

THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

Newsletter June 2012

FILIAL PIETY IN TAIWAN, MARCH 6, 2012



The photos and video of **Ting Tsu-chi** carrying his mother to the hospital have gone viral. (An Internet photo.)

Filial piety has become a hot issue in Taiwan after video of a middle-aged man carrying his frail mother into the Chi Mei Hospital went viral, touching hearts all over the country. Now people want to know more about the man in the video.

On Sunday, the local *Apple Daily* confirmed the man's identity as **Ting Tsu-chi**, who retired from the Bureau of Investigation in the southern city of Tainan five years ago. He applied for early retirement in order to take care of his elderly mother. Three days ago, the video of Ting carrying his seriously ill mother to see doctors was reposted on the net repeatedly. Many citizens have dubbed him "the model of filial piety," and other users said he is the "25th filial exemplar," with his story titled, "He wrapped his mother in cotton cloth." The *24 Filial Exemplars* is a classic text written on filial piety by **Guo Jujing** during the Yuan dynasty (1271-1368).

Ting Tsu-chi, 62, has stayed mum on the incident, and when reporters asked his former colleagues to ask him for an interview, he told his friends to tell the reporters, "These are my personal affairs, I would rather not."

His neighbors said they have hardly any interaction with Ting so they don't have any impression of him, yet when looking at the photo of him carrying his mother to the hospital, one neighbor said, "It's incredible to see such a scene in today's world."

Ting talked to his former boss **Mo Tien-hu**, currently the chief of the Tainan Bureau of Investigation, about the incident in a phone call, saying his mother has had a stroke and can't move well, and last month she broke her

leg. Ting reportedly said that because his mother is fragile and thin, sitting in a wheelchair would not be suitable for her, as her broken leg could be hurt if it bumped into anything. He decided using a wrapping cloth to carry his mother would be the best option to take her into the hospital.

According to Mo, Ting's father died in 2006 and his mother was depressed after losing her husband. She asked Ting to take her back to mainland China to see relatives, and he complied. At the time, he was up for promotion at the Bureau of Investigation, but he passed it up to take care of his parents.

"When I was small, you carry me. When you grow old, I carry you," one newspaper commented as saying. These words touched many hearts.

"Filial piety" is deeply embraced in ancient Chinese culture, teachings and philosophy.

[Editor's note: We know of the exemplary care our elders (now mostly *Nisei*) are receiving by their not-so-young children (*Sansei*) every day in our Watsonville-Santa Cruz Asian American community.

The greatest love of all is between a mother and child and that child with his mother. How often is it heard that a dying man, perhaps a soldier in combat or an elderly man, calls for his mother with his last breath?

We admire the love and dedication—filial piety—by the third generation, and we are truly grateful. They do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.]

LOVE <u>IS</u> A MANY SPLENDID THING ... by Mas Hashimoto, Editor

It's true that love is a many splendid thing. There is nothing more important, more powerful, or more wonderful on this earth than love.

Love has been defined and described by poets, lyricists, scholars, and those simply "in love." It is a most powerful force.

Oscar Hammerstein II (1895-1960) wrote many lyrics of love, compassion, and understanding, but none was more profound than this:

A bell's not a bell 'til you ring it.
A song's not a song 'til you sing it.
Love in your heart wasn't put there to stay
Love isn't love 'til you give it away!

While listening to **Frank Sinatra** sing "**Let's Fall In Love**" (1933), words by **Ted Koehler** and music by **Harold Arlen**, on the radio the other day, I thought how the lyrics apply to everyone--gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgenders (GBLT), too—who are falling in love.

I have a feeling, it's a feeling I'm concealing - I don't know why

It's just a mental, incidental, sentimental - alibi But I adore you, so strong for you Why go on stalling, I am falling, love is calling - why be shy

Let's fall in love Why shouldn't we fall in love Our hearts are made of it, let's take a chance Why be afraid of it

Let's close our eyes And make our own paradise Little we know of it, still we can try To make a go of it

We might have been meant for each other To be or not to be, let our hearts discover

Let's fall in love Why shouldn't we fall in love Now is the time for it, while we are young Let's fall in love.

All people deserve to have their love respected by others.

Then, I remembered this favorite romantic comedy, "I Was a Male War Bride," produced in 1949.



Captain Henri Rochard (played by Gary Grant) is a French officer who is assigned to put a stop to a black market operation in occupied Germany after WW II with the help of Lt. Catherine Gates (Ann Sheridan), an American WAC. While their initial meetings are hardly harmonious, in time Rochard and Gates find that opposites really do attract, and they fall in love. The two decide to get married, which seems simple enough, but the moment Gates receives orders to return to the United States and Rochard wants to join her, they soon discover just how complicated the U.S. Amy can make things. While the Army has a strict protocol for dealing with "war brides," there is no similar routine for men who marry female Army personnel. So in order to follow his new wife into the States, Rochard has to disguise himself as a WAC to get aboard a US Navy transport ship.

While love triumphs in this story, the military, generally speaking, has its shortcomings. Read the next story.

DISCRIMINATION IN THE US MILITARY

Washington, D. C. Tracey Cooper-Harris, an African American, served 12 years in the U.S. Army and received multiple commendations serving in Kyrgyzstan and Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, reaching the rank of sergeant. received more than two dozen medals and commendations. She was honorably discharged in 2003. But, because she is in a marriage with a person of the same sex, Maggie, a Caucasian American, our federal government refuses to grant her the same disability benefits as heterosexual veterans.

Tracey was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS), which the Veterans Affairs has determined is connected to her military service.

Our friends at the **Southern Poverty Law Center** (SPLC) filed a federal law suit on the couple's behalf, challenging the constitutionality of the **Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)** as well as the law that governs the Department of Veterans Affairs' policy.

"I dedicated 12 years of my life to serving the country I love. I'm asking only for the same benefits the brave men and women who served beside me enjoy. By refusing to recognize our marriage, the federal government has deprived Maggie and me of the peace of mind that such benefits are meant to provide to veterans and their families," Tracey stated.

The lawsuit, filed in the US District Court for the Central District of California, charges that DOMA is unconstitutional because it discriminates on the basis of gender and sexual orientation. It also challenges the VA's definition of "spouse" as discriminatory.

Did you know that in the early 1970s the SPLC challenged successfully the military's refusal to grant equal benefits to married servicewomen? The US Supreme Court held in *Frontiero v. Richardson* that the military <u>must</u> provide married women in the armed forces with the <u>same</u> benefits as married men. It was the first successful sex discrimination lawsuit against the federal government.

"All service members and their families make the same commitment and sacrifices for their country. They all should receive the same benefits," stated **Joseph Levin**, SPLC's co-founder.

We will keep you posted on this case.

IN SUPPORT OF MARRIAGE EQUALITY FOR SAME SEX COUPLES

[Editor's note: The media continues to erroneously call **John F. Kennedy** the first <u>Catholic</u> President. There is no Catholic, Mormon, or Jewish President. Kennedy was the first President who happened to have been a Catholic. **President Barack Obama** is not the first Gay President (*Newsweek*). He's not even a gay. Why, then?]

Washington, D.C. - The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) praised President Barack Obama for his support of marriage equality for same-sex couples. The JACL commended the President for his historic stance as the first President to recognize the rights of same-sex couples to marry.

The JACL was the first civil rights organization in the nation to announce their support of gay marriages in 1994. Citing the Cable Act of 1922 which prohibited marriages between American citizens and Asian immigrants in the 20th century, the JACL correlated current prohibitions against same-sex marriages with discriminatory laws that previously outlawed inter-racial marriages.

[Editor's note: the JACL <u>lost</u> a huge number of members who supported anti-GLBT legislation! We welcome back and encourage the renewal of the membership of all those who understand what fighting for civil rights truly means. Many whose children are GLBT have re-joined, and we thank them! The National Association for the *Advancement* of Colored People (NAACP) has yet to support GLBT!]

Priscilla Ouchida, JACL National Executive Director Elect, stated: "President Obama's courageous statement that same-sex couples should have the ability to get married provides leadership at the highest level for efforts to attain parity for couples irrespective of race, gender, religion or sexual orientation.

"Our children, our brothers and sisters, and our friends may have loving relationships with a same-sex partner. We strive for a day when they too can enjoy equal standing with other Americans, and marry the person they love. President Obama's message is important and confirms that barriers to same-sex marriages are no longer relevant in a free society."

In the wake of the President's announcement, the JACL urged the U. S. Supreme Court to consider overturning California's Proposition 8 and other prejudiced state laws that diminish the rights of LGBT Americans.

SANTA CRUZ PRIDE, SUNDAY, JUNE 3RD

Every year, we of the **GLBT Alliance** and **Equality Action Project**, gather together with others to celebrate the beautiful diversity that makes Santa Cruz so unique.

