



PACIFIC CITIZEN

Honouliuli Is Designated as a
National Historic Monument.

Page 4



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center



**A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE
IN D.C. Page 6**

Page 5

JACL convenes in San Francisco for
its quarterly board meeting.



P.C. KICKS OFF ITS 2015 SPRING CAMPAIGN: AIMS TO COMPLETE ITS DIGITAL ARCHIVE

The JACL was founded in 1929 and continues to be a membership-driven organization. I truly appreciate the financial support all of you have provided. The *Pacific Citizen's* Spring Campaign is our opportunity to continue to support our own award-winning publication.

During my three years as the *Pacific Citizen* Editorial Board Chair, I have learned much about our official publication. Did you know that in addition to the many local and regional awards garnered by the P.C., it was once nominated for the very prestigious Pulitzer Prize in journalism? I enjoy reading the

P.C., and I also take great pride in the recognized quality of our publication. I know most of you share that enjoyment and pride.

Please join me in contributing to the Spring Campaign at the "Wall of Fame" level of \$200 or more. Your past generosity in contributing at this level has enabled the P.C. to do so much. I urge you to continue this level of support, or upgrade your support to this level.

Absolutely 100 percent of your contributions are used for the P.C.'s daily operations — staffing, printing costs, postage and mailing, computer software upgrades and much more! Your donations also help the P.C. deliver its annual special Holiday Issue. The P.C. staff gladly puts in this extra effort on the Holiday Issue, knowing it serves as several JACL chapters'

key fundraiser.

During the last year, your contributions also allowed the P.C. to update its website. Please visit the site (www.pacificcitizen.org), and you'll see the improvements that have been made.

And, we are also moving forward in making all of our past issues available to you in a digital format. The project is a vast one, covering some 86 years of Asian American history and that of the JACL. The P.C.'s goal is to encapsulate all of these issues and have it available online. Our history is an important one, and making it available to all would ensure that the future will always know its past.

Last year, I noted that the Spring Campaign contributions would be used for these projects. I'm very pleased to inform you that the P.C.

has followed through on these goals. But we need YOUR HELP in carrying on these projects.

Please join me in thanking the members of the *Pacific Citizen* Editorial Board (Gil Asakawa, Roberta Barton, Jim Duff, Leona Hiraoka, Jody Mitori, Gabrielle Nomura, John Saito Jr., Nicole Gaddie and Kota Mizutani). Their volunteer efforts in overseeing the content of the P.C. is notable.

With your help, we will continue to provide the best P.C. possible. Thank you again for all your past assistance. Please continue your generous support.

Respectfully,

Carol Kawamoto,
Pacific Citizen
Editorial Board Chair

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

In reading the letter written by Mr. John Tateishi in the Jan. 23-Feb. 5 edition of the *Pacific Citizen*, I wish to respond to make sure the factual information is shared with your readers.

In the Sept. 17-23 edition of the JACL Digest, the weekly newsletter that is distributed to 10,000 households, JACL announced the departure of Ms. Karen Yoshitomi. JACL paid tribute to Karen's many contributions to JACL and to the community. In that article was my quote, "JACL's success in the Pacific Northwest is a direct result of Karen's dedication and commitment. Her leadership and vision for the community has elevated

JACL. The JACL organization stands behind her in all of her future endeavors."

Weeks earlier, Karen told me that she was accepting a job as executive director of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington. After many years with JACL, Karen made a decision to take a leadership role of the Seattle-based organization. JACL is very proud of its employees, and even more proud when someone of Karen's caliber assumes an elevated position of prominence within the Japanese American community. I was asked by Karen to withhold that information to allow JCCC of Washington to announce the appointment. The article would

have been a better article with the exciting news, but we respected Karen's request.

On Karen's last day I traveled to Seattle to take her out to lunch. Also in attendance were Pacific Northwest District Gov. Sheldon Arakaki and the Seattle Chapter's Bill Tashima.

I regret that Mr. Tateishi missed that issue of JACL Digest with the announcement on Karen's departure and recognition of her contributions to the JACL.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Ouchida,
Executive Director

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A MOTHER'S TAKE



WHAT CHANGE ARE YOU CREATING?

By Marsha Aizumi

For the past five years, my son, Aiden, his wife, Mary, and I have been attending a conference called "Creating Change." It is hosted by the National LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) Task Force, and its purpose is to help individuals and organizations develop the skills to be grassroots organizers in their community. Six years ago, I had never heard of the organization, was just starting to understand what the "T" in LGBTQ meant and grassroots organizing seemed like something you would be talking to your gardener about.

Today, I am an activist who is in this LGBTQ movement with my whole heart, and I AM a grassroots organizer. But that is not where I started.

I always feared being an activist. When people called me an activist early on, I would say, "Oh, no, I am just a mother who loves her son and wants to make the world safer for him." I thought that being an activist meant I was someone who had to be loud, brash, pushy and disrespectful. Those were all things I didn't want to be. Now, I know that being an activist means I can be myself... gently persistent, vulnerable yet strong and a loving human being. The main thing I have to do to create change is I need to show up.

Showing up doesn't mean that I am not afraid. Brene Brown says you can be scared and brave at the same time. A friend of mine once told me, "When you are scared and do it anyway... that IS being brave."

How many times have you done something that was a risk for you, but you did it anyway? You showed up!

In my work in the LGBTQ community, I am showing up because the world still discriminates against my son. But things are changing. Asian Pacific Islanders are rising to the top of LGBTQ organizations, showing our API community that there are visible leaders who are API and LGBTQ.

At "Creating Change," I met with Kris Hayashi, who is the new executive director of the very respected nonprofit Transgender Law Center. He is a compassionate, soft-spoken man who also possesses the passion and determination to bring greater protections and support to those in the transgender community. Like my son, Kris is using who he is to change the world.

Also creating change are all the JACL chapters that are taking up the mantle of advocacy, along with JACL PSW who has created an LGBTQ Initiative to educate and support those in our community. JACL Seattle will be doing a two-day event for API LGBTQ individuals and their families with four to five other API organizations and churches in June. San Diego JACL is working on three to four events in 2015 that will bring greater awareness and support to San Diego LGBTQ individuals and their families. And while at "Creating Change," I had the chance to talk with Suzuko Shimasaki and Harry Budisidharta from the Mile High JACL, who have created three subcommittees on advocacy that include one on LGBT. They are just getting started, but they are creating change in their Denver community.

And most recently in a video released for a safe schools event in Southern California, Congressman Mike Honda shared the following:

"As both an individual, and as an educator, I have experienced and witnessed bullying in its many forms. And as the proud jichan, or grandpa, of a transgender grandchild, I hope that my granddaughter can feel safe going to school without fear of being bullied. I refuse to be a bystander while millions of people are dealing with the effects of bullying on a daily basis."

Here is an educator, legislator, Japanese American, father and grandfather who is creating change in so many communities by unconditionally loving his granddaughter. I couldn't feel prouder to know this man and his amazing family.



Congressman Mike Honda and his granddaughter

We all have the ability to create change in our communities. We can stand up to bullying of any kind. We can share that we are an ally of the LGBTQ community and attend LGBT events. We can talk about how our parents were forced as American citizens into internment camps and ensure that history will not repeat itself. And we can listen to our hearts when an injustice is done to a fellow human being and stand up for fairness, respect and what is right.

As a parent, I hope that I have instilled in my children the ability to create change — not just by what they do, but by who they are. I hope they do not only use laws to tell them what is right, but also listen to the humanity that is within each of them.

In the past, I never really understood the power of one, but today I know it is true. Each of us has the ability to make the world better. Perhaps you may challenge yourself to do one thing today to be a force for change. If you do, you will be showing up, speaking out and creating change. And that's how the world gets better...

