staff

The largest Nikkei LGBTQ gathering opened its doors to family, friends and community members at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles for a historical conference that discussed gender and sexuality through personal narratives and reflections at Okaeri on Nov. 15.

In an effort to create a safe and open space, Okaeri Co-Chair Marsha Aizumi during her opening remarks encouraged "all of you to be transformed into more courageous and compassionate supporters of the Nikkei lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning community."

Echoed JANM CEO and President Greg Kimura:

"We need to be more open and inclusive. It's so important that we can be a place where people can feel safe and where people can be embraced. This is part of the Japanese American experience that is intrinsically and essentially an American story."

Workshop sessions held throughout the day gave many an opportunity to listen in or join discussions on intersections between religion, social movements, sexuality, gender and culture.

Rev. Mark M. Nakagawa, along with speakers Rev. John Oda, Rinban William Briones and other

religious advocates of LGBTQ persons and families shared their personal experiences with people from LGBTQ backgrounds, supporting LGBTQ groups with Christian and Buddhist traditions.

Rinban Briones recalled the time when he married George and Brad Takei as a pivotal moment in his personal and professional life. "I was given permission to marry them without the church, and so I married them on my own," he said.

The program also included live musical performances by Rey Fukuda, Maiya Kuida, Motohoshi and Mia Yamamoto.

Speakers Mia Frances Yamamoto, Aiden Aizumi, Bill Watanabe and Diange Ujiiye encouraged Okaeri guests to ask questions, gain knowledge and support the LGBTQ community with acceptance and encouragement.

Polaris Tours 2015 Schedule

Apr. 02 - Apr. 11	Sequoia Japan: Fukushima, Miyazaki, Kyoto, Nara, Osaka, Hiroshima, Tokyo
Apr. 07 - Apr. 21	Australia & New Zealand: Cairns, Sydney, Christchurch, Queenstown
Apr. 20 - May 12	South Korea (East Coast): Seoul, Jeju, Busan, Gyeongju, Jeonju
May 06 - May 19	South Korea (West Coast): Seoul, Jeju, Busan, Gyeongju, Jeonju
May 20 - Jun 06	The Best of Hawaii: Honolulu, Oahu, Maui, Big Island
Jun 06 - Jun 14	Second Hawaii: Oahu, Maui, Big Island, Kauai, Lanai, Molokai
Jul 12 - Jul 21	Japan By Train: Fukushima, Aomori, Oga, Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka
Oct. 17 - Oct. 26	Pacific Coast: Seattle, Portland, Astoria, Gold Beach, San Francisco
Oct. 24 - Oct. 31	Los Angeles: Los Angeles, San Diego, San Jose, San Francisco, Los Angeles
Oct. 30 - Oct. 31	Islands of Mexico: Cancun, Tulum, Playa del Carmen, Cozumel, Tulum
Oct. 13 - Oct. 27	Autumn Japan: Fukushima, Kyoto, Nara, Osaka, Hiroshima, Tokyo
Oct. 19 - Nov. 01	Italy: Rome, Florence, Milan, Venice, Capri, Amalfi Coast, Positano
Oct. 22 - Nov. 02	South Korea (West Coast): Jeonju, Seoul, Gyeongju, Busan, Jeonju
Nov. 01 - Nov. 11	Islands of Okinawa & Okinawa: Naha, Ishigaki, Miyako, Ujae, Ishigaki
Nov. 20 - Dec. 10	South America: Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, Brasilia, Lima

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NATIONAL VETERANS NETWORK BEGINS DEVELOPMENT OF A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL DIGITAL EXHIBITION

TORRANCE, CALIF. — The National Veterans Network, in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution's Asian Pacific American Center and the National Museum of American History and with the financial support from the National Parks Service, has begun developing a state-of-the-art digital exhibition centered on the military service of Nisei soldiers during World War II, including those who served in combat, in supporting roles and as part of the Japan Occupation.

The exhibit is inspired by the 2011 awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to three Japanese American units: the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and members of the Military Intelligence Service.

In June 2014, NPS agreed to provide a grant to the Smithsonian's APAC to help fund the Congressional Gold Medal Nisei Soldier digital exhibition. The Smithsonian engaged the NVN to conceive and implement the project, while consulting with APAC on the design review and NMAH on the exhibition content.

In 2013, NVN and the Smithsonian organized a seven-city tour of the Congressional Gold Medal and its accompanying display. In February, the Congressional Gold Medal was returned to the Smithsonian with plans to display it permanently as part of the National Museum of American History's exhibition "Price of Freedom: Americans at War."

