PEARL HARBOR 75TH

On the eve of its anniversary, the world prepares to commemorate the event that will forever ‘live in infamy.’
DONALD J. TRUMP ELECTED 45TH PRESIDENT; AAPI COMMUNITY VOICES MIXED REACTIONS

In a stunning and surprising victory, Donald J. Trump was elected the 45th president of the United States on Nov. 8, shocking all prognosticators that indicated a sure-fire win for opponent Hillary Clinton leading all the way up to Election Day.

Trump, 70, secured 290 Electoral College votes to Clinton’s 232, winning crucial battleground states such as Florida, Ohio, North Carolina, and Wisconsin — all states that historically have skewed toward a Democratic candidate.

I am the president for all Americans,” he told supporters in New York after his victory was announced shortly after 3 a.m. Eastern time. “Now it’s time for America to bind the wounds of division. It’s time for us to come together as one united people. It’s time.”

But according to a national poll, a majority of Asian American voters backed Clinton over Trump. According to results released by the Asian-American National Election Poll, 75 percent of Asian Americans voted for Clinton, while only 19 percent voted for Trump, a larger margin than found by initial polls, which indicated that 65 percent of Asian Americans would vote for Clinton.

Throughout his campaign, Trump’s strategy was to create a registry for Muslims. He declared, “I’m a leader who support equality and liberty for all in this nation,” said former U.S. Sec. Norman Y. Mineta.

Echoed George Takei. “I did not vote for Mr. Trump, but we all must abide by the results of a fairly executed democratic election, and I remind him that, as the president of all Americans, he and his administration must respect and honor the democracy of our history, experience and contributions. This is the United States.”

Bill H. Seki, chair of the board of directors of the Go For Smoke National Education Center, said, “The Asian-American experience of World War II is a case study of what not to do in times of fear. The OPENBEC is committed to ensuring that these violations of law and civil liberties do not take place again.

Trump is currently assembling his presidential cabinet. He will be inaugurated on Jan. 20.

JACL Statement on the Election of President-Elect Donald J. Trump

JACL fully understands the protests of despair that have arisen, in the aftermath of the election of Donald Trump as president. We especially understand the voices that denounce the unabashed racism that was evident during the campaign, and we add our voice to that denunciation.

At the beginning of the presidential campaign, JACL denounced the constant public discourse that resulted in prejudice and stereotypes, the way in which these were portrayed in public discourse, which related to one certain group, which was denigrated for their race, ethnicity, or religion. This is to our Shame.

We recalled the early 1990’s when Japanese Americans and Asian Pacific Islander Americans were targeted and became victims in a discriminatory way. Japan-bashing in reaction to strengthening economy in Japan became a rallying cry from politicians seeking simple solutions to deeply rooted problems.

The campaign season began with attacks against political correctness and devolved into full-throated expressions of racism. We know when they are sung out and targeted in our media or political arena, that they have a lasting effect and are the result of racism.

JACL has the opportunity to reconsider what he has said and be a leader who support equality and liberty for all in this nation,” said former U.S. Sec. Norman Y. Mineta.

Echoed George Takei. “I did not vote for Mr. Trump, but we all must abide by the results of a fairly executed democratic election, and I remind him that, as the president of all Americans, he and his administration must respect and honor the democracy of our history, experience and contributions. This is the United States.”

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Haven’t We Learned Anything From the Injustice of Japanese American Incarceration?

By G.S. Anabawa

The slope just got a little slippery. Cat Highie, a former Navy SEAL who’s the spokesman for the Great America PAC supporting Donald Trump, was recently interviewed on Fox News “The Kelly File.” The president-elect’s transition team is discussing plans for a security for Muslim immigration, he said, and there were historical precedents for such a security, including the imprisonment of Japanese in internment camps.

“We’ve done it with Iran back a while ago.” Highie said, and continued, “we did it during World War II with the Japanese.”

What?

To her credit, Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly called out Highie, emphasizing in no uncertain terms, you can’t be acting, Japanese internment camps are precedent for anything the president-elect gonna do!

This idea isn’t new. It bubbled up last fall during the campaign, when candidate Trump told a TV reporter that he supported creating a registry for Muslims, as an addition to his statement that he would ban immigration of all Muslims. It’s apparently now part of Trump’s plan for BETTER writing.

What’s next, requiring Muslims to have ID badges like Jews had to wear in Nazi Germany?

Would Muslims be imprisoned like the 120,000 people of Japanese descent who were incarcerated during World War II, or would they be detained in camps?

The theme of next year’s DOJ! The post-war resettlement of Japanese Americans in Colorado and the continuing need to build bridges with the Muslim community.

Every year on the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend, there is a vigil from Denver to Amane, the concentration camp in Southeast Colorado, located outside the town of Granada, between Lamar and the Kansas border.

The story of the building of a baracks that once held 9,000 people at the camp’s peak. A master plan and a guard tower have been rebuilt; one of the one-story barracks serves as an equipment storage shed in nearby Granada park. The site is desolate and dusty, with blooming dust and tumbleweeds. One bit of green is the Denver Optimists Club built a memorial to the men who volunteered and fought for the U.S. In Europe for the famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team, even though their families were in Amane while they fought for our freedom.

There were nine camps in all, and Amane was the only one in Colorado. If you ever visit, you’ll understand why Japanese Americans feel so kinship to Muslims and Arab Americans. We know the sting of racism and how the government can legitimize such a mass act of hatred.

For decades, Japanese Americans have said “never forget,” and we mark that signing of E.O. 9066 every Feb 19 as a Day of Remembrance. In Denver, the Mile High chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, the country’s oldest Asian American civil rights organization, will commemorate the 75th anniversary of E.O. 9066 Feb 19 at the History Colorado Museum.