Marsha Aizumi is an advocate in the LGBT community and the author of the book "Two Spirits, One Heart: A Mother, Her Transgender Son and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance."

MY COUNTRY

HEROES OF OUR TIME

By Rhianna Taniguchi



There are few people I distinguish as heroic. When I met Daniel Nguyen and the Mary Queen of Vietnam Community Development Corp. (MQVN CDC) team in October 2013, I was humbled by their dedication to community health, economic opportunity and environmental sustainability.

To address food quality, safety, accessibility and environmental impact for the Vietnamese community in New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the Deepwater Horizon (BP) oil spill, the MQVN CDC deployed unique methods to advance community health and cultivate economic rehabilitation.

They carry out their work with an uncommon business structure and immense sincerity to the people they serve. They are true social engineers, and I'm fortunate to share their story and ask for your help in supporting them.

Daniel Nguyen is a true hero to his community. Daniel works as a project manager with MQVN CDC in New Orleans East. His work encompasses workforce development, environmental justice and incubation of aquaponics and sustainable agriculture. He is currently the project director of the start-up enterprise VEGGI Farmer's Cooperative. VEGGI Farmer's Cooperative serves to improve family economic security, promote sustainable agriculture and create local sustainable jobs, as well as provide workforce development in the Vietnamese community of Village de l'Est. Nguyen has also worked extensively in the Gulf region after the 2010 BP oil drilling disaster, providing technical assistance to affected workers, leading community-based participatory research on the environmental impacts of the spill and helping to develop a campaign for Gulf-wide subsistence compensation.

The New Orleans East population faces high levels of poverty, lack of food access, economic loss and lack of language access. Over 60 percent of New Orleans East households reported total income as less \$25,000 in 2009. Segments of New Orleans East, including Village de l'Est, are designated USDA food deserts — areas with limited access to major grocery stores. Opportunities for Vietnamese-owned businesses are limited due to lack of language access to business development resources. The Vietnamese community was also devastated by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, as 1 in 3 in the community worked in the seafood industry.

Since 2011, the VEGGI Farmer's Cooperative has leased 3.5 acres and trained 12 farmers. In 2015, the program will increase to 15 farmers, expand the scale of produce production and establish tofu and soy milk production and distribution to regional markets.

In a recent online interview, Daniel spoke to me about his work and what his community needs to thrive.

Rhianna Taniguchi: Why are you personally invested in your work?

Daniel Nguyen: I am personally invested in this organization because I believe that food production is at the crux of human survival, and our society is headed in a direction where food production no longer honors the environment and the people who work the land and who consume the food. I believe that we must imagine a different way to produce food to sustain and nourish our bodies. I also believe that we must imagine a different economic system, and I believe that the cooperative model, which gives power back to the workers, is a viable alternative.

Taniguchi: How does your work relate to health? Why is that important?

Nguyen: We believe that individual health is tied to the health of the community and that an unhealthy community context makes it difficult or impossible for individuals to be healthy. Our community is home to three landfills, over 30 auto junkyards, 13 dumpsites and a major industrial corridor with industries producing emissions daily. In addition, our community is a food desert and lacks access to healthy, affordable produce and foods to be able to lead a healthy lifestyle. With this context in mind, we believe that by promoting local, sustainable agriculture through a community cooperative model, we can address the food access issue. In addition, we believe that health can't be solved solely by providing access to more healthy produce, but must also be combined

>> See HEROES on page 12

Honouliuli Internment Camp Designated as a National Historic Monument

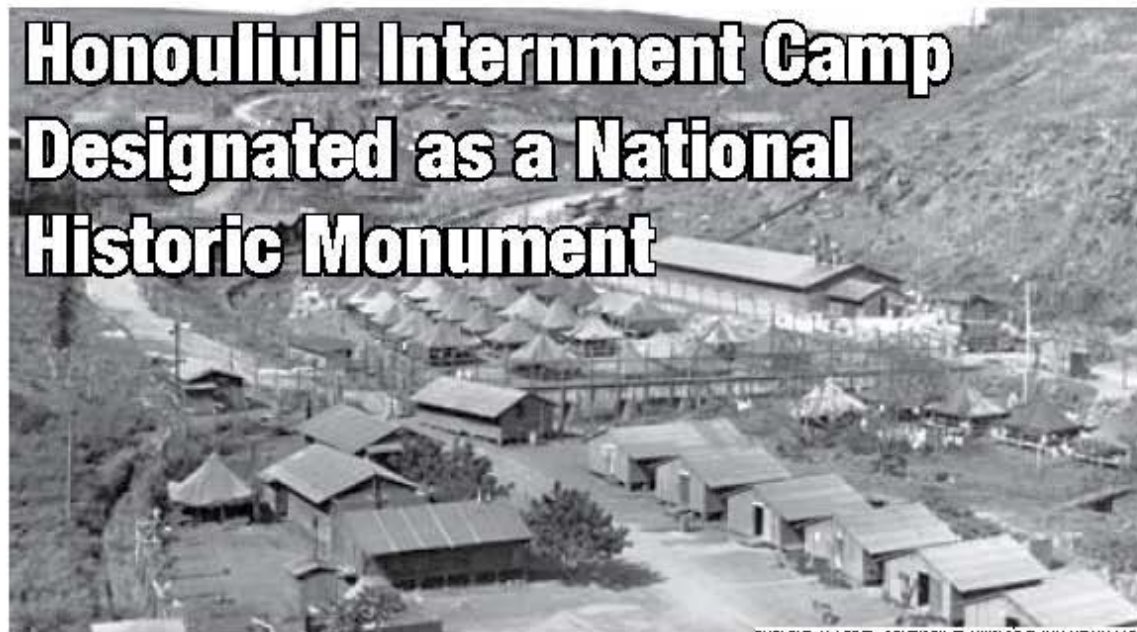


PHOTO: R. H. LODGE, COURTESY OF HAWAIIAN PLANNING VILLAGE

A view of Honouliuli Camp looking into the gulch in Central Oahu. Honouliuli was the largest and longest-used World War II internment camp in Hawaii, housing some 320 internees and 4,000 prisoners of war.

HONOLULU — U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) on Feb. 18 praised President Barack Obama's announcement that he intends to designate the Honouliuli Internment Camp as a National Historic Monument. This designation will put Honouliuli under the management of the National Park Service and help preserve the history of the site where hundreds of Japanese Americans were wrongly interned during World War II.

"Honouliuli represents a dark period in our history when thousands of Japanese Americans in Hawaii and across the country were forced into internment camps during World War II," said Sen. Schatz. "This historic site will memorialize the strength and bravery of the many Japanese Americans who faced discrimination and serve as a reminder to ourselves and future generations that we cannot repeat the mistakes of the past. Our deep gratitude goes to the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, the Japanese American Citizens League and others who worked tirelessly for this achievement. It is meaningful and right that Honouliuli has finally received the historic recognition it deserves."

Sen. Schatz worked to help facilitate Honouliuli's historic designation. In 2013, he met with NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis to discuss the need to complete the special resource study, which was authorized by Congress in 2009 to review the site for potential inclusion in the National Park System. Following the meeting, Sen. Schatz sent Jarvis a letter to reiterate his support for the Honouliuli Internment Camp's inclusion in the National Park System.

In December 2014, Sen. Schatz joined Carole Hayashino, president and executive director of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, and Jace Mikulanec, president of the Honolulu JACL, to present Interior Department Sec. Sally Jewell with petitions from more than 6,000 Americans requesting the historic designation of Honouliuli.

