

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

CELEBRATING 91 YEARS

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## SOLIDARITY AT PHILLY DOR

The program focuses on  
how the JA community can  
practice allyship with other  
communities of color.

'American Peril' display  
featuring World War II items

PHOTO: DARIAN EHYA

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COVID-19 Continues to  
Spread as Individuals  
Ordered to Stay Home.

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Minidoka Visitor  
Center Officially Opens  
to the Public.



By David Inoue,  
JACL Executive Director

# CALL IT A 'CHINESE VIRUS,' BUT IT REVEALS WHO WE ARE AS AMERICANS

President Donald Trump and others have been emphatic in their use of the term "Chinese Virus" despite the World Health Organization designating it officially as COVID-19 over a month ago. An unidentified White House staffer finds it funny to call it "Kung Flu" right in front of an Asian American media member. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) doubled down and blamed Chinese people for eating bats, snakes and dogs, as well as placed blame on them for MERS and Swine Flu. MERS is short for Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome, and Swine Flu originated in North America.

It's easy to see the racist elements of many of our leaders being further exposed. They fit the tradition of white men caught in their own failures who are seeking to deflect the blame elsewhere. They find the easy scapegoat in a racial minority group, in this case the Chinese.

Unfortunately, this scapegoating

is leading others to take action on this blame game, leading to acts of violence against Asian Americans. This is no dog whistle, it is a screaming siren calling others to blame the Chinese and anyone who looks like them for what our country is going through collectively.

What is sad is that none of this is actually revealing. We already knew this about the president with his past demagoguery of Mexicans bringing drugs and crime and characterized as rapists or people coming from "Shithole countries." No, none what we have seen with COVID-19 is revealing of the president.

COVID-19 has been more revealing about us as a country. What are our true values? This was laid bare when mayors and school districts around the country were forced to make the Sophie's choice of whether to close the schools.

COVID-19 was just beginning to enter the rapid growth stages, and closing the schools is one way to try to blunt that growth rate. Closing the schools would mean much more than just a disruption of learning for millions of children, it would also mean many would go hungry because school is the only place where they

can get a good meal every day.

The lack of significant sick leave for many employees means that many would be going to work, even if they are sick with COVID-19. This is especially true in the restaurant industry, where wages are often low and benefits slim, but the interaction with the public is unparalleled. I know from having worked in restaurants throughout graduate school.

Unless I was in the hospital, I was at work. That one time at the hospital was because of an injury at work. Again, the impossible choice between getting paid or preventing the spread of a communicable disease.

We have reached the point where the decisions have been made. Schools and restaurants are closed. Concert halls are silent. Sports seasons have been postponed or canceled, including the annual national obsession of March Madness.

While this means a lack of entertainment for us all as we shelter in isolation, it also means the loss of work for thousands of support and production staff. People were counting on those events, including the custodial crews that would have cleaned up after the events.

As is often the case, there are

heartwarming stories of individuals leaving large tips on their restaurant bills or the many athletes pledging money to help pay the stadium staff. But these stories, while they make us feel better, mask the reality for most that there will be no windfall to help them through this period.

Congress is now talking about giving out \$1,000 or more to every adult. An economic stimulus payment, like Andrew Yang's universal basic income concept, that would have been criticized as a resource to be exploited and abused by the stereotyped welfare queen. The people who most need this support also needed it just as much one month ago, without the threat of a deadly pandemic.

We shouldn't need events like the COVID-19 pandemic to awaken us to the economic pain that too many Americans experience. COVID-19 has revealed the cruelty of our country, whether it is highlighting the Chinese origins of the disease, regardless of the potential for inciting violence against Asian Americans, or choosing not to help our fellow Americans because we buy into the racist trope of the welfare queen.

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As co-chairs of the Legacy Fund Grants Committee, Roberta Barton and I would like to remind our JACL districts and chapters that there is still time to submit your applications for the 2020 LFG Program awards. The deadline for applications is

April 9.

Please go to the JACL website at [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org) to download an application and view the requirements for an LFG award (click on the "Social Justice" tab to see the link to the LFG program).

This is a popular program for chapters and districts that wish to

apply for grants of up to \$5,000 to help fund new programs that address the goals of the JACL's Program for Action. This year, over \$80,000 is available for LFG awards.

The JACL Legacy Fund was started in the early 1990s with the goal of providing funding to implement the JACL's mission as expressed

through its Program for Action. Each year, 15 percent of the proceeds of the fund are set aside for that purpose. We encourage your chapter and/or district to apply.

Sincerely,

Toshi Abe,  
Co-Chair, LFG Committee

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# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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By Marsha Aizumi

## A MOTHER'S TAKE TO DRIVE OR NOT TO DRIVE

Last year, I turned in my lease car and decided not to get another car. I had been averaging 4,000 miles a year and enjoyed getting behind the wheel of a car less and less. I remember hearing stories of children having to take away cars from their aging parents, but instead of taking away my freedom, I felt like this was giving me more freedom.

Tad said, "If you don't like it, we will just get you another car." Without feeling like I was making a decision that would restrict my liberty forever, I wholeheartedly agreed. With savings on the monthly car payment, insurance payment and upkeep, I felt there was nothing to lose. But was that true?

What I love about not having a car is that my husband and I do more trips together, which gives us a chance to connect more.

In 2020, I started a notebook to collect stories and information to pass on to Aiden, Mary and Stefen, so driving around together gives me a chance to hear more about Tad's life.

Now, I didn't want to be a burden to Tad, so I also decided that if he is ever not in the mood to drive me around, I would just take

the one car we have and run errands alone. Or, if it made him too stressed out to get home by a certain time, I would use UBER or LYFT. In the end, it seems like he feels good about taking care of me, but I also feel good about being appreciative of his efforts and also respecting that sometimes he is tired or not in the mood to go out.

And there have been some unexpected moments that have come with not having a car. Last week, I was in a LYFT car and talking with a young lady. Sometimes, I just want to be driven around without any conversation. There are other times that something encourages me to interact with my driver.

In this case, Lorena (not her real name) and I began to talk. She told me a little bit about her life and asked me what I do. I hesitated a moment, deciding how open I would be with her because I know if I say I am a writer, speaker or activist, she will ask more questions. But it was a short ride and I was feeling brave, so I told her I was an author and speaker. Here is how our conversation went:

**Lorena:** Oh, what do you write about and what do you speak about?

**Me:** I write and speak about the journey of our family transitioning my son. He is transgender. Do you know what that means?

**Lorena:** Yes, I do.

Then, there was a slight pause.

**Lorena:** I am married to a woman. And

although my mother has not rejected me, she is not warm to my wife. And that is hurtful.

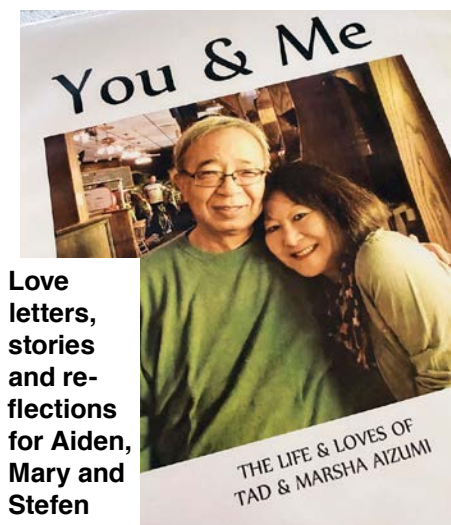
**Me:** Have you heard about an organization call PFLAG that supports and educates parents, families and LGBTQ individuals? Perhaps one day you can go to a meeting with your mom and that will help her understand. It really helped me.

As Lorena dropped me off, I gave her my PFLAG business card and begin to get out of her car. She turned around in her seat and gave me a soft look of appreciation, saying, "You have been an angel to me today, Marsha."

I gave her a tender look of encouragement, thanked her for her words and then she drove off. . . . Lorena with more hope, and me with warmth in my heart because I risked for the positive, and it turned out just fine.

I have not heard from Lorena yet, but I believe that her knowing there is a mother out in the world who loves her LGBTQ child gives her hope. And if she is losing hope, I believe she will call me or remember PFLAG and find a place to get support wherever she may live.

It has been over three months since I turned in my car. And to be honest, besides saving a lot of money each month, I have gained so much more — more interesting stories that I can add to my notebook about Tad's life while driving around town with my husband, less stress about finding a parking space and more opportunities for me to talk about support for



Love letters, stories and reflections for Aiden, Mary and Stefen

the LGBTQ community if I choose to do so with LYFT drivers.

The trade-off has been well worth it on many levels. And then I think in the future, my children will never have to stress out about taking my car away! That, too, makes me smile. . . .

