



# SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Website: [www.sfvjacc.com](http://www.sfvjacc.com)

Issue 60

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2021

## THE ROLE OF A LIFETIME: TAMLYN TOMITA RECEIVES COMMENDATION OF THE CONSUL GENERAL

*Article is from the Rafu Shimpō, 10/14/2021 and written by JK Yamamoto*

On September 30, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles presented the Commendation of the Consul General to Tamlyn Naomi Tomita.

The commendation was established to recognize an individual or group who has helped advance the mission of the Consulate General and has provided significant contributions to mutual understanding and promoting friendship between Japan and the U.S.

Tomita's biography and achievements:

After making her big-screen debut in the 1986 film, "The Karate Kid Part II," Tomita also expanded her presence to television and the stage, appearing in at least 130 productions and establishing her career as a successful Asian American actress. Tomita has focused not only on boosting the presence of Asian Americans in Hollywood movies, but also on authentically representing characters' cultural backgrounds as much as possible. Through her acting work, she has contributed to mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.

Her most recent V credits include "The Man in the High Castle," "The Good Doctor," "Star Trek: Picard," and "Cobra Kai."

Making the most of her name recognition, Tomita has served as a board member of the Nisei Week Foundation, which produces the annual Nisei Week Festival that celebrates Japanese and Japanese American culture in Little Tokyo. She has also actively supported the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, located in the region from which she hails, making her a strong contributor in many ways to local Japanese American communities.

She has served as master of ceremonies at numerous major community events, offering her time and support without hesitation and making a significant contribution to the Japan-U.S. friendship.

The Commendation of the Consul General has been presented to Tomita as she is expected to continue to play an important role in the Japanese American community and in advancing the Japan-U.S. relationship.

*Note: Tamlyn Tomita was chosen Nisei Week Queen in 1984 under the sponsorship of the SFVJACC Coordinating Council. She also won the title of the now defunct Miss Nikkei International Pageant held in Brazil (1985).*

*Tamlyn has participated as emcee in many of the Center's events, including our favorite fundraiser, Super Bingo and the latest being, the SFVJACC's 60th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon in 2019, where we honored the pioneers who founded the Center. Tamlyn has also supported the San Fernando chapter of the JACL and she finds the time to dance with the Meiji Ondo Group at many of the groups' New Year's events at the Center.*

*We are so proud of her and extend congratulations to her and to her family.*



Tamlyn Tomita and Consul General Akira Muto.

## Seniors Visit Ronald Reagan Library

By NJ Nakamura

*Note: In 2019, the Center received a grant from Keiro to be used for three one day trips for the seniors. In April 2020, our first trip was planned to visit the Reagan Library but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it had to be canceled.*

It was so wonderful to see friends again! After greeting and chatting with one another, we boarded a bus to travel to the Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley. The morning of Wednesday, Nov 17, was a beautiful day for such an exciting outing.

There was a fascinating exhibit about the history of the FBI, a display of Christmas trees from around the world, a part of the Berlin wall, a memorial to Ronald Reagan, the rose garden, the Air Force One Pavilion and so much more.

At noon, we were treated to a box lunch in our reserved dining section below the Air Force One jet.

Continued on page 3.



L-R: NJ Nakamura with Naomi Arnot and Hiromi Aoyama from Keiro



**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

I hope your holidays and New Year’s present you some great memories and allow for you to enjoy this time of year.

The other day I caught my in-laws sitting on the couch holding hands. It was a cute moment, but it also made me wish something for all of you....that same happiness and excitement to be around those you care for.

Today we all have so many responsibilities: work, organizations, schools, friends, and of course family are some of the most common. I so appreciate all of you who spend much of your extra time helping the Community Center activities and organizations, Japanese schools, Judo, Churches, Temples, and other great things our kids, parents, and each other have been enjoying over the years! And despite the challenges the past few years, your support has been tremendous and inspirational to many! It is that kindness and thoughtfulness that makes me glad to be part of this community and hopefully it does the same for you.

Now I wish for each of you to be able to spend a little time with those you care about; your family, friends, co-workers, and people you may support or support you. In that moment or period, may it make you happy and provide a smile today and in the future when you may think about it. You all do not need to hold hands but enjoying the moment, even if brief, will be something each of you deserve.

I say this a lot, but I am thankful for all you do! It really touches people and it also makes our Community Center stronger.

