

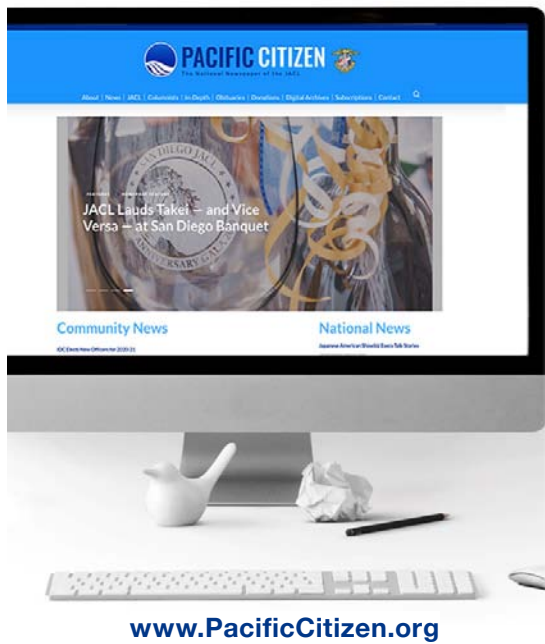


PACIFIC CITIZEN

CELEBRATING 91 YEARS



P.C. ANNOUNCES NEW WEBSITE



A new design. Enhanced features. Easy-to-navigate comprehensive digital archive. Simple payment and donation options. All are now available on the *Pacific Citizen's* new website (www.pacificcitizen.org), which the 91-year-old publication of the JACL is pleased to announce at the start of 2020.

Made possible through a generous donations by Tsutomu Ige and the Spring Campaign, as well as a 2019 grant from the JA Community Foundation, a highlight of the *P.C.'s* newly redesigned website's is its digital archive.

Visitors to the site can now more easily navigate through decades of PDF archived issues at no cost — issues dating all the way back to the newspaper's inception in 1929.

"The *P.C.* staff is truly excited to have been able to redesign the website and its functions to make it more user-friendly to all who wish to access it. We hope this new and improved format will enable all those who visit our site

to come away with the answers they were hoping to find, as the *P.C.* is truly an invaluable resource for all," said *P.C.* Executive Editor Allison Haramoto.

Echoed George Johnston, *P.C.* senior editor of digital & social media: "The archive has been a work in progress for years now, and we are still updating gaps in its content, but this new interface is easier to use and more comprehensive than ever. It's a powerful resource. It's all part of the continuing effort to improve this vital service of the JACL known as the *Pacific Citizen* and continue its 90-year legacy, despite limited funds and resources for one of the most tangible and useful of JACL programs."

Also available on the *P.C.'s* new website is a complete digital PDF of the year-end Holiday Issue, which celebrates JACL and *Pacific Citizen's* 90-year anniversary.

Stories and late-breaking news will continue to be featured on the new site, in addition to commentary content and national/community news — vital information for the entire JACL and AAPI community. ■

JACL National Welcomes New Norman Y. Mineta Fellow

Cheyenne Cheng will work directly with staff in the organization's Washington, D.C., office.

JJACL National is pleased to welcome Cheyenne Cheng as its new Norman Y. Mineta Fellow. Cheng will work alongside JACL Executive Director David Inoue and current Daniel K. Inouye Fellow Matthew Weisbly in the organization's Washington, D.C., office.

A recent graduate from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in psychology, Cheng, who hails from Jacksonville, Fla., helped found the Asian American Oral History Project within her school's oral history department while completing her education. The project aimed to collect narratives of Asians and Asian Americans in the South.

"I'm excited to apply my experiences with oral history to my fellowship with JACL and work on other initiatives with you all! Most of my advocacy experiences have been AAPI

student-centered, and I hope to learn more as we work together on national issues," said Cheng.

The Norman Y. Mineta Fellowship was established in 2007 in honor of the American politician. Mineta served as U.S. Secretary of Transportation and Secretary of Commerce under President George W. Bush and President Bill Clinton, respectively.

According to JACL, fellows will "monitor key legislative initiatives of importance to the JACL mission and implement JACL-sponsored programs. The fellow will also support the executive director on a broad range of public policy issues important to the Asian American community. The fellow will work with other staff to mobilize and inform local chapters; fellows are integral in establishing a voice for JACL and its members in Washington, D.C."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF JACL NATIONAL

New JACL fellow Cheyenne Cheng with the Hon. Norman Y. Mineta, for whom the fellowship is named.

JACL fellowships will last for a period of up to 12 months.

Welcome Cheyenne Cheng to the JACL. ■

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A MOTHER'S TAKE

FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

By Marsha Aizumi

To begin the new year, I wanted to feature a story that has inspired me ever since I first met this family. Rev. Sab Masada, his wife, Marion, and their daughters, Charise, Michal and Alisa are a shining example of the title of this article.

Their life has been filled with more challenges than I can imagine. Yet, somehow with faith, hope and love, Sab and Marion have raised three children that are living life to the fullest.

Alisa, their youngest, was born with a brain injury, when the umbilical cord wrapped around her tiny neck and cut off her oxygen during delivery.

In her early years, Alisa was placed in a number of group homes because these homes could communicate better with her, as well as teach her in ways that were successful, and she loved being around other children just like her.

When Alisa was young, her parents brought her home every weekend to be with the fa-

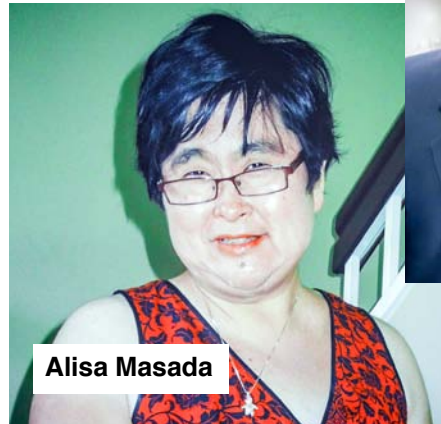
mily. Now at the age of 55, Alisa is currently living in Southern California (near her sister, Michal) in a Board & Care Home that she chose.

She has a piece-work job for two hours a day for which she gets paid, and the rest of the day Alisa keeps busy with her job coach and fellow workers, often going to the library, shopping or participating in other activities. Once a month she attends a dance. Alisa has friends, is productive, but most of all, she is happy.

Charise, Sab and Marion's oldest daughter, began to have hallucinations and exhibit paranoia at the age of 15. One day, Charise returned home from classes and emphatically stated, "I can't go to school, and if you make me, I'm going to have a nervous breakdown. Everyone is looking at me." Charise was homeschooled and eventually graduated from high school, earning her GED.

Charise also attended a number of programs that could help her manage her mental illness. For a time, she had a hard time or refused to take her medication, which is one of the symptoms of mental illness. Without medication, she struggled.

While attending a National Alliance on Mental Illness event, she was volunteered into a three-month Schizophrenia Program



Alisa Masada

at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md. There, she learned how to take her meds regularly. Reaching out for help allowed the Masadas to find programs that would help Charise.

At the age of 34, Charise learned to live on her own. When Sab and Marion decided that they wanted to retire from his ministry in 1995 and move to Fresno, they began to formulate a plan for Charise.

She was happy in Stockton, Calif., where she is currently living, and Sab and Marion didn't want her to move, but could she survive on her



All I see is joy . . . Sab and Marion Masada

own with her mental condition?

So, one year before they retired, Charise moved into an apartment. If she got scared, her parents could be there in 15 minutes. Charise discovered that she liked living alone, and she managed her day-to-day responsibilities . . . making healthy meals, exercising, etc. That transition period gave her the confidence she needed.

Neighbors in her apartment building look out for Charise and love her. Every so often, Charise bakes something for the apartment staff and her neighbors, and so she has developed a heartfelt and meaningful connection with them. She is so happy with her life, too!

» See FAITH on page 9



LEGAL-EASE: AN ATTORNEY'S PERSPECTIVE

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION — PUT YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER

By Judd Matsunaga, Esq.

For Americans busy trying to pay the bills and shuttle the kids (or grandkids) to school, the last thing on their minds is their mortality. Perhaps that's why more than 64 percent of Americans don't have a will (*Source: 2015 Rocket Lawyer survey*). "I'll get around to it someday." However, quite too often, "Someday" never arrives.

According to Lisa Honey, director of product marketing at Rocket Lawyer, "You can see in the data that the No. 1 reason people don't have a will is because they haven't gotten around to it yet, but that doesn't tell the whole story."

Why haven't they gotten around to it? "It's partially because most people don't like to think about death," she added, "or because they falsely believe wills are only necessary if you have a multimillion-dollar estate. Of those without a plan, about 15 percent said they don't need one at all."

A Google Consumer survey by USLegalWills.com (June 2016) suggests that the previous surveys may have underreported the number of Americans without a will by not including those who have a will that is out of date. It found that 63 percent of Americans do not have a will and 9 percent have a will that is out of date. This means that 72 percent of Americans do not have a will or do not have

an up-to-date will.

