REBEL WITH A CAUSE
Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga’s documentary will premiere at 2016 LAAAF.

PAGE 6
Minidoka’s ‘Field-in-a-Day’ event aims to honor the game that saved many during World War II.

PAGE 7
The 47th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage Set to Take Place April 30. Event Schedule Located Inside.
OUR STORY SHOULD BE TOLD

While the Pacific Citizen boasts a rich legacy, its future is now in doubt.

For decades, it has told many facets of our story. Incredibly now its very existence may end. It’s frustrating and sad situation, one that will require speed and business savvy for any course correction at this point to be successful.

We are dealing with two sets of numbers: Time and dollars. There isn’t enough money to maintain status quo; in fact, the problems aren’t in the margins. Different parties have excellent points to make on paper vs. digital, past vs. present, who made cuts and who didn’t. Continuous debate takes time, and it’s been made clear that time is one thing we no longer have.

The P.C. needs to move toward serving the JACL community and the public at large through digital media, with a system in place to serve our members who do not have online access. At this point, facing extinction, paper needs to be a matter of maintaining equity, not preference. Through web and email coverage, which could include providing PDFs of paper layouts if needed, the P.C. will have a reach beyond postal mailing lists and begin eliminating major costs around paper, postage and printing.

It’s my expectation as an Editorial Board Member that, given the talent in the various programs, all JACL and P.C. parties would demonstrate the business savvy to make course corrections that preserve the P.C.’s existence. What can individual JACL members do to honor the P.C.’s legacy — what it has stood for over many decades? For one more round, please send in a donation of any size. There are people in place, including the Editorial Board, to help advance the productive and innovative use of the funds.

It is late in the game, but we should persevere through this round with the hope that future JACL members can build a digital legacy around the reporting their predecessors did on paper for decades.

No matter what, our story should be told.

Sincerely,

Leona Hiroaka
P.C. Editorial Board member, EDC

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The P.C.’s mission is to “educate on the past Japanese American experience and preserve, promote and help the current and future AAPI communities.”

JACL MEMBER? [ Y ] [ N ]

[ ] $50 [ ] $100 [ ] $150 [ ] $200 [ ] other ______

NAME: ________________________________

ADDRESS: ________________________________

CITY, STATE, ZIP: ________________________________

PHONE: ________________________________

EMAIL: ________________________________

MAIL TO:

PACIFIC CITIZEN

123 Ellison S. Onizuka St.

Suite 313, Los Angeles, CA 90012

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Phone: (213) 620-1767

Web: www.pacificcitizen.org

SPRING CAMPAIGN

2016

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The Pacific Citizen Newspaper annual gift subscription to your family and friends.

GIFT TO: ________________________________

ADDRESS: ________________________________

PHONE: ________________________________

EMAIL: ________________________________

GIFT FROM: ________________________________

SUBSCRIBE

Get a one-year subscription of the Pacific Citizen newspaper at www.pacificcitizen.org or call (213) 620-1767.

ADVERTISE

To advertise in the Pacific Citizen, call (213) 620-1767 or e-mail pc@pacificcitizen.org.

LEGAL

No part of this publication may be reproduced without the express permission of the Pacific Citizen. Opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the P.C. do not constitute a JACL endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles. © 2016.

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

JACL MEMBERS

Change of Address

If you’ve moved, please send new information to: National JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115 (415) 921-5225 or mbr@jACL.org.

Notify your postal carrier to include periodicals in your address change.

More than ever, your funds will help preserve the legacy of the Pacific Citizen. Donations of $150 or more will be entered in a monthly drawing for a box of “Fugetsu-Do” Japanese manju delivered to the winner’s door.
A MOTHER’S TAKE

FINDING HOPE
By Marshia Aizumi

It has been a month of highs and lows for a mother of a transgender child. I still fear that the world will not see the value that my son can bring to society. Aiden is in graduate school to be a school counselor, and he wants, more than anything, to create safe spaces for all who are marginalized, bullied and harassed. I believe he can make a huge difference in the lives of not only LGBT students, but also those students who are not what others deem the perfect height or weight, the perfect look or whatever category of perfection that tends to marginalize our children.

But if Aiden travels to North Carolina or Mississippi, he will not be safe. He will not be protected by the laws of those states, but rather discriminated against because he is transgender. When I first heard that the lawmakers in North Carolina went into emergency session and Gov. Pat McCrory signed HB2 that very same day, I was furious. HB2 voided any local LGBT nondiscrimination ordinances and banned transgender people from using public restrooms that conform to their gender identity. I wrote to the governor, knowing that a mother from California would probably have no impact on moving him to reverse the law, but it was all I could think of doing.

I could feel the nation watching the so-called "kudarn" of these states. What happened in North Carolina and Mississippi could start a wave of anti-LGBT legislation, or it could conform to their gender identity. I wrote to the governor, knowing that a mother from California would probably have no impact on moving him to reverse the law, but it was all I could think of doing.

In April, a number of influential individuals canceled their concerts to send a message to North Carolina and Mississippi that the law they had put into place was not right. My heart swelled with gratitude that Bruce Springsteen, Ringo Starr and Bryan Adams would take such a stand, knowing it could cost them fans and dollars. Also, over 100 companies, including Apple, Google, Bank of America, IBM, Facebook and Disney, have voiced their opposition to anti-LGBT legislation. They are all standing up for individuals like my son, and I love them for it.

In between all of these national events, there were gatherings that were very personal to me. I had the opportunity to attend "Tadaima" (which means "I’m home" in Japanese) at San Jose State University on April 2. Tadaima drew about 150 individuals. Once again, I could feel my heart feel joy when I heard Congressman Mike Honda talk about his granddaughter, the work that he is doing and ways to do for the transgender community. Aiden and I were honored to sit on a panel with Congressman Honda’s daughter, Michelle Honda-Phillips, who emotionally shared her story and her unwavering love for her daughter. And a fourth panelist asked that photos not be taken and her name protected, since she is not out to her transphobic father. I felt sad for her, but hoped that being among so many supportive Nikkei individuals brought her comfort that even if her father didn’t accept her, there were many in the community that did.

My own family, the Asamotos and Tamakis, from the Northern California area came out to support us, and to learn and grow. They walked away saying that the day gave them a better understanding of what families go through, and I believe they left transformed into more confident allies for the LGBT community.

