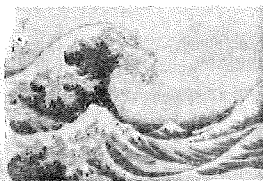


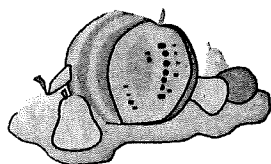
RICE PAPER



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

JUNE 2008

Upcoming Chapter Events:



SUPER SENIOR LUNCHEON

Saturday, July 5th, 12 noon

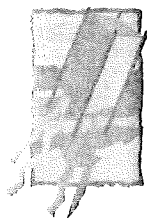
Grand City Buffet, 8912 Highway 7, St. Louis Park, MN

(Northeast corner of Hwy 7 and Hwy 169. Go into Knollwood Mall from Hwy 7 on Aquila ave. and turn left, the buffet is next to the Target Store).

This event is sponsored by TC JACL, TC Buddhist Association and the Nikkei Project. If you are 75 plus years old (75 in year 2008) you will be our guest. Spouses, Nikkei Project, TCBA and JACL members under 75 years old, you are welcome to join our Super Seniors. Buffet lunch is \$8.75, includes tax, tip and drinks (hot tea, ice tea or pop)

For reservations call Sam Honda (651) 429-3410
e-mail: samlilyhonda@aol.com

Note: Individual invitations will not be sent out this year. This event will be handled like other events:.... thru newsletter, flyers, and friends. Seniors who need rides, sponsors will provide the transportation Call: Cary Yamanaka at 952 432-2055



Save the Date! Annual Summer JACL Picnic

Edina Rosland Park Pavilion

Sunday, July 27, from 8 am-5 pm

Japanese food class - June 21 from 2:00 - 4:00

Come to have lots of fun eating and making a variety of Japanese foods.

Place: Joyce Miyamoto's House

3312 Lametti Circle, St. Paul

RSVP to Rachel Matsumoto 612-827-5280

Please RSVP to receive more details and a map.



NEWSLETTER STAFF

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TC JACL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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952-432-2055

Scholarship Committee holds one seat

TC JACL WEBSITE:

www.twincitiesjacl.org

Rice Paper

social studies conference

Twin Cities JACL Education Committee Participates in Social Studies Conference

The Twin Cities JACL Education Committee once again participated in the Minnesota Council for the Social Studies (MCSS) Spring Conference at Mystic Lake Conference Center on March 6 and 7. Lucy Kiriara, Sally Sudo and Sylvia Farrells manned the display booth, where they distributed handouts with resource materials on the Japanese American World War II experience.

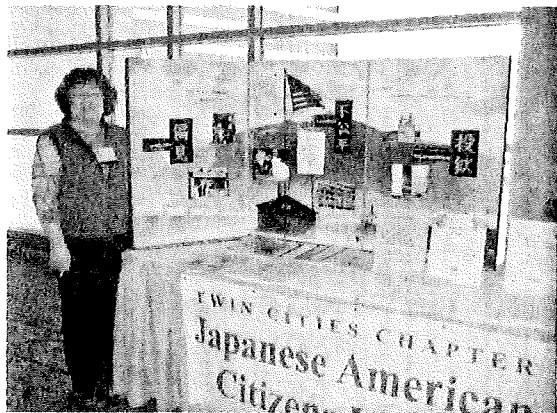
Information was also provided about the on-line curriculum guide on the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling during World War II. The guide was developed last year by the Twin Cities JACL Education Committee, and can be accessed at:

www.twincitiesjacl.org/vertical/Sites/{58DB7384-53EC-4039-A4C2-B8D3743BEA81}/uploads/{E90054C3-CB24-46E0-9BC7-AA4E394F7110}.PDF

Stephanie Noonan's History Day DVD on the 100th/442nd, in which she placed first in the state and competed in the national competition in Washington DC last year, was also shown at the display.

