March 2022

The ECHO

Volume 61 Number 3

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

"I Do Not Have a Single Disciple"

March Highlights

- ***3/6, Sun, 10:00 am***
  Shotsuki Hoyo, Online
  * *Japanese Language Service*
  * *English Discussion Group*
- ***3/7, Mon, 7:00 pm,***
  Buddhist Discussion Group
- ***3/13, Sun, 10:00 am***
  BCA Eitaikyo Service, Online
- ***3/20, Sun,10:00 am***
  Ohigan Service, Online
  Guest Speaker: *Rev. Hoshu Matsubayashi (BCA Minister Emeritus)*
  * *Seminar following Service*
- ***3/20, Sun,10:00 am***

There will be a Joint Celebration – the 850th Anniversary of Shinran's birth combined with the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of Jodo Shinshu Teaching held at the Nishi Hongwanji next year. Our Temple is currently planning a Japan tour group of about 30 members and we would certainly prefer to avoid its cancellation due to pandemic concerns. Because our travel plans include a visit to my father's temple, Renkoji, in Obama City, he has been looking forward to seeing our MVBT group. So, I sincerely hope that the pandemic will be settled soon, so that we can go to Japan safely next year.

When we consider the 2,600-year expanse of Japan's history, there are countless noteworthy figures. However, when I think about the scale of the joint celebration to be held at the Hongwanji next year, I think that there are not many historical figures like Shinran, who have fascinated so many people and who continue to be held in high esteem.

Rev. Yushi Mukojima

Nowadays, Shinran is known all over the world as the founder of Jodo Shinshu. One of the reasons he is so respected and admired is that he was both gifted and had a great personality. His rare humility, born of deep self-reflection, attracted a great deal of confidence in and reverence of him because people felt sympathetic to the way he lived.

There is a famous saying of his: **"As for myself, Shinran, I do not have a single disciple."**

Shinran Shonin Statue at MVBT

(Continued on page 4)

Highlights In This Issue

Pet Memorial	*3*
American Flag Signing Event	*8 - 10*
Kiera's Padma Interview	*11*
Miroku	*12*
Sangha Connect	*13*
Nakayoshi Gakko	*14*
Girl Scout Cookies	*15*

Super Senior Highlights

MVBT's Super Seniors are those members who are over the age of 80 and have been the pillars of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. These valued members of our Sangha have led interesting lives and greatly contributed to the growth and success of our Temple.

With Gassho,
Senior Memories Committee

June Yusa is the Super Senior for this Echo. Her story starts on Page 6 of this issue.

This photo of June is from the Mountain View Buddhist Temple's 50th Anniversary album dated October 2012.

march MMXXII

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 **First Day of Women's History Month** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club 7:30 pm VISION LHF Committee Meeting	**2**	**3** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko	**4** 6:00 pm Ukelele Club	**5**
6 10:00 am Shotsuki Hoyo Service 1:00 pm YBA Meeting	**7** 7:00 pm Buddhist Discussion Group 7:30 pm Tech Support	**8** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club	**9** 7:30 pm MVBT Board Meeting	**10** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko	**11** **BCA National Council Meeting** 6:00 pm Ukelele Club 7:30 pm ABA General Meeting	**12** **BCA National Council Meeting**
13 **Daylight Saving Time starts** 10:00 am BCA Eitaikyo Service 12:30 pm MVBT Taiko	**14** 7:30 pm Tech Support	**15** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club	**16**	**17** **St. Patrick's Day** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko	**18** 6:00 pm Ukelele Club	**19** **CD YBA Conference**
20 10:00 am Spring O-higan Service & Seminar 12:30 pm MVBT Taiko	**21** 7:30 pm Tech Support	**22** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club	**23**	**24** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko	**25** 6:00 pm Ukelele Club	**26**
27 10:00 am Girl Scout Sunday Service 12:30 pm MVBT Taiko	**28** 7:30 pm RPC Virtual Meeting 7:30 pm Tech Support	**29** 7:00 pm Young Adult Buddhist Discussion 7:30 pm Ukelele Club	**30** 10:00 am Senior Activities Sing Along	**31** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko		

Volume 61 Number 3

While Sunday Services at the Temple are cancelled, Dharma Messages are available at Temple websites.

https://www.mvbuddhisttemple.org or https://tinyurl.com/MVBT-YouTube

Current and Past Dharma Messages are available.

Namo Amida Butsu – "Let us live with Kindness and Gratitude beyond words..."

Religious Planning — March 2022

March 6, 2022, Sunday, 10:00 am, Shotsuki Hoyo, Online Service

11:00 am: Japanese Language Service., Online
11:00 am: English Discussion Group, Online

March 7, 2022, Monday, 7:00 pm, Buddhist Discussion Group

To join, send email request to staff@mvbuddhhisttemple.org

March 13, 2022, Sunday, 10:00 am, BCA Eitaikyo Service, Online Service

Eitaikyo: Means "perpetual chanting sutras." A memorial service that honors our family and friends who have lived before us. Without them, we would not exist.

March 20, 2021, Sunday, 10:00 am, Spring Ohigan Service, Online Service

Spring Ohigan: Higan, meaning Other Shore, is a service conducted in the spring on or about the vernal equinox. The practice of the Six Paramitas is emphasized on this occasion.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Hoshu Matsubayashi, BCA Minister Emeritus
11:00 am: Seminar following service with Rev. Matsubayashi, Online

March 27, 2021, Sunday, 10:00 am, Girl Scout Service, Online Service

Three Girl Scouts who are working on their Padma Awards to give talks about women BCA ministers.

JOIN US

Sunday Dharma Messages by Rev. Mukojima and Minister's Assistants John Arima and Devon Matsumoto are available on the MVBT website.

JOZAI: SUNDAY SERVICE DONATION

Put your Jozai into the Dana Box
Go to MVBT website & Press the Dona Box

Shotsuki Hoyo Service

Study Class

Check Temple Website for latest information about Temple activities

Pet Memorial

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple's Annual Pet Memorial was held on Sunday, February 13, 2022. We expressed our gratitude and remembered the love and many lessons given to us by our pets.

