



PACIFIC CITIZEN

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A Bridging Opportunity

NCWNP JACL travelers experience
the *'best of the best'* in Japan.

The entire JACL
NCWNP District
group at Meiji
Jingu Shrine in
Japan



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The JACL National Board
Meets to Discuss 2019 Goals.

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Details on April's 50th Annual
Manzanar Pilgrimage



IT'S TIME FOR THE SPRING CAMPAIGN

Greetings Pacific Citizen subscribers!

I hope you are reading this somewhere warm! February is generally the peak of seasonal depression, and even the most well-adjusted might find themselves feeling out of sorts amidst this long winter's record-breaking cold spells.

However, one thing that has always cheered me up is reading a good book or magazine. If you enjoy reading this paper as much as we enjoy making it, I ask you to consider making a donation during the Pacific Citizen's annual Spring Campaign.

Originally published under the title *The Nikkei Shimin* in October 1929, *Pacific Citizen* is a landmark publication for its role in uniting the Japanese American community through journalistic coverage. This paper came into being at a time when the children of Japanese immigrants were first coming of age in this country, and many of our Nisei generation found this paper to be a formative element of establishing their Japanese American identities.

Although several Japanese-language newspapers on the West Coast of the United States predate the *P.C.*, our publication was the first (and now only) nationwide newspaper specifically catering to the tastes of our Japanese American community.

During the incarceration years, production of the paper moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, where it continued to provide quality reporting on nationwide issues impacting Japanese Americans. In the decade-long quest to realize redress, the *P.C.* was there reporting every step along the way. The *P.C.* is an institution within our community, and we hope it will continue to be for many years to come.

While we are excitedly celebrating our 90th anniversary all-year long, we find ourselves at a crossroads, as traditional membership organizations such as the JACL have decreased

in membership over the past two decades. Subsequently, the *P.C.*'s subscription base has also taken a hit. With so many alternatives to traditional reporting, some have asked whether it is still necessary to have a publication like this.

However, the *P.C.* holds tremendous potential for helping define what the next iteration of this community is. Conversations and discourse through the writings in this paper have helped previous generations to conceptualize their identities and stay connected to the national community even for those who live in geographically isolated areas from the larger Japanese American community.

Your contributions can help give the gift of knowledge to our current generations of Japanese Americans by helping us to provide staff with much-needed office software, computer equipment, archiving materials and the funds to ensure that the *P.C.* remains a printed option for many of our readers. Staff is hard at work to make sure this publication continues to provide you with quality reporting on issues that matter to you and our communities. Absolutely 100 percent of your donations allow the *P.C.* to continue doing so.

Please consider a donation of any amount that you are able.

To donate to the Spring Campaign, fill out the coupon included in this newspaper or give directly on the *P.C.*'s website at www.pacificcitizen.org.

Thank you one and all,

Rob Buscher,
Chair, Pacific Citizen
Editorial Board

Letter to the Editor

AN APOLOGY FOR TULE LAKE RESISTERS

For over 70 years, former Tule Lake resisters have been stigmatized for their difficult decisions of protest during World War II and have been negatively labeled as those "No, Nos" by the Japanese American community. It is time that the JACL finally admits that former Tule Lake resisters had the courage and the right to protest the injustice of America's concentration camps.

Nearly two decades ago, the JACL finally, officially apologized to the Heart Mountain and all other draft resisters for their principled stand, but to this day, an apology to Tule Lake resisters has been its own No, No.

Past JACL leaders, members and ex-GIs long maintained animosity toward former Tule Lake resisters, but now a new generation of JACL leaders and members predominate. An official JACL apology is needed, admitting Tule Lake resisters had a right to protest the incarceration and were unfairly stigmatized all these years. This JACL apology should happen soon, before all incarcerated at Tule Lake pass away.

After the war, people asked, "What camp were you in?" I never hesitated to say, "Poston and Tule Lake," but I was always angered by their even-muted knowing responses.

The Japanese American community has been brainwashed by the JACL and the commonly used "No, Nos" slur that implied wrongdoing. They do not understand that Tule Lake resisters were put in difficult positions and were trapped into protesting the injustice of incarceration. They were punished by the government, many suffered significantly and in addition have been long stigmatized by their own community.

The JACL, with their super patriotism position during and soon after the war, were in strong opposition to 12,000 Tule Lake inmates. They had urged their segregation from others in nine camps, would not help ACLU attorney Wayne Collins oppose deportation of over 5,000 renunciants to Japan and would not support his heroic efforts to regain their citizenships.

» See LETTER on page 9

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PACIFIC CITIZEN

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

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NIKKEI VOICE

IS NAOMI OSAKA JAPANESE ENOUGH?

By Gil Asakawa

I love following the exciting young career of Naomi Osaka, the world's first Japanese tennis star, who has been ranked No. 1 by the Women's Tennis Assn. after her recent win in the Australian Open.

I love her passion and skill and determination to win. And most of all, I love that she is mixed-race, with a Japanese mom and Haitian dad. And, I also love that she's culturally as American as she is Japanese or Haitian.

Osaka was born in Japan, and her family came to the U.S. when she was just 3 years old. They first lived with her father's family in Long Island, N.Y., and by the time she was 10, the family (which includes an older sister who also competes in tennis) moved to Florida, where they still live.

Osaka claims both American and Japanese citizenship. She's 21 now, and the media has begun pointing out Japan's citizenship law: At 22, Japan doesn't allow dual citizenship. Naomi will soon have to choose her nationality.

Her sister, Mari, who's already 22, is still listed as playing for Japan by the International Tennis Federation. The sisters have represented



World's No. 1-ranked tennis sensation Naomi Osaka at the Australian Open

Japan even though they've been mostly raised in the United States because, as explained by their mom, they "feel" Japanese. It may have helped that the U.S. Tennis Assn. wasn't interested in Naomi until she started to gain attention as a rising star. When the USTA invited her to join them, Osaka declined.

Now, she has sponsorship deals like any American athlete might. Except, of course, she's representing Japanese companies. Nissin, for one — the company that invented instant ramen in the 1950s and Cup Noodles in the 1970s. Unfortunately, Nissin had to apologize recently for an animated TV commercial that gave the athlete oddly lightened skin and was

accused of whitewashing the star.

Which brings us to the most striking part of Osaka's stardom: She's biracial Japanese and black. Most Japanese, especially the media, have embraced her for showing the world that a tennis player from Japan can be great.

But she's received some flak from racists in her chosen country. It may be a further challenge that like many of us Japanese Americans, she can understand some Japanese but can't speak fluently. So far that hasn't hurt her. When a reporter asked her to respond to a question in Japanese, she replied in English ... and her fans blasted the reporter for being rude and un-Japanese.

Unfortunately, other biracial stars in Japan have faced prejudice.

The Pittsburgh, Pa.-born singer Jero, who is African-American and Japanese, moved to Japan and had a 10-year career as an "enka" star, performing the style of music that can be described as a mix of Japanese blues and big-band pop. He was treated as a novelty, gaining gasps and applause when he was introduced during the early part of his career. Last year, he announced he was putting his singing career on hold to become a computer engineer, which is what he had studied in college.

Ariana Miyamoto, a half-black, half-Japanese woman from Nagasaki, made headlines when she won the Miss Japan title in 2015. At the time, the media made a huge deal of her ethnicity, and she had to deal with a lot of racism. She used her one-year reign to speak out about prejudice and for biracial Japanese. Ironically, the 2016 Miss Japan was also biracial, Japanese and Indian.

A powerful documentary, "Hafu," looks at the plight of biracial people in Japan and the challenges they face in a society that has historically valued racial homogeneity. It's available on Amazon Prime and definitely worth watching.

» See NAOMI OSAKA on page 9



By Marsha Aizumi

A MOTHER'S TAKE BUILDING BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

Recently, my husband and I saw the movie "Green Book." It is a story about a world-class black pianist who hires an Italian man, not only to drive him around, but also to protect him as well. For two months in 1962, they toured around the country, even to the Deep South, to bring music to audiences, most of whom were wealthy and white. "Green Book" refers to "The Negro Motorist Green Book," which was published annually from 1936-64 to show African-American travelers safe places to eat and sleep.

If you plan to see the movie, there might be some spoilers in my column, so you may want to read this after you see "Green Book."

Tad and I walked out of the theater agreeing it was a great movie. Not only was the acting good, but it also educated us from a heartfelt perspective. Early in the movie, star Viggo Mortensen's character, Tony Lip, wanted to throw away glasses that two black workmen drank from. His wife pulled them out of the trash, shaking her head. Tony was clearly racist.

But as Tony drove Dr. Don Shirley, played by Mahershala Ali, around the country, you saw their relationship grow through shared

experiences and dialogue with each other. You saw that people from diverse backgrounds could find common ground, and their thoughts could evolve if they listened deeply with an open heart to each other.