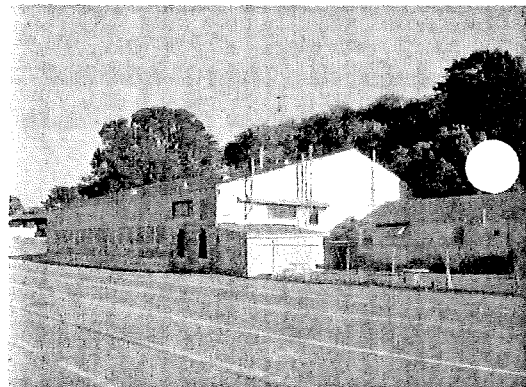
Sally Sudo, Education Committee Chair, stated that "it was encouraging to have several teachers stop by and tell us that they now teach about the internment." A teacher from Mille Lacs Academy in Onamia, MN requested additional materials on the 100th/442nd and the MIS as a result of the MIS curriculum guide." Sudo sent the teacher two videotapes from the chapter's resource collection, "Only the Brave" and "Honor Bound." The teacher wrote back that, "the materials were very useful. We learned so much from the people that lived through the events. Our history books leave out so much. Thank you for the curriculum guide. The students were eager to learn how Minnesota was involved in the war effort."

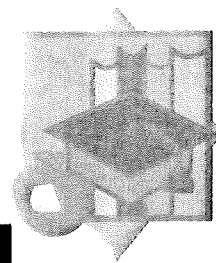
The Twin Cities JACL Education Committee continues to provide speakers to schools and community groups and resources and materials from the collection. Please contact Sally Sudo with any requests for information, materials or speakers.



Sylvia Farrells manning the Twin Cities JACL Education Committee booth at the MCSS Spring Conference in March.

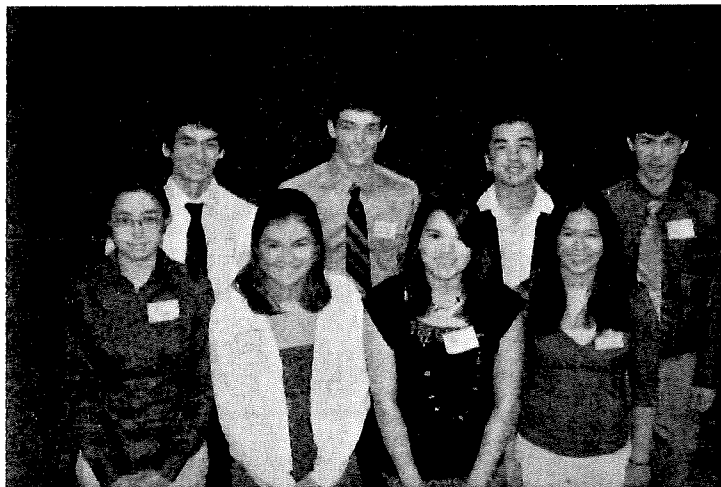
Photograph of the MIS School in San Francisco by Tom Kurihara





2008 High School Graduates Honored by JACL

2008 Graduates: top row-Joshua Savitt, Alexander Noonan, Simeon Kawakami, Jeffrey Tanaka; bottom row - Bailey Kimitch, Abigail Wesley, Alison Tsuchiya, Mari Bennett



The Twin Cities JACL's 45th Annual Scholarship Awards Program was held on Thursday, May 8, 2008 at The Chateau in Medicine Lake, MN and was catered by JACL member Kelvin Lee's Mintahoe.

The evening began with dinner followed by greetings and introductions by JACL board representative, Gloria Kumagai. Fred Tsuchiya acted as the evening's Master of Ceremonies. Abbie Wesley performed Mozart's Concerto in G for flute. Board member Matthew Farrells greeted the students and told them about the JACL youth programs and encouraged their future involvement in JACL.

