

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

“The Bridge 橋”

The Voice of Our Community

The lone elk,
finished with his life,
gallops headlong into the wild sea.

Haiku by Bob Gómez

Translation by Hiromi Ushimaru

Dedicated to Henry G. Gómez, 1924-2021

鹿(しか)老(お)いて、
荒(あ)れる海原(うなばら)
まっしぐら。

Shika oite,
Areru unabara
Masshigura。

DONATIONS

Thank you to those who have generously donated since our last issue. We are truly grateful for your support.

- Joe Bowes for DOREF/newsletter
- Toni Genberg in honor of Wallace Osato
- Mas and Marcia Hashimoto in memory of Wally Osato, our Chapter president in 1979
- Mary Ellen Martinelli
- Dino Miyamoto in memory of Wally Osato
- Eiko Nishihara in memory of Wally Osato
- Yoshiko Nishihara in memory of Wally Osato
- Cindy and David Okuji in memory of Wally Osato
- Jeanne and Timothy Patterson: “We were so sorry to hear of Wally Osato's passing, and in his honor and memory, would love to make a donation to the JACL, where we know he enjoyed many wonderful and memorable times. Blessings to all of Wally's friends and family with the JACL, and may we all honor his memory and life with deep gratitude and love. Warmest wishes, Jeanne and Tim”
- Shirley Nishimoto donation for the newsletter
- Chiyeko Shikuma in memory of our friend Wally Osato for DOREF/scholarship
- Yoko Umeda in memory of Wally Osato
- Esther Ura in memory of Wally Osato
- Esther Ura in memory of Hobart Higuchi
- Jennifer Ura Gavin in memory of Hobart Higuchi
- Ted Wada in memory of Wally Osato
- Stuart and Pilar Yamamoto

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Please note new website address:

www.watsonvillesantacruzjaci.com

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL:

Working to keep our Kizuka Hall safe *By Cindy Mine*

Once again, the JACL maintenance crew is keeping Kizuka Hall at its best. The original two Federal Pacific Co. circuit breaker panels at the Kizuka Hall were found to be a potential hazard and a liability. They both needed to be replaced.

In July, Central Electric removed the old panels and installed the new panels which took 3 days at a cost of \$3,895.55.

Joe Bowes and Gary Mine are doing the repairs on the sheet rock around the new panels.



Before... ...Wayne from Central Electric (after)... ...Joe... ...Gary

CITY OF WATSONVILLE VETERANS DAY 2021

Please join us in honoring veterans during the annual November 11th Veterans Day Commemoration. Veterans are invited to march in the Walk of Honor Parade down Main Street and East Beach Street. They will assemble at 9:30 am. at St. Patrick's Church, 721 Main Street, and commence marching at 10 am. The Watsonville Fire Department will provide a fire engine for veterans needing assistance in getting from the church to the Mello Center at 250 East Beach Street. We hope community members will line the streets in appreciation to our veterans. A ceremonial program is planned at 11:00 am. In compliance with the Santa Cruz County Health Department, masks will be required for this indoor event. If you have any questions, please contact Lt. Col. U.S. Army (ret.) Harry Wiggins at 831-566-5208.

JAPANESE AMERICAN LEGACY PROJECT *By Marcia Hashimoto*

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL (W-SC JACL) extends its appreciation to Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge **Johnny Cepeda Gogo** for honoring Japanese Americans imprisoned and relocated during World War II with a historic *Flag Signing* event inspired by Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge **Roberta Hayashi**, **Karen Korematsu**, and civil rights attorney, **Dale Minami**.

We are grateful to our chapter members and friends for participating in signing the 48-star American flag which Judge Gogo plans to donate to the National Japanese American Museum in Los Angeles.

It was wonderful to see the presence of adult children family members expressing gratitude to their parents and grandparents for the hardships they endured.

Our thanks to **Pam Yoshida** for introducing Judge Gogo to our chapter, and we thank our board and members for their assistance with precautions in regards to the health safety concerns of those in attendance. We also thank **Tarmo Hannula** of the *Pajaronian* for his front-page coverage in August 6-12 issue. Newsletter photos were taken by **Mas Hashimoto**.

Flag Signing on August 1, 2021 at W-SC JACL KIZUKA HALL



Our Crew: Joe Bowes, Kenny Kusumoto, Reba Condon, Judge Johnny Gogo, Marcia Hashimoto, Nancy Shikuma, Victor Kimura. Missing: Wayne Hayashibara, Mas Hashimoto.



Yoko Umeda (Poston III) with son, Shin.



Tee Yamamoto (Poston) with nephew Gary Mine. Carol Kaneko(Rohwer).



Michiko Matano (Tule Lake & Topaz) with Sus Matano.



Mae Yoshida (Heart Mtn) with Pam, Kim, and Perry Yoshida.



Rose Yoshida (Jerome & Tule Lake) with family members.

Flag Signing on August 1, 2021 at W-SC JACL KIZUKA HALL



Kaoru Hirahara (Poston I) with Judge Johnny Gogo.



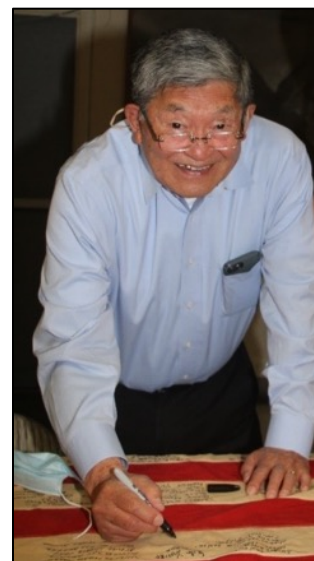
Eiko Nishihara and Yoshiko Nishihara (both of Rohwer).