In 1943, the Honouliuli Internment Camp was constructed on Oahu to intern citizens, resident aliens and prisoners of war. The camp held approximately 320 internees and 4,000 prisoners of war. Honouliuli was the largest and longest-used World War II internment camp in Hawaii. ■

JACL Disappointed With Ruling on DAPA/DACA in *Texas*, *et al v. United States*

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The JACL, the largest and oldest Asian American civil right organization in the nation, expresses disappointment with the recent ruling in *Texas, et al v. United States*.

On Feb. 16, a federal district court in Texas ruled to temporarily block President Barack Obama's executive actions on immigration nationwide in *Texas, et al v. United States*, the 26-state lawsuit challenging the immigration initiatives announced by President Obama in November 2014.

The lawsuit alleged that the president overstepped his constitutional authority and that states would be burdened by the expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) initiative and the creation of the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) program.

JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida said,

"I am disappointed by the decision of the Court to enjoin the DACA and DAPA initiatives. This decision has a chilling effect on the dreams of hard-working families and students and is a step backwards from the progress made in November to provide reforms to our immigration system. JACL supports efforts to move past this suspension that will interrupt the implementation of much-needed policies to ensure family stability and economic growth."

In the Asian American Pacific Islander community, an estimated 1.3 million people are undocumented. Half a million of that number are now temporarily blocked from expanded deportation relief: the DACA youth who were brought to the United States as children, often called DREAMers, and undocumented immigrant parents of citizen-children or legal residents who could defer deportation under the DAPA program.

The U.S. Department of Justice will appeal the decision, and the Obama administration has argued that states lack the legal standing to challenge the immigration order in court. A temporary request to stay the injunction is likely to be filed by the Department of Justice pending a full appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. If the stay is granted, the DACA and DAPA programs will be able to resume nationwide. ■

APAs in the News



Technology Entrepreneur Guy Kawasaki Partners With AARP on a New Web Series

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Technology entrepreneur-writer Guy Kawasaki has teamed up with AARP for a new web series about how people who are 50-plus can embrace technology.

"Technology: It's Not Just a Guy Thing" takes a look at how technology can empower people of all ages and change their lives. The series, hosted by Gil Asakawa, AARP/Asian American Journalists Assn. Social Media Fellow and P.C. editorial board member, will focus on the art of innovation, social media, graphic design and how digital media is changing the way people consume information.

New episodes will premiere every three weeks until the end of March.

Asian Hall of Fame Announces 2015 Honorees

SEATTLE — The Asian Hall of Fame, which "honors distinguished individuals of Asian Pacific descent whose personal achievements have contributed to the American experience," has announced its 2015 honorees.

The Class of 2015 includes Benson Henderson (Mixed Martial Arts fighter and former UFC and WEC Lightweight Champion), Carrie Ann Inaba (TV host, choreographer and "Dancing With the Stars" judge), Jeanette Lee (world-class billiards player) and Betty Nguyen (NBC News/MSNBC anchor).

The honorees will receive their awards on June 6 at the organization's gala, which will take place at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel in Seattle.

The Asian Hall of Fame is the initiative of the Robert Chinn Foundation and was founded in 2004.



Emily Murase Elected President of the San Francisco Board of Education

SAN FRANCISCO — Emily Murase was unanimously elected president of the San Francisco Board of Education on Jan. 13.

Murase was first elected in 2010 to serve on the board, becoming the first Japanese American to do so. In a Facebook post, she said, "Tonight's school board meeting was momentous. One of the first orders of business was to elect officers. I am very pleased to be your new school board president!"

In addition to her new position, Murase also serves as executive director of the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women. ■

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COLLABORATION REMAINS KEY FOCUS OF NATIONAL JACL IN 2015

National President David Lin stresses the importance delivering action, gaining membership and the challenges ahead of increasing income to further enhance trust and confidence in the organization.

SAN FRANCISCO — An optimistic 2015 is the picture painted by the National JACL at its recent board meeting at national headquarters in San Francisco on Feb. 7.

"We have great news on the table, but we have challenges ahead of us," said National President David Lin. "That requires collaboration between all of us. ... I want to leave you with a great sense of accomplishment, but I don't want to sugarcoat anything. It's going to be a tough year, and we have to get everyone excited, engaged and motivated to deliver."

Among National JACL highlights in the coming months are a JACL contingency along with original Selma marcher Todd Endo and sister organizations to participate in next month's 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March, which was led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as well as a completely redesigned JACL website that will be fully updated and cohesive with the organization's media outlet the *Pacific Citizen*.

In addition, JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida has been selected as a member of the 2015 Japanese American Leadership Delegation, sponsored by the U.S.-Japan Council. She is among 10 delegates who will travel to Japan from March 6-14. The JALD provides "Japanese American leaders with the opportunity to become acquainted or re-engaged with Japan and participate in discussions related to the role that Japanese Americans can play in addressing key issues that face both countries, now and in the future."



The JACL National Board convened at its headquarters in San Francisco on Feb. 7.

In Ouchida's absence, NCWNP Regional Director Patty Wada will serve as executive director.

Regarding its current financial status, Secretary/Treasurer Matthew Farrells reported that total revenue for 2014 (based on unaudited financial statements) was \$2.56 million. Although the total was down 17.3 percent from the previous year, the amount was attributable to a lower gain on investments. On a positive side, public support increased from 2013's \$396,928 to \$645,373 in 2014.

Regarding net income, JACL beat its plan by \$45,000 or 23.5 percent in 2014.

"There was a strong overall market performance in 2014, which was one of the drivers of a larger increase in net

assets," said Farrells.

Farrells also reported that the National Council voted on Jan. 19 to lift the hiring freeze of the business manager position, as longtime business manager Clyde Izumi will be retiring at the end of February.

JACL ended 2014 ahead of budget overall, according to Farrells, and aims to improve on a balanced budget over the next biennium and improve the P.C.'s revenue, as well as general operations expenses organization wide.

JACL National was also pleased to announce the hiring of Toshiko Hasegawa as its new fund development manager. Hasegawa, who will be based in Seattle, Wash., will work with Ouchida to secure co-sponsors and finalize convention partnerships.

This year's National Convention is set to take place in Las Vegas, Nev., at the Monte Carlo Resort and Casino in July.

And on the membership home front, Membership VP Toshi Abe stressed the importance of building membership numbers. EOY numbers for 2014 indicate 8,318 total memberships (10,042 total members, down from 10,693 in 2013).

Abe reported that JACL is trying to provide more benefits to its members and is holding membership webinars to share feedback with the chapters on what might spur an increase in numbers.

"We have significant risk in the membership numbers," said Lin. "We need to work hard."

