



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

RATING 93 YEARS



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## NOT FORGOTTEN

JA soldiers killed during the Korean War are forever honored.

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An American Story Endures at Heart Mountain.

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Author Alma Katsu's 'The Fervor' Is Released.

Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation Chairman Gen. John H. Tilelli Jr., U.S. Army Ret, and 91-year-old Japanese American Korean War and U.S. Army Veteran Norio Uyematsu, a three-time past post commander of the Kazuo Masuda Memorial VFW Post 3670, at the Wall of Remembrance Dedication banquet in Washington, D.C., on July 26. Uyematsu is presenting a copy of the book "Americans of Japanese Ancestry in the Korean War — Stories of Those Who Served," written by Robert M. Wada and edited by Uyematsu of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans Inc.

PHOTO: PATTI HIRAHARA



Oregon Gov. Kate Brown (center) signed Senate Bill 1509 on Aug. 5, officially designating State Highway 35 in honor of Nisei veterans who fought in World War II.

# OREGON PASSES BILL TO DEDICATE NISEI VETERANS WWII MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

Gov. Kate Brown signs Senate Bill 1509, paving the way for State Highway 35 to recognize Japanese Americans who served in WWII.

SALEM, ORE. — Gov. Kate Brown signed a bill on Aug. 5 passed by the state legislature that will allow the dedication of a highway in honor of Oregon Japanese American World War II veterans. With Brown’s signature on Senate Bill 1509, State Highway 35 will soon be dedicated as the Oregon Nisei Veterans World War II Memorial Highway, and signs will be posted along the route.

SB 1509 proposed the dedication of the 41-mile highway that runs between 1-84 in Hood River and Highway 26 near Government Camp. The bill was passed unanimously earlier this year by the Oregon Senate and House.

Joining Brown at her desk were several people from around the state who helped propose and support the

bill, including one Nisei veteran, Yoshiro Tokiwa from Vancouver, Wash.

Brown told the gathering Nisei veterans that they were a strong integral part of the U.S. military serving as interpreters gathering intelligence, as infantry soldiers and elsewhere.

“We must never forget this tragic event in our history and learn from our past. This highway’s dedication truly commemorates and is a reminder of their brave service to our country,” Gov. Brown said.

Drafted at age 18 from the incarceration camp in Poston, Ariz., Tokiwa, 97, served as a Technician 2 with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Europe.

“It’s an honor to be recognized like this for our military service so long

ago,” Tokiwa said. “I’m very proud and happy to be here.”

The 442nd RCT, or Purple Heart Battalion, is the most-decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of American warfare. Its soldiers received more than 18,000 awards.

During WWII and the postwar recovery, more than 33,000 Nisei served with honor and distinction in the U.S. military, of which 433 were reportedly from Oregon, and 58 specifically from Hood River County.

Their collective service came despite federal Executive Order 9066 issued in February 1942 that directed that Japanese Americans be removed to government-built camps.

A proponent of the legislation, author and emerita professor Dr. Linda Tamura, said her father and uncle fought two battles during WWII — one for equality and justice at home and one against the enemy overseas. This was after they and other Nisei were forced from their homes in the Hood River valley.

“These brave veterans paved the way so Highway 35 can become a highway of gratitude and remembrance,” Tamura said.

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# GREATER L.A. JACL CHAPTER AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Greater Los Angeles chapter of the JACL presented scholarship awards of \$1,000 each to three graduating high school seniors during an awards ceremony held on June 10 at Columbia Park in Torrance, Calif.

Honored at the event, which was attended by GLA board members, guests and family members of the awardees, were Kenji Horigome, Jacob Oei and Isabella Wada.

Chapter Co-Presidents Miyako Kadogawa and Mitchell Matsumura were also on hand to award the recipients.

Horigome, a recent graduate of Downtown Magnet High School in Los Angeles, will be attending Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, Calif., as an astrophysics major.

Oei of Edison High School in Huntington Beach, Calif., is headed to the University of California, Berkeley, in the fall, where he will major in psychology.

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The 2022 Greater L.A. Chapter scholarship winners (from left) Kenji Horigome, Jacob Oei and Isabella Wada

PHOTO: COURTESY OF GREATER L.A. CHAPTER

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

\* Your donations will help build and preserve a cohesive library of the Pacific Citizen to educate future generations.\*

'I'm glad to see the Pacific Citizen growing and evolving with its website, and especially LOVE the much easier-to-navigate digital archives. It's a treasure trove for JAs to learn about our community's history, and for scholars and journalists looking to connect the past with the present. Thanks for the improvements, P.C.!'

— Gil Asakawa





NIKKEI VOICE

# ACKNOWLEDGING MY INSPIRATIONS

By Gil Asakawa

When my family moved from Japan to the Washington, D.C., area in 1966 when I was 8 years old, I fell in love with American ways and U.S. pop culture. One of the things I embraced wholeheartedly was American pop music — specifically, Top 40 music on AM radio stations that played hit after hit. I loved the energy of the fast-talking DJs, the commercials, even the melodious jingles (“WPGC, good guy radio,” “More music! WEAM!” or the always popular “The hits just keep on comin’!”) and, of course, the music. The mid-’60s was the golden era of the kind of catchy hit songs that appealed to an entire generation. But the sounds of music also included the early rumblings of protest and counterculture perspectives. One other sign that the times were a-changin’ was the launch of a new magazine called *Rolling Stone*, which was headquartered in San Francisco. It had stories about music first and

foremost, along with reviews and feature stories galore, but it also covered the emerging counterculture and put the social evolution of the country into a larger context than mere pop culture. By the time I started reading *RS* in the early 1970s, it was a monthly bible for my young, impressionable mind. There were names in the magazine’s masthead that I always noticed, including Ben Fong-Torres. I knew from the name and photos that he was Asian American. He began writing for *RS* in 1968 and was the magazine’s first music editor. I read dozens of stories and a handful of books by Fong-Torres. The world learned from the fictionalized biographical film “Almost Famous” in 2000 by the adult Cameron Crowe that Fong-Torres hired Crowe to write for *RS* as a teenager. Fong-Torres has become a fixture of San Francisco’s music scene with a radio show (he was a DJ on the legendary KSAN during the 1970s)

and as a host for the TV broadcast of the annual San Francisco Chinese New Year’s Parade, for which he’s won five Emmy Awards. I got to meet Fong-Torres once when I was visiting San Francisco for a JAACL board meeting. We sat in a tech company office where he worked at the time, and I expressed my gratitude to him for being one of my inspirations. He was gracious and appreciative. Having Asian Americans in the media is important — he made an impact on me simply by having his name in one of my favorite publications. And now, filmmaker Suzanne Joe Kai has finished a project she started in 2010, “Like a Rolling Stone: The Life and Times of Ben Fong-Torres,” which is a comprehensive documentary about Fong-Torres’ long and winding road from young music fan to an elder statesman for his community. It made the rounds of film festivals and is now available to view on Netflix. The film does a great job of weaving his family and personal life through the fabric of his amazing career, and Kai got backstage access following Fong-Torres at shows like Elton John, where he’s warmly greeted by the superstar. The film also shows how much he’s loved by a range of musicians from Ray Manzarek of the Doors to Carlos Santana. Kai captures Fong-Torres’ meticulous archiving of his journalism, with recordings

of every interview he’s ever done in file cabinets in his home office. She also weaves in clips of his interviews (Stevie Wonder! Marvin Gaye! Linda Ronstadt! Tina Turner!) into the documentary. The documentary puts Fong-Torres into a larger cultural context with the anti-Chinese mood in the U.S., even in the 1800s, and through his family’s challenges against racism. The film also explains Fong-Torres’ name: It was a way to get around the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 by buying an identity and passport as a Filipino, a country from which immigrants were allowed. The film is rich with insights and leads to an even greater appreciation for Fong-Torres’ life. But one

of my favorite scenes is when Kai has Fong-Torres reminiscing about his early inspiration and why he fell in love with Top 40 radio in his childhood. He calls out Bay Area radio jock Gary Owens and credits him for his love of radio even to this day, mimicking Owen’s deep resonant voice. “Like a Rolling Stone” is required viewing for anyone who loves pop music and rock ‘n’ roll, as well as classic radio (both the lively AM years and the low-key, hippified FM era) and, of course, *Rolling Stone* magazine. Thanks to Suzanne Joe Kai for reminding me what an inspiration Ben Fong-Torres has been for me.

*Gil Asakawa is the author of “Tabemasho! Let’s Eat! A Tasty History of Japanese Food in America,” which will be published by Stone Bridge Press this year. He blogs at www.nikkeiview.com.*



Ben Fong-Torres in Netflix’s “Like a Rolling Stone: The Life and Times of Ben Fong-Torres”



REFLECTIONS

# 1963: THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON



Many JACLers participated in the March on Washington in August 1963.