Danny Okazaki  
SFVJACC President

**Acknowledgements**

**For the month of October and November 2021**

**Donations**

- Anonymous .....  
For the Building Fund
- Liz Doomey's Facebook Fundraiser .....  
For the gym floor
- Anonymous .....  
In memory of Wayne Imamoto
- Michael Minami .....  
In memory and honor of their father, Monte Minami
- Reed Clement and Family .....  
Netflix Matching donation - In memory of Marge Tanaka
- Al and Mitzi Kushida .....  
In appreciation of the services provided by SFVJACC
- Reed Clement .....  
In memory of Marge Tanaka
- Garry and Joy Monji.....
- Jason Fenton .....  
For Dodger tickets
- Ruby Yamaoka .....  
For the Veterans Memorial Fund
- Linda Kuratomi.....  
D.A. Davidson Matching donation
- May Wood, Michiko Kus and .....  
the Tokunaga Family - In memory of brother, Allan Tokunaga
- John and Susan Goka .....  
In memory of Henry Kazu Nakamura
- Cecily Umezuka.....
- Ruby Yamaoka .....  
In memory of Sandy Nobuyuki
- Scott Sato .....  
In honor of the late Monte Minami

**Use of Facilities**

Tuesday Exercise Class.....

**Miscellaneous**

- Amy Niwa ..... 72 assorted large & small Japanese design scrapbooking stamps, 12 assorted colored ink pads, 18 Assorted paper punches, 1 multihole punch, 23 pkgs. of assorted beaded fringe trim, 1 bag of colors & sizes of cardstock, paper and envelopes, 1 12"x12" cutting mat, 1 acrylic note card holder w/cards, 2 Japanese wall art
- Linda Okamura..... 1 National Karaoke machine, 1 box of Karaoke tapes, 2 boxes of clothes

*Thank you for  
your generous donations!*

*In Loving Memory...*

Our thoughts and condolences go out to the families of —

- Sandy Nobuyuki
- David Noda
- Kenji Watanabe

# Seniors Visit Ronald Reagan Library

Continued from Front Page

Then, we received a welcome visit from John Heubusch, the executive director of the Library and the Ronald Reagan Foundation.

This memorable experience was funded by a generous grant from Keiro. As our cities become safer and more public contact is allowed, we hope there will be more opportunities for our Community Center members.





## Seniors Go To Dodger Game

By Kay Oda

San Fernando seniors were able to attend an exciting Dodger game with their families compliments of a Keiro grant. Brewer Keston Hiura, our hometown hero, stole second base on Friday but alas! was not playing on Sunday. He's the first boy to play in the major leagues from our Center. The Rafu Shimpo also welcomed him home by covering his story, including the great news that his mom is in remission.

It has been more than one year and a half since many have been able to go out due to the pandemic. It was a wonderful day to see friends from Japanese School, Meiji Club, Athletics, Hot Meals, and CC members. Everyone cheered when Trea Turner hit a Grand Slam on Fan Appreciation Day. We ate hot dogs, nachos, and drank lots of lemonade.



L-R: Brian, Mark, Zachary and Jennifer Tam

The Los Angeles Fire Department was also there offering COVID shots and a shady rest area. The Dodgers posted the following on their message board: SFVJACC thanks Keiro and cheers for Keston. We needed a Dodger win but also wanted to send Keston our love.



The Nakada Clan - L-R: Tadao Okui, Gary Nakada, Patti Kimura, Lois Okui and Doug Nakada. Kiyo Watanabe and his daughter are on the right.



L-R: Fumiko Yoshimura, Kazuko Ushio, Sachiko Yamashita



L-R: Alina, Juanita, and Suzette Martinez



## San Fernando Valley Japanese Language Institute

By Kiyo Watanabe, PTA President

Japanese school will finish the first Semester with a Holiday Program scheduled for December 18, 2021. Schools are full online mode, trying to figure out how safely get back to our campus. This year's first Community Virtual Fundraiser with Panda Express made us little over \$200.00 while people who did not want to purchase Panda Express but wanted to donate to us ended up sending us extra money that made up close to \$400.00 altogether. We thank everyone who participated to support the Japanese school and hope to see you at the next event.

Our next Panda event is scheduled for Friday, December 10. Please remember Friday not on Saturday like we have done before. A reminder email will go out with a special code that is only to be used on the next event.

Please log on to sfvjl.com website to see the latest on Japanese School, perhaps try on the clickable links to support us. We have Marukai/ Tokyo Central gift certificates for sale, as well as Japanese school t-shirt and Hoodies. For the colder winter weather, we would recommend the Japanese School warm hooded jacket on sale for only \$20.00.

SFVJLI Web site address: [HTTP:// www.sfvjli.com](http://www.sfvjli.com)





## SFV Meiji Senior Citizens Club News

By Liz Doomey

The good news is that the Community Center hall is opening up with activities with a few restrictions. There are forms available to submit to the Reopening Committee for approval if your group or a new group qualify for admission. If you want the forms contact Kay Yamada, a CC Board member, or me and one will be sent to you. The main restrictions are that you are fully vaccinated or have a negative test 72 hours prior to attending, no food or drink in the hall, masks are worn at all times, and you need to adhere to the social distancing protocol. This encouraging news and with the new boosters, we will be closer to reopening. We currently have Tai Chi on Mondays in the hall at 9 AM, Aloha group will start meeting in the hall on Tuesday afternoons, exercise classes on Tuesdays and Friday in the Dojo at 9 AM and Ondo Dancers on the second and fourth Fridays at 7 PM in the hall. All Meiji Club groups who would like to start their activities at the Center should contact Ritsuko Shinbashi.

