

PACIFIC CITIZEN

CELEBRATING 91 YEARS

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**JACSC Members
Ramp Up Efforts
to Once Again
Secure Funding for
Confinement Sites
Program.**

PHOTO: JULIE ABO

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor,

ATTENTION young people. Baby boomers (born between 1946-64) and millennials (ages 18-35) both represent nearly one-third of the potential voting populace apiece. In 2016, people 65 years and older voted at a 71 percent rate. Millennials voted at 46 percent. That is a 25 percent difference.

The U.S. has one of lowest youth voting rates in the industrialized world. The goal should be to make it the highest. The '60s generation and yours are the two most progressive and idealistic generations in history. Also, they are the least racist, the least religiously bigoted, the least homophobic, etc. If young people voted at the same rate as seniors, you could change the world.

The top 1 percent represents the current power structure of the U.S. This includes the fossil fuel industry, the pharmaceutical and health insurance industries, the corporate media (which controls over 90 percent of what you watch, read and hear), the military-industrial complex, etc. The three richest Americans own as much wealth as

the bottom 160 million-plus Americans. The top 1 percent owns more wealth than the bottom 92 percent.

Forty-nine percent of all new revenue generated goes to the top 1 percent. And the other 51 percent goes to the bottom 99 percent. When almost half of new wealth created goes to the top 1 percent, it is called "income inequality."

Millennials get 3 percent of this new wealth today vs. 21 percent, the amount they got in 1989. In the 1960s, CEOs made 20 times what their average worker received. Today, it is 287-1. This is the greatest wealth disparity since the 1920s, just before the Great Depression hit.

The concentration of wealth and power by a handful of millionaires/billionaires is called an "oligarchy." If we continue in this direction, we end up in a dictatorship. If we move in the opposite direction, however, we will be back in a democracy by majority rule, one person, one vote.

The 1 percent have the wealth and power, but

we have the numbers. Now, I may not have a Ph.D. in math, but I can tell you that 99 percent is a heckuva lot more people than 1 percent.

To enact change will require nothing less than overwhelming the ballot box next year with the biggest voter turnout ever seen. Not by a little either, by a lot. Most political experts consider the 2020 election to be the most important we'll see in our lifetimes. The future of our country and the future of the planet will be decided next year. **Please register to vote AND get people you know registered as well.**

As one politician recently said, "We don't watch the polls. We change the polls" by getting involved in the political process.

The future of this country will increasingly rest upon the shoulders of young people. Transforming society toward a bright future for them and the other 99 percent will require a record-shattering turnout.

Sincerely,

Gordon Kobayashi,
Valley Springs, Calif.



JACL DENOUNCES EXPANSION OF THE MUSLIM BAN

By JACL National

The Jan. 31 addition of Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sudan and Tanzania expands the number of countries affected by the Muslim Ban to 13. Similar to the first ban, the people impacted are predominantly Muslim. But these new additions will also affect those fleeing persecution in places such as Myanmar. That these announcements have come in the same week as the three-year anniversary of the issuance of the first Muslim Ban and Holocaust Memorial Day is reprehensible.

We cannot recall the holocaust without acknowledging our country's role in refusing holocaust refugees entry. As we now repeat the same

mistake through this expanding and misguided policy, it would behoove us to question its validity and effectiveness. Since the implementation of the first Muslim Ban, families have been forced to live apart, college students' studies have halted and lives have even been lost because of the restrictions. What has this ban truly done to protect our country?

The ban is a source of particular pain to the Japanese American community. The Supreme Court upheld the ban in its 2018 decision on the basis of national security. This was the exact same rationale used to uphold the World War II incarceration of nearly 120,000 people, many of whom were citizens because of our national ancestry.

The fact that Chief Justice John Roberts went out of his way to repudiate the *Korematsu* decision was ironic in the decision's reaffirmation of discrimination on the basis of national origin under the guise of national security. In neither case has the government been able to prove an actual security threat.

The expansion of the Muslim Ban continues a pattern of discrimination by this country against communities of color as also seen in the policies of family separation and incarceration, changes to the public charge definition and, most recently, subjecting American citizens of Iranian ancestry to additional screening at the Canadian border.

Having experienced the sting of restrictions on Asian immigration in the past, JACL opposes these broad attacks on immigration, which stand in direct opposition to the ideals upon which this country was founded that we have yet to truly uphold. ■

HOW TO REACH US

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

STAFF

Executive Editor
Allison Haramoto

Senior Editor
Digital & Social Media
George Johnston

Business Manager
Susan Yokoyama

Production Artist
Marie Samonte

Circulation
Eva Ting

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NIKKEI VOICE

FEAR FUELS THE FIRE

PHOTOS: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The coronavirus outbreak that started in Wuhan, China, is become a world-wide crisis, and the virus is serious business — both figuratively and literally.

Because the world economy is interlinked and interdependent, a disaster in Asia can have ripple effects across the globe's financial markets. As countries including the United States cut back travel to China and block people from coming from China, the U.S. stock market has been battered by the effects of the coronavirus. Many American companies have offices in China and rely on companies there to keep its supply chains moving.

As I write this, the World Health Organization has counted more than 17,000 confirmed cases of illness caused by the coronavirus, which can have symptoms similar to flu or pneumonia, including 146 in 23 countries outside of China. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention so far has confirmed nine cases in the U.S. as of this writing, with no deaths. There have been 303 deaths in China, and one in the Philippines.

Authorities are predicting that the virus will spread exponentially in the days to come.

In China, more than 2,000 cases were reported in one day. The word "pandemic" is being mentioned as a possible outcome of the spread of coronavirus.

So, there's no doubt about it, the coronavirus is serious and deadly, and the entire world is being extra cautious about preventing an outbreak outside of China.

I don't fault countries, including the U.S. (and Japan) from limiting or blocking travelers from China. Until there's a scientific medical solution to treat and prevent the virus, one way to control the virus from spreading is, well, control the spread of the people who may be carrying the virus.

Unfortunately, along with the spread of the virus, one side effect has been the spread of fear that can fuel the fires of racial stereotypes.

It's one thing to be afraid of people from Wuhan, or even Mainland China, who may have been exposed to the virus. It's another altogether, to treat Chinese in the U.S., including Chinese Americans who were born and raised here and haven't gone to Wuhan or even to China recently, as pariahs who might be carrying the illness.

They're not. Neither are other Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

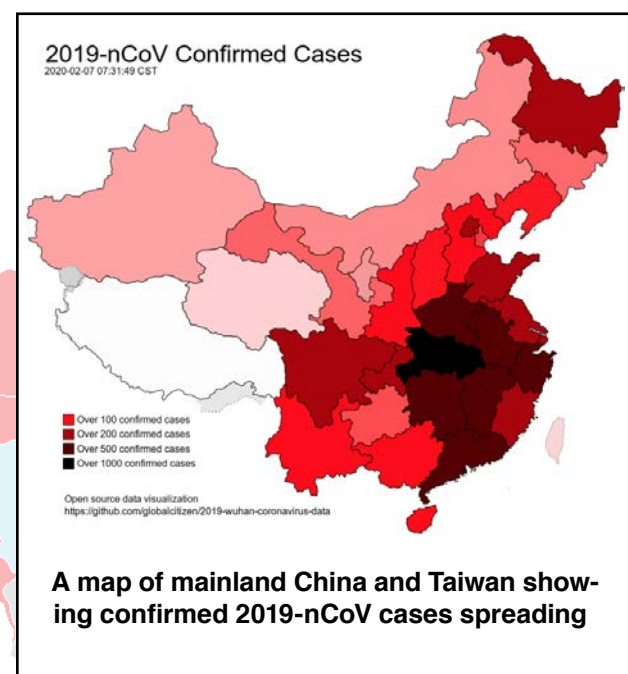
Yet, the media has run stories about how AAPIs are being treated as if they're all

Chinese who are "fresh off the boat" from Wuhan. The *New York Times* ran a commentary about how Chinese restaurants are being subjected to outdated tropes — fake stereotypes — about serving meat that might have been the cause of the virus in the market in Wuhan. You know, rats, bats, wolves . . .