LEGAL-EASE: AN ATTORNEY’S PERSPECTIVE

How to Make Things Easy for Your Trustee

By Stan Yamashita-Fida, Esq.

The term “trustee” often conjures an image of a distinguished, silver-haired gentleman so dressed in a suit, sitting in a lawyer’s office with a briefcase filled with important papers. In reality, most trustees I meet with are clients of whom I have a look of pure disbelief. Their parents told them that they would be the trustees when their parents died, but other than that, the children have no idea what the next step is.

A trustee is a person (or persons) responsible for managing assets placed in a living trust. The trustee is usually the creator of the trust during his or her lifetime. Once the creator passes away, the successor trustee steps in to continue managing the assets and eventually ensure that they are distributed to the named beneficiaries.

Being a trustee can often be a stressful task because of the many duties and responsibilities associated with the appointment. In order to make the trustee’s job as easy as possible, consider the following:

Prepare a Personal Property Memorandum

When you create a living trust, you have the opportunity to choose who get all of what you’ve given. The typical beneficiary designation generally says something like this: “Upon my death, I want all of my assets to be distributed to my three children, equally.”

For the most part, children are happy when there is an equal distribution of assets. Everyone gets their share of the home, everyone gets their share of the car, etc. However, there are certain circumstances that can lead to a standstill within the family.

Interestingly enough, it is not just life, “Who gets what now?” or “Who gets the money?” that cause family fighting. Instead, disputes arise over when the sentimental items like Grandma’s wedding ring or Uncle Harry’s original paintings.

It is the trustee’s responsibility to distribute your assets. To prevent the trustee from having the stressful task of determining which assets receive which asset of sentimental value, create a Personal Property Memorandum. Through this document, you specifically state which individual gets which asset (e.g., “My wife’s 2007 Toyota Camry shall go to my nephew, Garrett.”). The Personal Property Memorandum is used for tangible items such as jewelry, family heirlooms, etc. It is a great way to let your trustee know exactly what you want and prevent any potential family fighting.

Fund All Assets

The primary purpose of creating a trust is to avoid probate. There’s nothing worse for a trustee than learning that assets need to be probated or that the property needs to be probated property . . . not to mention hefty legal fees. In the meantime, your trustee may have to deal with beneficiaries whining over how long it is taking them for you to receive their inheritance.

To prevent this from happening, you should make sure all of your property is funded in the trust.

If you’re not sure whether your real property (your home, rental properties, vacation homes, etc.) is funded, ask your attorney. They will be able to do a quick title search to confirm if it’s in the trust.

To check if your bank accounts are in trust, take a look at your statements. In the upper left-hand corner, it should reference a “Trust” or “IT.” If it only lists your name, it should probably not be funded in the trust.

If you never funded certain assets into the trust or you’ve acquired new assets that also need funding, consult with your attorney to ensure that you’re experiencing a quick and painless administration of your trust.

Keep an Updated List of Assets

Think about whom you’ve named as your successor trustee. If you died right at this moment, would that person know what assets you own? Would he or she know about your savings account at Union Bank or the Disney stock you purchased 20 years ago?

Upon your passing, your trustee will be responsible for accurate asset and distribution of all your assets and ensuring that they are distributed to your beneficiaries. It is important to write down a detailed and complete list of all your assets so that your trustee knows exactly what he or she is dealing with. The list should be updated periodically (e.g., if you close your Chase checking account). The list should be updated every time a new asset is added or removed from the list and should be kept in your trust record for easy access.

Keep the Trust Effectively Accessible

When I return a trust binder to a client, one of the questions I’m frequently asked is, “Where should I keep it?” Because there are so many important documents within your estate plan (the trust itself, Powers of Attorney, and your Will, etc.), the trust binder is quite big. So, where is the best place to keep it?

>> See TRUSTEE on page 9
NATIONAL VETERANS NETWORK OBSERVES VETERANS DAY WITH #IAMAMERICAN CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Veterans Network launched a new social media campaign on Nov. 11 to honor the legacy of the World War II Japanese American soldiers by encouraging everyone to share their #IAMAmerican story.

The campaign will continue through the end of the year, and veterans and their families are encouraged to share their stories online via Facebook, Twitter and the NVN website. In addition, the NVN website (www.nationalveteranetwork.com) will host an interactive map that visually demonstrates the locations of the stories being shared.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE RELEASES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TULE LAKE

TULELAKE, CALIF. - The National Park Service released the Tule Lake Unit General Management Plan and Environmental Assessment for public review and comment on Nov. 3. The plan provides long-term guidance for how the NPS will develop and manage the unit, as well as how the stories of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II will be told at Tule Lake.

The NPS will hold public workshops from November to January to present the management plan and receive comments. These workshops will further a public dialogue, which began in 2013, about how to effectively protect the site and commemorate the public about this chapter in American history.

The Tule Lake Unit preserves the site of the Tule Lake Segregation Center, which was one of the camps where more than 120,000 Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II. The camp, established in 2008 by President George W. Bush, is the only Tule Lake Unit to preserve, study and interpret the history and setting of the incarceration of Japanese Americans at Tule Lake. Between 1942-46, more than 129,000 Japanese Americans were incarcerated there, and two-thirds of those incarcerated were U.S. citizens.

The NPS is thrilled to be reviewing the plan, the public, and especially to those who experienced the World War II incarceration at Tule Lake or were impacted by the Klamath Basin community. This moment changes the narrative for Tule Lake. It paves the way to the future of what the site will look like and the lessons visitors will learn about Tule Lake's unique and long-contexted history. We're eager to hear what the public thinks about the National Park Service's plan for the Tule Lake Unit, and how we can help people visit and engage in a discussion about Tule Lake's future," said Lawrence Whelan, superintendent of the Tule Lake Unit and Luna Beds National Monument.

