NEVER FORGET
San Diego JACL hosts a gala honoring Nisei veterans and their lasting legacy.

(Pictured) Former Staff Sgt. Frank M. Wada, who served in the 442nd/100th Regimental Combat Team during World War II, was an honored guest at the San Diego Gala.

>> Page 6

NPS Now Accepting Applications for Grant Program. Page 2

Getty Museum Opens New Ishiuchi Miyako Exhibition. Page 7

JACLers Speak at RAICES Conference in Texas. Page 9
WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Park Service is now accepting applications for $3 million in grants to preserve and interpret U.S. confinement sites and other locations where more than 120,000 Japanese Americans were imprisoned during World War II.

The deadline for applications is Tuesday, Nov. 10.

“Telling the difficult stories of our nation’s history, along with its successes, is an important responsibility of the National Park Service, and preserving the experiences of Japanese Americans imprisoned during World War II is one of those important but challenging stories that must be told,” NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis said. “These grants support projects that are vivid reminders of the continuing need to guard the constitutional rights of all Americans against injustice, prejudice and fear.”

Congress established the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program in 2006 to preserve and explain the places where more than 40 other sites, including “assembly centers” and U.S. Army and Department of Justice detention and internment facilities.

For more information, including the 2016 application materials, visit http://www.nps.gov/jacs/.
A MOTHER’S TAKE
COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

By Marsha Aizumi

With the Supreme Court ruling in favor of same-sex marriage for all states this year, the JACL delegate voting in favor of an emergency resolution to be a “vibrant ally” to the transgender community in July and Caitlin Jenner bringing transgender visibility to the forefront, you would think that as a mother of a transgender son, I would feel overjoyed to know that the world is moving in the right direction of equality for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community.

While I celebrate these victories and applaud all the work that is being done, there are still reasons for me to be scared for Aiden’s future. One of them is a California initiative called the “Personal Privacy Protection Act.”

If this initiative becomes law and a transgender person doesn’t use a bathroom in accordance with their biological sex, then the law puts a civil bounty of no less than $4,000, plus attorney’s fees, for that “willful violation” in the use of public bathrooms. I shudder to think of this becoming law because many years ago, Aiden had to endure the embarrassment of being handicapped by mall security with plastic ties because he went into the female restroom, and women thought he was a guy.

This was at a time when he was still identifying as female. From that time on, I am sure that he never felt safe in the women’s restroom. Once he even told me when a woman glared at him as he walked into the women’s restroom, he pulled up his T-shirt to prove he was in the right place. After Aiden transitioned to be male and began to use the men’s restroom, he hasn’t had to endure the humiliation of these types of incidences.

Now, where would my son feel safe if this initiative becomes the law? If he goes into the restroom of his biological sex, I have no doubt that he will be harassed and humiliated once again. There is no way that he will be seen as female.

Going into the men’s restroom, there is a possibility that a civil bounty of no less than $4,000, plus attorney’s fees, will be placed upon him. It is a no-win situation that could only bring the potential of physical harm to my son.

So, what are some possible solutions?

One solution would be to have designated gender-neutral bathrooms. This would be a bathroom that can be used by anyone. When I have used a gender-neutral bathroom, I know there might be men in there. Perhaps the first few times, it felt strange to me. I was not used to it. Now, I don’t think anything of it. I remember watching a television program called “Ally McBeal” and going to a trendy restaurant in Chicago — both had co-ed bathrooms. I thought it was kind of hip and fun. I wasn’t afraid.

Not all bathrooms have to be gender neutral, but having a few makes it easier for individuals, especially transgender individuals, to feel safe. It doesn’t cost a lot of money to make a bathroom gender neutral. I have attended conferences where they have just slapped on signs that say “Gender Neutral.” My husband replaced a women’s bathroom sign with one that showed both males and females could use it. The cost was minimal.

A YONSEI TRANSPPLANTED
DO YOUR HOMEWORK

By Matthew Omnes

When Duke University freshman Brian Grasso learned that the book assigned for his summer reading project grappled with themes of sexual identity, parenthood and finding the courage to be the person you know yourself to be, he did what we would expect any decent, 18-year-old kid in the US of A to do: he refused to read it, and he took to Facebook to call foul, naturally.

However, the validity of Grasso’s claim that the book is “immoral,” as he went on to state in an opinion piece for the Washington Post in the wake of the controversy, is beside the point.

Christian moralizing does not disturb me. Attempts at censorship — “Fun Home” was removed from a city library in Missouri, the University of Utah and the College of Charleston — do not disturb me either. In the digital age, so long as people want to read a particular book, they’ll be able to get their hands on it.

What disturbs me about the Grasso case is that it’s the perfect distillation of an attitude so pervasive among my generation — an attitude of absolute self-assurance, marked by the total absence of that quivering question: What if I might be wrong? This self-certainty seems unchecked because, as Grasso so aptly demonstrated, we refuse to read anything that might tell us we are.

It would be one thing if Grasso had read “Fun Home” before objecting to its depiction of a lifestyle that he considers immoral — only Grasso didn’t even read the book. Grasso claims he looked up a summary of the book online, which is where he learned of, in his own words, the memoir’s “pornographic nature.” And so rather than actually opening up his own copy of “Fun Home” and determining the morality or immorality of Bechdel’s memoir for himself, he kept it shut — and his mind shut, too.

I’m going after Grasso, but I’m guilty of the same crime. I’m going after Grasso, but I’m guilty of the same crime, in a way. We all are.

We look for sources of information that tell us that we’re right — articles, essays, the dialogues of particular politicians — because we can’t stand being wrong. And in some ways, the diversification of the media has pandered to our self-certainty.

Most news agencies now cater to a particular clientele. Comprehensive newspapers and news stations that count both the religions and the religious, both conservatives and liberals alike among their ranks, the kind of institutions that can hold contrasting points of view simultaneously without impeding a great few and far between.

So now, many of us patronize bookmarked news sites that slant decidedly in our favor, we turn the TV off when a political we don’t like is speaking; we scroll through our Twitter feeds for news, which contain only the thoughts of people whom we made a conscious decision to follow.