Scholarship awards totaled \$9,500.00. The following scholarships were awarded:

Mari Bennett - Tom Ohno Memorial Scholarship (presented by Reiko Ohno)

Simeon Kawakami - George Rokutani Memorial Scholarship (presented by Barb Mizuhata and Jenny Wagner)

Bailey Kimitch - Tom and Martha Oye Memorial Scholarship (presented by Asa Oye)

Alexander Noonan - Earl and Ruth Tanbara Memorial Scholarship (presented by Tom Kurihara)

Joshua Savitt - Kimi Hara Memorial Scholarship (presented by Tom Hara)

Jeffrey Tanaka - Norman Kushino Memorial Scholarship (presented by Patrice Erickson)

Alison Tsuchiya - Ethel Umeda Memorial Scholarship / Julie Saito Memorial Scholarship (presented by Harry Umeda)

Abigail Wesley - Susan Matsumoto Memorial Scholarship / George Yamane Memorial Scholarship (presented by Helen Tsuchiya)

Congratulations and best wishes to the 2008 graduates!

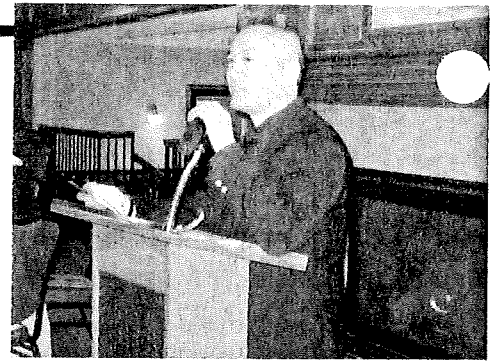
If you know of any 2009 high school graduates, please contact Pam Dagoberg at 763-557-2946 or dagob001@tc.umn.edu.

Local scholarship applications will be sent in January. JACL membership is required of scholarship applicants. Some of the known 2009 high school graduates are: Sachi Williamson (Minnehaha Academy), Emmaline Soken (Liberty Classical Academy), Evan Soken (Liberty Classical Academy), Ellie Satoh (Edina High School), Jessica Sudo (Forest Lake High School), Chelsea Reiter (Stillwater High School), Kaia Fink (St. Louis Park High School), Miki Rank (Moundsview High School)

Rice Paper chrysanthemum banquet



Family Magic Show by keynote speaker Bob Kubota

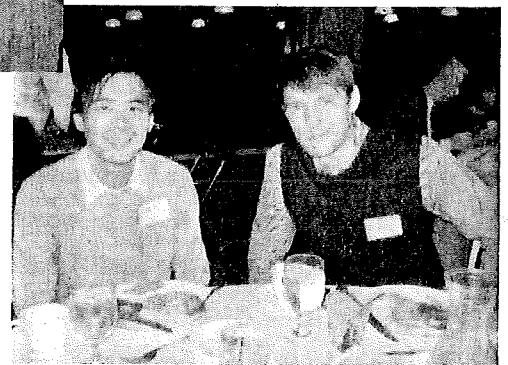


Emcee and JACL President for November Steve Ozone

61st Annual Chrysanthemum Banquet held Sunday, November 18, 2007



Lucy Kiriara was thanked and honored by JACL.



Menu

Mixed greens with roma tomatoes and buttermilk ranch dressing, Sliced breast of turkey with apple Riesling saute, Sliced roast beef with bordelaise sauce, Herbed roasted baby red potatoes with honey glazed carrots, Sage stuffing, Harvest breads with butter, Mousse-filled cream puff

Rice Paper

javm memorial service

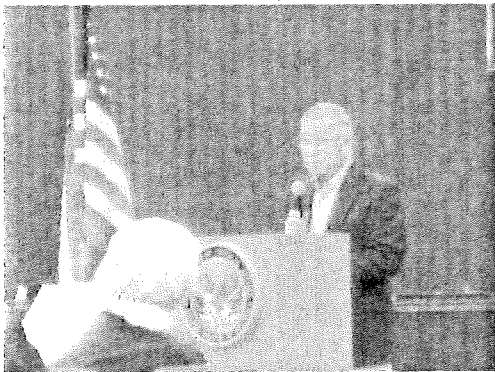
Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota Memorial Service

Over forty people attended the Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota (JAVM) annual memorial service at Fort Snelling National Cemetery on May 19. JAVM president Edwin (Bud) Nakasone gave introductory remarks, followed by an invocation by Chaplain Robert Burmeister.