Then on April 16, the Sacramento area had a one-day event called "APIQ (Asia Pacific Islander Queer) Homecoming," at Sacramento State University, which drew close to 100 individuals. Fortunate to be invited to lead a workshop on Family Acceptance, I shared our story and the lessons I have learned. Two individuals came up to me after my workshop and shared that they are planning to come out to their parents. I gave them my business card, in hopes that I can be of support to them or their parents if they need a mother to talk with. I know that many lives were touched that day not necessarily by me, but by the gathering that brought APIQ faces and voices together in community.

A YONSEI TRANSPLANTED

KEEP AN EYE OUT
By Matthew Ornseth

Last January, Charlie Hebdo became a household name when the satirical magazine’s Paris offices were stormed by two Al Qaeda footsoldiers. The attackers, two brothers from the Parisia suburbs, killed 12 people before fleeing the scene. Paris, and the world, reeled.

Following the attack, the phrase “Je suis Charlie” — French for “I am Charlie” — became a rallying cry for supporters of the magazine. It’s become something of a byword for freedom of expression, the West’s sober, collected response to the magazine’s latest editorial reads, “Their role [was] simply to provide the end of a philosophical line already begun.” For me, the magazine’s latest editorial merely affirmed a lingering suspicion that the publication was not so much the champion of the free press it was made out to be and more a purer bully trying to pass off insults as courageous, avant-garde expressions of opinion.

The editorial invents two fictitious figures, a “veiled woman” and a “local baker,” both of whom are respected members of their communities. “She is an admirable woman,” the editorial reads. “She is courageous and dignified, devoted to her family and her children. Why bother her? She harms no one. So why go on whining about the wearing of the veil and pointing the finger of blame at these women? We should shut up, look elsewhere and move past all the street-insults and rumpus.” The description of the veiled woman ends with “the ominous line, “The role of these women, even if they are unaware of it, does not go beyond this.”

The essay then moves to the character of the local baker. “He’s likable and always has a ready smile for all his customers. He’s completely integrated into the neighborhood already,” it reads. However, the baker cannot sell any pork products — “which is no big deal,” the author writes, “because there are plenty of other options on offer — tuna, chicken and all the trimmings. So, it would be silly to grumble or kick up a fuss in that much-loved boulangerie.” We’ll get used to it, the author writes, and before we know it, we’ll prefer chicken to pork anyway. “And thus,” the paragraph concludes, “the baker’s role is done.”

The editorial’s line of thought goes as this: Islam prohibits its adherents from questioning its dictums — things like women must wear veils, and no one can eat pork. Its adherents, in turn, prohibit non-Muslims from questioning these dictums, and the West, cowed into the timidity of the cultural relativist school, is too afraid to even ask these questions to begin with. Violent strains of Islam emerge, and no one is willing to identify them. Let them be as violent as they wish.

“From the bakery that forbids you to eat what you like, to the woman who forbids you to admit that you are troubled by her veil, we are submerged in guilt for permitting ourselves such thoughts,” the editorial reads, “and that is where and when fear has started its sapping, undermining work.”

After Brussels, the West has somehow gotten into its head that it wasn’t just the Islamic State’s Molkebeek cell that was responsible for the attack; it was also the fault of the clerics, the fault of the family members who told authorities nothing as they saw their sons and brothers become increasingly radicalized, the fault of an entire community whose faith seems to produce such a disproportionate number of bombings, hijackings and mass killings. The New York Times ran an opinion piece from Roger Cohen titled “The Islamic State of Molkebeek,” in which Cohen writes,
Secretary Norman Mineta Honored at JACL Honolulu Lunch

HONOLULU — Earlier this month, former U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta was honored by JACL Honolulu at a luncheon held at the Pacific Club. Mineta was recognized for his many accomplishments, including the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, the legislation granting reparations to Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II. Among the guests paying tribute to Mineta were Sen. Brian Schatz and Sen. Mazie Hirono, Congressman Mark Takai, former governor Neil Abercrombie, former U.S. Representative Colleen Hanabusa and former Surgeon General Kenneth P. Moritsugu.

In addition to Mineta’s visit to Hawaii, he also toured the grounds of Honolulu, which became a designated national monument in 2015. Honolulu was the largest and oldest used World War II confinement site in Hawaii.

— JACL National Staff

JANM Launches Images of Eaton Collection on Flickr

LOS ANGELES — The Japanese American National Museum debuted new preconservation photographs of the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection, which it acquired last year, on Flickr on April 15 to coincide with the one year anniversary of the cancelation of a public auction of the collection.

The public can now visit Flickr (flickr.com/janmuseum) and view images of nearly 150 artifacts from the collection. Those with information about the origins of specific items are encouraged to share details as comments on the site.

The collection also includes about 300 photographs taken in America’s concentration camps, mostly by the War Relocation Authority. These images will be added to Flickr in the coming month. Many have been seen before and most are in the public domain.

“The Japanese American community and its scholars saved these items from a fate that would have broken them up and failed to honor their history and respect their value. The Japanese American National Museum is ever grateful to those who helped and we are now very pleased to share photographs of these important artifacts with the public,” said Norman Y. Mineta, chairman of the JANM Board of Trustees.

Allen Hendershott Eaton collected the art and artifacts while Japanese Americans were incarcerated in camps during World War II. In 1952, his book “Beauty Behind Barbed Wire: The Art of the Japanese in Our War Relocation Camps” was published, with Eaton’s intent being to call attention to the injustice of the camps and the resilience of the Japanese Americans even in the face of their circumstances. He had also planned to create an exhibition of the artifacts but that never came to fruition.

The majority of the artifacts, other than the WRA photographs, are in need of significant conservation work, and JANM is preparing them for that process. Following that work, the museum hopes to make some of the art and artifacts available for public viewing.

APAs in the News/News Bytes

Kenta Maeda Continues Strong MLB Debut Showing for L.A. Dodgers

LOS ANGELES — Kenta Maeda, who signed an eight-year deal with the Dodgers for $25 million during the offseason, continues to impress on the mound since making his Major League Baseball debut for the team on April 6.

To date, Maeda has only allowed one run in his first three starts, pitching 19 innings, and he equaled that run by hitting a home run in his first big-league game, becoming the third pitcher to homer in his debut since 2000. Currently, he has 15 strikeouts and four walks.

The Dodgers signed Maeda after the Japanese right-hander played eight seasons for the Yomiuri Giants. Maeda is off to a strong start despite missing two months early in the season with a shoulder injury.

Death Toll in Japan Continues to Rise Following Twin Earthquakes

TOKYO — The death toll continues to rise in Japan following a magnitude-6.5 earthquake on April 14 followed by an even more powerful 7.3-magnitude earthquake 28 hours later on Kyushu, the southernmost of Japan’s four main islands. The earthquakes were two of the strongest quakes to ever strike Japan. At least 48 people were killed and nearly 1,200 injured.

