

PACIFIC CITIZEN

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‘NEVER AGAIN!’

Thousands gather at the 48th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage to ensure history is not repeated.

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Venice dedicates Japanese American Memorial Monument.

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The Santa Anita Assembly Center is remembered 75 years later.



PHOTO: CHARLES JAMES

APAs in the News/NewsBytes

Honolulu International Airport Renamed After Sen. Daniel Inouye



HONOLULU — The Honolulu International Airport has been renamed in honor of the late Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, effective April 27.

The Daniel K. Inouye International Airport now appears on the official website of Hawaii's busiest airport, though the airport's three-letter designation will remain HNL.

The name change was approved after a resolution was passed last year. The Department of Transportation is currently working with the Inouye family to hold an official ceremony later this month.

Inouye, who died in 2012 at the age of 88, secured funds each year to maintain and develop the Honolulu airport. He served in the Senate for 49 years, beginning in 1963.

The name change comes as the airport undergoes a major modernization project that includes a consolidated rental car facility, the widening of taxi lanes and other visual and structural improvements.

Irene Hirano to Be Awarded JANM Lifetime Achievement Award



LOS ANGELES — Irene Hirano will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Japanese American National Museum's 25th anniversary gala on May 6 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles.

Hirano, whose husband was Sen. Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii, is a founding executive director and former president and CEO of the museum. She is currently president of the U.S.-Japan Council, which she has held since the organization's inception in 2009.

JANM is also set to honor Bruce Kaji, founding director and founding president

of the museum, with the Legacy Award and Tom Ikeda, current and founding executive director of Densho, with the Founders' Award.

USC Professor Emily Ryo Awarded Carnegie Fellowship



LOS ANGELES — Emily Ryo, a rising star at USC Gould School of Law in the field of immigration and criminal law, was awarded a 2017 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship, one of the most prestigious and generous fellowships for researchers in the social sciences and humanities, on April 26.

Ryo, one of just 35 in the U.S. to be awarded the fellowship, was selected for her innovative and cutting-edge research on unauthorized migration, the legal attitudes of noncitizens and immigration detention. Ryo will work on a large-scale empirical study of the nature and consequences of U.S. immigration detention. One of the study's goals is to investigate what immigration detention teaches noncitizens about the U.S. legal system, democratic values and the rule of law.

"I'm truly honored to receive the Carnegie Fellowship," said Ryo. "I hope that my work as a Carnegie Fellow will help us to reconceptualize immigration enforcement as more than just a legal compliance tool. Today, we tend to think of enforcement practices such as detention simply as a means of forcing people to obey our laws. But every interaction that a noncitizen has with our immigration system and legal authorities is an occasion that either engenders trust in our legal system or breeds legal cynicism, which can have profound implications for our democracy and governance."

The Andrew Carnegie Fellowships provide \$200,000 to 35 scholars, journalists and public intellectuals. The recipients were selected based on the originality, promise and potential impact of their proposals.

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Tokyo Jeweler Offers Gold Darth Vader Mask for \$1.4 Million



TOKYO — Star Wars fans might consider it a golden opportunity. Tokyo jeweler Ginza Tanaka is offering a life-size Darth Vader mask made of 24-karat gold at a hefty price of 154 million yen (U.S.\$1.4 million) to mark the 40th anniversary of the release of the first "Star Wars" movie.

The creation measures 26.5 centimeters (10.4 inches) wide and 30 centimeters (11.8 inches) high. The jeweler says the mask was not designed for wearing — at about 33 pounds, it would be too heavy and has no opening for a head.

While the mask is its most expensive "Star Wars" memorabilia, the jeweler has made pricier products. In 2013, a gold Disney-themed Christmas tree was priced at \$4.5 million.

Judy K. Sakaki Assumes Office of President at Sonoma State University



SONOMA, CALIF. — Students, faculty and academic leaders from throughout California gathered on April 20 for the investiture of Judy K. Sakaki as the new president of Sonoma State University.

University Chancellor Timothy White presented Sakaki with the Presidential Medallion, representing the "authority and responsibility of the office of the president."

Sakaki is the university's seventh president, the first woman in office since Marjorie Wagner 40 years ago and the first Japanese American woman in the country to head a four-year university.

(A full story of Sakaki's investiture will appear in the May 19 issue of the P.C.)

— Pacific Citizen and Associated Press

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A MOTHER'S TAKE

A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD

By Marsha Aizumi

Someone once told me that a positive quality could become negative if carried to the extreme. I didn't quite understand this concept initially because I thought how could something positive become something negative. Then upon reflection, I realized how true that was.

If I care about something too much, that could lead me to worry needlessly, be overly protective or jealous and not give others the space to grow and learn what is important for them.

If I am generous and kind without boundaries, my life can be out of balance. How many times have I given so much of my time and energy that I get sick or become so tired I can't enjoy time with my family?

Our lives need balance. We must give to ourselves as much as we give to others. We need to receive in equal amounts . . . the love, care, support and consideration we often so generously share.

And so last month when I traveled to Japan for the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance's (NQAPIA) Family Acceptance Campaign to speak and meet with groups, I saw the double-edged sword of honor.

One of the reasons I wanted to be part of this speaking tour was because this was the country that gave me two of my most precious gifts — my sons, Aiden and Stefen. In a way, I felt I was giving back to a country that had given so much to me.

So, at every event and meeting, I shared my enormous gratitude for Japan giving me the opportunity to adopt these two wonderful boys. At one of the meetings, we went around

the room and introduced ourselves. One Japanese woman said she was so interested in my adoption experience.

She, like me, was unable to have children, and when she looked into adopting a child, her family did not approve because the child would not have their blood. I could see the regret and sorrow in her eyes as she spoke. A chance had been missed to be a mother because of a sense of honor to her family and lineage. I felt for her because I realized how different my life would have been if I didn't have my two children.

I tried to comfort her after the meeting and told her that my children are now grown, but through my advocacy work around the country, I have so many other children who need my love.

I have sons in Kentucky, Hawaii, China, Illinois and daughters in Japan, Washington, D.C. and North Carolina — I am a mother to so many. I said there are many LGBTQ children who need a mother while their biological family is processing through the news that their child is lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual or queer.

Perhaps she could be their mother while their biological families find their way. I don't think that took away her sadness, but I hope if a situation presents itself, she will find a way to be a mother to a child that needs her love.

Ironically at the same meeting, I heard about a three-year plan to bring greater awareness to Japan about the LGBTQ topic. This plan was being motivated by the 2020 Olympics that are coming to Tokyo, and Japan did not want to see the negativity that surrounded the Olympics in Sochi to overshadow its event. A sense of honor, in this case, was causing Japan to work hard to bring greater understanding and knowledge to their country, so as guests arrive to participate or attend the Olympics, they would all feel welcomed and embraced.



Sending a wish out into the world at Meiji Temple



Marsha Aizumi at a Family Acceptance Workshop with local LGBTQ activists

>> See SWORD on page 9



A YONSEI TRANSPLANTED

THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF CHOICE

By Matthew Ormseth

I was nearly bowled over with giddy relief when an alum, visiting the office of the campus newspaper, told me and the other staffers, "A writer is someone who thinks writing is hard." It was a moment of salvation.