A field trip was made possible from a grant from Keiro on Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> to the Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley. About 40 seniors were able to make the trip. Everyone was overjoyed to see friends after 21 months of isolation. The tour was very interesting, reminding people of all the tragedies the country suffered over the years and how the FBI was able to help the country recover from them. The Library did an excellent job of making the tour memorable. Maybe we will be able to make another field trip in the near future. Thank you, Keiro, Nancy Oda, and Lois Okui for making the trip possible.

Don't forget to register for the forums Keiro is providing in December (The schedule is below. Go to keiro.org).

Meiji is looking for members who would like to participate as a board member. They meet once a month. If you are interested contact Ritsuko Shinbashi.

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### **Keiro Virtual Forum Events For December**

Wednesday, December 1: Downsizing with KonMari Method - Part 2: Clothes (2:00 pm)

Thursday, December 2: Goals to Reach for a Healthier You - Presented by Independence at Home (10:30 am)

Tuesday, December 7: Christmas Card Craft with Sharon Akioka (2:00 pm)

Thursday, December 9: Senior Safety Series: Introduction to First Aid/CPR/AED with Mike Miyashima (10:30 am)

Tuesday, December 14: Community Bingo (10:30 am)

Thursday, December 16: Conversation Kitchen (10:30 am)

December 21—30: No Virtual Forums Scheduled

## **Update on Alzheimer's Disease Research**

presented by the Mary S. Easton, Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research at UCLA

**Saturday, January 22, 2022**

**10 AM - 12 Noon**

During this online seminar, attendees hear from research about the latest findings related to the symptoms and causes of dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Attendees will learn about the latest treatments available and what research is currently being done to find a cure. We will explore risk factors for Alzheimer's disease, research on modifying risk factors, current FDA treatments available. In addition, the seminar will provide an update on Alzheimer's disease clinical trials and the current clinical trials at the Easton Center.

Monica Moore, MSG, is the Community Health Program Manager for the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's and the Co-Director, Training and Education Activities, UCLA-California Alzheimer's Disease Center. She has worked in the field of aging and Alzheimer's disease for 20 years focusing on community education and outreach and caregiver support. She holds a Master's Degree in Gerontology from California State University Long Beach and a certificate in Gerontology from Sonoma State University.



For more Information, call Lois Okui at 818 515-8287.

**To be put on the reservation list for this online seminar,  
please email [events@sfvjacc.com](mailto:events@sfvjacc.com)**



## News From The Gardens...

By Mayumi Barr

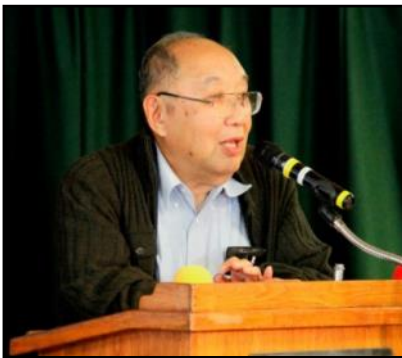
### CASINO NIGHT

A popular gathering and social event has finally returned to the community filled with excitement and laughter! Casino Night was held on September 28th at 6:30pm in the main dining hall. Blackjack, poker, craps and the money wheel were played by residents. The board of directors were sponsors for this event and volunteers dealt at each table. They also helped to assist with residents for the night. A new resident, Reiko M. received a gift certificate for Chiba Restaurant for the most number of chips collected! The event concluded with items being raffled that included gift cards, blankets, towel sets, plush toys, gift baskets, flowers, bags for all participants to receive prizes. We thank NSG board members for sponsoring the event, volunteers for time and dedication, and residents for participating in the event. It was truly an amazing night and great to see you all smiling.



## World War II Camp Wall

By Nancy Oda



Kanji Sahara

The World War II Camp Wall is the vision of Kanji Sahara who was born in Hiroshima. He came to Los Angeles when he was a half year old. During WWII, his family was incarcerated at Santa Anita, Jerome and Rohwer. In 1945, his family resettled in Chicago. Dr. Sahara worked for General Dynamics in Pomona and rose to Engineering Supervisor. Upon retirement, he was also a docent for the Japanese American National Museum for many years. He was the project manager of the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition exhibit called "Only the Oaks Remain."

Kanji's dream is to build a memorial that consists of ten walls, one for each of the War Relocation Authority (WRA) camps during World War II. Each of the camp walls will list the name of each person that was incarcerated at that camp. There will be an eleventh or even a twelfth wall, listing the names of those held at the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

The walls are to be constructed of black reflective granite with somewhere between 120,000 and 160,000 engraved names. In a comparison of size, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is made up of approximately 58,000 names. Kanji envisions display panels to accompany the walls. There would be ten display panels that would give more information on the various camps, with QR codes that will enable visitors to download information to their mobile device, and ideally enable audio tours of the memorial.

