

# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

*Founded in 1928,  
Portland JACL is one of  
the most respected civil  
rights organizations in  
the country.*



PDXJACL.ORG

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### April 7

- Local Scholarship Interviews at OBT

### April 21

- JACL National Board Meeting, San Francisco, CA

### April 27

- Asian Reporter Banquet, Legin Restaurant

### April 29

- Spring Bazaar, Epworth United Methodist Church, 11:30 - 3:00 p.m.

### May 6

- Japanese American Graduation Banquet, MAC Club, 5:00 p.m.

### May 13

- Mother's Day

### May 28

- Memorial Day Service, Rose City Cemetery, 1:00 p.m.

### June 17

- Father's Day

### June 21-24

- Minidoka Pilgrimage

### July 5-8

- JACL National Convention, Bellevue, WA

### August 19

- Nikkei Community Picnic, Oaks Park

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## A Legacy and Call for Action

*Board Members Message by: Lynn Longfellow*

I recently had the honor and privilege to chair the Congressional Gold Medal Tribute Luncheon that was held on February 26, 2012 to recognize the amazing Nisei veterans of WWII and the honorees of the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service. The award and tribute which were so long overdue, not only honored their patriotism, heroic service and sacrifice, but recognized that this was given despite the fact that many of them along with their families had their Constitutional rights and civil liberties denied as 120,000 Japanese Americans were incarcerated during the war.

It was heartwarming to have the tremendous support and outpouring of appreciation through a sellout event and an inspired community. So many people contacted us wanting to be involved and wanting to know how they could help, and after, how they were moved and so proud of the legacy that this amazing generation has left. Now, a recent trip to Washington D.C. for the JACL/OCA Leadership Summit has left me with a call out to all who wish to honor and protect this legacy and to protect the Constitutional rights of all U.S. citizens.

The lobbying effort this year at the Leadership Summit was focused on legislation for the repeal

of Section 1021 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA is a federal law that authorizes spending for the United States military and for the past forty-nine years, Congress passes what is basically the Department of Defense's (DOD) budget which includes defense policy initiatives or measures that extend beyond the budget. Some of these can be purely administrative matters, but sometimes they can include controversial directives that are "snuck" into the bill. Congress historically has always passed the NDAA as it holds the money that keeps the military running and the country safe. However the newest version referred to as "NDAA FY 2012" which was passed by Congress and signed into law by the President at the end of 2011 contains a very disturbing provision.

Part of Section 1021 reads that a person may be "(detained) under law of war without trial until the end of the hostilities", meaning that the President can order anyone, even an American citizen, to be imprisoned indefinitely without the right to a judicial trial. Hauntingly familiar, this "indefinite detention" bill violates the Constitutional rights of U.S. citizens who are entitled to a "speedy and public trial" and due process when charged with a crime. This puts Americans at risk to be detained without grounds.

Upon signing the NDAA into law, President Obama accompanied

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## Board Members Message Continued

it with a "signing statement" that promised his administration would not authorize or enforce, the indefinite military detention of American citizens. This does not guarantee that future presidents will do the same--the provision is still legal and written into federal law and opens the door for history to repeat itself.

This year marked the 70th Anniversary of the issue of Executive Order 9066. At our JACL Day of Remembrance which was held on February 19th we honored former internees and listened to their stories and experiences. You don't have to look hard today to see the prejudice, stereotyping and racial profiling that echoes this dark chapter in American history--just ask Muslim Americans post-9/11.

Across the street from the Capitol where this legislation is passed stands a wall at the Japanese American Memorial with the following inscription quoting President Harry S. Truman:

YOU FOUGHT NOT ONLY THE ENEMY  
BUT YOU FOUGHT PREJUDICE-AND YOU WON  
KEEP UP THAT FIGHT  
AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO WIN  
TO MAKE THIS GREAT REPUBLIC STAND FOR  
WHAT THE CONSTITUTION SAYS IT STANDS FOR  
THE WELFARE OF ALL OF THE PEOPLE  
ALL OF THE TIME

For anyone whose legacy includes the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during WWII and for

those who want to assure that the Constitutional right to due process is protected, take a stand. For all of you who want to know how you can help honor the Japanese American veterans and to honor and/or carry on their legacy, continue their fight. Speak out for the repeal of Section 1021 of the NDAA. Don't allow the opportunity for indefinite detention for any U.S. citizen to happen again.