**Postscript:** *Sending you and your families thoughts of good health during this challenging time of the coronavirus. I am reading about Asian individuals who are being targeted because of their race, since the coronavirus originated in China, so please be safe. Personally, I was with another LYFT driver and when I sneezed, he turned around and barked, "Are you sick?" For a moment, I felt uneasy until I said it was an allergy, and then he relaxed. It is a time of patience, kindness, generosity and community. . . .*

Be well, Marsha



## LEGAL-EASE: AN ATTORNEY'S PERSPECTIVE DIVIDING THINGS, NOT FAMILIES



By Judd Matsunaga, Esq.

As an estate planning attorney, I have personally met with thousands of parents about how to avoid the probate process with a living trust. Over the years, the emphasis of my practice has changed from what estate planning documents are necessary to how to keep the family close even after the parents are gone.

Although there is an occasional "estranged" child that the parent has given up on, the overwhelming majority of parents wish that their children will remain close even after they are gone. Unfortunately, that's often not the case. The courts are full of brothers and sisters fighting over their parent's estate.

You might say, "I want to be fair — I love all my children equally." The easiest definition

of "fair" is equal. If your goal is to reduce conflicts between your children, then you should probably divide your estate "equally." For example, if you have three children, you should divide your estate into three equal shares. But, sometimes, "fair" does not necessarily mean "equal."

"Say what?" Quite often, depending on your circumstances, you don't have to divide the estate "equally" to be fair. For example, if one of your children is disabled, he/she may need more resources to take care of himself or herself after you are gone. You might consider establishing a special needs trust for the disabled child's care.

Or, you might have given one child gifts during your life. For example, you might have provided the down payment for a child's home. To be fair, you could reduce that child's share by the amount of that gift. Or, you might want to give a larger share to a caretaker child who has provided the most love, care and support in your latter years.

If "fair" is not "equal" in your case, here's the big question — "Do you tell your children?"

That's a very difficult question to answer. Short answer is — it depends on your children. I had one family that decided to leave the home to the son who still lived with the parents. He also provided the lion's share of the love, care and support as the parents grew less independent.

The daughter, who lived out of town, already had a house of her own. So, the parents told the daughter their plans. The daughter got so upset that she stopped visiting her parents. In retrospect, it probably wasn't a good idea to have told her. There are times you should keep it a secret until death. To avoid sibling resentment, you could write a letter to your children explaining the reasons for the unequal division.

On the other hand, it's quite possible that your children might assume they will all get an "equal" share of your estate. Your children might be expecting to inherit a certain amount of money or property. They may even be making decisions right now based on those expectations, e.g., whether or not they need to purchase long-term care insurance.

There are times where the worst thing you can do is "blindsided" a child after death. If you are leaving unequal shares, you could have a meeting where you talk about how you are leaving your assets. If they aren't inheriting as much as they expect, it's only fair to let them know the truth before you die.

The sad truth is — your children might judge how much you love them based on how much you leave them. If you are leaving unequal shares, you might ask the disgruntled child(ren) if they want sentimental gifts — and give them first choice. You can prevent disagreements between siblings after your death if you ask

your children what they want.

It might be easiest to give sentimental objects away during your life, particularly if they aren't worth much. Problems can arise if the sentimental gift is valuable. This is a major gift, which the other beneficiaries may resent. I once read that a good rule of thumb is: If a child gave that gift to the parent, that child has "first dibs" to get it back after your death.

If you have a trust, you can identify who gets what property using a separate "Memorandum of Special Gifts of Tangible Personal Property." Make sure your attorney mentions the memorandum in your trust. If you don't have a trust, hire a lawyer to help you keep your family out of probate court.

A lawyer can carefully analyze your estate and help you decide how to leave assets using appropriate testamentary vehicles, e.g., will, trust or beneficiary. A good lawyer can also help you decide how to divide your estate in a way that will help your children remain close even after you are gone.

*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.*

# CORONAVIRUS VACCINE TEST OPENS WITH FIRST DOSES

By Associated Press

SEATTLE — U.S. researchers gave the first shots in a first test of an experimental coronavirus vaccine March 16, leading off a worldwide hunt for protection even as the pandemic surges.

With careful jabs in the arms of four healthy volunteers, scientists at the Kaiser Permanente Washington Research Institute in Seattle began an anxiously awaited first-stage study of a potential COVID-19 vaccine developed in record time after the new virus exploded out of China and fanned out across the globe.

“We’re team coronavirus now,” Kaiser Permanente study leader Dr. Lisa Jackson said on the eve of the experiment. “Everyone wants to do what they can in this emergency.”

The *Associated Press* observed as the study’s first participant, an operations manager at a small tech company, received the injection in an exam room.

“We all feel so helpless. This is an amazing opportunity for me to do something,” Jennifer Haller, 43, of Seattle said before getting vaccinated.

Her two teenagers “think it’s cool” that she’s taking part in the study. After the injection, she left the exam room with a big smile: “I’m feeling great.”

Three others were next in line for a test that will ultimately give 45 volunteers two doses, a month apart.

Neal Browning, 46, of Bothell, Wash., is a Microsoft network engineer who says his young daughters are proud he volunteered.

“Every parent wants their children to look up to them,” he said. But he’s told them not to brag to their friends. “It’s other people, too. It’s not just Dad out there.”

The March 16 milestone marked just the beginning of a series of studies in people needed to prove whether the shots are safe and could work. Even if the research goes well, a vaccine would not be available for widespread use for 12-18 months, said Dr. Anthony Fauci of the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

At a news conference, President Donald Trump praised how quickly the research had progressed. Fauci noted that 65 days have passed since Chinese scientists shared the virus’ genetic sequence. He said he believed that was a record for developing a vaccine to test.

This vaccine candidate, code-named mRNA-1273, was developed by the NIH and Massachusetts-based biotechnology company Moderna Inc. There’s no chance participants could get infected because the shots do not contain the coronavirus itself.

*‘We all feel so helpless. This is an amazing opportunity for me to do something.’*

— Jennifer Haller, age 43

It’s not the only potential vaccine in the pipeline. Dozens of research groups around the world are racing to create a vaccine against COVID-19. Another candidate, made by Inovio Pharmaceuticals, is expected to begin its own safety study next month in the U.S., China and South Korea.

The Seattle experiment got underway days after the World Health Organization declared the new virus outbreak a pandemic because of its rapid global spread, which has infected more than 169,000 people and killed more than 6,500.

COVID-19 has upended the world’s social and economic fabric since China first identified the virus in January, with broad regions shuttering schools and businesses, restricting travel, canceling entertainment and sporting events and encouraging people to stay away from each other.

Starting what scientists call a first-in-humans study is a momentous occasion for scientists, but Jackson described her team’s mood as “subdued.” They’ve been working around-the-clock readying the research in a part of the U.S. struck early and hard by the virus.

Still, “going from not even knowing that this virus was out there . . . to have any vaccine” in testing in about two months is unprecedented, Jackson told the *AP*.

Some of the study’s carefully chosen healthy volunteers, ages 18-55, will get higher dosages than others to test how strong the inoculations should be. Scientists will check for any side effects and draw blood samples to test if the vaccine is

revving up the immune system, looking for encouraging clues like the NIH earlier found in vaccinated mice.

“We don’t know whether this vaccine will induce an immune response or whether it will be safe. That’s why we’re doing a trial,” Jackson stressed. “It’s not at the stage where it would be possible or prudent to give it to the general population.”

Most of the vaccine research under way globally targets a protein aptly named “spike” that studs the surface of the new coronavirus and lets it invade human cells. Block that protein and people cannot get infected.

Researchers at the NIH copied the section of the virus’ genetic code that contains the instructions for cells to create the spike protein. Moderna encased that “messenger RNA” into a vaccine.

The idea: The body will become a minifactory, producing some harmless spike protein. When the immune system spots the foreign protein, it will make antibodies to attack — and be primed to react quickly if the person later encounters the real virus.

That’s a much faster way of producing a vaccine than the traditional approach of growing the virus in the lab and preparing shots from either killed or weakened versions of it.

But because vaccines are given to millions of healthy people, it takes

» See DOSES on next page

## TRUMP INVOKES EMERGENCY AUTHORITY AMID COVID-19 PANDEMIC



By Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Donald Trump moved to invoke a federal law March 18 that allows the government to marshal industry to fight the coronavirus, as the economic fallout from the crisis mounted with word that Detroit’s Big Three automakers are shutting down their North American factories to protect workers. On a day of head-spinning developments:

- Stocks tumbled again on Wall Street, falling so fast they triggered another automatic trading halt.
- More borders slammed shut across Europe and North America, with the U.S. and Canada agreeing to close their shared boundary to all but essential travel, and Trump saying he will do the same with Mexico and also bar entry to asylum-seekers.
- The Trump administration pressed Congress to swiftly pass a potentially \$1 trillion rescue package to prop up the economy and speed relief checks to Americans in a matter of weeks.