It's always easy to target "The Other" in times of crisis when fear is clouding our societal judgment.

I've had Asian American friends on social media tell me that they've sat down at a café, a station or a library, only to have people around them pick up their things and move away. And these friends aren't all of Chinese heritage, not that that matters. It happened to a Japanese American woman in Washington, D.C. Shame on you, people. Do we need to shout out, "I'm not Chinese from Wuhan!" or "I'm Japanese American!" to show we're not Typhoid Mariko?

This all reminds me too much of a World War II-era photograph of a young Asian girl heading to school, with a big sign pinned to her blouse reading, "I am Chinese." I have



to wonder if she was bullied anyway. It was a common sight to see Chinese Americans identifying themselves during the war, when 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry, including half of whom were U.S.-born American citizens, were imprisoned in U.S. concentration camps.

Of course, there were no instances of espionage or sabotage proven by any JAs during the war.

» See FEAR on page 8

REFLECTIONS

FRED AND I

By Stanley N. Kanzaki

'Fred' in the title is none other than the late-great Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu, and the "I" is me, just one of his thousands of admirers.

When I read in the *Pacific Citizen* that on Jan. 30, 2020, it would be Fred Korematsu Day in California, I recalled meeting him twice in different situations.

It all began at the concentration camp in Topaz, Utah, where I lived with my family in Block 28, Barrack 10, Unit EF during World War II, and Fred's family lived diagonally across from me at Block 28, Barrack 9, Unit AB.

Someone told me that Fred refused to be forcibly removed like the 120,000-plus Japanese into America's concentration camps. He defiantly remained in San Leandro, Calif., and told authorities that he had a facelift to look Caucasian until he was arrested by the FBI.

He was tried and later sentenced to be incarcerated in the temporary detention center at Tanforan in San Bruno, Calif., and later to the concentration camp at Topaz, Utah.

At Topaz, someone told me about his facelift to look Caucasian. As a kid, I didn't know anything about him but was curious and wanted to see what he looked like.

The next morning, I went to the Mess Hall, but Fred was a no show. Determined, I sat across from his barrack door waiting for him



Civil rights pioneer Fred T. Korematsu is the first Asian American to have a day in U.S. history named after him.

to show. About 9:30 a.m., there he was, bleary-eyed and carrying his toilet kit while heading for the bathroom. I jumped up and stared into his face. At first, he looked surprised, but he soon changed as if to say, "Stop staring, you stupid kid."

I ran to my barrack and excitedly told my mother in Japanese that Fred didn't look *hagujin*. She told me to repeat just what I said. I knew I was in trouble.

After that, she reprimanded me and told me that I was a foolish, rude boy, especially to a man like Fred. To punish me, she pointed to the

family laundry and said that I was to help her.

Trailing behind her and carrying the laundry, I was worried that my friends would see me and accuse me of being a "mama's boy."

Nearing the laundry room, lo and behold, there standing in front of her door was *Korematsu-san no oba-san*. She exchanged pleasantries with my mother and commented that my mother now had an assistant, meaning me, to help with the laundry.

Then, my mother asked if Fred was upset with what I did. She looked puzzled and said, "Freddie didn't say anything like this, and besides, your son is one of the nicest boys in this block." My mother looked at me, surprised.

Upon entering the laundry room, I was still not free and feared that the guys might see me scrubbing away. Then, my mother told me since Korematsu-san said that I was a nice boy, I could go out and play.

I ran out of the laundry room saying to myself, "Thank you, Mrs. Korematsu," then repeated in Japanese, "*Korematsu no oba-san domo arigato.*" Thereafter, I didn't see much of Fred but only twice avoided him.

Fast forward.

Years later, I attended a Topaz Reunion. On the last night during the Sayonara Banquet, I sat at a table with two empty seats next to me. I wondered who was going to sit there. Suddenly, one of the guests sitting at the table said, "Oh, here's Fred Korematsu."

I was surprised, and the Topaz staring incident flashed before me. I immediately stood up and almost had another stare down. I shook his hand and introduced myself. I wondered if he might remember our "Topaz stare down."

It was interesting sitting with him. He told me about himself and Topaz. Then,

I wondered if I should bring up how we first met in Topaz. I decided to do so. When I finished, he looked at me seriously. I felt I had made a mistake, and in the background, I heard his wife, Kathy, giggling.

Fred demanded, "How do I look now?" Of course, I stated how great he looked. He continued to look at me and said, "You know what, I'm glad you said all that," ending with a smile that told me how great he felt.

When the banquet was over, I went to the table where my brother, Milton, sat with his former Topaz High School classmates and buddies from the 100th BN/442nd RCT.

I told him about my stare down conversation with Fred, and he laughed. Then, my brother said, "I have an incident. I'm going over to tell Fred." I tried to dissuade him but was unsuccessful.

When Fred saw us, my brother introduced himself. Then, Fred told him that he had an interesting conversation with me. Milt then said, "I don't know if you remember this, but in Topaz, there were 10 of us, and we had a poker game, and you wiped us out. About three weeks later, you again wiped us out. I've been in the Army, and among other things, I became a good poker player." My brother continued jokingly, "Maybe we can play a few hands, and I might be able to get some money back from you."

Suddenly, Fred looked serious, which surprised my brother. But in the background, we heard Kathy giggling. Then Fred told my brother, "I quit playing poker. With all the money I won off of you guys, I had enough to retire."

» See FRED on page 8

MANZANAR PILGRIMAGE SET FOR APRIL 25

The 51st annual event welcomes the theme 'Standing Together for Civil Rights.'

LOS ANGELES — "Standing Together for Civil Rights" is the theme for the 51st Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, sponsored by the Manzanar Committee, which is scheduled for April 25 at the Manzanar National Historic Site in California's Owens Valley, 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 incarcerated. Planning is underway for the afternoon event, as well as the annual Manzanar at Dusk program, which follows each pilgrimage that same evening.

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

Pilgrimage participants are advised to bring their own lunch, drinks and snacks, as there are no facilities to purchase food at the MNHS (restaurants and fast-food outlets are located in nearby Lone Pine and Independence). 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 the 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 and lip balm (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; the University of California, Riverside; and the University of California, San Diego, will follow a couple of hours after the Manzanar

PHOTO: GERI FERGUSON/MANZANAR COMMITTEE



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 during the traditional Roll Call of the Camps during the 49th pilgrimage.

Pilgrimage at 5 p.m. at Lone Pine High School.

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 incarcerated 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 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. It will also take participants to the Visitor Center at the MNHS 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-serve basis. The nonrefundable donation is \$50 per seat (the Man-

zanar Committee subsidizes the cost of the bus). Complimentary seats are available for those who were incarcerated at any of the former American concentration camps or other confinement sites during WWII.

Bento lunches are also available for those traveling on the bus for \$15. Anyone wishing to attend the Manzanar at Dusk program that evening should make other transportation arrangements.

To reserve a seat on the Little Tokyo bus, visit <https://manzanarcommittee.org/51st-bus> or call (323) 662-5102.

Those wishing to sponsor a bus seat or otherwise help defray the rising costs of sponsoring the pilgrimage and Manzanar at Dusk each year are encouraged to make a donation by sending a check, payable to the Manzanar Committee, to 1566 Curran St., Los Angeles, CA 90025-2036.

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

For more information, visit the Manzanar Committee website (<https://manzanarcommittee.org>), email 51stpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org or call (323) 662-5102.