PHOTO: JAACL NATIONAL

By Gerald Kita

When Barack Obama won his election for president, my Philadelphia lawyer friend said to me that he was able to truly believe, for the first time in his life, what he was teaching his children: They have a future where “anything is possible”!

But it has been a struggle for many Americans to believe in a future for their children where “anything is possible” because America has perpetuated centuries of official policies of systemic racism denying access to an America enjoyed by the more-privileged Americans. Hundreds of thousands of Americans demonstrated for a future where

“anything is possible” when they gathered in the civil rights March on Washington on Aug. 23, 1963. I was one of them, joining in as a coalition of supporters for rights of Black Americans. I came to Washington in June 1963 for my first job after graduation from college. I joined a cadre of young college grads, all with engineering degrees. We were new hires to become U.S. patent examiners working for the U.S. Patent Office (since renamed the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office). I was the sole person of color among our all-male cadre. The cadre was regarded as privileged, new members of a venerable “Patent Examining Corps.” On Aug. 23, I was off from work for the day to attend the March on Washington. I was accompanied by a veteran patent examiner who wanted to be my companion in the March because he was concerned about his safety for being white among the crowds of Black Americans. At the March, we were on the grounds of the Washington Monument with hundreds of thousands of people. The crowds extended all the way to the Lincoln Memorial, where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was to speak. The March on Washington was or-

ganized for Americans to peacefully demonstrate for freedom and equality and express faith in an America waiting for them in the future where everything is possible. Dr. King began to speak, his voice carried by loudspeakers over a sea of Black Americans dressed in white. He emphasized the theme, “Now is the time,” for peaceful demonstrations seeking freedom to participate in a better America. Then, Mahalia Jackson shouted, “Tell them about the dream, Martin. Tell them. . . .” Dr. King spoke: “I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: ‘We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.’ . . .” As Dr. King spoke, the masses of people responded with cries of joy and hope. The atmosphere became supercharged with emotion. Suddenly, incidents of chaos sprang up. People became overcome with emotion and began to faint and fall to the ground. Emergency crews were everywhere, rushing throughout the crowds with stretchers and carrying away disabled people. All the while, loudspeakers carried the voice of Dr. King booming out over the crowded masses of people.

“With this faith,” said Dr. King, “we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. . . . With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day. . . . And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true.” When it was time for us to return to work, I was singled out with a reprimand by superiors for participating in “political” demonstrations. I was not permitted access to official reports about my reprimand. I was shunned and lost my privileges as part of the cadre that I was once a part of. At a one-year work anniversary of the cadre, I was the only member who did not receive an annual pay raise. When I consulted with the union representatives of the Union of American Federation of Government Employees, of which I was a paying member, they said there was nothing they would do. I had “crossed over” from the white privileged cadre to the other side. When I resigned for a better job in 1965, I left the venerable Patent

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PHOTOS: RAY LOCKER/HEART MOUNTAIN WYOMING FOUNDATION

## AN AMERICAN STORY ENDURES AT THE HEART MOUNTAIN PILGRIMAGE

An emotional Alan Simpson dedicates the groundbreaking of the Mineta-Simpson Institute at Heart Mountain.

By Ray Locker,  
Contributor

When he first heard of the death of his friend Norman Mineta, Alan Simpson asked his wife, Ann, to drive him to the site where he and Mineta first met 79 years ago — the Heart Mountain incarceration camp for Japanese Americans during World War II.

Once there, Simpson got out of the car alone. He then, in his own words, “Howled into the wind like a banshee. Grief stricken would be the word. Ann sat in the car and let me howl. It was a good howl.”

Simpson recounted his emotions at the annual Heart Mountain pilgrimage on July 30, as he and other speakers dedicated the new Mineta-Simpson Center at Heart Mountain, which will honor the lives and careers of both men and seek to encourage the spirit of bipartisan cooperation embodied by both men.

Speakers at the three-day event included Rep. Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.), White House adviser Erika Moritsugu, Mineta’s widow, Deni, and David Inoue, executive director of the

Japanese American Citizens League.

“The friendship of Norm and Al really represents what this nation should be and can be,” Cheney said. “Their friendship demonstrated what could be accomplished when we come together.”

The crowd of about 400 people greeted Cheney, Wyoming’s sole House member, warmly, in part for her support of Heart Mountain and her work on the committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

Cheney was moved to tears during her introduction by Heart Mountain Board Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi, as Higuchi said how much she liked Cheney when she first met her in 2019 and how impressed she was with Cheney’s courage in supporting the Constitution and the efforts to preserve Japanese American confinement sites.

The crowd applauded Cheney before, during and after her remarks. Her father, former VP Dick Cheney, was a surprise guest as he accompanied her to the event.

### WHITE HOUSE SUPPORT

Moritsugu, the White House liaison to the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, said she felt

the power of place being at Heart Mountain.

“We’re remembering our collective history,” Moritsugu said. “This is not just a Japanese American story, but it’s an American story with implications for the entire world.”

“Our nation is starting to acknowledge the darker sides of our history,” said Moritsugu, who brought signed proclamations from President Joe Biden to the 22 Heart Mountain survivors attending the pilgrimage. “It helps us own up to its transgressions and know that this history is not to be repeated.”

Moritsugu is the highest-ranking White House official to attend the pilgrimage since it first started in 2011.

### RECOGNITION

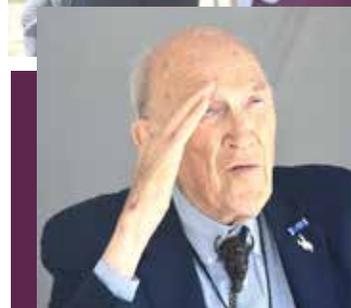
The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation presented its LaDonna Zall Compassionate Award to the Walk family, which was represented by Margot Walk, a longtime supporter of the foundation.

Walk’s father, Maurice Walk, was an attorney who resigned in protest from the War Relocation Authority because of its treatment of Japanese Americans.

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Pictured at the official groundbreaking ceremony are (from left) Pete Simpson, Shirley Ann Higuchi, Deni Mineta, Alan Simpson and Aura Sunada Newlin.



Sen. Alan Simpson salutes the flag as it's being raised by a Powell, Wyo., Boy Scout troop.



Dick Cheney and Ann Simpson clap following remarks by Rep. Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.)



Compassionate Witness Award recipient Margot Walk (left) with Shirley Ann Higuchi



Heart Mountain descendant John Toyama holds his signed proclamation from President Joe Biden.

## JANM HONORS NORMAN MINETA

Hundreds gather in Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo to pay tribute to the late U.S. Secretary.

By Ray Locker,  
Contributor

For decades, Norman Mineta carried the burden not only of the elected positions he held in government but also of leading the Japanese American community and carrying its expectations, speakers said during a June 25 memorial service for Mineta at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo.

A 10-term U.S. House member, Cabinet secretary to a Democratic and a Republican president and advocate for the Asian American community, Mineta, who passed away at age 90 on May 3, inspired thousands of political leaders.

U.S. Reps. Judy Chu and Ted Lieu, both California Democrats, joined Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis to speak about the impact Mineta had on their lives, either by

encouraging them to seek office or supporting them and other leaders once they were elected.

“It’s hard to comprehend the enormity of Norm’s contribution to America,” Chu said, but he also raised the Asian American community from “invisibility to positions of power and influence.”

In 1994, Mineta founded the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, which now has 21 Asian American and Pacific Islander members, the most in history, Chu said.

“He always prioritized opening doors for future leaders,” she said.

Solis, a former House member and labor secretary, said Mineta “was one of those saviors who helped us get things done” when he was transportation secretary for Republican President George W. Bush, even if the overall administration wasn’t in agreement with Solis and her fellow Democrats.

Shirley Higuchi said Norman Mineta never let his incarceration experience slow him down.



David Ono, ABC7 anchorman and documentarian, served as master of ceremonies for the June 25 event honoring the life of Sec. Norman Mineta.

PHOTOS: RAY LOCKER/HEART MOUNTAIN WYOMING FOUNDATION

### LEADING A COMMUNITY

The master of ceremonies, ABC7 anchorman and documentarian David Ono, said, “It’s easy to lose sight of the enormity of Norman Mineta’s accomplishments. There’s his legacy in politics, his legacy in social justice and the hard work he was done for this very institution, the Japanese American National Museum.”

Mineta, Ono said, was not only

a national leader, but he also carried the burden of leading the Japanese American community for decades.

Shirley Ann Higuchi, chair of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, said she felt the grief for the Mineta family, who had lost a husband, father and grandfather, but “mostly I feel sorry for us (the Japanese American community) because

we no longer have Norm with us.”

Mineta, Higuchi said, “Never allowed his incarceration experience to define him, but he also didn’t shy away from saying, ‘I had my rights taken away from me, and I’ll make sure it never happens again to anyone.’”

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Katsu (right) with author Greer MacAllister at Bards Alley Bookshop in Vienna, Va.



