

CHINA/INSIGHT to celebrate its 10th anniversary of publication

By Greg Hugh, Staff Writer

China Insight was conceived back in 2001 when 3 young, entrepreneurial co-workers from China decided that publishing a newspaper would be a good way to generate interest and leads for a consulting business which resulted in the printing of China Insight's first issue in February, 2002. Well, next month China Insight will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary.

As noted, China Insight was started in 2001, and is an independent, locally owned company that is headquartered in Minnetrista, MN. It is the only English-language American newspaper to focus exclusively on building a bridge between the United States and the People's Republic of China (PRC). Its goal is to develop a mutual understanding of each other's cultures and business environment by fostering U.S.-China cultural and business harmony.

Contained in each monthly edition are articles on such diverse topics as business, culture, government, travel, education, finance, language, lifestyle, science and



The first issue of CHINA/INSIGHT

technology, sports and local Chinese events. These articles may be written by its own staff writers or reprinted from other sources

to ensure that a variety of views and perspectives are presented as to what is happening in these areas.

Over the years China Insight has published a series of articles on topics such as Chinese language, speech and communication that resulted in a book of these articles, the sister state and sister city relationships between Minnesota and the PRC. China Insight also initiated a series of articles describing how the Chinese government is structured and has featured each of the 55 different ethnic groups within China. Articles on how to conduct business in China along with travel tips are frequently included.

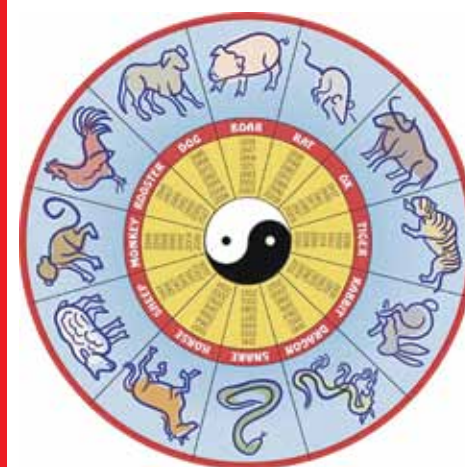
In addition to publishing the newspaper, China Insight also promotes or sponsors events that foster U.S.-China cultural and business harmony. The goal is to build on these accomplishments and expand the type of service that can be provided to those

10th anniversary continues on Page 3



CAAM Annual Banquet

Page 8



Chinese New Year

Page 9

U.S. and China conclude 22nd Session of the Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade Commerce

USTR and USDA welcome concrete results in trade negotiations, reiterate need to achieve greater market access for U.S. exporters

Chengdu, China – [Nov. 21, 2011] marked the conclusion of the 22nd session of the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT) in Chengdu, China. United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk and U.S. Secretary of Commerce John Bryson co-chaired the JCCT along with Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan. U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack also participated in the discussions.

Ambassador Kirk, Secretary Bryson, and Secretary Vilsack announced meaningful progress on key elements of the U.S.-China trade relationship but also underscored that much more work remains to be done to open China's market to U.S. exports and investment. [The] progress will help boost U.S. exports and jobs through the removal of important barriers related to electric vehicles, strengthened measures to eliminate discriminatory indigenous innovation policies, and stricter enforcement of intellectual property rights in China.

"The JCCT gives us a mechanism to address the toughest issues in our trade relationship, and we must judge it by our ability to make concrete progress," Ambassador Kirk said. "We have reached agreement on a number of important outcomes, though we had hoped to accomplish even more. In our discussions with our Chinese counterparts, we spoke frankly about the need to redouble our efforts going forward."

"Both sides worked hard to produce some meaningful progress that will help provide a needed boost to U.S. exports and jobs," Secretary Bryson said. "This is a step in the right direction. But we must continue to actively engage our Chinese counterparts to open additional opportunities for U.S. businesses."

"China is one of the most important agricultural trade partners for the United States and the meetings and discussions in recent days have helped to strengthen this partnership and build greater export opportunities for our farmers, ranchers and growers," said Agriculture Secretary Vilsack. "We intend to continue these discussions in the months ahead on beef and other agricultural products to break down additional trade barriers so Chinese consumers can benefit from the high quality products that are produced in America."

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

China agreed to make a significant systemic change in its enforcement of intellectual property rights. Through a high-level central government enforcement structure led by Vice Premier Wang Qishan, China will make permanent its 2010 Special IPR Campaign. China will continue high-level involvement that will enhance its ability to crack down on intellectual property rights

infringement.

In addition, China's leadership committed to increased political accountability – the performance of provincial level officials will be measured based on enforcement of intellectual property rights in their regions.

"For the first time, China will establish a permanent leadership structure to enforce intellectual property rights. As enforcement becomes effective, those who infringe will no longer be able to lay low until a crackdown is over and then simply resume their illegal activities," Secretary Bryson stated.

In addition, Vice Premier Wang Qishan personally committed to continue the software legalization program. Specifically, he committed to ensure that the provincial legalization efforts would be concluded by the middle of 2012 and at the local and municipal levels by the end of 2013.

The Chinese government also agreed to continue working to develop solutions to combat the sale of infringing goods on the Internet, while at the same time moving forward to develop additional protections for legitimate trademarks. All of China's commitments on intellectual property rights will enhance the protection of U.S. innovative products and promote job creation in the United States.

Commerce continues on Page 12



Book Review

Page 10



China's Top Ten Seaside Cities

Page 11

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Announcements.....	2
Opinion.....	3
Events.....	4-5
Education.....	6-7
Chinese New Year.....	8-9
Arts.....	10
Travel.....	11
Business.....	12
Government.....	13
Economy.....	14
Finance.....	15

Publisher's Pronouncements

Gung He Fat Choy...Gong Xi Fa Cai...Happy Chinese New Year!

As we prepare to celebrate the Year of the Dragon, all of us here at **CHINA/INSIGHT** are also excited about celebrating the 10th Anniversary of publishing **CHINA/INSIGHT** next month. In the decade since our first issue was published in February, 2002, there have been many events that have influenced China's re-emergence onto the global scene.

During the decade that **CHINA/INSIGHT** has been serving as a bridge by printing an English language newspaper to promote better cultural and business understanding between the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) and the United States, much has taken place that now makes China a leading economic power. Much of this can be attributed to China's ascension into the World Trade Organization in late 2001.

Although the PRC may not score high marks in matters of human rights, protection of intellectual property along with its administrating its rule of law, the PRC has nonetheless persevered while also enduring natural disasters like earthquakes, SARS epidemics and other calamities.

As **CHINA/INSIGHT** has reported over the years, this decade of growth in China was shaped by the economic programs implemented in each of the recent 5 year plans submitted by President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabo, both of whose terms will end in 2012. One of the crowning achievements during this period was hosting the very successful 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics.

In addition to publishing the newspaper, **CHINA/INSIGHT** also promotes or sponsors local events that foster U.S.-China cultural and business harmony. The goal is to build on these accomplishments and expand the type of service that can be provided to those who are interested in fostering U.S.-China culture and business.

CHINA/INSIGHT, in collaboration with the Chinese Heritage Foundation, established A Passage to China in 2008 which has become an annual event held at Mall of America to promote Chinese history, culture and customs through interactive activities for all ages with over 40 organizations from throughout the Twin Cities communities participating as a FREE event for the general public. The dates for the 5th annual A Passage to China will be April 21-22, 2012 at Mall of America.

In the months ahead we plan on highlighting some of the events that has influenced coverage by **CHINA/INSIGHT** and want you to know that we are committed to providing the best possible coverage of news and events that affect the community. We will be making some changes to our Web site so that we can be more proactive and timely in serving the community.