The NPS will hold 11 public workshops at locations in California, Oregon, Washington, New York and online.

Information about the Tule Lake Unit plans is available at parkplanning.nps.gov/TuleLakeGMP. Comments may be submitted online at comments.nps.gov or by email to tulelake.nps.commerce. The public comment period closes on Feb. 10. For more information, visit nps.gov/tulelake or Facebook at facebook.com/TuleLakeNPS.

APAS in the News/NewsBytes

Record Number of AAP is Elected to Congress in 2016

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Voters elected a record number of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to Congress on Nov. 8. Congress will now have 14 AAP representatives, two more than the previous record.

Among those to emerge victorious were California Attorney General Kamala Harris, who becomes the first Indian American woman elected to the U.S. Senate. Harris is Rep. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), who will represent her state of Illinois. Harris and Duckworth join Marie Hirano of Hawaii, who became the first Asian American woman elected to the Senate in 2012.

Pamela Ayaal won the 7th Congressional District in Washington, becoming the first Indian American woman elected to the House of Representatives. Stephanie Murphy of Florida won the 7th District of Florida and becomes the first Vietnamese American woman in Congress.

Indian American Pr land Khanna defeated incumbent Mike Honda in California, and S. Raja Krishnamoorthi is replacing Duckworth in the House of Representatives.

Colleen Hanabusa will represent Hawaii in a seat the one she once held before running for U.S. Senate, and re-elected to Congress were Rep. Ami Bera (D-Sacramento County), Rep. Judy Chu (D-Los Angeles County), Rep. Tad Aikakub (D-Hawaii), Rep. Ted Lieu (D-Santa Monica), Rep. Don Bocciaro (D-San Diego), Rep. Grace Meng (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Mark Takano (D-Riverside County).

Dodgers Skippers Dave Roberts Wins Manager of the Year Award

NEW YORK — Members of the Baseball Writers’ Association of America have voted Dave Roberts of the Los Angeles Dodgers as the National League Manager of the Year. The announcement was made in New York on Nov. 15.

Roberts, in his first year as manager, earned 16 first-place votes. He led the Dodgers to the NL West title, but ultimately lost in the playoffs.

Community Leaders Kay Inose and Tak Takehiro Nishi Set to Receive Medals by the Consulate General of Japan

LOS ANGELES — Kay Inose, 75, of Pancho Villa Estates, will receive the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, medal, and Tak Takehiro Nishi, 80, of Los Angeles, will receive the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, medal, from the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles.

Inose, a community leader and cultural advocate, has been a longtime member of several Japanese American organizations, including the Japanese American Women’s Society of Southern California, the Japanese American National Museum, and the Omote Senda no Kai, Southern California Chapter. She will receive her commendation for contributing to promoting welfare, friendship and goodwill within the Japanese American community.

Nishi is being awarded for promoting friendship and mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S. He has served on a number of community organizations, including the Sawtelle Japanese Institute, the Southern California Gasshuku Federation and the Nihonbashi Prefectural Association of Southern California.

Shinzo Abe Meets With President-Elect Donald Trump in Historic Meeting

NEW YORK — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, seeking reassurance over the future of the U.S.-Japan security and trade relations, became the first world leader to meet with President-elect Donald Trump on Nov. 16.

Abe met with Trump in New York, where the incoming president was setting up an administration after his surprise election victory Nov. 8 that has injected new uncertainty into U.S. alliances.

Trump’s campaign had criticized the system in many world capitals, including Tokyo. Trump has said that he would demand that allies such as Japan and South Korea contribute more to the cost of hosting U.S. troops in their countries.

Such comments have worried Japan at a time when the threat from North Korea is rising, and China is challenging, the U.S.-led security status quo in the Pacific.

Speaking to reporters following his meeting, Abe said, “I do believe that without confidence between the two nations, the alliance would never function in the future and if the outcome of today’s meeting, I am convinced Mr. Trump is a leader in whom I can have great confidence.”

— P.C. Staff and Associated Press
STORY TRUMPS TECH, SAYS DENSHO’S TOM IKEDA

Densho, the Japanese American National Museum and the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Convene to Talk About the Importance of Oral Histories and Their Impact Spanning Generations

By George Toshiro Johnson, Correspondent

A visit to Densho.org could spend weeks looking through its all-digital collection of oral histories, transcripts, photos, Internment camp newspapers — not to mention an encyclopedia — that encompasses the World War II era forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans. But for Densho’s co-founder, founding executive director, site’s tech wizardry is not the star. For Tom Ikeda, it’s all about serving the power of story.

And that’s the point Ikeda made to attendees on Nov 5 during a Town Hall meeting that was held at the George and Shikye Anzai Central Hall of Little Tokyo’s Japanese American National Museum. Joining the discussion was the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, which holds its board meeting that weekend as well.

When JANM’s art director, Clement Hama, introduced Ikeda, he called him “truly visionary” for his efforts in creating the digital archive meant to document the WWII experiences of mainstream Japanese Americans whose lives were massively disrupted with the stroke of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s pen when he signed Executive Order 9066.

Ikeda admitted, however, that he didn’t feel like much of a visionary 21 years earlier when, at age 39, he and Densho co-founder Scott Olds came from Seattle to Los Angeles for two reasons. One was to see what was under way at University Studios, where Steven Spielberg was helping to launch the USC Shoah Foundation, which ‘Schindler’s List’ director was using his Hollywood clout to record and document the Holocaust with oral histories and the like.