The Fervor is dedicated to the author's mother, Akiko Souza, "for her stories of childhood in Japan during the war."



Writing a book means promoting the book. Katsu (center) with Dave and Laura Medicus of "The Inside Flap" podcast at the Tattered Cover Bookstore in Denver.



Alma Katsu  
PHOTOS: EVAN MICHIO

# A FORMER SPOOK WHO SEES CAMP GHOSTS

'Lean into the metaphor,' says traci kato-kiryama about 'The Fervor,' Alma Katsu's historical fiction book about the supernatural at Minidoka.

By Lynda Lin Grigsby, Contributor



"The Fervor" is narrated by traci kato-kiryama.

In her former life as an intelligence analyst, Alma Katsu sifted through lies to find kernels of truth. This is a life that can spawn book series and film franchises orchestrated with dramatic theme songs heavy on cymbals. There are just so many questions, but the first is the most important: *Can I call you a spook?*

"Spook is fine," said Katsu.

To be precise, she is a former spook who worked for 25 years in the defense department and the National Security Agency and 10 years with the Central Intelligence Agency. Now, her presence on the other end of the phone is as an author (with seven novels) who writes in a separate guest house with a kitchenette and a simple desk and chair. Based on her pictures on social media, its white walls and partition could double as a cubicle in a federal building — except for the window that opens to a view of a forest.

"It's stunning here," she said.

Katsu is calling from the mountains of West Virginia, where city-weary Washingtonians retreat on weekends for an injection of ecoterapy. Here, in the before times, Katsu and her husband — longtime residents of the District of Columbia — were building a getaway, but when Covid struck, their mountain cabin beckoned.

Although she started writing her latest novel, "The Fervor," before Covid was a blip on the consciousness, isolation is a theme.

The story opens in the rugged Gearhart Mountain outside Bly, Ore., where the apparition of a young girl dressed in a

kimono roams the woods portending tragedy with the "ends of her obi fluttering in the breeze."

Sightings of the same ghostly figure walking through the dust of Minidoka raise the specter of a curse in a World War II American concentration camp. Katsu likes to say the past is a like a ghost waiting to be avenged. If there is unfinished business, the past will walk among us, trying to get our attention.

"The Fervor," a cautionary tale based on historical events, is a work of fiction, Katsu firmly writes in the book's afterword. Many nonfiction books give the full story of the incarceration, an experience you likely lived through or have family members who still spontaneously travel back into time to relive a joyous moment in the mess halls or to massage a bead of resentment. If you are looking for a full account of this WWII experience, "that's not what you're getting here."

Instead, this book is more of an allegory, said the author, who calls "The Fervor" "the best book I've ever written." The *New York Times* recommended it on its list of new spring fiction books to read, and traci kato-kiryama, an artist and co-founder of Little Tokyo's Tuesday Night Project, narrates the audiobook. For you, the readers whose WWII experiences are lived and literal, both author and narrator want you to suspend disbelief and see the ghosts of the camps.

"Lean into the metaphor that this story provides in a larger context of horror," said kato-kiryama.

## Hold Up a Mirror to the Real Horror

Katsu wants you to know that despite the "racial reckoning" in 2020 after George Floyd's murder, it's not popular to be talking about systemic racism as she does in "The Fervor." Because how do you talk about that time without talking about racism? It's the unfinished business that haunts our country because ghosts grow stronger when we push them away and shut our eyes.

"For all that's in the news and on people's minds, I think a lot of people would still rather turn their head and not really take on any more information," said Katsu. Her voice is high and energetic, except here when punctuated with contemplative pauses. On the book tour, Katsu noticed the readers who engaged most with the book are AAPIs with an understanding or connection to the camps.

"I'm grateful for that kind of engagement, but it also makes me kind of sad," said Katsu. "Like if it doesn't touch you personally, you're not going to give a hoot."

The reviews, she said, have been tremendous.

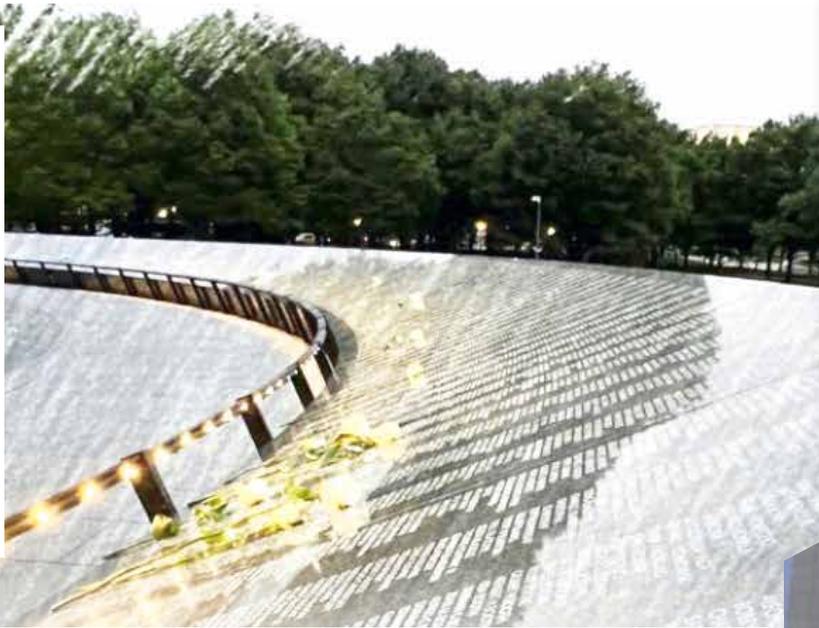
Author Steph Cha calls "The Fervor" "propulsive and dense with spidery scares." People will say, "Oh, yeah, I've heard it's a good book," but they won't pick it up and read it because there is no personal connection to the historical elements of this story. Katsu feels disappointed. Maybe people are squeezing their eyes shut.

In the book, a mysterious illness tears through Minidoka, making the afflicted aggressive and violent. Fights break out in camps while Meiko and Aiko, mother and daughter, fight for survival. The fervor, the mysterious disease in the book, is a metaphor for the divisiveness and uptick in aggression and hostility in America. Katsu is holding up a mirror to this present-day horror story.

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The Wall of Remembrance is comprised of 100 black granite panels containing the names of 36,634 total American service members who lost their lives during the Korean War.

PHOTO: KOREAN VETERANS WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



Norio Uyematsu stands proudly in front of the newly dedicated Wall of Remembrance, which honors Japanese American Korean War veterans killed in action during the Korean War.

# NOT FORGOTTEN

Japanese American soldiers killed in action during the Korean War are honored at the new Wall of Remembrance in Washington, D.C.

By Patti Hirahara, Contributor

We have all read stories about World War II and the Vietnam War, but the Korean War, known as the “Forgotten War,” has not been given the attention it deserves.

According to the National Japanese American Historical Society, an estimated 5,000 Japanese American soldiers were part of the Korean War conflict from June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953, and served honorably in the U.S. Air Force, Army and Marines. Many grew up in Japanese American incarceration camps during WWII.

I had the opportunity to accompany Salt Lake JACL Korean War veteran Norio Uyematsu to the Korean War Veterans Memorial’s “Wall of Remembrance” dedication ceremony, held in Washington, D.C., on July 27. A U.S. Army Corporal with the 521st MIS, Uyematsu served as an interpreter whose job was to interrogate North Korean prisoners of war during the Korean War.

The trip to the nation’s capitol to take part in the ceremony was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Uyematsu to be part of such a

momentous event, and he was happy he made the long trip from Anaheim, Calif., on his own accord, for the occasion.

The “Wall of Remembrance” dedication, presented by the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, was held on the 69th anniversary of the end of the Korean War.

An estimated 2,500 individuals from across the country came to the event, which included Korean War veterans, Gold Star families of the fallen who lost loved ones during the war and governmental members from the Republic of Korea and the local Korean community here in the U.S.

Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation Chairman Gen. John H. Tilelli Jr., U.S. Army (Ret), expressed the goals behind the construction and dedication of the monument during the program.

“We are hopeful that this memorial will remind the millions of people who visit here each year that freedom is not free . . . our goal is to honor, in a dignified way, those who fought and died and planted the seeds for a free democratic Republic of Korea,” Tilelli said.



The Wall of Remembrance ceremony dedication sign

PHOTOS: PATTI HIRAHARA

The \$22 million project was funded by donations from the peoples of the United States and South Korea, formally named the Republic of Korea.

The Wall of Remembrance is impressive since it is comprised of 100 black granite panels containing the names of 36,634 of the total American service members who lost their lives during the war, out of which 247 were Japanese Americans, plus the addition of 7,174 of the Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army, or (KATUSA), who died in the Korean War.