— P.C. Staff



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April 4-18	Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour to Japan - 15 days/13 nights visiting Osaka, Nagoya, Tokyo, Kanazawa, Asakusa/Hakone, Kyoto, Tokyo.	Norwin & Peggy
May 25-June 5	Yamato Hokkaido Tour - 12 days/10 nights visiting Sapporo, Sounkyo, Kamoyu, Kushiro, Oshima, Lake Toya, Hakodate.	Peggy Mikuni
June	Yamato Columbia & St. Lawrence River Cruise on the American Empress - 9 Days/8 nights with 1 night pre-cruise hotel in Spokane, Clarkston, TN-Cities, The Dallas, Stevenson, Astoria, Vancouver, WA and home from Portland, OR.	Sharon Sato
Jun 27-Jul 8	Yamato Alaska Inside Passage Cruise - 7 days aboard the Crown Princess Seattle, cruising the Pacific Ocean, Juneau, Skagway, cruising Glacier Bay National Park, Ketchikan, Victoria, B.C. (Canada), Seattle.	
July 17-30	Yamato Hokkaido Cruise - 9 nights aboard the Diamond Princess Tokyo (Yokohama), Kushiro, Shirogane Peninsula scenic cruising, Kanazawa, Otaru, Hakodate, Aomori, Tokyo (Yokohama).	
Sept. 5-13	Yamato Fall Colors Mississippi River Cruise on the American Queen Steamboat - 9 days/7 nights voyage & 1 night hotel in Minneapolis/St. Paul prior to boarding the boat to St. Louis, MO visiting Red Wing, La Crosse, Dubuque, Quad Cities, Burlington, & Hannibal.	Sharon Sato
Sept. 21-24	Yamato West Coast Getaway to Santa Barbara - 4 days/3 night cruise aboard the Ruby Princess visiting Santa Barbara and Erbesmuir, plus enjoying the many onboard activities while cruising.	
Oct 17-23	Yamato Canada & New England Cruise - 7 days aboard the Regal Princess New York (Brooklyn), cruising the Atlantic Ocean, Halifax, Saint John, Bar Harbor, Boston, Newport, New York.	
Oct. 17-31	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Okinawa & Japan - 15 days/13 nights visiting Osaka, Nara, Kyoto, Naha, Fukuoka, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Naha and Tokyo.	Peggy Mikuni
Oct. 20-Nov. 5	Yamato Kyushu, Shikoku & Mainland Japan Tour - 17 days/15 nights visiting Nagoya, Ise, Toke, Kobe, Aomori, Takamatsu, Matsuyama, Yamanashi, Beppu, Mt. Aso, Kumamoto, Shimabara, Utsunomiya, Nagasaki, Fukuoka, Hiroshi and Osaka.	Sharon Sato

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A Day of *INFAMY* and a Day of *REMEMBRANCE*

Smithsonian and JACL Celebrate Day of Remembrance in Washington, D.C., kick-starting the 2017 museum exhibit and the 75th anniversary of E.O. 9066.

By Tiffany Ujiye,
Assistant Editor

Yesterday, December 7th, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy,” President Franklin D. Roosevelt said before Congress, a day after the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was indeed a dark moment in American history, but for 120,000 persons of Japanese descent, it was arguably much more.

At the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., the Japanese American Citizens League and the Smithsonian Institution joined together for its annual Day of Remembrance on Feb. 19 at 6 p.m. The evening commemorated President Roosevelt’s signing of Executive Order 9066, removing families from their homes into relocations camps during World War II — an infamous day in civil rights.

The evening’s program included a screening of the Emmy Award-winning documentary “The Legacy of Heart Mountain” and gave guests an opportunity to view the Smithsonian’s newly acquired acquisitions. After six months of planning and organization, audience members and guests had a chance to preview artifacts for the 2017 E.O. 9066 exhibit.

Associate Director of Curatorial Affairs David K. Allison felt that “this evening had given [audience members] a new perspective on a story that continues to resonate through American society today.” For the past 15 years, the Smithsonian has offered Day of Remembrance programming.

The exhibition and event was the Smithsonian’s first commemoration of Executive Order 9066’s 75th anniversary. In conjunction with the JACL, the museum is now preparing an exhibit set to premiere in 2017. Artifacts and documents will aim to capture the Japanese American camp experience and share the stories and voices behind the camp walls.

“With the stroke of a pen, this three-page document reshaped the history of Americans of Japanese descent

and upset the delicate balance between the rights of the citizen and the power of the state,” historian in the Office of Curatorial Affairs Noriko Sanefuji said about Executive Order 9066. For more than 10 years, Sanefuji has worked at the Smithsonian to preserve and organize programs to educate the public on APA history and culture. Her projects include “Sweet and Sour: The Americanization of the Chinese Restaurant,” “Creating Hawai’i,” and “Barriers to Bridges: Asian American Immigration.”

“JACL’s partnership with the Smithsonian is important as it enables the American story of the Japanese American experience to be shared with a broad national and international audience. The Day of Remembrance program at the Smithsonian drew a capacity audience, many of whom were new to the story,” JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida said. “The program, like many held across the nation, opened the door to educating a new generation about what Americanism means even at a time when the rights of citizens was sorely tested. The prominence of the Smithsonian elevates the message — a message that is key to protecting the rights of future generations.”

Details on the collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the JACL for the 2017 museum exhibit celebrating the 75th anniversary of E.O. 9066 is still underway and premature. However, the partnership and further details are expected to finalize within the coming year.

On display was a signed softball discovered at Heart Mountain belonging to George Hirahara that was donated by his granddaughter, Patti Hirahara.

“It is wonderful that the Smithsonian is adding new camp artifacts to their collection, and to be able to donate my grandfather’s softball from Heart Mountain to the Smithsonian is an honor,” Patti Hirahara said. “George Hirahara came to this country when he was 5 years old from Japan and always felt America was his home. When he got the chance, he became an American citizen in 1954 and would have never imagined that his softball would now be on display at an event at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History.”

Hirahara’s grandfather had built a hidden photo darkroom, developing photos and capturing life in Heart Mountain, Wyo.

“The Legacy of Heart Mountain,” co-produced by Jeff MacIntyre and David

Ono, used many of Hirahara’s photos and stories. The film illustrates the lives of 10,000 Japanese Americans imprisoned in Powell, Wyo., during WWII.

“I am honored to be able to show our film here at the Smithsonian and to have the opportunity to keep these important stories alive,” Ono told the *Pacific Citizen*. “Over 70 years later, they are still so relevant and represent not only Heart Mountain but the overall camp experience with unique and personal stories.”

Other artifacts included a hand-carved wooden ashtray in the shape of a cat made by actor Sab Shimono’s father. Shimono is an accomplished stage actor, appearing on Broadway and numerous movies and TV shows. His father was interned at the Tule Lake War Relocation Center and the Granada War Relocation Center.

Guests also had the opportunity to view a baseball uniform worn by Tetsuo Furukawa from the Gila River War Relocation Center. Furukawa was a teenager when he entered the relocation camp, but the first baseman hoped to express his American identity and citizenship through baseball.

Following the film screening, University of Massachusetts Prof. Franklin Odo led a panel discussion on Executive Order 9066, exploring why it had taken so long for internees to share their stories with family and friends. Participants included former Department of Transportation Secretary and former Heart Mountain internee Norman Y. Mineta; “The Legacy of Heart Mountain” co-producer Ono; former Jerome War Authority Center internee Alice Takemoto; “Nisei Memories: My Parents Talk about the War Years” author Paul Takemoto; and Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation chairperson Shirley Higuchi.

In closing, a live spoken-word performance was presented by 2014 National Poetry Slam Champion G. Yamazawa. As a Japanese American born to parents in North Carolina, Yamazawa discovered spoken-word within the hip-hop culture in Durham. His performance reflected on his experiences about life and his heritage, resonating the messages of American identity and his take on youth in today’s cultural landscape. A standing ovation was given to Yamazawa after sharing a verse about his Japanese grandmother’s life story.

This year’s annual Day of Remembrance event was sponsored by the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, the JACL, Japanese American Veterans Assn., Patti Hirahara, Terry K. Takeda and the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation.

For further information about the Smithsonian Executive Order 9066 75th Anniversary exhibit artifact acquisition, please contact the coordinators at americanhistoryapacollections@si.edu.



(From left) Prof. Franklin Odo leads a panel discussion with Shirley Higuchi, Norman Y. Mineta, David Ono, Alice Takemoto and Paul Takemoto.



(From left) Patti Hirahara presents her grandfather's baseball to the Smithsonian's Noriko Sanefuji and David Allison.



(From left) Patti Hirahara, Priscilla Ouchida and Samuel J. and Noriko Sanefuji



Audience members had the opportunity to watch "The Legacy of Heart Mountain."



A Smithsonian representative explains the museum's exhibition pieces to guests, educating the public about the Japanese American experience during World War II.



