



PACIFIC CITIZEN

JOURNEY TO WYOMING

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CRUCIFIED PEOPLES OF HISTORY ARE REMEMBERED NOT ONLY IN PHYSICAL MONUMENTS BUT ALSO IN THE WAYS THEY CONTINUE TO SHAPE OUR LIVES

By Ryan Kenji Kuramitsu

'A Japanese storekeeper, K. Goto, was found dead this morning at 6 o'clock, hanging from a cross . . . A two-inch thick rope, evidently purchased for the purpose, was used . . . from all appearances, no bungling hands performed the work . . . a genuine hangman's knot was under his left ear.'

— *Daily Pacific Commercial Advertiser, Oct. 29, 1889*

Katsu Goto traveled to the Kingdom of Hawai'i in 1885, seeking work and adventure as *Kanyaku Imin*, among Hawai'i's first cohort of Japanese contract laborers. After completing three strenuous years of indentured labor in the cane fields, Goto struck good fortune.

The 27 year old's community connections and English proficiency encouraged locals to support his competitively priced general store. Goto quickly gained a reputation for his gregarious business skills, as well as for advocating for immigrants in court and mediating their conflicts with plantation management — actions that had drawn the ire of local white business owners, who resented his growing influence.

On the morning of Oct. 29, 1889, Goto's mangled body was found swinging from a telephone pole near his work in the small plantation town of Honoka'a, Hawai'i.

Less than 20 years before Goto's murder, the largest incident of mass lynching in the history of the United States took place in Los Angeles' Chinatown neighborhood, when a mob of over 500 men raided the district with torches and weapons to massacre the city's Chinese residents. Within one day, nearly every home and store in the area was razed, and 18 Chinese men had been tortured and lynched.

Over the next century, anti-Asian sentiment continued to broadly fester with the implementation of a number of exclusionary and repressive laws. Anti-Japanese racism reached its apex during the Second World War, as Japanese people began to be depicted in comics, songs,

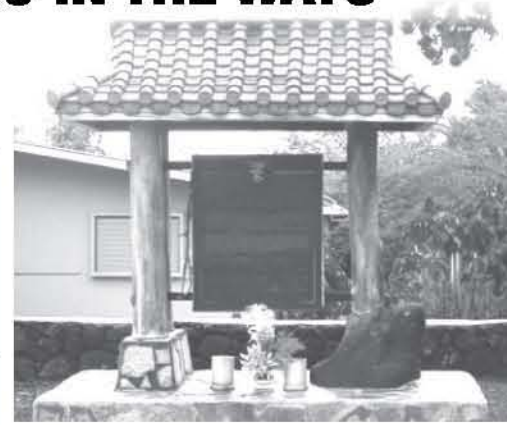
film and government propaganda not as human combatants but as creatures to be exterminated — as skunks, rats, monkeys, termites, lice, rabid vermin.

Military recruiters began to distribute mock "Jap Hunting Licenses" that called for "open season" on the enemy. Writing of the "underlying racism" that motivated the American mutilation of war dead in the Pacific, historian James Weingartner notes: "the Japanese were loathed more intensely than any enemies of the United States before or since."

Public consensus was reflected by both political/military leadership and popular media. One Marine Corps general publically remarked that, for him, "killing a Japanese was like killing a rattlesnake."

On Nikkei loyalty, the *Los Angeles Times* famously editorialized: "A viper is nonetheless a viper wherever the egg is hatched." Seeing the Japanese as reptilian allowed white Americans to shed their sympathy like snake skin — as their enemies fell further from "human" status, it became mentally easier to exterminate them. Army psychologists found that while only one in 20 American soldiers agreed with the statement "I would really like to kill a German soldier," over 50 percent of combatants answered affirmatively when the statement concerned the Japanese.

In January of this year, humanitarian and freelance journalist Kenji Goto was publicly murdered by Islamic militants in Syria after demands for his ransom went unanswered. Goto had traveled to the region in the hopes of rescu-



One of two memorials to Katsu Goto's life

ing his friend, Haruna, but himself was captured shortly after his arrival.

In the days before Goto's brutal execution, Daesh released propaganda threatening the Japanese people for their government's recent pledges for humanitarian aid, and denigrating their adversaries as "satanic."

In the Levant as well as the Pacific, it is always easier to murder and mutilate your enemies when they are snakes and Satans rather than fellow persons. When you believe you are fighting animals or "demons" — to echo comments made by Darren Wilson on how he saw black teenager Michael Brown — you are free to literally collar, cage and crucify them accordingly.

Goto's lynching by religious progressives in Syria has been consistently condemned as a terrorist act — that is, an event motivated by a philosophical tradition that believes sensationalist purging of innocent life is an acceptable way to win desired political ends. Those who engage in the creation of such terror rarely consider the direct victims of their violence to be "the point" of their crimes — rather, the desired goal is the larger communal impact, the rippling out of fear calculated to catalyze social change or horrify a population into continued submission.

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MY COUNTRY

ASIAN AMERICAN AT WORK

By Rhianna Taniguchi

Ni hao." This foreign phrase ruined my day just two months ago. I'd recently moved to Denver and started a new career. I was excelling in my position, and nothing could hold me back — nothing but "ni hao." I was walking into the office at 6:15 a.m., and a security guard (not Asian) decided to greet me in Chinese. I felt like no matter how much I succeed or how hard I worked, I would only be seen as "other." And to tell the truth, it bothered me all day.

When I was growing up in Hawaii, being Japanese in the workforce felt like a privilege — when I moved to the continental U.S., it felt like a curse. Adapting to a new set of rules felt insurmountable when also balancing my values and my dignity.

The National Bureau of Economic Research working paper 9873 is titled "Are Emily and Greg More Employable Than Lakisha and Jamal? A Field Experiment on Labor Market Discrimination." This experiment sought to measure racial discrimination in the labor market by responding with fictitious résumés to help-wanted ads in Boston and Chicago newspapers.

"To manipulate perception of race, each résumé is assigned either a very African-American-sounding name or a very white-sounding name. The results show significant discrimination against African-American names:

White names receive 50 percent more callbacks for interviews...

The amount of discrimination is uniform across

occupations and industries. Federal contractors and employers who list "Equal Opportunity Employer" in their ad discriminate as much as other employers. We find little evidence that our results are driven by employers inferring something other than race, such as social class, from the names. These results suggest that racial discrimination is still a prominent feature of the labor market."

When I first learned about this experiment, questions immediately started forming: Should I change my name (I really don't like my first name)? When I name my future children, am I willing to sacrifice the names I truly desire for them just so that they can have successful careers? Am I willing to change who I am for someone else's approval? The pride I had in my Japanese middle and last name were momentarily reduced, and I've struggled to find meaning in my name and as a perpetual foreigner in the workforce. I've since realized that it would be a journey to value myself and find a way to own the situations I find myself in because of my ethnicity and heritage rather than let them own me.

I am no authority on this subject, but I simply wanted to share my experience and thoughts. I have decided that I should follow a certain set of guiding principles about being Asian American in the workforce:

1. Don't Dwell. The comments that I receive because of my race or appearance are truly worse than sticks and stones. They stick to me and can bother me for days or years.

What I've learned is not to dwell on them. There are many ways to address them — education, humor, silence, etc. Don't let anyone chip away at your self-worth. Find the way that sits well with you and then do like T-Swift and "Shake It Off."

2. Don't Self-Deprecate. You are not a stereotype; you're an individual. You are not defined by anyone else; you are defined by your actions. Use your words to bring yourself up because there are more than enough people who are willing to put you down. Everything you say about yourself should be positive.

3. Use Your Heritage and Experience to Your Advantage. Do you speak another language? Do you understand another culture? Do you have an *in* because of your ethnicity (i.e., a social club or business organization)? Capitalize on these talents and networks, contribute to them and grow your self-worth as a person and as a professional.

4. Document Negative Incidents. Keep a record of incidents (especially related to gender or race) at the workplace, even the small ones. Anything that bothers you and takes your attention off of work is worthy of taking to Human Resources for discussion. If it comes to the point where you want to file a report about the issue, you'll be prepared to address it with good documentation.

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A YONSEI TRANSPLANTED

NEW DAY, OLD FEARS

By Matthew Ormseth

The streets of the great European capitals — cities like Berlin and Vienna, Budapest and Prague — are steeped in beauty, a beauty that has been captured in innumerable paintings, poems and postcards, a beauty that draws millions of tourists every year like moths to a flame. This summer, I was one of those millions.

