



# THE RICE PAPER

A newsletter of the Twin Cities Chapter  
of the Japanese American Citizens League

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## July 2022

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### PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

お久しぶりです。  
Long time no see!

I hope you are all doing well and staying healthy. This summer, we have already experienced countless national and global tragedies, including the recent curtailing of constitutional rights for pregnancy-capable Americans and countless mass shootings. It's an understatement to say we have our work cut out for us. As we continue to support our fellow social justice organizations on the frontlines of achieving safety and justice for all, it's also important that we take a minute to recognize the important progress we've made in other areas.

On July 3rd, we closed out the *Righting a Wrong* Smithsonian exhibit that we had been hosting at the Minnesota History Center. Thanks for the generous support of the Minnesota Historical Society and the tireless efforts of our members. Throughout the program, we hosted several exciting events and speakers, including Dale Minami, Ann Kaneko (catch [Manzanar Diverted](#) streaming on PBS beginning 7/18/22!), and many others from inside and outside Minnesota. We are also showcasing the work of historian Selena Moon, who researches the history of *Mixed-Race Nikkei* (6/12/22; [recording](#)) and *Nikkei with Disabilities* (7/26/22; [registration](#)).

On July 12th, our chapter Vice President, Ryan Sudo, and Secretary, Karen Tanaka Lucas, were in Castle Rock Township in Dakota County, where they successfully supported the final the Al Maghfirah Cemetery as part of a broad intercultural, interracial, and interfaith coalition demanding that Muslim Minnesotans be allowed the dignity of receiving burial rites in line with their traditional religious and cultural beliefs.

Lastly, I want to make sure everyone is aware of our upcoming in-person events!

- From August 3rd to 7th, you can find us in Las Vegas for the first in-person [JACL National Convention](#) since the start of the pandemic!
- On August 6th, you can find us at Mounds Park in St. Paul for [Flower Power](#) hosted by Oyate Hotanin. The event will feature several artistic expressions for peace, including folding origami cranes in remembrance of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, 77 years ago on the same date. Volunteers welcome!
- On August 21st, you can find us at Como Park for the first [Obon Festival](#) since the start of the pandemic! We'll be looking for volunteers!

一緒に頑張りましょう。  
Let's keep at it!  
In solidarity,

Vinicius Taguchi  
Chapter President

Education Committee (1 seat) Carolyn Nayematsu:  
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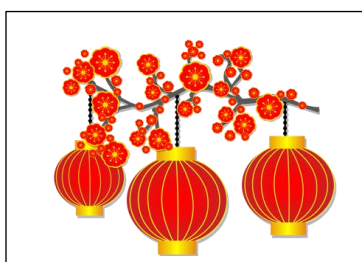
**Editor:** Sylvia Farrells

**Emails:** Clara Imon Pedtke

**US Mail:** Chris Noonan

## Save the Dates – Local Events

The Twin Cities Chapter of JACL has planned the following events for the next few months.



### Obon Festival

**Como Park, Sunday, August 21, 2022**  
**3:00 – 9:00**

TCJACL will have a merchandise booth this year. Volunteers needed to help set up, staff the booth and take down. Please contact us if you are willing to help:

[Karen Lucas katalucas49@gmail.com](mailto:katalucas49@gmail.com) or [Teresa Swartz tswartz@umn.edu](mailto:tswartz@umn.edu)

After years of shut down of the Obon and Festival of Nations, TCJACL will finally will have a chance to sell some of our stored items originally purchased for the 2020 Festival of Nations! After years of being unable to fundraise, we finally will have an opportunity in a nice outdoors event space. So come and join in the celebration and lend a hand. We'd love your help!