As an aspiring reporter, I'd always harbored a suspicion that I was not cut out for the trade because I found writing excruciating. Every time I sat down to write a story, I'd wonder how in the world I would manage to squeeze the variety and richness of experience through the bottleneck of language.

Faced with the vastness of choice — Which words to use? Where to cut the sentence, the paragraph? What goes where, and when? — I'd contemplate giving it up.

The story, the dream of being a journalist, writing in general. I think it's the mandate of choice that is most daunting for me as a writer, and knowing that other writers felt the same way was not so much comforting as it was redemptive. I felt saved.

As I grow older, I become more overwhelmed by the choices I have to make, and do make, every second of every minute of every day.

We choose what to feel and what to think, what to say and not to say. And, as the cliché goes, to choose not to do something is a choice in of itself, so we really do end up

choosing, always.

It is funny, too, that as I grow older, I find myself returning to a quote I came across in childhood, from the "Harry Potter" series, no less.

"It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities," Dumbledore tells our hero in "The Chamber of Secrets." I still believe it.

I'd like to think that if we gauged someone's character by his choices, rather than his ability or his circumstances, it'd make for a fairer and better estimation.

One of the tenets of Marxism I've struggled with is its determinism, its conviction that circumstances shape one's character rather than character shaping the circumstances of an individual.

Marx argued vehemently against, and rightly so, arguments that material poverty is the result of a poverty of willpower, intellect or morals — arguments that still resound in congressional chambers today.

Marx instead argued that a lack of willpower or intellect in someone who is poor is more often the result of being brought up in conditions of material poverty — the inverse of the preceding argument.

And I agree with him. What I disagree with, however, is the fatalism that lurks in so much of Marx, the unshakable suspicion that we cannot rise above our circumstances.

The poor are doomed to be poor and uncreative and shiftless so long as they live and work within a system that treats them as poor and uncreative and shiftless.

Does free will not exist? When I read Marx, I was reminded of a quote from James Ellroy, who grew up in poverty after his mother was murdered in Los Angeles.

"Crime was the sloth and disorder of individual default on an epidemic scale," Ellroy writes in "My Dark Places." "Free will existed. Humans were better than lab rats reacting to stimuli."

But one thing I've learned, too, is that no two choices are equal; more often than not you're playing with a loaded die.

In college, I've learned how difficult it is to break out of cycles of endemic, multigenerational poverty. How discrimination teaches children to internalize bias and hatred. How much easier it is to be kind and innovative and responsible when your stomach is full and rent is paid and you have something to look forward to.

When I think about the staggering number and complexity of choices adults have to make in a single day, I feel like the stupefied writer at the desk again, saddled with the weight of the world, desperately afraid of being found out for the incompetent he really is.

My view of choice falls somewhere between the fatalism of Marx and Ellroy's belief in free will.

The choices we face are weighted from the start, but we still get to choose. And out of those choices — the millions we make, every single day — we can trace a constellation of identity, the rough outline of who or what we are.

Matthew Ormseth is currently a student at Cornell University majoring in English. He seeks to give an honest portrayal of life as both a university student and member of the Millennial generation.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT'S SIGNING OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066

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The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. The JACL is a national organization whose mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. The JACL also works to promote cultural, educational, and social values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.

MONUMENT TO 1942 JAPANESE AMERICAN REMOVAL DEDICATED

After years of planning and raising more than \$150,000 in funds, a permanent reminder of history is erected at a West Los Angeles intersection.

By P.C. Staff

More than 16 years of planning and fundraising culminated on April 27 when the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument was dedicated before a crowd of more than 200 people.

The monument is a 9-1/2-foot tall, 12,500-pound black granite obelisk at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln boulevards in West Los Angeles, and it was erected to commemorate a day in April 1942 when about 1,000 persons of Japanese ancestry — American-born citizens and legal permanent resident aliens alike — from the surrounding areas of Venice, Santa Monica and Malibu were compelled by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 to gather at that intersection.

Those 1,000 people then boarded buses that took them to an assembly center, where they were processed to be transported to the



Brian Maeda (at the lectern) introduces his older brother, Arnold Maeda (waving) to the crowd assembled at the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument dedication ceremony on April 27. The brothers have quotations engraved on one face of the monument. The other former Manzanar incarceratedees with quotations engraved on the monument include Mae Kageyama Kakehashi, Amy Takahashi Ioki and Yoshinori Tomita.



Brothers Robert (left) and Ken Kataoka paid tribute to their father, Charles Kataoka, by wearing suits similar to what he wore when he and more than 1,000 local Japanese Americans and their families boarded buses in April

1942 at Venice and Lincoln boulevards in Los Angeles to remove them from the area. (Inset) The original name tag issued to Charles Kataoka. The tags were issued by the government for luggage or to be attached to one's clothing.

Manzanar War Relocation Authority Center, more than 220 miles northeast of that area of Los Angeles, in Inyo County.

The four faces of the monument are engraved with different messages. One side has a map from the intersection to the Manzanar National Historic Site. The other faces include names of major donors, an explanation of the history and context of what happened and quotations from five individuals who were incarcerated at Manzanar.

The VJAAM Committee, headed by Phyllis Hayashibara, raised more than

\$150,000 for the monument. The keynote speaker for the ceremony was former California Assemblyman Warren Furutani.

Other speakers for the dedication ceremony included Jim Smith, Venice Peace and Freedom Party; Ruth Galanter, former member of the L.A. City Council; Joel Jacinto, Los Angeles Public Works Department board member; Zev Yaroslavsky, former Los Angeles County supervisor; Rachel Zaiden, senior field deputy for L.A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl; Len Nguyen, senior field deputy for L.A. City Councilman

Mike Bonin; Kevin McKeown, Santa Monica city councilmember and former mayor; Jeff Burton, National Parks Service; Dr. Jimmy Hara; and Dr. Thomas Yoshikawa. ■

BERKELEY JACL AWARDS 12 SCHOLARSHIPS AND HONORS ITS PIONEER RECIPIENTS

The Berkeley JACL chapter awarded scholarships to 12 high school seniors and presented Pioneer Awards to Al Satake and Ranko Yamada during its April 30 awards luncheon held at Richmond Country Club in Richmond, Calif.

The chapter awarded scholarships to 12 high school seniors based upon their academic achievements, community involvement, school activities, work history, JACL involvement, written essay, letter of recommendation and group interview.

This year's scholarship recipients are:

- **Martha Castro** (College Prep High School) will attend Pomona College and major in molecular biology. She is also the recipient of the Dan/Kathleen Date Memorial Scholarship.
- **Hope Fa-Kaji** (Berkeley High School) will attend Rice University and major in mechanical engineering.
- **Kelsey Hirota** (Berkeley High School) will attend the University of California, San Diego, as a computer science major.
- **Rachel Hirota** (Berkeley High School) will attend the University of California, Davis, as an animal sciences major. She is also the recipient of the Carolyn Adams



Berkeley JACL paid tribute to its scholarship recipients and Pioneer Award honorees at a luncheon on April 30. Pictured are (seated, from left) Junko Taniguchi, Courtney Tamaki, Kelsey Hirota, Rachel Hirota, Martha Castro and Kyra Kawamoto and (standing, from left) Carolyn Adams, Reiko Nabeta, Jonathan Shindo, Mia Li, Cailyn Sakurai, Toshio Steimetz, Amelia Huster, Hope Fa-Kaji, George Kono, Al Satake and Ranko Yamada.