"We are honored to be partnering with the Smithsonian Institution, America's national museum, on the Congressional Gold Medal digital exhibition project," said Christine Sato-Yamazaki, executive director of the NVN. "We are grateful to the National Parks Service for its support as well. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to ensure that the Japanese American World War II experience, including the forced removal of families from Hawaii and the mainland, the heroism of our veterans and the postwar civic engagement, will always be included as an integral part of U.S. history at our nation's premier history museum. The National Veterans Network is proud to be working with the Asian Pacific American Center and the National Museum of American history on such an important story."

When the United States entered WWII after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941, the U.S. government subjected people of Japanese ancestry in America to unfair and unlawful treatment, declaring Japanese Americans "enemy aliens" and forcibly removing thousands of families from their homes and businesses on the West Coast and Hawaii. Ultimately, more than 120,000 people were unconstitutionally incarcerated.

Despite widespread prejudice and the false imprisonment of their families by the government, thousands of Japanese Americans from the territory of Hawaii and the mainland entered the U.S. military.

While the 100th Infantry Battalion and then the larger 442nd Regimental Combat Team fought with remarkable valor in Europe, earning a combined seven presidential citations, members of the MIS used their language and cultural skills as translators, interrogators and code breakers to shorten the war in the Pacific and then to facilitate the Occupation of Japan.

The NVN is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to educating the nation on the Japanese American WWII experience. NVN led a national campaign in 2009 to award the Congressional Gold Medal, the nation's highest civilian honor, to the 100th, 442nd and MIS, who are the first and only Asian American recipients.

NVN then planned the 2011 award ceremony in Washington, D.C., while working directly with the U.S. Mint on the design of the medal itself.

NVN and the Smithsonian also sponsored the seven-city tour of the Congressional Gold Medal.

The display went to the National WWII Museum (New Orleans), Bishop Museum (Honolulu), Japanese American National Museum (Los Angeles), de Young Museum (San Francisco), Oregon History Museum (Portland), Chicago History Museum and Holocaust Museum Houston.

From now until early 2016, NVN will be consulting with the Congressional Gold Medal National Academic Advisory Council, a body organized for this project. NVN will work with the exhibition staff on planning and research for the digital exhibition, including the development of story lines, identifying existing regional resources

and reviewing supporting materials. Plans include the selection of an exhibit designer for an online and physical exhibition, as well as the creation of video segments to support the major themes.

The digital exhibition is scheduled for completion in 2016.

The Congressional Gold Medal digital exhibition will highlight the positive effects on U.S. history from the Japanese American experience," Sato-Yamazaki explained. "We also plan to link the online exhibit to existing community resources. Since millions of people visit the Smithsonian digital outreach programs annually, these resources will provide historic context to the Japanese

American experience for many students and educators."

While a grant from the NPS provides the bulk of the funding for this project, NVN is still fundraising to ensure the timely completion of the Congressional Gold Medal

digital exhibition.

To make a donation or for more information, visit www.nationalveteransnetwork.com. For more information on the NVN, email info@nationalveteransnetwork.com.



The Congressional Gold Medal was awarded to Japanese American World War II veterans in 2011.



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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS



CALENDAR

Mochitsuki 2015

Portland, OR

Jan. 26; 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Smith Memorial Student Union,
Portland State University

1825 S.W. Broadway

Cost: Advance Tickets \$10 Adult

Experience hands-on demonstrations and activities with friends and family with mochi pounding, calligraphy, origami, a tea ceremony, ikebana and games. Enjoy traditional Japanese dancing, drumming and musical performances all day. Guests include Portland Taiko, Takohachi, Unit Souzou, Sahomi Tachibana Dancers and many others. Presented by Portland JACL and co-produced by Konkō Church, Oregon Nikkei Endowment and Portland Taiko.

Info: Purchase tickets at www.mochipdx.org/about/tickets/.

IDO

TNT Band Concert Centennial, CO
Dec. 6; 7:30-9 p.m.
Volcano Asian Cuisine
10440 E Arapahoe Road
TNT Band, featuring Filipino American duo Tim Paron and Tex Almiara, will perform rock, pop and folk music. Guest musicians are welcome to join the performance. Relax and enjoy live music while dining on sushi, Chinese and hibachi cuisine and sushi at Volcano. Be sure to make reservations before arriving at the restaurant.
Info: www.cdbf.org.

EDC

Symposium: Historical Preservation in Japan and Boston
Boston, MA
Dec. 2-3
Harvard Art Museum and Boston Children's Museum
32 Quincy St. and 308 Congress St.
Cost: Free
The program will feature presentations by international architects, scholars and specialists in historic preservation. The two-day symposium is part of the 55th anniversary of the Boston-Kyoto Sister-City relationship and is dedicated to discuss architectural preservation in Japan and

New England.
Info: www.japansocietyboston.org.

'Theresa Hak Kyung Cha: Avant-Garde of One'
New York, NY
Dec. 5; 7 p.m.
Cost: Free
The APA Institute at NYU and Asian American Writers' Workshop present an evening of critical reflection, with writers, scholars and artists on Cha's diverse body of work. Cha's work tackles and challenges new understandings of history, language and the body. Presenters include Thomas Beard, Crystal Parikh and poet Alison Roh Park. This will be one of the most comprehensive programs and one of the few to examine Cha's work.
Info: www.aaww.org.

Odaiko New England: Winter Extravaganza
Woburn, MA
Dec. 13
ACAS
29 Montvale Ave.
Cost: \$10 Donation
Drop by and see Odaiko New England's taiko projects this season for a fun performance. The group will be celebrating the holiday season with their selection of songs with plenty of taiko.
Info: Visit www.onetaiko.org.

NCWNP

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 to host over 90 vendors, featuring 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.
JCCNC
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.
Info: Purchase tickets at <http://bit.ly/naeoconcert>.

AACI's Gift Giving Setup
San Jose, CA
Dec. 20; 9 a.m.-Noon
AACI Main Office
2400 Moorpark Ave., Suite 300
Join community members and help Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI) members prep for the annual holiday gift-giving event. The program will help families in AACI's domestic violence program and bring holiday cheer. Help is greatly needed with the organization of toys, sorting and decorations. Join today and help those in need this holiday season.
Info: Visit www.aaci.org.

PSW

Photo Exhibition by Sanjiro Minamikawa
Los Angeles, CA
Dec. 6-27
George J. Doizaki Gallery
244 S. San Pedro St.
Representative works of Sanjiro Minamikawa include "100 artist in their atelier; 100," photographs of the masters of the later 20th century and their studios, including Joan Miro, Marc Chagall, Salvador Dali and Giorgio de Chirico. The

exhibit will also include the works of European and American writers such as Ed McBain, Graham Greene, Frederick Forsyth and Michael Orlinton.
Info: Call Stewart Himeno at (213) 249-5439 or email himeno3@gmail.com.

MDC

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

In Memoriam

Abe, Margie, 95,



Los Angeles, CA; Oct. 28; she was predeceased by her husband, Reo Abe; daughter, Joyce Holway; she is survived by her children, Caroline (Eton) Taft, Linda (Bobby) and Richard (Sandy) Abe; brothers, Roy and Charles Torii; she is also survived by other relatives; go: 4; ggc: 4.

Kanemitsu, Teuruko, 90, Fullerton, CA; Oct. 24; she is survived by her husband, Hideki Yamanaka; sons, Kerry, Chris and Rich Kanemitsu; step-daughter, Gwen Avila; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Kawahima, Jiro, 95,



Los Angeles, CA; Oct. 20; he is survived by his children, Frank (Betty) Takeshi, Steve Susumu and Gary (Sandra) Minoru Kawashima; brother-in-law, Jack (Kate) Muro; he is also survived by other relatives; go: 6.

Iehitani, Grace Michiko, 96, Garden Grove, CA; Oct. 17; she is survived by her loving family, children, Patricia (Marvin) Ito, Marilyn (Gary) Kadomatsu; sisters, Helen Harada and Aiko Morishita; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; go: 8; ggc: 9.

Isobe, Kikue 'Kik', 94, Northridge, CA; Oct. 22; she was predeceased by her husband, Takeo 'Tak' Isobe; sisters, Natsuko Soeda and Kinie Kawasaki; she is survived by her loving children, Craig Isobe, Linda 'Smak' Nakaba, Donna 'Yak' (Tony) Nagatani and Faye (Bob) Anderson; sister, Harue Hara; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and

other relatives; go: 6; ggc: 3.

Iwaki, Grace Michiko, 83, San Pedro, CA; Oct. 24; she is survived by her beloved husband, Mamoru Iwaki; sons, Tim and Dr. Ken (Cindy) Iwaki; sister-in-law, Masako Isomaru; she is also survived by other nieces, nephews and other relatives; go: 2.