Sab Shimono's father handcrafted a wooden ashtray in the shape of a cat during his time at the Tule Lake War Relocation Center.

2014 National Poetry Slam champion G. Yamazawa concluded the evening with a live performance.



The Smithsonian Museum of American History has celebrated and hosted a Day of Remembrance for the past 15 years.

The 46th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage Set for April 25

LOS ANGELES — "Watashi wa Manzanar: Continuing Our Civil Rights Legacy" is the theme for the 46th annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, sponsored by the Manzanar Committee, which is set to take place on April 25 at the Manzanar National Historic Site.

Each year, more than 1,000 people from all walks of life attend the pilgrimage, including students, teachers, community members, clergy and former incarcerated. Planning is underway for the afternoon event as well as for the Manzanar at Dusk program — co-sponsored by the Nikkei Student Unions at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; California State University, Fullerton; California State University, Long Beach; the University of California, Los Angeles; and the University of California, San Diego — which is scheduled that same evening at Lone Pine High School.

Through a creative presentation, small group discussions and an open mic session, Manzanar at Dusk participants will have the opportunity to learn about the experiences of those incarcerated in the camps. Participants will also be able to interact with former incarcerated in attendance to hear their personal stories, share their own experiences and dis-



Banners representing each of the 10 World War II American concentration camps, along with the Crystal City Internment Camp and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team/100th Battalion, take part in the traditional "Roll Call of the Camps" during the 45th annual Manzanar Pilgrimage on April 26, 2014, at the Manzanar National Historic Site in California's Owens Valley.

cuss the relevance of the concentration camp experience to present-day events and issues.

The Manzanar Committee also has announced that bus transportation to the pilgrimage from Downtown Los Angeles will be available.

The bus will depart at 7 a.m. and arrive at the pilgrimage at approximately 11:30 a.m. It will also take participants to the Interpretive Center at the Manzanar National Historic Site following the afternoon program. The bus should arrive back in Los Angeles at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. The nonrefundable

fare is \$40 per seat, \$20 for students and seniors. Complimentary fares are available for those who were incarcerated at any of the former American concentration camps or other confinement sites during World War II.

Anyone wishing to attend the Manzanar at Dusk program that evening should make other transportation arrangements.

Pilgrimage participants are advised to bring their own lunch, drinks and snacks, as there are no facilities to purchase food at the Manzanar National Historic Site (restaurants and fast-food outlets are located in Lone Pine and Independence, which are nearby). Water will be provided at the site.

The Manzanar Committee is dedicated to educating and raising public awareness about the incarceration and violation of civil rights of persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II and to the continuing struggle of all peoples when constitutional rights are in danger. A nonprofit organization, it has sponsored the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage since 1969, along with other educational programs. It also has played a key role in the establishment and continued development of the Manzanar National Historic Site.

Further details about the Manzanar Pilgrimage and the Manzanar at Dusk program will be announced at a later date. Both are free and open to the public.

The Manzanar National Historic Site is located on U.S. Highway 395 in California's Owens Valley, between the towns of Lone Pine and Independence, approximately 230 miles north of Los Angeles. Lone Pine High School is located at 538 S. Main St. in Lone Pine, nine miles south of the Manzanar National Historic Site, across the street from McDonald's.

For more information about the pilgrimage or to reserve a seat on the bus, call (323) 662-5102 or email 46thpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org.

Upcoming JCCCNC Program Focuses on Tule Lake Block 42 Protest



Brothers Mamoru "Mori" (left) and James Tanimoto were among 35 Nisei men from Block 42 who were sent to Klamath Falls jail after they answered "No" on the loyalty questionnaire.

Even before Tule Lake became a notorious segregation center that imprisoned alleged troublemakers during World War II, the camp was wrought with unrest.

In 1943, the Tule Lake administration had the men of Block 42 arrested to make an example of what could happen if others in the camp refused to register for the controversial loyalty questionnaire.

The public arrest of the Block 42 men frightened some into complying with the War Relocation Authority's orders by registering for the loyalty questionnaire, while it angered others to become more defiant.

Brothers Mamoru "Mori" and James Tanimoto will share their experiences of being among the Block 42 men who were arrested indefinitely without charge and sent to either the Klamath Falls or Alturas jails and then imprisoned at Camp Tulelake, a former Civilian Conservation Corp camp.

The program is set to take place on March 7 from 1-3 p.m. at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California in San Francisco and is co-sponsored by the National Japanese American His-

The event also will share insight on the Suyama Endowment, which strives to preserve the history of Japanese American dissent during World War II.

torical Society and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center's Eji Suyama Endowment, which strives to preserve the history of Japanese American dissent during WWII.

The Tanimoto brothers will be joined by Lane Hirabayashi, professor of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles, and the George and Sakaye Aratani chair in Japanese American Incarceration, Redress and Community.

A portion of the program will also be devoted to the Suyama Endowment. Prof. David K. Yoo, director of the Asian American Studies Center and Department, will discuss how the Suyama Endowment will work to preserve the experiences of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team draftees, Army and draft resisters, No-Nos, renunciants, conscientious objectors and other Nikkei dissidents of WWII.

Samples of documents and artifacts donated by generous Nikkei dissidents will be shared. In addition, Tam Nguyen, AASC Information Technology coordinator and Suyama project co-coordinator with Martha Nakagawa, will give a demonstration of the website that was created to enhance access to this collection.

The Endowment is named after Eji Suyama (1920-2009), a 442nd RCT soldier who was one of the few to survive the fierce battle to rescue the Texas "Lost Battalion" from behind enemy lines during WWII. He was also one of the few Nisei veterans to publicly support the stand of the WWII Nisei dissidents.

Come hear this first-person account of a little-talked part of World War II history and learn how you can help preserve the history of the dissidents through the Suyama Project.

For more info, please contact the UCLA Asian American Studies Center at (310) 825-2974 or visit the website at www.suyamaproject.org.

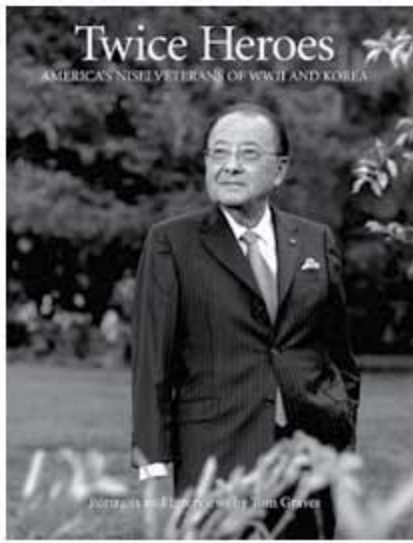


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- Nov 03 Okinawa & Kyushu - 10 Days - \$4495** - Okinawa, Naha and beaches - Fukuoka - Karatsu - Nagasaki - Kumamoto - Beppu Hot Springs.
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'TWICE HEROES' BOOK OF NISEI VETERANS NOW AVAILABLE FOR JACL MEMBERS

which earned the 2014 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award in history. For a limited time, JACL members can order the book at a discount.

The history of the internment of persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II is not taught in public schools on the East Coast, where Graves grew up. He first heard of Manzanar from a book by photographer Ansel Adams that featured photographs taken in the internment camp. Graves had heard of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, but he knew little more than that.

It was not until 2001, when he met 442nd veteran Lawson Sakai, that his curiosity was piqued. Since then, curiosity has grown into a passion for telling others what he has

learned, and Graves now travels around the country making presentations at museum and universities to educate audiences on the meaning and the role of the veterans in the Japanese American experience.

