



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

Crew members of Production Machine Inc., who constructed the sign, are pictured with the new Heart Mountain Interpretive Center signage, which was newly installed in time for July's Heart Mountain Pilgrimage.

PHOTO: DAKOTA RUSSELL

» **PAGE 4**

## HEART MOUNTAIN INSTALLS NEW SIGNAGE

Increased roadside visibility  
is chief among its welcoming  
appeal to all visitors.

» **PAGE 5**

UPDATE: Kansas Cans  
'JAP' License Plates.



## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I read with great interest the *Pacific Citizen* article "American Peril: Imagining the Foreign Threat" (Oct. 26-Nov. 8, 2018) and looked at Rob Buscher's postcard collection that surrounded the article.

Memory is a funny thing. It allows you to relive your past life as if it were yesterday. I remember Dec. 7, 1941, as the day that changed the lives of my brother and I; the day that caused my classmates, our neighbors and society to hate us and my family; the day we became the "Japs," the enemy — and I was only 7 years old.

Anti-Japanese and anti-German propaganda were in schools, in publications, on billboards, in the movies, at collection sites for bacon and other fats, rubber and metals, when using ration stamps, for victory gardens and as the rationale to use us public school children to work in the fields when migrant workers were taken into the army.

My mother, Anna Schwenk, was born in Austria/Hungary, and my dad, Tadafumi Mikuriya, was born in Saga, Japan. They met at the University of Pennsylvania in the 1920s as I-House members seeking to reverse the University of Pennsylvania's International-House covenant, which did not allow American negroes to be I-House members.

They were married in 1929 at a time when interracial couples were rare. Our family was an anomaly and always stared at when we as a family went anywhere . . . a tall European woman and a three-inches shorter Asian man

and two mixed-race children. Then, the war came, and we were stared at as the enemy and as immigrants and not American.

Although not the case for American men marrying foreign women, American women in 1929 lost their citizenship for marrying foreign men. When a Daughter of the American Revolution lost her U.S. citizenship about the same time as my mom lost her citizenship, she complained to Eleanor Roosevelt, who had the law eventually changed. Thus, my mother was naturalized twice.

The pictures of the postcard propaganda brought back painful memories of my 1-year-old brother and my treatment during WWII — exclusions, beatings, sanctioned bullying and once being targets of a "game" where my brother and I were stood up against the cemetery wall as the enemy and shot with a BB gun just like the execution squads in the movies.

When the FBI picked up my father, a structural civil engineer, as a "suspicious character" as he drove home about 5:30 p.m. from the American Bridge Company in Trenton, N.J., as he did every day, they held and questioned him past midnight without a phone call to mom and then came to the house to see his home. They spent a long time looking at my father's many books in Japanese. He had to open each book and explain its contents to an FBI agent.

The FBI also took away our cameras and the radio with its international stations and restricted our family to no cameras, meaning to us, no family photos during the war. My dad as an enemy alien was required to

stay within a 10-mile radius from his home, so that meant he could go to work, but we as a family could never go to the New Jersey seashore 45 miles away during the summer as other families did.

However, the Quakers were kind to us and welcomed us to attend their local summer camps and college prep high school called George School.

I discovered correspondence indicating my father was a member of the Philadelphia JACL in 1927 and later discovered Tadafumi Mikuriya listed in the history of pre-WWII Philadelphia JACL as one of two University of Pennsylvania graduates active in the JACL.

Thank you for reminding us about the devastating attitudes and practices of the 1940s and for reminding us about similarities of anti-immigrant government and hate groups today. We must visibly speak out when we see such prejudice and injustices.

Sincerely,

Mary Jane Mikuriya,  
San Francisco, Calif.



## 'NEVER AGAIN' in Sacramento's Natomas Unified School District

By John Kanemoto

According to a 2016 *New York Times* study, Natomas Unified School District (NUSD) in Sacramento, Calif., is the second-most-diverse school district in the nation. Diversity is celebrated and supported. During a statewide English Language Learner conference, NUSD was featured for its ELL supports. Curriculum is rooted in the English Language Development standards, Thinking Maps are used to guide thinking and sentence frames are incorporated to encourage academic discourse for all students. While leading a group of teachers (from the ELL Conference) through a series of NUSD classrooms, I realized there was a common

theme/focus within the curriculum: the Japanese American Incarceration experience.

Mrs. Gilley taught social studies at Inderkum High School. She introduced Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston's "Farewell to Manzanar" within her social studies curriculum. Leading her students through a challenging journey of constitutional infringement, Mrs. Gilley asked her students to participate within a fishbowl activity — imagining themselves within an incarceration camp. Many IHS students are first-generation American High School students and/or English Language

>> See DISTRICT on page 8

### HOW TO REACH US

Email: [pc@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:pc@pacificcitizen.org)  
Online: [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org)  
Tel: (213) 620-1767  
Mail: 123 Ellison S. Onizuka St., Suite 313  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### STAFF

Executive Editor  
Allison Haramoto

Senior Editor  
Digital & Social Media  
George Johnston

Business Manager  
Susan Yokoyama

Production Artist  
Marie Samonte

Circulation  
Eva Ting

The *Pacific Citizen* newspaper (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly (except once in December and January) by the Japanese American Citizens League, *Pacific Citizen*, 123 Ellison S. Onizuka St., Suite 313, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Periodical postage paid at L.A., CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to National JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

JACL President: Jeffrey Moy  
Executive Director: David Inoue

### P.C. EDITORIAL BOARD

Gil Asakawa, chairperson; Jody Mitani, MDC; Marcia Chung, CCDC; Jim Duff, NCWNPDC; Chip Larouche, PNWDC; Kayla Watanabe, IDC; John Saito Jr., PSWDC; Juli Yoshinaga, Youth Rep.

### SUBSCRIBE

Get a one-year subscription of the *Pacific Citizen* newspaper at [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org) or call (213) 620-1767.

### ADVERTISE

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

### LEGAL

No part of this publication may be reproduced without the express permission of the *Pacific Citizen*. Editorials, letters, news and the opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the P.C. do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles. © 2018

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

### JACL MEMBERS

#### Change of Address

If you've moved, please send new information to:  
National JACL  
1765 Sutter St.  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
(415) 921-5225  
ext. 26

Allow 6 weeks for address changes.

To avoid interruptions in delivery, please notify your postmaster to include periodicals in your change of address (USPS Form 3575)

The *Pacific Citizen's* mission is to "educate on the past Japanese American experience and to preserve, promote and help the current and future AAPI communities."