"But Judd, what do you mean 'up-to-date' will?" People are sitting on wills that are decades old. Changes in family situations like marriage, divorce, births and deaths can all render a will obsolete. Yet, they are technically still the legal last will and testament, which can be quite troublesome if not updated.

One of the most common excuses for not making a will is "my spouse will get everything anyways." That's true if you hold assets "jointly." But what if you pass away simultaneously in the same car accident? What then? Or, what about the accounts you own in your name alone? Every state has its own rules for distributing your estate if you have no will. In California, your spouse inherits 50 percent of your estate, and your children inherit the other half.

Many people may be planning to write their will just before they die. That's a wonderful concept, but a bad idea. The reality is that we don't know when we are going to die. "But what if I have more children or grandchildren?" The best answer is that you should write your will today, and update it whenever there is a change of circumstance.

Furthermore, you have to write your will when you have mental capacity. So, waiting until you are very old or diagnosed with a terminal illness is not the best time to be considering these weighty issues.

Your will should be written while you are young and healthy and then updated throughout your life as long as you are of "sound mind." (Some of us better hurry!)

According to the Google survey, what most people fail to understand is that writing a will is really not about you at all. It's about helping your loved ones you leave behind. That is, not putting them through probate, the legal and administrative turmoil that comes with dying intestate (without a will or living trust).

If you die without an estate plan, i.e., without a will or trust, the state will decide who inherits your property through the laws of "intestate succession." That could mean that people you don't even know (or like) would inherit your estate. So, the only question is whether you decide or the state decides.

California law is specific about who has a share in the intestate estate. For example, if you are survived by a spouse and children: the surviving spouse will inherit all of the deceased spouse's community property and one-half or one-third of the deceased spouse's separate property, and the children will inherit one-half or two-thirds of the deceased spouse's separate property, depending on the number of children.

If you die without a will and don't have any family, your property will "escheat" into the state's coffers. However, this very rarely happens because the laws are designed to

get your property to anyone who was even remotely related to you.

For example, your property won't go to the state if you leave a spouse, children, siblings, parents, grandparents, aunts or uncles, great-uncles or aunts, nieces or nephews, cousins of any degree or the children, parents or siblings of a spouse who dies before you do.

That fact is, sooner or later, all of us must keep a personal, unavoidable, appointment with death. It is foolish to think that death is unlikely. We may not have much control over when we leave this planet, but we do have a say in how we leave and the impact it will have on our families. That's why the Bible says, "Put your affairs in order, for you are about to die" (*2 Kings 20:1*).

In conclusion, why not add this to your list of New Year's Resolutions — "Put your affairs in order." I would encourage you to make your will. Better yet, make a living trust to avoid the legal court process known as probate. A living trust is the best way to avoid probate and get your assets to your heirs as quickly as possible.

Judd Matsunaga is the founding attorney of Elder Law Services of California, a law firm that specializes in Medi-Cal Planning, Estate Planning and Probate. He can be contacted at (310) 348-2995 or judd@elder-lawcalifornia.com. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Pacific Citizen or constitute legal or tax advice and should not be treated as such.

JACL NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS: 2020 FORECAST

A New Year, New Possibilities

By Jeffrey Moy,
JACL National President

Happy New Year! I hope this new decade has started well for everyone. A new year always brings the excitement and energy of new possibilities and change. Personally, that means a transition across the country, as I will be leaving Washington, D.C., after nearly 12 years and heading to San Francisco at the end of the month.

While I will miss the D.C. community, I look forward to spending more time with folks in NCWNP and throughout the West Coast. My work takes me around the country, and because I will also need to return to D.C. often, I expect that 2020 will be a year packed with even more travel than before.

It also looks like a busy year for JACL

thanks to a number of exciting opportunities. I mentioned in my last column that the National Board looks forward to continuing to work with members and staff to improve our operations and communications.

Many of these changes, such as switching to a new membership database or finding more resources for our committees, may not create changes that are immediately apparent but should have long-lasting impact on our work.

I also look forward to continued movement on the education front. Education is so vital to JACL, and our board is committed to continuing the work that will allow for further acknowledgement of the complex perspectives and experiences of our community.

We will work closely with the National Education Committee to ensure that these perspectives are incorporated in our curriculum and open spaces for dialogue that will hopefully allow for greater healing and reconciliation within our community.

These are lofty goals, but I know that we

can come together and do this important work in a way that is respectful to all of us. We look forward to sharing more as these plans continue to develop.

Of course, 2020 is also a year of elections — for JACL and our country. I know that all of you will stay engaged throughout the year, working to ensure that voters have the resources they need to be educated about local and national issues, as well as encouraging everyone able to go out and vote.

I look forward to seeing you all in Las Vegas this summer, where we plan for another exciting National Convention with opportunities to meet with and learn from each other, as well as with members of other national Asian Pacific Islander civil rights organizations.

As many of us on the National Board approach the end of our terms, we thank you all for your energy and ideas as we look for new ways forward. I wish you all the best of luck in the year ahead. ■



Jeffrey Moy

David Inoue

Looking Forward With 2020 Vision

By David Inoue,
JACL Executive Director

There is a LOT to look forward to in 2020. In coming to JACL, part of my vision was to return JACL to the advocacy powerhouse that we represented throughout the redress effort. There is much that we will be doing this year to move us toward that goal.

Early on, we have Census 2020. This provides an excellent opportunity for local chapters to engage with your local community and promote participation in the census.

Of course, our community's own past experience with the use of census data to round up Japanese Americans during World War II may give some pause, especially with the administration's efforts to add a citizenship question to the census.

However, it is also clear that the law remains that it is illegal to use census data as it was against us. The protections against using census data now are such that even though it is required by law to participate in the census, no one could actually be prosecuted for not participating because it would require using one's census information to do so.

We must ensure that people understand the safety of their information when they participate in the census, as well as the dire consequences of their failure to participate. The census will affect everything from congressional apportionment to distribution of billions of government dollars to local communities.

The less people get counted, the less they will be represented and the less money their communities will receive. A solid count will lay the groundwork for much of our work throughout the rest of the year.

Also in the spring, I hope to see many of you in Washington, D.C., at some point. There will be several opportunities for JACL members to come to D.C. to both learn more about advocacy and put that knowledge into practice in different ways.

At the end of March, as we enter the window of decent weather between the cold of winter and miserableness of Washington, D.C., summers, we will hold the second Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium Advocacy Days.

The JACS Consortium was highlighted at the 2019 National Convention both as a partner in programming and a mechanism to bring the Japanese American community and our many different organizations together.

The coalition will convene again in Washington, D.C., to meet with legislators and policymakers to demonstrate the power of JACS programs in preserving and retelling the history of Japanese American incarceration.

In addition to making the case for continued funding of the program, we will be building from this base to emphasize the need to make the program permanent. We are especially grateful to AARP, which will be hosting our preparation day and supporting our advocacy training. I hope you will come join us March 31-April 2.

For those of you seeking a more focused and expansive training in advocacy, we will once again be partnering with OCA Asian Pacific American Advocates to run our annual Leadership Summit.

We will bring up to 15 JACL members to Washington, D.C., for an intensive training on how we perform advocacy at the national level and how some of that work can be transferred and amplified at the chapter level.

As an alumnus of this program myself, I cannot emphasize enough how important this program is to developing JACL's leadership for the future. The Leadership Summit will

run from April 25-28. We will be opening applications for this program very soon, so be on the lookout to apply through your regional district.

At the beginning of June — June 5-7 specifically — will be what many of us hope will be the largest gathering of Japanese Americans in one place since WWII incarceration with the Tsuru for Solidarity march and rally.

Many Japanese Americans, JACL members included, have been greatly troubled by our country's hostile border policies and, in particular, the policy of separating children from their parents and imprisoning migrant children and families beyond what is legally allowed.

Caravans of Japanese Americans will travel to Washington, D.C., for a march across the National Mall that will end with a rally in the shadow of the White House. We will bookend this major gathering with a day on Capitol Hill, showing Congress our conviction to ensure what happened to our community does not happen to any other.

The final day will be a day of healing. Too many in the community carry the scars of our trauma. Healing circles will provide the opportunity for community members to come together to further explore the pain inflicted by incarceration and why it is so important to protect others from a similar experience.

All of this leads up to our Las Vegas National Convention in June. We will start June 24 with a welcome reception as always. This year is not only a national presidential election, but also a JACL election year for our board. We will have a packed schedule to deal with the administrative, financial and policy concerns of the organization through National Council sessions on Thursday, culminating in the board elections on Saturday.

What will be special about this year's

convention is the presence of many of our partner Asian Pacific American organizations, who will also be convening around the same time in Las Vegas.