More than 100,000 people have been evacuated as aftershocks continue to shake the area. The area around Kumamoto has been devastated, with many roads inaccessible due to landslides triggered by the quakes.

The earthquake damage and loss of power is reverberating beyond Kyushu as Toyota Motor Corp. and other manufacturers have suspended production in the area as a result.

Sushi Alert: Grim Outlook for Bluefin Tuna

TOKYO — The latest scientific assessment paints a likely bleak future for the Pacific Bluefin tuna, a sushi lover’s favorite whose population has dropped by more than 97 percent from its historic levels.

A draft summary of a report by the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean shows the current population of Bluefin tuna is estimated at 2.6 percent of its “unfished” size. A previous assessment put the population at an already dire 4.2 percent.

The report says overfishing has continued despite calls to reduce catches to allow the species to recover. In some areas, Bluefin tuna is harvested at triple the levels considered to be sustainable.

Japanese eat about 80 percent of all Bluefin tuna caught worldwide, and stocks of all three bluefin species — the Pacific, Southern and Atlantic — have fallen over the past 15 years as demand for the luscious buttery fish has soared globally.

— P.C. Staff, JACL National Staff, Associated Press
Asian Pacific Film Festival Takes on L.A.

Now in its 32nd year, the fest will host showings just days before Asian Pacific Heritage Month.

By P.C. Staff

I

n its 32nd year, the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival will show six world premieres with 34 feature films and 106 shorts from 20 countries. The festival will host screenings throughout Los Angeles and will run from April 21-28, just days before Asian Pacific Heritage Month.

Visual Communications (VC), the nation’s premier Asian Pacific American media arts center, will open its cinematic celebration at the Aratani Theater in Little Tokyo with the focal point of six world premieres with “The Tiger Hunter” from director Lena Khan. The film follows Naoki (Danny Pudi of NBC’s “Community”) as he travels to America, looking to follow his father’s legacy as the legendary tiger hunter back home.

Other premieres include “The Last Tour,” from director Ryan Yae; Quantita Lee’s “The Unbidden”; Matthew Abaya’s “Vampariah”; Maryam Khan’s “Signs of a Remarkable History”; and “Rebel With a Cause: The Life of Aiko Herzig Yoshinaga” by Janice Tanaka. A Q&A session with the directors will be featured following the screenings.

Among the features, Tanaka’s documentary on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, given a nod to bringing awareness to the redress movement of the 1980s.

“When you find a person like Aiko, who is in the same league as Yuri Kochiyama and Miki Weglyn, but funny — you have to hear her story,” explained Tanaka. During her interviews with Yoshinaga, Tanaka discovered that her mother and Yoshinaga were best friends during the camps and were also neighbors. “I was looking for that hero as a progressive Nisei, and there were some questions I couldn’t ask my mom, but I could ask Aiko. She was unabashed and so approachable, even when talking about camp.”

Tanaka and co-producer Nancy Araki, who is also the former director of community affairs for the Japanese American National Museum, released last year “Right of Passage,” one of the most comprehensive films on Japanese American redress.

Never-before-seen images and footage from the documentary examined the redress movement and also included interviews with former Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta; Sen. Alan Simpson; Kenneth Dambui, President Ronald Reagan’s chief of staff; Aiko Herzig Yoshinaga, chair of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians; and CWRC researcher, JACL redress activists John Tateishi and Grant Ujifusa, as well as many others.

Now, “Rebel With a Cause” reopens the redress movement, but this time with Yoshinaga’s voice, a housewife-turned-activist’s voice.

“I wanted to show appreciation for her work, and so one else had done a documentary on her before,” Tanaka said. “She’s slowly getting that recognition she deserves. Aiko is one of the last of that Nisei generation that can still tell us the impact of camp and how it changed her life — she’s just a cool person.”

Yoshinaga is expected to make an appearance at the film’s April 26 showing with Tanaka at the Tateuchi Democracy Forum at JANM beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Another main stage film set to play touches on the Korean comfort women issue, referring to the Korean women forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese military during WWII. The comfort woman topic has been a focal point in recent years for the U.S., Japan and Korea and will now be on the big screen with “Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women” by director Dai Sil Kim-Gibson.

Gibson’s film uses the testimonies given by the former comfort women and contrasts these moments with the interviews of Japanese soldiers, recruiters and scholars, denying their claims. In the film, the victims demand an apology and admission as well as compensation from the Japanese government for the injustice.

“Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women” will show April 27 at 4:30 p.m. at the Tateuchi Democracy Forum at JANM.

For a full program list and to purchase tickets, visit www.vconline.org/festival or call (213) 680-4462, ext. 59.

Join us for the 2016 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage

July 29-30, 2016

Cody & Powell, Wyoming

Heart Mountain Interpretive Center at the WWII National Historic Landmark Site

1.307.754.8000 • www.heartmountain.org

Spending Has Never Been So Rewarding

Using your National JACL Credit Union Visa credit card has never been easier. Accepted everywhere, any of your needs are always accessible.

With unbeatable rates, call today to apply and find the right card for you.

For more information, please call us or visit our branch today!

801-426-5225 800-544-8828
www.jaclcu.com

Dinner Banquet • Silent Auction • Special Exhibits
Keynote by acclaimed playwright and director Luis Valdez

FIND OUT MORE & REGISTER
heartmountain.org/pilgrimage.html
MINIDOKA PLANNING FIELD-IN-A
DAY EVENT

Sponsored by the Minidoka NHS and Friends of Minidoka, the event will build a baseball diamond that will serve as an immersive experience to honor the game that saved many during World War II.

**Better up! Play ball!** Baseball fever has started. Baseball diamonds across Idaho will echo with the sound of fans cheering for their favorite team. The public is invited to Minidoka National Historic Site on May 28 to help build a symbolic baseball field, a unique field that will tie together the story of America's favorite pastime and the Japanese Americans and legal residents who were incarcerated at the Minidoka War Relocation Center from 1942-45.

During World War II, baseball was a welcome respite from the hardships of war for the entire nation. Baseball played a key role in sustaining the 13,000 Japanese Americans who were incarcerated at Minidoka War Relocation Center, also known as "First Camp."

Many of the camp residents — youth, adults, males and females — played baseball or softball on one of the 14 fields throughout the camp. In reading articles from the camp newspaper, it is clear that baseball served as a glue to bring people together and provided bridges to the camp newspaper, it is clear that baseball served as a glue to bring people together and provided bridges to half of the public.