The other reason was to share the technological vision the two Microsoft alumni had on how to do something similar for a major part of the Japanese American experience during WWII.

“Everyone really excited by this concept,” Ikeda said, “of using digital technology to collect, preserve and share the stories of Japanese Americans — and to share them all around the world — and we were going to set up this system where we’d have hundreds of oral histories video recorded so that the touch of a button, people could do a search, maybe for a camp like Manzanar and all of sudden see all these stories. And in addition, he said there would be historic photographs and documents, digital exhibits, curricula and more.

That digital vision, however, was just a bit too advanced. “We didn’t get that it was over our head of our time,” Ikeda allowed, “that the technology — digital video, broadband Internet, acceptance of the World Wide Web that is commonplace now — to deliver this vision was not quite ready.

Olds and Ikeda returned to Seattle, admitting nevertheless that he was a little disappointed the people at the museum and UCLA weren’t jumping on their vision like, ‘This is the future!’

Ikeda also admitted, “We didn’t know Japanese American history.” Back in Seattle, as he himself would start conducting more than 230 oral histories on video, he got a good live course in Japanese American history.

An early interview conducted by his wife, Ensemble, was a turning point. The participant was the late Martha Nishida, a Seattle-based giant in the world of modern dance. When the interview concluded, tears were streaming, from Nishida’s eyes. Concerned, the Ikedas asked if she was all right. Nishida’s reply — “How can I die” — floored them.

According to Ikeda, the interview was a long-delayed opportunity for Nishida to unburden herself by telling her story, which to that point she hadn’t even shared with her family. “It was like this huge weight was off her shoulders,” Ikeda said. And other interviews led him to realize that the process for the more than 900 people Densho has interviewed was also, for many, a part of healing for former internees. “The point I want to make is that it is powerful to me it is the stories, not technology. That’s the foundation of Densho,” Ikeda said.

Ikeda also said he felt that JANM and HMWF also were, in their own ways, the keepers of stories. “The Japanese American National Museum does its work, as does the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation,” he said. That’s my thesis for this event. It’s really about the stories, and that’s what we need to remember.

When HMWF Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi took over the microphone, she noted that the group’s board of directors and advisory council joined her up front in chairs facing the audience.

She said the departure of HMWF Executive Director Brian Liesinger was a great loss and addressed the crowd after more than three and a half years of service and the just-completed fifth anniversary of the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center.

“In the past year, many of you know that Heart Mountain has taken on the role of advocacy because we feel that just being a museum and sitting back and taking care of the precious artifacts is one piece of what our vision is,” Higuchi said. But it’s also trying to correct the wrongs that we see in society or things that we feel uncomfortable about, so we try to speak out and try to correct those wrongs.”

As an example, Higuchi cited the HMWF’s role in halting the public auction of the Allen Eaton collection of artifacts — made by internees — by the Rago auction house, now housed at JANM. She also noted HMWF’s role with the All-Camps Committee meeting in Washington, D.C.

“We have to figure out a way to bring all the camps together and work as a team,” she said.

Higuchi also introduced Sam Milana, a Nisei board member and former Heart Mountain resident who continues to speak publicly about his first-hand experiences as an internee.

Milana related his experiences from his speaking tour of the Midwest and the East Coast, including a date at Harvard Law School.

“I was ready for the speech. I studied my first [Supreme Court] cases — Korematsu, Hirabayashi, Yasui and Endo — expecting questions along the lines of details of the court cases,” he said.

When it came time for the Q & A, they didn’t ask a single question about these lawsuits. Not one,” said Milana. What they wanted to find out — and by the way, these new kids, Yousef, Goetz, these were about 300 kids, almost all Arab, some Chinese and some other people — they asked, “How did it feel?” “How did it feel going on a train to a place you never heard of?” “How did it feel going to northern Wyoming?” “How did it feel coming out of the camp and going back home and facing all that racial hatred?”

“They don’t get that out of the books. That’s the legacy I think all of us have. When it comes to the questions, ‘What do you want to know about these camps?’ and you pass on the word, it’s a feeling. It’s inhuman what they did. And that’s what young people want to hear.”

A highlight of Higuchi’s presentation was the recognition of Jack Kunitomi. The 101-year-old former Heart Mountain internee and Military Intelligence Service veteran was walked up to the front on his own to take a seat next to Higuchi and accept a round of applause.”
Pearl Harbor 75th Commemoration
HONORING THE PAST AND INSPIRING THE FUTURE
Hawaii and the world prepare to pay tribute to the event that will forever ‘live in infamy’

By Connie K. Ho, Coordinator

Dec. 7, 1941, is a date that will live in infamy.” Much of the world was at war and that morning, Japanese warplanes assaulted the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor. The next day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appeared before a joint session of Congress and declared, “Yesterday, Dec. 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy — the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.” In December, it will have been 75 years since that fateful attack.

For the past few months, a committee of military, government and business leaders has been working tirelessly to put together a commemoration like no other. The commemoration is centered on Dec. 7, which is National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

“The intent behind all the events is to try to find a way to bridge generations and set the groundwork for what is ahead beyond Dec. 7, 2016, because all of this will continue on, even though this most likely may be the last major celebration, where any of the survivors from the attack on Oahu are with us, and we know that this one is extra special for lots of reasons,” said Anthony Crutchfield, deputy commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, in a press conference.

Organizers have lined up the theme: Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future. The 11 days of events and ceremonies will pay tribute to survivors, those lost their lives and the thousands who fought in World War II. Each night will be dedicated for a different branch of the U.S. Armed Services, with the first night honoring the Army and the last night honoring the Marines. Visitors can also experience events and memorials dedicated to the USS Utah, USS Oklahoma and the USS Arizona.