>> See CONVERSATIONS on page 12

>> See HOMEWORK on page 12
Four Keiro Facilities Set to Be Sold for $41 Million to Pacifica Companies

LOS ANGELES — Four Keiro facilities — Keiro Retirement Home and Keiro Intermediate Care Facility in Boyle Heights, Keiro Nursing Home in Lincoln Heights and South Bay Keiro Nursing Home in Gardena — are set to be sold to Pacifica Companies for $41 million; escrow is set to close early next year.

Last week, Keiro and Pacific formally agreed upon conditions approved by the Attorney General. Conditions of the sale require Pacifica to operate the facilities for the next five years in the way Keiro has provided, including its handling of policies and insurance, resident care, Japanese cultural services and number of beds.

Keiro Senior HealthCare will continue to operate as a nonprofit organization. Representatives of the organization say it will use the net profit of the sale, about $37 million, to expand its program to educate the Japanese American community about aging.

Pacifica Companies is a for-profit real estate company based in San Diego. It owns hotels and housing in the U.S., Mexico and India, as well as operates 55 senior facilities in 14 states.

ABC Reaches a Historic High for Featuring 18 Asian Regulars in Its Fall Season

The Asian Pacific American Media Coalition announced Sept. 17 that ABC will feature a historic high 18 Asian regulars on its new fall primetime schedule.

The previous record of 16, held by NBC, was reached during the 2007-08 season.

Joining returning shows "Fresh Off the Boat" and "Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." will be "Dr. Ken," starring Ken Jeong and Suzy Nakamura, and "Quantico," starring Bollywood star Priyanka Chopra.

"This marks a remarkable comeback for ABC," said Daniel M. Mayeda, co-chair of the APAMC. "This is a concrete example of the growing number of Asian scripts, actors and characters in the American television landscape. It is a testament to the hard work of both veteran and emerging Asian talent."
LEARNING HOW TO SAY GOODBYE
Author Marie Mutski Mockett reflects on a nation’s mourning and takes a personal journey to Japan through her latest book.

By P.C. Staff

The Newport Beach Public Library Foundation welcomed author Marie Mutski Mockett on Sept. 24 to speak about her new book, "Where the Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye." Several years after her father died unexpectedly, Mockett found herself in a dark place, and she turned to Japan for closure.

Mockett’s family owned a Buddhist temple located 25 miles from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. In March 2011, the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan devastated the surrounding community. As Japan mourned the thousands of people lost in the disaster, Mockett begged her cousin, the temple’s priest, to leave, but he refused. In his response, he told her that he needed to stay to take care of the souls of the community’s ancestors.

The author’s personal journey to Fukushima began as a way to start a dialogue with tsunami survivors. The narrative in her newest book follows her into the homes of tsunami survivors and into temples, where she spent hours in meditation and discovery.

In a recent NPR interview with Melissa Block, Mockett found comfort in mourning, saying that “of course, grief is special and private, and everyone’s grief is unique, and the person that we have lost is unique. But there are all of these wonderful traditions, which take individual pain like that and cast it against the backdrop of human suffering.”

Where the "Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye" also looks at traditions like paper lanterns in honor of the dead, or Toro nagashi. The tradition is often carried on during Obon, a period in August when the spirits of one’s ancestors return home. During this time one can go to temples or locations to purchase a paper lantern to write-down the name of those they have lost. From there, people can visit a river or ocean and place the lantern on the water to be carried away by the current.

Mockett also visited Mount Doom during her time in Japan, and she recounts her journey in the book. Considered one of Japan’s most sacred places, Mount Doom sits in the northern region of Japan and is an extinguished volcano. It was Mount Doom that was the inspiration for Mockett’s title, a river, Sanza-no-Kawa, runs from the lake through the mountain before emptying into the ocean. Many stories originate from the river, as it was thought to carry the souls of the dead seen walking along the river through Mount Doom before passing. There they slip into the underworld and is considered the last place to say goodbye.

The Library Journal also gave the book a review as “Mockett mixes memoir, travelogue and a study of the sociology of death to look at how the unique character of Japanese spirituality helps individuals and the nation cope with loss....This illuminating journey through loss, faith and perspective will appeal to both readers of Pico Iyer and current nonfiction.”

FORMER JACL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER PUBLIShes MEMOIR

Diana Morita Cole publishes ‘Sideways: Memoir of a Misfit’


“Sideways” chronicles the childhood of a Japanese American born a prisoner in Minidoka after her family was expelled from Hood River, Ore., in 1942. As Cole set out to research and write her memoir, she was amazed to discover the depths of anger Japanese people experienced during the war. “It was a really mind-blowing experience to realize that this wasn’t just unique to my country and to my family, but it was happening throughout the Pacific Rim,” Cole told the Nelson Star in a recent interview. “I would be misrepresenting myself if I said I’m not angry, but one has to channel that anger into something productive. I’m trying to achieve some form of transcendence, of self-understanding, but I also want to add to the literature that examines the displacement, imprisonment and resettlement of the Nikkei in the Americas.”

According to Morita Nakagawa of the Archives of the University of California, Los Angeles, “Sideways” shatters any myth that newborn babies and children were unscathed by their unlawful imprisonment inside American concentration camps during World War II. [Cole]’s amusing and piercing revelations about the exile and resettlement of the Morita family are a welcome addition to the history of the Japanese Americans. Cole’s book concludes with a soaring anthem to the Japanese-Canadian experience.”

Cole’s story begins inside her mother’s womb, where she overhears the internment camp doctor speculate that her 44-year-old mother may not survive childbirth. “Luckily, I, a mere fetus at the time, had big ears, so I turned a somersault in utero — one of my rare moments of grace — and my 44-year-old mother survived,” said Cole.

Rita Takahashi, professor of social work and gerontology at San Francisco State University, said, “Sideways: Memoir of a Misfit” is about imprisonment — based only on ancestry — and resettlement. It is the very portal through which we view the kikiden aspects of three important cultural icons: William Hohri, who led a massive class-action lawsuit against the United States; Iva Toguri, who was convicted of treason and subsequently pardoned; and Roy Miki, who was born in exile in Canada.”