The intent is to educate not only on the history of the World War II incarceration camps, but to also teach that we cannot let history repeat itself. We need to strive to never again allow this to happen to any group of people.

Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi has set aside \$5 million for this project. The WWII Camp Wall will be the only one of its kind in the USA that will be located in Torrance where many Nikkei reside. The committee is working together with Professor Duncan Ryuken Williams in conjunction with his IREZO project. For more information: <http://wwiicampwall.org/>

## "Homecoming" Exhibit at the Museum of the San Fernando Valley

By Nancy Oda



The Museum of the San Fernando Valley is featuring an exhibit called "Homecoming" with images before and after the war of Teddy Yamane's father.

Father George Yataro Yamane worked hard as a truck farmer when on March 14, 1942; he was taken to Tuna Canyon for a period of twelve days. He was then assigned to Santa Fe, New Mexico, Lordsburg New Mexico, and Manzanar Concentration Camp. He finally found a place to call home for his three little boys at Manzanar Concentration Camp, CA when they arrived by bus after traveling for days. Bobby Hiroto, Jimmie Fusaji, and Teddy Mitsue. They returned to the Valley. He finally got his citizenship on September 9, 1955.

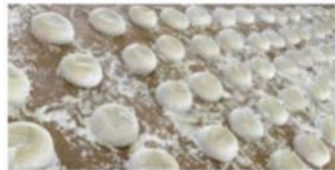
Since COVID-19 shut down the museum for more than one year and a half, the staff is excited to open this December at 18904 Nordhoff Street in Northridge, CA 91324. Call 818 347-9665 for days and hours.

**On December 5**, the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition will observe the 80th year since the site was opened on December 16, 1941. We are thrilled that Descendant Scott Nagatani will entertain us with an original composition. The winners of the first Marc Stirdivant Scholarships for Justice

essay and art contest will be presented. Congressman Adam Schiff will acknowledge Tuna Canyon on the Congressional Record. State Senator Anthony Portantino and Councilmember Monica Rodriguez will participate while Supervisor Kathryn Barger will present an historical commendation. You may watch the virtual celebration from home. Contact me at [nancyoda64@gmail.com](mailto:nancyoda64@gmail.com) for the link.

## San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

### MOCHI 2021 E-FLYER



The 2021 Mochitsuki temple event has been canceled but SFVHBT would still like to offer this special treat to help celebrate the upcoming New Year. Please note that the mochi is flash frozen and quantities are limited. The orders will be on a first come first serve basis.

The last day of pre-orders will be Saturday, December 11th or until supplies last.

Pickup will be on Sunday, December 12th at SFVHBT from 12 -2 pm.

Cost is \$6 /1 lb package

Click here  [Mochi 2021 order form \(google.com\)](#) to reserve your mochi order today.

Or you can fill out the form below and mail it to SFVHBT

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### SFVHBT MOCHI MAIL IN ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ # of 1lb mochi packages at \$6 /each ● My total is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Note: payment can be done a few ways: please check off one

1. Include a check with this form \_\_\_\_\_

2. Zelle to [sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org](mailto:sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Paypal to [sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org](mailto:sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Make payment (exact cash or check ) at pickup date of 12/12 from 12 - 2 pm \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to: SFVHBT 9450 Remick Ave Pacoima CA 91331



## *Silent Night*

By Old Wakaba, Bud Sagara

The Christmas season has always been a time of wonder. We wonder where the year went. We wonder if it's safe to travel this year. We wonder if this Christmas will be as magical as the ones we had as kids. Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote, "Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time."

I still remember our Christmas trees while growing up in Sun Valley. They looked like the scrawny ones Charlie Brown always had. Ours was decorated with the same old ornaments, but they somehow radiated their enchantment year after year. A faint pine scent filled the living room and colorfully wrapped presents waited under the tree to be opened on Christmas morning. There would be relatives coming over or we would be going to their house and who could forget the yummy meals that awaited us. My brother and I looked forward to going to the CC for the San Fernando Judo Club's Christmas party and the Wakaba's Christmas party. My sister attended the CC events of the Del Gants which was a mixed group for younger teens. It seemed like every organization hosted a Christmas party in those early years of the CC. There would usually be Christmas music playing in the background from a portable cassette player and invariably, "Silent Night" would be the song everyone would sing together at the end of the event.

The world's most popular Christmas song "Silent Night" was first performed in a humble community church in Oberndorf, Austria in 1818. This beautiful Christmas carol is sung and enjoyed around the world in over 140 languages and is considered a national treasure in Austria. The following is my rendition of how this traditional Christmas carol came to be.

Once upon a silent night, a young priest, Father Joseph Mohr, sat at the keyboard of the old organ in the Church of St. Nicholas and lamented about the wheezing gasps that were the only sounds the organ could muster. Father Joseph had only been at the church for a year, but in the years before his tenure, the moisture from the nearby Salzach River had rusted the pipes and mildewed the bellows so that the organ was in desperate need of repair. He had hoped that the organ would hold up until the traveling organ craftsman could come to repair it in the spring. It was December 23, 1818 and the sad reality was that St. Nicholas would have no music for the Christmas Eve service.

