

羅府新報

金

FRIDAY

日本語欄

コンテンツ

トップニュース
(米・日・国際)

コミュニティー
スポーツ

産経新聞

japan-at-a-glance



Kyodo Photo

HUMAN WASHING MACHINE: A “human washing machine” that cleans and dries the entire body and drew large crowds when showcased at the World Exposition in Osaka this year will be sold to consumers in 2026, its developer said. Shipments to caregiving facilities for the elderly will begin next March, with general sales of the machine developed by bath and shower equipment manufacturer Science Co. to start by the end of 2026. The machine “will reduce the burden (of bathing) on both users and caregivers,” said Yasuaki Aoyama, chairman of the firm based in Osaka. The device resembles a raised rectangular bathtub. Users enter through a side door and sit down to soak in the water. Utilizing “fine-bubble” technology to make tiny bubbles that can slip into small crevices, the machine will enable full-body cleansing without the need for shampoo or scrubbing, with one bathing session taking around 10 minutes. The machine will be sold for 1.45 million yen (\$9,200).

FAILURE TO DELIVER: A Japanese H3 rocket carrying the sixth satellite in a seven-orbiter geolocation system failed to deliver its payload into orbit after liftoff on Dec. 22, the country’s science ministry said. The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency is assessing the situation and investigating the cause of the second-stage engine’s premature cutoff that occurred shortly after liftoff from the Tanegashima Space Center in Kagoshima Prefecture. Placed on multiple orbital planes, the Quasi-Zenith Satellite System will enable Japan to operate highly accurate positioning services vital for smartphones and vehicle navigation, covering close to 100 percent of Japan, including urban canyons and mountain terrain, according to JAXA. The launch of Michibiki No. 5 from an island in southwestern Japan had been originally scheduled for Dec. 7, but was rescheduled to Dec. 17 and then Dec. 22 after abnormalities were detected in the rocket and ground facilities.

in the news



OC HALL OF FAME: Athlete Sammy Lee (1920-2016) was posthumously inducted into the Orange County Hall of Fame on Dec. 9. A physician and a resident of Newport Beach, he was the 1948 and 1952 gold medalist in Olympic platform diving. He was the first Asian American man to win an Olympic gold medal for the U.S. and the first man to win back-to-back gold medals in Olympic platform diving. The Hall of Fame plaque was accepted by Sammy Lee Jr. Other inductees were Oscar-winning director James Cameron, surfer Robert August, Olympic high jump medalist Ed Caruthers, conductor Carl St. Clair, philanthropist James Irvine, businessman Ed Laird, philanthropists Henry and Susan Samueli, Polly’s Pies co-founder Eddie Sheldrake, and former Orange County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gaddi Vasquez.

INSIDE TODAY’S RAFU

Altadena Recovers2
Arts & Entertainment.....3
Classifieds / Legal Notices4
Columnists / Obituaries.....5
Religion / Event Calendar.....6

OBITUARY

Frank Chuman, 105; Pioneering Nisei Attorney and Author

Frank Fumio Chuman, a pioneering Nisei attorney who was active in many of the key civil rights-related cases in the early postwar era, died on May 22, 2022 in Bangkok. He was 105.

His passing became public knowledge only recently. His daughter, Diana Heyd, told *The New York Times* that it went unreported at the time because it had been decades since Chuman had practiced law and he had been living in Thailand for many years.

Born in 1917 in Montecito, he was the son of immigrants from Kagoshima. His father managed a local estate and his mother was a “picture bride.” The family moved to Los Angeles, where the elder Chuman worked as a gardener and dry cleaner.

Frank Chuman became an Eagle Scout and graduated in 1934 from Los Angeles High School, where he was on the debating squad and served as class valedictorian. He graduated in 1938 from UCLA, where he served in ROTC.

He considered applying to the Foreign Service, but the dean of UCLA’s Political Science Department dissuaded him, saying that the State Department would not hire someone of his ethnicity.

In his memoirs, Chuman described a Depression-era climate in which racism was rampant. Nisei Caltech graduates could not get engineering jobs and law firms would not hire Nisei attorneys. He found work in a market on West Beverly Boulevard lugging crates of produce.

He wrote, “One day one of my co-workers in the produce department who was born in Japan approached me and in a sarcastic tone sneered, ‘I heard you graduated UCLA and that you are



(Photo by Toyo Miyatake Studio, courtesy of Japanese American National Museum’s Hirasaki National Resource Center)

Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts (center), future U.S. president, is pictured with members of the Japanese American Democratic Club on Sept. 19, 1956, at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles. Pictured with him are (from left) Frank Chuman, Frank Kurihara, Meri-Jane Yokoe and James Mitsumori. Kennedy was campaigning for Adlai Stevenson and Estes Kefauver, the Democratic nominees for president and vice president. They lost to the Republican incumbent, Dwight Eisenhower.

saving up money for more education. Forget about this foolish dream. ... All the good jobs are for white people, not for people like us who are Japanese.’ I remained silent, knowing that what he was saying was true.”

Chuman was hired as a messenger by Los Angeles County in the fall of 1938. He carried files around county departments and courts, where he found exchanges between lawyers and judges fascinating. He enrolled at USC as a law student in September 1940 and worked at the L.A. County Probation Department.

When Executive Order 9066 was

issued, Chuman was confined at Manzanar. In March 1942, he was appointed chief administrator at the Manzanar Hospital, where he served for a year. Following the Manzanar Riot in December 1942, he supervised the care of inmates shot by military police.

He initially answered “no-no” to the government loyalty questionnaire out of resentment over his confinement, but through the efforts of Ralph Merritt, Manzanar’s camp director, was he able to withdraw those answers and be approved for a leave permit.

Through sponsorship of the American Friends Service Committee, Chuman left Manzanar in the fall of 1943 to continue his legal studies, first at the University of Toledo in

Please see Chuman, page 3



Frank Chuman

JANM Mourns the Passing of Barbara Keimi

The Japanese American National Museum (JANM) mourns the passing of Barbara Keimi.

She and her husband, Harold “Hal” Keimi, began volunteering at JANM nearly 34 years ago — before JANM opened its doors to the public in its Historic Building in 1992.

Keimi was born in Los Angeles’ Sawtelle neighborhood to Chihiro Harry Mikami and Fumiko K. Mikami in 1935. Chihiro was born in Japan and Fumiko was born in Buena Park in 1912. Fumiko’s family returned to Hiroshima when she was around three years old.

Growing up, she aspired to become a doctor, but her dream did not come to pass. Fumiko met her future husband through a family member, who arranged their marriage.

After marrying in 1930, Chihiro and Fumiko immigrated to the U.S., where Chihiro was a chauffeur for wealthy families in Los Angeles. The Mikamis lived in Beverly Hills and Sawtelle, and they eventually moved to North Long Beach.

During that time, Chihiro worked for Masami Sasaki, Keimi’s grand-uncle and the “Chili King of Orange County,” who was known for his prosperous chili pepper farm in Huntington Beach. Both of them were involved in the community. Chihiro joined the board of the Japanese language school in Huntington Beach and Masami hosted civic groups at his warehouses. When the Japanese military bombed Pearl Harbor, the Mikami family lost everything.



Harold and Barbara Keimi

Shortly after the attack, Keimi’s parents were arrested by the FBI. In their absence, the Mikamis moved from North Long Beach to the chili farm in Huntington Beach to live with Keimi’s grand-aunt, Shigeko Sasaki. When Chihiro and Masami were taken to the Tuna

Please see Keimi, page 4

Commission Fines Councilman John Lee \$138,000 for Alleged Ethics Violations

By JOSE HERRERA
CITY NEWS SERVICE

The Los Angeles City Ethics Commission on Dec. 17 sustained all 10 counts of ethics violations

and imposed a penalty of \$138,124.32 against Councilmember John Lee, who allegedly accepted lavish gifts and misused his position in 2016 and 2017 during a trip to Las Vegas and at various Los Angeles restaurants when he was chief of staff to then-Councilmember Mitchell Englander.

In a 3-1 vote, the commission voted to uphold a decision made by Administrative Law Judge Ji-Lan Zang, who determined Lee violated the city’s ethics rules pertaining to the dollar amount of gifts a city official

can receive and disclosing such gifts through what is known as a Statement of Economic Interests, or Form 700.

Commissioner Aryeh Cohen voted against the final outcome while member Terry Kaufmann was absent during the vote.

Commissioners, however, did not agree with Zang’s dismissal of additional counts against Lee regarding misuse of his position and for assisting Englander in misusing his position — ultimately adding those violations to the list.

In a separate 4-0 vote, commissioners agreed to impose a maximum penalty of \$138,124.32 for all 10 counts, as recommended by city investigators rather than Zang’s suggestion of \$43,730 for the first five counts.



John Lee

LTSC Mourns the Loss of Marsha Aizumi: Okaeri Founder, Advocate, and Friend

With a heavy heart, Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC) mourns the passing of Marsha Aizumi, founder of Okaeri, cherished mentor, bold leader, and dear friend.

After battling cancer, Marsha died peacefully on Dec. 18, surrounded by family.

Marsha founded Okaeri in 2014, dedicating 11 years to empowering, advocating for, and celebrating LGBTQ+ Nikkei and their families. Marsha was a mother figure to anyone in need, always ready with a big hug, a smile, and an open heart. Her thoughtful attention made you feel like the most important person in the room, and her genuine empathy made you feel seen and deeply cared for.

LTSC is forever grateful for the leadership, insight, and compassion Marsha brought to Okaeri and our community. LTSC officially onboarded Okaeri as a program this year, and is dedicated to carrying forward Marsha’s legacy of inclusivity and advocacy. As we mourn this heavy loss, we remember the love and joy Marsha brought to

others and celebrate her incredible life and vision.

“My mom lived her life rooted in love, advocacy, and deep care for others,” said Aiden Aizumi, Marsha’s son. “She touched countless lives through her kindness and courage, and her legacy will continue through the people she inspired. Thank you for the outpouring of love and support during this time.”

“We lost one of the brightest lights in our communities this week — Marsha was an extraordinary leader and human who modeled what it means to hold space and remain open to change,” said Peter Gee, LTSC

Please see Aizumi, page 4



Marsha Aizumi and her son Aiden.



City of Monrovia

Members of Satoru Tsuneishi’s family participated in the groundbreaking for the park in June.

Grand Opening of Satoru Tsuneishi Park Set for Jan. 13

The grand opening of Satoru Tsuneishi Park, located at 1111 Encino Ave. in Monrovia (just east of the DoubleTree Hotel parking lot), will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 13, at 3 p.m.

The opening was originally scheduled for Dec. 8.

Mark Tsuneishi posted on Facebook, “This park will honor the legacy of our grandfather and his family who helped settle the area and whose four sons served with distinction in the U.S. Army during World War II when their family was interned in Heart Mountain, Wyoming.”

In an earlier post, Jonathan Tsu-

neishi said, “During the groundbreaking earlier this year, in conversations with the mayor, councilpersons and staff from the city, it was conveyed to me that they wanted the park to not only recognize their native son, but to remember the contribution of early Japanese American farmers like my grandfather, whose farm bordered the famed Route 66.”

“And it was clear to me that the city also wanted a way to recognize the history of internment while remembering the military service of Japanese Americans like my uncles who served in the U.S. Army and my

Please see Tsuneishi Park, page 4

Customs Broker Who Defrauded Clients and Dodged Taxes Sentenced to Prison

CITY NEWS SERVICE

A customs broker who siphoned more than \$5 million from businesses that ship goods into the U.S. and who dodged paying at least \$1 million in taxes was sentenced Dec. 18 to four years and three months in federal prison.

Frank Noah, 64, of Corona, was sentenced in Downtown Los Angeles and also ordered to pay \$7.57 million in restitution, according to the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

He pleaded guilty in February to one count of tax evasion and two counts of wire fraud.

Noah owned Comis International Inc., a logistics and supply-chain company headquartered in Cerritos. Comis was a customs import broker for the national Daiso chain, a Japan-based variety and value store with outlets in Southern California, from 2007 to 2019.

Noah admitted inflating customs import duty fees he paid while billing Daiso, resulting in the company overpaying him nearly \$3.4 million.

After Noah was indicted for defrauding Daiso in 2022, he continued to defraud other clients out of over \$2 million, according to his plea agreement.

Noah also admitted causing a loss to the IRS of nearly \$2.4 million by cheating on his taxes from 2008 to 2010, making partial payments for what he owed while using his income to make payments on mortgages he put in the name of his girlfriend for properties in Corona and Rancho Mirage.

After agreeing that he owed over \$1 million in taxes in 2014, Noah still avoided IRS attempts to collect the amount owed, and instead spent thousands on country club memberships, travel and golf, according to the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

After the Fires: Rebuilding

For many in Altadena, the question of whether to stay – or to move on – after the Eaton Fire is a matter of identity, community and family.

By MIKEY HIRANO CULROSS
RAFU STAFF WRITER

The last of three parts.

Hearing Keiko Green’s recollections of finding a place in Altadena begins to tell the story of what makes a house a home.

In 2019, she and husband Brian were freshly married and in Southern California after making the decision to relocate from the Bay Area. On a whim and a random Saturday in August, the two decided to stop by a few home showings to have a look and gauge the possibilities.

“I knew Pasadena and towns around the area, because I had lived in the area as a young college graduate,” Green said. “I specifically remembered loving the area of Montrose and La Cañada, where I rented a studio from a couple of families. Altadena triggered a memory as well. Though I had never lived there, something made us curious enough to see some open houses.”

Green said she and Brian typically don’t have much stamina for shopping activities, but “send us to the mountains and we can hike all day.”

Somewhat discouraged by what they’d found to be available – plenty of properties hastily prepared for sale in an effort to flip them for a

profit – the couple happened upon a modestly-sized house on Mount Curve Avenue, near the foothill top of Lake Avenue and close to Farnsworth Park.

Green said they were taken by surprise with the emotions they felt from the Spanish revival architecture of the home and the feeling of community radiating along the small residential street.

