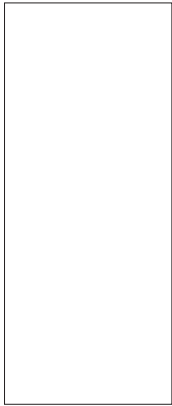


**Japantown Task Force, Inc.  
1765 Sutter St., Suite 1  
San Francisco, CA 94115**

*Return Address Requested*



Place  
Stamp  
Here



**japantown task force, inc**  
a planning, preservation, and development organization





# 歓迎

夏がきて夏が過ぎ、そして木の葉の色が変わる頃、10月25日と26日にジャパンセンターとピースプラザで催す「秋まつり」の準備に、日本町商店会協会はとりかかります。

秋まつりは、豊かな収穫を神々に感謝するために催すもので、太鼓、琴、三味線、餅つき、武術の実技披露など、いろいろな行事を行います。

この秋まつりに関連して、日本町の商店街の通りで、特に幼い子供たちがハローウィンのトリックオアトリートを安全に楽しめるように、また、各種のゲームや行事に参加できるように、商店がハローウィンを催します。ジャンピングルーム、金魚すくい、腕輪作りなどを日米歴史学協会の協力で、家族全員が楽しめるいろいろな行事を用意します。



## データベース

ベン・コバシガワさん（JTF顧問、州立サンフランシスコ大学教授）とヨーコ・ツクダさん（州立サンフランシスコ大学大学院学生、元JTFボランティア）のおふたりの何ヶ月にもわたる苦心の調査の結果、1,100を越すジャパントウンと日系関連のビジネス、組織団体、教会や協会のデータベースを完成しました。寛大にも、このデータベースをタスクフォースにも使わせて頂いております。

このデータベースは、マイクロソフトアクセスで作成されており、主に使われている言語、組織・ビジネスの種類、財政のタイプ、近隣などのより高等なデータのみならず、住所、電話及びファックス番号などの基本的なデータも集めています。このようなデータから、分類したり濾過する



# Welcome!

Summer has come and gone, and as the leaves turn color, the Japantown community and Merchants Association prepares to celebrate Aki Matsuri on October 25 and 26 in the Japan Center and Peace Plaza. Aki Matsuri will include *taiko*, *mochitsuki*, *koto*, *shamisen*, martial arts demonstrations, and more.

In conjunction with Aki Matsuri, the merchants and community will also be putting on a Halloween Festival for the young ones who can trick-or-treat safely through Japantown and take part in games and fun activities designed just for them. From Big Bounce and *kingyo sukui* to metal bracelet-making with NJAHS, there's plenty of activities for the whole family.

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# JTF Announcements

## Great Events in the Fillmore



To the delight of residents, the Fillmore's Farmer's Market opened Saturday, August 2. The market, which is open Saturdays from 8:30am to 1:00pm though November 22 features fresh produce, breads, and flowers. The market will also showcase local merchants, community non profits, plus rotating chefs from local restaurants. Complementing the Saturday Farmer's Market is Fillmore Fridays, a weekly event running through November 22 which includes movies and music under the stars. Past Fillmore Fridays have featured the screening

Fillmore (cont'd on p. 16)

## Task Force Wish List

Digital Camera, USB mouse, duty paper shredder. If you are tea, laser printer paper, mini fridge, willing to donate any of the above, binders, mail scale, technical assistance for web design and a heavy-duty paper shredder. If you are willing to donate any of the above, please contact us at (415) 346.1239. Thanks!

## Thank You



Japan Center Garage Corporation, Neighborhood Beautification Fund, San Francisco Beautiful, Union Bank of California,

Ben Pease, DPT: Bond Yee and Manito Velasco, DPW: Tony Walcott and tree trimming and sidewalk crews, Holli Thier, David Ishida, Jeffrey Kimoto, Morris and Louise M. Hosoda, Shigeru Kimura, Tomio Jofuku, Cathy Averett, Roy Ito, Hirofumi & Sue Okamura, Makoto Tamura, Friends of the Urban Forest, Marie Mendenhall Cleasby, Frank & Clara Amarillas, Shorinji Kempo, David & Cindi Sasaki, Noriyuki & Junko Yoshikawa.