Santa Cruz Pride has become a festival many people look forward to each year, and this year it'll happen on Sunday, June 3rd at 11 am along Pacific Avenue. The parade will go from Cathcart St. to Cooper St., and the Festival will happen between Cooper St. and Water St. from 11 am to 2 pm. Come join us!

WOMEN PILOTS OF WORLD WAR II



At a time when American women were expected to stay at home and tend to domestic chores, the pioneers, along with "Rosie, the Riveter," included the **Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP)** or "Flygirls" as they were

called by the media. They served with distinction and were an inspiration.

Enterprising young female pilots like **Jacqueline Cochran**, 1906-1980, (second only to **Amelia Earhart**); **Nancy Harkness Love**, 1914-1976, were determined to help their country in wartime. Realizing that male pilots would be needed on the frontlines, America's women aviators served as test pilots, target towing, and ferrying fighter planes and bombers from the factories to the airbases.

But, they had to fight and prove themselves against the U. S. military leadership. Change came slowly and at great costs we were to learn.

The women pilots' outstanding military record and contribution to the success of the war effort are highly regarded and admired today. They had logged over 60 million air miles! They flew 78 different types of aircraft.

During and after the war, they were <u>not</u> recognized or considered to be a part of the U. S. military! Thirty-eight (38) courageous women pilots died over the course of the war and were buried without an American flag draped on their coffins. Often, their female comrades paid for the funeral services out of their own meager wages.

Congress denied the recognition of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, and in December of 1944, the program was closed.

Classified as civil servants, they were denied benefits under the **GI Bill of Rights**, including life insurance, medical coverage, education assistance, and home mortgages. They were not allowed to join veteran groups like the American Legion.

Finally, Congress had granted them veteran status in 1977, nearly 35 years later. Then, in 2010, after a hard-fought campaign, they were awarded the **Congressional Gold Medal.**



One of the 38 was **Hazel Ying Lee** (1912-1944). Despite overwhelming anti-Chinese sentiment in America, Ying Lee overcame those obstacles to become an accomplished pilot.

Originally from Portland, Oregon, Ying Lee was an elevator operator at a local department store—one of the few jobs open to Chinese Americans.

In 1932 Ying Lee took her first flight and was awarded a pilot's license months later. She attempted to fly for the Chinese Airforce to help defend against Japanese aggressions but was denied permission.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Ying Lee was accepted and became the first Chinese American to fly with the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

Tragically, Ying Lee was killed just months before the war came to an end. Her plane collided with another as they both attempted to land.

There are only about 200 of the 1,102 women pilots of WW II still living. The women pilots wanted to serve their country. Their pride and patriotism is not unlike that of the Nisei soldiers of WW II.

Today, there is a **National WASP WW II Museum** in Sweetwater, Texas 79556 to the "Forgotten Air Force," and donations can be made to the National WASP WW II Museum, c/o National Processing Center, P. O. Box 96679, Washington, D. C. 20077-7690. Check out this website: www.waspmuseum.org for more information.

"DECORATION DAY" IS NOW "MEMORIAL DAY"

Black Americans played the major role in honoring the war dead. The American Civil War ended on April 9, 1865 at Appomattox Court House, VA with the surrender of General Robert E. Lee's Confederate forces to General U. S. Grant of the Union Army.

The first known observance of a Memorial Day-type observance was held in <u>Charleston</u>, <u>South Carolina</u> on May 1, 1865.

During the war, Union soldiers who were <u>prisoners of war</u> had been held at the Charleston Race Course. At least 257 Union prisoners died there and were hastily buried in unmarked graves. The vast majority of the graves of the Civil War – both Union and Confederate -- are marked as "unknown."

<u>Freedmen</u> (freed slaves) knew of those Union dead and decided to <u>honor</u> them. Together with teachers and missionaries, blacks in Charleston organized a May Day ceremony. Beforehand the freedmen had cleaned up and landscaped the burial ground, building an enclosure and an arch labeled, "Martyrs of the (Charleston) Race Course." Nearly ten thousand people, mostly freedmen, gathered on May 1 to commemorate the Union dead. Involved were 3,000 schoolchildren who were newly enrolled in freedmen's schools, mutual aid societies, Union troops, and black ministers and white northern missionaries. Most brought <u>flowers</u> to lay on the burial field. The event was covered by the *New York Tribune* and other national papers. Years later, it came to be called the "First Decoration Day" in the North.

The historian **David W. Blight** described the day:

"This was the first Memorial Day. African Americans invented Memorial Day in Charleston, South Carolina. What you have there is black Americans recently freed from slavery announcing to the world with their flowers, their feet, and their songs what the War had been about. What they basically were creating was the Independence Day of a Second American Revolution."

The XIII Amendment, which abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, was proposed by Congress on Jan. 31, 1865 and ratified on Dec. 6, 1865.

Flowers must adorn the gravesites of Union soldiers who fought and died for the freedoms we enjoy today. We are grateful to African Americans who remembered the fallen heroes who fought for their and our freedoms.

PLANTING A TREE OF FRIENDSHIP

On a perfect spring May 20th day in Watsonville, a wonderful Yoshino cherry blossom tree was planted.



Consul General Hiroshi Inomata and Watsonville Mayor Eduardo Montesino planted the flowering cherry tree in the City Plaza. This photo courtesy of Bill Lovejoy, SC Sentinel. WATSONVILLE - A young cherry tree was planted in City Plaza on Sunday as a symbol of the ongoing friendship between Japan and Watsonville.



About 50 people attended the tree-planting ceremony commemorating the gift of the cherry tree from Japan.



The tree came courtesy of Consul General **Hiroshi Inomata** of San Francisco, 100 years after Tokyo gave 3,000 of the symbolic trees to Washington, D.C. (1912-2012). Washington, D.C. is famous for its cherry blossom viewing festival each spring. Photos by **Paul Kaneko**.

Mayor Eduardo Montesino welcomed all to the event and thanked the Consul General for this thoughtful and

symbolic gift from Japan to our fair city.



Jeanette Otsuji Hager, vice president of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Japanese American Citizens League, gave a brief history of the Japanese and Japanese-Americans in the Pajaro Valley.

She said the first permanent Watsonville resident of Japanese descent was **Sakuzo Kimura** of Osaka, who settled in the area in 1892 and worked as a labor contractor. He died in 1900 and was buried in the Catholic cemetery on Freedom Boulevard, she said.

By 1896, there were more than 400 farm laborers from Japan living and working in the valley, Hager said. Later, through hard work and support from the non-Nikkei, they were to become sharecroppers, tenant farmers and, eventually, landowners.

Japantown, or *Nihonmachi*, co-existed with Chinatown on lower Main Street, Union Street, Bridge Street (now Riverside Drive), Elm Street and across the river in Pajaro.

"For over 120 years, the people of Watsonville have been gracious, kind and supportive, and our Japanese-American community is grateful," **Mas Hashimoto** said. "We are delighted to be able to participate in this ceremony that symbolizes and celebrates the friendship and goodwill between Japan and the United States."

Hashimoto told of the importance of the student exchange program by relating the story of **Takeo Miki**, a young, college student from Japan attending the University of Southern California in the early 1930s. During the summer months, he stayed at the Hayashi boarding house on First Street and ate at the Hashimoto residence. He learned to love America, its people, and the Issei pioneers of Watsonville. Upon his return to Japan, he joined the Foreign Service. As a pro-America advocate, he spent the WW II years under "house arrest." After the war, he rose to the rank of Foreign Secretary and, in 1972, was elected Prime Minister of Japan—the head of state. His government was termed as "Mr. Clean," for his campaign against corruption in government.

Watsonville residents have embraced those of Japanese ancestry, Hashimoto said. He also spoke of the warm relationship between Mexico and Japan, saying Mexico was the first nation to sign an equality treaty with Japan in the 1800s.

Inomata said the tree was given to Watsonville due to its long history with the town's sister city, Kawakami, and because of the history of Japanese-Americans in the area.



The memorable moment that delighted everyone came when **Bob and Denise Gomez**, visitors twice as chaperones to Kawakami, sang the Kawakami Middle School song in both Japanese and English.

Bob reflected on the October days of 2009, when a delegation of students and chaperones visited Kawakami. It was the year of the swine flu epidemic, and the trip had been postponed from May of that year. **Watsonville Mayor Antonio Rivas** accompanied the students to Kawakami to celebrate the 20th year of student exchanges between the two towns, and our delegation was able to participate in *Sports and Fitness Day* on October 10th in Kawakami.

"We were presented with t-shirts that had printed on them the symbols for wa-to-son-bi-ru (Watsonville) in both hiragana and kanji. He explained the kanji characters have special significance because they stand for: wa (peace), to (forever), son (respect), bi (beauty), and ru (flow). Atsu Hayashi, the coordinator of the sister city program in Kawakami, made the poem from the word "Watsonville" and had the t-shirts made for us.