Father Joseph's plans for an uplifting Christmas service were now in peril unless he could come up with an alternative quickly. Deep in thought, he stepped into the cold, crisp mountain air to slowly make his way up to his home at the foot of the mountain. The pale moonlight glistened off the snow-covered trees and rooftops as the stars twinkled above in the still, silent night. As he gazed back at his beloved village, a solution to his problem came to him, "Of course, silent night!" He had written a poem a few years prior while marveling at the majesty of God's creation on just such a night. He had entitled his poem "Stille Nacht."

The next morning, Father Joseph made the long walk to the next village to his friend's house. Franz Gruber was the choir master and organist at St. Nicolas and was a little surprised to see Father Joseph at his front door when he should have been back at the church preparing for the Christmas Eve service. Father Joseph handed Franz his poem and asked him if he would be able to write a simple melody for it. This would be a meager song offering for this special, holy night in which an elaborate cantata might capture just a sliver of the significance of the birth of Jesus, but it would have to suffice.

By the time Father Joseph and Franz arrived at the church with their new composition, it was too late to teach it to the choir so they decided to sing the song as a duet. As the people arrived at church, they glanced forward with puzzled looks on their faces. Father Joseph was standing in the front with a guitar and Franz Gruber was not at his usual place at the organ keyboard. They had rarely heard a guitar played in church and certainly never during midnight mass on Christmas Eve, one of the holiest nights of the year. As the service commenced, the congregation heard their new pastor's tenor voice and the bass voice of their organist accompanied by the simple strings from that guitar. The melodic tune and the striking words of the lyrics opened the hearts of the worshippers to the wonder of the birth of Jesus and kept them humming the tune as they left the church at the close of the service. Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber never knew the end of the story. Neither man had any idea that the song they had performed because the organ didn't work would become the world's most popular Christmas carol. This would be a testament to God's power of using bad situations for the good.

A few months later, the organ craftsman arrived in Oberndorf to repair the organ. He took a copy of "Silent Night" with him because he liked it so much. The organ craftsman gave the song to two families of traveling singers whom he knew. The traveling singers performed "Silent Night" in concerts all over Europe and eventually the song spread throughout the world.

This season, please take the time to ponder the lyrics of "Silent Night" and to marvel at the mystery of a powerful truth that unfolded in a small, desert town named Bethlehem so long ago. On that holy night, a baby was born who was Almighty God in human flesh, and He would grow up to be the Messiah, the Savior of the world. God gave us his gift of salvation through his Son, Jesus Christ who is available to all who believe in Him. The last verse of "Silent Night" gracefully tells us, "Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light, radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus Lord, at thy birth, Jesus Lord, at thy birth."

Upon a silent night on Christmas Eve, the lights of a community church welcome the people who came to the service. The evening air is brisk and chilly while inside the church the people in all seasons of life greet those they have known for years and smile at those they have just met that evening. The people gather together as one to worship and to sing and to praise, to remind each other of the unfolding of God's great plan of salvation on such a starry night 2,000 years ago. After all, isn't that what Christmas is really about?





By Liz Doomey

### ***What is the Death Café? Why would I join? Where can I join?***

I hope to explain what the group is and the need for it in the Japanese American Community. Dr. Minoru Tomita is a retired Family Medical Doctor who was a guest speaker in one of the Keiro forums in September 2021. During this forum he mentioned the Death Café and I was very interested in learning more about the topic. I spoke to Dr. Tomita and found out some very interesting reasons for having a virtual Death Café group. It would be a time for Japanese Americans to get together and talk about death and dealing with the subject. I feel there is a need for people to voice their concern about death and how to deal with it. Dr. Tomita said he would be able to join us as a facilitator and I said I would be the host.

### ***Here is a little history of the cafes from around the world.***

The goal of these nonprofit groups is to educate and help others become more familiar with the end of life. The idea originates with the Swiss sociologist and anthropologist Bernard Crettaz, who organized the first café mortel in 2004. Jon Underwood a UK web developer was inspired by Crettaz's work and developed the Death Café model in 2011. He was instrumental in the spread of the idea. They have since been held in 66 countries. The Death Café is not a physical location, but is an event hosted at someone's house or other pop-up/ temporary venue. The official objective of a death café is to help people make the most of their finite lives. Individuals can discuss their understanding, thoughts, dreams, fears and all other areas of death and dying at these events. Death Cafes have helped to relax the taboo of speaking about death, particularly with strangers, and encouraged people to express their own wishes for after they die. The open-ended discussions also provide an avenue to express thoughts about one's own life stirred up by the death of a family member. There is no agenda, theme or objective. We talk about whatever you want to talk about. All ideas, beliefs, opinions are welcomed and honored.

If you find this something you would like to participate in, contact me and we will set up a virtual program for our community. My email address is [lizdoomey@yahoo.com](mailto:lizdoomey@yahoo.com) or call/text 818-429-4096. I hope you will find this a worthwhile group for you to share your feelings and concerns.

## **Answer the Survey on Arthritis for a Cause!**

Approximately 40% of Japanese (all ages) in California have arthritis. Keiro is partnering with the Arthritis Foundation and we need your help collecting valuable data, specifically in the Japanese American and Asian American communities.

Your participation, **regardless of age or whether you have arthritis currently or not**, will lead to more effective care for adults living with arthritis, and develop programs to meet the needs of Our Community.

Please help Keiro by participating in this brief survey!

Survey link: <https://qrco.de/Keiro>.



Your survey will solely be used by the Arthritis Foundation and arthritis health care providers to inform improvements in many services received by the arthritis community.

**CC Scholarship Applications Now Available on the CC Website -  
Go to [www.sfvjacc.com](http://www.sfvjacc.com)**

**SFVJACC SCHOLARSHIPS**

**DR. SANBO SAKAGUCHI SCHOLARSHIP**

The Dr. Sanbo Sakaguchi Scholarship is the most prestigious recognition awarded at the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center. He was a life long member who supported the San Fernando Valley Judo Club, Alemany High School football team, SFV JACL, and many community organizations like the Japan American Symphony.

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**KAY FURUTA SAKAGUCHI SCHOLARSHIP**

The Kay Furuta Sakaguchi Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship is given in memory of Kazuko Sakaguchi, wife of Dr. Sanbo Sakaguchi and a patron of the arts including the Asian American Symphony. This scholarship was started by her niece, Helen Nina Oda Abe.

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**LILY SAKAGUCHI THIBODEAUX SCHOLARSHIP**

The Lilly Thibodeaux Scholarship is in memory of the beloved grandmother, mother, aunt and friend who Inspired us with her love and determination.

All the SFVJACC Scholarships are open to graduating high school seniors of SFVJACC who has demonstrated academic excellence, extracurricular activities and service to school, local, and/or Asian community, especially with the SFVJACC. Applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2022.

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**Athletics Scholarship Applications Will be Available Soon**

**Below are descriptions of the four scholarships offered.**

**ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS**

**HOSHIKO HIRANO AWARD**

This award honors the memory of Hoshi Hirano, the woman who started and developed the Girls Athletics program at our Community Center.

The purpose of the award is to recognize those girls who have contributed to the Girls Athletics program by their participation, performance and/or service to the program. The award committee will also consider any or all awards and performances by all applicants in all athletics/scholastic activities accomplished in high school.

This award is open to all senior girls graduating from high school this year. The candidate must have participated or is currently participating in the Community Center Girls Athletics program. For the purpose of the award this includes from Sure Shot to their final year of high school.

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**WAYNE YAMAMOTO MEMORIAL AWARD**

The purpose of the award is to recognize a senior boy who has contributed to the San Fernando Boys Athletics program by his participation, performance and/or service to the program. The award committee will also consider any or all awards and performances by all applicants in all athletics/scholastic activities accomplished in high school.

This award is open to all senior boys graduating from high school this year. The candidate must have participated or is currently participating in the Community Center Boys Athletics program. For the purpose of the award this includes from Sure Shot to their final year of high school.

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**LAUREN TAGUCHI MEMORIAL YOUTH SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP**

The Lauren Taguchi Memorial Youth Service Scholarship is given to honor her memory as an active member of the SFVJACC Athletics as well as many other community organizations. As a student athlete, Lauren was a role model, friend and teammate who demonstrated sportsmanship on and off the court. A \$500.00 award will be given to the graduating high school senior who best demonstrates the spirit of volunteerism and citizenship, through community service. Applicants should be responsible students, active in school and in their community, as well as participated in SFVJACC Athletics for at least 5 years. The student selected will receive the award to be applied towards his or her college education.

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**EVAN NIIZAWA MEMORIAL CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP**

The Evan Yoshio Niizawa Memorial Continuing Education Scholarship is given in memory of his accomplishments, scholastic excellence and participation in athletics in the face of severe illness and life challenges. Evan was an inspiration to all who knew him and admired his determination in all aspects of his life. A \$1,000.00 continuing education scholarship provided by the Niizawa Family and SFVJACC Athletics is given to a current or past member of SFVJACC Athletics who has demonstrated scholastic excellence and overcame challenges during their life. The student selected will receive the award to be applied towards his or her college education.



**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY  
HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

9450 Remick Avenue, Pacoima, CA 91331  
818 899-4030 sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org  
www.sfvhbt.org

Supervising Minister: Rev. William Briones  
Temple President: Carolyn Sanwo

Due to the COVID-19 situation, services are being held via Zoom until further notice. Please contact the temple if you wish to be included on the invitation list. Please check our website for updates. Thank you, and be safe and well.