Jean Akiyama (Gila River, Tule Lake).



Fumi Tanimasa (Gila River).



Willie Yahiro (Poston).



Haruyo Ishibashi (Colorado) with family.



Larry Oda (Crystal City, Texas).



Jane Tsutsui Sugidono (Manzanar Children's Village).

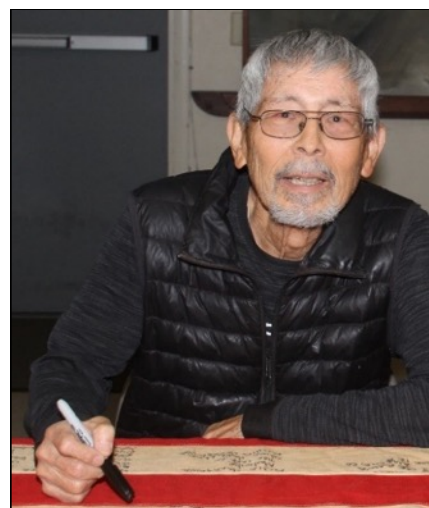
Flag Signing on August 1, 2021 at W-SC JACL KIZUKA HALL

Sam Sakamoto 96 (Tule Lake) joined the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team. With son-in-law and daughter **Franz and Kim Steidl** and Judge **Johnny Gogo**, Sam also signed a star, **442nd I Co. PFC Sam Sakamoto**. Sam's brown bear gift with the 442nd shoulder patch emblem, designed by **Mitch Miyamoto** of Watsonville, as a necktie represents all the California Nisei who fought in WW II. **Mas Hashimoto** presented a "Go For Broke" forever stamp display which was donated by W-SC JACler **Katherine C. Tobin**. Sam explained the significant role Hawaiian Nisei soldiers played in the 100th/442nd RCT.



Sandra Miura (Tule Lake) came with her daughter.

Kenji Togami (Tule Lake) came from Berkeley to sign.



DR. JANICE MIRIKITANI *By Cindy Mine*

This poem by Margaret Mead reminded me of Janice Mirikitani:

*Not, how did he die, but how did he live?
Not, what did he gain, but what he gave?
These are the units to measure the worth
Of a man, regardless of his birth,
But had he befriended those really in need...*

This focus is on the 80 years of her Life!

- Born: Feb. 4, 1931 in Stockton
 - Parents: Immigrant chicken farmers from Petaluma
- 1982, married to Rev. Cecil Williams
 - One daughter and one grandson
- UCLA Graduate
- Teaching credential from Berkeley, CA and 3 honorary doctorate degrees
- Participant in literary publications
- Recipient of many, many awards
- Author of:
 - "Love Works"
 - "Shedding Silence"
 - "Out of the Dust"
 - "We, the Dangerous"
 - "Awake in the River"
 - "Beyond the Possible"

Descriptions of Janice Mirikitani:

- Dedicated Community Activist
- Co-founder of Glide Memorial Church, San Francisco
- **Poet Laureate**
- Champion of many programs, issues and people (see below); developed more than 80 programs
- Compassionate
- Welcoming
- Inspirational
- Listener
- Gave voices to people
- Leader of Social Programs
- Lifted people up
- Had a powerful voice
- Social Justice Warrior
- Visionary
- Devoted



I needed to read up on the definition of a **Poet Laureate**. A poet honored for achievement. An honorary position officially appointed by a certain country, region or group, who is expected to compose poems for special events and occasions.

In 1964, she joined Glide Memorial Church. Glide Church caters to the poor and homeless. The membership was transformed from 30 members to 10,000. Regardless of sexual orientation, race or religion, you are welcome there.

She helped champion the LGBTQ community, the poor, homeless, addicts, women, children, mental health issues, job training, housing, education, people of sexual abuse, people of color, and the **Tenderloin area**.

She compassionately cared for and advocated for the suppressed!

Janice Mirikitani's JA heritage was interwoven into the fabric of her life and her art:

- 3rd generation Japanese-American
- 1942: Interned at Rohwer War Relocation Center, Arkansas
- Experiences of camp informed a lot of her poetry
- Participated in the Asian American Political Alliance
- Co-founded and edited *Aion* (regarded as the first Asian American literary publication) (1970); two Anthologies, *"Third World Women"* (1972) and *"Time to Greez! Incantations from the Third World"* (1975); Project Director for *"Ayumi: A Japanese American Anthology"* (1980).
- 2019: The Japanese Government gave her one of its highest awards at the residence of then Consul General Tomochika Uyama.
- In *"Shedding Silence: Poetry and Prose"*, *"It's poems and pieces by this San Francisco author which presents stunning images of urban life and of the internment experiences which affected her own and many other Japanese American families."* [Description from her book.]
- Advocate of Nihonmachi Street Fair, San Francisco
- Recently read a poem on hate crime and keeping the AAPI community safe

Tenderloin area, San Francisco: A high-crime neighborhood particularly with violent street crimes such as robbery and aggravated assault. It is a hotspot for drug dealers, a lot of homeless, underground tunnels, outcasts and outlaws. The atmosphere is changing now and going in a new direction for the better.

I feel Dr. Mirikitani and JACL had a lot of similar beliefs "embracing and protecting the human and civil rights of all people."