"I Do Not Have a Single Disciple" (cont'd)

Nishi Hongwanji Temple in Kyoto

(Continued from page 1)

Although he had founded a revolutionary new way of thinking about and practicing Buddhism, he could truthfully claim, "I don't have a single disciple." The truth of the words he uttered becomes clear when one sees the confusion created by the Nembutsu leaders under him.

In those days, the Nembutsu leaders in the Kanto area chose to divide those being converted to the Nembutsu teaching as "my disciples" or "someone else's disciples." They were busily engaged in a power struggle to gain even one disciple for their own self-interests. As their attachment to their disciples deepened, eventually they distorted the original meaning of the Nembutsu by claiming, "If one goes against his own teacher and says the Nembutsu under another, that person cannot attain birth in the Pure Land." This situation confused many Nembutsu followers.

When Shinran Shonin returned to Kyoto and learned about the problems caused by these leaders, he lamented their way of thinking that was a result of their egotism. Especially in Buddhism, one should be careful about being preoccupied by selfishness and pride. Shinran's view on the situation is expressed in Chapter 6 in the ***Tannisho*** as follows:

> ***I don't have a single disciple. If I could make others say the Nembutsu through my own wishes, they would be my disciples. But it is arrogant to claim as disciples those who live the Nembutsu solely through the working of Amida Buddha's compassion. If the karmic condition is to come together, we shall be together. If the karmic condition is to be separated, we shall be separated. How absurd that some people assert that if one goes against his own teacher and says the Nembutsu under another, they cannot attain birth in the Pure Land. Are they saying that they will take back the true entrusting heart and mind – a gift from Amida Buddha – as if it belonged to them? It is unacceptable that such a thing should happen.***

Shinran severely reprimanded the Nembutsu leaders for their shameful attachment to claiming disciples. He made it clear that a person encounters the Nembutsu teaching and recites the Nembutsu because of Amida Buddha's efforts and guidance; therefore, all who embrace and rejoice in the Nembutsu teaching are Amida Buddha's disciples and not that of any other person. So no Nembutsu leaders are in a position to claim their own disciples.

When Shinran was alive, he was held in high regard as the spiritual teacher of many enlightened Nembutsu followers. His statement, "I do not have a single disciple," relates to his humble attitude that chides even himself for having an arrogant, self-absorbed mind. So he never regarded himself as a master with followers. Instead he acknowledged that he was one of Buddha's disciples, and accepted that those who should be called a master are Shakyamuni Buddha and Amida Buddha. His genuine and humble personality – acknowledging that in a world of equality, all people are Buddha's disciples regardless of age, gender, and race – naturally attracted many people. Because of his great personality, there were and have been many Nembutsu followers who revere him as their lifelong teacher.

Although Shinran was honored and adored by many as their respected master, he showed that he was always aware of his own arrogance when he stated, "I don't have a single disciple." He felt the joy of walking the Nembutsu path alongside his many Dharma friends in the spirit of ***ondobo-ondogyo***, which means "fellow travelers" or "fellow brothers and sisters."

Although we appreciate Shinran's declaration, "I don't have a single disciple," we should not misunderstand that he denies having a teacher. As we go through life, a teacher's guidance is important, no matter what we are doing or learning. We need good teachers to guide us to the path we should take.

Although Shinran insisted that he didn't have any disciples, he himself revered Honen Shonin as his trusted teacher throughout his life. Shinran said, "I have nothing to regret, even if I were to be deceived by my teacher and, saying the Nembutsu, fall into hell." As we hear his words, we truly understand how much he respected and adored his teacher.

I believe that the true way of Nembutsu followers is to adopt the spirit of ***ondobo-ondogyo*** – walking the Dharma path alongside fellow practitioners who respect one another – while at the same time revering our teacher.

In Gassho,

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」二〇二二年三月法話

ー弟子一人ももたずー

駐在開教使 向嶋裕史

来年、本山において親鸞聖人御生誕八五〇年並びに、立教開宗八〇〇年慶讃法要が盛大に行われる予定です。現在、当仏教会では約三〇名ほどの団体参拝旅行を計画している真っ最中なのですが、パンデミックによる中止だけは何としても避けたいところです。この旅行で小浜市にある自坊、蓮興寺にも参拝する予定となっているので、父もアメリカからの団参を今から楽しみにしています。ぜひ年内にはパンデミックが収束し、安全な団参が実現できるよう心から願っています。

さて、約二六〇〇年に渡る日本の歴史を振り返ってみますと、数多くの偉人を見ることができます。しかし、来年の慶讃法要の規模を考えてみますと、日本において親鸞聖人ほど多くの人々を魅了し、人々の心を常に反映し続けてきたお方は中々いないように思います。

今や世界各国で浄土真宗の開祖としてその名を知られている親鸞聖人ですが、多くの人に崇められ、慕われているその理由の一つには、聖人の類まれな人柄にあります。徹底した自己内省から生まれた聖人の謙虚な人生態度が、多くの人々の信望と尊敬を集め、聖人のご生涯に深く共感しているのだと思います。

親鸞聖人の有名なお言葉に「親鸞は弟子一人ももたずそうろう」とあります。宗祖という身でありながら、「弟子を一人も持ったことがない」とおっしゃっておられるのですが、このお言葉は、当時の門弟達のある騒動をきっかけに発せられた真実のお言葉です。

当時、関東に残された門弟達が、入信してくる者を我が弟子、人の弟子という形で無意味に振り分けたり、私利私欲にまかせて、弟子を一人でも増やすための勢力争いに奔走したりと、弟子に対する強い執着心を深めていくうちに、遂には「師の下を離れて、他の人について念仏を称えるような者は絶対に浄土に往生できない」と本来の念仏の教えを曲げるようにまでなり、多くの同行達に不安と混乱を招きました。

この一連の騒動は、京都に帰られた親鸞聖人の耳に入り、仏教で一番慎まねばならない我執にとらわれた門弟達の邪まな考え方に肩を落とされました。そこで親鸞聖人は歎異抄の第六条で次のように述べられておられます。