She remembered being welcomed in by high ceilings, archways and gorgeous, exposed beams. Stained-glass window panes prisms the afternoon light and a baby grand piano in the living room corner seemed to dare them to surrender to the house’s calling. The pool in the back yard was the clincher.

“I thought we were being discreet, whispering in delight, downplaying our comments and genuine interest,” she said, particularly after learning of how the previous late owner would host opera parties and was an ardent supporter of education.

“This house was not just a house, but a legacy and responsibility to uphold.”

Through nothing less than what she calls a small miracle, the Greens were able to sell their property in the Bay Area and move into this new home in Altadena.

Around two years later, however,



Photos by MIKEY HIRANO CULROSS / Rafu Shimpō, except where noted

Sisters Julie Toyama, left, and Sandy Watson with her husband, Lewis, at Altadena’s landmark Christmas Tree Lane. The family home nearby, where the sisters were raised and where Julie was living when the Eaton Fire broke out, is being redesigned and will be rebuilt.

the Greens found themselves living in Spain, as Brian took an assignment in the animation industry. They were still in Europe last January – on vacation in France, as it turns out – when they received word from the family renting their Altadena house that fire was ravaging the neighborhood.

The tenants evacuated safely, but everything in the home was lost, including Brian’s portfolio of artwork used in some Pixar films. Over the Thanksgiving holiday last month, Keiko and Brian were back in Altadena, having made the choice to restore the home.

“We definitely toggled between selling versus rebuilding, but insurance made the decision for us to rebuild,” she explained. “The process has been healing, as we talk with neighbors going through similar circumstances. We are choosing to build like for like, changing a few things to modernize it a little.”

As the process of designing and constructing a new home moves slowly forward, Keiko said she feels deeply for those who were present for

the fires and are having to deal with its aftermath on a daily basis.

“After talking with the architects and seeing the prospects of what the updated house could be, we feel hopeful in the process. We have the Olympics to look forward to, and what a way to usher newness. We will be close to retiring by then and perhaps we push the restart button yet again.”

Scott Uriu was strumming a new Martin guitar on the couch in his bright and airy apartment in Highland Park, describing how he underestimated the peril at the outset of the fire that eventually took his home.

“I did not take it seriously. It’s amazing,” he recalled. “I saw the glow off in the distance, but the wind was blowing south. We decided to leave around 9 p.m. that night, thinking we’d be back in a few hours. I didn’t unplug my server, which would have taken 30 seconds, and I left my collectible guitars hanging on the wall. What an idiot.”

Uriu and his wife are renting temporarily while their home on Punahou Street in Altadena is being redesigned and rebuilt. It’s a process countless families are navigating, but Uriu’s case is unique, as he is the architect steering his own project.

“For the majority of people, this was never on their agenda, thinking about rebuilding a house – how a kitchen lays out, how they would use the space, morning light on the east side,” he said. “That was never on the agenda, but that’s my job, to try to help guide them toward what they want.”

Uriu teaches graduate and undergraduate architecture design at USC and is a former member of the design team of the late famed architect Frank Gehry. He has several current rebuilding projects in the area of the Eaton Fire in Altadena, including three on his home street.

Uriu’s reputation as a designer is complemented by his knack for communication, a lively penchant for conversation that friends and clients have said brings comfort to the business. Having lost his own home, he finds himself in



Courtesy KEIKO GREEN

Keiko and Brian Green (fourth and fifth from left) with neighbors in front of their Altadena home in 2021.

a position to make decisions on his own behalf, the same way he makes them for those who seek his services.

“I think I have a reputation for not leading my clients up a golden path, not by any means,” he explained. “I know the sets of contractors, and form follows finance. It’s gotta fit whatever we’re doing to what people can afford.”

“On the other side, as an architect, you’re designing for yourself. There are some oddball things I’m trying, but many more straightforward, like to radiantly cool the house by using groundwater ... As an architect, you rarely get to do exactly what you want, but at the same time, we’re trying to do these very interesting things at a reasonable cost.”

Uriu’s two children, now both in college, grew up in Altadena and thrived in the Pasadena public schools. Originally from Davis, Calif., he graduated from Cal Poly Pomona and attended the Architectural Association School in London before settling down in Pasadena,



then Altadena. He described Altadena as often quirky and oddball, and that’s why he and his family are staying.

“It is not incorporated, which can be both an advantage and disadvantage. There’s a super crazy independent streak, a kind of civic pride that has come out of growing as a sort of a heartland of mixed races and people.

Above the labor of helping others get back home – while doing the same for himself – Uriu said there are some wonderful things that have come out of this horrific catastrophe, particularly getting to know the majority of his neighbors.

“Seeing the community come together, I gotten to know hundreds of people, and dozens who are leaders. It’s amazing and eye-opening, and a renaissance for me,” he said. “It’s pretty clear the vibe and identity Altadena has will endure.”



A glorious painted December sky was on display just before dusk, and Julie Toyama was staring into a hole in the ground that once was her family basement.

“All of our memories are here,” she said. “But you can’t dwell too much on it, because look, it’s the whole community that suffered and lost homes. The fire didn’t single out this house.”

Indeed, most of the houses on her block of Poppyfields Drive were destroyed, including the one Toyama’s parents purchased in 1966. One neighbor has begun the process of returning by living in a trailer on his property, while a house he had moved to Altadena from another city is being refurbished.

Toyama is one of Scott Uriu’s clients and said the decision to not sell and rebuild was never in doubt.

“This is family,” she said. “Mom and Dad bought this 60 years ago, and I feel like Dad would have put on a strong face, but it would have hurt him inside.

“When you look here, it’s an empty lot now, but you see your home ... Your kids grew up here ... all our family gatherings, all the dinners and holidays. All of our kids were babysat here.”

Toyama said she was unaware of the seriousness of the fire situation until her sister’s husband, Lewis Watson, called from their home on nearby Calaveras Street. He said it was time to evacuate and drove up to help get her 91-year-old mother into his van.

“I went back to get Dad’s car, got a few more items, and thought we’d be gone maybe a couple of days. I never thought we would never return,” she said.

Her sister, Sandy, was watching the progress of the fire via a mobile phone, app, as it went from yellow to orange to red. The next morning, Toyama received a photo of her house being consumed by flames.

She isn’t sure of the timeline for moving back in, but Toyama said the County has seemed committed to expediting the process for the hundreds of families who want to come home. “By next Christmas maybe. Cross our fingers.”

Asked what would be first to bring back home, Toyama half-jokingly said, “Mom,” adding, “We have to get it back to being a home. Maybe photos and things like that.”

Her sister had a more pragmatic response.

“There won’t be a first thing, it’ll be everything.”



Toyama looks over the now-cleared property where her parents bought their home in 1966. “It was never a question of whether to build. Of course were are,” she said.

janm



JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

OSHOGATSU

FAMILY FESTIVAL

2026

YEAR OF THE HORSE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

11 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. | FREE ALL DAY!



JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTER

244 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

JANM.ORG/EVENTS

SPONSORED BY:











Scott Uriu said he was given a new guitar after his prized collection of collectible instruments was destroyed, along with all his business records and family photos. Above, Uriu’s concept design of his family’s new home.



Cary with me and Miss Universe Brook Mahealani Lee at a MANAA awards dinner, May 2000.



George Takei, Cary and I discuss "Rising Sun" with Ron Wakabayashi (far right), 1992.

Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa: The Perpetual Asian Villain Who Had Been the Secret Hero All Along

The actor was MANAA's secret source against his own film, "Rising Sun."

By GUY AOKI

On Thursday, Dec. 4, I was scrolling through Facebook and came across a picture of Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa dressed as Shang Tsung, the villain he'd played in the 1995 cult movie favorite "Mortal Kombat." At the bottom: "1950-2025." I closed my eyes and cringed.

Because my first thought was of a career unfulfilled.

Cary made a career out of playing evil villains. In "Showdown in Little Tokyo" (1991), after discovering the mole in his criminal organization, he drugged a naked blonde and beheaded her with his sword. He was the recurring villain in the CBS series "Raven" (1993) and the bad guy fighting the superhero "The Phantom" (1996).

Yet it's only after his death that I can reveal how he was really the hero behind the biggest media campaign instigated by my organization, Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA), which put us on the map.

Shortly after our formation in April 1992, we had been concerned about the upcoming film "Rising Sun," based on the best-selling novel by Michael Crichton. This latest version of the "yellow peril" brought it closer to home because the Japanese were in Los Angeles and had bought out high-ranking senators to do their bidding — even murdering fellow white people.

The paranoia was all around. Anyone looking Japanese—or Asian—could be subverting our country's values.

Ron Wakabayashi, head of the L.A. Human Relations Commission, and Dennis Hayashi of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) had met with executives at 20th Century Fox on July 7. Ron invited me to join the follow-up meeting with Fox President Strauss Zelnick and director Philip Kaufman's producer son Peter for Aug. 10. But at the last minute, Fox told them I couldn't attend because, as a columnist for *The Rafu Shimpo*, I was "a working journalist."

Ron and Dennis decided to go ahead with the secret meeting but were angry at the studio and almost walked out.

On Aug. 17, 1992, MANAA co-founder George Johnston and I did an interview on KPFK radio talking about our concerns about the movie and grievances against Fox. Cary had his assistant record the interview and the actor contacted me through the MANAA Hotline.

He was playing Eddie Sakamura, who was suspected of strangling to death a white woman during rough sex. So Cary had an interest in knowing what our media watchdog organization was going to do.

The actor generally supported our cause because it was clear the images of Asians and Asian Americans in the media were unbalanced. He had been

an activist in his younger days and I reminded him of how he used to be. But Cary didn't think "Rising Sun" was a film deserving of protest.

We met at the Eatz Café near the golfing range on Loz Feliz Boulevard. I told him we needed to know what was going to be in "Rising Sun" because we were planning to mount a major protest against it when it opened.

After a while, he said, "I've looked into your eyes. And I trust you." He gave me a copy of his shooting script. I asked what had been revised and he filled me in as best he could (I shared it with JACL).

Only Johnston, me and a third MANAA board member knew that Cary was my source for the script, and we all understood how crucial it was to keep it a secret. We needed to protect his reputation and not jeopardize his career.

(Months later, an anonymous source supplied me with the finished script. OK, the only thing we didn't know was what scenes would be cut out for time? And we eventually saw the movie four days before the protest.)

Fox was still playing games with



KCAL debate on July 30, 1993.

us. They cancelled our Sept. 18 meeting the morning of and postponed it to Oct. 8. We were furious.

MANAA got 16 community and civil rights organizations to sign a petition to Strauss Zelnick asking Fox to place a disclaimer at the beginning of the film saying they didn't want it to encourage resentment against anybody of Asian descent, and to recognize that hate crimes are a very important concern; to agree to hire more Asian Americans in decision making positions; and to cast more Asian American actors in positive roles.

"What's in it for me?!" Zelnick yelled at the end of the phone line. He later concluded, "I don't think your protest is going to affect the success of our movie."

So on April 1, we went public and garnered unprecedented coverage from every news outlet imaginable. The film didn't even open until July 30. But by that time, we had controlled the narrative. No, this was not just a murder mystery. This was a dangerous movie that could put Asian Americans at risk.

Fox spent millions of dollars on their press junkets, yet with a minimal budget, MANAA prompted every news outlet to ask the director and actors of "Sun" to respond to our accusations.

We protested outside the

Mann Theatre near UCLA for two nights. (From the 5:06- 7:20 mark <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUQHln3KUM&t=440s>)

Earlier that first day, Cary had given an interview to *The L.A. Times*, shocking the writer by saying such protests are good because they raise important concerns. Cary was siding with the protestors against his own movie!

In the middle of our demonstration, I went across the street near a gas station to do a live debate with Cary on KCAL-TV. I thought it was going to be chummy where I could say, "Hey you, warubozu!"

Instead, he attacked me over and over again, saying this wasn't a serious protest because I hadn't read the book the film was based on. I said it didn't matter—I had the script ("Uh, including the shooting script which you'd given me, pal!" I thought to myself). But he kept interrupting me: "Yeah, Guy, and the fact that you haven't read the book..."

The only way for me to see the actor was too look down at a monitor on the ground. So whenever he accused me of something, I probably looked guilty or self-conscious to



viewers because I was looking away from his glare.

Some of the protestors wanted to kill him.

The next day, Cary came down to the demonstration with his hand extended. "Hey, Guy, I wanted to apologize."

"I don't know if I wanna shake your hand, man!"

"Oh, c'mon!"

"What the hell was that last night?!" He wanted us to talk in his limousine. "Is Fox paying for this?"

"Yeah..."

When he was in town (he was living in Kauai at the time), Cary included me in his entourage to eat at his favorite Japanese restaurant and supported MANAA at its awards dinners. He even came to the first gathering announcing our formation in 1992, a year before "Rising Sun" was released.

I last saw him on March 26, 2015 at the Center for Democracy in Little Tokyo for a screening of "Little Boy." He played a Japanese American concentration camp internee who becomes the surrogate father of a white boy who hates all Japanese people because his father was away fighting them overseas.

I spread the word to support him, bringing many MANAA and JACL members. At one point during the Q&A, Cary broke down, something I'd never seen before (I forget over what). Talking about the racial injustice that has continued to plague this country, he declared, "If I'd been born black, I'd either be dead or in jail."

I'm glad his last major project was "The Man in the High Castle" (2015-18), the pilot of which was the most-watched project Amazon Prime had developed. He played the enigmatic Japanese trade minister Tagomi, who ultimately turns out to be... a good guy.

And that's how I'll always remember Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa: As someone who was a good guy. And to what extent I could finally reveal that.

I wish I'd had a last conversation with him to learn how he felt his career had gone. Had it lived up to his expectations? Was he frustrated? Reconciled?

As his "Castle" character Tagomi travelled between different dimensions and parallel universes in order to bring peace to warring nations, I hope Cary's exploring wondrous worlds in the afterlife and that he ultimately found peace here on Earth.

are covered in the media. While only 17% felt news coverage of Asians was negative, 72% said that our film portrayals were "distorted."

For years, during our countless conversations, Cary rationalized that he'd rather play a confident villain than a good guy because they're often boring.