- Family Scholarship.
- **Amelia Huster** (Berkeley High School) will attend the University of California, Santa Cruz, as an undeclared major.
- **Kyra Kawamoto** (Albany High School) will attend the University of Hawaii as a marine biology major.
- **Mia Li** (College Park High School) will

- attend Seattle University and major in international business.
- **Akira Roueche** (Berkeley High School) will attend California State University, Fullerton, and major in kinesiology.
- **Cailyn Sakurai** (El Cerrito High School) will attend Chapman University as a biological science major.

- **Toshio Steimetz** (Berkeley High School) will attend the University of California, Santa Barbara, as an undeclared major.
- **Courtney Tamaki** (Albany High School) will attend the University of California, Berkeley, as a genetic/genomic development major. She is also the recipient of the Terry Yamashita Memorial Scholarship.
- **Junko Taniguchi** (Lowell High School) will attend Smith College as an undeclared major. She is also the recipient of the Bea Kono Memorial Scholarship.

Also during the awards luncheon, the chapter honored Al Satake and Ranko Yamada with its Pioneer Award, which recognizes those with the vision, compassion and energy to lay a foundation for building the Japanese American community into the active and vibrant one we share today, as well as linking past leaders with our future leaders.

In addition, the chapter recognized longtime major sponsors Union Bank (Dimitry Bokman), Wells Fargo Bank (Vance Oishi/Jonathan Shindo) and memorial scholarship donors from the Beatrice Kono family (George Kono), the Terry Yamashita family (Reiko Nabeta), the Dan/Kathleen Date family (Gail Yamamoto) and the Carolyn Adams Family.

Members of this year's scholarship committee were Mark Fujikawa, Tiffany Ikeda, Lindsey Kuwahara, Vera Kawamura, Neal Ouye, Al Satake, Sharron Sue and Chair Ron Tanaka. ■

PHOTOS: CHARLES JAMES

Traci Ishigo with the JACL and Pat Sakamoto with the Manzanar Committee welcomed those attending the 48th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage.



Park Superintendent Bernadette Johnson assured everyone that the NPS' mission was to preserve, honor and remember Manzanar Concentration Camp's history.



Jun Yamada, consul general of Japan in San Francisco, spoke about the perseverance of the incarcerated.

MANZANAR PILGRIMAGE: 'Never Again, to Anyone, Anywhere!'

By Charles James,
Contributor

The attendance at this year's 48th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage was much larger than any in recent years, with a record-setting 2,000-plus participants gathered at the National Historic Site to pay homage to this year's theme: "Never Again, to Anyone, Anywhere!"

The pilgrimage, which took place on April 29, commemorated the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, though "commemorate" should not be confused with "celebrate."

There was nothing to celebrate in the executive order that brought about a time in the U.S. when the country did not live up to its democratic and constitutional values. It allowed a whole group of American citizens to be deprived of their civil rights and civil liberties based purely on their national origin and outright racism and segregated into concentration camps in desolate areas of the U.S.

President Donald Trump promised to bring the country "together as never before" in his victory speech after winning the November election. If the large attendance, the words of the speakers and the comments of many of those attending the Manzanar Pilgrimage are any sign, it would appear that President Trump certainly has "brought the country together" — only that it is in *opposition* to his comments and policies that have singled out Muslims from several countries as a national security threat despite no

supporting evidence.

It is feared that Trump and his administration are using language and attempting many of the same scare tactics that echo the same hysterical thinking that gripped the U.S. during WWII, allowing the country far too easily to fall susceptible to allowing oppression, hatred and fearmongering. The result back then was the creation of the Japanese American concentration camps, only now it is being directed at other groups because of their national origins, ethnicity and religion.

The WWII Japanese American concentration camp at Manzanar is located some 200 miles north of Los Angeles. This year's pilgrimage was held on a beautiful day, with a clear blue sky, mild temperatures and moderate winds.

The towering and majestic granite, snow-capped peaks of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range offered a picturesque backdrop to the pilgrimage ceremonies, yet it belies the tragic events that put more than 10,000 Japanese Americans and legal permanent residents of Japanese heritage behind barbed-wire fences in this remote location.

The often-extreme weather at Manzanar added to the misery of the camp's incarcerated, who were forced to live in crowded, hurriedly built barracks that did little to keep out the stifling, simmering heat of summer or frigid blasts of winter winds or the dust from the ferocious wind storms.

In the words of Manzanar Committee Co-Chair Bruce Embrey, "There was a vicious, deliberate, despicable drive to make sure that these camps were sites of suffering."

It was evident on approach of the main entryway to the Manzanar National Historic Site that something was "very different" this year.

The main parking lot was completely full — even overflowing — as cars and buses were beginning to park outside the entryway along the shoulder of Old Hwy 395. There were a reported record 13 large tour buses on site. Both large and small groups of people were scurrying about everywhere from in and out of the old camp auditorium-converted-to-museum and the barracks exhibits to hurrying along the pathways that led to the "Soul Consoling Tower" monument and cemetery — outside of which the pilgrimage ceremony was held.

The ceremony started with the always energetic UCLA Kyodo Taiko drummers, followed by a welcome from hosts Pat Sakamoto and Traci Ishigo. They, in turn, introduced Bernadette Johnson, superintendent of the Manzanar National Historic Site. Johnson assured the gathering that the staff and volunteers at the camp were committed to preserving its history and the stories of those incarcerated there. Johnson also informed the gathering that there were a record 105,000 visitors to the park in 2016.

Jun Yamada, consul general of Japan in San Francisco, then spoke of the hardships endured by camp incarcerated and of his past visit to Manzanar, during which he had the opportunity to talk with former incarcerated and Nisei veterans. He said it had a great impact on him. Yamada evoked laughter from the crowd several times with his



Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi (left) presented Resolution ACR 1, establishing the 75th anniversary of E.O. 9066 as an official Day of Remembrance to Bruce Embrey.

modest, good-natured humor.

Another guest speaker, State Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi, rode a bus with others from the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute to the concentration camp. He presented Resolution ACR 1, which establishes the 75th anniversary of President Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 as a Day of Remembrance in California to the Manzanar Committee. Muratsuchi's wife, Hiroko Higuchi, and daughter also joined him on the trip.

Other speeches followed, some of which expressed outrage and defiance at the seemingly similar conditions that led up to the concentration camps during WWII and the current political atmosphere being touted by the current Trump Administration, which appear to be attacks on the most vulnerable and marginalized — the Muslim community, immigrants, refugees and LGBTQ community.

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It was a record-setting 48th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, as the event welcomed a crowd of more than 2,000 participants on April 29.



The Rev. Dr. Alfred Tsuyuki of the Konkō Kyo Church



The Santa Anita Assembly Center Remembrance ceremony honored all veterans of America's wars.



Robert Fujioka and his mother, Shiz



The Santa Anita Assembly Center in 1942

A RACE TRACK REMEMBERED

More than 200 attendees gathered to recognize and recall their time at the Santa Anita Assembly Center on the 75th anniversary of the incarceration experience.