Calling himself a “wartime president,” Trump said he would sign the Defense Production Act “in case we need it” to deal with an expected surge in cases of the virus. The law, which dates to 1950 during the Korean War, gives the president extraordinary authority to compel industries to expand production and turn out vital materials.

Hospitals and public health officials fearing an onslaught of

infections have pleaded for more face masks, goggles, gowns and other protective gear, as well as equipment such as ventilators.

“It’s a war,” Trump said, likening the anti-coronavirus efforts to measures taken during World War II and warning of national sacrifices.

The avalanche of news came as scientists announced the virus has infected more than 200,000 people worldwide and killed over 8,000, while the United Nations warned that the global fallout could cost nearly 25 million job losses around the world.

Around the globe, officials took increasingly drastic measures to fight the epidemic and the threat of a recession, in some cases using emergency powers.

California’s governor warned that martial law could be imposed. The mayor of New York said the city’s 8.6 million residents should be prepared for a lockdown.

With a growing number of Americans thrown out of work by the near-shutdown of much of the U.S. economy, Trump also said the Housing and Urban Development Department will suspend foreclosures and evictions from public housing through April.

The Trump administration’s plan for issuing relief checks to Americans calls for the payment of \$500 billion in two installments over the next two months. The amounts have yet to be decided but would be based on income and family size.

Two people briefed on the matter said that Ford, General Motors and Fiat Chrysler agreed to close all of their factories in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. The move would idle about 150,000 workers who are likely to receive supplemental pay in addition to unemployment benefits.

The U.S. reported more than 6,500 coronavirus cases and at least 119 deaths, almost half of them in Washington state.

» See TRUMP on next page

## RACIST ASSAULTS AGAINST ASIANS ON THE RISE DUE TO COVID-19

Rampant fear over novel coronavirus has led to a rise in racist and xenophobic attacks against fellow Americans or anyone in the U.S. who looks Asian.

JACL has identified resources for hate crime reporting. This is not

a substitute for reporting to your local police.

**JACL**  
<https://jacl.org/social-justice/anti-hate/resources/>

**ASIAN AMERICAN ADVANCING**

**JUSTICE-AAJC**  
<https://www.standagainsthatred.org>

**OCA ASIAN PACIFIC ADVOCATES**  
<https://www.ocanational.org/aapi-hate-incident-form>

**FOR THE BEST INFORMATION ON COVID-19, PLEASE REFER TO EITHER THE CDC OR WHO WEBSITES**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>  
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

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time to test them in large enough numbers to spot an uncommon side effect, cautioned Dr. Nelson Michael of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, which is developing a different vaccine candidate.

The Seattle research institute was chosen for the coronavirus vaccine study before COVID-19 began spreading widely in Washington state.

Kaiser Permanente screened dozens of people, looking for those who have no chronic health problems and are not currently sick. Researchers are not checking whether would-be volunteers already had a mild case of COVID-19 before deciding if they are eligible.

If some did, scientists will be able to tell by the number of antibodies in their prevaccination blood test and account for that, Jackson said. Participants will be paid \$100 for each clinic visit in the study. ■

## TRUMP » continued from page 4

Some bright spots emerged: Wuhan, the central Chinese city where the virus was first detected in late December and which has been under lockdown for weeks, reported just one new case for a second straight day March 18. The situation improved enough that China even sent medical supplies to hard-hit France, returning a favor done by the French weeks ago.

But in a grim illustration of the epidemic's shifting center of gravity, the death toll in Italy moved closer to overtaking China's. Italy had more than 2,900 dead after a record one-day total of 475 deaths; China's toll was just over 3,200.

The coronavirus is present in all 50 states after West Virginia reported an infection. In far-flung Hawaii, the governor encouraged travelers to postpone their island vacations. Las Vegas casinos were closed for the first time since President John F. Kennedy's funeral in 1963.

In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom put the National Guard on alert for humanitarian duties like ensuring proper food distribution and public safety, as some grocery stores resorted to rationing to control panic buying. But he also said "we have the ability to do martial law," which gives the military authority and can suspend civil liberties "if we feel the necessity." ■



In this photo from 2019, the roll call of the camps is an annual tradition of the Manzanar Pilgrimage.

# 51ST ANNUAL MANZANAR PILGRIMAGE AND MANZANAR AT DUSK POSTPONED

The Manzanar Committee made the decision in an abundance of caution related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**LOS ANGELES** — The Manzanar Committee announced on March 12 that, out of an abundance of caution, the 51st Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage and the 2020 Manzanar at Dusk program, both scheduled for April 25, have been postponed due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 virus.

"The unfolding public health crisis caused by the COVID-19 virus made the decision to postpone the Manzanar Pilgrimage and Manzanar at Dusk program both necessary and easy to make," said Manzanar Committee Co-Chair Bruce Embrey. "Our primary concern is for the health, welfare and safety of

our participants. Nevertheless, this decision was difficult because we are losing an opportunity to raise our voices and say, 'Stop repeating history.' We know the dangers to the health and well being of people in concentration camps. We know how easily people will suffer and die under these conditions, especially children. We know because our families witnessed it. We need to tell our story, now more than ever, because our story is a cautionary one.

"Many of our elected officials choose to obscure our country's past and distort the lessons of Executive Order 9066," Embrey continued. "We know, first-hand, the trauma of need-

lessly incarcerating innocent people behind barbed wire or in cages.

"Honestly, there is no more important time than now to tell our story and demand this administration stop repeating history," Embrey concluded. "This is precisely the time we need to stand together for civil rights for all, regardless of who they are, where they come from or how they worship. This is why that, even though it is necessary, postponing the Manzanar Pilgrimage and Manzanar at Dusk is such a difficult thing to do."

Those who have made reservations on the Little Tokyo bus to the Manzanar Pilgrimage will receive full refunds. Those who have made

reservations on the Gardena bus should contact the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute at (310) 324-6611 for information.

Although the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage and Manzanar at Dusk events have been postponed, the Manzanar National Historic Site, which is administered by the National Park Service, remains open and fully operational, as of press time. Those planning to visit Manzanar should check its website (<https://www.nps.gov/manz>) for the latest information regarding its status.

The Manzanar Committee will continue to monitor the situation and will provide information at a later date regarding either a new date for the Manzanar Pilgrimage and Manzanar at Dusk program, or their cancellation.

*For more information, please call (323) 662-5102, email [51stpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org](mailto:51stpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org) or visit <https://manzanarcommittee.org/contact-us>.*

# TULE LAKE PILGRIMAGE CANCELED

Originally scheduled for July 3-6, the decision is motivated by the health and safety of its pilgrims.

**T**he Tule Lake Pilgrimage Committee announced on March 15 its decision to cancel the 2020 Tule Lake Pilgrimage, which was scheduled for July 3-6.

The following official statement was released by organizers:

"Our decision to cancel this year's pilgrimage was a difficult one, motivated by concern over the risks to the health and safety of our pilgrims presented by the COVI-19 virus," said Hiroshi Shimizu, chair of the pilgrimage committee. "We chose to err on the side of caution and postpone the pilgrimage until the time when a national health crisis does not pose a threat to pilgrimage attendees."

All fees for pilgrimage registration and optional housing costs will be refunded in full.

Cancellation of the Tule Lake Pilgrimage will be a loss in the ongoing effort to preserve the missing piece of Japanese American narrative,



The Tule Lake Jail

PHOTO: DON TATEISHI/CAL TRANS

when our community protested and resisted injustice.

For the past two decades, the Tule Lake Pilgrimage has been the rare community event that celebrates survivors who spoke out against the World War II incarceration.

Tule Lake is unique in preserving three prisons within the Tule Lake concentration camp that were used to punish dissidents; the Tule Lake WRA isolation camp, the stockade and the iconic jail that is in final stages of restoration.

"With the restoration of Tule Lake's jail, we had hoped to highlight the little-known story of the government effort to denationalize Japanese Americans and deport them to Japan as 'enemy aliens,' said Shimizu. "The jail tells an important civil rights story about Japanese Americans who said 'no' to America's injustice. This is a story of moral and political courage that should be remembered and honored."

The jail was constructed in February 1945 and used to imprison

Japanese Americans who renounced their U.S. citizenship. Stripped of their status as Americans, young men who renounced were removed from Tule Lake and imprisoned as Japanese "aliens" at Department of Justice internment camps in New Mexico and North Dakota, while the DOJ prepared to deport them to Japan at war's end.