You also saw how different personalities could come together with mutual trust and mutual respect. Tony Lip was a spontaneous, often emotional individual, and Dr. Shirley was a structured, more formal man. Yet, they learned from each other and in the end, lived life at a higher level because of their shared experiences. They remained friends throughout their lives.

Both of these individuals were good people, and their time with each other brought them greater awareness, understanding and empathy. I also walked away from this movie with greater awareness, understanding and empathy myself.

I left the theater remembering a story that a colleague told me about being mistaken for a lower-level job just because he was black. He is a respected attorney for a large New York law firm. How demeaning that must have felt being judged only by the color of his skin.

I thought of how humiliating it was for Dr. Shirley to be invited to play for an audience in the South, but not allowed to use their restroom. Instead, he was offered an outhouse away from the house, or if he pre-

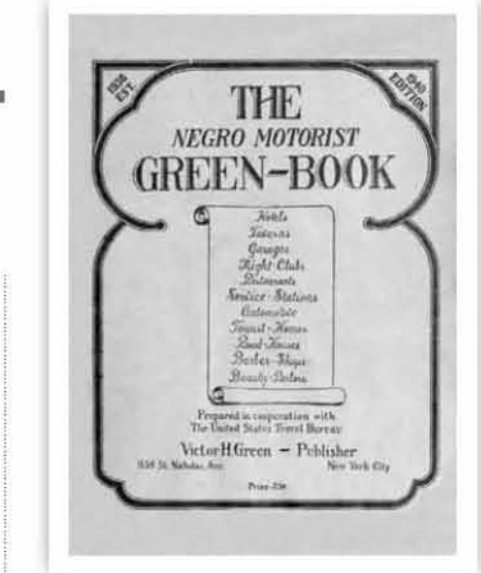
ferred, he could drive back to use his motel restroom and then return to the event. Dr. Shirley chose to go back to his motel.

Although this movie was about a relationship between a white man and a black man, I also saw it could be about any two people who are willing to open their hearts and listen to the perspective of another person that may view the world differently.

I used to move away from religious people, afraid of their judgment on me as a mother of a transgender son. Basically, I put up a wall. Today, I am more willing to share our story in churches and with religious individuals, so that compassion for the LGBTQ community might bring greater acceptance and openness to their thinking and institution.

In return, I have come to understand there are good people in churches who just don't know how to support the LGBTQ community. Where do we start? What do we do? These are often the questions I am asked. Conversations I am having with churches and temples are helping us both come together as well as work together.

I am writing this article on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. I wonder what he would have thought about the way our world has progressed? Sometimes while reading the headlines and listening to the news, I am discouraged as a parent of a LGBTQ child. But



then I remember King's words, and I feel my strength return. Whispering right behind him is Yuri Kochiyama. And I know that together we can make this world better.

"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."

— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Don't become too narrow. Live fully. Meet all kinds of people. You will learn something from everyone. Follow what you feel in your heart."

— Yuri Kochiyama

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



PHOTO: SUSAN YOKOYAMA

The JACL National Board met at its San Francisco headquarters on Feb. 2, where it outlined 2019 goals as the organization commemorates its 90th anniversary this year.

JACL NATIONAL BOARD MEETS TO DISCUSS FUTURE PLANS AND GOALS

Despite intense rain, thunder and lightning outside, making for a bleak day in the Bay Area, inside JACL's San Francisco headquarters, the organization's National Board had many positive plans on its agenda during its quarterly meeting on Feb. 2.

Among the main items on its agenda was discussion on how best to continue the organization's civil advocacy work and increasing membership numbers among challenging financial times and staffing

issues, all while commemorating the 90th anniversary of JACL and its national newspaper publication the *Pacific Citizen* this year.

JACL's current National Board is ready to meet these challenges head-on.

"We have to make sure that we take care of ourselves and find the right balance . . . so that this organization can thrive into the future," said JACL National President Jeffrey Moy. "To think back on the last six months and when we started talking about what our goals for our term were going to be to what our long-term goals are now for JACL as an organization, I can see all the work we're doing . . . We're at a place where we know what we want to accomplish, and that will help set us up for future success."

JACL Executive Director David Inoue updated the board on his current search to fill the vacant business manager position.

At the moment, Inoue is interviewing potential candidates.

"I'm using this time where we are looking at how to revise our staff and how to operate with the best efficiency."

Despite staffing vacancies, Inoue noted that JACL's advocacy work continues on all cylinders.

In his report to the board, Inoue outlined JACL's work regarding the Muslim travel ban, family separation and detention, its lead in the Japanese American Confinement Sites Program, DACA and the

DREAM Act, work with the MLB and NFL on providing broader training to their players regarding anti-Asian racism and JACL's signing on several amicus briefs concerning hate crimes, the LGBTQ community and affirmative action.

Secretary/Treasurer James Kirihara reported that YTD membership revenue yielded \$548K, compared to 2017's \$541K. JACL also experienced a significant decline in equity net assets since August 2018 due to investment valuation declines based on the stock market. He stressed the importance of the organization's need to stay on top of the budgeting process and continued monitoring by the Financial Oversight Committee.

Although 2018 accounted for 200 fewer members, revenue finished ahead of budget expectations due to an increase in dues, reported VP Membership Haruka Roubush.

He remains firmly committed to his goal of 10,000 members by the end of 2019, as well as the standardization of national dues rates.

Roubush also praised 26 chapters for increasing membership for the year, including Sonoma Co., 42; Honolulu, 8; Silicon Valley, 11; and Fresno, 6; PSW, five chapters gained members; PNW, 4; IDC, 28; MDC, 6; EDC, Philly added 13 members.

Planning for National Convention in Salt Lake City (July 31-Aug. 4) is well underway, reported VP General Operations Marissa Kitazawa.

And VP Planning and Development Matthew Farrells reported that a nationwide fundraising initiative will roll out soon. ■

JANM AND THE NIPPON FOUNDATION WORK TO GATHER RESEARCH ABOUT YOUNG NIKKEI AROUND THE WORLD

The online survey, available thru Feb. 28, aims to deepen the understanding of Nikkei communities in the Japanese diaspora.

LOS ANGELES — The Japanese American National Museum is collaborating with the Nippon Foundation on a large-scale, global research project to learn how young people of Japanese ancestry (Nikkei) understand and express their Japanese heritage.

The project, the first of its kind, aims to deepen the understanding of Nikkei communities in the Japanese diaspora, including their differences and similarities, as well as their needs and challenges now and in the future.

The project will target Nikkei ages 18-35, regardless of when their ancestors emigrated from Japan, their destination country or where the individuals now reside.

The research will gather data from participants regarding demographics, the prevalence of Japanese cultural activities and influences in their lives and their connectedness to local Nikkei communities and Japan.

An online survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TNFNikkeiSurveyEN>), available in four languages (English, Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish), to gather this information was launched in late January and is available online until Feb. 28.

Following the survey, focus groups will be convened in 10 countries, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, Japan, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the U.S.

The team leading this research includes Dr. Curtiss Takada Rooks, senior research associate and assistant professor of Asian Pacific American Studies at Loyola Marymount University; and Dr. Lindsey Sasaki Kogasaka, assistant director of Study Abroad at Pomona College.

Rooks' research focuses on ethnic and multiracial identity, ethnic community development and cultural competency in community health and wellness; Kogasaka specializes in cross-cultural exchange and training, international migration and the Asian diaspora in Latin America.

The Nippon Foundation, which initiated this project and selected JANM as its partner, was estab-



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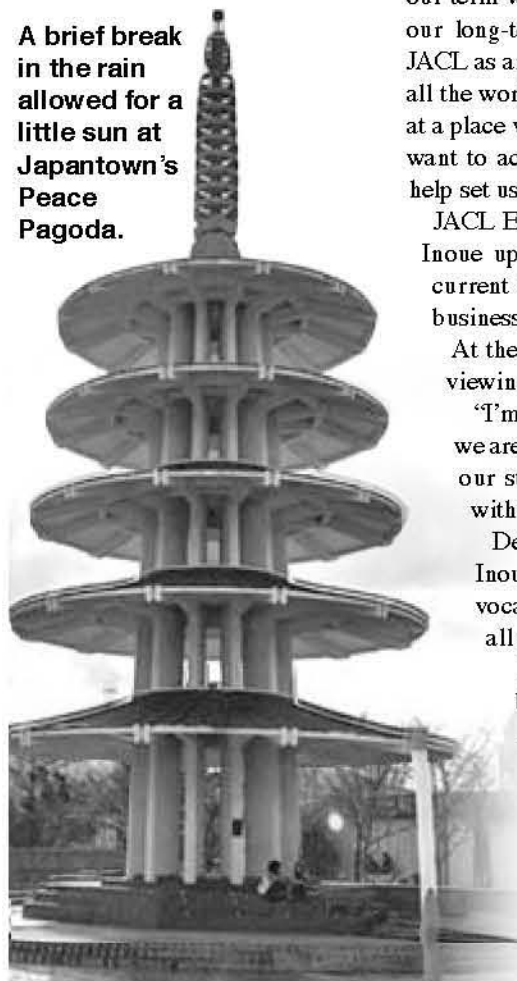
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lished in 1962 as a nonprofit philanthropic organization, active in Japan and around the world. Its range of activities encompasses education, social welfare, public health and other fields — carried out in more than 100 countries to date. Together with numerous partner organizations in Japan and worldwide, it funds and assists community-led efforts aimed at realizing a more peaceful and prosperous global society.

