



PACIFIC CITIZEN

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THE **'HEART'** OF HISTORY

The need to use the incarceration story to connect to other groups is a central theme at the annual Heart Mountain Pilgrimage.

Bill Shishima and Boy Scouts raise the U.S. flag over the Interpretive Center.

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L.A. Artists Fight to Save Their Lofts in the Arts District.

PHOTO: MAGGIE LOCKER

JACL SUPPORTS THE RIGHTS OF TRANSGENDER INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE OPENLY IN THE MILITARY

The Japanese American Citizens League is deeply dismayed by the announcement by President Donald Trump that transgender people will be barred from serving in our military in any capacity.

This announcement is in direct contradiction to Defense Secretary James Mattis' announcement less than a month ago that the Pentagon was seeking a six-month extension of time to analyze the policy and raises concerns for how this can and will be implemented.

We are concerned for the rights of those already serving and the potential infringements upon their civil rights.

Our community knows all too well the implications of a ban on military service. When more than



120,000 Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II, we were also initially barred from serving in the military.

Even when service was opened to Japanese Americans, we served in segregated battalions, which also became among the most highly decorated during the war.

Among the 14,000 who served, nearly 9,486 Purple Hearts were

awarded along with numerous other decorations and recognition, including the Medal of Honor.

In 2010, the Japanese American WWII veterans were bestowed the Congressional Gold Medal.

The lesson to be learned from our experience is that discrimination has no place in our armed services. Patriotism and the ability to serve

our country is not limited to certain

people, and the JACL supports those transgender individuals who desire to answer our nation's call to service.

Founded in 1929, the JACL is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. The JACL monitors and responds to issues that enhance or threaten the civil and human rights of all Americans and implements strategies to effect positive social change, particularly to the Asian Pacific American community.

In 2015, the JACL National Council passed a resolution pledging to support "increased access, equity, and fair treatment of the transgender community" and "to be a vibrant ally to the transgender community."

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The *Pacific Citizen's* mission is to "educate on the past Japanese American experience and to preserve, promote and help the current and future AAPI communities."

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A MOTHER'S TAKE

MINIDOKA

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF MARSHA AIZUMI

By Marsha Aizumi

On July 6, my husband and I traveled to Twin Falls, Idaho, to attend the 15th Annual Minidoka Pilgrimage. I was asked to be the opening keynote speaker. Initially, I wondered why they would ask the mother of a transgender son, whose family was not imprisoned in Minidoka, to open up the pilgrimage. But as I spoke to one of the organizers, I realized that so much of what I went through when my child came out first as lesbian and then transgender ran parallel to the feelings that our Issei and Nisei may have felt.

My strongest feelings were fear, shame and sadness, and as I listened to stories about Minidoka, I could feel those same feelings coming through in their stories.

Individuals felt fear when they were herded into animal stalls, bussed to desolate, dusty land and treated like the enemy even though they were American citizens. There was no trial, no verdict, no sentencing. All were sentenced to be imprisoned because of their ethnicity and where they lived.

Families lost everything they had worked hard for because while they were in camp, their homes were foreclosed on and belongings taken. There was so much fear for their future, the safety of their family and the prejudice they faced. I could relate to it all . . .

I also heard about children grieving over having to leave their pets behind because they could not be taken with them.

I have a dog named Mochi that I love and Aiden's dog, Kuma, who is like my furry grandchild. I would have been devastated to leave them behind, not knowing how they would survive and knowing they wouldn't understand why we abandoned them.

I heard stories of children taking in a bird, snake or even a centipede as a pet at camp to fill the void and sadness of leaving their own pets behind. Those are stories I did not know before I came to Minidoka.

And then there was the shame and humiliation of camp. Many came to camp before it was even made livable. There were barracks that were so poorly constructed that the dust came through the cracks in the walls. The barracks did not have privacy, so sometimes only a sheet separated living spaces.

One woman talked about toilets made of a plank of wood with holes cut in them, and someone else mentioned chamber pots (a pot used as a toilet), which were in the barracks, so at night when it was freezing, they didn't have to trudge over to the communal bathrooms.

There were so many stories . . .

And yet in the stories, there were woven also moments of pride, hope and perseverance.

One woman shared she wasn't proud being a Japanese American, and then she went to camp. She left camp proud. She didn't describe what made her proud, but from the

Day	Time	Event	Location
Thursday, July 6	8:00am - 9:00am	Check-in at Twin Falls, ID	Twin Falls, ID
	9:00am - 10:00am	Opening Prayer	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	10:00am - 11:00am	Registration	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	11:00am - 12:00pm	Breakfast	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Friday, July 7	8:00am - 9:00am	Breakfast and Depart for Lost Lake	Lost Lake, ID
	9:00am - 10:00am	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	10:00am - 11:00am	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	11:00am - 12:00pm	Lunch	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	12:00pm - 1:00pm	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	1:00pm - 2:00pm	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	2:00pm - 3:00pm	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	3:00pm - 4:00pm	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	4:00pm - 5:00pm	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	5:00pm - 6:00pm	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Saturday, July 8	8:00am - 9:00am	Breakfast and Depart for Lost Lake	Lost Lake, ID
	9:00am - 10:00am	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	10:00am - 11:00am	Prayer Service	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
	11:00am - 12:00pm	Lunch	St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Marsha Aizumi is thankful for all she has learned from her friend, Lois.



Marsha Aizumi with her new friend, Catherine, from Detroit

stories that I heard, there was much to be proud about.

The ways the Issei parents kept their families together. The ways mothers persevered without complaint (*gaman*) and the ways they shielded their children

from the horrors and humiliation as best they could. A lady I met named Lilly called her mother her heroine because of the way she handled going to camp and making it the best experience possible for the kids.

Some of the young children who are now in their late 70s and 80s talked about being fed candy and being told that they were going on a vacation and having fun. I can only imagine how much courage and love it took for these Isseis

>> See MINIDOKA on page 9



LEGAL-EASE: AN ATTORNEY'S PERSPECTIVE

ESTATE PLANNING FROM A-Z: A GLOSSARY, PART II

By Staci Yamashita-Iida

In my last article, I explained why I chose to name this column "Legal-Ease" (*"Estate Planning From A-Z: A Glossary, Part I," the Pacific Citizen's June 16-29, 2017, issue*). My intention was to take legal jargon and explain them in everyday terms.

As an estate planning attorney, I'm often asked by my clients to define many of the expressions and terminology that appear in the various documents in their Estate Plan. This article picks up where I left off, touching upon some of the basic key terms that appear within a typical Estate Plan.

No Contest Clause: Many of today's Estate Plans contain a No Contest Clause, which is designed to reduce the likelihood of litigation. A standard No Contest Clause states that if an individual challenges the validity of a will or trust, or any of its provisions, then that person risks losing his or her rights to receive an inheritance. Essentially, the contesting party has to decide whether he or she should accept the gift as is or risk losing it entirely.

Probate: The court-supervised process that an estate gets settled after a person passes. If you die with a will, probate is not necessarily avoided. Your will must be "proved" in court to be accepted as a valid document that serves as a last testament of your wishes. Probate proceedings are expensive (can cost thousands of dollars) and lengthy (on average takes about six to nine months). The most common way to avoid probate is by funding your assets into a living trust.

Qualified Domestic Trust (QDOT): A special type of trust that is used when a U.S. citizen dies and leaves a

substantial amount of assets to a spouse who is not a U.S. citizen. The goal is to enable the non-U.S. citizen spouse to qualify for the unlimited marital deduction and avoid paying federal estate taxes. A QDOT is generally only utilized when the estate exceeds the federal estate tax exemption (which, as of 2017, is \$5.49 million per person).

Revocable Living Trust: The most common type of Estate Planning instrument. Revocable living trusts can be changed, modified or revoked during your lifetime as long as you have the mental capacity to do so. This type of trust is popular due to its flexibility and the control you retain during your lifetime. Revocable living trusts are contrasted with Irrevocable Trusts, which cannot be altered under most circumstances.

Separate Property: Applies to married couples. Separate Property is any property (real estate, personal property, etc.) that is acquired before marriage, after divorce, by gift or inheritance during marriage or purchased during the marriage with separate property funds. For example, if Beth purchased a home before marrying Don, it is her separate property; Don has no right to it. If Beth inherits \$50,000 from her grandmother, it is her separate property. If she uses that money to purchase a rental property, it is still her separate property because she bought it with separate property funds. Separate Property is contrasted with Community Property, which is property acquired during the marriage (other than what is Separate Property).

