Hemford to apply for Nebraska Energy grant

The Hemingford Board of Education will hold a soup supper on Tuesday, January 31 at 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm at the Alliance at 14th and Big Ave, Alliance. For more information, call the Office, 415 Black Hills Road, Box Butte Co. Extension District. The board needs to serve: Call Chad Swenson at (402) 352-2261 or at 415-357-5331.

Letters from Weihsien
The story of an American hero and those he helped to free

Tad Nagaki

Tad Nagaki was 17 years old when he was one of the first five American airmen to be repatriated from the Japanese prison camp at Weihsien, China.

Tad Nagaki was born in the city of Honolulu on December 24, 1924. Young Tad Nagaki was the youngest of three children of the Nagaki family. Tad's father, Masaharu Nagaki, was a farmer and Tad's mother, Mieko Nagaki, was a homemaker.

Tad Nagaki attended the University of Chicago and was studying to become a lawyer when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Tad Nagaki immediately enlisted in the United States Army Air Forces and was assigned to the 118th Reconnaissance Squadron, 52nd Reconnaissance Group, based in the Philippines.

Tad Nagaki was captured by the Japanese on April 13, 1942, after the fall of Corregidor. He was held in the Weihsien Prison Camp for four years, during which time he helped to save the lives of many other American and British POWs.

After the war, Tad Nagaki returned to the United States and worked for the Department of Justice, where he spent the rest of his life. He died on July 5, 1986, at the age of 61.

Tad Nagaki's story is a testament to the courage and sacrifice of American soldiers during World War II. His example inspired many others to help in the fight against tyranny and oppression.