Portraits of 98 veterans grace the oversize pages of "Twice Heroes," along with dozens of interviews of M.I.S., 100th and 442nd veterans from the Mainland and Hawaii, including the late Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, Sec. Norman Y. Mineta and Gov. George Ariyoshi. Four Medal of Honor recipients also appear in book, along with "regular GIs" — the husbands, fathers, uncles and grandfathers of the many families Graves now considers good friends. Each veteran tells his own story.

A member and supporter of the JACL Watsonville-Santa Cruz chapter, Graves says he will never stop telling the story.

"A book is a tremendous commitment of time, with a real risk of losing a lot of money," said Graves. "But I get nice kudos, like the Benjamin Franklin Award this year, and an email from an M.I.S. veteran in Hawaii, who told me his granddaughter is reading 'Twice Heroes' to his great-granddaughter — four generations sharing their family's history! That is why I do what I do."

To order "Twice Heroes: America's Nisei Veterans of WWII and Korea," visit www.TwiceHeroes.com and enter the coupon code JACLHEROES at checkout.

Manzanar? The 442nd? The internment? At one time, these were just vaguely familiar names to Tom Graves, the San Francisco photographer and author of "Twice Heroes: America's Nisei Veterans of WWII and Korea,"

EDUCATION MATTERS

JACL New Mexico Holds Teacher Training Workshop

A teacher training workshop in Santa Fe, N.M., took place on Jan. 30, thanks to the efforts of Jennifer Yazawa and support from Esther Churchwell and Victor Yamada, members of the New Mexico Chapter of the JACL.

The workshop, which was held at Santa Fe Community College, was also facilitated by Sharon Ishii-Jordan and Greg Marutani. Teachers who attended the presentation learned about the history of the Japanese American experience in the United States.

Workshop participants also heard from Nikki Nojima Louis and Herbert Tsuchiya, who were both children when they spent time in Minidoka, along with their families and nearly 9,000 others who were imprisoned there during World War II. Their recollection of their time spent in the camp with

their families was among the highlights for the participants.

In addition Churchwell and Yamada updated everyone about the "Confinement in the Land of Enchantment," a project funded by the National Park Service through the Japanese American Confinement Sites program and the teacher training workshops.

Although the confinement sites in New Mexico (Ft. Stanton, Santa Fe, Camp Lordsburg) were smaller in size when compared to the War Relocation Authority camps, the stories that have been gathered from those who were imprisoned there or from their families make the imprisonment much more real and no less tragic, as all were victims of racism.

The workshop concluded earlier than scheduled, as more snow was forecast for the afternoon and schools were closing due to the inclement weather.

Fortunately for the facilitators and the New Mexico Chapter volunteers — of which Yazawa, Churchwell and Yamada helped coordinate the chapter's 2014 workshop in Albuquerque — the drive back to Albuquerque was a safe, though a bit wet one.

Another teacher training workshop took place in Houston, Texas, on Feb. 13, at the Holocaust Museum of Houston, where the "Art of Gaman" exhibit is currently on display through September. ■



New Mexico workshop participants included (from left) Greg Marutani, Esther Churchwell, Victor Yamada, Jennifer Yazawa, Sharon Ishii-Jordan, Nikki Nojima Louis and Herbert Tsuchiya.

Kikkoman Shoyu Bottle Designer Kenji Ekuan Passes Away

By Associated Press



TOKYO — Japanese industrial designer Kenji Ekuan, whose works ranged from a bullet train to a red-capped Kikkoman soy sauce dispenser as familiar as the classic Coca-Cola bottle, has died, his company said. He was 85.

A former monk, Ekuan crafted a tabletop bottle for Kikkoman Corp. in 1961, winning international popularity for the handy, flask-shaped dispenser and, of course, for the salty brown condiment flavoring many Asian cuisines.

He has said he wanted to design a small bottle because of his childhood memory of his mother pouring soy sauce from a big half-gallon bottle to a tabletop dispenser.

Other of his renowned works include the Yamaha VMAS motorcycle, the Komachi bullet train connecting Tokyo and northern Japan, the Narita Express airport liner as well as audio equipment and company logos.

His designs originate from the sights of Hiroshima's devastation after the U.S. atomic bombing of the city 70 years ago. He heard voices of street cars, bicycles and other objects mangled and abandoned, saying they had wished to have been utilized more, he is quoted as saying in a company pamphlet for his Hiroshima exhibit last year.

His design principle was a "democratization" of goods and beauty, to make them accessible

for everyone.

Ekuan became a monk at a Hiroshima temple to succeed his father, who died due to radiation from the atomic bombing. But he eventually pursued his career in design. He graduated from the prestigious Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 1955 and founded his design studio two years later.

His office, GKI Industrial Design Group, said Feb. 9 that Ekuan died of a heart problem at a Tokyo hospital early Feb. 7.

Last year, Ekuan received a prestigious Italian industrial design prize, the Golden Compass Award, after winning several other international awards. ■



A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

>>EDC

17th Annual Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk
Washington, D.C.
March 28; 9 a.m.
National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism
New Jersey Avenue and Louisiana Avenue
Cost: Free

Rain or shine, come remember and honor the Japanese American experience during WWII and EO 9066 for a day of remembrance. The event's keynote speaker will be Catherine Mitrano, and check-ins began at 9 a.m. Please register ahead of time for the Freedom Walk.
Info: Visit www.njamf.com.

'American: Exclusion/ Inclusion'
New York, NY

April 19
New York Historical Society Museum and Library
107 Central Park West

Visit the exhibit to explore the century-old history of trade and immigration between China and the United States. This narrative begins from the late-18th century to the present, illustrating how the Chinese American experience is part of American history.
Info: Visit www.nyhistory.org or call (212) 873-3400.

'Children of Hangzhou: Connecting With China'
Boston, MA

April 26
Boston Children's Museum
308 Congress St.
Cost: Free

Engage with community members and learn about China through its children. The program is designed to nourish understanding, knowledge and appreciation for contemporary China in Boston's Sister City, Hangzhou.

Info: Visit www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org or call (617) 426-6500.

>>MDC

Spring Shake!
Niles, IL
March 14; 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

White Eagle Banquet and Restaurant

6939 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Cost: Adult ticket \$25

Welcome the new season and dance the night away with JACL Chicago's 2015 board of directors. The JACL Chicago's inaugural event will feature Kenny Takaoka and "Husky Love" with DJ Ben Stover's "Electric Blue Entertainment."

Info: Visit www.jaclchicago.org or call (773) 728-7171.

>>PNW

'Tohoku Tomo' Screening
Seattle, WA

March 7; 1-3 p.m.
Seattle Art Museum Stimson Auditorium
1400 E. Prospect St.
Cost: Adult ticket \$9

In conjunction with the Seattle Asian Art Museum's exhibit on the Tohoku earthquake, JASSW is hosting a documentary film featuring interviews with activists, volunteers, artists and other people affected by the 2011 earthquake. A discussion on the current state of gender equality in business, comparing the approaches both cultures have taken toward creating a more fair and equal workplace.
Info: Visit www.jassw.info.

23rd Annual Spring Bazaar
Portland, OR

March 15; 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Nichiren Buddhist Temple
2025 S.E. Yamhill

Celebrate spring at the 23rd Annual Spring Bazaar with the Nichiren Buddhist Temple. All proceeds will benefit the temple. Bento meal selections include tonkatsu, chicken donburi, chow mein and tofu donburi. Preorder forms must be submitted by March 10. Prices may vary.

Info: Visit www.nichiren-shu.org or call (323) 262-7886.

Lecture: The Camp Without a Fence

Moses Lake, WA
April 2; 7 p.m.
Moses Lake Museum & Art Center

401 S. Balsam St.

'Uprooted' curator Morgen Young will present a history of the Japanese American farm labor camp near Nyssa.