The baseball field project became even more exciting when the idea to complete this project came to fruition. This idea is based on the 1952 Farm-in-a-Day Event that was held on the John Herrmann property.

Many local residents have said that they were one of the 1,500 people who volunteered to build John Herrmann’s home, dig irrigation canals, plant crops or build corrals for cattle on April 17, 1952. Others have remarked that they were among the 10,000 people who came to watch the activities that had been publicized for weeks in the North Side News.

In keeping with the spirit of the 1952 Farm-in-a-Day event, Minidoka NHS and Friends of Minidoka (FOM) are planning the Field-in-a-Day event on May 28.

On that day, individuals and groups are invited to join FOM and park staff in building the structures that would have been part of the original fields that were interwoven among 36 residential barricade blocks. The original 14 fields varied from dirt fields with no supporting structures to fields with backstops, bleachers and scoreboards. Using historic photographs, the new field will be representative of the fields that provided a gathering place for both players and spectators.

Field preparation will take place on the days preceding the Saturday event. The day’s events will include building and installing the field structures: backstop, two scoreboards, two player benches, two bleachers, applying all field markings, installing bases, installing a roadside interpretive panel and donor plaque and creating accessibility paths to the field.

The public is invited to watch (and, if interested, help) at the event beginning at 8 a.m. Volunteers will also be needed during the week of May 23 to prepare the field area for the Saturday event. The public is also invited to the formal dedication of the field, which is scheduled for 10:45 a.m. on June 26 during the Annual Minidoka Pilgrimage.

The Field-in-a-Day project has been approved by the State Historic Preservation Office.

The baseball field will be more than just a cultural landmark for visitors to stop and learn about — it will be an immersive experience that will be open to visitors, school groups and special events. Visitors will also be encouraged to go onto the field and "play catch" or "hit a few balls" once the temporary visitor contact station is opened in Spring 2017, which will offer baseball equipment.

Donations to the Field-in-a-Day project will be used to build the baseball field and its supporting structures, as well as support the event and dedication ceremony.

Mones collected beyond the actual recreation of the field will be used to maintain the field in the future.

Friends of Minidoka and Discover Your Northwest are official partners on this project. To donate to this project, visit the Discover Your Northwest or Friends of Minidoka websites.

The park and its partners are thankful for all volunteer assistance, donated materials and used baseball and softball equipment.

For more information on the event, please contact Janet Keegan, FOM, at janetkeegan@msn.com, Keith Yamaguchi at kyama1948@gmail.com or Carol Ash at Carol.ash@aps.gov.

BERKELEY JACL HONORS PIONEER RECIPIENTS AND 2016 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Berkeley JACL chapter awarded seven scholarships to high school seniors Cameron Adams, Madison Lew, Noel McGuire and Mika Taga-Anderson, college undergraduates Kaailin Harr, Jason Nakao and Ashley Schroeter and presented Pioneer Awards to Kiyoshi Katsumoto and Gordon Yamamoto during its April 17 awards luncheon held at Richmond Country Club in Richmond, Calif.

Taga-Anderson, a senior at Monte Vista High School in Oakmont, won the Dan/Kathleen Date Memorial Scholarship. She will enter Wellesley College in the fall, majoring in pre-med and neuroscience.

McGuire, a senior at Miramonte High School in Orinda, was awarded the Ben Kono Memorial Scholarship. She will soon decide where she will enter college in the fall.

Adams, from Northgate High School in Walnut Creek, was awarded a Terry Yamashita Memorial Scholarship. She will enter college at California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, majoring in business.

Lew is a senior at El Cerrito High School and plans to enter the University of Hawaii at Manoa and major in education.

Newly-established 2016 scholarships were awarded to college undergraduate students: Harr, a junior at the University of California, Berkeley, majoring in environmental biology; Schroeter, a sophomore at the City College of San Francisco majoring in psychology; and Nakao, a freshman at Diablo Valley College.

Also during the luncheon, Pioneer Awards were presented to Katsumoto and Yamamoto. The award honors those with the vision, compassion and energy to lay a foundation for bridging the Japanese American community into the active and vibrant one we share today, as well as linking past leaders with future leaders.

Katsumoto served as the Berkeley Chapter president from 1982-83 and has long been an active member of the Berkeley Buddhist Temple, where he served as president from 2006-10. Active with his City of El Cerrito community, he also worked closely with the El Cerrito Police Department and helped with the development and formation of community policing — and the formation of “neighborhood watch groups.”

Today, neighborhood block parties are held during National Night Out in August. Yamamoto served as the Berkeley Chapter president from 1987-89. A member of the Berkeley Chapter board of directors since 1976, he also served as recording secretary from 2013-15. Following in the footsteps of his father, Yamamoto learned about the breach of civil liberties experienced by Japanese Americans during World War II and continues to advocate for the civil rights of all citizens.

In addition, Yamamoto has chaired the board of trustees at the Lake Park United Methodist Church in Oakland.

In addition, the chapter recognized long-time major sponsors Union Bank (Dorothy Sokol), Wells Fargo Bank (Vance Oniki/ Jonathan Shindo) and memorial scholarships donors: the Beatrice Koina family (George Koina); the Terry Yamashita family (Reiko Nabeta) and the Dan/Kathleen Date family (Gail Yamamoto).

This year’s Scholarship Committee consisted of Chair Ron Tanaka, Mark Fujikawa, Vera Kawanura, Paul Nakao, Neal Ouye, Al Satake and Sharron Sze.
UCLA KYODO TAIKO AND DAION TAIKO TO PERFORM AT 47TH ANNUAL MANZANAR PILGRIMAGE

Manzanar Pilgrimage Weekend Events

The Manzanar National Historic Site invites visitors to participate in a weekend of events in conjunction with the Manzanar Committee's 47th Annual Pilgrimage. All are welcome, and the events are free.

This year the pilgrimage coincides with the Sesquicentennial of Lassen County and the Centennial of the National Park Service.

Following is a brief schedule of events:

Friday, April 29
- Friends of Eastern California Museum will host a public reception from 4:45 p.m. at the Eastern California Museum in Independence. Exhibits include Hiroko and Mary Numa's Manzanar collection.

Saturday, April 30, and Sunday, May 1
- The Manzanar National Historic Site Visitor Center will extend its hours by opening at 9 a.m. A 1945 mural painted by Tamotsu Nishikawa, on loan from the University of California, Los Angeles' commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Japanese American internment, which was held in February 1992 at UCLA's famous Royce Hall.

For more information, call (760) 878-2194, ext. 3310 or visit www.nps.gov/manz.