And JANM is the first museum in the U.S. dedicated to sharing the experience of Americans of Japanese ancestry as an integral part of the nation's history. Through its comprehensive collection of Japanese American objects, images and documents, as well as exhibitions, educational programs and publications, JANM shares the Japanese American story with local, national and international audiences. ■

A brief break
in the rain
allowed for a
little sun at
Japantown's
Peace
Pagoda.



THE 50TH ANNUAL MANZANAR PILGRIMAGE/ MANZANAR AT DUSK SET FOR APRIL 27

Preliminary details for the 2019 event have been announced, with bus transportation available from Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES — The 50th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, sponsored by the Manzanar Committee, is scheduled for April 27 at the Manzanar National Historic Site, located on U.S. Hwy 395 in California's Owens Valley, between the towns of Lone Pine and Independence, approximately 230 miles north of Los Angeles.

Manzanar was the first of the American concentration camps in which more than 120,000 Japanese Americans and their immigrant parents were unjustly incarcerated during World War II.

Each year, more than 1,000 people from all walks of life attend the Manzanar Pilgrimage, including students, teachers, community members, clergy and former internees.

Planning is underway for the afternoon event, as well as for the annual Manzanar at Dusk program, which follows the pilgrimage that same evening.

This year's Manzanar Pilgrimage will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first organized Manzanar Pilgrimage in 1969.

"The fact that the Manzanar Committee and the Manzanar Pilgrimage have been in existence for 50 years, enduring and spanning generations, is very important to take stock of," said Manzanar Committee Co-Chair Bruce Embrey. "The Manzanar Pilgrimage has endured. It has become an important part of our community's effort to make sure our nation remembers what can happen when the rights of any community are trampled upon under the guise of national security concerns or because of xenophobia."

"The pilgrimages were a quest, searching for the truth of what happened, led mostly by young Sansei (third-generation Japanese Americans)," Embrey continued. "As it got more established, the pilgrimage became a safe place for the survivors of camp to talk story, revealing the atrocities of camp, and educating the younger generations and



The Roll Call of the Camps at the 49th annual Manzanar Pilgrimage: Banners representing the 10 American concentration camps, the Crystal City Internment Camp and the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team/Military Intelligence Service are shown here just prior to being marched into the Manzanar cemetery for the traditional interfaith service.

broader public about our story. In some ways, pilgrimages created the basis for the redress movement to be established and grow, and it helped prepare the community to talk about their unjust incarceration at the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians hearings in the early 1980s."

Embrey added that over the past 50 years, the Manzanar Pilgrimage has sought to honor and remember the strength, endurance and dedication of the former internees.

"We always try to remind everyone how the endurance and strength of those Issei, Nisei and Sansei and others who survived camp and the aftermath of their incarceration was remarkable," Embrey stressed. "This year, we hope to capture how strength and endurance has been central to demanding justice over the decades, as well as to winning redress and reparations. It is this enduring spirit and search for truth that has kept the pilgrimage alive and relevant and has made it an important voice in our nation's dialogue about civil rights."

Cultural performances will begin at 11:30 a.m., while the main portion of the day's program will begin at Noon.

Pilgrimage participants are advised to bring their own lunch, drinks and snacks, as there are no facilities to eat at the Manzanar National Historic Site (restaurants and fast-food outlets are located in Lone Pine and Independence, which are nearby). Water will be provided at the site, but participants are asked to bring a refillable water bottle that can be filled at refilling stations on site.

Those who wish to participate in the traditional flower offering during the interfaith service are advised to bring their own flowers.

Pilgrimage participants should also be aware that weather in the Owens Valley can be unpredictable and can change rapidly. The Manzanar Committee advises participants that they should always wear a hat, use sunscreen (ultraviolet light is not affected by clouds and is more intense at higher elevations) and be prepared for any kind of weather, including

high winds, heat, cold and rain.

The Manzanar at Dusk program, which is co-sponsored by the Nikkei Student Unions at California State University, Fullerton; California State University, Long Beach; California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; the University of California, Los Angeles; and the University of California, San Diego will follow a couple of hours after the Manzanar Pilgrimage at 5 p.m. at Lone Pine High School, which is located at 538 S. Main Street (U.S. Hwy 395), approximately eight miles south of the Manzanar National Historic Site, across the street from McDonald's.

Through a creative presentation, small group discussions and an open mic session, Manzanar at Dusk participants will have the opportunity to learn about the experiences of those incarcerated in the camps. Participants will also be able to interact with former internees in attendance to hear their personal stories, share their own experiences and discuss the relevance of the concentration camp experience to present-day events and issues.

Further details about the Pilgrimage and the Manzanar at Dusk program will be announced at a later date.

The Manzanar Committee has also announced that bus transportation to the pilgrimage will be available from Los Angeles' Little Tokyo. The bus will depart at 7 a.m., arriving at the pilgrimage at approximately 11:30 a.m. and will also take participants to the Visitor Center at the Manzanar National Historic Site following the afternoon program. The bus should arrive back in Los Angeles at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Reservations for the Little Tokyo bus will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The nonrefundable fare is \$45 per seat, \$30 for youth (17 years of age and younger). Complimentary fares are available for those who were incarcerated at any of the former American concentration camps or other confinement sites during WWII.

Anyone wishing to attend the Manzanar at Dusk program that evening should make other transportation arrangements.

Both the Manzanar Pilgrimage and the Manzanar at Dusk programs are free and open to the public.

For more information, or to reserve a seat on the bus departing from Little Tokyo, call (323) 662-5102 or e-mail 50thpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org.

MANZANAR COMMITTEE LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

LOS ANGELES — The Manzanar Committee, sponsors of the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage since 1967, the accompanying Manzanar at Dusk program since 1997 and Katari, a new project targeting college students, has announced the launch of its new website, <https://manzanarcommittee.org>.

The new website combines its obsolete website and its blog into a single, modern site that will provide historical and educational information about the Manzanar Committee, as well as news about current Committee activities, articles, statements on current issues, along with the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage and Manzanar at Dusk programs.

"We had two separate presences on the World Wide Web," said Gann Matsuda, director of communications and social media/web editor of the Manzanar Committee. "While our blog has all of our updated information about the Manzanar

Pilgrimage, Manzanar at Dusk, our Katari project, our Student Awards Program, statements about issues affecting our community and a lot more, it was not our main website, which continued to be where many people looked first for information. Many didn't know our blog existed. In any case, our website was old and difficult to keep updated. We never really had the resources or time to update it, let alone modernize it, until recently."

Matsuda noted that the Committee received a lot of complaints each year, especially in the weeks approaching the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage.

"Our new website, with its modern-day underpinnings, is easy to update and maintain, not to mention easy to navigate, and it's mobile-friendly, too. We believe visitors to our website will be able to easily find the information they need, whether

they're using a computer, tablet or smartphone."

Eventually, the new website will include historical and educational material from the old website that dealt with Japanese American incarceration.

"We're in the process of reviewing, editing and updating much of the historical, educational and literary material from our old website," Matsuda noted. "That'll take time, but once that project is completed, it'll be easy to add that content to the new site, and it'll be easy for visitors to find."

In addition, manzanarcommittee.org, www.manzanarcommittee.org and blog.manzanarcommittee.org will continue to work and will take visitors to the new website. Visitors might need to empty their browser cache before the new site is available.

For more information, contact the Manzanar Committee at (323) 662-5102 or email info@manzanarcommittee.org.



JACLers were first in line to visit Kinkakuji Temple in Kyoto. The Buddhist temple is one of the most popular sites in Japan, originally built in 1397 as a residence for shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu.



A close-up look at Kinkakuji Temple (the Golden Pavilion) in the early morning

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF NCWNP DISTRICT JACL

A Bridging Opportunity FEATURING THE BEST OF THE BEST IN JAPAN

Twenty-two JACL travelers from the NCWNP District recently embarked on a unique trip that created special memories to last a lifetime.

