



A Message from the President

November is going to be a very busy month for all of us. On November 2nd, we will have our annual Fall Festival (Aki Matsuri) at Simpson United Methodist Church (6001 Wolff Street, Arvada, CO 80003). This festival is a fundraiser to raise money for our annual student scholarships and advocacy programs. We will have various carnival games for the families and we will be selling delicious homemade Japanese food. Please come to the festival and bring all of your friends and families!

On November 15th, Asian Chamber of Commerce will have its annual dinner and gala. You get to hear a highlight of the year's successes along with enjoying a delicious eight course menu. You can purchase tickets by going to www.ACCcolorado.org

On November 20th, National Association of Asian American Professionals Colorado (NAAAP Colorado) will have its third annual charity gala to raise money for APDC's youth program. Come enjoy a delicious banquet dinner and fashion show that will include the contestants from Miss Asian American Colorado Leadership Program and children from the APDC's youth program. It will be a fun night for a good cause! You can purchase tickets by going to www.NAAAPcolorado.org

Lastly, I want to remind you that our annual election is coming up soon. This is a great opportunity for you to run for a Board of Director position. You can help determine the direction of Mile High JACL and become an advocate for our community. Please feel free to email me at President@MileHighJACL.org for information regarding how to apply.

We love to hear your suggestions and feedbacks. Please come to our next board meeting on Thursday, November 7, 2013, at 6:30 pm. We meet at the Japanese American Association of Colorado's Office, located on the second floor of Sakura Square (19th and Lawrence, Denver, CO). If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us at info@MileHighJACL.org

Harry Budisidarta

Mile High JACL Chapter President



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Mile High JACL
Board Meeting
November 7th
6:30pm
Sakura Square, 2nd Fl.

Mile High JACL
Fall Festival
November 2nd
11:00am
Simpson United
Methodist Church

Kiyoshi Kurosawa
Retrospective
7:00pm, Fri., Nov. 1
Eyes of the Spider
7:00pm, Sat., Nov. 2
License to Live
7:00pm, Sun., Nov. 3
Barren Illusion
Muenzinger Auditorium
University of Colorado
at Boulder

For more upcoming events
please visit our website:
milehighjACL.org/events/

Do you have an event
or project that you
would like to share
with our community?
Please help us keep
our community informed
by submitting events,
notices, recognitions and
articles to include in future
newsletters. Information
can be submitted to
media@MileHighJACL.org

Mile High JACL Fall Festival

By Donna Hansen

Come for the great food and stay to play some games and catch up with friends.

Mile High JACL is holding its second annual Fall Festival Fundraiser on November 2nd at Simpson United Methodist Church at 11 am.

We will be serving a couple of delicious homemade bento options. Once the menu has been finalized we will be taking pre-orders. Be sure to pre-order your bento to get the best price and help us manage food cost accordingly.

Various games for children and adults will be available again this year, too. Hanafuda was a huge hit last year and we will have a hanafuda expert on hand again to explain the hands, what the cards mean and how to win. It is sure to be a lot of fun.

We are raising funds that go towards JACL scholarships and local advocacy efforts that need our support.

Please save the date of November 2nd in your calendar today and invite your friends and family!



Nihongo-o Naraimashyou!

Let's Learn Japanese!



Kagami (Ka-ga-mi)
Translation: Mirror

Tansu (Ta-n-su)
Translation: Dresser

Hikidashi (Hi-ki-da-shi)
Translation: Drawer

Fuku (Fu-ku)
Translation: Clothes

Tsukue (Tsu-ku-e)
Translation: Desk

Isu (I-su)
Translation: Chair

A Visit to Denver's Sister City Takayama Will Be a Highlight of Your Life

By Gil Asakawa

I recently visited Denver's Sister City in Japan, Takayama and got to see the town's spectacular fall festival, the "Hachiman Matsuri." It was a great experience, and I urge everyone in Denver, but especially Japanese Americans, to travel to Takayama.

Takayama has been Denver's sibling since 1960, the second of our 10 Sister Cities.

With a population of only around 100,000, Takayama was closer to Denver in size back in 1960, before our decades of growth. But the Japanese city has similar features, with its proximity to the mountains, four seasons, and agriculture and tourism as major industries.

Culture is another highlight of Takayama's economy. It's often referred to as "Little Kyoto" because of its many historic sites, including traditional homes and shops, as well as Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines.

The Shinto shrine that sits atop the hill overlooking the city, Sakurayama Hachimangu Shrine, sponsors the fall festival every Oct. 9 and 10. The festival features a procession through the town by community groups in traditional garb and each group's "yatai," or float, and a special puppet performance that attracts thousands.

