

THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

Newsletter September 2017

A LETTER WRITTEN OVER 33 YEARS AGO

April 4, 1984

Representative Leon E. Panetta

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

431 Cannon Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sir:

I am fourteen years old and we are studying the Japanese Relocation Act of 1942 in our American history class.

I would like to express my feelings towards the Japanese Relocation Act. I think that it was an inhuman and disrespectful situation that shouldn't have ever happened.

I would like HR #4110 to pass Congress so that the people who suffered tremendously will get some of the money for the things they lost.

I also think that the government should apologize to the Japanese Americans on all major television networks and all radio stations.



Sincerely,

Brooke C.

Stevens

231 13th Ave.

Santa Cruz, CA

95062

[Editor's note: Brooke was a student at Santa Cruz High School at the time of this writing. She is the daughter of W-SC JACLers **Stanley and Carli Stevens**. We are grateful for this letter and for her support. Four years later, Congress

passed the Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988. Without support from outside the *Nikkei* community, the Act would never have passed. She is pictured here as a 19-year old college student in 1989. Brooke is now 48 years of age.]

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8,388,608
16,777,216
33,554,432
67,108,864
1,343,177,728
2,686,355,456
5,372,710,912
10,745,421,824
21,490,843,648
42,981,687,296
85,963,374,592
171,926,749,184
343,853,498,368
687,706,996,736
1,375,413,993,472

You are #1. You're on top! Your parents are #2, and your grandparents are #3. In only 38 generations, since 1257 AD, there were more than 1.3 billion men and women who contributed to who you are today. You were never alone. It's important to be grateful to all who came before you.



JACL Condemns Weekend Hate Rallies in Charlottesville and Seattle

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) joins with the overwhelming majority of Americans who denounce the racism, bigotry, and violence that resulted in three deaths this weekend in Charlottesville, Virginia. This is not the first overt act of terrorism against a minority community this year, but the first to result in death. The unbridled white supremacist ideology espoused at the rallies in Charlottesville and Seattle must not be accepted as free expression of opinion, but repudiated as an incitement to commit hate crimes against minority communities and individuals. Hate speech leads to hate crimes.

We take this opportunity to call attention to actions less violent in nature, but equally steeped in racist and bigoted ideology and equally devastating in effect upon minority communities. The Trump administration has systematically dismantled the very instruments our government has in place to protect minorities from discrimination.

The Justice Department's rollback in the use of consent decrees to enforce civil rights laws leaves minority communities more vulnerable to discrimination from the very local government agencies that are intended to provide protection. The administration has indicated its intention to roll back the gains that affirmative action has brought to higher education. The unconstitutional travel ban is a focused effort to discriminate against people solely because of their religion.

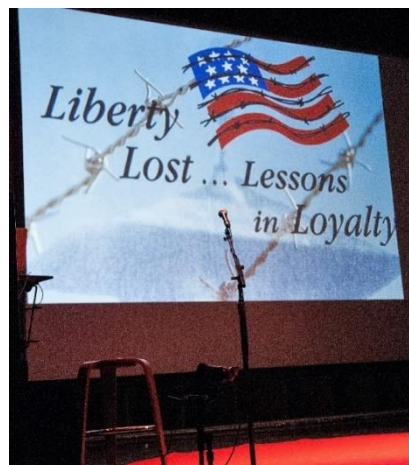
The JACL has a long history of standing against racism and bigotry throughout our 88 years. These are not new expressions of hatred, but rather another mark in the long indelible stain upon our nation's history of discrimination against minority people and their communities.

The Japanese American Citizens League is a national organization whose ongoing mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. The leaders and members of the JACL also work to promote cultural, educational and social values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.

RACISM AND AMERICA'S CONCENTRATION CAMPS

By Mas Hashimoto

[Editor's note: This presentation was one of several made for TEDxMeritAcademy's program, August 14, 2017, Rio Theater, Santa Cruz, CA.]



Good evening, and thank you for coming.

How many of you are familiar with our wartime incarceration? Show of hands please. Wow. So many. Thank you. 'Bye ... (A little laughter ... I turned around pretending to leave the stage. Returning, I started my introduction.)

I was a Prisoner of War, held by own country—the United States of America—during WW II. My federal prison number is **12524 D**. I was 6½ years old. My family and I were incarcerated in an American concentration camp in Arizona for nearly 3½ years during WW II.

I'm a farm worker and proud of it. For 13 summers from age 10, I worked in the fields. If it grew here, I picked it. There were no agricultural child labor laws then. Strawberries provided my college education for which I am grateful. Once, we got sprayed with insecticide while working in the fields. The pilot from Salinas sprayed the wrong field, and he saw that we were in it!

I served as a soldier in the US Army's top secret Chemical Section during the Cold War where we developed chemical, nuclear and biological weapons. Biological weapons--germ warfare--is to be most feared today for it can kill millions the world over. Are you ready for a massive biological attack?

And, for 36 years, I was fortunate to have served as a teacher of US History at my alma mater, Watsonville High School.

As a teacher, I would ask my students to draw an American for me. Now, pretend you're in the class. Whom would you draw? Got someone in mind? Good.

How many of you drew a **woman**? Show of hands. A majority of Americans are women. Who said, "It's a man's world?" Men. Women can do everything a man can do, and MORE!

How many thought of a blond, blue-eyed hunk of a guy? Oh, Hitler would have been so proud.



If you don't know what an American looks like, draw me. I'm an American. My father was Japanese. My mother was Japanese, but I'm not Japanese. I'm an American of Japanese ancestry. The third graders will draw a bald-headed old man with glasses.

In Japan, as soon as I speak Japanese, they laugh. They say, "We don't speak like that anymore." They know I'm a *gaijin*, a foreigner. In London, a saleslady called me a "Yank." But, in parts of this country, I'm a "damn Jap." And, I don't mean just in the South.

Racism still prevails in this country. To too many, if you're not **WASP**—White, Anglo, Saxon, Protestant—you're not really an American.

After the 9/11 attack, there was "talk" about rounding up the Arabs and Muslims in this country and incarcerating them in concentration camps.

To his credit, **President George W. Bush** told his Cabinet that we're not going to do to the Arab and Muslim Americans in this country what we did to **Norm Mineta** and his family. Norm Mineta was President Bush's Secretary of Transportation. The first to support the Arab and Muslim Americans was the **Japanese American Citizens League**.

Why were Norm, his family, and 120,000 of Japanese ancestry, nearly two-thirds American citizens, living in Washington, Oregon, and California incarcerated after the attack on Pearl Harbor?

Cabrillo College's **Sandy Lydon**, *Historian Emeritus*, has stated, "The Japanese strawberry farmer of Watsonville had nothing to do with Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor."

There were 158,000 of Japanese ancestry living in the Territory of Hawaii, a plurality, who were not incarcerated with the exception of nearly 2,000 of their leaders. Racism did not exist in Hawaii as it did on the West Coast. And, Hawaii was in the war zone! We, in Watsonville, were 2,500 miles away.