Keynote speaker Yo Matsumoto talked about the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative (NSRC) Fund, and the role that the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council (NJASRC) played in assisting college-aged Nisei to leave the internment camps to continue their studies. During World War II, the assistance of the NJASRC enabled Matsumoto to leave camp to attend Washington University in St. Louis. Last year, a local volunteer committee chaired by Judy Murakami and Janet Maeda Carlson awarded \$49,000 in scholarships to high school graduates of Southeast Asian descent through the NSRC Fund. Included in the scholarships was a memorial scholarship named for Matsumoto's wife, Alice Abe Matsumoto, who was also one of the nearly 5,000 Nisei who benefitted from the work of the NJASRC.

After a moment of silence, the honor roll call of fifty-four veterans was read by Mary Tsuchiya and John Takekawa. Chaplain Burmeister ended the program with a benediction, and gravesites of the veterans were each decorated with flowers. A luncheon at the New Century Buffet in Bloomington followed the service.

Thank you to Bud Nakasone for continuing to lead the JAVM group, Sam Honda for annually doing the job magnificently in honoring our Japanese American veterans, Isamu (Sam) Saito for his assistance with the service, and Kathy Ohama Koch for putting together the mailing and handout.



Yo Matsumoto presenting the keynote address at the JAVM memorial service

Chaplain Robert Burmeister honoring the Japanese American veterans and giving the benediction



Veterans Bill Doi, David Yahanda, Bill Hirabayashi and George Yoshino



Mary and Bud Nakasone with Chaplain Robert Burmeister (middle).



Rice Paper festival of nations...

2008 FESTIVAL OF NATIONS



How long can we keep this up? Our bazaar booth at the Festival of Nations was, once again, highly successful! We have been increasing our sales for the past several years, despite higher costs to rent the booth and larger inventory orders. Along with the bazaar booth, the demonstration booth is also popular at the Festival and generates consistently good sales. Our two Festival booths provide our chapter with enough revenue to meet our general operating needs for the year. It also provides our chapter with great volunteer opportunities for our members and we look forward to more of you at the booths next year!

This was the third year we had a double booth. The larger display space allowed us to increase the dishware inventory by quite a lot and it sold well. Jan Monson ordered tee-shirts and tote bags that drew "oohs" from the crowd. Our bobbleheads, parasols, fans, lanterns and wall hangings went fast. We sold more hatchimakis this year than any previous year. Our sales were very high volume on student days.

We increased the number of volunteers for each shift to cover the double booth. The extra staffing helped to move sales and made it more fun for the volunteers as well. Joanne Kumagai did an excellent job of recruiting and scheduling the volunteers.

Thanks to all the bazaar booth volunteers who made 2008 another record breaking year:

Chris Noonan	Carly Miyamoto	Chris Iijima
Chuck Tatsuda	Dan Motoyoshi	George Murakami
Jake Nakasone	David Motoyoshi	Jim Faber
Joanne Kumagai	Kaia Fink	Alison Suzukamo
John Nakasone	T J Hara	Stephanie Noonan
Lisa Tsuchiya	Sachi Williamson	Shirley Huskins
Lynn Yamanaka	Lucy Kiriara	Les Suzukamo
Mike Kimitch	Judy Murakami	Connie Fukuda
Nancy Kumagai	Karen Lucas	Kylie Noonan
Paul Scott	Matt Farrells	Lisa Shakerin
Sam Hunt	Kathy Hara	Jan Kurata
Sharon Miyamoto	Jan Monson	Cheryl Hirata-Dulas
Tim & Mari Thompson	Sylvia Farrells	Mitch Monson
Tom Scott	Cary Yamanaka	Peggy Yamanaka
Jennifer Molde		

Each year we owe special thanks to two generous members who make the Festival possible for JACL: Mintahoe and owners/JACL members Kelvin and Annette Lee for providing the truck and staff to deliver our large inventory to the Festival of Nations. Painting by Nakasone and owners/JACL members John, Jacqueline and Jake Nakasone for allowing us to store our inventory at their business site.

Joyce Miyamoto and Cary Yamanaka, Bazaar Booth Co-Chairs
Joanne Kumagai, Volunteer Coordinator

Rice Paper festival of nations and jaccl competition



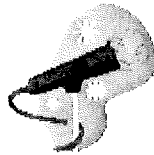
Origami and Ribbon Fish Booth at the Festival of Nations: Once again, JACL had the Origami and Ribbon Fish Booth at the annual Festival of Nations. Volunteers were busy demonstrating all kinds of origami.

Many visitors stopped to make a crane or other item. All of the origami and ribbon fish items were popular with buyers. Many thanks to the following persons who helped make this year so successful: Lil and Sam Honda, Toyo Lang, Sakaye Hinataya, Tricia and Wendell Kawakami, Molly and Martha Matsumoto, Tatsuko Ogata, Jennifer Olsen, Ken Oyanagi, Carolyn Sandberg, Jessica Sudo, Sally Sudo, Pnyllis Takekawa, and Jean Takeshita.

I would especially like to acknowledge Lil and Sam Honda for setting up the booth and taking it down. Lil for running the booth on Thursday and Friday, and Rachel Matusumoto for co-chairing the booth with me, making hundreds of origami cards, and manning the booth over the weekend with me.

Until next year..... Gloria Kumagai Origami and Ribbon Fish Booth Co-chair

JACL ANNOUNCES THE 2008 MINORU YASUI ORATORICAL COMPETITION



Who is Minoru Yasui?

An attorney and civil rights activist who:

- Challenged the constitutionality of the curfew orders that were imposed against Japanese Americans before their internment
- Never wavered in his pursuit of social justice for all Americans
- Served as the Executive Director of the Commission on Human Relations for the City and County of Denver
- During the 1980s, chaired and served as an articulate spokesman for JACL's successful campaign to obtain redress for the injustice of the World War II incarceration.

He spoke up! Now, It's Your Turn to Speak Up and Speak Out on the 2008 Minoru Yasui Oratorical Topic:

The current generation of Japanese American youth faces issues of growing ethnic and generational diversity within the community. As a youth member of the Japanese American Citizens League, how will you approach this challenge of increasing diversity to meet the needs of the changing community?

When is the competition?

Compete at your JACL District Council competition in Spring 2008 and if you win, go on to compete for a grand prize at the 2008 JACL National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah on July 18, 2008.

Every contestant must be a member of the JACL at the time of the District Council and National competitions. (Membership must be in participants name either as a student or individual – a parental or family membership does not qualify) For more information on how to join JACL, go to www.jacl.org.

*For more information about the competition, contact JACL Midwest Director Bill Yoshino at JACLMIRO@aol.com.

Rice Paper announcements



Joyce Yamamoto, long-time leader of YWCA's Racial Justice and Public Policy Department, is retiring after 17 years of successful leadership at the YWCA and in the community. Her official retirement date is June 1, 2008. The YWCA has become a stronger, inclusive organization thanks to her leadership, vision and commitment to the YWCA's mission.

During her years at the YWCA, she has been a fearless champion for the YWCA. She led the successful expansion of Girls and Youth program through the creation of Asian Youth, Discovery Leadership and the Girls R.A.P. programs. She was also instrumental in the creation of the Women's Wellness program and helped to lead the programs' successful transition to the Health and Fitness department.

In 2002, Joyce led the creation of the YWCA of Minneapolis Racial Justice Department, (now know as the Racial Justice and Public Policy Department) which includes:

- *It's Time to Talk Forums on Race* Event, which draws over 1100 diverse leaders annually
- Unlearning Racism workshops
- YWCA staff Dialogues on Race
- Circle Process and Circle Facilitator Training
- Board Development Dialogues

In 2005, thanks to Joyce's leadership, the YWCA of Minneapolis was the recipient of the Minnesota Council on Nonprofits' Anti-Racism Award.

Many have asked what compels her to engage in Racial Justice and Public Policy work. Her response is, *"My life's purpose is to do my part in creating a legacy of positive change that welcomes my great grandchildren and your great grandchildren to participate wholeheartedly in and environment of racial justice and inclusion. I want them to know their grandmother did SOMETHING to eliminate racism and shift the paradigm to valuing their diverse perspectives and honoring their cultural heritage."*

While Joyce's official retirement date is June 1, 2008, she will lead the 6th *Annual It's Time to Talk* event scheduled for November 12, 2008. She will also continue to do training workshops, Circle and Dialogue facilitation.

HELP WANTED:

A chairperson is needed to organize the children's Christmas/Holiday party in December. Please volunteer by contacting Lisa Shakerin (763) 537-6829 so that we may hold this event in 2008.



Rice Paper

JACLers in the news

Jeremiah Program's Bullfrog Bash - A Leap Forward

Guests gathered at the Depot in Minneapolis for this year's Bullfrog Bash—themed "Picture This!"—raising more than \$255,000 for mothers and children who benefit from the Jeremiah Program's services. Attendees participated in live and silent auctions and had a chance to bid on photographs taken by children in the program. **MARK THE DATE:** The next Bullfrog Bash is November 1.



*Event cochairs Nellie Nakasone, Hot Mama, and Jacqueline Nakasone, Painting by Nakasone.
Photo by Jonette Novak*

Finding Art After Life-Changing Accident

Reporting James Schugel (WCCO) - Some special artists are proving life does go on after a traumatic accident. These artists from around the world are in Minnesota to show off their talents at an art show.

In the middle of her kitchen, Susan Fink found her new love of art. It's far from the kindergarten classroom she used to teach in and far from the slopes she used to ski. "I'm painting flowers," she said.



Fink has painted all sorts of scenes, mostly outdoor ones that represent her connection with nature. Her inspiration comes from years of skiing, downhill and cross-country, and memories of long vacations in the mountains. "The fresh snow, and I just liked the feeling of it, and we could do it as a family," she recalled.

Her life of skiing abruptly ended nearly 10 years ago during a terrible fall when she was going down a hill. It changed everything. "Just fell wrong. It was a fluke," recalled Fink. "I fell on my face. My hands just didn't catch me."

Fink broke her neck and suffered a spinal cord injury, spending months in the hospital and in rehabilitation. She's now a quadriplegic and confined mostly to a wheelchair. She is free to use her arms, her hands and her memories of her trips to create watercolor paintings. "It helps me connect with nature, because I'm still able to connect with nature, I just can't be out in it as much," said Fink.

Her art will be part of a collection of 300 works of art at an International Art Show the next several weeks. The show is at the Sister Kenny Institute of Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis. It's free and it runs through May 16, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. during regular business hours.

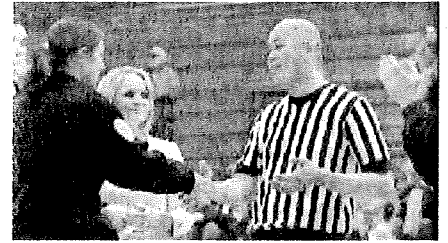
Fink wants people to think of peacefulness when they see her work, which is exactly how she feels when she's painting.

"It's my way to enjoy the outdoors," she said.

Rice Paper JACLers in the news

Original story on KARE-11 February 14 - Referee returns to court to thank rescuers

Dale Wakasugi, the referee who suffered a heart attack in December, returned to the school where it happened and thanked those that helped him. Wakasugi was able to thank his rescuers at Fridley High School Tuesday night during half time of their game against Totino-Grace.



He suffered a heart attack on December 13th. Several spectators rushed to his side and revived him. Wakasugi did also referee the game Tuesday night.

For basketball referee Dale Wakasugi, it wasn't a question of if, but when he'd return to the court. The 'when' was the week of February 4th, less than two months after suffering a near-fatal heart incident while officiating a game at Fridley High School. "They keep telling me 'the heart's a muscle,' the more you work it the stronger it gets," Wakasugi laughed, "so that's sort of what's motivated me to get back out there."

While he's resuming routine, there is no doubt Wakasugi's life is forever changed. He knows he is fortunate to be alive, and credits 16-year-old Lindsey Paradise for that fact. She was in the bleachers December 13th, ran down when Dale collapsed, and then used an Automatic External Defibrillator to restart his non-beating heart.

"I'm convinced, without a doubt, that God put her in the stands that night," he said.

In the days after their lives collided, Dale and Lindsey's family began talking on the phone and getting to know each other. Eventually, they decided to have dinner at the Wakasugis, not knowing how they'd handle the uncertainty and emotion of the event. "When we went over there, I was so nervous walking up to the door, just 'sooo' nervous, my heart was pounding," recalled Lindsey. "Then when they opened the door, they said 'trick or treat,' they just made jokes. You walked in, they immediately felt like family."

The two families found they had much in common, and the bond between Dale and Lindsey sits front and center. "We literally felt like family with them, everyone was hugging, laughing, crying when they left," Dale reflected. "It was quite emotional."

Rating Twin Cities' Medical Clinics: How does yours stack up?



Brian Rank, M.D., Medical Director at HealthPartners comments on an independent non-profit organization - called "Minnesota Community Measurement". They are publishing the results of Minnesota healthcare provider's "best care" standards. See the following website for the full story.

http://www.kare11.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=498179

Rice Paper

JACLers in the news - kristi dean

January 14, 2008 by: *Mike Trudell, Wolves Reporter*

Second-year Timberwolves dancer Kristi utilized her "Spotlight" segment to talk about her new job as a third-grade teacher, her twin brother and her brand new KitchenAid Mixer.



MT: First of all, congratulations on your new job! You've mentioned what a big influence your mother was towards that end...

Kristi: My mother's been a teacher for over 30 years, so because I'm just starting out in my teaching career, it makes it so nice to look back on everything I've learned from her. I volunteered in her classroom since I was a little girl. She teaches fourth grade in Minneapolis, and I'm teaching third grade.

MT: Well that works out nicely... Kristi: Definitely. She's retiring this year, so she tells everybody that she can now help her kids - because my brother's also going into teaching. She's so pumped to be there for us and help get us into our careers. It's really neat that we can share that.

MT: As a teacher's daughter, you must have been kept on a tight leash as a student? Kristi: She was totally on my butt with everything. We were doing schoolwork in the summer, as she'd bring little workbooks home. But looking back, it really helped so much.

MT: How do you and your brother get along? Kristi: He's my twin, and he'll be student teaching next fall. We went to high school and college (Minnesota State University, Mankato) together. But it was great because my brother and I are best friends. It's awesome. I think there was only one year that we had growing up that we butted heads, in ninth grade. He's absolutely amazing.

MT: OK, let's change subjects. Can you cook? Kristi: I love watching the Food Network, but I live at home, so my mom cooks every night. Still, I'm in love with all kitchen supplies and can't wait to have my own kitchen some day. But between going to school and dancing, I come home and I'm too tired to cook. It's so nice though, because my mom will leave a plate with saran rap and my name on it. She's a teacher, so you know...

MT: How cute. For what kind of kitchen supplies do you have a particular fancy? Kristi: Well, do you know what I got for Christmas? My boyfriend's mom loves to shop and is amazing, and she bought me a Kitchen-Aid Mixer. They're amazing and super expensive.

MT: Do you complain about the winters here in Minnesota like everyone else? Kristi: I complain about Minnesota weather all the time, and I thought about it, but I still want to live here. People complain that it's too hot in the summer and too cold in the winter, but I wouldn't want to live in just straight 100-degree weather. I like the transitions. The seasons here are great.

MT: Right. What do you listen to in the car? Kristi: I like KDWB and 102.1 country.

MT: Singer or dancer in the car? Kristi: A little bit of both. I'm a horrible singer, but I try.

MT: Talk about your two Yorkshire Terriers... Kristi: Buddy is the younger one, and he loves to play games with the older one, Sammy. They play "chuck it" with a tennis ball all the time. They're a lot of fun.

MT: That sounds like "Fetch?" Whatever. Let's go back to school to close this out. What's your routine when your kids arrive at school? Kristi: We have a morning meeting, we do a "Problem of the Day," we do trivia and also a little greeting when the kids arrive. Everyone gets to say "Hello" and shake hands, because that can be the only time someone hears his or her name. So that's nice.

MT: Indeed. Thanks Kristi.

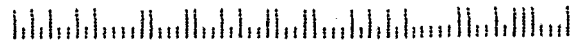
Kristi: You're welcome!

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