The Tule Lake Pilgrimage Committee will meet this fall to discuss tentative plans for a 2021 pilgrimage that would fall on the weekend of July 2-5. If it decides that a pilgrimage in 2021 is a reasonable and safe option, those families and individuals who were registered in 2020 and canceled will have an opportunity to preregister before regular registration opens.

We appreciate the growing support and interest in Tule Lake's civil rights history and look forward to future pilgrimages that will honor this important American story.

*For more information, visit the [Tule Lake Pilgrimage Facebook page](https://www.tulelake.org) and website ([www.tulelake.org](http://www.tulelake.org)) for news and information on the pilgrimage and how you can help preserve Tule Lake's story.*

**JACL Philly chapter incarceration survivors take turns reading the Korematsu Day Resolution sponsored by Councilmember Helen Gym.**

PHOTO: ROB BUSCHER



**Karen Korematsu (center), with members of the Philadelphia JACL chapter, is presented with a City Council Resolution.**

PHOTO: COURTESY OF PHILADELPHIA JACL

## ‘AMERICAN PERIL’ AND INTERETHNIC SOLIDARITY AT THE PHILADELPHIA DOR

The program focuses on highlighting ways in which Japanese Americans can practice allyship with other communities of color; other highlights include a City Council Resolution presented to Karen Korematsu.

*By Rob Buscher, Contributor*

JACL Philadelphia hosted its annual Day of Remembrance on Feb. 22 at Philadelphia City Hall at a time when Japanese American communities across the country were coming together. The events of last month seem distant in the wake of the growing COVID-19 pandemic that is sweeping our nation, and it is difficult to accept this may be the last time for a long while that we will experience community in such great numbers.

Yet, as we adjust to the new normal of social distancing and making sacrifices now so that our communities can thrive in the future, it is worth pausing to reflect on the many important conversations that were held at that time.

The focus of Philadelphia’s DOR program

was to highlight the ways in which Japanese Americans can practice allyship with other communities of color and marginalized groups in our society.

In particular, we sought to highlight two of the major issues our local community is actively advocating around — ending immigrant detention and combatting Islamophobia.

JACL Philadelphia was joined by Karen Korematsu, executive director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute, who anchored a panel discussion that examined the ways in which the legacy of Japanese American incarceration can be leveraged for contemporary advocacy purposes.

Korematsu was joined by Ahmet Selim Tekelioglu, outreach and education director at the Council on American Islamic Relations Philadelphia, and Troy Turner, a member of the Sunrise Berks Movement, who represented the Shut Down Berks Coalition.

Both organizations have longstanding partnerships with JACL Philadelphia, whose members have been involved in coalition-building with the Muslim American community since



**JACL Philly chapter members in City Council Chambers**

PHOTO: HIRO NISHIKAWA

voting blocs.

Another highlight of the event was the presentation of a special resolution from the Philadelphia City Council commemorating Korematsu Day, sponsored by Councilmember Helen Gym, which was read aloud by several of the chapter’s incarceration camp survivors.

9/11 and active participants in the Shut Down Berks movement that aims to close the federal detention center in Berks County, located about an hour and a half northwest of Philadelphia.

Similarly, the Korematsu Institute under Karen Korematsu’s leadership has been highly engaged in national partnerships with CAIR representatives and is taking an increasing role in conversations about immigrant detention.

The many shared experiences between their respective communities such as intergenerational trauma and use of storytelling in advocacy resonated amongst the panelists, making for a rich discussion about the local and national implications of continuing to strengthen such partnerships.

Following the panel, JACL Philadelphia members engaged in a lively Q & A session with panel participants, addressing issues ranging from strategies for collective advocacy to implications of organizing cross-community

This was the second event that JACL hosted at City Hall in the month of February, which coincided with the second phase of the “American Peril” exhibit on the history of anti-Asian racial propaganda. The exhibit opened on Feb. 7 with a public reception and is scheduled to run through the end of March (though city hall is now closed due to the COVID-19 outbreak).

The original exhibit first debuted at the 2018 Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival and emerged from a research project that my wife, Cathy Matos, and I have been working on since 2017, when we began collecting anti-Asian racial propaganda as classroom teaching resources.

The 2018 exhibit featured a collection of more than 60 original printed materials and other artifacts that span nearly 150 years, from the Chinese Exclusion Era and World War II anti-Japanese Propaganda to post-9/11 Islamophobia.

**JACL Philly Chapter President Rob Buscher presents chapter updates.**



**Karen Korematsu, executive director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute, was the featured panelist during the day’s proceedings.**



**Panel on building solidarity**

PHOTO: HIRO NISHIKAWA

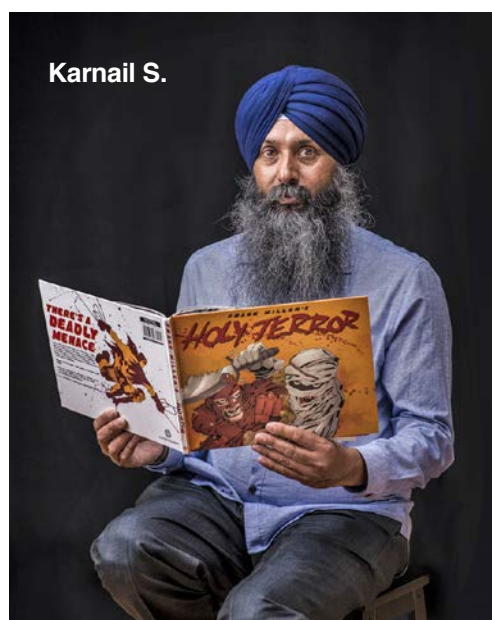
**Panelist Troy Turner from Sunrise Berks represented the Shut Down Berks Coalition.**



**Council on American-Islamic Relations Outreach Director Ahmet Selim Tekelioglu gives remarks.**

PHOTOS: HIRO NISHIKAWA

PHOTOS: © JUSTIN L. CHIU



Karnail S.

Ali K.  
and  
family

Soad M.



Makoto H.

Propaganda  
artifact  
collectors  
Cathy Matos  
and Rob  
BuscherPHOTO: DARIAN  
EHYA'American  
Peril' dis-  
play cases  
showing Is-  
lamophobic  
and anti-  
Japanese propa-  
gandaPHOTO: ROB  
BUSCHER

While much of the original intent of the exhibit remains the same in its approach to educating contemporary audiences about the long and interconnected history of xenophobic bigotry that subsequent generations of Asian immigrants and their descendants have faced in this country, the 2020 exhibit is all about connecting these ideas to the present.

The second phase of the "American Peril" exhibit, titled "Faces of the Enemy," has been expanded to include a series of portrait photographs produced by PAAFF Programmer Sunny Huang and shot by Philadelphia-based photographer Justin Chiu.

Chiu's series juxtaposes individuals who have been targets of racial propaganda with exhibit artifacts to highlight the impact of propaganda on members of the Philadelphia community.

These portrait photographs show the human impact of such propaganda so that younger generations can better appreciate the ongoing and harmful nature of racial propaganda by connecting it to the lived experiences of others.

In light of the anti-Islamic rhetoric that certain conservative elements have brought into mainstream political discourse, it seemed necessary to use our photo series to draw attention to the clear parallels between the Japanese American incarceration experience and scapegoating of the Muslim American community in the aftermath of 9/11 and in recent years.

More importantly, these photos show a clear example of how propaganda techniques from the 1940s are currently being used to defame and dehumanize the Muslim American community, which puts an already vulnerable

community at further risk of racialized violence.

The artifacts featured in this second phase of the exhibit were also expanded to include a more robust collection of anti-Muslim propaganda, demonstrating how racial caricature has played a crucial role in bolstering public support for the decades of U.S. intervention in the Middle East.

Over the past 15 months since the exhibit first debuted, many issues developed within our contemporary political discourse that under previous administrations would have been thought inconceivable.

Although the travel ban on visitors from Muslim-majority countries and other countries deemed dangerous to the U.S. has been in effect since June 2018 when the Supreme Court ruled to uphold it, President Donald Trump just recently expanded the bill to include six additional countries the same week as the Day of Remembrance.

It is unsettling to think what other restrictions might be implemented in the coming months as our country addresses the current public health crisis, which has the potential to affect long-term immigration policy decisions.

President Trump has already begun referring to COVID-19 as "the Chinese virus" in press conferences this week, further stoking racialized fear.

Another issue central to this exhibit is the immigrant detention centers. While this has been an issue since the Obama presidency, media coverage related to the increasing numbers of family separations among immigrants became omnipresent throughout the 2019 news cycle.

From far-right commentary encouraging

the use of military force to halt the immigrant caravan to grassroots advocacy campaigns like Tsuru for Solidarity energizing broad-based community support to end family separation — this issue has been front and center for much of the last year.

This phase of the exhibit further delved into contemporary discourse around immigration by pairing the portraits with quotes that were excerpted from interviews we conducted with each photograph subject that sought to contextualize their own experiences related to xenophobic rhetoric.

Among the most powerful was a statement made by Ali K., a second-generation Iranian American who is married to a Japanese immigrant. He is shown in a portrait accompanying his wife and daughter.

Ali's quote reads, "I'm worried about my biracial Iranian-Japanese daughter. It's disheartening to see how willing the media is to dehumanize our perceived opponents of the moment and how these same practices go on today. What's especially concerning is how the actual news media, which we'd want to be more responsible, show such caricatures. Media can be used as propaganda in a very subtle way. It isn't like Soviet propaganda that's in your face. This is a lot more insidious and can affect us without us knowing it."

Sadly, the use of propaganda to drive public sentiment against certain groups of people has been highly evident throughout the course of this exhibit.

As we began installation of the exhibit in mid-January, U.S.-Iran relations were deteriorating into dangerous new levels of brinkmanship that nearly brought our two countries to war

with one another.

Now as I type this, we are facing a wave of hate crimes against Chinese and other East Asians who are being scapegoated for the Coronavirus pandemic.

It is our hope that by hosting this exhibit in key locations at City Hall, we can instigate a dialogue at the highest level of Philadelphia politics. The collection is currently on view where our city's top elected officials conduct their daily business, on the second-floor corridor in front of Mayor Jim Kenney's office and fourth-floor corridor near City Council Chambers.

Indeed, the exhibit has sparked an important dialogue around xenophobic rhetoric of which the Chinese American community has most recently been subject to with the rise of COVID-19.

Weeks before there were any confirmed cases in Philadelphia, Kenney took his staff out to lunch in Philly Chinatown as a symbol of solidarity with the Chinese American community. One wonders, had the mayor not seen the "American Peril" exhibit every day on his way into his office, whether this would have been top of mind.

*"American Peril: Faces of the Enemy" was funded in part by the JACL Legacy Fund and Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Project Stream. The exhibit is hosted at Philadelphia City Hall through the Art in City Hall program that is operated by Philadelphia's Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy. Visit Art in City Hall's website at <https://creativephl.org/american-peril-phase-2> for more details.*



The new visitor center at Minidoka National Historic Site was adapted from half of a historic warehouse that served as the automotive repair shop at Minidoka and remained after the war.

The visitor center includes permanent exhibits about the Japanese American experience related to Minidoka, the “Issei: A Legacy of Courage” exhibit, a bookstore and an auditorium for viewing the new park documentary film ‘Minidoka: An American Concentration Camp.’



Mary Abo reads the Issei memorial wall, installed by Friends of Minidoka, which includes the names of more than 4,400 Issei incarcerated at Minidoka.

## MINIDOKA VISITOR CENTER OFFICIALLY OPENS

The historic on-site warehouse welcomes new exhibits, a park orientation film and gift shop.

The Minidoka National Historic Site officially opened its new visitor center on Feb. 22. Minidoka National Historic Site commemorates the wrongful imprisonment of Japanese Americans during World War II — 13,000 of whom were held at the Minidoka War Relocation Center in Jerome, Idaho. Adapted from a historic warehouse on site, the visitor center offers fresh exhibits, a gift shop and a 30-minute park orientation film.

Approximately 150 guests were in attendance at the grand-opening ceremony, including camp survivors, representatives from the JACL, local officials from the Magic Valley and Idaho Gov. Brad Little.

Minidoka Chief of Interpretation Hanako Wakatsuki served as the master of ceremonies, while Superintendent Wade Vagias provided opening remarks.

“The National Park Service is pleased to open the doors to the Minidoka National Historic Site Visitor Center, and I wish to thank the many National Park Service employees, Friends of Minidoka, partners, contractors and others who contributed to making this building and exhibits a reality,” said Vagias. “We’re proud of this accomplishment and look forward to sharing it with the visiting public.”

Mia Russell, executive director of the Friends of Minidoka, spoke of the site’s transformation.

“In the seven short years I’ve been involved with Minidoka, I’ve been lucky enough to

witness tremendous growth of the Minidoka site, of the presence of the National Park Service and of Friends of Minidoka in our local communities and across the nation, and a renewed interest by the public in this important history that I could have never predicted,” she said.

Gov. Little also gave a speech acknowledging the site’s history, after which camp survivors took part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially mark the opening of the visitor center. While guests explored the warehouse exhibits, Wakatsuki organized another ribbon-cutting — specifically for the bathrooms.

Camp survivor Fujiko Tamura-Gardner was 9 years old when she was removed from her home near Tacoma, Wash., and sent to Minidoka. The camp was not yet complete when Japanese Americans arrived, so incarcerated were forced to use open-pit latrines for the first six months while a sewage treatment plant was installed.

Once lavatory facilities were built, they still afforded no privacy, as there were no partitions between the toilets. Tamura-Gardner doesn’t remember anything about the bathrooms at camp; she believes that the experience was so traumatic, it was blocked from her memory.

Park staff wanted to help create a positive association with the Minidoka bathrooms, so

Tamura-Gardner was given the honor of the “inaugural flush.” Her granddaughter, Ranger Kelsea Larsen, was also in attendance.

At 1 p.m., the visitor center opened to the public, hosting another 150 people over the course of the afternoon. Local residents were particularly impressed, having watched its development over the years from the outside. Now, they and all other visitors will be able to learn about this history the way it was meant to be told.

“We need to recognize that this is not only an Idaho story, but a national story that impacts us all,” said Wakatsuki. “Out of the 419 National Park Units, there are six sites that NPS preserves, protects and tells the history of the Japanese American incarceration. This shows the Park Service’s dedication and promise to the public to tell about the injustices that occurred here while preserving these stories and the power of place for future generations.”

Visitors are welcome to walk the 1.6-mile trail on a self-guided tour around the site. Open daily from sunrise to sunset, the trail includes outdoor exhibit panels where visitors can learn about camp life. The trail also leads to a historic barrack and mess hall, the camp’s entrance station and a reconstructed guard tower.

For more information, please call (208) 825-4169, visit the website ([www.nps.gov/miin](http://www.nps.gov/miin)) or explore the Facebook page “Minidoka National Historic Site.” Friends of Minidoka is the nonprofit partner of Minidoka National Historic Site. Updates on its efforts toward preservation and education of the Minidoka legacy can be found at [www.minidoka.org](http://www.minidoka.org).

### IMPORTANT NOTE:

Following guidance from the CDC and recommendations from state and local public health authorities in consultation with NPS Public Health Service Officers, the Minidoka Visitor Center is temporarily closed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Updates will be posted to the park website and social media channels.

Visitors may continue to enjoy trails and open space areas of the parks. The health and safety of staff and visitors in these facilities is the No. 1 priority. We are working with the NPS Office of Public Health and the U.S. Public Health Service to closely monitor the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. In the meantime, we continue to remind our visitors to follow the CDC’s guidance to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, including maintaining social distancing, covering your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze and staying home if you feel sick.



Mia Russell, executive director of Friends of Minidoka (left), and Hanako Wakatsuki, chief of interpretation and education at Minidoka National Historic Site



Minidoka survivors Fujiko Tamura-Gardner, Karen Hirai Olen and Mary Abo (center) were joined by Idaho Gov. Brad Little (left), Friends of Minidoka, NPS and the Jerome County Chamber of Commerce in cutting the ribbon at the visitor center grand opening.



Following the opening, guests were invited to take a tour of Minidoka with NPS rangers and Minidoka survivors.

PHOTOS: NPS/RICHARD ALAN HANNON

## AMERICANS » continued from page 2

Perhaps as larger numbers of us experience the pain of isolation and economic uncertainty in the coming weeks to months, we might recognize how fragile our own existence can be.

We can all then maybe gain some empathy for those whose experience is not conditional

upon a catastrophic pandemic, but part of their daily life. We need a society that enables children to miss a day of school and not go hungry at home.

David Inoue is executive director of the JACL. He is based at the organization’s Washington, D.C., office.

# LONGTIME PATRIARCH OF ARIZONA'S JA COMMUNITY RECEIVES DEDICATION

Mas Inoshita is posthumously honored with a centennial celebration and memorial dedication for all Nisei soldiers who served during WWII.