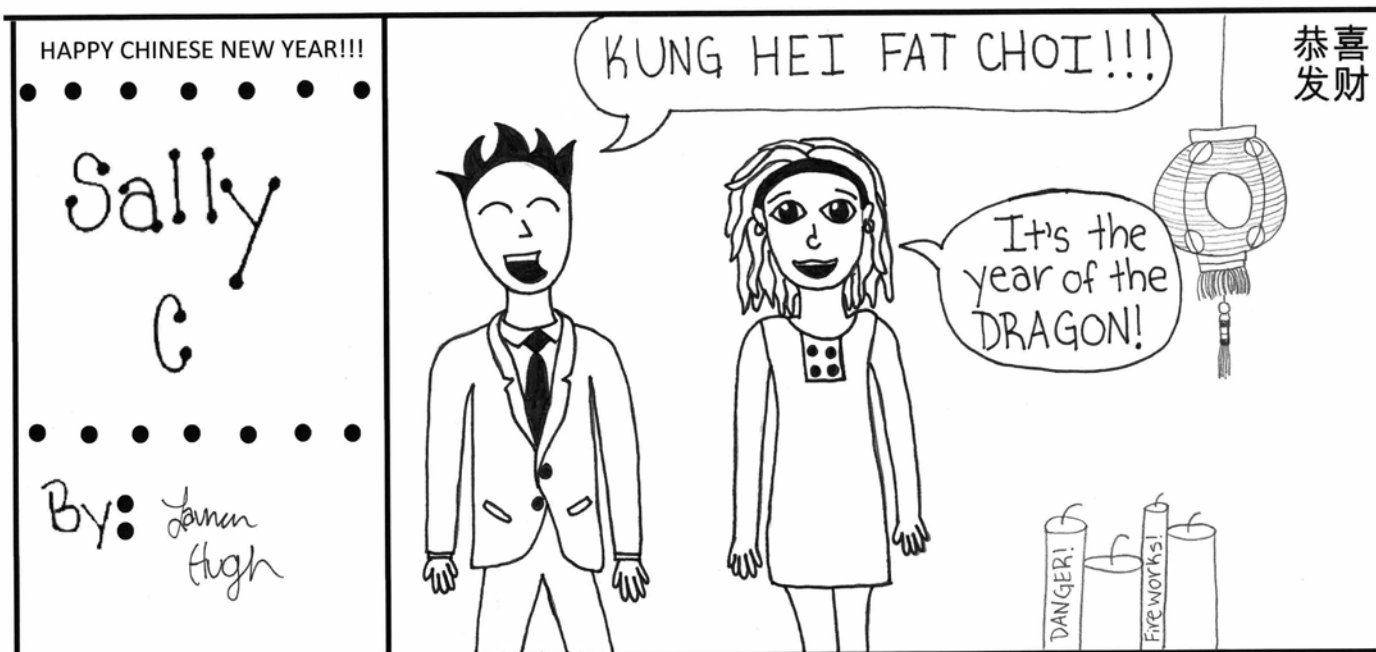
We welcome your continued support and appreciate your support of our advertisers that provide much of the revenue needed to produce the paper. Also, **CHINA/INSIGHT** would not be possible without the support and commitment from its all volunteer staff.

Best wishes from all of us at **CHINA/INSIGHT** for a healthy and prosperous Year of the Dragon.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Hugh

Gregory J. Hugh
Publisher



CHINA/INSIGHT

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CHINA/INSIGHT is a monthly English language newspaper fostering business and cultural harmony between China and the U.S.

CHINA/INSIGHT is a Member of The Minnesota Chapter of the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA).

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Letters to the editor become the property of **CHINA/INSIGHT** and may be edited for length and published. Articles will not be published without the express consent of the author.

NOTICE TO READERS: The views expressed in articles are the author's and not necessarily those of **CHINA/INSIGHT**. Authors may have a business relationship with the companies or businesses they discuss.

Dakota County displays China cultural exhibit at Dakota County Northern Service Center

By Greg Hugh, Staff Writer



The Dakota County Public Art Citizens Advisory Committee announced that a China cultural exhibit is now open in the rotunda of the Dakota County Northern Service Center located at 1 Mendota Road West, West St. Paul, MN 55118, and will continue to be on display through the end of March, 2012.

The exhibit focuses on China with three themes:

- Dakota County's Sister City – Chengde, China.
- Traditional Chinese Culture
- Chinese/American Culture

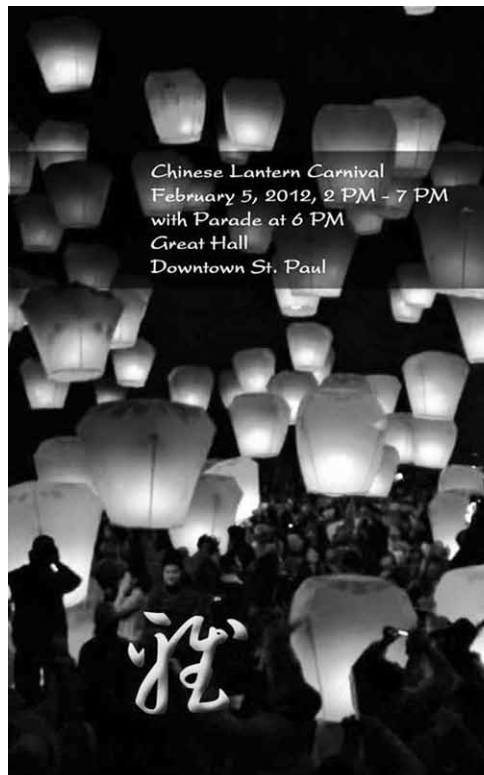
This is the fourth installment of the Three Cultures series of exhibits that focuses exclusively on one country. The country selected this year is China, and it is being viewed through three different lenses. The first is the relationship between Dakota County and its sister city, Chengde. The second is a reflection of key elements of traditional Chinese culture. The third lens is the perspective of the Chinese Americans who have moved to Dakota County.

According to the brochure distributed at the exhibit, China is growing rapidly and playing an increasingly large role in the global community. Statewide, exports to China totaled US\$1.3 billion in 2009 and some of those exports came from Dakota County. To foster business opportunities and cultural exchanges, the County sent a trade mission to China in 2001. The lessons learned on that mission are affecting the

local economy today. The exhibit shares the relationship between the County and its sister-city Chengde and illustrates some of the results of trade mission ten years ago.

One of the goals of the Dakota County Public Art Citizen Advisory Committee is to help foster cultural understanding through the Three Cultures series of exhibitions at the Northern Service Center. As Dakota County becomes increasingly diverse, understanding the differences and similarities between each cultural community will help long-time and new residents interact positively, strengthening the communities across the county.

The Chinese Heritage Foundation and China Insight partnered with the County's Art Committee to create the displays of traditional Chinese culture and Chinese/American culture. ■



雅 Chinese Lantern Carnival
Classical

As a closing event for the Lunar New Year series, the Chinese Lantern Carnival will have lantern making, "lantern riddles" game, which is an essential part of the Festival. Additionally, we will give away 500 lanterns to recreate such lanterns marching scene at St Paul downtown. Children with lanterns will parade from the Great Hall to the Mears Park, and hang their lanterns up to make a dragon shape to welcome the Dragon New Year - 2012.