There are so many opportunities for youth to travel to Japan . . . what about adults and older Sanseis?" "Are there Sanseis still affected by the World War II incarceration of being taught that it was not good to be 'too Japanese?" "Are there a lot of Sansei who have never been to Japan? Why?"

These questions posed by JACLers led to a Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District JACL trip to Japan, one that was specifically designed for the first-time Japan traveler, but with enough flexibility in the itinerary to attract even the most-frequent Japan traveler.

While there are other tours with a similar itinerary (Tokyo, Yokohama, Kamakura, Hakone, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Miyajima Island), the concept of "bridging" can't be found in a commercially coordinated trip. This "bridging"

opportunity is something that was unique, special and memorable for the 22 JACL travelers who attended the recent 2018 NCWNP District JACL trip to Japan from Nov. 6-17, 2018.

Pam Yoshida and Meg Mizutani, NCWNP representatives to National JACL's United States-Japan Relations (US-JR) committee, created this concept more than two years ago in order to provide an opportunity to visit Japan for Sansei who have never traveled there. The intent of the trip was to provide the seasoned Japan traveler with flexibility to plan his/her own itinerary on "open" days on an otherwise "best of the best" Japan tour. The result was a fast-paced tour that included every mode of transportation (ferry boat, *shinkansen* train, streetcar, subway and taxi) and some of the most popular shrines, temples and castles in Japan.

Loosely thought of as the "Adult Kakehashi" trip, this NCWNP trip group consisted of 22 travelers (16 of whom were first-time Japan travelers) ranging in age from 28-82 years old! Travelers were from the JACL chapters of Contra Costa, Fresno, Gilroy, Placer County, Sacramento, San Jose, Selma, Silicon Valley, Stockton and West Valley. The itinerary consisted of five professionally guided tour days and five "free" days with optional planned itineraries.

"I knew this was going to be a great group when we got to our first escalator and as we rode up, I yelled out, 'Left side,' and everyone shifted over to the left," said Yoshida, who made her fifth

Connie Decena, Jessica Savage and Bonnie Savage (San Jose JACL) enjoy low tide on Miyajima Island.

trip to Japan with the group. "One goal was to show that Japan is easy to navigate, and at the end of the trip, several first-timers indicated that they would like to go back again — by themselves (the NCWNP had the welcome assistance of several tour guides and local friends)! I didn't have any expectations other than to return everyone back to the U.S. safely!"

On the first full day in Japan, the NCWNP group planned a guided tour of the Edo Museum, Asakusa (Sensoji Temple and shopped along Nakamise), then to Kappabashi (Tokyo's kitchen district) to create wax-replica food followed by a Chanko Nabe dinner in the Ryogoku area famous for its history of sumo wrestling.

The Japan JACL chapter is one of the NCWNP District chapters, so it was natural to reach out to the Japan JACL chapter to develop an activity that would engage the Japan JACL with the NCWNP chapters. The Japan JACL developed not only one activity but several in the short time that the group was there.

"The Japan JACL chapter were gracious and generous with their time and commitment to this trip, and it was wonderful to see so many of them attend our joint activities," said Yoshida.



(From left) Lalo Sanchez (Fresno), Rich Saito (San Jose), Floyd Shimomura (Sacramento), Jim Craig (Placer County) and Gordon Koo (West Valley) in the mountainous town of Hakone, known for its hot springs and views of Mount Fuji



Making wax food replicas in Kappabashi in Tokyo



Enjoying a multicourse traditional kaiseki dinner in Hakone



The group gathers for a photo before their kaiseki dinner and onsen in Hakone.

Following a day of visiting Senkakuji (the shrine of the 47 Ronin), Meiji Jingu, Hara-juku, Omotodando and Shibuya, the group joined the Japan JACL chapter in the evening, with one of their monthly activities, an ESS (English Speaking Society) session with native Japanese speakers.

Several groups of three to six persons combined with NCWNP and Japan JACL members to discuss their Japanese American history, which also soon deviated to conversations of common interests. Great food and snacks coordinated by the Japan JACL chapter followed the activity, and presentations of *omiage* from the Japan chapter and NCWNP members were presented by Debbie Yano (Japan JACL) and Yoshida (NCWNP).

The following day, there was a choice of three planned tours: The Tokyo National Museum in Ueno Park (led by Japan chapter member Takamichi Go, a Japan history instructor), the Samurai Museum (led by Gordon Koo, West Valley JACL), Odaiba Mega-Web Museum (led by John Ino and Debbie Yano of the Japan JACL chapter) and an afternoon of Kabuki theater at Kabuki-za (led by Joyce Iwasaki, San Jose JACL). The day ended with a fabulous Enkai-style dinner in Ginza led by Kristy Ishii, where Japan JACL chapter members and NCWNP District members ate, drank and exchanged lively discussions about identity, among other topics.

After three full days in Tokyo, the group traveled to JOMM (Japanese Overseas Migration Museum) in Yokohama with a tour by museum curator Shigeru Kojima. This museum is a highlight of the JACL youth Kakehashi trips and is often the "starting point" of understanding the sojourn of the Issei to the Americas.

The day continued to Kamakura and ended in Hakone for an evening of ryokan-style accommodations, with several travelers visiting the onsen at least three times before departure the next morning! The group's Hakone stay was enriched with a short cruise across Lake Ashinoko, then to local craft learning: Yosegi Zaiku (wooden puzzle box making), fried kamaboko making at the famed Suzuhiro kamaboko factory and sampling and touring of a small eighth-generation family owned sake brewery, Inoue Shuzo Hakoneyama.

The next destination was Kyoto. The NCWNP JACL group was among thousands of visitors in Kyoto, as fall is a popular time of year to visit Japan.

"Chisa Matsunaga, who is a student in Osaka, spent the entire time with us in Kyoto to help us tour since all the activities there were optional," said Yoshida.



Learning how to make yosegi zaiku (wooden puzzle box) crafts in Hakone

Teruko Takemoto and Ginny Higa at Fushimi Inari in Kyoto. The Shinto shrine is famous for its thousands of vermillion torii gates.

Among the first destination points was the famed Golden Pavilion. Arriving before busloads of school children, the group was first in line at Kinkakuji temple.

After a spectacular early-morning view of the temple and surrounding grounds, an excursion to Arashiyama followed, where the group opted to see the bamboo forest and monkeys on the mountain. They then took a trip to Nijo Castle.

The next day, the trip participants went to Kiyomizu-Dera, Nishiki Market and then chose between an afternoon at Fushimi Inari or lantern making with a family who is known for its hand-crafted lanterns throughout Japan: Kobishiya Chube: Kojima Shoten.

Traveling by *shinkansen* the next day, the breathtaking Himeji Castle was on the itinerary while enroute to Hiroshima. Here, the group toured one of the best-preserved military castles in Japan in the beautiful town of Himeji. It was late afternoon by the time the group arrived in Hiroshima.

The late afternoon stroll to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial was sobering. In some ways, the visit at the end of the day was an appropriate time to visit this memorial, as this was a turning point of how the world and many of the group's lives were changed forever. The devastation of the atomic bomb is unimaginable and the urgency of peace was a common theme, along with resilience.

The next day was an open day to tour Miyajima Island. The opportunity to walk up to the beautiful red torii gate at low tide was rare. Many enjoyed a relaxing day touring the island and its many delicacies of street food, grilled oysters and visits to the many temples on the island. By the time the group left, high tide



Teruko Takemoto (Selma) visits her mother's gravesite in Hiroshima.

surrounded the island, immersing the famous torii gate in water.

In the meantime, others planned adventures on the final day in Hiroshima, which included connecting with their family and heritage. Gilroy JACLers Lily Kawafuchi and June Otaguro reconnected with cousins whom they had only met once before. Teruko Takemoto of the Selma JACL, accompanied by two nieces and a nephew, visited her mother's gravesite in Hiroshima. Unexpectedly, she was reconnected with an aunt by a local police officer. And Stockton JACLer Karen Sakamoto ventured to an area in Hiroshima where she was raised to find that progress and development had displaced her neighborhood. This continuation of "bridging" was a memorable way to end the trip, and these amazing experiences became a part of all of the group's experiences.

The Japanese tradition of *omiage* also became a common practice, with trip participants sharing gifts among themselves and others throughout the trip. While many are new JACL members, perhaps this can be a common bond of a shared experience that was not obvious until the trip began.

"Favorite memories included seeing our group members interact with our tour operators by giving *omiage* or taking pictures with them," Yoshida said. "Nearly two-thirds of the group had never been to Japan and were very overwhelmed in the beginning, but felt very comfortable at the end of the trip."