Trustee(s): A person(s) or organization responsible for managing trust assets. The Settlor (creator) of the trust is typically the trustee during his or her lifetime. Upon death, an appointed Successor Trustee steps in to continue managing the property and/or distribute the assets to the named

beneficiaries of the trust. Trustees are typically individuals, but they can also be a corporate trustee, such as a bank or financial institution.

Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (UTMA): Allows a minor to receive to receive gifts (real property, money, etc.) without appointing a guardian or trustee. Instead, the donor appoints a custodian who manages and invests the property on behalf of the minor until he or she turns 18.

Validity: There are certain requirements that should be met in order for legal documents to be considered valid. Wills, for example, must be created by an individual who is at least 18, has the intent and capacity to make a will and is executed by the individual and witnessed by two people.

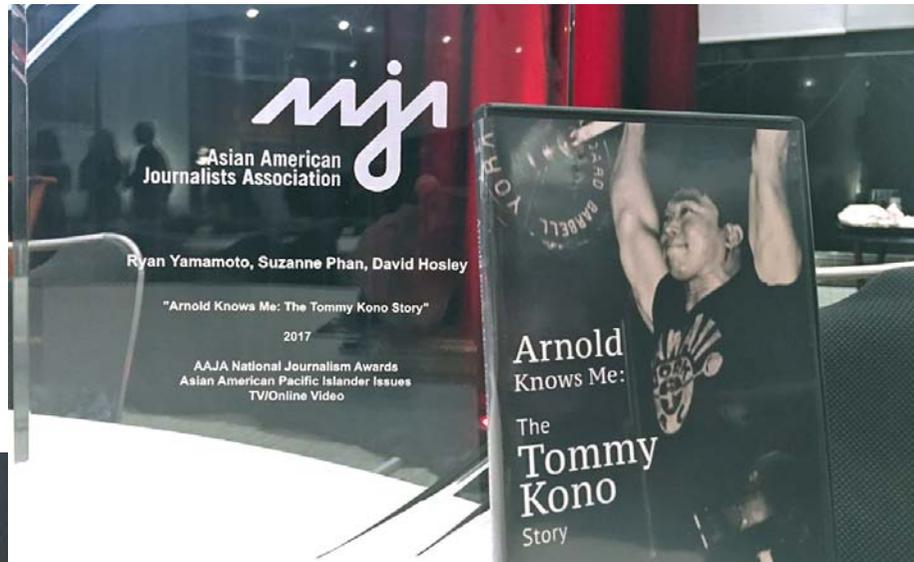
Pour-Over Will: A document that works in conjunction with a living trust that serves as a "catch-all" or safety device. If you have a living trust, your real property and financial assets should be funded into it. However if something slips through the cracks, the Pour-Over Will ensures that any and all "unfunded" assets are transferred to (or poured-over into) your living trust.

Although this glossary highlights many of the most common Estate Planning terms, it is not a comprehensive list. To learn more about the terminology that appears in your own Estate Plan, feel free to contact your local attorney.

Staci Yamashita-Iida, Esq. is an Estate Planning attorney at Elder Law Services of California. She can be contacted at (310) 348-2995. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Pacific Citizen or JACL. The information presented does not constitute legal advice and should not be treated as such.

TWO SEATTLE BROADCAST JOURNALISTS WIN AAJA NATIONAL AWARD

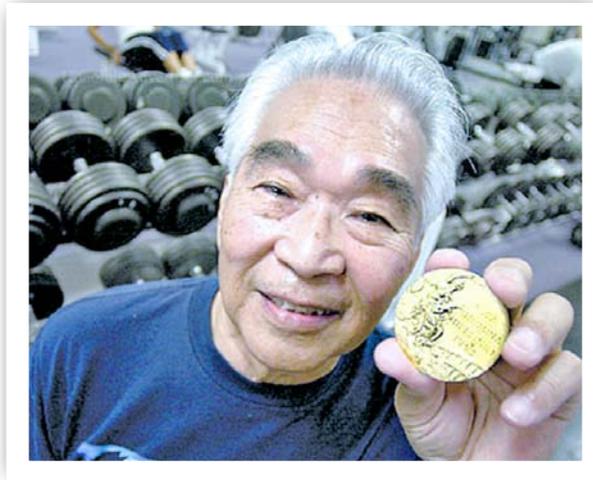
Ryan Yamamoto and Suzanne Phan are honored for their documentary work on 'Arnold Knows Me: The Tommy Kono Story.'



PHOTOS: DAVID HOSLEY



Director Ryan Yamamoto and producer Suzanne Phan were honored by the AAJA for their work on the documentary "Arnold Knows Me: The Tommy Kono Story."



The late Tommy Kono with one of his two Olympic gold medals

Journalists Ryan Yamamoto and Suzanne Phan won the TV/Online category for coverage of Asian American Pacific Islander issues at the Asian American Journalist Assn.'s annual convention in Philadelphia on July 28.

Director Yamamoto and producer Phan were honored for their work on the documentary "Arnold Knows Me: The Tommy Kono Story," which depicts the Olympic hero at the peak of his powers at the Helsinki, Melbourne and Rome Summer Games.

Yamamoto is morning anchor at KOMO-TV in Seattle, and Phan reports from the field for the station's newscasts. Both are members of the Seattle AAJA chapter.

Public TV stations originally broadcast "Arnold Knows Me" leading up to the Summer Olympics in Brazil last year. It continues to be shown on television and at community events.

Weightlifting Olympic champion Tommy Kono, who grew up slender and asthmatic in a vibrant Sacramento Japanese American community during the 1930s, inspired two generations of weightlifters and body builders, including former California Gov. and bodybuilding champion Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Kono and his family were incarcerated at the Tule Lake Relocation Center

during World War II. The mountain air cleared up Kono's health problems, and a group of older teens got him interested in weightlifting.

When he came home after the war, Kono was passionate about the sport and started to win local competitions. But he was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was trained to be a cook.

While waiting to be shipped out to Asia, his talents were recognized, and he instead was put into an Olympic training program in advance of the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki.

Surprisingly, Kono won a gold medal, and he did it again in 1956 in Melbourne. He then competed in the 1960 Olympics in Rome for an extraordinary third time, earning a silver medal.

Kono also excelled in bodybuilding competitions. He won a Mr. Universe title three times and Ironman Mr. World once.

As a teenager, Schwarzenegger watched Kono compete in Europe, and he became such a fan that he had a photo of Kono placed on his bedroom wall. Shortly thereafter, Schwarzenegger followed his idol's path to international fame.

Kono noted that people asked him if he knew Schwarzenegger.

"Do I know Arnold?" he recalled in the documentary, to which he replied, "Arnold knows me!"

"It's been great to have a project where we could really dive in," said Phan. "As TV news reporters, we typically produce stories that are 60-90 seconds long. To have a project that we are passionate about, could devote a substantial amount of energy to producing and sharing is truly exciting."

Phan and Yamamoto produced the program while working full-time for ABC10 in Sacramento.

David Hosley, who is an executive producer on the project, shared in the AAJA recognition.

"This was an idea that Ryan had, and it started out as a local story," said Hosley. "To have it go national on public television and receive AAJA's top award really exceeds all of our expectations. It's a testament to the amazing life that Tommy Kono lived. He is one of America's greatest Olympic champions."

Kono passed away in Honolulu last year at 85 years of age, but in addition to all his Olympic medals, his legacy includes coaching Olympic athletes here and abroad and authoring several books on lifting techniques. There is also an annual weightlifting competition in Sacramento named in Kono's honor. ■



Pictured (from left) are 2016 Miss Western L.A. Shannon Tsumaki, Masumi Asahi, Mariko Rooks and Venice-West L.A. JAACL Chapter President John Saito Jr.

VENICE-WEST L.A. JAACL ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Venice-West Los Angeles chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League announced its scholarship winners recently.

Masumi Asahi, a third-year medical student, was awarded the \$2,500 Chiyo M. Hattori Scholarship, designated to an outstanding student pursuing an education in medicine. Mariko Rooks, who was the class salutatorian at Culver City High School and will be attending Yale University in the fall, was the winner of the Jack Nomura High School Scholarship.

Asahi, 26, attends the Western University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine, in Pomona, Calif. The son of Noriko and Seicho Asahi, he graduated from McClatchy High School in Sacramento before earning his bachelor's degree in physiology at the University of California, Los Angeles.

He has received honors from the Japanese American Medical Assn. and volunteers his time at local health clinics through the Asian American Health Professions Student Assn. A devoted taiko drummer, Asahi also was the director of the UCLA Kyodo Taiko group and now teaches it to students at the Koyasan Buddhist Temple in Los Angeles every Sunday.