ことにより、メーリングリストを作成したり、または、どんなタイプのビジネスや組織があるのかそしてどこにあるのか、などを比較的容易に調べることができます。

このような最近の住所録がほとんどないので、そのような情報を必要とする組織と、このデータベースをタスクフォースは分かち合いたいと考えています。このデータベースに興味のある方は、タスクフォースにお気軽に申し出てください。

## まつり

2003年10月25日土曜日の正午から午後4時まで、ジャパントウンのピースプラザとジャパセンターマヤコモールで、各種の文化的な行事で、秋まつりを祝います。伝統的な行事は、お茶会、太鼓、琴、三味線、尺八、踊り、武術（空手、剣道、柔道）、餅つきなど。おりがみの実演と展示は、ミヤコモール内の歓待室であります。土曜日の全ての催し物は、入場無料です。

2003年10月26日日曜日の正午から午後4時まで、ハローウィンフェスティバルでは、ジャパントウンに大ムカデを迎えます。この大ムカデに乗って、跳んだりねたりして遊びましょう。家族全員で来て、金魚すくいとヨーヨーボールなどの伝統的な日本の遊びに参加しましょう。

日曜日の正午から午後4時まで、ジャパントウン全域の商店街と地区組織で、子供達は、安全にトリックオアトリートを楽しむことができます。

ハローウィンのぬり絵競争の優勝者は、告示されます。2歳から5歳までと6歳から10歳までのふた組があり、各組の3位までが表彰されます。参加者のぬり絵はジャパセンターマーモールに展示されます。(参加希望者は、ハナカフェのキャロル・ムラタさんに電話してください。電話: 415 - 567 - 9133)

つづきは P.19

# こころ

# Director's Report

A Message from Linda Jofuku, Executive Director

「こころ介護付き住宅」は、9月12日に、数百人の地域の方々と支援して下さった方々を招いて、盛大な開所式を行いました。永年にわたる計画、資金集めと建設の結果、各宗教による礼拝、尺八や琴の演奏とチャラレ・メイの芸能人達によって、高齢者のための54戸の住居施設がオープンしました。

ウィリー・ブラウン市長は、「こころ」の完成を賞賛し、ブッシュ通りに通りかかった際に、「いつもここを通りかかる時に、この建物と隣の空地に注目して、意義ある目的のために人々はいつまたどんな時点でこの素晴らしい資源を使うのか、いつも気にしていた。そしたら、非常に有能な民間の方々が市の役人と協同して、この素晴らしい計画を提案した。これはサフランシスコが元来目的として持っている驚嘆すべき連携を実現させたものである。」

「こころ」の理事長のスティーブ・スズキ氏は、施設のこれまでの永い歴史とその場所が近辺のコミュニティにもたらしてきた多くの貢献について回想して述べた。スピーチの締めくくりに、彼は「こころ」の多くの支援者に感謝を述べ、「目前に見るこの施設は、資金を提供した人達や、老朽化して毀れた処を直すために労力を提供した人達の各自の成果である」と強調した。スズキ氏は、このプロジェクトはなおさらに資金が必要であることを付け加えて述べた。

現在までに、40人が手付金を納め、20人が登録を申し込んでいる。10月に最初の入居者が入る予定。「こころ」について更に詳しい情報を求めている方、または寄付をしていただける方は、お電話ください。（「こころ」：415 - 776 - 8066）

It has been just a little over a year since I came to San Francisco Japantown to develop this new non profit community development, planning and preservation organization ... the Japantown Task Force, Inc. When I first came to the Task Force, I was confronted with many questions by community members and outsiders such as, "What will the Task Force do? What's in it for me?" I think these questions are indicative of the problems that Japantown faces and why preservation and revitalization efforts are so challenging.

## What will the Task Force do?

The Task Force has done a great deal (three years) of broad-based community planning and has developed the award-winning Japantown Concepts Plan and the Japantown Community Plan. Embodied in these plans are ideas and strategies to effectuate ideas from Japantown residents, property owners, business owners, community organizations and churches.

Our focus in my first year as executive director has been to establish the Task Force as a bonafide 501c(3), sustain our neighborhood through the demolition of the Central Freeway and the downturn in the economy,

to do what we could with the community plan, place Japantown on local decision makers' radar screens, and work out the California legislation (Senate Bill 307 and Proposition 40) that affects Japantown.

Our most important work has been developing partnerships and collaborative relationships with the Japantown Merchants Association, Japan Center Garage Corporation, Department of Public Works, Department of Parking and Traffic, Department of Parks and Recreation, Metropolitan Transit Authority, Caltrans, the Mayor's Office and the Board of Supervisors. We have also been systematically incorporating the strategies in the Japantown Community Plan into the City and County Departments' work orders. Our other achievements include initiating language in the San Francisco Transportation Expenditure Plan that stipulates that there must be neighborhood-based outreach that is culturally and linguistically specific and relevant before plans are adopted.