May I take you back to early US history? **The US Constitution legalized slavery (3/5s compromise), and the US Government practiced racism and endorsed WASP.** Congress passed the Naturalization Act of 1790—Asians were ineligible for citizenship; the 1830s, the Cherokee Nation was forcibly removed in the "Trail of Tears"; Dred Scott Decision 1857, African Americans are property; anti-Catholicism with "No Irish Need Apply" signs in the 1860s; the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882; *Plessy v. Ferguson* 1896 "separate but equal"; the A. Mitchell Palmer Raids of 1919-1920, deporting suspected Communists and Jews; the Immigration Exclusion Act of 1924 against Japanese; and the Fred Korematsu case of 1944. Ours is a history of racial discrimination, especially regarding immigration.

In the early 20th century, the press (including the *Hearst Examiner*, *Chronicle*, *McClatchy*--Sacramento and *Fresno Bees*--and the *Sentinel*) wrote of "that the Japanese race is an alien race which could never be assimilated into the American Way of Life. There's nothing of value of Japanese culture."

Sushi? Sushi is good for you. Sashimi, teriyaki, tofu, "wax on, wax off" karate, bonsai, haiku, origami?

Anti-Japanese sentiment was endorsed by politicians, labor unions, Hollywood movies, patriotic organizations like the Daughters of the American Revolution, Native Sons of the Golden West, Elks Club, and others.

To make sure Japanese couldn't assimilate or stay here laws were passed. Asians couldn't own land, marry whites, or become US citizens.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941, **General John L. DeWitt** of the Western Command and who had the ear of the President, **Franklin D. Roosevelt**, stated that "A Jap's a Jap. It makes no difference whether the Jap is a citizen or not."

Executive Order 9066, issued by President Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, forced the eviction from our homes. Nowhere in the executive order does it mention Japanese, Italian, or Germans. There were no court stays to Executive Order 9066.

Nationally, only the American Friends—the **Quakers**—supported us by protesting our forced removal and imprisonment. Locally, there were friends—Watsonville city attorney **John McCarthy**, Police Chief **Matt Graves**, public school teachers, and others—who supported us. They were called "Jap Lovers" and some had their homes and cars vandalized. They were among the first to welcome us back in 1945.

Our homes were invaded without search warrants. The US Bureau of the Census illegally gave the FBI our personal information—who and where we were. We were "hacked." It promised never to do it again, but I wonder.

We were incarcerated without charges, attorneys, a fair trial by a jury, or due process of law for over 3½ years with the loss of liberty, property, and in a few cases, loss of lives. The Constitution ceased to exist for us.

Still, with faith and loyalty in their hearts, our men and women volunteered from the ten concentration camps to fight in the Armed Forces of the United States. Men fought in the famous 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team (the most decorated Army unit for its size and length of service), and the Military Intelligence Service--the MIS--where we used the Japanese language as a secret weapon against the Japanese. My two older brothers fought with the MIS. This service is credited with shortening the war by two years and saving hundreds of thousands of lives both American and Japanese. Today, that language school is located at the Presidio of Monterey and is known as the Defense Language Institute.

Congress recently honored the men of the 100th/442nd/MIS with a **Congressional Gold Medal**.

The US Government apologized and presented reparations by passing the **Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988**. The government believed that of the 120,000, half--60,000--were still alive. We fooled them for 80,000 of us were still alive. See, *sushi* is good for you!

Our forced removal and imprisonment were illegal, right? **WRONG!** The US Supreme Court ruled 6-3, in the **Fred Korematsu** case of 1944, our removal was legal under the guise of "military necessity."

You know, there's only one race--the **Human Race**. Biologists love to classify - oh, you're Caucasian, you're Hispanic, you're Asian, you're African, you're German Shepherd, you're a French Poodle, you're a chihuahua. Dogs lovingly will go to anyone. Dogs are colorblind. I wish we were colorblind.

Today, the present administration is constantly issuing new executive orders and policies regarding immigration contrary to the **Spirit of America**.

Thankfully, there's support from the **Southern Poverty Law Center, the American Civil Liberties Union, the federal district courts, the real press**, and others--something we didn't have in 1942!

It can and will happen again. Oh, perhaps not under "military necessity" but under "national security." Who might be incarcerated next?

Who's the biggest threat to the present administration? Many would suspect it be the reporters and the producers of "Fake News." The days of **Walter Cronkite**, the "Conscience of America", are long gone. Now, we have the Internet, radio talk show hosts and cable TV commentators.

I'm very grateful to be living in Santa Cruz County, perhaps the second most liberal county in the country. But, it wasn't always that way. If you know the history of Santa Cruz city, you know it did not welcome minorities. That all changed with the coming of Cabrillo College and UC Santa Cruz. The intelligentsia came.

Gordon Hirabayashi stated of his unjust conviction, "**Ancestry** is not a crime!"

Today, we would add, "**Islam** is not a crime!"

This evening, we have found new energy to fight ignorance and racism. We must work compassionately with love in our hearts to overcome the hatred in this country.

A resident of Virginia, at Monticello near Charlottesville, **Thomas Jefferson**, once stated, "**Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.**"

We have our duty. Thank you.



Susan Tatsui-D'Arcy, Director of Merit Academy (right) spoke with **Marcia Hashimoto, Paul and Carol Kaneko** about the program. The above photo, courtesy of **Kimiko Marr**. The other photos, courtesy of Merit Academy.

SPEAKING TO UCSC STUDENTS ...

Upon the invitation of instructor **Martin Rizzo**, Mas spoke to 25 of his history students about our wartime incarceration on Tuesday, August 22. The class' subject is the *History of Santa Cruz*, and our Japanese and Japanese American community is an integral part of Santa Cruz County history.

Photo by Martin Rizzo.



A LESSON FROM HISTORY ...

Abraham Lincoln, June 18, 1858, during the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates for Illinois' Senate seat, stated:

A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure, permanently, half slave and half free.

I do not expect the Union to be dissolved — I do not expect the house to fall — but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing or all the other. Either the opponents of slavery will arrest the further spread of it, and place it where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in the course of ultimate extinction; or its advocates will push it forward, till it shall become lawful in all the States, old as well as new — North as well as South.

[Editor's note: The great civil war was not won for the nation remains divided. Substitute "opponents of slavery" with anti-racists and "its advocates" with white supremacists.]

1951, FARM WAGES INCREASED TO \$1.25 AN HOUR

Thanks to **Carl Dobler** (my WHS '53 classmate) of **Dobler and Sons, LLC**, we have learned of a day's wages. This is a list of workers who planted 5 acres of strawberries in one day. The planting took place in early spring, and the strawberries were harvested over the next four years. The first year, the strawberries were big but few. The berries were most numerous and best the second season, and the last two years, the berries were more for canning.