Many thanks to the NCWNP District and NCWNP District Governor Carol Kawase for their support and encourage-



Ruthie Shimomura at the hotel on the day of departure from Hiroshima to Tokyo

ment in planning this memorable trip to Japan. Special thanks to the Japan JACL chapter and Japan chapter Co-Presidents John Ino and Kristy Ishii, and to Debbie Yano for suggestions and providing the "bridging" component of this trip. It was a great pleasure to make the connections with you and meet members of the Japan chapter! Thank you, too, to Kintetsu International, who handled the travel arrangements (local General Manager Maki Hoshino assisted the group on the trip). This trip would not have been possible without all of you.

"I've gotten inquiries from several people about this trip from other (JACL) districts, and while I LOVE the cities that we went to, there is so much more of Japan to explore," said Yoshida. "Japan is so diverse and regional. So, if NCWNP plans another trip, the itinerary might be different, but this would be more challenging since the places we went to were easy to navigate. I'll be evaluating this in the next few weeks with the Japan JACL chapter members, NCWNP District Council and our trip participants will be meeting for a trip reunion this month — we'll evaluate all of this."

For some attending this trip, Japan had never been a travel plan before. But for all, it is hoped that this will be one of many trips to Japan. While the destinations the group traveled to were among the most-popular and most-frequented places to visit in Japan, the experience to travel as a JACL group was unique.

"My favorite memories," Yoshida recalled, "are all the times that I saw members of our group 'connect.'"



JACL Japan chapter members at ESS in Tokyo



Gordon Koo and Pam Yoshida (West Valley) sample street food on Miyajima Island.

REP. MARK TAKANO AND SEN. MAZIE HIRONO INTRODUCE THE FRED KOREMATSU CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2019

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As California celebrated "Korematsu Day" on Jan. 30 to honor civil rights icon Fred Korematsu, Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA) and Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI) introduced the Fred Korematsu Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019 to recognize his legacy.

"Nearly 75 years after the Supreme Court delivered a devastating blow to the civil liberties of Japanese Americans in the landmark *Korematsu v. United States* decision, we are witnessing and experiencing the progress we have made as a country. Progress that was made possible due to the tireless advocacy of civil rights icons like Fred Korematsu," said Takano.

"Mr. Korematsu was an outspoken activist, a fighter for justice and a hero to many — including myself," he continued. "As a son of Japanese Americans who lived through Japanese internment during World War II, I find Mr. Korematsu's legacy to be a guiding light for the work that I do in Congress. His life's work placed civil rights at the forefront, and it has been one of the cornerstones in the movement to build an America where everyone can be treated equally under the law. That is why I am honored to introduce legislation along with Sen. Hirono, that would posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to Fred Korematsu to honor his lifelong fight in

defense of the rights of all people."

Said Hirono, "Fred Korematsu stood up for the rights of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II and continued his fight for decades to expand civil rights and overturn his own false criminal conviction. Awarding the Congressional Gold Medal, Congress' highest civilian honor, to Fred Korematsu is a fitting tribute to his lifelong pursuit of justice and equality."

"My father, Fred T. Korematsu, was born in Oakland, Calif., 100 years ago today. A civil rights pioneer, he dedicated his life to stand up for what is right and he worked to ensure what happened to him and other Japanese Americans will never happen again to any other minority group," said Karen Korematsu, founder and executive director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute and daughter of Fred Korematsu. "I thank Rep. Mark Takano and Sen. Mazie K. Hirono for their introduction of the Fred Korematsu Congressional Gold Medal Act. Through this bill, it is a reminder that we must stop Repeating History and, like my father, continue to champion civil liberties and the Constitution for all."

On Jan. 30, 1919, Fred Korematsu was born in Oakland, Calif., to Japanese immigrants. In 1942, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the United States Army issued a curfew order against Americans of Japanese descent on the West Coast, who were con-

sidered to pose a threat to national security, under the authority of Executive Order 9066.

At the young age of 23, Fred Korematsu refused to abide by the government's order. He was convicted of violating the order but appealed his case, taking it to the Supreme Court.

On Dec. 18, 1944, in *Korematsu v. United States*, the Supreme Court affirmed Korematsu's conviction and ruled that the exclusion and detention of Japanese Americans was constitutionally protected under the war powers of Congress and the president of the United States.

Nearly 40 years after the landmark Korematsu decision, Professor Peter Irons and Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga discovered secret documents that revealed that the government had hidden facts from the Supreme Court. The documents discovered indicated that the ordering of the internment of Japanese Americans in the name of national security was based on a lie. This new development allowed Fred Korematsu to appeal his case in 1983 — a case that he won.

Congress, led by Takano and Hirono, seeks to award posthumously a Congressional



Gold Medal to Fred Korematsu in recognition of his contributions to civil rights, his loyalty and patriotism to the nation and his dedication to justice and equality. A Congressional Gold Medal would honor Fred Korematsu's lifelong fight and dedication to defending the rights of all citizens.

Fred Korematsu's tireless efforts were significant in the struggle for civil rights for all people, earning him a Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton. In 2010, California marked January 30th as "Korematsu Day" in his honor.

Since then, additional states have also designated Korematsu Day, including Florida, Hawaii, New York and Virginia, and seven more states have issued proclamations.

FILM 'FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN' SETS FUTURE SCREENING DATES

The documentary, recently profiled on 'Asian Pacific America With Robert Handa,' is set to screen additional showings in Seattle, Portland, British Columbia and San Diego throughout February and March.

The new documentary film "For the Sake of the Children" continues to gain national exposure on its journey to educate the public about the impacts of World War II incarceration on multiple generations of Japanese Americans.

Most recently, Marlene Shigekawa, the film's executive producer, discussed the film with Robert Handa, host of NBC Bay Area's "Asian Pacific America." Handa had moderated a panel discussion following a screening of the film in San Jose. The interview was broadcast on the COZI channel on Dec. 2.

During her appearance on the show, Shigekawa shared the genesis of the film, which evolved from her own family's incarceration at the Poston Concentration Camp in Arizona. Shigekawa did not learn about the incarceration until she was a high school student; she later discovered that others of her generation had that same experience. Most



"For the Sake of the Children" executive producer Marlene Shigekawa recently appeared on "Asian Pacific America With Robert Handa" to discuss the genesis of the film and the long-term impact the incarceration experience had on the people and families whose lives were directly affected by Executive Order 9066.

detainees, primarily Issei and Nisei (first- and second-generation) Japanese, did not talk about their camp years due to the sense of shame and pain associated with their incarceration.

"For the Sake of the Children" offers a fresh

perspective on the story of incarceration.

"We not only talk about former internees, but the descendants of those people. We have people from four generations, looking at the long-term impact of the whole incarceration

experience," Shigekawa explained.

Shigekawa feels that older generations probably did not talk about camp because they wanted to protect their descendants from the shame and pain, to help their children and grandchildren feel accepted so they could achieve their own hopes and dreams.

Handa noted that many of the detainees who attended the San Jose screening expressed appreciation that their historical stories are now being shared to educate others.

"They feel they have been validated, and now they have permission to share their stories with their children and grandchildren," Shigekawa agreed.

Future screenings of "For the Sake of the Children" are scheduled in Seattle on Feb. 23 at the NVC Foundation Memorial Hall; Portland on Feb. 24 at Portland State University, in Burnaby, British Columbia, at the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre on March 2; and in San Diego on March 3 at the UltraStar Mission Theater. For a complete film screening schedule, visit www.forthesakeofchildren.org.

The film is sponsored by the Poston Community Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving remaining historical structures at the Poston Concentration Camp sites for the purpose of developing a Visitor's Center to share the incarceration story and experiences. The first Poston Pilgrimage was held in April, and another pilgrimage is planned for late 2019. For more information about the Poston Community Alliance, visit www.postonpreservation.org.

Sherry Hirota Named Health Equity Advocate of the Year

Families USA recognizes the health care leader for her advocacy work in advancing social justice.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Families USA has announced Sherry Hirota as the winner of its Health Equity Health Advocate of the Year award on Jan. 25 for her efforts in advancing social justice through health care advocacy.

Hirota has been a leader in working with immigrant communities to access and maintain health care coverage and has led #Onenation-

appi to defeat the dangerous and un-American Public Charge Rule and shift the narrative about health care coverage for immigrants.

Hirota is CEO of Asian Health Services, an Oakland, Calif.-based community health center and advocacy organization. An advocate and pioneer in the Asian American and Pacific Islander health movement, she has championed underserved

communities for 40 years.

"This recognition from Families USA comes at the perfect moment to bring together communities across the country around health care for all and while stopping Public Charge, which threatens health care for immigrants," said Hirota.

Said Patrick Willard, senior director of state and national strategic partnerships at Families USA:

"Sherry Hirota's deep passion for underserved populations marries beautifully with her commitment to ensure health care is seen as a right, not a privilege. It is our delight to recognize her tremendous work."