The first chapter in “Sideways” was published in the New Orphic Review and shortlisted in the Open-Season Competition of the Makahat Review creative nonfiction category for 2013. Cole’s book was also nominated for the Pushcart Prize Anthology for 2015.

In addition to her writing career, Cole, who has lived in Canada for more than 40 years, has initiated projects to help diminish racism and foster justice, peace and environmental awareness. She is also the founder of the Seventh World, an association of biracial couples that created a writing contest for London Ontario K-12 children to promote racial harmony. This program has since been implemented in several other communities throughout western Canada.

Cole currently resides in Nelson, British Columbia.

For more information on how to order “Sideways: Memoir of a Misfit," email info@diasporapress.net or visit www.diasporapress.net.
SAN DIEGO VOWS TO NEVER FORGET

The City of San Diego proclaims Sept. 19 as ‘Never Forget’ Day during the San Diego JACL gala, which also honored Nisei Veterans and commemorated the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII.

By Tiffany Ujiye, Assistant Editor

C

illed wine glasses and spirits tapped one another throughout a special evening dedicated to the 100th and 422nd Regimental Combat Team, the Military Intelligence Service and Nisei veterans of World War II and their families. All were gathered at the Marriott Mission Valley on Sept. 19 as the San Diego Japanese American Citizens League presented “Never Forget,” a gala commemorating the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII. Also featured was a special preview of Lane Nishikawa’s newest documentary “Never Forget.”

Special recognition was given not only to the Nisei veterans who served during WWII but also to the San Diego JACL, as the chapter was presented a proclamation from the City of San Diego proclaiming Sept. 19 as “Never Forget” Day.

“We give thanks for the Nisei generation and those who served our generation so well,” said San Diego City Councilmember Chris Cate, who gave the proclamation for Mayor Kevin Faulconer. “Remembering the Japanese Americans and never forgetting that history and generation is critical.”

The proclamation comes after a longstanding partnership between the Asian American community in San Diego and local politicians. San Diego JACL worked with then-Assemblyman Marty Block when Block was the primary co-sponsor of the Assembly Bill that created Fred Korematsu Day in California.

“I know that San Diego’s entire Asian American community is very proud to have a Filipino American on our City Council,” Former JACL National President and current Pacific Southwest District Governor David Kawamoto said. “We are extremely grateful to State Sen. Marty Block for the wonderful proclamation he provided for our gala.”

Actress Tamlyn Tomita and Lee Ann Kim, executive director of Pacific Arts Movement and a longtime news anchor for KGTV-10, warmly welcomed the evening’s attendees.

The gala also welcomed performances by Stacy Yamamoto-Squires, who sang the “Star-Spangled Banner,” and multiplatinum songwriter Harold Payne, who played “Quiet Heroes.”

“In 1990, the U.S. War Department estimates that we lose 1,100 World War II veterans each day. Tonight, we have 33 Nisei veterans represented by their families,” Kim said. “Veterans and their families included Joseph and Ernest Coz, George Furuya, Dr. Shigemi Hara, Fred M. Hashiguchi, Henry Hashiguchi, Leo Hashiguchi, Shigeru Hara, Toru Charles Iguchi, Masumi Iwatsuki, Harry Haro Kawamoto, Satoshi Kida, Yasuichi Jim Kimura, Minnon Koide, James Kondo, Koji Konishi, James Sukichi Matsunumo, Shigemori Moriyama, Thomas Nakai, Isamu Okamoto, Kiyoshi Okamoto, Nobori Sakaguchi, Fred Segawa, Harry Shinagawa, Roy Tadashi Someda, Abe Tsuchasa Takehara, Jack Tanabe, Joseph Tanabe, Robert Tanabe, Henry Taisi, Edward Ureta, Ted Tervo Wada, George Chiyoji Yano and Gichi Yoshikawa.

A moment of silence was given to the brave soldiers and their families, and a special recorded message from Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, was played. Adm. Harris is the first Asian American to achieve the rank of admiral and the highest-ranking Japanese American in the U.S. Armed Forces.

In keeping with the theme, JACL San Diego Chapter President Michael Kurima stressed the importance of the gala and to never forget that “the heroics of the 442 and the incarcinations we endured during the war may just be stories from a movie or a book to the younger generation.” He went on to say that the “gala and the documentary that Lane is putting together are pieces of a program that will help inform our children and our children’s children on the sacrifices our community has made and the bravery and allegiance that we have shown.”

Actor-activist George Takei also gave the veterans a special message from New York. “[My] spirit joins all of you at the gala, commemorating the end of the World War II. On both coasts there in San Diego and here in New York, we pay tribute to the veterans and support the courage,” said Takei.

>> See SAN DIEGO on page 8
Japanese photographer Ishiuchi Miyako in a new exhibition, "E A LIGHT THROUGH THE BLACK AND WHITE" by Alissa Hiraga, Contributor

Elements of violation, loss and redemption are at play in Ishiuchi Miyako's grainy black-and-white photographs. If these photographs eerily manage to stir a sense of familiarity within us, perhaps it's because these elements are not unlike what we attempt to confront and reconcile in our own lives.

These works introduce us to a fascinating artist, and now, the general public will get an inside look into her work in a new exhibit entitled "Ishiuchi Miyako: Postwar Shadows" at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Getty Center, in Los Angeles. The exhibit, which is set to run from Oct. 6-Feb. 21, 2016, features more than 120 photographs that represent the evolution of the artist's career, from her landmark series "Yokosuka Story" (1976-77) that established her as a photographer to her current project "Hiroshima" (2007-present) in which she presents images of garments and objects that survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

"About eight years ago, the Getty Museum began a concerted effort to expand our East Asian photography holdings and since that time work by Japanese photographers has become an important part of the collection," explained Timothy Fbtts, director of the J. Paul Getty Museum. "As part of this effort, the museum acquired 37 photographs by Ishiuchi, many of them gifts of the artist, which constitute the largest holdings of her work outside Japan."

"Ishiuchi's captivating career began fortuitously, when she received photographic equipment as a gift in 1975. Born as Fujikura Yoko (Ishiuchi adopted her mother's maiden name) in 1947 postwar Japan, she would emerge from the male-dominated photography world and create powerful works from the spirit of the female perspective.