「親鸞は一人の弟子も持っていません。なぜなら、私の力で人々に念仏を称えさせるようになったというのなら、私の弟子ということもできるが、阿弥陀仏のお導きによって念仏を称えている人を私の弟子などというのは、全くとんでもない思い違いです。この世は全て縁によって結ばれていますから、人も縁があれば共に歩み、逆に去らなければならない縁であれば、離れることも当然のことです。それなのに、「師に背き、他人について念仏するようでは浄土に往生することはできない」などと言うことは、言語道断です。阿弥陀仏からいただいたご信心を、自分が与えたかのように考え、取り返そうとでもいうのですか。こんなことは、あってはならないことなのです」と、善知識として多くの同行を導かなくてはならない門弟達の弟子にこだわる醜い執着心をきつく戒められておられます。

親鸞聖人は、阿弥陀仏のはからいによって全ての者は念仏の教えに出遇い、念仏を称えさせていただいているのだから、念仏を慶ぶ者は全て、阿弥陀仏の弟子であって、私達は決して弟子を持てるような立場でもなければ、身分でもないというのです。

親鸞聖人ご在世の頃、聖人の教化を受けた数多くの門弟達は親鸞聖人を師と仰いでおられましたが、この「弟子一人ももたず」というお言葉から伺えてくるのは、我執にとらわれている自らの驕りの心を戒めている謙虚な姿であって、聖人自身はあくまで、自分を師と考えたこともなかったでしょうし、弟子を持ったという意識もなかったことと思います。自分は、どこまでいっても「仏弟子」であり、唯一、師と呼べるお方は、釈尊であり、阿弥陀仏だけだと受け止めておられました。ですから逆に、全ての者が仏の前では老若男女を問わない同じ仏弟子なのだという、その平等性を見出された親鸞聖人だからこそ、多くの人から師として慕われ、仰がれ続けてきたのだと思います。

このように、親鸞聖人は、多くの門弟達に慕われ、師と仰がれながらも、「弟子一人ももたず」と自らの心を戒めつつ、同じ仏弟子という立場で、多くの門弟と共に念仏の道を歩む「御同朋・御同行」の精神を大切にされました。

しかし親鸞聖人は、決して師を持つことを否定しているわけではありません。私達が人生を歩む上で、何をするにしても、何を学ぶにしても師を持つということは必要なことであり、また、歩むべき道を示してくれる師を持つということは、何よりも大切なことです。

親鸞聖人は、弟子はいないと言われておられますが、聖人自身は法然上人を善き師と仰いで一生涯を通して絶大な信頼をよせておられました。「たとえ、師に騙されて地獄に落ちたとしても、少しも後悔することはない」とまで言い切られた聖人のお言葉からは、どれほど法然上人を敬愛し、敬慕されていたかが伺えます。

このように、どこまでも、自分は師を仰ぎながら、念仏を喜ぶ全ての者を仏弟子と敬い合う「御同朋・御同行」の精神を大切に受け継いでいくところに真の念仏者としての生き方があるのではないでしょうか。

Super Seniors June Yusa

By Jean Shimoguchi

2018 Keiro Kai Appreciation Luncheon

June (middle)
with Naomi Ariyama (left) and
Miyo Takegami (right)

June Yusa has been a member of Mountain View Buddhist Temple since 1976. June is the youngest of eleven children of Issei parents. The family lived in various locations in Central California and other states.

FAMILY

June met Henry (Hank) Yusa at her dad's funeral in the 1950s. Hank was a friend and co-worker of June's brother Bill, so he attended the funeral out of respect for Bill. At the time, June was in high school and Hank was significantly older. After graduating from high school in Idaho, June moved to the Los Angeles area and lived with one of her sisters. Hank also lived in Los Angeles for several years at one point. They were married in the late 1960s in Elko, NV.

Baby June and her mother

Her daughter Tamié lives in Southern California with her husband, Norman Ogawa. June's "grandpets" are two cats, a dog and a bird.

June (front row, right) with her parents, some of her brothers, their sister-in-law.
Photo taken by her brother Bill, 1940s

WORKING DAYS

Over the years, June has had various jobs serving the public. She worked at a bank when she lived in Los Angeles. When the family lived in Chicago, she worked at Harris Bank. One of the perks of working at a bank were enjoyed by June's nieces and nephews who would always look forward to receiving birthday cards from Aunt June because they knew it would contain a brand new, crisp one-dollar bill - and sometimes even a two-dollar bill!

The family later moved to Mountain View, CA, where June worked at Matsuri Gifts in San Antonio Shopping Center and then Macy's Sunnyvale for almost 40 years before retiring. She was among some of the first people hired when this Macy's opened.

Hank was in the science field. He and his best friend, Mike, were among the workers who helped build the railroad by Donner Pass in California. Hank along with June's brother Bill also helped build the John Hancock Tower in Chicago. Hank later worked various jobs when he lived in Los Angeles. He passed away in January 1998.

MEMORIES OF DAD

Tamié remembers "In my dad's later years, he took an interest in driving to various locations for vacation. One year our family drove to Chicago to visit Bill, his family, other relatives and friends. It was our first time back since moving away. We visited relatives and friends in Los Angeles, Idaho and the Sacramento area. We saw many places, including the Southwest, Amache (where June and her family were interned during WWII) and the famed St. Louis Arch. In Chicago, we were able to attend the Midwest Buddhist Temple's Ginza Festival. Another year, we drove through western Canada and saw places such as Vancouver, Victoria, Banff, Calgary and Edmonton."

MVBT MEMORIES

Among June's fondest memories at MVBT were the outings with the senior group to Reno and other places. Chuck Uyeda remembers that "June was always happy to hear that the Senior Activities Group has a trip planned and made a real effort to join us. It didn't matter whether it was our biannual overnight bus trips to Reno or a day trip to a local casino or to historical landmarks such as Angel Island, the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Farm Colony or the tour of Rev. Kubose's Bright Dawn Center in Coarsegold. June was also very helpful during these outings when we made our rest or refreshment stops along the way."

June has been active in BWA activities. Eileen Fujikawa says that "June was always there to help and did what nobody else wanted to do! She did it quietly without monku or fanfare, usually staying in the background and never taking the spotlight. June would be the dishwasher at cooking events, including Obon, the toughest job of all! During Dhar-

(Continued on page 7)

Super Seniors June Yusa (cont'd)

(Continued from page 6)

ma Services, she always sat in the last row at the Temple, blending in with her "old" friends, so she wouldn't be noticed."

Rev. LaVerne Sasaki, former Mountain View Buddhist Temple resident minister, was an important person to the Yusas. He helped guide them through teachings of Shinran Shonin. Coincidentally, Rev. Sasaki grew up with Hank in Penryn, CA.

STAYING WITH FAMILY

June is currently staying with Tamié and Norman in Southern California. We look forward to her return to Mountain View and wish her a safe and healthy 2022.

Namo Amida Butsu —
With Kindness and Gratitude beyond words.

2002 Ozeki Brewery in Hollister
(Lf to Rt): Yas Shimoguchi, Rev. Koyama, June Yusa & Jean Higa

2010 BWA New Members
(Lf to Rt): Amy Imai, Aggie Hirotsu & June Yusa

BWA 60th Anniversary
June (back row, 2nd from right),
Mrs. Helen Sasaki (back row, 1st on left),
Rev. and Mrs. Umezu (middle row, 6th & 7th from left),
Rev. Yushi and Mika Mukojima (middle row, 8th & 9thh from left),
Rev. Ensei Nekoda (middle row, 10th from left) and
BWA members

2005 California State Assembly
With Sally J. Lieber, 22nd Assembly District Assemblywoman.
Mountain View was one city in her district.
June (front row, 5th from left)

2019 Udon Fundraiser
(Lf to Rt): Reiko Murakami, Kari Murakami, Amy Arakaki, Lois Okino, Phyllis Chan, June Yusa, Lorrie Kitasoe, Shizue Hiroshige, Sandy Furuichi, Shirley Matsumoto & Mika Mukojima

Japanese American Internee 48-Star American Flag Signing at MVBT

The Mountain View BWA was honored to host a 48-star American Flag Signing event on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at our Mountain View Buddhist Temple.

Santa Clara County Superior Judge Johnny Cepeda Gogo's aspiration is to educate current and future generations, and honor surviving Japanese Americans of the WWII U.S. incarcerations camps. He obtained several WWII-era, 48-star American flags with the intent of having survivors sign the flag. Through 2021, Judge Gogo has been traveling the country to many locations to obtain these signatures.

Judge Johnny Cepeda Gogo
in his courtroom chambers

At our Temple, over 25 MVBT members, family and friends were greeted by Judge Gogo and were able to sign his fourth flag. The flag signing took place outside in the covered area between the Hondo and Sangha Hall. Participants patiently remained in their cars, until their designated time to sign. For our event, the signatures on the flag represented internees who were incarcerated from 1942 through 1945 at Tule Lake, Jerome, Gila River, Heart Mountain, Poston, Topaz, Minidoka, Manzanar, Rohwer and Crystal City. Some of the signers were young adults, young children, or born while incarcerated. Those who served in the military were able to sign on one of the flag's stars.

Esther Bunya signing the flag

Robert Kusumoto signing a star for military service

Judge Gogo also asked Heart Mountain internees to sign his copy of the book, "The Eagles of Heart Mountain: A True Story of Football, Incarceration, and Resistance in World War II America" written by Bradford Pearson.

Everyone who attended, including the many volunteers, were deeply moved by the experience.

Toshiko Masaki with daughter Gayle, signing
The Eagles of Heart Mountain book

Chuck Uyeda – U.S. Army Colonel

Judge Gogo spoke with long-time Temple member Chuck Uyeda, who was interned at Tule Lake and Heart Mountain. Judge Gogo remarked that it was very rare for Japanese Americans to achieve the rank of officer in the U.S. military. He was honored to meet Chuck who retired with the rank of Colonel

(Continued on page 9)

Japanese American Internee 48-Star American Flag Signing at MVBT (cont'd)

(Continued from page 8)

in the U.S. Army after a long and distinguished military career that included 30 years on active duty and in the reserves.

Chuck Uyeda (left) and Judge Gogo

Minoru Ikeda – Prisoner Exchange

Judge Gogo also learned about the prisoner exchange program when he spoke with Judy Nakano's father, Minoru Ikeda, who was born in California and a teenager during WWII. Minoru's father was the President of the Japanese Association in Contra Costa County and was picked up by the FBI in 1942 and separated from his family who were sent to Gila River. In 1943, Minoru's father made the decision to be traded as a prisoner of war. While Minoru's sisters remained in the U.S., Minoru, his parents and brothers, were then shipped to Japan on the M.S. Gripsholm as prisoner exchanges. Among the 1,513 passengers on board the Gripsholm were more than 100 Japanese American children and 737 Japanese from Latin America. The journey took 74 days. Minoru would return to the U.S. in 1956.

Minoru Ikeda (left) with daughter, Judy Nakano

Three Flags Signed Earlier

After signing the flag, participants were able to view three previously signed flags that Judge Gogo had brought to be displayed. The first flag was recently presented to the Japanese American Museum of San Jose. The second flag will be given to the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. The third flag was given to the Fred T. Korematsu Institute.

Fred Korematsu – Civil Rights Activist

Fred Korematsu resisted the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and became a civil-rights activist. He lobbied Congress to pass the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which gave compensation and an apology to former wartime detainees. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998. An additional fifth flag that was not on display will be given to the Japanese American Museum of Oregon.