1. R. Misumi	8½ hrs	\$8.50
2. V. Urbe	12½ hrs	\$12.50
3. T. Maruyama	12½ hrs	\$12.50
4. R. Kusumoto	12½ hrs	\$12.50
5. N. Iwami	12½ hrs	\$12.50
6. S. Ohara	12½ hrs	\$12.50
7. K. Aramaki	12½ hrs	\$12.50
8. J. Goto	12½ hrs	\$12.50
9. J. Fujii	12½ hrs	\$12.50
10. F. Yamamoto	12½ hrs	\$12.50
11. Y. Arita	12½ hrs	\$12.50
12. K. Seto	12½ hrs	\$12.50
13. H. Kubori	12½ hrs	\$12.50
14. F. Izumizaki	12½ hrs	\$12.50
15. S. Oita	12½ hrs	\$12.50
16. F. Aramaki	12½ hrs	\$12.50
17. T. Hashimoto	12½ hrs	\$12.50
18. N. Hashimoto	12½ hrs	\$12.50
19. M. Tsuda	12½ hrs	\$12.50
20. R. Hama	12½ hrs	\$12.50
21. T. Shirachi	12½ hrs	\$12.50
22. Y. Taniguchi	12½ hrs	\$12.50
23. A. Matsui	12½ hrs	\$12.50
24. A. Misumi	12½ hrs	\$12.50
25. D. Yoshida	4 hrs	\$4.00
26. Jesus Gonzalez	23.75 hrs	\$23.75
27. Luis Zaragoza	23.75 hrs	\$23.75
28. Jose Juarez	23.75 hrs	\$23.75
29. Guadalupe Lule	23.75 hrs	\$23.75
30. Y. Hirano	33¼ hrs	\$33.25
31. Bill Hirano	36 hrs	\$45.00
32. George Hirano	33¼ hrs	\$36.58
33. Susan Hirano	23¼ hrs	\$23.25
34. Doris Shitani	33¼ hrs	\$33.25
35. Tei Uyematsu	20.75 hrs	\$20.75

36. A. Sukekane	33¼ hrs	\$33.25
37. A. Nakayama	19.75 hrs	\$19.75
38. M. Takamune	33¼ hrs	\$33.25
39. Roy Takamune	35 hrs	\$38.50
Total		\$711.83

Note that some were paid \$1 an hour. Perhaps they had worked their hours before the wage increase.

Do you recognize members of your family here? #5.

N. Iwami—could that be **Nancy Iwami**? She is 103 years of age today. Who else is still alive? My Issei mother is #18—**Nami Hashimoto**. She was 58 years of age at the time and worked in the fields until she could no longer bend down (at age 62 in 1955).

Several went on to become strawberry sharecropper or tenant farmers.

We thank Carl Dobler for this interesting and historical list. And, our families are grateful for the employment in 1951, six years after our return from "camp." While there were many harboring ill feelings against anyone of Japanese ancestry elsewhere, Watsonville, for the most part, welcomed us back in 1945, and we are grateful.

KAWAKAMI SISTER CITY UPDATE

By Robb Mayeda

On **Tuesday, September 5th**, our visitors from Kawakami-mura will arrive. This year's group consists of six boys and six girls as well as a teacher, village officer, and travel guide.

The welcome reception and dinner (a traditional, American Thanksgiving turkey dinner) will start at 6:00 pm at the Community Room on the top floor of the Watsonville City Hall and Civic Center. The Community Room is best reached by driving into the multi-story parking lot off Rodriguez Street and driving to the top floor. Parking is free for the event. Please join us, welcoming the students.

During the weekdays, the students will attend Watsonville middle schools and area field trips.

The farewell event will be a potluck beach party at Seaciff State Park from noon to 4:00 pm on Saturday, September 9th. The students depart early Sunday morning from the Watsonville Buddhist Temple.



The above photo of our students by **Robb Mayeda** was taken in front of the mural at Pajaro Middle School.

JAPANESE INCARCERATION: A CAUTIONARY TALE

From CSUMB

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the issuance of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin Roosevelt, which led to the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans. Given the current political environment, a look back at this dark period in our history can help us better understand the immigration and citizenship issues we face today.

Panelists: **Chris Hasegawa**, PhD former Dean of Extended Education and International Programs at CSUMB;

Larry Oda, past National President of the Japanese American Citizens League, who had family members who were interned.

Donald Hubbard, a highly regarded immigration attorney who serves on the Board of Directors, California Rural Legal Assistance.

We'll examine internment through the lens of family experiences in the camps and also discuss the legal and political ramifications of Roosevelt's history-changing order.

Dates: Wed. mornings, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13

Time: 10 am to 11:30 am

Place: **California State University, Monterey Bay** at Ryan Ranch, 8 Upper Ragsdale Drive, Monterey, CA 93940

Fee: \$25.

MIDORI KAI'S SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL BOUTIQUE AND CRAFT SHOW

Midori Kai, Inc., a non-profit professional business women's organization, will celebrate its Seventeenth Annual Fundraiser Boutique event on **Saturday, September 9, 2017**, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple Hall, 575 N. Shoreline Boulevard, in Mountain View, California.

To celebrate the organization's 21st anniversary, the first 200 guests will receive a free *Midori Kai* recyclable shopping bag, so shoppers are advised to arrive early.

Vendors will showcase unique Asian arts and crafts, jewelry, clothing, vintage kimonos, pottery, and food items from throughout the Western United States and Hawaii. *Midori Kai* is proud to announce that of 75 vendors, 16 are first time exhibitors with *Midori Kai*. Many of the items are handmade and one-of-a-kind. Most are unavailable in retail stores. Several food items will be offered at the boutique including *spam musubi*, *manju*, *bento* boxes, etc.

The boutique has grown over the years, and this is the major fund-raising event for *Midori Kai*. All proceeds of the boutique is directed towards 'giving back to the community'. Organizations which are in keeping with *Midori Kai's* mission statement are selected every two years, to receive a two-year grant. We congratulate the grant recipients for 2016 and 2017: **Asian American Recovery Service**-a program of *HealthRight 360* (Sister to Sister Conference), **Asian Women's Shelter** of San Francisco, the **Fred T. Korematsu Institute** (teacher training kits) and **Yu-Ai Kai** (*Keiro Kai* event). A highlight of the boutique is the introduction and the presentation of the grants to these organizations. Boutique attendees are encouraged to meet the organization's representatives during the event.

In addition to an enjoyable full day of shopping and socializing, entertainment will be provided in the morning and the afternoon. In the morning at 10:30 am, the Lotus Preschool Singers will perform a variety of songs and *taiko*

pieces. Lotus Preschool is in its 31st year at the San Jose Buddhist Church *Betsuin* and range from 2 through 5 years of age. The Pre-School is unique to San Jose's Japantown and each morning begins with a short service at the temple. The Director of Lotus Pre-School is **Lynne Yamaichi**. At 2:00 pm, **Jake Shimada** will perform a variety of songs on the ukulele. Only twelve years old, Jake has been playing the ukulele for nearly 6 years. He performs with the Kapalakiko Hawaiian Band as a Junior Apprentice. He also plays with the Wesley Ukulele Band and has performed with other musicians. He will be joined by **Tina Urata** (hula).

This year's boutique chairpersons are **Phyllis Osaki** and **Marsha Baird**. *Midori Kai* directors include: **Connie Decena**, **Carol Eejima**, **Roberta Hayashi**, **Julie Hubbard**, **Aggie Idemoto**, **Joyce Iwasaki**, **JoAnn Kato**, **Linda Kato**, **Janice Reiko Kawano**, **Naomi Nakano Matsumoto**, **Janice Miyatake**, **Maureen Mukai**, **Chris Noma**, **Irene Okimoto**, **June Sakamoto**, **Cynthia Sasaki**, **Heidi Shigematsu**, **Ruth Shikada**, **Machiko Shiozaki**, **Sally Takemoto**, **Vicki Wynne** and **Pam Yoshida**.