MANZANAR COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES FIFTH ANNUAL STUDENT AWARDS PROGRAM

LOS ANGELES — The Manzanar Committee, sponsors of the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage and Manzanar at Dusk program, along with the youth education project Katari: Keeping Japanese American Stories Alive, announced their Fifth Annual Student Awards Program on Feb. 3.

The awards program will recognize students who demonstrate an understanding of his/her guiding principles of social justice in today's society and is open to K-12 students who may submit essays, short stories, poetry, works of art (including drawings, collages and posters) or works involving technology (including animation, podcasts, movies or videos).

Winning entries will be eligible for prizes up to \$100 and may be presented at the 51st Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage on April 25 and on the Manzanar Committee's website.

"The Manzanar Committee Student Awards Program provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of the guiding principles of social justice of the past and how they relate to our society today," said Manzanar Committee Co-Chair Jenny Chomori. "With 2020 being the 51st anniversary of community-organized camp pilgrimages, we need to take a look

at the past and see what we have learned.

"It's hard to believe that in 2020, we are fighting against the building of concentration camps (detention centers) for immigrant children here in California, and the exclusion of refugees," Chomori continued. "We need to make sure the next generation is educated on social justice issues and that they are able to fight for democratic rights for all peoples."

"Our Student Awards Program is a vehicle for students to demonstrate their understanding of human and civil rights and show how they will be able to help educate others on the current issues facing us today," Chomori concluded.

Categories for submissions include short prose genres, art and technology. The deadline for entries is March 20. Winners will be contacted shortly after this date so they may make plans, if they so choose, to attend the 51st Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage.

The program brochure, application forms and further information can be downloaded at <https://manzanarcommittee.org/program-details-application>.

For more information, email studentawardsprg@manzanarcommittee.org or call (323) 662-5102.



Pictured are some of the winners of the Third Annual Manzanar Committee Student Awards Program.

PHOTO: GANN MATSUDA/MANZANAR COMMITTEE



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Randall Lee, chair of the executive committee of the JANM Board of Trustees, addresses the joint reception.



Assembled for a group photo are (front row, from left) John Tobe, Larry Oda, Floyd Mori, Shirley Ann Higuchi, Ann Burroughs, Randall Lee and (back row, from left) Craig Uchida, Mark Okada, Doug Ichijui, Amy Watanabe, Meloni Hallock, Linda Horioka, Kenneth Hamamura, Leslie Furukawa, Gordon Yamate and George Takei.

The reception also included (from left) Clement Hanami, Nancy Oda, Taiji Terasaki (featured artist at JANM), Shirley Ann Higuchi and Rick Noguchi.



Larry Oda accepts his award after telling everyone that it was also his birthday.



Tuna Canyon Detention Center's Nancy Oda (left) and Jennifer Uyak of the Consulate General of Japan

JANM AND NJAMF TO PUSH HARD FOR RENEWAL OF CONFINEMENT SITES PROGRAM

Members of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium meet during a reception in Los Angeles to ramp up efforts for funding continuation.

By Julie Abo

There will be a renewed push for continued support for the government fund that pays for the preservation and renovation of Japanese American confinement sites, the leaders of two major Japanese American organizations pledged at a joint reception on Jan. 24 in Los Angeles.

Members of the boards of the Japanese American National Museum and the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation met at the museum for a joint reception in which JANM President Ann Burroughs said the two groups were united in their efforts. Also in attendance were other members of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium (JACSC) such as JACL and Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition.

Randall Lee, a JANM trustee and chair of the executive committee, expressed appreciation for breaking down barriers and discovering the real power of collaboration under the leadership of Burroughs, CEO and president of JANM and chair of the JACSC, a coalition of some 22 and growing organizations with the common mission of preserving

the legacy of Japanese Americans during World War II.

At risk is the federal Japanese American Confinement Sites program, which spends about \$3 million a year to pay for the renovation and preservation of the sites involved in the WWII Japanese American incarceration. Last year, the program dedicated \$3 million to 19 projects.

For the past two years, the Trump administration has proposed to eliminate funding for the program, only to have a bipartisan majority in Congress put the money back in the federal budget as a result of lobbying by consortium members, who received a positive response from their local representatives and senators.

Members of the boards of JANM, NJAMF and other organizations in the Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium will meet again in Washington, D.C., in late March to visit members of Congress and urge for the program's continuation.

Created in 2006, the JACS program was authorized to spend \$38 million to pay for various programs to rebuild parts of confinement sites as well as educate the public about the incarceration.

In 2019, the program funded 19 projects worth \$2.9 million, including a \$424,760 grant to the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation to

restore the root cellar used to store vegetables grown on the camp's farm.

Burroughs said the consortium has broken down barriers between Japanese American groups and is positioned to build on its success from last year. Burroughs also awarded Larry Oda, outgoing president the NJAMF, a plaque of recognition for being a founding member of JACSC. He complimented Burroughs and the other leaders of the consortium.

"To echo what Ann, Larry and

Randall have said tonight, the consortium is a beautiful example of leadership and collaboration," said Amy Watanabe, secretary of the board of NJAMF and organizer of the reception. "The overall effect is that it has connected our local and personal stories with a national network to raise awareness of our collective community efforts in preserving the Japanese American WWII experience and legacy of the Issei and Nisei generations. This mes-

sage is particularly relevant today."

The consortium will have help from a new manager, Mia Russell, who helped lead the Friends of Minidoka as it worked on efforts to build a Visitor's Center for the National Park Service facility there. The center will have its grand opening on Feb. 22. ■



JANM Trustee Randall Lee (left) and NJAMF's Larry Oda share a conversation before the program.



JANM's Ann Burroughs gives Larry Oda an appreciation plaque for his leadership role at NJAMF and the Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium.

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL

2020 TOUR SCHEDULE

- 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) **Wait List** Jun 21-July 1
Tokyo, Hakone/Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
- 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
- CLASSICAL JAPAN HOLIDAY TOUR (Ernest Hida) Oct 7-19
Tokyo, Lake Kawaguchi, Nagoya, Gifu-Cormorant fishing, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
- 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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REMEMBERING OUR HEROES

Tracing the steps of the 100th Battalion/
442nd Regimental Combat Team

By Chip Larouche,
PNWDC Governor

Recently, my wife, Setsy, and I took a trip to Europe to trace the steps of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the all-Japanese American unit that fought so valiantly during World War II while many of their families were incarcerated in American concentration camps on the West Coast.

The occasion was the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the French towns of Bruyères and Biffontaine. The two towns continue to hold these two units in high esteem, and their townspeople, now the children and grandchildren of the original residents, are eternally grateful for their liberation from Nazi oppression during WWII, holding parades to honor the heroes on the anniversary of the liberation of their towns.

One of the most amazing things was to see the people of Bruyères who still remember these veterans with a degree of gratitude that is almost incomprehensible. We were talking to grandchildren of those who were liberated by the Nisei veterans, and they are so grateful for their heroism, understanding that their actual existence was a result of their “go for broke” attitude.

Our group went on to a champagne company tour that included champagne, of course, and some lovely food. This special “tour” usually costs each person about \$200. When the company was told that our group had ties to

the 442nd, including a few daughters and sons of the soldiers who liberated Bruyères, they “comp’d” the entire tour, telling us it was their honor to have the group at their facility.

Bruyères and Biffontaine is also where the 442nd RCT rescued the Texas Lost Battalion, suffering 1,360 casualties to save 221 soldiers in the 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry. This was only a fraction of the 9,486 purple hearts earned by the 100th/442nd RCT during their three years of service during WWII.

During this retracing of the steps of the 100th/442nd, Setsy and I got to see many monuments dedicated to the heroism of the units, mostly erected by the residents of the towns of Bruyères and Biffontaine. We also got the opportunity to see relatives of these heroes place flowers in the National Cemeteries where many of these heroes rest.