"I feel that the exhibition of my personal photographs in America is a very meaningful event. Thanks to this, I have been able to express the inextricable connection between the times I have lived through and the history of war in Japan," said Ishiuchi. "I do not wish for viewers to get any particular message from my photographs. There are no captions, and I am happy if viewers think of my works in their own individual words, linger before my photographs, look at them carefully and feel something."

As Ishiuchi Miyako explained, "I do not wish for viewers to get any particular message from my photographs. There are no captions, and I am happy if viewers think of my works in their own individual words, linger before my photographs, look at them carefully and feel something."

"Recognition that this approach informs her choice of subject and the emotional contexts of her photographs makes the work that much more powerful," said Maddox.

Ishiuchi's first major series, "Yokosuka Story," focuses on the "effect of America in Japan, Japan in America." The disturbing byproduct and symbol of war and occupation is an American naval base in Yokosuka.

The postwar experience is a dominant theme in Ishiuchi's works.

"I began taking photographs out of a desire to measure my own footsteps, to turn my memories into photos," said Ishiuchi. "I started with landscapes of Yokosuka, the city where I grew up. I printed images of the painful experiences of my youth, from ages 6-19, in photographs. These became my first three works, 'Yokosuka Story,' 'Apartment' and 'Endless City Nights.' As part of the first generation of baby boomers born after the war, my personal history is, of course, intertwined with the history of war in Japan."

The photographer's "On the Body" series focuses on the human body undergoing the natural aging process and the scars caused by injury and trauma. In describing how the series was born, Ishiuchi discovered an important link to her previous works.

"When I turned 40, I began to feel that my hands and feet bore the traces of 40 years of time, and beginning with "I+1," my interest turned to the body," Ishiuchi said.

"Scars" is a series about physical scars. Scars are proof that one is alive, giving form to the past and embodying memory.

While photographing "Scars," Ishiuchi realized that her debut work, "Yokosuka Story," was about the scar of the city and the scar of history because this city is inextricably linked with war.

"Yokosuka developed into 'Hiroshima.' All these works are on the same line of development."

The series also portrays the rekindling of a mother and daughter relationship.

"Ishiuchi photographed her camera-shy mother for three separate series, 'Body and Air,' 'Scars' and 'Mother's,' all of which will be featured in the exhibition," observed Maddox. "Through these various projects, Ishiuchi found that photography allowed her to forge a stronger relationship with her mother, someone whom she never felt particularly close to. Their collaboration in photographs revealed in works produced before and after her mother's death, enabled Ishiuchi to understand her mother's complexities in greater depth."

Ishiuchi's current project "Hiroshima," shown for the first time in an American institution, features images of garments and objects remaining after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. A watch, blouse, gloves — we've all possessed and treasured such things. Images of these objects, broken and no longer in possession by their owners, won't soon leave the mind or heart. One such image is of that of the tattered blouse worn by a mother who was holding her one-month-old daughter when the atomic bomb was dropped. Seventy years later, these objects endure to remind us that we are not far from one another.

Ishiuchi's works are also a visual journal, where we are privy to witnessing a journey from a single point in time. Her photographs reveal images of garments and objects remaining after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. A watch, blouse, gloves — we've all possessed and treasured such things. Images of these objects, broken and no longer in possession by their owners, won't soon leave the mind or heart. One such image is that of the tattered blouse worn by a mother who was holding her one-month-old daughter when the atomic bomb was dropped. Seventy years later, these objects endure to remind us that we are not far from one another.

Ishiuchi's works are also a visual journal, where we are privy to witnessing a journey from a single point in time. Her photographs reveal images of garments and objects remaining after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. A watch, blouse, gloves — we've all possessed and treasured such things. Images of these objects, broken and no longer in possession by their owners, won't soon leave the mind or heart. One such image is that of the tattered blouse worn by a mother who was holding her one-month-old daughter when the atomic bomb was dropped. Seventy years later, these objects endure to remind us that we are not far from one another.

>> See BLACK AND WHITE on page 8
**CONVERSATIONS >> continued from page 7**

**Exhibition Information**

"Ishiuchi Miyako: Postwar Shadows" is on view at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Getty Center, from Oct. 6, 2015, to February 21, 2016. An English-language, fully illustrated scholarly catalog complements the exhibition and contains essays by Maddox, poet Elinor Wylie, and Mikiyama Takahisa, professor at the University of California, Berkeley. The catalog also contains a comprehensive chronology of Ishiuchi's life and career.

A conversation between Ishiuchi and Christopher Phillips, curator at the International Center of Photography in New York, will take place on Oct. 7, 2015, at the Getty Center. The Center for Photography is concurrently presenting "The Younger Generation: Contemporary Japanese Photography," which features the works of five contemporary women.

For more information, visit www.getty.edu.

**SAN DIEGO >> continued from page 6**

Howard On, field representative of Congressman Scott Peters, gave another proclamation to the San Diego JACL Chapter to "honor the past and look bravely into the legacy of our future on the city, state and federal level."

Among the evening's notable guests was "Allegiance" producer Wendy Gillespie, who made a special announcement: Attendees would receive a special discount for tickets to the play "Allegiance," starring Takei.

"Allegiance" is the highly anticipated play inspired by the true-life experience of its star, Takei, and is scheduled to premiere on Broadway this fall. Gillespie asked guests to also support "Sponsor a Student" (www.inspirechangebroadway.org), which allows young students to watch the historical play.

JACL National President David Lin also gave a special message:

"It's a special pleasure to be here in beautiful San Diego. Thank you for having me here, and on behalf of JACL National, we extend a very warm welcome to the gala in commemoration of our Nisei veterans," said Lia. "Founded in 1929, JACL is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the U.S. JACL has always been in the forefront of championing the rights not just for Japanese Americans but all Americans. JACL San Diego has been doing an amazing job furthering the JACL mission."

Lia went on to give special thanks to David and Carol Kawamoto, Kinrimi and the San Diego Chapter's members and volunteers. JACL National representatives included JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ochida, Pacific Northwest District Governor Sheldon Arakaki, Pacific Southwest District Governor David Kawamoto and former National President Ken Inouye.