I visited those four cities, and I, too, was in awe of their beauty. But for me, those cities were haunted, haunted by what people had done to each other in those beautiful streets. I am talking, of course, about the acts of genocide committed by the Nazis and their collaborators across Europe during World War II.

And what was most unsettling about my recent trip to these cities was that their awful past did not seem to be ancient history. In fact, it did not seem to be history at all. I could sense the old prejudices lingering, out of sight, perhaps, but undeniably there, refusing to be left behind as some tragic, but thankfully outdated relic, like instruments used for bloodletting, the kind of thing we look at and wonder how anyone could have ever believed so absurd an idea.

I saw the same climate of fear and suspicion in those cities; I saw the abbreviation of immigrant groups into the single, faceless representation of the thieving, diseased and alien "other."

Splashed across TV screens were images of beaches teeming with refugees and decrepit boats laden with human cargo; news tickers screamed the danger of Islamic extremists returning from the training camps of Syria and Iraq.

When I was in Budapest, there was talk of building an enormous wall around the entirety of Hungary, lest the country be overrun by immigrants slipping across the country's shared border with Serbia.

Indeed, the Hungarian government has now begun construction on said wall, which will be 13 feet high and 110 miles long, spanning the length of the country's southern border, which, Hungary's Foreign Minister Péter Szijjártó claimed, is "most exposed to the immigration pressure."

Europe has experienced a massive influx of refugees seeking asylum in the past year, the majority of whom hail from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan and are fleeing persecution from extremist groups like the Islamic State and the Taliban. The sheer number of those seeking asylum has placed a strain on these European nations' social services, as well as their citizens' commitment to tolerance.

Such xenophobia is not unique to Europe. Upon my return to the U.S., I saw it here, too, in the speeches of presidential hopefuls, the very men and women vying for

our confidence in their ability to lead the country.

I've heard Donald Trump insist that immigrants from Mexico commit rape at higher rates than native citizens, and that they are carrying infectious diseases across the border along with bags of heroin and cocaine strapped to their bellies.

I've heard Jeb Bush rail against "anchor babies" and his subsequent, blundering attempt at self-defense, in which he claimed that the derogatory term applied more to Asians rather than Hispanics, as if that somehow made his original statement less offensive.

But what has truly unnerved me, more so than any expression of ignorance or xenophobia, is that these presidential hopefuls actually believe that voicing these statements of hatred and fear will appeal to a sizable percent of Americans.

Racists and bigots have always existed; the opinions professed by Trump and Bush are not new. What is new, however, is their injection into the mainstream discourse. These candidates are making carefully calculated decisions. They express these xenophobic opinions both because they personally believe them, but more importantly because they suspect that many other people believe them, too.

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JACL Comments on Coarsening of Political Speech

During the early 1990s, Japanese Americans and Asian Americans were targeted and became unwitting victims in the wake of a spate of "Japan-bashing," resulting from an economic downturn coupled with a strengthening Japanese economy and their purchase of iconic American properties such as Rockefeller Center and the Pebble Beach golf course. It was a time that created justified anxiety for Asian Americans due to an increase in hate crimes directed at Asian Americans.

Donald Trump recently mocked the Japanese business style when he commented on negotiating with Japan by saying, "They don't say, 'Oh hello, how's the weather?' They say, 'We want deal!'" This follows his inflammatory comments on immigration: "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best... they're bringing crime. They're rapists..."

These comments on immigration have devolved into claims about so-called "anchor babies," a negative term that creates an image of people crossing borders to give birth so they will be shielded from deportation. In defending the use of the term, Jeb Bush recently said, "Frankly it's more related to Asian people."

JACL is deeply troubled by the coarsening of public discourse where it is affecting public perceptions about ethnic communities, including Japanese Americans and Asian Americans. A dimension of this is driven by Trump's persona and his debate comment on political correctness, where he said, "I think the big problem this country has is being politically correct."

Regardless of how the notion of political correctness is abused, it adds a veneer of civility, which keeps discourse from degenerating into a bar room brawl. Many do not make distinctions between Asian Americans and the actions of Asian nations, which causes our communities to remain mired in the myths and stereotypes that continue to portray Asian Americans as foreigners.

JACL's concern was captured in a recent exchange between Univision journalist Jorge Ramos, a Mexican American, and Trump, which resulted in a Trump supporter confronting Ramos saying, "You were very rude, this is not about you. Get out of my country. Get out." The danger for Asian Americans is when indelicate and thoughtless phrases are acted out in crude and misinformed remarks. It's even worse if they turn into hate crimes. ■

AAJA Announces Greater L.A. Area College Scholarship Opportunities

The Los Angeles Chapter of the Asian American Journalists Assn. has announced the opening of its annual scholarship competition. The chapter will award several scholarships of \$2,500 each to full-time college students in the Greater Los Angeles Area.

From its inception in 1981 as the organization's founding chapter, AAJA-LA has been committed to supporting the next generation of journalists. The scholarship program is the centerpiece of its fundraising efforts.

In addition to several general awards, the chapter gives two scholarships in memory of early chapter members: the Sam Chu Lin Memorial Scholarship, given to a broadcast student, and the Peter Imamura Memorial Scholarship, with preference given to a student who is from the Inland Empire or who demonstrates special financial need.

Eligible students include those who are committed to AAJA's mission and

demonstrate an interest in pursuing a career in journalism; full-time students who are enrolled in colleges and universities in Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside and Ventura counties and taking journalism or related courses; membership in AAJA is encouraged and required for those selected to receive scholarships.

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of judges led by Henry Fuhrmann, chapter co-president and assistant managing editor at the *Los Angeles Times*. Recipients must commit to volunteering at a chapter event in the coming year or writing two blog posts for the AAJA-LA website.

All materials may be submitted online at <http://aaja-la.org/scholarship-application-form/> and must be received by midnight PST on Sept. 25.

For more information, contact aajalaawards@gmail.com or on Twitter @aajala.

News Briefs/APAs in the News

Tokyo's Kitasuna Little League Team Claims Japan's 10th World Series Title

WILLIAMSPORT, PENN. — Tokyo's Kitasuna baseball team, Japan's Little League World Series representative, captured the overall championship in the Little League World Series held in South Williamsport, Penn., on Aug. 30.

The Kitasuna team defeated the U.S. Little League champions from Lewisberry, Penn., the Mid-Atlantic representative, in a duel that ended in an 18-11 comeback victory.

Kitasuna's victory was the nation's 10th Little League World Series title and its fourth championship in the past six years. Despite winning double-digit titles, Japan still trails Taiwan, who holds a remarkable 17 titles, despite not winning one since 1996.

History was also made in the championship game with an historic first inning by the American team. Lewisberry scored a record 10 runs in the first inning, but that wasn't the only record broken. Both teams combined for 23 runs in the game, and Japan's eight-run deficit was the largest comeback in any Little League World Series game.

Miyuki Harwood Found Alive After Missing in the Sierra National Forest for Nine Days

FRESNO, CALIF. — Fresno County Sheriff's Search and Rescue located Miyuki Harwood, 62, of Folsom, Calif., alive in an area near Courtright Reservoir in the Sierra National Forest on Aug. 29. Harwood had been missing for nine days.

Harwood became separated from her Sierra Club group near Blackcap Mountain and then fell off a cliff. With a broken left

leg and right ankle suffered during her fall, she managed to crawl down toward water below, where she was able to drink water through a filter to keep her alive. After hearing rescuers in the area, Harwood blew a whistle to signal their attention.

In a statement she gave to police, Harwood expressed her gratitude to those who saved her life. "I greatly appreciate the rescuers who found me and had not given up hope to find me," Harwood said. "Thank you to family, friends, coworkers and the Sierra Club. I am doing OK and would like to concentrate on my recovery."

Survey Shows Asian Americans Are Willing to Punish Presidential Candidates for Anti-Immigrant Words

After presidential candidates Jeb Bush and Carly Fiorina delivered offensive comments on Asian immigrants and their babies, anti-immigrant eloquence was raised in a survey about concurrent opinions on candidates. A recent APIA (Asian Pacific Islanders American) voting survey revealed that Asian American voters will punish candidates with

anti-immigration views.