The first 84 blocks are dedicated to the Army, while the next 10 are for those who served in the Marine Corps. Names of Navy and Air Force veterans comprise the final six blocks. The names are organized by rank and branch of service and can be viewed online (<https://koreanwarvetememorial.org/namesearch/>).

For many in attendance at the dedication, this was the first time they could finally pay tribute to their family members, who gave the ultimate sacrifice more than 70 years ago.

Hoping to meet other Japanese American Korean War veterans at the dedication, Uyematsu stated: “I was happy that I

attended this special event at the Korean War Veterans Memorial to finally see all the Japanese Americans and other Asians and Asian Pacific Islanders that were killed in action be honored on this wall. As far as I could tell, I was the only Japanese American Korean War Veteran here among the 500 who attended. I had hoped to meet other Japanese Americans who had served to have a reunion of sorts, but I was honored that I could represent those that served and gave their life to free the Republic of South Korea.

“The dedication was an emotional event for me to see all the names of the fallen and remind me of my days in Korea as a young 19-year-old,” Uyematsu continued. “I am 91 years old now, and I feel, as long as I am living, it is my duty to promote the legacy of the Japanese Americans who served in this forgotten war.”

I had asked the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation if there were any other Japanese American Korean War veterans attending the dedication. Its staff told me about one person, Lisa Mizumoto, who was interested in attending.

So, I contacted Mizumoto and found out that she lives in the State of Washington but would not be able to make the trip to Washington, D.C.

Mizumoto shared with me the story of her father, Corp. Katsutoshi “Hank” Mizumoto, who died in 2003.



The Wall of Remembrance dedication ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial was attended by 2,500 people on July 27.

PHOTO: PATTI HIRAHARA



(From left) Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff, NSA Jake Sullivan, Minister Jong-sup Lee, Minister Min-Shik Park and Gen. John H. Tilelli Jr. observe the wreath laying at the new Wall of Remembrance.

PHOTO: KOREAN VETERANS WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

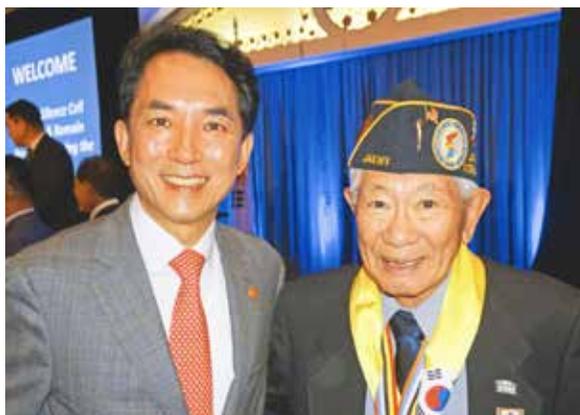




**Republic of Korea Ambassador for Peace Medal Recipient Norio Uyematsu stands in front of the Korean War Veterans Memorial soldier statues, which now face the newly dedicated Wall of Remembrance.**

Republic of Korea Minister Min-Shik Park of the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs in South Korea (left) awarded Norio Uyematsu an Ambassador for Peace Medal and proclamation for his service in the Korean War. The two men are pictured at the Dedication Banquet at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel on July 26.

PHOTOS: PATTI HIRAHARA



After spending his high school years at Tule Lake's Segregation Center and then returning to his birthplace of Fresno, Calif., with his family after their release from the incarceration camp during WWII, Katsutoshi "Hank" Mizumoto enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1947.

He served as a linguist/interpreter in Tokyo during the postwar Occupation of Japan as a member of the Army's Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC), where he interrogated Japanese soldiers/citizens who may have converted to Communism.

However, his assignment was changed, and he was sent to fight in the Korean War. Hank Mizumoto was transitioned to the 1st Cavalry Division and was one of the first soldiers to go to Korea in 1950, serving in the 16th Reconnaissance.

Little was discussed about his experience, but according to his daughter, Lisa, "He mentioned that he saw hundreds of Chinese descending from the hills for an all-out bloody battle — the loss was enormous.

"He remembered being pushed back to a large body of water, where there was nowhere else to turn and those around him had been killed. He took over a machine gun until a shrapnel blast got him on Sept. 15, 1950, about 14 miles north of Taegu. This earned him a Purple Heart, and he was told that only 10 of the 500 he served with had survived," she recalled.

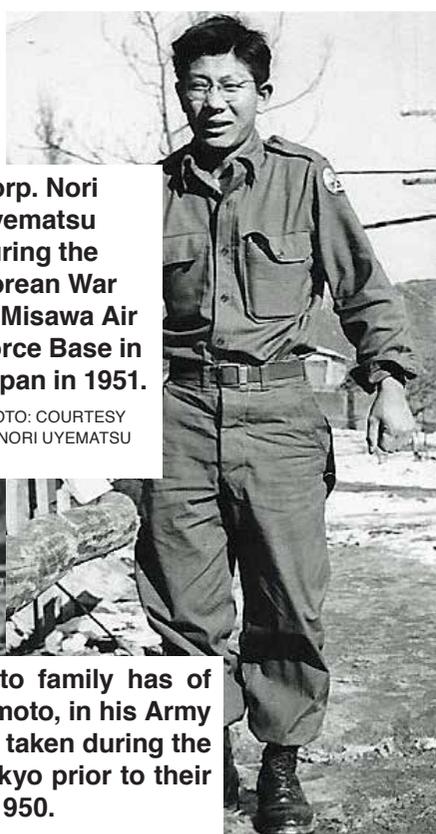
Hank Mizumoto suffered a severe traumatic brain injury, and his body was placed amongst the dead until a Japanese American soldier, a good friend of his, saw a flicker of life still in him and urged that he be sent for

medical care. Although the family wishes they knew the name of that friend, their father went on to Tokyo and then to San Francisco's Army Letterman Hospital for extensive medical care. After spending eight months in a coma, he awoke and relearned how to walk and talk, living 53 years to the age of 76, following his harrowing ordeal.

Lisa Mizumoto wishes she could have gone to the Washington, D.C., dedication ceremony, saying, "My family's hearts are filled with such warmth and peace with the dedication of the new Wall of Remembrance at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. We feel a special connection to all the veterans and their families affected by this war and am happy that the Japanese American contributions in the Korean War are now being brought to life."

In doing my research about the Japanese American Korean War veterans, their race was never listed as "Japanese Americans" but rather as "Mongolian" on their DD214, which is their Report of Separation from the Armed Forces of the United States form.

This seemed peculiar since the term is an obsolete racial grouping of various people



**Corp. Nori Uyematsu during the Korean War at Misawa Air Force Base in Japan in 1951.**

PHOTO: COURTESY OF NORI UYEMATSU



**This is the only photo the Mizumoto family has of their father, Katsutoshi "Hank" Mizumoto, in his Army uniform (above right). The photo was taken during the Post War Occupation of Japan in Tokyo prior to their father leaving for the Korean War in 1950.**

PHOTO: COURTESY OF LISA MIZUMOTO

indigenous to large parts of Asia, the Americas and some regions in Europe and Oceania, according to Wikipedia.

Another amazing fact that many of us might not know about is how many veteran records were destroyed on July 12, 1973, in a disastrous fire at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis, Mo. This affected those who served in the U.S. Air Force between Sept. 25, 1947-Jan. 1, 1964, and the U.S. Army between Nov. 1, 1912-Jan. 1, 1960.

Approximately 16 million-18 million Official Military Personnel Files were destroyed in that fire, with 80 percent of those belonging to Army personnel and 75 percent belonging to Air Force personnel.

According to the National Archives, no duplicate copies of these records were ever maintained, nor were microfilm copies produced.

According to Uyematsu, "I was fortunate to be able to get a copy of my DD-214, which was partially burned, but in talking with other Japanese American Korean War veterans, their records were destroyed, so they had to rely on Auxiliary Records to construct their basic service information."

It seems ironic that for those that were incarcerated during WWII and lost everything that this would happen again 31 years later.

This year, there are many events and programs being created to honor the Japanese American Korean War Veterans.

For veterans who served in the Korean War, they may be eligible for the Republic of Korea Ambassador for Peace Medal. This commemorative medal is an expression of appreciation from the Korean government to United States servicemen and servicewomen who served in the Korean War from June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953. It is also available for veterans who have participated in UN peacekeeping operations until the end of 1955.

Uyematsu received his medal from Consul General Kim Youngwan of the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, Los Angeles, in the mail, prior to his departure to Washington D.C. He was proud to wear it during the by-invitation-only banquet and dedication that was held at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel on July 26.

If you have a loved one who served in the Korean War and would like to apply, please print out the application form with this link and

contact your local South Korean Consulate or Embassy in your area ([http://www.kwva.org/pdfs/peace\\_medal\\_190723.pdf](http://www.kwva.org/pdfs/peace_medal_190723.pdf)).