Fourth Flag at MVBT

The fourth flag, signed by MVBT participants, traveled recently with Dr. Karen Korematsu to the Arizona State Legislature where Arizona Governor Douglas Ducey presented Fred Korematsu's daughter with a proclamation recognizing Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution. Judge Gogo also plans to have this fourth flag used to educate current and future generations. The flag will travel to colleges and universities with Santa Clara University Professor Renee Billingslea's "Ten Japanese American Concentration Camps" photo exhibit. Professor Billingslea's exhibit juxtaposes recent photos of the ten major War Relocation Authority prison camps with photos from 1942 to 1945. The photo exhibit can be viewed at:

Flag signed at
Mountain View Buddhist Temple

From Left: Toshiko Uyehara, Alice Ishida and Sadao Ishida signing the flag

http://www.reneebillingslea.com/#/tenjapaneseconcentrationcamp/

As part of the 7th Annual Commemoration of Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution on January 30, 2022, a special Zoom recording was made. It includes Judge Gogo discussing his flag signing project and presenting the flags to the Japanese American Museum of San Jose and the Fred T. Korematsu Institute. The recording can be viewed at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHkm6B_HT8o&ab_channel=RaymondPlaza

For more information and photos from the MVBT American Flag Signing, please see the web site link:

https://sangha.mvbuddhisttemple.org/events/flag-signing/

(Continued on page 10)

Japanese American Internee 48-Star American Flag Signing at MVBT (cont'd)

(Continued from page 9)

Thank You to MVBT Volunteers

Thank you to the MVBT Health and Safety Committee, Julie Nakatani, Bob Matsumoto, Yumi Higa, and our volunteers at the flag signing: Reiko Murakami, Ray Murakami, Eric Arakaki, Amy Arakaki, Will Dea, Lois Okino, Kendall Dea, Lorrie Kitasoe, Shirley Matsumoto, Peter Matsumoto, Glenn Kitasoe and Phyllis Chan for their help and support with this event.

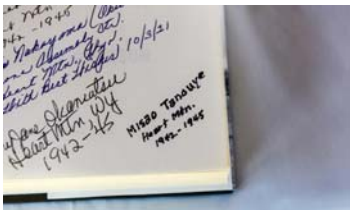
Thank You to Judge Gogo

On behalf of BWA, all who participated, our many volunteers and the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, we graciously thank Judge Gogo for inviting our Temple to be a part of his project to honor Japanese Americans of the WWII incarceration camps for their sacrifice and to honor their legacy and memory.

In Gassho,
MVBT BWA Flag Signing Committee
Reiko Murakami, Lois Okino and
Shirley Matsumoto

Fourth flag with Flag Signing Volunteers and Judge Gogo

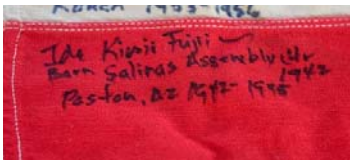
From Left: Amy Arakaki, Eric Arakaki, Kendall Dea, Phyllis Chan, Reiko Murakami, Will Dea, Lois Okino, Judge Gogo, Lorrie Kitasoe, Ray Murakami & Glenn Kitasoe
Not pictured: Shirley Matsumoto & Peter Matsumoto



Misao Tanouye signed Heart Mountain book, "The Eagles of Heart Mountain"

Kimiyo Nishimura: Santa Anita & Heart Mountain

Ben Horita: U.S. Army



Ida Fujii: Born in Salinas Assembly & Poston

Mel & Audrey Inouye: Heart Mountain

Naomi Ariyama: Topaz

Carolyn Sakae: Gila River, with daughter, Judy

Reiko Murakami: Minidoka
Ray Murakami: Gila River

Volume 61 Number 3

Girl Scout Padma Award Program at MVBT

This is the last of the three articles by three MVBT Girl Scouts who are working for their Padma Award. Each scout is writing about a woman who is a Buddhist Reverend within the Buddhist Churches of America.

By Senior Scout Kiera Nishimoto

Rev. Candice Shibata

Reverend Candice Shibata is currently the resident minister for Buddhist Church of Stockton and also serves as the supervising minister of the Lodi and Walnut Grove Temples. She is currently serving in the Northern California District along with Rev. Matt Hamasaki of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento.

Reverend Shibata was born in San Jose, but her family moved to Stockton shortly after, where she went to school through high school. During her school years, she attended Dharma School at the Buddhist Church of Stockton, was an active YBA member, was part of her Temple basketball team, and was a part of her junior high school Sangha Club.

In addition to these activities, her family of ministers exposed her to Buddhism. Reverend Shibata is overall a fourteenth generation minister on her father's side and is a fourth generation BCA minister in her family. Her great-grandfather, grandfather, uncle, and herself have all been BCA ministers, and her family has a Temple in Fukuoka, Japan.

After her general education in Stockton, she did her undergraduate studies at California State University, Sacramento where she majored in psychology and minored in sociology. After she finished her undergraduate studies at Sacramento State, she was a case manager for infants with developmental delays for seven years. In 2009, she received her master's degree from the University of San Francisco where she studied counseling psychology, and eventually interned as a marriage and family therapist at two elementary schools in Stockton.

When she was 25 years old, her mother passed away. This was a big turning point in her life because her mother's death had a major impact on her, "causing her life to fall apart". This is when she started to acknowledge dying and impermanence, but she was still confused because this was the biggest loss in her life. It was not until she started to deal with her grief that she realized Buddhism was always there for her in some capacity.

When she was a child, Buddhism was evident in her family's history of ministers, and while growing up, she was always active at her Temple. In 2010, she made the decision to leave behind her previous studies to learn about Buddhism and become a ministerial aspirant. In her mid-thirties, she went to the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley to learn more about Buddhism and graduated in 2015 with a master's in Buddhist Studies. While she was studying at IBS, she served as a minister's assistant at the Buddhist Church of Stockton.

In 2012, she received her first level of ordination called Tokudo in Kyoto, Japan, which is a Buddhist ceremony to enter priesthood. Additionally, she returned to Kyoto in 2015 and obtained her second level of ministerial certification called Kyoshi at Nishi Hongwanji. After becoming a minister, she was assigned to the Berkeley Buddhist Temple and served there for about two years. In January of 2018, she was transferred to the Buddhist Church of Florin, and on July 1, 2020, she returned to serve at her home temple in Stockton.

After the interview with Reverend Shibata, it reminded me of how I also lost someone close to me, however, it was my grandmother. She passed during my sixth-grade year, and this was the first time I had lost someone close to me. This had a big impact on me, and I was not sure how to process my emotions, especially because she passed away during the school year and I had to keep up with my school work. My family started attending Sunday Services more frequently, and hearing the Dharma Talks helped me deal with my grief. Dharma Talks about the Pure Land and impermanence were the most helpful because I was reminded that nothing in life is forever.