**December**

- 5 10:00 am Shotsuki monthly memorial and Bodhi Day service
- 12 10:00 am Regular service
- 19 10:00 am Regular service
- 26 No service
- 31 6:00 pm New Year's Eve service

**January 2022**

- 1 10:00 am New Year's Day service
- 2 No service
- 9 10:00 am Shotsuki monthly memorial service
- 16 10:00 am Ho-onko: Shinran Shonin memorial service
- 23 10:00 am Regular service
- 30 10:00 am Regular service

Your donations gratefully accepted:

- Zelle to sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org
- PayPal on [sfvhbt.org](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.sfvhbt.org) or
- Check mailed to SFVHBT (address above)



9610 Haddon Avenue  
Pacoima, CA 91331  
(2 blocks east of Laurel Canyon Blvd.  
between Branford and Osborne St.)

**Office Phone:**

818 896-1676 (English)  
(818) 899-4115 (Japanese)

Please refer to our website for more information: [www.crosswaysfv.org](http://www.crosswaysfv.org)

**English Department**

Pastor Roland Hazama  
Pastor Raynold Nakamura

**Japanese Department**

Pastor In Hyun

We are now doing hybrid services and have resumed gathering on campus while maintaining the online streaming presence on Sundays at 10:00 am. (Registration is required for in-person services.) For more information, email [info@crosswaysfv.org](mailto:info@crosswaysfv.org)



**Chatsworth West  
United Methodist  
Church**

**Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors**

10824 Topanga Canyon Blvd.  
Chatsworth, CA 91311  
818 341-1270

E-mail: [chatsworthumc@juno.com](mailto:chatsworthumc@juno.com)  
FAX: 818 341 1271

**Pastor: Eric Iki**  
**Lay Leader: Jim Melichar**

Due to the changing times of the COVID-19 pandemic, services are being held on Sundays at 10 am and bible study on Thursdays at 10 am and 7 pm through Zoom.

If you would like to join the services or bible study meetings, call (818) 341-1270 or email at [chatsworthumc@juno.com](mailto:chatsworthumc@juno.com)



**SUNRISE JAPANESE  
FOURSQUARE CHURCH**

Church address:  
5853 Laurel Canyon Blvd.  
Valley Village, CA 91607

Pastors:  
Rev. Paul Iwata  
Rev. James Iwata

Join us for our worship services on  
Sundays at 10:30 am through Facebook at

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/  
sunrisejapanesechurch/posts/?  
ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/sunrisejapanesechurch/posts/?ref=page_internal)

## **COORDINATING COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONS - MEETINGS - CONTACT PERSONS**

Coordinating Council .....	3rd Wed., 7:00 PM.....	Kay Oda .....	818 899-1989
Community Center.....	1st Wed., 7:00 PM.....	Call CC Office .....	818 899-1989
Athletics.....	3rd Tues., 7:30 PM.....	Margaret Takimoto.....	818 701-7628
CC News .....	Lois Okui.....	818 892-1487.....	Email: lois_okui@sfvjacc.com
Chatsworth West United Methodist Church.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2nd Sun., 1:00 PM.....	Pastor Eric Iki.....	818 341-1270
Crossway Church .....	2nd Sun., 12:30 PM .....	Jennifer Trax .....	818 896-1676
Nikkei Senior Gardens.....	2nd Thurs. (even months), 7 PM..	Tadao Okui.	818 517-7907
SFV Bonsai Club .....	4th Sun., 8 AM-12 PM..	Kazuhiko Nakanishi ..	805 492-3439
SFV Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2nd Mon., 7:30 PM.....	Carolyn Sanwo .....	818 899-4030
SFV JACL .....	2nd Wed., 7:00 PM .....	Nancy Takayama.....	818 601-6296
SFV Japanese Language Institute.....	2nd Sat., 8:30 AM.....	Kiyo Watanabe.....	818 237-8540
.....	.....	.....	818 896-8612 (Office)
SFV Judo Club .....	4th Wed., 7:03 PM .....	Kenji Couey .....	818 381-7232
SFV Meiji Senior Citizens Club..	2nd Fri., 12:30 PM.....	Ritsuko Shinbashi .....	818 892-0470
Senior Hot Meals.....	Tues. & Fri. (no meal on 5th Tues. & 5th Fri.)	.....	818 899-1989
Sunrise Japanese Foursquare Church .....	.....	Reverend Paul Iwata....	818 782-8738
Valley Japanese Community Center.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2nd Fri., 7:30 PM .....	Joy Longworth .....	818-896-7775

**Want to reserve the  
Community Center for  
an event?**

Call Tadao Okui at  
(818) 517-7907 or email:  
tadao\_okui@sfvjacc.com

**Want to submit an  
article for the CC  
Newsletter?**

Email:  
lois\_okui@sfvjacc.com

CC Deadline:  
The 15th of every odd  
month.