This year, an approaching typhoon caused the city to cancel the first day of the festival, but the street vendors and shops stayed open into the evening even without the festivities.

The next day, the sun returned and the festival went off without a hitch. The yatai, some of which were originally built in the 16th and 17th centuries, are beautiful and elaborate. The "Karakuri," or puppet show, is performed atop one of the yatai and though brief, entertains thousands of people with the magical acrobatics of the puppets.

After a day of the festival, we noticed a very obvious fact of Japanese society: The entire downtown area where the event was held, including where street vendors were packing up and folding their tents, was spotless. There was no trace of the tens of thousands of people who just crowded the streets a few hours before. It's hard to imagine a Denver festival, or a Broncos game, ending with no trash anywhere!

Takayama is a charming, peaceful and culturally-rich destination whether or not you're there for the fall or spring festivals. In fact, you can see a rotating display of the yatai all year round at an exhibition hall next to the Shinto shrine.

And, you can enjoy the arts and crafts and history museums and of course, all the shrines and temples, any time. There are also many places regionally that you can visit, including hot springs and during the winter, ski areas. You can even visit the small, but carefully kept, City of Denver Park.

You can also enjoy the local culinary specialties: Takayama Ramen, Hida Miso and the ubiquitous Hida Beef (Hida is the region that Takayama is in). Hida Beef is raised with the same care as Kobe Beef, and Takayamans think it's better than the more famous meat.

We had it in every imaginable way: sliced on ramen; as a steak; grilled with Hida Miso on traditional clay stoves atop huge magnolia leaves; almost raw as sushi; in delicious sukiyaki; wrapped on a stick around rice from a street vendor; as filling in a pastry; and even now, in Hida Beef Jerky.

No matter where you travel in the world, you should take advantage of local sites and culture, and especially dive into the local cuisine. If you're ever traveling in Japan, take a side trip to Takayama. You'll be glad you did.



Photo by Erin Yoshimura



Mile High Japanese American Citizens League
Proudly Presents Fall Festival

AKI MATSURI

Please Come Support the Mile High JACL Fall Festival Fundraiser!
Help us raise \$2,000 towards our annual student scholarships and continued advocacy efforts

Sponsored By



Pacific Mercantile Company
Finest Asian Food & Gifts - Since 1944

Saturday, November 2, 2013

11am - 2pm

Simpson United Methodist Church

6001 Wolff Street, Arvada, CO 80003

Hanafuda (Japanese Card Game) & Carnival Games

Special Guest: Taiko with Toni!

Come eat delicious homemade Japanese Food!

(\$2 off all items if order placed with Suzuho Shimasaki @ Suzuho.Shimasaki@gmail.com by Saturday, October 26th.)

Inari Zushi - \$6 | Vegetarian Curry - \$10

Teriyaki Chicken Bento - \$12 | Vegetarian Bento - \$12

Teriyaki chicken, rice, simmered vegetables | Veggie rolls, simmered vegetables, veggie koroke

Questions? Want to volunteer?

Donna Hansen - donnasmojo@gmail.com | Suzuho Shimasaki - Suzuho.Shimasaki@gmail.com



“SAFE” Act Emphasized on National Day of Dignity and Respect

JACL Members at Hill Visits During the 2013 JACL Convention on the Topic of Immigration Reform

Washington, D.C.- On October 5, 2013, groups in Washington, D.C. called attention to the impacts of the “SAFE” Act that proposes to allow all 50 states and all localities to enact their own immigration enforcement laws, which undermines the ability of the federal government to pursue consistent and cost-effective immigration enforcement policies.

Thousands of immigrants and their supporters from the faith, labor, and civil rights communities, joined in marches and rallies in over 80 cities across our nation calling for Congress to pass immigration reform with a path to citizenship in 2013. As part of the “National Day of Dignity and Respect,” groups in Washington, D.C. called attention to the local impacts of the “SAFE” Act that would criminalize the immigrant community. Sec. 110 grants immunity to any law enforcement officer from personal liability arising out of the performance of such enforcement actions. States and localities with histories of discriminatory practices would be permitted to enforce federal immigration laws, which could lead to the inappropriate targeting of Latinos and other people of color.

In July, JACL had over 65 meetings with members of Congress during the 2013 Annual Convention to discuss comprehensive immigration reform. Members from across the nation visited Congressional offices in small groups sharing personal stories about immigration with leadership from Representative Judy Chu of California.