Proudly, both Oregon Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley and 4 out of 5 of Oregon's members of Congress (Representatives Kurt Schrader, Earl Blumenauer, Peter DeFazio and former Representative David Wu) voted against the passage of the NDAA. You can contact members of Congress, research and track the activities in the U.S. Congress including the status of U.S. Federal legislation and find voting records for the Senate and the House etc. at websites like [House.gov](http://House.gov), [Senate.gov](http://Senate.gov), [Govtrack.us](http://Govtrack.us) or [opencongress.org](http://opencongress.org).

Without deed and action, words are just that... words on a page, words on a wall, words in a document. Stand with JACL in opposition of indefinite detention without any due process--stand up and be heard. Protect our Constitutional rights. Contact your Congress person... thank them if they voted against the original legislation and encourage them to continue the fight against indefinite detention by supporting current legislation to have it repealed. Tell your personal story and/or the legacy of your family's story if you have one--the power of constituents is great only if it is realized.

## Clark Center Loaves & Fishes April 2012 Menu

2740 SE Powell Blvd., Portland OR

**Monday 2** - Cheese ravioli or grilled chicken breast sandwich

**Tuesday 3** - Baked chicken w/ gravy or taco salad

**Wednesday 4** - Swedish meatballs or bean & rice burrito

**Thursday 5** - Open face sloppy joe or open face seafood sandwich

**Friday 6** - Chicken stroganoff or broccoli quiche

**Monday 9** - Baked fish w/ tartar sauce or tortellini

**Tuesday 10** - Meat loaf w/ gravy or fish filet sandwich

**Wednesday 11** - Chicken enchilada casserole or breakfast casserole

**Thursday 12** - Meatball goulash or turkey, cranberry, cream cheese sandwich

**Friday 13** - BBQ chicken or greek salad

**Monday 16** - Salisbury steak or tortellini salad

**Tuesday 17** - Pork tips or Mediterranean sandwich

**Wednesday 18** - Meat lasagna or tomato basil veggie burger

**Thursday 19** - Dijon turkey or chicken enchilada casserole

**Friday 20** - Teriyaki chicken or veggie lasagna

**Monday 23** - Beef & mac casserole or veggie burger

**Tuesday 24** - Turkey tetrazzini or roast pork w/ gravy

**Wednesday 25** - Baked fish or veggie pizza

**Thursday 26** - Baked chicken or french dip sandwich

**Friday 27** - Pork & broccoli or tuna stuffed tomato

**Monday 30** - Sweet & sour chicken or mushroom & cheese omelet



## EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Please come and join us for  
a tasty bento lunch, delicious  
baked goods, & great plant sale!

Sunday, April 29, 2012

# SPRING BAZAAR

11:30 AM to 3:00 PM

*All food items are take-out. Please use the following order form and make checks payable to Epworth United Methodist Church. Please mail by April 24 to: Epworth United Methodist Church  
1333 SE 28th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97214  
Phone #: (503)232-5253*

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Chicken Bento	\$7.50	_____	\$_____
Chinese Chicken Salad	\$7.00	_____	\$_____
Chowmein	\$6.50	_____	\$_____
Inari	\$5.50	_____	\$_____

TOTAL AMOUNT \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

*You may pick up your tickets on the day of the bazaar at the Pre-Sale ticket area.*

*All proceeds benefit Epworth United Methodist Church.*



# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

## 2012 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit

The 2012 JACL/OCA (formerly the Organization of Chinese Americans) Leadership Summit was held on March 10 - 13th in Washington D.C. The rigorous four day summit focuses on leadership development and provides the opportunity for 30 members of the JACL and OCA to expand their knowledge, develop skills and deepen their commitment to achieving equity, equality and social justice for our communities. The program introduces advocates and potential future leaders to the political process and is designed to provide insight into the policy making arena at the federal level including meetings and briefings by experts in public policy and advocacy issues, key policymakers serving in Congress, the White House, federal agencies, advocacy organizations and the media. In addition, participants explore current legislative issues affecting the Asian Pacific American community and examine the role organizations such as the JACL and OCA National play in determining public policy and promoting civil rights legislation. I had the privilege to attend this year to represent the Pacific Northwest chapters of the JACL along with Curtis Suyematsu and Elaine Akagi.