By Charles James, Contributor

The Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles welcomed more than 200 Japanese Americans and their guests on April 15 to acknowledge the 75th anniversary and remembrance of the Santa Anita Assembly Center and recognize the 75th anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066, which resulted in more than 19,000 Japanese Americans being evicted from their homes and incarcerated on the grounds of the Santa Anita Race Track between April 1942-Oct. 27, 1942, following the outbreak of World War II.

These gatherings and reunions are very much family affairs. And while they are occasions of solemn remembrance, they are also joyous meetings between old, dear friends as well. There is laughter and tears of joy as fellow internees see each other for one more time. Over the years, many friendships and close bonds have been formed between

them. They share an easy comradeship that comes from being among others that shared a common injustice and suffered the hardships of being sent to the concentration camps. Often, they have very fond memories of their stay in the camps.

Among those attending the Santa Anita Remembrance were a dozen descendants of *Rafu Shimpo* editor and journalist Shiro Fujioka, his wife, Chiyo, and their nine children.

Camp records show that Hiro Fujioka and his family arrived at the Santa Anita Assembly Center on April 29, 1942. Hiro and Chiyo were later sent to Heart Mountain in Wyoming with their nine children, arriving there on Sept. 4, 1942.

The family of Jack Kunitomi sat at the table with Shizuko Fujioka née Sakihara and her son, Robert. Shiz was incarcerated at Manzanar and later married Yoshiro "Babe" Fujioka, the youngest son of Hiro and Chiyo Fujioka. Jack Kunitomi was married to Masa Fujioka, the daughter of Shiro and Chiyo Fujioka.

Jack Yoshisuki Kunitomi, who is 100 years old, attended the event. He was incarcerated at Heart Mountain with his wife and later was drafted to serve as an interpreter with the Military Intelligence Service during the war and then later in the post-war occupation of Japan. His oldest son, Dale, who born in the Heart Mountain concentration camp, along with his brother, Darrell, and sisters Colleen Miyano and Kerry Cababa also joined their father at the event.

Best known for thoroughbred horse racing, the Santa Anita Race Track in Arcadia, Calif., hosts some of the most prominent racing events in the United States. Not surprisingly and largely unknown to most Americans and racing aficionados, it also served as an assembly area for seven months after President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942.

Santa Anita's parking lot was filled with row after row of 500 tar paper-covered barracks. Some internees were housed in the 64 converted horse stalls. The camp was di-

vided into seven districts, which held several mess halls, a hospital, stores, a post office, classrooms, recreation buildings, laundry, showers and latrines. Bachelors were housed in the grandstand building.

The camp had its own newspaper, the *Pacemaker*, and church services were held in the track's grandstand.

Executive Order 9066 (*the original is on temporary display at the museum until May 21*) authorized military commanders to exclude "any or all persons" from certain areas in the name of national defense. It cleared the way for the internment of Japanese Americans, German Americans and Italian Americans to concentration camps across the United States. Eventually, more than 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry — most were Japanese American citizens — to concentration camps in isolated parts of the country.

There were 17 temporary "Assembly Centers" designated to house the evicted population until construction on the more permanent and isolated concentration camps was finished. Most, like Santa Anita, were converted from race tracks or fairgrounds.

>> See RACE TRACK on page 9



More than 200 guests attended the Santa Anita Reunion and Remembrance Day ceremony on April 15 at JANM.

JANM DEVELOPS LESSON PLANS FOR 'INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS' EXHIBITION



LOS ANGELES — The Japanese American National Museum has developed a series of lesson plans for teachers to complement its “Instructions to All Persons: Reflections on Executive Order 9066” exhibition and enhance student learning of the 75th anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s signing of the order that led to the tragic and unlawful incarceration of 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

Now available on the museum’s website, the lessons are intended for middle and high school students and can be used both when visiting the museum and in the classroom. Development of the lesson plans was funded by the Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, which also funded a two-day teacher workshop at the museum March 31-April 1.

Each of the six lessons now available at janm.org/instructions-to-all/resources is intended to encourage reflection and discussion about the experience of Japanese Americans during World War II and its continuing relevance today.

The lessons are: Bill of Rights: Violated or Upheld?; Instructions to All Persons: Document Analysis; Do Words Matter? Civilian Exclusion Order; A Dream Deferred; Instructions to All Persons; Looking at Current Executive Orders.

“We hope that the lessons we’ve developed will help educators guide their students into meaningful thought and conversation about what happened during World War II, what similarities and differences they observe in the world today and why it’s important for everyone to be vigilant about protecting the democracy of the United

States,” said Allyson Nakamoto, the museum’s director of education. “The Japanese American National Museum opened to the public 25 years ago, and while the World War II experience has always been at the core of our mission and work, making sure that younger generations connect with what happened and understand the ramifications of certain actions, or lack of action, seems especially vital right now. We’re grateful to the Broad Foundation for its support in helping us bring these lesson plans to fruition.”

The two-day teacher workshop at JANM brought together educators from the Los Angeles Unified School District and local charter schools, experts and first-person voices to gain a better understanding of how listening to and learning about other people’s stories is so important when teaching young people.

A first-grade teacher reflected, “This workshop inspired me to bring more marginalized voices and histories to my classroom and gave me concrete tools and support to do so. The speakers were amazing and discussion was quite mind-opening. It’s such an important time to be doing this work. I feel incredibly grateful to have had this experience.”

“The incarceration that resulted from Executive Order 9066 75 years ago is increasingly relevant today, and it’s vitally important that parents and teachers instill lessons of the past in our children so that shameful injustices never happen again,” said Gerun Riley, president of the Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation. “We are pleased to support lesson materials and professional development that allow teachers to make learning even more impactful for their students.” ■

GO FOR BROKE NATIONAL EDUCATION CENTER AWARDED \$193,080 GRANT

Funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities will be used to digitize 800 Nisei veterans’ oral histories from the Hanashi Project.

The Go for Broke National Education Center, a non-profit foundation that educates the public on the valor of Japanese American veterans of World War II and their contributions to democracy, announced on April 24 the awarding of a \$193,080 grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities to help preserve, restore and digitize 800 oral histories of WWII Japanese American veterans contained in GFBNEC’s Hanashi Oral History program.

The 800 oral histories, which represent about 2,000 hours of moving-image playback, will be

selected from nearly 1,200 interviews in the Hanashi archives. The histories chronicle the experiences of Japanese American veterans who served in segregated units during WWII, many of whom had families imprisoned in U.S. incarceration camps.

The Hanashi program represents the largest compilation of such Nisei veteran interviews and also includes stories from those who served in combat and intelligence units in the European and Pacific Theatres.

“This grant from NEH will allow us to preserve these priceless his-

stories of our Nisei veterans and to better organize and index them so that they can be shared with scholars, researchers and the public for years to come,” said Mitchell T. Maki, president and CEO of GFBNEC. “These stories speak to the courage, selflessness and patriotism of our Nisei vets in helping to protect our democracy. Today, their examples can be used to inform public debate and policy as we discuss important issues such as tolerance, social justice and equal protection under the law.”

Created in 1965, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. ■



PHOTO: COURTESY OF GFBNEC

The Hanashi Oral History program features 800 oral histories that chronicle the experiences of Japanese American veterans who served in segregated units during World War II.