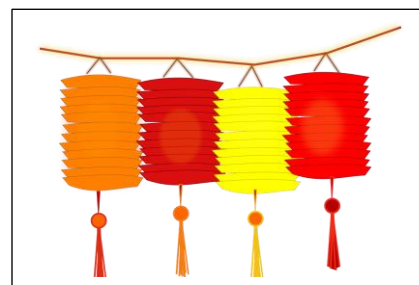
Set up begins: 11:00 AM (we will have a double booth)

Event opens: 3:00 PM

Lantern lighting begins: 8:00 PM

Event ends: 9:00 PM (booths close at 8)

Take down: 8:00-10:00



We anticipate shifts involving set up 11-3, two sales shifts - from 3-5:30 and 5:30-8, and a take-down shift 8-10  
Entry tickets will be provided to all volunteers.

For more information about the event or to purchase advanced tickets go to:

<https://comozooconservatory.org/como/obon-2022>

Submitted by Karen Tanaka Lucas and Teresa Swartz

# SAVE THE DATE!

**Please mark your calendars and join us at the Twin Cities JACL 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

**Saturday, October 8, 2022 at the Historic Fort Snelling new Visitor Center**

**Boutique Sale starts at 5 pm**

**Bento Box dinner and program starts at 6 pm**

**Guest speaker – Frank Abe**

Frank Abe is co-author of the new graphic novel on Japanese American resistance to wartime incarceration, We Hereby Refuse (Chin Music Press: A Wing Lake Museum book). He won an American Book Award for John Okada: The Life & Rediscovered Work [Okada is the author of No-No Boy (University of Washington Press)], and made the award-winning PBS documentary, Conscience and the Constitution, on the largest organized camp resistance. Frank is currently co-editing an anthology for Penguin Classics on The Literature of Japanese American Incarceration.

More information about the event will be available in the fall of issue of the newsletter or via an email blast.

Submitted by Amy Dickerson

## **COMING SOON – RICK SHIOMI'S NEW PRODUCTION**

Rick Shiomi's new play, Fire in the New World, will be produced by Full Circle Theater in collaboration with Park Square Theatre on their proscenium stage from October 21, 2022 to November 6, 2022. Rick wrote the play and will be directing it as well. It is the third part of his trilogy of plays about Sam Shikaze, the Nisei detective, and is set in the early 1960's in Vancouver's Japantown in the years after WWII. When the beautiful Japanese American wife of an ambitious real estate developer goes missing, Sam is on the case in this savvy detective caper! Smart and fun with a dash of social commentary and plenty of sly intrigue.

Submitted by Gloria Kumagai

## Recent Events - Local

□

### 2022 High School Graduates Honored by Twin Cities JACL



**Pictured: Kenji Scales, Zack Sikkink, Ryder Sitcawich  
(Not pictured: Maximilian Bly, Seijin Klepp, Kai Taft)**

The Twin Cities JACL's 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarships were awarded in May 2022. The following 2022 high school graduates were honored this year.

Maximilian Bly (Irondale High School)  
Seijin Klepp (Hudson High School)  
Kenji Scales (Eastview High School)  
Zack Sikkink (Hopkins High School)  
Ryder Sitcawich (East Ridge High School)  
Kai Taft (Edina High School)

Scholarship awards totaled \$6,250. The following scholarships were awarded:

Dr. Norman Kushino and Kay Kushino Memorial Scholarship – Seijin Klepp  
Susan Matsumoto Memorial Scholarship – Maximilian Bly  
Tom and Martha Oye Memorial Scholarship – Kai Taft  
John and Phyllis Takekawa Memorial Scholarship – Ryder Sitcawich  
Joyce Takekawa Memorial Scholarship – Kenji Scales  
Earl K. and Ruth Tanbara Memorial Scholarship – Zack Sikkink

**Congratulations and best wishes to the 2022 graduates!**

If you know of any 2023 high school graduates, please contact Pam Dagoberg at 763-557-2946 or [scholarship@tcjacl.org](mailto:scholarship@tcjacl.org). Local scholarship applications will be available in January. JACL membership is required of scholarship applicants. Some of the known 2022 high school graduates are: Yuha Ikeda Hwang (Orono Senior High School), Sophia Klepp (Hudson High School), Emily Kraby, Kaylen Schmitt (Waconia High School)

If you are interested in learning more about these scholarships, please contact [scholarship@tcjacl.org](mailto:scholarship@tcjacl.org). Donations may be sent to TC JACL Scholarship c/o Fred Tsuchiya, 5311 Scenic Heights Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55345.