Each day began with breakfast at 7:30 and immediately immersed participants into a full day of presentations and programs that continued into the evening with dinner and additional speakers. The first day commenced with a presentation and discussion led by Phil Nash, CEO and co-founder of Nash Interactive and professor at the University of Maryland, Asian American Studies Program. The history and immigration of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) was explored through personal histories intertwined with historical events, and public policy decisions by the U.S. government such as the Chinese Exclusion Act, Quota and Alien Land Laws and Executive Order

9066 that removed 120,000 Japanese Americans from their homes and incarcerated them in camps throughout the country.

This session was followed by an introduction to bullying issues by Michael Lieberman, Washington Counsel of the Anti-Defamation League. A working lunch included additional presentations on bullying from Cynthia Swann, Director for the Office of Minority Community Outreach at the NEA (National Education Association), Shawn Gaylord, Director of Public Policy for GLSEN (the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network), and Ben de Guzman, Co-Director for

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**CHILI Feed**

*Hosted By:* **Unite People**

**When:** Saturday, May 19: 5:00pm – 9:00pm

**Where:** 1333 SE 28th Ave. , Portland , OR 97214

**Price:** \$8 per person or \$25 family pass,  
ages 6 and under are free

Participate in our Silent auction  
and our dessert auction.

**Raffle!**  
Hand made quilt

Eat great food, and meet  
new people.

If you are not able to stay at the event, you  
may arrange to order takeout by calling  
Connie at  
(503)-318-5839

This is a fundraiser to help members of Unite People attend the National JACL Convention in Bellevue , Washington in July 2012.

## 2012 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit Continued

Programs at the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA).

Next, and probably one of the more enlightening, interactive presentations, was a Congressional Insights Simulation, facilitated by Art Ruiz and Leslie Moe of State Farm, where participants assume the role of a real (anonymous) federal legislator, immersed in their pressure packed, fast paced world, making decisions, voting on issues and dealing with how your actions affect your relationship with the President, your party, your constituents and the media. It was a stressful exercise that certainly gave me a newfound empathy to those holding public office.

Following the Congressional Insights Simulation, participants were divided into legislative working groups to discuss and develop strategies in preparation for the upcoming lobbying efforts at the Capitol on the final day of the Summit. The first, full day culminated with dinner with Stuart Ishimaru, Commissioner of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

The next day began with a White House Briefing, held in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building and featured a meeting with Tina Tchen, Chief of Staff for the First Lady, and the following White House executives: Eddie Lee, Associate Director of the Office of Public Engagement; Shin Inouye, Director of Specialty Media, Office of Communications; Akil Vohra, Senior Advisor for the Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; Tuyet Duong, Advisor on Civil Rights and Immigration, Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and Karen Chaves, Policy Advisor, Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The panel also included Floyd Mori, National Director of the Japanese American Citizens League and Tom Hayashi, Executive Director of the Organization for Chinese Americans.

The White House Briefing was followed by a presentation by Bruce Yamashita and the screening of his PBS documentary "A Most Unlikely Hero" which chronicles his discrimination and abuse in the Marine Corps and the following five-year legal, political and media battle that helped change Marine Corps policy and procedures with regard to the treatment of minorities. Additional presentations by Terry Ao Minnis, Asian American Justice Center, Paulo Pontemayor, policy analyst for the Asian Pacific Islander American Health Forum, and Jasjit Singh, Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund, brought to light current AAPI issues and emphasized the importance of

coalition building. The afternoon was capped off with a trip to the Japanese American Memorial. We were joined at dinner that evening by Mark L. Keam, who represents the 35th District in the Virginia House of Delegates which is considered the oldest continuous legislative body in the modern world, with roots dating back to Jamestown in 1619. He is the first Korean American and first Asian-born immigrant to serve in the Virginia General Assembly. He was joined by Ralph Neas, former Chief Counsel to Republican U.S. Senators Edward W. Brooke and Dave Durenberger and former Executive Director of the nonpartisan leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the nation's oldest, largest and most diverse coalition.

The Summit culminated with a day on Capitol Hill, beginning with a meeting with Senator Daniel Inouye, Scott Nishioki, Chief of Staff to Representative Jim Costa, and Angel Arboleda, Senior Policy Advisor for Asian Affairs to Senator Harry Reid (Senate Majority Leader). Next, Summit participants visited with Hill Staffers to lobby in support of House Resolution 282, a formal expression of regret for the Chinese Exclusion Laws and the repeal of Section 1021 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that reads that a person may be "(detained) under the law of war without trial until the end of the hostilities". In other words, the President can order anyone, even an American citizen, to be imprisoned indefinitely without the right to a judicial trial. Does this sound alarmingly familiar?

The Summit wrapped up with lunch on the Hill, final discussions, reflections and farewells to the fellow attendees who have now become friends and valuable colleagues in building coalitions for a better community and in the advocacy for social justice. The program, organized by the JACL and OCA is supported by State Farm and Southwest Airlines and is a very valuable, empowering and inspiring experience and the support of the program by the Pacific Northwest District and Portland JACL is greatly appreciated.

As we said our good byes that day after lunch, we all realized that it was not the end of our experience but the continuation of all of our newly enhanced efforts to promote a world that honors diversity through respect, equality and social justice. We were inspired by the dedication and efforts of all the amazing people we had the opportunity to meet over the past three days, and empowered knowing that every citizen can effect change and build a better community if nothing less than one advocate at a time.



## Oregon's Local Congressional Gold Medal Celebration



Photo © 2012 Curtis Suyematsu of Reflections Photography

Front Row L to R: Shizuo Kondo, Leke Nakashimada, Hakuzo Nitta, Jim Onchi, Larry Saito, Noboru Takashima, Akira (Ike) Iwasaki, Art Iwasaki, Kazumi Oda; Second Row: Shig Imai; Back Row L to R: Eisaku (Ace) Hiromura, Lorry Nakatsu, Kenji Yaguchi, Ben Soejima, Joe Onchi, Mark Namba, Sam Naito, Jimmie Mizuta, Shigeo Kuroye, Tex Irinaga

By Setsy Larouche

On Sunday, February 26, 2012, a local celebration of the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) was attended by over 450 people at the Multnomah Athletic Club in Portland. The event was

organized by the Oregon Nikkei Endowment (ONE) and the Oregon Nisei Veterans (ONV) with Lynn Fuchigami Longfellow serving as event committee Chair. Kyle Iboshi served as the Master of Ceremony from KGW News Channel 8 Television. Twenty veterans from the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Military Intelligence Service were Gold Medal that were presented by Congressman Earl

Blumenauer and retired Lieutenant General Joseph Peterson and Brigadier General Bruce Prunk. They were assisted by Marine Corporal Craig Leedham, grandson of the late Kay Akiyama, 442nd RCT and

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Photo © 2012 Rich Iwasaki

Attendees listen at Oregon's Congressional Gold Medal celebration, Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, Oregon. The tribute luncheon on February 26, 2012 honored veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Military Intelligence Service.

## Oregon's Local Congressional Gold Medal Celebration Continued

Chloe Longfellow, granddaughter of the late Walter Fuchigami, MIS. The Oregon National Guard graciously provided the color guard and the quintet wind ensemble. Mari Watanabe, Executive Director of ONE, gave a brief history of the process of the National Veterans Network took to assure the CGM would be awarded to our veterans. We were honored to have LTG Peterson who gave an inspiring keynote address into the real meaning of the words that make up the "Pledge of Allegiance." Special certificates

were presented by Setsy Sadamoto Larouche, ONV Commander, to other veterans from WWII to honor their duty and sacrifice. Erica Naito-Campbell, granddaughter of the late Bill Naito, MIS, produced a video honoring all Oregon Nisei veterans. The video was narrated by Kevin Kaufman and presented by Wesley Campbell, grandson of the late Bill Naito, MIA. The moving program concluded with Nola Bogle, a former internee, leading the entire audience in a rousing rendition of *America the Beautiful*.

## Welcome, Spring!

Thank you to all who helped make our 33rd anniversary lunch on March 6th so successful. Consul General and Mrs. Okabe, Shokookai Vice President Hiroshi Uemura, Spirit Mountain Community Fund Representatives Sho Dozono and Louis King, and the Tomodachi Chorus made it a very special day. Special thanks to Rose Kasahara for providing flowers for the table and Yamasa Corporation for our party favors.

Someone told me that March comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb in the weather world. So true it was this year. We had our first weather closure at Ikoi no Kai on March 22nd. The snow in West Portland humbled us as our chef, volunteers and patrons took on Mother Nature. Every winter, we announce that we follow Portland Public Schools' decisions and make ours accordingly. Our apologies to those we didn't reach who trekked out to Ikoi No Kai to see our closure sign. Call the office, (503) 238-0775, and if no one answers, our site is closed.

Passages seemed to be March's message. We lost two long time family friends and one very upbeat aunt. At my friend's memorial service, we were told to take two minutes and list those people (deceased) who have influenced us in family and community doings. Having been a teacher, I did just as they asked when I came home. I set the timer, got my notebook sheet, labeled it community and pressed the button. My list: Jerry Inouye (I have a little something I want you to do), Patsy Abe (We can do this), John Murakami (Hard work never killed anybody.), Kaz Kinoshita (It's time for young people to take over.), Matthew Masuoka (I've had a good life.), Kenny Namba (When have I ever said no to you?), Chiyo Oga (Don't be afraid to fail.) After the timer went off, I found other names popping up and I decided to do a page for "family." WOW! My friend lived life with an attitude of

gratitude, and her parting exercise showed us why. Our community leaders may be gone, but they still influence us. I set the timer again and this time, listed influences who are still here... Why not tell them now how much we appreciate their "imprint" on our community?

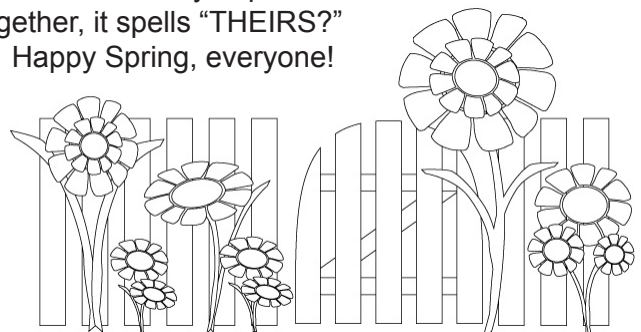
At Ikoi No Kai, we shared milestones with Haru Ninomioya and Jim Onchi, who celebrated their 93rd and 94th birthdays, respectively. Both Haru and Jim have family members who are now regular volunteers. Are we ever grateful!

Ikoi No Kai is closed on April 27th as Epworth Church members prepare for their bazaar to be held on April 29th. They will be selling inari sushi, Chinese chicken salad, chicken bento and other food items.

The community's graduation banquet to honor high school seniors will be held on May 6th at the Multnomah Athletic Club. Tickets will be available from organization representatives. Please come and join us to celebrate their accomplishments.

Does April 15th affect your home like ours? We have so many quotes tossed around to make us laugh and cry as we do what must be done. This month's deadline collides with my tax readiness schedule. As I head off to gather my receipts, checks, and other icky stuff, I'd like to share an observation. Did you ever notice that when you put the words "The" and "IRS" together, it spells "THEIRS?"

Happy Spring, everyone!



## Ikoï no Kai at Epworth

1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland

**Monday 2** - Soba salad;  
Crispy beef

**Tuesday 3** - Pork katsu

**Wednesday 4** - Closed

**Thursday 5** - Tsukimi  
udon; Shrimp rice ball

**Friday 6** - Orange peel  
chicken

**Monday 9** - Clam chow-  
der; Tilapia

**Tuesday 10** - Chicken  
lettuce roll

**Wednesday 11** - Closed

**Thursday 12** - Baked  
pork

**Friday 13** - Swedish  
meatballs

**Monday 16** - Wonton  
soup; Ginger scallion

chicken

**Tuesday 17** - Tempura  
(shrimp & veggies)

**Wednesday 18** - Closed

**Thursday 19** - Chicken  
teriyaki

**Friday 20** - Miso ramen;  
Hoisin pork

**Monday 23** - California  
style chirashi sushi

**Tuesday 24** - Beef curry

**Wednesday 25** - Closed

**Thursday 26** - Birthday  
Special\*\*

**Friday 27** - Closed for  
Epworth Bazaar prepara-  
tions

**Monday 30** - Lemon basil  
pasta; Baked chicken

### Ikoï no Kai April 2012 Menu Notes:

- \*\* Birthday Special: wild caught cod and hard shell clam soup
- April 12: Sing Along w/ Reiko Isono, Henry Ueno, Jerry Basinger, Yasuyo Strassmaier, John Nakada. Singing starts at 11:30 a.m.
- April 26: The Line Breakers from Gresham Senior Center perform at 11:30 a.m.

## YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

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# DocuMart®

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A big thank you to Chris Onchi, as well, Chris has been printing our labels, making data entry changes, and assisting with the annual calendar for many years. Her business is Chris' Mailing Service: 503-452-6864.



**PORTLAND JACL**

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