“As we look to the future, we each have an opportunity and a personal responsibility to invest in and commit to inspiring the leaders of tomorrow, using history to help empower choices that negate fateful outcomes,” said Adm. Thomas Fargo in a statement.

Attendees can enjoy a host of activities such as live music, movie nights, a documentary film premiere and a block party. On Dec. 8 and 10, country music superstars Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood will perform in benefit concerts. On Dec. 11, the Honolulu Marathon will take place.

There are a number of military organizations that are affiliated with the festivities, including the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Veterans, the Fleet Reserve Association, the U.S. Naval Academy and Alumni Association, the Foundation, West Point Association of Graduates, the Air Force Academy Association of Graduates, the Navy League of the United States and the Armed Services YMCA.

“The 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor will focus the world’s attention on Hawaii and provide us this unique opportunity to honor the last of those who experienced the emotional awakening triggered on that date which will live in infamy’ and perpetuate those core values that they shared,” Fargo said. “The 75th Commemoration embraces our acknowledgement and respect for all men and women who have answered the call of duty for the last seven decades and honors those during WWII who did everything possible to protect our nation and the world. I am privileged to lead the 75th Commemoration of Pearl Harbor Committee.”

Located on the island of Oahu, Pearl Harbor remains an active military base and, as a National Historic Landmark, is home to four historic sites. Visitors to Pearl Harbor can explore the Battleship Missouri Memorial, USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, the Pacific Aviation Museum, Pearl Harbor and the USS Arizona Memorial. It is the largest national harbor in the state of Hawaii and is one of the top destinations in Oahu.

Individuals can support the event by purchasing special merchandise online.

“We have received an overwhelming request for memorabilia in honor of this date that will live in infamy,” said Bray Ventrella, 75th Commemoration Pearl Harbor Committee executive director, in a statement. “We are proud to offer a great selection of quality merchandise.”

There have also been a number of companies who have sponsored the commemorative American Airlines, one of the event’s top-tier sponsors, will be sponsoring a 75th Pearl Harbor Commemoration Flight.

The exclusive interisland charters from Los Angeles to Honolulu will host approximately 120 Pearl Harbor survivors, World War II veterans and their companions to attend the 75th Pearl Harbor Commemoration. Actor Gary Sinise will also be on the flight, and he and the Lt. Dan Band will be performing live on Dec. 5 for a free concert.

See PEARL HARBOR on page 8
THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MEANS HOME:

THE HENRY Y. ARAO STORY

By Al Ehrhart

Special Correspondent

The old Henry Y. Arao

A portrait of the late Henry Y. Arao, a Japanese-American who served in World War II, painted by Al Ehrhart. Arao was a member of the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, which was made up of Japanese-Americans and fought in Europe during World War II. The statue of Liberty was a symbol of hope and freedom for Arao and his fellow soldiers.

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Page 1 of 8
PEARL HARBOR >> continued from page 6

Pearl Harbor Survivor Sterling Gale, who was serving as a Pharmacist's Mate 2nd Class at the shipyard dispensary on Dec. 7, 1941

"Pearl Harbor survivors and World War II veterans are among our nation's bravest heroes; and we are proud to provide a special honor flight to the 75th Pearl Harbor Commemoration," said David Seymour, senior vp of integrated operations at American Airlines, in a statement. "Our long-standing commitment to veterans and their families is steadfast and is demonstrated by the thousands of hours of volunteer time our employees donate every year to causes like these that are so close to our hearts. We are truly honored to participate in this incredible event where our nation's heroes will be celebrated for their courage and commitment to our country."

Commemoration Details
"Fighting the War: A Tribute to AIA Veterans" will be held at the Hawaii Convention Center on Dec. 5. Veterans of four military units comprised primarily of Americans of Japanese Ancestry (AIA) will be honored, including the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and 1398th Engineer Construction Battalion. The event will include a luncheon and remarks by Hawaii Gov. David Ige and former Gov. George Ariyoshi. A limited number of tickets are available to individuals and outside organizations at pearlharbor75hawaii.com.

ARA0 >> continued from page 7

Arao also attended the A Company reunions in Las Vegas. The guys loved to reminisce about their wartime experiences—about breaking nails to steal cabbage from this angry Italian farmer. They got salt and made tubetomato in their helmet. When the pay master paid for the stolen cabbage, peace was restored.

When his 442nd veteran roommate passed away, he didn't have anyone to go with. Arao also misplaced his medals. With the help of the Veterans Administration of Santa Cruz County, many of his medals were replaced. His medal record is included with his 201 file, his service record.

The Watsonville Santa Cruz JACL decided to case them up so that he couldn't lose them anymore. He appreciated that.

"Henry, you are a charter member of the Greatest Generation."

Henri Y Amo passed away at the age of 87 on Oct. 20, 2007.

Whenever I'm at the Statue of Liberty or see a photo of it, I think of Sgt Henry Y Amo and all the guys and gals who didn't return. Henry, you are a charter member of the Greatest Generation. You served your country, your family, and your Nikkei community well. You served the cause of Liberty. At ease, Henry, now's the time to be 'steam.'

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Holiday Gift Suggestions

Imprisoned in Paradise: Japanese Interned Road Workers at the World War II Koooska Internment Camp by Priscilla Wegars (AACC, 2010)

Imprisoned in Paradise uncovers the history of a unique detention and road building facility located on Highway 12 adjacent to Idaho's wild and scenic Lochsa River. From 1943 to 1945 the Koooska Internment Camp held an all-male crew of some 265 so-called "enemy aliens" of Japanese ancestry. Most were from the U.S., but some were kidnapped from Panama and Peru.

323 pages • $19.95

As Rugged as the Terrain: CCC "Boys," Federal Convicts, and World War II Alien Internnees in a Mountain Wilderness by Priscilla Wegars (Caxton/AACC, 2013)

As Rugged as the Terrain digs deeply, and brilliantly, into the fascinating history of Idaho's Civilian Conservation Corps recruits (1933); federal prisoners (1935-1943); and Japanese, Italian, and German internees (1943-1945) at their isolated, mountainous, work camps.

393 pages • $21.95

For more information, visit http://webpages.uidaho.edu/aacc/koooska.htm

To order, call Caxton Press at 1-800-657-6465 (press 5 for publishing and mention Pacific Citizen for a 15% discount). All author's royalties benefit the University of Idaho's Asian American Comparative Collection (AACC). http://webpages.uidaho.edu/aacc/index.htm

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JACL PHILADELPHIA SPONSORS PROGRAMS AT PAAFF'16

Highlights at this year’s Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival include the ‘I Bear Witness’ art gallery exhibit, funded in part by the JACL Legacy Fund.

By Rob Buscher, Member, JACL Philadelphia Board of Directors

The Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival (PAAFF), the largest Asian American and Pacific Islander film festival on the East Coast, is being sponsored in part by JACL Philadelphia. Featuring more than 70 films and the ‘I Bear Witness’ art gallery exhibit, the festival will include intimate discussions with film makers, curators, by celebrity chefs, musical performances, live theater performances by local API artists and a two-day academic conference. Programs that JACL Philadelphia sponsors are specific to U.S.-Japan relations and the Japanese American experience.

‘Forgive — Don’t Forget!’

‘Forgive — Don’t Forget!’ is a thoughtful reflection on the inter-generational legacy of pain and how current generations can be involved in ongoing reconciliations from past conflicts.

‘Good Luck Soup’

After years of rejecting his Japanese heritage, film maker Matthew Hashiguchi sets out on a sometimes humorous, yet insightful journey to discover what it means to be Japanese American, and how that identity changes over time.

The film offers a thoughtful reflection on multifaceted identity, mixed-race families and the legacy of inter-generational trauma. Perhaps most exciting is the art gallery exhibit titled ‘I Bear Witness,’ funded in part by the JACL Legacy Fund and curated by Atif Sheikh of Twelve Gates Arts in dialogue with Hashiguchi’s ‘Good Luck Soup.’

JACL Philadelphia worked with PAAFF and filmmaker Hashiguchi to develop a special exhibition featuring a curated selection of the stories collected on the interactive online database project of ‘Good Luck Soup’ in a traditional gallery setting.

Large-format photo prints are matched with interactive iPad displays to examine four distinct chapters in the Japanese American experience represented through the stories of Camp survivors and their descendants. Additional works by seven contemporary Muslim American artists (Amina Ahmed, Josh Bigley, Amreen Butt, Haasan Elahi, Sham-E-Ali Nayeem, Saba Taj and Patricia Waldich) are being shown, alongside Hashiguchi’s exhibit, drawing parallels between the war hysteria and racial prejudice that led to the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans and the current anti-Muslim bigotry facing American Muslims today.

The exhibit will be on display at Asian Arts Initiative until Jan. 15, 2017.

Information about the Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival can be found on its website at http://paaff.org.

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Rob Buscher (center) at the ‘I Bear Witness’ exhibit with (from left) exhibit curator Atif Sheikh, Asian Arts Initiative Executive Director Gayle Isa, artist Saba Taj, artist Haasan Elahi and artist Sham-E-Ali Nayeem.
NCWNP
Tenninyu Hakumaku-ko Church
Annual Mini Bazaar
Halulu, HI
Nov. 27; 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
349 N. Judd St.
This year's Mini Bazaar will include the sale of various foods such as Sendai ramen, fresh mochi, chinjutsu, andage and more. Gently used clothing, white elephant and handmade craft items will also be sold.
Info: Call (808) 537-4852.

Digital Finance in Asia:
Reality and Potential
San Francisco, CA
Dec. 12; Noon-2 p.m.
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
101 Market St.
Price: $50 for members and nonmembers; lunch included
The Asia Society of Northern California and the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco are partnering on a discussion to look at how technology is changing the nature of finance in Asia. Also included is a panel discussion and audience Q&A. Pre-registration by Nov. 29 is required.
Info: Call (415) 421-8707 or email sanfrancisco@asiasociety.org.

Cross-Cultural Comparison of Dance: Cambodian Dance With Charaya Burt
San Francisco, CA
Jan. 8; Noon-1 p.m.
Asian Art Museum
San Francisco Hall
200 Larkin St.
Cost: Free
The "Ramayana" comes to life in this last segment in a three-part series of cross-cultural dance workshops. Watch the story unfold through Balinese, North Indian and Cambodian dance with Bay Area dance superstars Gamelan Sekar Jaya, Chintan Das Dance Company and Chhandam School of Kathak and Charaya Burt.

PSW
Kabuki Lecture and Demonstration
Los Angeles, CA
Nov. 29; 7 p.m.
The Japan Foundation
6700 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100
Price: Free; reservation required
Come and learn about the history of Kabuki. A reception will immediately follow after the lecture and demonstration. Light refreshments will be provided. This event is co-hosted by the Japanese American Community Center.
Info: Call (323) 761-7510.

New Year's Eve with Steve Aoki
Las Vegas, NV
Dec. 31
Jewel Nightclub
3730 S. Las Vegas Blvd.
Tickets: $50 presale (women); $75 presale (men)
Celebrate the New Year Las Vegas style with the acclaimed electro house artist.