More than 100 people representing the Arizona chapter of the JACL, the Gila River Indian Community and Ira H. Hayes Post 84 gathered on Dec. 8, 2019, to honor longtime patriarch of Arizona's Japanese American community Masaji "Mas" Inoshita.

The crowd convened on an overcast day at the Mathew B. Juan/Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park in Sacaton, Ariz., to celebrate Inoshita's legacy in recognition of what would have been his centennial birthday (born Dec. 9, 1919) and dedicate a memorial in his honor and all Nisei soldiers who served during World War II.

The memorial is comprised of two design elements, including a small replica of the Gila River memorial that was constructed in 1944 at Butte Camp, as well as a plaque honoring Inoshita with these words:

- WWII Veteran & Proud American
- Prisoner at the WWII Gila River Japanese American Incarceration Camp
- Civil Rights Advocate & Educator
- Promoter of Peace & Harmony
- Family Man & Friend to All

The memorial project was first proposed by the late Dr. Ted Namba after Inoshita's passing on July 16, 2015. Inoshita's legacy was previously recognized in 2006 when the JACL National Convention was held in Arizona. He was also the recipient of the Cesar Chavez Award, Achievement Award of ASU, USA Presidential Merit Citation, Love of Learning: The Ageless Hero Award from the Arizona Republic, Lamp of Learning Award from WESD, 2009 Martin Luther King Servant Award and member of the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame.

The hourlong service was moderated by Bill Staples Jr., vp of JACL-AZ, and opened with



Members of the JACL-AZ chapter, the Gila River Indian Community and Ira H. Hayes Post 84 gather to dedicate a new memorial for longtime patriarch of Arizona's Japanese American community Masaji "Mas" Inoshita.

traditional Japanese flute music, Inoshita's favorite, by father and son performers Ken and Miro Koshio, respectively.

Bill Dixon, Post Commander with the Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84, formally welcomed the crowd to veterans park, which was then followed by spiritual reflections offered by Michael Tang, assistant minister of the Arizona Buddhist Temple, and Delane "Tony" Enos of the Gila River Indian Community. The reflection concluded with a performance of "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes by Sgt. Paul Maroney of the Gila River Police Department.

Following a moment of silence, GRIC Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis addressed the audience with reflections on the long-standing relationship between the Pima Indians and Japanese American communities. The Mas Inoshita memorial was then unveiled by Ira H. Hayes Post 84 member Tony McDaniel, who was the driving force behind the project in the Gila River Indian Community.

Also representing Ira Hayes Post 84 was Maj. Urban Giff, former commander, who offered reflections on his relationship with both Mas and Joe Allman, a longtime member of

the JACL-AZ community and WWII veteran who assisted Inoshita with the early Gila River memorial preservation efforts.

JACL-AZ President Donna Cheung then celebrated Inoshita's legacy as a "healer" of individual and community relationships. Next, GRIC Land Use Officer Paul Shorthair reflected on the positive impact Inoshita had on other people during their visit to the historic monument on the Butte campsite.

The service concluded with memories and expressions of love and gratitude from Inoshita's family, delivered by his granddaughter, Tracey Tang.

During the memorial dedication, a recording of Inoshita speaking was shared with the audience. In the clip from a 2009 interview, he said, "I'm not going to be around that much longer. . . I really don't have to say too much anymore, other people speak for me . . . and I think eventually that is the way this story will continue. People are picking up after me and forwarding this story to another generation of people." The legacy of Mas Inoshita is now preserved for future generations to appreciate when they visit the new memorial in Veterans Park.

PHOTO: JACL-AZ CHAPTER

## TSURU FOR SOLIDARITY'S SATSUKI INA RECEIVES PSYCHOLOGISTS' AWARD

In her advocacy work to help others cope with mental health trauma, Ina earns a presidential citation.

By Ray Locker



APA President Dr. Sandi Shullman (left) and honoree Dr. Satsuki Ina

PHOTO: JULIE ABO

Dr. Satsuki Ina, a psychologist who has used her incarceration experience to help thousands of patients cope with the challenges of mental health trauma, received a presidential citation from the American Psychological Assn. on March 8.

» See INA on page 12

## TSURU FOR SOLIDARITY ANNOUNCES PILGRIMAGE POSTPONEMENT

The 'National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps' was originally scheduled for June 5-7 in Washington, D.C.



Due to COVID-19, for health and safety reasons, Tsuru for Solidarity has made the difficult decision to postpone the June 5-7 "National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps" in Washington, D.C. The nonprofit organization is also postponing the Caravan to Close

the Camps. The announcement was made on March 17.

In an official statement: **Postponement does not mean we will fall silent.** Prison camps are places where people are acutely vulnerable to health complications and disease outbreaks — something we know all too well from the World War II WRA concentration camps.

In this context, we are gravely concerned how the COVID-19 pandemic will impact people in ICE custody. Tsuru for Solidarity is therefore joining Detention Watch Network and other organizations to call for ICE to take immediate steps to protect the health and safety of immigrants during this pandemic, including by ending current detention of immigrants

and ceasing local ICE enforcement operations.

The dates we had planned to march in Washington, D.C., from June 5-6, will be a national weekend of physically distanced but socially unified Tsuru for Solidarity actions across the country.

We are also developing additional regional and national strategies to deepen and expand our work to close the camps and support directly affected communities. Please stay tuned for more information about our revised plans.

For those who have already paid registration fees, you will receive a full refund of your registration fee unless you choose to convert it into a donation.

If you registered by EventBrite, a credit will be issued back to your original payment method (less the additional \$11 fee collected by EventBrite) by May 1.

For those who paid by check, Tsuru for Solidarity will reissue a check for your registration fee. Alternatively, you may choose to convert your registration fee into a donation to support Tsuru for Solidarity's ongoing work and help us cover expenses from this unexpected postponement by filling in your information by March 31 online.

Answers to additional logistical questions will be posted shortly in the "Frequently Asked Questions" section on the Tsuru for Solidarity website ([www.tsuruforsolidarity.org](http://www.tsuruforsolidarity.org)).

Finally, please know that your donations and contributions toward building Tsuru for Solidarity's community are important and deeply appreciated. We are grateful for your generosity of spirit, time, activism and folding of cranes to support immigrant and refugee communities today.

As one of our supporters wrote to us, "COVID-19 is forcing everyone to acknowledge on some level our shared fate, our mutual responsibilities and our need for a safe, humane world."

*In solidarity and with our sincere wishes for everyone's health and safety.*

— Tsuru for Solidarity

## A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

## CALENDAR

Due to health and safety concerns in the U.S. because of the COVID-19 pandemic, please check regarding the status of events listed in this issue's Calendar section.

## NATIONAL

**JACL National Convention**  
 Las Vegas, NV  
 June 24-28

Save the date for this year's JACL National Convention in Las Vegas! Follow JACL National on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, JACL.org and PacificCitizen.org for updates. Registration is now open. Early bird pricing will end April 30.  
**Info: Visit [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org).**

## NCWNP

**Manabu Project: Preserving the Lessons From Our Japanese American Elders**  
 San Jose, CA  
 April 18; 1-3 p.m.

**Japanese American Museum of San Jose**  
 535 N. Fifth St.  
**Price: Free with Museum Admission**  
 This event is the culmination of JAM-sj's yearlong work on the Manabu Oral History Project, in which participants made recollections of their family's WWII experience as well as their unique ties to the Bay Area. This event will be a celebration of those interviews on jamsj.org's new oral history site. There will also be a panel discussion with two interviewees and grant participants Richard Yamashiro and Yoshiko Kanazawa.  
**Info: Please RSVP to [publicprograms@jamsj.org](mailto:publicprograms@jamsj.org).**

**Japanese Heritage Night at Oracle Park**  
 San Francisco, CA  
 June 2; 6:45 p.m.  
 Oracle Park  
 24 Willy Mays Plaza  
**Price: Members \$14; General \$16**

Join the JCCCNC at the ballpark as the San Francisco Giants take on the San Diego Padres on Japanese Heritage Night. Seats will be in section View Reserved 321 and 323. There also will be a pregame celebration in Seals Plaza. Reserve your tickets today!  
**Info: Visit <https://www.jcccnc.org/membership/special-promotions-2/>.**

## PSW

**'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](http://janm.org/transcendents).**

**Author Recognition Luncheon: George Takei 'They Called Us Enemy'**

Los Angeles, CA  
 April 4; 12:30 p.m.  
 Little Tokyo Branch Library  
 203 S. Los Angeles St.  
**Price: Free; Registration is required.**  
 "They Called Us Enemy" recounts Takei's childhood years with his family at two American concentration camps where Japanese Americans were incarcerated during WWII. Reservations to attend the program must be made by March 28; purchase of the 11:30 a.m. bento lunch is not required to attend the free program.  
**Info: Call (818) 222-4865 to RSVP or email [jkmiami@aol.com](mailto:jkmiami@aol.com).**