And for those residing in Southern California, the Veterans Memorial Court Alliance in conjunction with the Kazuo Masuda VFW Memorial Post 3670 and the Gardena Nisei Memorial Post 1961 will be hosting the 2022 Korean War Veterans Tribute and Speaker Forum on Sept. 10 at Tanaka Farms in Irvine, Calif., at 11 a.m.

Admission and lunch are complimentary with confirmed reservations; the deadline to RSVP for the event is Aug. 29. Reservations may be made by emailing [VMCAEVENTS@gmail.com](mailto:VMCAEVENTS@gmail.com) or calling Kristyn Hayashi at (714) 393-3517.

In not having a father that served in the military, I was not accustomed to going to military events during my lifetime until now. Having the opportunity to accompany Norio Uyematsu on this trip was an honor, and seeing how proud he was to represent the Japanese American Korean War Veterans during the banquet and dedication ceremony was priceless.

With my father passing away in 2006, Norio has become a second father to me. As I wrote in 2021's *Pacific Citizen* Holiday Special Issue of how people come up to Norio and thank him for his service, it was equally impressive when we made the trip out from Los Angeles International Airport.

After we landed and began taxiing to the gate at Reagan National Airport, the head flight attendant of our American Airlines flight announced to all the passengers that she was honored to have the Korean War veterans and Gold family members who were attending the "Wall of Remembrance" dedication on her flight and for passengers to give these individuals a great big hand.

The flight, which included Congresswoman Judy Chu (D-Calif.) and Congressman Lou Correa (D-Calif.), cheered and broke into unanimous applause. This is an event I will never forget, and I'm so happy that this happened here in America since it proves that those who served so bravely during the Korean War will never be forgotten ever again.

*To view a complete list of Americans of Japanese ancestry that were killed in the Korean War, visit [tinyurl.com/uvxtjk8d](http://tinyurl.com/uvxtjk8d).*

GHOSTS » continued from page 5

The author's father-in-law, John Katsu, was 14 years old when he and his family were forcibly removed from Berkeley, Calif., and incarcerated at Topaz. Katsu was drafted into the Army at the end of the war and served from 1945-47.



The author's mother, Akiko Souza, was the quintessential Japanese woman of the 1950s.



There is a fervor going on in real life right now. During our phone conversation, video footage of the Congressional hearings on the Jan. 6 Capitol attack flash silently across the TV screen in my writing space (with a view far inferior to Katsu's). Something has gone wrong inside, she said about the people who took part in the attack. She would know — she spent most of the 1990s staring into the eyes of evil while working on genocides for the intelligence community.

"If you are allowed to hide these inconvenient truths because people don't want to hear that they did bad things, it's going to come back," said Katsu. "You have to admit that there was a problem, and people have to own up for things to change."

Live Life Before Becoming a Writer

Alma Souza was born in Fairbanks, Alaska, the third child of Akiko and Manuel Souza, an American WWII GI. She grew up in Maynard, Mass., with a dream common of introverted kids who loved to read — she wanted to be a writer.

"I suppose all that reading at a young age rewired my brain so that I see the value of trying to understand life and the world through stories," she wrote in an email.

But how does a girl who grew up in a self-described unworldly family become a writer? Journalism, of course. Specifically, a music journalist for Boston-area newspapers, which gave her the opportunity to meet

a glammy pop rock band called the Factory and its guitarist, Bruce Katsu.

"I'd be at gigs with them all the time. And I just remember thinking, 'Wow, he's really handsome.'"

Bruce Katsu is the son of John Katsu, a former Washington, D.C., JACL president, whose name appeared in the Pacific Citizen during the 1950s because of his active leadership role in the organization. During WWII, John Katsu was a 14-year-old living in Berkeley, Calif., before he and his family were incarcerated at Topaz near Delta, Utah. This was a life lived, filled with conflict and loss that she could later write hundreds of pages about.

In "The Fervor," Katsu writes from the perspective of a Minidoka camp guard, "He plainly thought the residents were inferior, not just different from whites, but altogether lacking somehow."

Fresh out of Brandeis College in 1981, Katsu interviewed for a job with the NSA. In order to be a good writer, she needed to live life.

"I thought just interviewing would be an adventure," she said.

She tested well and decided it would be a nice job to have for a few years. It turned into a whole career, details from which she still can't share — except that she still has security clearance and there was a time when she worked in an office with mostly Japanese American colleagues ("I can't explain why that was, but I am sure you can figure it out."), who worked hard but felt unrewarded.



John Katsu served as Washington, D.C., JACL chapter president.



Before her career as an intelligence analyst, Katsu worked as a music journalist who met and later married Bruce Katsu, guitarist of a pop rock band called the Factory. The couple is pictured here in 1987.

she died in 2021 at 91, Katsu said her mom locked herself in her room on Pearl Harbor Day because she felt afraid. Her children told her not to worry — most people have moved on from WWII, but Akiko Souza did not. How do you outrun shame? It's the fate of Asian mothers, Katsu writes in the book.

For the rest of her life, she would fade into the background like a spring flower in summer. Aiko would be the only person she'd talk with, eat meals with, go shopping with. Aiko would become her whole life — much like the way her mother had ceased to live except through her children.

By the author's account, there are many parallels between her mother and Meiko, a protagonist who struggles with asserting herself until the point in the story where she just couldn't take it anymore. Locked in a room apart from the other incarcerated, she devises a plan of attack both brutal and cathartic.

"For me, that was so freeing to write because I still had a lot of resentment over the camps and the way people have been treated and the way some of us were treated at work," said Katsu.

She exacted literary revenge through Meiko's bloody rage. Book publishing is a mercurial process. Many editors read the drafts and provide notes hoping to sharpen the narrative. Once in this process, an editor expressed unease at Meiko's violent outburst. Do you think this is too much head-bashing for a Japanese woman?

Without hesitation, Katsu responded, "No, I think there's not enough." After all, there is an inner head basher in all of us.

Historical fiction can adhere tightly to facts and become shackles. By leaning into the allegory in "The Fervor," Katsu sets herself free to make the story go big. But you already know this. The horror doesn't happen in the pages of the book. It's in real life.

SCHOLARSHIPS » continued from page 2

OREGON » continued from page 2

A highway dedication ceremony is set at Wy'East Middle School's performing arts center in Odell, Ore. Nisei dignitaries and veterans, former Gov. Ted Kulongoski, legislators and the bill's co-proponents Tamura,

Eric Ballinger and Lt. Col. Dick Tobiason (Ret) will be participating.

Ballinger, the grandson of a Nisei veteran, told the ceremonial group that "Nisei veterans earned every inch of that road — a road that leads

back home."

As with the 93 other highway signs placed around the state that honor veterans, these four highway signs are being funded by private donations and will be placed and maintained at no cost to the state.

And Wada, a graduate of South Pasadena High School in South Pasadena, Calif., will be attending American University of Paris for her freshman year of college, followed by the University of Southern California. She is set to major in marketing.

All scholarship recipients are of Japanese

descent and come from single-parent families. The Greater L.A. scholarship is named in memory of Hana Uno Shepard, a chapter member who was active in the redress movement of the 1980s.

The chapter congratulates its three 2022 recipients.

# JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERS PRESENT AWARD TO SMITHSONIAN SECRETARY LONNIE BUNCH



Pictured (from left) are John Tobe, Shirley Ann Higuchi, Lonnie Bunch and David Inoue at the Washington, D.C., ceremony honoring Bunch.

PHOTO: RAY LOCKER/HEART MOUNTAIN WYOMING FOUNDATION

By Ray Locker, Contributor

Leaders of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium presented Smithsonian Secretary Lonnie Bunch III a plaque praising his commitment to use museums to address America's racial reckoning during a June 23 meeting in Washington, D.C.

Shirley Ann Higuchi, John Tobe and David Inoue met Bunch in his office in the Smithsonian "castle" building on the National Mall to thank him for his support and his appearance in a February Day of Remembrance series of panels about the Japanese American incarceration.

The proclamation read, "We salute Secretary Lonnie Bunch for his commitment to creating 'a hopeful future for all people' using history and reconciliation to contextualize and transform our understandings and responses to race and racism."

Ann Burroughs, president and CEO of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles; Robyn Achilles, executive director of the Friends of Minidoka; and Rosalyn Tonai, executive director of the National Japanese American Historical Society, also signed the proclamation for Bunch.

Bunch told Higuchi, chair of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, that he had spoken with Norman Mineta, a former Cabinet Secretary and Heart Mountain incarceree, before his death on May 3. Bunch said Mineta thanked him for his dedication in continuing to promote accurate history.

Tobe, president of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, and Inoue, executive

director of the Japanese American Citizens League, are also actively promoting events that promote the same kind of racial reckoning that Bunch supports.

In August 2021, the Smithsonian used a \$25 million donation from Bank of America to start "Our Shared Future: Reckoning With Our Racial Past," a two-year series of online and in-person events.