Of those surveyed, 41 percent would react to a candidate who had anti-immigrant views by voting for someone else; 37 percent would choose to stay with the candidate, no matter his/her views on immigration. Results among Asian subgroups were more or less similar when it came to commitment to a candidate if he or she has anti-immigrant views.

Based upon history of the past 20 years, it also suggested that exclusionary rhetoric will play a big-time role in the support given by Asian American voters. There has been a 40-point increase in Asian American support for a Democratic president in the past 20 years, according to a study completed in 2012.

The U.S. Olympic Committee Formally Names Los Angeles as a Potential 2024 Games Host

LOS ANGELES — After the Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously Sept. 1 to proceed with a bid to host the 2024 Summer Olympic Games, the USOC formally named the city its official bidder for the event.

At a news conference following the council's vote, USOC CEO Scott Blackmun said, "It is my distinct honor to formally name the city of Los Angeles as the U.S. bid to host the 2024 Olympics."

"This is a great day for Los Angeles and a great day for the Olympic movement," said L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti.

LA24 officials estimate the cost of hosting the 2024 Olympic Games to be \$4.1 billion; they project revenue will bring in \$4.8 billion, resulting in a profit of \$161 million going to LA24.

The International Olympic Committee is expected to make a final decision on a host city in September 2017.

Various Ethnicities Helping Through the Asian American Donor Program

The Asian American Donor Program continues to help save lives with the help of Asian American donors. AADP's goal is to help those suffering with leukemia, lymphoma or any life-threatening blood diseases.

Today, there are 10.5 million registered donors in America, and within that number, 735,000 are Asian donors.

"Despite the large number of donors, it is far from easy to match donors with patients," said Ruby Law, recruitment director at AADP. "It is even harder to find a match in a mixed-race situation."

According to Dr. Stacy Month, medical director of pediatric hematology and oncology at Kaiser Permanente, "You might be able to save a life — it is important to help each other out as a community."

Most blood diseases and cancers can be cured with a bone marrow transplant. AADP organizes around 400 drives every year and holds registration as well. Registration takes about five minutes, and donors must be 18-44 years of age and meet certain health guidelines. ■



SAN DIEGO JACL 'NEVER FORGET' GALA WILL COMMEMORATE THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II

By P.C. Staff

The San Diego Japanese American Citizens League will commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II with a gala on Sept. 19 at the Marriott Mission Valley. The special evening will honor veterans of the 100th and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the Military Intelligence Service and all Nisei veterans of WWII and their families.

"Our board decided that it was a great opportunity for us to recognize our few remaining veterans and their families and the families of those who have passed on. It is a chance to share their legacy with the generations that have followed," said Lane Nishikawa. "It also is a way that we can ensure that grandchildren and great-grandchildren understand, reflect upon and own that legacy so they can pass it on to future generations."

During the gala, Nishikawa will present an exclusive preview of his newest feature documentary film "Never Forget," now in production. The film highlights local San Diego Japanese American veterans, their families and the families of those veterans who have passed away. Narratives within the film follow the sons and daughters, the grandchildren and now the great-grandchildren of those who served.

"What makes 'Never Forget' also special is our focus. We have included in the interview process the sons and daughters, the grandchild-



(From left) Lane Nishikawa and David Ono during the filming of "Never Forget," a documentary feature highlighting local San Diego Japanese American veterans, their families and the families of those veterans who have passed away.

dren and, in some cases, the great-grandchildren," said Nishikawa, who is also producer and director of "Only the Brave." "They are becoming the Nisei soldier's voice. They will never forget."

San Diego's 118 Nisei soldiers represent the thousands who volunteered from plantations of Hawaii and those from the 10 incarceration camps, where 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans were imprisoned.

"As the years go by, it seems the younger generations have all but forgotten the hardships of WWII," wrote the San Diego JACL chap-

ter about the gala's mission. "Their worlds are filled with so many other challenges, but if we can take this opportunity to let the younger generations of Americans reflect, question and gain a deeper understanding, then we will give them an appreciation toward the sacrifices that the Nisei soldiers made for their country and the contributions the group made in earning equality, which is reflected in our society today."

Actress Tamlyn Tomita along with Lee Ann Kim, executive director of Pacific Carls Movement and a longtime news anchor of

KGTV-10, the ABC affiliate in San Diego, will co-emcee the gala.

Invited guests include Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command Adm. Harry Harris Jr. and Commander of the Naval Special Warfare Command in Coronado Rear Admiral Brian Losey. Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta is also expected to attend.

Partial confirmed guests include honorary committee members: State Senators Marty Block and Ben Hueso; Assemblymembers Brian Maienschein, Shirley Weber and Lorena Gonzalez; State Con-



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LANE NISHIKAWA

"Never Forget" documentary interviews with David Ono

troller Betty Yee; City of Coronado Mayor Casey Tanaka; Supervisors Greg Cox, Dave Roberts and Ron Roberts; and City of San Diego Councilmember Chris Cate.

The San Diego JACL was formed in 1932, serving as one of the premier Asian American organization in Southern California. The chapter provides advocacy for civil and human rights, leadership for social injustice and education for maintaining and facilitating cultural heritage and tradition.

Guests interested in attending should contact Robert Ito at Robert@itogirard.com or call (619) 954-7017. Ticket amounts can be found at <http://www.jaclsandiego.org>. Two complimentary seats will be provided to veterans plus one guest or widow plus one guest or two representatives of next of kin of a deceased veteran.

DENVER PROCLAIMS SEPT. 10 AS 'MINORU YASUI DAY'

An official proclamation pays tribute to the civil rights activist as the Minoru Yasui Tribute committee readies for the 100th anniversary of Yasui's birth.



City of Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock has proclaimed Sept 10 as "Minoru Yasui Day." The official proclamation will be presented to the civil rights activist's niece, Robin Yasui, at the Minoru Yasui American Inn of Court meeting at the University Club by Judge Kerry Hada, who was instrumental in naming the Inn of the Court after Yasui, and Derek Okubo, the mayor's representative and executive director of the Denver Agency for Human Relations and Community Partnerships.

Minoru Yasui, a native of the state of Oregon, moved to Denver in September 1944 after he left the Minidoka Relocation Camp in Idaho. The first Japanese Ameri-

can attorney in his home state, in 1942 Yasui deliberately violated a curfew and other military orders that led to the forced removal of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. He spent nine months in solitary confinement in Multnomah County Jail, awaiting the appeal of his test case to the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled against him.

In 1945, Yasui took the Colorado Bar Exam but was denied entry due to "bad moral character" indicated by his criminal conviction of the curfew violation. With the help of the ACLU, he appealed that finding to the Colorado Supreme Court and in 1946 won the right to practice law in the state.

In Denver, Yasui continued his

lifelong activism with the JACL, fighting against discriminatory Alien Land Laws and for naturalization rights for his parents' generation, immigrants denied U.S. citizenship because of race. He was a member and officer of the Mile-High JACL Chapter and Intermountain District Council until his death in 1986.

Yasui also helped to found a number of organizations serving diverse communities in Denver: the Urban League (African American), Latin American Research and Service Agency (now called the Colorado Latino Leadership Advocacy, Research and Service Organization) and Denver Native Americans United (now called the Denver Indian Center). He also

served as scoutmaster for multicultural Boy Scout Troop #38 and was active in Denver Public Schools.

Yasui was also one of the leaders of the Japanese American redress movement, which sought an official apology and reparations for the imprisonment of more than 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II. In the mid-1970s, when the idea was percolating within JACL, he championed the cause and in 1981 became chair of the National JACL Committee for Redress, to which he dedicated the last years of his life.

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Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Hosts Annual Pilgrimage



(From left) Sam Mihara, Shig Yabu and Dr. Takashi Hoshizaki were all incarcerated at Heart Mountain. Yabu and Mihara lived on Block 14, the same block as iconic camp artist Estelle Ishigo.



(From left) Shig Yabu and Dr. Takashi Hoshizaki tour the barracks during the Heart Mountain Pilgrimage this year.



Shig Yabu during the HMWF Pilgrimage banquet.

Former incarcerated and their families as well as those from across the nation gather to remember and teach others about their time in camp.

By Shig Yabu and P.C. Staff

Former incarcerated and their families, those associated with other camps, dignitaries and visitors from all corners of the nation gathered at the Heart

Mountain Wyoming Foundation Pilgrimage to remember and learn about the historical site on Aug. 20-22.