This was a truly heartwarming trip for both of us. Setsy has an uncle who was in the MIS, and my Dad was in the Army Air Corps, so respect for those of the “Greatest Generation” who were in WWII is high for us, and, of course, we both were in the Army for 20 years ourselves. But to see the results of what the 442nd and 100th did on the ground itself was something we won’t

ever forget.

As the memory of WWII fades, I think many of us forget the importance of what our fathers and grandfathers did for us (and, yes, there were some moms and grandmothers there, too), and we should try to remember with gratitude. The people of Bruyères certainly do. We were told often by the residents there . . . they will never forget, and neither will we.

Following is a special summary of the history of these units. I thank Jon Ishihara and Nicholas Yamamuro, who compiled this information and granted their permission to republish this in the *Pacific Citizen*.

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A Brief History of the 100th Infantry Battalion

There exists a good number of comprehensive websites and books that tell the story of the 100th Inf Bn. The brief history provided here is by no means a substitute for these excellent resources, and we encourage you to read the information available. This is especially true to learn of the brave men who were in this unit, as this section will look primarily at the organization and will address individuals sparingly.

With 77 years to look back at the 100th Inf Bn, the salient points regarding its formation, record of accomplishments and the bravery of the men, unit evolution and joining with the 442nd Infantry to forge the 442nd Regimental Combat Team are provided below.

Formation

- By order on May 31, 1942, of Headquarters, Hawaiian Department (U.S. Army), a Hawaiian Provisional Infantry Battalion was to be organized with Americans of Japanese ancestry selected from the already existent 298th Infantry and 299th Infantry of the former Hawaii National Guard.
- Battalion commander Lt. Col. Farrant Turner, and the Executive Officer Capt. (later Maj.) James Lovell were also men of the former Hawaii National Guard and knew many of the selectees.
- A number of the original cadre of 1,400 soldiers were of mixed (Hapa) or other ethnicities, including two Hawaiian brothers (Kaholokula).
- The unit was officially activated on June 12, 1942, as the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) at Oakland after arrival by ship from Honolulu. The “Separate” designation was because the battalion was not attached

to any other Army unit (regiment, division, etc.) at that time.

Record of Accomplishments and Bravery

- Excellent training record at Camp McCoy, Wis., was one of the factors leading to the reopening of military service in 1943 for Nisei volunteers of the 442nd.
- Assigned to the 34th Infantry Division (“Red Bull” Division) and attached to the 133rd Infantry Regiment after arriving in Algiers. They would do combat with the regiment until April 1944.
- The 100th became known as the “Purple Heart Battalion” because of the high number of casualties taken by the battalion during its first several months in Italy from September 1943 to early 1944.
- Honors include three Presidential Unit Citations, numerous personnel awards including (at war’s end) one Medal of Honor, 24 Distinguished Service Cross, 147 Silver Star and other awards.

Evolution

- Because so many men of the original 100th Inf Bn were killed or injured, the battalion was not at its full strength after the fighting at Cassino.
- Replacement personnel from the 442nd Infantry Combat Team, then in training, joined the 100th in March, April and May of 1944. From here on, the 100th was made up of Nisei from the mainland U.S. as well as from Hawaii.
- The original cadre of the 100th was generally older than the new and inexperienced replacement personnel. Thus, the originals and the new replacements had to adjust to and learn from each other, and quickly, since the fighting did not stop.

Joining With the 442nd Infantry

- The 100th is attached to the 442nd Infantry in June 1944 near Civitavecchia, northwest of Rome, by General Order, then is redesignated the “100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry” on Aug. 10 instead of being renamed as the 1st Bn of the 442nd.
- The 100th/442nd go into action on June 26 near Belvedere. Until the end of the war, the 100th fights as part of the 442nd RCT except for some short periods where the battalion is detached from the 442nd.

The Present

Organizations (known to the author) dedicated to the 100th Inf Bn are still going strong in California and Hawaii, with other

There are 25 U.S. National Cemeteries in Europe, the final resting place for nearly 130,000 military men and women who paid the ultimate price to ensure the freedom of people worldwide.



A picture of the plaque unveiled by the American contingent at the 75th anniversary celebration



Chip and Setsy Larouche pose near the 1990 monument that was erected near Monte Cassino, Italy, where the 100th and 442nd fought valiantly in World War II. This monument was erected by the grateful citizens of Bruyères and Biffontaine to honor their liberators.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF CHIP AND SETSY LAROCHE



There were about 600 in the woods, about half American visitors and half grateful French citizens, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the towns of Bruyères and Biffontaine.

The citizens of Bruyères and Biffontaine have a parade every year to honor their liberators of the 100th/442nd. You'll notice that it's the third generation that continues this tradition.



organizations throughout the country more broadly focused on Nisei veterans to include 100th Inf Bn veterans.

A Brief History of the 442nd

Similar to the 100th Inf Bn (Separate), the 442nd Regimental Combat Team has a fairly rich set of print and Internet resources that tells the story of the unit and stories of the men of the 442nd. We are not re-creating those stories in this handout, but rather have attempted to pick out some main points.

The 442nd RCT was activated on Feb. 1, 1943, within the context of the attack on Pearl Harbor and other Hawaii locations in December 1941; anti-Japanese sentiment in the U.S. that had been present for decades; the mass incarceration in 1942 of over 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast; the ongoing war in Europe and in the Pacific; the formation of the 100th Inf Bn (Separate); the record of the Varsity Victory Volunteers, made up of ROTC students who had been discharged from the Hawaii Territorial Guard after Pearl Harbor; efforts by individuals and organizations in the U.S. and in Hawaii in support of persons of Japanese ancestry; and the administering of the "loyalty questionnaire" in the War Relocation Authority concentration camps.

The initial 442nd was a combat team of approximately 4,000 men composed of approximately 2,700 Nisei volunteers from Hawaii, 1,200 Nisei volunteers from the U.S. mainland (the majority of whom were from the concentration camps) and a cadre of Caucasian officers.

The men gathered at Camp Shelby, Miss., with many of the officer cadre arriving in February, mainland volunteers arriving individually or in small groups and the Hawaii contingent arriving en masse in early April. Camp Shelby was to be the training home of the 442nd until the RCT shipped out from Hampton Roads, Va., on May 1, 1944, onboard Liberty ships for Italy. Thereafter, replacement enlisted personnel for the 442nd, made up of additional Nisei volunteers and later drafted Nisei, received training at Camp Shelby and at other Army locations such as Fort Blanding, Fla.

The 442nd was comprised of Headquarters, three infantry battalions (100th, 2nd and 3rd Battalions), Anti-tank Co., Cannon Co., Medics, Service Co., the 232nd Engineers, the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion and the 206th Army Band. The original 1st Battalion had

its ranks depleted by transfers to other 442nd companies or as replacements for the 100th Inf Bn (Separate) overseas, and a core group of 1st Bn men remained at Camp Shelby to train incoming Nisei, eventually being redesignated as the 171st Inf Bn. Over the course of the war, an estimated 14,000 men served with the 442nd, including with the 100th Inf Bn (Separate).

The men identified strongly with the Bn or Co. they were in, such as E Co. (2nd Bn), Cannon Co. or the 522nd. They were also steadfast in their loyalty to their comrades, unit and beliefs.

There were more than a few accounts of men wounded in fighting who left field hospitals before they could be discharged so that they could return to their unit ("reverse AWOL"). The men also regularly corresponded with family at home and comrades back in the U.S. (a book recommended for reading is "The Colonel's Letters," a collection of personal letters written to Col. Sherwood Dixon from the men of the 442nd Infantry).