Rooks, 18, earned a 4.0 grade point average at Culver City High in Culver City, Calif., and received national recognition for a perfect composite ACT score. The daughter of Miki Fujimoto and Curtis Rooks of Culver City, she was captain and MVP of the varsity water polo team. She also played varsity softball and earned the school's Dave Sanchez Scholar Athlete Award.

In addition, Rooks was involved in programs with the Senshin Buddhist Temple, West Los Angeles United Methodist Church and nonprofit group Kizuna. At Yale, Rooks will major in history of medicine, science and public health.

The \$1,000 scholarship is named in honor of the late Jack Nomura, longtime chapter board member.

For more information, contact the Venice-WLA JAACL at venicewlajacl@gmail.com or visit the chapter on Facebook.

SAVE REMAINING ARTIST LOFTS IN L.A. ARTS DISTRICT

A rally is held to support eight artists who are facing eviction from their longtime homes.

By Miya Iwataki

‘It is ironic that on the 75th anniversary of the Japanese American concentration camps, we are once again being evicted from the same community, Little Tokyo.’

— Multimedia Artist
Bruce Yonemoto



A rally was held in the Arts District of Los Angeles on July 29 to support several artists facing eviction from their homes. Pictured are artists (from left) Mark Oberhofer, Stanley Baden, Aiko Sasaki Baden, Jaimee Itagaki, Nancy Uyemura, Bruce Yonemoto and Miles Hamada.

A coalition of Little Tokyo and Arts District stakeholders held a spirited rally to support eight artists facing eviction from their homes at 800 Traction St. in the Arts District of Los Angeles on July 29.

Many of the artists facing eviction are Japanese and Japanese American seniors, longtime community artists who have enriched the cultural life of Little Tokyo. Their presence in the area since the early 1980s has been fundamental to the creation of what is now known as the Arts District. Now in their senior years, they face the threat of eviction in one month by DLJ Real Estate Capital Partners (owned by Credit Suisse), which recently purchased the building.

More than 100 supporters gathered at 800 Traction St. to show their solidarity with the artists and expose the underside of gentrification as a continued destruction of the dwindling number of historic cultural centers.

Gentrification has eliminated most of the working artists who gave the Arts District its name and identity as a creative, cultural enclave. In their place are upscale apartments, offices, retail shops, galleries, restaurants and bars — leaving an Arts District with no artists.

In 1983, Nancy Uyemura, a mixed-media artist, and Mike Kanemitsu, an abstract expressionist, moved into a loft at 800 Traction St. in what was then still part of Little Tokyo.

Back then, the building was an old warehouse. They built it out — putting in walls, then a kitchen, bath, electrical and plumbing.

“Our dreams were to make art and to build a community and just live creatively,” Uyemura said. “. . . to just ask us to leave like in a month without any kind of relocati-

on assistance — there’s something wrong about that.”

Photographer Jaimee Itagaki needed a larger space for shooting and began looking for a loft. Uyemura told her about an available space at 800 Traction St. and in 1997, Itagaki moved in. And now the threat of eviction is devastating to her.

“The history of the location, the character of the buildings and textures all were art inspiring!” Itagaki exclaimed. “If I don’t live in a loft space as a creative person, and to not have the creative community . . . my life will require a huge adjustment. So much so, I can’t even say or imagine.”

Stanley Baden and Aiko Sasaki Baden have lived at 800 Traction St. for 24 years. They saw it as a space where they could both reside and pursue their art simultaneously.

“We have stayed in the area because we enjoy the Japanese culture represented in Little Tokyo and its close proximity to the Los Angeles art exhibition and academic institutions,” Stanley Baden said. “In our space, we have a fine art printmaking studio where we produce our own work and the work of other artists, including artists that have been pivotal influences in the global art scene.”

Little Tokyo has survived 75 years of evictions: the unjust incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry into World War II concentration camps; tenants and residents forced out by big business in the 1970s and ’80s; and the gentrification during the 2000s slowly ripping out the cultural heart and soul of Little Tokyo.

The artists and their supporters

are calling upon DLJ Real Estate Capital Partners to cease their attempts to evict the residents at 800 Traction St. The artists are also requesting a meeting with Andrew Rifkin, DLJ managing partner, to speak directly with the Traction residents prior to the Aug. 31 eviction date in order to personally address their concerns.

“At this late point in my career and age, it is incredibly debilitating to have to move my art practice let alone to find another studio,” said multimedia artist Bruce Yonemoto, who moved into 800 Traction St. in 1999. “It is ironic that on the 75th anniversary of the Japanese American concentration camps, we are once again being evicted from the same community, Little Tokyo.”

Petitions are being circulated online at <https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stop-the-evictions-at-800-traction-avenue.html>.

For information on opportunities to get involved and to be notified about future events in support of the Traction Artists, contact Taiji Miyagawa, coalition chair, at whattup@taijim.com.

JANM RECEIVES TWO GRANTS FOR 2017 FROM THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

LOS ANGELES — The Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo has been awarded more than \$427,000 in National Park Service Japanese American Confinement Sites grants for 2017.

The funds will support two projects — digitization of some of JANM’s moving image holdings and the development of a traveling exhibition featuring works from the museum’s Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection of art and artifacts made by Japanese Americans in America’s concentration camps during World War II.

JANM began pioneering work in collecting Japanese American artifacts in the 1980s and as a result, possesses numerous historically significant moving image collections.

A JACS grant of more than \$176,000 will support the digitization of 35 rare and invaluable home movies of Japanese Americans dating from the 1920s-1950s. These moving images depict everyday life before, during and after World War II, and also include moving images of the wartime incarceration camp experience.

Following digitization, JANM will make the moving images accessible via its website. In addition, selected excerpts will be shared on the museum’s other digital platforms.

A separate JACS grant of more than \$250,000 will support additional conservation of the Eaton Collection, which JANM

acquired in 2015 following the cancellation of a public auction that would have disrespected the memory and hardships of the Japanese Americans who created the artifacts while incarcerated during World War II.

The Japanese American community joined together to speak out against the auction; JANM’s acquisition assured the preservation of the collection in perpetuity.

Following conservation, JANM will develop “Contested Histories: Art and Artifacts From the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection,” an exhibition that will travel to 13 venues, including former camp sites, community centers and other facilities that can safely house the project.

Information about artifacts will be sought from those who view the exhibition; that information will become part of an expanded presentation of the exhibition at JANM in 2020-21.

The JANM grant proposals were selected through a competitive process. For 2017, grants totaling \$1.6 million were awarded to 14 projects in four states.

Since its establishment in 2006, the JACS grant program has awarded more than \$22 million. In all, \$38 million was authorized for the life of the program, whose mission is to teach future generations about the injustices of the WWII confinement of Japanese Americans and inspire commitment to equal justice under the law. ■

Polaris Tours 2017 Schedule

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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THE 'HEART' OF HISTORY

The need to use the incarceration story to connect to other groups is a central theme at the annual Heart Mountain Pilgrimage.

By Maggie Locker,
Contributor

Sam Mihara, a former prisoner at Heart Mountain, looked at the crowd in the Grizzly Room of the Park County Library in Cody, Wyo., and asked, "Who has come to Heart Mountain for the first time?"

About two-thirds of the crowd raised their hands.

The attendance of close to 450 people of all ages and colors on July 28 and 29 set a record for the annual Heart Mountain Pilgrimage and the nearby Heart Mountain Interpretive Center.

The record crowd, pilgrimage organizers said, reflected a growing public awareness of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II and its increased relevance as the Trump administration institutes a ban on Muslim immigration and travel to the United States.

"Revisiting failed policies from 75 years ago is not going to make America great again," said Ann Burroughs, the new president and CEO of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, during her keynote address at the pilgrimage.

Burroughs' comments reflected a common theme mentioned throughout the pilgrimage — the need to use the incarceration story to connect to other groups. She recounted how she was imprisoned during the 1980s for fighting the apartheid policies in her native South Africa. The brutality of apartheid South Africa and the injustice of WWII internment can be attributed to the "corrosive power of discrimination," Burroughs said.

Beyond the need to acknowledge that discrimination against one group of people can lead to attacks on

others, the weekend's pilgrims also reflected on the fights against various other forms of injustice.

Mihara's presentation on the stories of five Nisei provided more than first-hand accounts of life behind barbed-wire fences. It also posed the question: Could this happen again? The consensus answer was yes.

Nancy Ukai gave a talk about the grassroots fight against the sale of 450 pieces of incarcerated artifacts, known as the "Eaton Items," two years ago by auction house Rago Arts. It was a fight she says raised the potential to use the artifacts to explore the personal stories and the political context of the incarceration.

The battle to save the Eaton Items in 2015 was bolstered by the legal advocacy of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, which helped force Rago Arts to stop the sale. That legal battle is chronicled in a new article in the University of California, Berkeley's *Asian American Law Journal*.

"By researching the different objects and uncovering the human stories, we hope to let the artifacts 'speak' and become a portal in this history, which is so relevant to society now," Ukai said.

Bacon Sakatani, who was incarcerated at Heart Mountain as a child, discussed the artwork of Estelle Ishigo, who was imprisoned with her husband at Heart Mountain. Ishigo also

The attendance of nearly 450 participants at this year's Heart Mountain Pilgrimage set a record. Here, they listen to the Saturday morning Opening Ceremonies.



PHOTO: MAGGIE LOCKER

assisted Allen H. Eaton in collecting the objects that Rago Arts attempted to auction off in 2015.

The surge in pilgrims this year was sparked in part by an increasing awareness of the younger generation of Japanese Americans who have learned about the incarceration in recent years, often through exposure to books and other media.

Longtime NBC anchor and commentator Tom Brokaw returned to the pilgrimage this year to do a special report; he participated in the 2011 grand opening. His report, which aired on the "Today Show" on Aug. 1, called the incarceration an outrage and featured former prisoners the

Hon. Norman Y. Mineta, later a congressman and Cabinet official; Raymond Uno, a retired judge from Utah; Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi; and board member Dana Ono.

Brokaw's story also focused on the friendship between Mineta and former Wyoming Sen. Alan Simpson, who met during World War II at a Boy Scout jamboree held behind the camp's barbed wire.

The *Washington Post* was also present; reporter Lori Aratani, whose uncles were incarcerated at Heart Mountain, was there to report on the pilgrimage and connect with her family's past.

Former prisoners and their families took part in multigenerational discussions about the impact of the incarceration on their families. Those panels were led by Aura Newlin, a board member whose great uncle, Clarence Matsumura, served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and helped liberate the Dachau concentration camp in Germany.

The discussion sessions split into groups

PHOTO: MAGGIE LOCKER



The audience smiles as G Yamazawa shares his spoken word poetry. Pictured in the background (from left) are the Hon. Norman Mineta, Ann Burroughs and Hiroto Hirakoba.

PHOTO: DON TANGUILIG



HMWF Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi speaks at the annual Heart Mountain Pilgrimage. Looking on (from left) is HMWF Vice Chair Doug Nelson, former U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson, the Hon. Norman Mineta, JANM President and CEO Ann Burroughs and Consul General of Japan Hiroto Hirakoba.

PHOTOS: DON TANGUILIG



Heart Mountain babies and incarcerated gather in the Reflection Room of the Interpretive Center.



(From left) Sam Mihara, Shig Yabu and Takashi Hoshizaki are pictured at the Park County Library before their "Five Nisei" presentation.

in which participants became emotional as they recounted their families' stories. Many said they only learned about their families' experiences as adults.

Not every camp experience was presented as negative. Uno, whose World War I veteran father died in camp, brought 47 family members to the pilgrimage. He talked about the unforeseen positives of incarceration and how it inspired a career working on civil rights.

Uno's remarks were followed by the presentation of videos created during a new feature of the pilgrimage — a Spoken Word Video Workshop inspired by the success of last year's Digital Storytelling Workshop.

Emmy-winning filmmaker Jeff MacIntyre and artist G Yamazawa arrived a few days early to work with nine people of all ages with varying levels of poetry experience to write, record and edit together spoken word videos, music and family photos.

One participant was Païton Gleeson, a 17-year-old from Huntington Beach, Calif.

"I would like to step into the shoes of the people who shaped my life, understand the

way it felt to wear their skin when it was the very thing they wanted to crawl out of. I'd like to know what it would be like to wear barbed wire around my neck instead of pearls," she said in her video. Her grandmother sat in the audience and watched as pictures of herself at camp shone on the screen.

MacIntyre and his documentary partner David Ono, an anchor at KABC-TV in Los Angeles, also previewed their new documentary "Faceism," which uses the incarceration to show other types of discrimination in the United States.

The documentary focuses on artists G Yamazawa and Roger Shimomura, whose work is currently on display at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center.

Other events throughout the weekend included a speech by Consul General Hiroto Hirakoba from Japan; a reading by Shig Yabu of his children's book "Hello Maggie!"; guided tours of the Heart Mountain property; and a performance of folk songs by Brown PhD student Julian Saporiti.

Pilgrims also raised more than \$40,000 to help restore a former barrack from the

camp that now sits near the Interpretive Center. There, former incarcerated Yabu held court for much of Saturday with his stories about camp life.

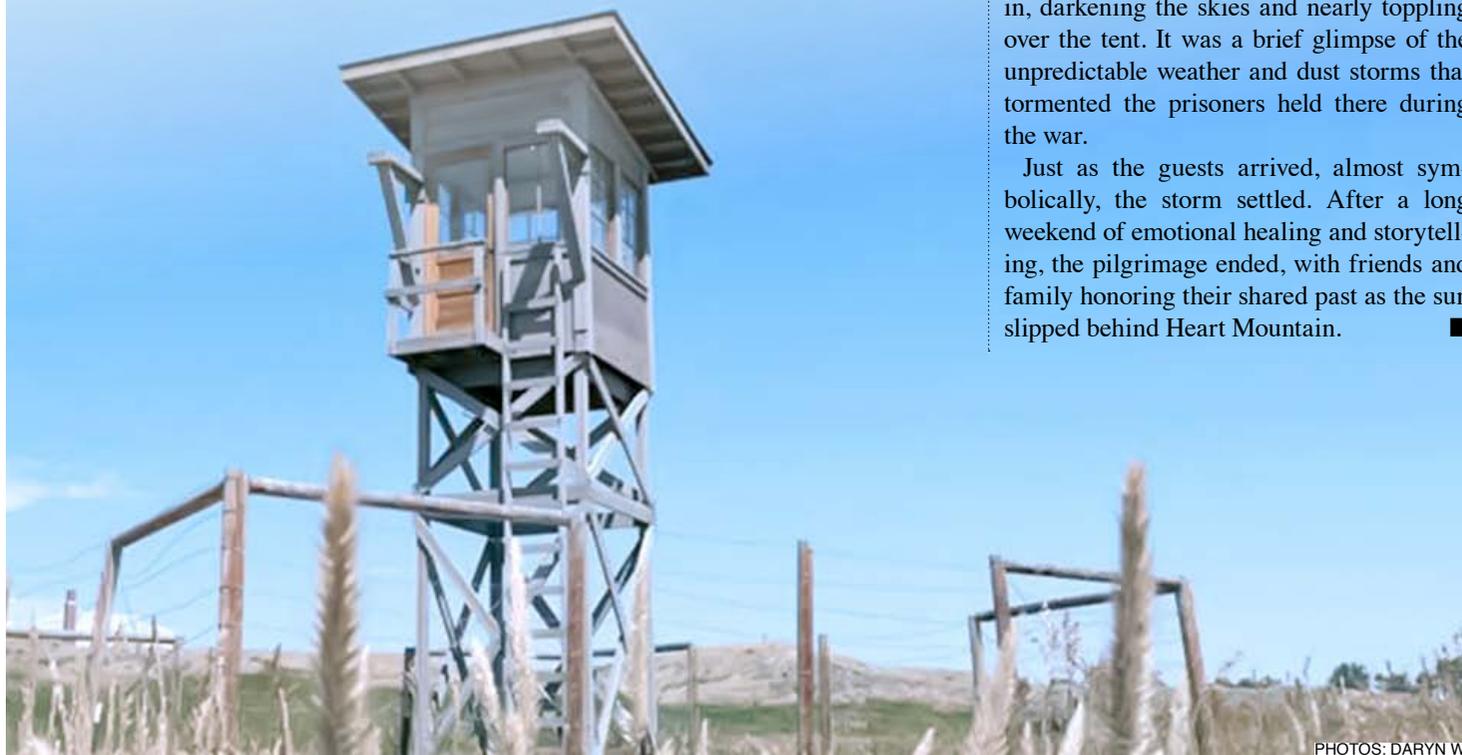
Doug Nelson, the foundation's vice chair, said he would use the \$40,000 to seek matching grants from other foundations, perhaps raising \$120,000 to restore the barrack. After the closing of the camp in November 1945, the barracks were distributed to homesteaders and local residents. Many have been converted into homes and farm buildings, which is documented in a book and photo series by Sharon Yamato and Stan Honda. They are displayed in the barrack.

Before the closing reception, a storm rolled in, darkening the skies and nearly toppling over the tent. It was a brief glimpse of the unpredictable weather and dust storms that tormented the prisoners held there during the war.

Just as the guests arrived, almost symbolically, the storm settled. After a long weekend of emotional healing and storytelling, the pilgrimage ended, with friends and family honoring their shared past as the sun slipped behind Heart Mountain. ■



HMWF Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi is interviewed by journalist Tom Brokaw for a "Today Show" segment in front of the Ansel Adams and Yoshio Okumoto exhibit "Incarceration in Focus."



PHOTOS: DARYN WAKASA/FACEBOOK



PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

WE HAVE MUCH WORK TO DO AND EVERYONE PLAYS A VERY IMPORTANT PART

By Kenji Kuramitsu,
JACL NY/SC Representative

At the JACL National Convention in July, the National Youth/Student Council held an orientation session for young delegates. During that workshop, I invited youth to survey some of JACL's history. In most tellings, including the History section on our website, our members tend to highlight our "histórica altura," the soaring triumphs to which we can proudly point and puff: We were there — we stood, we fought, we showed up.

Some attendees at this workshop raised critical questions about our actions during World War II. I encouraged this "disruption," and in airing these concerns, we collectively approached a more holistic view of our past. As a group, we tried to trouble any neat sanitizing of our moral history, which elides honest talk about our own organizational baggage — those great depths of murkiness into which we are far less eager to wade.

Yes, we made some powerful decisions at proud times: We marched with Dr. King, we passed marriage equality before any other ethnic civil rights group, we spoke out after 9/11. But if you speak with JACL members who were intimately involved in these decisions, they will tell you what Sisyphean, gargantuan battles these were, filled with uphill climbs and narrow wins. (A JACL veteran once shared his view that the organization was originally going to renege on joining the controversial March on Washington — but we eventually attended because "we already bought the banner!")

I write this from Havana, Cuba, where I'm daily reminded of how we publicly make these critical linkages between history, memory and justice. There is a song here (from where I poached the "heights of history" line) that recounts the grand exploits of the revolutionary Che Guevara, a tune as beloved and ubiquitous as our country's national anthem.

I find myself surrounded by monuments to Cuba's Chinese soldiers and to Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X, taking in posted propaganda, ballads and slogans and marble countenances.

Monuments, as all "remembrances," celebrate certain shoots of greenery, while duly paring away other branches from the pantheon. National governments notoriously engage in this sort of *historycraft* — denying genocides, rewriting textbooks, refusing to acknowledge the suffering they have inflicted, ignoring indigenous claims to territorial sovereignty.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF KENJI KURAMITSU

Kenji Kuramitsu (second from left) is pictured with members of the JACL NY/SC at the 2017 National Convention in Washington, D.C.

The monuments throughout the American South erected to enslavers and Confederates represent such a selective rendering of history, one which draws sympathies toward divinized white flesh, rather than suffering humanity.

It is important to remember that when it comes to history, there is no single, objective standing point, no sterile and neat version that avoids inflicting violence to anyone. "Neutrality" is a delusion, a moral trick of the light. History is always told for political and economic ends, which means some voices will be excluded, and others will take center stage.

As Japanese Americans, the ways we tell our community's stories can help us make connections with others, even as it stymies other affinities. We have, for instance, retold our own story in a way that makes critical linkages with the "parallel" experiences of Muslim and Arab Americans. This is laudable and must continue.

PHOTO: GIL ASAKAWA



Kenji Kuramitsu and NY/SC chair Kota Mizutani

We have not, however, chosen to draw such critical kinships and solidarities with black Muslim communities. We have largely not cultivated conscious resemblance with victims of modern mass incarceration, nor with those victimized by our immigration system or indigenous peoples still under occupation on the mainland and beyond.

But these stories are also, inextricably, our stories: Border patrol officers were mobilized to enact the internment of

Japanese nationals; the first physical border wall between the United States and Mexico was constructed by recycling a chain-link fence from Crystal City(!); two of the Nikkei concentration camps were built without tribal permission upon Native reservation lands(!); the state continues to practice techniques of racialized surveillance, detention and profiling, many of which were originally honed with our incarceration.

It's not "out of place" for us to comment on Standing Rock, or immigration raids or the modern anti-black policing apparatus — it's a moral obligation. It's up to us to make these new linkages, to constantly excavate and redeploy our community history for radical, justice-oriented ends.

As a longstanding civil rights organization, we have been at the forefront of social change and human dignity-preserving action — even as we have at other times engaged in duplicitous and unethical behavior.

This is a reflection of our frail, bold yet imperfect humanity. As a friend told me recently, every "stance" that we take simultaneously exposes our own hypocrisy, the moral distance we have yet to close. (I feel this each time a "radical" resolution is proposed before the JACL National Council and needs to be "defanged" to be more acceptable.)

Leaving convention this summer, I feel so proud of the ways that the people who make up this organization continue to sharpen one another, laboring daily for a less lethal and vindictive United States.

I am reminded of how important it is that you are here. We have different stories and sometimes markedly different opinions, but we have so much work to do, and you are a critical part of it. We reach a more honest appraisal of the true heights and depths of history with all of you present.

Hasta la victoria, siempre.

Ryan Kuramitsu is the JACL NY/SC Youth Representative.

VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO JOIN PUBLIC ARCHEOLOGY PROJECT AT MANZANAR

Manzanar's award-winning public archeology program provides exceptional opportunities to learn about the past and help preserve the site and its stories for the future. This year marks the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 and the 25th anniversary of the Manzanar National Historic Site. In recognition of these significant milestones, Manzanar is hosting a public archeology project from Sept. 1-5.

Volunteers will have the unique opportunity to assist the National Park Service in uncovering and stabilizing Manzanar's historic administration and staff housing area. Participants will also learn about both the common and contrasting experiences of camp staff and incarcerated as well as the differences between Japanese landscaping aesthetics and "Western" military-style landscaping.

Volunteer positions are available to anyone age 15 and over who is physically able to work outdoors participating in moderately strenuous activities. Volunteers will be digging with shovels and small hand tools, cutting and loading brush, using wheelbarrows, collecting rocks to reconstruct landscape

features, painting rock alignments and occasionally screening sediments to retrieve artifacts.

Previous archeological experience is helpful, but not necessary. Most of the work is physically demanding, but there will be a variety of tasks each day to suit volunteers' varying interests and energy levels.

Volunteers just need an interest in history and a willingness to get covered with dust and/or paint spatter.

The work will be conducted outdoors, regardless of weather, from 7:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m. daily, including weekends. Volunteers may work any number of days or hours, but a full day or multiple days are preferred.

Bring water, lunch and work gloves, as well as wear sunscreen, a hat and sturdy boots. Please bring any necessary medications.

Advance registration is required since the project is limited to 25 participants per day.

For more information and/or to sign up, please contact Manzanar Cultural Resources Manager Jeff Burton at (760) 878-2194, ext. 3305 or email jeff_burton@nps.gov.

APPEALS OF 'NEVER AGAIN' HEARD ON 72ND ANNIVERSARY OF ATOMIC BOMBING

HIROSHIMA, JAPAN — Hiroshima's appeal of "never again" on the 72nd anniversary Aug. 6 of the world's first atomic bomb attack has gained urgency as North Korea accelerates work on its nuclear weapons program, showing its growing prowess with increasingly frequent missile launches.

Many Japanese and others in the region seem resigned to North Korea's apparent newfound capacity to launch missiles capable of reaching much of the continental U.S. But the threat lends a deeper sense of alarm in Hiroshima, where 140,000 died in that first A-bomb attack, which was followed on Aug. 9, 1945, by another that killed more than 70,000 people in Nagasaki.

During a peace declaration held in Hiroshima on Aug. 6, Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui said "this hell is not a thing of the past. As long as nuclear weapons exist and policymakers threaten their use, their horror could leap into our present at any moment. . . . Human-kind must never commit such an act."

Matsui urged nuclear states, as well as Japan, to join the nuclear weapons ban treaty adopted by the United Nations in July.

"We must eradicate nuclear weapons from the earth to make the world a safe place to live," Matsui said. "There is still a lot to do, and we must keep working on it."

— Associated Press

MINIDOKA >> continued from page 3

and Niseis to create this experience for their children, so that when they grew up, they did not lose their entire childhood years to fear, shame and sadness themselves.

I also heard stories of neighbors taking care of homes and belongings, so that when families returned home, they had not lost everything. This actually happened to my family.

My father's family home was taken care of by neighbor. The Haggars rented out the home, collected the rent and paid the bills, so Grandpa and Grandma Ogino did not lose their home like so many other Japanese. How lucky my grandparents were to have people who cared and showed up for them.

The reason I go around the country to speak about being the mother of a transgender son is to raise awareness about transgender issues. I want to thank Lois from Southern California for telling me she learned so much from my keynote. It inspires me to keep speaking and sharing my story.

I also speak because I know that if I talk about my shame, sadness and fear, it helps me to heal and move on from those moments. It is not always easy, but I believe it is necessary for me to live a life of joy, gratitude and hope.

At Minidoka, I saw the same things happening to those participating. There were tears, there was pain, yet there was also so much gratitude and hope in the air.

One woman, who I fell in love

with was from Detroit, and her name was Catherine. She was on a panel of women who talked about their camp experiences. Catherine is in her 90s, and she said, "I am at the end of my life, but I am grateful for this life, and I thank you for being part of it." Here was a woman that was living to her last days with joy and appreciation.

Minidoka pilgrimages honor those Isseis and Niseis who lived through this experience, raises awareness of these concentration camps and hopefully brings out the courage in all of us, so that this kind of discrimination will never happen again.

As Anna Tamura, the closing speaker at the pilgrimage so beautifully stated, "My hope is that you will draw inspiration from Minidoka . . . to be brave helpers that rise to the occasion and stand up and support individuals and communities who are being victimized like our Nikkei community was 75 years ago, here at Minidoka."

I hope when I am gone, people will say I was a brave helper to both the Nikkei and LG-BTQ community. And whether you do something quietly or something out loud, I hope they will say that about you too . . .

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."

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL

2017 TOUR SCHEDULE

- Eastern Canada Holiday Tour (Carol Hida) WAIT LIST Sep 6-14
Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara Falls.
- Classical Japan Autumn Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida) WAIT LIST Oct 5-16
Tokyo, Mt. Fuji, Yamanashi, Shizuoka, Nagoya, Gifu, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
- Japan Autumn Countryside Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida). Oct 19-29
Tokyo, Sado Island, Kanazawa, Amanohashidate, Tottori, Matsue, Tamatsukuri Onsen, Hiroshima.
- New Orleans & Deep South Holiday Tour (Elaine Ishida). Nov 5-12
New Orleans, Natchez, Lafayette.
- So. America Patagonia-Easter Island Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida). . . Nov 7-22
Buenos Aires, Ushuaia, Calafate(Perito Moreno Glacier), Paine National Park(Grey Glacier), Punta Arenas, Santiago, Easter Island.

2018 TOUR SCHEDULE

- Hokkaido Snow Festivals Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida). Feb 3-12
Lake Akan, Abashiri, Sounkyo, Sapporo, Otaru, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya.
- Danube River Holiday Cruise (Carol Hida) Apr 23-May 4
Prague, Vilshofen, Passau, Linz, Weissenkirchen, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest. With AMA Waterways.
- Heritage of America Holiday Tour (Elaine Ishida) Apr 27-May 6
New York City, Philadelphia, Gettysburg, Shenandoah Valley, Charlottesville, Williamsburg, Yorktown, Washington DC.
- Cape Cod-Islands of New England Tour (Carol Hida & Elaine Ishida) . Jun 1-8
Providence, Newport, Boston, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, Hyannis, Nantucket.
- Grandparents-Grandchildren Japan Tour (Ernest Hida) Jun 17-26
Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
- Hokkaido Summer Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida) July
- Classical Japan Autumn Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida). Oct
- New England Autumn Holiday Tour (Carol Hida). Oct 12-19
- Costa Rica Holiday Tour (Carol Hida). Nov 7-15
- Okinawa Holiday Tour (Ernest Hida) Nov

For more information and reservations, please contact:

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL
312 E. 1st Street, Suite 330 * Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213)625-2232 * Email: americanholiday@att.net
(CST #200326-10) Ernest or Carol Hida
Elaine Ishida (Tel: 714-269-4534)

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

NCWNP

Buddhist Church of Sacramento's Japanese Culture and Food Festival
Sacramento, CA
Aug. 12-13; 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
2401 Riverside Blvd.
Price: Free

This festival is a summertime tradition in Northern California. There will be everything from fresh sushi and teriyaki to sandwiches, Japanese pastries, noodles and much more! In addition, come see traditional performances by Japanese folk musicians, dancers and singers and taiko, as well as experience cultural exhibits featuring bonsai, ikebana and Japanese dolls. Games will be available for the kids, too! Come support this bazaar, a major fundraiser that benefits the church, Boy and Girl Scout programs, youth sports programs, the Japanese language school and youth and senior organizations.
Info: Visit www.buddhistchurch.com.

'Dorothea Lange: Politics of Seeing' Exhibit
Berkeley, CA
Thru Aug. 13
Oakland Museum of California
1000 Oak St.

There are more than 100 photos on display in this exhibit featuring the beloved American photographer. Through the lens of Lange's camera, she documented American life with riveting, intimate photographs that showed the major issues of the times. This exhibit coincides with the 50th anniversary of the artist's gift of her personal archive to the Oakland Museum of California.
Info: Visit <http://museumca.org/exhibit/dorothea-lange-politics-seeing>.

Mikami Vineyards Wine Tasting
San Jose, CA
Aug. 26; 5:30 p.m.
Issei Memorial Building
565 N. Fifth St.
Price: \$20 (JAMSj and SJ JACL Members); \$25 (Nonmembers); RSVP required

Must be 21 years or older to attend. No children allowed.
 This event, sponsored by the JAMSj and the San Jose JACL Chapter, will feature wine tastings of various selections from Mikami Vineyards, which has been producing award-winning wines since 1896 in Lodi, Calif. Come and learn more about the Mikami family story while enjoying their amazing wine selections.
Info: Call JAMSj at (408) 294-3138 or email info@jamsj.org.

JAMSJ 30th Anniversary Celebration
San Jose, CA
Sept. 24; Noon
Hayes Mansion
200 Edenvale Ave.
Price: \$125; register by Sept. 8

Come celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Japanese American Museum of San Jose. The luncheon will feature master of ceremonies Mike Inouye from NBC Bay Area, as well as include a performance by San Jose Taiko, silent auction and tribute to Ayako Hosokawa.
Info: Call JAMSJ at (408) 294-3138 or email info@jamsj.org.

Sake Day 2017
San Francisco, CA
Sept. 30; 4-8 p.m.
JCCCNC
1840 Sutter St.
Price: Ticket are \$65 (early bird until July 15, after which tickets will be \$75)

The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California is proud to be the recipient of the proceeds of "Sake Day 2017," which is presented by True Sake. The event is a celebration of "Nihonshu no Hi" every Oct. 1, and Sake Day was the first event outside of Japan to make sake "king for a day." There is no better sake tasting event honoring this glorious day to explore and gain a new understanding of sake. Proceeds will benefit the center's ongoing programs.
Info: Visit www.sakeday.com or call (415) 355-9555.

'A Salute to Mike' a Champion for All People
San Jose, CA
Oct. 21, 6-9 p.m.
Holiday Inn — San Jose
1350 N. First St.
Price: Individual \$140, San Jose JACL Member \$125
 The JACL San Jose chapter, founded on the premise of civil liberties for all, invites guests to join its members in celebrating Mike Honda's leadership in championing these goals over his many decades of public service. Reservation forms will be available in September.
Info: Visit www.sanjosejacl.org.

PSW

Manzanar Reunion
Las Vegas, NV
Aug. 14-15
California Hotel and Casino
12 E. Ogden Ave.

This year's Manzanar Reunion will feature dinner mixer, ice-breaker games, slot tournament and special afternoon program presented by NPS Rangers from the Manzanar National Historic Site. All are welcome to join in the reunion, which will also feature displays of past reunions and other memories. Registration is recommended by July 8, as the committee is only taking 200 registrants due to the success of last year's reunion.
Info: Email Dorothy Oda at oda.dorothy@gmail.com or call (805) 529-1067.

2017 Nisei Week Japanese Festival
Los Angeles, CA
Aug. 19-27; times vary
Little Tokyo, Los Angeles
Info: Free

The 77th annual Nisei Week Festival will feature the Queen's Coronation, Grand Parade, Awards Dinner, Pioneer Luncheon, Festival, Car Show, Day-Lee Foods World Gyoza Eating Championship, Ondo and Closing Ceremony. Come and celebrate Japanese American culture, food, exhibitions, arts demonstrations and much more at this beloved weeklong event in Little Tokyo. It's not to be missed!
Info: Visit www.niseiweek.org.

Day-Lee Foods World Gyoza Eating Championship
Los Angeles, CA
Aug. 26; 2-4 p.m.
Japanese American Cultural & Community Center
244 S. San Pedro St.
Info: Free

All are welcome to see the 11th annual World Gyoza Eating Championship as it hosts Major League Eating's top competitive eaters for a top prize of \$6,000. The main event begins at 2 p.m. In 2016, Matt "Megatoad" Stonie retained his crown after putting away 323 potstickers. The current World Record was set in 2014 by Joey Chestnut, who ate 384 potstickers in 10 mins. In addition, this event will feature an amateur eating contest as well.
Info: Visit www.niseiweek.org.

Afternoon of Peace: The Hiroshima & Nagasaki Experience
Los Angeles, CA
Sept. 16; 2 p.m.
Aratani Theatre
244 S. San Pedro St.
Price: \$20 (Balcony); \$30 (Orchestra)

This program honors and remembers the victims and Hibakusha (survivors) of the Aug. 6 and 9, 1945, atomic bombings and their impact on all human, animal and plant life. Artists featured include the Ken Dance Company, Nori Tani Jazz Ensemble, images by Richard Fukuhara and members of the American Society of Hiroshima and Nagasaki A-Bomb Survivors.
Info: Visit jacc.org.

A La Cuisine Avec Chef Akira
Los Angeles, CA
Sept. 16; 1-4 p.m.
JACCC Garden Room
244 S. San Pedro St.
Price: \$35

Join this engaging demonstration with Chef Akira Hirose of Maison Akira in Pasadena, Calif., and learn more on how to cook French cuisine with a Japanese flair. Chef Akira will lead a demonstration featuring crab flan chardonnay with yuzukoshu sauce, beef bourguignon with king oyster mushroom and maccha mouse. Following the demonstration, participants will

have a chance to enjoy a tasting of the menu.
Info: Visit www.jacc.org.

PNW

American Obon: Dancing in Joy and Remembrance
Portland, OR
Thru Oct. 15
Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center
121 N.W. Second Ave.
Price: \$5 (General Admission); \$3 (Seniors/Students); Free for Friends of Oregon Nikkei Endowment

Rev. Yoshio Iwanaga, who introduced the tradition of Obon to numerous Nikkei communities along the West Coast in the 1930s, will be celebrated in this exhibit that traces the development of Bon Odori in North America through archival photographs, audio and rare video footage on loan from the Iwanaga family, dance scholar Linda Akiyama and the Buddhist Churches of America. In addition, the obon tradition in Portland will be highlighted with photographs from the Oregon Nikkei Endowment's Frank C. Hirahara Collection.
Info: Visit www.oregonnikkei.org.

MDC

Twin Cities Golf Tournament
Bloomington, MN
Sept. 9; 1:30-4 p.m.
Hyland Golf Course
10100 Normandie Blvd.
Price: \$20 (Members); \$25 (Nonmembers)

Come support this fundraiser and enjoy a day out on the golf course!
Info: Contact Zen Matsuda at info@zenchiropracticinc.com.

Chrysanthemum Banquet
Bloomington, MN
Nov. 11; 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church
9920 Normandale Blvd.

This event will feature a luncheon, silent auction and guest speaker John Matsunaga, a Minneapolis-based visual artist/photographer, educator and activist. His work in the visual arts explores Asian American and Japanese American history, identity and experience, with an emphasis on the wartime incarceration of Japanese Americans. He is currently a member of the education committee of the Twin Cities chapter.
Info: Visit tcjacl.org.

EDC

Meet the Author: Ruth Chan
Boston, MA
Aug. 18; 5:30 p.m.
Pao Arts Center
99 Albany St.

Price: \$15 suggested donation per family

Author Ruth Chan will be reading from her latest children's book "Georgie's Best Bad Day," which is described as being for "any kid who has spent part of the day face down on the ground in utter defeat. George and his pals make great commiserating companions." The reading, sponsored by the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, will be followed by a book signing and light refreshments.
Info: Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/meet-the-childrens-book-author-ruth-chan-tickets-35878532657>.

Second Annual PAAFF Asian Chef Experience
Philadelphia, PA
Sept. 14; 6-9 p.m.
UArts Hamilton Hall
320 S. Broad St.
Price: \$75

Presented by the Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival, this special chef tasting event will feature 12 of the city's most prominent Asian American and Pacific Islander chefs preparing tasting-sized portions of their best dishes. This year's theme is "Asian Night Market!" Each ticket includes samplings with complimentary beer and wine.
Info: Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-annual-paaff-asian-chef-experience-tickets-36114367044?aff=es2>.

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.

ADVERTISE HERE

Events in the calendar section are listed based on space availability. Place a 'Spotlight' ad with photos of your event for maximum exposure.

FOR MORE INFO:
pc@pacificcitizen.org
 (213) 620-1767

IN MEMORIAM

Chomori, Raymond, 90, Torrance, CA, July 21; he is survived by his wife, Michiko; daughter, Nancy Oshiro; brothers-in-law, Richard (Ellen) and Edwin (Cynthia) Oye; he is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 1.

Furuya, Alice Yoshiko, 89, Alhambra, CA, June 19; she is survived by her husband, James; sisters, Pearl, Jean and Setsuko Matsusaka; sister-in-law, Helen (Ben) Hara; 2 nieces.

Gee, Carolyn Kazue, 64, Los Angeles, CA, July 6; she is survived by her husband, Edmond Gee; children, Jason Peterson, Bryan Gee and Kevin Gee; daughter-in-law, Amy Peterson; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews, friends and other relatives; gc: 1.

Harano, Chieko, 95, Los Angeles, CA, July 22; she is survived by her children, Woody Harano, Wendie (Roy) Yumori and Winifred Harano; sister, Reiko Hanami; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 1; ggc: 3.

Hayakawa, Judy Kikue, 91, Gardena, CA, June 27; she was predeceased by her husband, Toshio; she is survived by two sisters and other family members.



Harakuni, Albert Masaichi, 86, Torrance, CA, July 1; he is survived by his wife, Doris Sachiko; daughters, Helen Hikari (Scott) Sumi and Iris (Peter) Lyon; sisters, Masayo Harakuni and Miyoko (Ezra) Koike; he is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 4.



Hirai, Katherine 'Katie' Chizuru, 91, Caldwell, OR, July 25; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Tule Lake WRA Center in CA and the Minidoka WRA Center in ID; she was

predeceased by her husband, Stephen; she is survived by her children, Amy (Dean) Hayashida, David (Michelle), Julie (Ross Yamasaki), Jeannie (Pat) Driscoll and Robert (Wendy) Hirai; she is also survived by a niece and nephews; gc: 7; ggc: 4.

Hirata, Kazuto, 86, Monterey Park, CA, June 12; he is survived by his wife, Alice Harumi; children, Kurt, Shawn (Rick Wining), Arliss and Ford (Stacey) Hirata; gc: 5; ggc: 3.



Izumi, Kiyoko, 93, Los Angeles, CA, July 28; she was predeceased by her husband, Toshiro, and their daughter, Yoshiko Betty; she is survived by her children, Sue (Steve) Shackelford, Irene and James; sister, Masuko Shimamoto.

Kato, Stella J., 89, San Francisco, CA, July 22; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Amache WRA Center in Granada, CO; she was predeceased by her husband, Yoshio; she is survived by her children, Lane (Deirdre) and Cindy; siblings, Rosie, Mamie, Elaine and Wayne; gc: 6.



Kunishi, Michiko, 95, Sacramento, CA, July 15; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Tule Lake WRA Center in CA; she was predeceased by her husband, Hiroshi; she is survived by her children, Alvin (Dorothy) Kunishi, Jerodine (Dennis) Muramoto, JoAnn (Robert) Fujita and Tammi (Clyde) Uchida; sister, June Hayashi; gc: 7; step gc: 2; ggc: 5; step-ggc: 3.

Matsufuji, May Meiko, 77, Sacramento, CA, July 4; she is survived by her son, brother

and their families.

Mizushima, Barbara Kyoko, 85, Chicago, IL, July 15; she was predeceased by her husband, Raymond; she is survived by her children, Cheryl (Dominic Puleo), Craig (Nina) and Marcia (Frank) Shuminas; siblings, Ellen Jane Murakami and Andrew (Aileen) Nishimura; gc: 6; ggc: 1.

Mizushima, Masami, 88, Las Vegas, NV, May 25; he is survived by his daughter, Tracy (Brian) Hayashi; gc: 2.

Murakami, Fusako, 95, Los Angeles, CA, June 2; she is survived by her children, Takao (Toyoko), Jeanette Hiroko, Terry Murakami, Takako (Munetoshi) Matsuda and Terumi Nakai; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 9; ggc: 6.

Murayama, Herbert Takashi, 95, Los Angeles, CA, July 17; during WWII, he served in the Army MIS; he is survived by his wife, Yuri; he is also survived by nephews, nieces and other family members.

Nakahara, Hiroko Helen, 96, Santa Clarita, CA, May 23; she is survived by her daughter, Elaine (Kazuyuki) Furuya; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2; ggc: 3.

Nakahiro, Yoshiko Hanzawa, 90, Pasadena, CA, July 13; she was predeceased by her husband, Tosh; she is survived by her children, Steve and Janis; gc: 1.

Nakano, Rosie Shizuko, 93, Irvine, CA, June 11; she is survived by her children, Amy (Paul) Bihl, Mary (Lee) Rising, Ida (Denny) Nakano-Minami and Roy Nakano Jr.; gc: 5.

Ohara, Setsue, 96, Los Angeles, CA, July 6; she is survived by her children, Tsuyoshi (Izumi) Ohara, Akimi (Hiroyoshi) Hosokawa, Michiyo Ozaki and Kinuyo (Masayasu) Norimoto; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 9; ggc: 10.

Okamuro, Florence, 89, Alexandria, VA, May 13; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Manzanar WRA Center in CA; she was predeceased by her husband, Fumio; she is survived by their children, Jack (Diane), Robert (Julia) and Douglas (Alessandra) Okamuro; gc: 7; ggc: 2.

Ono, Masumi, 86, Culver City, CA, May 30; she is survived by her children, Keichi (Susie) Ono, Ritsuko (Kazuhiro) Kanemoto and Rachel (Steve) Noguchi; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Oshima, Alan, 78, Sacramento, CA, July 17; an active JACLer, he is survived by his wife, Yuki; daughters, Seiko Monahan (Leon), Noriko Colston (Ty), Sumiko Kalish (Daren) and Mieko Rogers (Nick);

sister, Sharon Tsuruta; gc: 7.

Otani, Chisato, 98, Palos Verdes Estates, CA, July 16; she is survived by her children, Joji, Keiko and Naomi (James) Anderson; brother, Ken Kasukabe; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2; ggc: 2.

Shigetomi, Kiyono, 110, Los Angeles, CA, July 4; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the Topaz WRA Center in Utah; she was predeceased by her first husband, Morito Sakoda, and her second husband, Asaji Shigetomi; she is survived by many gc, ggc and gggc, nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Takenaka, Frank Ichiro, 95, Monterey Park, CA, June 17; he is survived by his wife, Mable; their children, Candace Shigetomi and Craig (Debbie) Takenaka; sister, Janet Shoji; he is also survived by many other relatives; gc: 3.

Tamura, Marie, 103, Fountain Valley, CA, July 10; she is survived by her children, Robert Hisao (Dian) Tamura and Rosalie Reiko Aoyama; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 4; ggc: 7; gggc: 3.

Tamura, Yumiko, 89, Sacramento, CA, July 19; she was predeceased by her husband, Frank; she is survived by her son, Arthur (Juliet); brother, Bill; sisters-in-law, Kikue and Iyoko; she is also survived by many nephews, nieces, cousins and other family members; gc: 1.

Tanaka, Haruyo, 92, Sacramento, CA, July 10; she was predeceased by her husband, Takashi; she is survived by her children, Kathleen (Don) Henry and Melvin Tanaka; sisters, Kazuo Tokuyoshi, Kimiyo Higaki and Gale Hamatani; gc: 2; ggc: 3.

Tanakaya, Carol, 81, Scottsdale, AZ, July 24; she was predeceased by her husband, Stanley, and their granddaughter, Lindsay Ann; she is survived by her children, Russell, Laurie and Gregg; daughter-in-law, Beth; sister-in-law Ellen; gc: 1.

Taniyama, Alice Mae, 95, Los Angeles, CA, June 1; she is survived by her children, James (Sharon Cook) and Jeff (Harriet) Taniyama; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 8; ggc: 4.

Terasawa, Suzie Suzuko, 90, Los Angeles, CA, May 24; she was predeceased by her husband, Toshikazu (Tosh) Terasawa, and their son, Timothy Terasawa; she is survived

by James, Kay and Terry Sakata; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Tsuruda, Shigeru, 84, Santa Ana, CA, July 14; he was predeceased by his wife, Tomiko; he is survived by his children, Tony Shigenobu Tsuruda, Mary Sumiko (Dagoberto Antonio) Palomo and Lynn Satsuki (Dok Thatsanaphonh); he is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Uyeda, Bruce, 78, Mountain View, CA, July 21; he is survived by his wife, Kiyomi; sons, Kurt and Blake (Karen); brother, Lance (Susie); he is also survived by many in-laws, nephews, nieces and other relatives; gc: 1.

Uyeno, Sayoko, 76, Indio, CA, May 20; she is survived by her aunt, Eiko Mori; cousins, Toshihiko Sakauye, Joanne Kelso, Yoshiteru Mori and Yasuko Yamada; she is also survived by many other relatives.

Wada, Yoshie, 96, Los Angeles, CA, June 21; she was predeceased by her husband, Hisashi Wada, their daughter, Margie Okita and great-granddaughter, Dani Smith; she is survived by her children, Wayne Wada, Victor Wada, Terry Wada and April (Richard) Shimada; sons-in-law, Yoshikuni Okita and Ron Kubo; sister-in-law, Nori (Dr. Julius Frank) Naka; she is also survived by nieces, nephews, friends and other relatives; gc: 9; ggc: 2.

Yamada, George Tatsuo, 93, Spokane, WA; he was predeceased by his wife, Suzie; he is survived by their children, Cathy, Linda, Jerry, Patty, John and Greg and their spouses; gc: 14; ggc: 5.

Yamamoto, Patricia Ann 'Patsy,' 69, Los Angeles, CA, July 11; she is survived by her husband, Gary Yamamoto; daughter, Tricia (Ryan) Nakanishi; brother, Dennis Sasaki; brother-in-law, Alan (Karen) Yamamoto; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

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REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START SAVING FOR RETIREMENT

By Ron Mori

At my first “real” job out of school, my supervisor was a very stern retired Army Captain. He sat all of the new supervisors down in a conference room and proceeded to tell us why we needed to start our retirement planning today in a very direct way. I was 22 with no responsibilities, and Bob’s message hit home. I started saving for my retirement planning by my next paycheck and began participating in our company retirement plan and maximizing my individual contribution.

However, I know it’s not that easy for everyone. Life has a way of altering our best intentions to save and plan for retirement. The problem of saving money for retirement is widespread and difficult to address. It’s clear from the research and news reports that people are not saving enough for their financial future for a variety of reasons, including lack of knowledge of how to save.

Additionally, people simply feel overwhelmed.

A recent AARP survey showed that 76 percent of respondents have accomplished significant financial goals such as buying a home, while more than 70 percent have paid off mortgages, student loans or credit card balances. Some 67 percent have saved for a family vacation.

But just 48 percent say they’ve saved enough to live comfortably through retirement. Nearly 30 percent say

they forgo essentially free money by failing to get the full employer match in company-sponsored retirement plans; nearly 25 percent aren’t using recommended savings tactics such as setting aside automatic paycheck deductions.

‘Retirement planning can sometimes leave people anxious, confused or even paralyzed.’

— Debra Whitman, AARP Executive VP and Chief Public Policy Officer

The financial industry has invested millions of dollars into advertising its services to mostly upper income individuals who may be concerned that they are “not saving enough.”

However, there’s a need for Americans with more modest means to save for their long-term financial future by breaking down actions you can take into smaller steps and with easy-to-understand resources starting now at any age.

You don’t have to be wealthy or work with a professional to achieve a more financially secure future. When you know the ins and outs of your retirement savings options, you can make sure the money you do save is working harder for you.

AARP and the Ad Council have recently launched free retirement planning resources and interactive tools aimed at energizing and empowering you to maximize your retirement goals at www.AceYourRetirement.org.

“Retirement planning can sometimes leave people anxious, confused or even paralyzed,” said Debra Whitman, AARP executive vp and chief public policy officer. “This campaign will break down retirement savings into easy, actionable steps for all Americans.”

AceYourRetirement.org features a digital retirement coach named Avo, a chatbot that will ask the user questions about his or her life, savings goals and retirement plans. Avo then provides personalized action items, including steps the user can take now to save for the future.

For example, Avo might suggest strategies on how to turn a hobby into a source of income, how to have a conversation with a family member about financial priorities or how to maximize a 401(k) contribution.

It’s never too late to start. Looking back, I was fortunate enough to have a real in-person Avo way ahead of his time in my first supervisor.

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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