Local politician and honorary committee member in attendance that night included California State Sen. Marty Block; City of Coronado Mayor Casey Tanaka; San Diego County Board Supervisor Vice Chair Dave Roberts; Amina Pedraza, representative of Congresswoman Susan Davis; Lee Hernandez, senior field representative of California State Assembly Member Shirley Weber; Sal Against, chief of staff for Supervisor Ron Roberts; Honorary Council General for Japan in San Diego Kate Leonard; Arthur Nishikawa of Kyocera International; Wendy Urunashima of the Asia Business Association San Diego; and Gary Himaka of VFW Post 4851.

Kinrimi also thanked his chapter and the great sponsors who provided support for both the evening's gala and the "Never Forget" documentary. The Pacific Southwest District JACL Trust Fund Grant and the National JACL Legacy Fund Grant were major supporters.

The decision our Nisei soldiers made over seven decades ago paved the way for Japanese and Asian Americans, and we are still feeling the effect today," Nishikawa said. While the gala was for only one evening, Nishikawa's "Never Forget" continues production to inform and educate the children and grandchildren of the Nisei soldiers. "They are becoming the Nisei soldier's voice," he said. "They will never forget."

**Polaris Tours 2015 Schedule**

| Oct. 08 - Oct. 19 | Jewels of Morocco: "Casablanca, Fez, Marrakech, Marrakech" |
| Oct. 19 - Nov. 02 | South Korea (West Coast): "Jeju, Gyeongju, Gyeongju, Jeonju" |
| Nov. 01 - Nov. 11 |lando of Okinawa & Shikoku: "Naha, Takamatsu, Matsumoto, Kochi" |
| Nov. 30 - Dec. 10 | Southern Italy: "Palo to di Lin, Naples, Rome, Florence, Venice, Amalfi Coast, Pompeii" |

Polaris Tours 2015 Schedule

Oct. 08 - Oct. 19: Jewels of Morocco: "Casablanca, Fez, Marrakech, Marrakech"
Oct. 19 - Nov. 02: South Korea (West Coast): "Jeju, Gyeongju, Gyeongju, Jeonju"
Nov. 01 - Nov. 11:lando of Okinawa & Shikoku: "Naha, Takamatsu, Matsumoto, Kochi"
Nov. 30 - Dec. 10: Southern Italy: "Palo to di Lin, Naples, Rome, Florence, Venice, Amalfi Coast, Pompeii"

**JACL Launches "Shopping for Long-Term Care Insurance? Don't know whom to trust?"**

With so many places to shop for long-term care coverage, how do you decide what’s best for you?

**Start shopping from the source you can trust.**

**Call toll-free 1-800-358-3795 today.**

**Or visit www.jaclinsurance.com**

As a JACL member, you don’t have to worry. That’s because JACL has partnered with Mercer Consumer, a service of Mercer Health & Benefits Administration LLC, to bring you affordable and customizable long-term care coverage. It’s available to you, your spouse, your parents and your parent’s parent.

When you call the Long-Term Care Call Center at 1-800-358-3795, you’ll get the fastest service you deserve from a licensed IIC planning specialist.

Your IIC Specialist will...

- Provide personalized one-on-one service
- Offer needs-based analysis based on your personal situation and budget
- Help guide you through the long-term care buying process
- Custom-tailor a plan for you
- What’s more, you’ll never be pressured to buy and you’re never under any obligation.

**MERCE**

CA Ins. Lic. #0G39709
AR Ins. Lic. #100102691
In CA d/b/a Mercer Health & Benefits Insurance Services LLC
69617/69111 (8/15) Copyright 2015 Mercer LLC. All rights reserved
RAICES CONFERENCE ON 'THE NEW AMERICAN: INTERNMENT CAMPS' Features JACLers

The nonprofit organization welcomes JACLers to speak at its two-day event.

The conference's theme, "The New American: Internment Camps — A Closer Look at 'Family Detention,'" at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas, on Sept. 4-5, and among its invited speakers were several JACL members from across the country.

Approximately 100 attendees representing faith groups, academics, immigration activists, community groups — all those interested in helping immigrant detainees — participated in the two-day conference, which was hosted by RAICES Executive Director Jonathan Ryan.

The conference's theme drew comparisons of World War II Nikkei incarceration and present-day refugee detention, conference organizers invited JACL speakers to participate in it.

The conference's first panel addressed the historical perspective of family incarceration, which featured Hiro Nishikawa from the Philadelphia JACL Speaker's Bureau.

Using slides of archival photos from Poston, Ariz., where he was incarcerated as a 4-year-old child, Nishikawa showed what life was like inside the camp. Images of bath facilities, the infirmary, baseball field, barracks and other pictures depicting everyday life were shown, and Nishikawa also provided commentary on the trauma and impact on family dynamics that life in camp had on its occupants.

"As a 5-year-old kid suffering from childhood diarrhea in the summer of 1943 in a Poston, Ariz., barrack, I could not imagine attending a conference about detention of women and children refugees in Texas in 60-plus-degree weather in 2015. Despite the passage of eight decades, Carl Takei’s descriptions of the inside of Dilley detention center made me remember ‘scratching away,’ Nishikawa recollected. ‘Dr. Satsuki Ina’s discussion on the ‘trauma of captivity’ made me remember hearing as a kid, the word ‘mnescia’ — because Mr. So and So (an older bachelor) was found hanged by his neck from a rafter in his barracks room. The conference organizers were quite insightful in drawing parallels between the Nikkei WWII camp experience and the current detention of migrant refugees from Central America. The conclusion was: These facilities need to be closed down — soon.’

Given the misleading use of ‘internment’ by the U.S. government during WWII, the ‘Power of Words’ Handbook, published by the JACL, was also distributed to conference attendees to help them understand the history more precisely.

The event’s final panel focused on what happens to families behind bars. Satsuki Ina, a retired professor from California State University, Sacramento, and a psychotherapist in treating trauma, discussed the ‘trauma of captivity.’

As one born in Topaz, Utah, Ina pointed out that the trauma suffered by Nikkei during incarceration without legal justification has been seen in Central American women and children detained recently.

Ina also mentioned that today’s political and economic rationale to justify incarceration is adding insult to injury for those seeking protection from harm. She concluded by saying that seeking asylum is nota crime.