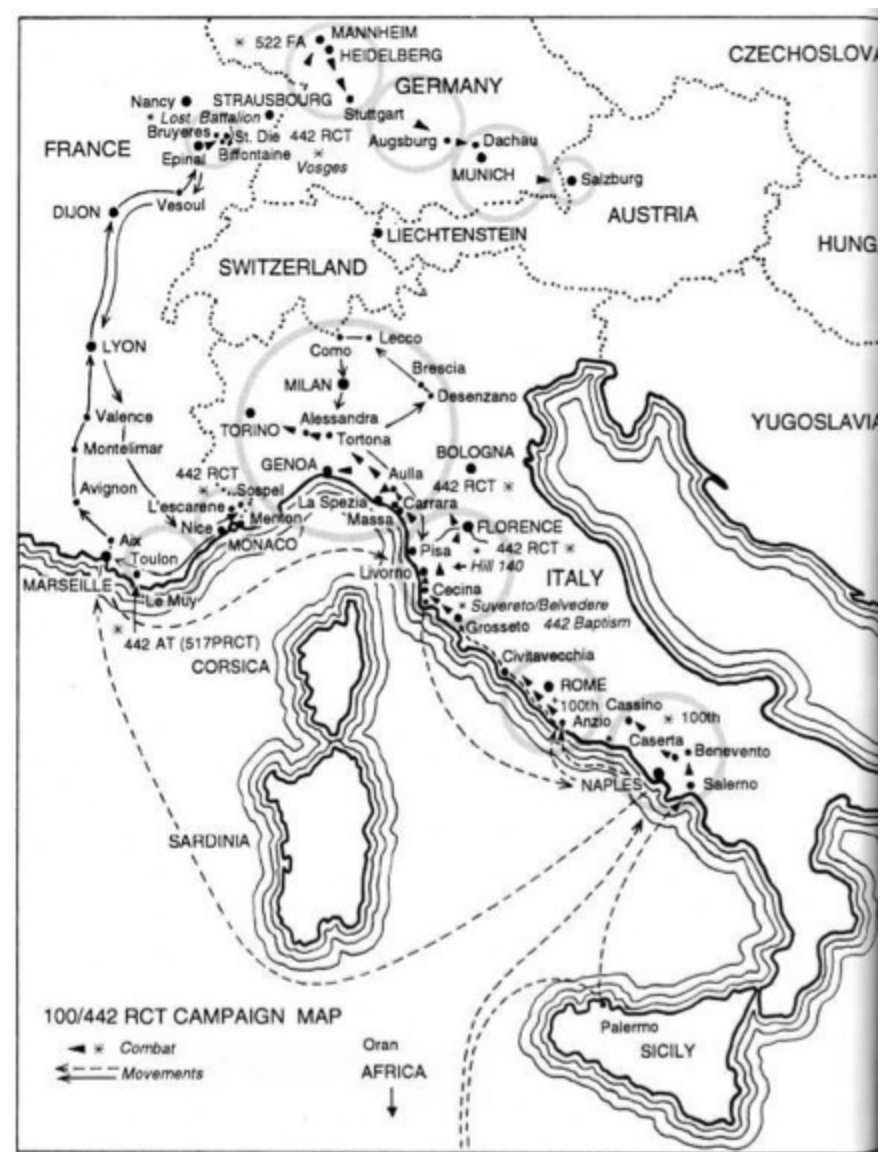
By mid- to late 1943, the tide of the war had turned decisively against Germany. The Atlantic war against German U-boats had been largely won. Large amounts of war materiel were reaching Britain in preparation for the northern invasion of Europe through Normandy. The Russians were pushing the German Army westward back toward Eastern Europe. North Africa had been taken from the Italians and Germans. This set the stage for a southern invasion by the Allies through Italy. The 442nd RCT and 100th Inf Bn were to be part of this invasion. The following is a timeline of some of the major events in this southern theater of war and the larger European war.

» See HEROES on next page



Sabrina Hinojosa, granddaughter of Kay Shina Akiyama, member of Company E, 442nd RCT, gets ready to lay flowers at one of the 25 National Cemeteries managed by the United States in Europe.

Map Showing 'Campaigns' of the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team



MAP NOTES

Gray circled areas represent the areas of the various campaigns. The 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) was in action from Salerno up past the north of Rome as part of the 133rd Regiment, 34th Infantry Division. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team with the 100th Bn went into action from June 1944 around Civitavecchia through Pisa and Florence, into France

around Bruyères and the fighting for the "Lost Battalion," around Nice for the "Champagne Campaign," then returned to Italy for the Po Valley campaign, northern Italy. The Anti-tank Co. saw airborne action around Toulon, France. In Mar 1945, the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion was detached from the 442nd and sent to Germany: here the 522nd encountered survivors and the dead of the Holocaust around Dachau.

HEROES » continued



Susan Leedham and her sister, Diane Hinojosa, lay flowers at the Lost Battalion Memorial, which commemorates the many heroes of the 442nd RCT, who earned their Purple Heart medals saving the Texas Battalion in France's Vosges Mountains during World War II.

- **July 10, 1943** — U.S., Canadian and British forces invade Sicily. Two-thousand vessels convoy 160,000 men.
- **July 19** — Allied Forces bomb and wreck Naples.
- **July 25** — Benito Mussolini is forced to

resign and is imprisoned.

- **Aug. 18** — Resistance in Sicily collapses.
- **Sept. 3** — British and American forces cross over to southern Italy. Armistice between Italy's new government and the Allies.
- **Sept. 15** — Mussolini is rescued by the Germans.
- **Oct. 1** — American forces land near Salerno and capture Naples.
- **Jan. 22, 1944** — Allies land at Anzio attempting to outflank the Germans (100th Inf Bn, see section on Cassino).
- **March 15** — Allies launch a heavy assault against Cassino, which falls on May 18.
- **June 4-5** — Allies enter Rome (100th Inf Bn)
- **June 6** — D-Day: Normandy is invaded by the Allies.
- **June 11** — The 442nd RCT is attached to the 34th Infantry Division (5th Army), joins up with 100th Inf Bn in Civitavecchia, 40 miles northwest of Rome. Combined 100th/442nd RCT fight up the Appenines from Belvedere to the Arno River, capturing many towns, including the port of Livorno (Leghorn).
- **Aug. 12** — Florence is captured.
- **Aug. 25** — Paris is liberated.
- **Sept. 11** — The 442nd RCT is attached to the 7th Army, transported to Livorno, then by ship to Naples and Marseille, then over land to eastern France.
- **Oct. 26-30** — The 442nd RCT affects the rescue of the Lost Battalion, which had been

surrounded by enemy forces.

- **Nov. 17** — The 442nd RCT is ordered to Nice for the beginning of the "Champagne Campaign." Combined rest and patrols in the French Maritime Alps until March 1945.
- **March 25, 1945** — The 442nd RCT is ordered to Pisa for the beginning of the Po Valley Campaign. They traveled by land, again, to Marseille and by ship to Pisa. The 522nd Field Artillery Battalion is ordered north to Rhineland.
- **April 21** — Just days before the end of hostilities in Italy on May 2, 2nd Lt. Daniel K. Inouye leads his platoon on a fight to take a German bunker on the Colle Musatello. Although he received a grave stomach wound while standing up to throw a grenade into a German machine gun nest defending the bunker, Inouye crawled within five yards of the machine guns. He managed to throw two more grenades. But on the fourth grenade, a German rifle grenade shattered his right elbow. Inouye threw his grenade and told his men who were rushing to help him to fall back. He raked the machine gun nest with his Tommy Gun and was hit again in the leg. He refused to be evacuated until his men had gotten back to a safe defensive position, despite his wounds and blood loss.
- **April 28** — Mussolini is captured and shot by anti-fascist partisans.
- **April 29-May 1** — German forces

capitulate in Italy.