"All Heart Mountain Pilgrimages have been special, but this year was memorable for having several incarcerated and representatives from different confinement sites across the country," said Brian Liesinger, HMWF executive director.

Members and visitors to the Relocation Center were given large nametags upon their arrival and were then encouraged to talk amongst each other. New and old acquaintances were made at the center on the first day, and conversations about the camp and incarcerated lives during and after incarceration were freely discussed.

Former incarcerated Bacon Sakatani and Keiichi Ikea drove together to Heart Mountain from the Los Angeles area. When they arrived at the pilgrimage, they were able to meet old friends and make new friends among the thousands imprisoned there. Many were curious to ask which block another person lived on, finding and making lost connections over the years. Some asked whether others were former incarcerated or if they had attended school at Heart Mountain.

This special gathering also gave

opportunities for older generations to share their experiences with younger visitors.

Darrell Kunitomi's parents were incarcerated in Heart Mountain and found it "wonderful to meet new people who have returned to the camp." Kunitomi added that it's also "fascinating to see mixed-race kids who arrive, young Americans born long after the war and see their reactions" when learning about the incarceration experience.

On Aug. 21 at 10 a.m., the "All Camp Fair" welcomed delegates from various relocation centers. The room was filled to capacity with a multigenerational audience listening to speakers talk about confinement behind barbed wires and what it felt like to stand before a guard tower. HMWF Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi, HMWF Vice Chair Douglass Nelson and Liesinger led the session.

In addition to personal and historic narratives, Densho along with representatives from most of the other nine incarceration camps, were in attendance to support the pilgrimage and the work of HMWF. Densho's Executive Director Tom Ikeda talked about the organization's efforts to "better work together to more broadly share the World War II Japanese American incarceration story."

As an example of group collaboration, Ikeda shared how Densho worked with the HMWF to digitize and make available online over 300 photographs taken by Yoshio Okumoto while he was incarcerated at Heart Mountain during World War II.

That evening, the Pilgrimage Banquet opened with a Q & A session led by HMWF Board Member Dale Kunitomi and current HMWF Advisory Council Members Bacon Sakatani and Judge Raymond Uno.

Uno was JACL National President from 1970-72, and he served as legal counsel from 1972-74. Today, Uno is chapter president of the Salt Lake City JACL.

"I always say he was a loyal American veteran who served his country and died a prisoner of war of the United States Government," said Uno about his father, Clarence Uno, during the pilgrimage, according to the *Cody Enterprise*. "It's kind of ironic."

Honorary ambassadors, former Heart Mountain incarcerated, HMWF board and advisory council members and those such as La Donna Zall, who wasn't incarcerated but as a girl saw the last train leave Heart Mountain, received red carnations to wear during the dinner banquet.

Former Superintendent of the Manzanar Historic Site Les Inafuku was recognized for his contributions at Manzanar and as the first Japanese American to be in charge of a National Park. The HMWF awarded Inafuku with a brick honoring his leadership.

The evening's program also included a digital presentation by Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center's Multimedia Producer Hana Maruyama. Maruyama was also a former staff member of the HMWF and is the granddaughter of a former Heart Mountain internee. The digital story was a narrative anchored around her grandfather and three generations of the Maruyama family in the aftermath of incarceration.

In addition, a special tape listening was given of Joy Teraoka. Teraoka was the first singer with the George Igawa Orchestra that once performed in Heart Mountain during incarceration, providing jazz music and dance.

On Aug. 22, the pilgrimage continued to the Interpretive Learning Center for an opening ceremony. Notable speakers like former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta addressed a crowd of former internees, their families and community members.

"We welcome those who come here on the pilgrimage," said former U.S. Sen. Al Simpson during the opening ceremony. "'Pilgrimage' is usually a journey to a foreign land, but the journey of your forebears was a journey to a foreign place in your own land."

Liesinger shared news regarding Heart Mountain's recent efforts in preserving the newly installed root cellar and the relocation of an original Heart Mountain barrack back to the National Historic Landmark site. The original barrack was once part of Iowa State University since the late-1940s.

The barrack permanently made its move to the Heart Mountain National Historic Landmark site this summer after a 100-mile move. Currently, HMWF is requesting donations to replace the old roof and make repairs on the barrack.

"We do our preservation with the power of place in mind. We move buildings, restore structures and preserve artworks and artifacts knowing that their presence here will move visitors in a deep and meaningful way that could not be matched if they were located away from Heart Mountain," Liesinger said.

Mineta, a former internee of Heart Mountain, echoed a similar sentiment but also urged the crowd to "keep reminding people in the future to make sure something like this never happens to anyone else again."

Following Mineta's address, the Cody High School choir performed "This Land Is Your Land, This Land Is My Land," accompanied by guitarist Dan Miller. Audience members were moved, some to tears.

A powerful performance was given afterward by spoken word artist George Masao Yamazawa Jr., titled "This Is For" and "Rocks." Yamazawa investigated the histories of his ancestors and dove into what it means to be American. Yamazawa, also known as G Yamazawa onstage, was the

2014 National Poetry Slam Champion and has shared the stage with Sonia Sanchez, Michelle Kwan, Danny Glover and U.S. VP Joe Biden.

The afternoon included a Heart Mountain Boy Scout jamboree, a gathering held for former and current Boy Scout members. At the pilgrimage this year, the Heart Mountain Boy Scout jamboree was celebrated with the Cody, Wyoming Boy Scouts pitching tents together.

Sakatani, both a former internee at Heart Mountain and a Boy Scout member, saw "a group of well-mannered, clean-cut boys." He told the *Pacific Citizen*, "It brought back memories of my days as a Boy Scout at this very same place. I hope my parents felt proud of me as I felt proud of these boys."

At 15 years of age, Sakatani joined the Boy Scouts in 1944 and was part of Troop 313 during his time in Heart Mountain Camp.

"At first, we young boys my age did not have anything to do but to roam around the camp in gangs of a dozen," Sakatani remembered. But this all changed when the Boy Scouts were introduced in Heart Mountain. "This turned out to be the most memorable part of my three-year stay at the camp," he said.

Sam Mihara was incarcerated in Heart Mountain and toured the site. He said, "Walking around and inside the barrack brought many memories of life within the Heart Mountain camp. I found some original signatures by carpenters dated 1942 inside the walls of the barrack."

Mihara currently speaks to schools, colleges and communities across the nation about his experience, educating the public on the incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII and also on his own personal experience as a boy growing up in Heart Mountain Camp. At the pilgrimage this

year, Mihara noted that "there is strength in numbers and this group is growing."

A viewing was held of the "new" barrack, a root cellar that was moved 80 miles from the hamlet of Shell, Wyo., after a nationwide grassroots fundraising campaign. The 300-foot-long structure is currently unsafe to enter, but future plans to reinforce the interior are underway.

The Heart Mountain root cellar was one of four and is the last of its kind. It was recently dedicated to the daughters of Eiichi Edward Sakauye, who, as the assistant farm superintendent at Heart Mountain from 1943-45, oversaw the use of the cellar and agriculture program. Sakauye's daughters, Carolyn Sakauye and Jane May, were recognized during the ceremony and were there to accept the dedication on his behalf.

"Thanks to all of our supporters who made the preservation of these historic structures possible. These artifacts are essential to the power of place and are

precious reminders of the important history of the Japanese American incarceration during World War II," Higuchi said.

An afternoon panel was held for internees from Topaz (Hal Kato), Tule Lake (Hiroshi Shimizu), Heart Mountain (Fred Miyauchi), Poston (Frank Yamamoto) and the Tashme confinement camp in Canada (Ken Suzuki).

The Pilgrimage was sponsored by Studies Weekly, the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, the Japanese American Citizens League, the Tule Lake Committee and several local organizations.

"What Heart Mountain means to me, personally, is one of love and sadness to our family," Mihara said.

The 2016 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage will be held on July 29-30, during which the HMWF will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the opening of the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center.



HMWF Vice Chair Douglas Nelson presents a Root Cellar dedication plaque to Jane May (center) and Carolyn Sakauye, daughters of Eiichi Edward Sakauye.



Fred Miyauchi wears a Heart Mountain cap.



Audience members during this year's pilgrimage listened to the stories and addresses given by former internees like Norman Mineta and listened to a live spoken word performance by G Yamazawa.



Visitors tour a concrete structure that was once the Mess Hall at the Heart Mountain Camp.

SHIMIZU FAMILY SETTLES CLAIM AGAINST SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR SUICIDE DEATH OF THEIR SON

The family of Ronin Shimizu accepted a \$1 million settlement from the Folsom/Cordova Unified School District on Sept. 3 for the failure to protect their son from pervasive bullying, which led him to commit suicide at age 12 on Dec. 3, 2014.

School bullies targeted Shimizu with anti-gay attacks for being a male cheerleader, his creative interests and just for being who he was. Shimizu was the long-time target of physical and psychological bullying, which continued even after he changed school. His parents eventually were led to initiate home schooling.

Following Shimizu's death, District Superintendent Deborah Bettancourt expressed her condolences and outlined changes she and the district had implemented following the tragedy.

District schools now educate students about the pain and trauma that bullying causes and have taken steps to intervene when such behavior is brought to attention. In addition, teachers will be trained in how to recognize and prevent bullying, parents will be required to review bullying prohibitions with their children and a complaint and investigation procedure will ensure that bullies are disciplined.

The Shimizu family has founded the organization Ronin's Voice, which they hope will provide support and assistance to victims of bullying and help parents of bullied students get their school districts to



Ronin Shimizu

provide the safe school environment that statutes, including California's recently adopted Seth's Law, require.

Mark Merin, the Sacramento civil rights attorney who represented the Shimizu family in negotiations with the school district, said that while no amount of money can compensate for the tremendous loss the family experienced, the settlement emphasizes the obligations incumbent on all school districts and personnel to protect students from bullying and provide a safe environment for the education of children in their care.

"We wish to thank the thousands of kind people who expressed their condolences, offered their personal support and interest in seeking reform against school bullying," said Shimizu's parents, Brandon and Danielle. "We also appreciate the assistance and support provided to us by the Florin Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League."

YASUI >> continued from page 5

In 1983, a volunteer legal team was assembled to reopen Yasui's wartime case with a writ of *coram nobis* based on evidence uncovered in the National Archives indicating that U.S. government officials had suppressed evidence in 1942-43 that affected the court's decision.

His *coram nobis* case was heard in 1984, granting a vacating of his conviction but not a full hearing.

Yasui died in 1986 while his case was still on appeal. His wife, True, continued the appeal, but in 1987, the centennial of the U.S. Constitution, the Supreme Court refused to hear the case, ruling that the issues were moot because of his death.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act.

The Minoru Yasui Tribute committee, an ad-hoc group of family and friends, was formed in 2013 to honor and reflect upon Yasui's contributions toward "making the world a better place."

Earlier this year, the MYT worked with U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii) to nominate Yasui for the 2015 Presidential Medal of Freedom. The submission to the president included endorsements from more than 115 elected officials, national, state and regional organizations, as well as notable individuals — two cabinet officials; nine U.S. senators and 26 U.S. representatives from 11 states;

governors, attorneys general, mayors and state legislators; leading national civil rights organizations such as the National Urban League, ACLU, NAACP, National Council of La Raza, Japanese American Citizens League, American Friends Service Committee, the Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights, American Jewish Committee; and 46 regional and state organizations.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is generally announced each fall. Should Yasui be awarded the medal, the president would complete recognition of all three plaintiffs in the Japanese American internment cases, which also includes Fred Korematsu and Gordon Hirabayashi, who were awarded Presidential Medals of Freedom in 1998 and 2012, respectively.

In addition, the MYT is also helping to organize the 2016 centennial celebrations for the 100th anniversary of Yasui's birth in various states: California, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah and Washington. These events will include symposia with speakers, a documentary film, theatrical presentations and memorial exhibits.

For more information, contact Peggy Nagae, co-founder MYT, at peggy.nagae@gmail.com, and Holly Yasui, co-founder MYT, at minyasuitribute@gmail.com.

VISTA BUDDHIST TEMPLE HOSTS 'STORIES FROM TOHOKU'



Vista Buddhist Temple recently hosted a film screening program with the producer of "Stories From Tohoku," a documentary film about survivors of the 2011 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster. In attendance were (from left) Vista Temple members and guests Sandy Muryasz, Terri Omori, "Tohoku" producer Debra Nakatomi, David Kawamoto, Carol Kawamoto, Ford Omori, Gail Furuya, Grace Reasoner and Judy Nakatomi.



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'PEACE ON YOUR WINGS' MUSICAL SOARS TO LITTLE TOKYO'S ARATANI THEATRE

The musical opens in connection with International Peace Day — Sept. 21 — and commemorates the bombings at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

According to Japanese legend, anyone who folds 1,000 origami paper cranes is granted one wish.

In connection with International Peace Day (Sept. 21) and commemorating the bombings at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Ohana Arts and the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, in partnership with Helen Bing, will present the North American premiere of the new musical "Peace on Your Wings" on Sept. 18 and 19 at the Aratani Theatre in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

The show is inspired by the real-life story of Sadako Sasaki, a young Japanese girl who survived the atomic bombings only to succumb to leukemia at a young age. Sasaki became an international symbol for peace through her quest to fold a thousand paper cranes in hope of having her wish for good health come true.

"Peace on Your Wings" features an all-youth cast, ages 6-18, from the island of Oahu, Hawaii.

Set in post-war 1950s Japan, the musical follows the lives of middle school students in Hiroshima. When one of them falls seriously ill, the children's lives and their tenuous bonds unravel. But one girl's struggle and dreams for a better tomorrow teach the children — and the world — about courage, love and peace.

The musical's original score, written by Ohana Arts Artistic/Executive Director/Composer Jennifer Taira and Associate Artistic Director/Lyricist Laurie Rubin, combines modern pop with Japanese influences to create a unique, uplifting and inspiring show.

According to Japanese legend, anyone who folds 1,000 original paper cranes is granted one wish such as long life, eternal good luck or recovery from illness or injury. Having survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima as a toddler, Sasaki grew up to be one of the



"Peace on Your Wings" tells the story of Sadako Sasaki, a young Japanese girl who survived the atomic bombings only to die of leukemia at a young age.

best athletes and most popular students in her middle school.

At age 11, she was diagnosed with leukemia, or the "A-bomb disease" as it was then called, and she was given just one year to live.

Hoping to be cured, she and her friends began making hundreds of origami cranes out of needle wrappings, medicine labels and any other paper they could find, hanging the birds from the ceiling of her hospital room. When she reached 1,000, she continued folding for herself and others until she died at age 12.

Sasaki has come to symbolize the effects of the peace movement, and her death inspired a youth movement to have a Hiroshima memorial built in honor of the child victims.

"While 'Peace on Your Wings' features a cast of children, there is nothing childish about the message. The musical explores Sadako as an individual, a student and friend and addresses universal themes present in young people's lives, powerfully told by the voices of youth, touching intergenerational audiences, while sharing the

message 'Ichigo Ichie,' meaning, 'Today is the first and last day of your life,'" said Rubin.

After its Los Angeles performances, the musical will travel to Washington, D.C., and New York City before heading to Japan for a four-city tour in July and August 2016.

"Peace on Your Wings" premiered on Oahu in November 2014 and enjoyed a statewide sold-out tour in January and February of this year. Due to popular demand, the musical returned to Oahu for an encore run of performances last month on the 70th anniversaries of the atomic bombings of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

On opening night, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell, who was in attendance at the performance, officially proclaimed Aug. 6, 2015, the official "Peace on Your Wings Day." The performance was also attended by Masahiro Sasaki, Sadako's eldest brother, and his son, Yuji Sasaki.

Ohana Arts is a nonprofit organization that aims to foster world friendship and peace through the universal language of the arts. It



"Peace on Your Wings" premiered in Oahu in November 2014 and went on to enjoy a sold-out run throughout the island in January and February of this year. The musical features an all-youth cast, ages 6-18, from the island of Oahu.

was founded in 2010 by Jennifer Taira, composer, pianist and clarinetist; Carolyn Taira, director of the Hongwanji Mission School Performing Theater; and Laurie Rubin, opera singer and recitalist. This summer, more than 80 stu-

dents from more than 30 schools around the island participated in Ohana Arts programs.

For ticket information and prices, contact (213) 680-3700 or order online at www.jaccc.org.