We will actually share the Bally's hotel with OCA and share programming on Thursday and perhaps other points during the convention. We will all gather as an Asian Pacific Islander American community on Saturday afternoon for the APIA Community Presidential Town Hall.

The Town Hall will feature the leading campaigns from both political parties to come and address the issues that concern us most as Asian Pacific Americans. Your registration for convention will guarantee you a seat at the Town Hall.

And, of course, this leads us to November 2020, when we can truly speak out and be heard at the ballot box. The election will be an opportunity to bring full circle the efforts you make this spring to do census work. The same contacts you make in encouraging people to complete the census can serve as many of the same contacts you make to register and get out the vote.

As you can see, 2020 will be a busy year, but it has the potential to be a breakout year for JACL. There are so many opportunities for you to engage at the national level, as well as the ongoing work you do through your chapters. I look forward to working with you all throughout the coming year. ■

JACL: A Space for Us

By Haruka Roudebush,
JACL VP of 1,000 Club, Membership and Services

JACL's milestone 90th anniversary year coming to a close gives many of us cause to pause and reflect on all that has been accomplished and endured by our community in our first nine decades, as well as take a look ahead at what JACL might become as we approach our 100th anniversary and beyond.

The JACL's efforts in bringing about redress is easily the centerpiece of JACL's historic legacy, and our community's wartime incarceration continues to inform and serve as the foundation of our moral authority in the JACL's ongoing civil rights and social justice advocacy.

For many JACL members, however, the impact of the JACL in our lives is not just about the civil rights mission of the organization, but perhaps even more so the platform JACL provides to build and serve the community at local, regional and national levels.

For myself, the JACL has always been a space that perfectly matched my own interests and passion for the Japanese American community and engagement with social justice, civil rights advocacy and policy.

Our National Council is a unique space in which we are able to collectively achieve consensus that translates into a strong voice representing the broader Japanese American community and our interests in a democratic fashion.

This is among the aspects of JACL that I feel is not understood by many but is one of the most important functions of our organization. My appreciation for the scale and scope of the organization's work extends to recognizing the immense value in having a national organization with internal governance and structure that has been built by the generations that have preceded my own.

This is, in fact, one of the primary reasons that I am so deeply invested in not just the work and mission of the JACL, but also in maintaining the viability of the organization as a mechanism for our community to affect change.

The capacity of our regional districts and local chapters to not only initiate mobilization of our community but also coordinate and maintain grassroots action on a national scale is essential for us to continue as an effective and relevant civil rights organization.

To that effect, I believe that it is important that the JACL continues to engage and grow our membership base and also provide resources, training and mentorship to develop generational continuity in leaders throughout our organization who have strong operational and institutional knowledge of the JACL at its varying levels, a deep-seeded commitment to the organization's civil rights mission and the skillsets necessary to carry out the work.

It is an interesting time to be a part of the JACL National Board, where a generational shift is evident in the fact that presently at the age of 36, I am the oldest nationally elected officer of a national board of elected young professionals that reflects the increasing ethnic, generational and historic diversity of the Japanese American community.

Our current board is the culmination of decades of JACL's youth leadership development pipeline come to fruition, where we bring our youthful energy and passion for the organization and community, coupled with the years of bonds and personal connections that have been built through our participation in JACL programs, committees and boards.

We recognize the awesome responsibility that has been placed on us to not just carry out the mission of the JACL, but also uphold its proud legacy and continue the work of good stewardship and governance of the organization.

From facing operational and fiscal challenges resulting from over a decade of membership decline, to reaffirming our commitment to civil rights by engaging in contemporary civil rights issues like advocacy for just immigration policies and practices, to doing some soul searching and extending a hand of reconciliation to those in our community who resisted their World War II incarceration, the next generation of leadership in the JACL is poised to bring JACL into the future.

While much of my own appreciation and involvement with JACL has been centered around the big things the organization does that we can be very proud of, it is important, too, for us to consider the impact that our organization has on our general members and what JACL means to the many who have loyally supported our organization through their local chapters for years.

As someone who did not grow up in a family already immersed in the Japanese American community, that sense of community and belonging was a large component of what I sought in joining the JACL, and the JACL has given me exactly that and so much more.

I remember the wonder and excitement I felt at my first JACL National Convention in Honolulu in 2004, where I was able to connect for the first time with folks from our community of different generations and experiences from all over the country.

I never tire of seeing that same joy of coming into a space and feeling of belonging in new JACLers. Even with our accomplishments as a civil rights and educational organization, the importance of JACL is also held in our ability to bring people together as an intentional space for Japanese Americans and our

friends and families.



Haruka Roudebush

Matt Farrells

JACL provides for us a multitude of feelings, including the righteousness of our civil rights mission and the dutiful purposefulness of our volunteerism. But the feelings that I hope we can all share in association with the JACL most strongly is our sense of connectedness to our community, friends and family.

From the warmth of seeing old family friends at the annual picnic, obon or mochitsuki, to perhaps the excitement of reuniting with JACL friends at convention, my hope for the future of JACL is that it continues to be a welcoming space where people can find their sense of community and the feeling that they, too, are part of the JACL family. ■

JACL Continues to Challenge the Status Quo

By Matt Farrells,
JACL VP of Planning & Development

Happy New Year! I wish everyone a healthy and prosperous new year. As we enter 2020, I'd like to take a quick moment to reflect on the accomplishments of the previous year. The VP Planning & Development role has several programs under its purview, including: internships and fellowships, Scholarship, Legacy Fund grants and fund development programs.

This past fall, JACL completed another successful round of the Scholarship program, where the organization awarded over \$66,000 in scholarships to 26 deserving applicants.

The Scholarship program supports JACL's mission to assist young community members to pursue higher education and elevate JACL's visibility within the civil rights arena. I believe this is one of the premier programs that ensures JACL continues to engage young community members and hopefully contribute to filling the membership ranks of the JACL for years to come.

Looking ahead to 2020, the Legacy Fund Grant program and fund development are two areas of focus. First, the Legacy Fund Grant committee and staff are hard at work to deliver another successful round of grants this summer.

Each year, JACL awards approximately \$60,000 in grants to numerous applicants with the goal of furthering the mission of the JACL. In 2019, many well-deserving recipients received a grant to further the reach of JACL and the important work we do within the community.

In addition to the Legacy Fund Grant program, another major area of focus for JACL in 2020 is fund development. At the 2018 National Convention in Philadelphia, I ran on the platform of making fund development the No. 1 priority during my term, and I am happy to report that we've made significant strides toward strengthening the organization's national education program through a national fundraising effort.

We've developed chapter fundraising kits, fundraising brochures and a promotional video for our organization to raise funds for this important program. In addition, there is a refocus on legacy planning and ensuring our members are aware of the resources available to them if they wish to leave a legacy.

In conclusion, as this new year begins, JACL has many great opportunities ahead. From continuing the great work of the Scholarship and Legacy Fund Grant programs, to ushering in new interns and fellows to support programs and advocacy efforts of JACL, to reviving existing and forging new fundraising initiatives, JACL will continue to thrive and challenge the status quo.

Lastly, I'd be remiss not to recognize the hard work and dedication of staff and volunteers that carry out the good work of JACL. These individuals devote their time and a huge amount of effort to ensure our programs remain positively impactful on our community and organization's members. ■

'We Are in This Together'

By Sarah Baker,
JACL VP of Public Affairs

Akeshite Omedetougozaimasu! I can't believe it is 2020! I am going to be really honest — I don't believe in New Year's resolutions. If they work for other folks, that's amazing! But for me personally, Jan. 1 is just another day on the calendar. The work still needs to get done, and there are still only so many hours in the day.

With the end of my term slowly looming on the horizon, I have to critically ask myself if I feel good about the work that I have done. Do I feel that I was able to positively contribute something to this board and the JACL as a national organization? I would like to think that the answer is yes. There are some moments I am really proud of, and in being critical about ourselves, we can't discredit the positive things in favor of the negative.

But simultaneously, I know that there is always more that I could have done and would still like to do. My list of ongoing goals is fairly exhaustive, but it includes projects like:

- Working on the advocacy section in the President's Handbook
- Continuing to work with the Personnel Committee to improve our internal policies and structures
- Maybe most importantly, work-



ing with the National Education Committee to update the Power of Words booklet and teacher training materials to reflect the lived experiences of the individuals incarcerated at Tule Lake.

My aim is to continue working on these projects and supporting the organization in whatever ways I am able. There have been plenty of moments where I have felt I don't belong on the board because I don't feel like I am contributing enough.

But in every moment of doubt that I've had, one of my fellow JACL members has been right there with me to tell me that I can make a difference, even if I'm not living up to my

own expectations.

Today, and every day, that is what I am going to tell you: YOU can make a difference. The smallest intention can have great impact. A smile, words of encouragement, volunteer for a project — it all matters.