MNHS BARRACKS EXHIBIT RECEIVES 2016 STANTON-HORTON AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

BLOOMINGTON, IN — During its annual meeting in Providence, R.I., on April 9, the Organization of American Historians presented Manzanar National Historic Site's Manzanar Barracks Exhibit with its prestigious 2016 Stanton-Horton Award for Excellence in National Park Service History, which is given annually to recognize excellence in historical projects for, by and with the NPS.

The MNHS exhibit was installed in April 2015 within two 20-foot-by-100-foot barracks reconstructed on the site where Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II. The installation was made possible by the generous contributions of the families of the incarcerated and support from NPS personnel from the Denver Service Center and the Pacific West Regional Office and three outside contractors from the National Park Service.

The exhibit includes original archival and oral history research with the families of individuals who experienced life in the barracks seven decades ago and, in many cases, with the families themselves.

For more information on Manzanar, call (760) 878-2194, ext. 3310 or visit www.nps.gov/manz.
JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION COMPLETES SUCCESSFUL JAPAN TOUR

The 10 delegates of the 2016 Japanese American Leadership Delegation program returned home March 12 after a full week of meetings, discussions and networking opportunities with Japanese Leaders.

Delegates Bruce Harrell, Eric Shin-taro Higa, Bruce E. Hollywood, Stan Masamune, Kiyo Matsuzumoto, Monte Del Mier, Eric Nakajima, Darren T. Nakama, Mark Yokoyama and Tanaka A. Yorita traveled to Japan to visit Tokyo and Kobe from March 5-12.

The Japanese American Leadership Delegation program is sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (represented in the U.S. by the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C.), and 16 consulate general offices and administered by the U.S.-Japan Council. The program provides the “opportunity for a select group of Japanese American leaders from across the United States to travel to Japan to engage with Japanese leaders in the business, government, academic, nonprofit and cultural sectors.”

During their trip, the delegates visited Kobe in Hyogo Prefecture, where they participated in a symposium titled “Toward a Secure Society: Challenges in Diversity and Inclusion,” co-sponsored by the USJC and the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, with support from Kobe Shim-bun, the U.S. Consulate General in Osaka-Kobe, the Hyogo Prefectural Government, the Kobe City Government and the Hyogo International Area.

The group also toured the Shin-Skin-Kan Brewery, as well as the Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster.

In Tokyo, the group met with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on March 9 to discuss issues pertinent to the U.S.-Japan bilateral relationship.

Abe thanked the delegation and U.S.-Japan Council President Irene Hirano Inouye for demonstrating their continued support for Japan, and he remarked, “Japanese Americans are treasures in U.S.-Japan relations. I am glad that all of you, as active leaders in your respective fields, are bridging the ties between us.” In light of the fifth anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake, Abe also acknowledged the Japanese American support for Operation Tomodachi and other American aid after the disaster.

The delegation also had the opportunity to meet with other individuals and organizations, including HHI Princess Takamado, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Keidanren (Japan Business Federation), Ambassador Masahiko Kono, Representative Taro Kono, the Japan-U.S. Parliamentary Federation and other Diet members.

USJC Board Members Scott Sato, Ernest M. Higa, Paul Yonamine, as well as Council Leader Janelle Sasaki, shared their experience as Japanese Americans living and working in Japan with the delegation as well.

To date, 176 delegates have participated in the program. Upon their return, delegates continue to work with their local coalition, community and fellow JALD alumni to strengthen U.S.-Japan relations.

SAVE THE DATE! HEART MOUNTAIN PILGRIMAGE SET FOR JULY 29-30

This year’s Heart Mountain Pilgrimage will take place July 29-30 in Cody and Powell, Wyo., at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center.

Celebrating the fifth anniversary of the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center, pilgrimage presentations will include a keynote address by acclaimed playwright and director Luis Valdez and talks by former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta and U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson (r.) at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center. There will also be special exhibits at the center, and lunch is included with registration.

Events on Friday will include a silent auction, dinner banquet and a dessert reception at the Holiday Inn in Cody.

For registration information, visit https://shopheartmountain.org/products/pilgrimage-registration.
Stamp Our Story.

Remember Our Internment, Our Veterans, Our Legacy.

TAKE ACTION!

NISEI STAMP CAMPAIGN
REQUESTS LETTERS OF SUPPORT

The Nisei Stamp Campaign “Stamp Our Story” is requesting letters of support in its campaign for a national stamp that would honor Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. Army and were incarcerated during World War II.

Campaign organizers are asking citizens to contact their House Representative to sign onto the letter for Postmaster General Megan J. Brennan and the Citizen’s Stamp Advisory Council. It is co-authored by Rep. Mark Takai (HI-01) and Rep. Judy Chu (CA-27) and signed by Representatives Mike Honda, Doris Matsui and Mark Takano.

The congressional letter needs signers by April 29. The campaign hopes to gather support in its campaign for a national stamp that would honor Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. Army and were incarcerated during World War II.

The campaign aims to gather support from members of Congress and follow up with phone calls and/or in-person request at the member’s office.

Following is a sample message:

Dear Representative/ Senator —

As a constituent in your district, I urge you to sign onto a letter to Postmaster General and the Citizen’s Stamp Advisory Council urging for the issuance of a stamp that would preserve the story of the Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. Army and were incarcerated during World War II.

We hope to make this stamp a reality in time for next year’s 75th commemoration of this chapter in our nation’s history. The letter is co-authored by Rep. Mark Takai (HI-01) and Rep. Judy Chu (CA-27). Represenatives Mike Honda, Doris Matsui and Mark Takano have already signed this letter.

My full name and contact information is...

Thank you.

Citizens are urged to contact their member of Congress to sign on to the Takai-Chu Letter: Japanese American Testament to Patriotism During WWII. The deadline again is April 29.

For questions or help to sign on, email Kana Smith (kana.smith@mail.house.gov) on Rep. Takai’s stuff.

Long Beach to Screen Award-Winning ‘Lil Tokyo Reporter’

A free screening of the film “Lil Tokyo Reporter,” co-sponsored by the Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center, Long Beach Harbor Pioneer Project and the Long Beach Public Library, will be held on April 30 at 2 p.m. at the Long Beach Main Library.

The award-winning short film, directed by Jeffrey Gee Chin and starring Chris Tashima, will be followed by a Q & A session, a reading from an upcoming biography by Tashima, a traditional Japanese song by Patrick Suki and a reception.

“Reporter” is based on the real story of Sei Fujii, an Issei civil rights pioneer and publisher of the Kashu Mainichi California Daily News, who made amazing contributions for the Japanese American community.