## What's in it for you?

Everyone needs a sense of place, of belonging. Japantown is a

# Moris to be Honored

Jeff and Sandy Mori to be Honored

Join San Francisco Planning and Urban Research (SPUR) on Wednesday, October 29 for the 2003 Silver SPUR Awards Luncheon at 10:30 am at Moscone Center West, Level 3 in San Francisco. Among the awardees are Japantown's own Jeff and Sandy Mori, who will be honored for their many years of service to the community and City. Sandy Ouye Mori is development director of Kimochi Inc., previous board member of Kimochi, and former chair of the Japantown Planning, Preservation, and Development Task Force. Jeff Mori is executive director of Asian American Recovery Services, chair of the Japantown Task Force, Inc., former executive director of the Japanese Community Youth Council, and



headed the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth, and Their Families. The Silver Spur is awarded annually to individuals to recognize "the civic contributions of those who make San Francisco a better place for all of us." Other awardees include Sandy Close, Ramon Cortines, and F. Warren Hellman. For more information, please call 415-781-8726 x116 or email info@spur.com.

# Kokoro

Gala Marks Historic Grand Opening

Kokoro Assisted Living recently marked its grand opening on September 12 with a gala that brought hundreds of community members and supporters to celebrate the auspicious occasion. After years of planning, fundraising, and development, the 54-unit

residential facility for seniors opened with an interfaith service, shakuhachi and koto performances, and the talent of Chorale May.

Mayor Willie Brown applauded Kokoro's achievement,

Kokoro (cont'd on p. 11)

# 人口統計

H11. 保有別による占有家屋の総人口

占有家屋の人口

資料：国勢調査 2000 総計表 1(S F 1) 100%資料

	国勢調査 トラクト 152, 155, 159
占有家屋の総人口	11,280
持ち家人口	2,343
借家人口	8,937

P 26. 家族数別による所帯数

資料：国勢調査 2000 総計表 1(S F 1) 100%資料

	国勢調査 トラクト 152, 155, 159
2 人家族	1,178
3 人家族	380
4 人家族	224
5 人家族	63
6 人家族	63
7 人家族	24
平均家族数	2.6
非家族所帯数	4,763
1 人所帯	3,657
2 人所帯	887
3 人所帯	155
4 人所帯	42
5 人所帯	19
6 人所帯	1
7 人所帯	2
平均非家族所帯数	1.69

米国国勢調査局

国勢調査 2000

所帯の大きさ、家族、家族所帯、非家族所帯・・・これらは何を意味するのだろうか。基本的に、一所帯は一軒の家にそこを常時住居として住む全員を含む。一家族所帯は、所帯主と出生、結婚または養子縁組により所帯主と家族を構成する者を含む。例えば、5人の非家族所帯は、所帯の5人の誰も家族関係にないが全員が一緒に住んでいることを言う。

用語について明確にしたので、この統計についてちょっと分析を行なってみたい。明らかに、この地域の住民の大多数(79%)は借家住まいである。高齢者と20 - 34歳台の成人の大

# Aki Matsuri

A Weekend of Culture and Fun



Japantown celebrates Aki Matsuri (Fall Festival) with a full line-up of cultural performances on Saturday, October 25, 2003 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm in the Japantown Peace Plaza and Japan Center. Traditional performances include: tea ceremony, taiko, koto, shamisen, shakuhachi, Nihon Buyo, martial arts – karate, kendo, judo, and mochitsuki. An origami (paper folding) exhibit and demonstration will be available at the hospitality room in the Miyako Mall. All Saturday events are free and open to the public.

Japantown will experience the invasion of the Giant Caterpillar at the Halloween Festival on Sunday, October 26, 2003 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm. Come play, “bounce” and “jump” on the Big Bounce and the Giant Caterpillar. Bring the whole family to participate in traditional Japanese games such as kingyo sukui (catching live fish with a paper paddle) and yo-yo ball. Children may safely trick-or-treat with the Japantown merchants and community-based organizations throughout Japantown between 12:00 noon and 4:00 pm on Sunday.