Maebori, Michiko 'Midge', 98,



Renton, WA; Oct. 21; she was a former officer and president of White River Valley JACL Chapter; she was a former internee at Tule Lake; she was predeceased by her husband, William; son, William Jr.; she is survived by her children, Stan (Martha) Maebori, Corinne (Gary) Passavant and Marcia (Gary) Grimstad; go: 8; ggc: 1.

Ohara, Miyo, 97, Los Angeles, CA; Oct. 24; she is survived by her daughters, Kayo (Hidem) Ohkawahira and Mabel (Edward) Shimasaki; brother, Hachiro Kakimoto; sister-in-law, Setsue Ohara; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; go: 5; ggc: 3.

Sadamori, Mitsuho Harada, 89,



Wapato, CA; Oct. 13; she was a former internee at Heart Mountain in Wyoming; she was predeceased by her husband, George; parents, Takashi and Tamaru Harada; sisters and spouses, Toshiko and George Okita, Masako and Jim Iwai and Akiko Harada; brother, Hideo Harada; brother-in-law, Tomo Kosobayashi;

sister-in-law, Bessie Harada; she is survived by her son, Gary (Marceline); daughters, Sharon (Rev. Dennis Fujimoto) and Michelle Sadamori; brother-in-law, Kaz Sadamori; brother, Shiz Harada; sisters, Yuji Hayashi (Harry), Sumi Kosobayashi, Terry (Jim) Nakano; sister-in-law, Dorothy Harada; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Shibuya, Laura Yaeko, 91, Los Angeles, CA; Oct. 20; she was predeceased by her beloved parents, Kinachi George and Saku Shibuya; siblings, Isabel, William, Fred, Margaret Ryono and Thomas Shibuya; she is survived by many loving nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Takahashi, Bruce Y., 70, Gardena, CA; Nov. 2; he is survived by his wife, Pauline Takahashi; children, Scott (Cindy) Takahashi and Leslie (Burt) Yamane; mother-in-law, Stanton (Jean) Uyehara; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; go: 5.

Takahashi, Kazuko, 86, Fullerton, CA; Oct. 14; she is survived by her loving son, Dennis (Janet) Takahashi; daughters, Judy Takahashi and Jean (Mike) Eggers; go: 1.

Teramoto, Motoe, 89, Los Angeles, CA; Oct. 23; he is survived by his loving wife, Martha Masako Teramoto; children, Kenny, Ricky (Simms) and Kinda Teramoto; siblings, Shiro Teramoto and Setsuko Kamachi; sister-in-law, Maxine Teramoto; he is survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; go: 3; ggc: 2.

Watanabe, Hieaei, 89, Carson, CA; Nov. 6; he is survived by his beloved wife, Katsuko; children, Henry Watanabe, Betty (David) Isa and Edward Watanabe; brother, Tadashi (Hinaye) Watanabe; sister-in-law, Lily and Doreen Watanabe; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; go: 2.

TRIBUTES

TERRY NISHIDA SATO



Teruma Nishida Sato passed away peacefully on Oct. 19, 2014, in Aurora, Colo., at the age of 91. Born in Bellevue, Wash., Terry was a WWII internee. She is survived by one niece.

Cremated remains were interred in a mausoleum crypt at Crown Hill.

While in her teens, Terry was a vocalist with a dance orchestra. She was a Federal employee from 1978 until her retirement.

A few accomplishments include secretary-treasurer Optimists, treasurer JA of Colorado, secretary Hiroshima Kenjin-Kai, editor for newsletter for Optimists and Hiroshima Kenjin-Kai. Member of Colorado Historical Society, NARF. Chairman of community-wide Kanssah no Hi from 1986-88. Chairman Hina Matsui, SUMC, and chairman of Gov. Ralph Carr Memorial service yearly at Fairmount for 10-plus years.

She raised funds and had a headstone erected to mark Eleanor Farrell Carr's gravesite behind Gov. and the first Mrs. Carr's grave. Held a dedication when the project was completed.

Chaired a segment of Rocky Mt. Vets Club National reunion in Denver. Assembled and published a memorial booklet of reunion for attendees.

Terry was a community volunteer for 30-plus years.

MICHAEL J. DOI



Michael J. Doi entered the gates of Heaven on Oct. 19, 2014. His wife, Gene Hashimoto Doi, preceded him in 2011. He is survived by daughter, Janice Sears-Kassmir; son, David; three grandchildren, Ashley Hendrick, Lauren Dean and Ryan; his beloved great-grandchildren, Michael and Hailey Hendrick and Madelyn Dean; and brother, Jimmy.