I'd like to share a piece of writing that was sent to me recently that really impacted me:

The Butterfly Effect

You need to stay. And you need to stay loudly. You're afraid of making bad choices, but the truth is this: The tiniest actions will influence the course of the rest of your life, and you cannot control it. So many factors play a part in you being here today: a delayed train, an

extra cup of tea, the number of seconds your parents took to cross the street. This is chaos theory. Sensitivity. Mathematics. You are here. And every choice you ever made has led to right now, reading this. While you exist, every movement and moment matters; those bad choices led you to the best days of your life, if you were to play it all in rewind. So, let them go. Change will come. Even if you're standing still. Butterflies will keep flapping their wings and causing hurricanes. So, make your choices and make them loud. Trust your gut. Trust energy. And if you ceased to exist? Oh, the Universe would notice. The mess that would make. The hearts that would break. So just stay. Stay for bad choices. Stay for great

ones. Stay. Cause a few hurricanes.

— s.r.w poetry

Working with the JACL National Board during my term has been a humbling learning experience. I am constantly in awe of every single person's dedication to this organization and our mission to secure and maintain civil rights for those who are victimized by injustice and bigotry.

Clearly, we have our work cut out for us, but I truly believe that we can create change in the world. Thank you all for your continued work in this struggle and for being the voices of support even when things seem hopeless. We are in this together. ■

Let's Continue to Provide Opportunities for the Next Generation

By Rob Buscher,
Pacific Citizen Editorial Board Chair

JACL's recent celebration of its 90th anniversary gives me pause to think about how significant this milestone is for a community of immigrants and their descendants. While the vast majority of persons of Asian descent are first or second generation, our community has reached Yonsei, Gosei and even some Rokusei. I believe that JACL is the reason that JAs have maintained our culture to the extent that we have.

Interpreting our community's long history is an important part of JACL's legacy because we are the only community institution that has



weathered the storm of history. Despite the many challenges our community has faced, this organization has been here as a convenor of people and key organizing tool to maintain the JA community.

Particularly in regions where there are not significant populations of JAs such as the East Coast, Midwest and Intermountain District, JACL is the only JA presence in the lives of many of our members, and I'm proud that the Pacific Citizen is there to deliver them their news either via in print or through its website.

JACL also continues to foster community connections and create a space for multiple generations of JAs to gather and learn from each other in supportive dialogue.

Regarding my memories of JACL, the first time I went to the National Convention was in 2013. I recall at the Sayonara Banquet, convention attendees joined in a farewell "Tanko-bushi." I had not seen anyone do this dance since my Hio-baachan passed away, so to suddenly witness 300

people doing this dance that I associated with my childhood brought me to tears.

I think it was the first time I became aware that there were other people beyond my immediate family who shared these traditions that were so deeply personal to my sense of identity. That was also the moment that I committed myself to taking on a larger role in this organization.

As a mixed-race person of Japanese ancestry JACL gives me a sense of belonging that I never had growing up. Before I got involved, the only other JAs I knew were my extended family. Now, I have an entire community of friends, many of whom have become like family. As our community becomes further removed from the context of immigration and our ancestral culture of origin, it is JACL that will sustain our identities as Japanese Americans.

I hope JACL — as well as the *Pacific Citizen* — will continue so that my future children will have the tremendous opportunities that have been afforded to me through my membership with this organization.

Having also celebrated its 90th anniversary in 2019, the *P.C.* remains a vital part of JACL, continuing to bring us features and news relevant to our community.

For 2020, I'm pleased to announce that the *P.C.* has a brand-new website now available (www.pacificcitizen.org) that features an all-new, easy-to-access site that also features a newly designed digital archive dating back to the newspaper's inception in 1929. The archives serve as a direct link to all that has occurred in our history and JACL's history — information vitally important to educating people of all ages today. Please help support the *P.C.* and its mission of serving you so that our work will forever continue to impact all generations of readers.

As we come to the passing of the Nisei generation, it is important that we as Yonsei rise to the occasion and continue to steward this organization into the future. I already see this happening in my peer group who are serving on the National Board alongside several Shin-Nisei leaders.

It is remarkable that an organization with such history is now in the hands of an entire elected board of people under the age of 36. There is no other national organization that I am aware of in which the elders have empowered young leaders to the extent that JACL has done, and I believe it is our duty to provide those opportunities to the next generation that comes after us. ■

'We Have the Choice to Do Something Now'

By Mieko Kuramoto,
JACL National Youth/Student Council Representative

Ninety years is a long time. In my family, 90 years intersects four generations, nine decades and whole lifetimes of experiences. In the past year, I've spent a lot of time thinking about where we've come since that time and how I would talk to my grandmother (who also would have been 90 this year) about where we are today.

Like many, I have found the last three years difficult to get through, particularly as a Japanese American. With the incarceration of migrants, the continuous rollback of civil rights protections, the exponentially increased border protection against "aliens" and daily vitriol and unchecked bigotry, it is often difficult for me to imagine that we've come very far in 90 years at all.

When I think of how I might explain the current situation to my grandmother, who

was incarcerated as a 13-year-old, I am struck by the fact that she might not have seen her circumstances then and the ones we live in now as all that different.

Although I try to rationalize that great strides have been made since the days of internment, when I consider the extent of the intergenerational trauma that Japanese Americans are still dealing with and how the descendants of today's immigrant detainees will suffer, I don't always know what we have to show for it.

That being said, though, the JACL has always served as a place of solace for me. In the face of sweeping changes over which I largely have no control, it is the Japanese American community that has given me a sense of grounding.

Reconnecting with my own history is my way of understanding the chaos of now, so even when I can't make sense of what I can do, it is Japanese American history that continues to remind me of what is important.

Sometimes that manifests itself in long, late-night conversations with other members of the NY/SC about tackling intergenerational trauma through direct action. Other times, it is listening to organizers from movements like Tsuru for Solidarity describe their conversations with migrant detainees.

And I am constantly inspired by the passion and genuine emotion with which my fellow Japanese Americans approach their activism. It is a passion born out of experience and born out of pain, from the understanding that what happened to us is not a historical event but rather an ongoing process of racism and xenophobia that won't disappear with time; it must be confronted with the absolute refusal to comply.

I am proud of my community, not only for our resilience but also our understanding that history is cyclical, not linear. Our experience as third-, fourth- and fifth-generation Japanese Americans has taught us that there is no way to neatly pack up history into little compartments of time and move on — it transcends generations.

We had no choice about incarceration. But we have the choice to do something now, and if we had to find meaning in a senseless, destructive act of racism such as internment, this is it.

I would've wanted to tell my grandmother that while our country is struggling, I am proud of our community, which is carrying forward the lessons her generation taught us. I have hope that our lasting legacy will be that we

carry into the next 90 years with the wisdom, passion, vigor and commitment to justice we gained in the past 90. ■





Mentors Are Vital Toward Sustaining JACL's Future

By Carol Kawase, Governor, NCWNPDC

In the 50 years that I have been involved in JACL, I am most grateful to the organization instilling in me civic leadership skillsets, social advocacy awareness and the significance of our JA incarceration history in today's sociopolitical atmosphere. If it were not for my many JACL mentors,

I wonder what my path in life would be today. It is from observing and learning from their passion, dedication and commitment to civic engagement and social justice that inspires me to be a part of what is so crucial in our lives today.

I mention "many mentors" because JACL members are involved for various reasons. Everyone has ways of contributing to our community through food, camaraderie, stories, culture, challenges and shared experiences.

From my family and our Nisei friends who understood the importance of social engagement to create a strongly bonded community to the pacesetters with inherent leadership skills, I gained many insights — big and small. My mentors have supported me through many challenging opportunities and learning experiences within JACL, sustaining a key part of my life for all these years.

In order for JACL is to stay relevant and viable well into the new decade, I strongly believe that mentorship is a vital component to maintaining JACL's future. Anyone can and everyone should be a mentor, most likely because you have been under the tutelage of someone who is respected and knowledgeable for whatever skillset they are imparting to the community. If all our current and future members have astute mentors, then imagine the possibilities of JACL well into the future.

Over the years, many of my oldest and dearest mentors have passed on, which means I have really big shoes to fill in order to carry on their legacy and contributions to JACL. Those shared experiences have given me the

ability to pass skillsets onto other members, so they may attend to their own opportunities and challenges as it pertains to contributing to our changing societal climate. Each member should be compelled to carry the organization forward, and I believe mentorship is an effective way to keep JACL strong.

THANKS to JACL and the collective membership for 90 years of stalwart dedication, keen programming and perseverance by prioritizing strong leadership, social advocacy and civic engagement. May the Year of the Metal Rat support a strong year to allow us to contribute toward maintaining a just society for all. ■



By Chip Larouche, PNWDC Governor

Happy New Year everyone! JACL celebrated its 90th birthday in 2019, and we'll be 91 in 2020. I can't help but think about what "might" be in 2029 when JACL will be 100! As I look around today, a lot of our membership are actually older than JACL.