Winners of the Halloween coloring contest and paper mask

contest will also be announced at the event. There are two categories; ages 2 to 5 and ages 6 to 10 having first, second and third place in each category. Participants' colorings will be displayed in the Japan Center Mall. (If you are interested in participating in the coloring contests contact Carol at Café Hana – 415/567-9133, for the Paper Mask Contest, contact Vicky at Paper Tree - 415/921-7100)

Children of all ages may participate in arts and crafts activities which include cupcake decorating, polaroid photos with your favorite Japanese anime characters, making your own copper bracelet with a metal artist, face painting and other fun activities. Don't miss out on this opportunity to spend the day with the local Japantown community in a fun, family atmosphere. Activities are sponsored by the Japantown Merchants Association, Japantown Task Force, Inc., National Japanese American Historical Society, Japanese Community Youth Council, Japanese Community Cultural Center of Northern

多数は、家族所帯として住んでいないので、高齢者用住宅または賃貸アパートに住みがちであることは、これまでの我々の人口調査で首尾一貫している。若い人はより移動しがちでありかつそこで確立しようとしな、その結果、家を所有しようとしな。しかし同時に、日本町とその周辺の住居は、賃貸アパートが多く家族用の家はほとんど見当たらないので、所有の機会は多くない。非家族所帯が日本町の71%と多数を占めているので、入手できる住居のタイプを一部決めていると言える。

非家族所帯の平均所帯数が1.69人は、市全体の平均2.3人と比べて非常に低い。更に、所帯数の29%を占める家族所帯は平均2.6人であり、市全体の平均3.22人や州平均の3.43人よりも少ない。

では、日本町にとって、これは何を意味するのだろうか。日本町の借家住まいの大部分の人達が、比較的そこで確立しようとしな、かつ移動しがちな人々である。このような人たちは地域に密着して根付く感じを持たないので、コミュニティの感覚をかもし出してそれを維持することは、更に難しいことである。家族持ち所帯がほとんどなく、高齢者と若者が多いと、ますます若者が少なくなってしまう。勿論、極端に少ない家族向き住宅と持ち家の機会がほとんどないという事実は、既に困難な状況を悪化させることになる。

この人口調査は、家族と住民がますます地域社会の基幹でなくなりつつあるここ数十年にわたり日本町が経験してきた変遷を如実に示すものである。比較的大きくかつ活動的な日系高齢者の人口が年毎に減少するにつれ、これらの統計数字は日本町の将来と存続可能性について質問を提示している。20~30年後の日本町はどうなっているのか、我々は確信を持って言うことはできないが、この統計は、変わらない限り、現状を継続する傾向を暗示している。

# Cleaning up J-town

## Joint Efforts to Clean up the Peace Plaza

Many members of our Japantown community have expressed concerns regarding the deterioration of the Peace Plaza – broken floor tiles, dirt, grime, graffiti, water leaks. On July 16 Task Force executive director Jofuku spoke with Ed Lee, director of San Francisco Department of Public Works and requested the following:



- Steam cleaning and removal of gum on the Post Street sidewalks between Laguna and Webster Streets one week prior to: Nihonmachi Street Fair, Aki Matsuri and the Halloween Festival, Oshogatsu, and the Cherry Blossom Festival.
- Numerous slate tiles are broken and are hazardous to the large number of people who walk through the Peace Plaza – ask that all broken tiles be replaced as soon as possible.
- The cherry trees were planted too closely together in the Peace Plaza – ask that some of the trees be removed and transplanted in the Buchanan Mall area. This will allow room for the cherry trees

to grow and bloom appropriately. The Department of Public Works agreed to all of the Task Force requests (codified in a letter to Ed Lee dated July 16, 2003). However, replacing the broken slate tiles and removing a n d transplating the cherry trees are tied to a pending investigation concerning substandard

construction materials and practices that created serious water leaks and damage to the plaza and parking garage (the plaza is the parking garage's roof). Until matters are resolved involving inappropriate construction materials with regard to the intended use of the Peace Plaza, surface materials such as tiles and trees cannot be removed or altered.

On August 20 DPW Director Ed Lee came with his full operations crew to go over what needs to be fixed in the Peace Plaza. DPW met with Rich Hashimoto (Japan Center Garage and Merchants Association), Steve Nakajo (Kimochi and NPC),

Cleaning (cont'd on p. 16)

Message (cont'd from p. 15)

build the definition for “cultural preservation” through our Cultural and Historical Preservation Committee. We have written a Japantown Historic Context Statement with the expertise and efforts of our chair, Rosalyn Tonai and committee members Tim Kelley, Gerald Takano, Seiko Fujimoto, Pamela Wu, Ben Pease, Kathy Reyes and Ernie Yoshikawa. The Japantown Historic Context Statement will be heard at the San Francisco Landmarks Advisory Board on October 3. (See Historic

Context Statement at [www.jtowntaskforce.org](http://www.jtowntaskforce.org) — click on studies).