Info: Visit www.uprootedexhibit.com.

Nature and Pattern in Japanese Design Exhibit
Seattle, WA

April 19
Seattle Art Museum
1400 E. Prospect St.
Cost: Adult ticket \$9

This installation includes two rotations of Matsugatani dishes, a type of flat dish with petal-shaped edges from early 18th-century Japanese porcelain. The naturalistic sensibility deeply rooted in Japanese design is on display on both dishes at the exhibit.
Info: Visit www.seattleartmuseum.org.

68th Annual Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet
Portland, OR

May 3
Maltunomah Athletic Club
1849 S.W. Salmon St.
Cost: Adult \$35; free for graduating high school students

This year's annual banquet is sponsored by 11 Nikkei organizations from the Portland area. Scholarships will also be awarded at the luncheon. The event's keynote speaker will be Elizabeth Asahi-Sato.

Info: RSVP at larouche@msn.com or call (503) 698-4656.

>>NCWNP

Opera at the Asian Art Museum
San Francisco, CA

Feb. 26; 7-9 p.m.

Asian Art Museum
200 Larkin St.

Cost: General public \$30, members \$20

Enjoy a special night of traditional Asian folk songs and Western arias sung by Adler Fellows from the Merola Opera program.

Info: Visit www.asianart.org.

Hina Matsuri

San Jose, CA
March 1; 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Japanese American Museum

San Jose

535 N. Fifth St.

Celebrate the annual Japanese Doll Festival or Girls' Day this year with traditional Hina Matsuri Dolls. The event also will offer crafts projects for the whole family.

Info: Visit www.jamsfj.org or call (408) 294-3138.

Golden State Warriors With

Berkeley JACL

Oakland, CA

March 19; 7 p.m.

Oracle Arena

7000 Coliseum Way

Cost: Tickets \$45

Only a few tickets left for the Berkeley JACL Night at the Warriors. The game is scheduled against the Atlanta Hawks, with seats above center court. Game time is 7 p.m. Please join the Berkeley JACL for a night at Oracle Arena.

Info: Contact Mark Fujikawa at (510) 232-0724 or fujikawa@sbeglobal.net for tickets and more information.

Haapyo Kai

El Cerrito, CA

March 21; 2-4 p.m.

Fairmont School Auditorium
6500 Stockton Ave.

Cost: Free

Sakura Kai presents this year's Happyo Kai, a biennial student recital. Programming includes taiko, karaoke, hula, ukulele, line dance, flute duet and shigin solo performance with an Obon Dance. At intermission, sales of sushi and wagashi will be available for purchase.

The event is held across from the JA senior center.

Info: Visit www.sakurakaioe.org or call (510) 778-3406.

>>PSW

'Shadows for Peace: For the Sake of the Children'

Orange County, CA

March 18-19; Noon

Chapman University
1 University Dr.

Cost: Free

In remembrance of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Orange Coast Optimist Club will present the program's exhibit and forum.

This event series will also travel to JANM on March 21.

Info: Contact Richard Fukuhara at richard@shadowsforpeace.com.

Hello Kitty's Head Designer
Los Angeles, CA

April 4; 2 p.m.

Japanese American National Museum

100 N. Central Ave.

Cost: General admission \$20

Sanrio Tokyo's Yuko Yamaguchi has been Hello Kitty's head designer since 1980 and will visit JANM to discuss her work. Yamaguchi will sign copies of the exhibition catalog following the program, and ticket prices include admission to JANM's "Common Ground" and "Hello!" exhibitions.

Info: Visit www.janm.org or call (213) 625-0414.

L.A. Ukulele Expo 2015

Los Angeles, CA

April 18; 11:30 a.m.

JACCC

244 S. San Pedro St.

Grab your ukulele and join JACCC at this year's expo.

This year's world-record attempt will use the song "Pua I Ka Ua." Featured will be Grammy winners Tia Carrere and Daniel Ho. All ages are welcome.

Info: Visit www.jaccc.org or call (213) 628-2725.

Fiesta Matsuri

Los Angeles, CA

May 3; 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

JACCC

244 S. San Pedro St.

Fiesta Matsuri combines the Children's Day celebration of two communities — the Japanese Kodomo no Hi and Dia de los Ninos from Mexico.

Info: Visit www.jaccc.org or call (213) 628-2725.

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

Fukuto, Grace Tsugiko, 85,

Torrance, CA; Jan. 28; she is survived by her children, Donna (Paul) Ashcraft and Steven (Erin) Fukuto; sisters, June Nakaki and Irie (Arthur) Nishitsuji; sister-in-law, Kimi Inadomi; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 6.

Hirohama, Ethel Sachiyo,

79, Gardena, CA; Jan. 31; she is survived by her daughters, Nathlyn and Afton (Michael) Kobayashi; brother, Thomas (Gloria) Shimizu; she is also survived by other relatives.

Horiuchi, Paul Sei, 90,

Hilo, HI; Jan. 18; he is survived by his sister, May Doi; children, Ellen (Alan) Tomota and Kent (Cynthia) Horiuchi; gc: 4; ggc: 6.

Kimura, Tsutomu Tom, 80, Cerritos, CA; Feb. 8; he is survived by his loving wife, Saeko Kimura; son, Bryan (Miwa) Kimura; daughter, Elaine Yuri Kimura; sisters, Setsuko Kohara, Tatsumi (Stanley) Iwasaki and Kyoko (Yukio) Hisakado; sister-in-law, Tamiko Mkasa; brothers-in-law, Yuichi (Doris) and Kenji (Debbie) Maki; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Kawai, Barbara Shizuye, 102, Los Angeles, CA; Feb. 8; she is survived by her loving sons, Harvey Y. (Jane Kikue) and Ronald T. (Chong S.) Kawai; gc: 1.

Kobata, Rose, 92, Gardena, CA; Jan. 31; she is survived by her children, Dennis (Jan Tokumaru) Kobata and Frances (Dave) Fujii; step-children, JoAnn Kin and Margaret (George) Peterson; siblings, Reiko (Harold) Kobata, John Hagio, Joyce (Chisato) Kubo, Frank (Lolita) Hagio and Kathleen (Tak) Ishii; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3; ggc: 10.

Kubo, Yuriko Lily, 84, Cerritos, CA; Jan. 16; she is survived by her children, Karen (Tom) Akashi, Tracy (Ron) Okubo, Kinda (Marty) Bedwell, Greg Kubo and Kevin (Mary) Kubo; gc: 7.

Kuwada, Teruko, 94, Gardena,

CA; Feb. 1; she is survived by her daughters, Carol Y. Sato and Arleen S. (John) Garrett; siblings, Haru Kobata, Sumi (Kiyo Anne) Fujimoto and Aiko Wada; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 7; ggc: 16.

Maruoka, Romi Kathleen, 47, Gardena, CA; Feb. 16; she is survived by her father, Richard Ichiro "Ricky" Maruoka; mother, Alice; brothers, Richard (Jane) and Mark (Terri); niece, Madison Maruoka; she is also survived by many uncles, aunts and cousins.

Matsumoto, Kazuko, 84,

Long Beach, CA; Jan. 17; she is survived by her cousins, Takemi (Lina) Matsumoto, Sachiko (Ray) Shigemasa and Ikuko (George)

Kawahara; she is also survived by many other friends and relatives.

Matsumura, Isamu, 95, Los Angeles, CA; Feb. 11; he is survived by his children, Henry Matsumura and Joyce (Bill) Brewer; brother, Kazuharu (Takeno) Tsubaki; sister-in-law, Toshiko Matsumura and Dorothy Yoshitaka; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Matsushita, Myo, 103, Arleta, CA; Jan. 23; she is survived by her children, Betty (Joe) Messina, Virginia (William) Batista, James (Patricia) Nomura and Kenneth (Ruby) Maya; sister, Namiko Nii and Yoshiko See; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 7; ggc: 9; gggc: 1.