Namo Amida Butsu —
With Kindness & Gratitude Beyond Words

Miroku

Service Project

This month, Miroku decided to get together to complete our service project for a non-profit organization called "Together We Rise." Togetherwerise.org is a non-profit that supports foster children and teens. Many foster teens carry their belongings in trash bags, so Miroku would like to help these teens in providing them with duffel bags and other necessities.

All Vaccinated

Our 6th graders have all been recently vaccinated, so we agreed to meet up in-person later this spring (socially distanced, of course) to put the bags together.

Need Your Help

Miroku has agreed to spend $310 from our bank account to sponsor 10 bags, and we would like to request the Sangha to help us pay for another 10 bags, so we will have 20 bags in total to help these teens in need. If you're interested, please mail a check to the Temple made out to Miroku. We'll give more information in upcoming services!

In Gassho,
Ella Weeks
Miroku Member

MIROKU

We can do it together

Mail donation checks to the Temple — made out to "Miroku"

BWA News

Buddhist Women's Association

48-STAR AMERICAN FLAG SIGNING

On January 9, the BWA held a successful WWII 48-Star American Flag Signing event at our Temple. We owe **Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Johnny Cepeda Gogo** our gratitude for his efforts on behalf of the Japanese community.

Please see the story and photos in this issue. See more of the pertinent links in the article. We also thank the hard-working volunteers who all came to help. A special "Thank You: to **Shirley Matsumoto** and **Lois Okino**!

ESSHINNI-KO / BWA MEMORIAL SERVICE

Thank you, Reverend Naomi Nakano of the San Luis Obispo Buddhist Church and Guadalupe Buddhist Church for her Dharma messages and seminar, at our Esshinni-ko/BWA Memorial Service. We were delighted with her inspirational and insightful messages.

DANA YOUTH FUND DRIVE

We thank the Sangha for the generous donations to our MVBT BWA Dana Youth Fund Drive. We again were able to give our donations to the Temple's affiliated youth groups.

JOIN BWA

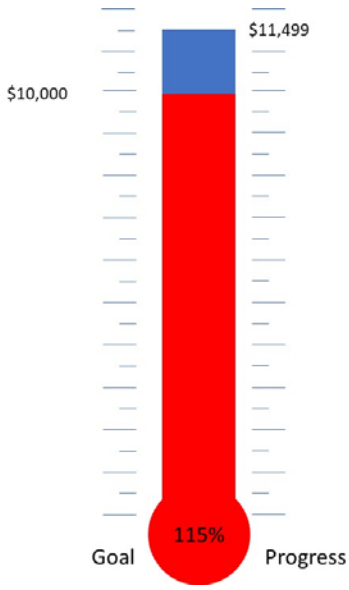
Join the BWA to continue our work to support our MVBT!

$20 membership dues for 2022 are now being accepted.

In Gassho,
Reiko Murakami
BWA President

Volume 61 Number 3

SANGHA CONNECT DONATION DRIVE



As of February 9, 2022

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Sangha Connect Donation Drive! While we surpassed our initial goal, we encourage everyone to continue donating. With your continued support, we look forward to meaningfully investing in the adaptations necessary for our Sangha and community to stay connected beyond the pandemic.

A Donation Link and a Wish List can be found on the Sangha Connect Page:

https://sangha.mvbuddhisttemple.org/

Donations can also be made on the Mountain View Buddhist Temple's donation page:

https://secure.qgiv.com/for/mvbt

As always, a check written out to "MVBT" with "Sangha Connect" in the note section can be mailed to the office, too!

In Gassho
MVBT Reopening Task Force

Thank You to the "Sangha Connect Donors"

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple thanks all of our donors who have supported this effort from January 11, 2022 through February 9, 2022. The Temple again thanks our donors who supported this effort prior to January 11.

"With your support, we are able to maintain the connections the Mountain View Buddhist Temple has nurtured over the years"

In Gassho,
Sangha Connect Committee

Russell & Phyllis Chan
Harold & Kathy Fujii
Richard & Eileen Fujikawa
Steven Higaki
Alice Ishida
Michael & Traci Inouye
Glenn & Lorrie Kitasoe
Joyce Okamura Lee
Walt & Jody Low
Marcy Mamiya
Bob & Naomi Matsumoto
Peter & Shirley Matsumoto
Go & Kay Sasaki
Doug & Phyllis Sawamura
Robert & Pauline Shinkawa
Joyce Tamaru
Kimberly Tsuchida
Yoshio & Diane Umemoto
Min & Ann Uyehara
John & Donna Weeks & Family
Edna Yoshino
Edna Yukawa

MVBT YBA News

MOUNTAIN VIEW COAST DISTRICT WINTER ACTIVITY

We have come up with the idea for an Outdoor Movie Activity for the Mountain View CD Winter Activity. The Board has approved an outdoor activity at the Temple and the date will be discussed at our next CDYBL Meeting.

YBA SPAGHETTI DINNER

This year's Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser included a dine-out fundraiser at Gumba's Italian Restaurant in Sunnyvale, virtual Bingo, and a 50/50 Raffle. This event would not have been possible without the hard work of our Spaghetti Dinner Chairperson, Jake Aquino. Thank you, Jake for your hard work, dedication, and flexibility these past few months! This fundraiser supports the YBA activities and enables us to go on our quadrennial trip.