MEDICAL THOUGHT: Why am I so tired? *By Cindy Mine*

These examples can apply to anyone at any age.

These examples can be contributing factors at any time, but issues surrounding COVID can be a big contributing factor.

In the past 18 months, I have seen people looking really happy and less stressed (most of them are walkers exercising) or there's a lot of people more stressed and some asking me, "why am I so tired all the time?"

Some of these reasons you just don't think about, some you cannot change and some you need to STOP and identify why you are so tired and try to make some changes.

Of course you have the obvious reasons lack of sleep or major illnesses.

Then there are some of these possible reasons:

- Low blood pressure
- Low or high blood sugar
- Dehydration
- Side-effects of medications
- Pain
- Seasonal allergies
- Hot weather or are you dressed too warm

- Issues with your eyes: Do you need glasses? Do you need a prescription change? Are your eyes more tired being on the computer so much? Are they irritated by the recent fires or just itch or are dry due to allergies?
- Breathing issues, heart issues, urinary tract infections, thyroid, diabetes, anemic, vitamin deficiency
- Being chronologically gifted (up in age)
- Apnea
- Running around trying to do too many things, especially for others
- Some reasons could possibly be related to COVID (due to isolation, concern of you or your family catching COVID, financial stress, deaths of friends/relatives or yourself):
 - Depression
 - Boredom
 - Increased stress
 - Increase in substances (alcohol/medications/drugs)
 - Eating more, putting on too much weight

Some suggestions:

- People have delayed medical visits during COVID, get your tests done, doctor/dentist visits and especially blood tests.
- Get your eyes checked.
- Turn off the news or watch other programs other than the news all the time.
- Delegate some chores to others.
- Try and track if you are eating too much or eating the wrong foods, possibly too much salt or sugar, and make a change.
- Drink more water!
- Get some fresh air!
- Get out (of your 4 walls), be in a different environment.
- I hear one comment frequently: "I'm tired and all I do is sit and watch TV all day." (I know this person is up in age and has physical issues.) It would be helpful if they stretched their upper body and moved their feet around (while sitting) every couple of hours.
- I do see more people exercising by walking and bicycling, lately.
- Share or vent to someone (someone might be feeling the same way as you).
- Reach out to others, give to someone... via card, phone call, baking, make a mask for someone else, knit baby caps, etc.
- Have a Purpose!
- Laugh!

MIDORI KAI'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

ART'S & CRAFTS E-BOUTIQUE AND VIRTUAL SILENT AUCTION *Submitted by Pam Yoshida*

Midori Kai, Inc., a non-profit professional business women's organization, will celebrate their Annual Fundraiser Arts & Crafts E-Boutique and Virtual Silent Auction for 14 exciting days! This online event is from September 5-18, 2021 and will be accessed from a unique website: www.midorikaiboutique.com. This website can be accessed from September 5 at 8am until September 18 at 5pm.

The boutique has grown over the years and is the major fund raising event for Midori Kai. A main portion of the boutique's funds is directed towards 'going back to the community'. Organizations which are in keeping with Midori Kai's mission statement of: "participating in and generously giving back to local Asian communities, network and support one another in the business community, encourage, coach and mentor youth, celebrate

Asian Heritage and culture", are selected to receive a two-year grant. We congratulate the grant recipients for the 2020-2021 cycle: Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute, Japanese American Museum of San Jose, Nichi Bei Foundation and Suzume no Gakko.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2021

By Carol Kaneko and Jean Yamashita

Note: The Senior Center News in The Bridge is a condensed version of our monthly senior newsletter. Please visit the Senior Center website, kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com, to view the complete monthly Senior Center News with photos.

The Senior Center remains closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, but we are continuing our delivery of monthly treats to our seniors in/near the Watsonville area.

As you sat outside, basking in the idyllic Watsonville sunshine on a July 22nd summer afternoon, you thought "hmmmm ... wouldn't a pizza snack be perfect right now?" Then 'voila!' – your doorbell rang, and a smiling senior center volunteer presented you with a goodie bag that contained PIZZA! As you savored your Mountain Mike's mini pepperoni pizza, you discovered the other yummy treats in your goodie bag: pack of strawberry shortbread cookies (pizza and cookies from W-SC JACL Senior Center), clever 4th of July favor put together by **Eileen Byers**, delicious crunchy cucumbers from **Hideko Nagamine and Family**, and a little pack of cocoa dusted almonds from **Jean Yamashita**.

Hope everyone enjoyed a happy and safe 4th of July!

Our July birthday honorees were: **Connie Dimas, Nobue Fujii, Sunao Honda, Kumiko Nakatani, Mary Perez, Phil Shima, and Jean Yamashita**. Happy Birthday!

August was a joyous month as thirteen Seniors celebrated a birthday! **Bobby and Nancy Tamaki** wanted to do something special for the Seniors in memory of **Akira Kodama (Hisako Kodama's husband and Nancy's father)** who would have turned 100 on August 19th, so they generously donated delicious Miyuki lunch boxes (salmon teriyaki, tempura, rice, salad, and miso soup). **Eileen Byers** and **June Honda** also celebrated August birthdays so **Eileen** created charming 'I love baking' apron favors complete with intricately constructed baking utensils and filled with sweets provided by **Eileen and June**. **Nobue Fujii** kindly added yummy Jelly Fruit Snacks to the goodie bags, and the W-SC JACL Senior Center contributed the Milano cookies. Thank you so very much to our thoughtful donors! Hope everyone enjoyed the August 19th treats!