Most of them are Nisei, most of them went to "camp" and certainly put up with terrible treatment and conditions even when they left those camps. A lot of them were heroes who fought in World War II like those in the 100th and 442nd, who earned that title with their blood, earning 9,486 purple hearts, solidifying their record as the most-decorated unit of its size in American history.

And we can't forget the Military Intelligence Service, who shortened the war by years, making "the kissing sailor" picture possible in 1945. Then there were "the resisters," before that term was very popular. Not only the folks like Endo, Hirabayashi, Korematsu and Yasui, whose names became famous for taking a stand, but others like the "resisters of conscience" and those labeled "the Tule Lake resisters," who not only paid the price of discrimination and incarceration at the hands of their countrymen, but also were generally shunned by their own community for a resistance to constitutional violations and abuses that nobody today would tolerate or allow to occur.

Wow! 2020



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Upgrade to a Premium JACL Membership today!

Become a valued JACL Thousand, Century or Millennium Club member and your heightened contribution will support the JACL's advocacy and programs nationally and also secure our administrative and staffing needs. Each Premium Membership provides the impact of over 3 regular memberships (if not more), and a larger portion of your dues goes toward supporting your local JACL chapter. If you have a little extra to give, please upgrade today!

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As a token of our gratitude, the first 100 members to upgrade will receive the gift of this 20" x 20" barbed wire icon art lithographic poster print, signed by artist Bob Matsumoto. Upgraded members are also invited to attend the VIP Reception for the Sayonara Banquet at the JACL National Convention.

Ready to upgrade your JACL membership? Call us at (415) 921-5225 or upgrade online at: www.jacl.org/member/



Although some will still disagree with me, I believe JACL did the right thing to not only support our military heroes and demand justice in the form of redress for the community members wrenched from their neighborhoods and were incarcerated into "camps," but also to have had the courage to apologize to all the resisters of injustice as well.

So, when I look forward to 2029, the 100th anniversary of the founding of JACL, I have to wonder whether we'll still be living up to the great history and accomplishments we've been able to be part of in our first 90-plus years of existence.

At the risk of being morbid, I think it's safe to say that many of our Nisei heroes won't be here to celebrate with JACL. In fact, many folks my age won't be there either! Nonetheless, you have to wonder what the landscape will look like in 2029.

- What will the organization look like?
- We're hovering at 8,000 members today. Will we be much smaller then?
- Will the offspring of the heroes mentioned above keep JACL going, or will it let it go away?
- Will Portland still be the largest chapter in JACL, or will it be Seattle, Chicago, San Francisco or someone else?

- Will we still meet annually to discuss and take action on the injustices of the day?
- Will we still elect robust leaders on even-numbered years or will the interest wane to where officers are reluctant to step up?
- Will we still have a newspaper, the *Pacific Citizen*, when so many others have gone away?
- How will we communicate the actions of what JACL is doing — not only on the civil rights front, but also about our cultural preservation mission, too?
- Will we have a reasonable number of chapters throughout the country where those communities still enjoy picnics, film screenings and also still have time to stop and plan

for the Day of Remembrance?
Assuming you're still reading this, you're probably getting tired of my questions. Me, too.
So, let me end this with a wish that all of you have a wonderful 2020, and I hope that you and I will still be here to celebrate JACL's 100th birthday.
I'm not sure if the organization will transform itself into a new, sleek organization with another 100 years ahead of it, or whether we'll just be basking in the limelight of the great things that JACL has done over the decades. Either way, I hope to be able to raise a glass and say, "Kampai, cheers, salud and à votre santé!"



Let's Continue to Carry the Torch Onward

By Michael Asada,
Governor, EDC

Happy New Year (*Akemashite omedetōgozaimasu*) JACL. I would like to extend my sincere best wishes to everyone during this upcoming "Year of the Rat." In addition, I would like to thank all those who worked so hard to make JACL so successful in 2019.

I am particularly appreciative of the national leadership and staff for their selfless commitment to sustain a vital pulse for this timeless organization. Clearly without your tireless

efforts to promote our cause as an advocate for social justice, our vocal support for violations in civil rights for all Americans would not be heard.

In addition, many kudos go out to the *Pacific Citizen* editorial staff and contributors. You have ensured that our voices on various human rights issues as well as chapter news remains at the forefront of all of our readers. Thank you for your dedicated service and professional manner.

Eastern District Council starts 2020 with several initiatives to serve our members and build on the legacy that was forged by the valor and sacrifices made by our Nikkei ancestors.

Several chapters are poised to conduct annual Day of Remembrance events that will



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AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL

2020 TOUR SCHEDULE

- HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) **Waitlist** . . . Feb 2-12
Abashiri, Sounkyo, Sapporo, Otaru, Lake Toya, Tokyo. Hyobaku Ice Festival, Asahikawa Snow Festival, Sapporo Snow Festival, Hyoto Winter Festival.
- HAWAII 3-ISLAND HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Mar 3-11
Honolulu, Big Island Hawaii, Maui.
- JAPAN SPRING COUNTRYSIDE HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Apr 2-14
Tokyo, Shimoda, Lake Kawaguchi, Takayama, Kyoto. Geisha Show in Kyoto.
- NEW ORLEANS GETAWAY TOUR** (Elaine Ishida) Apr 15-19
Walking tour of the French Quarter, City tour, Louisiana swamp cruise, enjoy Jazz club, beignets at Café Du Monde, New Orleans Cooking School.
- TULIP FESTIVAL & GREAT LAKES ADVENTURE TOUR** (Carol Hida) . . . May 7-15
Chicago, Grand Rapids, Holland Tulip Festival, Mackinac Island, Green Bay, Milwaukee.
- GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR** (Ernest Hida) . . . Jun 21-Jul 1
Tokyo, Hakone/Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto. **Waitlist**
- CANADIAN ROCKIES-GLACIER NATIONAL PARK TOUR** (Carol Hida) . Jul 28-Aug 3
Calgary, Glacier National Park, Kootenay National Park, Lake Louise, Columbia Icefields Parkway, Moraine Lake, Banff.
- KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Sep 4-16
Nairobi, Amboseli-Nakuru Lake-Masai Mara National Parks, Mt. Kenya Safari Club, Sweetwaters Tented Camp, Jane Goodall Chimpanze Sanctuary.
- CLASSICAL JAPAN HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Oct 7-19
Tokyo, Lake Kawaguchi, Nagoya, Gifu-Cormorant fishing, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
- DANUBE RIVER CRUISE** (Carol Hida) Oct 8-19
Prague, Passau, Linz, Melk, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest. AmaWaterways Cruise.
Early Bird discount ends Jan 31, 2020.
- PAINTED CANYONS OF THE WEST TOUR** (Elaine Ishida) Oct 4-12
Denver, Grand Junction, Bryce-Zion Canyon National Park, Springdale-Utah, Arches-Canyonland-Capitol Reef-Grand Staircase National Parks, Las Vegas
- OKINAWA HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Nov 11-20
Naha, Onnason, Islands of Ishigaki, Iriomote and Taketomo.

For more information and reservations, please contact:

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Ernest or Carol Hida
Elaine Ishida (Tel: 714-269-4534)



commemorate the anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt signing Executive Order 9066, which led to the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.

In addition, EDC members from various chapters will gather this spring in Washington, D.C., on June 5-7 for a "National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps." Planning is being led by Tsuru for Solidarity, a non-violent, direct-action project of Japanese American social justice advocates.

Another priority for EDC will be to focus on potential new members to the JAACL family. In consort with National VP for Membership Haruka Roudebush, EDC will solicit input from chapter leaders on the best practices and recipes for success.

The Kakehashi Project is just one example on how JAACL may resonate with anyone of Nikkei heritage. As a recent Kakehashi supervisor, I hope to serve as a passionate ambassador for this great opportunity.

Finally, EDC recognizes that 2020 is a vital national election year and is encouraging all of our members to attend the National Convention in Las Vegas so that issues like "ending birthright citizenship to children whose parents are not U.S. citizens" and "immigration reform" can be addressed and understood.

There is no doubt that the United States is in need of immigration reform. This reform requires comprehensive change that is consistent with American constitutional values and the country's democratic tradition.

Meanwhile, happy 90th birthday JAACL! For 90 years, this organization has served the United States as a premier national organization to preserve and protect the civil liberties of all.

In instances of racial discrimination, the leaders and members have worked tirelessly to eliminate prejudice against a particular ethnic minority. From our own history of racial profiling after the bombing of Pearl Harbor to the attacks against Muslim Americans after 9/11, as well as the recent targeting of immigrants entering the country, the JAACL is just as vital today as it was 79 years ago.

I offer my sincere appreciation to all those former JAACL members who were "trail blazers" in charting our path for relevance. Moreover, I extend my encouragement to our current/future members who will carry the torch to ensure that the incarnation of Japanese Americans during WWII will never happen again to another group of people.

