

The Chicago Shimpo

Volume 6065(1)

THE CHICAGO SHIMPO www.chicagoshimpo.com

Friday, July 28, 2017

シカゴ新報

今週の HEADLINE

- 落語で江戸情緒たっぷり
さん喬・正蔵二人会
- 田中賢治首席領事
大型インタビュー
- 日系人強制収容・写真展
アメリカ人とは何かを問う
- 居住可能な惑星
太陽系外に10個確認

News from Japan

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By Dean Raffaelli
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Then They Came for Me comes to Alphawood Gallery



By Bob Kumaki
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Tokyo Foreign Currency Exchange

Wed. Jul. 26, 2017

\$1= ¥111.83-85

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Exhibition "Then They Came For Me" Not To Be Repeated



A scene from Exhibition "Then They Came for Me" at the Alphawood Gallery

Exhibit "Then They Came for Me: Incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII and the Demise of Civil Liberties" has been going on at the Alphawood Gallery, 2401 N. Halsted St., Chicago, until November 19.

What does an America

look like? Who is welcomed in this country? What is every American's duty in the face of racist government action? The powerful new exhibition examines the effect of racism and xenophobia from a dark period in American history. The exhibition is organized by the Alphawood Gallery

partnered with the Japanese American Service Committee cooperated by other Japanese American organizations.

In the name of national security, Executive Order 9066, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, allowed

the removal of about 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry, no matter if they were citizens or legal residents, from the West Coast areas and imprisoned them in 10 internment camps in the desert areas across the U.S.

See page 2
Exhibit

New Deputy Consul General Arrives at Chicago Interview with Kenji Tanaka



New Deputy Consul General Kenji Tanaka smiles at his office in Chicago.

The new Deputy Consul, Kenji Tanaka, arrived at Chicago early July.

Tanaka was born in 1961 in Nagano, Japan. Upon graduating from Chuo University Faculty of Law, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987 as a U.S. Specialist. After studying at Oberlin College and University of Pennsylvania from 1988 to 1990, he was assigned to the Consulate General of Japan in Chicago to work for the Japan Information Center until 1992. From 2002 to 2005, Tanaka was in charge of foreign press at the Consulate General of Japan in New York. This is his third U.S. assignment.

Q: I see that you were engaged in numerous international negotiations right after you joined the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, such as the talks under the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade), Uruguay Round, WTO (World Trade Organization), PECC (Pacific Economic Corporation Council), ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Plus, and Japan-Europe EPA (Economic Partnership Agreement).

Tanaka: I was first assigned to the First International Organizations Division, Economic Affairs Bureau, and my job there was engage in negotiations under the Uruguay Round with regard to the service-related matters. In the late 1990s, I was responsible for negotiations regarding the four service-related areas that were left unsolved by the WTO.

See page 5
Kenji Tanaka

**Exhibition
from page 1**

They were only allowed to carry a bag per individual and lost all their properties.

The 12,000-square-foot space of the Alphawood Gallery accommodate more than 100 large photo panels, which are culled from the book "Un-American" by Chicago-based photography historians Richard Cahan and Michael Williams. The featured photos include works of renowned photo journalist Dorothea Lange and Ansel Adams. Lange was hired by the U.S. Government's War Relocation Authority to document the evacuation process and internment of

Japanese Americans. She captured the pride of Japanese Americans, who were dressed well and waiting for transport trains with dignity. However, a Sansei (third generation of JA), who was looking at the photos, said that their facial expressions were different at their homes.

Photos of Toyo Miyatake, who managed to bring some camera lenses into a camp and assemble a camera inside the camp, are also exhibited. He vividly photographed the imprisoned people and their lives.

Alongside the photographs, a rich trove of documents, diaries, art, and other archival materials are exhibited. The first-hand experiences of JAs are available through videos and films.

Alphawood Gallery has offered a series of programs related to the exhibition. The program schedules are available at www.alphawoodgallery.org.

Roy Wesley's Testimony

Sansei Roy Wesley spoke about how his hard working family was affected by the incarceration at an opening reception that was hosted by the Alphawood Gallery on June 28.

Wesley's father's side was Uyesugi. His grandfather emigrated from Wakayama Prefecture at the age of 19 and arrived in British Columbia. He then worked in the salmon fisheries, railroad construction, and lumber mills. He saved money for 12 years and visited his hometown to marry Chiyo Hata. He returned to the

lumber mill in Westport, Oregon and started his own farm after a while.

Wesley's mother's side was Sasaki. His grandfather came to the U.S. to pursue a musical career when he was 17. He was directing a choir group at a church in Seattle and met his wife-to-be who also came to the U.S. for music study. His grandfather worked at Frederick and Nelson in the furniture department and directed the company's choir on special occasions.

Wesley's father was born in Westport, and his family moved to Portland to run a hotel business and a grocery store. While he helped the family businesses, he also spent much time reading. After graduating from high school, he worked in a salmon cannery, truck line, and lumber company to save his college tuition. He graduated from the North Pacific College of Optometry and opened an eye clinic after a while.

Wesley's mother grew up in Seattle and visited Portland through her church's social activities. She met his father and married in 1940 after three years of courtship.

His father befriended a neighboring business owner named Grossenbacher, and he occasionally visited the father's eye clinic. One day, he prescribed glasses for Grossenbacher's daughter free of charge because he enjoyed Grossenbacher's visits and

conversations.

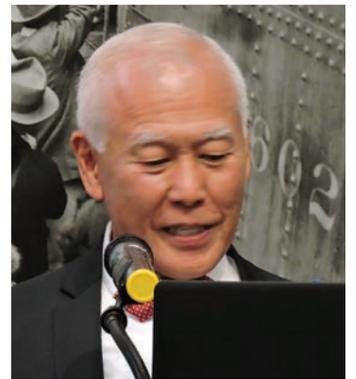
On December 7, 1941, the Japanese Imperial Navy attacked Pearl Harbor, and hatred and prejudice against Japanese Americans surged among American people. Wesley's father, then President of the Portland Japanese American Citizens League, rebutted false accusations and rumors against the JAs reported in the local papers. He strongly appealed to JAs' patriotism.

His father served on the Portland auxiliary fire department and the police department. He trained and marched with the police. He guarded bridges in the night for possible enemy invasions and helped the FBI identifying Japanese Issei Loyalists.

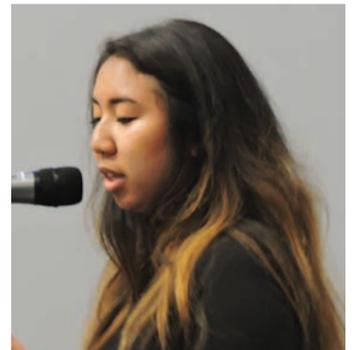
One day, the FBI came to his father's home when he was away. After inspecting the house, a FBI man asked his captain if they took his grandfather with them. The captain said, "No," and they left. His grandfather said that the captain's name was Grossenbacher. Grossenbacher, who occasionally visited his eye clinic, was an undercover FBI



The attendees listen to the story of Roy Wesley at the opening reception.



Roy Wesley



Rebecca Ozaki speaks about her grandfather late Sam Ozaki, who devoted his life to protect civilian rights.

captain.

Roy Wesley was born in the morning of May 5th, 1942, the final day to report the Portland Salvation Army to be sent to the Portland Assembly Center. Because of his birth, he and his mother could stay in a hospital, but only for three days.

The Assembly Center was formerly livestock stalls.

**See page 3
Exhibition**

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One Year after Release, Pokemon Go is Fitness Tool for Older People

About a year after the craze over the release of Pokemon Go, the smartphone app game has largely become a tool for middle-aged and older people to stay fit as well as a way for some Japanese tourist spots to attract visitors.

One day in early July, 48-year-old Tsutomu Misago was touching the screen of his smartphone in Tempozan Park in Osaka, western Japan, where hordes of young players used to gather to catch rare virtual characters of the location-based game.

"I've nothing to do on my days off," Misago, who runs a construction business in Kobe, said while playing Pokemon Go. Getting out and playing the game is "better than just staying at home," he said, wiping sweat off his face.

There was another middle aged man nearby walking with his smartphone.

"I'm a job bachelor," said the 56-year-old company employee, who lives in Osaka apart from his family due to his job. "I keep playing it as I have few other reasons to go out."

In Tokyo's Ueno Park, which was also once a popular place for Pokemon Go fans, there were far fewer people playing the game than before.

"I stopped playing it after two months as I felt tired of walking," said a 20-year-old man strolling in the park with his girlfriend.

They were in the park "to see the baby panda," he said, referring to a giant panda cub born in June at a zoo adjacent to the park.

The augmented reality game jointly developed by Nintendo Co., Pokemon Co. and Niantic Inc. was released in Japan on June 22 last year, about two weeks after its global debut in the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

As it had elsewhere before, the game immediately became a social phenomenon in Japan, flooding parks and streets with players trying to catch various "Pokemon" monsters that appear superimposed on their smartphone screens based on the player's location.

The game was blamed for causing traffic accidents and trespassing problems involving players getting carried away.

According to Tokyo-based research agency Values Inc., the number of players who play the game at least once a month climbed to an estimated **See page 4 Pokemon**

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Exhibition from page 2

JAs had to live and sleep on the plywood floors, which covered the animal manure. Sanitation was minimal with flies and bad odor. JAs were forced to stay there for five months until barracks were built in 10 internment camps

in deserted areas.

After talking with his family, his father decided to enter the Quaker school, Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, when 16 colleges offered sanctuary to JA college students. His father left after three month of imprisonment, and Wesley and his family were sent to Minidoka, Idaho two months after his father's departure. It took two years for the family to get together. His father changed the family name Uyesugi to Wesley while at Earlham.

During his study at Earlham,

his father began losing his eyesight due to lack of sleep and heavy workloads. He fought to find a cure for himself that led to the development of practical contact lenses for daily wear. He built the country's largest contact lens manufacturing company in the 1950s and 1960s.

His mother's psychological damage during the war and detention camp experience never healed even though she had a luxurious life later. She died in Chicago at the age of 56.

Wesley said, "Don't let them come after us," and quoted James Baldwin's words, "History is not the past. It is the present. We carry our history with us. We are our history. If we pretend otherwise, we literally are criminals."

Alphawood Gallery

The Alphawood Gallery has been supported by the Alphawood Foundation Chicago and was created to serve as a venue for exhibitions furthering the Foundation's charitable mission. The Foundation

is a grant-making private foundation to work for an equitable, just and humane society. It has given grants to more than 200 organizations annually in the area of the arts, arts education, advocacy, architecture, domestic violence prevention, the environment, promotion and protection of the rights of LGBT and people living with HIV/AIDS, and other human and civil rights.

Alphawood Gallery Hours:
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