**Cherry Blossom Festival**  
 Monterey Park, CA  
 April 25, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; April 26, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
 Barnes Park  
 350 S. McPherrin Ave.  
**Price: Free**

Take the time to see, hear and taste a bit of Japanese and Japanese American culture at this annual event that features delicious food, music, cultural demonstrations, arts and crafts and much more! This community-based event is open to people of all ages and is an excellent opportunity to enjoy the outdoors with friends and family while being immersed in Japanese culture.  
**Info: Visit <https://www.montereypark.ca.gov/673/Cherry-Blossom-Festival>.**

**Keiro Caregiver Conference**  
 Los Angeles, CA  
 May 31; 12:30-5 p.m.  
 Venice Japanese Community Center

**12448 Braddock Dr.**  
 This conference is one of several Keiro will be holding throughout the year to serve the community and inform them about caregiving options, resources and breakout sessions involving advanced care planning, decluttering and conversations regarding care. There will be free attorney and social worker consultations, along with a hosted bento and resource fair comprised of nonprofit organizations and businesses focused on helping older adults. Registration is required and will be open until May 15.  
**Info: Visit [www.keiro.org/caregiver-conference](http://www.keiro.org/caregiver-conference) or call (213) 873-5707 for more information or to register.**

**'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](http://www.janm.org).**

## PNW

**Minoru Yasui Day: 'Beyond the Refugee Crisis'**  
 Portland, OR

March 28; 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
 University of Oregon Portland  
 70 N.W. Couch St.  
**Price: Free; Lunch will be provided to the first 100 people who register.**  
 In the spirit of Minoru Yasui, this program will discuss the reasons why refugees and immigrants are seeking to settle in the U.S., what states/cities/countries have taken a stand for refugee and immigration rights and what YOU can do to make a difference in shifting ways of addressing a worldwide humanitarian issue.  
**Info: Email [miniyasuitribute@gmail.com](mailto:miniyasuitribute@gmail.com) to register.**

**OBT Spring Bazaar**  
 Portland, OR  
 April 19; 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.  
 Oregon Buddhist Temple  
 3720 S.E. 34th Ave.  
**Price: Free; Food available for purchase.**

Join members of the OBT at its Spring Bazaar, which will feature delicious bento items that will be available for purchase, including Mar Far chicken bento, curry rice, Ota tofu curry rice, inari sushi and more. Preorders are being accepted until April 15.  
**Info: Visit [www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com](http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com) to preorder and for more information.**

**'Hear Us Rise'**  
 Seattle, WA  
 Now Open

Wing Luke Museum  
 719 S. King St.  
**Price: Adult Admission \$17**  
 This exhibit highlights Asian Pacific American women and other marginalized genders that have challenged society's expectations, defied its restrictions and fought for equality and opportunity since their arrival in the U.S. Visitors will hear personal stories from powerful women that have participated in and drawn inspiration from various civil and social justice movements.  
**Info: Visit [www.wingluke.org](http://www.wingluke.org).**

## CCDC

**AsianFest 2020**  
 Fresno, CA  
 April 25; 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
 Fresno City College  
 1101 E. University Ave.  
**Price: Free**

This Asian American Cultural Festival will feature all-day live entertainment, delicious food, a sake garden, children's craft area, anime alley and car show, martial arts demonstrations and much more! Don't miss this opportunity to have a day of family fun for all.  
**Info: Visit <https://www.fresnocitycollege.edu/events/asianfest-2020.html>.**

## MDC

**Festival of Nations 2020**  
 St. Paul, MN  
 May 1-3  
 Saint Paul RiverCentre  
 175 W. Kellogg Blvd.

**Price: Ticket Prices Vary.**  
 This festival is the oldest and longest-running multicultural festival in the Midwest. Since 1932, its goal has been to inspire people to discover more about our world and embrace the rich cultural diversity in our community. The Twin Cities JACL chapter will once again be participating in this event. To volunteer, contact the TC chapter.  
**Info: Visit [www.festivalofnations.com](http://www.festivalofnations.com) or [www.tcjacl.org](http://www.tcjacl.org).**

## EDC

**The Kimono in Print: 300 Years of Japanese Kimono Design**

Worcester, MA  
 March 28-June 28  
 Worcester Art Museum  
 55 Salisbury St.

This exhibition is devoted to examining the kimono as a major source of inspiration and experimentation in Japanese print culture from the Edo period (1603) to the Meiji period (1868-1912). The exhibit includes 80 Japanese prints as well as a selection of illustrated books and paintings.  
**Info: Visit <https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/kimono-in-print/>.**

**Kimono Couture: The Beauty of Chiso**  
 Worcester, MA  
 April 25-July 26  
 Worcester Art Museum  
 55 Salisbury St.

This is the first exhibition outside of Japan of historic and contemporary kimonos from the collection of Chiso, the distinguished Kyoto-based kimono house founded in 1555. The exhibit will include 13 kimonos from the mid-1600s-2000s. A special video will also document the contemporary creation of a kimono, from start to finish.  
**Info: Visit <https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/kimono-couture/>.**

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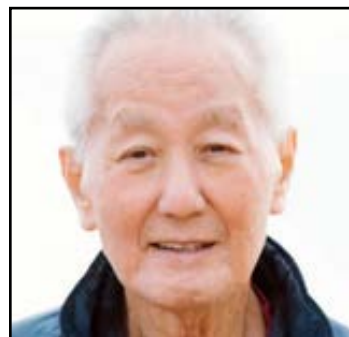
# In MEMORIAM



**Hirayama, Nobuo, 89**, Redondo Beach, CA, Feb. 8; he is survived by his wife, Asa "Jean" Hirayama; children, JoDee (Rick) Yamasaki and Lance (Jennifer) Hirayama; siblings, Tsutomu, Hitoshi (Kimiyo), Miyuki Carlyle, Kikue Masumoto and Haruko (Harry) Kawaoka; gc: 3.



**Horie, Umeko, 87**, Gardena, CA, Feb. 3; she is survived by her husband, Henry; daughter, Karie (David Addison) Horie; sisters, Emiko Komatsu and Masayo (Nobuyuki) Togashi; sister-in-law, Sakiyo Horie; gc: 1.



**Ikuta, Clyde Masayuki, 82**, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 3; he is survived by his children, Pamela, Tristan and Courtney; gc: 3.

James (Suzanne) and Ruth (Mark) Rubke; gc: 5; ggc: 10.



**Nagaki, Anna (née Yago), 92**, Payette, ID, Jan. 25; she was predeceased by her husband, Joe; she is survived by her children, Byron (Sylvia) Nagaki, JoAnne (David) Fortier, Susan (Jerry) Inouye, Terry (Robert) Fukuda and Marian (Travis) Cave; brother, Thomas "Jake" (Martha) Yago; sisters-in-law, Shiz Yago, May Yago, Sakae Tsuda, Chi-yoko Watanabe and Amy Nagaki; gc: 12; ggc: 15.

## TRIBUTE

### SAM KATSUJI SHIMOMURA



Sam Katsuji Shimomura, age 73, passed away on Jan. 12, due to cancer. A Celebration of Life was held on March 7 at the Mariners Church in Irvine, Calif.

Sam was born on March 8, 1946, in Turlock, Calif., six months after his parents, Ben and Lois Shimomura, returned from the Amache Concentration Camp in Colorado. They were among the 120,000 Japanese Americans who were unjustly incarcerated during the war. Despite initial opposition, Sam's family resettled in Winters, Calif., due to the kindness of former neighbors.

Sam grew up on an apricot farm west of town and did farm chores from an early age. He loved to have fun and be with people. He played saxophone in the school band and was a photographer for the school paper. He went to dances and played basketball and football. He was a lifelong 49er fan. But most of all, Sam was an outstanding student, having the highest grade point average over his four years in high school.

Sam studied at UC Davis and then attended the School of Pharmacy at UC San Francisco, where he graduated in the top of his class and won an award at graduation. He was invited to join the UCSF faculty, where he had a long and distinguished career. In 1995, the California Society of Health-System Pharmacists (CSHP) honored Sam with the CSHP Pharmacist of the Year Award.

In 1996, Sam joined Western University of Health Sciences (Pomona), the year its College of Pharmacy welcomed its inaugural class of 68 students. As a founding faculty member, Sam's friendly and caring manner soon earned him the nickname "Dr. Sam" and the love and admiration of his students. Through the Vietnamese Pharmacists Association in the U.S.A., Sam helped more than 300 Vietnamese pharmacists get retrained and licensed to practice in the U.S.