Polaris Tours 2017 Schedule

May. 21 ~ Jun. 01	Bikkuri Tour with Moto & Ken: “The Journey of Miyamoto Musashi”
May. 14 ~ May. 28	The Scandinavian: “Copenhagen, Aarhus, Stockholm, Bergen, Oslo”
Jun. 18 ~ Jun. 30	England & Wales & Scotland: “London, Cardiff, Glasgow, Edinburgh”
Jul. 02 ~ Jul. 11	Japan By Train: “Hiroshima, Kurashiki, Okayama, Kyoto, Tokyo”
Jul. 10 ~ Jul. 21	Newfoundland & Labrador: “Corner Brook, Rocky Harbour, St. John’s”
Sep. 03 ~ Sep. 14	Let’s Go Hokkaido: “Sapporo, Sounkyo, Shiretoko, Tomamu, Toyako”
Sep. 17 ~ Sep. 24	Iceland Adventure: “Reykjavik, Borgarnes, Hofn, Lake Jokulsarlon, Vik,”
Sep. 25 ~ Oct. 09	Western Explorer: “Scottsdale, Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, Yosemite”
Oct. 03 ~ Oct. 16	Eastern US & Canada Discovery: “Boston, Quebec City, Toronto, NYC”
Oct. 15 ~ Oct. 24	Autumn Japan: “Tokyo, Takayama, Kanazawa, Kyoto, Hiroshima”
Oct. 29 ~ Nov. 08	Islands of Okinawa & Shikoku: “Naha, Takamatsu, Matsuyama, Kochi”



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WORD >>
continued from page 3



At Waseda University, ready to share our stories and our heart . . .

Two days later, I spoke on a panel at Waseda University and was told we were the first group to come in to speak, since they opened their Office for Promotion of Equality and Diversity that very same month.

The university even had a number of gender-neutral bathrooms on campus, which they proudly pointed out to me in their new brochure. At our presentation, I met the vp of the new office. I told Ms. Hata I was so honored that she would attend. She responded, "I am here to learn."

There were about 70 people who came to our presentation. When I spoke, my perception of people from Japan not showing emotion in public was shattered. There were those in the audience who openly cried with me and those who discreetly dabbed their cheeks.

After our panel spoke, one young person was crying so hard that I took her into my arms to comfort her. She said that she is afraid to tell her mother because she feared being rejected. I also suspect that she did not want to bring dishonor to her family, so she has chosen to stay in the closet.

I completely understand that choice because I made the same decision early in our journey. I did not stand up and speak out for Aiden because I was so afraid and ashamed.

And so I saw the positive effects of Japan's sense of honor, which in one case had transformed into pride for the work they had done at Waseda University and the hope they were bringing to many at the 2020 Olympics. But I also saw the deep sadness when others had to choose between honor and their dreams.

International travel was not easy. The jet lag was tough. I had to "gaman" through days of "foggy brain" and nights where I was wide awake, wishing myself to sleep because I knew I had a busy day ahead of me.

But this experience has given me a greater sense of who I want to be moving forward. I want to give myself as much as I give others, so I can be an advocate, wife and mother for as long as possible. And when my heart does not feel joy in what I am doing, I want to pause and see how I can bring more balance back into my life.

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

MANZANAR >> continued from page 6

Asmaa Ahmed spoke on behalf of the Council of American-Islamic Relations. CAIR's mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.

Embrey gave a blunt assessment of the current political climate that appears to be attempting to re-create the hysteria, fear, racism and injustices that were visited upon Japanese Americans.

In recalling the harsh living conditions of the camps, Embrey said that "the people here were going to be isolated psychologically and physically, far from civilian populations, in desolate areas intended to make people suffer and to humiliate them." He finished by saying, "Never again!"

After Embrey's speech at the podium, the Manzanar Committee Sue Kunitomi Embrey Legacy Award was presented to Alan Nishio by Embrey and Jenny Chomori in recognition of his more than 40 years of advocacy on behalf of civil rights.

Former California State Assemblyman and longtime community activist Warren Furutani was the featured speaker at the pilgrimage. He was critical of the current political atmosphere. The best way to counteract

Asmaa Ahmed of CAIR spoke out in defense of civil rights.



Representing CAIR are (from right) Selwa Hassen (age 15), Malik Abdelaziz (14), Mayar Abdelaziz (15), Donya Kishawi (14) and Yusra Khafagi, leadership development coordinator. The group traveled from San Francisco to attend.



For his more than 40 years of service to the community, Al Nishio was honored as the recipient of the Manzanar Committee's 2017 Sue Kunitomi Embrey Legacy Award.



Warren Furutani was this year's Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage keynote speaker. He gave a forceful and challenging oratory on the need for Americans to stand up to fascism, hate, racism and demagoguery.

the latest fear-mongering and threats to civil liberties, he said, was to not ignore it, but rather stand up to it . . . and vote. He warned against the despotism and fascism that seems to be threatening the country.

An interfaith service also was held at the monument, and as the crowd began to break up, an Ondo Dance began as visitors started their trek back to their cars and busses. Naturally, they were walking against a brisk wind. After all, this is Manzanar. ■

RACE TRACK >> continued from page 7

The JANM hall in which the remembrance was held was a fitting place to hold this year's event. The museum sits on the site of one of the pickup points where Japanese Americans were ordered to report to be bused to the concentration camps.

The Saturday program was a busy one. The Bomby Taiko Group from Higashi Honganji Buddhist Church performed on drums to kick off the event. The group was followed by the Rev. Dr. Alfred Tsuyuki of the Konkō Kyo Church, who then led an opening prayer to celebrate the 75th Remembrance.

A traditional bento lunch was served, and a video greeting from actor-activist George Takei was shown.

Entertainment included a very poised Veronica Toyomi Ota, the 2015 Nisei Week Princess, who sang the much-loved song during WWII "I'll Be Seeing You." It became an anthem for those serving overseas for both British and American soldiers.

The Hon. Akira Chiba, Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles, was met with much applause. He told event attendees that his goal is to visit all the former camps and honor as many of the former camp internees as possible during his tenure.



The Hon. Akira Chiba, consul general of Japan in L.A., also spoke.



Takashi Hoshizaki (left) and honoree Bacon Sakatani

Ann Burroughs, newly named president and CEO of the Japanese American National Museum, delivered the keynote address. She praised all those detained for their resilience.

"Your stories will never be forgotten, and your history will never be forgotten. That is why this museum exists . . . to ensure that history is never repeated," said Burroughs.

The gathering was also treated to a moving musical performance given by Darrell Kunitomi and Scott Nagatani of the Grateful Crane Ensemble. Photos were shown of many former incarcerated and scenes from the camps.

Toward the end of the official program,



Ann Burroughs, JANM president and CEO, delivered the event's keynote address.



Darrell Kunitomi and Scott Nagatani (not shown) of the Grateful Crane Ensemble gave a stirring performance.



Teruo Hosaka (left) views the exhibit with his daughters and grandchildren. He was 12 years old when he was sent to Heart Mountain.

veterans of World War II were honored, as were veterans of all of America's wars since WWII.

Notably and with great enthusiasm from the audience, Bacon Sakatani was honored for his tireless efforts over the years on behalf of the Santa Anita Assembly Center Committee and Heart Mountain. Stories of his work bringing together former incarcerated are legendary among those familiar with his work.