“SAFE to Profile” Act attempts to revive a failed policy, already rejected by numerous states, as well as the 2012 Supreme Court decision gutting Arizona’s law through Title III Sec. 301, which expands the aggravated felony definition. “Aggravated felony” is an immigration term that includes minor offenses that are neither aggravated nor felonies. With an “aggravated felony,” a person will automatically be deported; judges are not allowed to consider any individual circumstances of their case.



Japanese Men and Women Needed for History Channel Mini-Series

Arvold Casting is searching for Japanese men and women for minor speaking roles and background roles for a History Channel Mini-Series, set during the time periods of World War I and World War II. No acting experience required, and as some roles are only needed for one day, even those with limited availability are still encouraged to apply.

Production Company: Stephen David Entertainment

Director: John Ealer

Shoot Locations: Harpers Ferry, WV area and Washington, DC area

Pay: \$156 per day for minor speaking roles and \$126 per day for background roles.



Japanese Men:

Wednesday, October 23rd

Monday, October 28th

Tuesday, October 29

Wednesday, October 30th

Thursday, October 31st

Japanese Women:

Thursday, October 31st

Please visit the following website to participate:

<http://arvoldcasting.com/casting-calls/japanese-actors-for-history-channel-mini-series/>

To learn more about Arvold Casting, please visit: <http://arvoldcasting.com/>

Affordable Care Act Open Enrollment October 1, 2013

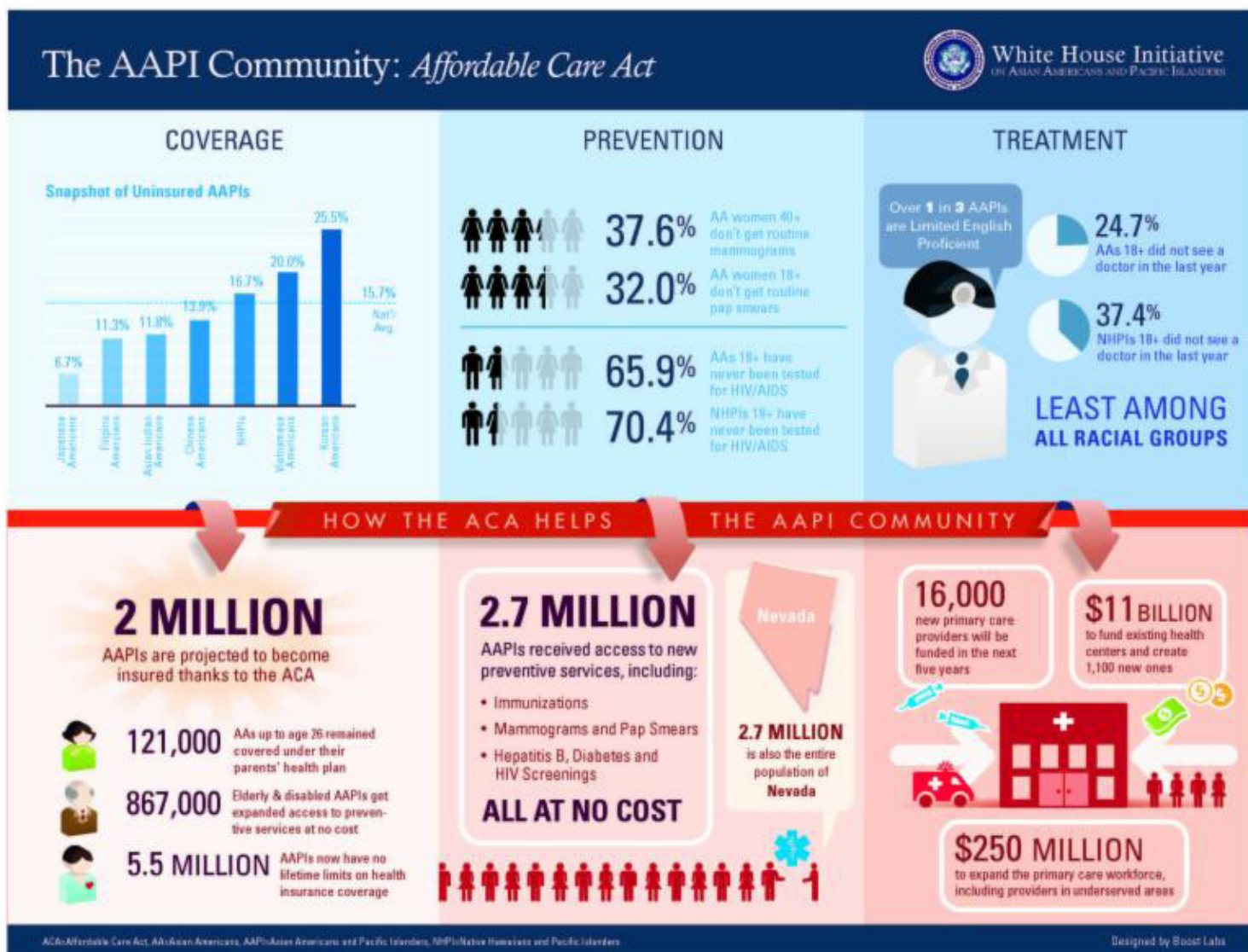
The open enrollment period, which is a key part of the new Affordable Care Act begins on October 1st. Under the new health care law, anyone can purchase a health insurance plan without worry of being turned down for coverage, or be charged more just because you have a pre-existing health condition. The open enrollment period ends on March 31, 2014, but for your new health plan to take effect on January 1, 2014, you will need to enroll by December 15, 2013.