"You end up being dead and the audience wants you dead on top of it! They cheer when you die! Why wouldn't you want to be the good guy?!"

Finally, months later, he said, laughing, "OK, Guy, OK! Yes! I want to be the hero!"

He later admitted he finally was able to let his son watch one of his movies because he didn't die in it.

In 1996, Cary called me up all excited. He's just been cast as Lt. A.J. Shimamura in the "Nash Bridges" TV series starring Don Johnson and Cheech Marin. Apparently, my arguments with him had gotten through. "This is what we've been working toward my entire career!" From now on, he would only play good guys.

Earlier that year, I had helped Jesse Jackson organize his protest of the Oscars (where only one black person was nominated for an award). Consequently, Jackson, me and 16 other media and civil rights advocates had a meeting with CBS President Les Moonves, where I praised him for casting Tagawa, because it went against the actor's typecasting as the Asian villain and marked a significant change in his career.

When I relayed this to Cary, there was silence on the other end of the line. He finally said, "Sh*t, you guys are serious!"

But Cary had problems with Johnson and when the star asked that an episode focusing on Lt. Shimamura be rewritten for himself, Cary left the show. He was often back playing villains again, until it got to the point where he wasn't even the MAIN villain in TV episodes.

Tagawa proclaimed he was the only person acting in three blockbuster movies that made over \$100 million at the box office in 2001—including "Pearl Harbor" and "Planet of the Apes"—but believed he lost momentum after 9/11.

When he was in town (he was living in Kauai at the time), Cary included me in his entourage to eat at his favorite Japanese restaurant and supported MANAA at its awards dinners. He even came to the first gathering announcing our formation in 1992, a year before "Rising Sun" was released.

I last saw him on March 26, 2015 at the Center for Democracy in Little Tokyo for a screening of "Little Boy." He played a Japanese American concentration camp internee who becomes the surrogate father of a white boy who hates all Japanese people because his father was away fighting them overseas.

I spread the word to support him, bringing many MANAA and JACL members. At one point during the Q&A, Cary broke down, something I'd never seen before (I forget over what). Talking about the racial injustice that has continued to plague this country, he declared, "If I'd been born black, I'd either be dead or in jail."

I'm glad his last major project was "The Man in the High Castle" (2015-18), the pilot of which was the most-watched project Amazon Prime had developed. He played the enigmatic Japanese trade minister Tagomi, who ultimately turns out to be... a good guy.

And that's how I'll always remember Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa: As someone who was a good guy. And to what extent I could finally reveal that.

I wish I'd had a last conversation with him to learn how he felt his career had gone. Had it lived up to his expectations? Was he frustrated? Reconciled?

As his "Castle" character Tagomi travelled between different dimensions and parallel universes in order to bring peace to warring nations, I hope Cary's exploring wondrous worlds in the afterlife and that he ultimately found peace here on Earth.

JANM to Present 'Tracing Shared Histories from Japan to California'

The Japanese American National Museum will present "Undercurrents: Tracing Shared Histories from Japan to California," a virtual program, on Saturday, Jan. 17, from 3 to 6:30 p.m.

Tracing the Kuroshio ocean current, which connects the coastlines of Japan and California, reveals an interconnected history of migration, industry, art and culture. A number of early migrants from Wakayama and Chiba, many of whom came from a fishing background, made Monterey along California's Central Coast their adopted home as a result of being able to continue with this trade. Despite being thousands of miles apart,

connections abound.

Join researchers, curators, filmmakers, and descendants as they trace the interesting threads that connect these places.

This program is presented in partnership with JANM's sister museum, The Museum of Modern Art Wakayama, and is organized by the Executive Committee for International Exchange Programs on Migration Studies in Wakayama. It is supported by Japan's Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Free but registration required. Info: www.janm.org/events/2026-01-17/undercurrents-tracing-shared-histories-japan-california



Henry Sugimoto, "Point Lobos," ca. 1932-1942, oil on canvas, 18 x 21.5 in. Japanese American National Museum, Gift of Madeleine Sugimoto, 2015.2.688

Chuman

Continued from page 1

Ohio, then in Baltimore at the University of Maryland Law School, where he learned about the ancient common law known as writ of error coram nobis. He graduated in 1945 and returned to Los Angeles.

Chuman was hired by civil rights lawyer A.L. Wirin as a law clerk for his law firm, which served as special counsel to the JACL. In the process, Chuman helped draft the briefs for several landmark constitutional cases argued before the U.S. Supreme Court, notably *Oyama v. California* and *Takahashi v. California Fish & Game Commission*.

In 1946, Chuman won a legal challenge to racial restrictive covenants in South Pasadena, which maintained restrictions against minorities on publicly owned land.

After passing the California bar in 1947, Chuman joined John Aiso in a law partnership, which remained active until Aiso became a judge in 1954. He then practiced with David McKibbin until 1968.

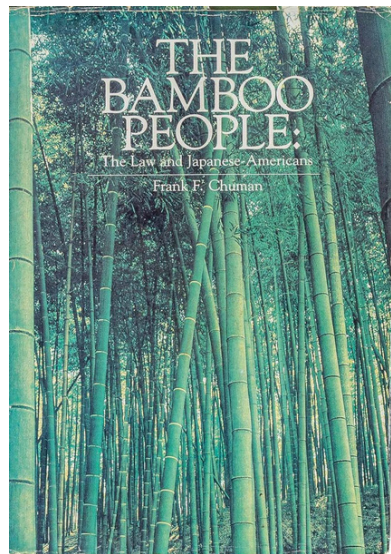
In 1946 he became president of the JACL's newly reopened Los Angeles chapter. He was legal counsel for the National JACL from 1953-60 and served as its national president from 1960-62. During his term as president, Chuman negotiated with UCLA the creation of the Japanese American Research Project (JARP), to be housed at the university, with archives holding materials on Japanese immigrants. He helped raise \$220,000 to fund it.

In connection with JARP, Chuman devoted several years of research to the creation of a legal history of Japanese Americans, including the evolution of legislation and jurisprudence in regard to immigration restrictions, alien land laws, wartime confinement and other subjects. This resulted in his book, "The Bamboo People: The Law and Japanese Americans," published in 1976.

Chuman formed part of the JACL committee that was assigned in summer 1963 to draft a statement on civil rights. He was named a member of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission and organized intergroup meetings to avoid racial violence.

In the 1970s, Chuman was active in developing the Japanese American redress campaign. He wanted to use the writ of error coram nobis to reopen the wartime Supreme Court cases of Fred Korematsu, Gordon Hirabayashi and Minoru Yasui, in which the court supported the incarceration of Japanese Americans.

In 1981, during testimony before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC), Chuman proposed using the writ to attack the convictions. Soon after, lawyer/scholar Peter Irons and attorney Dale Minami independently undertook a coram nobis petition, based on newly discovered proof of official misconduct—the concealment of evidence that Japanese Americans were not a security threat. Chuman joined the legal team as an adviser.



The coram nobis petition ultimately led to the reversal by federal court judges of the convictions of all three men, but one judge refused to address the issue of government misconduct in Yasui's case.

In the early 1990s, Chuman worked at *The Rafu Shimpo*. His titles included acting editor-in-chief and advisor to the Japanese section.

In 2005 he received a Distinguished Graduate Award from University of Maryland School of Law. In 2011 he published "Manzanar and Beyond: Memoir of Frank F. Chuman, Nisei Attorney," when he was 94.

In 2012, living Nisei students of USC whose education was interrupted by the mass incarceration were granted honorary degrees, but by then Chuman had moved to Thailand with his wife, Donna, sometime after 2000. In 2021, USC President Carol Folt allowed honorary degrees to be granted to all Nisei students. Grace Shiba, executive director of the USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association, was able to contact Chuman and have an honorary degree sent to him.

In a video message, Folt said, "On behalf of our university, I am so sorry you were never allowed to complete your law degree at our institution. Eighty years after this grave injustice, I hope you will accept the diploma as our way of thanking you for your distinguished career in law and your everlasting contributions to the Japanese American redress efforts."

She added, "Your activism in civil rights and involvement in the landmark constitutional cases argued before the Supreme Court show what is just and right about the United States. You're a shining example that our students of today will aspire to follow."

Sources: *Densho Encyclopedia*, *USC News*



MANAA and JACL members support Cary at the "Little Boy" screening in 2015.

The Rafu Shimpo

1300 West Beverly Blvd.,
Montebello, Ca 90640

Open Monday-Friday:
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tel: 213-629-2231

Fax: 213-687-0737

CLASSIFIEDS

THE RAFU SHIMPO
Pub# 454-140

Copyright 2025 by Los Angeles News Publishing Company, published once a week by Michael Komai, publisher. Known office of publication: 1300 W. Beverly Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640-4145. Business and Editorial Office: 1300 W. Beverly Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640-4145. Accounting and Circulation Offices: Michael Komai, Publisher, 1300 W. Beverly Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640-4145. Call (213) 629-2231 to subscribe. Periodicals postage is paid at 7001 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90052-9613. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Rafu Shimpō, 1300 W. Beverly Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640-4145.

For information on how to place an English section Classified Ad in The Rafu Shimpō, please call (213) 629-2231, ext. #100 or fax (213) 687-0737, Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Deadline is 11 a.m. 8 days in advance of publication date. Ads must be prepaid by cash, check or credit card (American Express, Mastercard, and Visa). Include your name and a daytime phone number. In compliance with federal equal employment opportunity, some ads under "Help Wanted" may designate "man or woman," although the use of such terms does not mean jobs are limited to male or female applicants.

LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 25CMCP00219
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
200 West Compton Blvd
Compton, CA 90220
Compton Courthouse

PETITION OF: Jaime Uriel Mondragon for change of name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

1. Petitioner: Jaime Uriel Mondragon filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

1. Present name: Jaime Uriel Mondragon
Proposed name: James Uriel Mondragon

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: 02/17/2026, Time: 8:30, Dept. E, Room: 1004

The address of the court is same as noted above.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

THE RAFU SHIMPO
Date: 12/3/2025

ELIZABETH L. BRADLEY
Judge of the Superior Court

Published: 12/12/25, 12/19/25, 12/26/25, 1/1/26.

RS 100139

Happy Holidays!

RAFU SHIMPO
LEGAL NOTICES (213) 629-2231

SENIOR HOME CARE SERVICES

Hope International Homecare, Inc.

Japanese bilingual caregivers can cook, clean, provide personal care with all your home care needs.
- Part time to 24 hr care
- Companion care to Hospice Care
We cover WLA, East L.A., Monterey Park, Orange County, San Fernando Valley, San Bernardino and Long Beach.
(310) 782-7979
www.hi-homecare.com

BEST CARE CONNECTIONS IN-HOME CARE SERVICES

JAPANESE CAREGIVER SERVICES
info@bcc-la.com
www.bcc-la.com
CALIFORNIA STATE LICENSE: HCO#194700410
1-888-610-1160
(ENGLISH/JAPANESE)

JAPANESE HOME CARE

Japanese Caregivers available to cook, clean, drive, etc. We specialize in home exercise for Parkinson's Disease, Stroke & more. Doctor of Physical Therapy on staff.
CARELIFE (310) 373-6030
www.carelifeinc.com
Bonded & Insured
KAZOKU HOME
家族ホーム
We're a newly opened Residential Care Facility for elderly in Los Angeles area.
Please contact us if you're looking for places for your loved ones.
We also have a facility in Kyoto Japan if you're interested.
www.kazokuhomela.com
424-237-4914

SERVICES

ABC ROOFING-Since 1979. Free estimate, reasonable price. Guarantee. Lic #425672 (213) 380-9073
TLC Renovation, Inc. Carpentry, plumbing, electrical & much more. Big or small jobs welcomed. 25 years experience.
Licensed General Contractor #538475
Bob Tanabe (618) 352-2233
Japanese Tree Trimming
Over 25 years experience pruning matsu, juniper, maple, kaki while dormant, and other artistic trees. Serving all of Southern California. Cal State Long Beach grad.
TAKASHI TASH KUSHI (714) 821-4808
Leave message anytime or call after 6 p.m. Japanese is OK

HELP WANTED

HIRING: MAINTENANCE (On-Site)
Local to San Fernando Valley
Neighborhood Shopping Center
Retired/Semi-Retired Preferred
Call Bryan at 714-904-9605

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

ENERGETIC FRONT OFFICE RECEPTIONIST
Do you love and connect with people, have a warm heart, cheerful phone voice and can communicate well? Fun, private dental specialty office in Burbank and LA is looking for you!
* Must be fluent in English.
* Good computer skills.
* Marketing skills a plus.
* FT 4 - 5 days per week.
* Some Saturdays.
* \$22-26 per hour based on experience & skills.
* Will train. Room to grow.
For more info, text Becky at: (626) 268-1629

Add Your Event to the Calendar Listing!

jyamamoto@rafu.com

FOR LEASE

PRIME GARDENA BLVD.
Offices for lease from 567-700 SF. Private Bathroom, Gated Bldg. From \$995 mo. 424 210-7403
FOR SALE
For Sale
COMMERCIAL / MANUFACTURE PROPERTY in the City of Gardena
Great investment opportunity! 14,000 sq ft of living space
Contact Mike Izquierdo at: (213) 448-5320
Broker DRE 00880183
RENTAL
LONG BEACH
Furnished one bedroom condo unit (600 sq ft) at 360 W Ocean Blvd, downtown Long Beach. Close to beach, restaurants, & shopping. Wifi, utilities & 1 parking space included in the \$2200/month rent. Text Jennifer at: 310-571-5760

FOR RENT — GARDENA

QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD
ACROSS GARDENA VALLEY J.C.I.
\$2,450/Month. 2-Bed, 1-Bath upstairs apartment. New kitchen with stainless steel appliances, new granite counters and (vinyl) wood flooring throughout. Brand new bathroom, dual pane windows, A.C., carport with enclosed storage. Coin operated laundry on site. Approx. 850 Sq Ft.
(310) 722-7607

"K-TOWN"

1st & St. Andrews Place
2B+2B+2P, Central Air / Heat
Completely Remodeled Interior.
Brand New Appliances (W&D, Refrig.) Contact Chris (213) 505-3344
GUEST HOUSE WANTED
Guest House Rental (Live-in for a few years)
Japanese senior is looking for a rental. Very quiet and does video editing. Can do handy-man type fix-up. cadekamata@gmail.com
(213) 422-4123

HAVE A NICE DAY!