- **May 1** — Battle of Berlin. Russians shell Berlin. German radio reports Hitler is dead.
- **May 8** — V-E Day. ■



A photo of the 50th anniversary celebration monument in the Vosges forest where 25 years ago, American soldiers and French citizens again celebrated the liberation of the people of Bruyères and Biffontaine.

2020 LEGACY FUND GRANTS PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

JACL is accepting applications through April 8.

The JACL Legacy Fund Grants Committee is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for 2020 Legacy Fund grants. Co-Chairs Roberta Barton and Toshi Abe encourage JACL chapters in good standing and JACL District Councils to apply.

The maximum grant award for 2020 is \$5,000.

Grants will be awarded for projects and activities

that support the mission of JACL and the 2019-20 JACL Strategic Plan for Action. Information and the application form for the Legacy Fund Grants Program can be found on the JACL website (<https://jacl.org/legacy-fund-grants/>).

The Legacy Fund was established by the JACL National Council at the 1990 National Convention held in San Diego. Many of the donations to the fund were

from JACL members who gave portions of their redress awards to further the legacy of JACL. A portion of the earnings from the Legacy Fund Endowment continues to annually provide funds to run the grants program.

For additional information, contact LFG Committee Co-Chairs Roberta Barton (rbarton4106@comcast.net) or Toshi Abe (tabe@jacl.org).

Completed applications are due by April 8. Grant award recipients will be announced at the JACL National Convention in Las Vegas, which will be held from June 24-28. ■

PHOTO: GEORGE JOHNSTON



The 2019 Legacy Fund Grant honorees, accepted by their respective chapter representatives, and Legacy Fund Grant Co-Chair Toshi Abe (right).

FEAR » continued from page 3

But in times of crisis, fear fuels the fires of prejudice. Even in our "politically correct," "post-racial" world, that prejudice seethes and simmers just below the polite surface. Scratch just a little bit, and it's there.

So, if you're "The Other," and you so much as look Asian or serve any kind of Chinese food, you could have been singled out as a spy during WWII or as a virus carrier today.

Let's let the authorities fight the coronavirus with science and not bring our baser instincts of fear and loathing to the surface.

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.

FRED » continued from page 3

My brother looked puzzled at first, until he saw Fred smile, and we all had a laugh. His routine was not too funny, but when it came from a man like Fred, it was unusual and came out funny. I also found out about Kathy's giggling. She knew that when he went to his serious face routine, it was going to be funny.

Fred was a controversial figure — some were for him, and some were against him. Despite all of this, he challenged his conviction. I never got to meet with Fred again, but I followed him in all the Nikkei newspapers, where he was photographed usually with his pipe in hand. He never gave up and fought to right a wrong of his conviction.

With ACLU support, his conviction was vacated in a decision by the U.S. District Court in San Francisco on Nov. 10, 1983. He did not stop there but continued to defend the civil rights of other groups like the Muslims held in Guantanamo Bay after 9/11. In 1998, President Bill Clinton presented him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sad to say I read of his passing on March 30, 2005. He was the great American who

had moral and physical courage who gave of himself and set a great example for others to seek justice and fight for civil rights. He also showed all the values the Issei passed on to the Nisei.

Thank you, Fred. I and all the many others will always remember you for your greatness.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution is celebrated on Jan. 30 in California to commemorate the birthday of Japanese American civil rights activist Fred Korematsu. It is the first day in U.S. history named after an Asian American. Since it was signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2010, several additional states have also followed suit and recognized the civil rights pioneer. The Fred T. Korematsu Institute in San Francisco was founded in 2009 to honor his legacy and continues to promote the importance of "racial equity, social justice and human rights for all."

Stanley N. Kanzaki resides in New York.

U.S.-Japan Council President IRENE HIRANO INOUE to Retire

The council has launched a CEO search to prepare for the future.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Board of Directors of the U.S.-Japan Council announced the decision of President Irene Hirano Inouye to retire later this year and the launch of a search for a CEO, a new position at the council, on Jan. 30.

Founded in 2008 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., with staff in California, Hawaii and Japan, USJC's mission is to develop and connect diverse leaders to strengthen the U.S.-Japan relationship.

"The board and I began discussing leadership succession around the tenth anniversary of USJC as we looked at how to meet the challenges of our next 10 years. Coupled with some personal considerations, I believe it is the right time to begin this change, which will better position us in this new decade to address a host of emerging and evolving opportunities," said Inouye.

Board Chair Phyllis Campbell noted, "After considerable deliberation, President Hirano Inouye and the board of directors have agreed 2020 is the opportune time to move forward with the next phase of leadership succession, one that will allow Irene to support the council in an advisory role in the future."

Campbell will lead the board of directors' search for a CEO, which is expected to take



PHOTO: USJC

several months with the goal of selecting a CEO during the second quarter. The board will be seeking an experienced leader with extensive background in U.S.-Japan relations and fundraising to grow the scope and scale of the USJC's strategic plan, including a new endowment campaign as well as a new leadership initiative, over the next decade.

Campbell praised Inouye for the council's successes over the past decade in developing meaningful connections between and among leaders in Japan and the U.S.

"Irene's tenure has been a remarkable one — from the day she accepted the role of spearheading the council in its formative years to the impressive 700-member lead-

ership organization it is today," she said. "Irene has been a formidable and relentless champion of a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship, and she has our enduring admiration and respect."

Through her leadership at the USJC, Inouye has also helped to establish and continues to administer the TOMODACHI Initiative, a public-private partnership between USJC and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, with support from the Government of Japan, that invests in young Japanese American leaders through educational and cultural exchanges as well as leadership programs.

Inouye's professional and community activities include serving as chair, Smithsonian Institution Asian Pacific American Center; trustee, the Washington Center; member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences; member of the Advisory Board, Center on Philanthropy & Public Policy at Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California; and chair of the Advisory Board, Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies, University of California, Los Angeles. She also served as former trustee and past chair of the Ford Foundation and former trustee and past chair of the Kresge Foundation. She was married to the late U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii.

For more information on the CEO position description and application information, visit the USJC website (www.usjapancouncil.org).

California State Assembly Apologizes to JAs for Past Injustices

Muratsuchi introduces HR 77 nearly 78 Years after EO 9066.

By P.C. Staff



The California State Assembly has apologized for its past role in abetting the abrogation of constitutional and civil rights of Americans and legal permanent residents of Japanese ancestry before and during World War II.

California State Assemblymember Albert Muratsuchi (D-Torrance) introduced HR 77 into the lower house on Jan. 28, just weeks before the 78th anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Feb. 19, 1942, Executive Order 9066 and the 37th anniversary of the report issued on Feb. 24, 1983, by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

"Every year during the years I've been in the California Legislature, I've introduced a resolution to commemorate the Day of Remembrance, which I know many communities across the country observe to remember the lessons of Executive Order 9066," Muratsuchi told the *Pacific Citizen*.

"But this year, I wanted to do something different and have California lead by example. While our nation's capital is hopelessly divided along party lines and President (Donald) Trump is putting immigrant families and children in cages, the California Legislature, with HR 77, will be issuing an

official, bipartisan measure for its own actions taken that led to the incarceration of over 120,000 loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry behind barbed wire," Muratsuchi continued.

He cited as co-authors Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) and Assembly Minority Leader Marie Waldron (R-Escondido), and the bill itself lists as co-authors Assemblymembers Ed Chau, David Chiu, Todd Gloria and Phil Ting.

In addition to acknowledging and apologizing for California's role in the U.S.' treatment of Japanese Americans during WWII, HR 77 also does the same for legislation that dates back to the state's alien land laws of 1913 and 1920, which proscribed immigrant Asians — who were at the time ineligible to become naturalized U.S. citizens — from owning or leasing in the long-term land, especially for farming. Following California's lead, many other states also enacted similar alien land laws until they were ruled unconstitutional in 1952.