The program ended with a sentimental journey as everyone joined together to sing "Don't Fence Me In," "Shina No Yoru" (China Nights) and the famous Japanese American Infantry Unit fight song "The Four-Forty-Second." The 442nd Regiment was the most-decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of American warfare.

Most survivors attending Saturday's event at the museum were only children during World War II, and many have little or no memory of their time there. The question increasingly being asked is: Will current and future generations continue to keep the memory of the camps and the lessons learned alive? ■

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

National

2017 JACL National Convention
Washington, D.C.

July 6-9
Omni Shoreham Hotel
2500 Calvert St. N.W.

Come join JACL as it hosts its 48th annual National Convention, "Our Story: Resilience, Remembrance, Resolve." The convention's opening reception will feature an exclusive viewing of the Smithsonian's "Righting a Wrong" exhibit, commemorating the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066."
Info: Visit <https://jacl.org/2017convention/>.

NCWNP

Annual Tribute to Nisei Veterans
Oakland, CA

May 20; Noon-3 p.m.
Roberts Park

10570 Skyline Blvd.

Come join the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL at its annual tribute to our Nisei veterans on Armed Forces Day. The event's guest speaker will be Lawson Sakai, president of FFNV and 442nd veteran, and Tom Graves, author of "Twice Heroes" will serve as the master of ceremonies. Guests are encouraged to bring a favorite dish for the potluck lunch. All are welcome and parking is free.
Info: Email wsc.jacl@gmail.com.

Colma Japanese Cemetery
Clean-Up Day

Colma, CA
May 20; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
1300 Hillside Blvd.

Price: Free and open to the public
The Japanese Cemetery in Colma is a unique cultural treasure that deserves our attention, our respect and our time. The JCCCNC organizes this youth, family and community clean-up day annually. A light lunch, water, garbage bags, tools, cleaning supplies, watering bucket and flowers will be provided. Please bring your own gloves.
Info: To register, call (415) 567-5505 or email [Jennifer Hamamoto at programsevents@jcccnc.org](mailto:jennifer.hamamoto@programsevents@jcccnc.org).

Contra Costa JACL Oakland A's
Game

Oakland, CA
July 17; 1:05 p.m.
Oakland Coliseum (Oracle Arena)
7000 Coliseum Way
Price: Tickets \$10; optional bento box \$15 (seniors/kids \$10)

Come enjoy the Oakland A's take on the Cleveland Indians

at the chapter's annual trip to the ballpark. Seats are located in the shade, and this year the chapter is offering optional bento box lunches. There is a limit of 50 tickets this year, so sign up early. Deadline is June 20.

Info: Call Judy at (510) 528-6564 or email catniplady@sbcglobal.net.

PSW

Asian American Music Festival
Los Angeles, CA

May 20; 5:30-10 p.m.

Aratani Theater

244 S. San Pedro St.

Price: Tickets available for purchase.

The Asian Heritage Jazz Festival will feature some of the most renowned Asian American musicians and artists in America, including Jeff Kashiwa, Michael Paulo, Terry Steele, Bruce Hamada and many more. This event is produced by Apaulo Productions and the JACCC.
Info: To purchase tickets, visit www.tix.com and for more information, visit www.jaccc.org.

Riverside JACL 2017

Scholarship Dinner

Riverside, CA

May 21; 5 p.m.

First Christian Church

4055 Jurupa Ave.

The chapter's annual potluck scholarship dinner will honor Stella Haluka Seki and Judy Morrow. The program will also feature members of the Nikkei Student Union at the University of California, Riverside, who will be presenting a short program about their 2017 pilgrimage to Manzanar. Guests are asked to bring a main dish and salad; the chapter will be providing dessert and beverages. This is a great opportunity to honor the award recipients and meet fellow members.

Info: Please contact Michiko Yoshimura by May 15 to RSVP at my141@sbcglobal.net or call (951) 784-7057.

'Itadakimasu! Celebrating Our Culinary Community' JACCC 37th Anniversary Celebration and Awards Dinner
June 17; 5-9 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Long Beach
200 S. Pine Ave.

Price: Ticket prices vary.

This year's event will honor Community Spirit Award recipients Beth Fujishige, Kanji Sahara and Evelyn Yoshimura, along with Suntory Holdings and the Japanese Restaurant Association of

America. The evening will also feature a silent auction, cocktail reception and dinner; black-tie optional.

Info: For questions or additional information, contact Helen Ota at Hota@jaccc.org or call (213) 628-2725.

PNW

Train of Tears

Hood River, OR

May 13; Noon

Hood River Train Station
Portland JACL presents this event in Hood River in remembrance of the May 13, 1943, forced evacuation of Japanese Americans 75 years ago. The event will also feature speaker Linda Tamura from Willamette University, a reading of County of Hood River Resolution by County Commission Chair Ron Rivers, poetry readings and the Tag Project by Hodo River High School students.
Info: Visit pdxjacl.org.

Family 2.0 an API LGBTQIA+
Gathering

Seattle, WA

May 20; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

North Seattle College

9600 College Way North

Price: Free admission

All are welcome to attend this all-day conference centered around LGBTQIA+ Asian American Pacific Islander youth, their families and allies. Guest speakers, workshops, performances, resources, free lunch and parking are all a part of this very important opportunity to become more engaged in the world we live in.

Info: Visit www.apifamilyevent.com.

MDC

2017 JACL Chicago Scholarship Luncheon

May 21; Noon

Skokie, IL

Maggiano's Little Italy

4999 Old Orchard Shopping

Center

Come and support tomorrow's leaders as JACL Chicago awards its annual scholarship recipients.
Info: Visit www.jaclchicago.org.

'Gambatte! Legacy of an Enduring Spirit' Japanese American WWII Incarceration, Then and Now
St. Paul, MN

May 23; 5:30 p.m. exhibit viewing;

6:30 p.m. program with speaker

Paul Kitagaki Jr.

Historic Fort Snelling Visitors

Center

200 Tower Ave.

Price: Free and open to the public

Historic photographs of Japanese Americans during World War II taken by War Relocation Authority photographers are juxtaposed with contemporary photographs from Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Paul Kitagaki Jr. The exhibit officially opens May 27 and will be on view until Oct. 28. It is supported by the National Parks Service, Tanforan Assembly Center Memorial Committee, Contra Costa JACL, Asian Pacific Endowment of the St. Paul Foundation, Twin Cities JACL and the Joseph and Marie Winter Family Fund for Historic Fort Snelling.
Info: Call (612) 726-1171 or visit www.mnhs.org/event/3047.

Twin Cities JACL Afternoon at

"365 Days/365 Plays"

June 11; 2-4 p.m. (Show runs from

May 26-June 11)

St. Paul, MN

Penumbra Theater

270 N. Kent St.

Price: \$10 each (regular price \$25;

seniors/students \$10)

Full Circle Theater artistic co-directors and JACL members Rick Shiomi and Martha B. Johnson invite JACL members to enjoy a matinee performance of "365 Days/365 Plays," which intertwines 46 short plays selected from Suzan-Lori Parks' original play as viewed through a 2017 lens. The play addresses past and current issues using a racially mixed cast playing multiple roles. Postplay discussions follow every performance.