I am honored and proud to serve in this noble organization, and I congratulate the JAACL for sustaining its impact as a force that "makes a difference everyday." The principles that established the DNA for this organization will serve as our lasting legacy for future generations of JAACLers in their quest to preserve the civil rights of all Americans.

Congratulations on reaching 90 years, may the next 90 be just as exciting and significant in serving ALL AMERICANS of diversity! ■

FAITH » continued from page 3



Pictured (from left) are Eduardo Lee, Michal Lee, Charise Masada, Marion Masada, Marsha Aizumi, Aiden Aizumi and Rev. Sab Masada.

Finally, their middle child, Michal, has had her own journey as the sibling that did not have any mental challenges.

One church member told Marion that her mother made her promise to take care of her handicapped sister after her mother's death, and so this church member never married. She told Marion not to do this to Michal.

When Michal was assured that she needed to live her own life and not be responsible for Alisa and Charise's care, Marion said, "Tears shot out of Michal's eyes."

Today, Michal is married and has a family. She has chosen to move Alisa to a facility close by and is Alisa's legal guardian, but she is not responsible for her day-to-day care.

This family has had a happy ending with all their children, but it hasn't been without major challenges: physical, mental, emotional and financial.

Sab says because of their strong faith, they have found their way.

When they didn't seem to know what to do, a program was found that helped their child. When they didn't know how they would pay for the program, the Presbyterian Church and others stepped up to help them. And when Marion, as

the 24/7 caregiver needed a break, Sab took care of the children while she visited friends to replenish both her body and spirit.

Their story has taught me so much. Here is what I learned:

1. Because **they did not hide away in shame** — since mental illness and mental handicap could be a stigma in our Nikkei community — the Masada family was able to get support from those who wanted to help them.
2. Because **they reached out for support**, they found programs that helped them find the best possible outcomes.
3. Because **they communicated with their children with patience and gave them a voice**, their children were able to find places that they wanted to live or programs they wanted to participate in. Their children had choices, so they felt empowered.
4. And because **they listened with an open heart** and were receptive to the thoughts of others, they received valuable information, like what they shared with Michal about living her own life.

It has been my honor to write this piece about the Masada family and learn from them. I thank Sab and Marion for trusting me with their beautiful story. I believe their journey shows the power of faith, hope and love. To all my P.C. readers and family, I hope 2020 brings you all the same . . .

"Where there is great love, there are always miracles."

— Willa Cather

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

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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

NCWNP

'Standing Up for the Voiceless' Day of Remembrance Program
Sacramento, CA

Feb. 8; 1-4 p.m.

California Museum

1020 O St.

Price: \$20 General; \$15 College Students; Free 18 and Under; Tickets on Sale Through NCTOR Only

"Standing Up for the Voiceless" includes a reception and all current California Museum exhibits, including "Uprooted! Japanese Americans During WWII" and "Toyo Miyatake: Behind the Glass Eye." This event will also feature Satsuki Ina and Emiko Omori, leaders of Tsuru for Solidarity. Info: To purchase tickets, visit NCTOR.org. For questions, contact Nancy Whiteside at (916) 508-6587 or email nwhiteside@hotmail.com.

40th Anniversary San Jose Day of Remembrance
San Jose, CA

Feb. 16; 5 p.m.

San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin

640 N. Fifth St.

This year's commemorative event will feature the Hon. Norman Y. Mineta. The theme is "No Camps, No Cages" and will include a candlelight procession. Info: Visit www.sjnoc.org or call (408) 505-1186.

41st Bay Area Day of Remembrance
San Francisco, CA

Feb. 16; 2-4 p.m.

AMC Kabuki 8 Theatre

1881 Post St.

Price: \$8 suggested donation

"Never Again Is Now! Carrying the Light for Justice" event will feature keynote speaker Rev. Michael Yoshii, pastor at Buena Vista United Methodist Church, along with emcees Diane Fukami, award-winning filmmaker and Lauren Ito, poet/activist, as well as Chizu Omori, a community activist and writer and Clifford I. Uyeda Peace & Humanitarian Awardee.

For more information, visit njahs@njahs.org or call (415) 921-5007.

Salinas Valley JACL's "2020 Day of Remembrance"

Salinas, CA

Feb. 23; Noon

DOR Japanese Memorial Garden

1034 N. Main St.

This year's program will begin at the DOR Japanese Memorial Garden, formerly the Salinas Rodeo Grounds, the initial "relocation" site of the Japanese and Japanese Americans who resided in the Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito and southern Santa Clara counties. The program will continue at the Lincoln Avenue Presbyterian Church at 536 Lincoln Ave. in Salinas.

PSW

Ventura County JACL Installation of Officers Luncheon

Simi Valley, CA

Feb. 9; 12:30 luncheon

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

40 Presidential Dr.

Price: \$30 per person

Join the Ventura County JACL at its annual Installation of Officers luncheon, where the event will welcome special guest Professor Duncan Ryoken Williams, author of the book "American Sutra."

Info: Email venturacountyjacl@gmail.com.

Day of Remembrance — 'Democracy in Crisis:

1942 and 2020'

Los Angeles, CA

Feb. 15; 2-4 p.m.

JANM

100 N. Central Ave.

Price: Pay What You Wish; Advanced RSVP Recommended for Priority Seating

This year's program will explore how democracy has been tested in both the past and present in the U.S. and feature Satsuki Ina, writer/activist/psychotherapist/co-founder of Tsuru for Solidarity, as well as a video message from Sen. Mazie Hiron. Info: Visit www.janm.org.

Afternoon of Peace: The Hiroshima and Nagasaki Experience

Los Angeles, CA

Feb. 22; 2 p.m.

Aratani Theatre

244 S. San Pedro St.

Tickets: \$30 Orchestra Reserved; JACCC Members \$25; Senior/Students \$25

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the 1945 atomic bombings. This event will remember and honor the victims and Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors), as well as engage audience members with stories of heartbreak, hope and resilience through multidisciplinary performances that reflect on how the past reverberates today. This event is co-sponsored by Shadows for Peace and the JACCC.

Info: Visit www.jaccc.org.

'Transcendents: Heroes at Borders' Exhibition
by Taiji Terasaki

Los Angeles, CA

Feb. 1-March 29

JANM

100 N. Central Ave.

This contemporary art exhibition honors individuals who advocate and fight for those who face discrimination, prejudice and inequality at borders both real and imagined. Through video projections on mist, photographic weavings and audience participation, visitors will learn about, reflect on and celebrate heroes in Los Angeles, across the nation and within their own lives. Info: Visit janm.org/transcendents.

PNW

Day of Remembrance 2020 Performances

Seattle, WA

Feb. 16; 12:30 p.m.

Seattle University, Pigott Auditorium

901 12th Ave.

Price: \$20 General Admission; \$10 Students With I.D.

The Minidoka Pilgrimage and Seattle University are proud to present this program featuring a taiko concert and performance by the 5th Avenue Theatre based on the book "Baseball Saved Us" by Ken Mochizuki. The program will benefit youth and senior scholarship programs for the 18th annual Minidoka Pilgrimage.

Info: Email minidokapilgrimage@gmail.com or call (206) 296-6260.

Know Japan: DOR and Film Screening of 'Oregon's Japanese Americans: Beyond the Wire'

Bend, OR

Feb. 23; 1-3 p.m.

Downtown Bend Library, Brooks Room

601 N.W. Wall St.

Price: Free

This event will feature a screening of "Oregon's Japanese Americans: Beyond the Wire" documentary and discuss the legacy of Executive Order 9066. Don't miss this opportunity to educate others on the fragility of civil liberties in times of crisis, as well as the importance of remaining vigilant in

protecting the rights and freedoms of all.

Info: Contact Liz Goodrich at lizg@deschuteslibrary.org or call (541) 312-1032.

Day of Remembrance, Day of Action
Tacoma, WA

Feb. 23; 12:30 p.m.

Northwest Detention Center

1623 E. J St.

Join Tsuru for Solidarity, La Resistencia, Denso and Seattle JACL for this day of action that commemorates the 78th anniversary of Executive Order 9066. The NWDC is one of the largest immigration prisons in the country. Participants will stand united with all those who have suffered atrocities of U.S. concentration camps to say "Stop Repeating History!" This message will be amplified by the beats of taiko drums and carried on the wings of thousands of origami cranes.

Info: Visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/2394961887482044/>.

CCDC

Livingston-Merced Day of Remembrance Banquet

Merced, CA

Feb. 15; 5 p.m.

Pavilion Building, Merced County Fairgrounds

900 MLK Jr. Way

Info: Email janetf127@gmail.com or call

(209) 631-1933.

Fresno Day of Remembrance Luncheon and Officer Installation

Fresno, CA

Feb. 16; Noon

Fresno Historical Museum

Big Fresno Fairgrounds

1121 S. Chance Ave.

Price: \$40 Individual

This event will feature special guests Elizabeth Laval, executive producer, and Jeff Aiello, writer/director, of the award-winning documentary "Silent Sacrifice," who will discuss their work on the feature. Also present will be Rev. Saburo and Marion Masada, who were featured in the film.