"We can't solve the problems of race in America ourselves," Bunch told the *New York Times*. "But we can give the public the tools to stimulate those conversations to help people understand race beyond Black and white."

The visit by the three leaders comes just days after the passage of the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act, which will examine starting such a museum in Washington, D.C.

Higuchi, Burroughs, Inoue and Tobe attended the White House ceremony in which President Joe Biden signed that bill on June 13. ■

## PILGRIMAGE » continued from page 4



The Mineta and Simpson families gather for the Mineta-Simpson Institute groundbreaking.

"He spoke out against the loyalty oath and racism," Margot Walk said of her father. "My father was one of the first compassionate witnesses."

Margot Walk said she was recently talking about Heart Mountain and the Japanese American incarceration and someone "took me aside to ask, 'What country was that?'"

Cynthia Walk, Maurice's daughter and Margot's sister, also shared in the

honor.

"Each in his or her own way is a compassionate witness," Margot Walk said.

### MULTIPLE PANELS

The pilgrimage also featured panels that examined multigenerational trauma suffered by the Japanese American community, heard from authors who wrote histories and

novels about Heart Mountain and the Japanese American incarceration and studied a memoryscape project developed by Erin Aoyama, a Heart Mountain descendant.

The event came at the end of a weeklong workshop for 35 educators led by Heart Mountain staffers and sponsored by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The NEH workshops were part of the impetus for the new Mineta-Simpson Institute, as the foundation needed a larger facility to accommodate the workshops and other gatherings.

"It's a physical building that we are constructing, but it's much more than that," said Aura Sunada Newlin, the foundation's interim executive director. "It's the expansion of our ability to reach a national and international audience with the story of our past here, but also the dynamism of our present and the vision that we have for the future." ■

## JANM » continued from page 4

Chair of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, which operates a museum on the site of the camp where Mineta was incarcerated as a child, Higuchi said Mineta brought that foundation and JANM leadership together.

"I feel him in this community, which he helped stitch together with his devotion," said Ann Burroughs, who hosted the ceremony as the president and CEO of JANM.

Burroughs called Mineta a leader for justice for all Americans.

"Few understood better than Norm just how imperfect America is," Burroughs said.

Stuart Mineta, one of Mineta's sons, said his father was like many Nisei who said little about his incarceration experience.

"His story, his life isn't much different than many of you here," Stuart Mineta said. "That unique Japanese American story of internment is quite honestly something Mom and Dad never told us when we were kids."

### Heart Mountain Boy Scouts outside JANM

PHOTO: RAY LOCKER/HEART MOUNTAIN WYOMING FOUNDATION



What's this story about camp?"

### HEART MOUNTAIN BOY SCOUTS

As a Boy Scout at Heart Mountain, Mineta met his friend of 79 years, former Wyoming Sen. Alan Simpson, during a 1943 Boy Scout jamboree inside Heart Mountain.

Surviving members of that Heart Mountain troop presented a flag to Mineta's widow, Deni, and his sons. One of the scouts, 96-year-old Takashi Hoshizaki, is a Heart Mountain board member and the last surviving member of the group of 85 Heart Mountain incarcerees who resisted the military draft because of their unjust imprisonment.

### THIRD NATIONAL EVENT

The JANM ceremony was the third

event around the country in honor of Mineta.

Washington leaders, including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, praised Mineta's life of service during a June 11 ceremony at the National Methodist Church in Washington, D.C., which was followed by a reception at the home of Japanese Ambassador Koji Tomita.

Simpson gave the main eulogy for Mineta at the Washington service. Higuchi and Burroughs also spoke at the event at the Japanese ambassador's residence.

The following week, Mineta was honored in a service in his hometown of San Jose, Calif., in which he was eulogized by former President Bill Clinton, who selected Mineta to be the nation's first Asian American Cabinet member in 2000. ■



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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.**

## NCWNP

**'Sansei Granddaughters' Journey: From Remembrance to Resistance' Exhibit**

San Bruno, CA  
Thru Sept. 3

AZ Gallery, The Shops at Tanforan  
1150 El Camino Real  
Suite 254

Price: Free

This new exhibit features the work of Sansei Japanese American artists who have dedicated their careers to honor the legacy of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII. Participating artists include Shari Arai DeBoer, Ellen Bepp, Reiko Fujii, Kathy Fujii-Oka and Na Omi Judy Shintani.

Info: Visit [www.sanseigranddaughters.com](http://www.sanseigranddaughters.com).

**2022 Midori Kai Arts and Crafts Boutique**

Sunnyvale, CA

Sept. 10; Beginning at 9:30 a.m.  
Lakeside Office Plaza Parking Lot  
1279-1299 Oakmead Pkwy.

Price: Free

After two years of a virtual presence, the Midori Kai Boutique is back in person featuring Japanese American and Asian artists and crafters, food trucks and raffle drawing. All proceeds will benefit the Midori Kai Foundation, which provides funds to nonprofit organizations. Don't miss this opportunity to get a jump-start on holiday gifts and support a great community cause!

Info: Visit [www.midorikai.com](http://www.midorikai.com).

**76th Annual Japanese Food and Cultural Bazaar at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento**

Sacramento, CA

Sept. 18; 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

This year's drive-thru bazaar will feature preordered food including chicken teriyaki, karaage chicken, chow mein, udon and spam musubi. The bazaar will also feature commemorative merchandise available through presale. Food items must be preordered by Sept. 4.

Info: Visit <https://www.buddhistchurch.org>.

**'Bearing Witness: Selected Works of Chiura Obata'**

San Francisco, CA

Thru January 2023

Asian Art Museum

Chong-Moon Lee Center for

Asian Arts & Culture

200 Larkin St.

Price: Check Museum for Information

This exhibit showcases Chiura Obata's firsthand depictions of the 1906 earthquake and fire, as well as his paintings documenting the forced incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII. Obata (1885-1975) is renowned as a 20th-century master who merged Japanese painting techniques and styles with modern American abstraction.

Info: Visit <https://asianart.org>.

## PSW

**Baseball's Bridge to the Pacific: Celebrating the Legacy of Japanese American Baseball**

Los Angeles, CA

Dodger Stadium

1000 Vin Scully Ave.

This exhibit pays tribute to the 80th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 and the 150th anniversary of U.S.-Japan diplomacy. It consists of historical panels and prewar artifacts that chronicle the introduction of baseball to Japan in the early 1870s to the first Japanese American teams in 1903. The early tours by these Nikkei teams to Asia starting in 1914 helped usher in the start of professional baseball in Japan in 1936. Info: Visit <https://niseibaseball.com/2022/06/11/baseballs-bridge-to-the-pacific-celebrating-the-legacy-of-japanese-american-baseball/>.

Info: Visit [www.janm.org](http://www.janm.org).

**Virtual Talk: 'The War Bride Experience With Kathryn Tolbert' Hawaii**

Aug. 20; 1:30 p.m. (Hawaii Time)

Nisei Veterans Memorial Center

Price: Free

NVMC's "An Afternoon With the Author" will feature Kathryn Tolbert, executive director of the War Bride Experience, a nonprofit organization devoted to telling the stories of Japanese women who married American servicemen and came to the U.S. after WWII.

Info: To register, visit [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ZAgS6x-zRdqQdSggRk8uxA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZAgS6x-zRdqQdSggRk8uxA).

**Book Club Meeting: 'When the Emperor Was Divine' By Julie Otsuka**

Aug. 25; 7 p.m.

Virtual Event

Price: Free

Join the Ventura County JACL for this virtual book talk discussion of Julie Otsuka's "When the Emperor Was Divine," a portrait of the Japanese American incarceration camps that is both a haunting evocation of a family in wartime and a resonant lesson for our times. A small Wisconsin school district recently banned this book. Was this Wisconsin school board correct in its assessment? Info: Visit [www.vcjacl.org](http://www.vcjacl.org) for more information and a Zoom link.

**Okinawan Festival**

Honolulu, HI

Sept. 3-4; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Hawaii Convention Center

1801 Kapiolani Ave.

Price: Tickets Available for Purchase

This year's festival will feature live entertainment, food booths, Obon dancing and Hawaiian cultural exhibits. Food specialties will include Okinawa soba, andagi and andadogs. Don't miss this fabulous cultural event on Oahu!

Info: Call (808) 676-5400.

**Keiro No Hi Festival**

Los Angeles, CA

Sept. 17

**Hosted at four local community organizations in Cerritos, Gardena, Pasadena and Venice**

Price: Free; Registration Required

The fifth annual Keiro No Hi Festival will be hosted by four local organizations throughout the Los Angeles area that will each feature a complimentary bento, gift bag, crafts and more. Come out and safely enjoy celebrating all of the older adults that we have in our lives.

Info: Visit [www.keiro.org/knh](http://www.keiro.org/knh) to register for free. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and closes on Aug. 29 or until spots are filled. For more information, email [programs@keiro.org](mailto:programs@keiro.org) or call (213) 873-5708.