Feb. 5th, 2012 (Sun) 2 PM - 7 PM, Parade at 6 PM

The Great Hall
180 East Fifth Street,
St. Paul, MN 55101

FREE admission to the festivity performances;
additional charges for games and food

Call Asian Media Access for more information at 612-376-7715,
or on the web at <http://www.panasianartsalliance.org>

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Erika Lee, educator and author, speaks at Minnesota History Forum on 14th Amendment

By Greg Hugh, Staff Writer



Dr. Erika Lee

The first measurable snowfall of the season didn't deter approximately 500 people from attending the second of five lectures being presented at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul as part of this year's History Forum titled "We The People: Americans and the Constitution." The lectures present an opportunity to examine our ongoing national struggle to understand, live with and live up to our greatest founding document: the U.S. Constitution.

The first of the History Forum lectures was held in November and was presented by social historian, Ernest Freeberg and covered the topic of *The Right to Dissent*. On Dec. 3, 2011, Erika Lee, Professor of History and Director of the Asian American Studies Program at the University of Minnesota, presented the second lecture of the series titled *To Be a Citizen*.

In her introductory remarks, Lee presented some background on various federal citizenship laws that lead to adoption of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution on July 9, 1868, along with how Chinese were treated prior to this Amendment up through 1882 when the Chinese Exclusion Act was signed into law by President Chester A. Arthur.

Although the 14th Amendment was intended to extend legal citizenship and constitutional protections to the newly-freed slaves, there was simultaneously a campaign afoot to prevent another group – the Chinese – from achieving citizenship and securing the same rights.

One person who challenged the Chinese exclusion laws was a 23 year-old cook from San Francisco named Wong Kim Ark. In 1894 he traveled to China to visit his parents but was refused re-entry to the U.S., the country of his birth, by the Chinese Exclusion Acts. The Act denied citizenship to the American-born children of Chinese parents and prevented Wong from returning home. Instead, he would be deported to China, a nation where he had never lived. Wong Kim Ark decided to fight back, asserting the constitutional right of people born in the United States as provided for in Section 1 of the 14th Amendment of the United States

Constitution, also known as the "citizenship clause," which states that "all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States."

On March 28, 1898, Justice Horace Gray, writing for the majority, issued the decision upholding Wong Kim Ark's claim to U.S. citizenship under the 14th Amendment.

While this decision has forever changed our nation of immigrants, legislation such as the Immigration Act of 1924 continued to cast a shadow over immigrants and it wasn't until 1943 before the Chinese Exclusion Act was repealed by the Magnuson Act.

Following her presentation, Lee answered questions from the audience which included one that asked who funded the legal costs. While the attorneys were not paid, other expenses were mostly funded by Chinese family organizations and individuals. Lee then made herself available at the gift shop for book signings. As noted earlier, in addition to her positions at the University, Lee is the author of two award-winning books, *Angel Island: Immigrant to America* (2010) and *At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration During the Exclusion Era*. Information on these books can be obtained at Amazon or other book retailers.



Erika Lee at History Forum lecture

Supplementing Lee's oral presentation, was an excellent 17-page booklet of material prepared by the Minnesota History Center.

The Minnesota History Center Forum will continue with 3 additional lectures:

--*A Free Press*. Jan 21: With distinguished journalism scholar Jane Kirtley.

--*Religious Freedom*. Feb. 18: With notable historian and author, Bruce Dierenfield.

--*Lincoln, the Civil War and the Constitution*. Mar. 17: With Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, Mark J. Neely.

The History Forum has been expanded this year. Each lecture is now held twice on each date, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Individual tickets and series passes on sale now at 651-259-3015 or www.minnesotahistorycenter.org/forum. ■

Editor's note: Synopsis information about Erika Lee's book, At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration During the Exclusion Era, 1882-1943 appears on page 10 of this issue.

Science Fusion Series kicks off January 7 at the Science Museum of Minnesota, connecting local science stars with kids, teens and adults

Four-part event series features the 20th anniversary of the popular African Americans in Science event

St. Paul, MN – On Saturday afternoons in cold and snowy January, science, culture and opportunity will meet during the Science Museum of Minnesota’s popular Science Fusion event series. This long-running event series focuses on the accomplishments of members of the Twin Cities’ Asian American, African American, American Indian and Latino and Hispanic communities in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

During each week’s Science Fusion event, science professionals from leading Twin Cities companies will present displays that demonstrate their passion for their work and highlight the contributions they’ve made to science and innovation. Visitors of all ages will get a memorable, hands-on look at the scientists’ areas of expertise in a science fair-style setting that is the perfect atmosphere for in-depth, one-on-one interaction between visitors and presenters.

In addition to recognizing achievements in the STEM disciplines, Science Fusion events are designed to inspire the next generation of scientists and innovators and introduce them to the wide array of science-related career opportunities.

In conjunction with Science Fusion, the Science Museum will recognize students from around the metro and greater Minnesota as recipients of the Good Job Student Award. The award program honors Minnesota middle- and high-school students who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in or passion for a STEM discipline, either in the classroom or outside of school. Students are nominated for the award by teachers or mentors and publicly recognized at the Science Fusion events.

The 2012 Science Fusion event series includes:

New this year! Asian Americans in Science: Saturday, January 7

Visitors will meet science and education professionals who represent many geographic backgrounds, from Southeast Asia to the mainland and the Pacific Islands. The presenters, including representatives from 3M, Ecolab, Donaldson Company, Inc., and the University of Minnesota’s College of Pharmacy, Medical School and Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers, will share stories about their experiences and successes in the science, technology, engineering and math disciplines, and get visitors involved with hands-on activities that relate to their areas of expertise.

20th annual African Americans in Science: Saturday, January 14

First celebrated in 1992, African Americans in Science was the pioneer Science Fusion and has become a beloved Science Museum tradition. Visitors will meet science and educational professionals from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Mobile Animal Surgical Hospital (MASH), the University of Minnesota Medical School and the National Society of Black Engineers, learn about what they do through interactive displays and presentations, and

discover the inspiring contributions they’ve made to technology, education, health care, and innovation.

American Indians in Science: Saturday, January 21

Visitors will meet individuals from the Twin Cities’ American Indian communities who have made significant contributions to science, engineering, and education. Presenters from Grassroots Indigenous Multimedia, IBM, Walsh Construction, the University of Minnesota’s Center of American Indian and Minority Health and more will share their areas of expertise through hands-on activities and dynamic displays.

Amantes de la Ciencia: Saturday, January 28

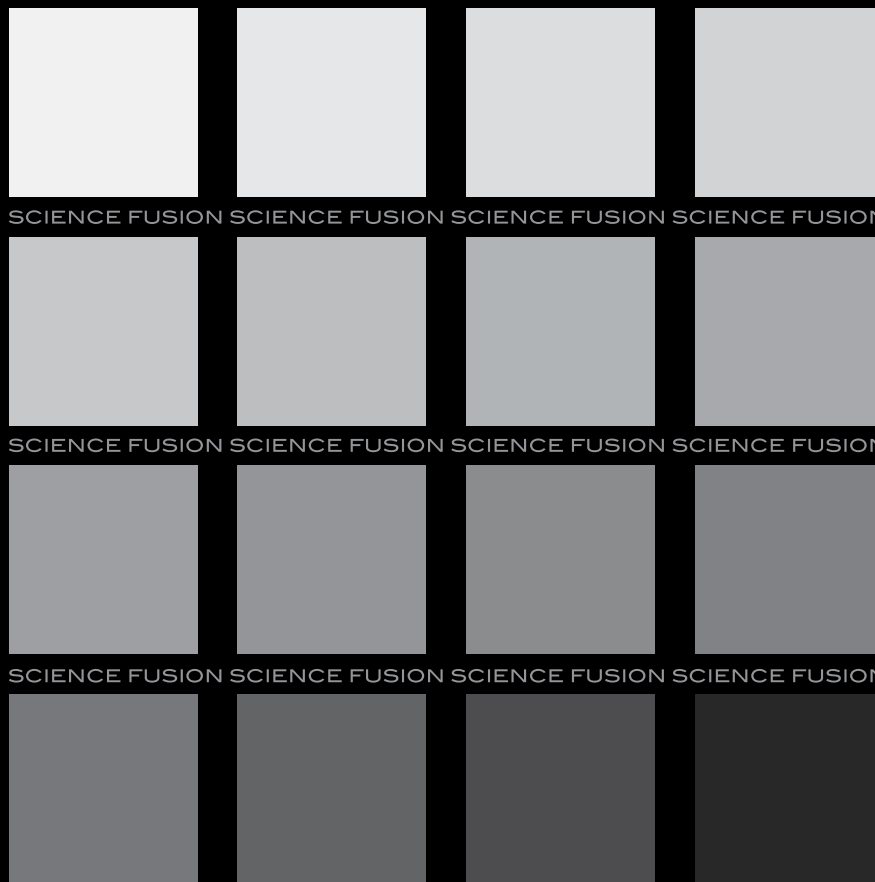
Rounding out the 2012 Science Fusion series, *Amantes de la Ciencia* (Lovers of Science) introduces visitors to science and education professionals from the Twin Cities’ Latino and Hispanic communities. Companies and organizations represented this year include Academia Cesar Chavez, Ecolab, IBM and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. Activities from previous years’ events include making *milagritos* (cards expressing wishes, hopes, and dreams), building geodesic domes out of marshmallows and toothpicks, and learning about human DNA.

Science Fusion activities will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. each Saturday in January and are free with regular Science Museum exhibit hall admission (US\$13 for adults and US\$11 for kids and seniors). For special group and individual rates for people with limited incomes, call 651-221-9444. Presenter stations will be located at various locations throughout the museum. A complete list of presenters and locations will be available in the lobby on level 5 on the day of the event.

“As a trusted center for informal science learning, the Science Museum of Minnesota is helping to build the ever-important next generation of scientists and science educators, the individuals who will help shape our day-to-day lives through their exploration and innovation,” says Dr. Eric J. Jolly, president of the Science Museum of Minnesota. “The Science Fusion event series encourages Science Museum visitors from all walks of life to make personal connections with some truly amazing achievers from diverse backgrounds and gives them an opportunity to be inspired by their remarkable accomplishments.”

The 2012 Science Fusion event series is sponsored by Donaldson Company, Inc.

The Science Museum of Minnesota serves more than one million visitors each year with its hands-on exhibits, breathtaking giant screen films, special events, and unparalleled education programs. It is located at 120 West Kellogg Boulevard in downtown St. Paul. For specific directions, parking information, hours, show times and ticket information, call 651-221-9444 or visit www.smm.org. ■



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张老师 zhāng lǎo shī : Linda Chang

By Jodi Yim James, Staff Writer



Linda Chang

Linda Chang teaches Mandarin Chinese at Irondale High School and at Mounds View High School for Mounds View School District. This past year she has been the Vice President of the Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures (MCTLC). MCTLC is the professional organization for all foreign language teachers in the State of Minnesota. Linda Chang, through her professional involvements, has quickly risen to serve in a leadership position among language teachers in Minnesota. Although there are traditionally numerous Spanish, French, and German teachers who serve on the Board of MCTLC, Chang is one of the few Chinese teachers who have served on this board. She is truly a leader in her field.

Chang has completed multiple degrees and earned multiple Minnesota Educator Licensures, including a Master of Arts in Counseling and a Master of Education in Teaching, for a Minnesota K-12 School Counselor License and a Minnesota K-12 Chinese Language License. As a native speaker of Mandarin Chinese, Chang had to prove English proficiency for her licensure, taking the praxis in English, and verifying skills in both pedagogy and content. For a teacher who is a native speaker from another country, this can be a daunting challenge and require multiple attempts. Chang has been highly successful in her achievements as a Chinese teacher in Minnesota.

With these achievements, and working as a skilled educator in Minnesota, Chang has taken her professionalism to the next level by being active in the career educator's organization, MCTLC. Her work on the board is not only voluntary, but as with all professional organizations, the members (including volunteers and board members) pay membership dues. Chang has felt this worthwhile work and investment in MCTLC is an integral part of the advancement of her career and of Mandarin Chinese pedagogy in the State of Minnesota. She encourages all language teachers to become involved in their Minnesota professional organization, MCTLC. By working with other language teachers, Chang feels she has greatly advanced her own teaching skills.

Indeed, with her two Web sites for the Mounds View School District, Chang exhibits highly skilled acumen in using technology with her Chinese language students: <http://www2.moundsviewschools.org/irondale/index.asp?ID=2426> and <http://www2.moundsviewschools.org/moundsview/index.asp?ID=2468>.

She includes links for Chinese language flashcards: <http://semanda.com/>, a Great Wall video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krtdZz-h8>, and a site with cartoons for Chinese idiom or proverb stories online: http://www.61flash.com/list/505_1.htm.

Chang credits the University of Minnesota teacher preparation program for her success as a Chinese language teacher. The University of Minnesota Department of Curriculum and Instruction, which is the teacher licensure program, consistently ranks in the top twenty in the nation. Language teachers specifically follow the requirements of the Second Languages and Cultures teaching sequence to earn their advanced degree and license. Professors such as Dr. Martha Bigelow are not only instructing those training to be teachers, they are stellar examples of excellent pedagogy in their own right in working with university advanced degree students. Dr. Bigelow shares that she is "...deeply invested in the schooling of all language learners as they learn in home, community and school settings. I am also interested in teacher education experiences and classroom pedagogies that support equity and access in education." Dr. Bigelow models in her college classroom with her graduate students, the pedagogy she would like to see in their classrooms in both public and private schools, in the field. As a University of Minnesota graduate student, Chang feels she was provided with the academic preparation and experience to work with students in a wide range of school and community contexts.

In the public school district where Chang teaches, she works with a variety of students who have diverse learning styles. Located only nine miles north of the downtown areas of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Mounds View Public Schools serve students who live in the cities of Arden Hills, Mounds View, New Brighton, North Oaks, Roseville, Shoreview and Vadnais Heights. Overall, the District serves nearly 10,000 students from these communities. Mounds View is among the largest districts in Minnesota.

Today, teaching the Chinese language in a large school district means that Mandarin education is not for an elite student body. Chang makes the Chinese language accessible to all students who voluntarily choose to study Mandarin as an elective in her district. Chang highly recommends to all Chinese teachers two key factors that have helped her become a leading Chinese language educator in Minnesota: taking classes through the University of Minnesota Curriculum and Instruction graduate program, and involvement in the MCTLC language teacher professional organization. Chang humbly credits her professors at the University, and her fellow language teachers with mentoring her along the way. If you would like to be in contact with her, her district e-mail is:

linda.chang@moundsviewschools.org. ■



National Chinese Language Conference

Save the Dates!

April 12-14, 2012 in Washington, DC

State of the Field:

Proficiency, Sustainability, and Beyond

Asia Society and the College Board are pleased to announce the 5th annual National Chinese Language Conference. This year's NCLC will focus on the State of the Field and strategies to ensure student proficiency, program sustainability, and much more!

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language and culture. Last year, 1,200 participants from across K-16 education came together to share best practices in technology, program development, teacher training, and sustainable partnerships.

Submit a Session Proposal

The success of the National Chinese Language Conference is built upon the innovation, best practices, and shared experiences of educators and administrators in the field. Share your ideas and successes by leading a session at NCLC 2012. The Request for Proposals is now open – submit a proposal today!

Learn more and find updates at www.AsiaSociety.org/NCLC. ■

Kung Hei Fat Choi
from
China Insight

Wishing our readers a happy and
prosperous
Year of the Dragon!

CHARACTER STUDY:

日月 *rì yuè*

Sun and Moon, Day and Month

By Jodi Yim James, Staff Writer

Since the New Year marks the passing of time, we are looking at two characters that can stand alone, but are also radicals (building blocks for more complex characters) in additional time-related characters. We are looking at the Chinese character for sun 日 *rì*, which also means day, and for moon, 月 *yuè*, which also means month. Astronomy is an important consideration in the history of these characters.

The sun and the moon are obvious indicators of the passing of a 24-hour day, and the 30 or 31 day month, respectively. Both of these characters are pictographs that look like what they represent. 日 *rì* looks like a sun; the outer square was originally a circle and the line crossing through the center was a dot or center of the sun. 月 *yuè* for moon curves like a crescent moon. Some of the combinations of characters include:

日出	rì chū	Sunrise [出chū means exit]
日历	rì lì	Calendar [历lì: experience, or every]
日期	rì qī	Date [期qī: period of time (notice the moon)]
日志	rì zhì	Journal [志zhì: to keep a record]
星	xīng	Star [notice the sun above, and below is 生 shēng life, or to be born; a star is a sun that has a beginning and an end, life]
星期	xīng qī	Week
星期一	xīng qī yī	Monday
星期二	xīng qī èr	Tuesday
星期三	xīng qī sān	Wednesday
星期四	xīng qī sì	Thursday
星期五	xīng qī wǔ	Friday
星期六	xīng qī liù	Saturday
星期日	xīng qī rì	Sunday
一月	yī yuè	January
二月	èr yuè	February
三月	sān yuè	March
四月	sì yuè	April
五月	wǔ yuè	May
六月	liù yuè	June
七月	qī yuè	July
八月	bā yuè	August
九月	jiǔ yuè	September
十月	shí yuè	October
十一月	shí yī yuè	November
十二月	shí èr yuè	December



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To Increase Mutual Understanding
Between U.S. and China



by Amy Chua

Professor at Yale Law School and author of best seller "Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother"

February 10, 2012

4:30 p.m. Lecture and Q&A

Free and open to the public.
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School districts
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January 20, 2012
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Minnetonka High School
18301 Hwy 7, Minnetonka



Celebrate the Year of the Dragon

Celebrate the Year of the Dragon and learn Chinese at a family gathering with a Chinese New Year carnival activities and food. Hosted by Minnesota International Chinese School and Chaska School District.

January 28, 2012

4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

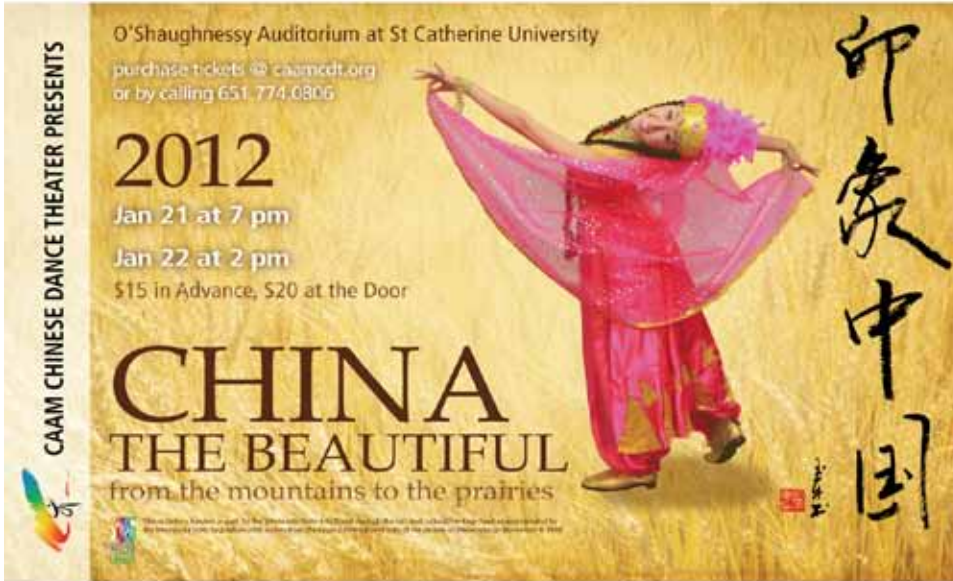
Chanhasen High School
Minnesota International Chinese School

明州国际中文学校
2200 Lyman Blvd, Chanhasen



Image Credit: 123rf.com/10266294

Celebrate Year of Dragon CAAM CDT Presents



Location: O'Shaughnessy Auditorium at St Catherine University
2004 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105
Date&Time: Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012 at 7PM
Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012 at 2PM
Ticket: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door
Ticket can be used as coupon at the following restaurants:
Buffet King (St. Paul);
Grand Szechuan (Bloomington);
Grand Szechuan (Plymouth);
Kikugawa at Riverplace(Minneapolis; Japanese Restaurant);
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Chinese New Year Celebration Show
锦绣中华
民族歌舞印象晚会
龙腾凤舞迎新春
双城华人舞蹈中心
艺术总监: 张欢茹

Saturday January 14, 2012, 7:00pm
Sunday January 15, 2012, 2:00pm
O'Shaughnessy Auditorium
2400 Randolph Ave, St. Paul, MN 55105
tccdc.dance@gamil.com
651-442-2795, 763-512-1428, 651-503-4912

Chinese American Association of Minnesota holds 44th annual banquet and meeting

By Greg Hugh, Staff Writer



CAAM-CDT dancers

It's never easy to mix business with pleasure, but the Chinese American Association of Minnesota (CAAM) made a valiant effort to do so when it recently held its 44th annual banquet and meeting at Peking Garden in St. Paul, MN.

The program for the evening began with the registration/social hour followed by the business meeting that included a report on CAAM's 2011 activities and achievements, financial report, CAAM Chinese Dance Theater report/2012 production and a report from the CAAM Chinese Language School.

Following these reports was the presentation of the Stanley Chong Scholarships that were presented to Szumei Leow and Anne Liao.

The next item on the agenda was a very informa-

tive presentation by Dr. Li Ning on Lei Yixin the Master Sculptor of Martin King Memorial which she has written and published in a book printed in Mandarin.

Immediately following this presentation, dinner service began that included 10 courses that was accompanied with a variety of entertainment that included the following performances: Lauren Moy playing the Guzheng; Jonathan and Jeremy Yeung playing a violin duet; Mina Yuan, a CAAM-CLS student presenting her winning speech; a performance by CAAM-CDT dancers, Michelle Zhang, Tracy Geng, Kimberly Mao and Claire Rasmussen; Ha siblings, Libau and Lirong with David on guitar singing several popular songs; Claire Rasmussen, Janna Fitzgerald performing a dance; Liangshend Cheng, Jenny Ji and Boling Zheng, singers from the Minhua Chorus, accompanied on the guitar by David Su and James Feng and followed by Liangsheng Cheng performing a solo.

The evening concluded with a drawing for door prizes donated by various donors. ■



Mina Yuan

US-China Peoples Friendship Association Minnesota Chapter

美中人民友好協會明州分會

Celebrates the Year of the Dragon



龍

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Professor Yue-him Tam performing on the Erhu

Students from Breck School

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A CONVERSATION WITH JIN XING (Free)
 Copresented with Institute for Advanced Study
 Thu, Feb 16, 4:00 - 5:30 pm
 125 Nolte Center for Education, U of M Campus

PERFORMANCE PREVIEW (Free)
 Hosted by Carl Flink and Emilie Plauché Flink
 Sat, Feb 18, 6:45 - 7:30 pm
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The Year of the Dragon will be celebrated as Chinese New Year approaches

By Greg Hugh, Staff Writer

Unlike most western civilizations, the Chinese New Year is determined by the traditional lunar calendar that is based on the cycles of the moon. In fact, in other countries that celebrate Chinese New Year, it is usually translated as the “Lunar” New Year. In any case, the Chinese New Year celebrates what the traditional calendar labels as the beginning of spring. Chinese New Year usually falls during the first week or two of February, although it can occur as early as late January as it does this year on Monday, January 23, 2012. This is the first day of 15 days of celebration and the start of the Year of the Dragon.

In Chinese tradition, each year is dedicated to a specific animal. The Dragon, Snake, Horse, Ram, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, Pig, Rat, Ox, Tiger and Rabbit are the twelve animals that are part of this tradition. In 2012, the Dragon is welcomed back after the 2011 year of the Rabbit. Each of these animals is thought to bestow their characteristics to the people born in their year.

While the Year of the Rabbit was characterized by calm and tranquility, the Year of the Dragon will be marked by excitement, unpredictability, exhilaration and intensity. The Rabbit imbues people with a sense of cautious optimism, but people respond to the spirit of the Dragon with energy, vitality and unbridled enthusiasm, often throwing all caution to the wind – which can be an unwise move: The Dragon is all about drama

but if you take unnecessary risks, you may find yourself starring in your own personal tragedy.

People born under the Dragon are passionate, brave and self-assured. At their best they are pioneering spirits; at their worst, they epitomize the old adage: “Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.” Dragons are generous with their resources, a tendency that at its most negative can reflect a foolhardy attitude towards money. But Dragons, in general, are blessed with good fortune.



They are smart, enterprising and have a wicked sense of humor. They have a natural flair for fashion and are the people to consult if you want to catch up on the latest trends.

This Chinese New Year 2012 ushers in the Water Dragon. Water exerts a calming influence on the Dragon's innate fire. Water Dragons are more open to other people's opinions than other Dragons which give them the ability to channel their personal charisma into real leadership qualities.

Dragons are passionate. They fall in love quickly – and out of love just as quickly. Their charisma and charm is an immense draw to people of the opposite sex whose attention and admiration they crave. Though they have a tendency to treat love like a game, they can settle down when they meet the right partner, someone who's strong enough not to be bowled over by the Dragon's flamboyant, independent and stubborn personality.

The Dragon's ideal partners are the Rat, the Monkey, and the Rooster: The Rat is practical, observant and resourceful, able to help the Dragon when extravagant promises have backed the Dragon into a corner. The Monkey is just as popular as the Dragon, curious, intellectual and fun-loving, one of the few personalities the Dragon doesn't mind sharing the spotlight with. The Rooster can give the Dragon a run for the money on the fashion-forward front; attractive, well-groomed, fiercely loyal and

committed to honesty, the Rooster serves as the Dragon's reality check, keeping the Dragon from making promises that he or she can't keep.

Dragon years are lucky for anyone thinking of starting a business or initiating a new project of any sort because money is easier to come by for everyone, whether it's earned, borrowed or received as a gift. Consequently we can expect the economic downturn to ease up a bit in the coming year. Fortunes can be made but they can also be lost: Keep in mind like all good things, the Year of the Dragon will come to an end and you will be held accountable.

Famous celebrities born in under the Dragon include John Lennon, Ringo Starr, Al Pacino, Marlene Dietrich and Matt Dillon. The Dragon's lucky color is yellow.

In addition to all of this folklore about the individual animals that make up the Chinese Zodiac, there are many traditions and symbols associated with Chinese New Year. Following are a handful of the most popular practices.

Prior to the first day of the New Year it is customary for families to thoroughly clean their homes from top to bottom. Doing this is said to clear out any back luck from the previous year and to ready the house to accept good luck for the coming year. All cleaning must be finished before New Year's Day so there is no chance of accidentally

Year of the Dragon continues on Page 13

BOOK REVIEW

Jean Kwok, *Girl in Translation* (New York: Riverhead Books, 2010). 307 pp. ISBN 978-1-59448-736-9.

Reviewed by Raymond Lum

This is a novel?

About three-quarters of the way through the book, I wanted to know more about Jean Kwok. But the blurb on the back cover revealed only that she had immigrated to the United States from Hong Kong as a child, worked in a garment sweatshop, graduated from Harvard and received an MFA in fiction at Columbia. So why is her first book an autobiography? Then I read the acknowledgements, in which Kwok notes that the book is indeed a novel, based on her own life to date.

Jean Kwok can write, and write well. This immensely readable novel is very convincing and has many unexpected twists and turns (although others are formulaic and anticipated).

The basic story is one that was common when I was growing up in Chinatown and probably is even more common today: a child immigrates to New York with her widowed mother, a musician whose life in the garment industry leaves no time or space for music. They are sponsored by the mother's elder sister and her husband, consigned to underpaid and illegal work in a sweatshop, housed in a roach-infested, unheated dump of an apartment. They are unable to move, unable to contact the landlord (later revealed to be the sister herself), and unwilling or unable—because of their immigrant status, lack of English-language skills, and having to pay the sister for their passage—to contact the legal authorities.

The girl, named Kimberly (not an unusual Western name for a Hong Kong kid), is bright, a good student, hardworking, and dedicated to her mother. Her life at school is severely circumscribed by her poverty and her living arrangements. It is interesting

that her ethnic background rarely, if ever, is shown to be a pediment to success, or even an issue. Of course, Kim succeeds in life (otherwise, what's the point of the story?). But how she got there is the essence of this book.

Some children of educated or professional immigrants from China or Hong Kong, or people who have no experience of growing up in Chinatown might think that the story is contrived. Could life have been so hard? Could anyone treat a younger sister and her daughter with such lack of concern, such control, such total lack of compassion? Could people really live among roaches and mice and rats, no heat, and not complain or go to the authorities? Could people labor fifteen or more hours a day for a pittance in salary and no benefits and still be happy to have the jobs? Alas, it's all true.

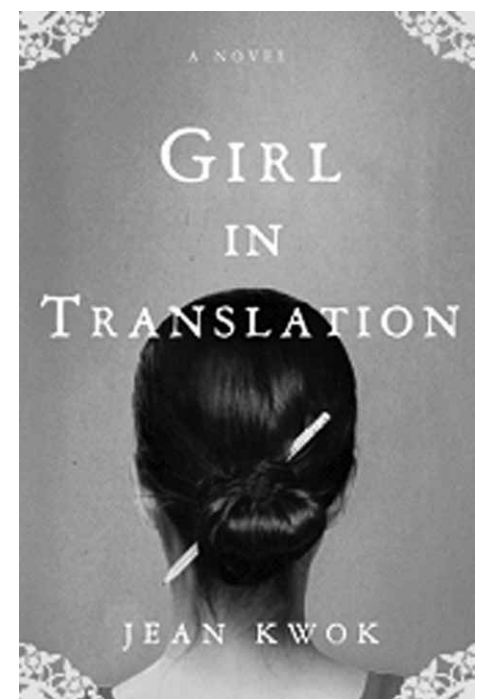
The Western myth that Chinese take care of themselves, and, by extension, others, is just that: a myth. Here's the Chinatown I grew up in, in Chicago in the 50s and early 60s: no bank, no post office, no non-Chinese grocery stores, no theatres, no child care, no services for the elderly except a once-a-year handout of food baskets by the churches or the local representatives of the Taiwan government, no pensions; more and more substandard housing (our only housing), along with our only park, were taken by the city to construct expressways. We had no high school, no library, only one doctor, and no dentist. And we had roaches, rats, mice, and no recourse. So, who helped us? We helped ourselves. Some were lucky to have mentors or support of the two churches that never interacted or even spoke to each other. The only way to survive was hard work and the only way out was education, for those

who wanted out. Not all did.

Jean Kwok's novel is realistic but it is not all bleak and dark. Kim had friends both Chinese and non-Chinese, and she had brains. The dedication of her mother was crucial to her success, and her respect and love for her mother were boundless. Both propelled her towards a better life, but both also held her back. Her mother's debt to her elder sister left them in servitude for far too long, and her reluctance to have the daughter "beholden" to others prevented Kim from accepting the invitations of classmates.

Kwok never presents Kim and her mother as superior to other people, unlike the tiger mother in Amy Chua's *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*. Kim's close friend in the sweatshop, Matt, has an even harder time than she has, with an absent, gambling, womanizing father, an intellectually-challenged younger brother, and a sickly mother.

The story here is the story of all first-generation immigrants who lack skills in English and who have few resources at their disposal. For the Chinese, it takes only one more generation for those initial hardships to be overcome. It is perhaps easier for kids from two-parent families. In the novel, Kim is an only child, but in reality Jean Kwok is one of several siblings. Unlike the popular stereotype of the Chinese immigrant nerd, Kim is talented in intellectual matters, but she does not play the piano or violin (although her mother does), and is not tightly controlled by her single parent (who works all day and well into the night). The lack of total parental control allows Kim to explore relationships with other kids and thereby learn to be American. Getting a telephone helped greatly (I remember our first telephone, installed when I was in high school,



and attached to the wall "to save space" for other things that were never to come).

This book gives a view of the life of immigrants that few others have recorded. Visitors to New York City's Tenement Museum, just on the edge of Chinatown, can see, in all its squalor, a better version of the dump in which Kim lived. Immigrants often endure extreme hardships in pursuit of a measure of freedom and a good future for their children. Kwok's book details the process.

The mixture of English and Chinese in the text as Kim talks to her mother and to her friend Matt is realistic and is a part of the transition from being foreign to becoming American.

The cover's photo of the back of the head of a woman with black hair shows a pencil stuck into her hair, a suggested transition of a Chinese woman with chopsticks in her hair into a Western woman with the chopsticks replaced by a pencil, further suggesting education. But Chinese women never wore chopsticks—or pencils—in their hair. Some Japanese women did, but we all look alike, no?

Jean Kwok is a writer to watch. I suspect that her future work will move away from her own story to further expose her literary talents. ■

At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration during the Exclusion Era, 1882-1943

By Erika Lee



Pub. Date: May 2003
 Publisher: University of North Carolina Press, The
 Sales Rank: 388,022
 ISBN-13: 9780807854488
 ISBN: 0807854484
 Edition Description: First Edition

SYNOPSIS

With the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Chinese laborers became the first group in American history to be excluded from the United States on the basis of their race and class. This landmark law changed the course of U.S. immigration history, but we know little about its consequences for the Chinese in America or for the United States as a nation of immigrants.

At America's Gates is the first book devoted entirely to both Chinese immigrants

and the American immigration officials who sought to keep them out. Erika Lee explores how Chinese exclusion laws not only transformed Chinese American lives, immigration patterns, identities, and families but also recast the United States into a "gate keeping nation." Immigrant identification, border enforcement, surveillance, and deportation policies were extended far beyond any controls that had existed in the United States before.

Drawing on a rich trove of historical sources—including recently released immigration records, oral histories, interviews, and letters—Lee brings alive the forgotten journeys, secrets, hardships, and triumphs of Chinese immigrants. Her timely book exposes the legacy of Chinese exclusion in current American immigration control and race relations. ■

Raymond Lum

Raymond Lum (林希文) is Librarian for Western Languages in the Harvard-Yenching Library, where he is also curator of historic photographs.



A native of Chicago's Chinatown, he studied Chinese there and in Taiwan. He holds a master's in library science from the University of Michigan, and an MA and PhD in East Asian Languages & Civilizations from Harvard University. From 1968 through 1970, he was a US Peace Corps Volunteer in Sarawak, Malaysia. Formerly, he also was Harvard's librarian for South and Southeast Asia and Instructor in Chinese in the Harvard University Extension School. He is the book review editor for a new (debuting 2010) online scholarly journal, *TransAsia Photography Review*, and contributes the column "Asia Resources on the World Wide Web" to the *Asian Studies Newsletter* of the Association for Asian Studies. He has directed several Harvard projects that digitized photographs and other visual images of Asia.

In March 2009, China's top 10 seaside tourist cities were unveiled in an online survey conducted jointly by sohu.com, a leading Chinese Internet portal, and Enjoy World, a popular electronic tourist magazine. Tourism experts, journalists, independent travelers, and more than one million netizens voted Sanya, Qingdao, Qinhuangdao, Zhuhai, Rizhao, Xiamen, Beihai, Dalian, Haikou and Ningbo as their favorite seaside destinations.

China's Top Ten Seaside Cities

By Zhang Xueying, China Today staff reporter



Dadonghai Beach in Sanya

Photo: Yu Xiangjun

Traditional Resorts

Of the 10 cities, Sanya, Haikou and Qinhuangdao are traditional destinations for millions of urbanites seeking to escape the summer heat of inland cities.

Sanya and Haikou on China's southernmost island province of Hainan are often compared to Hawaii, given a tropical climate and landscape that make them unlike any other Chinese seaside locale. Apart from marine sightseeing and recreational activities, golfing has boomed in recent years at both summer resorts. Sanya's Yalong Bay Golf Club, in particular, has distinguished itself by hosting a number of international professional tournaments, leading to its selection by the American golf magazine, *Golf Digest*, as one of the top 10 greens in China.

However, it is their exotic tropical scenery that lures millions of inlanders, with Sanya's Jianfeng Ridge rainforest and Yalong Bay, and Haikou's Dongzhaigang mangrove forest standing out as their emblematic natural tourism destinations.

Jianfeng Ridge, [55.8 miles] north of Sanya city proper, has the largest tropical primeval rainforest in China, home to 75 percent of the plant species and 85 percent of wildlife species found on Hainan Island. Experts claim that the biotic integrity and diversity of the vegetation coverage is comparable to that of the Amazon River. Towering ancient trees, sprawling climbers and gurgling streams can be seen everywhere, as well as the ethereal mists that drift over the forest park. Now the park offers several ecological and adventure sightseeing routes.

[Fifteen and a half miles] southeast of the city lies Yalong Bay, where a rolling green terrain hugs a body of calm and azure-blue sea. A visibility of more than [6.2 miles] in depth allows visitors to see well-preserved corals and colorful tropical fish. The silver sands of the bay are fine, making a soft beach for the sunbather, and the local climate is also congenial.

The [9,880-acre] Dongzhaigang Mangrove Forest sits [18.6 miles] from downtown Haikou. During high tides, the dense

woods are submerged in water, exposing only their crowns. Tourists can take a boat cruise through the forest of crowns.

Qinhuangdao is located [173.6 miles] from Beijing in the northeastern tip of Hebei Province; it is embraced by a [76.9-mile-long] coastline of the Bohai Sea. Qinhuangdao beaches are known for their fine sand, ample sunshine and gentle waves, and most of them are clustered in Beidaihe and Nandaihe.

In the late 19th century, people of the upper classes and Westerners began to build villas at Beidaihe, and by 1949, 719 of them had been erected, including 483 built by foreigners in various alien architectural styles. In addition, Beidaihe also has a well-preserved 19th-century railway station constructed by the British. Old photos testify to the popularity of the summer resort for foreigners residing in China, and it is said that even rickshaw boys were able to speak a few words of English.

Today, Beidaihe remains a popular seaside resort in northern China, and receives more than 6 million holidaymakers every year.

Apart from its beaches, a [173.6-mile-long] section of the Great Wall within Qinhuangdao is also a major tourist draw. This section also includes a length built much earlier. A preliminary study dates it to the 6th century, though disagreement exists.

The Shanhai (Mountain and Sea) Pass is the eastern end of the Great Wall built in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). It is actually a walled town fortified by 10 passes, seven enceintes, 37 forts, and 14 beacon towers. The town has established three pedestrian routes for tourists to trace this section of the Great Wall and its fortifications – from Old Dragon Head to First Pass under Heaven (Shanhai Pass) and to Mount Jiao; from Mount Jiao to Sandao Pass; and from Jiumenkou to Huangtuying.

The Old Dragon Head is [3.1 miles] from the town and is a [66-foot] head of the Great Wall that intrudes into the Bohai Sea. Mount Jiao is [1.9 miles] from town and is

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the first mountain that the Great Wall climbs over after it crawls out of the sea and extends northwards. The Sandao Pass guards the valley between two vertically sloped mountains, and the flanking walls almost hang perpendicularly on the mountainsides.

Urban Culture

Qingdao, Xiamen, Dalian and Ningbo are famed for their sophisticated urban culture.

Dalian in Liaoning Province is a famed seaside city of northern China. It was a small fishing village 100 years ago when a group of Gallomania architects from Russia arrived with their blueprint for an "Oriental Paris." In the following centuries, Dalian developed into a square-centered city, with its streets and neighborhoods radiating from its many squares. Today, the city has more than 80 squares with distinct square features – lawns, pigeons, sculptures, fountains, as well as the country's only mounted police-women patrol.

Dalian is also the city of fashion and soccer, being the venue of the annual International Fashion Festival and home of the Dalian Wanda Soccer Team, which has captured eight championships out of the nine national league tournaments. The enthusiasm of locals for soccer is no less intense than that of Brazilian fanatics.

Qingdao, in the southeastern tip of the Shandong Peninsula, is as well known for its historical sites as for its beautiful seascape.

The Badaguan Scenic Area in the vicinity of No. 1 Bathing Beach has a cluster of European villas built in the early 20th century by aristocratic and royal families of more than 20 European countries at the invitation of German colonists who occupied Qingdao at the time. The villas sit

quietly in the shade of green foliage that was introduced together with the foreign styled architecture, and are arranged into eight blocks, explaining its Chinese name.

Qingdao is a brewing hub, and the namesake local brew is known at home and abroad. Every August, domestic and international brands are consumed in the city, by locals and visitors who gather for the drinking festivals. The Qingdao Beer Festival is the largest of its kind in China. Locals love Qingdao beer, and they drink it, incredibly, from plastic bags, the ale fresh out of the brewery and cooler than chilled bottled beer.

Ningbo in Zhejiang Province lies [186 miles] from Shanghai. The city is the birthplace of the 7,000-year-old Hemudu Culture, the starting point of the Marine Silk Road during the Tang Dynasty (618-907), and also one of the three foreign trade ports of that time (the other two being Yangzhou and Guangzhou). Ningbo is famed for its Buddhist heritage; the Asoka Temple houses the pearl-like cremated remains of Sakyamuni; Xuedou Mountain is a Buddhist center in Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces; and the Baoguo Temple is the oldest wooden structure south of the Yangtze River.

Ningbo is also the cradle of Chinese merchants. Compared with their Wenzhou counterparts, Ningbo merchants are more inclined toward big endeavors, and one-fourth of Shanghai's shrewd business tycoons are said to be natives of Ningbo. Shipping magnate Bao Yugang (Sir Yue-kong Pao, 1918-1991) was an iconic Ningbo businessman. Ningbo is also an original hometown of many overseas Chinese; more than 300,000 people of Ningbo origin reside in more than 50 countries and regions around the world.

Seaside Cities continues on Page 15

New state export initiative focuses on small businesses funding to help Minnesota companies expand foreign sales

Small businesses statewide may be eligible for financial incentives and technical assistance under a new state export initiative focused on helping companies increase sales in foreign markets and spur job growth in Minnesota.

The U.S. Small Business Administration has awarded the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) more than US\$450,000 through its State Trade and Export Promotion Program (STEP).

The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO) and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) will use the money to prepare companies that are not currently exporting to make their first entries into foreign markets and to help current exporters explore opportunities in new markets.

"The revenue and jobs that exports create here at home are extremely important to Minnesota's economic health and well-being," said DEED Commissioner Mark Phillips. "Last year, state exports of manufactured goods, agricultural commodities and services totaled US\$31 billion and were responsible for an estimated 115,000 jobs."

Still, only about 8,100 Minnesota companies do business outside the United States, said MTO Executive Director Katie Clark. "There is tremendous untapped export potential for small businesses statewide, especially those engaged in manufacturing, wholesaling, and professional and technical services," she said.

MTO, which is an office within DEED and the state's official export-promotion arm, will use the STEP funding to help small

businesses begin or expand their exports to major markets in Asia, Europe and North America.

Qualifying companies will have an opportunity to participate in international trade missions, trade shows and export development activities at a reduced cost.

MTO and MDA will lead delegations on trade missions and to trade shows in key markets that hold excellent export potential for small businesses, including:

1. A medical device trade mission to India in March 2012
2. Gov. Mark Dayton's trade mission to China in late spring or early summer 2012
3. A solar industry trade mission to Intersolar in Germany in June 2012
4. A food ingredient buyers reverse trade mission from India in July 2012
5. A multi-sector trade mission to Russia in September 2012
6. A smart grid industry trade mission to Canada in September 2012

In addition to the trade missions, qualifying companies will be able to participate in the following events at reduced cost:

1. Business matchmaking services from the U.S. Commercial Service as part of a trade mission
2. Export credit insurance through the Export-Import Bank of the United States MTO World Trade Conference
3. The Midwest U.S.-Japan Conference in Minneapolis in September 2012

Companies may submit an application online at www.positivelyminnesota.com/step ■

Resolution Solution: How making a plan can help you meet New Year's goals

Newswise — When making New Year's resolutions this year, committing to a specific plan for when and where you are going to accomplish each goal will make you more likely to succeed, says a Wake Forest University psychology professor.

In a recent study published in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, Assistant Professor E.J. Masicampo found that committing to a specific plan to accomplish a goal not only makes it more likely to be done, but also gets it off your mind so you can think about other things.



E.J. Masicampo

"Once a plan is made, we can stop thinking about that one goal," says Masicampo, who studies goal setting and will power. "This frees our minds to focus on other tasks or simply enjoy the current moment."

But, not just any plan will work, he says. "The ones that work specify exactly what you are going to do, including when and where you are going to do it."

He describes four essential elements of a successful plan:

1. