TRADITION! TRADITION!

Editor

"Tradition! Tradition!" I "sang and danced" (if one can call it that) to a class of 7th graders at Temple Beth El in Aptos on Wed., Nov. 16th, 2016, thanks to the invitation of their teacher, Scott Sandler. Of course, the students were startled. So were Scott and the parents of the students.

Why begin my presentation on the wartime incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans during WW II with the theme song from "Fiddler on the Roof"? It’s nice you should ask. As the good book says ....

The 1905 Russian village of Anatevka, with its small Jewish population and larger Russian Orthodox congregation, was very much like Watsonville, with its small Nikkei community. Both villagers were poor, hard-working, faithful, and traditional. Both were subjected to discriminatory laws, kept to themselves, didn’t bother anyone, and had only a few friends.

Watsonville’s Nihonmachi (Japantown) had City Police Chief Matt Graves as one of our friends. The police station at 231 Union Street (now, our city’s Parks and Recreation Office) was on the northern boundary of Nihonmachi.

In the musical, Tevye and Golda were married on the first day they met. My father, age 37, and mother (a “picture bride” at 21) were married on the first day they met in January of 1914 when she got off the boat from Angel Island.

Tevye and Golda had five daughters. My parents had seven sons (I’m the seventh).

At traditional Japanese Buddhist weddings, there was a reserved place of honor for the baishakunin—the matchmaker. Our families chose a mutual friend to serve as our baishakunin at our wedding in 1970. Yes, “Matchmaker, matchmaker … make me a match, catch me a catch …. ”

Today, the matchmaker may be Mr. or Ms. “Online.”

And, we both experienced the eviction from our homes by the government. In our case by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s Executive Order 9066.

The similarities do not end there. Prior to and during WW II, millions of European Jews were sent to concentration camps. We were sent to concentration camps, too. Theirs were death camps; ours were not.

The men of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion (part of the 100th/442nd RCT) who liberated a Dachau Holocaust camp in April of 1945 had their families in concentration camps back home in America.

After WW II, both our communities had to start all over again. For many of our elderly Issei, the task was hopeless.

We are grateful to the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League, both of whom, from early on, supported our redress and reparations which came to fruition with the Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988.

Now, in my old age, I think of the musical’s beautiful song, “Sunrise, sunset, sunrise, sunset — swiftly fly the years, one season following another, laden with happiness and tears.”

I am grateful to all involved in the 1964 musical on Broadway and the 1971 film: book by Joseph Stein, music by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, producer and director Norman Jewison.

I am grateful, too, to the wonderful students, their parents, and Scott Sandler of Temple Beth El in Aptos.

Next month, I’ll be speaking to Catholic students at Notre Dame Girls’ High School in Salinas. Wonder if there’s something from “The Sound of Music” I could use. Do you have any suggestion?

The political campaigning is over and with traditions ever changing, our future lives now are as shaky as a “Fiddler on the Roof.”
"THE ELECTION IS RIGGED!" WHY THE SURPRISE? IT'S ALWAYS BEEN RIGGED!

The election, designed by our "founding fathers" (why aren't there "founding mothers"?), was purposely rigged. They believed the populace--only the men--easily could be misled and should have little to do as possible with governing, which included the major responsibility of voting. Where's the democracy in that?

During the summer, from May to September of 1787, the wealthy, aristocratic delegates of the "Constitutional Convention" were instructed to revise the Article of Confederation, our second official form of government. Not invited to Philadelphia were the "commoners"--small shop keepers, artisans, poor farmers, laborers, slaves, and indentured servants. They couldn't afford to stay away from their livelihood for five months. The slave holders and wealthy entrepreneurs, of course, could.

The delegates exceeded their authority by writing an entirely new form of government. By that reasoning the Constitution of the United States is an illegal document. They argued Articles of Confederation was too weak a government with 13 states acting independently, signing treaties with foreign countries, etc.

But, why, then, invent an "electoral college" for choosing a President? The ordinary commoners were to be removed far away from the administration of government. They were permitted, however, to vote for "electors," members of the established aristocracy. These "electors" then would select one from their own high society to be President.

I explained our "electoral college" system to students from foreign countries, telling them there are two elections—one for "electors" in November and then the "electors" in their respective states would vote in another election for President and Vice President on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December (the 19th). The candidate with a majority of the people's vote may not win. The students would shake their heads in disbelief and, then, snicker.

If you've never been an "elector," then you've never voted for the Presidency. You voted for "electors" whose names are not even on the ballot! Ye gads! You've voted for people you never heard of.

And, if no one receives a majority of 270, then the selection goes to the members of the House of Representatives from among the top three. For Vice President, it'll go to the Senate from the top two candidates.

Donald Trump is a "minority President," meaning the majority of the voters didn’t want him as President.

What is needed, of course, is a constitutional amendment abolishing the entire "electoral college" system. Some crafty politicians have suggested that a "reform" or "revision" of the "electoral college" is needed. No! Reject that idea! New paint on a rusty, junky car will not make the car run any better or safer.

In keeping with the original philosophy, United States Senators were once selected, not by the people, but by each state legislature, many which were controlled by the money interests of the state. The corrupt Senate became a millionaires' club. The 17th Amendment (1913) took away that power from the state legislatures and gave the responsibility to the citizens of the state.

One must not use the word "democracy" while describing the government of the United States of America, for it is a republic ... as in "the republic for which it stands."

Also, keep in mind the emphasis has never been of the people but with the "States," which today are not "united."

Of the 50 states, there are 11 states with one-half of the population. The larger states have 22 Senators, and the small states have 78. Where's the democracy?

Was the election rigged? What do you think?

Embracing Our Values as We Keep Bending the Arc

Our country's new President-elect campaigned on values antithetical to the ideals that our firm was founded on more than 40 years ago.

Although we have yet to learn about the new administration's actual plans, we are already seeing the impact of Trump's political rhetoric: a drastic increase in acts of hate, racism, intolerance, and xenophobia.

Now more than ever, all of us at Minami Tamaki LLP will continue embracing our firm's foundation and legacy of fairness, equality, and community.

Our firm is deeply rooted in fighting for justice. From our successful efforts to vindicate Fred Korematsu, to our representation of workers discriminated by Abercrombie & Fitch; from representing the California State Bar in allowing Sergio Garcia to become an attorney, to our successful class action on behalf of women against sexual harassment in the U.S. Forest Service – we have always believed in using the law as a force for good.

We remain committed to vigorously representing our clients in our immigration, consumer and employee rights, corporate and nonprofit, and personal injury practices. We value and honor the trust that our clients put in us, and will work tirelessly on their behalf.

Sometimes the moral arc of the universe needs help bending towards justice.

Count us in.

Dale Minami and Don Tamaki and the firm, MINAMI TAMAKI LLP

JACL'S STATEMENT ON THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT DONALD TRUMP

By Bill Yoshino, JACL Interim Executive Director

JACL fully understands the protests of despair that have arisen in the aftermath of the election of Donald Trump as president. We especially understand the voices that denounce the unabashed racism that was evident during the campaign, and we add our voice to that denunciation.

At the beginning of the presidential campaign, JACL denounced the coarsening of public discourse especially in its portrayal of groups, which served to reinforce myths and stereotypes leaving an impression that to be different by race, ethnicity, or religion was anathema to being American.

We recalled the early 1990s when Japanese Americans and Asian Pacific Islander Americans were targeted and became unwilling victims during an economic downturn when "Japan-bashing" in reaction to a strengthening economy in Japan became a rallying cry from politicians seeking simple solutions to deeply rooted problems.

...
The campaign season began with attacks against political correctness and devolved into full-throated expressions of racism. We know when groups are singled out and targeted that it tears at the social fabric by making them feel vulnerable, fearful, and suspicious of others. Respect for diversity has always served to strengthen America and despite the deep divisions caused during the recent election cycle, we must now continue to defend this unique American value and adamantly reject attempts to further undermine it.

Moreover, during the past year, JACL had been involved in civic engagement efforts to encourage members of our community to register and to vote. Voting is a cherished right that Japanese Americans do not take lightly because we recall how our immigrant Issei generation was denied this right by being denied the opportunity to become citizens during the first fifty years after their arrival in the United States. While we applaud participation in the electoral process, we must now turn our attention to the need for vigilance and response to once again combat the forces of racism that have been emboldened during the campaign.

President-elect Trump now calls for unity, a message that was too long in coming. It is, however, the right message we all must now turn into actions that will address the daunting challenges we now face.

A RESPONSE by Sandy Lydon

Mr. Yoshino: Very nice review and ending on a hopeful note! Great stuff!

Ever since Tuesday night, I've heard stories of Mexican, Syrian, Muslims, et al who sat around their television sets, their fears escalating as the evening wore on. "What should we do?" they asked each other. "What's going to happen to us?"

I am reminded of the stories that I heard in interviews over and over from Japanese and Japanese-Americans whom I interviewed and the similar conversations that were held around kitchen tables on the evening of Dec. 7, 1941. "What's going to happen to us?" And the reassurances of the Nisei who had studied their US Constitutions in high school and at university, "It's going to be alright." We know what happened.

This time IS different because there are so many more of us outside the targeted communities who are ready to hold up and shake the Constitution and shout: "Not this time!"

The JACL must be at the forefront. If there was ever an opportunity for the JACL to harness the frustration and hopelessness loose upon the land, it's now! There is no organization more qualified to describe what happens when the Constitution is ignored. This election has provided this remarkable organization with an opportunity to defend that precious document that failed us all (yes, ALL) in 1942. No more quibbling and parsing about supporting this organization or that cause. It is time to come together. It's about the Constitution. If not now, when? Make JACL great again!

(Mr.) Sandy Lydon, Historian Emeritus
Cabrillo College, Aptos
Member, San Benito County JACL, and
Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL.
On the web: www.sandylydon.com

The National Japanese American Historical Society of San Francisco once again organized this wonderful program, which was held outdoors with Nisei veterans seated in places of honor in the front, surrounded by family and friends.

The memorable and very informative ceremony included:
The National Anthem—led by Boy Scouts, Troop 12
Presentation of the Colors: Master Sergeant Stan Kamiya (Ret); NCOIC, U.S. Army Color Guard
Welcome: Mistress of Ceremony Jana Katsuyama, KTVU Fox 2
Invocation: Chaplain Madeline Nobori Tom
Introduction of the Veterans
Welcoming Remarks: Stephen A. Haller, Chief of Cultural Resources; GGNRA/National Park Service
Jean Fraser, Chief Executive Officer; The Presidio Trust
Remarks: Hon. Jun Yamada, Consul General of Japan
Address: DLIFLC Commandant Col. Phil Deppert
Keynote: Dr. James McNaughton, U.S. Army Center for Military History
Remarks: Lawson Sakai, 442 RCT, Representing All Veterans
Retire Colors: NCOIC, U.S. Army Color Guard

Two old friends: Korean War MIS Iwao Yamashita, 24th Division and 100th/442nd RCT Sam Sakamoto, and both are WSC JACLers.
Our honored Nisei veterans.

DLIFLC Commandant Col. Phil Deppert of the Presidio of Monterey gave the major address, praising the history and contributions of the MIS veterans.

At the podium, Lawson Sakai (right) of the 100th/442nd RCT, spoke on behalf of all the Nisei veterans.

Seated (from left): Consul General Jun Yamada of Japan presented each veteran a Certificate of Recognition.

Keynote Speaker was historian Dr. James McNaught, U.S. Army Center for Military History.

Jean Fraser, Chief Executive Officer; spoke on behalf of The Presidio Trust.

Stephen A. Haller, Chief of Cultural Resources explained the role the GGNRA/National Park Service plays.

Chaplain Madeline Nobori Tom gave the Invocation.

Throughout the day, the MIS Historic Learning Center was open to the public with docent tours, film screening, and exhibits which were enjoyed by many of the guests. www.njahas@njahs.org.

The first group of Kibei and Nisei lived, taught, and learned at this building from 08:00 to 16:30 and 19:00 to 21:00 pm. Basic courses included reading and Japanese-to-English translation, English-to-Japanese translation, Kanji and dictation, oral Japanese expression, civil and military interpretation, colloquial Japanese grammar and advanced technical courses – translating the official Japanese Army manual and applied statistics.

In February 1942, while Kibei, Nisei and Caucasian teachers increased their program, General John L. DeWitt, headquartered at the Presidio, reported to President Franklin Roosevelt that no sabotage by Japanese Americans had yet been confirmed, but commented that it only proved “a disturbing and confirming indication that such action will be taken.” He recommended the evacuation of all Japanese from the coastal areas of California, Oregon, and Washington State. Using Executive Order 9066, DeWitt then began implementing a plan for classifying, rounding up, and removal of “undesirables.”

IN REMEMBRANCE ….

Masuo “Mas” Tsuda

Masuo “Mas” Tsuda of Grass Valley, CA passed away quietly at his home on November 6, 2016, after a long and active life. He was 92. He was born in Watsonville, attended local schools, and was incarcerated in Poston, AZ during WW II.

From “camp,” Mas volunteered to serve with the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team during WW II in Italy and France. He received the Purple Heart, Congressional Gold Medal, and was awarded the French Legion of Honor in 2015. He is shown here with the medal which was presented by the French Consul General of SF, Pauline Carmona.
After the war, he had his own business in San Mateo and became a life member of the California Landscape Contractors Association for which he was a past president of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter.

The Boy Scouts of America awarded him the Silver Beaver. After retirement, he volunteered with the Empire Mine Historical Park on construction projects.

He was a member of the **Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans** and attended many of its functions, including this one with **Lawson Sakai** at Roberts Park in the hills above Oakland, CA.

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**SPECIAL TO THE W-SC JACL FROM GARY MAYEDA, NATIONAL JACL PRESIDENT**

**Membership Dues Increase – Not until 2018**

At convention, a small, dedicated group was creative with solutions to the proposed budget that would have otherwise eliminated two JACL staffers. One solution included a dues increase starting in 2018. The last time membership dues increased was in 2010. The increase will be decided by the collective National Board after analyzing our needs and costs. [Editor’s note: Presently, National’s annual dues for individuals is $60 ($5 a month) and for couples/family is $110. Youth/Student dues are $25. Our W-SC JACL adds $20 to adult memberships to help maintain the W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall and to publish our monthly newsletter.]

**Pacific Citizen (PC) Hardcopy and its cost**

Last year, postcards were sent out to the membership by the National JACL asking who wants a hard copy of the **PC**. A total of 3,220 people responded yes (that was 59% of the members). Proponents of Resolution #2 (increase subscription to the **PC**) did the math and the estimates to save the two JACL positions amounted to $17 extra per year to start on January 2017. The implementation of that is a bit more complicated because the list to generate the mailing labels is created by headquarters, sent directly to the printers. Then the printers mail out the **PC**. We will have to create new processes on how to charge, account for and collect the surcharges. At the same time, we are striving to improve the digital version of the **Pacific Citizen** by adding color and in the future, add active web links for a more interactive digital version. A staff of 4 produces the newspaper.

**National JACL’s mission and goals for 2017**

**Financial Oversight Committee** – Secretary Treasurer **Alan Nishi** of French Camp chapter and I are developing the charge for this committee with specific goals that will include more than just finances. Financial management must also include a good program and infrastructure management. Any sound fiscal decisions must include sound business decision making abilities. Alan will chair the committee. [Editor’s note: this committee was advocated by W-SC JACL’s treasurer, **Victor Kimura**.]

**Civil Rights and Hate Crimes** – The last version of our **Hate Crimes** brochure was produced in 2003. It is outdated but its needs have never been greater. Since the presidential elections, there has been an uptick in bullying and aggressions motivated by prejudice of ethnicity, sexual orientation or religion. Advisor to the Trump transition team, **Carl Higbie**, has even suggested a national registry for immigrants from Muslim countries and citing the Japanese American incarceration as “precedent”. It’s been almost 75 years since E.O. 9066 and in 2016, are we seeing race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership? We hope not. This is why we need JACL more than ever now.
We have already seen an increase in membership since the elections and many are citing the election results as reasons for joining. Here is one quote from a new member:

“I thought that the social norms had changed, that as a society we were more accepting of the differences in our friends and neighbors. But in this election year I am learning otherwise. I am even reading in the news that the internment camps from WW II are being used as precedent for registering Muslims and putting them in camps. What was shameful in 1942 is still shameful today. Please allow me to stand with you in the battle for social equality.”

Executive Director Search – The Personnel Committee has made a recommendation to the National Board and a meeting is set in December to review the recommendation. We hope to have an announcement by the end of the year for everyone.

Civic Engagement – The next few years will be important for the entire JACL to stay engaged with public policy and to continue to share our cultural accomplishments, educate the public about the importance of civil rights and equality for all. Personally, I have grown to know more and more people across the JACL national and am able to connect people all over. In the next month, I am planning on holding a national conference call to help organize and coordinate our efforts on addressing the growing intolerance of prejudice as seen in the newspapers and social media. JACL must play a key role to help those in need.

Sincerely,
Gary Mayeda
National President
Japanese American Citizens League
gmayeda@jacl.org
www.jacl.org

WATSONVILLE TAiko AND SHINSEI DAIKO
By Bonnie Chihara

We would like to thank everyone who came and supported us at our annual Holiday Boutique and Raffle. Thanks to all of you we had another successful fundraiser.

Special thanks to Cindy Mine for her help in posting flyers and set up help, Carol Kaneko for her donations of beautiful succulent gardens, Christine Bowes for her succulent cuttings basket, the Watsonville Buddhist Temple for use of their sign posts, JACL Senior Center’s members for purchasing our gifts baskets, and the W-SC JACL for use of the hall. Is there anyone I forgot? Thank you everyone! We couldn’t do it without your help.

The winner of the first prize indigo quilt was Arun N. The second prize Pokemon quilt went to our former business manager Taeko D’Andrea, third prize Annieglass pastry platter went to Mary Lew, and fourth prize Chardonnay II cruise on the Monterey Bay for two went to Micky Miyamoto. Congratulations!

We spent the following Sunday playing taiko with Shinsho Mugen Daiko at the Big Sur Half Marathon. We enjoyed playing for the many runners and walkers that morning. The weather was perfect and the scenery picturesque with crashing waves and sea gulls flying overhead.

For more information on our upcoming performances or classes please contact Kay at (831) 475 1088 or email us at info@watsonvilletaiko.org

Our upcoming 2016 schedule:
Dec. 4th- Multicultural Celebration, Watsonville Plaza

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Jo Ann Vear

– Two celebrations this month: Halloween and Thanksgiving. What a lucky and busy month we had.

The Halloween festivities were celebrated on October 27 with a relatively small crowd due to a rainy day. For folks who braved the cold, wet weather, they were greeted by delightful Halloween decorations and enjoyed assorted sweet treats (cleverly created by Helen Nakano and daughter Susan AmRhein. Several members were in costume so they gathered together for a ghoulish group photo.

Iwao Yamashita thanked the November tobans: June Honda, Rubie Kawamoto, Eileen Byers, and Sunao Honda. And thanks to Judy Hane and Jean Yamashita who were also helping out this month.
On Tuesday, December 6th, our members will enjoy a trip to SF Japantown. Please sign up with Rubie Kawamoto or Jean Yamashita for this trip.

Eiko Stewart has donated Japanese singing CD’s for anybody’s pleasure to enjoy.

Eiko Stewart and Gail Wurtenberg distributed bags of fresh broccoli to everyone, donated by Nobue and Kimyo Fujii and 2017 pocket calendars were from Toshi Yamashita. Since it was Toshi’s birthday everybody sang Happy Birthday to her.

Bingo is always enjoyed by everyone and the bingo callers, Iwao Yamashita and Kimiko Marr, have come up with some new variations of bingo.

A casino trip to Table Mountain Casino is being planned for Tuesday, January 24th – mark your calendars.

Correction to October Senior News: the donations from Edna Nagata and Floy Sakata were in memory of Yukio Nagata.

It was good to see Yae and Sam Sakamoto playing bingo again at the Senior Center! Thanks to son-in-law Franz Steidl for bringing them. (Franz also had fun playing bingo.) They all came back for our Thanksgiving celebration, and we hope to see them all regularly at the Senior Center.

Helen Nakano and Susan AmRhein were thanked for making the beautiful decorations and centerpieces for our Thanksgiving celebration.

Iwao Yamashita gave the blessing and all enjoyed turkey dinner prepared by Susan and lots of wonderful potluck dishes from the members. Pumpkin pies and various desserts were also served. This was a wonderful way to start the Thanksgiving celebration by enjoying it with our friends at Senior Center. Thank you, Susan for all your hard work – and she suffered a huge burn on her arm taking the turkey out of the oven!
Terry Hirahara   
4 microfiber cloths, 12 rolls bath tissue, 4 Ajax dishwashing soap

Yaeko Cross   
12 rolls bath tissue

Chiyeko Shikuma   
6 plates cookies

Pat Marr   
6 boxes Kleenex

Jane Sugidono   
3 Christmas soap dispensers

Satoko Yamamoto   
orchard plant, 2 pkgs. sushi nori

Mitsuyo Tao   
2 bags Cheetos

Reminders:
- Tues., Dec. 6th trip to San Francisco;
- Thurs. Dec. 8th celebrating December birthdays;
- Sunday, Dec. 11th our Christmas party;
- Thurs. Dec. 15th our last meeting of 2016, enjoying a dinner at Hong Kong Gardens.

Our first day back for 2017 will be Thursday, January 5, 2017, and our New Year’s Celebration will be Thursday, January 12.

Please check out the W-SC JACL Senior Center website at kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com to read the November Senior Center News and see photos in living color.

Here’s wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. Stay healthy and see you in December.

KAWAKAMI SISTER CITY UPDATE

By Robb Mayeda

Kawakami – Watsonville Sister City Assoc.
Middle School Exchange Program

Help support our PVUSD Middle School students’ trip to Kawakami, Japan

FLAPJACK BREAKFAST

Sunday, December 18, 2016
8:00 – 9:45 A.M.
(Please enter by 9:45)
Donation: $10.00

Pancakes, juice, eggs, bacon, coffee
Tickets available from students or at the door.
Take-Out Available

@ Applebee’s
(in the Green Valley Cinemas parking lot)
Thank you for your support!

The Kawakami Watsonville Sister City Association thanks our community friends for their continuing support of our fundraisers.

Our Pajaro Valley middle school students are scheduled to leave for Japan on May 9, 2017 for a week’s visit.
A Flapjack Breakfast at Applebee's, 1105 South Green Valley Road (near the DMV and Green Valley Cinemax 6), is scheduled for Sunday, December 18th, 2016 from 8 A.M. Please plan to arrive no later than 9:50 A.M. since the restaurant stops cooking promptly at 10:00 A.M.

We are refining our procedures to better serve you. The families of our student travelers will be serving coffee, juice or water at your table.

Tickets are available from the students at their middle schools. Walk-in customers benefit the KWSCA general fund that supports our Pajaro Valley Unified School District chaperones and the hosting of our visitors from Kawakamimura in September, 2017.

Please attend and meet our new students!

“DARKTOWN,” AN ACCLAIMED NOVEL

Darktown’s author is Thomas Mullen. Publisher: Atria Books; Publication Date: 9/13/2016
Rating: 5 Stars

In the tradition of our most acclaimed suspense writers, Thomas Mullen of The Last Town on Earth delivers a riveting and elegant police procedural set in Atlanta, a ripped-from-the-headlines depiction of a world on the cusp of great change involving race relations, city politics, and police corruption.

Amelia Koenig: “Tom Mullen (her grandson) did lots of research for the article, then decided to fictionalize it to protect some who are still living. In the back of the book he dedicates the book to Strickland. He is one of the original black officers who helped Tom with the information of what it was like.”

Responding to pressure from on high, the Atlanta police department is forced to hire its first black officers in 1948. It’s a victory of sorts, though the eight newly minted policemen are met with deep hostility by their white peers and their authority is limited: They can’t arrest a suspect unless a white officer is present; they can’t drive a squad car; they can’t even enter the station through the front door and must instead operate out of the basement of a YWCA gym.

When a black woman who was last seen in a car driven by a white man with connections to the Atlanta Police Dept. turns up fatally beaten, no one seems to care except for Lucius and Boggs, two black cops from vastly different backgrounds, who risk their jobs, the trust the community has put in them, and even their own safety to investigate her death. When their efforts stall, they have to work alongside fellow white officers who include the old-school cop, Dunlow, and his partner, Rakestraw, a young progressive who may or may not be willing to make allies across color lines.

Set in the post-World War II, pre-civil rights South, Darktown is a vivid, smart, intricately plotted crime saga that explores the issues of race, law enforcement, and the uneven scales of justice.

Atlanta Police Department has come a long way since.

‘Darktown’ is coming to your TV screen! Amy Pascal & Jamie Foxx team for 1940s TV crime drama about race.

In a very competitive situation with five TV studios pursuing, Amy Pascal and Sony Pictures Television have landed the rights to Darktown. Pascal has teamed with Jamie Foxx to executive produce the project, with Pascal Pictures’ Rachel O’Connor producing.

Set in Atlanta in 1948, the story centers on the city’s first black police officers — whose hire in the department as a result from pressure on high is met with vitriol from their white counterparts (some officers are KKK members) and distrust within their own African American community.

The book’s publisher, Simon & Schuster describes the novel as intricately plotted crime saga that explores the timely issues of race, law enforcement, and the uneven scales of justice and depicts a world on the cusp of great change involving race relations, city politics, and police corruption.

[Editor’s note: watch for it on TV but let us read Darktown first.

Go to APD History - Atlanta Police Department www.atlantapd.org/apdhistory.aspx to learn more of the history and progress of the Atlanta Police Department.]
On November 6th, the quarterly NCWNP District Council Meeting was held in Marysville, CA.

The meeting was presided over by Thaya Mune-Craig with a quorum of 23 of 31 chapters present. After greetings from the hosting chapter, Marysville and acceptance of the minutes from the previous district meeting, Thaya Mune-Craig delivered the Governor’s report. She officially announced the resignation of Governor David Unruhe. He was not present, but he will be gifted with a bonsai in appreciation for his years of service.

A brief discussion of the proper use of the Yahoo listserv for the districts delegates was discussed.

Alan Teruya gave his Treasurer’s report noting that a $9,000 check from our district as well as a $1000 AT&T sponsorship will be the NCWNPs $10,000 donation to the Smithsonian Project.

A Code of Conduct Policy and Grievance Protocol was presented by Carol Kawase. After a discussion, the delegates voted to accept both as presented.

Each candidate for the District Board spoke about their qualifications, and they were all accepted onto the board by unanimous consent.

During lunch, we had a special presentation by Jim Tanimoto, 92, of the Marysville JACL, who was incarcerated at Tule Lake. He spoke on “Internment of Americans in America” with special emphasis on those held in “Block 42 of the Tule Lake” camp near the end of the war. He has spoken to students about his incarceration in the Marysville area.

After lunch the officers were installed by Alan Nishi, and then he gave a brief update on National JACL’s financial crisis. A fiscal oversight committee will be implemented by President Gary Mayeda. In-house applications are being reviewed for a permanent Executive Director.

Jim Duff reported on the Pacific Citizen. The surcharge for a hard copy (amount yet to be determined) will go into effect January 1st, 2017. Also, the PC is searching for a new Assistant Editor after the resignation of Tiffany Ujiiye. They are extremely short staffed.

Greg Marutani reported on the Midwest District’s proposed resolution for the chapters to help raise $175,000 for teacher training workshops in 2017. The loss of grant money resulted in the lack of funds for 2017.

The date for the district gala fundraiser was announced as Sat., April 22 at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. Ticket price will be $88 ($75 early bird price if purchased by March 20th).

Andy Noguchi gave a presentation prepared by David Forman and himself regarding two proposed district resolutions. They used the case of Joseph Mann from Sacramento. He was a mentally disturbed homeless man who was brandishing a knife while walking down a city street. One set of police officers were following him in their car repeatedly asking him to put the knife down. After some time, a second set of officers arrived on the scene and tried to run him over. When that didn’t work, they chased him down and shot him 14 times, killing him. He was African American. The proposals are:

a) NCWNP resolution supporting Black Racial Justice and opposing excessive force against all people

b) NCWNP resolution supporting just, fair and effective law enforcement

It was decided that the vote on the resolutions would be tabled until the next meeting in order to allow the delegates to bring them back to their respective chapters and discuss.

The meeting adjourned shortly afterwards.

[Editor’s note: We thank Kimiko Marr, Marcia and Mas Hashimoto for attending this district meeting in Marysville. The next district meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 12, with the chapter host to be announced at a later date.]
About seventy-five of Westview’s family and friends attended our annual Harvest Dinner that was held Saturday, November 5th. A total of approximately $1200 was raised for Jacob’s Heart Children’s Cancer Support Services, who was the recipient of the donations that night. Everyone enjoyed the delicious chicken dinner and the company of their fellow church members and friends!!

Group photo of our Church family and friends in the gym/hall enjoying the Harvest Dinner.

Shirley and Carmine are preparing the food in the kitchen while Edna, Lynne, Dr. Art, Joanne, Tracy and Craig gather around the welcoming table. Below, Diane, Shirley, Candy, Eiko and Carmine take a break from food preparation to pose for the camera. Marlon, Evelyn, and Tracy are trying to get Baby Jordan to smile for the camera.
sometimes Nancy Shott & Joanne Hayashi! If you want to join us please let us know! It has been a delight to reach out with love and care for our neighbors.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

The Temple is very grateful for the assistance of Rev. Jay Shinseki these past months, and we have enjoyed his enlightening Dharma messages.

We are saddened by the passing of Rev. Ikuo Nishimura in San Jose. He was our minister from 1983 to 1990—seven years.


Ikuo Nishimura Dec. 22, 1931 - Nov. 11, 2016, a resident of San Jose, passed away peacefully in his sleep on November 11, 2016 at the age of 84. He was born on December 22, 1931 to Ichita and Sueko Nishimura in Tokuyama, Japan.

He earned his BA and MA degrees in Buddhist Studies from Ryukoku University. From 1958 until 2001, he was a Buddhist minister at various churches starting from San Jose, Portland, OR, Yakima, WA, Parlier, and Watsonville, before retiring at Penryn, CA.

He is survived by his wife, Tomie; son, Masahiko; his wife, Jenny; their children, Kate and Kyle and son, Art; his wife, Marisa; and their child, Kiara.

The funeral was on November 22, 2016 at 7 pm at the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin on 640 N. 5th St, San Jose, CA 95112.

The Temple’s December Schedule:
Sun. Dec. 11th 9 am to noon Mochi tsuki Sale
Sun. Dec. 18th 2 pm Omigaki Service
Sun. Dec. 25th NO SERVICE
Sat. Dec. 31st at 3:30 pm Joya E Service

Shotsuki Hoyo Service
10am Sunday December 4, 2016

The families of the following deceased are invited to attend the December service and to Oshoko (offer incense). We look forward to seeing you at the service.

December Memorial List
Aramaki, Yoshiro Roy
Enomoto, Kiku
Eto, Wataru
Etow, Shigeru
Hamada, Takino
Hane, Machie
Hirahara, Teyo
Kadotani, Mitsuko
Kamimoto, Kay
Kimura, John Mitoshi
Matoba, Tatsue
Matsumoto, Michie
Misumi, Mary
Morimoto, Haya
Murakami, Kumajiro
Nakamura, Meiji
Nitta, Kumezo
Oda, Tokuzo
Saiki, Roy
Sakai, Kyoto
Sakae, Somo
Shirachi, William
Tada, Ben
Hamamoto, Kimi
Terasaki, Sam Yoshinobu
Torigoe, Bunkichi
Tsuij, Saizo
Uyeda, Jitsuto
Wada, Shozo
Yamamoto, Tadashi
Yoneyama, Lee Ritsuo
Yoshii, Kumakichi
Yamashita, Akira
Yamashita, Masano

The Temple is sponsoring a “jacket drive” this year. Donations are welcome for all sizes for men, women and children. The Temple will donate to a local organization in need of warm jackets this winter. Please bring your jackets to the Temple Office no later than Sat., Dec. 10th between the hours of 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, M-F, 423 Bridge St.

Mochi tsuki will be held on Sun. Dec. 11. Orders can be placed at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple office at 724-7860. Sunday, December 13th, 9 am to noon is Mochi
Pickup at the Temple, but you must place your order by calling (831) 724-7860 (Temple office hours are from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, Monday through Friday) or by emailing the Temple office no later than December 6th. The Temple office email is info@WBTemple.org. Please remember to leave your phone number and specify how many regular mochi and/or osonae you wish. The cost is $6.00 per box.

For the past five years, members of our diverse cultural and ethnic communities have come together for an event called, “Watsonville’s Multicultural Celebration,” formerly “Holiday in the Plaza.” This celebration will be held in the Watsonville City Plaza at the start of the holiday season.

This year, on Sunday, December 4th from 1 to 4:30 pm, we will highlight our beautiful cultural diversity with enriching activities, wonderful entertainment, and delicious cuisine from various ethnic groups. Our event provides an opportunity to build unity and promote understanding and appreciation of other cultures.

Watsonville Taiko, which last year featured our youths Elren and Shoren Hanayama, welcomes all to the festivities, which is free to the public. Please bring the children who will enjoy the day.

White Hawk dancers are very popular. Two young girls in costume visited our W-SC JACL booth.
The mariachi orchestra played to the delight of the audience.

Children’s choir singing "Feliz Navidad" was a huge hit!

The Portuguese Youth Dancers demonstrated their cultural talent.

Our W-SC JACL chapter booth activities, chaired by Aimee Mizuno, will feature name writing in Japanese katakana and origami, the art of paper folding.

Our booth featured Tanabata, bonsai, New Year’s mochi, girls’ day dolls. Not shown here are the boys’ day warrior exhibit and ikebana.

The children place their name tags, written in Japanese, on their home Christmas trees. Now, the parents and grandparents want their names written in Japanese, too! It’s so much fun. Pokemon origami will be in demand this year.

We are fortunate that various churches—Presbyterian, Catholic, Jewish, etc. — are participating as well as our Watsonville Senior Center (of 5th Street).

At 5 pm, the annual “Tree Lighting in the Plaza” will take place. Watsonville City, ever respectful of the concept of “separation of church and state,” will not call it a Christmas tree lighting.

Please plan to share a fun afternoon with us on December 4 at the beautiful Watsonville Plaza. Parking is readily available, and admission is FREE.
2017 COMMUNITY DIRECTORY ADS

We are grateful to the following additional advertisers for the 2017 Community Directory of Businesses and Professional Services:

Dr. Arthur Hayashi
Jason Iwatsuru, Caldwell Bankers
Kadotani Auto Repair
Pajaro Valley Fish Market, Goro Yamahita
("Yamashita Store")
Family Optometry Dr. Stuart Sakuma
Scurich Insurance Services, Mike and Tony Scurich
Ida Akimoto, Beauty Unlimited
Aspen Ten Shoji, Henry Nakata
Baker Bros. Furniture and Appliances, Debbie Baker
Crow’s Nest, Charles Maier
Shadowbrook, Ted Burke
Imura Japanese Restaurant. Jee Kajihara
Drs Reed and Jamie Kuratomi
Mehl's Colonial Chapel, Claudia Mehl
Dale Minami, Minami-Tamaki
Sambrailo Packaging, Mark Sambrailo
Sequoia Wealth Advisors, Kristian Kuprina and Elaine Lingard
W-SC JACL Senior Center, Carol and Paul Kaneko
Watsonville Taiko, Ikuyo Conant

A reminder for those who have not taken out an ad, the deadline for submission is Sat. Dec. 10.

DONATIONS, GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM

Day of Remembrance Education Fund
Greatest Need

Richard Uyematsu a first of the 2017 campaign

In memory of Mas Tsuda from …
Mas and Marcia Hashimoto

QUAD CHAPTERS’ INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The 2017 installation of officers of the Gilroy, Salinas Valley, San Benito County and W-SC JACL chapters will take place on Sunday, January 29 from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm at our W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall, 150 Blackburn St. The bento lunch box of salmon and chicken teriyaki and California roll will be prepared by Miyuki Japanese Restaurant.

W-SC JACL’s Keiro Kai National members—those born in February of 1942 or before (must be 75 years of age or older)—are our special invited, honored guests.

For reservations, call Marcia Hashimoto at (831) 722 6859 and please leave a message, or email her at hashi79@sbcglobal.net. Senior Center members may sign up with Carol Kaneko. Deadline for registration is Jan. 20.

Cost of the event is $25 per adult and $15 for a student. Checks may be made payable to W-SC JACL. Please RSVP early as the hall holds only 100 persons.

Gilroy, Salinas Valley, and San Benito County JACL chapter members should contact their respective Presidents for reservations on or before the Jan. 20 deadline.

PLEASE RETURN THE W-SC JACL 2017 BALLOTS

The 272 current members of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, including our Youth/Student members, should have received in the mail the ballots for the election of five (5) members to the board of directors. Presently, we have:

- 140 members who live in Watsonville’s zip code 95076-95077 area;
- 80 who live in other 950 zip code areas—Aptos, Santa Cruz, Freedom, Aromas, Soquel, Capitola, Scotts Valley, Felton, Moss Landing, Hollister, Castroville, Campbell, Cupertino, and Gilroy; and

We mailed the ballots after the national election was over. Please return the marked ballots before the Friday, December 16th deadline to W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077. Thank you.

There are 9,284 members in the National JACL in 104 chapters. W-SC JACL is among the top five largest (and most active) chapter in the national organization.

We welcome new members to join us. Many of our members are not Asian Americans but all believe that the protection of civil and human rights is paramount to the welfare of the nation.

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 2016-2017. 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. Txxxx 8/16 means your membership expired back in August of 2016! 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 December 2016 newsletter. Comments are always welcome at hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

For our full, living color newsletter, log onto http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org. Newsletter, then the month.

Onward!
Mas Hashimoto, Editor
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 Pacific Citizen, 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 Pacific Citizen, 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 Pacific Citizen, local youth/student membership, and our monthly JACL newsletter. Youth membership is required 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](http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org) and jacl.org.