Polaris Tours 2015 Schedule

Sep. 17 ~ Sep. 26
Oct. 04 ~ Oct. 14
Oct. 08 ~ Oct. 19
Oct. 18 ~ Oct. 27
Oct. 19 ~ Nov. 01
Oct. 22 ~ Nov. 02
Nov. 01 ~ Nov. 11
Nov. 30 ~ Dec. 10

Pacific Coast: "Seattle, Portland, Newport, Gold Beach, San Francisco"
Let's Go Hokkaido: "Sapporo, Sounkyo, Shiretoko, Tomamu, Toyako"
Jewels of Morocco: "Casablanca, Fez, Erfoud, Quarzazate, Marrakesh"
Autumn Japan: "Hiroshima, Kyoto, Kanazawa, Takayama, Tokyo"
Italy: "Rome, Pisa, Florence, Milan, Venice, Capri, Amalfi Coast, Pompeii"
South Korea (West Coast): "Jeonju, Yeosu, Gwangju, Boseong, Jeju"
Islands of Okinawa & Shikoku: "Naha, Takamatsu, Matsuyama, Kochi"
South America Escape: "Rio de Janeiro, Iguassu Falls, Buenos Aires"

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LegendOfKooolau.com

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

NCWNP

'Lucky Chow'
San Jose, CA
Sept. 20; 11:30 a.m.
Japanese American Museum of San Jose
525 N. Fifth St.

The Japanese American Museum of San Jose will be the host venue for the Center for Asian American Media's CAAMFest San Jose showcase. JAMsj will screen a selection of episodes from "Lucky Chow," a six-part PBS series that follows LuckyRice Founder Danielle Chang as she travels across America, exploring the Asian food landscape.
Info: Call (408) 294-3138 or email publicprograms@jamsj.org.

Pizza Night
Watsonville, CA
Sept. 29; 5-9 p.m.
Cassidy's Pizza
1400 Freedom Blvd.
This year's multicultural celebration "Pizza Night" will be in conjunction with the Watsonville Plaza Tree Lighting on Dec. 6. Participants sharing their cultural heritage with arts and crafts activities, music, dance, song and food will be recognize during this very important night of fun and culture.
Info: Contact Marcia Hashimoto at (831) 722-6850 or email hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

'The Legend of Ko'olau'
Berkeley, CA
Oct. 2-3; 8 p.m.
La Pena Cultural Center
3105 Shattuck Ave.
Price: Advance purchase \$25; general admission \$30
Award-winning writer Gary T. Kubota presents the Northern California premiere of his national touring play "The Legend of Ko'olau" for two nights. The historic-based play is about one man's fight against forced internment that leads to a historic gun battle between him and the army that overthrew the Hawaiian monarchy in 1893.
Info: Visit www.legendofkoolau.com or call (510) 849-2568.

'Being Japanese American'
Book Club Meeting
San Jose, CA
Oct. 3; 1 p.m.
Japanese American Museum of San Jose
525 N. Fifth St.
Price: Members, free admission to the museum; nonmembers \$5
JAMsj Book Club will discuss Gil Asakawa's "Being Japanese American," an entertaining sourcebook that celebrates Japanese American culture, history and heritage. The sourcebook explores the painful history of immigration and WWII internment and also recognizes the cultural foods, customs, words, games and holidays that Japanese Americans honor.
Info: Contact Aggie Idemoto at (408) 294-3138 or email aggie@jamsj.org.

Kimochi Silver Bells: Arts, Crafts and Food Fair
San Francisco, CA
Dec. 12; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
St. Mary's Cathedral
1111 Gough St.
Price: Free
Don't miss this one-stop shopping event for all your holiday gifts at the annual Kimochi Silver Bells event. This all-day event will feature Asian- and Pacific Islander-themed arts, crafts and foods from more than 90 vendors. Vendors include the Soap Nymph, Jade Chocolates, Beefy & Co., Pigs Fly, Sente, Patricia Jeong and Totally Oishii.
Info: Visit www.kimochi-inc.org, call (415) 931-2294 or email kimochikai@kimochi-inc.org.

PSW

14th Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner
Los Angeles, CA
Sept. 19; 5 p.m.
The Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites
404 S. Figueroa St.
Join Go For Broke National Education Center, an organization focused on educational programs to preserve and perpetuate the veterans' story, for an "Evening of Aloha." Master

of Ceremonies is David Ono, and honorary dinner chairs include Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles Harry Horinouchi and Madame Sabine Horinouchi, Masashi Oka and George Sugimoto. Celebrity chefs include Roy Yamaguchi, Akira Hirose and Fernando Arellano.
Info: Call Ellen Robinson at (818) 242-9108, ext. 204, or email eveningofaloha@goforbroke.org.

Marie Mutsuki Mockett Book Signing and Discussion
Newport Beach, CA
Sept. 24; 7 p.m.
Newport Beach Public Library
1000 Avocado Ave.
Price: Free
The Newport Beach Public Library Foundation will present author Marie Mutsuki Mockett, who will speak about her new book "Where the Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye." Mockett's family owns a Buddhist temple located 25 miles from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant in Japan. Her journey to Fukushima and dialogue with tsunami survivors became this stunning new book. Reservations are recommended and a book sale and signing will be held afterward.
Info: Call (949) 548-2411 or email events@nbplfoundation.org.

'Legacy of Heart Mountain'
Screening
Orange, CA
Oct. 1; 7-9 p.m.
1 University Dr.
Price: Free
Chapman University is hosting a free showing of the Emmy Award-winning documentary "The Legacy of Heart Mountain." The documentary is about the imprisonment of Japanese Americans in incarceration camps during World War II, specifically Heart Mountain Camp in Wyoming. Toshi Ito, a Chapman alumna, will also be sharing his stories during the event.
Info: Call Stephanie Takaragawa at (714) 532-7771.

EDC

'Allegiance'
New York, NY
November 8
Longacre Theatre
220 W. 48th St.
George Takei's "Allegiance" is a dramatic musical that tells the story of siblings Sammy and Kei Kimura. Together, they face the challenges and struggles of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.
Info: Visit www.allegiance musical.com.

MDC

An Art Event and Musical Evening
Albuquerque, NM
Sept. 19; 5:30-9 p.m.
The National Hispanic Cultural Center at the Pete V. Domenici Education Center
1701 Fourth St. S.W.
Price: Free admission
Join the New Mexico JACL Chapter at the Art Event and Musical Event for an evening of entertainment, hors d'oeuvre and no-host bar. Come in and view the exhibits of local and internationally known artists. Specified pieces will support the NMJACL.
Info: Visit www.nmjacl.org or call (505) 883-5320.

2015 Aki Matsuri
Albuquerque, NM
Sept. 19; 5:30-9 p.m.
The National Hispanic Cultural Center
1701 Fourth St. S.W.
Price: Admission donation \$5; children 12 and under are free.
Enjoy a full day of cultural sharing, entertainment, Asian food, arts and crafts, gifts sales, free demonstrations and hands-on activities. Visit the informational booths, pick up free samples and get a free health screening. Be sure to dress up and participate in a cosplay parade.
Info: Visit www.nmjacl.org or call (505) 883-5320.

PNW

Al Sugiyama
Seattle, WA
Sept. 13
Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church
3001 24th Ave. S.
Come join the festivities and attend an appreciation event to recognize Al Sugiyama. The event is dedicated to celebrate the community leader, a Japanese American who has removed many barriers. No gifts please, and RSVP in advance.
Info: Call (206) 326-9042 or email thankyoual@aol.com.

2015 Fall Take-Out Bazaar
Portland, CA
Sept. 13; 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Nichiren Buddhist Temple
2025 S.E. Yamhill
Price: Bento prices vary
Support the Nichiren Buddhist Temple this year by purchasing a bento from the 2015 Fall Take-Out Bazaar. A chow mein and chicken bento is \$12 and chow mein, chicken and sushi bentos are \$15. Please make checks payable to the Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple. Proceeds will benefit the temple.
Info: Call (503) 232-8064.

20th Annual Japanese American New Year Celebrations
Mochitsuki
Portland, WA
Jan. 31
Portland State University
1825 S.W. Broadway
Portland's annual Japanese New Year celebration has been going on since 1996. The goal of Mochitsuki is to celebrate tradition by sharing Japanese and Japanese American culture. Portland welcomes all to join the celebration.
Info: Visit www.mochipdx.org. ■

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.
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In Memoriam

Ariyasu, Chiyeko Maxine, 90; Los Angeles, CA; Aug. 8; she was predeceased by her husband, Jim Masaru Ariyasu; son, Bruce Ariyasu; sister, Miyeko Wakano; she is survived by her sister, Masako Miyake; daughter-in-law, Beverly Ariyasu; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 1.