JACL member? ☐ Y ☐ N

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$200 ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_

Name .....

Address .....

City .....

State ..... Zip .....

Phone .....

Email .....



Pacific Citizen Newspaper  
123 Ellison S. Onizuka St. #313  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 620-1767  
[www.PacificCitizen.Org](http://www.PacificCitizen.Org)







## NIKKEI VOICE

# APPROPRIATION, APPRECIATION AND THEN . . . ACCOMMODATION?

By Gil Asakawa

I'm still pondering the process of cultural assimilation and how I get so frustrated when Japanese culture — especially Japanese food culture — gets appropriated by people who don't really appreciate the culture.

I calmed down some when a friend reminded me that rock 'n' roll music began as an appropriated form of various strains of black music being played by white musicians. Then, the culture evolved, and a new, hybrid form of rock music came of age. The Beatles were rooted in American styles such as soul, R&B, folk, country and, of course, pop music, but they created a new sound that was their own, which was embraced by the boomer generation.

I accept that assimilation happens and wrote previously about how I can't stop the process of cultural evolution. Musical mash-ups and fusion food are both aspects of modern life. Early hip-hop appropriating Kraftwerk's nerdy '70s technorock was great as far as I'm concerned. Rap pioneer Afrika Bambaataa once said that Kraftwerk's "Trans-Europe Express" was one sample he couldn't cut up, and so he used it reverently.

And let's face it, 99 percent of "Chinese food" in America isn't familiar in China at all. Dishes may be based on authentic Chinese cuisine, but they're made today for American palates. There's no such thing as "Beef With Broccoli" or "General Tso's Chicken" in China. And the fortune cookie is a foreign

object there, too — the idea of a thin cookie folded with a message inside is a Japanese invention. Don't believe me? Read former *New York Times* reporter Jennifer 8 Lee's excellent "Fortune Cookie Chronicles," a history of Chinese food in America.

You know what? I love finding "real" Chinese restaurants, or the joint that serves a separate "Chinese menu" for diners in the know. But I also still love going to Tea Garden, a neighborhood family restaurant that serves Sesame Beef, Orange Chicken and Chow Mein — all American Chinese creations. So, is that appropriation? Or something else?

I realized that there's another step to my Appropriation/Appreciation worldview: Accommodation. It's part practicality, part the inevitable product of assimilation. There are lots of examples in Asian food in America.

First and most obvious, many if not most Asian restaurants in the U.S. serve food for American diners, not other Asians. That's why at a Thai restaurant, if you're not easily identifiable as being Southeast Asian, the server asks, "How spicy?" I ask for "family spicy," like how hot they make the dish for themselves in the back. And sometimes I regret it, as I gulp down glass after glass of water to cool down my burned-out mouth.

Almost every Thai or Korean restaurant I go to also makes their food noticeably sweet. Do you like the cloyingly sugary potato salad that's served as a side dish ("banchan") at

Korean barbecue restaurants? It didn't start out that sweet. They do that for their non-Korean diners who prefer it cavity-inducing. Same for over-sweetened peanut Satay dishes or some of the curries in Thai restaurants. It's extra sweet for American tastes.

These tweaks to traditional Asian cuisine don't offend me like they would if the rest of the dishes were phony, or if the food were served in a fake-Asian themed fast-casual chain, which I see more and more often. That's appropriation. That's Pat Boone singing a whiteified version of Little Richard's "Tutti-Frutti" for an unadventurous audience that's not ready for the real thing.

The evolution of American Chinese food and sweeter-than-necessary Korean and Thai food isn't appropriation, but more a fact of accommodation. These adaptations were necessary for the community's business survival over the decades.

This accommodation doesn't bother me as much as lousy ramen or fake sushi being foisted on uneducated diners. These Asian restaurants are giving the people what they want, while still sticking to their bonafides.

Appropriation, appreciation and accommodation in food culture came up the other day with one of the college students I work with. He's an adventurous world traveler who wants to be a journalist, and he has a love for South Asian culture and cuisine (all of it — for those who may not realize, India alone is a country of



hundreds of languages, heritages and culinary cultures). Some other students had bought a package of a snack called "Saffron Road Crunchy Chickpeas Wasabi" (pictured). Until the wasabi part, it sounds like a South Asian treat. The Japanese root herb wasabi makes it an ethnic fusion mash-up, which made my cultural alarm go off.

I Googled the company, and it was founded by a Muslim man who grew up with all Halal food, and he manufactures a line of healthy snack foods with Asian ethnic roots. My student and I discussed the limits of making cultural assumptions, and I had to admit I was being too much of a hard-ass.

I confessed that I had Saffron Road pegged wrong. It wasn't an appropriation of South Asian or Japanese culture. It was a blended accommodation of two cuisines to come up with a new hybrid.

And, it passed the most important test of all: It was delicious. It rocked.

*Gil Asakawa is former chair of the Pacific Citizen Editorial Board and author of "Being Japanese American" (Second Edition, Stone Bridge Press, 2015). He blogs at [www.nikkeiview.com](http://www.nikkeiview.com).*



## A MOTHER'S TAKE

# CHANGING THE WORLD WITH THEIR LOVE

By Marsha Aizumi

Weddings turn me into a pool of tears. I think it is because I believe in love so much. When Aiden got married, it was not only a dream come true for him, but it was also a dream come true for me.

When our family started our journey upon Aiden's transition, my greatest hope was that Aiden would find love in a world that might not accept him. I dreamed that both Aiden and Stefen would find life partners who would adore them, support them and see their greatness, even as they were growing to be a better person every day.

The day Aiden married Mary, I knew I could cross that off my bucket list for one son. I dream one day, Stefen will also marry someone who will adore, support and see his greatness.

Recently, I went to a wedding, and after I heard some of the couple's backstory, I knew I was going to be emotional for sure. This

wedding was between two friends who fell in love and are the same gender. There was so much they had to overcome, and though I didn't know everything, I knew enough.

When they got engaged, one of the first things they had to do was come out to family members who didn't know they were lesbian. Some knew, but not all. As you can imagine, not all of their families understood in the beginning, but this couple persevered, held together by the love they had for each other and the support of those around them.

One bride's 95-year-old grandfather said he didn't quite comprehend this news, but if his granddaughter was happy, that was all that mattered. On the way to the wedding, he had a medical emergency, but he refused to stay at the hospital . . . he wanted to see his granddaughter get married. His love for his granddaughter continues to move me even as I write this today.