Ina, a member of lawyers fighting back with activism and community engagement, Carl Takei, a Yonsei staff attorney at the National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, shared his recent experience (May 2015) of visiting the Dilley, Texas, detention camp as part of a media and NGO team to interview mothers in detention.

Cameras were not allowed inside the detention center, and Takei commented on his frustration with the misleading images available to the Corrections Corp. of America, which owns and operates the Dilley facility. TheCCA images (pleasant, homelike settings) did not reflect the reality he saw inside the Dilley center. By showing his own hand-sketched drawings and photos of Minidoka barrack interiors, Takei conveyed his observations of Dilley.

He also stressed the importance of getting the voices of the detained mothers and children inside the center out to the world.

The conference concluded with multiple group discussions on how best attendees can take the lessons learned and proceed to the next steps of seeking action with lawyers, community activists and faith-based organizations.

In a statement released by JACL on June 4, "The Japanese American Citizens League renews its call on the Department of Homeland Security to end its family detention program that has led to the building of detention facilities for women and children in remote and desperate places such as Dilley and Karnes in Texas and Artesia in New Mexico."

The statement went on to mention that "last September, JACL joined with numerous organizations in condemning the opening of additional facilities used to detain families who fled violence in Central America seeking asylum in the United States. JACL questions this tactic of using detention to deter individuals from seeking asylum in the United States to escape violence."

— Hiro Nishikawa, Philadelphia Chapter

GOOD LUCK SOUP INTERACTIVE SET TO LAUNCH

The community storytelling project and interactive documentary focuses on the post-WWII experience of Japanese North Americans

SAVANNAH, GA — Filmmaker and Georgia Southern University Assistant Professor Matthew Hashiguchi and his team announce the launch of Good Luck Soup Interactive, a documentary revealing the Japanese American and Japanese Canadian experience from the end of the World War II internment camps until the present day. The interactive documentary can be experienced on any web-connected computer, tablet or mobile device.

Good Luck Soup Interactive utilizes the power of the Internet, new media and web interactivity to not only tell this story but also create a community storytelling approach.

Those with Japanese American or Japanese Canadian back grounds are able to share their own cultural experiences through the site’s submission form. The individual stories from different generations, people and places are then organized into a series of seven chapters within the website and when viewed together reflect the universal themes of immigration, integration and identity from the perspective of Japanese North Americans.

The accessibility and interactivity of the Internet allows Hashiguchi and his team the ability to showcase and update the diverse experiences of those with Japanese ancestry, from past to present, and to educate a broad audience on their unique history and changing identity within North American culture.

Good Luck Soup Interactive constantly compiles this shared experience by actively collecting stories, photographs and information through self-uploaded submissions and curated content.

It is the first part of a transmedia documentary project that includes both a feature-length film ("Good Luck Soup") and a web-based interactive documentary (Good Luck Soup Interactive).

The film will be released in 2016 and focuses on one Japanese American family’s experiences as Japanese Americans in the Midwest following World War II.

Good Luck Soup Interactive can be accessed by visiting www.goodlucksoup.com.
A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

NCWNP

Expression of Courage — HATWALK 2015
San Jose, CA
Nov. 21; 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Paggeda Lounge, Fairmont Hotel
170 S. Market St.
The Asian American Cancer Support Network Organization brings the community together for a Hatwalk to learn about the resources available and to support to those affected by cancer. The showcase is in collaboration with Allison Gryphon and the Why? Foundation.
San Francisco APILO/AABA Clinic
San Francisco, CA
Nov. 25; 5:45-8 p.m.
UC Hastings School of Law
100 McAllister St.
The Asian American Bar Assn. in the Greater Bay Area is hosting its monthly clinic with the Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach. The clinic serves to ensure low-income Bay Area residents receive free legal information and advice from AABA volunteers.
Kimochi Silver Bells: Arts, Crafts and Feed 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, Beety & 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

‘Taking Risks, Changing the Game’
Las Vegas, NV
Jan. 28-29; 6:30-7 p.m.
The Venetian Hotel
33555 S. Las Vegas Blvd.
The Asian American Business Development Center brings this event that encourages Asian American businesses to be more active on issues that affect them in government. Major themes will come together at the Roundtable Idea Labs, offering new ways to advance businesses and development.
Info: Call (213) 966-0100 or email info@aalbusinessroundtable.org.

EDC

NAAAP DC Symposium: Future-Proofing Asian Professionals
Washington, D.C.
Nov. 7; 7 a.m.-6:45 p.m.
Washington Center
1006 Third St. N.E.
The National Association of Asian American Professionals is hosting this all-day event to help Asian Americans be better prepared for their own future. Topics include workplace environments, diversity in corporate American and immigration law and financial strategies.

EXPO ASIAN 2015
Plano, Texas
Oct. 20; 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Marchesa Hall and Theatre
6226 Middle Fiskville Road
Price: Early Bird Pass $35 and Standard Pass $46
The Austin Asian American Film Festival showcases the best in Asian and Asian American Cinema in order to celebrate communities, entertain and enlighten the public and creative talents of AAPI artists. Among the films to be on display are “Seoul Searching,” “The Killing Fields of Dr. Haing S. Ngor” and “Atomic Heart.”
Info: Visit http://aafilmfest.com/contact/.
Asian American Voices: Power in Unity
Chicago, IL
Oct. 27; 5-8 p.m.
New Furama Restaurant
2628 S. Wentworth Ave.
The Chinese Mutual Aid Assn. hosts its 34th annual dinner gala, celebrating the goals and visions of the organization in and around the Chicago area.
Info: Email michelle@chinesemutualaid.org or call (773) 784-2900.

PNW

Hello! Exploring the Super cute World of Hello Kitty
Seattle, WA
Nov. 14
Experience Music Project
325 Fifth Ave. N.
The Experience Music Project Museum will be celebrating Hello! Exploring the Super cute World of Hello Kitty this fall. The event will display the world of Hello Kitty and how it transformed America, blending Japanese and American cultures together. The program will also help celebrate Hello Kitty’s 40th anniversary celebration.
Info: Call (216) 770-2700 or email experience@EMPmuseums.org.