Asaoka, Yoshimi, 84, Los Angeles, CA; June 22; she is survived by her husband, Masaki Asaoka; sisters-in-law, Toshiko Komatsu, Tamiko Shiji and Ayako Nunotani; brother-in-law, Masato Yoshihara; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Egusa, Morey Moryuki, 95, Stockton, CA; Aug. 20; he was predeceased by his wife, Michie, and son, Don; he is survived by his sons, Bob (Jeane) and Jay; sister, Mutsumi Hada; gc: 2.

Fukuda, Milton Masato, 87, Gardena, CA; July 28; he was incarcerated at Gila River and Jerome; he was also a Navy veteran; he was predeceased by his wife, Michiko.

Fujimoto, Ayako Gloria, 85, Torrance, CA; July 23; she is survived by her husband, Samuel Fujimoto; children, Steven (Joyce), Lori and Jon (Victoria) Fujimoto; sisters: Kyoko Tanaka, Miyoko Oku and Nancy Nishi; sister-in-law, Ruth Kobayashi; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Hata, Mae, 73, Los Angeles, CA; July 22; she was predeceased by her parents, Fumiko and Sunao Nishio; brother, Mike Nishio; brother-in-law, Ronald Muramoto; she is survived by her husband, Norman Kazuo Hata; son, Randy (Lisa) Hata; daughter, Audrey Hata; siblings, Norman and Stan Nishio, Joann Muramoto, Victor and Richie Nishio; sister-in-law, Aileen Nishio; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

Higa, Kiyotaka, 83, Anaheim, CA; Aug. 6; he is survived by his wife, Haruko; children, Scott (Susan), Ben and Megumi Higa; siblings, Yasuko, Kishimoto, Masanao, Michiko and Hitoshi (Yumiko); he is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Hiramatsu, Helen Yoshie, 86, Torrance, CA; July 28; she was predeceased by her husband, Tsutomu; she is survived by her sons, Neal and Warren (Kathleen)

Hiramatsu; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 1.

Hirashima, Robert Masato, 83, Woodland, CA; July 28; he was incarcerated at Tule Lake and was an Air Force veteran; he is survived by family and friends.

Joko, Tadashi, 80, Los Angeles, CA; July 13; he was predeceased by his son, Jack; he is survived by his wife, Doris; children, Michael (Yessenia) Joko, Susan (Gregg) Masada, Alex (Nicole) Joko; brother, Bob Joko; siblings-in-law, May (Dabo) Nagafuchi and Kazuki (Hiroko) Nakano; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 8.

Lam, John Ho-Sun, 82; Torrance, CA; Aug. 16; he is survived by his wife, Betty Lam; children, Derrick (Patricia) and Darin (Julie); gc: 4.

Lew Yamaguchi, Susan, 59, Northridge, CA; July 3; she is survived by her husband, Eugene Lew; sons, Kevin and Kyle Lew; mother, Kikuyo Yamaguchi; sisters, Marianne Yamaguchi and Grace (Allan) Mayemura; brother, Eugene (Sara) Yamaguchi; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Mayekawa, Glen Shizuo, 61, Los Angeles, CA; July 26; he is survived by his mother, Ethel Mayekawa; sister, Gwen Mayekawa.

Murata, Mikiko, 99, Chicago, IL; Aug. 30; she is survived by her siblings, Mary Miyake, Fusye Iyeki and Michihiko Hayashida; children, Margaret, Robert and Rex Murata; gc: 7; ggc: 6.

Ninomiya, Jack Katashi, 98; Long Beach, CA; June 10; he was predeceased by his parents, Risaburo Ninomiya and Yasuno Ugai Ninomiya; wife, Yaeko Irino Ninomiya; he is survived by his children, Sharon (Raymond Sugiyama), Marsha (John Willis) Shibley and Kathlyn Ninomiya; sister, June Inagi; he is also survived by many other relatives; gc: 2; ggc: 1.

Nishida, Ruth Ohmura, 82; Monterey Park, CA; July 22; she is survived by her children, David (Tina) Nishida, Douglas (Tia) Nishida, Karen (Chris Woschenko) Nishida; sister, Florence Dobashi; sister-in-law, Jean Ohmura; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 8.

Ohigashi, Toshiye, 92; Santa Monica, CA; June 28; she is

survived by her husband, Yutaka Ohigashi; son, Steven Ohigashi; brothers-in-law, Itsuto (Shizuko) and Mamoru (Tetsuko) Ohigashi; sister-in-law, Suemi Miyamoto; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 1.

Oshiro, Izumi, 79, Harbor City, CA; July 20; she is survived by her husband, Francis Oshiro; children, Naomi Naccari, Nina (Ramon) Valdillez, Nora Watanabe, Nikki (Kevin) Ueda, Anthony and Naccari; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 11; ggc: 4.

Sakai, Yoshie, 94, Arleta, CA; Aug. 17; she is survived by her sons, Philip (Melinda) and Dennis (Susana) Sakai; brother, Tatsuo (Fuji) Endo; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5; ggc: 9.

Sugita, Choye, 89, Fullerton, CA; Aug. 3; he is survived by his daughters, Sherrie (Robert) Henson, Susan Reed and Elyn (Steven) Mori; son, Craig Sugita; siblings, Akira Sugita and Takako Yamashiro; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Toji, Robert Kazunobu, 63; Los Angeles, CA; Aug. 9; he is survived by his wife, Suzanne Mayumi Toji; sons, Marcus Mamoru Toji, Jared and Kirk Kishikawa; siblings, Dean (Gisele) Toji, Suzanne (Michael) Tobin and Gail Finney; sister-in-law, Jamie (Tim) Hamano; brother-in-law, Ron (Geri) Totsubo; he is also survived by many other relatives.

Tamae, Grace Takeko, 84; Gardena, CA; Aug. 11; she is survived by her children, Vincent (Elaine) Tamae; sister, Yuriko Unten; brothers-in-law, Seiki (Yoko) and Robert (Lisa) Tamae; sisters-in-law, Clara Uyema and Betty (Seizu) Ganeku; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Tanikawa, Roy Keiji, 78, Irvine, CA; July 29; he is survived by his wife, Jean; he is also survived by other relatives and friends.

Tofukuji, Frank Takashi, 93; Gardena, CA; June 21; a veteran of WWII, he is survived by his wife, Sumiko Tofukuji; children, Dean (Laura), Warren (Carol) and Wayne (Marcia) Tofukuji; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 8.

Yamaji, Yasuo Johnny, 82, Los Angeles, CA; July 1; he is survived by many relatives in Japan.

Yoshida, Hiroko, 70; Los Angeles, CA; June 15; she is survived by her daughter,

Julie Yoshida; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Yoshinaga, George, 90; Los Angeles, CA; Aug. 17; longtime columnist for the *Rafu Shimpo*; he was predeceased by his son, Robin Joji; he is survived by his wife, Yoshiko Susie Yoshinaga; sons, Paul (Carey), Mark (Shuxia) and Tim (Mifumi) Yoshinaga; sister, Mary Mollie Hamasaki; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3. ■

TRIBUTE

TED T. IKEMOTO



Ted T. Ikemoto, 93, Franklin, TN; June 6; he was a former paratrooper serving the 11th Airborne Division; honorably discharged in 1946 with the 457th Parachute Field Artillery Division; former Salinas Valley JACL president; survived by his wife, Edith; children, Joanne Olson and Mariko Ikemoto; son-in-law, Stan Olson, grandson, Jon Olson; brother, sisters, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

He is laid to rest at Yamato Cemetery in Salinas, CA.

A memorial service to honor and celebrate his life is to be held at Lincoln Avenue Presbyterian Church in Salinas on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015, at 11 a.m.

DR. KAWORU CARL NOMURA



Dr. Kaworu Carl Nomura, age 93, born in a boxcar on April 13, 1922, near Deer Lodge, MT, died at home on July 25, 2015, in Port Townsend, WA. He was preceded in death by his parents, Kazuichi Nomura and Mizuko Takahashi Nomura, three brothers, two half-sisters and his wife of 49 years, Louise Takeda Nomura.