Info: Visit www.fullcircletheatermn.org or call (800) 838-3006. To reserve tickets, use "JACL" code for online reservations at www.365days365plays.bpt.me or contact Cheryl Hirata-Dulas at (952) 925-2429 or dulas001@msn.com by June 6. JACL discount applies to all shows.

EDC

'Before They Were Heroes'

Photo Exhibit

Boston, MA

Thru June 26

Transit Gallery of Harvard

Medical School

25 Shattuck St.

"Before They Were Heroes" is an exhibition of photographs taken by the late Dr. Susumu Ito while he was a member of the celebrated WWII 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Ito took the photos with a prohibited camera, capturing the daily lives of Japanese

American soldiers arriving in Europe. This exhibit made its original debut at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles in 2015.

The Transit Gallery is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Info: Visit www.nejacl.org.

The Tohoku Cuisine of Japan
With Elizabeth Andoh

Boston, MA

May 17; 6 p.m.

Milk Street Cooking School

177 Milk St.

Price: \$100

Japanese food authority Elizabeth Andoh will make three distinctive dishes from Japan's northeastern provinces, the Tohoku, in a hands-on cooking class: Harako Meshi (salmon rice topped with red caviar), Shiso Maki (shiso leaves stuffed with walnut miso) and Shira Ae (fruit and watercress salad dressed with pine nut tofu sauce).

Info: For information and to register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-tohoku-cuisine-of-japan-with-elizabeth-andoh-tickets-32721348434>.

FDR Library's Images of
Internment Exhibition

Hyde Park, NY

Thru Dec. 31

FDR Presidential Library &

Museum

4079 Albany Post Road

Price: Regular hours and

admission apply.

This special exhibit provides a visual record of the forced removal of Japanese Americans during World War II and displays more than 200 photographs by WRA photographers Dorothea Lange, Clem Albers, Francis Stewart and Hikaru Iwasaki from the National Archives.

The exhibition also features photographs taken by Ansel Adams at Manzanar and a selection of photos from the WSU George and Frank C. Hirahara photo collection of Heart Mountain.

Info: Visit <https://fdrlibrary.org/exhibitions> or call (800) FDR-VISIT.

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IN MEMORIAM

Aoki, Mitsuko 'Mitsy,' 94, Woodland, CA, April 14; during WWII, she and her husband, Yorio, were incarcerated at the Granada WRA Center in Colo. (Camp Amache); she was predeceased by her husband; she is survived by her sons, Leonard (Sandy), Ken (Jody) and Darrell (Heidi); siblings, Yosh Uyeoka and Jean Akiyama; gc: 7; ggc: 6.

Arii, Masayo, 90, Sunnyvale, CA, April 13; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the Gila River WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her husband, Mamoru; daughter, Mary Arii Mah; and son-in-law, Melvin Mah; she is survived by her son, Rodney Arii; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews; gc: 2.

Awakuni, Ellen Tsuruko, 85, Las Vegas, NV, April 3; she was predeceased by her siblings, Masao, Mitsuo, Nobuo and Sadako Kutaka; she is survived by her brother, Shokichi Awakuni; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Cline, Stacy Misako, 49, Bellflower, CA, April 7; she is survived by her husband, Robert; step-children, Rachel Cline and Robert Cline; parents, Susan and Ronald Sasaki; brothers, Eric (Amy) and Mark (Julia); grandmother, Misako Sasaki; niece, Nicole Sasaki; she is also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins and relatives.

Endow, Grace Haruyo, 94, Gardena, CA, April 17; she is survived by her niece, Irene Shibata; cousins, Aiko (Wilson) Ogata and Junior (Ruby) Endo.

Ichiriu, Patricia R., 65, Monterey Park, CA, April 10; she is survived by her husband, Alan; children, Laine and Dean; and siblings, Sharon, Charlotte and Alan (Lillian) Kaneshiro.

Gojobori, Kay Kasuo, 91, Los Angeles, April 8; he is survived by his wife, Kay Akemi; children, Dean and Lyn (Sil Alejandro) Gojobori; sister, Yemiko Mae (Leo) Yamanaka; sisters-in-law, Naomi Cervantes and Janice Itsuno;

she is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Imanishi, Masao 'Ray,' 94, North Hollywood, CA, April 17; he was predeceased by his wife, Kiyoko; he is survived by his children, Stan and Naomi Imanishi; he is also survived by other relatives in Japan.

Kaneko, Lonny Minoru, 77, Vashon, WA, March 30; during WWII, he and his family were incarcerated at the Minidoka WRA Center in Idaho; he is survived by his children, Shayna Burgess and Todd Kaneko; sister, Jo Ann Kaneko; 2 nephews; gc: 3.

Kashiwagi, Ruby Hideko, 87, Torrance, CA, March 31; she was predeceased by her husband, Masaji; brothers, Hirokazu "Jack" and Keiji; she is survived by her children, Joyce (Pierre Kruh) Kashiwagi and Eugene; brother, Yoshihiro (Junko) Urushibata; sister-in-law, Frances Yamaura; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews; gc: 1.

Kawase, Fujiye, 99, Monterey Park, CA, March 23; she was predeceased by her husband, Hideo; she is survived by her nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Kinoshita, Yasumi, 90, Kent, WA, March 25; she is survived by her husband, Goro, children, Alva (Dennis) Nishimura, Ford (Renee) Kinoshita, Lori (Mark) Onoda and Dean Kinoshita; she is also survived by other relatives; gc: 9; ggc: 5.

Masushige, George, 96, Los Angeles, April 19; during WWII, he served in the Army in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team; he is survived by his wife, Natsuko; children, Terry (Shirley), Mark, Kevin (Elizabeth) and Judy Masushige; sister, Mary Nakaji; sisters-in-law, Chiyoko Yagi and Hideko Matsumoto; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 8; ggc: 13.

Miyake, Mitsue, 79, Gardena,

CA, April 7; she is survived by her sons, Shayne (Margaret) and Robert (Aki); daughter-in-law, Junko Ikeda; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives in Japan; gc: 4; ggc: 1.

Nakahiro, George, 'Yas,' 96, Altadena, CA, April 12; he was predeceased by his wife, June "Ats" Nakahiro and brother, Maxi Nakahiro; he is survived by his daughters, Debbie (Samuel) Alexander and Edy (Randy) Hollenberg; siblings, Sumi Maruyama and Terry (Anne) Nakahiro; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Nakajima-Gustke, Kazumi, 57, Beaverton, OR, April 20; she is survived by her husband, Tim; children, Shaun (Eri), Kyle and Mei; parents, Naokazu and Aiko; sisters, Chiaki and Yoko; 2 nephews and 1 niece; gc: 1.

Nishinaka, Sumako, 92, San Pedro, CA, April 11; she is survived by her children, Jennie Duggan and Dave Nishinaka.

Okita, George, 95, Mililani, HI, March 29; he is survived by his wife, Fujiko; sons, Ron and Glenn (Li Nah); sister, Jane Bailey; gc: 2.

Ono, Chiyeko 'Chuck,' 91, Los Gatos, CA, April 20; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Tule Lake WRA Center in Calif. and the Topaz WRA Center in Utah; she was predeceased by her sister, Mary; she is survived by her sister, Hanae Ono; she is also survived by other family and friends.