Under the new law, you may be eligible for financial aid if your family income is between 100% (138% in Calif.) and 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (Individual FPL is \$11,490/year). For a financial aid calculator, you can visit your state's insurance exchange website to determine if you are eligible for any government financial aid.

If you are a California resident, then you'll find everything you need to enroll in a new health plan at the JA Health Benefits Trust's website (formerly JACL Health Benefits Trust) at www.JAHealthInsurance.org. As always the staff is not paid commissions, but all are licensed health insurance agents, and are ready to help. You can also call 1-800-400-6633.

To read more about the ACA, please click the link below:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/09/27/white-house-white-board-what-obamacare-means-you>



JACL Mission Statement

"What cannot be achieved in one lifetime will happen when one lifetime is joined to another."

The Japanese American Citizens League is a national organization whose ongoing mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. The leaders and members of the JACL also work to promote cultural, educational and social values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.

Become a Member of JACL Today!

Joining the Mile High Chapter JACL is a great way to get involved with the community and to help support our programs that educate our youth, develop leaders and pass on our legacy from generation to generation.

Membership benefits include (subject to change):

Associate Memberships are available for two years to individuals who are new to the Mile High Chapter JACL and includes:

- Mile High Chapter JACL Newsletter
- Discounts to local chapter events (when applicable)

All other memberships include the above in addition to:

- Pacific Citizen, The JACL Newspaper
- Scholarship Program
- JACL Credit Union Services
- VISA Affinity Card
- Hertz Rental Car Discounts
- Long Distance Calling Discounts
- Major Medical Insurance Program *
- Long Term Care Insurance *
- Catastrophic Major Medical Insurance*
- Medicare Supplement Insurance*

* Membership does not guarantee acceptance. The insurers have their own acceptance criteria.

If you would like to join, please complete the information below:

Membership Application

(12 months membership from the date of application)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate (\$25) | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$65) | <input type="checkbox"/> Couple/Family (\$110) | <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Youth (\$30) - PC Excluded |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thousand Club (\$100) | <input type="checkbox"/> Century Club (\$175) | <input type="checkbox"/> Millennium Club (\$1000) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thousand Club Life (\$3,000) | <input type="checkbox"/> Century Club Life (\$5,000) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse of Thousand or Century Club member (\$37) | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse of Millennium Club Member (\$30) | | |

Name: _____ Spouse (if applying): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Please send applications to: Mile High JACL, P.O. Box 13061, Denver, CO 80201

Mile High JACL | P.O. Box 13061 | Denver, CO 80201 | info@MileHighJACL.org | www.MileHighJACL.org

Would you like to place an ad in our newsletter?

Individuals and organizations are invited to place advertisement in the Mile High JACL Newsletter to help us sustain this important publication that informs our community about various activities and issues. Advertisements may include marketing for your company, job postings and/or messages to friends and family. However, the Mile High JACL Board of Directors will use its discretion about printing advertisements that may go against the mission of the organization. The sponsorship categories are as follows for each issue of the newsletter (printing on 8.5" x 11"):

- \$100 - Full page advertisement
- \$50 - Half page advertisement
- \$25 - Quarter page advertisement
- \$10 - Business card size advertisement

Discounts are available for bulk purchases: 5% off for three issues or 10% off for six issues. Members are also eligible for an additional 10% off.

If you are interested in submitting an advertisement, please email your graphic and/or text to info@milehighjacl.org and mail payments to: Mile High JACL, P.O. Box 13061, Denver, CO 80201

Payment and advertisements both need to be received by the 15th of each month in order for your information to be included in that month's issue.

Thank you for your support of the Mile High JACL and its monthly newsletter!