Muratsuchi said the purpose of the resolution was to also educate all Americans on actions by "state leaders like California Gov. Hiram Johnson and Attorney General Earl Warren leading the calls for discriminatory laws and actions, and newspapers like the *Los Angeles Times* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*

fanning the populist flames of anti-Japanese sentiment" while highlighting how in the present day "California leads the country in so many ways," including by recognizing its past faults.

Weeks after the U.S. declared war on Japan following its attack on the then-territory of Hawaii's Pearl Harbor naval base on Dec. 7, 1941, Roosevelt — at the recommendation of Army Gen. John L. DeWitt and others — issued EO 9066, which led to the forced removal, as well as voluntary evacuation, from the Pacific Coast of some 120,000 residents of Japanese ancestry. The bulk of that number, who were U.S. citizens, were subsequently incarcerated in several government-run camps, including 10 operated by the War Relocation Authority in remote areas of the nation.

Decades later, the report of the CWRIC, which investigated the government's role in the treatment of American citizens and legal permanent residents of Japanese ancestry during WWII, concluded that what had occurred was the result of "race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership."

HR 77 can be read in it entirety at <https://tinyurl.com/qmcdwgl>.

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

NCWNP

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 return of the Hon. Norman Y. Mineta to the program and will be kicked off with a special music and dance collaboration from San Jose Taiko and the Wesley Jazz Ensemble. The theme is "No Camps, No Cages" and will include a candle-light 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. A reception at the Japanese Community and Cultural Center of Northern California immediately follows this event.

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

Salinas Valley JACL's '2020 Day of Remembrance'

Salinas, CA

Feb. 22; 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. All are welcome to attend.

JACL Reno Teriyaki Fundraiser

Reno, NV

March 8; Noon

Reno Senior Center

1155 Ninth St.

Price: \$10 Adults; \$5 Children

This annual event will raise funds for scholarships and will include lunch, entertainment and a raffle.

2020 Tule Lake Pilgrimage and Registration

Newell, CA

July 3-6

The Tule Lake Committee announces the dates of the 2020 pilgrimage, July 3-6. Standard registration is \$575 per person; for those on fixed incomes or students and survivors of incar-

ceration, the fee is \$350. The fee is all-inclusive and includes charter bus transportation, lodging, meals and all activities during the four-day pilgrimage. Registration forms will be posted on the Tule Lake Committee's website on Feb. 19.

Info: Visit www.tulelake.org or if you would like registration forms mailed via USPS, please contact Hiroshi Shimizu at (415) 317-2686.

PSW

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 Hirono.

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

Thru 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.

'Under a Mushroom Cloud: Hiroshima, Nagasaki and the Atomic Bomb'

Los Angeles, CA

Thru June 7

Japanese American National Museum

100 N. Central Ave.

To commemorate the upcoming 75th

anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Aug. 6 and Aug. 9, 1945, this special exhibition will present photographs, explanatory texts, artifacts and contemporary art that will shed light on this painful history as well as provide a safe space for discussion with the hope that such events never happen again.

Info: Visit www.janm.org.

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, Densho 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 janettf127@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' Duncan Ryukens 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

In MEMORIAM

Arimoto, Walter Masato, 72, Kanehoe, HI, Sept. 14; he is survived by his wife, Jenny; children, Steven (Gwendolynn) Arimoto, Jamie (Myles) Shioji and Alan (Julie) Arimoto; siblings, Milton, Howard, June Tsukayama and Dennis; gc: 5

Hino, Myrtle Sachie, 85, Honolulu, HI, Sept. 28; she is survived by her husband, Akira; children, Tracy and Jayanne; siblings, Eugene Yamamoto and Mae Takahashi.

Hirano, Yoshio 'Yosh,' 92, Simi Valley, CA, Oct. 17; during WWII, his family and he were incarcerated at the Gila River WRA Center in AZ; he later served in the MIS; he was predeceased by his first wife, Hoshiko Otoshi Hirano; siblings, Kenro, Ken, Teruo, Sumio and Nancy Fujikawa; stepson, Clifford Abe; he is survived by his wife, Yoshi Watanabe-Hirano; children, Mike (Allison) Hirano, Joni (Richard) Sherman and Mitchell (Stacy) Hirano; stepchildren, Susan (Mike) Williams, Warren (Sharon) Abe and June (Bill) Takeshita; brother, Jimmy (Diane) Hara; gc: 10; step-gc: 5; ggc: 8

Honda, Ikuko, 95, Gardena, CA, Sept. 23; he was predeceased by his grandson, Brad Honda; he is survived by his children, Mel (Donna), Arnold Honda, Marilyn (Allen) Muro; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 4; ggc: 4.

Honda, Masae, 96, Lanai City, HI, Oct. 1; she was predeceased by her husband, Yoshito; she is survived by her daughters, Charlene (Wayne) Kobayashi and Mavis (Donald) Poole; gc: 2.

Ikemoto, Fukashi, 88, Tacoma, WA, Oct. 31.

Inouye, Douglas K., 83, Honolulu, HI, Sept. 19; he is survived by his wife, Betty Lou; children, Elton (Rose Amy) Inouye and Jennie

Rosen; sisters, Susan (Stanley) Yanagi and Sonya Sakamoto; sister-in-law, Sue Inouye; gc: 2; ggc: 6.



Irwin, Reiko Asamatsu, 84, Salinas, CA, Dec. 16; she was predeceased by her husband, Edward Irwin, and daughter Joan (Irwin-Cerone); and 4 siblings. survived by children Margaret (Gary Golub), Josephine Konvinse (Greg), Michael, Patrick and David (Jackie); siblings Kazuko (Kokichi) Kanda, Tatsumi (Nobuko) Asamatsu, Yaeko (Suminori) Yonemura, Atsuko Kobori and sister-in-law Kazuko (Seiichi) Asamatsu. She is also survived by many grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Ishikawa, Larry Eishin, 89, Maui, HI, Sept. 1.



Kokubun, Thelma Terumi, 88, Las Vegas, NV, Oct. 21; she is survived by her children, Pamela Diaz, Renee Balkwill and Ward Kokubun.

TRIBUTE

LARRY TETSUO KATAYAMA

Larry Tetsuo Katayama, 100, passed away on Jan. 15, 2020, in Morgan Hill, Calif., due to complications from falling and breaking his hip. He is survived by his wife, Irene; sons, Wayne, Miles, Keith and Bruce; daughter, Janis; granddaughters, Erika and Tracey; brother, Toshio, in Japan; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his infant daughter, Carol. Larry was born on Feb. 9, 1919, in Alviso, Calif. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and eventually moved to Gilroy, Calif. He lived there for more than 60 years. Larry started working as a farmer. Later he gained employment at the Ford Motor Co. truck assembly plant in Milpitas, Calif., retiring after more than 25 years. Larry enjoyed gardening, family gatherings and activities with the South County Japanese American Senior Group. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Sun., Feb. 16, 2020, at Habing Family Funeral Home, 129 Fourth Street, Gilroy, CA. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to a favorite charity in memory of Larry or to the South County Japanese American Senior Group, P.O. Box 933, Morgan Hill, CA 95038-0933.



is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Miyashiro, Henry, 75, Los Angeles, CA, Oct. 8; he was predeceased by his first wife, Setsuko; brothers, Stanley and Clifford; he is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; children, Edward (Carina), Stacy (Mark) and Marc-Mitchell (Vicky); siblings, Janet Matsuda, Edith Uyeyama and Wilfred Miyashiro; gc: 8.

Nasu, Mildred Shizuka, 92, Honolulu, HI, Oct. 12.