Happy Birthday to our August birthday honorees: **Eileen Byers, Liz Goodson, June Honda, Paul Kaneko, Kitty Mizuno, Yoshiko Nishihara, Shirley Nishimoto, Kazuko Sakai, George Stewart, Jo Ann Vear, Gail Wurtenberg, Sumiko Yamada, and Reiko Yamamoto**.

We are so grateful to our volunteers for all their help with packing and delivering our monthly treats: **Susan AmRhein, Sharon Bobo, Reba Condon, June Honda, Paul Kaneko, Gail Wurtenberg, and Jean Yamashita**. Many thanks! And special thanks to **Hisako Kodama** who generously gave each volunteer a bag of cucumbers and squash in appreciation for their efforts.

*Our Senior Center members were saddened to learn of the passing of **Mrs. Haruko Yoshii** on August 26th at the age of 104. **Mrs. Yoshii** always had a friendly smile for everyone and was a gracious and kind lady. She will be remembered with much fondness. The W-SC JACL Senior Center extends its deepest sympathies to the **Yoshii Family**.*

Monetary donations gratefully received in July and August from: **Phil Shima, Jean Yamashita, Nobue Fujii, Kim Tao, Judy Hane, Sunao Honda, Connie Dimas, Mary Perez, Shirley Nishimoto, Jo Ann Vear, June Honda, Yoshiko Nishihara, Eileen Byers, Paul Kaneko, Gail Wurtenberg, and Reiko Yamamoto**.

Special donations gratefully received in July and August from: **Toshi Yamashita** “in appreciation for the bentos”; **Chie Sakaue and Family** “in appreciation for your hard work”; **Bobby and Nancy Tamaki** in memory of **Akira Kodama** (100th birthday); **Shirley Nishimoto** for Senior Center’s 50th Anniversary; and **Riiko Yoshida** donation.

The W-SC JACL Senior Center is most appreciative of the many kind and generous donations we have received. Your generosity will enable us to continue our monthly outreach to our sheltered-in-place seniors. Arigatō!

For those who wish to donate during this time when the Senior Center is closed, please make out your checks to: “**W-SC JACL Senior Center**” and send them to **Carol Kaneko** at 1835 Silvana Ln, Santa Cruz, CA 95062. Thank you for your generous support of our Senior Center.

***Special Note:** Birthday and senior center anniversary donations are optional until the Senior Center can reopen again. Voluntary donations, however, are much appreciated.*

Again, please visit the Senior Center website, kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com, to view the complete July and August Senior Center News with photos in living color, as written and posted by Jean Yamashita. Thank you for your continued interest in and support of our Senior Center and its members.

WATSONVILLE BONSAI CLUB *By Charles Thompson*

The Watsonville Bonsai group meeting places will be as follows:

Meeting Places:	JACL Kizuka Hall 150 Blackburn Watsonville	Aladdin Nursery 2905 Freedom Blvd. Watsonville	Santa Cruz County Fair Watsonville
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Dates of meetings:

September 15-19:	Santa Cruz County Fair
25:	Aladdin Nursery at (1p.m.) Demo by Mike Nelson
26:	JACL Hall (1:30p)
October 9 & 23:	JACL Hall (1:30p)
November 13:	JACL Hall (1:30p)
22:	JACL Hall (6:30p) note time change
December 11:	JACL Hall (1:30p)

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO *By Bonnie Gihara*

We continue to hold on person classes at Kizuka Hall. We have added two classes on Friday mornings.

Classes

Fridays:	10:00-11:00am	Beginning adults
	11:15-12:30pm	Taiko to Health
	4:30-5:30pm	Beginning Children
	7:00-8:00pm	Beginning Adults

Saturdays:	9:00-10:00am	Taiko for Health
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Contact our business manager Kay Miyamoto at 831-475-1088 or email us at info@watsonvilletaiko.org for more class information. Please check our website for updates at watsonvilletaiko.org

We will not be holding our Annual Holiday Boutique and Raffle but will have the quilt raffle on Sunday November 7th. Raffle tickets and more info will be available from our business manager.

Our upcoming schedule-

Sept. 18th Walk to End Alzheimer’s, Seascape Beach



Ohigan

“How brazen and impudent a person I am. And, without a heart of truth or sincerity. But because the Name is transferred by Amida, its virtues pervades the ten directions.”

- Shinran Shonin

Once again we find ourselves in the month of September and the Fall Ohigan observance. Twice a year at the Spring and Fall Equinox we observe a unique Japanese Buddhist holiday. We are all very familiar with the term Ohigan which means the other shore of Enlightenment or the Pure Land. Ohigan is also called Sanbutsu-e 讃仏偈 a gathering to praise the Buddha.

We will often hear about the imagery of you and I standing on this shore of Samsara or the world of delusion and on the other shore Amida Buddha beckoning us to cross over. We have also heard that this observance is done in the Spring and Fall during the Equinox. It is a time when nature and the universe are in harmony. The sun rises directly from the East and sets directly in the West. The length of day and night are the same, and the weather is neither too hot nor too cold.

For us it marks a passage of seasons from the Summer to the Fall. It is the time when we see the trees change colors and plants and animals prepare for the winter months. Nature begins to go to sleep starting in September. It is said that this harmonious time of year is the perfect time to contemplate the six paramitas. Paramita literally means other shore and the six practices are the tools which one reaches the other shore of Enlightenment. They are: Dana, selfless sharing; Sila, correct behavior; Ksanti, patience; Virya, effort; Dhyana, meditation; and Prajna, wisdom.

As Jodoshinshu Buddhists our emphasis is on the virtues of Amida Buddha represented in the six paramitas. In other words Amida Buddha has perfected these Paramitas for us. This is the reason for the term Sanbutsu-e, a gathering to praise the Buddha. Why do we praise the Buddha? Because as Shinran points out in his poem above, the Name, namoamidabutsu reaches across the shore to you and I as we reside in Samsara.

The Buddha's concern for us is boundless and constant, like a parent for a child. We sometimes refer to the Buddha as Oyasama 親様 or Great Parent. Because of his/her concern for us she/he has completed the difficult practices of the six paramitas. Even when we resist, we are embraced by our great parent Amida Buddha.

Shinran uses the term “Sesshu Fusha” 攝取不捨 a term from the Meditation Sutra that means to be embraced and never abandoned. It means that all will be taken and none left behind. It can also mean one who resists and runs away is still embraced.

Have you ever seen a squirming young child held by its mother? No matter how much the child arches its back and wriggles twists and turns the mother securely holds the child. The child has no fear of falling because of the trust between parent and child. This is an example of the relationship between Amida Buddha and I. No matter how hard I try to escape or wriggle free, Amida holds on and embraces me with compassionate arms. Ohigan then is a time to praise the Buddha for the constant and deep compassion for you and I.

“The light emanating from Amida's features illuminates all the worlds in the ten quarters, takes in all beings, and never abandons them.”

Meditation Sutra

Gassho,
Reverend Hosei Shinseki

Here is Rev. Shinseki's article in the Religious section of the Pajaronian newspaper from the the July 2021 issue for you to enjoy reading.

Hard is to be born

“Hard is to be born into human life, now we are living it, difficult is it to hear the teachings of the Buddha, now we hear it. If we do not cross over to the Truth in the present life, in what life shall we cross over?” This quote is part of what Buddhists call the Threefold Refuge or the Three Treasures. It is part of a larger quote in which one takes the vow or takes refuge in the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha*. When one makes that vow they are considered Buddhist. In our tradition it is a simple

personal vow that one makes to continually listen and practice the Buddhist path. This is read at each service we hold at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple.

The opening sentence is so very important because it speaks to the wonder of life and the gift of our birth in this world. The Buddha once shared an analogy that emphasizes the words, “Hard is it to be born into human life.” He asks us to imagine a large sea turtle swimming in the vast and deep ocean. Once a year that turtle comes up out of the water and takes a deep breath of the air above. Floating on the ocean surface is a ring about 3’ in diameter. This turtle raises its head to take a breath and miraculously pokes his head through the ring. What are the odds of this occurring? This the Buddha said is the miracle of birth into human life.

The Buddha was pointing out to us how fortunate we are to be born in this world and the rarity and wonder of birth. Beyond that, he was also exclaiming how rare and wonderful to encounter the Truths that he taught during his lifetime. The Buddha emphasized the rarity of birth and its fragile nature as well. As we all know with birth comes eventual death. The stark reality has come to us in the form of COVID and its several mutated forms, killing millions across the planet. In truth death comes to us from a myriad of sources, not just COVID.

Life itself is a virus that will cause our eventual death. Knowing this all the more we must look at our birth with wonder, and spend the time we have on this earth wisely and compassionately. Embracing the truth of impermanence and interrelationships, truths the Buddha taught throughout his life. If we can see clearly the transient form of human life and understand that we cannot control the passing of young and old alike, we should look to our future life in what the Buddha called birth in the Pure Land. Taking in the Three Treasures into our life is the first step toward the Pure Land and Enlightenment.

*Buddha: Historical Buddha Shakyamuni who showed human being can reach Enlightenment;
Dharma: Teachings of the Buddha;
Sangha: Followers of Buddhism.

Gassho,
Rev. Hosei Shinseki

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

OHIGAN Guest Speaker: REV. KO'E A. UMEZU on **Sunday, Sept. 19am at 10am** (log on early) Assistant Minister & Community Outreach Coordinator, West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple

Special ZOOM link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87670512869?pwd=Z1NYMXBUdHM4Y0I2Ny9PbzZHRXZwUT09>

Rev. Ko'e A. Umezu (pronouns she/her/hers) has been the part-time assistant minister and community outreach coordinator of the West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple since August 2020. She received her first level ordination in July 2019 from the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha tradition in Kyoto, Japan. Rev. Ko'e is currently enrolled in the Institute of Buddhist Studies in the Masters of Arts in Buddhist Studies program. Since shelter-in-place has started, she has discovered that she also enjoys baking desserts to share with friends and relatives.

Sun., Oct. 24, 2021 - (Virtual via Zoom)

Coast District Nembutsu Family Conference

10:00 am to 1:00 pm; Registration deadline - Oct. 10, 2021

THEME: KANSHA (Gratitude)

Welcome Message: Bishop Marvin Harada

Guest Speaker: Rev. Harry Bridge, Oakland Buddhist Temple

Hosted by Watsonville Buddhist Temple

(Please see flyer on next page for registration information.)



Wanted: Mochi Grinding Machine

Do you have a working Mochi Grinding Machine that is collecting dust and needs a home?

*The Temple is looking for a Mochi Grinding Machine that could possibly be used at our Mochi Tsuki.
If you would like to donate your machine, please contact the Temple Office 831.724.7860 buddhist@wbtemple.org*

Tentative Schedule of September & October 2021 Events

[Schedule of events will be re-evaluated based on the current status of COVID-19]

Sun., Sept. 19	CD Joint Sponsored Ohigan Service via Zoom @ 10am (log in in early) Guest Speaker: Rev. Ko'e Umezu, West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87670512869?pwd=Z1NYMXBUdHM4Y0l2Ny9PbzZHRXZwUT09
Sun., Sept. 26	Sunday Service @ 10am (Live Stream)
Sun., Oct. 3, 2021	Sunday/Shotsuki Hoyo/ BWA Memorial Service (Eshinni & Kakushin Memorial) @ 10am (Live Stream)
Tues., Oct. 5, 2021	Temple Board (Zoom) Meeting @ 7pm
Sun., Oct. 10, 2021	Sunday Service @ 10am (Live Stream)
Sun., Oct. 17, 2021	Sunday Service @ 10am (Live Stream)
Sun., Oct. 24, 2021	Nembutsu Family Conference 10a-1p (Zoom) - Must be registered in advance
Sun., Oct. 31, 2021	Sunday Service @ 10am (Live Stream)

Watsonville Buddhist Temple

Temple Office Telephone (831) 724-7860

Temple Office is temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. By Appointment only.

Email: buddhist@wbtemple.org **Website:** www.wbtemple.org

WESTVIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHIMES



You are the light of the world!

“Don’t wait for the light at the end of the tunnel, instead light that tunnel up right where you are!”

A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”-Jesus (Matthew 5:14-16)

We are seeing a rise in COVID cases again and we are all acutely aware that we are not out of the woods yet with this pandemic. However, the point is simple. Social distancing is necessary. Relational distancing is not. Let’s seize the opportunity to check on our neighbors. Let’s build a relational bridge when the virus wants to create a social moat. During the COVID pandemic, we feel the separation, but we still can stick together. Let us shine as Christians!

Care for the Vulnerable* As Christians we are called to sacrificially care for the vulnerable because, as scripture reminds us, Christ first loved us and died for us that we might be forgiven and claimed by God as God’s children. He came and walked on this earth caring for the least, healing the sick, welcoming the outcast. We love others because we understand just how much God has done for us and how he then calls us to live in the light of that love. That is what Christians were known for centuries ago - caring for others. That’s not always been the case, but it has often been.

You see, this message of caring for others is laced throughout scripture and central to the very fabric of the Christian faith. In the Bible, we find commandments like “bearing one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2) or the story of the Good Samaritan caring for the man on the side of the road. For the Christian, how well we sacrificially and joyfully serve the vulnerable is one of the greatest indicators of how deeply we have understood what Christ has done for us. At a time of partisanship and politicization, the gospel gives us only one condition: serve the hurting.

In one famous example, the church historian Eusebius describes a fourth century epidemic that swept through the Roman Empire. Far from fleeing the cities or shutting off their homes from others, Eusebius records that “all day long [Christians] tended to the dying and to the burial, countless numbers with no one to care for them. Others gather together from all parts of the city a multitude of those withered from famine and distributed bread to them all.” As a result, Eusebius concludes, “[the Christians’] deeds were on everyone’s lips, and they glorified the god of the Christians.”

I am grateful for all the ways you as the Westview family and as individuals serve the hurting - be it those without homes through the SonRise Kitchen, or neighbors, or schoolchildren, or friends and family.

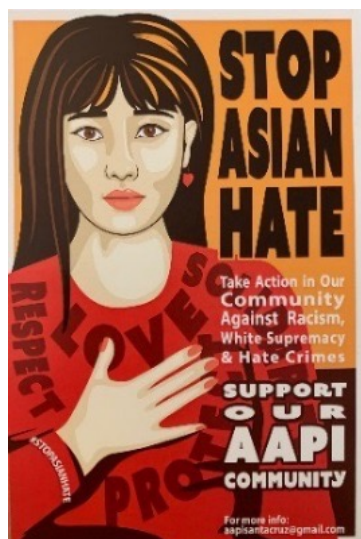
I heard a saying recently, “Don’t wait for the light at the end of the tunnel, instead light that tunnel up right where you are!”

“You are the light of the world!” declares Jesus to us! –referring to his Spirit, the Holy Spirit, who shines through us guiding us to LOVE! Let us be so connected to God and the light of God’s love, that we SHINE!

* Some parts based on an article from: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2020/03/19/during-pandemic-cornavirus-christians-act-as-jesus-taught-column/5055427002/>

Much love,
Pastor Dan

Stop Asian Hate Poster



A new group, Asian Americans in the Santa Cruz Area, made up these posters (shown at left - also made stickers and post cards) created by the artist, Janet Allinger.

Signs about stop Asian hate have been popping up around town. In response to the signs, Mas Hashimoto shared how it brought up a childhood memory in Watsonville...

“I remember walking up (north from Japantown) on Main Street in Watsonville in late 1945 to see those ‘No Japs’ signs in the stores, barbershops, et al. I was 10 years old.

The military draft was still on and many from Hawaii took their basic training at Fort Ord. When they came to Watsonville they marched downtown and went into the stores to rip apart those ‘No Japs’ signs. We were grateful.”

As followers of Christ let us continue to BE LOVE to all peoples, proclaiming the dignity and beauty of all. Amen!

Contact Shizue Shikuma if you would like a poster to put up at home or business.

Update on In-Person Worship

It will be a wonderful celebration when we finally are able to be together again and have in-person worship! Thank you for your patience born out of love for the most vulnerable among us. Our leadership team (Session) is being extra cautious and prayerful in order to save lives. We have been waiting to open in-person worship for 2 reasons. One, for all our members to be vaccinated and two, waiting to see how the threat of the different COVID variants unfolds while society opens up again. Session met again in late August to discuss possible in-person worship. In the meantime, we are having good attendance at our Zoom worship services. When we do start in-person services we will continue to have online worship available as well via Zoom or some other format. See you soon, we hope!

**** If you are in need of any assistance during this time please do not hesitate to call Westview at (831) 724-6222 and leave a message. Someone will call you back as soon as possible. ****

Live Worship Services every Sunday at 10 am via Zoom until it is safe to gather again.

Some churches have opened up again for services, but the CDC has encouraged churches with a high number of seniors to continue with online services, so we will continue online until it is safe.

The best place to get up-to-date information will be the Westview website, www.westviewpc.org.

If you would like to **watch/participate in the Zoom Live Worship Services as it happens at 10 am on Sunday please send Westview an email at westviewpc@gmail.com** so that your name/email address can be added/accepted to our Zoom live recordings and you can receive an automatic email reminding you of our upcoming live services.

Wednesday Zoom Scripture Reflection & Mid-Week Check-In

Wednesdays at 4 pm. The link is emailed out weekly. Please send Westview an email at westviewpc@gmail.com if you would like to automatically be sent a link/reminder on a weekly basis about our Wednesday Mid-Week Check-Ins.

VBS

Westview participated in a joint Vacation Bible School (VBS) with Lutheran Community Church and First United Methodist July 5-9, 2021 at the Methodist Church. **Thank you Midge, Polly, Jolly and Barbara** (photo at right) for all your help! It was a delight to see them all in their element caring for those children! They have done many a VBS and shine with God's love for those precious children!



Sew Fun Sewing Circle

Tuesdays, 9:30-12:30 in the **dining room** at **Westview beginning Sept 7th**. Led by Rachel Clark and Peg Pierce - quilting, clothing construction, fabric and color selection, tote bags, quilted postcards, and more! Join us!



A Nice Relaxing Evening Listening to Michael Gaither

On August 27, 2021 a group of members and friends of Westview gathered at El Vaquero Winery in Corralitos to watch our Michael Gaither play his guitar and perform songs (right and left photos). It was a perfect setting to reconnect with one another.



SonRise Kitchen Update

The SonRise Kitchen, under the gracious leadership of Margo Loehr, continues to pull more people in to be a blessing! Special needs students from Cabrillo now come on Friday mornings helping with chopping, packaging and preparing food (photos at right - Cabrillo students helping to prepare food). They appreciate the meaningful work and we appreciate their diligent smiling spirits.

We want to give a big THANK YOU to two of our new regular volunteers - Sabrina & Noemi. And with the help of Noemi, Iglesia de Cristo has been helping serve and prepare food as well.

The kitchen at Westview is functional and we have been serving breakfast 5 days/week at the Plaza Park in Watsonville. Those that we serve greatly appreciate it! Thank you to all our volunteers!



We still need about \$21,500 to make the kitchen permitted by the county. We welcome your donations to help us make our kitchen permitted by the county and call if you want to volunteer as we shine Christ's light caring for those who need much encouragement. As a fundraiser we are selling the antique spindle back wooden chairs (pre 1926) in the attic on EBAY. If you know anyone who would like to buy some let Margo or Dan know.

Sunday Message Series: "In the Image of God-the gift of our emotions" based on the work of **Groves & Smith** in their book, **Untangling Emotions**. Understanding our emotions and how they relate to God can help us in so many ways to make it through life experiencing abundant meaning and joy!

SMALL IN SPACE, BUT BIG IN HEART! INTERVIEW OF MARCELINO BAYUGA, JR. *By Cindy Mine*

Who is Marcelino Bayuga, Jr.? He is someone who people call "Junior" and is the owner of HBJ Oriental Store and Food to Go since 2013 after the last owner retired. He was born in Quezon City, Philippines and has lived in Watsonville since 1989. Married for 25 years and they have 3 adult children (two in college and one college graduate).

Keeping with the original name of the store "Oriental Store", Junior wanted to add a personal touch, therefore he added HBJ (Initials of his children... Heather, Brenden and Jasmine). It is a representation of how he wants the store to be presented as a family owned business. Currently the adult children help out at the store when their study time permits.

Junior was a driver for a private delivery company which is very different from being a store owner. Through connections and great relationships with people in the community, it has helped him to become a better business owner.

The store is full of Asian products, mainly Filipino. Junior feels that in the Asian culture, food represents a family coming together to enjoy a meal. We value spending time with our loved ones and food allows us to do just that. We try and serve our customers like family with our genuine hospitality.

In the past, the store has carried a few Japanese products. The new focus is to have a Japanese product section. Junior is open to any suggestions of Japanese products... He picks up fresh tofu and fresh produce from San Francisco, usually on Saturday.

Junior: "We are also looking for popular Japanese products that are highly sought after to integrate into our selection. I can order and receive from the Distributor once a month."

Cindy: "How can the Community help you?"

Junior: "The community can help me by providing support by stopping by the store or even just by spreading the word about what we offer to their family and friends. We appreciate every single customer that has been entering our door throughout the years and we look forward to meeting new customers in the future!"



Junior, Cindy, Lina

A few Japanese products:

- seaweed - mochiko - mirin - dried anchovy (iriko) - Panko - soba - ajimoto
- sesame oil - takuwan - rice vinegar - green tea - senbei
- fresh tofu - sato imo - Japanese sweet potato - daikon - ginger - okra
- Japanese eggplant - bok choy

Hopefully coming soon: udon, mirin, miso salad dressing, miso, rice

Editors note: I have been shopping at this Mom and Pop store since it opened, mostly to buy my lumpia skins and enjoying their hot, homemade lumpia's and pansit (noodles). Since the closing of Yamashita's, more and more of our Japanese community have been discovering this store. This is what motivated me to share the history and heart of the Oriental Store. It gives people another option to shop for Japanese food. Even though Junior has many long time Japanese friends who are very supportive of his store which he is grateful for, he is not familiar with Japanese food products. However, he is open to any suggestions of Japanese products. I am assuming, even with your suggestions... it will be a work in progress and may take months to carry just the right products. If you have suggestions, it would be helpful to them if you bring information on the company who makes it, and the size/amount of the product. (A picture would be great!) Come meet Junior and Lina!



HBJ Oriental Store and Food to Go
205 East Lake Avenue (Entrance is on Sudden Street)



2021 JACL NATIONAL CONVENTION *By Jeanette Hager*

The 2021 National JACL Convention's was held virtually July 15-18, 2021. The theme of this year's convention, "Communities Forged Under Fire," represented the focus of this year's gathering on how communities that have endured injustices, tragedies, and marginalization have been strengthened and inspired to fight against social injustices and ensure the civil rights of all individuals in every community. Our JA community continues to work against injustices as individuals, through each Chapter in their geographical region, as well as a whole through the National organization. This was voiced by passage of two resolutions continuing commitment of the JACL to work towards supporting communities whose civil rights, liberty and well-being are denied; to be actively anti-racist in its own actions and policies; and to work towards supporting passage of legislation to denounce racial discrimination and that ensures justice for all. In addition, JACL affirmed the need for mandatory ethnic studies curriculum in K-12 education.

The National Council of chapters also passed the 2021-22 Biennial Budget. This budget will provide for continued work in the following programs:

Anti-hate: Engagement in advocacy for hate crime legislation and policy, working with law enforcement and judiciary representatives, and supporting community efforts to combat hate crimes and incidents. See the jacl.org website for more information on the Anti-Hate program and for resources.

DC Leadership Summit: Program to bring JACL members to Washington, DC to learn about the advocacy work JACL does in collaboration with similar groups. Participants gain hands on training in preparation for and attending meetings with members of congress. They have the opportunity to hear directly from members of congress, their staff and representatives from the current administration.

Education: The core of JACL's mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry through the lens of our history as Japanese Americans. JACL is committed to ensuring the continued introduction of our story to new audiences who are not familiar with the story of WWII incarceration through teacher trainings, curriculum development and promotion, the Power of Words handbook, and advocacy to ensure Japanese and Asian American stories are taught in schools from the elementary to the collegiate level.

Kakehashi: Sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Kakehashi program is a cross-cultural bridge building program to foster relations between the United States and Japan. With this program, JACL focuses on bridging Japanese American college students and young adults with their country of ancestry. The program features a nine day trip to Japan with all travel expenses paid for by the Japanese government.

Social Justice: Activities undertaken in support of JACL's broad mission to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and other marginalized groups and includes activities done in partnership with other coalition groups such as the Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium, Tsuru for Solidarity, National Council of Asian Pacific Americans, and the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

At the convention, the JACL announced the launch of its National Centennial Education Fund to solidify its position as the leading Asian American voice telling the story of the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II and to secure its future such that the lessons from this tragic chapter of U.S. history will always be remembered. This is a three-year education-focused campaign. The proceeds of these funds are to ensure continued funding for:

- Teacher training workshops
- Curriculum Guide
- The Power of Words handbook
- Documentary film(s)
- Educational initiatives

For more information, see the National website at: www.jacl.org

Thank you to:

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See you next in November

WATSONVILLE - SANTA CRUZ JACL MEMBERSHIP FORM

We would be honored to have you and your family members join our W-SC JACL Chapter. Please consider giving "gift" memberships to members of your family.

With membership, a digital *Pacific Citizen* is included with email address. Subscription for a printed copy of the *Pacific Citizen* (PC) is an additional surcharge of \$17 a year, payable to National JACL, 1765 Sutter St, San Francisco, CA 94115.

Individual Membership:

_____ \$85 Includes National JACL annual dues, Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter dues, and our newsletter.

Family/Couples:

_____ \$155 Includes two National JACL annual dues, Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter dues, and our newsletters. It also includes all children under the age of 14. Youth/Student:

Youth/Student:

_____ \$30 For each youth/student ages 14 to 24, includes National JACL annual dues, W-SC JACL youth/student membership, and a digital *Pacific Citizen*. **Youth membership is required for scholarship eligibility.**

For **Thousand Club Life** (\$3,000), **Century Club Life** (\$5,000), and **Millennium Club** (\$1,000 each year) and additional membership categories, please contact the National JACL at jacl.org.

Name: _____

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

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
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Home phone: _____ (_____) _____ Email: _____

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

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Please send your tax-deductible check payable to Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and mail to:

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, Membership Chair, PO Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077

We truly appreciate your support. Check out our websites: watsonvillesantacruzjacl.com and jacl.org