## Graduate Scholarship Applications Available in September

The Twin Cities JACL is pleased to announce the availability of two graduate level scholarships to be awarded later this year.

Scholarship applications will be available on 1 September 2022 for students currently enrolled in a post-secondary educational program and students who are currently enrolled in a graduate level program. To be eligible, applicants must be JACL members as of 1 September 2022. Applications will be available at <https://www.tcjacl.org/scholarships/apply/>.

As part of their application, students are required to write an essay describing their program and how their education will be leveraged in the future.

Applications are due 1 November 2022.

For more information, please contact [scholarship@tcjacl.org](mailto:scholarship@tcjacl.org)

Submitted by Pam Dagoberg

## Many Voices, Many Stories, One Place

Historic Fort Snelling held its grand reopening and community celebration on Saturday morning, May 14, 2022 to introduce the new Plank Museum & Visitor Center.

Between 200 and 250 attendees gathered in a large outdoor tent for a moving hour-long program. Amber Annis, Director of Native American Initiatives at the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS), opened the program with a welcome and reminder of the significance of this space, named Bdote, and our connection to it. For Dakota people, Bdote is the sacred site of creation, but it is also the location of the Native American concentration camp associated with the Dakota War.

Throughout the morning's presentations, there was emphasis on how sharing the site's history and personal stories can lead to reconciliation and healing. The program also **provided us with an opportunity to reflect on how remembering our complex past helps us to forge a collective future.**

Phyllis Rawls Goff, past president of MNHS, emceed and welcomed elected and appointed officials. In her speech, she stated that the one word that encapsulates this 22-acre site with a 10,000 year old history is "confluence," and that Historic Fort Snelling is a place to come and experience the stories of thousands of voices.





Carolyn Nayematsu presenting a tribute to MISLS history



Bud Nakasone relaying experience as a language student at FT. Snelling in 1946

Several speakers gave tributes to communities that were impacted by Fort Snelling, including Carolyn Nayematsu, TCJACL board member and chair of our Education Committee. She applauded the addition of the story of the Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS), and honored the contributions of the Nisei veterans who served in WWII language intelligence including two of her uncles. She recognized in attendance our own Bud Nakasone, who elicited hearty audience laughter recalling how it snowed on May 15 when he was here training with the military language school in 1946.

Veteran Eric Ahlness spoke about the military significance of Fort Snelling, an induction point for 300,000 soldiers during WWII with the extraordinary capability to process 8,000 soldiers per day. The “Andrew Sisters,” dressed in full 1940’s military uniforms, entertained the audience with a rousing performance of “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.”

Kent Whitworth, Director and CEO of MNHS, pointed out the irony in the fact that this site played a role in the Supreme Court decision against Dred and Harriet Scott, which upheld slavery and denied African Americans the right to petition for their freedom after living in a non-slave state. Yet Minnesota, as the newest state, was the first state to offer up a regiment of soldiers to fight for the Union army and the abolition of slavery.



After the program, a formal ribbon cutting took place outside with the backdrop of the scenic river and bluffs. Nancy Cass, Program Manager at Historic Fort Snelling, made the ceremonial cut.

The 1904 cavalry barracks building, which also housed soldiers training at the MISLS, has undergone extensive rehabilitation and renovation over the past three years in its transformation into the new museum and visitor center. A breakfast buffet was served in the large banquet room that was once used as sleeping quarters with rows and rows of bunkbeds.