Oshita, Robert Chikara, 67, Torrance, CA, April 1; he is survived by his mother, Hanako Oshita; 1 niece, 1 nephew; he is also survived by many other relatives.

Sasahara, Patricia (Patti), 74, Torrance, CA, March 26; she is survived by her husband, Daniel; children, Sean (Carla) and Shelley (Damon) Aldrich; brothers, Curtis (JoAnn) Kamada and Kent (Janice) Kamada; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews; gc: 4.

Shingu, Nami, 99, Pasadena, CA, March 21; she was predeceased by her husband, Lloyd; she is survived by her children, Marian Shingu (Frank) Sata, Mae (Robert) Uchida, Douglas (Judy) Kosobayashi and Rod Shingu; she is also survived by many other relatives; gc: 6; ggc: 9.

Shiosaki, Floyd Shoji, 89, Vashon, WA, March 19; he is survived by his wife, Pauline; children, Vicki Yamamoto, Neil (Lonnie) and Gregg (Sarah); brother, Fred; gc: 6.

Sugitani, Tokiko, 89, Los Angeles, March 26; she is survived by her daughters, Michiko (Tim) Nagao, Junko (Jack) Sakaji and Hiroko (Noel) Fish; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5; ggc: 2.

Tambara, Toshi, 89, Sacramento, CA, March 28; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Tule Lake WRA Center in Calif. and the Minidoka WRA Center in Idaho; she was predeceased by her husband, George; she is survived by her sons, Wade and Thomas; sisters, Amy Kinoshita (Chuck) and Irene Yamasaki (Ray); and sisters-in-law, Janice and Reiko.

Tamehiro, Nancy H., 67, Gardena, April 13; she is survived by her brother, Bob (Janice) Tamehiro; nieces and other relatives.

Tani, Kohji, 70, North Hollywood, CA, April 22; he is survived by his wife, Amy; children, Jason (Akiko), Jeff (Kari), Jennifer and Julia Tani; sisters, Judy (Irwin) Wong and June Tani; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

Umekubo, Jean Mieko, 83, Los Angeles, April 11; she is survived by her husband, Tsutomu "Tootie"; daughters, Cari (Charles) Casillas and Cathi (Brien) Nagafuchi; sister, Celia Masuo; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2; ggc: 1.

Yoshimura, Kyoko, 91, Los Angeles, March 26; she is survived by her children, Glenn and Colleen (Matthew Murray) Yoshimura; sisters, Yoshiko Koga and Michiko Baltazar; and many nieces, nephews and relatives.

Yoshimura, Michi, 88, Torrance, CA, April 6; he is survived by his daughter, Ginger (Ryan) Shiroma; sister, Kikuye Imamura; he is also survived by nieces and nephews; gc: 2.

Yoshino, Nobuo, 77, Baldwin Park, CA, March 31; he is survived by his wife, Fumiko; children, Yuka, Takeshi (Kimberly) and Tadashi; sisters, Junko Yoshino, Hiromi Takayoshi and Nobuko Yoshino; gc: 1.

TRIBUTE

CARL KIYOSHI SOMEKAWA



Carl Kiyoshi Somekawa, 95, died of natural causes on April 11, 2017, in Minneapolis, Minn.

Carl grew up in an active family of eight in Portland, Ore. He was an avid sports fan and was known as a gifted athlete with a special love of baseball.

When World War II erupted, Carl was a student at Oregon State College, where he played on the baseball team. Solely because of his Japanese heritage, he was ordered to Minidoka Internment Camp in 1942. In 1943 with the support of the Quakers, he was allowed to leave the internment camp to go to college. After a year in Boston, he moved to St. Paul to live with his sister, Emi, and her husband, Howard Nomura, and graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in accounting.

Carl had a great affinity for numbers. Any kind of numbers. He liked to add the numbers of passing license plates and identify number patterns he encountered while shopping. (His love of numbers also enhanced his skill with a deck of cards.)

As a frugal student with limited means, Carl courted Mari Kawana-mi, formerly from California. In family lore, "Streetcar Carl" succeeded in charming Mari and won her heart over another suitor she called "Taxicab Bob." Carl and Mari were married in 1947.

Carl was grateful to Ray Plank, the only person willing to give Carl a job following World War II in the face of widespread bias against Japanese Americans. Eventually, Carl became the longtime owner of his own CPA firm.

In addition to Mari, his cherished wife of 69 years, Carl is survived by his sister, Aida Kozu (of Seattle); son, Roger Somekawa (Dianne); daughter, Ellen Somekawa (Eric Joselyn); and grandchildren, Kevin Somekawa, Tai Joselyn and Chi Pham.

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REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

MAY IS ALSO OLDER AMERICANS MONTH!

By Ron Mori

I'll bet most of you know that May is Asian American Heritage Month. But how many of you know that May is also Older Americans Month?

Older Americans Month is a good time to recall just how far we have come in recent decades in terms of how we look at aging.

Perhaps nothing about human life has been as widely misunderstood down through the years as old age. One of the most common and most destructive misunderstandings was the belief that for most people, old age was a time of frailty, illness and overall decline — that a country's older population was a drain on its national economy.

In fact, in 1948, when the United Nations offered its landmark "Universal Declaration of Human Rights," that revered document contained only one passing reference to "old age." It was way down in the 25th of 30 articles. Old age was listed, along with disability and sickness, as a justifiable reason for not working, which would warrant some sort of welfare assistance from the state.

Today, we see aging in an entirely different light. Why not? Two out of every three human beings who have ever lived to age 65 are alive right now! Many in the medical science community believe the first human who will live to be 150 years old is already among us.

Fifty, of course, is the age everyone becomes eligible

to join AARP. Folks turning 50 today can expect to live another 35 to 40 years, or even longer. Better nutrition and lifestyle choices — along with advances in medical care and related technologies — will offer us the probability that we will remain independent, active and creative for an additional 25, 30 or even more of those years.

In the coming years, in other words, increasing numbers of America's 50-plus population will be working longer, playing longer and taking our economy in new directions. In fact, our increasingly healthy and vibrant 50-and-over population is already spending some \$3.1 trillion a year directly on consumer goods and services. By 2032, economic activities serving the wants and needs of our 50-plus population could account for upward of half of America's Gross Domestic Product!

This phenomenon is becoming known as the "Longevity Economy." It includes the products 50-plus Americans purchase directly, along with the additional economic activity their spending generates. The Longevity Economy holds the promise of vast new markets for products and services.

And that doesn't even take into account the value of the volunteer services provided by older Americans. The value of age 50 and over volunteers remains one of our nation's best-kept secrets.

It seems that more than ever before these days we are turning to volunteer service to help meet the ever-growing needs of our states and communities. Living as we do in this era of economic uncertainty and shrinking public resources, older volunteers are an increasingly vital resource.

Today, more than 9 million AARP volunteers alone are providing nearly \$200 million each year in economic impact through programs like our Tax-Aide and Driver Safety programs.

For additional volunteer opportunities, check out the AARP volunteer site (<http://www.aarp.org/giving-back/>).

So, are older Americans a drain on the U.S. economy? Now THAT'S fake news! Happy Older Americans Month!

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



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