**BeHere/1942: A New Lens on the Japanese American Incarceration'**

Los Angeles, CA

Thru Oct. 9

JANM

100 N. Central Ave.

Created by visionary Japanese media artist Masaki Fujihata, this exhibit invites visitors to see things in the photographic archive that they never knew were there as a result of careful curation of little-known photographs by Dorothea Lange and Russell Lee, some presented in hyper-enlarged form or reimagined as video. Visitors will become photographers themselves, actually participating in the scene, thanks to this unique exhibit.

Info: Visit [www.janm.org/exhibits/behere1942](http://www.janm.org/exhibits/behere1942).

**Poston Annual Pilgrimage**

Parker, Ariz.

Oct. 21-22

Blue Water Casino and Other

Nearby Sites

11300 Resort Dr.

Price: Early Bird Registration

\$150 (Thru Aug. 30); Regular

Registration \$225 (Aug. 31-Oct. 1)

The Poston Community Alliance Annual Pilgrimage returns this year with an in-person event, featuring a new Poston exhibit created within donated space at the Museum of the Colorado River Indian Tribes that includes a map of Poston's three camps for visitors to locate the exact barrack and apartment where their family resided. Educational workshops and bus tours of the Poston Monument and Camp 1 school sites will also be included. A banquet featuring keynote speaker Janice Munemitsu, author of "The Kindness of Color," will include the weekend's activities. Pilgrimage capacity is limited to 150 attendees.

Info: To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-poston-pilgrimage-tickets-326676537317>.

## PNW

**Na Omi Shintani: 'Dream Refuge for Children Imprisoned'**

Portland, OR

April-September

Japanese American Museum of Oregon

**411 N.W. Flanders St. (entrance on 4th Avenue)**

Price: Ticket Admission

"Dream Refuge for Children" is an installation by San Francisco artist Na Omi Shintani that explores the trauma of children that have been incarcerated.

Info: Visit [www.jamo.org](http://www.jamo.org).

## MDC

**Obon Festival**

St. Paul, MN

Aug. 21; 3-9 p.m.

Como Park

1225 Estabrook Dr.

Price: Advance Ticket Purchase

Required: Adults \$5, Children/

Seniors \$3

This year's event marks a return to an in-person celebration of Japanese culture featuring bonsai, martial arts, singing, dancing, drumming delicious foods and all other aspects of Japanese culture. This important cultural event will celebrate ancestral spirits and feature lighted lanterns that will help guide familial ancestral spirits back to their resting places.

Info: To purchase advance tickets, visit <https://webstore1.centaman.net/comozooconservatory/calendar/1000014>.

**'Priscilla Kar Yee Lo: Aiming to Please'**

Chicago, IL

Thru Aug. 27

Chinese American Museum of

Chicago

238 W. 3rd St., 4th Floor

As a child of a Chinese immigrant family in North America, Lo was constantly reminded to be practical about her future. But after more than a decade as a health care professional, she turned to creative outlets to find a voice and explore her identity as a woman of color. She was drawn to glass because it is inherently paradoxical, constantly in a state of fragility and permanency.

Info: Visit <https://ccamuseum.org>.

**Twin Cities JACL 75th Anniversary Celebration**

St. Paul, MN

Oct. 8; 6 p.m.

Historic Fort Snelling

200 Tower Ave.

Please save the date for the upcoming 75th anniversary of the JACL's Twin Cities chapter, featuring an evening that includes a boutique sale, bento box dinner and program that will welcome guest speaker Frank Abe, co-author of the new graphic novel on Japanese American resistance to wartime incarceration "We Hereby Refuse." More information will be forthcoming

Info: Visit [www.tcjacl.org](http://www.tcjacl.org).

## IDC

**'Say My Name' Musical**

Aurora, CO

Aug. 22-24; 7:30 p.m.

People's Building Aurora

9995 E. Colfax Ave.

Tickets: \$20-\$30

"Say My Name" is a new musical that tells the story of Seung-Min, a Korean immigrant studying for her civics prac-

tice/naturalization test. On her path to citizenship, she is haunted by ghosts of Asian women from history to plead with her to say their names, help them release their souls and become citizens as well.

Info: Visit <https://www.insightcolab.org/single-project-for-more-information-and-to-purchase-tickets>.

## EDC

**25th Lowell Southeast Asian**

**Water Festival**

Lowell, MA

Along Pawtucket Blvd.

Price: Free

The Lowell Southeast Asian Water Festival returns for this celebration of water blessings, food, crafts and performances. However, due to Covid, the annual boat race is suspended.

Info: Visit <http://lowellwaterfestival.org>.

**35th Annual Quincy August**

**Moon Festival**

Quincy, MA

Aug. 21; Noon-4 p.m.

Coddington Street at Quincy Center

Price: Free

This year's festival, presented by Quincy Asian Resources, will feature performances, food trucks, amusements and vendors for an afternoon for the entire family to enjoy.

Info: Visit <https://www.qarius.org/august-moon-festival>.

**Experience Chinatown Arts Festival**

Boston, MA

August-October

Pao Arts Center

99 Albay St.

This fall, see, hear, create and connect to celebrate the rich cultural fabric of Boston's Chinatown through free creative activities. Performances will be held at the Pao Arts Center.

Info: Visit <https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/experiencechinatown2022>.

**Odaiko New England Introductory**

**Taiko Workshop**

Arlington, MA

Sept. 4; 9:30-11 a.m.

Price: \$40

Regent Underground Theatre

7 Medford St.

This workshop is a great way to get a taste of taiko drumming, release stress, all while making music and moving your body. Experience first-hand the energy and power of taiko.

Info: Visit <https://onetaiko.org/web/classes/workshops/.nect>. ■

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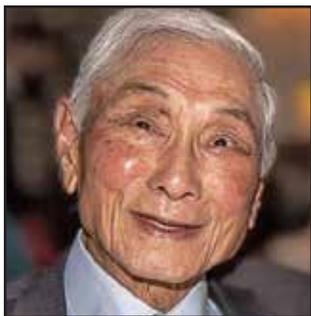
# In MEMORIAM



**Ito, Derek, 39**, San Diego, CA, May 7; he is survived by his parents, Robert and Edna; brother, Bobby; he is also survived by many uncles, aunts, cousins, a niece and a nephew.



**Kanemoto, Elsbeth 'Lisa,' 89**, La Jolla, CA, April 28; she is survived by her husband, George Kikuo Kanemoto; children, Anne Marie Doyle, Eva Marie Kanemoto (Mike Sten) and George David Kanemoto; gc: 2; ggc: 2.



**Kobayashi, Ronald, 82**, La Jolla, CA, May 4; B.A., UCLA; M.D., USC; veteran, Army (Vietnam War); he is survived by his wife, Naomi; daughters, Anne and Caroline (Matthew Sparks); gc: 1.

**Kuramoto, Sam, 93**, San Jose, CA, March 21; veteran (Korean War); he is survived by his wife, Shirley; children, Stuart (Leslie) and Susan (Scott); he is also survived by many relatives.

**Miyatake, Takeko, 94**, Los Angeles, CA, May 4; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the Manzanar WRA Center in CA; she was predeceased by her husband, Archie, and son, Gary; she is survived by her son, Alan (April); gc: 4.

**Nagano, Richard, 93**, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, May 29; he is survived by his wife, Alice Yasuko Nagano; children, Rene (George) LePage and Andrew Nagano; sister-in-law, Lily Nagano; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

**Nakamoto, Christine, 70**, San Jose, CA, April 18; she is survived by her daughters, Britta and Kerri; 3 siblings; she is also survived by other family and friends. Nakamoto, Yoriyoshi, 94, Gardena, CA, May 3; he is survived by his wife, Miyoko; daughters, Lori Prybylla (Paul) and Shari Nakamoto (Alex Kawana); 3 siblings; gc: 1.



**Nanjo, Frances, 90**, Elk Grove, CA, May 24; B.A., SFSU; she was predeceased by her husband, Henry; she is survived by her sons, Henry David and Peter; sister, Shizue Kohayakawa; gc: 5; ggc: 2.

**Sakioka, Leslie, 68**, Anaheim, CA, May 26; she was predeceased by her brother, Sidney.

**Sasaki, Susan, 67**, Sacramento, CA, May 30; she was predeceased by her brother, Wayman Lum; she is survived by her husband, Stan; children, Windi Sasaki (Conor McLaughlin), Suzanne Sasaki-Hartstein (Scott Hartstein) and Stanley Sasaki Jr.; mother, Rosalina Lum; siblings, Katy Lee (Andy), Ronnie Lum, Mario Lum (Nina) and Sandy Le (Tu); sister-in-law, Bettie Lum; gc: 1.



**Shiraiishi, Diane, 75**, San Jose, CA, May 17; B.A., UCSF; she is survived by her husband, Norman; sons, Kurt (Allie) and Craig (Yen); siblings, Joyce Umemoto, Ken Ota, Debbie Lienhart, and Chris Ota; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends; gc: 1.