MDC

ASPIRE Forum: Who Am I?
Boston, MA
Nov. 14; 1-5 p.m.
Simmons College
300 Fenway
The Asian Sisters
Participating in Researching Excellence (ASPIRE) hosts this forum event to inspire Asian American female students in high school and college. The evening hopes to engage guests on a number of topics regarding their identity and improve their coping skills, self-confidence, mental and career outlook.
Info: Email info@girlaspire.org.

Asian American Pacific Islander Health Summit
Houston, TX
Nov. 20; 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Rice BioScience Research Collaborative
6500 Main
This year’s summit will be geared toward helping guests understand and recognize AAPI health issues and concerns. Topics during the summit include health, elderly health, health data gap and immigrant health.
Info: Call (903) 356-4739 or email Beverly.gov@houstontx.gov.

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

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.

CALL 505-820-6621 OR EMAIL ivan.tinker@nmnews.com for ad information.

Event calendars are updated regularly. Send your event information to ivan.tinker@nmnews.com. Include a brief description, dates, times and location. Include a contact phone number and email. Include a high-resolution photo, if available. Museum season runs Oct. 1 through June 30. Call 505-820-6621 for info.

For content or advertising questions, please contact:
ivang.tinker@nmnews.com
(505) 820-6621
www.pacificcitizen.com
In Memoriam

Aoki, Dave Yukio, 86;

Gardena, CA; Sept. 9; he was predeceased by his wife, Bessie "Boots" Wong; is survived by his children, Brenda Aoki, Laura Ishikawa, Donna Yamada, Lisa Toalooa, Theresa Pereira and David Aoki Jr.; sister, Ester Kuratani, brother, Hugh Aoki; gc. 14.

Arase, Paul, 94;

Gardena, CA; Sept. 9; he was predeceased by his wife, Shirley Shishido; son, Randai (Shinko) Arase; gc 2; ggc. 1.

Ariyasu, Chiyo Maxine, 90;

Los Angeles, CA; Aug. 8; she was predeceased by her husband, Jim Masaru Ariyasu; sister, Miyoko Wakano; sister, Misako Miyaka; daughter-in-law, Beverly Ariyasu; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc. 1.

Egusa, Morey, 95; Stockton, CA,

Aug. 20; he was predeceased by his wife, Michae; son, Don; he is survived by his sons, Bob (Jeanne) and Jay; sister, Matsumi Hadia; gc. 2.

Eto, Yoshiaki, 92; Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 25; he is survived by his wife, Mieko Eto, children, Takashi (Mido), Hiroshi (Mitsuko) and Isao Eto; sister, Nobuko Shibata; gc. 4.

Fugami, Caryn Taka, 63; Long Beach, CA; Sept. 14; she is survived by her husband, Clyde Fugami; siblings, Jo Ann Kaba, Gary Taka and Barbara Sorhal; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Fukunaga, Tsutomu, 91;

Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 10; he is survived by his goddaughter, Laura Quan; family members, Robert, Jennifer and Jonathan Quan; he was predeceased by his parents, Chikamatsu and Ichi Wakida Fukunaga.

Goya, Iris Itsumi, 88;

Torrance, CA; Aug. 26; he was a MIS veteran of WWII; he is survived by his companion, Shirley Shishido; son, Randai (Shinko) Arase; gc. 2; ggc. 1.

Haramoto, Sumi, 88;

Gardena, CA; Sept. 14; she is survived by her sister, Sachiko Tsutsui; brother-in-law, Terumi Mitsuda; nephew and nieces, Minoru (Masum); Midori Mitsuda and Asami (Alex) Engelman; she is also survived by many related.

Higa, Edward Kiyoshi, 80;

Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 20; he is survived by his children, Bonnie (Glenn) Walge, Iris (Wilbur) Takashina and Joyce (Kirk)

Higa, Kyotaka "Peter", 83;

Monterey Park, CA; Sept. 17; he was a WWII veteran; he is survived by his children, Irene Chungli, Adrienne (Davis) Doi, Gregory Ito, Emily Kanemaru, Bradley "Tom" (Anna), Jason and Roger (Grace) Ito; sister, Haruko Cullum; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc. 5.

Ikegami, Toshiko, 89;

Gardena, CA; Sept. 15; he is survived by his wife, Takao Ikegami; sons, Hideyuki Brian Ikegami and Eiji Scott (Mikiko) Ikegami; gc. 2.

Ito, Masaru, 95; Anaheim, CA.

Junie, Seichi, 91;

Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 12; he is survived by his wife, Haruko Higa; children, Scott (Susan), Ben and Megumi Higa; siblings, Yasuko (Nishi) Kishimoto, Masanori, Michiko and Hitoshi (Yumiko) Higa; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc. 2.

Kimura, Yoshiko, 92; Burbank, CA; Sept. 20; she is survived by her children, Susan (Peter) Horn, Janis (Henry) Banellos, Dennis (Lorraine) and Ronald (Lisa) Kimura; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc. 9.

Morita, Yoshiko, 94;

Culver City, CA; Sept. 12; she was predeceased by her husband, Masanori "Sam" Morita, daughters, Carleen Morita Sagara and Noniko Morita; she is survived by her son, Robert (Carol) Morita; daughters, Beverly (Donald) Ikeda and Nancy (Roy) Lyida; gc. 13; ggc. 1.

Nakama, Helen Hifumi, 79;

Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 15; he is survived by his loving daughters, Stacie and Lori Nakama; sisters, Janet Matsumoto and Emiko Okanishi; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc. 2.

Ozaki, Bill Saburo, 91;

San Dimas, CA; Sept. 14; he is survived by his sons, Robert, Masako (Glenn) and Glenn (Jill) Ozaki; gc. 6; ggc. 9.

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

Takayasu, Takeo, 84; Gardena, CA; Sept. 10; he is survived by his wife, Kazuko; daughter, Midori Nishikawa; siblings, Kenji (Yoshiko) and Seiko (Katsuko) Takayasu, Kyoko (Tokuda) Maeshiro and Kentaro Takayasu; he is also survived by many great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc. 3.