Info: RSVP by Feb. 14. For additional information, email ccdcgov@jacl.org or call (626) 376-1768

IDC

Mile High 2020 Day of Remembrance
Denver, CO

Feb. 16; 1-3 p.m.

History Colorado Center

1200 N. Broadway

Price: Free

This program will remember the "Unsung Heroes of the Military Intelligence Service" and commemorate the Day of Remembrance so that citizens won't forget the injustice that happened 77 years ago. Keynote speaker will be Mitch Maki, CEO of the Go For Broke National Education Center. In addition, History Colorado will have on display "Portraits of Courage: Photographs by Shane Sato," a series of JA WWII veterans of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service.

Info: Email info@milehighjacl.org.

MDC

Book Launch and Annual Day of Remembrance Event

St. Paul, MN

Feb. 22; 1-3 p.m.

East Side Freedom Library

1105 Greenbrier St.

Price: Free and open to the public; refreshments will be served.

Please join the Twin Cities JACL as it commemorates the 78th anniversary of Executive Order 9066. The event also will highlight the release of John Matsunaga's photobook "Kazoku No Tame Ni," which addresses his family's incarceration history and its transgenerational impact. In addition, a panel discussion will feature members of Twin Cities JACL, who will discuss the incarceration experiences of their families and how this connection has motivated them to educate the public about this past and engage with social justice issues.

Info: Visit www.tcjacl.org or email info@tcjacl.org.

Shinnenkai 2020

Indianapolis, IN

Feb. 22; 1 p.m.

Irvington Presbyterian Church

55 Johnson Ave.

Come join the Hoosier Chapter JACL at its annual pitch-in luncheon celebrating the New Year. Traditional ozoni (Japanese New Year soup) will be prepared by Ocean World. Please bring a covered dish to share with all. A free will donation basket will be available to help offset expenses. This is a fun time to gather with old friends and meet new ones as the chapter celebrates the Year of the Rat.

Info: Contact Elinor Hanasono at hana@iquest.net or leave a voice message at (317) 848-7950.

'American Sutra's' Duncan Ryoken Williams Presentation and Book Club Meeting

Minneapolis, MN

March 5; 3:30-5 p.m.

University of Minnesota

Best Buy Theater, Northrop

84 Church St. S.E.

Price: Free and open to the public

Author Williams will be on hand to discuss

his book "American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War," which reveals how, even as they were stripped of their homes and imprisoned in camps, Japanese American Buddhists launched one of the most inspiring defenses of religious freedom in our nation's history.

Info: Visit www.tcjacl.org or email info@tcjacl.org.

EDC

Philadelphia Day of Remembrance
Philadelphia, PA

Feb. 22; 2 p.m.

City Council Chambers

1400 John F. Kennedy Blvd.

This event will create a space to provide updates from JACL National regarding its current advocacy efforts and provide a more-detailed recap of the Philadelphia chapter's recent work. Special guests include Karen Korematsu, Ahmet Selim Tekelioglu of the Council on American Islamic Relations Philadelphia and a representative from the Shut Down Berks Coalition.

Info: Visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/2311052629134209/>.

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FOR MORE INFO:

pc@pacificcitizen.org
(213) 620-1767

OBITUARY TRIBUTE

JIMMIE KANAYA



10/03/1919-11/07/2019

Jimmie Kanaya, Col., USA Ret., was a 99-year-old, three-war, decorated veteran who served 34 years in the Army. While serving with the 442 RCT he received a battlefield commission during the Italian Campaign. He was captured in France and was a POW until the end of WWII. His family was interned at Minidoka Relocation Center, Idaho, until the end of the war. He received a Silver Star and a Bronze Star with valor device and two Oak Leaf Clusters. Later he received the Congressional Gold

Medal as a member of the 442 Regimental Combat Team.

He served in Occupied Japan in the Military Intelligence Service as a translator/interrogator at General Headquarters in Tokyo. He was attached to ATTS 8th Army (fwd.) United Nations offensive and United Nations/Campaigns in Korea. In July 1962, he was attached to the Medical Department Operations and Training Advisor to the Vietnamese Army Medical Branch, MAAG. Jimmie retired in 1974 from his last position as deputy commandant, Medical Training Center, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. His service would pave the way for future generations of Japanese Americans serving in the military. He will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery. He is survived by his wife, Lynn and brother Enoch.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, to kindly send donations to a scholarship set up at the Japanese American Veteran Association in honor of: Col. Jimmie Kanaya, P.O. Box 341198, Bethesda, MD 20827. Donations may also be made to the Nisei Veterans Committee, 1212 S. King St., Seattle, WA 98144.

In MEMORIAM

Arakaki, James, 90, Montebello, CA, Oct. 7; he is survived by his sons, Dean (Lisa) Arakaki and Brian (Susan) Arakaki; sister, Aki (Tom) Maeda; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

Hayashida, Nakayo 'Alice,' 103, Honolulu, HI, Sept. 22; she is survived by her daughter, Jeanette (Elmer) Takenishi; gc: 3; ggc: 7.

Ikemoto, Mildred Toshiko Shibata, 89, Downey, CA, Sept. 25; she was predeceased by her husband, Henry; son, David Reiji Ikemoto; granddaughter, Lani Lee Yuriko Hauer; and son-in-law, James Hauer; she is survived by her children, Paul Tatsuo (Eileen Yoko Mitamura) Ikemoto, Lynn Yuriko (Robert) Hirano and Sharon Sueko (Casey) Spencer; gc: 12; ggc: 13.

Kambe, Victor Kambe, 100, Seal Beach, CA, Oct. 21; he was predeceased by his wife, Sue; he is survived by his children, Edward (Beverly) Kambe, Torye (Simon) Holland, Erin Junko (Hubert) Chow and Kevin Hutchins; gc: 10; ggc: 1.

Matsunaga, Yuri, 91, Los Angeles,

CA, Oct. 15; she is survived by her husband, Hideo; children, Geoffrey (Masako) Matsunaga, Carol (Steve Ogasa) Matsunaga; Keith (Ron Molina) Matsunaga, Jon (Stephanie) Matsunaga and Kim (Michael Hurley) Matsunaga; gc: 10; ggc: 3.

Nomoto, Mary, 93, Los Angeles,

CA, Oct. 13; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her husband, Mitsugi; she is survived by her children, Alan (Susan) Nomoto, Marsha (Mike) Riley and Adrienne (Jimi) Yamagishi; sisters-in-law, Patsy Iwaki and Aiko Von Achen; gc: 7; ggc: 1.

TRIBUTE

THOMAS NOBUYUKI SHIGEKUNI

Thomas Nobuyuki Shigekuni, born in Los Angeles on Aug. 4, 1929, passed away on Dec. 10, 2019, at the age of 90. His parents, Yonetaro (Frank) and Shizuyo (Mary) Shigekuni, were immigrants from Hiroshima, Japan.

In 1942, when Tom was 12, the family was incarcerated in Colorado's Amache relocation camp. Openly questioning their imprisonment, he always cautioned that "This type of hysteria and injustice can happen again." In 1945, the family was released, and he graduated from L.A.'s Polytechnic High in 1947.

During the Korean War, Tom volunteered for the 6004th Air Intelligence Service Squadron, stationed in Tokyo, and edited intelligence reports for Brig. Gen. Banfield, the Far East intelligence chief of the Air Force.

A graduate of Pepperdine, Tom earned his degree thanks to a scholarship from George Pepperdine who attended the same Westside Church of Christ and supported Japanese Americans during WW2. In later years, Tom served on the Pepperdine Alumni board of directors.

Following in his father's horticultural footsteps, Tom opened Centrose Nursery. In his "Guide for New Employees" he wrote, "Not to thank a customer loud and clear is a sin around here."

In 1966, graduating from USC School of Law, he opened his Torrance law practice. When expanding Japanese companies first entered the U.S., he represented several of them, including Sega for which he handled its Warner Brothers and Turner Entertainment contracts.

Throughout his 45-year career, Tom focused on estate planning and volunteered with community organizations to educate the public on elder law issues. He served on the board of directors of the Keiro Retirement Home.

Appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown, Tom was the first Japanese American on the State Board of Food and Agriculture. The legislature accepted his definitive report that the then-novel farmer's market concept should become permanent law, paving the way for today's certified markets.

When Japanese had difficulty getting credit, Tom helped organize the predecessor to the Los Angeles Southwest Japanese Credit Union. During the energy crisis in 2000 Tom served on the L.A. County Energy Commission.

Active in civic organizations, he was president of the ACLU's South Bay chapter, president of the Gardena chapter of the JACL, director of the Torrance Rotary Club, president of the Centinela Chapter of the California Association of Nurserymen, and a trustee on the board of the South Coast Botanic Garden in Palos Verdes.