Hirota was recognized during an awards luncheon held during the 2019 Health Action Conference at the Hyatt Regency in Washington, D.C.



LETTER » continued from page 2

They also contributed to long stigmatization by the community. Now ironically, JACL strongly supports minority communities in their resistance and protest against injustices. What about the Tule Lake resisters and their protests against a huge injustice?

Writer Martha Nakagawa wrote an extensive three-part article in the *Rafu Shimpo* about the Tule Lake pilgrimage held this past July with over 400 participants. She noted that both Gary Maeda, then-JACL national president, and David Inouye, JACL executive director, attended the pilgrimage.

Maeda was asked about a JACL apology to former Tule Lake inmates. His answer: "That might be a good idea." Inouye in a July/August *Pacific Citizen* article



said, "Pilgrimages are vitally important to our community in healing the deep and persevering wounds of incarceration... especially true of Tule Lake, where the scars of injustices inflicted by our government were compounded by the ostracism many experienced from others in the Japanese American community."

Although thoughtful and sympathetic, words are quickly forgotten. Now is finally the time for action toward an official JACL apology to all former Tule Lake inmates.

Sincerely,

*Yukio Kawaratan,
Longtime JACL member
and former Tule Lake inmate*

NAOMI OSAKA » continued from page 3

Debito Arudou, a Caucasian American who moved to Japan to teach and married a Japanese woman, changed his name (he was born David Ardwick) and nationality and even became an expert on racism in Japan. He warned Osaka in a *Japan Times* commentary that even without the challenge of her identity, Japanese fans have been brutal on top athletes who peaked and couldn't regain their heights. Adding her mixed ethnicity, he predicts, will be a tough challenge to overcome.

In another *Japan Times* commentary, former diplomat Kuni Miyake pointed out that xenophobia exists in every society, and Osaka represents contradictions in modern Japanese society and raises the question of who is Japanese. In the end, she noted that Japan is naturally becoming more multicultural, and Osaka conducts

herself with a humility that is deeply, well, Japanese.

But being ranked at the top of the world helps. Let's hope Osaka can keep winning and maintain her star status.

It could be really interesting to follow her career if she chooses to become an American athlete in October, when she turns 22. Would her Japanese fans continue to love her?

Let's hope so. But myself, I'm hoping she chooses Japanese citizenship. I think her celebrity in Japan can help change some attitudes about race across the Pacific.

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.

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL

2019 TOUR SCHEDULE

- 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
Rome, Gibraltar, Malaga, Barcelona, Provence, Monte Carlo, Monaco, Florence/Pisa. Holland America Line
- Yellowstone & Mt. Rushmore Holiday Tour** (Elaine Ishida) Sep 22-29
Jackson Hole, Yellowstone National Park, Sheridan, Mt. Rushmore.
- Japan Autumn Countryside Holiday Tour** (Ernest Hida) Oct 17-28
Tokyo, Sado Island, Kanazawa, Shirakawago, Amanohashidate, Tottori, Matsue, Tamatsukuri Onsen, Kobe.
- Kenya Wildlife Safari Holiday Tour** (Carol Hida) Oct 9-21
Nairobi, Amboseli-Nakuru Lake-Masai Mara National Parks, Mt. Kenya Safari Club, Sweetwaters Tented Camp, Jane Goodall Chimpanzee Sanctuary.
- Kyushu-Shikoku Holiday Tour** (Ernest Hida) Nov 10-22
Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Ibusuki, Kagoshima, Miyazaki, Beppu, Matsuyama, Kochi, Takamatsu, Shodo Island, Tokushima.

For more information and reservations, please contact:

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL

312 E. 1st Street, Suite 240 * Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213)625-2232 * Email: americanholiday@att.net
Ernest or Carol Hida Elaine Ishida (Tel: 714-269-4534)

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

NCWNP

'Then They Came for Me: Incarceration of Japanese Americans During WWII and the Demise of Civil Liberties' Exhibit
San Francisco, CA

Thru May 27; Wed.-Sun., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The Presidio
100 Montgomery St.

Presented by the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation, this exhibit offers an expanded focus on the experiences of those returning to Northern California following the closing of the incarceration camps following the end of World War II. It also features imagery by American photographers Dorothea Lange and Ansel Adams, alongside works by incarcerated Japanese American artists Toyo Miyatake and Mine Okubo. Combined with additional artifacts made by camp survivors, historical documents, videos and a wide array of cultural, curatorial and political programs, this exhibit illuminates this historical event from several vantage points.

Info: Visit www.TheyCame.org or email info@theycame.org.

39th Annual San Jose Day of Remembrance

San Jose, CA

Feb. 17; 5:30-7:30 p.m.

San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin
640 N. Fifth St.

Price: Free

Commemorating the 77th anniversary of E.O. 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942, this year's event, presented by the Nihonmachi Outreach Committee, will feature speakers Don Tamaki, Teresa Castellanos and Chizu Omori, as well as a performance by San Jose Taiko. Don't miss the traditional candlelight procession through Japantown!

Info: Visit www.sjnoc.org or call (408) 505-1186.

Dowa No Omatsuri 2019: A Festival of Children's Stories

San Francisco, CA

Feb. 24; Noon, Silent Auction; 1:30 p.m. Theater Performance

Palace of Fine Arts Theater

3301 Lyon St.

Price: \$30 Advance Purchase Tickets; \$40 At the Door; \$10 Youth 5-17

Nihonmachi Little Friends presents its annual theater production and auction featuring hosts June-ko Nakagawa and Ben Nakajo. It will feature students of the NLF with performances of "Sweet Dreams" and "A Journey Together," inspired by various children's stories. All proceeds will benefit the programs and operations of NLF.

Info: Call NLF at (415) 922-8898 or email nlfchildcare@gmail.com.

Spring Kaiseki Workshop
San Francisco, CA

March 16; Noon-3 p.m.

JCCNC

1840 Sutter St.

Price: \$45 Member; \$55 Nonmember

The popular seasonal Kaiseki workshop continues with a spring menu featuring an elegant multicourse meal in the Kaiseki tradition using fresh ingredients to reflect the flavors and colors of the season. This workshop will feature four dishes including chirashi sushi, Kaiseki-style miso soup, wild sea scallops with fish roe and dashi soup stock made with kelp and dried bonito.

Info: Visit www.jccnc.org.

Medaka No Gakko Japanese Culture Summer Day Camp

Palo Alto, CA

June 24-July 12; 8:45 a.m.-1 p.m.; 1-4 p.m. Extended Care

2751 Louis Road

Price: \$450 per child by Jan. 31; \$500 after Feb. 1; \$400 per child for extended care

The mission of Medaka is to convey the customs, values and aesthetics of Japanese culture. This three-week day camp, open to K-6th grade students, has been in operation since 1982, featuring a dedicated team of teachers that provide lessons in art, music, cooking, Japanese language and history. Parent participation is required: half-day in class, activity team and Obon shift.

Info: For more information, email MedakanoGakkoPaloAlto@gmail.com and for additional parent information, email naoko.fujii@gmail.com.

PSW

Tsuruya Kokei: Modern Kabuki Prints Revised & Revisited

Pasadena, CA

Thru July 14

USC Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Los Robles Ave.

Price: Admission free for members; \$10 General Admission; \$7 Students and Seniors; Free for Children Under 12

This new exhibition celebrates the 30th anniversary of the contemporary artist's first solo show and features the complete collection of his actor prints from 1984-93. The exhibition also showcases actor prints by Sharaku as well as two-dozen prints by contemporary Japanese and western artists.

Info: Visit pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu or call (626) 449-2742.

GVJCI Day of Remembrance

Gardena, CA

Feb. 23; 1:30-4 p.m.

Gardena Valley JCI Hall

1964 W. 162nd St.

Price: Free

This year's GVJCI Day of Remembrance program will examine the parallels between what happened in America 77 years ago and what is happening today. It will also feature the premiere of Jon Osaki's documentary "Alternative Facts: The Lies of Executive Order 9066." Osaki will be in attendance to present his film, followed by a discussion between several panelists, including Dale Minami, who led the legal team that represented Fred Korematsu.

Info: Email info@jci-gardena.org, visit jci-gardena.org or call (310) 324-6611.

Kishi Bashi

Orange, CA

Feb. 28; 7:30 p.m.

Musco Center for the Arts

Chapman University

415 N. Glassell

Price: Tickets \$25-\$45

Singer/songwriter/violinist Kishi Bashi makes his Musco Center debut as he reimagines the sonic worlds of everything from Dvorak's "American String Quartet" to his own songs reminiscent of contemporary indie pop to Japanese folk songs to Talking Heads covers. Kishi Bashi's Japanese American heritage plays a central role in his music as he grapples with the realities of the immigrant experience and the complex histories written into his DNA. Don't miss this unique musical/multimedia experience.

Info: Visit www.muscocenter.org for tickets or call (844) 626-8726.

Kollaboration EMPOWER Conference
Los Angeles, CA

March 23-24; 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

JANM

100 N. Central Ave.

Price: Registration opens in February.

This two-day event is for aspiring Asian Americans of all ages and professions to gather and learn directly from some of the community's most inspirational professionals. Attendees will be able to explore a variety of creative career paths, industries and practices to make their dreams a reality. This unique experience will bridge communities, generations, industries and innovative minds.

Info: Visit <https://empower.kollaboration.org>.

PNW

Day of Remembrance Taiko Concert to Benefit Pilgrimage to Minidoka Incarceration Camp in Idaho

Seattle, WA

Feb. 17; 1 p.m.

Seattle University, Pigott Auditorium
901 12th Ave.

Price: \$20 General admission; \$10 Students with identification

Sponsored by the Seattle University International Student Center and the Minidoka Pilgrimage Planning Committee, this concert will feature performances by several renowned taiko groups from the Seattle area, as well as show educational exhibits through the collaboration with the Minidoka Pilgrimage, Seattle University, National Park Service and the Minidoka National Historic Site. A silent auction and general store will also be in the atrium to help support the work of the Minidoka Pilgrimage. The concert will benefit youth and senior scholarship programs for the 17th annual Minidoka Pilgrimage.

Info: Tickets are available at <https://dor2019.bpt.me> (please bring identification for Will Call tickets); International Student Center of Seattle University in the James C. Pigott Pavilion; and day of the show at the Paccar Atrium. For questions, email minidokapilgrimage@gmail.com or call (206) 296-6260.

Nisei Paradox

Ontario, OR

Feb. 21; 7 p.m.

Meyer McLean Performing Arts Theatre

676 S.W. Fifth Ave.

Price: Free

This play tells the story of the Japanese American men who refused to enlist in the WWII draft while their families were unjustly incarcerated during the war. This is their story of why. The Four Rivers Cultural Center invites you to hear this true story of American citizenry and patriotism.

Info: Visit 4RCC.com or call (541) 889-8191.

CCDC

CCDC's Annual Day of Remembrance Luncheon & Officer Installation

Fresno, CA

Feb. 17; Noon Social Hour; Program/ Lunch 1-3 p.m.

Price: \$40

Join CCDC at its annual Day of Remembrance luncheon and officer installation that will also feature guest speaker Tom Ikeda, founder and executive director of Densho, whose mission is to preserve and share the history of the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans to promote equity and justice today. Prior to the luncheon, join the second annual Yonsei Memory Project Memory Bus Ride from 8:30-11 a.m.

Info: Luncheon RSVP before Feb. 13. For more information, contact Travis Nishi at (559) 281-6497 or email tsnishi@aol.com; for Bus Ride RSVP, visit <https://www.yonseimemoryproject.com/dorfebruary2019/>.

IDC

Mile High JACL's Day of Remembrance
Denver, CO

Feb. 17; 1-3 p.m. (additional events Feb. 15 and 16 detailed below)

History Colorado Center

1200 N. Broadway

Price: "Contested Histories" and JACL events are free; museum admission is required to view additional exhibit galleries.

This year's keynote speaker will be Satsuki Ina, who will focus on the women of the Japanese American experience, who often have been relegated to the shadows of history. She will spotlight specifically on three women: Mitsuye Endo, Iva Toguri and Aiko Herzig Yoshinaga. A panel discussion and Q & A with audience members will follow. In addition, the History Colorado Center will host a special three-day exhibit (Feb. 15-17) from L.A.-based JANM's "Contested Histories: Art and Artifacts From the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection." On Feb. 16 at 7 p.m., there will be a free but limited seating (RSVP required: info@milehighjacl.org) for a special screening presented by History Colorado Center on "Children of the Camps" and the short feature "Seppuku," followed by a discussion with the filmmakers. And on Feb. 17, Denver University's Archeology Dept. will display artifacts during the Sunday event from Colorado's concentration camp Amache, as well as share students' ongoing historical dig at the site, located in southeast Colorado.

Info: Visit info@milehighjacl.org; <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/contested-histories/>; <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1436341/>; <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4968024/>; <https://portfolio.du.edu/amache>.

MDC

AAPJ Youth Summit: Rooting Our Stories, Rooting Ourselves

Minneapolis, MN

March 2; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

University of Minnesota
(Building TBA: Check website for details)

Price: Free and open to all students; lunch will be provided.

During this third-annual event, students will have the opportunities to discuss how to bring their histories, communities and identities into their work as AAPJ students, professionals and community members. Topics include exploring how these aspects of life can shape new imaginations for the future. The summit will also include a keynote, workshop sessions and time for networking.

Info: Visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/197889637825812/>.

EDC

The Collective Power of Rhythm: Rebuilding the Japanese American Identity

Cambridge, MA

Feb. 19; 6 p.m.

Harvard Graduate School of Education, Askwith Hall

13 Appian Way

On this Day of Remembrance, this program will explore how taiko drumming became a source of transformative change to redefine identity and recognize the power of rhythm and social patterns to produce a unified, collective force to enact social change. This event will also feature 94-year-old Dr. Yutaka Kobayashi's experience as an incarcerated Japanese American during WWII.

Info: Contact Erika Ninoyu at ninoyu@gse.harvard.edu.

Screening of 'The Ito Sisters'

Somerville, MA

March 1; 5:30-8 p.m.

Tufts Alumnae Lounge

40 Talbot Ave.

Price: Free; dinner will be provided.

This event will feature a screening of the film "The Ito Sisters," followed by a panel discussion featuring Antonia Grace Glenn, the filmmaker, and her mother, Evelyn Nakano Glenn. This film focuses on the experiences of Issei and Nisei women whose voices have largely been excluded from American history. This event is sponsored by the Tufts Japanese Culture Club.

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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
(213) 620-1767

In MEMORIAM

Ando, Ernie, 83, San Jose, CA, Dec. 24; during WWII, he was incarcerated at a WRA Authority Center; he also served in the Army. He was predeceased by his older siblings, Marietta Tokunaga, Noboru Ando, Eddie Ando, Mary Minabe and Albert Ando; he is survived by his wife, Emily; son, Chris (Katie); siblings, Ruby Kuritsubo, Lloyd (Elaine) Ando and Lillian (Jim) Junker; gc.

Ando, Esther, M., 94, Houston, TX, Jan. 11.

Hatanaka, Mitsu ko 'Mitzi,' 97, Stockton, CA, Nov. 18; during WWII, she was incarcerated at a WRA Center. She was predeceased by her husband, George; son, Wayne Hatanaka; and sisters, Irene Nakano and Edna Yabuno; she is survived by her children, Elaine Hatanaka and Bruce Hatanaka; sisters, Chiyo Mikawa and Joyce Aya Onizuka; she is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.



Kimura, Minnie, 96, Anchorage, AK, Dec. 23; she was predeceased by her husband, William Y. Kimura; and son, Christopher; she is survived by her children, Kerry (Betty), Patricia and John (Susie); gc: 12; ggc: 8; gggc: 2.

Kohagura, Etsuko, 92, Sacramento, CA, Dec. 11; she was predeceased by her husband, Hideo Kohagura; and siblings, Michiye Okamoto, Hiroshi Mikawa, Reiko Matsushita and Ben Seo; she is survived by her children, Howard (Bev) Kohagura, Sharon (Wayne) Nakamura and Diane (Mark) Morimune; siblings, (John Alvarez) Seo, Akio (Ruth) Seo, Kazuo (Mikki) Seo; sister-in-law, Carol Seo; gc: 5; ggc: 4.

Matsuda, Ellen Miyako, 87, San Jose, CA, Dec. 20.



Matsumura, Fumi Lily, 92, Palo Alto, CA, Dec. 19; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the assembly center

in Santa Anita, CA, and the Topaz WRA Center in UT; she is survived by her four children; siblings, Toshi and Dan; gc: 4; ggc: 1.

Matsumura, Machiko, 99, Los Angeles, CA, Dec. 12.



Matsuo, Setsuko, 78, Stanton, CA, Oct. 9; she is survived by her husband, Shinichi Matsuo; sons, Toshiyuki (Dawn) Matsuo and Tetsuya (Catherine) Matsuo; siblings, Genzaburo Matsui, Yukio Matsui and Kazuko Matsui; gc: 3.

Matsushige, Debbie Pauline, 56, Los Angeles, CA, Dec. 15; she is survived by her husband, Kirk Matsushige; children, Kristen (Miguel) Malabayabas and Melissa (Jeff) Smith; siblings, Tammy (Steve) Fielder, Mike Burke and Tony (Nhi) Burke; gc: 3.



Miyamoto, Elaine, 99, Sioux Falls, SD, Oct. 4; she was predeceased by her son, Randall Miyamoto; she is survived by her children, Patricia McKeever and Richard (Hyeonju) Miyamoto; daughter-in-law, Bernadette Miyamoto; brother, Manabu (Suemi) Iseri; gc: 6; ggc: 8.

Miyamoto, Kagako, 86, Oudahy, CA, Dec. 14;

Miyamoto, Misao 'Lillian,' 99, Seattle, WA, Nov. 23; while incarcerated at the Tule Lake WRA Center in CA during WWII, she married Harry Miyamoto; she is survived by four nephews, four grandnieces, a grand-nephew, two great-grandnephews and a great-grandniece.

Miyamoto, Patricia Matsue, 56, Bonita, CA, Jan. 1.

Miyashiro, Shirley, 74, Monterey Park, CA, Dec. 27; she is survived by her husband, Jimmy; children, Annette, Randy and Miles; gc: 3.



Nakayama, Seiko Tomita 'Mary,' 96, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, Dec. 24; she is survived by many nieces and nephews.



Nguyen, Howie, 40, Covina, CA, Jan. 2; he is survived by his wife, Kristi Nguyen; children, Ellie and Hudson; parents, Hoa and Duc Nguyen; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Chester and Meryl Tadakawa; sister, Chau (Jeff) Reyes; sister-in-law, Tricia Tadakawa.

Ono, Stanley, 79, San Francisco, CA, Dec. 28; he is survived by his wife, Junko; son, Michael (Norma Bonilla); siblings, Gary, Sandi, Victor (Jennifer), Lynda, Guy (Linda, deceased), Jo Ann (Tim), Judy (Nosuke), Naomi (Allen), Teresa and their families.

Ota, Masako, 89, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, Jan. 6; she is survived by her daughter, Kathryn (Bryan) Hori; sister, Izumi (Ippai) Taki; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews; gc: 1.



Sasabe, Fumiko, 95, Los Angeles, CA, Oct. 23; she is survived by her children, Wayne (Jan), Ronald (Cynthia), Hazel (John) Yoshida and Anna (Robert) Hirahara; gc: 8; ggc: 4.

Tajima, Calvin, 94, Los Angeles, CA, Sept. 15; during WWII, he self-evacuated to Chicago rather than report to a concentration camp for Japanese Americans; he served in

the Army; he is survived by his wife, Marie; children, Marsha (Tom), Mark (Midori) and Renee (Armando); half-sister, Kiwako Suga; gc: 4; ggc: 1.



Takai, Glenn, 71, Sacramento, CA, Dec. 22; he was predeceased by his brother, Loren; he is survived by his wife, Kathleen; and sons, Judd and Tait.

Takamiyashiro, Wallace, 90, Los Angeles, CA, December 2018; he was predeceased by his first wife, Martha; siblings, Chiyo, Stephen, Allen, George and Thomas; he is survived by his wife, Keiko; son, Brian (Alice); sister, Rose Kiyomi Takamiyashiro; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and extended family; gc: 3.



Terasaki, Ryo Magara, 95, Bellevue, WA, Dec. 14; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated first at the Santa Anita Racetrack in CA, then the Heart Mountain WRA Center in WY; she was predeceased by her husband, Shigeo; siblings, Kana, Yoko and Hideo; she is survived by her sons, Wesley (Barb), Stanley (Nancy), Rodney (Beth Mueller) and Carey; sister, Sue; gc: 9; ggc: 6.



Umemoto, Maye, 88, Kirkland, WA, Dec. 24; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Heart Mountain WRA Center in WY; she was predeceased by her husbands, Ike Akira Wakasugi and Tosh Umemoto; siblings, Kendo, Kay, Heizi, Pete, Nobu Yasuda, Haru Matsumura, Matsuko Inaba and Sue Mar; she is survived by her daughters, Jana (Kyle) Wakasugi, Judi (Ted) Tsuchida, Tami Wakasugi

and Tina (Craig) Fujii; siblings, Junior (Sharon) Yasuda, George (Margie) Yasuda and Shiz Hironaka; gc: 7; ggc: 7.

Watanabe, Sachiko 'Karen,' 86, Gardena, CA, Dec. 19; she is survived by her husband; Donald; children, Wayne (Patrice) Watanabe and Susan (Robert) Nakashiba; sisters, Momoyo Tada, Yaeko (Ted) Kawamura and Clare (Frank) Kihara; gc: 6; ggc: 1.



Yamaguchi, Ken, 92, Richfield, MN, Oct. 14; during WWII, his family and he were incarcerated at the Granada WRA Center (Camp Amache) in CO; he served in the Army's 442nd Regimental Combat Team; he was predeceased by his wife, Miyako (Miki) Chno; siblings, Keilchi (Edna), Mac (Mitsuye) Jim (Evelyn), David (Margaret), Clara (Sam) Miyano and Grace (William) Kimoto; he is survived by his daughter, Christine; sister, Aileen Yamaguchi; he is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

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.

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REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

TECH TRENDS IN 2019 AND THE 50-PLUS

By Ron Mori

Are you feeling a bit overwhelmed or just don't know what to do with a holiday gift that can understand your every command? If so, there is no getting around the fact that technology is all around us and a central part of life for all of us — even more so, our connection with our devices is only expected to grow! By the year 2030, nearly 132 million Americans age 50 and older will spend upward of \$84 billion a year on technology products, a new AARP survey projects.

Today, 91 percent of those age 50-plus report using a computer, and 94 percent say technology helps them keep in touch with friends and family. In fact, the assumption that older individuals rely less on technology than others may be increasingly inaccurate. More than 80 percent of Americans age 50-64 have smartphones, which is about the same as the population at large. Not to mention that people 50-plus buy tech gifts for family members.

More than 55 million Americans 50 or older are interested in technology that can enrich

their lives or make it easier. One area in which that kind of interest surfaced in the 2019 tech trends survey is in driving and cars.

Nearly one in four view advanced driver assistance technology as important, according to the survey. Older Americans have a strong future purchase interest for vehicles with advanced features such as automatic parking, emergency braking, lane change detection and collision avoidance.

As for technology in home life, about half of older Americans own a smart TV (defined as one that is digital and Internet connected) and nine million more plan to buy one within the year. The popularity of home assistants, such as Google Home or Amazon Alexa, is growing and will continue to grow. The survey finds nearly one in seven Americans over 50 own such a device.

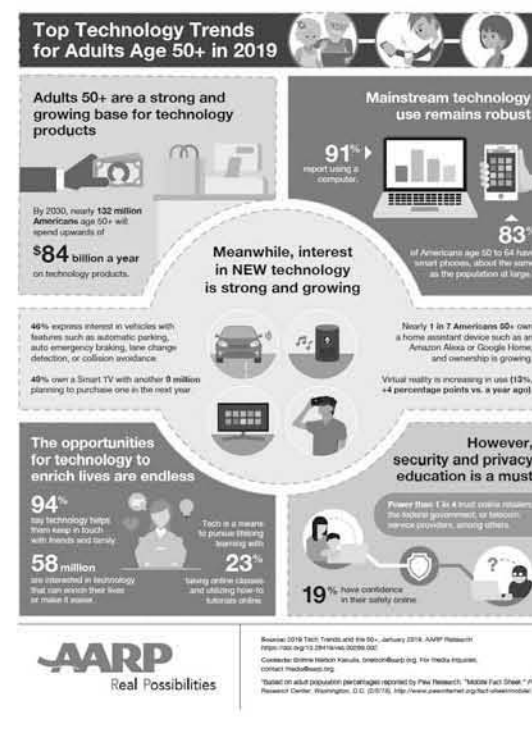
Privacy and security issues remain a concern for many in the older age bracket, with Americans over 50 not placing much trust in institutions to keep their personal data safe. AARP finds fewer than one in four trust online retailers, the federal government and telecom service providers, among others.

A related finding, meanwhile, highlights an opportunity to provide more education to older adults specifically on safe tech practices: Nearly one in five indicates they have low confidence in their safety online. Online safety is a topic I have written about in the past, and I will continue to remind readers of our AARP Fraud Watch Network to stay on top of the latest scams.

More than ever, technology is becoming a medium for education, and that trend has significant implications for lifelong learning. The survey shows that 23 percent of older adults are embracing technology-enabled lifelong learning by taking online classes for certificates or degrees, in addition to how-to tutorials.

About 13 percent of adults over 50 say they use virtual reality technology; while that number remains modest, it is nevertheless up four percentage points from the previous year.

A free resource for online learning, interactive workshops, local in-person events



and life skills for people over 50 is AARP Learn@50+. Visit <https://learn.aarp.org> for more information.

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

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