During WWII, he was incarcerated at Manzanar. He served in the Army and later earned three degrees in physics from the University of Minnesota, specializing in

Physics of the Solid State.

After 33 years at Honeywell, Carl retired as a corporate senior vice president. The University of Minnesota granted him the Outstanding Achievement Award for his visionary leadership.

He is survived by four children (Kathi, Teri, John, David) and eight grandchildren. He is also survived by his ex-wife, friend Karen Buggs and two sisters, Yoshiko Hasegawa and Ayako Machida.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis on Sept. 6, 2015, at 2 p.m. Memorials preferred to QUUF, 2333 San Juan Ave, Port Townsend, WA 98368.

PLACE A TRIBUTE

'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch. Contact: tiffany@pacificcitizen.org or call (213) 620-1767

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HISTORY >> continued from page 2

Lynching is, at its core, a more intimate, localized form of terrorism. All public killings are designed to demonstrate a clear marker of permanent penalty: "If you resist our empire, we will make an example of you."

The first-century lynching of Jesus of Nazareth by political leaders in Roman-occupied Palestine (on the charge of insurrectionism!) certainly stands in this tradition. Likewise, labor leader Katsu Goto had one body, but he was crucified to terrorize a populace, ravaged because *haole* plantation owners feared his mounting influence would empower their exploited workers.

This ritual spans both geography and century. Eighteen Chinese Americans were strung up along Los Angeles' "Nigger Alley" in 1871 because white city dwellers wanted to stem further Asian immigration, fearing the encroachment of "yellow bodies" and the economic power, Eastern magick and deviant sexualities they were said to carry.

Vincent Chin was murdered in 1982 by disgruntled whites who, blaming Japan for Detroit's failing auto industry, wanted to physically inscribe their anger on a body they saw as foreign.

In recent years, white supremacist assassins have orchestrated racial terror in Oak Creek, Chapel Hill and Charleston for similar reasons, killing persons in an attempt to subjugate a people. Abroad, children and religious minorities have been crucified throughout the territories occupied by Daesh, and on Aug. 19, the group beheaded and publically hanged an 82-year-old Syrian antiquities scholar to intimidate others who would work with "infidels."

A historical perspective reminds us that terrorism is not only carried out by lynch mobs, lone gunmen or fledgling caliphates. Well-established, powerful states, too, can choose to terrorize, manufacturing massive civilian deaths, shock and fear to achieve political goals.

Indeed, the kindling of atomic fires in Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the dawn of the Cold War — actions consistently informed by state-sanctioned racist and debasing teachings about Japanese sub-humanity — must be acknowledged as violent relics in this same tradition.

Dr. Fumiko Kaya is a *hibakusha*, one of hundreds of thousands of civilians who survived the opening of hell's mouth on Aug. 6, 1945. In her biography of *Kepani* lynching victim Katsu Goto, she writes of her pilgrimage to Goto's place of death: "When I first visited my uncle's grave and found it broken in 1965, I asked Mr. Ukichi Kuramitsu to restore it."

Twenty years after the bomb fell, Kaya traced her uncle's fateful journey from Japan to Hawai'i, where she met with my great-grandfather in the town where Goto lived, prospered and hung.

Ukichi, a popular mechanic, community leader and president of Honoka'a's Buddhist Temple, invested in the project and rallied the community in support. He led



This picture was taken at a ceremony celebrating Katsu Goto's restored monument in Hawaii. Seated are Kuramitsu's grandfather (far left) and great-grandparents Ukichi and Nobu (far right).

volunteers in the task of restoring Katsu's broken grave by physically incarnating the memory of Goto in a public work.

Volunteers mounted a towering shrine in his name and crafted a monument whose ingredients traverse the Pacific, intentionally highlighting the connection our two island lands share: Builders used Hawaiian *Ohi'a* (Pele's sacred wood), volcanic rock, stones from Hiroshima, *Hinoki* (Japanese cypress) and Japanese blue-tiled roof to uniquely capture the cross-Pacific impact of this young man's death.

In Hawai'i, we enshrine our lost in marble tombs, send them off on floating lanterns, seal them in boxes of pine and concrete. They are sustained in bronze, in sculpture, in shroud, in myth and glory, in peace poles and at Punchbowl's burial grounds. We light incense, spark flames, trace their likenesses in stone, wood and stained glass; we erect landmarks in their name, leave mochi at their graves, ink the anniversary of their deaths on our body's largest organ.

These visible markers all exist to point us to deeper, invisible truths: In a very real way, those who have been extinguished are, through our lives, still living. The crucified peoples of history — in Honoka'a, Hiroshima, Syria and beyond — are remembered not only in physical monuments but also in the ways they continue to shape our lives. As one *hibakusha* recently recounted, "It's our duty as survivors to carry on for as long as possible, to honor the memory of those who are no longer with us."

We write on our hearts the names of those who have been lynched, and something is stirred to life within us. We triumph over forces that dehumanize and terrorize when we reject the paralysis of silence, when we boldly celebrate the lives of people like Kenji, Katsu and Fumiko, marshaling their memory into common action.

Ryan Kenji Kuramitsu is the JACL MDC Youth Representative.

WORK >> continued from page 3

5. Know Who You Can Talk to. Know who you can talk to at work and also which organizations you can talk to outside of work. Your immediate supervisor and your Human Resources department should be the only people you're sharing sensitive information with. If you don't see results by talking with them, then seek help outside of your workplace.

6. If You're a Woman, Things Can Be Even More Difficult for You. Even if it's not a direct form of discrimination, many women have faced some form of inequity in the workplace. This can be

in the form of assigning responsibilities, which influences promotions, pay and job classification. Respect yourself and learn how to advocate for yourself. You deserve it!

7. WORK HARD! Give it all you got. As I said, your actions are a reflection of your character, so don't slack. Only from working hard will you have the confidence to succeed at any task in life.

Rhianna Taniguchi is an account executive at the Denver Post. She was the 2014 JACL Norman Y. Mineta Fellow.

DAY >> continued from page 3

In New Hampshire, the nation's first primary state, Trump is by far the most popular Republican nominee, and he is slated to win 35 percent of the vote in the state, according to a survey published by Public Policy Polling on Aug. 25. Bush is in fourth place, with 7 percent of the vote.

These two are no lunatic sidewalk preachers, shaking their fists at empty air. They have an audience now, and people are listening. Trump and Bush are trying to win hearts and minds right now, and as many as possible. And the fact that they think vehement xenophobia will win them over is more telling of the state of the American public than it is of the two men doing the talking.

Both Europeans and Americans are terrified of what immigrants might bring with them. In America, undocumented immigrants are frequently associated with crime, drugs and disease; in Europe, it is much of the same, plus the added threat of extremists repatriating after stints in the legions of ISIS and Al-Qaeda.

Everyone is afraid of what immigrants will bring into their own countries. But is anyone afraid of what they would bring out, if we kicked out all of the undocumented immigrants in the U.S. and in Hungary and Germany and the rest of Europe?

Our lifestyles hinge on the continued existence of a certain class of people desperate enough for work to do literally anything — cleaning toilets, washing dishes, picking

crops, weeding gardens. Without them, the most unsavory, most unenviable tasks will go undone. It is curious to think that we have constructed so elaborate a society on so unstable a foundation, a foundation without recognized rights, a foundation that is often dehumanized and abused by those whose stable footing in life rests on the very backs of those they vilify.

Without undocumented immigrants, the kitchens of our finest, most glamorous restaurants would be overflowing with unwashed dishes and cutlery; without undocumented immigrants, those same kitchens would have precious little food to cook with in the first place.

Just a few weeks ago, in my hometown of Arcadia, Calif., I saw a Help Wanted sign hanging in the window of a restaurant. It read, in English, "Servers and Hosts Needed." Below were the words "Necesito Lavaplatos." *Dishwashers Needed.*

We depend upon undocumented immigrants now, for better or for worse. Everyone's so worried about what immigrants could bring into this country. Imagine what they could bring out of it.

Matthew Ormseth is currently a student at Cornell University majoring in English. He seeks to give an honest portrayal of life as both a university student and member of the Millennial generation.



Completed in 1791, the Brandenburg Gate was closed during the city's partition into Communist east and Capitalist west until the Berlin Wall was torn down in 1989. It was visited by Ronald Reagan in 1987, when he famously implored Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down the wall.