For more information, contact Phyllis Osaki at (925) 596-1770 or Marsha Baird at (510) 579-1518. Boutique updates will be posted at www.midorikai.com, *Midori Kai's* website, and on Facebook.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST BENEFIT

Please support our **Watsonville's Multi-Cultural Celebration** by attending our *Pancake Breakfast Benefit*, **Sat. October 14, 2017** from **8 am to 9:45 am** at the *Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar*, 1105 South Green Valley Road, Watsonville, CA 95076.

This fundraiser helps offset the cost of insurance, payments of permits, port-a-potties, security, etc. required by the City of Watsonville.

The buffet breakfast will include sausage, country fried potatoes, scrambled eggs, juice, and coffee for only \$10.

It's fun gathering with family, relatives and friends and knowing you are helping a major W-SC JACL project.

This event supports our community's cultural appreciation day which will held on **Sat. Dec. 2nd, 2017** at the Watsonville City Plaza.

Your **Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL** is a major sponsor along with its friends--the **YWCA**, **Watsonville Senior Center**, **Chinese Community of Watsonville**, **Pajaro Valley Jewish Community**, **Knights of Columbus**, **The American Legion**, and **Harry and Clarice Wiggins** (acknowledged community activists).

For breakfast tickets, email the **Hashimotos** at hashi79@sbcglobal.net or call at 831-722-6859 (please leave a message), or just come to *Applebee's* on Sat. Oct 14 in the morning before 10 am for *Applebee's* must get ready for its lunch crowd.

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO

By Bonnie Chihara

We ended the summer with our performance at Church Street Fair in Santa Cruz. We were joined by five members of **Niseishin Taiko** from Morgan Hill, eight members of the Grey Bears class in Santa Cruz and four kids from our Sunday Kids *Taiko* Workshop. It was hectic and exciting for everyone.

We will return to our usual schedule of classes after a short summer break for the kids. New classes begin on Friday, Sept. 1st. We have classes for all ages. Our

beginning children's class is scheduled at 4:30 pm on Fridays and are held at the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Kizuka Hall, 150 Blackburn Street, in Watsonville. Our beginning adult classes are scheduled for 7pm also at Kizuka Hall. For times and locations for our other classes, please contact **Kay** at 831 475 1088 or email us at info@watsonvilletaiko.org.

Our upcoming schedule:

Sept. 1st Abbot Square Opening, MAH Santa Cruz
Sept 2nd Land of Medicine Buddha, Soquel
Sept. 16th Asian Night, Senior Community Center
Scotts Valley
Sept. 23rd *Walk to End Alzheimer's*, Seascapes Beach
Sept. 24th *Jacob's Heart*, Watsonville Plaza
**Nov. 19th Watsonville Taiko's Annual Holiday
Boutique and Raffle**

WATSONVILLE FILM FESTIVAL 2017



On **Saturday, October 7th**, we will screen the wonderful documentary *Mele Murals* and will recognize director **Tadashi Nakamura** with an *Inspiring Filmmaker Award*.

Tad is a graduate of the Social Documentation Master Program at University of California, Santa Cruz. He is also director of several other documentaries about Japanese American and Hawaiian communities. Tad told **Consuelo Alba**, chair of WFF, that actually his uncle lives in town.

Please check this movie trailer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1x6oYW86c>

HILL 555 PROJECT IN BRUYERES, FRANCE

By Carl and June (Ogawa) Williams



My friend **Tom Graves** suggested that I contact you and that perhaps the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL might consider running a small article about the **Hill 555 Project** in Bruyères, France. We have been working on this effort since

2011, and we can finally see its completion on 15 October 2017. On that date, the City of Bruyères will rededicate the restored Hill 555 site and unveil a large new stone that is cut in the shape of the torch shoulder patch of the 100th/442nd RCT, the design of **442nd RCT Mitch Miyamoto** of Watsonville.

The story of the effort is a long one but the final chapter is now being written. My wife's uncle **Kiyoshi Ono** served in the *522nd Field Artillery Battalion* at Bruyères and later went on to Germany where his unit liberated two of the main sub-camps of **Dachau**. It was this family connection that compelled me to visit Bruyères in 2011 while on a business trip to Paris. During my visit, we noted that the simple monument to the Nisei liberators on Hill 555 was in need of restoration. For five years we unsuccessfully sought approval to rehabilitate the site.

In 2016, after considerable struggle, the new **Mayor (Yves Bonjean)** and **City Council** approved the resubmitted project and now are actively working toward its completion. The City of Bruyères expects the work to be completed in early October 2017. The 100th Veterans from Hawaii plan to send a color guard for this event as well as a second event in Biffontaine honoring the *405th Fighter Squadron* that played such an important role in resupplying the trapped Texans.

We are now seeking contributions from all those who have an interest in protecting this monument – a monument that represents the heroism, courage and sacrifice by young Nisei soldiers who liberated, not just Bruyères, Belmont and Biffontaine, but rescued the 211 soldiers of the Lost Texas Battalion. As you know, the price they paid for these deeds was horrendous. It is this incredible patriotism and sacrifice that needs to be remembered by all Americans and in particular by Americans of Japanese descent. When the Nisei came home they spoke little of these events and their modesty has created a generational-gap in the understanding of the debt owed to them and the honor they so rightly deserve.

To this end, we have created a website at www.hill555.org where those interested will find, in the documents section, the approved project details as well as related information, photos and links to other sources of information. The website also provides a means for those who would like to contribute. **In addition, donations may be made payable to the "Hill 555 Project" and mailed to Carl Williams at 827 Crestwater Ln, Sacramento, CA 95831.**

What we seek, perhaps most of all, is your assistance in making your readers aware of the project and encouraging them to participate. We recently received support from the San Fernando Valley JACL and from the Nisei Veterans of VFW Post 8985 in Sacramento as well as scores of individuals.

For your convenience, we have attached a copy of the flyer, the letter from the Mayor of Bruyères and the invitation to attend the rededication. Please know that every penny collected will go to the City of Bruyères and any funds in excess of those required for the project will be donated to the City for maintenance of the site.

We encourage all your readers to come to Bruyères for the 15 October 2017 rededication and unveiling.

Please call on me at 916-233-8069 for additional information or to answer questions. Thank you,

Carl and June (Ogawa) Williams

WESTVIEW CHIMES By Leslie Nagata-Garcia
"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.

Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

-Martin Luther King Jr.

I am deeply grieved by the events and aftermath of what happened in Charlottesville, Virginia in mid-August. I am reminded of how racism and hatred are still very alive in America and how ugly it is. My first response was to want to point fingers and be angry and hate back, but Martin Luther King Jr wisely proclaimed, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."



This is the time for self-reflection of how we all participate in racism in often very subtle ways, and then to seek to repent and seek to live and even to love, those we might consider wrong or enemies. Especially in this time of divisive politics and racial division, please pray for love and peace in our country.

I know many in our congregation are not white and specifically are Japanese. I know many of you have experienced the ugliness of racism personally. I am in awe and have profoundly learned from your model of turning this terrible experience into empathy. This is the power of the cross!—to turn death and suffering into a vehicle of redemption and new life. I pray I, and others can follow your example. That sensitivity to discrimination is part of what I think makes our church so loving and open to all, and I delight in that aspect of our church. It is strange being a white male as I address these issues.