"Mike" was born in Camarillo, Calif., on May 26, 1920. He and his four siblings all worked on a produce farm. He attended Oxnard High School, where he was a stellar athlete who played baseball, football and was a black belt in judo.

Mike was drafted into the all-Japanese American 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Unit, Company A, which for its size and length of service was the most highly decorated unit in the history of the United States Army. A Congressional Gold Medal awardee, with two Bronze Stars, plus many other commendations, he fought in France, Italy and Germany. He also fought in the famous "Lost Battalion" campaign in the Vosges Mountains, considered one of the top 10 battles in U.S. Army history. He was discharged in November 1945.

Mike lived in Stone Mountain, Ga., and was married to Gene for more than 60 years. They were polar opposites and yet a perfect blend. They traveled the world together, entertained regularly, played bridge, attended church and had many loving friends. They were outstanding role models, loving parents and adoring partners to their very last days. He supported Gene as she lobbied Sen. Pat Swindall and obtained the "swing vote" needed to pass the Civil Liberties Act, providing redress payments to interned Japanese Americans.

He loved kids and coached junior bowlers and Little League Baseball for many years and was an avid Atlanta Braves and University of Georgia Bulldogs fan. Mike discovered the Food Channel and took up cooking after his retirement. Mike also loved to eat out and always picked up the check!

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Columbia Presbyterian Church, 711 Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030.

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.

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HOME >> continued from page 3

We only had two days in Tokyo, so we didn't do a lot of sightseeing. We went to Shibuya Station where the famous statue of Hachiko, the dog that was so loyal he came to the station every day to meet his master for years after the man died of a heart attack at work, and the wonderful Asakusa Buddhist Temple complex and bazaar (for more omiyage). On the final morning before heading to Narita Airport, we went to Tsukiji, the world's largest fish market, because it's being closed down and moved within the next few years.

Everything about the trip was worthwhile and enhanced our feelings for Japan and our own heritage.

Even if you're a little hesitant to visit Japan, you'll be surprised at how much of the country will feel familiar to you. My in-laws didn't think they could speak any Japanese, but after a few days, you'll surprise yourself at how much you do know, and how much you can comprehend. My father-in-law seemed to pull out words and phrases from the time he was stationed in Okinawa in the late 1950s — and he sounded perfectly natural.

It's hard to describe the feeling that you've come home

somehow, when you step off the plane and start exploring Japan.

Give it a shot. Make it your next travel destination. Go home. You'll be glad you did.

Gi Asakawa is a member of the Pacific Citizen Editorial Board and the author of "Being Japanese American." He blogs about Japanese and Asian American issues at www.nikkeiview.com, and he's on Facebook, Twitter and lots of other social media. He is the 2014 Asian American Journalists Assn.'s AARP Social Media Fellow.



One of the fish sellers at Tokyo's Tsukiji Fish Market, trimming that morning's tuna catch and making the freshest sashimi imaginable.

PERSPECTIVE >> continued from page 3

A major misconception about the mixed-race experience is the idea of an immutable conflict between your various "sides." Mixed-race identity is framed in a way that forces a choice between two or more incompatible identities (i.e., being black or white, being Asian or white, but never both). At the same time, this framing suggests that to make this choice is to deny an essential part of who you are. Whether you are choosing to "pass" as white or embrace your identity as a person of color, the assumption is that a percentage of you remains unfulfilled and excluded. But identity is not a static math equation where the sum of our parts needs to neatly add up to one. Having a loving relationship with your white parent, dating a white person or enjoying Taylor Swift is not mutually exclusive with identifying as a person of color.

I was disappointed that a film that got so many things about race and racism right could get its portrayal of multiracial identity so wrong. "Dear White People's" treatment of Samantha White played along the tired stereotypes of the "confused mixed-race person," whose loyalties, beliefs and identity are torn between her two different sides. Instead of mixed-race characters who are forced to make a choice between being white or black, it would be nice to see mixed-race characters who recognize and accept the fluid and nuanced nature of their racial identity. This type of portrayal will help add to an understanding that we all carry multiple identities that form our sense of self; a sense of self that, as Walt Whitman once wrote, can contradict itself because it "contains multitudes."

Christine Murteanu is the JACL Assistant Program Director. She is based in the JACL's Midwest Regional Office in Chicago.

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