Fujii, a USC Law School graduate but denied citizenship and a law license, teamed with civil rights attorney J. Marion Wright to provide legal assistance to Japanese Americans and the community for four decades. Their most significant legal achievements included a 1928 U.S. Supreme Court case that permitted construction of the Los Angeles Japanese Hospital and the 1952 California Supreme Court case that overturned the California Alien Land Law, which prohibited aliens ineligible for citizenship from owning property.

The film will be followed by a Q & A session and a reading from an upcoming biography by Tashima, a traditional Japanese song by Patrick Suki and a reception.

“Lil Tokyo Reporter” is based on the life of civil rights pioneer Sei Fujii.

Hope continued from page 3

... of you who are out in the world offsetting this hatred and bigotry, and I whisper to myself how grateful I am for people who stand on the side of love. This is what gives me hope....

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.”

Eye >> continued from page 3

“After the carnage in Paris and Brussels, the laissez-faire approach that had allowed those clerics to proselytize, private Muslim schools to multiply in France, prisons to serve as incubators of jihadism, youths to drift to ISIS land in Syria and back, and districts like Molenbeek or Schaar­beek to drift into a void of negligence, has to cease.” Cohen baldly claims, “The moderate Muslim communities of Europe need to do much more; this is a message we are hearing.” This “laissez-faire approach” he criticizes is something we like to call tolerance, and takes the form of nondiscrimination policy. Both Cohen and Charlie Hebdo are guilty of projecting isolated incidents of horrific violence onto an entire population, the vast, vast majority of whom are just as appalled and repulsed by the Islamic State as we are.

It’s an argument that’s been made before, but when we see an attack carried out by a white perpetrator instead of, for example, Dyann Roof, the 21-year-old white supremacist who killed nine black churchgoers in Charleston last year — we see a de­ ranged individual.

When we see an attack like the one in Brussels, we see the tip of an iceberg. I say the tip of an iceberg, because that is exactly what Charlie Hebdo has called the Brussels attacks. ‘In reality,’ the magazine’s editorial reads, ‘the attacks are merely the visible part of a very large iceberg indeed.’

When we start to view a religious or ethnic community as monolithic, we forget those who have the loudest voices are rarely its true representa­tives. Just look at Donald Trump — I’ve lived in Europe for the past four months, and everyone here seems to think all Americans support him. Freedom of the press is one of those traditional tenets of liberal­ism without which no democracy can hope to exist. But just because you are lawfully allowed to print whatever you like doesn’t mean you should. The publishing of a charged editorial or cartoon has real-life repercus­sions, and sometimes, as the attacks on Charlie Hebdo’s own offices proved, those repercussions can be violent. Given the climate of Islamic­phobia in Europe and the U.S. today, Charlie Hebdo’s editorial was irresponsible.

Placing the blame for Brussels at the feet of an already beleaguered community might force Belgium’s Muslims to retreat even further inwards, and push them away from the sort of cooperation and transparency that might prevent another such attack. It might also inspire anti-Muslim violence, especially given that prominent right-wing figures in Belgium (Trump and Cruz in the U.S., Marine Le Pen in France) have called for extra­ policing of Muslim communities and the expulsion of Muslim immi­ grants from their countries in recent weeks.

Charlie Hebdo’s editorial singles out Tariq Ramadan, a professor of Islamic Studies at Oxford, as one of those spearheading the dangerous anti-Islamophobia movement. ‘Tariq Ramadan has done nothing wrong,’ the editorial begins. ‘He lectures about Islam, he writes about Islam, he speaks about Islam. He puts himself forward as a man of dialogue, someone open to a debate.’

The essay’s nameless author continues: ‘Tariq Ramadan is never going to grab a Kalashnikov with which to shoot journalists at an editorial meet­ing. Nor will he ever cook up a bomb to be used in an airport condo­ rce. Others will be doing all that kind of stuff. It will not be his role.’

In the weeks to come, we would be wise to keep an eye out for attacks on mosques, and attacks on veiled women and local bakers who do not sell ham sandwiches. We should also keep an eye out for new laws that cull the civil rights of Muslims in our communities. The editorialists of Charlie Hebdo will never carry out these attacks, of course; nor will they ever propose or ratify these discrimina­tions. That is not their role.

But to say that they have not contributed to such a climate of frantic, terribly misguided xenopho­ bia would be untrue.

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.
**NCWNP**

Kodomo No Hi
San Francisco, CA
May 2; 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Japan Center Peace Plaza
Buchanan and Post St.
Price: Free
In partnership with the JCCCNJ, this annual youth celebration will feature traditional Japanese performances, mochi pounding, youth art contests, arts and crafts, activities, games and more.

'These Days of August' 
San Francisco, CA
May 3; 7 p.m.
Fort Mason Center
1 Bartlett St.
Price: Free
The Fort Mason Center for Arts and Culture presents a contemporary Japanese dance and music performance.

**PSW**

Civil Rights Today: 
The Legacy of Minoru Yasui
Los Angeles, CA
April 30; 2 p.m.
Japanese American National Museum
100 N. Central Ave.
Price: Free with museum admission
This year marks Min Yasui's 100th birthday and the 74th anniversary of his voluntary arrest.
Info: Visit www.jnrm.org or call (213) 626-0414.

Selanoco JACL 50th Anniversary Installation Luncheon
Cerritos, CA
May 22; 11 a.m.
Cerritos Sheraton Hotel
12725 Center Court Dr.
The South East Los Angeles, North Orange County (Selanoco) chapter of the JACL will celebrate its 50th Anniversary Installation Luncheon, celebrating five decades of advocating for the civil liberties of Japanese American and the greater community of people in color.
Info: Email selanoco50@gmail.com.

Emerging Voices of Asian American Mental Health: 
Panel Discussion
San Gabriel, CA
May 29; 1:30-4 p.m.
Asian Youth Center
100 W. Clary Ave.
Price: Free
Join the Taiwanese American Citizens League, Asian Coalition and the Asian Youth Center for a panel discussion about how culture impacts mental health.

**MDC**

‘The Butcher’s Son’ 
Liberal, KS
April 30; 7:30 p.m.
Showcase Theatre
1801 N. Kansas Ave.
Price: General admission $10; Students and seniors $7
“‘The Butcher’s Son” by Vi Tran chronicles the Tran family’s escape from Vietnam, telling the story of their capture by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia and their resettlement in the meatpacking town of Garden City, Kansas.
Info: Email 40yearfallen@gmail.com.

Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans Leadership Awards Dinner
Maplewood, MN
May 26; 6-9 p.m.
Maplewood Community Center
2100 White Bear Ave.
Price: Varies $30-$125
Please join the Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans for its 2016 Leadership Awards Dinner.
Info: Visit www.mn.gov/capm or call (651) 757-1740.

JACL Chicago Scholarship Luncheon
Skokie, IL
May 22; Noon
Maggiano’s Little Italy
4990 Old Orchard Center
Celebrate this year’s scholarship recipients with the JACL chapter. Students will be recognized and awarded for their academic achievements as they enter the next educational steps.

**PNW**

Memorial Day 
Portland, OR
May 30; 1 p.m.
Rose City Cemetery
5626 N.E. Fremont St.
Please join Portland JACL in honoring its veterans on Memorial Day. The ceremony will be short and plans include a walk through Rose City Cemetery as well as the Lone Fir Cemetery near Stark Street for another ceremony.
Info: Visit www.pdxjacl.org or call (503) 754-8900.

Community Reception 
Portland, OR
June 26; 6-7:30 p.m.
Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center
121 N.W. Second Ave.
Price: Free, but RSVP is encouraged
The Center for Asian Pacific American Women invites all to a Community Reception. Register now as space is limited.
Info: Visit www.apawomen.org or call (415) 310-6978.

**EDC**

Beyond Orientalism:
The Forum
New York, NY
May 2; 7 p.m.
Fordham University,
Pope Auditorium
113 W. 60th St.
Price: Free
The Asian American Arts Alliance, Asian American Performers’ Action Coalition, TheaTre Communications Group and Alliance for Inclusion in the Arts presents this national initiative to advance race equity in the theater.
Info: Visit http://441.fordham.edu or call (914) 367-3426.

Third Annual Military Leadership Luncheon 
APAICS and PPM
Washington, D.C.
May 5; Noon–2 p.m.
Capitol Hilton
1001 16th St. N.W.
The Military Leadership Luncheon is dedicated to promoting leadership diversity and Asian American and Pacific Islander representation in our troops. The program will feature keynote speaker LT. Gen. G. M. Grosso.

Bridging Intergenerational Differences — Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 
New York, NY
May 19; 10 a.m.
Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church
7 W. 55th St.
Price: Free
The New York Asian Women’s Center will host a workshop for parents and service providers who work with Asian Pacific Islander children and want to learn about different ways to communicate with API youth.
Info: Visit www.nyawc.org or call (212) 732-0054.

**IDC**

Nihon Matsuri
Salt Lake City, UT
April 30; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Courtyard Salt Lake City
100 S. 300 W.
Price: Free
All are welcome to celebrate and enjoy a performance by Takoza.

**ADVERTISE HERE**

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

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

Aino, Pat Aiko, 85, Evanston, IL; March 18; she was incarcerated at Poston Camp; she is survived by her husband, Yoshio; sisters, Yuri Nishikawa and Hide Tsukawa; children, Kimberely Erico, Mitchell (Dawna) and Jill (Mark); gc: 7.

Azuma, Alyse, 100, Chicago, IL; Jan. 28; she was predeceased by her husband, Fred Azuma; she is survived by her daughter, Julie; gc: 2.

Chikuo, Bill Taatse, 95, Ontario, OR; April 2; he is survived by his brother, Shigeru (Kyoko) Taniguchi; nephews, James Otani and Charles Otani.

Fujii, Midori, 90, Pasadena, CA; March 17; she is survived by her daughter, Reiko; sons, Ted, Evan, Steve and John; brothers, Aki and Tony; sisters, Haru, Setsu and Lotta; gc: 4.

Hikida, Shizuye, 97, Chicago, IL; March 24; she was predeceased by her husband, Fred Toshio Hikida; she is survived by her children, Robert S. (Gerry) Hikida, Kenneth K. (Nancy) Hikida and Olimane (George) Ishiishi; gc: 5; ggc: 8.

Higashi, Yoshitoki Hiko, 50, Monterey Park, CA; March 20; he is survived by his children, June Mayumi Higashi and Nicholas Hideaki Higashi; mother, Rieko Higashi; brother, Gary (Ginny) Higashi; he is also survived by other nieces, nephews and relatives.

Hyosaka, Yvonne Yoneko Taniguchi, 84, Chicago, IL; April 18; she was predeceased by her husband, Ernest Sumio Hyosaka; she is survived by her children, Donna (Loren) Friesen and Lori (Richard) Tanaka; gc: 10.

Iijima, Chris N., 64, Los Angeles, CA; April 10; he was a U.S. Air Force veteran; he is survived by his son, David Joseph Iijima; daughter, Elizabeth Ann (Brian Bedesem) Iijima; sisters, Susan A. Iijima and Diana (Robert) Mueller; uncle, Wallace (Fran) Sakaki; gc: 3.

Ikeda, Donald Shigeo, 78, Garden, CA; March 22; he was a U.S. Army veteran; he is survived by his wife, Beverly Ikeda; sons, Clifford (Kelley) and Rodney (Tomoko) Ikeda; brother, Kenneth (Jane) Ikeda; gc: 3.

Imori, Shigeko, 91, Los Angeles, CA; March 27; she is survived by her son, Yoshihiro Tabata; brother, Sadeso Takeuchi; niece, Debra Takeuchi; she is also survived by many other relatives; gc: 2; ggc: 5.

Kakehashi, Hide, 96, Los Angeles, CA; April 2; he was a MIS veteran and served during WWII; he is survived by his wife, Mie Michie Kakehashi; daughter, Coleen Dale (Kim) Hoff; son, Robert Kevin Kakehashi; brother, Yoshio Kakehashi; gc: 3.

Kawana, Lillian, 86, San Bernardino, CA; April 2; she is survived by her sons, Jeff (Jill) and Darrell (Eileen) Kawana; sister, Kiku Moyer; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

Kovacs, Masako Mary, 87, Fontana, CA; March 26; she is survived by her children, James (Yukiko Ann) Kovacs and Helen Ann Arizumi; gc: 7; ggc: 10; gggc: 1.

Matsunami, Teruo Donald, 85, Omaha, NE; April 4; he was predeceased by his siblings, Em Nakado, Alice Kaya, Joe Matsunami, Doris Okazaki and Mesa Matsunami; he is survived by his wife, Tomoko Matsunami; siblings, Pat Kawaguchi, Rose Ishi, Manuel (Doris) Matsunami, Natchi (David) Fukukawa, Juichi (Emiko) Matsunami; 30 nieces.

Miyuki, Mokuson, 87, Monterey, CA; April 7; he is survived by his wife, Chiyoko Shiba Okura; son, Robert; he is survived by his children, Albert, Amy and Susan; gc: 6; ggc: 1.