If you believe that Japantown is worth preserving and sustaining as an ethnic neighborhood, come and join us. You can join a committee or you can attend our board meetings every fourth Monday, at 6:00pm, 1765 Sutter Street, First Floor, San Francisco. If you make “me” “we,” then we will be more powerful than any of us are alone.

Linda Jofuku, Executive Director

### P.23からのつづき

全ての年齢の子供達は、アートとクラフトの実技コンテストに参加することができます。カップケーキのデコレーション、各自の好みの日本のアニメ・キャラクターのポラロイド写真、自分自身の銅の腕輪を彫金アーティストとの共同作成、フェース・ペインティングやその他いろいろな面白い催し物を用意してます。全ての行事は、下記のスポンサーが提供します。

- ジャパンタウン商店協会
- ジャパンタウンタスクフォース
- 日米歴史学協会
- 日本人社会青年議会
- 北カリフォルニア日本人社会文化センター
- ジャパンタウン内のその他の非営利団体

なお、ジャパンタウンの協賛商店から10月25日以前に買い物をした方は、大ムカデ、ビックバウンスや各種ゲームの無料の切符を受け取ることができます。

nonfamily household of 5 people would mean that none of the 5 people in the household are related, but they all live together.

Now that we've cleared up the terminology, a little analysis on the numbers. Clearly, the vast majority (79%) of residents in the area are renters. This is consistent demographics we examined in the past issue which showed significant populations of seniors and adults between the ages of 20-34 since members of these age groups tend to either live in senior housing or rental apartments since they do not live in a family household. Younger people also tend to be more transient and less established, and thus less likely to own a home. At the same time however, much of the available housing in and around Japantown does not allow many opportunities for ownership as there are so many rental apartments and few family homes. Nonfamily households make up the majority of Japantown households at 71% and is in part a function of the type of housing available.

The average nonfamily household size of 1.69 people per household is also significantly lower than the citywide average of 2.3 people per household. Even family households however, which only make up 29% of households, average only 2.6 members which

is lower than the citywide average of 3.22 and statewide average of 3.43.

So what does all this mean for Japantown? The high number of renters in Japantown makes for a less established, perhaps more transient population. This makes it a little more difficult to create and maintain that sense of "community" as such a population may feel less invested in the community. With few families, and a large number of seniors and young adults, there are fewer and fewer youth. Of course, the fact that so little family housing and few homeownership opportunities exist complicate an already difficult situation.

These demographics are indicative of the changes the Japantown community has been experiencing over the decades in which families and residents are less and less becoming the foundations of the community. The numbers also raise questions about Japantown's future and viability as the relatively large and active Nikkei senior population declines over the years. We cannot say with any certainty what Japantown will look like in 20-30 years, but these numbers suggest trends that, unless altered, will likely continue.

# Certificate Holders

## Opportunities for Formerly Displaced Residents

Recently, the Task Force published an article (see JTF Newsletter, Spring 2003) regarding the use of Certificates of Preference which were issued by the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (SFRA) in the mid 1960s and 70s to those who lived in a household that was displaced by Redevelopment. These certificates applies to all affordable housing developments in San Francisco under the Agency affordable housing program and all market rate units that have an owner participation agreement or a Disposition agreement with the

Agency. Once certificate holders have been determined eligible for a Certificate of Preference, it will entitle them to be notified of other housing opportunities within the city through mailings. As a result of publishing this article this summer, the Task Force has received correspondence from several formerly evicted individuals who had desired to move back into the community at the former J-town bowl site at 1600 Webster.

The Task Force is glad to see individuals displaced by redevelopment returning to the community and is willing to facilitate the return of certificate holders by working with the redevelopment agency and property managers. Unfortunately, until 1999 a scant 4% of all certificates have been redeemed. Such statistics underscore the impact of redevelopment on the dispersal of the community as well as the importance of supporting the return of evicted residents and business owners. If you were a displaced resident and are interested in the new development at 1600 Webster St., please contact Harriet Starkes at the SFRA Housing Division (749-2535) to apply, or if you need assistance in facilitating the process, please contact the Task Force.

### 1600 Webster Update

Work to date includes the demolition of the old building, excavation of the site, shoring of walls, installation of elevator pit, weatherproofing, underpinning work, basement slabs, columns, and grand level slabs. Another floor can be expected to come up every 3-4 weeks setting the superstructure completion date for November. The entire building is expected to be complete by July of 2004. One-bedroom units (28 units) will average roughly 814 ft., and 2-bedrooms (20 units) will average 1328 ft. No prices have been established yet.