PNW
Japan Seattle A.I. Innovation Meetup and Seminar
Seattle, WA
Dec. 1, 1-5 p.m.
Microsoft Accelerator
230 Westlake Ave. N1, 4th Floor
Price: Free
A delegation of top Japanese companies are once again coming to Seattle to meet AI, ML and other advanced technology companies in Seattle.

Who's Got Game? Exhibit
Seattle, WA
Open Dec. 9
 Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American
719 S. King St.
Price: Museum admission
"Who's Got Game?" is an exhibit that honors the accomplishments of Asian Pacific Americans in sports as well as explores the role of sports in APA identities and communities. Personal athlete journeys representing a wide range of sports, genders, ethnicities and cultural identities and generations will come alive through photographs, oral histories and memorabilia.

Kodo Taiko Concert
Portland, OR
Feb. 1
Artem Schnitzer Concert Hall
1037 S.W. Broadway
Price: $20 and up
Kodo, widely regarded as the premier taiko group in the world, brings its power, precision, creativity and athleticism to Portland in a debut concert performance.
Info: Call (503) 248-4535 or visit symphonyportland.org/concerts/waytoorder.aspx.

Tet Festival: Vietnamese Lunar New Year
Seattle, WA
Feb. 13-14
Seattle Center Festál
Armyon Main Level, Fisher Pavilion
308 Harrison St.
Explore and experience the cultural roots and contemporary influences of Vietnam through live performances, hands-on activities, foods, crafts, martial arts and a lively marketplace.

EDC
Boston Asian Professionals
Meetup Group
Boston, MA
Dec. 4; 11:45 a.m.
China Pearl restaurant
9 Tyler St. (between Beach and Kenmore streets)
Price: Free
Enjoy dim sum brunch in Chinatown while conversing with some of Boston's top professionals.

Shark's Mare by Koryu Nishikawa and Tom Lee
New York, NY
March 3, 7:30 p.m.
Bowker Auditorium
Stockbridge Hall
0 Campus Way
Price: General admission $25; Five Under and 17 and Under $10
Witness the unique tradition of Japanese Kunimu Nyinggo (cart puppets) in this story of two wandering travelers along the great highway from Tokyo to Kyoto.
Info: Call (617) 514-7345 or email info@japanesecultureboston.org.

Manzana: Photographs by Ansel Adams
Andover, MA
Through March 2017
Addison Gallery of American Art,
Phillips Academy
180 Main St.
Price: Free
This exhibit features 50 photographs by Ansel Adams documenting the lives of Japanese Americans incarcerated at Manzanar.

Meetup and Seminar 3.0
Seattle, WA
Dec. 1; 7-9:30 p.m.
DAM, Lower Level Lecture Room
719 S. King St.
Price: General admission $25; Five Under and 17 and Under $10
Come and enjoy a dim sum brunch in Chinatown while conversing with some of Boston's top professionals.

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IN MEMORIAM

AWAYA, Dennis Teusnaashi, 65, Ann N. Haina, HI. Oct. 26; he is survived by his children, Karen, Kim, and Jarod; his brother, Allen Awaya; sister, Gay Awaya; and mother, Violet Awaya.

COWLEY, Mary Chihyo, 91, San Francisco, CA. Oct. 24; during WWII, she and her family were incarcerated at the Manzanar WRA camp; she is survived by her husband, Bumtaro; and their children, Norma, June, and Peter.

DOIZAKI, Roland Youchi, 74, Glendale, CA. Oct. 21; he is survived by his wife, Kazuko; children, James (Pamie) and Andrew (Muneyuki); siblings, Emie, Karen, and Ellen; and his former wife, George, 91, Monterey Park, CA. Oct. 14; she was a teacher in the Japanese language and culture, and was elected to two terms as mayor of Monterey Park. She is survived by her children, Michael, Leonard, and Karen; and his brother, George, 94, Seattle, WA. Oct. 25; during WWII, he and his family were incarcerated at the Minidoka WRA camp. He is survived by his wife, Wanda; daughter, Kristine; and sister, Betty.

FUJITABU, Matsuya, 89, Monterey Park, CA. Oct. 15; she was predeceased by her husband, Haruo; and her daughters, Kathy (Rick) Kanamoto, and Lisa (Scott) Fields. She is survived by her grandchildren, Joshua, Matthew, and Kaila; and her nieces and nephews.

HIROKO, (Fujio) Fujimoto, several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

ISHI, Hatsumi, 90, Lafayette, CA. Oct. 7; she was incarcerated during WWII at Jerome, AK, and Amache, CO. She was predeceased by her husband, Motomu; and her daughters, Sharon Akiyama (Wayne) and Suzanne Ishii (Scott Yoko), and her brother, Yoriko Wada (Shinya), and her nieces and nephews.

ITO, Mildred Osawa, 99, Laguna Woods, CA. Oct. 28; during WWII, she and her family were incarcerated at the Manzanar WRA camp; she is survived by her daughter, Bonnie and husband, Ward; and her nieces and nephews.

KAWAMURA, Toshiyuki, 89, Seattle, WA. Nov. 1; during WWII, she and her husband, Toshiami, were incarcerated at the Minidoka WRA camp; she is predeceased by her husband; and her nieces and nephews.

KAWAGUCHI, Yoshio Frank, 85, Chicago, IL. Oct. 31; he is survived by his children, Randall, Jane, and Mark, and his wife, Yoko; and his nieces and nephews.

KAWAGUCHI, Yoshio Frank, 85, Pacifica, CA. Oct. 3; he is survived by his children, Yoko, Duncan, Robert, and Tom; and his nieces and nephews.

KAWAGUCHI, Yoshio Frank, 85, Pacifica, CA. Oct. 3; he is survived by his children, Yoko, Duncan, Robert, and Tom; and his nieces and nephews.