Murata, Betty Kikue, 90, Monterey Park, CA; March 19; she is survived by her husband, William Kimio Murata; daughter, Shawn (David) Tiefeier; son, Rodney Murata; brother, Herbert H. (Jeanne A.) Ikeda; gc: 6; gc: 6.

Musashi, Susumu, 98, Union Grove, WI; March 27; he was a 442nd veteran during WWII; he is survived by his son, Dennis.

Nakashiki, Don, 66, Los Angeles, CA; March 21; he is survived by his wife, Masa Hiraoka-Nakashiki; son, Thomas Nakashiki; he also is survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Noguchi, Lyman F., 84, Gardena, CA; Feb. 11; he is survived by his wife, Jean Noguchi; children, Darren (Patty) Noguchi, Lyle (Donna) Noguchi and Cathy (Scott) Rongey; brother, Harry Noguchi; sister, Florence Furuya; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Ogawa, Grace Hiroyo, 67, Kapolei, CA; March 28; she is survived by her mother, Joy Ishii; sons, Michael, Gregory and Joseph; sister, Joyce Ishi; gc: 5.

Okamoto, Steve Atushi, 60, Torrance, CA; April 6; he is survived by his wife, Yoko Okamoto; children, Allison and Evan Okamoto; mother, Yasuko Okamoto; brother, Harry Okamoto; he is also survived by many friends and relatives.

Okura, Tatsuo, 99, Los Altos, CA; March 30; he was predeceased by his wife; Chiyoko Shiba Okura; son, Robert; he is survived by his children, Albert, Amy and Susan; gc: 7; ggc: 10; gggc: 1.

Sakamoto, Frank, 90, Denver, CO; Dec. 12, 2015; he was president of Mile High JACL; he is survived by his wife, Toshiko; sons, Glenn (Christine) and Randall Tomoko; brother, Fumio (Fusako); he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Shigesato, Junji, 86, Los Angeles, CA; April 14; he was predeceased by his sons, Bobby, brother; Eun; sister, Toshiko; he is survived by his wife, Masa, daughter, Hiroi (James) Toberman; sister, Takako Kawaguchi; brother, Yo (Korub) Shigesato.

Shigemo, Katsumi, 90, California, OR; March 25; she was incarcerated at Tule Lake during WWII; she was predeceased by her husband, John; she is survived by her children, Tina Gibson, Ann Francis, Gary Shigemo, Bob Shigemo and Steve Lynn; brother, Fred Rose (Rose) Kawakami; gc: 8; ggc: 4.

Tribute

SAM SHIMASAKI

Sam Shimasaki was born in Strathmore, Calif., on Feb. 20, 1929, and grew up in the San Joaquin Valley. He was an Army veteran and served in Europe, guarding freight trains with his brother, Fred. He was devoted to his wife, Mitsu; Margie, and their daughter, Jinx H承担责任. He is survived by his grandson, Carl (Sarah), and three great-grandsons, Michael, Timothy and Isaac. His brothers, Tom and Ted, preceded him, and he is survived by his sons, Fred, Walt, Finko and Joe, along with many loving family members and friends. He passed away in his sleep on Sat., April 9, 2016.

JOSEPH ALLMAN

Joseph Allman (Arizona), U.S. Member of JACL, activist and past president of the Arizona Chapter of JACL, died peacefully at home on March 22, 2016, at the age of 90. Convincing that hearts and minds could be changed by people who had witnessed the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II, he was active in many Japanese American cultural activities, including the Arizona Matsuri and Japanese Friendship Garden of Phoenix. In 1995, he was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold and Silver Rays, by the Japanese government and in later years was involved in working for Anti-Hate Crimes Legislation. In his ashes will be interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona alongside those of his late wife, Toshiko Allman. Memorial donations to the National JACL and Arizona Chapter. He is survived by his daughter, Karen Mresa Allman of Seattle.
It should come as no surprise that as we get older, our hearing ability can deteriorate. Especially for the baby boomer generation, who grew up without the benefit of knowing how important it was to wear ear protection or that the ringing sound in your ear after a concert was not exactly the best measure of how good a concert really was after all. At 54, I already know that my hearing has faded over the past five years. I’m finding myself turning my head and saying, “I’m sorry, what did you say?”

But we don’t always notice hearing loss right away, either in ourselves or in those we love. Dr. Charlotte Yeh, chief medical officer for AARP Services, wrote in a Washington Post article last year how she missed the signs of hearing loss in her father. He was withdrawing from the world and not engaging socially like he used to. She noticed he was shuffling his feet, and he wasn’t his previous lively self. She chalked it up to his age, but didn’t realize right away how his hearing was affecting him.

“My dad’s situation became an aha moment for me — as a daughter and a doctor,” she wrote. “To my astonishment (and embarrassment), I realized that hearing loss, which of hearing loss doesn’t affect only people age 70 and older. It also affects their baby-boomer children and anybody else who is either a parent or a caregiver or a dependent.

“It’s not just about hearing, but about everybody.” Yeh concluded.

The fact is, Yeh explained, the National Institutes of Health says almost 25 percent of Americans ages 65-74 and 50 percent of those who are 75 and older have a disabling form of hearing loss. Younger doesn’t mean better, either: 15 percent of Americans between 20 and 69 have high-frequency hearing loss because of typical decibel levels that assault our ears at sports events, rock concerts, all our digital gadgets that play music and even the hair dryers that many people use.

There are ripple effects associated with hearing loss. When someone disengages from people around them, it could be because they can’t follow the conversation. “Hearing loss affects communication, so it is not surprising that studies show that among medical professionals point to a strong association between hearing loss and depression,” Yeh wrote.

And studies found that hearing loss negatively impacted peoples’ health more than other causes like heart disease, hypertension or diabetes.

Yeh is sounding the alarm. We need to pay attention to hearing loss and hearing aids, including how-to’s and Q & As. And there’s a new National Hearing Test that you can take over the phone. It’s free for AARP members for a limited time (https://nationalhearingtest.org).

Yeh is sounding the alarm about the importance of hearing loss as a huge health issue. She summed it up perfectly in a report published by the National Academy of Medicine, in which she wrote that baby boomers can solve this looming public health issue.

“We are the ones who brought civil rights. We put a man on the moon. We had rock ‘n’ roll, which is why we have hearing loss, and we brought Woodstock. If this isn’t a generation that can bring about that change, I don’t know what else is.”

Ron Mori is a board member for the Washington, D.C., JACL chapter, and manager of community, states and national affairs — multicultural leadership for AARP.