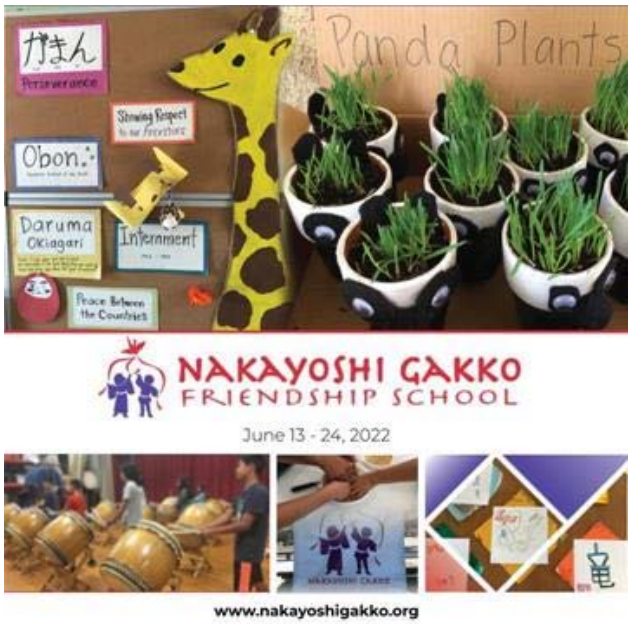
Here's a message from Jake:

Hi everyone, I am Jake Aquino, the chairperson for this past Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. I would like to give a big thanks to all the Temple members who supported us in our fundraiser in February. I would also like to thank all the YBA members and advisors who worked together to make this fundraiser happen. Thank you for all your support. Hopefully next year we can be back in the Sangha Hall!

In Gassho,
Evan Itow
2021-2022 YBA President

YBA Committee for Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Nakayoshi Gakko News



Nakayoshi Gakko, or "Friendship School" is a two-week summer program held at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple where children in Grades 1 through 8 learn about Japanese culture and tradition. It is an opportunity for children and parents to explore the many aspects of the Japanese-American heritage.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Nakayoshi Gakko is a full day program. Registration is now open and the program runs from June 13-24.

- Morning sessions include art, literature, social studies, and language.
- Afternoons continue with specialty-subjects such as origami, odori (dance), soroban (abacus), cooking, undokai (P.E.), sumi-e, music and much much more.

For additional information, please visit our website at:

www.nakayoshigakko.org

Thank You,
Nakayoshi Gakko

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

Daisy/Junior

The Daisy and Junior girls continue to plan for their Bronze Award project and talk about cookie sales.

They will also be making "Thinking of You" tea cards for our BWA and Dharma School teachers. Our Daisy will earn the Considerate and Caring petal, and our Juniors will earn the Honoring Our Everyday Changemakers badge for this project.

Cadette/Senior/Ambassador

The scouts worked on "Customer Loyalty", a Cookie Business badge at their January meeting in preparation for February cookies sale

Padma

The Junior Padma Scouts are continuing their study sessions with Reverend Mukojima.

Our final Padma Scout interview of a female Buddhist Reverend is this month. Be sure to look for Kiera's interview with Reverend Candice Shibata of Buddhist Church of Stockton in this Echo.

Troop

It's cookie time! Girl Scout cookie sales have begun. Look below to order, or contact any Girl Scout or Leader.

In Gassho,
Girl Scout Troop #60736

Girl Scout Meeting
February 12, 2022

Making "Thinking of You" Tea Cards

* *

To Order Cookies

See link in Putra's Post

Visit
https://digitalcookie.girlscouts.org/scout/kendall311420

Scan the QR Code

2022 150 Club News

Hoping this is a better year!

Our winner for February is Cesar Agustin. Congratulations to Cesar.

Thank you for participating in 150 Club!

Everyone, please stay safe and healthy!

150 Club Committee

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Sent in Mail
MAR	No Toban	N / A	N / A
APRIL	No Toban	Mar 11 (Fri)	Mar 21 (Mon)
MAY	No Toban	April 15 (Fri)	Mar 25 (Mon)

Please note the article deadline and mailing dates. The mailing date has been adjusted to accommodate the Temple's COVID-19 requirements. This will provide time to layout, proof, finalize and print the issue. Thank you. *Domo Arigato.* Email all articles to echo@mvbuddhisttemple.org .

Hatsumairi Child Presentation - Postponed until April 9, 2023

The Hatsumairi Service ("First Visit Ceremony") is a ceremony at which the parents present their child before the Amida Buddha and the Sangha. Children of all ages are welcome to participate in the Hatsumairi ceremony.

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple traditionally holds the Hatsumairi Service in conjunction with the Hanamatsuri Service, which celebrates the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha.

The Temple has chosen to hold the Hatsumairi Service as an in-person ceremony. This allows the child to be presented in front of the O-naijin (or altar), which symbolizes the truth that is embodied within the human experience. To do this, the Hatsumairi Service is postponed until April 2023. The. Hatsumairi Service will be combined for 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023..

ABA News

MVBT

Adult Buddhist Association

ABA ACTIVITIES

ABA members continue to meet via Zoom on a monthly basis.

Although we haven't had too many activities due to MVBT's COVID guidelines, several members continue to support MVBT through their association with Dharma School, BWA, Rev. Mukojima's Buddhist Discussions, Senior Outreach Committee, Vision Committee and Senior Activities Group.

HELPING TO SOLVE HOMELESSNESS

With YABA, ABA plans to participate in a community activity with LifeMoves, a Mountain View -based agency for non-housed people.

When LifeMoves' clients move into housing, they often need cleaning supplies. More details on how ABA and YABA will help to come. Thanks to Joanne Makishima (ABA) and Alex Muselman (YABA) for coordinating this activity.

LifeMoves
Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness

With Gassho,
Jean Shimoguchi
ABA President

SUPPORT YOUR TEMPLE

Shop at Amazon Smile

Earn Income for MVBT!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.
Help us every time you shop Amazon.

At no cost to you, Amazon will donate a % of your purchase to MVBT.

Visit **www.smile.amazon.com**. In your account, pick "Mountain View Buddhist Temple" as your charitable organization.

Make your purchase. Thank you for your help.