Attendees were free to walk around to different areas inside the building and on the grounds. Activities and stations included an archaeology table; military history exhibits including an MISLS display table and video; communal artmaking area with Dakota artist Fern Cloud, the great granddaughter of Little Crow; and guided historic fort tours. The Fife and Drum Corps and the Buffalo Weavers performed in the outdoor amphitheater area.

TCJACL members who attended the opening event were Matt and Lynn Abe, Peggy Doi, Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, George and Judy Murakami, Bud Nakasone, Carolyn Nayematsu, Karen Tanaka Lucas, and Kimmy Tanaka, Antonio Perez-Cajiha, and baby Akio. For the video of the program, visit

<https://e.wordfly.com/click?sid=MTYyN18yNzM3XzY1NDIzXzY4MDY&l=1f722722-71d8-ec11-a82d-0050569dd3d9>

In the new visitor center, an inclusive interpretive plan and exhibit are being finalized with community input and will include histories of Native Americans, African Americans, Japanese Americans, women, soldiers, veterans and more. TCJACL Education Committee members, Carolyn Nayematsu, Sally Sudo, Kimmy Tanaka, and Karen Tanaka Lucas, have been actively involved with exhibit development. The permanent exhibit area is anticipated to be completed in April 2023.

The new museum and visitor center will open to the general public on Memorial Day weekend. The facility will include exhibit spaces and galleries, a museum store, meeting rooms, classrooms and a grab-and-go food and beverage service. The museum and visitor center will now remain open year-round.

TCJACL members will have a chance to see the new museum and visitor center. On Saturday., October 8, 2022, the chapter's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be held there with author Frank Abe as the guest speaker. More information to follow.

Submitted by Karen Tanaka Lucas

## TC JACL Co-Sponsors Programs at the Minnesota History Center

The Twin Cities JACL and the Minnesota Historical Society collaborated on four programs that complemented the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History traveling exhibition titled, "Righting A Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II" at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul.

Exhibit opening day on April 23 featured taiko drumming from TaikoArts Midwest, traditional Japanese dancing from Sansei Yonsei Kai, origami with the Saint Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee and two screenings of the documentary, "And Then They Came for Us."



Front Row: Karen Tanaka Lucas, Dale Minami, A  
Kesha Tanabe

Back Row: Amy Dickerson, Ammanda Neitz, Ryan  
Sudo, Gloria Kumagai, Lisa Shakerin, Carolyn  
Nayematsu

All in the photo (except Dale and Kesha) are current  
members of the TC JACL Board.

On May 21, guest speaker, Dale Minami, the civil rights attorney who headed the legal team that overturned the conviction of Fred Korematsu presented, "Echoes of History: The Japanese American Imprisonment Resounds Today." Minami talked about the background, strategy, and evidence the team used to make its case to get Korematsu's conviction vacated, and later, the same for the convictions of Min Yasui and Gordon Hirabayashi. Judge Kesha Tanabe, the first Asian American woman on the federal bench in Minnesota link: [https://www.https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkCODrt\\_BW8](https://www.https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkCODrt_BW8) introduced Minami. Video link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkCODrt\\_BW8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkCODrt_BW8)

The award-winning documentary, “Manzanar Diverted: When Water Becomes Dust,” was screened on June 4. California-based director/producer, Ann Kaneko, led a community conversation that included a discussion about water rights, environmental exploitation, impact on the Native American community, and interrelationship with the Japanese American incarceration. Local community performers provided entertainment, with Twin Cities JACL member Stanley Kusinoki giving a poetry reading. The Minnesota chapter of Tsuru for Solidarity also co-sponsored the program.



