Preserving History
Participants convene for an All Camps Consortium meeting in Washington, D.C.

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California Gov. Jerry Brown Supports Nisei Stamp Campaign
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

PACIFIC CITIZEN 101

The official publication of the JACL is called Pacific Citizen. The official publication is not restricted to being a semimonthly newspaper (except once in December and January) or a weekly newspaper as some may still wish we return to or just a newspaper. The Pacific Citizen could be a weekly digital publication combined with a quarterly recap summary newsprint edition. The Pacific Citizen is not going away. This is the official publication of the JACL.

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In 2015, the Pacific Citizen had expenses of approximately $360,000 (including salaries) or $20,000 less than budgeted. The Pacific Citizen raised revenue totaling approximately $174,000 but missed the budgeted revenue target by $16,000-plus.

For 2016, the Pacific Citizen budget for expenses is approximately $345,000 with the reduction from 2015 primarily coming from the move to an office with a lower monthly lease. The budgeted revenue goal is $263,000. The original budget was approved by National Council at the 2014 San Jose Convention. The National Council will have an opportunity to pass a new budget in less than 60 days in Las Vegas. I present this background because although the Spring Campaign goal is $100,000, the Spring Campaign probably needs to raise closer to $150,000 for 2016. And this goal will mostly have to rise in 2017 and 2018 assuming the same cost structure and publication product as well as decline in membership revenue. Two donations totaling $38,000 were made in 2015. Several more significant donations of this size would enable the Pacific Citizen to continue producing a semimonthly newspaper mailed to 8,000-plus members and nonmembers in 2016. Give BIG.

Sincerely,

Madison Mitsuuchi
Executive Editor
Pacific Citizen

Dear Editor,

I do agree that people are overfishing Bluefin Tuna. I do really like sushi, but if they keep overfishing Bluefin Tuna around the world, there aren’t going to be any left for people to eat.

Even though lots of sushi lovers like Bluefin Tuna, they should slow down on eating it because pretty soon they will become extinct, and there will be no more Blue Fin Tuna because they can’t lay eggs because they’re caught and eaten by sushi lovers!

If we don’t slow down immediately, there will be a problem in the world that has to do with sushi! I don’t want there to be a problem in the world that has to do with sushi, do you? Well, if you don’t like sushi or fish, I don’t care what you think! But if you do like sushi or fish, then I do care a lot!

Sincerely,

Madison

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.”

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More than ever, your tax-deductible 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.

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Sincerely,

Madison
GLOBALIZATION, ALL STRINGS ATTACHED

By Matthew Ormseth

Trade was bringing everyone together; it was making everyone richer, and it was giving everyone better and cheaper things. But now, populist candidates around the world are talking in the votes on promises to scale back globalization. Supporters of the Brexit argue that the U.K. has been paying the difference when the weaker economies of countries like Greece, Spain and Portugal come up short. German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s decision to fund a bailout for Greece’s flailing economy was deeply unpopular in her country. And in the U.S., of course, Donald Trump captured the Republican Party’s presidential nomination by promising to bring jobs back from Asia and threatening to start a trade war with China.

It’s true that globalization has produced big winners and big losers in the past 50 years. The winners tend to be the few who had the capital to open factories or import-export operations in countries with dirt-cheap labor and lenient protective tariffs — people like Trump, coincidentally, whose signature line of ties is manufactured in China.

The losers, however, are many. Chief among them are blue-collar workers in countries that saw entire industries pack up and leave in search of greener, less-expensive pastures. The jury’s still out on whether the people who make up the aforementioned dirt-cheap labor in places like China and Bangladesh have benefited from the miracle of globalization, but when you hear about accidents like the Rana Plaza collapse in 2013 that killed 1,130 people, or Apple factory hands in China throwing themselves off of parking garages after 14-hour workdays, you really start to think twice before singing the praises of a global economy.

The problem is we’ve grown used to the conveniences of said economy, even as we’re applauding politicians who promise to throw the process in reverse. Here in England, nativist parties decry the influx of immigrants — 200,000 to the West Midlands alone — as a threat to the fabric of society. They argue that the cost of hiring American labor.

But then, as luck would have it, I was writing this article. I immediately thought of ways I could feel hopeful, grateful and full of joy, and so two days later, I received this Mother’s Day surprise. My son was asked to write me a letter, and it was published in the Huffington Post through an article that Lauren Myerov, the mother of a gay son, wrote.

I called the number hoping to hear from you. With this mother’s question, I realized that there is a formula: (Hope, Joy, Courage, Gratitude, Openness, Compassion, Love and Acceptance).
MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY
AT ARLINGTON CEMETERY
HONORS JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS

By Priscilla Ouchida, JACL Executive Director

PHOTO PRISCILLA OUCHIDA

Pictured are (from left) John Tobe, Turner Kobayashi, Terry Shima, Sophia Kim, Mike Yaguchi and Mike Cardarelli.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The 68th annual Memorial Day service honoring Japanese American servicemen buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C., was held on May 29.

The late Key Kobayashi and Mike Masao, organized the event in 1948, and the Memorial Day event is currently the longest-running Memorial Day event at Arlington Cemetery held by any civic organization. The DC JACL Chapter, which has been involved in the ceremony since its inception, and the Japanese American Veterans Assn. co-sponsored the event.

The Kobayashi family has chaired the event for 68 years, and three generations of the family have helped organize the event. This year, Turner Kobayashi chaired the ceremony, which featured speakers Sophia Kim, a fifth-grader at Spark Matsumaga Elementary School, and Terry Shima, a veteran of the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Shima shared a story about Saburo Tanamachi of Houston, Texas, the first Japanese American buried at Arlington. Tanamachi died in the arms of the late George "Joe" Sakato, recipient of the Medal of Honor.

Following his squad leader's death, Sakato led the charge on the Battle of the Lost Texan Battalion that was recognized as an act of extreme heroism.

Michelle Armano, granddaughter of Mike Masao, recited the JACL creed. Flowers were also laid at the graves of 80 veterans by those who attended the service.

MANZANAR EXTENDS ITS SUMMER HOURS

The Manzanar National Historic Site Visitor Center returned to its usual summer hours of 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily on June 1.

"I am happy to announce extended hours," said Superintendent Bernadette Johnson. "We are continuing to experience record visitation. In May, we had over 10,000 visitors, which included many school groups."

In addition, screenings of the award-winning film "Remembering Manzanar" show every 30 mins.

The center features 8,000 square feet of exhibits as well as a bookstore operated by the nonprofit Manzanar History Assn. Nearby, the barracks and mess hall in Block 14 are open from 9 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. daily. The site itself is open from sunrise to sunset.

The award-winning barracks exhibits feature extensive photos, documents and quotes illustrating the challenges and changes people faced at Manzanar. Visitors can drive a three-mile self-guided tour or explore on foot to see a number of gardens and ponds built by Japanese Americans to beautify the dusty ground around their barracks and mess halls. Visitors can also explore century-old orchards from the pre-war town of Manzanar.

Manzanar National Historic Site is located at 5001 Hwy. 395, six miles south of Independence, Calif. Admission is free.

For further information, please call (760) 878-2194, ext. 3310 or visit the website at www.nps.gov/manz.

APAs in the News

Asian Hall of Fame Inducts Four New Honorees

SEATTLE — Four new honorees were inducted into the Asian Hall of Fame at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel in Seattle on May 14. This year’s honorees included TV journalist Connie Chung, the late martial artist Bruce Lee, U.S. Army Ret. Maj. Gen. Antonio Taguba and Olympic Gold Medalist Kristi Yamaguchi.

Special guest presents were on hand to share with the audience their thoughts on the honoree’s personal and career achievements. Actor Jason Scott Lee shared his stories on his experience playing Lee in "Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story," Thelma Sevilla shared more information on the life and accomplishments of Taguba, Olympic figure skater and Silver Medalist Rosalynn Summers shared inside knowledge of what makes Yamaguchi such an inspiring role model and NBC News’ Andrea Mitchell shared personal stories and memories of Chung by video.

The Asian Hall of Fame is a national recognition event for Asian Pacific Americans celebrating culture and achievement.

JANM President/CEO Greg Kimura Resigns

LOS ANGELES — Japanese American National Museum President/CEO G. W. Greg Kimura has resigned, announced JANM officials on May 20. Kimura is leaving the museum to pursue other career opportunities.

Kimura, who has been at JANM for four years, will serve his last day on June 30, the end of the museum’s fiscal year. The Board of Trustees will then provide oversight and work with the Center for Nonprofit Management to select an interim CEO to serve until a successor is appointed by the board. Former U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta, who is chair of the JANM Board of Trustees, will lead a nationwide search for a successor.

“It has been a privilege working with so many dedicated professionals who care deeply about the mission and future of the museum,” said Kimura. “After four years at the helm, I feel that a change in leadership at this point will be healthy for the organization and for me. I thank my team and museum volunteers, members and donors I’ve had the honor of working with, and look forward to the museum’s continued growth as a renowned cultural institution.”

Rep. Mark Takai Will Not Run for Re-Election Due to Health Concerns

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Mark Takai (D-Hawaii) announced May 19 that he will not be seeking a second term due to health concerns.

“It has been my greatest privilege to serve the people of Hawaii for the past 20 years,” Takai said in a statement. “As your congressman, I made it my mission to always put Hawaii and her people first. When I was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer last year, my family and I resolved to fight it head-on and with deep personal faith. Today, we find ourselves at a crossroads. I had truly hoped to aggressively fight this cancer while seeking re-election, but I recently learned that my cancer has spread.”

Takai intends to serve out the remainder of his term in Congress. In a statement issued on May 20 by President Barack Obama, “Michelle and I thank Mark for his leadership and service, but also for his courage and tireless advocacy for cancer research — research that has given hope to others who fight this disease every day. And we want Mark to know that he and his family have our continued support and warmest wishes on their journey ahead.”

Eighth-Grader Finishes Tied for Seventh in the National Spelling Bee

NATIONAL HARBOR, MD. — Eighth-grade student Cooper Komatsu, 13, of Culver City Middle School in Culver City, Calif., finished tied for seventh in the 89th Scripps National Spelling Bee, which concluded on May 26 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention.

Komatsu advanced to the ninth round after correctly spelling such words as “cacomixl,” “glaucothoe” and “myoclonus” before faltering on the spelling of “illicium,” a genus of flowering plant. Komatsu also completed in last year’s competition, tying for 11th place. In 1955, his grandfather, Robert Rosenberg, also competed in the Spelling Bee.

— P.C. Staff and Associated Press
THE IMPORTANCE OF A MULTIFAITH MOVEMENT FOR JAPANESE AMERICANS AND MUSLIM AMERICANS TODAY

By Kristi Lin, Florin JACL
Manzanar Ambassador

This year’s Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage, organized in partnership by the Florin JACL and the Sacramento Valley Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR-SV), brought 50 diverse individuals on a three-day journey to the former Japanese incarceration camp of Manzanar. In 2015, the Florin Japanese American Citizen’s League (Florin JACL) and Britt Sumida, the former Student Affairs Officer of the UC Davis Department of Asian American Studies, aspired to conceive a leadership program that would expand knowledge about the Japanese American World War II incarceration camps. The program emerged as the Manzanar Ambassador program, where college students are sponsored to join the Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage and then spend a year of service educating their communities about their experiences. Kristi Lin, a fourth-year Landscape Architecture major at the University of California, Davis, has served as a Manzanar Ambassador since the program started in 2015.

“Through service as a Manzanar Ambassador last year, I went on the pilgrimage and became friends with two Muslim American UC Davis students. Inspired to educate our peers after the pilgrimage, we organized a presentation together titled, “Japanese American Incarceration Then, Islamophobia Now — History Is Repeating Itself, What Is Our Role?” at the Multifaith Living Community at UC Davis. Much to our surprise, over 80 students came. One Asian American Studies professor even offered extra credit to students who wrote an analysis of how the event’s location in a religious space might have informed, influenced or limited the dialogue.

During our presentation, religion came into the discussion multiple times as we talked about the Quakers helping many Nisei get out of camp and attend college, the vandalism of mosques and the ways for all students to help the Muslim Students Association at UC Davis raise money for Syrian refugees. I believe that the Multifaith Living Community was the optimal space for our dialogue. We simply cannot address Islamophobia or its political ramifications without bringing religion to the table.

Talking about religious diversity teaches us to search for our similarities while understanding that we may have profoundly different worldviews. But let’s not only have conversations. Let’s create experiences, like the Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage, to really get to know people from different religions and nonreligious groups.

Let’s not succumb to the standard that multifaith spaces can only be places where people from different religions light candles side by side. Let’s use a multifaith movement to address the issues we face today.

To learn more about Islam and the Council on American Islamic Relations, visit www.caair.com.

JACL FLORIN CHAPTER AWARDS ITS 2016 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Florin Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League honored five outstanding students attending schools in the Sacramento area as recipients of its 2016 scholarship awards. The event was held on May 14 at the annual Scholarship Recognition and Manzanar Reunion Ice Cream Social.

Each applicant was judged on achievements in academics and scholastic honors; extracurricular activities including leadership positions, community involvement, work history and Japanese cultural activities; JACL involvement; and community service as shown in the written application, letter of recommendation and personal interview.

The 2016 Florin JACL Scholarship winners include four graduating high school seniors and one college student. This year’s scholarships were presented in honor of individuals or groups that have contributed significantly to Florin JACL through leadership, service and monetary donations.

The chapter is pleased to award this year’s recipients:

Breana Mayumi Inoshita, daughter of Robert and Laura Inoshita of Stockton, is a University of California, Davis, student double majoring in Asian American Studies and Community and Regional Development. Inoshita has been involved in JACL activities in Stockton and Lodi since her youth, and during her sophomore year at UC Davis, became active in the Florin JACL chapter as a leadership intern.

During her tenure as the UCD intern, she helped design and secure funding for a Manzanar Ambassador Scholarship Program, and worked on several chapter committees including the Time of Remembrance, Manzanar Pilgrimage, Facebook co-administrator and Civil and Human Rights.

Inoshita attended the National JACL Convention in 2015 as a chapter delegate, participated in the Kakehashi Japan exchange program in March and was recently selected as a Northern California Cherry Blossom princess.

With an interest in Japanese language and culture, she attended the Sakura Gakuen Japanese language classes at the Sacramento Betsuin and studied Japanese classical dancing, Nihon Buyo, for many years. At age 16, she tested and earned her professional name in the Kenpo style of classical dancing.

She is also actively involved in many human and civil rights organizations and intends to attend law school specializing in civil rights law or environmental law. It is fitting that she was awarded the Mark Merin Civil Rights Scholarship, an associate of Mark Merin, presented the award to Inoshita.

Brian T. Ishisaka, son of Denis and Lesly Ishisaka, will graduate from the C. K. McClatchy High School Humanities and International Studies Program (HISP) in June. He will attend Boston University.

Ishisaka’s honors include Metro League championships in varsity cross-country track and tennis, and a national honor patrol award in Boy Scout Troop 40. Active in high school sports, he was captain of the varsity men’s tennis team and the C. K. McClatchy junior varsity basketball team, as well as a member of the varsity cross-country team and varsity basketball teams.

In addition, he is the co-founder and president of the C. K. McClatchy Book Club, staff writer and photo editor of the school newspaper, The Prospector, and student representative on the School Site Council.

He has played basketball with the Sacramento Rebel Basketball organization since 2011, and served as an assistant coach at the Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation “Basic Hoops” camp. He has also helped as a referee for the Sacramento Buddhist Church E Division League since 2012.

See SCHOLARSHIP on page 9
Japanese American Leadership Convene for All Camps Consortium

Participants, including representatives from all 10 War Relocation Authority confinement sites, come together to educate the broader community.

By Helen Yoshida, Contributor

Leadership from national Japanese American organizations and all 10 War Relocation Authority confinement sites convened in Washington, D.C., from May 12-14 for an All Camps Consortium meeting.

The Consortium is a collaborative effort to build each organization’s capacity to preserve, protect and interpret historic sites, artifacts and stories from the Japanese American incarceration experience during World War II.

The three-day event began with a reception at Japanese Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae’s residence, where former Secretary of Commerce and Transportation Norman Mineta recognized National Park Service Director Jonathan Jarvis on behalf of the Consortium for his work to preserve these historic places, so future generations may learn and gain inspiration from them.”

“We are grateful that you have promoted stewardship, educational programs for the public and the engagement of new audiences to the Japanese American story, a tragic chapter in our history,” said Mineta. “Your conscientious supervision of the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) Program and support of Japanese American sites in the National Park Service reflects a tremendous commitment to preserve these historic places, so future generations may learn and gain inspiration from them.”

On May 13, site representatives and stakeholder organizations met at the Washington, D.C., offices of Hogan Lovells LLP to discuss the objectives and structure of the Consortium and effort required to create a successful and sustainable network.

More than 60 participants attended, including delegates from Arkansas State University (Rohwer and Jerome sites), American Institute for Congressional Studies, Densho, Friends of Manzanar, Friends of Minidoka, Gila River, Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation (HMWF), Manzanar Committee, Minidoka Pilgrimage, Poston Community Alliance, Tule Lake Museum, Tule Lake Committee and the Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project.


While there have been “All Camps” summits in previous years, partnerships have not been sustained between groups. The JACS program has helped build public awareness around the incarceration history, groups have tended to work in isolation. However, a renewed interest to build a lasting network resulted in the HMWF’s successful bid for JACS funding to form an All Camps Consortium.

“These stakeholders must work together to preserve the original sites and stories of incarceration, build each organization’s capacity to share resources and information and educate the broader community. In creating this Consortium, we are fostering a culture of communication, inclusiveness and multigenerational engagement to ensure that this history is not forgotten,” said HMWF Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi.

Psychotherapist and former Tule Lake incarceree Satsuki Ina led a discussion about how preserving the history and original sites of the incarceration experience is essential to healing the trauma and divisions that persist in the Japanese American community. She described how past generations lost their dignity, dreams, livelihoods, educational opportunities and more with the forced removal and discussed how this meeting marked a historic gathering of leaders.

“This call for an All Camps Consortium demands that we move beyond the age-old camp divide,” Ina said.

The Consortium’s foundation was established through an initial August 2015 meeting at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center in Wyoming. This second gathering in the nation’s capital featured keynote presentations by Ina and Mineta, structured brainstorming sessions led by Densho Executive Director Tom Ikeda and panel discussions around connecting the confinement sites to Washington, D.C., engaging younger audiences and conservation updates on the Allen H. Eaton items.

Representatives from the Arkansas State University Heritage Sites (Rohwer and Jerome sites), the Ad Hoc Committee of “Japanese American History: Not for Sale,” APACIS, Densho, Friends of Minidoka, HMWF, Kizuna, JACL, Minidoka Pilgrimage Planning Committee, NJAMF, NJAHS, NPS and the Tule Lake Committee formed a steering committee to move the Consortium effort into its next phase.

Former Secretary of Commerce and Transportation Norman Mineta gives a keynote speech during the All Camps Consortium meeting.
The event closed with presentations at the National Japanese American Memorial on May 14. Franklin Odo, founding director of the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, noted the ability of memorials to tell stories that are often not included in the nation’s recorded history. He was followed by Memorial architect Davis Buckley, who discussed the memorial’s history and symbolism. To create a compelling memorial, Buckley noted that all participants involved should advocate for the project each day they are working on it.

“Through good friends in Congress who recognized founding principles of what the memorial represents, we got the memorial,” Buckley said.

Following the presentations, NJAMF leadership announced six student scholarship winners from across the nation who are creating digital stories of the camps to supplement memorial visitors’ experiences.

Martha Castro of the College Preparatory School in Oakland, Calif.; Carolyn Hoover and Reed Leventis of Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, Md.; Julia Shin of Shaker Heights High School in Shaker Heights, Ohio; Halle Sousa of Notre Dame High School in San Jose, Calif.; and Connor Yu of Georgetown Day School in Washington, D.C., will tell the stories of Tule Lake, Topaz, Poston, Manzanar, Amache and Heart Mountain, respectively.

These students will also travel to Wyoming to participate in a Digital Storytelling Workshop during the Heart Mountain Pilgrimage, which is set for July 29-30. The students will work with Emmy Award-winning filmmakers Jeff MacIntyre and David Ono to incorporate summer research and interviews with former internees to create short films using audio, video, photographs and music.

Excerpts will be aired during the pilgrimage, and postproduction on the students’ stories will be conducted by the filmmakers. The completed stories will be uploaded to an app for memorial visitors, and it is hoped that they will be widely shared online to not only raise awareness but also foster youth engagement and show how lessons from the incarceration experience are still relevant to preserving Americans’ rights and liberties today.

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More than 60 representatives from national Japanese American organizations and all 10 War Relocation Authority confinement sites participated in the All Camps Consortium meeting on May 13.

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Polaris Tours 2016 Schedule

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OBAMA USES HIROSHIMA VISIT AS OPPORTUNITY TO URGE NO NUKES

During his historic visit, the president acknowledges — but does not apologize for — the U.S. atomic bombing on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

By Associated Press

HIROSHIMA, JAPAN — With an unflinching look back at a painful history, President Barack Obama stood on the hallowed ground of Hiroshima on May 27 and declared it a fitting place to summon people everywhere to embrace the vision of a world without nuclear weapons.

As the first American president to visit the city where the U.S. dropped the first atomic bomb, Obama came to acknowledge — but not apologize for — an act many Americans see as a justified end to a brutal war that Japan started with a sneak attack at Pearl Harbor.

Some 140,000 people died after a U.S. warplane targeted wartime Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, and 70,000 more perished in Nagasaki, where a second bomb was dropped three days later. Japan soon surrendered.

"Their souls speak to us," Obama said of the dead. "They ask us to look inward, to take stock of who we are and who we might become."

With a lofty speech and a warm embrace for an elderly survivor, Obama renewed the call for a nuclear-free future that he had first laid out in a 2009 speech in Prague.

The president, who has made uneven progress on his nuclear agenda over the past seven years, spoke of "the courage to escape the logic of fear" as he held out hope for a pact for further weapons reductions with Russia. But North Korea's nuclear program still looms as a threat, and hopes for a pact for further weapons reductions with Russia have stalled. Critics also fault the administration for planning a big and costly program to upgrade U.S. nuclear stockpiles.

Just as Obama had delicate sensitivities to manage in Hiroshima, so, too, did Abe. The Japanese leader made a point to dismiss any suggestion that he pay a reciprocal visit to Pearl Harbor.

Abe did not rule out coming to Hawaii someday, but clearly wanted to avoid any notion of moral equivalence. In Japan, Pearl Harbor is not seen as a parallel to the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but as an attack on a military installation that did not trigger civilian destruction.

Bomb survivor Kinuyo Ikegami, 82, paid her own respects at the cenotaph before the politicians arrived.

"I could hear schoolchildren screaming: 'Help me! Help me!'" she said, tears running down her face. "It was too painful, too horrible. Even now it fills me with emotion."

Obama went out of his way, in speaking to the dead, to mention that thousands of Koreans and a dozen American prisoners were among those who died. It was a nod to advocates for both groups who had publicly warned the president not to forget about them in Hiroshima.

In a brief visit to the museum at the Peace Park, Obama visited a display about a young girl who survived the bombing but died several years later of leukemia. She folded paper cranes in the hospital until she died and is the inspiration for the story of Sadako and the thousand cranes.

The president signed the fully funded H.R. 4238 bill on May 20, striking the word "Oriental" from federal law.

The bill's original author, Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY), introduced the initiative late last year, and the bill was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives on Feb. 29. On May 9, the Senate passed it again with 76 members of Congress as co-sponsors and 51 members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

The new bill targets outdated language used to describe racial groups.

"The term 'Oriental' is an insulting and outdated word, and the Senate's passage of the bill will soon force the U.S. government to finally stop using it," Meng said in a statement.

"I thank my colleagues in the House and Senate for recognizing the need to pass this long overdue legislation," she added. "Our government should not refer to any ethnicity in a derogatory manner, and very shortly this offensive and antiquated term will be gone for good."

This new law will target and remove the last sections of racial terminology of the U.S. Code. In Title 42 of the U.S. Code for the Department of Energy Organization Act, "a Negro, Puerto Rican, American Indian, Eskimo, Oriental or Aleut" or a Spanish-speaking individual of "Spanish descent" will be replaced with "an American, Native Hawaiian, a Pacific Islander, African American, Hispanic, Puerto Rican, Native American or an Alaskan Native." "Oriental" is a throwback to a time when Asian Americans were viewed as an amorphous population from a geographically-incorrect region known as the Orient, which exists as neither continent nor country. An Oriental could be a person or a person or any object that could be vaguely associated with cultures east of Europe, said JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida. "I congratulate Sen. Hirono and Congresswoman Meng for their leadership in ensuring federal law recognizes our self-identity. The new law is a solid step toward eliminating derogatory racial references."

Other parts of the bill will remove "Negro, Spanish-speaking, Orientals, Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts" from the 1976 public-works act.

The new change looks to reflect America's steps in addressing race and ethnicity. However, archaic attitudes can leave lasting marks and survive through the law even long after popular culture has moved on. Parts of the government, like the U.S. Census Bureau, have undergone similar revisions.

In 1890, the available categories were "black, mulatto" or "white," but by 1960, "Indians" for Native Americans and "Chinee" made their first appearances on the census. Those from India didn't have box until 1920, written as "Hindu." Hindu is a religious identity and not an ethnic one.

One of the bureau's changes included the 2013 announcement that it would no longer use "Negro" on its forms despite being dropped almost a century.

But as the federal law moves to eliminate the outdated terms, states still retain some of the racial terms in their statutes like New Jersey's education code.

The code asks educators in the state to include "the history of the Negro in America" as part of the curriculum. The Mississippi State University of Agriculture and Applied Sciences in Jackson has a 4-H camp in Madison County "for the purpose of teaching Negro descent" girls of Mississippi standards of better farm and homemaking.

Additionally, New York includes code requiring sickle-cell anemia tests to "teach applicants for marriage license who is not of the Caucasian, Indian or Oriental race." Sickle cell anemia is a genetic blood disorder.

But some states have fought for anti-discrimination labels like Pennsylvania. The state prohibits "Caucasian, Negroid, Chinese, Asian Immigrant, French, Hawaiian, Arab, Oriental, African-American and Irish" in housing advertisements.

Sen. Mazie K. Hirono, a sponsor to the bill in the Senate, said in statement that "after months of advocacy in both chambers of Congress, the derogatory term used in federal law will finally be updated to reflect our country's diversity."
CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR PENS A MEMORIAL DAY LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NISEI SOLIDERS STAMP

California Gov. Jerry Brown has voiced support for a U.S. commemorative postage stamp that would honor the patriotism of Japanese American World War II soldiers. Brown’s letter was sent to U.S. Postmaster General Megan Brennan in time for Memorial Day, as the nation remembered those who died while in service in the U.S. Armed Forces. During World War II, more than 800 Japanese Americans soldiers perished.

“On behalf of the State of California, I respectfully urge you to approve a commemorative stamp to honor the patriotism exhibited by Japanese Americans during World War II.” Brown wrote in his May 23 letter to Brennan.

“I urge you to issue this stamp in time for next year’s 75th anniversary, remembering the order of internment of Japanese Americans. This stamp will help preserve the memory and help educate and promote dialogue on this important part of our history for generations to come,” Brown added.

Executive Order 9066, signed in February 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, led to the incarceration of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans during the war. This letter is a first from a state governor. Other letters of support for the Nisei Soldiers Stamp campaign have been sent by numerous city, county and state officials. This year, 32 members of Congress joined California Representatives Mark Takai and Judy Chu in a letter that backs the stamp.

“This Memorial Day, we are grateful for Governor Brown’s bold stance in support of this historic stamp subject,” said Wayne Usaku, co-chair of the “Stamp Our Story Campaign,” which is spearheading the nationwide effort. “We encourage governors and members of Congress to join Governor Brown and take a stand for this legendary group of American soldiers.”

The 11-year campaign continues to push forward as the Postal Service considers the proposal. If issued, the stamp would be the first to feature a historical subject from the Asian American Pacific Islanders community.

Despite the incarceration, more than 33,000 Japanese Americans enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War II. Many enlisted saying that they did so to show their American patriotism. Most served in the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, as well as the 10th Mountain Division. These groups are considered among the most decorated units in U.S. military history.

Supporters are being asked to contact their governors by email and phone, which can be found on each governor’s website. Also, people are being encouraged to continue to reach out to members of Congress to write their own letters of support, which can be found on the campaign’s website at www.StampOurStory.org.

SCHOLARSHIP >> continued from page 5

Ishisaka attended Jan Ken Po Japanese cultural program from first-sixth grade. In addition, he has been in the scouting program at the Sacramento Buddhist Church since 2003, starting as a Cub Scout in Pack 50; he recently earned his Eagle Scout rank. For his Eagle Scout project, Brian directed the construction of a teaching center cart for the third grade class, for which he served as a teacher assistant for the past four years.

For his dedication to helping coach and teach younger children, Ishisaka was awarded the Jaan Anne Fritani Community Education Scholarship.

Kenji Justin Lo, son of Ken and Robin Lo, will graduate from J. F. Kennedy High School, where he has been active in the Program in American and California Explorations (PACE) program and the California Scholarship Federation. He has chosen to attend the University of California, Davis, in the fall.

Among his accomplishments, Lo participated in the Poetry Out Loud competition and played on the varsity golf team, where he was a team leader and was awarded MVP during the fall 2013 season. As president of the Japanese Culture Club and Japan Trip Club, he helped organize a trip to Japan in 2015.

His community involvement includes helping with Pocket Little League, Sacramento United Methodist Church basketball program and the Sacramento Aloha Festival.

He attended and participated at Jan Ken Po Gakko as a student and teacher’s aide and recently created a video on the traditional method of making mochi.

Lo also has been part of the Florin JACL community since childhood, participating along with his grandparents, Stan and Christine Uyeyama, at the annual Mochi Madness, Nikkei Dogs and Spaghetti Bingo Night fundraisers, Time of Remembrance, the Manzanar Pilgrimage and other events as a helper and supporter. Because of his participation in the Manzanar Pilgrimage and the Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser in which the local Bob Uyeyama was very involved, Lo was awarded the Bob Uyeyama Community Service Scholarship, which was presented to him by Mrs. Uyeyama.

Alexis P. Louie, daughter of Scott and Diane Enomoto Louie, has been participating in Florin JACL activities for many years and states that the Manzanar Pilgrimage during her freshman and junior years of high school and the Angel Island trip were among her most meaningful.

Louie will graduate from the J. F. Kennedy High School PACE program, where she is an AP Scholar, National High School Scholar, and National Honor Society and California Scholarship Federation member. She is also in the Interact Club, Japan Trip Club and served as president of Lilu. Lilu members sew original handbags to support foster children.

In addition, Louie has earned her Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards in the Girl Scouts program and has been an aftBEAST summer camp assistant, as well as an ACC Nursing Home volunteer.

Her family has hosted numerous Japanese exchange students over the years and because of her wonderful experiences with them, she traveled to Matsuyama with her JFK Japanese Club during the summer of 2015 and stayed several days with a host family. The exchange experience moved her to apply for the Rotary Youth Exchange program for which she was accepted. Louie will defer a year of college to live in Japan and immerse herself in the Japanese culture and language.

Louie was awarded the Mike Staley Community Service Scholarship, which was presented to her by Staley’s son, Benjamin Staley.

Kevin S. Louie, son of Scott and Diane Enomoto Louie, and twin brother of Alexis Louie, is an academic honor student in the J. F. Kennedy High School PACE program, where he will graduate with an overall GPA of 3.9. He will attend the University of California, Los Angeles.

Among his achievements, Louie played on the junior varsity and varsity soccer teams, participated in JV and varsity track and field and played on a Givnghaven Soccer team. He also played church basketball from 2012-16, is a member of the California Scholarship Federation, the Interact Club and received the Outstanding PACER Award in 2014 and the AP Scholar Award in 2015.

His community involvement includes volunteering at the ACC Nursing Home and Florin Buddhist Church food bazaars. During summer 2015, he traveled to Peru to help render community service, as well as helped coach boys’ basketball teams.

It is fitting that Louie was recognized to receive the Sacramento Nikkei Singles Academic Excellence Award presented to him by President Clifford Lee.

JACL NATIONAL CONVENTION EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS JUNE 17

JACL 2015 chapter delegates cast votes for resolutions.

LAS VEGAS — Don’t miss out on early bird registration for the 2016 JACL National Convention! Early bird registration starts at $275 for JACL members. For each person registered, $25 will go toward funding the National Youth Student Council. Save $50 by registering before June 17.

This year’s convention will see the election of a new JACL National Board, as well as plenary sessions, exhibits and the Sayonara Banquet.

Taking place in Las Vegas, Nev., from July 11-14, the 2016 JACL National Convention is right around the corner. Be sure to reserve your room at the Monte Carlo Resort and Casino at the special convention rate of $55 a night by the June 17 deadline.

For more information, to reserve your room and to register for convention, please visit the JACL Convention website (https://jaco.org/2016convention).
Japanese Cultural Fair
Santa Cruz, CA
June 4; 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
Mission Plaza Park
103 Emett St.
Price: Free
Enjoy a warm and beautiful day at the Mission Plaza Park for the Japanese Cultural Fair.

APAN 16th Annual
CelebrAsian Rites of Passage Ceremony
Los Angeles, CA
June 4; 6–8:30 p.m.
Price: Free
APAN will host an event honoring all Foothill College students of Asian or Pacific Islander ancestry who are graduating, transferring or receiving certificates.
Info: Contact Lily Luu at luulily@fhda.edu.

San Jose Obon Festival
San Jose, CA
July 9
San Jose Japantown
Fourth and Jackson
Price: Free
Japantown celebrates the Obon festival this year, welcoming families and friends to come together.

Japanese American Discussion Group
Oakland, CA
July 13; 6:30–7:30 p.m.
California Genealogical Society and Library
2201 Broadway, Suite LL
Price: Nonmembers $5
Join the California Genealogical Society as President Linda Harms Okazaki opens an informal discussion about Japanese emigrants.
Info: Call (610) 663-1386.

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MDC
Japan Festival Chicago
Arlington Heights, IL
June 11-12
Forest View Education Center
2121 S. Goebbert Road
Hosted by the Chicago Japanese American Council, this year’s festival will showcase a variety of performances, exhibits, foods, music and special programming. A screening of “The Legacy of Heart Mountain” will also be shown.

Listening Session on Asian American and Pacific Islander Aging — Chicago
Chicago, IL
June 15; 9 a.m.-noon
Chinese American Service League Grand Hall
2411 S. Tan Court
The listening session hopes to develop connections between federal departments and the National Asian Pacific Center on Aging to help Asian American and Pacific Islanders age with dignity and well-being.
Info: Contact Dave Hung at dave.hung@ed.gov.

Kansha Project Culmination Massachusetts Asian American Commission
Skokie, IL
June 18; 1 p.m.
Skokie Banquet and Conference Center
5300 W. Touhy
Price: General tickets, $30; youth and students, $20
The Kansha Project is a program connecting Japanese American youth with the continuing legacy of the Japanese American community’s incarceration during WWII.

CCDC
The Topaz (Utah) Museum and Site
Independence, CA
June 11; 2 p.m.
Manzanar National Historic Site
5001 Hwy. 395
Price: General admission
The special program is presented by Friends of Topaz board members Ann Takami Dion and author Kimi Kedani Hill. Hill is the author of “Topaz Moon” and “Obata’s Yosemite.” She is also the granddaughter or artist Chiura Obata.
Info: Visit www.nps.gov/manz.

PSW
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.

APAN 16th Annual
CelebrAsian Rites of Passage Ceremony
Los Angeles, CA
June 17; 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
350 S. Bixel St.
Price: Free
Join elected officials, community leaders, local press and families as the Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE) welcomes the 24th class of Leadership Academy Interns.

V3Con Digital Media Conference
Los Angeles, CA
June 24-25
Japanese American National Museum
100 N. Central Ave.
Price: Registration fees may vary
The Asian American Journalists Assn. will host its annual V3Con geared toward promoting multimedia Asian American and Pacific Islander journalists, creative social media communicators, seasoned bloggers and those interested in engaging on digital platforms.

NCWNP
Tohoku Series: ‘Stories From Tohoku’
San Jose, CA
June 4; 1-3 p.m.
Japanese American Museum of San Jose
535 N. Fifth St.
Price: Free with admission to the museum
Marie Mutsuki Mockett, author of “Where the Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye,” will do a special meet and greet at the museum.
Info: Visit www.jamsj.org or call (408) 294-3138.

‘Invisible Asians’ Discussion With Kim Park Nelson
San Francisco, CA
June 4; 1-4 p.m.
San Francisco State University, Ethnic Studies and Psychology Building 116
1600 Holloway Ave.
MEMORIAM

Tanimoto, Kenji, 77, Los Angeles, CA; April 16; he is survived by his wife, Patricia; daughters; Tats (Gary) Higa and Stephanie (Andrew) Salcido; sister, Yuri; brothers, Tetsu and Akira; he is also survived by many nieces and nephews; and other relatives; gc: 4.

Toguchi, Gladys Misao, 74, Monterey Park, CA; April 24; she is survived by her husband, Ted; children, Darren Toguchi and Tiffany (Josh) Park; step-daughters, Cindy (Peter) Hoffman and Christine Toguchi; sisters, Jeanette Ginoza and Helen (Owen) iba; brother, Thomas (Barbara) and Calvin Ige; she is also survived by many nieces, nephew and other relatives; gc: 3.

Tomita, Roy Hiroji, 85, Sun Valley, CA; March 27; he is survived by his sons, Randy and Donald; brothers, Toichi Nakanishi and George (Emi) Tomita; gc: 3.

Watanabe Kenji, Yorba Linda, CA; May 9; he is survive by his wife, June; daughter, Lori (Shuj) Yamada; gc: 2.

Yamaguchi, Aiko, 103; Los Angeles, CA; May 27; she was predeceased by her husband, Kinji; sister, Mineko Hoshimoto; sister-in-law, Yae Nagai; nieces, Jane Kawahara, Bernice Nishikawa and Diana Kawamoto.

Yoshida, Miyoko, 73, Sun City, CA; April 16; she is survived by her husband, Tadashi; son, Alex Tadayuki Yoshida; daughter, Christine Yayoi Yoshida; sister, Betty.
I
n 2009, one of the most rewarding jobs that I ever held was eliminated. I had survived so many corporate
mergers and downsizing that when close colleagues
lost their jobs. So, I felt that it was my turn. But the timing
was terrible: My career was disrupted in one of the worst
economic times since the Great Depression.

During this time, I was a few months from turning 50, and
age discrimination did cross my mind. I quickly eliminated
any negative thoughts and reminded myself that I have skills
and valuable experiences for today’s workplace.

Fast forward, I did survive but not without a lot of pain,
self-reflection and openness to learning the new dynamics
of today’s job search. The reality was, I was looking for the
ideal job that matched my skills and experience in a terrible
economy. The question I had to ask myself was, “Where do I
begin my search for a job in a market that has moved into
the Digital Age?”

Well, I’m happy to report that I landed at AARP and
survived moving my family to Northern Virginia. If you
are like me, looking to land that next great gig, AARP has
resources to make your career transition easier.

Just check out www.aarp.org/work, where you’ll find ways
to stay happy where you are now, tips to start your search
for the next step in your career or even starting your own
business. If you’re like I used to be, and worry about your
age, there are articles about working at 50+.

You will also have access to nearly 300 employers from the
AARP Employer Pledge Program, such as UnitedHealth
Group, American Red Cross and KPMG LLP, who value
what experienced workers bring to the workplace and recruit
from across diverse age groups. You can read more about
the AARP Employer Pledge Program at www.aarp.org/work/
job-search/employer-pledge-companies.

We all know that the task of searching for a job has changed
in recent years. Looking for a job now is more than just
submitting your résumé and waiting for a call back.
Applying for a job must be coupled with networking, which
increases your chances of landing that next great gig.

Using your social networks is key to your job search.
Not only should you tell your friends, but also tell friends
of friends that you are seeking employment. Now is the time
to sharpen your job-searching skills.

AARP can help with that, too. The AARP Technology
Education Center has a host of short skill-building videos
and webinars to help you learn how to brand and promote
yourself and how to use social media in your job search.
You can explore AARP’s T*ECK (Technology, Education,
Knowledge) information at www.aarp.org/tek.

If you feel overwhelmed by today’s gadgets, AARP TEK
also has a host of refresher courses on how to use technol-
yogy to stay organized, manage projects, manage change
and communicate better. In addition, there are several Microsoft
Office refresher courses available. And let’s face it, everyone
uses Microsoft Office, right?

Recently, I was having lunch with a friend, and we were
sharing notes about the days of Lotus 123, and how neither
of us use Uber and would rather pay more for a taxi. You can
refuse to keep up with the times or choose to evolve.
Just don’t be too resistant to some change now and then,
because you don’t want to be left behind when everyone
around you has moved on. Looking for work in the modern
world requires modern thinking.

Perhaps you’re looking to shift careers, and you’re not sure
of what that might be. Whether you are looking for a job,
changing careers or managing unemployment, AARP can
help you along the way.

Happy job hunting!

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

GLOBALIZATION »continued from page 3

Take American Apparel, for example. The company was founded on a basic
premise: Make everything in America, with American workers, and pay those workers a
decent wage. Sounds a lot like Trump’s plan
for the next step in your career or even starting your own
business. If you’re like I used to be, and worry about your
age, there are articles about working at 50+

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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.

June 3-16, 2016
COMMENTSARY
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PACIFIC CITIZEN