I pray that all of us will continue to see more profoundly the history of our nation's racism: from the killing of the native peoples and taking over their land, to the import of African slaves, and the abuse of Asian immigrants specifically in the railroad and farming industries, to the present day of an abuse of Spanish-speaking immigrants who come to work in our land. In addition, we have the history of our Japanese brothers and sisters unjustly jailed during World War II.

All this history still affects our country today. How we can move forward in love and healing. I was struck by this article on white privilege and wanted to share it with you.

"The 'war on whites' is a myth — and an ugly one"
-Excerpts from a *Washington Post* article 8/14/17
https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/08/14/the-war-on-whites-is-a-myth-and-an-ugly-one/?tid=a_inl-amp&utm_term=.a4e6e6a3e321

Many of those who descended on Charlottesville to attend the white nationalist rally this weekend believe

there is a "war on whites" in the United States today. They believe it so deeply that they are willing, in 2017, to carry Nazi flags and chant Nazi slogans. Some were ready to act violently against those who disagreed. One man faces murder charges after driving his vehicle through a crowd of counter-protesters.

The view that white people face broad discrimination is not limited to groups like the ones espousing Nazi propaganda in Charlottesville.

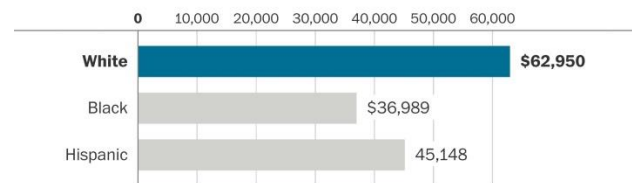
The "war on whites" is a core concern of some in this country, but it isn't true. White people, especially white males, still have a huge advantage in American society. White people not only control a vastly disproportionate share of the country's wealth, income and economic power, they also enjoy tremendous advantages helping them to stay ahead financially.

There's been a lot of attention directed to the plight of the white working class. It's true that whites without college degrees have a harder time finding good-paying jobs in 2017 than they did in the past as manufacturing jobs have gone to robots. But keep this in mind: The white working class still fares better economically than the nonwhite working class.

Here are 7 charts showing the many ways whites are overwhelmingly better off than nonwhites in America today.

White people earn more money

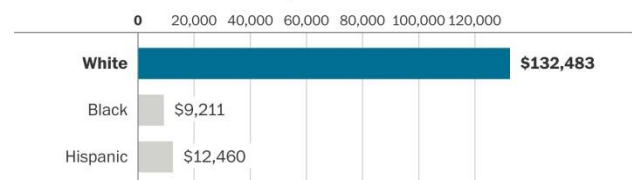
Median household income, 2015



Source: US Census Bureau
WASHINGTON POST

White people own more stuff

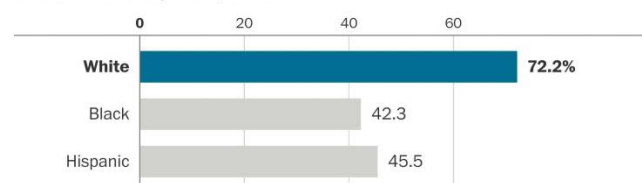
Median household net worth, 2013



Source: US Census Bureau
WASHINGTON POST

White people are more likely to be homeowners

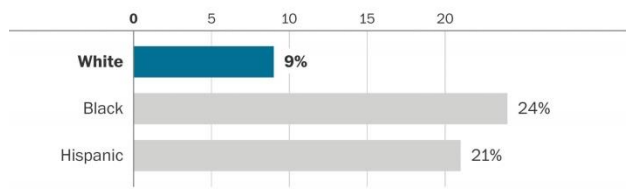
Homeownership rate, 2017



Source: US Census Bureau
WASHINGTON POST

White people are less poor

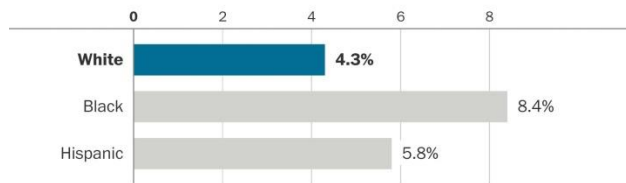
Poverty rate, 2015



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation
WASHINGTON POST

White people have lower unemployment

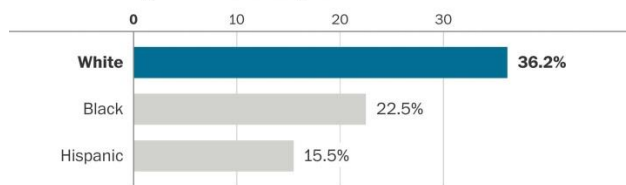
Unemployment rate, 2016



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
WASHINGTON POST

White people are more likely to get a bachelor's degree

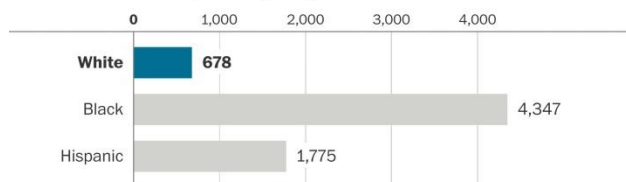
Bachelor's degree attainment, 2015



Source: US Census Bureau
WASHINGTON POST

White people are less likely to go to jail

Incarceration rate per 100,000, 2012



Among men

Source: Pew Research Center
WASHINGTON POST

I pray we can continue to understand truths, seek to understand other especially by trying to step in their shoes, and I pray we can all be Christ's hands of love and healing in these trying times. "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it."-John 1:5

I learn much about love from you and am grateful for you, the Westview Family! Much Love, Rev. Dan

Help your youth/children grow a strong foundation in Christ!

Youth/Family Upcoming Events

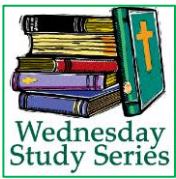
Gym Nites are usually the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, from **5:30 – 7:30 pm**, at **Westview**. Mark your calendars for the following dates (for the month of September Gym Nites are the 2nd and 4th Friday):

- September 8th: Gym Nite, Westview, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

- September 22nd: Gym Nite, Westview, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Youth kayaking adventure at Elkhorn Slough.





Wednesday Study Series: Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 6:45pm, at Paloma Del Mar, 2030 Pajaro Lane in Freedom. We are studying John Ortberg's book, *The Life You've Always Wanted*. We

are studying how to grow the spiritual practices in our lives in this modern world that will be the center and fount from which we live and thrive! It has been a delight to make new friends and be church with them at Paloma Del Mar!

Please mark your calendar for the following dates in September: **September 13th**, **September 27th**.

Sunday Message Series: - In **September** we will begin a series "**None Like God**" based on a book by **Jen Wilkin**. God is self-existent, self-sufficient, eternal, immutable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, sovereign, infinite, and incomprehensible. We are NOT, and that is a good thing! We will learn about the qualities God has that we do not, and learn to celebrate the freedom that comes when we rest in letting God be God!

Tutoring Club: Thank you to those who were tutors the last couple years: Mary Lou Hoffman, Diane Mio, Susan Manabe, Pastor Dan, Joanne Hayashi, and Eiko Stewart! Some are now choosing to take a break, others like Eiko will now be volunteering at Radcliffe Elementary to further help students in need. **We stopped having the Tutoring Club on Thursdays, but we resumed tutoring again on a one-on-one basis in August as several of us continue to have 1-2 children we tutor.** It has been a delight to reach out with love and care for our neighbors. Please contact Pastor Dan or Mary Lou if you would like to participate in any way.

Salvation Army Meals: Westview will **resume** preparing and serving meals for the Salvation Army in **December**.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

"Long ago,

My joy was wrapped in my sleeves-

But, tonight, I am so overwhelmed,

It's more than I can contain."

Kumagai, Nyudo (1141-1208)

Thank you very much. I cannot come up with the words to thank the Watsonville Buddhist Temple and its members for the kindness that they have shown me during the past year as I have helped here at the temple. One year has swiftly gone by since the passing of Reverend Hanayama. And now we find ourselves moving into a new era, a change for the Temple and myself.

I want to take this moment to reflect upon the 110-year history of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple and all the members and ministers who have worked so very hard and dedicated themselves to the spreading of the Buddha Dharma in the Watsonville community. Nineteen ministers have served the Watsonville Buddhist Temple over the years. It was their sacrifice, dedication and teachings that have allowed me to be here today. I will do my best to continue the good work of my predecessors keeping in mind always the foundation upon which I stand and work from. "Long ago" the Buddha established a vow to save all sentient beings. That vow was passed onto many great teachers over the centuries. Shinran in turn passed that vow onto us, clarifying the Buddha's true intent. For the past 110 years the ministers with the support of the members have been passing this vow onto us who are here today. Shinran said, "If you should come to realize this practice and *Shinjin*, rejoice at the conditions from the distant past that have brought it about."

All along the joy of having received that vow has been "*wrapped up in my sleeves*". In my blind state, I have been carrying this around with me all my life from long ago and never realized this wonderful gift bestowed upon me. As I contemplate upon the task lying before me I am somewhat overwhelmed, and at the same time delighted at the prospect of what we can do here together. I want to share the gift of the *Nembutsu* with as many as I can while here and hope that you will join me.

My wife Jane and I are delighted to be here in Watsonville. Thank you all.

In *Gassho*,

Rev. Shinseki

WELCOME REVEREND JAY SHINSEKI AS WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE'S RESIDENT MINISTER. WE ARE SO HAPPY TO HAVE YOU.

The calendar for September 2017:

1	Fri	Secretary out of office
3	Sun	No Sunday Service
5	Tue	5 pm 110th Committee Meeting
		7:30 pm Temple Board Meeting
7	Thu	10 am ABA Meeting
8	Fri	Secretary out of office
9	Sat	9 am-4 pm Midori Kai in Mt. View
10	Sun	9 am Higan E Service & Shotsuki Hoyo
17	Sun	9 am Sunday Service
23	Sat	10 am-2 pm 26th Chicken Teriyaki Dinner
24	Sun	9 am Sunday Service
28	Thu	7 pm CD Council Mtg in Mt. View
29	Fri	7 pm Movie Night in Monterey

Saturday September 23rd, 2017**Watsonville's 56th Annual Teriyaki Dinner****Drive Thru only from 10 am - 2 pm**

September 18th--22nd Teriyaki dinner preparations for the Sangha members. If you have questions refer to your committee list and call your captain.

Shotsuki Hoyo Service**9 am Sunday September 10th, 2017**

Let us gather to express our gratitude. The families of the following deceased are invited to attend the September service and to *Oshoko* (offer incense). We look forward to seeing you at the service.

September Memorial List

Akiyama, Utaro	Aramaki, Hisae
Arao, Takanori	Arita, Goichi
Fujii, Yoshiteru	Fujimoto, Sakaye
Fujita, Frank	Hamada, Fumi
Hane, Kiichiro	Hatsushi, Rintaro
Higaki, Henry Akio	Higaki, Kazuna
Hirano, Bill	Idemoto, Kenji
Itamura, Chisako	Ito, Toshiharu
Iwamuro, Kiyochi	Izumizaki, James
Kadotani, Katsukiyo	Kimoto, Yasu
Koda, Masao Joe	Koda, Mitsuno
Kodama, Keichi	Kondo, Alice Ayako
Kurosaki, Hiroshi	Kusumoto, Kajizo
Kusumoto, Unotsuke	Mametsuka, Larry
Mano, Kojiro	Mano, Miteru
Mine, Sayoko	Mio, Haruko Margaret
Mitani, Don Kiyoshi	Murakami, Fushi
Muronaka, Haruo	Nagata, Asa
Nakamoto, Nakayo	Nakamoto, Shoso
Nishimoto, Ito	Nishio, Kinu
Nishita, Suteichi	Okamoto, Tadao
Ota, Goichi	Ota, Zenichi
Saiki, Kihachi	Sakai, Seigo
Shibata, Maxine	Shiotani, Shig
Tanaka, Kojiro	Tanimasa, Masako
Tao, Sentaro	Torigoe, Yuki
Ura, Ernest	Wada, Grace
Wada, Michiko	Wada, Kinue
Wakamiya, Katsushi	Yamamoto, George Iwao

YBA Report: YBA helped set up for the *Obon Festival*. We sold beef skewers, corn, curry rice, spam *musubi*, *teriyaki* burgers and drinks. We also sold two new items--*boba* tea and *edamame*.

ABA News: ABA helped at the fireworks sale on July 2nd. Some members of ABA attended the Monterey *Obon* on July 12th. ABA made udon for the *Obon Festival*.

BWA Report: The Buddhist Women's Association college scholarships for \$1,000 each were presented at the recent *Obon Festival* to **Christopher Inokuchi**, who is attending UCLA majoring in Computer Science Engineering, and to **Kevin Yamaoka**, who is attending Arizona State University majoring in Biological Sciences. Christopher's grandfather, **Iwao Yamashita** graciously accepted this award for Christopher.

MANY THANKS!

On behalf of the *Obon* Committee, I would like to extend my personal thanks for everyone's participation in this year's *OBON FESTIVAL*. Everyone's hard work and countless hours resulted in another successful *Obon Festival*! I'm really proud to say that "WE" came together as a congregation and pulled off a wonderful and festive community event for all to enjoy.

Being new as *Obon* Chairperson, I realized how many people it takes to coordinate such an event and am thankful for so many temple and non-temple individuals who came out to support Watsonville's festival.

The day was filled with delicious Japanese foods, various Asian vendors, children's games coordinated by *Kokoro No Gakko*, entertainment consisted of delightful *Koto* players and *Watsonville Taiko* performed another dynamic performance with drummers of all ages performing. The courtyard behind the temple was filled with many dancers from near and far to participate.

All in all, it was a wonderful day, filled with delicious food, special traditions, and festive activities. Most of all, the event was made possible due to the numerous volunteers who came out to help throughout the week in preparation for this annual event.

With deepest appreciation,
Dennis Ikegami, 2017 *Obon* Chairman

The Watsonville Buddhist Temple Rummage Sale



Helpers are **Nobuko Akiyama, Eiko Nishihara, June Honda, Reba Condon, and Eileen Byers**. Below, **Nora Louie** assisted with jewelry purchases.



All are taking a well-deserved lunch break. Below, **Sharyn Nakashima, Susan Uyematsu, and JoAnn Kato** handled the sales.



Thank you to everyone who donated their gently used items and to all who helped to make the Rummage Sale a great success. We would also like to give a special thank you to **Susan Uyematsu, Barbara Shingai, Nancy Kuratomi, Dean and Lisa Sakae** who went the extra mile.

All photos of this 2017 Rummage Sale ... courtesy of **Jean Yamashita**.

Tri-Temple Rennyō Shonin Memorial Service

The Tri-Temple (Monterey, Salinas, and Watsonville Buddhist Temple) *Sangha* met Sun. Aug. 20 in Salinas with over 200 in attendance. **Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka** was the keynote speaker.



His presentation delighted the young *Dharma* students who enthusiastically responded to his questions.



Participating in the service were **Bill Wurtenberg, Rev. Jay Shinseki, Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka, Rev. Yugo Fujita, and Chairman John Hirasuna** of Salinas.

Following, a luncheon reception was held in the hall.

The 110th Anniversary celebration of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple will be held Sat., Nov. 4th, 2017. Members of the Planning Committee are: Chairperson **Barbara Shingai**, members: **Susan Uyematsu, Bill Wurtenberg, Ryoko Kozuki, Kim Yoshida, Perry Yoshida, Phyllis Nagamine, JoAnn Kato, Nancy Kuratomi, and Tracey Haneta.**

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

By Carol Kaneko and Jean Yamashita



The birthday honorees in attendance at our August birthday party were: **Paul Kaneko, Eileen Byers, Akira Kodama 96, Yoshiko Nishihara 90, Gail Wurtenberg, Kitty Mizuno, George Stewart, Jo Ann Vear, and Kazuko Sakai 88.** Absent were: **June Honda, Shirley Nishimoto, Mark Takeuchi, and Reiko Yamamoto.** *Manju* was given to Akira Kodama and Yoshiko Nishihara and a beautiful orchid plant was presented to Kazuko Sakai in honor of her 88th birthday. Happy Birthday to all!



There were many special guests for our birthday celebration. **Yoshiko Nishihara's** family--daughter **Linda Nishihara** and (back row) son **Scott** and his wife **Franci Nishihara** and Yoshiko's sister **Eiko Nishihara**—helped to celebrate Yoshiko's 90th birthday with beautiful red bags filled with homemade goodies – strawberry jam, knitted dishcloth and scrubby, and two kinds of cookies, both delicious! Thank you, Nishihara family!



Kazuko Sakai's family -- her son **Perry Sakai** and his daughter **Samantha**, and from San Diego son **Willie Sakai** his wife and daughter, **Lois and Katie** -- came to celebrate Kazuko's 88th birthday. Kazuko also donated the birthday cake and ice cream and gave strawberries to all.



On her actual birthday, August 24, Kazuko treated everyone to a delicious *Miyuki obento* in honor of her special 88th birthday! Her granddaughter **Samantha** came with her and helped pass out the *obento*. Thank you, Kazuko and family, for all the special treats!

Another special guest was **Reece Hamalainen, Eileen Byer's** grandson, who came to help celebrate Eileen's birthday.

Trip information: A group of seniors are looking forward to attending **Kristi Yamaguchi's Golden Moment Ice Skating** event on Sunday, September 3rd at the SAP center in San Jose. The event is celebrating the 25th anniversary of Kristi Yamaguchi capturing the 1992 Olympic gold medal. Proceeds will support the **Always Dream Foundation's** early childhood literacy program, Always Reading.

Jean Yamashita announced a *Table Mountain Casino* trip for Wednesday, September 27. Please sign up with **Jean or Rubie Kawamoto**. She is also planning our annual San Francisco Japantown trip for the first Tuesday in December. Save the date – **December 5**. Cost for either trip is \$30 for Senior Center members; \$40 for non-members.

We have a small group signed up for the *Santa Cruz Follies* on Friday, September 15. Please see **Carol Kaneko** if you are interested in joining us. Ticket cost is \$20. The show starts at 1 pm at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium, and we will meet at Mayflower Chinese Restaurant for dinner afterwards.

Paul Kaneko announced that we will have a flu shot clinic on Thursday, September 14 at Kizuka Hall from 1 to 2 pm. A pharmacist from CVS Pharmacy will be administering the shots. Please contact Carol Kaneko if you wish to get your flu shot that day.

Paul also informed us that **Fred Oda** is at *Kimochi San Mateo* after falling. A get-well card was signed by all and sent to Fred. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him soon.

We have missed **June Honda** and **Gini Matute-Bianchi** for the past few weeks as they are recovering from surgeries. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope they are back with us soon.

We also miss seeing **Mrs. Haruko Yoshii** who has moved to be with one of her daughters. We wish her well and hope she will come back to visit sometime.

Willie Yahiro will be at the Senior Center on Thursday, September 7 to give us information about open enrollment in Medicare Part D and to answer any questions. No sales pitch, just good information!

The Watsonville Buddhist Temple will be having their chicken teriyaki sale on Saturday, September 23rd from 10 am to 2 pm.



Jee Kajihara with daughters **Kayla** and **Jocelyn** and friend **Michiko Shibata** came to serve delicious strawberry shortcake with cream to everyone's delight.

We continued to practice our balancing exercises this month, led by **Jean Yamashita**. See Jean for the written instructions for these exercises. It is important to work on your balance to help prevent falling and improve your health and mobility.

Monetary donations for the month of August gratefully received from: **Reiko Yamamoto**, **Gini Matute-Bianchi**, **Paul Kaneko**, **Eileen Byers**, **Gail Wurtenberg**, **Yoshiko Nishihara**, **Sunao Honda**, **Akira Kodama**, **Jo Ann Vear**, **George Stewart**, **Kazuko Sakai**, **Mark Takeuchi**, **Shirley Nishimoto**, and, in honor of their mother **Yoshiko's 90th** birthday, **Scott and Franci Nishihara**, **Linda Nishihara**, and **Glenn and Lynne Yoshimoto**. In memory of **Joan Yuri**

Otsuji, donations were received from **Helen Mito** and **Daniel and Karen Nitta**; and in memory of **Yukio Nagata** a donation was received from **Edna Nagata**.

Welcome back this month to: **Kitty Mizuno**, **Satoko Yamamoto** (after 3 months in Japan), and **Paul and Carol Kaneko** (after a month+ in Hawaii).

Welcome back, Carol and Paul, from your vacation in Hawaii! We missed you very much and are so happy to see you back at the Senior Center!

Welcome to new member **Kim Tao**. May you have many opportunities to shout "Bingo!"

Thank you for all the wonderful bingo prizes:

June/Sunao Honda	6 plates blackberry pie, 7 plates <i>Spam musubi</i> ,
Hisako Uemura	12 rolls bath tissue
Jean/Iwao Yamashita	27 bags cucumbers, 7 bags beans, 26 bags tomatoes
Rubie Kawamoto	3 bags rice crackers, 12 boxes <i>Kleenex</i>
Kazuko Sakai	24 clamshells blackberries, birthday cake and ice cream, strawberries for all, <i>Miyuki obento</i> for all
Toshi Yamashita	4 peach pies, 4 plates chocolate cupcakes, 3 pkg roasted seaweed
Hide Nagamine	220 lunch plates, plastic wrap
Kumiko Nakatani	4 cantaloupes, 5 bags tomatoes, 660 napkins
Mary Perez	2 bags lemons, 2 bags zucchini, 4 bags lemons, 6 bags cookies
Sharon Bobo	5 bags zucchini, 2 bags pretzels
Chie Sakaue	21 bunches of flowers
Terry Hirahara	4 plates raspberry cake, 4 boxes <i>Kleenex</i> , 4 plastic wrap, 4 hazelnut wafers, 4 <i>Ajax</i> dish soaps, 3 bags <i>CheX Mix</i> , 2 pkg <i>nori</i>
Eileen Byers	8 rolls paper towels
Kitty Mizuno	Japanese snack, 2 bags rice crackers, 12 rolls bath tissue, 2 mixed Japanese crackers
Pat Marr	2 <i>shoyu</i> dispensers, 1 tissue paper, 1 coin purse, 1 pair chopsticks, 1 luggage tag
Reba Condon	16 rolls bath tissue
Eiko Stewart	6 rolls bath tissue
Satoko Yamamoto	5 boxes <i>Kleenex</i>
Miyeko Yamashita	3 bags <i>chagashi</i>
Eiko Nishihara	1 doz homemade strawberry jam
Yoshiko Nishihara	18 bottles <i>Dawn</i> dish soap, birthday goodie bags for all
Gail Wurtenberg	6 bags <i>Snickers Doodle</i> cookies
Jean Akiyama	8 boxes <i>Kleenex</i>
Nobuko Akiyama	<i>Ziploc</i> bags
Yaeko Cross	12 rolls bath tissue
Hisako/Akira Kodama	12 jars homemade pickles
Mitsuyo/Kim Tao	8 pkgs strawberries
Jean Akiyama/Hisako Kodama	birthday flowers
Mitzi Katsuyama	5 pkg banana chiffon cake
Kim Tao	11 pkgs of homemade <i>Hello Kitty</i> cookies
Pat & Kimiko Marr	6 boxes <i>Kleenex</i>
Bette Garcia	6 boxes <i>Pocky</i> sticks

It was a busy August at the Senior Center. Please stay healthy and active and keep exercising!

Thanks for coming and see you next month.

Please check out our Senior Center website to read the Senior Center News, see pictures of our Seniors in living color, and check out our upcoming calendar of events: kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com.

WE WELCOME A NEW MEMBER

Kim Tao, of Watsonville, who also joined our Senior Center.

A recent new member wrote us: **"My father was a member and it is high time I connected ... also to get into the network of concerned Nikkei."**

We appreciate all new and renewal of memberships. If there's anything we can do or if you would like to help, especially in the areas of concern—civil and human rights, social justice, cultural outreach, education, youth programs—please call on us at hashi79@sbcglobal.net or by writing to W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077.

FROM SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER

Marissa Blair was walking down Fourth Street when the car struck. Her fiancé, **Marcus Martin**, had just a split second to push her out of its path. When she got up, all Blair could see of Martin was his bloodied baseball cap lying on the ground, she told *The New York Times*.

"It terrified me," said Blair. She found Martin, his leg broken. But the couple couldn't find the friend who had been with them on Fourth Street — 32-year-old **Heather Heyer**.

Heyer died when a white supremacist rammed his car into counter-protesters who were demonstrating against the "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. **James Alex Fields**, 20, is being held without bail on multiple charges, including second-degree murder.

But in six states — North Carolina, Florida, Texas, Tennessee, Rhode Island and North Dakota — Republican lawmakers have proposed measures that could shield drivers who hit protesters from civil liability.

"You can protest all you want, but you can't protest up on a roadway," said North Dakota Rep. **Keith Kempenitch** in January 2017.

Historically, however, you can. After state troopers and a sheriff's posse beat marchers on **Selma's Edmund Pettus Bridge** in 1965, on a day that would become known as *Bloody Sunday*, a federal judge ruled on that very question.

"The law is clear," wrote **U.S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr.**, "that the right to petition one's government for the redress of grievances may be exercised in large groups. These rights may be exercised by marching, even along public highways."

Four days after Johnson's ruling, **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** led civil rights protesters from Selma to Montgomery in support of voting rights. Just two years earlier, King had stood on the steps of the *Lincoln Memorial* during another of our country's most significant protests, the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

"Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy," said King.

Today, as thousands of Americans gather in the streets to make their voices heard in the Trump era, it is again time for their representatives to ensure that the promise of our democracy is reflected in our laws.

Lawmakers should applaud — not criminalize — their constituents' civic engagement. They should guarantee protesters' safety, not the safety of the drivers who hit them. They should not pass any measure that threatens to

undermine free assembly, as at least 18 states have tried this year to do.

Monday (August 28, 1963) marks 54 years since Dr. King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech to 250,000 protesters gathered on the Washington Mall. And it will have been 16 days since Heyer died while resisting the same white supremacy against which King fought.

Our representatives should honor both their memories by protecting a pillar of our democracy — the right to freely assemble in civic protest.

As always, thank you for your support. SPLC Editors.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EDUCATION FUND

Greatest Need

In memory of **Joan Yuri Otsuji** from ...

Helen Mito, mother

Daniel and Karen Nitta, brother & sister-in-law

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM ...

In memory of **Yukio Nagata** from ...

Edna Nagata

In memory of **Evy Kamigawachi** from ...

Esther Ura

In memory of **Barbara Bugalski** from ...

Esther Ura

In memory of **Mary Okamoto** from ...

Harvey Kamigawachi

JOIN US--WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

If you are not now a member of the National JACL, we'd love to have you join our W-SC JACL chapter.

Please encourage family members, relatives and friends to join us for 2017. We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, educational, civil rights organization, and our tax deductible federal ID is #94-2659895.

Annual membership dues are \$80 for individual, \$150 for couples, and \$25 for youth between the ages of 14 and 25.

Yes, you don't have to be a Japanese American to be a member. You don't even have to be a US citizen. You must be an advocate for justice and for civil rights for all.

Current members, please look at the date after your name on the address label. E. Txxx 4/17 means your membership expired back in **April 2017!** Please renew before your membership's expiration month. Marcia Hashimoto, who sends renewal reminders, will be very grateful.

If you have moved or are planning to move, **please let us know your new address.**

Please do not mail to our Kizuka Hall address on Blackburn Street.

Our mailing address is: W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077.

Thank you for reading this September 2017 newsletter. Comments are always welcome at hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

For our full, living color newsletter, log onto <http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org>, click onto Newsletters, then the month.

Onward!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor

OUR JACL VISION

"JACL protects the civil rights of all and honors the cultural values of Americans of Japanese ancestry."

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

No Increase in the 2017 – 2018 Membership Dues

Working toward our national goal of *Better Americans in a Greater America* is a worthy one. One does not have to be of Japanese ancestry 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.

Please join us today. We are the most proactive, oldest, and respected Asian American civil rights organization, and our programs include cultural appreciation and educational outreach.

Your membership is never 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 2014 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.
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.
Youth/Student	___ \$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 <u>required</u> for scholarship consideration.

For **Thousand Club**, **Century Club**, and **Millennium Club** and **Life** membership categories, please contact our membership chair **Jeanette Otsuji Hager**.

Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Spouse's Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Address: _____

Home phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

For family membership, please list names (and ages) of all children under the age of 14:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Please send your check payable to **Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL** and mail ASAP to:
Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL
c/o Jeanette Otsuji Hager, Membership Chair, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077
Thank you so much for your support.
Check out our websites: <http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org> and jacl.org.