

- Pictures from Chinese New Years & an article from The Montana Standard (starts Page 2)
- Kid's page (insert)
- MARK YOUR CALENDARS! SUMMER PICNIC, JULY 16TH, 4 PM MEMORIAL PARK!!

The Year of the Dog comes in with a bang... or is that a “bark?”

What a great time we had together at the Helena Alliance church for our New Year's celebration! Thank you to all those who worked hard to make our first official FCC-Helena Chinese New Year's Party a success! There was more than enough food, and the kids all seemed to have a good time. At this point, there is nothing on the calendar as far as our next official gathering [Unless you count the summer picnic scheduled for the 16th of July at Memorial Park... it's likely we'll meet again before then!], but I hope you are all taking advantage of the new friendships and connections made through the group! More New Year's pictures inside this issue, as well as some resources and opportunities you may wish to take advantage of!



—Chris Haughee

5 Questions: The Triem Family

1. Who comprises the Triem household?

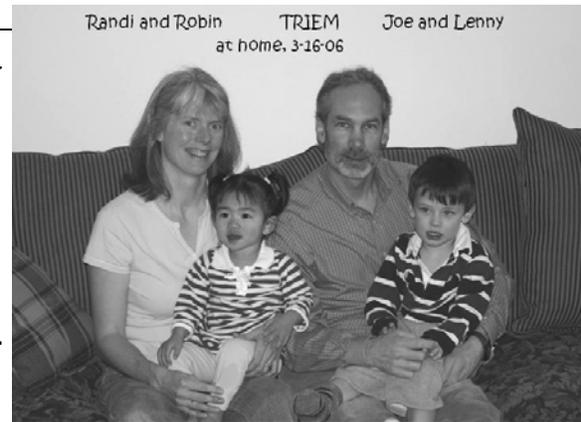
Dad: Joe, Mom: Randi, Kids: Lenny 3 and Robin 1, Cats: Ichi and Ni.

2. What motivated you to adopt internationally?

Nationality or race of a child was irrelevant to us but adopting a healthy infant was. Adoptable infants in the United States do not seem to have a problem finding homes but

children in other countries do. China stood out due to the sheer numbers of abandoned girls. Also, after much research, it seemed that China offered the best “assurance” that the process would go smoothly and we would likely not incur unexpected expenses. We were not disappointed.

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Page 2-3: New Year's Pictures and article quoting our own Dave and Patty!

Page 1, 4: 5 Questions for the Triem family

Page 3: Special books kids like!

Insert: Kids Page, etc.

Butte celebrates Year of the Dog: Dancers attract hundreds at both Saturday shows

by Roberta Forsell Stauffer of the Butte Weekly Standard- 02/05/2006

(Note: Pictures interspersed with the article are from our own celebration!)



Butte's Chinese New Year celebration has arrived.

What started 13 years ago as a tiny parade led by a rooster head on a stick blossomed Saturday into a community-wide cultural celebration.

An estimated 475 people enjoyed the Chinese dance presentation at the Butte Plaza Mall, and the courthouse show attracted close to 400.

Graceful young dancers from the Hope Chinese School in Los Angeles, Calif., wowed the crowds with their ballet-like moves and dazzling, colorful costumes.

"Beautiful, just elegant, demure and gorgeous" were Butte's Paula Canfield's words for the girls. "I love how they use their faces. They portray an innocence that we forget about," she said.

Dave Highness of Helena watched with his 2-year-old daughter Emmi propped on one hip, his free hand capturing the dances on video. Dave and his wife Patty adopted Emmi from southern China and said she'll really enjoy watching again at home.

"Fantastic" and "wonderful" were their reactions. "It was well worth the trip," Patty said.

The blizzard hit just in time for the parade, and the Hope School officials couldn't have been happier.

Honorable Principal Winston Zai-Yang Li explained that snow during the celebration is considered very good luck.

"Good snow means a good year," Li said, adding that Saturday, as the seventh of the 15-day new year's celebration, was "everybody's birthday," the symbolic birthday of humankind.

The Butte High Purple Bz carried the Chinese dragon to lead the parade, followed by a motley crew of 300-some soggy merry-makers, many blowing whistles or banging gongs and pan lids. It seemed the harder it snowed, the happier people were.

"Wait'll they see this in China," said Butte's Mike Byrnes, referring to the cameraman from the Hong Kong-based Phoenix Chinese Channel who was filming all the silliness.



Butte's Robert Edwards took a break from lighting firecrackers long enough to say that he'd been to New York City's Chinese New Year celebration and usually goes to San Francisco's. "This is my first year at Butte's, and it's the best one," Edwards said.

The dancers, ages 8 to 12, had been hoping for snow ever since they arrived. They were busy making snowballs in the alley next to the Mai Wah Museum as the 10,000 firecrackers ripped.

"It's awesome!" said dancer Karol Zhang of the snow.

The Hope School's founder and Principal Helena Yau was truly overjoyed. With Li helping to translate, she said that the timely



snow brought the whole trip “full circle,” starting with Thursday’s tour of historic sites and Friday’s school events and evening Friendship Banquet.

“Really good luck,” Yau said. “I’m so happy! God (is) on our side.” So impressed are they with Butte’s friendliness and hospitality and with the Mai Wah Society’s efforts to preserve the story of the Chinese in Butte that they



have already decided to return.

“Next year we will be here,” Li said. “We hope to perform on a stage raising money for the Mai Wah.” Li has also decided to donate “family treasures” for display at the museum — clothing and other items more than 100 years old. “They’ll be where they will get more mileage for people,” he said. “Better than in my garage.” JiaoJiao Liu, a Phoenix Channel reporter originally from Beijing, called the Mai Wah Museum “amazing” and said she’d never seen anything like it before, portraying life just as it was more than a century ago.

She, too, hopes to return next year... Mai Wah President Jim Griffin said Saturday’s celebration was by far the largest yet and he was extremely pleased with how it all turned out and with the connections forged between Butte and the Hope Chinese School.

“These kinds of events add another dimension to the cultural celebrations that are Butte,” Griffin said.

Reporter Roberta Stauffer may be reached via e-mail at roberta.stauffer@mtstandard.com

(This article was reprinted with the permission of the author)

Special Books Kids Like

Author's Name	Title
Roseanne Thong	Round is a Mooncake—A Book of Shapes
Roseanne Thong	Red is a Dragon—A Book of Colors
Roseanne Thong	One is a Drummer—A Book of Numbers
Grace Lin	Dim sum for Everyone
Grace Lin	Fortune Cookie Fortunes
Ginnie and Beth Lo	Mahjong All Day Long (Beth Lo is of Missoula is the illustrator)
Kathy Tucker (illustrated by Grace Lin)	The Seven Chinese Sisters (a fun twist on an old Seven Chinese Brothers story)
Amy Wilson Sanger	Yum Yum Dim Sum (thick cardboard book for little kids)
Peggy Goldstein	Long is a Dragon—Chinese Writing for Children (better for older kids)
Jan Brett	Daisy Comes Home (illustrations show Guangxi Provice’s famous Guillin mountains)
Demi	The Empty Pot
John McCutcheon	Happy Adoption Day!
Jean Davies Okimoto and Elain M. Aoki	White Swan Expres



Check out these web resources!
Yahoo group: fcc_helena_mt
and www.geocities.com/fcc_helena_mt

5 Questions... continued from Page 1

3. What are some of your favorite family activities?

Pre-kids..... skiing, rafting, hunting, mountain biking, reading.

Post-kids.....sledding, exploring, hitting the playgrounds and reading (though the books have changed!)

4. What are three words you would use to describe your kids?

Lenny: energetic, thoughtful, sleepless

Robin: energetic, sweet, persistent

5. What is your family hoping to get out of being a part of FCC-Helena?

We hope to meet new friends and for our children to get to know other kids in Helena who have similar backgrounds. We also hope to continue to learn about China!

Contact FCC-Helena at:

FCC Main Page: <http://www.fwcc.org>

Home page: http://www.geocities.com/fcc_helena_mt

Yahoo Group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fcc_helena_mt

E-mail: Fcc_helena_mt@yahoo.com



FCC-Helena Just for Kids Page

March 2006

This month, we learn the story behind the Chinese character for “child.” With a little practice, you can write this word perfectly!

子

zǐ
infant;
child;
son

This character for child originated from a representation of an infant with outstretched arms and legs. Eventually it was modified to one with legs swaddled in cloth bands. Evidently, to the Chinese parent, the secret of infant care lies in keeping one end wet and the other end dry.

PEN4

丿	了	子									
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子弹 zǐ dàn
子弟 zǐ dì
子女 zǐ nǚ
子孙 zǐ sūn

bullet
young generations
children
descendants

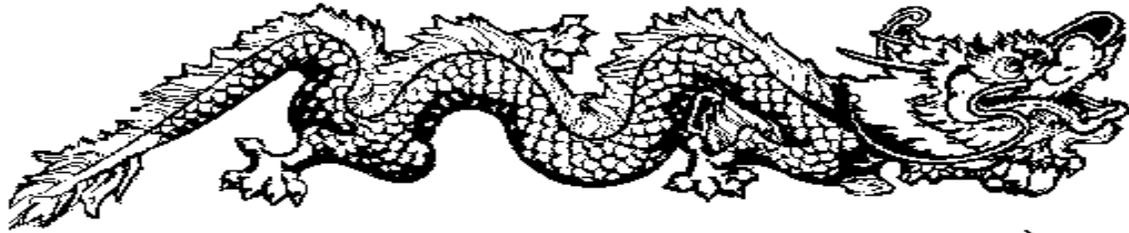
子夜 zǐ yè
子音 zǐ yīn
子子孙孙 zǐ zǐ sūn sūn
孩子 hái zǐ

midnight
consonant
descendants
child

Example:

这个孩子很聪明。
Zhè gè hái zǐ hěn cōng míng.

It means, “This child is very intelligent.”



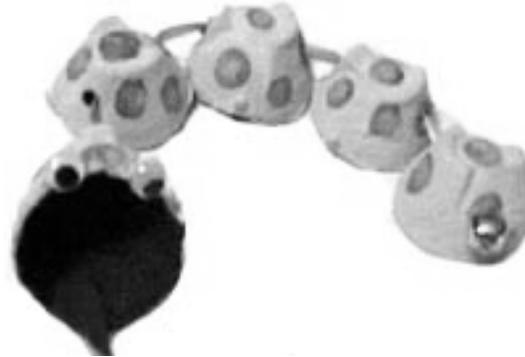
Chinese Dragon Craft

Make your dragon as short or as long as you wish.
You can add jewels or sequins to dress it up.

This project is rated EASY to do.

What You Need

- Paper egg carton
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Yellow craft paint
- Black craft paint
- Paint brush
- Paint with daubers (or BINGO marking paints); or craft paint and paint brushes
- 7mm Wiggle eyes
- 1/4" White pom-pom balls
- Red felt scrap
- Tacky glue
- 2 Jingle bells (1/2")
- Ribbon (we used 1/4" wide)



How To Make It

1. Cut the cups apart on the egg carton. Even out the edges so the cup will sit evenly upside down on the table.
2. Paint the inside of one cup black for the inside of the mouth. Paint the outside yellow.
3. Using as few or as many cups as you wish, paint the outside of the cups yellow. Let dry.
4. Using the daubers, let the children paint different color dots on the yellow cups. Let dry.
5. Hole punch 2 holes in each cup directly across from each other.
6. Lace the ribbon through the holes to tie the dragon together.
7. Tie a jingle bell on each end of the ribbon.
8. Glue the head on the dragon. Note: You may need to "prop" the head up while it dries.
9. Cut a red tongue out of felt and glue inside of mouth.
10. Glue 2 pom-poms on top of the head and then glue 2 wiggle eyes attaching them to the pom-poms. (see photo) Let dry.
11. If you like, you can add a "leash" through the hole of the dragon to walk it around.

FCC Summer Camp Program... Tours in China

The third annual American Families with Children from China Summer Camp proudly announces two separate tours for the 2006 campers. The goal is to give children who are adopted from China an opportunity to appreciate their Chinese heritage and to develop a cultural exchange.

The Summer Camp is scheduled for Saturday 8 July through Friday July 21, 2006. This year the Chinese government is inviting 200 campers: adopted children who are eight years old and older to tour the land of their birth with a parent.* The cost per day is \$40.00 and \$55.00 per child and parent, respectively, and includes lodging in four-star hotels, meals, touring and entertainment fees, plus transportation. (Each family will make their own travel arrangements to China.**)

While both tours will begin in Shanghai and conclude in Beijing, Tour A will also visit major tourists sites in Guilin and Chengdu home of the Wolong Panda Preserve.*** In contrast the itinerary for Tour B, includes travel to Suzhou, Hangzhou, and Xian. Some of the sites last year included Tiger Hill and the Humble Administrator's Garden in Suzhou; and West Lake and the Six Harmony Pagoda in Hangzhou; and the Dayan Pagoda, Hua Qing Pond, and the Terra Cotta soldiers in Xian.

Both tours include major tourist sites in Shanghai and Beijing. Previous itineraries involved two days in Shanghai visiting Yu Yuan Garden, Oriental Pearl (TV tower), the Bund, a Youth Palace and shopping on Nanjing Road plus the chance to have lunch with a Chinese family in their home. Past Beijing visits included four days touring Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven, Great Wall, and the Summer Palace.

This is wonderful educational and cultural opportunity for our adopted children to develop friendships and enhance their understanding of their heritage is part of the China Overseas Exchange Association exchange program that for the past seven years hosted over students of Chinese heritage from the Chinese Schools around the world.

*Single-child families and families with non-Chinese siblings are welcome to apply. However, positions are extremely limited and will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis.

**Safe, cheap and fast Visa application service and discount airfare info will be provided

***The daily cost does not include touching a panda bear.

2006 American Families with Children from China Summer Camp in China

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

<u>Payment Due</u>	<u>Deposit*</u>	<u>April 1</u>	<u>May1</u>	<u>Total</u>
Child	\$250	\$155	\$155	\$560
Parent	\$325	\$225	\$225	\$775

**includes nonrefundable application fees of \$40.00 per child and \$60.00 per parent*

Refunds: Should a reservation need to be canceled, a full refund less the application fee will be made for cancellations received on or before May 15, 2006. Cancellations received between May 16th and June 30th will result in a refund of 75 percent of the total. Cancellation received after June 30th will result in a refund of 50 percent of the total. Refunds will be made no later than August 30th.

Make check payable to: Foundation for Chinese Cultural and Educational Exchanges in USA

Send completed application with deposits and/or scheduled payments to:

FCCEX, 8241 Glencullen Ct. Dublin, OH 43017

You're invited to participate in.....

The Inter-country Adoption Project

The Inter-country Adoption Project is a study of parents and their internationally-born adopted daughters. The study is designed to measure how parents and their children incorporate their daughter's birth culture into their lives. The information gathered in the study might be of help to parents like you who are raising internationally-born children. The study is being conducted by Sally J. Wendt, Ph.D., who teaches in the Psychology and Education Department at Mount Holyoke College, and a Mount Holyoke senior thesis student, Elizabeth M. Mullin.

We are currently looking for families who are interested in participating in this study. To qualify, you must have at least one adopted **daughter** who:

- Is currently 10-13 years of age.
- Was born in either China, Eastern Europe or Latin America.
- Was adopted at or before age 18 months.

Participation in this study means that you and your daughter would fill out questions on a few surveys at home. The questions on your surveys will ask you about the things you do with your family to involve your daughter's birth culture in your lives. The questions for your daughter will be about how she feels about being from China/Eastern Europe/Latin America, as well as how she feels about other aspects of her life, such as friendships, school, etc. All information gathered in this study is confidential and will only be used for the purposes of this study. When the study is concluded, participants can receive a summary of the results.

If you are interested in participating (or you have any questions about this project), please email Sally Wendt at swendt@mtholyoke.edu or Elizabeth Mullin at emmullin@mtholyoke.edu. Please include your name, address, current age of your child and her birth country so we can send you a survey packet. If you prefer to reach us by phone, please call (413) 538-2067.

Thank you for your interest in our project. We hope to hear from you!