YAMAGUCHI TERMITE CONTROL SERVICE

INSPECTION and ESTIMATES
TERMITE REPORTS and ESCROW
(323) 663-1161
STATE LICENSE NO. 6377

Complete Fishing Tackle

626-797-8839
Johnny's SPORT SHOP
1402 Lincoln Ave. Pasadena CA 91103

HOME CARE

JAPANESE CAREGIVERS
(213) 725-2273
WWW.PACECARELA.COM
CALIFORNIA LICENSE # 194700134

BUNKADOONLINE.COM

213 625 1122

Karl Kim, CFP®, CRTP

Retirement Planning Advisors, Inc.
Retirement Income, Estate Planning, Tax Planning, Investments
RetirementPlanningAdvisors.com
P: 714-994-0599 F: 714-994-0525
Securities and Investment Advisory Services offered through Integrity Alliance, LLC. Member SIPC Integrity Wealth is a marketing name for Integrity Alliance, LLC. Integrity Alliance, LLC and Retirement Planning Advisors, Inc. are not affiliated companies. Karl Kim, Investment Advisor Representative. CA Insurance License #0810324

OYAMA PLUMBING

PAUL MIDDO
LICENSE # 758457
(323) 313-5392
RESIDENTIAL REPAIRS-REMODELING-REPIPING
INSURED

FUKUI IS UNDERSTANDING

SINCE 1918
FUKUI MORTUARY
707 E. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-626-0441

LIFE'S JOURNEY DOES NOT END

Green Hills Mortuary helps families honor life through celebration and remembrance.
• Serving families of all faiths, with special requests, and budgets
• Free advanced funeral planning
GREEN HILLS MORTUARY
and memorial chapel, Inc.
Lic.# FD1175; CA Insurance # 0737077
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275 **(310) 831-0311 | GreenHillsMortuary.com**

Dad Should Be In A Nursing Home

"How Do We Pay For It?"
800-403-6078
Get Medi-Cal To Pay For Nursing Home Care!
Judd Matsunaga
Attorney at Law
elderlawcalifornia.com

John Saga

Electrical & Plumbing
Lic. #B502655 C10 C36
Specializing in:
Solar/Bath & Kitchen Remodel/
Electrical Panel Upgrade
Tank-less Water Heater-Re-Pipe-Repairs & More
310-377-2077

Aizumi

Continued from page 1

co-executive director. "Right now, the leaders of Okaeri are processing this loss, and many are finding comfort in the messages of love coming from across the world, sharing how Marsha made them feel seen.

"The Okaeri community will share more about Marsha's lasting legacy in the weeks to come, but today and as we step into the holiday break, we are going to slow down to openly grieve. Our hearts go out to Marsha's family — including her chosen family — and all those who loved her."

Information about Marsha's memorial service and how to send your condolences will follow shortly. Updates will be posted to: <https://www.ltsc.org/in-memori-am-marsha->

aizumi

Learn more about Marsha's passion. Okaeri: www.okaeri.org, her book "Two Spirits, One Heart": <http://www.marshaaizumi.com/book.html>, and an archive of her articles in *Pacific Citizen*: <https://www.pacificcitizen.org/category/columnists/aizumi/>

LTSC will host in-person and



Marsha Aizumi and her son Aiden co-authored "Two Spirits, One Heart."

Lee

Continued from page 1

statute, regulations, etc."

Lee represents the 12th Council District, encompassing the northwest San Fernando Valley.

The case stemmed from alleged violations related to lunches, dinners, a Vegas trip and other gifts connected to Englander. In 2020, Englander pleaded guilty to scheming to obstruct a federal investigation into the 2017 Vegas trip, and his acceptance of \$15,000 in cash and gifts from businessman Andy Wang. He was sentenced to 14 months in prison.

Lee was not charged by federal prosecutors nor named during Englander's federal indictment, but referred to as "City Staffer B."

Lee's ethics case involves gifts such as food, wine, hotel stays, transportation and about \$1,000 worth of gambling chips, which were provided by Wang, lobbyist Michael Bai, and developer Chris Pak.

Zang heard Lee's case from June 2-6 via video conference, according to city documents. Enforcement Officer Marian Thompson and Director of Enforcement Keith Hardy represented the commission while

attorneys Amber Maltbie and Brian Hildreth represented Lee.

"Accordingly, Counts 1 to 5 of the Accusation are sustained, while Counts 6 to 10 are dismissed," according to Zang's 59-page proposed decision.

"Considering the severity of respondent's violations, his intentional concealment of his violations, his lack of remorse, and his lack of candor at the hearing, the maximum monetary penalty authorized under Charter section 706, subdivision (c), for each violation of Counts 1 to 5 is warranted."

Lee denied the allegations during those proceedings, explaining he attempted to pay for lodgings and food, or declined to eat during lunch meetings with Wang, Bai and Pak.

On Dec. 17, Lee's attorney refuted the allegations and reiterated the councilman's defense. Lee's attorneys argued that investigators incorrectly calculated the value of the gifts, contended the statute of limitations expired on the alleged ethics violations, and contended the issue regarding disclosure of gifts was due to the dollar amount being disputed.

Gifts under \$50 do not have to be disclosed. Lee's attorneys argued that

virtual spaces to process this loss in January and February. You can find additional resources for grief and loss with our colleagues at HelpGuide (<https://www.helpguide.org/mental-health/grief>) and the L.A. County Department of Mental Health (<https://dmh.lacounty.gov/mental-health-resources/grief-loss/>).

Tsuneishi Park

Continued from page 1



Satoru Tsuneishi (1888-1987)

Valley.

"Among the features of the 8,600-square-foot park will be the addition of a 100-foot mural that I believe captures those themes ...

"Our family sees the Satoru Tsuneishi Park as an opportunity to represent both the city and the late Satoru 'Shisei' Tsuneishi — grandfather, husband, father, farmer and haiku poet."

This project began as part of a development agreement in 2021, when approximately 8,600 square feet of land was donated to the city for park use. Since then, the city has worked closely with the Community Services Commission and local residents to shape the park's design, gather feedback, and honor the legacy of Satoru Tsuneishi, the first Asian American graduate of Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte High School.

On April 15, the Monrovia City Council approved the final park design and awarded a construction contract to RG General Engineering, Inc., moving the project into its next phase. The groundbreaking was held on June 3 with the Monrovia City Council and members of Tsuneishi's family participating.

During that time, Keimi's parents decided to return to Japan because of the uncertainty of their family's future. Fumiko wrote to her father in Hiroshima, asking if the Mikamis could live with him in Japan. Since her father grew his own vegetables and caught fish from a stream on his property, he agreed.

When Chihiro and Fumiko requested to return to Japan, they were sent to Tule Lake, where they eventually decided to stay in the U.S. They were released from Tule Lake in 1945, shortly before Keimi turned ten years old.

But Chihiro and Fumiko pulled their resources together to provide stability and safety for their children. Prior to their release from Tule Lake, Chihiro returned to Los Angeles alone to secure a job at a mattress factory and an apartment in Boyle Heights. When the Mikamis were released from Tule Lake, they came directly to that apartment during a time when many families could not return home.

After the war, Fumiko taught ikebana and sewed clothing by the piece and Chihiro eventually started his own gardening business.

Keimi attended East Los Angeles College and the University of Southern California, where she studied accounting and office management. Many of her USC friends were majoring in teaching, and that is where she met Hal, her future husband and Heart Mountain survivor.

While working in the accounting department at Lucky

Stores, now known as Kroger, she volunteered at JANM on Thursday nights. After retiring, she and Hal continued to be involved with the museum's volunteer program in many areas, including development, outreach, special events, HR/Volunteer Office, and Events & Recognition (later named Organization Support) Committee. She received the Family Spirit Award with Hal in 1999 and Administration Award in 2004.

"JANM is deeply saddened by the passing of our beloved Barbara Keimi," said Ann Burroughs, JANM president and CEO. "Barbara, together with Hal, have been part of the lifeblood of the museum for so many years — giving their time, care, and unwavering commitment in ways that have shaped JANM and touched all of us.

"Losing Barbara is heartbreaking, and it will be felt profoundly across our JANM family and beyond. She will be remembered not only for her

generosity and dedication, but for the warmth, kindness, and grace she brought to everything she did. Our thoughts are with Hal and their family during this difficult time."

KUBOTA
Sharing. Community. Legacy.
kubotamortuary.com

Serving the community over 70 years.
911 Venice Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90015
T: 213-749-1449
F: 213-749-0265
FD-929

Keimi

Continued from page 1

Canyon Detention Station, they moved to Marysville in Northern California, and stayed with friends' relatives.

When Executive Order 9066 was signed by President Roosevelt, Fumiko and her children were imprisoned at the Merced temporary detention station, where Chihiro reunited with them. Together, they were transferred to the Amache concentration camp in Colorado.

Keimi's strongest memories of camp were of her mother. Prior to World War II, Fumiko took sewing classes at the Pacific Sewing School in Little Tokyo. She continued honing her skills at Amache, where she took sewing, tailoring, and ikebana classes. She even made a suit for Chihiro in camp.

VOX POPULI

Are Sansei Baby Boomers Stronger Than the Issei and Nisei?

By RON IKEJIRI

Growing up in the 1950s (commonly referred to now as “the mid-century”) era, we watched and learned first- hand that the Issei and Nisei never felt entitled.

- They knew that life would not wait for them to be okay!
- They got up, they carried the burden of the day.
- They kept going.
- They did it with patience.
- They did it with dignity.
- They were respectful of others, even if others were not respectful of them.

Issei in their new land of opportunity and facing various forms of hardships, race discrimination and economic struggles ...

- The Issei did not wait for things to get better.
- They kept the belief that their sacrifices were for “*kodomo no tame ni* for the sake of their children.
- They exhibited “*gaman* ... perseverance” in often unbearable circumstances.

That is how the Issei and Nisei, by the 1980 U.S. Census, set the foundation for Sansei males to have the highest college educational attainment of ALL males in the U.S.

Today we find a new generation of Yonsei and Gosei that have little or no knowledge, understanding or appreciation of their roots and the sacrifices of the Issei and Nisei.

Simply stated, some feel they are ENTITLED to everything that they may enjoy today by just being. While time will tell, my observation is that the Yonsei and Gosei may go through life with the unfortunate experience of not making any bold statement of their roots and exude exclamation marks in their respect and pride of their American Japanese ancestry experiences.

- No bright shooting stars
- Just go through a life of entitlement
- And then just fade away without a whimper.

To give meaning to the Issei and Nisei experience, one last time (*mou ichido*), I ask that the Sansei Baby Boomers make themselves available to be ADOPTED by a Yonsei or Gosei and share with them your personal life stories.

We are not talking about formal meetings or seminars. We are talking about one-on-one chats, over boba, or macchiato latte ... or whatever the drink of choice they may wish or whatever is trending.

Share with them just “how cool” it was to have Bachan’s salty onigiri and cold tempura and karaage chicken sitting at the beach or on a mountain hike, or just the comforting taste of hot miso soup with gohan, a bit of fish, tsukemono and ocha ... and explain to them the essence of this comfort food called *ochazuke*.

Share with them that your friends from school would have turkey dinners or spaghetti and meatballs, and just how trendy in your Japanese home, dinner was more often than not, *nokorimono* ... leftovers.

Share with them the truthful meaning of leftovers ... that was all there was to eat with the limited funds that so many Issei and Nisei had during those early years.

Share with them that your family were *early adopters* of this World War II miracle canned food called Spam that could be eaten cold or sandwiched in between grains of rice. And, if you were celebrating a special event ... you even made Spam teriyaki style, just like a sous chef. If you couldn’t find Spam, you just got wieners, cut them on a diagonal and cooked them in “sato and shoyu or sugar and soy sauce,” with a bowl of rice, and you had a meal fit for a Sansei samurai.

Share with them Mom telling you to eat every grain of rice, because she reminded you that because of the war on the Korean Peninsula in the 1950s, the kids your age had nothing to eat.

During all of these chats, interject a thought or memory of Jiichan or Obaachan ... Mom or Dad’s moments of joy, sadness and challenge. It will make the moment memorable for the Yonsei or Gosei that adopted you.

United States Senator Spark Matsunaga from Hawaii once shared with me some 48 years ago, “Only through personal suffering will you truly appreciate the sacrifices of your parents’ and grandparents’ generation.”

While no one truly wants to suffer, it’s not like you wake up and say, “Ok my goal is to be subjected to personal suffering today!” What was meant is that through adversity we learn patience and dignity.

Share with them how appreciation and gratitude was learned and taught not by some grand gift or awesome event ... but daily little gestures of kindness and supporting one another, a little bit of “kimochi ... heart,” one thoughtful gesture at a time.

We Sansei Baby Boomers may not measure up and be stronger than the Issei and Nisei.

- But we can be the bridge to the Issei and Nisei for the Yonsei and Gosei.
- We need to do it now in 2026, as so many of us are leaving each day.
- So please resolve to be that bridge ... Rekindle not only our memories of the Issei and Nisei life stories, but to share them with the Yonsei and Gosei.

The Issei and Nisei made the American Dream a reality for the Sansei and we have a “on and giri ... duty and responsibility” to share with Yonsei and Gosei the roots of that American Dream ... to help them to step up boldly, make an exclamation-mark statement and take their “rightful” place furthering the Japanese American contributions to the American way of life.

- Do not, “guzu-guzu ... put it off,” do it now.
- Time is fleeting
- Tomorrow is too late
- Get it started today.

Onegai shimasu ... Yoroshiku (I am counting on you!)



Ron Ikejiri is a former member of the Gardena City Council. Opinions expressed in Vox Populi are not necessarily those of The Rafu Shimpō.

GET INVOLVED!

We welcome your contributions to: Announcements for the Calendar of Events, Nikkei Newborn, Religion Page, Sports, Weddings. Mail to: The Rafu Shimpō, 1300 West Beverly Blvd., Montebello, Ca 90640
• 213-629-2231 • 213-687-0737 fx
• E-mail: submit@rafuconnect.com

Masako Koda

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Masako Koda, who passed away on December 15, 2025, at the age of 95. Born on March 5, 1930 in Tokyo, Japan, Masako came to the United States in 1956 and lived in Los Angeles and later Gardena.

Masako was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, and great grandmother.

She is survived by her daughter, Shirley Miyuki Dohzen; son, Richard Masanobu (Carolyn) Koda; grandchildren, Tiffany Dohzen, Traycie (Cory) Koyanagi, Samantha (Malcolm) Ahoy and Alyssa Koda. Also surviving her are her two great-grandsons, Aiden and Devin Koyanagi, as well as many extended family members whose lives were touched by her presence. Her husband, Dan Noboru Koda, preceded her in death.

Funeral services will be held at Gardena Buddhist Church, 1517 West 166th Street, Gardena, on Sunday, December 28, 2025 at 10:30am.

www.fukuimortuary.com (213) 626-0441

Masako Koda

Richard Wataru Nakashima

June 10, 1937 – December 1, 2025

Richard Wataru Nakashima, 88 years old, Sacramento, Calif.-born, longtime resident of Los Angeles, California, passed away peacefully on December 1, 2025, at St. John’s Emergency Hospital in Santa Monica, Calif.

He is survived by his loving wife, Kazuko Nakashima; children, Steven (Dana), James, and Judy (Eddie); grandchildren, Ryu, Koyo, Takuya, Kae, Yuka and Hideo; sisters, Atsuko Tremble, Takeko Watanabe, Michiyo Shimbashi, and Aiko Hayashida; also survived by many nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends.

Private family service was held at Fukui Mortuary on December 16, 2025.

www.fukuimortuary.com (213) 626-0441

Richard Nakashima



Ramblings From the Son of a Paper Son By Bill Yee

Christmas Time Is Here ...

Even though I grew up in a non-Christian family, my family loved Christmas and singing Christmas carols. Of course, it didn’t hurt that “yours truly” was born on Christmas Day. It was also part of our assimilation into American society as the children of immigrants.

We always had a real Christmas tree. We looked upon fake trees as a form of Christmas heresy. Like the aluminum tree in “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” it just was not Christmas without a real tree.

It was a ritual every year that my older brother and I would go out and buy a real tree. He would usually also treat me to dinner beforehand. It was one of my favorite childhood memories. Afterwards, the box of lights and ornaments would come out and the decorating would begin. We always fought for who would put the star on the tree.

Listening to and singing Christmas carols was also part of our family tradition.

My brother had an old hi-fi record player and one Christmas we bought a Christmas album from the Firestone Tire store across the street from our flat. It was a promotional item. I think it cost \$1.99.

We played that record over and over during the Christmas



JACCC Seeking Shikishi Submissions

The Japanese American Cultural & Community Center is seeking submissions for its 21st annual New Year Shikishi Exhibition, to be held Jan. 10 to 24 in the JACCC’s George J. Doizaki Gallery.

Shikishi is a traditional Japanese rigid art board made of high-quality washi (Japanese paper) laminated onto a hardboard backing, with distinctive gold foil edges, used for calligraphy (shodo), ink painting (sumi-e), poetry (haiku), watercolor, mixed media, or autographs, offering a sturdy, decorative surface for artists and fans. These boards come in various sizes, often

season. I remember the vocalists included Andy Williams, Perry Como and San Francisco native Johnny Mathis. I can still hear Perry Como’s rendition of “Santa Claus Is Coming To Town.”

My older brother Benny would sing carols to us. His favorite was “White Christmas.” The Bing Crosby version is the best-selling record of all time. Benny taught us the lyrics to the popular carols. My sister Helen and brother Teddy would sing along at the laundry to the songs on the radio. We would even sing to our customers.

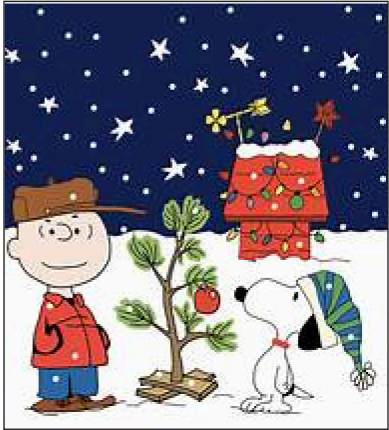
As kids we also performed in the Christmas program at Redding Elementary School. Even though the school was just two blocks from our laundry, our parents were too busy with work to attend. My sister-in-law Merry (as in “Merry” Christmas) did attend! My sister Helen always appreciated that!

One year my dad got in the Christmas spirit and ordered a roll of paper with Santa Claus sitting on a roof next to a chimney. We wrapped the finished laundry packages in the holiday paper.

Television also had a big impact on our family Christmas traditions. Our parents enjoyed watching holiday shows, including Bing Crosby, Andy Williams and Lawrence Welk family Christmas specials, to name a few. As a family we all looked forward to watching these shows together.

In 1965 “A Charlie Brown Christmas” became an annual event in our household, and it remains a holiday classic in my home even though Apple TV and not CBS has the rights.

One of my fondest Christmas memories was using the tips I got for delivering laundry to our customers and going downtown to buy a gift for my parents. One customer, Mrs. Atherton, would take



us to Woolworth’s and treat us to a soda and candy. She always baked cookies for us too.

One year Mrs. Atherton helped us buy two pillowcases for my parents.

We also went to the toy department at the Emporium and, in our heads, put together a wish list of what we wanted for Christmas. Our parents did not really celebrate Christmas or even give us gifts. It was a grand-aunt who would make sure we all had something for Christmas.

She would always give the best gifts that were most sought after by kids.

In San Francisco, many listen to radio station KOIT, which plays nothing but Christmas music during the season.

Christmas is not just about getting presents or singing Christmas carols. It’s a feeling that there can be peace in the world and we can have a “White Christmas.” For me as a Christ believer, the real reason I celebrate is the coming of our Savior!

Merry Christmas!

Bill Yee is a retired Alhambra High School history teacher. He can be reached at paperson52@gmail.com. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Rafu Shimpō.

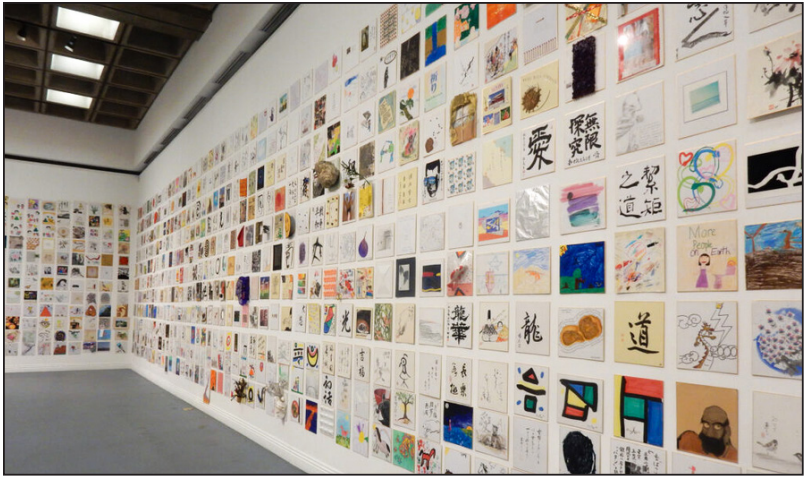
All artwork must be suitable for a family-friendly exhibition. Submissions may not include:

- Violent or graphic imagery
- Obscene or pornographic content
- Illegal, non-compliant, or rights-infringing material
- Any imagery inappropriate for minors

JACCC reserves the right to review and decline works that do not meet these guidelines. JACCC is not liable for damage to artwork during the exhibition.

Artwork can be retrieved from Jan. 28 to Feb. 13.

For more information, call (213) 628-2725 or email info@jaccc.org.



Mark Haruo Dobashi

August 31, 1952 – November 22, 2025

Mark Haruo Dobashi of Whittier, Calif., born to Masao and Shizue Dobashi in Los Angeles, raised in ELA and Monterey Park, passed away peacefully at home on November 22, 2025.

A devoted husband and father, and a proud journeyman plumber, he provided for his family working decades in the private sector and 14 years in the City of Los Angeles. He liked the work and enjoyed the camaraderie and respect among co-workers.

He loved cars, motorcycles and the Dodgers. He cherished every cat and dog that shared his home. He enjoyed his privacy, time alone and sharing his wry sense of humor with friends.

Kind and generous, he leaves behind a loving family – wife, Michiyo; son, Michael (Charlene) Dobashi; daughter, Robin (Karim Chee) Dobashi; grandson, Brock Dobashi; sister, Elizabeth (Wade) Kato.

He is also survived by an aunt, cousins, nieces, nephews and in-laws.

A small private service was conducted in accordance with his wishes.

The family requests, please, no koden. Your good thoughts and warm memories are sure to find Mark, wherever he ventures to journey.

www.fukuimortuary.com (213) 626-0441

Mark Dobashi

Pearl Ann Iizuka

Funeral service for Pearl Ann Iizuka, 69, a Washington-born resident of Torrance who passed away peacefully on November 4, was held on Saturday, December 20, at Faith United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Melvin; daughters, Lisa Naomi (Greg) Guadagnolo of Texas and Kristin Kiyomi (George) Zarafili; granddaughter, Kiyomi Mae Guadagnolo of Texas; sister, Patricia (Kelly) Eastham, and sister-in-law, Jane (Gregg) Blodgett, of Washington.

www.fukuimortuary.com (213) 626-0441

Pearl Ann Iizuka

Reiko Suzuki

Funeral services for the late Reiko Suzuki, 92-year-old, Japan-born, resident of Torrance, who passed away peacefully on December 11, 2025, at her residence, will be held Monday, December 29, 11 a.m. at Gospel Venture International Church, 17811 S. Western Ave., Gardena, CA 90247, with Pastor Akiko Kim officiating.

She is survived by her loving family: sons, Richard Yasuhiro (Michelle) Suzuki and Brian Hiroshi Suzuki; grandchildren, Aaron and Brett Suzuki; brothers, Kenichi (Reiko) Tsuchikawa and Hideki (Yuuko) Tsuchikawa, both of Japan; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives in Japan.

www.fukuimortuary.com (213) 626-0441

Yoshie Ishigame

Funeral services for the late Mrs. Yoshie Ishigame, 85-year-old, Los Angeles-born resident of Monterey Park, a long time member of Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, who passed away on December 18, 2025, will be held Sunday, January 11, 2026, 2:30 p.m. at Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, 815 E. First St., Los Angeles, Calif.

Predeceased by her husband, Matsumi Ishigame.

She is survived by her daughter, Alice Miki (Alan Tao) Ishigame-Tao; son, Henry Toshiro (Maria Fajatin) Ishigame; grandson, Kenny Ichiro Tao; siblings, Masaharu Yamada, Yoko Okumoto, Meri Isefuku of Japan, Kunio Yamada of Japan, and Hiroshi Yamada; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives here and in Japan.

www.fukuimortuary.com (213) 626-0441

Yoshie Ishigame

RELIGION

RAFU Event Calendar



DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Gardena Buddhist Church 1517 W. 166th St. Gardena 90247, 310-327-9400. Gardenabuddhistchurch.org. Dec 28 (Sun): No Sunday service. Dec 31 (Wed), 7 pm–Joya-e year-end service. Joya-e service is held to express gratitude for the past year. In-person service in the Hondo. Jan 1 (Thur), 8 am–Shusho-e New Year’s Day service. Shusho-e is a day to celebrate rededication and looking forward to the year ahead. In-person service in the Hondo.

Grace First Presbyterian Church, 3955 N. Studebaker Rd., Long Beach, (562) 420-3393. Pastor Dr. Marion Park. Community Food Bank on the first Saturday of each month. Traditional service at 9 am. Praise service at 11 am. Fellowship after each service.

Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple 505 E. 3rd St, L.A. 90013, 213-626-4200. hibt-la.org. Rinban Kenjun Kawawata.

Jodoshu North America Buddhist Missions P.O. Box 11068, Torrance, CA 90510, 213-346-9666.

Koyasan Buddhist Temple 342 E. 1st St, L.A. 90012, 213-624-1267. www.koyasanbetsuin.org.

Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha 4110 N Martin Luther King Blvd, North Las Vegas, NV 89032, 702-483-9754. LVBS.org. Led by Bishop Rev. Marvin Harada and minister’s assistants. Please join us every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 10 am.

L.A. Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple 815 E. 1st St, L.A. 90012, 213-680-9130. nishihongwanji-la.org, Rimban William Briones. Services are back in-person. We do recommend that masks be worn while indoors.

Long Beach Buddhist Church 2360 Santa Fe Ave, Long Beach 90810, 562-426-4014. Sunday service at 10 am followed by a social hour at 11 am. Meditation is on

Wednesday evening from 7:30-8:30 pm and Sunday mornings from 8:30-9:30 am. Ondo for exercise class every Friday from 7:30-8:30 pm. Kimekomi doll making class every 3rd Saturday of the month at 1 pm.

Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church 144 S. Greenwood Ave. Montebello CA 90640, (323) 721-5568, Montebelloucc.org. Join us for in-person and online worship service at 10 am Sunday mornings or Youtube.com/mpceucc. Contact mpcec@montebelloucc.org for details.

Orange County Buddhist Church 909 S. Dale Ave, Anaheim 92804, 714-827-9590. Ocbuddhist.org. Dec 27 (Sat), 7 pm–Zoom BEC Japanese class (Rev Dr. Mutsumi Wondra). Dec 28 (Sun): No services. Dec 30 (Tue): Office closed. Dec 31 (Wed), 4:30 pm–Joya-E New Year’s Eve service (office closed). Jan 1 (Thur), 10 am–New Year’s Day service (office closed). Jan 2 (Fri): Office open. Jan 3 (Sat): Office open; 3:30 pm–Shotsuki Hoyo monthly memorial service (in-person). Jan 4 (Sun), 8:30 am–Mindfulness service (in-person); 10 am–Sunday service (hybrid); 11 am–Adult discussion and Dharma School (in-person). Jan 5 (Mon), 10:30 am–In-person BEC Japanese class (Rev Dr. Mutsum Wondra). Jan 6 (Tue): Office closed. Jan 7 (Wed), 7 pm–Zoom mindfulness service. Jan 8 (Thur), 9 am–Tai chi class (in-person). Jan 10 (Sat), 7 pm–Zoom BEC Japanese class (Rev Dr. Mutsumi Wondra). Jan 11 (Sun): No mindfulness service, adult study, or Dharma School. 10 am–Hō-onkō service (hybrid)-Rev. Laverne Imori (E) and Rev. Noriko Kawai (J).

Pasadena Buddhist Temple 1993 Glen Ave, Pasadena 91103, 626-798-4781. Pasadenabuddhisttemple.org. Resident minister: Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs.

Senshin Buddhist Temple 1311 W. 37th St, L.A. 90007, 323-731-4617. senshintemple@gmail.com, senshintemple.org.

Hill Dr, S. San Gabriel 91770, 626-288-1212.

Gospel Venture International Church (GVIC) 17811 S. Western Ave, Gardena, 90248, 310-527-6112.

Grace First Presbyterian Church 3955 N. Studebaker Rd, Long Beach 90808, 562-420-3393.

Hope Chapel Torrance 3521 W Lomita Blvd, 2nd Floor, Suite 202, Torrance 90505.

Japanese American Christian Chapel 300 Mission Dr, Camarillo 93010, 805-384-9333.

L.A. Holiness Church 3660 S. Gramercy Pl, L.A. 90018, 323-733-5000.

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection 9812 Hamilton Ave, Huntington Beach, 92646.

Lutheran Oriental Church 2654 W. 164th St, Torrance 90504, 310-329-9345.

Mission Valley Free Methodist Church 1201 S. San Gabriel Blvd, San Gabriel 91776, 626-285-6788.

New Life Christian Church 1020 W. Kenneth Rd, Glendale 91202, 818-242-8801.

Newport Beach Higashi Honganji 254 Victoria St, Costa Mesa 92627, 949-722-1202.

Nichiren Shu Buddhist Temple 2801 E. 4th St, L.A. 90033, 323-262-7886.

Orange County Christian Church 4872 Bishop St, Cypress 90630, 714-827-2801.

Palos Verdes Baptist Church 28 Moccasin Lane, Rolling Hills Estates 90274, 310-541-1811.

Pioneer Ocean View United Church of Christ 2550 Fairfield St, San Diego, 92110, 619-276-4881.

Resplendent Light Community Church 3200 Ocean Park Blvd, Santa Monica, 90405, 310-450-0459.

Rise OC 3198-B Airport Loop Dr, Costa Mesa 92626, 714-641-1944.

Rissho Kosei-kai Buddhist Church of L.A. 2701 E. 1st St, L.A. 90033, 323-269-4741.

SNI Church (Seicho-No-Ie) South Bay Center 14527 S. Vermont Ave, Gardena 90247.

SNI Church (Seicho-No-Ie) Orange Center 2225 E. Lincoln Ave, Anaheim, 92806, 714-776-5759.

Union Church of L.A. 401 E. Third St, L.A. 90013, 213-629-3876. www.unionchurchla.org. Email: English@unionchurchla.org, Nichigo@unionchurchla.org Weekly worship is held at 11 am in-person and on Zoom.

Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple 12371 Braddock Dr., Culver City, 90230, 310-391-4351. vibt.org. We are open for regular morning services at 9:30 am. Special services and activities include the following: On Tuesday, Dec 30, at 7:30 pm, we will hold our year-end Joya-E service, followed by our traditional toshikoshi soba (year-end noodles) prepared by our tireless Fujinkai ladies using our secret recipe! Please check our website, vibt.org, for more information.

W. Covina Buddhist Temple 1203 W. Puente Ave, W. Covina 91790, 626-689-1040. livingdharma.org. Dec 28 (Sun): No Sunday service. Jan 1 (Thur), 11 am–New Year’s Day service (Shusho-e). Jan 4 (Sun), 10 am–Shotsuki service (hybrid). Jan 8 (Thur), 10 am–Hokawai Japanese service. On Thursday, Jan 1, New Year’s Day service (Shusho-e) will be held from 11 am. The service will be in-person only. January Shotsuki service will be held on Sunday, Jan 4, at 10 am both in-person and online. Hokawai Japanese Shotsuki service will be held on Thursday, Jan 8, at 10 am. Please contact the temple (webt.livingdharma@gmail.com) to receive a meeting ID and password to join the service online.

W.L.A. Buddhist Temple 2003 Corinth Ave, L.A. 90025, 310-477-7274. Rev. Koho Takata and Rev. Koe Umezu. Dec 23-28 (Tue-Sun): Office closed. Dec 31 (Wed), 6 pm–Year-end service. Jan 1 (Thur), 10 am–New Year’s Day service. Jan 1-4 (Thur-Sun): Office closed. Jan 4 (Sun): No service.

Wintersburg Presbyterian Church 2000 N. Fairview St, Santa Ana 92706, 714-740-9400. wintersburg.org.

Zenshuji Soto Mission 123 S. Hewitt St, L.A. 90012, 213-624-8658. Check for details and schedule changes: www.zenshuji.org. Zen Aerobics for Seniors and their family and friends on Sundays, 1 pm offered online Zoom and in-person when conditions are deemed safe. Call to confirm the schedule and check the website for additional classes.

Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church 1850 W. Hellman Ave, Alhambra 91803, 626-284-3229.

San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple 9450 Remick Ave, Pacoima 91331, 818-899-4030.

South Bay Adventist Church 401 S. Prospect Ave, Redondo Beach, 90277, 323-214-3123.

South Bay Japanese Episcopal Church 408 S. Broadway, Redondo Beach, 90277, 323-616-4208.

Sozenji Buddhist Temple 3020 W. Beverly Blvd, Montebello 90640, 323-724-6866.

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church 1432 Engracia Ave, Torrance, 90501, 310-328-3781.

St. Francis Xavier Chapel Japanese Catholic Center (Maryknoll) 222 S. Hewitt St, L.A. 90012, 213-626-2279.

St. John’s Episcopal Cathedral 514 West Adams Blvd, Los Angeles, 90017, 213-747-6285.

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church 961 S. Mariposa Ave, L.A. 90006, 213-387-1334.

Sukyo Mahikari Centers for Spiritual Development 860 E. Mariposa St, Altadena, 91001, 626-529-4160, 23151 Camino Altozano, Rancho Santa Margarita, 949-459-1409 and 3525 Lomita Blvd., Torrance, 310-987-3082.

Sunrise Foursquare Church 5853 Laurel Canyon Blvd, Valley Village 91607, 818-782-8738.

Sunrise Van Nuys Church 14705 Wyandotte St, Van Nuys 91405, 818-782-8738.

Tenrikyo Mission HQ in America 2727 E. First St, L.A. 90033, 323-261-3379.

Torrance First Lutheran Church 2900 Carson St, Torrance 90503, 310-320-9920.

Venice Free Methodist 4871 Centinela Ave, L.A. 90066, 310-822-8094.

W. Covina Christian Church 1100 E. Cameron Ave, W. Covina

We welcome submissions to our Events Calendar. Email information to jyamamoto@rafu.com.

DEC 26-28 — Hikari, 4:30-9 pm at Tanaka Farms, 5380 3/4 University Dr, Irvine. See more than a million twinkling lights while sipping hot cocoa and going for a wagon ride. There are also arts and crafts, games, a chance to meet Santa and live music on Fri and Sat nights. Adults \$25-\$35; children \$15-\$25, Closed Dec. 24-25. Info: (949) 653-2100, tanakafarms.com

DEC 26-28 — 45th anniversary performance of Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” at South Coast Repertory, 655 Town Center Dr, Costa Mesa. Directed by Hisa Takakuwa. Cast includes Sharon Omi and child actors Aya Hanai and Natalie Yokota. Showtimes: Tue-Thur 7 pm, Fri 7:30 pm, Sat 2:30 and 7:30 pm, Sun 12 and 4 pm (matinee only Dec. 28). Tickets range from \$43-\$128 with discounts available for children under 12. Info/tickets: (714) 708-5555, www.scr.org.

DEC 26-JAN 4 — MOCA Focus: Takako Yamaguchi at MOCA Grand Avenue, 250 S Grand Ave, Los Angeles. Hours: Closed Mon; Tue, 11 am-5 pm; Thur, 11 am-8 pm; Fri, 11 am-5 pm; Sat-Sun, 11 am-6 pm. Born in Okayama in 1952, Yamaguchi moved to the US in the early ’70s and began to appropriate imagery from sources as diverse as Mexican muralism, Renaissance art, Japanese Nihonga, and Art Nouveau in ornate paintings that pose a challenge to rigid notions of ethnic identity and cultural ownership. Info/tickets: www.moca.org/exhibition/takako-yamaguchi

DEC 26-JAN 4 — Totoro Show: A Ghibli Universe Art Exhibition at Giant Robot Store, 2015 Sawtelle Blvd, West Los Angeles. Hours: Closed Mon; 12-6 pm Tues-Thur; 11:30 am-6pm Fri-Sat; 12-6 pm Sun. Concurrent with exhibitions at GR2, 2062 Sawtelle Blvd. Hours: Closed Mon-Tue; 12-6 pm Wed-Thur; 12 pm-4 am Fri; 12-8 pm Sat; 12-7 pm Sun. Purchases can be picked up same day or ship out ASAP. Info: (310) 478-1819, giantrobot.com

DEC 26-FEB 19 — “Package Craft: From Candy Box to Sculpture” at Japan Foundation Los Angeles, 5700 Wilshire Blvd, Ste 100, Los Angeles. The exhibition showcases a creative form of papercraft that transforms empty boxes into 3D figures such as heroes, animals and Buddhist statues. Hours: Mon-Fri, 12-6 pm; Sat, 10 am-3 pm; closed Sun and Dec 25-Jan 3. Info: https://www.jflalc.org/event-details.php/315/package-craft-from-candy-box-to-sculpture

DEC 27 — Little Tokyo Farmers’ Market, 9 am-2 pm every Sat at Noguchi Plaza, 244 S San Pedro St, Little Tokyo. Designed to support low-income residents, Japanese American farmers, and the broader Little Tokyo community. Info: https://jaccc.org/events/little-tokyo-farmers-market-2025/

DEC 31 — New Year’s Eve with Elemental Funk, 6:30-10:30 pm at Gardena VFW Post 3261, 1822 W 162nd St, Gardena. Appetizers and champagne toast included. \$50 pre-event sale price, \$60 after Dec 26 or at the door. Info/RSVP: Brian Yamamoto, (310) 408-4730, bri_yama@yahoo.com

JAN 1 — Oshogatsu in Little Tokyo, 10:50 am-3:40 pm at Weller Court, 123 Astronaut Ellison S Onizuka St; 12:30-4 pm at Japanese Village Plaza, 335 E Second St. Featuring entertainment, food, children’s cultural activities, sake fest. Presented by Japanese Chamber of Commerce of SoCal and Japanese Chamber of Commerce Foundation. For info on Kimono Contest: www.lakimonoclub.org/event-details/new-year-kimono-contest

JAN 3 — Nikkei Socials afternoon dance and New Year’s party, 1:30-4:30 pm at Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute, 1964 W 162nd St, Gardena. Dance lesson at 1:30 pm with Gira Nakamoto. DJ music provided by Sumie Nagano. Dancers of all levels welcome, singles and couples. New admission fees: members \$12, non-members \$18. Please have exact change. Refreshments served at intermission. RSVP: Lynn, lisomoto@yahoo.com

JAN 7 — Concerts of Remembrance, Healing and Renewal with violinist Anne Akiko Meyers, 1 pm and 7 pm at St Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 1031 Bienvenida Ave, Pacific Palisades. With Grant Gershon, members of LA Master Chorale,

91790, 626-917-0743.

Westlight Community Church 2650 Federal Avenue, L.A., 90064.

W.L.A. Holiness Church 1710 S. Butler Ave, L.A. 90025, 310-473-2138 (E), 310-473-2130 (J).

W.L.A. United Methodist Church 1913 Purdue Ave, L.A. 90025, 310-479-1379.

Lucinda Carver and guest artists. 12 pm, gathering in prayer, community noonday prayers; 12:40 pm, interlude (refreshments on patio); 6 pm, gathering in prayer. Community Compline; 6:40 pm, interlude (refreshments on patio). Tickets not required; events open to all. Donations welcome. Info: www.musicguildonline.org/event/special-event-2025/

JAN 10 — New Year’s Installation, 12 pm at Sakaguchi Hall, San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, 12953 Branford St, Pacoima. Lifetime Achievement Award: Kay Yamada. Volunteer Award: Pauline Kaku. Entertainment by SFV Taiko, Azuma Kotobuki Kai Dancers. Tickets: \$30. Info/RSVP: (818) 899-1989, events@sfvjacc.com

JAN 10 — “Sing for Science: Ice Cream and Its Multisensory Rewards,” 4-5 pm at Japan House Los Angeles, 6801 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood. Special co-presentation with popular podcast “Sing for Science” led by host and producer Matt Whyte, this live recording is inspired by Japan House’s current “Looks Delicious!” exhibition: the artistry, perception and imagination that shape the way we understand and crave food. Featuring LA-based band Lucius and Dr. Ladan Shams, professor of psychology, bioengineering and neuroscience at UCLA. Van Leeuwen ice cream will be served. Admission: \$10. Info: https://bit.ly/3MldzV

JAN 10 — “Remember When,” a New Year’s dance party and shin-enkai to benefit Japanese American Cultural & Community Center. at Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, 815 E First St, Little Tokyo. Doors open at 6 pm, dancing from 7:30 pm. Music by Kokoro & Friends. Diner, New Year’s toast, line dancing, opportunity drawing, photo booth. Categories for tables of 10: Rodger Young, \$2,500; Parkview. \$1,500; Blarney’s Castle, \$750, Surfrider (unreserved seating for individuals), \$45. Info: Keith Inatomi, keith100@aol.com; Jerry Fukui, geraldafukui@gmail.com; Carol Tanita, cntanita57@gmail.com. JACCC is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Federal tax ID #: 23-7124042

JAN 10-11 — Yamakami Pop-up: Organic Artistry, 10 am-4 pm at MISE 店 at Toshizo Watanabe Exhibition Center, Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, 244 S San Pedro St, Little Tokyo. LA-based ceramics artist Jonathan Yamakami’s sculptural vessels transform nature’s raw textures into refined, expressive forms. Items range from \$130-\$1,000. Info: https://jaccc.org/events/yamakami-pop-up-organic-artistry/

JAN 10-11 — Cultural Ikebana Exhibition, 12-4 pm at George J Doizaki Gallery, Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, 244 S San Pedro St, Little Tokyo. Showcasing three distinct schools, Ikenobo, Sogetsu, and Ohara, the exhibition highlights the unique styles and philosophies that have shaped ikebana across generations. Free, no RSVP. Info: https://jaccc.org/events/9th-annual-cultural-ikebana-exhibition/

JAN 10-24 — New Year Shikishi Exhibition at George J Doizaki Gallery, Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, 244 S San Pedro St, Little Tokyo. Hours: 12- 4pm; closed Mon. For generations, shikishi boards have carried the heartfelt wishes, blessings, and intentions of the new year. Through bold calligraphy, delicate illustrations, and deeply personal messages, each piece offers a glimpse into someone’s dreams for the future. Free, no RSVP. Info: https://jaccc.org/events/21st-annual-new-year-shikishi-exhibition/

JAN 10-FEB 14 — “Koichi Enomoto: Broadcasting/Dreaming” at Nonaka-Hill, 720 N Highland Ave, Los Angeles. Opening reception Jan 10, 6-8 pm. Hours: Tue-Sat, 12-6 pm or by appointment. In his second solo exhibition with the gallery, the Kanagawa-based artist continues to depict the social behavior and ideologies undergirding Japanese, and by extension, all contemporary culture. Exposed by his dual employment of manga and photorealism, their effects are both cutting and humorous. Info: (323) 450-9409, nonaka-hill.com

JAN 11 — Japanese American National Museum’s Oshogatsu Family Festival, 11 am-4:30 pm at JACCC Plaza, 244 S San Pedro St, Little Tokyo. Celebrate the Year of t he Horse with free crafts, performances and cultural activities for all ages. Info/tickets: www.janm.org/events/2026-01-11/2026-oshogatsu-family-festival-year-horse

JAN 11 — Seijinshiki (Coming-of-Age Ceremony), 2-4 pm at Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute, 1964 W 162nd St, Gardena. Presented by Nadeshikokai for young adults turning 18-20 in 2026. Includes furisode or hakama rental and dressing service; photo session by professional photographer; coming-of-age certificate; live

music and entertainment. Info: http://nadeshikokai.org

JAN 17 — “Undercurrents: Tracing Shared Histories from Japan to California,” 3-6:30 pm online. Tracing the Kuroshio ocean current, which connects the coastlines of Japan and California, reveals an interconnected history of migration, industry, art and culture. A number of early migrants from Wakayama and Chiba, many of whom came from a fishing background, made Monterey along California’s Central Coast their adopted home. Presented in partnership with Museum of Modern Art Wakayama. Free but registration required. Info: www.janm.org/events/2026-01-17/undercurrents-tracing-shared-histories-japan-california

JAN 18 — Shinnen Kai and Keiro Kai, 11:30 am at Venice Japanese Community Center, 12448 Braddock Dr, Los Angeles. Info: (310) 822-8885, vjcc.com

JAN 18 — Samurai Film Festival at Shoseian “Whispering Pine” Teahouse, Brand Park, 1601 W Mountain St, Glendale. 10-11:30 am: “Samurai III: Duel at Ganryu Island” (1956); 12-1:30 pm: “Tale of Zatoichi, the Blind Swordsman” (1962); 2-3:30 pm: “Lone Wolf and Cub: Sword of Vengeance” (1972). \$10 each. Pre-register at: glendale-teahouse.org

JAN 18 — “Yuubi: Elegance and Grace of Nihon Buyo,” 1:30-5:30 pm at Aratani Theatre, 244 S San Pedro St, Little Tokyo. Celebrating 30 years of Bando Hidesomi School of Traditional Japanese Dance. Guest artist from Japan: Bando Hideko, daughter of the late Headmaster Bando Mitsurogo IX. Featuring masters in stage production, makeup, costume, wig and on stage assistance from Japan. Tickets: VIP \$100, premium \$75, general \$50. Student discount available. Info: www.jaccc.org

JAN 24 — New Year Workshop: Calligraphy Uma (Horse), 11 am-12:30 pm at Japan Foundation Los Angeles, 5700 Wilshire Blvd, #100, Los Angeles. As part of a traditional Japanese New Year custom, participants will experience *kakizome*, the practice of writing calligraphy to mark the beginning of the year. You will learn to write the *kanji* character for “horse” (*uma*), the zodiac animal of 2026, using Japanese calligraphy (*shodō*). Instructor: Kuniharu Yoshida. Free but registration required. Info: www.jflalc.org/event-details.php/324/new-year-workshop-calligraphy-uma-horse

JAN 24 — San Fernando Valley JACL Installation Luncheon, 11:30 am at Sakaguchi Hall, San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, 12953 Branford St, Pacoima. Guest speaker: Howard Kakita, American Society of Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-Bomb Survivors. Performances by SFV Taiko and LA’s 33 Strings Koto Ensemble. \$30 general, \$15 students. RSVP deadline: Jan 17. Info: Linda Tanaka, info.sfv-jacl@gmail.com, or leave voicemail at (805) 304-5745

Through JAN 25 — “Looks Delicious! Exploring Japan’s Food Replica Culture” at Japan House Los Angeles, 6801 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood. Hours: Mon-Fri, 11 am-7 pm; Sat-Sun, 11 am-8 pm; closed Dec 25. Learn about the beginnings of the food replica industry; watch tha making of food replicas; see a culinary map of Japan showcasing food from all 47 prefectures; make your own food replica bento. Free. Info: https://bit.ly/3Jfh44B

JAN 30 — Conversation with Shigeru Ban, 7:30 pm at Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles. Info: A 2014 Pritzker Prize laureate, Ban is one of contemporary architecture’s most radical humanists, fusing structural innovation with profound social commitment. Free; seating on first-come, first-served basis. Info: https://hammer.ucla.edu/programs-events/2026/shigeru-ban

JAN 31 — Genki Living Workshop, 9 am-1 pm at Tanaka Farms, 5380 3/4 University Dr, Irvine. Plant and grow your horticultural knowledge with this hands-on gardening workshop hosted by Keiro. Admission: \$20. Registration closes Jan 16 or when capacity is reached. Info: keiro.org/glw

Through JULY 12 — “Realms of the Dharma: Buddhist Art Across Asia” at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles. Hours: Mon 11 am-6 pm; Tue 11 am-5 pm; closed Wed and Christmas Day; Thur 11 am-5 pm; Fri 11 am-8 pm; Sat-Sun 10 am-7 pm. International survey of Buddhist and Buddhist art, beginning with the religion’s origins in India and following its spread through Southeast Asia (Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia), the Himalayas (Kashmir, Nepal, Tibet), and East Asia (China, Korea, Japan). Incorporating 180 masterpieces of pan-Asian Buddhist art, the exhibition introduces key concepts of Buddhist thought and practice viewed through the prism of rare and beautiful Buddhist sculptures, paintings, and ritual objects. Info: (323) 857-6000, lacma.org

「コロンブス・デー」ウィード

JANMに2千万ドル寄付

慈善家マッケンジー・スコットさん

小東京の全米日系人博物館（JANM）はこのほど、慈善家のマッケンジー・スコットさんから2度目となる寛大な寄付を受けたと発表した。今回の寄付額は2千万ドルで、同館の歴史において単独の寄付として最大規模である。2021年に贈られた1千万ドルの寄付同様、使途は限定されていないため、同館は将来に向けて資金を最適に活用する自由を得た。



慈善家のマッケンジー・スコットさん

JANMのアン・パロウズ館長兼CEOは、「スコット氏の先見性と寛大さに深く感謝する。現在、当館は新たな未来に向けて大きな転換期を迎えている。21年の寄付により改修期間中もプログラムを拡充し、コミュニティに奉仕するとともに、新しい観客層へ活動を届けることが可能になった。今回の寄付は、当館のミッションの重要性とプログラムの社会的インパクトが認められた証であり、財政的安定を高めるとともに、歴史の継承者としての役割を今後より力強く支えるものだ」と語った。

また、ウィリアム・T・フジオ理事は、「JANMは、移民であった祖父と両親の物語とレガシー（功績）を保存・共有し、第2次世界大戦中の日系米国人の経験を2度と繰り返させないために設立された。この素晴らしい寄付は設立理念を未来へつなぐ、社会正義、多様性、公平性、包摂性を推進するリーダーとしてのJANMの活動を今後より力強く支えるものだ」と語った。

JHNが年末特別番組「孤独のグルメ」と「Mステ」

日本語テレビ

日本語の地上波テレビ放送を行う「Japan Hollywood Network（JHN）」は28日「孤独のグルメ」の「大晦日スペシャル」を放送する。さらに翌29日からJHNのウェブサイトで全米無料配信を行う。また、31日午後1時から年末特別番組「ミュージックステーション SUPER LIVE 2025」を送る。



©2024 Masayuki Osumi, Hiro Taniguchi, fusosha / TV TOKYO



【写真上】28日に放送される人気ドラマ「孤独のグルメ大晦日スペシャル」【同下】31日放送の「ミュージックステーション SUPER LIVE 2025」

お正月フェスティバル 1月11日、日米文化会館で JANM、餅つきなど文化体験



イベントの見どころの一つの餅つきの実演

「The Wheel of the Nikkei Community」の全米巡回公演「勇気の定義（Defining Courage）」、地域の学校での日系米国人歴史教育プログラムなどが含まれる。現在進められている改修工事は、1999年のパビリオン閉館以来、同館における最大規模のプロジェクトである。主な改修内容は、新しい常設展による日系米国人の物語の再構築、来館者体験の向上、アラタニ・セントラルホールの大幅な改修、第2次世界大戦の退役軍人や戦時取容当事者の証言をAI技術で体験できるマナビ&スミ・ヒ

大規模のプロジェクトである。主な改修内容は、新しい常設展による日系米国人の物語の再構築、来館者体験の向上、アラタニ・セントラルホールの大幅な改修、第2次世界大戦の退役軍人や戦時取容当事者の証言をAI技術で体験できるマナビ&スミ・ヒ

毎年小東京の全米日系人博物館（JANM）が開催する新春恒例の人気イベント「お正月ファミリーフェスティバル」は、同館本館が改修工事中のため、今年は日米文化会館（JACC）のホールの改装工事を進めており、完了予定の26年末まで、特別展や一般向けプログラム、イベントを館外各地の会場で開催する「JANMオン・ザ・ゴー」を実施している。同フェスティバルもその取り組みの一環である。入場は無料だが、事前予約を勧めている。チケットおよびイベントの全スケジュールと詳細は、ウェブサイト https://www.janm.org/events/2026-01-11/2026-osaka-asahi-family-festival-year-horse

工事中のため、今年は日米文化会館（JACC）のホールの改装工事を進めており、完了予定の26年末まで、特別展や一般向けプログラム、イベントを館外各地の会場で開催する「JANMオン・ザ・ゴー」を実施している。同フェスティバルもその取り組みの一環である。入場は無料だが、事前予約を勧めている。チケットおよびイベントの全スケジュールと詳細は、ウェブサイト https://www.janm.org/events/2026-01-11/2026-osaka-asahi-family-festival-year-horse

「孤独のグルメ」は、輸入雑貨商を営む井之頭五郎が営業先で立ち寄った飲食店で食事をする様子を描いたグルメドキュメンタリードラマのシリーズ。今回は、ある映画のフィルムを届けるため車を走らせる吾郎、長距離ドライバーの途中まで至極のグルメと出会う。1巻のフィルムを運ぶ中で、思いがけない「物語」が生まれ、その先には「フィルムに込められた思い」が待ち受ける。シリーズ史上最も温かい物語が、大みそかの夜を優しく包み込む。

「ミュージックステーション」は、豪華アーティスト60組以上が2025年の音楽シーンを彩った名曲を5時間におたり披露する。司会は大森元貴と朝日アナウンサーの鈴木新彩。JHNは毎週日曜午後7時から、ロサンゼルス郡とオレンジ郡全域のKXLA局（44・1チャンネル）で放送。地上波テレビ放送が受信できれば視聴が可能。アンテナでの受信はCH44、ケーブルまたはサテライト利用者は、スペクトラムがCH14、19、20、24、715、1240、COXはCH31、32、DIRECTV、DISH、U-VerseはCH44。詳しい情報はウェブサイト info@hollywoodnet.com また、JANMオンラインストアで、午年にちなんだTシャツやぬいぐるみ、湯のみなどのグッズを販売している。

コミュニティ・カレンダー

- 1月1日（木）
▽お正月インリトル東京@小東京・ウェラーコートと日本村プラザ（午前11時）
1月11日（日）
▽JANM・お正月ファミリーフェスティバル@日米文化会館（午前11時）
▽なでしこ会主催成人式@ガーデナ平原日本文化センター（午後2時）
1月13日（火）
▽サトル・ネイシ記念公園の開園記念式典@モニロピア（午後3時）
1月18日（日）
▽坂東秀十美日本舞踊教室創立30周年記念公演（優美）@アラタニ劇場（午後1時半）

車いす女性 初の宇宙飛行



地球に帰還後、ポーズを取るミカエラ・ベントハウスさん
＝20日、米テキサス州（ブルーオリジン提供、AP＝共同）

【ストックホルム＝木下倫太郎】ノーベル生理学・医学賞の坂口志文・大阪大特別栄誉教授（74）や、化学賞の北川進・京都大特別教授（74）らの授賞式を10日（日本時間11日午前0時開始）に控えるスウェーデンのストックホルム。その旧市街地にあるノーベル博物館内の売店では、受賞者に授与されるメダルをかたどったチョコレートが人気を集めている。土産物として手に取る観光客だけでなく、授賞式前にはスウェーデン国内からの注文も増えるという。

博物館名物国内外で人気 博物館名物国内外で人気



国内外からの観光客でにぎわうノーベル博物館内の売店
＝いずれも5日、ストックホルム（木下倫太郎撮影）

ノーベル賞を創設したアルフレッド・ノーベルや歴代の受賞者の功績を紹介する展示が並ぶ博物館。売店には、歴代の受賞者のホストカードやメダルを製造するメーカーが手掛けるマグネットなど多くの土産物が並ぶが、安定した人気を博すのが、メダルチョコレートだ。ノーベルの横顔が浮かぶ金色の紙で包まれたチョコは1個180枚を発売した学校もあるという。外で広がっている。

ノーベルウィーク楽しんで



ノーベル博物館で働く唯一の日本人、ウィベニウスあゆ美さん

京都出身の博物館スタッフ

ノーベル博物館で働く唯一の日本人がいる。京はあつたが、地元ゆかり都市出身のウィベニウスあゆ美さん56。今年の「ノーベル賞ウィーク」に、特に京の北川進・京都大特別教授が選ばれ、生理学・医学賞を受賞する坂口志文・大阪大特別栄誉教授も学生時代を京都で過ごした。日本から約8千キロ離れた北欧の地で地元の品を博物館に寄贈する恒例行事があり、北川さんと坂口さんが博物館を訪れた。その際、あゆ美さんは北川さんの「博物館アタッシュ（専門職員）」としての館内案内業務に協力している。北川さんとの交流が、印象的だったという。また、博物館では「楽しく過ごしたい」をテーマに、日本語のガイドを行うこともあった。話していた。

が最初の一人かもしれないが、最後になるつもりはない」と記していた。

日本の記紀神話に有名な「天の岩戸」がある。太陽神・天照大神が弟神・須佐之男命の乱暴をみかねて天の岩屋に隠れると高天原は暗闇になり、災いが一斉に起こった。八百万の神々が思案し、天照大神が舞い踊ることに。その踊りぶりにどっと笑いが起き、不思議に思ったアマテラスが岩屋の戸を開け、再び日の光が差すきっかけとなったとされる。▼この伝承をさうの「冬至」となぞらえる見方がある。冬至は一年で最も太陽が低い位置にあり、これから太陽の力が強まってくるからだ。「陽来復」といい、太陽が復活する日とされる。▼「陽来復」は「悪いことが続いた後、良い方向に向かう」という意味もある。陰が極まって陽に転じ、良くないことが続いた人にとっては好転のきっかけになるかもしれない。そのためには太陽神に振り向いてもらえるように笑って過ごしたい。

湊町365

「人とのつながりや結びつきを連想させる名前が多い」と分析した。調査は11月、保険契約者やその家族を対象に男の子6312人、女の子6193人を集計した。男の子の2位は「伊織（いおり）」と「結翔（ゆいと）」が並び、4位は「琉生（るい）」だった。女の子の2位が「陽葵（ひまわり）」、3位が「柚（つむぎ）」。

男子「湊」女子「翠」 今年の名前ランキング

令和7年生まれの子供の名前人気上位			
	昨年順位	主な読み方	
男子	1 (15)	湊	みなと
	2 (36)	伊織	いおり
	3 (26)	結翔	ゆいと
	4 (14)	琉生	るい
	5 (6)	蓮	れん
女子	1 (2)	翠	すい
	2 (4)	陽葵	ひまり
	3 (1)	柚	つむぎ
	4 (19)	茉白	ましろ
	5 (3)	凛	りん

※明治安田生命保険調べ、（ ）内は昨年順位

明治安田生命保険は9日、令和7年に生まれた子供の名前ランキングを発表した。男の子の1位は「湊（みなと）」と「翠（すい）」が並び、7年連続トップ。女の子は「翠（すい）」が首位となった。明治安田生命は「人とのつながりや結びつきを連想させる名前が多い」と分析した。調査は11月、保険契約者やその家族を対象に男の子6312人、女の子6193人を集計した。男の子の2位は「伊織（いおり）」と「結翔（ゆいと）」が並び、4位は「琉生（るい）」だった。女の子の2位が「陽葵（ひまわり）」、3位が「柚（つむぎ）」。

1月13日に開園式典

サトル・ツネイシ記念公園

モンロビア市

モンロビア市のサトル・ツネイシ記念公園(1111 Encino Ave.)は2026年1月13日(火)午後3時から開園記念式典を迎える。日系移民・常石覚さんの名を冠した同公園は当初、25年12月8日の開園を予定していたが、日程が変更された。式典は同日午後3時から行われる。

常石さんの孫にあたるマクさんは自身のフェイスブックで、「この公園は、当地の開拓に尽力した祖父とその家族の功績をたたえるもの。祖父の一家は第2次世界大戦中にワイオミング州ハートマンウンテン収容所に収容されたが、4人の息子は米陸軍に従軍し顕著な功績を残した」と述べている。

同じく孫の1人であるジョナサンさんが先に投稿したフェイスブックの別の記事によると、6月に行われた起工式を振り返り、実現の背景を次のように述べている。

「起工式の際、市長や市議員、市職員と話す中で、市が単に地元出身者を顕彰するだけでなく、国道66号線沿いで農業に携わった祖父のような初期の日系米国人農家の貢献を大切にしたいと考えていたことが伝わってきた。また、日系人強制収容の歴史を認識しつつ、米陸軍に従軍したおじたちや、戦後の占領期

は、日本へ渡ったおばたちのような日系米国人の軍務と貢献を顕彰する方法を求めていることが明確だった。祖父、両親、おじ、おばは、皆サンゲールバレーに暮らしてきた。私の家族や地域の人々はこの公共空間を祖父のようない系米国人をたたえる場



常石覚さん(1888〜1987年)



6月に行われたサトル・ツネイシ公園の起工式に参加した家族

年越の「大祓」と「除夜祭」 元日は小東京で初詣



アメリカ出世稲荷神社

アメリカ出世稲荷神社は、31日の午後7時から、「年越の大祓(おおはらえ)」神事と「除夜祭」を神社のYouTubeチャンネルでライブ配信する。「年越の大祓」では、希望者から送られた身代わりとなる人形(ひとがた)や形代(かたしろ)を使って、神主が送り主の穢れ(気枯れ)をほらい、魂の充電と無病息災を祈願する。「除夜祭」では、1年の御神徳を感謝し、新年の家内安全・開運招福を祈願する。神事は誰でも参列(視聴)可能。詳細はウェブサイト: <https://shintoarri.org/2025oshikoshi/>

元日は小東京で行われる正月の祝賀イベントに恒例の神社ブース(午前10時〜午後2時半)を出し、来場者に初詣の機会を提供する。破魔矢や熊手、神札、お守りの頒布(はんぷ)や対面での祈禱(要事前予約)も行う。

また、午前10時から、新年の開運招福・家内安全、世界平和を祈願する「歳旦祭」を、午後1時半からは神社社会員と参拝者の開運招福・家内安全を祈願する月次祭を行う。両神事も誰でも参列できる。家族や友人を誘っての参拝を呼びかけている。

アメリカ出世稲荷神社は当日のイベントのボランティアを募集しており、日本の伝統文化に興味のある人の協力を求める。詳細と申し込みは神社のウェブサイト: [Shintoarri.org](http://shintoarri.org)

本事業は21年、開発協定の 일환として約8,600平方フィートの土地が公園用地として市に寄贈されたことから始まった。以降、市はコミュニティサービス委員会や地域住民と連携し、設計の検討や意見収集を重ねながら、モンロビア・アーケディア・ドワアルテ高校初のアジア系米国人卒業生である常石さんの功績を顕彰してきた。

25年4月15日には市議会が最終設計を承認し、RCJエンジェル・エンジニアリング社に建設契約を授け、事業は次の段階へと進んだ。6月3日には起工式が行われ、市議会議員とツネイシ家の家族が出席した。

公園には、日系米国人の貢献を表現する全長100フィートの壁面が設置されている。

音楽の散歩道

小川弘子



今年もさまざまなコンサートやオペラを聴いてきましたが、師走になって極上の演奏に触れる機会が2回もありました。いつでもどこでも、好きな音楽をオンラインで聞くことができるようになった現代でさえ、一期一会の生演奏を聴くことは、特にそれが世界的なレベルであれば、なおさら、特別なぜいたくであると感じます。

12月12日にウォルト・ディズニーマジックホテルに登場したヴァイオリニスト、ルノー・カフソンは、これまでにソリストとして、名だたる指揮者、世界中のオーケストラは勲章を受章するなど、ま

極上のぜいたく

トラと共演し、室内楽奏者としての、超一流の演奏家たちとタッグを組み、世界各地の音楽祭でも演奏し、自ら音楽祭を創設・監督を務めてきました。今回は、L.A.フィルとモーツァルトのヴァイオリン協奏曲第3番を演奏したのですが、その第一音から、彼の生み出す音の美しさに、まさしく聴きほれてしまいました。その印象は曲の最後まで、楽しまず、今後どのように進化していくのか、楽しみです。

19日には、サンタモニカのブロードステージで、世界中の主要な歌劇場で歌いまくっているオペラ歌手、テナーのピョートル・ベチャワのリサイタルが行われました。今回は、11月24日から今月13日までニューヨークのメトロポリタン歌劇場で、オペラ「アンドレア・シェニエ」の主役を歌った後に、この日のためにカリフォルニアに来てくれたものです。前半は、イタリア歌曲とヴェルディのオペラ「仮面舞踏会」と「ル・トロヴァーレ」からのアリアという、全てイタリア語。後半はベチャワの故郷であるポーランドの歌曲とポーランド語のオペラ「ハルカ」からのアリアに、ドヴォルザークのチェコ語の歌曲とオペラ「ルサルカ」からのアリア、最後はドイツ語で「ワイン我が夢の町」と「君こそわが心の全て」という多彩なプログラムで、ピアノ伴奏のカマル・カーンとの息もピッタリでした。



おがわひろこ

神戸大学教育学部音楽科卒、同大学院修士課程修了。声楽、器楽、合唱、バレエなどのピアノ伴奏者、および合唱指導者。現在、南加日系合唱連盟会長。ミュージック・バンクラブ・ジャパン会員。

パソコン、タブレット、スマートフォン、お使いの端末に対応しました

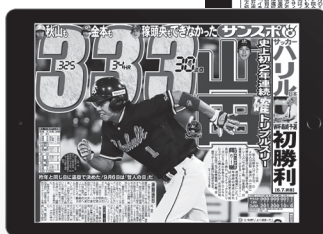


産経電子版

産経新聞が日本時間で毎朝夕届きます！

進化した電子新聞

- 好きなデバイスで紙面が読める
- 電子版限定の特別面を掲載
- 原則フルカラー対応



電子版で使える！ 便利な機能

- バックナンバー 90日
- スクラップ機能
- 地域ページ切替自由
- 記事キーワード検索

※スクラップとキーワード検索はアプリ専用の機能です

詳しくは産経電子版サイトにアクセス！

<http://denshi.sankei.co.jp>

産経新聞

月額購読料 1,800円 (税別)

サンケイスポーツ

月額購読料 2,000円 (税別)

月々の購読料は日本円の定額です。ドル建て口座からの引き落とし額は、月々の為替に合わせて変動します。詳細はお使いのクレジットカード会社におたずねください。

羅府新報を定期購読！ 郵送で、オンラインで



コンピューターやタブレット、もしくはご自宅やオフィスまで郵送で、お届けします。日本や世界のニュースはもち論、日系社会、ローカルニュースを満載。ウェブサイト、電話、ファックスにてお申し込みください。



羅府新報

RAFU SHIMPO

1300 W Beverly Blvd • Montebello CA 90640
213-629-2231 • 213-687-0737 fax • rafu.com



オンライン購読料

\$50/1年間
コンピューター、タブレット
でのご購読の場合。

郵送購読料

購読期間	1年間	半年	3ヵ月
通常購読料	\$177	\$91	\$49
シニア割引*	\$143	\$74	\$39

* 運転免許書もしくはメディケアカードのコピーを同封ください。

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Payment by: クレジットカード (郵送購読: Amex, MC, Visa • Eニュース: MC, Visa)
チェック (Payable to: The Rafu Shimpo)

Card No _____

Expiration Date _____ / _____ 3-4 Digit Security Code _____

Signature _____

■ 羅府新報テレフォン番案内 ■	
緊急の場合（警察・消防・救急車）……………911	
小東京「文芸」……………	213-6173-0281
在ＬＡ総領事館……………	213-6177-6700
日本文化会館……………	213-628-2725
金沢日本人博物館……………	213-625-0414
在ＬＡバグスター……………	213-6061-1656
南加州日本経済人会議所……………	213-626-3067
小東京サービスセンター……………	213-473-3030
日系ヘルプライン……………	213-473-1633
【日系コミュニティセンター】	
オレンヂ郡日本協会……………	714-730-3551
ガータパバレー日本文化協会……………	310-324-6611
サウスウエスト日系……………	562-863-5986
サンタアナ日系……………	949-443-2176
西面シアンジュンセンター……………	323-734-2175
ハリウッド日本文化協会……………	323-664-2070
パサデナ日系……………	626-449-5487
東サンガブリエル……………	626-960-2556
ベニス日系……………	310-822-8885
ロングビーチ日系……………	562-437-9924
日系引退者ホーム……………	323-263-9651
小東京タワーズ……………	213-622-3071
羅府新報……………	
……………	213-629-2236