One of the moments that will stay in my heart was seeing the doors to the temple slowly open to reveal the two beautiful brides in kimonos.

They were both so stunning that I heard people take in a breath, including myself, because their image was so moving.

And as they walked slowly and gently into the temple, you could feel their hearts fill the room. One had a smile of pure joy, and the other had a smile of pure peace. It was an unforgettable vision that I was able to capture on film, as a reminder of the power of love.

They were married at a Buddhist temple. The officiant of the wedding was the senior minister at that temple. His family had spent the day helping set up everything with other family and friends. I thought what a statement their marriage, the minister's family and their families were making to the Buddhist community as they prepared for the day.

And as I gazed around the reception, there were many families with children that attended. I thought what a statement their marriage is making for families and children. This is how you change the world — you show up with love; you open your whole hearts and let the love and joy fill every moment; you authentically

bring all of who you are for others to see.

It was my honor to be invited to this wedding and my honor to witness the love that it took to make this day all that it was for those who came. The world cannot change if we hide our love. It can only change if we share it vulnerably, openly and authentically . . .

*Marsha Aizumi is an advocate in the LGBT community and the author of the book "Two Spirits, One Heart: A Mother, Her Transgender Son and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance."*



A Buddhist wedding for two beautiful brides

PHOTO: COURTESY OF MARSHA AIZUMI



# HEART MOUNTAIN INTERPRETIVE CENTER INSTALLS NEW ROAD SIGN

The HMWF commissions the sign to increase roadside visibility while serving as a welcome invitation for all visitors.

By Kris Horiuchi

*"Look for the tall brick chimney off Highway 14, and when you see the two large trees, slow down and cross over the railroad tracks."*



The new Heart Mountain Interpretive Center signage is easily seen from the road now.

PHOTO: DAKOTA RUSSELL

For years, these were the directions to the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center in Powell, Wyo., but with the speed limit at 70 mph, people would often pass right by the site. Tucked within agricultural fields set far back from the highway, the interpretive center is a series of low-profile structures in the landscape.

"Driving down the highway, it's difficult to see all the buildings or know what they are," observed Claudia Wade, Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation board member and executive director of the Park County Travel Council. "Visible signage is critical."

The HMWF thus prioritized a new sign that would increase roadside visibility while reinforcing the identity of the interpretive center.

"Signage directs people already coming here and also attracts those who didn't plan to visit us," said Executive Director Dakota Russell, "but it also serves as our welcome mat. For travelers that might not know anything about our history or locals who have passed by a thousand times, the sign is an invitation."

Kris Horiuchi, board member and principal of Horiuchi Solien Landscape Architects, describes the design process as "part-optics, part-storytelling." There was the basic technical requirement of sizing letters large enough for people to read while traveling from a distance at high speeds.

"It also needed to be more than just a billboard," Horiuchi noted, "and we devoted considerable thought to creating a meaningful design element."

Each of the components — letters, form, color, materials — is simple, yet purposefully detailed, and when combined, creates a

powerful overall narrative.

An historic photo inspired the design concept of white letters on a black background. Based on the original block letters from the camp sign, a custom typeface by graphic designer Julian Kelly is juxtaposed with the Futura font from the 1942 "Instructions to All Persons of Japanese Ancestry" poster.

The sign's black background is a long rectangle that recalls the tar paper barracks, while the vertical posts reference the fencing that once enclosed the camp. A symbol for the entire experience of incarceration, relocation and homesteading, the black sign face extends past the vertical posts toward the highway as if in motion — a tribute to both the incarcerated as they were released from the camp at the end of World War II and the homesteaders that moved barracks to new locations.

Distinctly contemporary in character, the sign expresses HMWF's relevance today as a leader in racial justice issues.

"The sign is very evocative of the museum and site as a whole," said Russell. "It clarifies who we are, and you get a sense of what you're going to experience here just by looking at it."

Built of industrial aluminum and galvanized steel I-beams by Production Machine Inc., the sign is engineered to withstand the area's high wind forces. To owner Tate McCoy and his brother, Brett, who earlier completed the Honor Roll flagpole and sun shade structure on the interpretive trail, their work at the museum has been personal.

"The sign is so much more than just a location and a name," said Tate McCoy. "What took place at Heart Mountain is important to me. It's a big part of Powell's history. Many people and places throughout my life in Powell have been influenced by

the camp, and it's been an honor to be involved in this project."

Fabricated in six months, the sign was installed just in time for this year's Pilgrimage, which was held in July. Measuring 8 feet high and 30 feet long, it is positioned in the agricultural field perpendicular to the highway and is clearly visible to travelers from both Cody and Powell.

Asked whether the sign has improved visitation to the museum, Kim Barhaug, HMWF Historic Site manager, noted, "Probably the best endorsement of the sign is the tire marks on the highway where people have braked and turned around!"

With Heart Mountain rising above in the background, HMWF Board Member Darrell Kunitomi said, "Now we have a sign so strong it cannot be ignored. It's a statement and a marker on the land that says, 'Passerby, here is our piece of American history. Here, we have built a center to remember. We have a story for you.'"

*The Heart Mountain Interpretive Center is located between Powell and Cody, Wyo., at the intersection of Hwy 14A and Road 19. Winter hours are through May 14, and the center is open Wednesday-Sunday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Other visitation by appointment only.*



The Heart Mountain typeface plan

PHOTO: KRIS HORIUCHI

**HEART MOUNTAIN**  
WWII NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY  
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION  
Presidio of San Francisco, California  
April 1, 1942  
**INSTRUCTIONS  
TO ALL PERSONS OF  
JAPANESE  
ANCESTRY**

**Get 4000 Reward/Travel Points  
with a new VISA Premier Card**



**9.9% APR Fixed Rate**

**No ATM Charges**

**25 Day Courtesy Pay**

**More reward points per purchase**

800-544-8828 [www.jaclcu.com](http://www.jaclcu.com)





# License to Thrill: KANSAS CANS 'JAP' PLATES

The state capitulates on plates — will recall extant offenders.

By P.C. Staff

When Abilene, Kan.-based JACL member Barbara Johnson read the Sept. 7-27, 2018, edition of the *Pacific Citizen* and learned that her state had issued an automobile license plate reading "442 JAP," she was outraged — and inspired to do anything and everything to take on her state's bureaucracy to not only prevent the issuance of future plates' use of the racial slur "JAP," but also recall any existing plates including that combination of letters.

But before Johnson, her husband, Rick — constituting two of Kansas' four known JACL members — and the JACL's Omaha Chapter (geographically the nearest JACL chapter) could mount what she believed might be a long and drawn-out campaign to persuade the state to end the practice and recall the plates, she says she received a phone call informing her that the state would no longer issue plates containing the "JAP" sequence of letters — and that Kansas was going to recall any existing plates.

"I wasn't quite prepared for it," Johnson told the *Pacific Citizen*. "I kind of had to shake my head and do a double take because I was expecting to be in a long-term fight and to hear this news — I had to ask her (Lee Anne Phelps, vehicle services manager at the Kansas Department of Revenue Division of Vehicles), 'Can you tell me that again?'"

According to Johnson, Phelps allowed that it would be a process and take a little time, but that there would indeed be a recall.

"I was shocked, really, and almost crying because this was totally unexpected," Johnson said.

The call came, ironically, on the morning of Oct. 30, the day after Barbara and Rick Johnson had driven 3-1/2 hours to Omaha, Neb., to attend a strategy meeting with members of the JACL chapter, which included Kai Uno, chapter

president, and Nina Hayes, the chapter's co-vp of membership (and the Johnson's daughter).

## Officials From Kansas Take Action

In the meantime, the *Pacific Citizen* has learned via an email from David Harper, the director of Kansas' Department of Revenue's Division of Property Valuation and Division of Vehicles, that "the DOV decided to restrict the use of 'JAP' in future license plates and pull any plate currently in use with that combination. We have contacted the current plate holders and requested an exchange of plates at no cost to the vehicle owner. If the exchange is not done at this time, the plates have been identified in our system and will be replaced at the time of their required annual renewal."

The *Pacific Citizen* has also learned how many extant Kansas plates featuring "JAP" will need to be removed and replaced.

In an email to the newspaper, Phelps wrote that there are a total of 731 Kansans with plates containing that three-letter combination. Phelps reiterated that those needing new plates will "get replacements at no charge."

Harper also wanted to let the public know that "the Division of Vehicles takes complaints very seriously."

## Pacific Citizen Article Spotlights the Issue

As noted, the news that Kansas had issued plates containing "JAP" came to light in the Sept. 7-27, 2018, issue of the *Pacific Citizen*, which reported how Culver City, Calif., resident and Venice-WLA JACL Chapter member Keith Kawamoto had seen a car near his home with a Kansas license plate reading "442 JAP."

After the article's publication, Kawamoto and Johnson connected, communicated and commiserated on the topic — and how to deal with it.

Johnson, whose premarriage name was Barbara Hanae Kimitsuka, sent a letter on Oct. 5 to interim Gov. Jeff Colyer — who in August lost his bid to be the Republican candidate for Kansas governor to Kris Kobach, who was subsequently defeated Nov. 6 by Democrat Laura Kelly — that expressed her concerns over plates from her home state, explaining that "'Jap' is derogatory, a racial slur, as the 'N' word is to African-Americans." The letter also contained the *Pacific Citizen* article.

She also provided Colyer with her and her husband's Kansas bona fides: "Rick and I are Kansas residents; we are your constituents. Until his recent retirement,

he had a medical practice (OB/GYN) here in Abilene. We, and our three children, have graduated from Kansas State University and are all life members of the KSU Alumni Assn. I am a past board member of the Alumni Assn., and both of us are former trustees of the KSU Foundation. Rick and I are currently members of the Abilene-Omitama Sister City Board."

While she never received a direct reply from Colyer, Johnson believes it had an effect on the eventual positive outcome.

## Kawamoto Reacts to the News

Upon hearing the news that Kansas was taking positive action on the issue, Kawamoto said it was "the best news that I could expect." He told the *Pacific Citizen* that before learning the news, he had also initiated communication with the U.S. Department of Transportation on the matter.

While he admitted it was purely speculation, Kawamoto believes that word may have come from the DoT to Kansas to do something.

"I told them, 'I'm in the State of California, and I saw this [Kansas license plate] in California,'" Kawamoto said. "Because it's a motor vehicle, it's capable of crossing the state line, and therefore, it becomes a federal issue. Therefore, it's under your jurisdiction." The lady didn't know what to say."

The person Kawamoto spoke to at the DoT did call him back and said the plate was purely

random. Kawamoto said he told her that no other state in the union would allow this and when asked, provided her with his photo of the plate and a copy of the *Pacific Citizen* article.

"I think when she saw that, she just about had a cow," said Kawamoto. "She said, 'Let me see what I can do about this.'"

When Kawamoto returned from a vacation, he learned from Johnson the news that Kansas would end using "JAP" in its license plates and recall existing plates containing the three-letter combination. He said he was surprised at how quickly it happened.

"I don't think anybody expected this," he said. "I don't think anybody really knew what to expect. There's no formula or manual on how to address an issue like this."

John Saito Jr., president of the Venice-WLA JACL chapter of which Kawamoto is a member, told the *Pacific Citizen*, "Our chapter is extremely proud of all the work that Keith has done on this matter. This all started more than a year ago when Keith saw an out-of-state car with this license plate while he was driving in his neighborhood of Culver City one day."

"From that day on," Saito continued, "Keith doggedly worked on raising awareness, informing anyone and everyone who might be interested in becoming involved in this case and contacting officials at the local, state and national levels to ultimately bring about important change."

"So, it's been a one-man crusade, and Keith deserves all of the credit," Saito concluded. "It's a progressive act on the part of the Kansas DMV, and it's one that is overdue."

Original photo



P.C.'s  
Sept. 7,  
2018,  
issue



PHOTO: KEITH KAWAMOTO

**CHOOSE  
your FUTURE  
LAPD IS HIRING!**

**ANNUAL SALARY RANGE: \$63,370 - \$97,593**

**Minimum Requirements**

- 20 Years of Age
- U.S. High School Diploma or Equivalent, G.E.D., CHSPE
- U.S. Citizen or Have Applied for Citizenship
- Excellent Health and Physical Condition
- Background Suitable for Employment as a Police Officer

**Benefits**

- Hundreds of Promotional Opportunities Annually
- Family/Domestic Partner Medical & Dental
- 3 Weeks Paid Vacation & 13 Paid Holidays
- Paid Sick & Disability Leave
- Generous Pension Plan & Longevity Pay
- Flexible Schedules - Work 3 or 4 Days a Week

Follow Us: @JoinLAPD

**JOINLAPD.COM**



A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

# CALENDAR

## NCWNP

**Winter Kaiseki Workshop: New Year's Menu**  
**San Francisco, CA**  
**Dec. 8; Noon-3 p.m.**  
**Japanese Community Cultural Center of Northern California**  
**1840 Sutter St.**  
**Price: \$45 Members; \$55 General Public**

This popular seasonal Kaiseki cooking workshop consists of an elegant multicourse meal in the Kaiseki tradition using a menu of fresh ingredients to reflect the color and flavor of the season. This workshop is themed for Oshogatsu (New Year's) and will feature six dishes, including hamachi, Ozone and daikon, made primarily through demonstration, with participants providing the final artistic touches to complete the dishes.  
**Info: To register, visit <http://bit.ly/kaisekiwinter2018>.**

**Mochitsuki Workshop**  
**San Francisco, CA**  
**Dec. 9; Half-hour shifts from 11 a.m.-6 p.m.**  
**Japanese Community Cultural Center of Northern California**  
**1840 Sutter St.**  
**Price: \$15 Members; \$20 General Public/Children 5 and Under Free**  
 See how fresh mochi is steamed, pounded and shaped at the JCCCNC's annual mochitsuki workshops with George Yamada, retired owner of the former Yamada Seika Manju shop in Japantown. Bring home up to two pounds of freshly made mochi! Spaces are filling up, so sign up fast!  
**Info: To register, visit <https://14797.blackbaudhosting.com/14797/Mochitsuki-09Dec2018>.**

**Kimochi Silver Bells Arts & Crafts and Food Faire**  
**San Francisco, CA**  
**Dec. 15; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
**The Event Center at St. Mary's Cathedral**  
**1111 Gough St. (near Japantown)**  
**Price: Free; complimentary Kimochi shuttle service available to/from Japantown (pickup/dropoff at Peace Plaza on the corner of Post and Sutter Streets)**  
 Don't miss this one-stop shopping event for all your holiday gifts! This annual event, benefiting Kimochi, Inc., will feature delicious food items and unique craft and art items sure to delight everyone on your holiday shopping list. Featuring numerous vendors, this event has been helping the community for more than 20 years.  
**Info: Visit [www.kimochi-inc.org](http://www.kimochi-inc.org).**

**'Loyal Americans: Japanese American Imprisonment During World War II' Exhibition**  
**Hayward, CA**  
**Extended thru Dec. 30; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Wed.-Sun.)**  
**Haywood Area Historical Society**  
**22380 Foothill Blvd.**  
**Price: Free**  
 Supported by Eden Township JACL, this exhibit features artifacts and

stories from Japanese American families extracted from their homes and later incarcerated during World War II. Many of the personal accounts and loaned artifacts are from local families and their descendants. Thanks to a generous grant from the Edwar E. and Donna L. Martins Foundation, admission to the museum is currently free.  
**Info: Visit [www.haywardarea-history.org](http://www.haywardarea-history.org) or call (510) 581-0223.**

## PSW

**'Rebel With a Cause': The Life of Aiko Herzig Yoshinaga**  
**Torrance, CA**  
**Dec. 1; 1:30-4:30 p.m.**  
**Katy Geissert Civic Center Library Library Community Room**  
**3301 Torrance Blvd.**  
**Price: Free**  
 The Torrance Public Library and Arts Council of Torrance presents a film presentation of "Rebel With a Cause," a biopicture by Janice D. Tanaka about the life of Aiko Herzig Yoshinaga — "prisoner, housewife, history detective, hero." Speakers for the event will include Tanaka as well as Martha Nakagawa.  
**Info: Visit [www.library.torranceca.gov](http://www.library.torranceca.gov) or call (310) 618-5959.**

**Mochitsuki at WLABT**  
**Los Angeles, CA**  
**Dec. 15**  
**2003 Corinth Ave.**  
 Come and join this WLA Jr. YBA fundraiser at its annual Mochitsuki event, where traditional mochi will be made using an usu (mortar) and kine (pestle or wooden mallet) until it reaches a white pasty consistency. The steamed rice will then be shaped into round pieces. Electronic mochi-making machines that pound the rice will also be used. WLABT will use both. All are encouraged to come and participate.  
**Info: Visit <http://westlosangeles-buddhisttemple.org/activities/mochi-tsuki-at-west-los-angeles-buddhist-temple>.**

**Aloha Kalikimaka: Ho'ike 2018**  
**Los Angeles, CA**  
**Dec. 26; 3 p.m.**  
**Aratani Theatre**  
**244 S. San Pedro St.**  
**Price: Tickets \$25-\$30**  
 Halau Keali'i O Nalani present this special event, supported in part by the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center Ukes for Little Tokyo program. Under the direction of Kumu Hula Keali'i Ceballos, founded in 1991, this group serves as ambassadors of Hawaiian culture and has grown steadily to include more than 200 students. The event will also feature a special appearance by the Ukes for Little Tokyo Ensemble.  
**Info: Visit <https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pe.c/10340719>.**

**Children's Oshogatsu Workshop**  
**Los Angeles, CA**  
**Dec. 28; 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**  
**JACCC**  
**244 San Pedro St.**  
 Enroll your child in JACCC's annual

one-day workshop where kids 7-13 will enjoy hands-on arts and craft activities while celebrating the new year. The workshop is grounded in cultural values and led by local artists and community members. Registration includes all workshop materials. Space is limited and preregistration is required. Space is filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.  
**Info: Visit [www.jaccc.org](http://www.jaccc.org).**

**New Year Celebration in Little Tokyo**  
**Los Angeles, CA**  
**Jan. 1; 10:50 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
**Little Tokyo**  
**Events held at Weller Court, Japanese Village Plaza and Frances Hashimoto Plaza**  
**Price: Free**  
 Kick off the new year in Little Tokyo with the annual Japanese New Year's Oshogatsu Festival! Following an opening ceremony at Weller Court featuring taiko drumming, Japanese traditional dance, kendo, food booths, mochi making and more, the event moves to the Japanese Village Plaza where more food, entertainment and cultural programs will be on display, in addition to arts, crafts and games for children at the Frances Hashimoto Plaza.  
**Info: For complete event details and times, visit <https://www.japanese-city.com/calendar/events/index.php?eID=34933>.**

## PNW

**'Contested Histories: Art and Artifacts From the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection' Pop-Up Display**  
**Seattle, WA**  
**Nov. 24 and 25; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**NVC Hall**  
**1212 S. King St.**  
**Price: Free**  
 JANM will travel its pop-up display of the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection for two days in November. The display includes physical or digital representation of every item in the collection — more than 400 individual photographs, sculptures, paintings and watercolors, jewelry items, vases, beads, nameplates and other handmade items from the WWII incarceration camps that Japanese Americans were forced to endure. The display is intended to help gather information about each individual object so that the museum's efforts to preserve and catalog the collection can be complete.  
**Info: Visit [nvcfoundation.org](http://nvcfoundation.org) or call (206) 322-1212.**

**Manga Hokusai Manga**  
**Portland, OR**  
**Dec. 1-Jan. 13, 2019**  
**Portland Japanese Garden Pavilion Gallery and Tanabe Gallery**  
**611 S.W. Kingston Ave.**  
**Price: Included with Garden admission**  
 The Portland Japanese Garden will be the only venue in the U.S. to feature manga woodblock prints by world-famous Japanese artist Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849), juxtaposed with work by top modern manga artists.  
**Info: [www.japanesegarden.org](http://www.japanesegarden.org).**

**Blast Off to Beyond**  
**Seattle WA**  
**Thru Jan. 6, 2019**  
**Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience**

**719 S. King St.**  
**Price: General admission**  
 Youth and families blast off in this new KidPLACE exhibit, which explores the skies and beyond. The field of aerospace is diverse and this exhibit celebrates the role Asian Pacific Americans play in space exploration and technology.  
**Info: Visit [www.wingluke.org](http://www.wingluke.org).**

## IDC

**Art Curator Talk at Denver Art Museum**  
**Denver, CO**  
**Dec. 5; 6-8 p.m.**  
**Denver Art Museum**  
**100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy.**  
 Funded by a grant to the National Association of Japan America Societies from the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, the Richard J. Wood Art Curators Grant allows for a talk at a Japan American Society by a curator of Japanese art at a well-known museum or private collection in the U.S. The Denver Art Museum is pleased to welcome Anne Nishimura Morse of the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston for a special evening on Dec. 5.  
**Info: Visit [jascolorado.org](http://jascolorado.org).**

## MDC

**Mochitsuki at the Midwest Buddhist Temple**  
**Chicago, IL**  
**Dec. 15; 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**435 W. Menomonee St.**  
**Price: Free**  
 During Mochitsuki, the temple's social hall transforms into a joyful gathering centered around the tradition of pounding rice and making mochi. Come out and take a turn pounding the rice with wooden mallets until it becomes smooth. Other volunteers will then form the finished mochi left either plain or filled with sweetened azuki beans. Mochi will be available for purchase. Everyone is welcome to join this annual tradition!  
**Info: Call (312) 943-7801 or email [office@mbtchicago.org](mailto:office@mbtchicago.org).**

**Asian Americans in Science: A Science Fusion Event**  
**Saint Paul, MN**  
**Feb. 2; Noon-4 p.m.**  
**Science Museum of Minnesota**  
**120 W. Kellogg Blvd.**  
**Price: Members are free; \$18.95 Nonmembers**  
 Meet science and technology professionals from a variety of Asian backgrounds and have a blast with their interactive displays and presentations. Bring the whole family to these fun events, as each full-priced adult admission will get four free kids admissions (17 and under).  
**Info: Call (651) 221-9444 to purchase tickets. Special rates are available for people with limited income.**

## EDC

**Sake Tasting With Japanese Sake Master**  
**Boston, MA**  
**Dec. 1; 6:30-8 p.m.**  
**Oficio**  
**129 Newbury St., 2nd Floor**  
**Price: \$75**

Kojima Travel Consulting has invited Yuichi Yamagishi, a world-class sake master from Niigata, Japan, to showcase the region's sake. The tasting, in collaboration with Gabrielle Morriseau, sake sommelier and manager at Craft and Cru in Milton, will include four different Niigata sakes, plus bonus samplings of several other Niigata sakes. Light refreshments will be served.  
**Info: Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/niigata-sake-tasting-in-boston-with-renowned-japanese-sake-master-tickets-51294705846>.**

**'Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II'**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**Thru Jan. 6, 2019**  
**The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History Documents Gallery, 2nd Floor**  
**14th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W.**  
 Don't miss this opportunity to view this important exhibit before its closure in January. The exhibit features documents, articles, photos and art, including the original Executive Order 9066 and original artwork by Roger Shimomura, who spent years incarcerated in Minidoka, Idaho, during World War II.  
**Info: Visit <http://americanhistory.si.edu/exhibitions/righting-wrong-japanese-americans-and-world-war-ii>.**

**'Akari: Sculpture by Other Means' at the Noguchi Museum**  
**Long Island City, NY**  
**Thru Jan. 27, 2019**  
**The Noguchi Museum**  
**9-01 33rd Road (at Vernon Boulevard)**  
**Info: Closed Mondays and Tuesdays**  
 Several installations on the second floor of the museum allow visitors to experience ways that Isamu Noguchi's Akari — a modular ecosystem of lightweight, collapsible paper lanterns — can create and transform space. Noguchi's electrified paper, bamboo and metal Akari light sculptures have become among the most ubiquitous sculptures on Earth.  
**Info: Visit <https://www.noguchi.org/programs/exhibitions/akari-sculpture-other-means>.**

**Bruce Lee: A Life (Book Talk)**  
**New York, NY**  
**Feb. 1, 2019; 6-8 p.m.**  
**Asian American/Asian Research Institute CUNY**  
**25 W. 43rd St.**  
**Room 1000**  
**Price: Free**  
 Journalist and best-selling author Matthew Polly will talk about his book "Bruce Lee: A Life."  
**Info: Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bruce-lee-a-life-book-talk-registration-50914470552?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.**

## ADVERTISE HERE

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

**FOR MORE INFO:**  
[pc@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:pc@pacificcitizen.org)  
 (213) 620-1767





# IN MEMORIAM



**Atagi, Fumiko Yoshioka, 87**, Ashland, OR, Sept. 26; she was predeceased by her husband, Dange; and a son; she is survived by her children, Tanya Atagi (Andy Fisher), Jolene Buccino (Ken)

and Patrick (Tracy); sister-in-law, Mary Atagi; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins; gc: 7.

**Enomoto, Jean Kiyomi, 77**, Gardena, CA, Nov. 9; she is survived by her husband, Richard; children, Michael (Laurie) Enomoto, Grace (Steven) Suwabe and Joy (Alan) Hayashibara; siblings, Helene Shimane, Ron and Eddie (Janet) Kamiya; brother-in-law, Tom (Eiko) Enomoto; sister-in-law, Yoneko Enomoto; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 6; ggc: 1.



**Tanaka, Karl T., 91**, Ontario, OR, Oct. 27; a WWII veteran who served in the Army, he was predeceased by his sister, Mary Nomaguchi and brother, Gus.



**Tsuchitani, Karen, 57**, San Jose, CA, Sept. 10; she was predeceased by her father, Allen; she is survived by her mother, Doris; siblings, Yuri and Wayne; sister-in-law Judy; brother-in-law, David Griswold; and a nephew.

and Tule Lake WRA Centers in CA; he was predeceased by his wife, Hisashi; he is survived by his daughter, Sheryl Kajioaka (Randy); sisters, Agnes Shimosaka, Lucy Akiyama, Peggy Ohara (Shig), Chiyeko Okamoto (Eddie) and Setsuko Shono (Yoneo); brother-in-law, Sam Matsumoto; gc: 1.

**Watanabe, Roberta, 71**, Dinuba, CA, Oct. 18.

**Yamauchi, Wakako, 93**, Gardena, CA, Aug. 16; a playwright ("And the Soul Shall Dance"), during WWII her family and she were incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her daughter, Joy; she is survived by her sister, Yuki Sugiyama; son-in-law, Victor Matsushita; gc: 2.

**Kubota Mortuary**  
久保田日系葬儀社  
Reliable, personalized care you can trust.  
日本語でも親切にお世話をさせていただきます。  
T: 213•749•1449 F: 213•749•0265  
911 VENICE BLVD., LOS ANGELES, CA 90015  
www.kubotanikkeimortuary.com

**FUKUI MORTUARY**  
Five Generations of Experience  
FD #808  
707 East Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Ph. 213/626-0441  
Fax 213/617-2781  
Gerald Fukui  
President

**PLACE A TRIBUTE**  
"In Memoriam" is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch.  
**CONTACT:**  
Editorial@pacificcitizen.org  
or call (213) 620-1767 ext. 104

## TRIBUTE

### YURIKO LILY TORIGOE



Yuriiko Lily "Yuri" Torigoe, longtime resident of San Jose, Calif., passed away peacefully at home on Nov. 1, 2018, at the age of 96. She was a piano teacher, church organist/pianist and devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She was born in Alameda, Calif., on June 24, 1922, to Hajime and Uchi Date, immigrants from Japan who ran a florist shop. Following graduation from Alameda High School, she entered the University of California in Berkeley but was forced to discontinue her studies because of the wartime relocation of Japanese Americans. She was held in an internment camp, but was granted release to attend the Colorado State College of Education (now the University of Northern Colorado), where she earned a B.A. degree and secondary school teaching credential. While living in Colorado, she met her husband-to-be, Setsuo Ernest (Ernie) Torigoe, who was practicing dentistry in Fort Lupton, Colo., due to the relocation. They married on Oct. 6, 1945, and returned to California in August 1947 with a 3-month-old child. They settled in San Jose, where they lived for the rest of their lives except for the period from 1951-53, when Ernie served in the U.S. Air Force.

Yuri was a person of many talents. In addition to being the mother of four children, she was a piano teacher, giving private lessons at her home for 36 years. She served as organist and pianist at Wesley United Methodist Church in San Jose for many years. Her community service included her contributions as president of the National Guild of Piano Teachers in San Jose and Lincoln Glen PTA president. After her children left home, she earned a Masters in Music at San Jose State University.

She was a skilled seamstress who made many articles of clothing for her family. She traveled widely, covering all 50 states and many international destinations. She kept detailed scrapbooks and photo albums of her family and travels. Other interests included social bridge, attending concerts, knitting, gardening, taking classes, reading and collecting miniature pianos.

Yuri will be remembered for her many endearing qualities. She was very devoted to her family and approached her many endeavors with great enthusiasm. She was accomplished but most unassuming. She was very petite but had a big heart for others. At this time of remembrance, one of her many aphorisms that comes to mind is "good things come in small packages."

Her husband of 70 years passed away in 2016. She leaves her children, Wayne (Karen), Kathy, Eric (Gayle) and Marilyn (Neil); grandchildren, Kendra (Enoch), Melanie, Keith, Sharon, Jeff and Bryan; great-grandchildren, Kayla and Evan; and many other members of her extended family.

In accordance with her wishes, a private family memorial service was held at Wesley United Methodist Church in San Jose. Donations in her memory to Wesley United Methodist Church or your favorite charity would be most appreciated.

## AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL

### 2019 TOUR SCHEDULE (Preview)

- Splendid Sicily Holiday Tour** (Elaine Ishida) . . . . . April 6-15  
Palermo, Corleone, visit a family farm, Agrigento, Taormina.
- Charleston-Savannah-St. Augustine Tour** (Carol Hida) . . . . . April 7-13  
Charleston, Fort Sumter, Beaufort Horse Drawn Carriage Tour, Savannah, Jekyll Island, St. Augustine Trolley Tour
- Japan Spring Countryside Holiday Tour** (Ernest Hida) . . . . . April 12-23  
Tokyo, Sakata, Akita, Oga Peninsula, Hanamaki Onsen, Matsushima, Aizu Wakamatsu, Ouchijuku, Iwaki Hawaiian Show, Ashikaga Flower Park.
- South America Japanese Heritage Holiday Tour** (Ernest Hida) . . . . . May 9-24  
Argentina - Buenos Aires; Brazil - Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Iguassu Falls; Peru - Lima, Machu Picchu. Meet local Japanese and learn their history.
- Iceland Explorer Holiday Tour** (Elaine Ishida) . . . . . June 5-11  
Reykjavik, Blue Lagoon, Strokkur Geyser, Gullfoss/Golden Falls, Thingvellir National Park, Viking Ship Museum, Lake Kleifarvatn.
- Grandparents-Grandchildren Japan Tour I** (Ernest Hida). **Waitlist** . . . . . June 17-27
- Grandparents-Grandchildren Japan Tour II** (Ernest Hida). . . . . July 1-11  
Tokyo, Hakone/Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto
- Alaska Land & Cruise Tour** (Elaine Ishida). . . . . July 16-28  
Fairbanks, Denali National Park, Talkeetna, Anchorage, Hubbard Glacier, Glacier Bay, Skagway, Juneau, Ketchikan, Vancouver, Seattle.
- Hokkaido Summer Holiday Tour** (Ernest Hida). . . . . July 17-29  
Chitose, Furano, Asahikawa, Rishiri Island, Wakkanai, Sapporo, Otaru, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Tokyo
- Western Mediterranean Holiday Cruise** (Carol Hida). . . . . Aug 18-31
- Yellowstone & Mt. Rushmore Holiday Tour** (Elaine Ishida). . . . . Sep 22-29
- Japan Autumn Countryside Holiday Tour** (Ernest Hida). . . . . Oct  
Tokyo, Sado Island, Kanazawa, Shirakawago, Amanohashidate, Tottori, Matsue, Tamatsukuri Onsen, Kobe.
- Kenya Wildlife Safari Holiday Tour** (Carol Hida). . . . . Oct 9-21
- Kyushu-Shikoku Holiday Tour** (Ernest Hida). . . . . Nov  
Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Ibusuki, Kagoshima, Miyazaki, Beppu, Matsuyama, Kochi, Takamatsu, Shodo Island, Tokushima.

For more information and reservations, please contact:

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL  
312 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 240 \* Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Tel: (213)625-2232 \* Email: [americanholiday@att.net](mailto:americanholiday@att.net)  
Ernest or Carol Hida, Elaine Ishida (Tel: 714-269-4534)





## REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

# MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT GIVES SENIORS A CHANCE TO SAVE MONEY.

By Ron Mori

You may have noticed the recent commercials about Medicare's Open Enrollment period on TV starting in October. If you're like me, I'm starting to listen more to these commercials and thinking about my friends that are Medicare eligible this year. It begs the question, "Where do I start, and what should I do if I'm already enrolled in Medicare?"

I'm fortunate to work at AARP, and I've pulled together the following information to help you navigate through the upcoming deadline date of Dec. 7.

AARP is encouraging all seniors to review their Medicare health and prescription coverage during this year's Medicare Open Enrollment period — thru Dec. 7 — and compare plans to see if there is a plan that better suits their health needs for 2019. Some people may be able to reduce their prescription drug costs substantially by switching to a different Part D plan.

"Medicare health and prescription drug cost-sharing can vary widely between plans for the same drug or service from year to year," said

AARP Public Policy Institute VP Lina Walker, PhD. "We strongly recommend that everyone look at the Annual Notice of Change from their insurer and understand all of the changes to their plans, if any. People should have received these notices by Sept. 30."

Medicare plans often change their cost-sharing and coverage benefits every year. For instance, plans typically change their drug formularies each year, which can lead to considerably higher out-of-pocket costs for seniors if they stay with the same plan. Family caregivers can also use this opportunity to help their loved ones find the best health and prescription drug coverage, Walker added.

### Six New Improvements Coming to Medicare for 2019

- Medicare Part D doughnut hole closes for brand-name drugs
- No caps on coverage for physical, speech or occupational therapy
- New Medicare cards without Social Security numbers
- New features and tools on *Medicare.gov*
- New Medicare Advantage benefits for eligible

enrollees, which could include meal delivery, transportation to doctor appointments, home safety devices, in-home assistance and more.

- Extra time to switch to a different Medicare Advantage plan or return to original Medicare

### Changes You Can Make During Open Enrollment

- Switch from traditional Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan, or vice versa
  - Switch from one Medicare Advantage plan to another
  - Switch from one Medicare Part D prescription drug plan to another
  - Drop Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage
  - Join a Medicare Part D drug plan if you didn't sign up when you were first eligible
- "We know that roughly 80 percent of people stay in the same Medicare plan year to year," said Walker. "But those who do change usually choose plans that reduce their costs. With so many people struggling with high prescription drug prices, people really should be looking at all of their Medicare plan options each year."



### Help Is Available

Free help is available to people during Open Enrollment:

- Medicare help line: (800) 633-4227
- Medicare plan finder: <https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx>
- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP): [www.shiptacenter.org](http://www.shiptacenter.org)

AARP also has an AARP Medicare Resource Center (<https://www.aarp.org/health/medicare-insurance>) that is easy to use and has helpful information. Remember, the deadline is coming up on Dec. 7.

So, no excuses — make sure you're signed up during Open Enrollment!

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

## DISTRICT >> continued from page 2

Learners. Many connected to the formidable tale of immigration, naturalization and war-time hysteria.

Ms. Kerr-Vanderslice teaches English Language Arts at IHS. Kerr-Vanderslice recently attended a training preparing teachers to teach "Farewell to Manzanar." Hosted by the Japanese American Society and Facing History and Ourselves, this workshop inspired her.

Intertwining authentic incarceration photos, she encouraged students to imagine themselves within the demanding and degrading environment — exploring, identifying and conveying the feelings that arose within them.

Not only is this an inspiring story of educators excelling in their craft (of English Learner Support), but also it is a story of a teacher delving deep into her/his content standards.

Teachers do not need to stick to the paragraph normally presented in U.S. history books for Japanese American internment. Most times, teachers are one of the few folks in their students' lives who encourage them to step out of their comfort zone, explore our nation's history and mistakes and confirm the seemingly never-ending fight for social justice.

Such good work is a call to action. How can more states teach local Japanese American incarceration history? How can more content areas incorporate the JA experience in their classroom?



Students at Inderkum High School in Sacramento, Calif., discussed Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston's "Farewell to Manzanar" as part of their curriculum. (Left) John Kanemoto

For example, in middle school mathematics, the amount of cubic feet within one suitcase for a

Japanese American family to bring to their incarceration site. Also, in science, how did geographical location, climate and lack of resources establish the harsh conditions? No matter the contribution, let us all work toward sharing, improving and supporting JA incarceration curriculum.

These teachers are catalysts. Their spark and commitment to social justice will ensure that future voters are informed and these atrocities are not replicated — NEVER AGAIN.

*John Kanemoto is a past Florin-Sacramento Valley and National JACL Scholarship winner and Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA).*

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF JOHN KANEMOTO

## TOJI LAW, APC PRESENTS

## ESTATE PLANNING 101



How will a Trust protect your family?



When should you update your Trust?



Do you need a Will, a Trust, or both?



Do you need a Financial POA?



What medical papers do you need?

All seminar attendees will receive a FREE lunch from Sakae Sushi

**DATE/TIME:** Sunday, December 9, 2018; 10 – 11 AM

**PLACE:** New Gardena Hotel

1641 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Gardena, 90247

**PLEASE CALL (424) 247-1123 TO RSVP**



**TOJI LAW, APC**

Estate Planning for the Generations

3655 Torrance Blvd., Suite 300 | Torrance, CA 90503

(424) 247-1123 | [staci@tojilaw.com](mailto:staci@tojilaw.com) | [www.tojilaw.com](http://www.tojilaw.com)