## **SPECIAL CLASSES**

Arts & Crafts .....	Monday .....	10:00 AM-12:00 PM.....	Sally Hamamoto .....	818 361-2902
Ballroom Dance.....	Tuesday .....	7:00-9:00 PM .....	Barbara Okita .....	818 784-5128
Bowling*, Matador Bowl.....	Thursday.....	9:30 AM .....	Sam Nakata .....	818 894-5307
Bridge* .....	Monday .....	12:00-3:00 PM.....	Ray Shinsato .....	818 767-5550
Country Western Music* .....	Tuesday .....	10:30-11:30 AM .....	Janet Schuetze .....	818 767-1819
Exercise Class.....	Tuesday.....	9:00-10:00 AM.....	Liz Doomey .....	818 892-7381
Exercise Class.....	Friday.....	10:00-11:00 AM.....	Liz Doomey .....	818 892-7381
Hanafuda* .....	Friday.....	1:00-3:00 PM.....	Call CC office .....	818 899-1989
Harmonica Class*.....	Friday.....	1:00-11:30 AM.....	Call CC office .....	818 899-1989
Hawaiian Hula (Hula Wahines).....	Friday.....	12:30-1:30 PM.....	Suzan Akamine .....	818 367-1723
Hitomi's Cooking Class.....	4th Tuesday .....	7:00-9:00 PM .....	NJ Nakamura .....	818 893-6503
Ikenobo Ikebana .....	2nd/4th Wednesday .....	10:00-2:00 PM.....	Mayumi Dennis .....	818 224-3346
Japanese Calligraphy .....	1st/3rd Thursday .....	9:30-11:00 AM.....	Call CC office .....	818 899-1989
Karaoke* .....	1st/3rd Thursday .....	10:00 AM-12:00 PM.....	Janet Yamamoto .....	818 365-8361
Kokusei Shigin Class .....	Tuesday (J-School).....	10:00-11:30 AM.....	Shigeru Kamimura.....	818 992-4673
Line Dancing* .....	Thursday.....	8:45-10:00 AM.....	Call CC Office .....	818 899-1989
Mandolin.....	Friday.....	9:30-11:00 AM .....	Call CC Office .....	818 899-1989
Nikkei Bowling League .....	Friday (Winnetka Bowl) .....	8:00-10:00 PM.....	Stan Date.....	818 701-6607
Tuesday Mah-Jong* .....	Tuesday.....	1:00-3:00 PM.....	Call CC office .....	818 899-1989
Friday Mah-Jong* .....	Friday.....	1:00-3:00 PM .....	Call CC office .....	818 899-1989
Ondo Dancing* .....	2nd/4th Friday.....	7:00-9:00 PM .....	Janet Yamamoto .....	818 365-8361
Ping Pong Club .....	Thursday/Tuesday .....	10:00 AM-3:00 PM.....	Aaron Sanwo.....	661 755-0584
SFV Judo Club .....	Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri .....	7:00-9:00 PM.....	Kenji Couey.....	818 381-7232
Tai Chi Class*.....	Monday.....	9:00-10:00 AM.....	Florence Takaaze .....	310 202-6693
Taiko .....	Sunday.....	10:00 AM-2:00 PM.....	sfv.taiko@gmail.com ....	818 899-1989
Ukulele Class .....	Friday.....	9:30-11:30 AM.....	Call CC Office .....	818 899-1989
Yoga Class.....	Wednesday.....	10:00-11:00 AM.....	Call CC Office .....	818 899-1989
Zumba .....	Monday.....	7:30-8:30 PM.....	Margaret Takimoto .....	818 701-7628

## **YOUTH SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

Girl Scouts.....3rd Saturday .....

2:00-4:00 PM .....

Troop Leader: Akiko Manaka

## **SUPPORT GROUPS & SERVICES**

Alzheimer's Support Group..... 1st Saturday..... 10:00 AM-12:00 PM .....

Facilitator: Isabelle Miyata

Blood Pressure Screening\*..... 3rd Friday..... 9:30-11:00 AM .....

Nikkei Pioneer Conference Room

Podiatrist\*..... 2nd Saturday..... 11:00-12:30 PM .....

Nikkei Pioneer Conference Room

(Times for the podiatrist are approximate.)

\*Meiji Senior Citizens' Activity or Service

For more information, call the CC at (818) 899-1989.



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE  
 AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS  
 12953 Branford Street, Pacoima 91331  
 818 899-1989 Fax 818 899-0659

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**San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center**  
**2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
 (Membership Period: January 1 to December 31, 2022)

1. Complete the information below.
2. Make check payable to "SFVJACC".
3. Send your check and this form to: SFVJACC  
 12953 Branford Street  
 Pacoima, CA 91331

- Family Membership - \$60.00
- Single Membership - \$40.00

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to receive the newsletter in digital form instead of a hard copy, please check the box.

If you would like to be omitted from future CC Directories, please check the box.

\* For information, please call SFVJACC at (818) 899-1989. Fax is (818) 899-0659. Website: [www.sfvjacc.com](http://www.sfvjacc.com)