**Taniguchi, Kiyoko, 101**, Selma, CA, May 2; she was predeceased by her husband, Shigeyoshi "Shig" Taniguchi; eldest son, Tomoyoshi Tommy Taniguchi; she is survived by her children, Seiji Steve Taniguchi, Emy Taniguchi, Arlene (Danny) Eberly, David (Esperanza) Taniguchi; gc: 6.

**Teragawa, Itsuko, 104**, Monterey, CA, May 11; she is survived by her daughters, Aiko Teragawa and Yasuko Teragawa; brother, James Tsuchiyama (Kinue); sister-in-law, Janet Tsuchiyama; gc: 1; and ggc: 1.

**Terao, Joyce Mitsuko, 102**, Alameda, CA, April 5; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the Minidoka WRA Center in ID; longtime JACLer (Alameda Chapter); she was predeceased by her husband, Rev. Eiyu Terao; nephew, Kirk Akahoshi; siblings, Umeko Tateyama, Isamu Tateyama and Noboru Tateyama; she is survived by her children, Reiko Murakami (Ray), Karen Akahos.

**Tomono, Tsugio, 85**, Sacramento, CA, June 4.

**Urano, Reiko, 87**, Westminster, CO, June 1; she was predeceased by her husband, Henry, and sister, Sue (Charles) Hannel; she is survived by her siblings, Jean (Andy) Andrews, Doris (Mark) Goodell, Linda (Rock) Alderman, Ted (Velma) Kusuno, Ned Kusuno and Grant (Cindy) Kusuno.

**Yano, Lynne ('Aunty Skinny'), 82**, Honolulu, HI, June 3; she was predeceased by her siblings, Edgar R., Horace, Steven, Gerald, Mildred Ouchi, Joyce Iwata, Sylvia Yoshida, Hope Chang, Maile Maeda and Joanne Teruya; she is survived by her husband, Thomas Y.; children, Chris, Craig, Cathy (Wes) Hirano and Colby (Donn) Morita; gc: 1.

TRIBUTE

**SETSUKO HAYASHIDA**



Sets was born in Brawley, Calif. She passed away peacefully at a care home in Roseville after suffering a stroke. During World War II, she and her family were relocated to internment camps in Poston, Ariz., and Tule Lake, Calif. Following the war, she and husband, George, raised their sons on the family farm in Loomis. She later worked for Loomis Main Drug and the Formica Corp. and retired in 1989.

She had a keen intellect and was an avid reader. She had a range of interests, from word games and mah-jong to Japanese dollmaking and tap dancing. She doted on her grandchildren and enjoyed lunches with her many friends. An excellent cook, she made inarizushi, tamales and lemon meringue pie. She had a particular fondness for fresh crab.

She was predeceased by her husband, George (Chuck). She is survived by her sons, Joel (Susan Lew) and Lee (Kim); grandchildren, Steven and Nichole; sister, Mary Nakamura; and brother-in-law, Robert Hayashida.

Private services are pending. The family respectfully requests no flowers, plants, gifts or koden.

TRIBUTE

**DONALD MITSURU WAKIDA**



Donald Mitsuru Wakida died on Sunday, July 17, 2022, in Fresno, Calif. He was 83.

He was born on Aug. 5, 1938, in Selma, Calif., to Frank Mitsumori and Rose Hatsuko Wakida and raised in rural Parlier. In 1941, he was incarcerated with his parents and younger brother John, at the Gila River Relocation Camp, for the duration of World War II. The family returned to California in 1945. His father tragically died in 1947 and a year later, his mother married Harry Masao Wakida and had

a daughter, Roslyn. Postwar, the family grew up in downtown Fresno, and Don attended Emerson Elementary and Longfellow Jr. High. He remembered a childhood of community picnics, playing baseball at the California Field clubhouse with his Mexican and Armenian friends, and movies at Wilson Theater. Don was an avid Boy Scout, earning the highest rank of Eagle Scout with Troop 27 in 1955, and he graduated from Roosevelt High in 1957.

He married Geraldine (Kebo) Wakida in 1962 and had three children. In 1961, he joined the Navy, serving through the Vietnam War and traveling around the world on military cruises. He became a skilled electronic technician, earning the rank of chief warrant officer while stationed in Yokosuka, Japan; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; and San Diego, Calif., before retiring after 24 years of service. Following the Navy, he was employed by the U.S. Postal Service for 27 years.

Don served numerous years as commander for the Central California Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8499, as advocate for the Japanese American Veterans Association, and attended annual reunions with the Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans group in Las Vegas.

He is survived by his wife, Gerry; daughters, Debbi Jorgensen (Jeff Jorgensen) and Patricia Wakida (Sam Arbizo); son, Douglas Wakida (Shawna Haymond); sister, Roslyn Lara; and five grandchildren, Ben Jorgensen (Katie Jorgensen), Rachel Jorgensen, Kyle Wakida, Ethan Wakida and Takumi Arbizo.

Donations in his honor to: FFNV <https://ffnv.org/donate/>.

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## AARP SURVEY REVEALS LINK BETWEEN WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH AND DISCRIMINATION

By Scott Tanaka

Last month, AARP announced the results of its annual survey “Mirror/Mirror: Women’s Reflections on Beauty, Age and Media.” The study revealed that 60 percent of Asian American and Pacific Islander women age 50-plus experience discrimination “at least sometimes.”

Furthermore, AAPI women who experience discrimination regularly are subjected to it most frequently because of their race, ethnicity and/or skin tone (82 percent). Yet, close to half cited their accent as another top reason they feel discriminated against, followed by their age.

Not surprisingly, AAPI women who experience discrimination based on ethnicity/race/skin tone rated their current mental health lower than those who don’t.

AARP’s “Mirror/Mirror” survey also reflects the pressure working women feel to look or act a certain way. Among Asian American and Pacific Islander women 50-plus, 78 percent have felt pressured to look or act a certain way at work.

For these women, the most common types of pressure to act or behave a certain way at work include: 52 percent feel pressure to wear gender-appropriate clothing; 50 percent feel they should wear

professional clothing and 48 percent feel pressured to wear age-appropriate clothing.

The survey revealed that while experiences of discrimination may vary, women who experience discrimination regularly adapt to it in similar ways.

“Being an Asian American and Pacific Islander woman has always been challenging due to the stereotypes we have had to endure. . . . In the workplace, women, including AAPI women, should not have to combat barriers like age, ethnicity or any other factor to get their work done, succeed and excel,” said Daphne Kwok, vp of Asian American & Pacific Islander Audience Strategy, Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

The survey, key elements of which will appear in a digital and print content collaboration with *Allure* beginning with its June/July issue, also revealed that younger women are more likely to say that discrimination impacts their mental health.

However, age discrimination impacts women of all ages and ethnic backgrounds.

To learn more, visit <https://www.aarp.org/mirrormirror>. For tips, tools and resources on how to stay mentally and physically fit, visit [aarp.org/mentalhealth](https://www.aarp.org/mentalhealth).

## 1963 » continued from page 3

Examining Corps having only a single Black American member and no Asian member. The venerable Patent Examining Corps represented an example of America’s shameful, racial segregation, even among employees of the U.S. Government.

The Civil Rights March on Washington was a defining vivid memory. And carrying forward that memory into today’s times, I want to believe in a future where everything is possible. And waiting in the future for many Americans is a reason for living, a purpose to aspire, to reach an evolved America of a Promised Land.

A future where everything is possible for Americans living today has its roots in the Civil Rights Act of 1964, introduced in the House as HR 7152 by Emanuel Celler (D-N.Y.) on June 20, 1963.

Following the March on Washington and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, successor President Lyndon B. Johnson signed it into law, enacted July 2, 1964.

In addition, Emanuel Celler drafted and voted into passage not only the Civil Rights Act of 1964 but also the second Civil Rights Act of 1968 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Critics argued, “Legislation can’t force people to change their behaviors.” But those critics were wrong.

We Americans can help shape America, shape its future, with appropriate legislation — a future where everything is possible for our children.

We can begin by rallying in support of HR 40, a companion bill of the proposed legislation “Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act.”

Japanese Americans share a history of passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, which granted reparations to Japanese Americans for their forced confinement in U.S. military detention camps during World War II and should be especially bound by such confinement experiences and a sense of conscience to refrain from passive indifference to reparations for African Americans. We should instead rally in support of HR 40.

In doing so, Japanese Americans can help overcome overt hypocrisy toward Japanese American reparations, as was uttered during a CBS Saturday morning news program on Feb. 22, 2020, after having reported the California Assembly apologized on February 20, 2020, for discriminating against Japanese Americans and helping the U.S. government transport them to internment camps during WWII.

Gerald Kita is a member of the Philadelphia JACL chapter.

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