Kawakami, Mitsuko Inamoto, 85, Pacifica, CA. Oct. 2; during WWII, she and her family were incarcerated at the Gila River WRA camp; she is survived by her husband, Toshio; and her nieces and nephews.

Kawakami, Mitsuko Inamoto, 85, Pacifica, CA. Oct. 2; during WWII, she and her family were incarcerated at the Gila River WRA camp; she is survived by her husband, Toshio; and her nieces and nephews.

KAWASAKI, Tetsu, 89, Honolulu, HI. Oct. 3; she is survived by her husband, Akira; and her nieces and nephews.

Kawasaki, Tetsu, 89, Honolulu, HI. Oct. 3; she is survived by her husband, Akira; and her nieces and nephews.

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REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

You Don’t Have to Live Alone to Be Lonely and Socially Isolated

By Ron Mori

During this holiday season, our thoughts turn to those living alone, particularly our elders. This represents the best of us, of course. But we also have to realize that living alone and feeling lonely and socially isolated do not necessarily go hand-in-hand. Many who live alone have remained connected with their communities and friends and are quite happy.

But then, too, there are many who live with others—often with family members—who nevertheless have become lonely and socially isolated. Often when they need support, the host—or someone to listen to and understand their troubles—they find themselves going alone. Please don’t forget them.

Regardless of our living arrangements, staying connected to the people and things that matter to us is fundamental to physical and mental well-being. We need social connections to thrive—no matter our age.

But a number of factors may contribute to older becoming disconnected from typical sources of pleasure and support such as their grandchildren, best friends, favorite restaurants, recreational activities they used to enjoy—more. These factors include reduced mobility, hearing or vision loss, lack of access to affordable transportation, death of a spouse and family relocation.

Research to date indicates that loneliness and isolation in older adults can lead to dramatic decreases in physical health, mental well-being and overall quality of life. In fact, one study described the health risks of prolonged social isolation as being equivalent to smoking 15 cigarettes a day. In other words, the risk of death can be increased by anywhere from 26 percent—45 percent.

AARP Foundation has launched a major new effort called “Connect.Affect” to find and develop innovative resources and services to help reduce isolation risk, reach out to those who may be feeling lonely and disengaged and find practical ways to help them reconnect to the community and build the social connections they need to thrive. See our website (www.AARP.org/connectaffect) for details.

A surprising development has been how rapidly electronic gaming has been evolving, as a medium that encourages social connection. Games are not a replacement for face-to-face connection, of course, but online gaming has become very popular with the 50-plus population. Nearly 40 percent play at least once a month.

AARP’s “Games” page (www.AARP.org/games) is one of the most popular sections on AARP’s website, with more than 11 million unique visitors per month. AARP will be working to evolve its gaming offerings both to promote a richer experience for the player and establish electronic gaming as a premier medium for helping to reduce social isolation.

As we all take time to be with family over the holidays, let’s all take a moment to reach out to someone you haven’t connected with in a while or someone you’ve had a difficult year. It’s amazing how much has changed and yet how important the simple, kind interaction of a few words and an open ear can impact someone positively.

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

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Australia-New Zealand Holiday Cruise (Carol Hida) Waitlist ........ Jan 28-Feb 14
Sydney, Melbourne, Tasmania, Milford Sound, Dunedin, Akaroa/Kirstenburn,
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Charleston/Savannah St. Augustine Holiday Tour (Carol Hida) ........ Mar 19-25
Charleston, Savannah City, Jekyll Island, St. Augustine.
Japan Spring Country & Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida) ........ Apr 14-24
Tokyo, Nagano, Sado Island, Nikko, Sena/shore, Yanagita,
Aizu Watamabi, Asakigawa.
New York Getaway Holiday Tour (Carol Hida) ........ Apr 27-May 1
Big Apple, Greenwich Village, MOMA, Times Square, Ellis Island,
Statue of Liberty, 9/11 Memorial Museum, 2 Broadway Shows.
Ireland Holiday Tour (Elaine Ishida) ........ May 1-10
Dublin, Waterford, Blarney Stone, Killarney, Limerick, Galway, Kingstown
China-Taipei River-Hong Kong Holiday Tour (Carol Hida) ........ May 14-29
Beijing, Yangtze River Cruise, Xian, Shanghai, Hong Kong,
Grandparent Grandchild Japan Tour (Ernest Hida) ........ Jun 28-Jul 5
Tokyo, Hakone, Nami, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
Yellowstone-Teton National Parks Tour (Elaine Ishida) ........ Jul 7-14
Salt Lake City, Jackson Hole, Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Park City.
Hokkaido Summer Holiday Tour (Erini Ishida) ........ Jul 20-30
Lake Akan, Furano, Asahikanana, Wakkawa, Sapporo, Lake Toya,
Hakodate, Tokyo.
So. Dakota-Mt. Rushmore Tour (Ernest Hida) ........ Aug 25-31
Rapid City, Mt. Rushmore, Custer State Park, Black Hills, Badlands.
Eastern Canada Holiday Tour (Carol Hida) ........ Sep 6-14
Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara Falls.
Classical Japan Autumn Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida) ........ Oct 5-16
Tokyo, Mt. Fuji, Yamanashi, Shizuoka, Nagoya, Gifu, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
Japan Autumn Country & Holiday Tour (Carol Hida) ........ Oct 19-29
Tokyo, Soito Island, Kanazawa, Amanohashidate, Tottori, Mabi,
Takamatsu, Onomichi.
So. America Patagonia-Easter Island Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida) ........ Nov 7-22
Buenos Aires, Ushuaia, Calafate (Perito Moreno Glacier), Faine National Park
(Grey Glacier), Punta Arenas, Santiago, Easter Island.

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