Dharma School News

ANNOUNCEMENTS

7th/8th Grade and High School Classes Cleared for In-Person Instruction

A request was made, and subsequently approved by the MVBT Health and Safety Committee, to resume in-person meetings for the 7th and 8th grade and high school Dharma School classes. Vaccinated students in those grade levels may attend on the class' designated Sundays. At this time, activities will take place outdoors. Further instructions will be provided by the teachers if/when in-person activities resume in the coming weeks.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Donations

The following donations are gratefully acknowledged:

- **Todd and Ashley Uyehara**
  For Trevor's Birthday
- **Frank and Esther Bunya**
  In Appreciation of Dharma School

In Gassho,
Brent Izutsu
Dharma School Superintendent

Support Your Temple

Donate to Past & Upcoming Services

Hoonko / Nirvana Day / Pet Memorial / Spring Ohigan / Gotan-e

Your donations go to the General Fund supporting day-to-day operations

(1) Use the MVBT online "DONATE" or (2) Send a check to the Temple office

Seniors Activities & Crafts Program News

MVBT Seniors Activities and Crafts

Wednesday February 23 Sing Along

Hooray! We will start Sing Along again. It is scheduled for the last Wednesday of each month. Please mark February 23 on your calendar for this month's Sing Along. Great chance to see and visit with your friends. Wish to thank **Susan Yuen**, **Sterling Makishima**, **Teri Hirota** and **Amy Arakaki** for getting our music together. Great fun to sing together. Don't forget, we start at 10:00 am and end at 11:00 am.

Every Thursday Taiko

We will continue the Taiko program every Thursday from 10:00 am to 10:45 am. We thank our instructors, **Susan Yuen** and **Linda Uyechi**, for their patience, in giving our Taiko lesson via Zoom. Please join in the fun with us, for it is never too late to enjoy and learn Taiko. We are looking for interested taiko members. For more information, call **Reiko Tsuchida**.

Cookbook

The Senior Activities Cookbook is still available and can be purchased at the Temple office or through the Senior Committee members. The sale price is still at $15.

In Gassho,
Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto

March

Monthly

Memorial

Service

* * * * *

Service at Temple Cancelled

* * * * *

Virtual Shotsuki Hoyo for March to be held on Sunday, March 6

* * * * *

See MVBT website or Putra's Post for details

March Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial Service)

The Shotsuki (Monthly Memorial) Services are conducted and sponsored by the Temple in memory of the past members and their family members who have passed away during a given month. It is not meant to be a substitute for families to observe their Family Memorial Service for their loved ones. The **March** Shotsuki loved ones are:

Theodore Abe	**Helen Matsumoto**	**Shigeru Okamoto**
Robert Arima	**Shizuko Matsumoto**	**Fumio Okayama**
Mine Chikasuye	**Tom Matsumoto**	**Kinuko Sasaki**
Alice Asaka Fujii	**Mary Mayeda**	**Rev. Sensho Sasaki**
Satoru Fujikawa	**Akira Morishima**	**Frank Sato**
Kazuo Furusho	**Cynthia Muranaka**	**Kanesuke Sato**
Harriet Hamamoto	**Haruko Muranaka**	**Brett Sugimoto**
Yutaka Hamamoto	**Roy Nagatani**	**Tora Tamaji**
Sekitaro Hananouchi	**Linda Nakagawa**	**Patricia Yukie Togashi**
Helen Hamasaki	**Haruyo Nakano**	**Thomas Takegami**
Masao Hayashi	**Harry Nakano**	**Shimoye Yamaji**
Itsuyo Hori	**Kenichi Nakano**	**Yoshikichi Yamaji**
Ronald Hoshiko	**Rokuro Nakano**	**Kazuo Yanase**
Koriyu Kariya	**Hidemi Nakashima**	**Torao Yokoyama**
Ruth Kawaguchi	**Komao Nara**	**Kiriye Yoshida**
Miya Kawamoto	**Robert Nishimura**	
Hakobu Koyano	**Shizuko Nishimura**	
Shinobu Maruyama	**George Tetsuo Noguchi**	

If a name has been inadvertently left off or you would like to add a family member to the Mountain View Buddhist Temple list of Shotsuki names, please contact Rev. Mukojima.

E-mail **reverend@mvbuddhisttemple.org**

Phone (Temple office) **(650) 964-9426**

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Memorial services allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative's death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service for a loved one, please call during weekly office hours.

2022 is the Memorial Year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2021	3rd Year Memorial	2020	7th Year Memorial	2016
13th Year Memorial	2010	17th Year Memorial	2006	25th Year Memorial	1998
27th Year Memorial	1996	33rd Year Memorial	1990	50th Year Memorial	1973

Volume 61 Number 3

april MMXXII

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:00 pm Ukelele Club	**2**
3 10:00 am Shotsuki Hoyo Service 1:00 pm YBA Meeting	**4** 7:00 pm Buddhist Discussion Group 7:30 pm Tech Support	**5** 7:30 pm VISION LHF Committee Meeting	**6**	**7**	**8** 6:00 pm Ukelele Club 7:30 pm ABA General Meeting	**9**
10 10:00 am Hanamatsuri Service 12:30 pm MVBT Taiko	**11** 7:30 pm Tech Support	**12**	**13** 7:30 pm MVBT Board Meeting	**14**	**15** 6:00 pm Ukelele Club	**16**
17 10:00 am Sunday Service 12:30 pm MVBT Taiko	**18** Tax Day 7:30 pm Tech Support	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22** 6:00 pm Ukelele Club	**23**
24 FDSTL Conference 10:00 am Sunday Service 12:30 pm MVBT Taiko	**25** 7:30 pm RPC Virtual Meeting 7:30 pm Tech Support	**26** 7:00 pm Young Adult Buddhist Discussion	**27** 10:00 am Senior Activities Sing Along	**28**	**29** 6:00 pm Ukelele Club	**30**

Upcoming Events

April 3, Sunday
Shotsuki Hoyo Service

April 4, Monday
Buddhist Discussion Group

April 10, Sunday
Hamatsuri Service

April 23, Saturday
FDSTL Conference - Online

Support Your Temple

Donate to Past & Upcoming Services

Hoonko /

Nirvana Day / Pet Memorial /

Spring Ohigan / Gotan-e

Your donations go to the General Fund supporting day-to-day operations

(1) Use the MVBT online "DONATE" or
(2) Send a check to the Temple office

Highlights in March Issue

Pet Memorial	*3*
American Flag	*8 - 10*
Kiera's Padma Interview	*11*
Miroku	*12*
Sangha Connect	*13*
Nakayoshi Gakko	*14*
Girl Scout Cookies	*15*

Mountain View Buddhist Temple
575 North Shoreline Boulevard
Mountain View, CA 94043
www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #225
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA