



Message from the President - Arcie Gemino, CAPA President

Greetings! May 2011 be a year of health and happiness, wealth and wisdom, peace and prosperity, and most of all love and laughter to all.

Welcome to CAPA's e-Newsletter. There's a whole new excitement as we begin the calendar for the various events CAPA plans to undertake this year. First and foremost, I'd like to welcome the 2011 board members, the Advisory board, the corporate sponsors, the individual membership, affiliate organizational membership and any potential individuals who may have interest in becoming part of CAPA. Everyone is welcome to attend our monthly board meetings. Join us by checking our Calendar of Events on the website for details.

In carrying out CAPA's mission to unite Asian Pacific Americans and the community at large through culture, education and community service, we are gearing up for our four major events, the Splendor of the East in May in celebration of Asian Pacific Heritage Month, the Educational workshop in the spring, Simply the Best in the summer and the Statewide Asian Leadership Summit in the fall. Prior to the end of 2010, a great sense of enthusiasm has already sparked an early interest among the committees. The cultural committee had begun SOE 2011 with its casting calls, theme, flyer and program outline, Fund Raising has kicked off its solicitation campaigns, the Membership Committee is actively pursuing growth in membership, the Community Service Committee is looking for ways to reach out to the needs of the elderly through a health and fitness expo, free screening programs, free flu shots and transportation services, The Communications Committee has connected with various businesses, ethnic, civil and social organizations to publish relevant information, events or services on the e-Newsletter that may be of benefit to the members of the Asian community, the Education Committee is planning to hold another interactive workshop for the youth and continue to seek eligible high school students for scholarship benefits in colleges or universities in the state of Michigan with the end in view of encouraging them to stay within the state and do community service by actively participating in the CAPA Youth Committee's activities.

Summing up the above plans of actions and expressions of commitment, I'm confident CAPA will continue to be in good hands. I therefore invite everyone to work in harmony with us in looking out for the well-being of our Asian Community.

Calendar of Events
www.capa-mi.org/main.php?p=calendar1101

Splendor of the East – May 6, 2011
“The Festival – A Carnival of World Traditions”

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Northville, MI. – On Friday, May 6, 2011 at 7:00pm, the Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) will once again bring their popular annual culture showcase “Splendor of the East 2011” to the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center at 15801 Michigan Avenue in Dearborn, MI. CAPA (www.capa-mi.org) strives to unite Asian Pacific Americans and the community at large through culture, education, and community services.

As in years past, the “Splendor of the East” program will promote the unique cultural heritage of Asian Pacific cultures through an extravaganza of musical and dance performances.

This year's event theme is “The Festival – A Carnival of World Traditions”, and will present both traditional Asian-Pacific heritages as well as other cultural influences from our neighbors to discover what we have in common and commemorate what makes us different.

In preparation for the 2011 production, the Splendor of the East committee, spearheaded by Bob Riparip, as the overall Chairman just recently cast several cultural groups from China, Korea, Japan, India, Philippines, Polynesia, Middle-East and Ireland. All local cultural talents are welcome to participate.

The production committee will maintain to promote diversity in the community and continue to engage in recruiting other cultural organization to join us – together we will celebrate the song of life from the four corners of the world. Production rehearsals will start on January 9, 2011 at the Chinese Community Center, Madison Heights, MI.

Please mark your calendar for May 6, 2011 to come out and experience the merging of traditional and contemporary Asian-Pacific cultures, through a choreographic masterpiece depicting the festivities of world traditions.

For more information on the event and if you would like to participate, please visit the website: www.capa-mi.org or contact the Splendor of the East Production Chairperson, Toni Martinez at troy@capa-mi.org and Public Relations/Media Contact, Angela Wang at angela@capa-mi.org.

Networking:
(Post an Ad or Message)

Contact CAPA Enews
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Upcoming Event Links

PACCM Valentines Ball: (Filipino) Contact Tony Kho, Chair Event, tkho000@gmail.com Tel# 248-755-6122

IWD: International Women's Day (Indian)

A March event collaborated by five organizations spearheaded by AIWA (American Indian Women's Association) Contact Jadia at jadia@theaiglobal.net



Michigan population

Initial census data bared; Michigan, 9 other states lose US Congress seats

Michigan lost one US congressional seat due to a decrease in its population. This was learned from the initial data released recently by the Census Bureau and made available to the Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) by the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice. The data were culled from the statistics gathered during the census survey conducted last year.

The initial data also showed that the US population is now 308,745, 538, up by 9.7 percent from the 2000 population.

The exact figure on the decrease in Michigan's population was not immediately disclosed, but Michigan is included in a list of 10 states that have lost seats in the US Congress due to reduction in their population.

Commission to hold forum on bullying of kids on Jan. 25

LANSING – The Michigan Civil Rights Commission (MCRC) announced that it will hold a public forum on bullying of children on January 25, 2011 at 4-6 p.m. in room L-150 of Cadillac Place at 3054 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit.

During the public forum, the commission will discuss and take public comment on bullying of kids. A number of guest speakers with expertise on the bullying problem and related issues will be present.

The general public is urged to attend the forum, especially those who wish to provide testimony on bullying.

From Suzanne Brooks

Discrimination of women of color rampant, Brooks say

Findings of new studies confirmed that women of color, including Asian-American women, are and have always been at the socio-economic bottom of the US, far below men of color and far below white women, Suzanne Brooks, president and CEO of the International Association for Women of Color Day, reported. In a recent conference, Brooks also reported:

The nine other states in the list are Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. New York and Ohio lost two seats each, and the seven others lost one seat each.

Michigan is also in a list of five states with the slowest population growth. The four others in the list are Rhode Island, Louisiana, Ohio and New York.

The initial data likewise showed that eight states have gained congressional seats due to increases in their population. These are Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina, Texas, Utah and Washington. Texas gets four more seats, while Florida gains two.

Both written and verbal testimonies will be accepted. People who opt to give written testimony are asked to email such testimonies to millerrj31@Michigan.gov on or before January 24.

People, who would like to attend the forum and need an accommodation to do so, are asked to call Harold Core at 517/241-3986 or email to coreh@michigan.gov.

Public parking is available across the street connected to the New Center Building in the Lothrop Ramp and the Fisher Theater Ramp. Limited metered

The five most populous states, according to the census data, are California, Texas, New York, Florida and Illinois. The least populous are Wyoming, Vermont, North Dakota, South Dakota and Alaska.

Nevada has the highest population growth rate at 35.1 percent.

parking spaces are available on the blocks surrounding the building.

More public forums will be hosted by MCRC. These are tentatively slated to take place in Grand Rapids and Upper Peninsula later this year.

Details will be posted at www.michigan.gov/mdcr once these are final.

Representatives among Asian- American women on the mainland.

“There are still many state governments in the US in which there have never been any women of color in their legislatures. Asian-American women, like other women of color, are subjected to both racism and sexism and that includes sexism from within Asian-American communities and racism by

“Women of color have the high rates of suicide, with Asian-American women having the highest rate.

“In the US Congress, there have been only four Asian-American women representatives in the House of Representatives -- all of them Japanese-Americans, three of them from Hawaii. “Only Doris Matsui who replaced her husband has been in the House of



white women.” She said she is working on a new book, *The Constructive Extermination of Women of Color: The Consequences of Perpetual Socio-Economic Marginalization*, “because women of color are dying at the highest rate from every curable disease in the US.”

Brooks also noted that “women of color have been targeted by predatory mortgage practices to the extent that we have received 48 percent of the foreclosures while making up less than 16 percent of the population, yet these issues go unaddressed.

“Women's groups claiming to support all women, but dominated by white women have photos of women of color on their websites but refuse to address the intersection of racism and sexism which only women of color experience.

“If women of color continue to die unnecessarily, then our cultures will suffer as the women in all of them are the historical carriers and teachers of the cultures to our children.

“There will still be some women of color whose fathers are men of color and whose mothers are not. In those instances, the mothers will only be able

to pass on their own cultures, not those of Asian Americans, Native Americans, African Americans, Pacific Islanders and Latino Americans.

“Thus, the constructive extermination of women of color -- as we have been through the ages, means ultimately the comprehensive changing of the cultures of people of color, making all groups easier to manipulate and control.”

Korean kids contest - Essay-writing contest for Korean children

The Michigan Korean-American Chamber of Commerce Foundation (MKACCF) announced it is sponsoring a Sol Nal essay-writing contest.

The participants could win cash or gift certificates. The winners will receive their prizes at the KACE's 2011 Year of the Rabbit Sol Nal party scheduled on February 6 at the Korean United Methodist Church of Metro Detroit.

Grades K-3 participants are asked draw a picture of their favorite Korean meal.

Grades 4-7 participants are asked to write an essay on “Why I'm proud to be Korean American?”

Grades 8-12 participants are asked to write an essay on “50+ Years of Korean immigration to the US: Background and Impacts.”

The prizes include seven \$20 Toys R Us gift cards for Grades K-3; five \$30 cash prizes for Grades 4-7; and three \$50 cash prizes for Grades 8-12.

The essays must be typed in 12-point font, double - spaced, between 3 - 4 pages in length.

Drawing must be on 8.5” X 11” paper. Drawing and essays can be folded.

The participants are to give their names, age and phone number.

The essays should be send to: Sol Nal Essay Contest, c/o Mihee Olsen (MKCCF), 30241 Mirlon Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48331

The essays should be submitted on or January 29, 2011.

Rites for Vincent Chin marker held in downtown Ferndale

Chin's legacy is a changed legal system protecting Asians and other minorities

FERNDALE, Michigan -- The memory of Vincent Chin and the birth of the Asian American Civil Rights Movement in downtown Ferndale 27 years ago became an official piece of the city's historical landscape on Dec. 22, 2010 with the installation and dedication of the State Bar of Michigan's 34th Legal Milestone marker.

Chin's brutal death in 1982 galvanized the Asian American community into action and set off a series of far-reaching legal reforms.

Vincent Chin was accosted in a Highland Park bar by two unemployed auto workers who blamed him – and all Asians – for their job loss.

The verbal assaults escalated into physical beating, and four days later, on June 23, Vincent Chin died.

Although they pleaded guilty to manslaughter, neither assailant spent a single day in jail and were instead sentenced to three-year probation and a \$3,000 fine.

The charges and the sentence triggered an uproar in the Asian community and prompted its citizenry to organize against the injustice. The first gatherings were held at Vincent Chin's last workplace – the Golden Star Restaurant at 22828 Woodward Avenue, now named Post Bar.

Today, Chin's legacy is a changed legal system regarding sentencing guidelines and victim's rights, and the establishment in 1983 of important

political action groups such as the American Citizens for Justice.

Ferndale Mayor Craig Covey, who led the dedication rites last Dec. 22, commented: “The murder of Vincent Chin was a hate crime made worse by the failure of our legal system to live up to the American promise of justice for all. This memorial symbolizes a shared community value: The People of Ferndale join others in standing up for acceptance, fairness and equality for everyone.”

The State Bar of Michigan presented the 34th Milestone Marker to Ferndale in June of 2009, on behalf of the State Bar and the Michigan Asian Pacific American Bar Association.

The official dedication ceremonies were held at noon of last Dec. 22 at Post Bar.

Please send us articles and/or events you would like to share.

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