Nishisaka, Mary Ann Ritsuko, 58, Los Angeles, CA, Oct. 26; she was predeceased by her father, Art; brother, Randy; she is survived by her mother, Yuriko; siblings, Merrie and Scott (Aileen); aunt, Haruko Sanada; she is also survived by nieces, nephews, great-nephews, a great-niece and other relatives.

Okubo, Fumiko, 89, Cypress, CA, Oct. 1; she was predeceased by her husband, George; sons-in-law, Bill Leark and Max Cornell; she is survived by her children, Benjamin (Barbara), June Leark and Annie Cornell; sister, Nobuko Nobe; sister-in-law, Yoshiko Iwai; cousins-in-law, Mariko Stricklin and Hisako (Bill) Nelson; she is also survived by other relatives.

Kondo, Michiko, 91, Seattle, WA, Oct. 26; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center (Camp III) in AZ; she was predeceased by her husband, Fred; siblings, Tami and Kazuo; she is survived by her children, C. Kimi Kondo, Nancy (Tom) Heublein, Patty Rivers and Tina Kondo; brother, Yo Matsumoto; sisters-in-law, Dorothy (Kazuo) Matsumoto and Mabel Kondo Ogata; she is also survived by many nephews and nieces; gc: 4.

Kono, Irene Yaeko, 89, Mission Viejo, CA, July 31; she is survived by her daughters, Grace (Vernon Wells) Kono-Wells and Deborah (Anthony) Hsu; many siblings; gc: 1

Matsuno, William Yoshiaki (Sonny), 79, Riverside, CA; he is survived by his wife, Helen; daughters, Candace Chang and Constance Chang; siblings, Alfred, Linda Parmenter, Bruce, Diane and Cliff; he

TRIBUTE

HISAKO ROSE IWASA



Hisako Rose Iwasa was born on June 22, 1923, in Mount Eden, Calif., to Kiichi and Ryo Tomotoshi and passed away peacefully with her family in Sacramento on Jan. 20, 2020, at the age of 96. Hisako attended Mount Eden Elementary and Hayward Union High School, graduating in June 1941. During WWII, she and her family were relocated to the Tanforan Race Track, the Topaz Relocation Center and the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

After the war, Hisako moved to San Francisco and worked as a live-in nanny for the Kaufman family while working as a stenographer in the insurance industry. In 1960, she married Masami Iwasa and moved to Sacramento. She began working at the State of California Division of Highways until she left to have her children. She resumed her work at the state in 1965 until her retirement from the Adoptions Unit of the Department of Social Services, where she felt she contributed to improving many young lives.

Hisako was a bright and cheerful part of our lives and a devoted wife and mother. "Bachan" was an adoring grandmother to her three grandsons and a wonderful playmate when they were young. She supported the family farm and the family business, Kiefer Storage. She enjoyed going to all of the family parties and loved playing Rummy Tile with her many sisters-in-laws. Her specialty potluck dishes were lasagna and 7-layer finger jello. After retiring, she enjoyed traveling with Dad around the U.S., Japan and Canada. Like her mother, Hisako loved needlework and knitted, crocheted and did Japanese embroidery (bunka).

She was a tough Mama living with Parkinson's for over 15 years with a good attitude and with the loving care of her husband and family. Special thanks to Flora Manasau and Mercy Hospice for their loving care and support to the family.

Hisako was also predeceased by her husband, Masami (d: 2016); her brother, Masao (d: 2009) (Mary) Tomotoshi; and her sister and best friend, Kay (d: 2019) (Makoto) Shirai. She is survived by her three children, Linda, Mark (Kathleen) and Dean (Lily) and her three grandsons, Matthew, Cameron and Nicklaus. She also leaves behind numerous loving nieces, nephews and their families.

Omata, Harvey, 77, Costa Mesa, CA, Sept. 17; he was predeceased by his son, Garrett Omata; he is survived by his wife, Carole; daughters, Christine (Herb) Loo and Cathy (David) Azama; sister, Nancy (Hiro) Ota; he is also survived by 1 niece, 1 nephew, 2 grandnieces and other relatives; gc: 4.

Oyama, Yoshio, 87, Los Angeles, CA, Oct. 14; a Korean War veteran, he is survived by his wife, Asako; children, Richard (Rita), Robert (Linda) Oyama and June (Teruo) Shimonishi; brother, Saburo Oyama; sisters-in-law, Saeko Oyama and Hanako (Kenji) Yanaka; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

Seki, Helen Chiyoko, 97, Maui, HI, Sept. 27.

Shimomura, Kiyoko, 101, Los Angeles, CA, Sept. 1.

Sugita, Midori, 90, Torrance, CA, Sept. 24; she is survived by her daughter, Katsuyo (Bert) Roberts; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3; ggc: 1.

Takahashi, Hideko, 83, Montebello, CA, Oct. 5; survived by a son and a daughter; 5 siblings; gc: 1; and 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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By Ron Mori

Age discrimination against people age 50 and older robbed the economy of \$850 billion in 2018, a new AARP report has found.

Research by AARP and the Economist Intelligence Unit shows that the 50-plus population contributed 40 percent of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product in 2018, creating 88.6 million jobs and generating \$5.7 trillion in wages and salaries through jobs held directly or indirectly.

But, older workers would have contributed a massive \$850 billion more in 2018 to the GDP if they could have remained in or re-entered the labor force, switched jobs or been promoted internally, based on the new report.

The elimination of that bias in 2018 would have increased the contribution of the 50-plus workers to the GDP from \$8.3 trillion to \$9.2 trillion, the study shows. The research also projects that the potential contribution of the older population could increase by \$3.9 trillion in a no-age bias economy, which would mean a total contribution of \$32.1 trillion to the GDP in 2050.

REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

\$850 BILLION A YEAR, AARP REPORT FINDS

"This important report shows the cost to the entire economy of discriminating against older workers," said Debra Whitman, executive vp and chief public policy officer at AARP. "The economy in 2018 could have been 4 percent larger if workers did not face barriers to working longer."

Whitman also added: "Studies have shown that older workers are highly engaged, with low turnover, and often serve an important role as mentors. Their expertise helps businesses and pays big dividends for the economy as a whole. Employers who embrace age diversity will be at an advantage."

The groundbreaking AARP report comes on the heels of approval by the U.S. House of Representatives of bipartisan legislation to combat age discrimination — the "Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act" (POWADA).

"The House vote sends a strong bipartisan message that age bias has to be treated as seriously as other forms of workplace discrimination," said Nancy LeaMond, executive vp and chief advocacy and engagement officer at AARP. "Age discrimination is widespread, but it frequently goes unreported and unaddressed."

Backed by AARP, POWADA would address an adverse 2009 Supreme Court decision that

made it much more difficult for older workers to prove claims of illegal bias based on age. The legislation would restore longstanding protections under the Age Discrimination Employment Act (ADEA), which covers workers age 40 and over.

The new study includes a survey last July and August of 5,000 people age 50-plus to identify how they have experienced age discrimination at work or while looking for work.

The survey analyzed:

- Involuntary retirement due to age bias
- 50-plus workers involuntarily in part-time jobs
- Missed opportunities for wage growth
- Lost earnings following involuntary job separation
- Longer periods of unemployment compared to younger workers
- People age 50 and older who dropped out of the labor force but want to continue working

The study makes it clear that in order to benefit from age "inclusion," employers need not only to recognize age bias, but also actually "actively" stop it. They need to "bust myths"

about older workers, be it that they cost too much or are not tech-savvy; recognize the value that experienced workers bring to the workplace, such as their dependability and ability to problem-solve and remain calm under pressure; and build and support a multigenerational workforce (per the discussion above).

For more information on AARP workforce-related resources, visit aarp.org/work/employers.

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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