# JTF Communications

## A Message from Seiko Fujimoto

The Communications Committee looks to not only communicate to various speaking members of our community, but also to improve the marketing of our Japantown. Our goals are to develop a comprehensive Japantown marketing plan to attract business, new businesses, and additional visitors to Japantown; to utilize culturally and linguistically specific electronic and print media outlets to advertise Japantown and Japantown events; publicize, maintain, and develop the current Japantown Task Force Inc., website; produce the Japantown Task Force, Inc. bilingual newsletter and develop a advertising base to support it; and finally to participate in community activities to promote the goals of the Japantown Task Force, Inc.

The committee consists of committed, hard working members who have dedicated their time to outreach to Japantown and beyond.

One of our main projects in the past year was developing Japantown directional signs designed by PMP Advertising, Inc., which were placed throughout the



streets of San Francisco. In the future, we hope to strengthen the communication within our community, San Francisco and the greater Bay Area.

We would also like to create better ideas in order to attract people to back to Japantown, while also maintaining our traditional culture. As Communications co-chair, I will work to disseminate 100% accurate information, and we will continue to get out the facts and not the gossip.

The Communications Committee meets every third Thursday of the month at noon at the Task Force office. This committee is open to the public and welcomes new members.

Seiko Fujimoto  
Co-chair, JTF Communications Committee

## Cleaning (cont'd from p. 16)

These young people are to be commended for giving their time and hard work for the community because they believe in community service and the future of Japantown," stated Japantown Task Force executive director Linda Jofuku. "It is refreshing to see youth in our community take the initiative to abate graffiti, clean up and paint Japantown's Peace Pagoda. We thank the Troop 29 and Kevin for cleaning up the graffiti and painting the dirty steps and footings to make the base of the pagoda more useful and presentable to the public," said Richard Hashimoto, President of the Merchants Association.

The Task Force thanks all the scouts and the parents who helped

paint the pagoda. This is our vision—everyone pitching in to do what they can for Japantown...children, parents, merchants, community organizations and local government working together to sustain our community. Gambatte! There's a lot more work to do.

(Scouts and Eagle Scouts who participated in the painting were Darryl Abantao, Dustin Hedani, Dylan Lem, Kurtis Leong, Max Nihei, Mackey Noguchi, Kevin Obana, Kyle Otsuki, Steven Otsuki, Erik Satow, Chris Tambara, Jeff Uyeda, Scott Uyeda, Bradley Yamamoto and Corey Yamamoto. Adult participants include Mike Lem, Wes and Lynn Nihei, Bobby Obana, Randy Otsuki, and David, Cindi and Michelle Sasaki.)

## How You Can Help

### Help Preserve and Revitalize Japantown!

- Send in a donation in the envelope enclosed in the newsletter
- Designate a donation to the "Japantown Task Force, Inc." through the United Way payroll deduction program at your workplace
- Donate appreciated securities (stocks) to the Japantown Task Force, Inc. and receive tax benefits

- for your stocks appreciation increased value (call Linda at 415-346-1239 for more information)
- Volunteer to help in a Japantown festival or event
- Purchase a "got japantown?" T-shirt for \$15 (call 415-346-1239 to order your shirt – specify size S,M, L, XL)



Cleaning (cont'd from p. 6)

Tak Matsuba (Japantown Task Force and Merchants Association), Linda Jofuku and Ernie Yoshikawa (Japantown Task Force) Hisao Hiro and Akira Minamiura (Kintetsu Corporation) to walk through the defects in the Peace Plaza. It was agreed that eventually (possibly in the New Year) the "middle row" of cherry trees would be removed from the Peace Plaza and transplanted in the Buchanan Mall. Electrical outlets and all burned out light bulbs will also be fixed or replaced by DPW as soon as possible. Once the tiles are replaced the whole plaza will be sealed (the tiles were never sealed).

Pitching in to clean up the Peace Plaza, Boy Scout Troop 29 sponsored by the Buddhist Church of San Francisco joined Kevin Sasaki on an overcast Labor Day weekend (August 30 and 31) in completing his Eagle Scout project to paint the Japantown Peace Pagoda. As the final



part of Kevin Sasaki's requirement to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, Sasaki brought his fellow boy scouts and their parents together on Labor Day weekend to help make the Japantown community better.

Sasaki and Scout Troop 29 collaborated with the Japantown Merchants Association, the Task Force, and DPW to repaint the base and first level footings of the pagoda. The Merchant's Association provided paint and materials and DPW prepared the painting surface with steam cleaning. The Japantown Task Force coordinated efforts with the Merchant's Association and the DPW.

"Kevin and the scouts' efforts are very much appreciated and fit very well into the Japantown Community Plan that calls for collaborative efforts (like this) to revitalize and preserve Japantown.

Cleaning (cont'd on p. 17)

Fillmore (cont'd from p.2)

of "A Great Day in Harlem", the Marcus Shelby Jazz Orchestra, "When We Were Kings" and many more great events. On October 31, Fillmore Fridays will be showing the creepy "Sixth Sense". Don't forget to bring your lawn chair and blanket

for these great events. Best of all, these events are all for free! For more information on upcoming events, contact the Fillmore Jazz Promotions Office at 415.441.6396 or email info@fillmorejazz.com.

# Nikkei Database

## New Nikkei Directory Available



After months of painstaking work, Ben Kobashigawa (JTF Advisory Board member and San Francisco State University Professor) and Yoko Tsukuda (SFSU graduate student and former JTF volunteer) have completed a database of over 1,100 Japantown and Nikkei-related businesses, organizations, churches, and associations and has generously shared this information with the Task Force. This database, created in Microsoft Access, includes basic fields such as address, phone and fax numbers as well as more

advanced fields such as primary language used, type of organization/business, fiscal type, neighborhood, etc. With such fields, it is relatively easy to sort and filter through the database to create mailing lists or to see what types of businesses and organizations are out there, and where they are.

Since there are few such up-to-date directories, the Task Force is offering to share the database with organizations that might need such a tool. If you are interested in a copy of this database, please feel free to contact us.

## Task Force Meetings

### Join Us!

All Japantown Task Force board and committee meetings are open to the public, and we welcome your attendance and comments. Also, if you'd like to join our email list for announcements, meetings, and updates, just email us at [heiwa@jtowntaskforce.org](mailto:heiwa@jtowntaskforce.org). All JTF meetings take place at our office at 1765 Sutter Street (JAACL building) in Japantown unless otherwise noted. Please note meeting dates are subject to change.

Feel free to all us at 346.1239 for the latest information.

#### Japantown Task Force Meetings:

**Board meetings:**

Every 4th Monday of the month at 6:00pm.

**Communications & Marketing:**

Every 3rd Thursday of the month at noon.

**Cultural and Historical Preservation:**

Every 3rd Friday of the month at noon.

**Health and Safety:**

Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at noon.

**Economic & Business Development:**

TBA

**Fundraising:**

TBA

# Demographics

## Families and Housing in Japantown

### Total Population In Occupied Housing Units By Tenure Census Tracts 152, 155, 159

Owner occupied	2,343
Renter occupied	8,937

### Household Type By Household Size Census Tracts 152, 155, 159

#### Family households:

2-person household	1,178
3-person household	380
4-person household	224
5-person household	63
6-person household	33
7-or-more person household	24

**Average family size** 2.6

#### Nonfamily households:

1-person household	3,657
2-person household	887
3-person household	155
4-person household	42
5-person household	19
6-person household	1
7-or-more person household	2

**Average household size** 1.69

U.S. Census Bureau Census 2000

Household size, families, family household, nonfamily household . . . what does all this mean? Basically, a household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. A family household includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. So, for example, a

Demographics (cont'd on p. 18)

Matsuri (cont'd from p. 5)

California and other non-profit organizations in Japantown. Individuals who make purchases prior to October 26 from participating merchants will receive a ticket for a free game at the Halloween Festival while tickets are available.

Message (cont'd from p. 5)

unique neighborhood that people call "home" even if they do not live here. Japantown is culturally and historically unique and an integral part of the San Francisco and California mecca.

The bottom line is that if you are developing or sustaining community, it isn't about "What's in it for me" or "Me, me, me". It's not about parasitic relationships. It's about symbiotic relationships. It's about us.

Japantown should not be allowed to wither into extinction or become a graveyard of tombstone markers and stereotypical cherry trees because people only cared about, "What's in it for me?"

### What's next? Making our plan more specific.

The Japantown Task Force, Inc. will implement the strategies in the Japantown Community Plan. We will start dissecting the plan and separate it into short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals and strategies. It is also crucial that we incorporate the Geary corridor light rail and other strategies into the plan. Through community

meetings, we also hope to make the Plan more specific.