Mikae, Mike Michitoshi, 99,

Costa Mesa, CA; Feb. 1; he is survived by his children, Hisako Msty and Mikio Mikae; gc: 3; ggc: 3.

Miyake, Perry Yoshiro, 90, Mar Vista, CA; Jan. 28; he was a U.S. Army veteran; he is also a former internee at Rohwer and Mount Clemens camp; he is survived by his wife, Aiko Alice; sons, Perry Jr. (Jan) and Rev. Ron (Carol); sisters, Shiz Okura and Yuri Amamoto; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Nakagiri, Masaru Robert, 87, Los Angeles, CA; Feb. 14; he is survived by his children, Susan and Kirk Nakagiri; siblings, Shigemi (Donna) Nakagiri, Mako Jane Shintani and June

Sueko (Jim) Akioka; brother-in-law, Mitsuo, Jiro, Frank (Hideko) and Hiroshi (Sumako), Tadashi Roy and Isamu Rick Tsushima; sister-in-law, Tomiye Mary Nakagiri and May (Keigo) Obata; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Nishimura, Harumi, 72, Lomita, CA; Feb. 7; she is survived by her children, Richard Masa and Cheryl Kazuko; she is also survived by many brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Sakaji, Harue, 94, Northridge, CA; Feb. 13; she is survived by her children, Jack (Junko) Sakaji, Tomoko (Tsutomu) Matsuda and Keiko (James) Hishinuma.

Shishido, Daniel Masaharu, 78, Nampa, ID; Jan. 30; he is survived by his wife, Karen; son, Daren (Patricia); siblings, Raymond, Ralph, Elaine, Calvin, Laura, Katherine and Steven; he was predeceased by his parents, Isamu and Kane; gc: 2.

Takata, Misao Aiko, 89, Long Beach, CA; Feb. 6; she is survived by her sister, Helen Terashita; nephew, Wesley (Lisa) Kaihara; niece, Pamela Karafotas; great-nieces,

Erin and Rachel Kaihara.

Takeuchi, Janet Ayako, 47,

Anaheim Hills, CA; Feb. 9; she is survived by her husband, Taylor Ho; children, Kaitlyn, Kyle and Carson; parents, Ted Tetsuo and Sumiye Takeuchi; brother, Gary (Karen) Takeuchi; father-in-law, George Ho; sister-in-law, Jean (Omar) Hurricane; she is also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives.

Yanokawa, Mary Shigeko, 93, Los Angeles, CA; Feb. 6; she is survived by her sister Helen Terashita, nephew, Wesley (Lisa) Kaihara; niece, Pamela Karafotas; great-nieces, Erin and Rachel Kaihara.

Yukihiro, Tsutomu George, 94, Cerritos, CA; Jan. 28; he is survived by his son, Calvin (Julie) Yukihiro; daughter, Karen (Stanley) Ishii; gc: 5.

ASAKO TOKUNO



Sept. 4, 1923-Jan. 23, 2015
Tokuno, Asako, 91, Sacramento, Calif. Born in Richmond, Calif., to Torayoshi and Kane Maida, pioneers in the nursery business. She graduated from Richmond High School in 1941, then attended the University of California, Berkeley, until relocation in May 1942. In December 1943, she met Shiro Tokuno in the Topaz Relocation Center, memories of which she shared in the acclaimed Ken Burns' documentary "The War." They married in 1945 and spent 65 years together. She was a collaborator on the Issei Oral History Project and a longtime member of Parkview Presbyterian Church. In December 2009, she received an honorary degree from the University of California, Berkeley. She enjoyed playing the piano, Sumie painting, golf and traveling. She is survived by her sisters, Meriko Maida and Junko Kimura; children, Kenneth (Diane), Shira (John), Anthony (Norma), Riki (Darla) and Meri-june; gc: 9.

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HEROES >> continued from page 3

with community education and outreach. We recently launched a Health Is Wealth program in order to organize community members around health as it pertains to diet, exercise and home while using a culturally relevant lens and putting individual health in the context of community circumstance.

Taniguchi: What are some of the challenges that you've faced as an organization?

Nguyen: Access to capital — specifically, farmland. Our success in regards to job creation and food access depends on the ability to grow, which is dependent on available space.

Taniguchi: Why should JACL be invested in your work and success?

Nguyen: We are constantly advocating for the rights and benefits of AAPI farmers nationally. These farmers are often left out of the national discussion in regards to farming benefits and rights.

Taniguchi: What goals do you have moving forward as an organization?

Nguyen: We intend to expand our growing capacity and thus begin to increase our job creation potential. In addition, we want to expand our tofu- and soy-milk-making operation to begin to supply to national grocery chains. We also want to expand our community programs, specifically Food Justice Collective and Health Is Wealth.

Taniguchi: What do you need to achieve these goals?

Nguyen: We need access to more land and

additional technical assistance regarding agricultural and cooperative taxes.

Taniguchi: Who are some of the partners you've worked with or that you are working with now?

Nguyen: We have partnerships with other entities such as Kids Rethink New Orleans Schools, Oxfam America, Asian Pacific Islander American Health Forum, USDA, etc.

Taniguchi: How are you engaging youth?

Nguyen: The Food Justice Collective is a partnership between Kids Rethink New Orleans (Rethink) and VEGGI Farmer's Cooperative that aims to build a multiracial youth organizer cohort to deepen understanding and intersect histories of oppression in relationship to land and ownership of food systems. VEGGI and Rethink aim to develop bonds of solidarity and shared understanding of past experiences that influence our present situation in relation to access to food. This cohort will build both knowledge and skills in horticulture, money management and cooperative economics and other alternative forms of economics as they manage farm plots, participate in marketing and distribution and revive other forms of connection to land (i.e., medicinal remedies). Through this collective effort youth will engage in intergenerational organizing with growers, community members and other prominent educators in order to unpack concealed histories and build up long-term practices of self-determination. This proposed project

contributes to VEGGI's work by connecting young people from New Orleans and New Orleans East toward increasing local food access, job creation and promoting sustainable agriculture through intergenerational organizing.

Taniguchi: What informal education techniques do you use?

Nguyen: We engage in consensus and democratic decision making and therefore engage in a lot of education around cooperative dynamics and organizational dynamics.

Taniguchi: What is something you're proud of personally?

Nguyen: We have grown from one staff member to five and from engaging four young people per summer to over 14 multilingual young people for an entire year. We started from backyard scale agriculture to now farming over two acres with commercial tofu and soy-milk production.

Taniguchi: How are you engaging the Asian American community?

Nguyen: We are based in one of the most concentrated Vietnamese communities in Louisiana and thus engage this community by recruiting Vietnamese member growers into the

cooperative and recruiting Vietnamese young people to participate in our Food Justice Collective.

Taniguchi: How is this a social justice issue?

Nguyen: This is a social justice issue because especially for Southeast Asians, we do not fit the model minority myth and face many racial and economic injustices. Therefore, it is crucial to build programs and opportunities that support genuine community self-determination.

MQVN Community Development Corporation is currently seeking pro-bono tax specialists, lawyers, public health specialists and a website designer. Submit your resume and a brief description of how you can contribute to MQVN by emailing r.taniguchi@outlook.com by April 30.

Rhianna Taniguchi is an aspiring social engineer from Hawaii. She currently works for Girl Scouts in Washington, D.C., and was the 2014 JACL Norman Y. Mineta Fellow.



Daniel Nguyen during construction of MQVN CDC's first community farm site.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF DANIEL NGUYEN

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