"At the farewell dinner, I presented my interpretation of Atsu's poem as follows:

With undying respect
We highly appreciate
The beauty of our communion
As two communities
United in one friendship
We make peace
That lasts forever.

"In a musical version of 'Will the Circle Be Unbroken,' we sang:

Flowing friendship
'Cross the ocean
Twenty years and twenty score
There'll be peace and understanding
And we'll study war no more

Will the circle be unbroken
By no woman, by no man
'Cause we've got our Sister City
And our brothers and sisters in Japan."

Arigato!--Bob Gómez





The **Rev. Shousei Hanayama** of Watsonville Buddhist Temple led the invocation, and the **Rev. Daniel Hoffman** of Westview Presbyterian Church blessed the tree in his benediction.



The closing remarks of appreciation were given by **Councilman Daniel Dodge** (above), a friend of the Nikkei community.

We must give special thanks to **Director Ana Espinoza**, **Ernie Contreras** and **Tony Roman** of the Parks and Community Services and the City of Watsonville for their devoted dedication which led to the success of Sunday's program.



L-R, Mas Hashimoto, Ana Espinoza, Robb Mayeda, Midori Inomata, our precious cherry tree, Consul General Hiroshi Inomata, and Marcia Hashimoto. Photos by Paul Kaneko.

"THE MANZANAR LESSON: Telling our stories strengthens democracy" by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, Special to the San Jose's Mercury News

"This is not a story just for your family. This is a story every American should know."

That's what my husband said 40 years ago when I decided to write a memoir about my family's experiences during World War II in Southern California. That story, which began 70 years ago this year, continues to hold lessons for Americans searching not just for candidates in an election year but also for democracy itself.

I was born in Inglewood in 1934 to parents who emigrated from Hawaii and from Japan in the early 1900s. For my first seven years, my nine siblings and I had a typical American childhood. But after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order that would forever change my life and the lives of 120,000 Japanese-Americans, the majority of whom were native-born U.S. citizens.

My family was taken to Manzanar, a "War Relocation Camp" east of Fresno, that would be my home -- my prison -- for three years. Armed guards patrolled the barbed wire perimeter, reminding us daily that we were no longer afforded a normal life -- or the rights supposedly provided by our American citizenship.

At the war's end, my family was released, and we tried to reclaim our lives. I studied sociology and journalism at San Jose State, where I met James D. Houston in 1952, and we married in 1957. For the first 17 years of our marriage, I told him nothing about my internment. When I did, he reaffirmed my feeling that such stories must be shared to try to avoid repeating such mistakes.

Especially in times of war and crisis, there is always a mistrust of others that fosters a dangerous us-versus-them mentality, shutting down dialogue, understanding and, at times, democracy itself. Often there is a fear of other races and peoples, such as the Japanese in the 1940s, the Russians during the Cold War or Latino immigrants today.

But today's polarized media -- from cable shows and talk radio to blogs and the like -- have also polarized people by political ideologies. Their one-sided ideologies aim to divide and enrage us, not connect and engage us.

One antidote is the humanities, which give people a richer, more meaningful way to experience other cultures and ideas and to discuss them with people we might normally feel we have nothing in common with. This is important in an election year, when vitriol can leave many of us hungry for real dialogue. The humanities can play a key role.

I am honored to have my memoir, Farewell to Manzanar, as one of five books anchoring a yearlong initiative by Cal Humanities (formerly the California Council for the Humanities) to create opportunities for Californians to explore the nature and needs of our democracy. Santa Clara County is one of many participating in Searching for Democracy, including events at the Sunnyvale Public Library on Monday evening and on May 23 and at Santa Clara and Saratoga libraries later this month. (To find events, go to www.searchingfordemocracy.org to learn about the other books, exhibits and activities.)

The humanities are the vehicle for this initiative, but as with democracy itself, you are the driver. Your role in our democracy is what will help to strengthen or save it, not some policy or platform put forth by a candidate or politician.

My husband encouraged me to tell my story. But your story -- your experiences and perspectives -- is something all of us should hear as well. Democracy depends on it.

Watsonville Public Library's program, May 3rd.

Special thanks to Watsonville Librarian Watonka
Addison for inviting Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston to
speak in Watsonville. [Editor's note: both Watonka and
Jeanne are W-SC JACLers!]





Among the audience of 80 was **Dr. Masako Miura** (rt) who shared her Manzanar story.



We are grateful to Watsonville City Library Director Carol Heitzig and Adult Services Librarian Watonka Addison for inviting Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, shown here with daughter Cori Houston, to share her most important story.

GOVERNMENT EUPHEMISMS ABOUT 'GOING TO CAMP" (sounds like fun!) by Chris Essert

[Editor's note: Chris faithfully attends nearly all of our important events around the Monterey Bay. He'll ride his bicycle to Watsonville, Salinas, Monterey, and/or Santa Cruz—wherever and whenever our event is scheduled to be held, and we are forever grateful! He's more concerned about our civil rights issues than most of our *Nisei, Sansei*, and *Gosei!*

Mas, thank you so very much for the presentation at Monterey Public Library on Monday, March 19, 2012. I noticed that during the lecture, you used the word "imprisoned" quite a bit, rather than saying "interned" or some other euphemism. This got me to thinking about the use of euphemisms in general by our government, and inspired me to write this essay:

I recently viewed the World War II propaganda film "Japanese Relocation" produced by the U.S. Government (to view this video yourself, simply type "Japanese Relocation Propaganda Video" into your favorite search engine on the Internet). After chuckling at many of what we now realize were blatant lies, upon further reflection I realized just how pervasive the lies still remain with us, particularly in regard to the euphemisms which we still use today to describe the whole "relocation" experience (the word "relocation" itself being a euphemism!). Words like "assembly evacuation," centers" "voluntary "internment camps" serve the Government's original purpose of diminishing the harshness of the actual experience.

Let us dispose of these euphemisms one by one. "Voluntary evacuation," also known as "voluntary relocation," is used to describe the experience of many Japanese Americans who, during the first three months of 1942, moved away from the west coast to live further inland, sometimes because they had to (if they lived on the west side of Highway 1, the coastal highway, which was declared an "exclusion zone" very early in the war) but more often because they hoped to move far enough inland to escape "Military Area No. 1" which extended 100 miles inland from the coast and from which all Japanese Americans were initially proposed to be "excluded." Unfortunately, many ended up moving to California's Central Valley, which turned out to be not far enough inland when the entire state of California, the western halves of Oregon and Washington and the southern third of Arizona were all declared "zones of exclusion."

Now what is so "voluntary" about feeling forced to move in an attempt to escape imprisonment (or, in the wild rumors that were so common early in the war, even worse fates that were imagined). The word "evacuation" itself is highly euphemistic, in that usually a government evacuates its citizens from an area in order to protect them, as in a foreign country which is undergoing a coup or revolution. But in the case of "voluntary evacuation," it was quite the opposite: Japanese Americans (at the time, about two-thirds of whom were U.S. citizens) had to "evacuate" themselves in an attempt (sometimes vain) to protect themselves from their own government!

The next euphemism, "assembly center," is obviously highly euphemistic, as any institution that serves to gather

people together could be called an "assembly center," for example schools, churches, fairgrounds, racetracks, rodeo grounds—or even prisons. For when one is surrounded by barbed-wire fences which are patrolled by armed guards and when one is not allowed to leave the so-called "assembly center," the word "prison" would seem to be more applicable than "assembly center" (by the way, calling it a "temporary assembly center" does not make it any less a prison, but only makes it a temporary holding cell for the later longer-term incarceration in the worst deserts and swamps of America).

Speaking of which, these so-called "relocation centers" (a.k.a. "internment camps") were the real McCoy, with barbed-wire fences and guard towers with soldiers who happened to have real guns with real bullets. But if the ten "internment camps" that were eventually set up had indeed been called prisons and treated as such by the government, perhaps conditions such as the atrocious state of their hospitals would have been forced to be improved, as has recently happened to California's prison medical system (the U.S. Supreme Court in 2011 found that "For years the medical and mental health care provided by California's prisons has fallen short of minimum constitutional requirements"). During World War II, hundreds of Japanese Americans died in "camp hospitals" from inadequate care.

I am hoping that just as Japanese Americans are at the forefront of fighting the recently passed National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) which authorizes "internment" of suspected terrorists and just as they never cease to protest whenever anyone proposes illegal arrests or imprisonments of particular ethnic or religious groups what the federal government still has the audacity to call "internments"—that they will also ever wage war against government euphemisms which seek to lessen or even cover up the truth of what's "really going down." Japanese American museums can play a major role in jump-starting this process by relabeling their displays to remove all such euphemisms. Yes, this would be a highly political act—but that is the whole point: to no longer allow a government, albeit a past government, to define the terms of engagement with the museum-goer who seeks to duplicate the original experience in all of the raw intimacy of the immediate past, including the confusion and war hysteria and outright racism following December 7, 1941—"a date which will live in infamy" in more ways than President Roosevelt could imagine when he uttered those famous words, especially when he signed Executive Order 9066 two months later, on February 19, 1942.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not mention that perhaps the most dangerous euphemism of all was a single word said by General DeWitt when he uttered the phrase that "all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated" (my italics). Did he use the word 'non-alien' in order to obscure the fact that two-thirds of the Japanese Americans he proposed to "evacuate" were actually American citizens? Perhaps euphemisms can do more than just cover up the truth—sometimes they can even subvert it

P.S. At the **Japanese American Museum of San Jose**, you will notice that the term "Assembly Center" is double-quoted throughout the "Assembly Center" exhibit—

and for good reason. Unfortunately, the words "WWII INTERNMENT" which appear in big block black capital letters on the north wall of the Museum should be renamed "WWII IMPRISONMENT" instead. Let us no longer attempt to <a href="https://www.wieners.com/wiener

NO COMMEMORATIVE STAMP(S) FOR HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF JAPANESE AND JAPANESE AMERCIANS TO THIS NATION by Mas Hashimoto

We had written the **Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC)** asking for five (5) commemorative stamps in a new "A Nation of Immigrants" series for the Nikkei nation (of Japanese ancestry) that will honor:

- (1) Our gallant Issei immigrant pioneers whose hardships and determination (*gaman*) have never been fully acknowledged or appreciated:
- (2) The loyalty of over 120,000 innocent persons of Japanese ancestry as expressed by our unjust wartime incarceration:
 - (3) Our heroic exploits of 100th/442nd RCT;
- (4) The everlasting contributions of the Military Intelligence Service during the war and after with the Occupation and evolution of a democratic Japan; and
- (5) Our truly multi-talented Sansei, Yonsei, and

The CSAC decided <u>not</u> to recommend the stamp issuance at this time. The CSAC is responsible for reviewing stamp proposals and making recommendations to the **Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe.**

In response to the CSAC letter, I wrote the following:

May 22, 2012

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee c/o Stamp Development U.S. Postal Service 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300 Washington, DC 20260-3501

Dear Jean Picker Firstenberg, Chair:

Thank you for the committee's letter of May 10, 2012, which I received today. It informed us that our proposal for a commemorative stamp for Americans of Japanese ancestry has been denied. We thank you and the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee for your thoughtful consideration and for writing a reply.

On April 20, 2012, I, unfortunately, missed the opportunity to meet former Postmaster General John E. Potter and Postmaster Patrick R. Donahoe who were invited to the investiture of my friend, Evan J. Wallach, to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal District. Judge Wallach's wife, Dr. Katherine C. Tobin, is a former student of mine and a former Governor of the United States Postal Service.

We wish to thank Manager Connie Totten-Oldham for suggesting a pictorial cancellation stamp and enclosing the pamphlet, Publication 186, Celebrating with Pictorial Postmarks.

Onward!

Masaru "Mas" Hashimoto (s), W-SC JACL

We will continue to support our stamp proposal for a special series of "A Nation of Immigrants" to include Irish Americans, Croatian Americans, Chinese Americans, Dutch Americans, and all others. We will also support commemoratives stamps for the Tuskegee Airmen, Navajo Code Talkers, Nisei Soldiers of WW II, and the Women's Airforce Service Pilots.

STUDENTS' CELL PHONES

Any ringing of a cell phone can be annoying. People speaking loudly on their cell phones in public places can be annoying, and when they are talking about absolutely nothing (we didn't have to eavesdrop!), that is annoying!

As cell phones become more and more indispensable to young people, confiscation and searches of students' phones by school authorities have become widespread. Because such searches provide a window into every aspect of a student's private life, they violate the laws that protect student's privacy rights, according to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

A new report, *HELLO: Students have a right to privacy in their cell phones,* summarizes the results of the ACLU's examination of search and seizure policies in nearly 200 CA school districts, reviews the current legal limits for searching student's belongings, and lays out the components of an ideal model policy.

For a copy of the report, download it at this website: www.aclunc.org/issues/youth.

[Editor's note: In 1942, we were forced to turn in our weapons, cameras, flashlights, and <u>radios</u>. I asked today's students how they would feel if they had to turn in <u>all</u> their cell phones, iPads, TVs, computers, and radios—all their electronic equipment? They would be very angry.]

"AN AMERICAN STORY" CONTINUES ...

The 2011-2012 speaking season on the incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans during WW II has been the longest ever—starting in September of 2011 and ending in June of 2012.

My last four presentations: (1) Tuesday, May 22nd--6th graders of Moreland Notre Dame School in Watsonville, thanks to the invitation of **Gerry Martin**; (2) Friday, June 1st--3rd graders thanks to teacher **Aimee Mizuno** of Paul Frank Elementary School; (3) Thursday, June 7th--the adults of La Selva Beach Library, thanks to **Marilyn Smith**; (4) Fri. June 29th *Kokoro no Gakko*, 5th-6th graders.

We have traveled thousands of miles to reach children as young as 8 years of age and seniors as old as 95 all over the Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, and Santa Clara Counties, telling the story of racism that led to our wartime incarceration.

The story must be told and re-told so that all Americans understand the full meaning of civil rights for all. We cannot rest on our laurels.

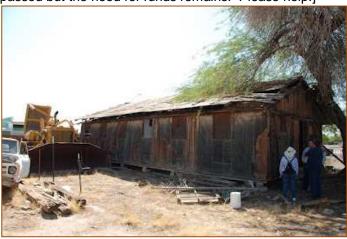
Onward!

Mas Hashimoto

POSTON COMMUNITY ALLIANCE, INC.

[Editor's note: There are so many wonderful Nikkei helping to keep our unique "American Story" alive. If you were one of the nearly 18,000 innocent persons of

Japanese ancestry incarcerated in Poston Camp I, II, or III, you will remember the hardships of living in "Roastin' Poston." Why would we want to remember, and why, of all things, restore an old barrack? We owe it to the children and the nation that such an event really happened to us.Please donate what you can--\$5, \$10—whatever you can spare. One immediate deadline has passed but the need for funds remains. Please help.]



Help us bring back this barrack!

A few years ago, a local Parker, Arizona resident, **Virginia Ramsey**, donated an original two-tiered roofed Poston barrack. She used it primarily for storage, and it is close to its original state. It is a historic structure.

The Poston Community Alliance is trying to return the barrack to the Camp I restoration site.

The barrack is located 15 miles away from the site, in the town of Parker, Arizona. Moving the deteriorating barrack is a difficult task. The U.S. National Park Service requires hiring a consultant to help develop a "moving" plan, and the barrack first must be physically stabilized before the move can begin.

More Funding Sources Needed

An additional \$10,000 is needed to stabilize the barrack. The restoration project site has been recommended to be a "National Historic Landmark" and is currently awaiting approval from the Secretary of the Interior.

The U.S. National Park Service grant's deadline for raising the funds to return the barrack to Poston has passed (May 15, 2012) but the need is still great.

We hope that the families are interested in our project and want to help us to ensure that future generations will be able to see the 'remaining' structures of Poston which were constructed by the hands and labor of our Issei and Nisei. We must not let this important piece of evidence of the camps be neglected and destroyed by erosion and time.

Help us save this Poston barrack and move it back to Poston. Thank you!

Send your "tax-deductible" donations to:

Marlene Shigekawa, Treasurer Poston Community Alliance, Inc. 956 Hawthorne Dr. Lafayette, CA 94549

THE JAPANESE CULTURAL FAIR MARKS 26 YEARS ON SAT. JUNE 16TH by Paul Kaneko

It's that time of year again! The **2012 Japanese Cultural Fair** is scheduled for June 16th in Santa Cruz.

Our W-SC JACL Chapter is again one of its major cosponsors. This very popular event helps to give the chapter and the JACL a public face in the overall community as not only an important organization defending the civil rights of all people and educating the community about the injustices to the Japanese American community during World War II, but also one that supports cultural pursuits as well. The chapter's vendor booth is well known for its information defending civil rights, the sale of hot tea, fresh strawberries and other locally grown produce, and obentos provided by Timmy Hunt of the very popular new restaurant: *Pono Hawaiian Grill at the Reef.*

The Japanese Cultural Fair itself is a non-profit organization that serves Santa Cruz and the entire Monterey Bay area. The organization has no staff or overhead. Its mission is driven by the love and appreciation of the traditions of Japanese culture and a desire to share it with the larger community. Its primary source of financial support is through donations and grants.

Admission to the Cultural Fair is <u>free</u>. Free parking is provided at the County Government Center on Ocean Street and a free shuttle is available to and from the Mission Plaza Park venue—site of the main stage. A free bicycle valet and parking service will also be provided. This year's Fair will begin at 11 am with chanting by the Zen Center and a stirring performance by *Watsonville Taiko* and end at 6 pm by the always popular *San Francisco Taiko Dojo*. The event is truly a family affair.

Hope to see you at the Cultural Fair on June 16th. Of course, any financial contribution to the Cultural Fair will be very much appreciated as it is always needed to keep the JCF going. Donations can be sent to: JCF, P.O. Box 3458, Santa Cruz, CA 95063. For more information, please visit our web site: www.jcfsantacruz.org or call 831-462-4589.

JACL COMMUNITY PICNIC, SAT. JUNE 23RD

Why should your family attend? There are many family traditions and obligations that we must honor—births, graduations, weddings, anniversaries, funerals, New Year's, Girl's Day, Boy's Day, Easter, *Hanamatsuri*, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day, the 4th of July, *Obon*, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the list goes on. The annual community picnic, a tradition at least a century old here, should be included.

It'll be held at the beautiful **Aptos Village Park**, 100 Aptos Creek Road, Aptos, CA 95003 from 11 am to 4:30 pm. Please bring the grandchildren! And, let's give mothers a break! We'll do the barbecuing.

Do you have to be a member of the JACL to attend? <u>No!</u> Everyone is most welcome. We wish everyone to enjoy a fun-filled day. This is <u>not</u> a JACL fund-raising event. If we break even, then we are truly happy.

History: the Watsonville Japanese Association, founded in 1910 as an administrative and social aid

organization by the Issei whose average age was only 27, sponsored the first community get-together – the picnic!

The association also assisted our *Issei* immigrant pioneers and their America-born children. They built *Toyo Hall* ("Far East"), a community center on Union Street (replaced by the W-SC JACL KIZUKA HALL on Blackburn St.). It sponsored touring talented singers and actors from Japan and presented Japanese silent motion pictures for entertainment. It organized the first Japanese language school for *Nisei* children; entered beautiful floats in support of Watsonville's famous 4th of July parades; and, as a gesture of friendship and appreciation, planted flowering cherry trees in the late 1920s with the assistance of the City and Watsonville public schools. Most of the cherry trees were destroyed during World War II. Some were removed for renovation or new landscaping.

Our 90+ year-old members remember attending the community picnic as children and when it was held at Palm Beach (today's Pajaro Dunes).

This annual community picnic not only brings together families, clans, and friends, but it also connects us with our past. *Mukashi, mukashi* (in the old days) families, both Buddhists and Christians, gathered for one day (for some that was all the time they could spare to relax). There were many public places where Japanese and Japanese Americans were <u>not</u> welcomed. Aw, but the picnic? This was <u>our</u> event, and everyone was welcomed. We, by attending and participating in an event they created, are, in fact, *honoring* them and are reminded their struggles and hardships—*gaman*! Yes, our *hakujin* friends were invited then as they are now.

Enjoy great entertainment by *Watsonville Taiko*, participate in races using oversized *gettas*, and take a bite out of a yellow *koko* on a string, just like in the old days. For the Senior citizens, there's <u>free</u> "BINGO!" with wonderful prizes. Donations for our raffle are appreciated, and this year, you may be the winner of the grand prize--a large, flat screen TV! Come; it'll be a lot of fun for all.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS by Jackie Yamashita

We thank all who attended this year's *Memorial Day Services* at one or all of the five cemeteries—Pioneer, PV Memorial Park, Santa Cruz, San Juan Bautista, and Hollister—on Sunday, May 27th.



The *Memorial Day Sunday Service* was attended by nearly 100 Sangha members at the PV Memorial Park.



Continuing with memorial services is important to thank our family members and dear friends who helped us to become who we are today.

The monthly **Shotsuki Hoyo Service** will be held on June 3rd for:

Jim Yoshio Akimoto Tokio Fujii Osami Higaki Kazuko Idemoto George Yutaka Izumizaki Momovo Kanda Isamu Kimoto Chisako Kobara Isamu Kobavashi Jason Tadashi Maemura Kenneth Matsumoto Tsugumi Matsunami Sachi Mine Takaji Miura Tsuyuko Helen Muronaka Pauline Nakase Hayakichi Nishita Kanako Oka Tsuya Shirachi Kisaku Takei Takevo Tao Barbara Sanae Yamamoto Hisa Yamamoto Ben Tsutomu Yamamoto

Sakuichi Yamane Jitaro Yamanishi Minoru Yamashita

Toshiteru Yorita

Akira Dooka Mits Hashimoto Mitoshi Hirahara Tsunehichi Iyama Tsutae Kamimoto James Kimoto Tomo Kimoto Kaichi Kobara Shizue Kokka Midori Matsui Misao Matsunami Bill Matao Mine Gijiro Misumi Shozo Murakami Tousuke Nagamine Norma Taeko Nishijima Fumiko Oda Manzo Sadamura Chiyeko Sukekane

Noboru Tanimura Jane Misako Toriumi

Masatatsu Bob Yamamoto

Akiji Yamanishi Tadao Yamanishi Misayo Yorita Masato Yoshimaru

Rempei Uyematsu

The June calendar includes the following:

1	Fri.	2 pm	San Juan <i>Howakai</i>
3	Sun.	10 am	Sunday/Shotsuki Hoyo &
			Graduation Service
5	Tues	7:30 pm	Temple Board Meeting
6	Wed	1 pm	BWA Meeting
7	Thurs	10 am	ABA Meeting
17	Sun	10 am	Father's Day Sunday Service
24	Sun	no service	Kokoro no Gakko preparation day
25-July 6 9 am - no		9 am - noo	n Kokoro no Gakko in session

When are **obon odori** (dance) practices held at the Temple? Everyone is welcomed to attend and enjoy the practices Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 pm, starting on Monday, June 25th.

When are the three local obons to be held?

Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple Sunday, July 8 Sunday, July 22 Watsonville Buddhist Temple Sunday, July 29 Salinas Valley Buddhist Temple

Dharma School News: We thank Ken Tanimoto for teaching the Dharma classes this past year. The parents appreciate the dedication he puts into supporting the Dharma School. Thank you also to Reed Kuratomi for helping to teach. You are both amazing!

Scout Troop #558: Jeffery Garcia & Phillip Major: Phil's Eagle Project has been completed. The boys will help at the Watsonville Airport Crab Feed. The car wash, held at the Temple, was a great success. Thank you one and all who supported us. The Scouts will have an overnighter at Alcatraz Prison on May 18th and will have their first campout in the bay area. The scouts were asked to help bus tables, etc. for the Obon Festival on July 22.

YBA members practiced hard for their volleyball tournament on May 26th and May 27th. tournament is "bear" themed, we called ourselves "Pandamonium." And before that, we had a lot of "fun in the sun" at the Santa Cruz Beach and Boardwalk.

Can you believe it?! Steven Tao and Corey Inokuchi will be graduating this June from their respective high schools, and we are so proud of them.

For our summer activity in August, we are planning a beach bonfire (if permitted) and then going to the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple for a sleepover.

ABA members thank all who make our chicken teriyaki and manju sales a success! We sold all the manju, and we thank Iwao Yamashita who generously purchased the surplus teriyaki chicken and donated them to the W-SC JACL Senior Center members!

Soon, when work begins on the remodeling of the minister's home, you may have to reach Rev. Shousei Hanayama via his cell phone, which is 831-345-0733.

BWA donated 10% of its Hanamatsuri sushi sales to the Temple; will have a kimono sale at obon practice, on Monday, July 2 6:30 PM; will provide \$50 for refreshments for the dancers at the obon practices; and reminded Temple student members enrolled in college to apply for the BWA Scholarship, the deadline is Saturday, June 30. Applications, available in Jackie's office, are to be sent to President Kitako Izumizaki.

Arigato to the Boy Scouts for the chair and table setup and clean-up at Gotan E and Late Bishop Memorial Service. The BWA provided the delicious lunch and refreshments at the service.

THE GOLDEN YEARS

The hevdays of my childhood were also the Golden Years. In a safe and sound environment, with very little fears. Walking to school was really cool, alone in a world of my own. Free of worries, no pepper spray, guard dog or cell phone.

Saturdays were my best days, swinging from a tree, Or tossing a ball over the barn, shouting, "olly, olly, oxen free!" Brother Henry and I, would play "cut the pie," with a pocket knife. Walking on stilts that he had built, was all a part of country life.

We spent the dog days of summer, gleefully setting mouse traps, Flipping yo-yo's, shooting marbles, and slamming milk bottle caps.

Playing with horse shoes and slingshots, I was clearly self taught.

It was a joy, being a tomboy, in blue denim overalls, store bought.

Kites in flight were awesome sights that took our breath away, But the fascination of listening to the radio, is still with me, today. Little Orphan Annie, and Dick Tracy, were two, of many exciting hits.

The Shadow, and I Love A Mystery, were intriguing "who-doneits."

It was the Golden Age of Radio, skeptics said wouldn't last, With the coming of television, but who is laughing, last? Although, if you walk into a Best Buy, and ask for a radio, today. This is the reply you'll get from a guy, " Excuse me, what did you say?"

It was neat, playing in the rumble seat, of a rusty old Model T. But trying to crank it was quite a feat, without an engine or battery.

In pre-teen years, without any fears, we drove a brand new pickup

Right through the strawberry fields, without a bump or a hiccup.

About the missing can of peaches, I confess, we lied. It was hidden behind the haystack, where we would often hide. Peaches were only for company, a luxury we could ill afford. We were ornery to a degree, but we were never bored.

Climbing trees and Model T's, are sweet memories of the past, But now we must live in the moment, for the clock is ticking, fast. The "rule of thumb," is not to be glum, and just let your energy flow.

Take it from the ones who know; It is more fun to "get-up-and-go! janice tao

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO By Bonnie Chihara

On May 12th we participated in the **Human Race** walking 5 miles from Natural Bridges State Beach to Lighthouse Point and back. Eleven members gathered pledges and donations to benefit the **Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County** as well as *Watsonville Taiko*. Thank you to everyone who donated to *Watsonville Taiko*. Thanks to you we reached our goal of raising \$2000; in fact we passed it!!



Walking that day were, L-R Wilma Field, Aaron Ruddick, Mary Lou Jaquith, Bonnie Chihara, Kay Miyamoto, Rebecca Tavish, Hiroshi Musselman and Joyce Smith. Also walking were Ikuyo sensei, Naoko Yamamoto, Becka Linquist, and Jenny Wishnack.

On Saturday, May 19th we played at the *Rejuvenation Festival* in Santa Cruz.

Coming in July is our *Taiko Drumming for Kids*. This workshop will be held at the Santa Cruz Grey Bears 2710 Chanticleer Avenue in Santa Cruz. This class is scheduled for July 8th - July 29th from 1-2 pm. Cost is \$45 and is open to children ages 8-11. This class is taught by **Bonnie Chihara**. Please contact her at (831)662-1895 or email her at kyoko55@hotmail.com.

Our upcoming schedule:

May 31st Japanese Student Assoc. Matsuri, UCSC June 16th Japanese Cultural Fair, Santa Cruz JACL Community Picnic, Aptos Village Park

June 24th Private Party, Soquel

July 7th Campfire Days, New Brighton State Beach

July 22nd Watsonville Obon Festival
July 22nd Wharf to Wharf, Capitol
Nov 18th Big Sur Half Marathon
TBA Jacobs Heart, Watsonville

TBA Alzheimer's Walk, La Selva Beach

TBA KSBW Share Your Holiday

IN REMEMBRANCE ... GEORGE YOSHITO KIMURA (1914-2012)



George Yoshito Kimura, resident of Watsonville, was born in Petaluma, California during the month of February 1914. Neither of his parents remembered exactly what day he was born, so they picked February 22, 1914 as his official birth date, and named him George, after George Washington. He was 98 years old when he passed away peacefully on May 19, 2012 in Watsonville, where he spent most of his adult life.

George's own father passed away unexpectedly when George was 14 years old. Being the oldest son at the time, he left school, began working full time, and attempted to support his mother and six brothers and sisters. Unable to do so, George's mother returned to Japan with the two younger sisters and youngest son, leaving him to support his two younger brothers in the United States.

After earlier moving to Watsonville with his two brothers in 1936, relatives and friends decided it was time for George to marry, and recommended **Sayoko Yasumoto** to be his bride. After a brief courtship, George and Sayoko were married in San Francisco, returning to Sayoko's place of birth-Watsonville, where they remained together until Sayoko's death in 1987. In 1988, George married **Yoshiko Tao Hirahara**, who passed away in 2001.

George worked hard his entire life, first in and around the Petaluma area, and worked as a maintenance person for his cousin **Frank Hiura** (*Hiura Apple Dryer* in Watsonville) in the early 1930s through the 1940s. After leaving the apple drying business, George began his strawberry farming career as a sharecropper with several friends (e.g., **Kadotani, Kitahara, Shikuma**, etc.) and his younger brother, **Mitoshi "John" Kimura**. After leasing five strawberry fields in the Watsonville area, in the early 1960s he purchased land southeast of Pajaro, and grew mostly strawberries until he retired in the early 1980s.

He loved watching sports, especially football, baseball, and wrestling, and played golf most of his life-at one point becoming a 10-handicapper. What he enjoyed the most, however, was being visited by his grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchild.

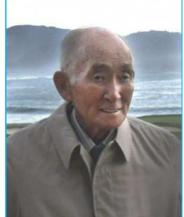
He was preceded in death by his parents, **Kumataro** and **Kawano Kimura**; his wives, **Sayoko and Yoshiko**; his sister, **Helen Miyazaki** of San Francisco; brothers, **Mitoshi "John" Kimura** of Watsonville, **Roy Kimura** of Morgan Hill and **Noboru Kimura** of Japan.

George is survived by his sons, Benjamin (Bernice) Kimura of San Jose and Victor (Karen) Kimura of Watsonville; his younger sisters, Hisako Ochi of San Jose and Yuriko (Hiroshi) Nakase of Japan; his grandchildren, Mitchell, Michael, Brian, Craig, Carter, and Nicole; his great grandchildren, Justin, Corinna, and Kianna and his great-great grandchild, Zaddik.

At George's request there will be a private, immediate family only funeral service. He will be buried at Pajaro Valley Memorial Park, next to his mother, Kawano and wives, Sayoko and Yoshiko.

In lieu of flowers or *koden*, the family has requested that donations be made to Hospice of Santa Cruz County, 940 Disc Dr., Scotts Valley, CA 95066 or to the Second Harvest Food Bank, 800 Ohlone Parkway, Watsonville, CA 95076.

KENNETH M. TESHIMA, March 26, 1934 - May 16, 2012



Kenneth Teshima, of San Juan Bautista, beloved husband of **Phyllis Teshima**, passed away in Salinas, CA on Wednesday, May 16th, 2012, at the age of 78 years.

A native of Watsonville, he was a lifelong resident of San Benito County; graduate of San Juan Grammar School, Hollister High School and San Benito Junior College; a machinist and retired co-owner of Gilroy Machining.

He enjoyed going to Reno and playing cards. Besides his spouse of 57 years, Kenneth is survived by his children Michael Teshima (Maryann), Patti Slater (Ken), Teri and Gary Teshima; grandchildren Steven, Matthew, Jennifer, Emily, Thomas, Jessica, Daniele, Thomas, and Heather; (predeceased by grandson Brandon); great-grandchildren Andrew and Jasmine; siblings Hubert Teshima (Jackie), Harris Teshima (Mary), Amy Boch (Tony), Naomi Benitez (late Fred) and the late Marcie Suezaki (late Richard); and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were held on Tuesday, May 22nd, 2012, at the Grunnagle Ament Nelson Funeral Home in Hollister.

We send our condolences to the **Kimura** and **Teshima** families, relatives and friends.

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM ...

Day of Remembrance Education Fund
Joe and Christine Bowes in memory of
Ken Teshima of San Juan Bautista
Anonymous from Aptos
Esther Ura and Jennifer Gavin in memory of
Joan Tomaso

W-SC JACL MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL

We believe that <u>all</u> of Japanese ancestry--aliens and "non-aliens"--who reside in Santa Cruz County, Pajaro Valley, and beyond **should belong to our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL**. "Non-aliens" was a term used by the US Government for American-born citizens on the eviction--"evacuation"--notices of 1942. We welcome your membership and that of your family, relatives and friends. A membership application form is included in this newsletter.

Our membership is not restricted to those of Japanese ancestry but is <u>open</u> to all who believe in the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Youths are particularly welcome. Their annual dues are only \$25.

Our W-SC JACL is an educational, civil rights non-profit organization dedicated to the cause of "liberty and justice for all." We have no paid staff. All our board members and supporters are volunteers dedicated to serving you, your family, and the community.

The W-SC JACL is needed more than ever to safeguard the rights of those who cannot defend or protect themselves. We are perhaps one of the most active chapters. Besides civil rights we are involved with Nisei veterans issues, Seniors (elderly Nisei and some Sansei), building and maintenance (a safe place for our elders to meet), history projects, education about our wartime incarceration, hate crimes, disaster relief, health issues, GLBT concerns, promoting cultural activities, presenting youth scholarships, and legislative initiatives.

During the past decade there has been a fearful division taking place between extreme political groups on the direction that America should follow.

If you have moved, please let us know your new address! When the newsletter and other correspondence

are returned, the post office charges us both ways. Write to W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077 or email hashi79@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Kitako Izumizaki

Active Seniors had many activities to choose from this month. On May 8th, a busload of Seniors went to San Jose to spend time at the *Japanese American Museum* looking over the collection of farm implements and tools.



Nobue and Sid Fujii looked at old farm equipment with docent J. Ben Miaji while Fred Oda read about "camp."





Then, it was off to enjoy an "all you can eat" Tatami Buffet were Yaeko Cross, Sumi Yamada, Jean Akiyama, Kimiyo Fujii, Nobue and Sid Fujii, Paul Kaneko, Jeanette Hager, and Tee Yamamoto. Photos by Carol Kaneko.

We ended the afternoon with a few hours of shopping. As usual, goodies by **Cindy** and **Gary Mine**, **Joe** and **Christine Bowes**, and **Yaeko Cross** took care of the boredom while on the bus. The 20 members who went had an enjoyable time.

Mother's Day celebration on May 10th began with the presentation of corsages to mothers over 88 with the following members honored: Michiko Hamada 90, Frances Hoshiyama 95, Nancy Iwami 97, Kitako Izumizaki 90, Mitzi Katsuyama 91, Yoshino Matano 96, Masako Miura 97, Hide Nagamine 91, Louise Sako 95, Chiyoko Yagi 91, Miyeko Yamashita 94, and Haruko Yoshii 95. Absent were: Gladys Fukumoto 88, Frances Goon 93, Evy Kamigawachi 88, Toshi Tsudama 89, and Betty Yagi 88. Inako Johnson talked of her mother saying that her mother was very nice and never ever scolded her. A Mother's Day raffle was held with all mothers getting to choose their gift from the gift table as their name was called. After bingo, all enjoyed a very sumptuous dinner at Hong Kong Gardens.

Decorations for Mother's Day were colorful flowers made with red printed material for petals, yellow material for the center, and leaves made with green velvet, each standing in a tiny clay pot surrounded by a small handmade paper box filled with candy - all the work of **Helen Nakano** and **Susan AmRhein**.

May birthday celebrants were Nancy Iwami 98, Inako Johnson, Mitzi Katsuyama 92, Iwao Yamashita, and Haruko Yoshii 95. Alice and Ken Tanimoto were absent. Nancy, Mitzi and Haruko each received a packet of *manju*. The head table was decorated with a bouquet of peonies from Jane Sugidono, white flowers from Jean Akiyama, and arranged by Mitsuyo Tao. Each table had spring flowers arranged by Hisako Kodama and Nancy Kuratomi.

We signed a thank you card to **Phil Shima** for all the work done to reframe our photos and fix the sound system. We appreciate his making our meeting place so nice

New members welcomed this month were Gail Wurtenberg, Sam and Yae Sakamoto, and Sam Sugidono. Jeanette Hager came to visit and play bingo one day. A hearty welcome to all, and may you win lots and lots of bingos.

On May 20th those interested were able to attend the planting of a flowering cherry tree at City Plaza Park. The tree is a gift from Japan.

Also, free tickets given to our Senior Center by the Santa Cruz Symphony during the year has been a very good way to enjoy good music. Those who have taken advantage of this are very grateful to receive this perk from the symphony.

Many thanks for busy *tobans* Betty Oda, Mark Takeuchi, Edna Nagata, and Iwao Yamashita. Thanks also to Judy Hane, Eiko Stewart, Susan AmRhein, and Shirley Nishimoto for all their help.

Upcoming events: *Mary Poppins Musical* in San Jose on June 6; Father's Day celebration with potluck on June 14; Japanese Cultural Fair in Santa Cruz at Mission Plaza Park on Saturday, June 16; birthday party on June 21; and the annual JACL community picnic on Saturday, June 23.

Monetary donations gratefully received: Nancv Iwami. Inako Johnson. Mitzi Katsuvama. Iwao Yamashita, Haruko Yoshii, Sam and Yae Sakamoto, and Kiyoshi Yoshii.

Other donations gratefully received:

Shirley Nishimoto 1 pkg granola bars, 1 puzzle Jo Ann Veer 3 pkgs chagashi, 3 bags chips,

6 sq *Kleenex*

4 boxes Kleenex, 3 pkgs Puffs, **Terry Hirahara**

250 napkins

6 pkgs chaqashi, doz sq Kleenex **Rubie Kawamoto** Kitako Izumizaki 12 rolls tissue, 1 oyster sauce,

1 pkg foil, 5 cans soup

3 bottles Dawn soap. 3 boxes foil Mive Yamashita Chiyoko Yaqi 3 pkgs wipes, 6 pkgs yakisoba Sunao/June Honda 5 plates sushi, 10 pkgs seasoned

nori, 8 plates cheesecake

6 rolls paper towels **Betty/Fred Oda**

2 bags candy, 2 pkgs furikaki, Nobue Fujii

4 bunches flowers

Kinji/Motoko House 6 plates an roll cake, 5 Bounty,

5 sq Kleenex, 4 Ziploc containers

Kivoshi Yoshii May birthday cake and ice cream

Haruko Yoshii 6 rolls paper towels, 4 bags chagashi

Yaeko Cross 4 pkgs Cheetos, 4 boxes cookies,

10 sq Kleenex

3 plates peanut butter mochi and **Eiko Stewart**

carrot cake

Kumiko Nakatani 12 jumbo rolls Bounty

4 Ige Kleenex, orchid plant for Jean Akiyama

raffle

Mitsuko Ruble 2 doz tissues Jiro/Jane Sugidono 4 boxes cookies.

3 pkgs sushi nori

Paul/Carol Kaneko 3 gifts for raffle Toshi Yamashita 1 case seasoned nori

Eiko Ceremony 6 rolls tissues Sho/Helen Kobara 10 pkgs fuki

Michiko Hamada 8 rolls paper towels

Yoshi Kawasaki combs, hair nets, misc, and

lemons

Hide/Akira Nagamine 3 Dawn, 2 antibacterial wash

cloths, 2 pkgs rubber gloves, 20 bags of cucumbers

Mark Takeuchi 10 kitchen towels Hisako Kodama 8 bunches flowers. 8 rolls paper towels

6 sq Kleenex

Edna/Yukio Nagata Chie Sakaue lots of flowers, more flowers

Hisako Uemura doz rolls tissues Susan AmRhein 6 pkgs cookies

Mitsuyo Tao 16 baskets organic strawberries

Masako Miura 2 bags cookies

Eiko/Yamato Nishihara doz jars strawberry jelly

All you faithful members should be proud of yourselves for keeping up with all your generous donations so often. Thank you so much Keep well and keep coming. See you soon.

WESTVIEW HIGHLIGHTS by Randy and Tracy Mano El Estero Church

El Estero Church celebrated its 100 year centennial on Saturday, May 12, 2012 at Rancho Canada Golf Club. A group of nine from Westview joined the celebration.



Celebrating were: L-R, back row: Pastor Dan and Leslie Hoffman, Diane Mio, Paula Miura, Irene Yuhara; front: Tracy and Randy Mano, Michelle and Craig Yuhara.

Westview Church celebrated its centennial in 1998.

Mother's Day

The women of Westview were treated to wonderful Mother's Day luncheon after worship service, thanks to the (awesome men). The menu consisted of a large variety of delicious types of tsukemono, udon with all the works, rice, and fresh salmon compliments of Alan Yaqi. And to top off a great meal, a Mother's Day cake was the dessert. Each woman received a Beauty of the Lord mug and daily devotional. The men are waiting to see what the women are planning to prepare for Father's Day. Some of us heard whispers of hot dogs (ha, ha). Guess we'll have to wait and see.



Alan Yagi, Betty Yagi and Marie Nakamoto enjoying lunch.

Relay For Life

On July 21-22 Team Westview will be participating in the Watsonville Relay For Life. It is a great event with the proceeds going to the American Cancer Society. Relay For Life is a life-changing event that gives everyone in the community a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease.

At Relay For Life, teams of people will camp out at Watsonville High School and take turns walking around the track. Because cancer never sleeps, Relays are overnight events up to 24 hours in length. Relayers do not have to walk all night, but each team must have a

representative on the track at all times during the event. We are in definite need of more walkers to cover various shifts. For those who wish to donate, please make all checks payable to: **American Cancer Society**.

For more information contact **Tracy Mano** at (916) 792-0780 or **Eiko Stewart** at (831) 345-9117.

Our World Religion Bible Study on May 30, 2012 will teach us about the practice of Islam at 6:30pm at Westview Church. Sheik Sami from Santa Clara will be our quest speaker. All those interested in learning about Islam are welcome to attend.

MONTEREY BONSAI CLUB

The Monterey Bonsai Club cordially invite all to the 49th Annual Exhibition on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>June 3rd</u>, <u>2012</u> at the Monterey Buddhist Temple, 1150 Noche Buena, Seaside, CA. Show hours at 11 am to 4 pm with a demonstration by *bonsai* master (sensei) **Katsumi Kinoshita** at 1:30 pm.

A special presentation of a Japanese cherry tree will be made by the Consul General **Hiroshi Inomata** of Japan. SF office.

Sales of bonsai, pots and plants will also take place.

WATSONVILLE BONSAI CLUB by Don White

On Sunday, May 6th, we had our 39th exhibit, which was well-attended by *bonsai* enthusiasts and friends.





Bonsai master, **Katsumi Kinoshita**, is assisted by **Iwao Yamashita** during the bonsai demonstration. Giving the narration was **Don White** who also served as the master of ceremonies for the event.



Don White, Katsumi Kinoshita, winner Mitsuyo Tao of the bonsai, and Iwao Yamashita. Photos by Mas Hashimoto.

HOST A STUDENT FROM THE EARTHQUAKE AFFECTED REGION OF JAPAN

The *Tomodachi* (friend) Program is seeking host families in our area to host one or two of twenty-five Japanese high school students on Friday, August 3rd through Sunday, August 5, 2012. They will have attended a global leadership training workshop at U.C. Berkeley. The students who are participating are from last year's earthquake affected region of Japan. The program is hoping that the students will learn about American culture through home stays, network with local high school students and enjoy the local flavor of the area. About 300 students will have participated in the workshop and housed in the dorms at UC Berkeley.

On the weekend of August 3-5, a group of about 25 will be bused to Santa Cruz (location to be determined) to arrive around 5:00 PM Friday evening. They will return to the dorms around 3:00 PM that Sunday.

The expectation for host families is to pick up and drop off the student from the yet to be determined location, provide meals for Friday evening, Saturday and two meals on Sunday. The idea is for them to have a weekend with a family to experience a "typical" American family weekend.

Each student should have a bed to sleep in (no air mattress in the living room type of arrangements). They can share a room with a same sex individual provided there is a separate bed. A hide-a-bed in an office/den that is separate from the living room type of arrangement also works as well.

For more information, the contact person is **Mr. Pete Pearson** of Santa Cruz. He will be happy to answer your questions and to provide you with the application form. As the host family, you must agree to a US Department of State required background check. He can be reached at: (831) 818-1399 or petepearson1@gmail.com.

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

This newsletter is the monthly publication of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, P.O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077. Comments are always welcome.

Mas Hashimoto, Editor

THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL 2012 ANNUAL

Community Picnic Join us for a day of fun! Everyone is welcome!

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2012

11:00 AM — 4:30 PM APTOS VILLAGE PARK

100 APTOS CREEK RD.

GPS: N 36 58.644, W 121 54.154

Lunch

TEENS & ADULTS TO 69 YEARS	\$7
SENIORS 70 YEARS & UP	\$4
CHILDREN 6 TO 12 YEARS	\$4
CHILDREN 5 YEARS & UNDER	FREE



11:00-Noon Races and Senior Bingo

Noon Lunch! BBQ chicken, hot dogs,

chili beans, rice, salad, French

bread and beverages

1:00-3:00 More Races and Senior Bingo

3:00-3:10 Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship Presentation

3:10-4:30 Raffle with many great prizes!



Featured Entertainment Watsonville Taiko

General public parking is at the upper lot area. Clearance is needed for fire trucks, so there is no parking along the driveway down to the park.

Lower parking area is reserved for our volunteers, Seniors, handicapped, and Watsonville Taiko. For more information, contact the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Japanese American Citizens League:

Email: wsc.jacl@gmail.com or visit us at http://www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org



June 16,2012 11am-6pm Mission Plaza Park, Santa Cruz







Free: Admission, Shuttle, & Bike Parking

















Artwork: Diana Moll Design: Steven Barisof www.jefsantiacruz.org

Seniors' Corner June 2012 ck

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL SENIOR CENTER TOURS

Senior Trip

Date: Wednesday, June 6, 2012 7:30 pm show

Mary Poppins – Broadway San Jose Musical at the San Jose Center for Performing Arts No longer taking reservations. Due to the small number of sign-ups, we will be carpooling to San Jose. Call Carol Kaneko at 476-7040 for information.

If you have suggestions for places where our Seniors would enjoy a one-day or multiple-day trip or you can help in the planning of such trips, please call Carol Kaneko at 476-7040. We are open to your suggestions. Thank you.





Left photo: May 2012 birthdays: Iwao Yamashita, Inako Johnson, Nancy Iwami 98, Mitzi Katsuyama 92, and Haruko Yoshii 95. Right photo: Mother's Day photo for those 88 and over: front: Michiko Hamada 90, Frances Hoshiyama 95, Masako Miura 97, Yoshino Matano 96, Haruko Yoshii 95; back: Hide Nagamine 91, Mitzi Katsuyama 91, Nancy Iwami 97, Louise Sako 95, Chiyoko Yagi 91, Miye Yamashita 94, and Kitako Izumizaki 90. Photos by Carol Kaneko.

Upcoming Activities at the Senior Center:

Thurs June 7, 28 Regular Bingo

Mary Poppins Musical, San Jose 5:30 - 11 pm Wed June 6 **Thurs June 14** Father's Day Celebration - Potluck 4 pm

Japanese Cultural Fair - Mission Plaza Park, Santa Cruz, 11 am - 6 pm Sat June 16

Thurs June 21 June Birthday Party

Sat June 23 JACL Community Picnic – Aptos Village Park, 11 am – 4:30 pm

*Please join our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Senior Center! If you enjoy playing bingo, celebrating special birthdays and holiday occasions, and going on trips, and would like to regularly receive health information and have your blood pressure monitored, join us for our Thursday get-togethers. We'd love to have you and your spouse and/or friends join us. "Active Senior Center Members," who have paid their membership dues and who make annual birthday and Senior Center anniversary donations, are eligible for reduced fares on our trips. Please contact Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040 for registration information. Since our Senior Center operates under the auspices of both our local JACL chapter and the National JACL, we encourage all members of the Senior Center to be members of the National JACL through our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter.

HELP WANTED! The Senior Center is always looking for able-bodied, caring, fun-loving volunteers (any and all ages welcome) to help out weekly (or once a month or so) with toban duties. We need your help on Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:15 pm to help our toban teams prepare tea, set out the tea and snacks, and clean up. You are invited to play bingo with us while you wait for clean up time - who knows what goodies you might take home! Let us know if you can help out on one or more Thursdays each month. Call Susan AmRhein at (831) 724-9454 to volunteer and have some fun.

Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

2012 Membership Form for the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL

Working toward our national goal of *Better Americans in a Greater America* is a worthy one. One does <u>not</u> have to be of Japanese ancestry or a US citizen to be a JACL member, but one must believe that safeguarding the rights of all Americans and legal residents is of utmost importance in this country.

<u>Please join us today</u>. We are the most proactive and respected Asian American civil rights organization in the nation today.

Your membership is <u>never</u> taken lightly or for granted. We have worked diligently to earn your confidence and trust. Your active participation and membership can make a significant difference in what happens today in our community and in our nation.

Please help us fight racial prejudice, discrimination, racial profiling, bigotry, intolerance and indifference.

The 2011 National and local dues for our tax-deductible organization (ID #94-2659895) are as follows:

Family/Couples	\$150 This includes two National dues with one subscription to the <i>Pacific Citizen</i> , local dues and our monthly JACL newsletter, and all children under age 14 to				
	be included.	, and an amain on and	age 11 10		
Individual Member	\$80 This includes National dues with subscription to the <i>Pacific Citizen</i> , the official paper of the National JACL, and local chapter dues and our monthly JACL newsletter\$25 for each of ages 14 to 24, which includes a subscription to the <i>Pacific Citizen</i> , local youth/student membership, and our monthly JACL newsletter. Youth membership is required for scholarship consideration.				
Youth/Student					
For Thousand Club , Century	Club, and Millennium Club and Lin membership chair Jeanette Hag	fe membership categories, please contact ou er at the address listed below.	r 		
Name:(Last Name)					
(Last Name)	(First Name)	(Middle Name)			
Spouse's Name:					
(Last Name)	(First Name)	(Middle Name)			
Address:					
Home phone:	E-mail:				
For family membershi	p, please list names (and ages) of a	all children <u>under</u> the age of 14:			
Name:		Age:			
Name:	A	Age:			
Name:	A	Age:			
		e-Santa Cruz JACL and mail ASAP to: O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077			

Check out our websites: watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org or jacl.org.

Thank you so much for your support.