In 2018, Sam retired. It was said that during his 48 years as an educator, mentor and colleague, Sam touched the lives of nearly 6,000 pharmacy students and residents and had a truly remarkable impact on the profession and pharmacy education.

Sam is survived by his wife, Patricia Shimomura; his father, Ben Shimomura (age 99); his brother, Floyd Shimomura (Ruth); his sisters, Susan Shimizu (Grant) and Linda Don (Richard); and many nieces and nephews.

## TRIBUTE

### TETSUO UEDA



Tetsuo "Tek" Ueda, 87, of Salinas, Calif., passed away peacefully from cancer on Dec. 9, 2019.

Born on Oct. 27, 1932, in Indio, Calif., Tek grew up in the San Gabriel Valley area and lived in El Monte, Calif., at the time of the signing of Executive Order 9066 in February 1942. He and his family were interned at the Pomona Assembly Center (Los Angeles County Fairgrounds) on May 13, 1942; transferred to Heart Mountain War Relocation Center, Wyo., on Aug. 20, 1942; and moved to Tule Lake Detention Center, Calif., in September 1943. He was released along with his father and mother in 1946. The family settled in San Marino, Calif., where his parents worked as domestics. Tek is a graduate of South Pasadena High School.

Shortly after graduation, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, trained as a military stevedore and, during the Korean War while stationed at Ft. Lawton, Wash., served on military cargo ships providing supplies to bases in the Aleutian Islands.

Upon discharge in 1954, he was readmitted to UCLA, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in floriculture and ornamental horticulture. He was one of the early college-educated, Japanese American floriculture graduates entering the long-Japanese-dominated carnation and chrysanthemum nursery industry. He was employed by Tak's Greenhouse in Santa Clara, Calif., and, with the pressure of urbanization, moved with the carnation nursery industry to Salinas Valley. He also served many years as an instructor of the Hartnell College's floriculture training program for students from Japan.

Tek was predeceased by his parents, Chusaku and Toshiyo (Karimoto), originally from Hiroshima, Japan; brothers, Minoru (Fuyuko) and Yoshito; and sister, Kikue (Robert) Ishiguro. He is survived by his sister, Sachie (John) Hayakawa of Honolulu, six nephews, nine great-nieces and -nephews, and good friends, Jun and Kyoko Uchida of Salinas.

He will be interred at the Ueda Family gravesite in the Evergreen Cemetery, Boyle Heights, Los Angeles.

**Nakajima, Mary Naruko, 100**, Los Angeles, CA, Jan. 28; she was predeceased by her husband, Ichiro; she is survived by her daughters, Frances Kiku Shibuya, Karen (Michael) Dote, Kay (Richard) Yang and Janice Yuki (Jun) Date; she is also survived by sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 8; ggc: 10.



**Nakanishi, Toyome 'Terry,' 98**, Monterey, CA, Feb. 4; during WWII, she enlisted in the Army and was sent to Fort Snelling to serve in the Women's Army Corps (WAC); she later was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for her military service; she was predeceased by her husband, Col. Toshio Nakanishi; siblings, Michiko, Yaeko, Kiyoshi and Yoshito; she is survived by her sons, Calvin (Charmen) and Greg (Dawn); brother, Shozo; gc: 3; ggc: 5.

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## PLACE A TRIBUTE

'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch.

## CONTACT:

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# REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

## AARP: HOW TO FIGHT THE SOCIAL ISOLATION OF CORONAVIRUS



By Erwin Tan, M.D. AARP

A recent scientific report elevates social isolation and loneliness to the level of health problems, associating them with a significantly increased risk for early death from all causes. Of course, social isolation and loneliness can become more common with age. And the arrival of the novel coronavirus will almost certainly make the problem worse.

Public officials are asking that we all socially distance ourselves to prevent COVID-19's spread. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that those age 60 and older avoid crowds, and that those in a community with an outbreak stay home as much as possible.

Travel bans and recommendations to avoid nonessential air travel may mean that distant family members may not be able to connect in person. And the COVID-19 outbreak could last for weeks or months.

Here are some things to keep in mind to reduce the threat of social isolation and loneliness as the pandemic continues:

### 1. Social Isolation and Loneliness Are Serious Health Issues

These related conditions affect a significant proportion of adults in the United States and have been calculated as being the equivalent of smoking 15 cigarettes a day. According to the scientific report mentioned above, published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine and funded by the AARP Foundation, 43 percent of adults age 60 or older in the U.S. reported feeling lonely.

A 2017 study showed that social isolation

among older adults is associated with an estimated \$6.7 billion in additional Medicare spending annually. At the same time, people 60 and older and people with severe chronic health conditions — such as heart disease, lung disease and diabetes — are at higher risk for developing more serious illness from COVID-19.

### 2. Plan and Connect

It's important to talk to family and friends to develop a plan to safely stay in regular touch as we socially distance ourselves, or if we are required to self-quarantine for a possible exposure or are in isolation for a COVID-19 infection. This plan should confirm whom you can reach out to if you need help accessing food, medicine and other medical supplies.

It's also important that communication and planning allow us to remain safely connected as we practice social distancing. Involve another element: actual social connection. Remaining connected is especially important for people who live alone; regular social contact can be a lifeline for support if they develop symptoms. Regularly scheduled phone calls and video conferences along with texting and emails can help compensate for a lack of in-person contact.

### 3. Know the Organizations That Can Help

Create a list of community and faith-based organizations that you or the people in your

plan can contact in the event you lack access to information, health care services, support and resources. If your neighborhood has a website or social media page and you haven't joined it, consider doing so to stay connected to neighbors, information and resources.

Consider including organizations that provide mental health or counseling services, as well as food and other supplies. State and local governments are setting up resource lists for those affected by COVID-19. The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration also has an online locator and hotline (800-662-HELP (4357)) to help people find counseling services near where they live.

AARP Foundation's Connect2Affect program (<https://connect2affect.org/>) provides information, self-assessments and affordable options for low-income older people to stay connected.

### 4. Remember Pets (Their Value and

### Their Needs)

Pets can help combat loneliness, and some pets have been linked with owners' longevity. The World Health Organization has also determined that dogs cannot get coronavirus. Still, it's always important to wash your hands after contact with your pets. And just as you need to ensure you have sufficient supplies for yourself and family, be stocked with food and other supplies for your pets.

### 5. Know Who's Most at Risk for Social Isolation and Loneliness

People at the highest risk of developing more serious illness from COVID-19 and who should be the most vigilant about social distancing will also be the most at risk of increased social isolation and loneliness. For example, the CDC has recommended that long-term care facilities discourage visitation.

I asked my older neighbor across the street last week if she needed help with groceries and if she could pass along my phone number to her children, who live out of town, so they would have another contact on the same street as their mother. That personal interaction reminded me that COVID-19 is testing the bonds that connect us all. Reaching out to our friends, families and neighbors can help protect all of us from COVID-19, as well as social isolation and loneliness.

*Erwin Tan, M.D., is a director at AARP Thought Leadership. His areas of expertise include geriatric and integrative medicine, health longevity, volunteering and perceptions of aging.*

## INA » continued from page 9

PHOTO: RAY LOCKER

Ina received the award after she participated in a panel discussion about the parallels between the Japanese American incarceration and the detention of immigrant children on the U.S.-Mexico border. The panel was moderated by Shirley Ann Higuchi, a senior director for legal and regulatory affairs at APA.

"Born in what was euphemistically referred to as the 'Tule Lake Segregation Center,' Dr. Ina's own incarceration experience informed her work as a psychologist and her efforts to publish books, produce award-winning documentaries by bearing witness to the legacy of the unjust and forced relocation of 120,000 Japanese Americans from their homes on the West Coast and into a series of camps without legal due process," said the citation, which was presented to Ina by APA President Dr. Sandra Shullman.

Ina is a leader of the group Tsuru for Solidarity, which cites the Japanese American incarceration as one of the main reasons to stop the current border detention policies,



**Pictured (from left) are panel participants Shirley Ann Higuchi, senior director for legal and regulatory affairs for the APA; Dr. Arthur Evans Jr., CEO and executive vp of the APA; Dr. Satsuki Ina; and Aura Matsumura Newlin, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology at Northwest College in Cody, Wyo.**

which have been shown to cause severe trauma for detained children.

Also in attendance at the APA panel was Heart Mountain board member Aura Matsumura Newlin and Dr. Arthur Evans, the association's CEO, who has also visited Heart Mountain. ■

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