As an internee at Amache, he was adamant that the site be preserved to educate future generations about the frailty of our constitutional rights, serving as the incorporating attorney for the Amache Historical Society and a board member for 17 years.

A serial entrepreneur, Tom opened Oriental Traders, a Laguna Beach gift shop in the early 1950s, invented a trademarked tool coupling assembly and supplied matsutake mushrooms to local markets.

On Aug. 4, 2019, in celebration of Tom's 90th birthday, a documentary "To Tell the Truth," was screened in Beverly Hills. The film is a personal journey of how injustice shaped his life, making him determined to always fight for the underdog. Tom was honored by family and friends as "a simple man," as he called himself, who made a difference.

Tom's favorite phrase was "Let's go!" Fulfilling his dream to explore the world, in 2016 he spent a month touring Asia and the Great Wall of China, followed by an extended 2017 European trip. He visited his favorite city, Tokyo, in 2018, and to the end, he was planning more adventures.

A longtime resident of Palos Verdes Estates and a member of the Redondo Beach Church of Christ, Tom is survived by his wife Ruth, daughters Vicki, Cindy and Leslie, and five grandchildren. He is predeceased by older brothers Tsuneo (Tunney), Masaaki (Henry) and sister Fumiko. A private family memorial will be held.

Per Tom's wishes, so that future generations "do not forget", donations can be made to the Amache Preservation Society, P.O. Box 259 Granada, CO 81041-0259.

TRIBUTE

PATRICIA ETSUKO DOZEN

Celebration of life service for the late Patricia Etsuko Dozen, 70-year-old, California-born resident of Lakewood, who passed away on Dec. 13, 2019, was held on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020 at Faith United Methodist Church, 2115 W. 182nd St. in Torrance.

Predeceased by her parents, Takeo "Fred" and Michiko Dozen; she is survived by her sister, Vickie (Eddie) Tani; brother, Jeff (Lorraine) Dohzen; nephew, Kenny (Amy) Hom; nieces, Andrea (Brad) Hillsabeck, Ashley Tani, Tiffany Dohzen, Traycie (Cory) Koyanagi and Shannyn Yasui; she is also survived by other relatives.

In lieu of koden, the family kindly requests donations be made to the American Cancer Society <https://www.cancer.org/>.

www.fukuimortuary.com 213-626-0441

TRIBUTE

SHIZUKO YAMAUCHI



Shizuko Yamauchi, 102, died peacefully Nov. 12 in Union City, Calif. Her daughter and granddaughter were at her side. Shizuko was born in Morgan Hill, Calif., to Issei farmworkers. The family later ran a boardinghouse in San Luis Obispo and sold tofu until World War II forced them into internment in Poston, Ariz. In late 1943, Shizuko left camp for Cleveland, Ohio, where she soon began a 25-year career as a stenographer. She married Masao Yamauchi, a veteran of the 442nd, and had a daughter, Nancy. They were founding members of the Cleveland Buddhist Church. In 1971, Shizuko and Masao moved to Newark, Calif. They ran a small glazing business, became active members of the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church and traveled extensively. After retiring, Shizuko kept busy with church activities, crafts, sewing, cooking, gardening, reading, solving crossword puzzles, playing Scrabble and visiting friends. She was predeceased by her husband and sisters Masako, Toshiko and Yoshiye. Shizuko is survived by her daughter, Nancy Teruko Dodd, and her granddaughter, Stacy Cole (Adam).

TRIBUTE

YUKIO MITSUUCHI

Funeral service for the late Yukio Mitsuuchi, 94-year-old, California-born resident of Oxnard, who passed away on Dec. 30, 2019, were held on Saturday, Jan. 11, 11 a.m. at Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple in Los Angeles.

Predeceased by his wife, Mary Shizuko Mitsuuchi and son, Gary Mitsuuchi; he is survived by his sons, Paul (Karen) and Brent (Wendy); grandchildren, Garrett, Keith and Madison; brother, John (Nobuko) Mitsuuchi; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

www.fukuimortuary.com (213) 626-0441

TRIBUTE

MITZI MICHIKO YORICHI



She suddenly passed away on Dec. 1, 2019, at Greenbrae, Calif., at 95. She was predeceased by her husband, Alex, and son, Malcolm. Michiko Nagata was born in Nara, Japan, and attended the prestigious Osaka Shoin Women's University. After the war she met and married Alex Yorichi, a U.S. Army soldier in Tokyo. Their growing family moved to numerous duty stations in the U.S. and Japan, settling in Okinawa in 1959 and near Camp Zama in 1979. She worked for the Army & Air Force Exchange Service for a total of 35 years until she

retired and moved to California.

Mitzi was passionate about bowling, Sudoku and watching quiz programs and samurai dramas on TV. She volunteered at San Francisco Japantown's Kimochi Lounge. She will be remembered for her fashion sense, purple hair highlights, gourmet palate and her youthful vitality.

Mitzi is survived by her children, Juli (Fred) Kodani, Darius Yorichi and Johanna Yorichi (Gregg Yamachika); and grandchildren Kyle and Lindsay Yamachika. A memorial service was held in San Francisco on Jan. 25.

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

AARP SURVEY FINDS MANY AT RISK FOR CONSUMER FRAUD

By Ron Mori

Happy 2020! This year is ramping up to be action-packed with the upcoming U.S. Census and November elections. As we start 2020, it's easy for any of us to be distracted as we settle back into our regular routines. Just know that fraudsters never rest, and they are constantly creating new ways to scam people. A recent report from the AARP Fraud Watch Network found that a significant number of consumers are at risk of becoming victimized by scams.

Nearly 20 percent of those surveyed failed a simple quiz designed to test their ability to recognize the red flags on a variety of scams during the holidays.

An AARP Fraud Watch Network campaign is using [advertising](#), social media postings, [website](#) content, [webinars](#), tele-town halls and email alerts to warn consumers about some of the most prevalent scams:

Charitable Donation Scams

As we enter tax season, many charities solicit donations to support their important

work. Unfortunately, scammers will try to get in on the action to line their own pockets. One-third of those AARP surveyed said that they have received a request for a donation from a group that was likely fraudulent.

Before making a donation, experts [recommend](#) using charity rating sites such as [Give.org](#) or [CharityNavigator.org](#) to make sure the solicitation is from a legitimate organization. You can also check on what percentage of collected donations actually support the charitable purpose.

AARP's survey found that only 30 percent of U.S. adults conduct research on a charity before giving money. But of those who do, half have decided not to proceed with a donation based on what they learned.

Package Delivery Scams

AARP's survey indicates that half of us who ship packages don't request a signature on delivery. When packages are left at front doors, it is an easy opportunity for "porch pirates" to grab them. There were a number of national news stories around "porch pirates" during the recent holidays. You can manage a theft by requesting a signature upon delivery.

If requesting a delivery signature is not an option, AARP [advises](#) that you explore options offered by shipping companies that allow recipients to pick up packages from a secure location. Or, direct the delivery company to place packages somewhere that makes them harder to see from the street.

Also, be aware of email — or "phishing" — scams related to package deliveries. An email purporting to be from a shipping company about a pending delivery may actually be a scammer's attempt to obtain sensitive payment information or install malicious software on your device.

One red flag is a generic "Dear Customer" salutation. Also, use your mouse to hover over the link you are instructed to click on to address the issue. If the web address does not look like it's taking you to the actual company's website, it's a scam.

Gift Card Scams

The popularity of gift cards for various special occasions makes them attractive targets for scammers. Criminals visit stores with gift card racks and surreptitiously record the PIN numbers from the backs of the cards. Once

the cards are purchased and activated, the scammer drains the funds. Twenty percent of those surveyed reported that they have given or received a gift card whose balance had already been depleted.

AARP [recommends](#) carefully examining a gift card for signs of tampering, prior to making the purchase. Even safer options are buying the cards from stores that keep the rack behind their counter or via online purchase directly from the retailer.

For more findings from the AARP survey, as well as additional fraud prevention tips, visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatch](#).

Launched in 2013 as a free resource for people of all ages, consumers may sign up for "Watchdog Alert" emails that deliver information about scams or call a free helpline at (877) 908-3360 to report scams or get help from trained volunteers in the event someone falls victim to scammers' tactics.

The Fraud Watch Network website also provides information about fraud and scams, prevention tips from experts, an interactive [scam-tracking map](#) and access to AARP's hit podcast series "The Perfect Scam."

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

2020年おめでとうございます!

新年の皆様の幸運と繁栄を願っております。

私どもカリフォルニアバンク・アンド・トラストはお客様の目標を達成する為に適切なアドバイスとお客様のニーズに合わせた財務手法を活用しサポートをさせていただきます。是非私どもに、皆様の成長と繁栄に向け、豊富な情報に基づいた決断をされるお手伝いをさせていただきます。

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