Kent Mori & colleagues distributed info from the Climate Justice Committee



Ann Kaneko and Amber Annis with program participants. Amber is Interim Director of Native American Initiatives



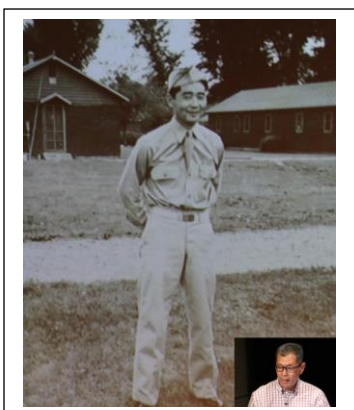
Ryan Sudo, (TC VP), Ann Kaneko, Vinicius Taguchi (TC President)

The fourth program, “Minnesota Connections: the WWII Military Intelligence Service Language School and the Building of a Japanese American Community,” was held on June 18. Kimmy Tanaka, program supervisor at Historic Fort Snelling, started the program with an overview of the history of the MISLS.

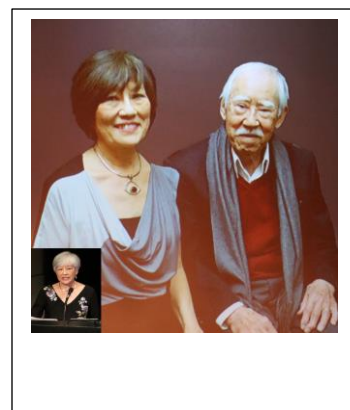
Descendants of MIS veterans, Karen Tanaka Lucas (daughter of Walter Tanaka), Matt Abe (son of Toshio William “Bill” Abe), and Peggy Doi (daughter of Saburo Bill Doi) each gave a presentation about their father’s first MISLS class at Camp Savage. Since their fathers were not allowed to share much information due to the classified nature of their missions, Karen and Matt learned little until adulthood and by doing their own research. In fact, while a student at the University of Minnesota, Karen did not even know that her father had trained here. A panel discussion moderated by Kimmy provided additional insights into the MIS veterans’ training and service, and how the experiences influenced and shaped the rest of their lives.



Walter Tanaka,  
Father of Karen Tanaka Lucas



Toshio William “Bill” Abe,  
Father of Matt Abe

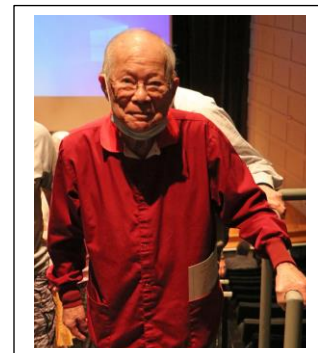


Saburo Bill Doi,  
Father of Peggy Doi

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8a0avlkJMs>



In her presentation, Karen Tanaka Luas acknowledged MIS veteran, Bud Nakasone. A group photo of the 168<sup>th</sup> Language Detachment taken in the mid 1940's (shown Below) included Bud, who was one of the MIS soldiers under the command of Walter Tanaka when served as Bud's Executive Officer.



Bud Nakasone at the June 18<sup>th</sup> event

Bud is in the center front, sitting on a table.  
Walter is on the far right.  
Photo is from Bud's album.

Here is a recording of the event:

[Minnesota Connections: The WWII Military Intelligence School & the Japanese American Community](#)

“Righting A Wrong” exhibit at the Minnesota History Center, which closed on July 3, was made possible, in part, by the Earl and Ruth Tanbara and Tom Kurihara Endowment Fund. The exhibit will be displayed next at the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from July 23-Oct. 2, 2022.

Articles submitted by Cheryl Hirata-Dulas; photo credits to Dave Greener and Cheryl Hirata-Dulas

## Al Magfirah Muslim Cemetery Conditional Use Permit Approved



*Geetanjali Mittal (Lead Organizer for Intersectional Justice for CAAL), Ryan Sudo (VP TCJACL and Operations and Events Coordinator for CAAL), Jaylani Hussein (executive director of CAIR) Karen Tanaka Lucas (board member TCJACL), and Steve Lucas (not pictured) at Castle Rock township board meeting July 12, 2022. Karen and Ryan are members of the TCJACL Social Justice Committee, a branch of Tsuru for Solidarity*

The struggle to establish a Muslim cemetery in Castle Rock (near Farmington) has been a long and storied one. In February 2014 a 73-acre site was purchased in Castle Rock on land which was zoned to include this purpose. However, 3 months later the Castle Rock Township Board (CRTB) voted against the cemetery's conditional use permit (CUP) request despite the fact that the Castle Rock Township Planning Commission had unanimously recommended that it be approved. The CRTB then amended its zoning ordinances to remove cemeteries as a conditional use in January 2015. This was taken to court and in 2016 a Dakota County District Court Judge overruled CRTB saying its decision was "arbitrary and capricious" and that Al Maghfirah was entitled to free use of its property subject to reasonable zoning restrictions and must be issued a conditional use permit.

In August 2017, the cemetery was vandalized with graffiti, damaged walls and furniture. Again, in October 2021, someone cut the gas line, destroyed the electrical box while exposing live wires, and strategically placed over 50 tires in hopes of creating an explosion and subsequent fire. These damages were estimated to be over \$200K. In May of 2022 an individual was found to be stealing security camera equipment but was later identified and arrested.

The cemetery has yet to be developed. There are two preexisting buildings on the property which Al Maghfirah has been petitioning to use, one to conduct prayers and funeral activities the other to use as a site to perform burial rites which involves washing of the body without chemicals or embalming (consistent with green or natural burial methods). The initial use-permit specified things such as hours of operation but did not permit the funeral home. Also, conditions requiring cost prohibitive privacy and security fencing and additional costly vault liners (not required by state law) were protested.

There were three CRTB meetings for which CAIR organized community support. Karen and Steve Lucas attended the first (June 20) where Karen spoke and their photos were included in the on-line Star Tribune article about the event on June 20 where public input (pro and con) took up the entire meeting. The meeting was held in the Castle Rock Town Hall which is a very small building, not bigger than a country church, in the middle of farmlands. There were two squad cars and a couple of burly policemen along with the 100-person standing room only crowd.

CAIR (Council on American Islamic Relations) was really organized. They had hand held placards for supporters and a sign-in table at the entrance so it was easily visible that most of the people there were supporters. The township board had to read a couple dozen e-mails submitted on the issue and every single one was in favor of the cemetery conditional use permit amendments. Many were written from New York and Texas and far-flung parts of the country which was not so appreciated by townspeople there (not too many of them were at this meeting but an estimated 20 had turned up for an earlier one). Jaylani and CAIR had organized on-line action with links to talking points, fact sheets, sign ups etc.

At least half the supporters present were white. There were Jewish, Catholic and other religious clergy or representatives but most, if not all, were not from Castle Rock. Very impassioned and idealistic commentaries were aired - maybe a couple dozen or more. None were really critical or attacking of whites, except Jaylani at the end who is quite articulate and can be indignant about the hate crimes and inequality etc. Most talked of brotherhood, harmony, love of country, freedom and spirituality etc.

At the first meeting, one friendly townspeople objected to the fact that it is a Muslim exclusive, seemingly not cognizant of the fact that there are Catholic exclusive cemeteries or Jewish/Jewish ties exclusive cemeteries. This is the only Muslim-only cemetery in the state. And the townspeople defensively was adamant he was not a "white

supremacist” and while no-one called any of them that, it felt like they were offended anyone could think of them as racist. Interesting that in Castle Rock or adjacent Farmington are a lot of Buddhist or Hindu Temples (Cambodian Buddhist Temple, Watt Munisotaram Buddhist Temple and Lao Buddhist Temple of Minnesota, Minnesota Hindu Milan Mandir).

At the last town council meeting (July 12) on the conditional use permit for the Muslim cemetery there were around 75 in attendance. After some discussion the CUP was approved with minor tweaking. Jaylani indicated to us that he was satisfied with the outcome. One township board member stopped to recognize the large group attending and commended us on how respectful and positive the interaction was. No police were present. Other council members also highlighted our commonalities or shared experiences. There was applause and as we left, we saw it had rained and there was a rainbow over the cemetery!



## In the News

### Hats off to Twin Cities JACL members who were recently in the news!

Bud Nakasone was interviewed for an article in the Memorial Day issue of the *Star Tribune* titled, “These three Minnesotans, among the last of the World War II vets, are a fading link to history.” The article described Bud as “an eyewitness to history,” having witnessed both the beginning of the war in Hawaii as Japanese planes descended upon Pearl Harbor and the end of the war as an MIS soldier serving during the post-war Occupation of Japan.

<https://m.startribune.com/these-three-minnesotans-among-the-last-of-the-world-war-ii-vets-are-a-fading-link-to-history/600177666/>

**General Paul Nakasone** was recently named as a 2022 Wash100 recipient, his sixth consecutive Wash100 award. According to wash100.com, “Wash100 is the premier group of private and public sector leaders selected by the Executive Mosaic’s organizational and editorial leadership as the most influential leaders in the GovCon [Government Contractor] sector.” Congratulations, Gen. Nakasone!

<https://www.govconwire.com/2022/03/gen-paul-nakasone-of-nsa-and-cybercom-receives-2022-wash100-award/>

**Peter Kirihaara** was interviewed by KSTP about the reopening of his popular LGBTQ bar Jetset, renamed Jetset Underground, in a new location next door to Kramarczuk's on Hennepin Avenue in Northeast Minneapolis.

<https://kstp.com/kstp-news/top-news/popular-lgbtq-bar-reopens-in-northeast-minneapolis/>

Peter was also featured in *Mpls/St. Paul* magazine in a newsfeature by writer Steve Marsh titled, “Before There Was a North Loop, There Was Peter Kirihaara.”

<https://mspmag.com/arts-and-culture/north-loop-peter-kirihaara-jetset-moose-and-sadies/>

**Kesha Tanabe**, granddaughter of long-time TC JACL members Nobu and Yuri Tanabe, was appointed by the Eighth Circuit to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Minnesota. She is the first Asian American

woman on the federal bench in Minnesota. Her 14-year term started on January 7, 2022. JACL members are invited to attend her investiture ceremony on October 12, 2022 in Minneapolis (details to follow). Congratulations, Kesha!

<http://www.mnapaba.org/news/12111360>

**Kimmy Tanaka** and **Krista Finstad Hanson** co-authored an article for *Minnesota History*, the quarterly publication of the Minnesota Historical Society. “Japanese Americans During WWII: From Incarceration to Service for their Community” featured MIS veterans **Toshio (Bill) Abe** and **Bill Doi**.

<https://www.mnhs.org/market/mhspress/minnesotahistory/xml/v68i01.xml>

**Seiki Oshiro**, **Karen Tanaka Lucas** and **Kimmy Tanaka** were quoted in an article titled, “At 94, this vet preserves the history of World War II linguists secretly trained in Minnesota,” written by *Star Tribune* features columnist Laura Yuen. She brought attention to the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the covert Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling that drew Japanese American soldiers to Minnesota during WWII. The article appeared on the first page of the Variety section on June 14 and enticed several community members to attend the MIS program at the Minnesota History Center on June 18. Photos of Seiki, Karen’s father, **Walter Tanaka**, and **Bud Nakasone** are included in the collage of photos in the on-line version of the article.

<https://www.startribune.com/at-94-this-vet-preserves-the-history-of-world-war-ii-linguists-secretly-trained-in-minnesota/600181950/>

**Karen Tanaka Lucas** was interviewed for an article in the July 1 issue of *Sr. Perspective* about her father’s service in the MIS during WWII. Writer Tim King titled the article, “Bringing Honor to his Family Name.” While serving in the MIS, Walter Tanaka received a letter from his father who was incarcerated at Poston, Arizona, advising him: “never do anything to dishonor your name.” In his 20 years of military service, he brought honor to his family name and to his unit. A week before he passed away in 2012, Tanaka was one of the Nisei veterans presented with the *Congressional Gold Medal at a ceremony in San Jose, CA. This award is* “Congress’s highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions by individuals or institutions.”

<https://www.srperspective.com/post/bringing-honor-to-his-family-name>

**Karen Tanaka Lucas** and **Steve Lucas** were pictured in a *Star Tribune* on-line article as they sat with over 100 other community members at a public hearing on June 20 at the Castle Rock city hall in southern Dakota county. Karen spoke in support of the Minnesota chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-MN) and the Al Maghfirah Muslim cemetery. The article, “Hearing on Muslim cemetery in south metro draws standing-room-only crowd,” was written by Zoë Jackson, *Star Tribune* Race and Immigration Reporter.

<https://www.startribune.com/public-hearing-held-on-permit-for-castle-rock-muslim-cemetery/600183779/>

Compiled by Cheryl Hirata-Dulas

## Did You Know?

\*TCJACL’s President, Vini Taguchi, was honored with 29 others at the Japanese American National Museum’s 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet, held on April 30, 2022, for being one of the 30 changemakers under the age of 30. Vini was one of 5 selected to be interviewed by George Takei. See <https://www.janm.org/events/special/30th-benefit/30-under-30> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YN5ZcxljQHg>



\*Membership chair, Mary Kojima, reported an increase in membership from 100 to 155 (new and renewals) since January 2022.

\*There will be no summer picnic this year. We have had so many other events between April and July. In addition, we are participating in the Obon Festival in August. Quite a lot of activities already going on.

\*On June 13, 2022, President Joe Biden signed HR Bill 3525 which establishes a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture.

\*The Social Justice Committee is hosting a July 26, 2022 (Tuesday evening at 7 pm) virtual event called Nikkei with Disabilities. Registration is required. Go to ESFL.org.

## More Picture from JACL's Summer Events



May 21-Ammanda Neitz,  
Dale Minami, Susie Osaki  
Holm, Sally Sudo



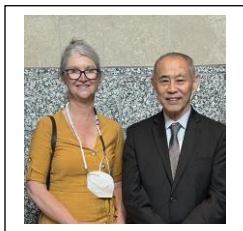
The Ikoma-Motzko Family



Dale Minami and  
Tom Kurihara



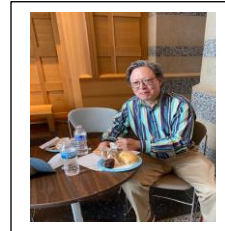
Richard and Gail Chang  
Bohr with Dale Minami



Dale Minami and  
Karen Suzukamo



Dale Minami and  
Linda van Dooijeweert



June 4- Stan Kusinoki



June 18-City of Savage Mayor  
Janet Williams with her  
husband, Will, and Mark Abe



Matt Abe, Peggy Doi, Bud  
Nakasone, Karen Tanaka Lucas,  
Kimmy Tanaka



Front: Lee Hoon Benson, Karen  
Tanaka Lucas, Josephine Lee  
Back: Brad Benson, Steve Lucas  
Kevinn Kinnealvy



Front: Karen Tanaka Lucas,  
Barb Schweigh, BeckyKline  
Back: Steve Lucas, Al Kline



Dede, Peggy, and Sandi  
The Doi Sisters

<b>Japanese American Citizens League</b>	148 Hemlock Place Vadnais Heights, MN 55127  <b>TWIN CITIES</b>
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To be notified of JACL activities, relevant opportunities, and events that occur on shorter notice than our Rice Paper can communicate, please sign up for the TCJACL “Email Blast” by contacting us at [info@tcjacl.org](mailto:info@tcjacl.org) or by visiting [www.tcjacl.org/subscribe](http://www.tcjacl.org/subscribe). Sign up now. Don’t miss out! Update us when your email changes.

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