### Defining "cultural preservation" for the State of California.

On July 15, 2003 the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a resolution designating the Japantown Task Force, Inc. the planning entity for Japantown under Senate Bill 307. The Task Force is working with the San Francisco Landmarks Planning Advisory Board of the Planning Commission to access SB307 funding. We are beginning to develop the SB307 Committee that will define "cultural preservation" for the State of California. This is a tremendous opportunity for the three Japantowns to define cultural preservation. A broad definition will help pave the way for future funding for neighborhood cultural activities and preservation. This effort may provide a way to preserve ethnic neighborhoods throughout California and the nation.

The Task Force has established a strong foundation to

Message (cont'd on p. 19)

# Signs of Change

## New Signs Show Way to Japantown

**Right:** Mayor Brown unveils the new Japantown directional signs as Ed Lee (Director, DPW), Consul General Shigeru Nakamura, Jeff Mori (JTF Chair), and Shirley Wysinger (SFRA) look on.



**Left:** The new directional signs are going up across the city from freeways and major tourist destinations.

**Right:** Old bilingual street signs around Japantown will be replaced.



Kokoro (cont'd from p. 4)

and recalled while passing by on Bush St. "focus[ed] on this building and the vacant lot next door as I would pass by, always wondering when and at what point would we as a people use this incredible resource for the great purpose for which it was meant. Then, unusually talented private-sector citizens teamed up with public citizens . . . and they came forward with this incredible plan . . . It represents a wonderful combination of what San Francisco is all about."

Kokoro Board President Steve Suzuki recalled the building's long history and the many contributions the site has provided to various communities. In closing,

he thanked Kokoro's many supporters and remarked, "What you see here is an accomplishment of each and every one of you who provided the funds, the resources to allow us to get this done, to change the moldy ceilings, to correct the broken up floors, to get rid of the dampness, to get the beauty of the building back." Suzuki adds however, that the project still needs funds. To date, 40 people have put down deposits for units and an additional 20 have signed up. The first residents will be allowed to move into Kokoro in October. For more information or to contribute, call Kokoro at 415.776.8066



**Above:** This photograph shows Kokoro over six months ago



**Above:** Kokoro as of September 24, 2003.

# Advertise!

This Space Could be Yours ...

Want to help out the Task Force while also promoting your business or organization? The Task Force is offering an opportunity for individuals, businesses, and organizations to advertise in the upcoming Winter New Year's Issue set to come out in January 2004. With your help, the Task Force can further develop and disseminate our newsletter which includes news on community issues, events, and Task Force activities. Currently, our mailing list includes over 1,700 businesses, institutions, and individuals with concentrations in Japantown as well as the broader Bay Area. If you are interested in advertising with us, just fill out the form and send it in with your ad and payment. All advertisements however, must be camera ready. The deadline to submit ads is December 31, 2003.

2 x 4.5  
\$50/\$40

## Japantown Task Force, Inc.

# akemashite omedetou!

Japantown Task Force, Inc.  
1765 Sutter St.  
San Francisco, CA 94115

Phone: 415.346.1239  
Fax: 415.346.6703  
Email: [heiwa@jtowntaskforce.org](mailto:heiwa@jtowntaskforce.org)  
Website: [www.jtowntaskforce.org](http://www.jtowntaskforce.org)

2 x 4.5  
\$50/\$40

# i k k y u

## s u s h i b a r

Show this ad and get a free appetizer with your order of \$30 or more!

1546 Post St. San Francisco, CA 94115 415.678.1234



## Japantown Task Force, Inc. Advertisement Order Form New Years/Winter Newsletter 2004

Name of Bus/Org/Ind: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ad Size:	Business:	Non Profit:
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Card* (2" X 4.5")	\$50	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Half Page (4" X 4.5")	\$100	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> Three-Quarter Page (6" X 4.5")	\$150	\$130
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (8" X 4.5")	\$200	\$160

\* Business cards must be in horizontal format

**Total Amount Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Note: All ads must be camera-ready, please do not fold or bend ads when sending.

Please make checks payable to the Japantown Task Force, Inc. and send form and check to:  
 Japantown Task Force, Inc.  
 1765 Sutter St. Suite#1  
 San Francisco, CA 94115

Phone: 415.346.1239 Fax: 415.346.6703  
 Email: [heiwa@jtowntaskforce.org](mailto:heiwa@jtowntaskforce.org)

**ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED WITH  
 PAYMENT BY JANUARY 5, 2004**

**For Office Use Only**

Rec'd:	Number:
Chk #:	Layout:
Chk Amt: \$	Notes:
Due:	