Tamae, Grace Takeko, 84;

Gardena, CA; Aug. 11; she is survived by her son, Vincent (Elaine) Tamae; sister, Yuriko Utten; brothers-in-law, Seiki (Yoko) and Robert (Lisa) Tamae; sister-in-law, Clara Uyema and Betty (Sei Zu) Ganeu; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc. 1.

Tanaka, Fred, 96; Cerritos, CA; Sept. 15; he is survived by his wife, Joyce Tanaka; children, John Tanaka and Traci (Matthew) Hall, sister, Rose Nakamura; sister-in-law, May Tanaka; brother-in-law, Paul Yamamoto; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc. 2.

Toji, Robert Kazunobu, 93;

Los Angeles, CA; Aug. 9; he is survived by his wife, Suzanne Mayumi Toji, children, Marcus Mamoru Toji, Jared and Kirk Nishikawa; siblings, Dean (Gisele) Toji, Suzanne (Michael) Tobin and Gail Finney, sister-in-law, Jamiie (Tim) Tsuchito, he is also survived by many other relatives and friends.

Yano, Masakazu "Mas", 92;

Ontario, OR; Aug. 4; he was predeceased by his wife, Harumi Yano; son, David, brother; Yukio; sister-in-law, Mary, parents, Masayuki Yano and Yoshiko Kayahara, he is survived by his children, Ron Yano, Betty (Yano) Godin and Dick Yano; brothers, Teruo, Shira, Jesse and Tanya Kayahara; gc. 9; ggc. 3.

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

CORRECTION

Maruki, Dennis Noboru, died at 71 and is survived by his wife, Tanakawa “Aileen” Maruki.
CONVERSATIONS >> continued from page 3

Another solution is just to be aware. A sign that says “Women” on it does not make that restroom safe for women, just like a sign that says “Men” does not make the restroom safe for little boys. We must all be vigilant and aware to keep ourselves and our children safe.

Actually, I think having gender-neutral bathrooms could be a safe solution. Fathers can take their daughters and mothers can take their sons into gender-neutral bathrooms and not feel like their children are too old to be with them. I always worried when my son got to be the age where it was uncomfortable for me to take him into the women’s restroom, and so I would wait nervously outside the men’s restroom for him to emerge safely.

Fear is a very overpowering feeling. People use fear to control others, and that fear creates stories that swirl in our heads and move us from a place of compassion and humanity. The only way that I was able to overcome the fear that entered my life when Aiden came out as lesbian, then transgender, was to learn more about the subject I feared, so I could make a decision on who I was going to be. I moved toward the fear and gathered the facts rather than jump to conclusions. I wanted to make informed decisions, not ones based in fear.

Do you want to know more about being transgender, this bathroom initiative or the LGBT community? Please reach out to me (maizumi888@gmail.com) or someone at work or school to have a real conversation.

Let’s talk about our fears and learn the facts so that we don’t perpetuate myths and stereotypes that are untrue and make our world less humane. We can find our voices by courageously using them. The world will not change with silence … only with courage and only with love.

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.”

HOMEWORK >> continued from page 3

When we try to shield ourselves from ideas or opinions that differ from our own, we run the risk of cementing personal suspicion into certainty, and falling into fact. How Grasso expects to learn anything in the next four years at a university as elite and demanding as Duke is beyond me.

The ability to take points of view not necessarily aligned, or even totally misaligned, with your own into consideration is crucial to existing in a fluctuating, complicated world. How can we ever grow intellectually without being exposed to new ideas that challenge or displace our existing ones?

Grasso’s case is not an isolated incident — just a few weeks after the Duke controversy, a student at another North Carolina university — this time the University of North Carolina — indicted his school’s administration for its choice of readings in a course on the Sept. 11 attacks.

Freshman Alec Dent (note, a freshman, again) claimed that the course’s booklist was “sympathetic to terrorists.” This statement was to learn more about the subject I feared, so I could make a decision on who I was going to be. I moved toward the fear and gathered the facts rather than jump to conclusions. I wanted to make informed decisions, not ones based in fear.

Do you want to know more about being transgender, this bathroom initiative or the LGBT community? Please reach out to me (maizumi888@gmail.com) or someone at work or school to have a real conversation.

Let’s talk about our fears and learn the facts so that we don’t perpetuate myths and stereotypes that are untrue and make our world less humane. We can find our voices by courageously using them. The world will not change with silence … only with courage and only with love.

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.”

Alison Bechdel’s graphic memoir “Fun Home” spent time at No. 1 on the New York Times’ best seller list.

again, Dent had neither read the books in question, nor taken the course.

But in an article written for the news website The College Fix, Dent assured us that “you don’t have to read ‘Poems From Guantanamo’ to realize they’re sympathetic to the prisoners there.” This statement was to make the point that reading “Fun Home” would be as insufficient to make the point that reading “Fun Home” would be as insufficient as Duke is beyond me.

The ability to take points of view not necessarily aligned, or even totally misaligned, with your own into consideration is crucial to existing in a fluctuating, complicated world. How can we ever grow intellectually without being exposed to new ideas that challenge or displace our existing ones?

Grasso’s case is not an isolated incident — just a few weeks after the Duke controversy, a student at another North Carolina university — this time the University of North Carolina — indicted his school’s administration for its choice of readings in a course on the Sept. 11 attacks.

Freshman Alec Dent (note, a freshman, again) claimed that the course’s booklist was “sympathetic to terrorists.” Yet once

Visitors per day will see the exhibit commemorating the 75th anniversary of E.O. 9066 at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in 2017.

GIVE A GIFT TO THE JACL

And we can keep working together to build these programs and more!

Visit www.jacl.org/donate to contribute today.

Supporters who contribute over $250 will receive a kokeshi doll dish towel. Contributions of $500 or more will receive The Art of Guan­tenantos respectively. Reading “Fun Home” might turn you into a terrorist. What reading “Poems From Guantanamo” might show us is that no matter what you’ve been accused of, or who you’ve been made out to be, everyone deserves to be treated as a human being and that injustice committed for justice’s sake is still injustice.

Worst of all, reading “Fun Home” and “Poems From Guantanamo” might show us that we’re wrong. Imagine that.

Matthew Ormsby 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.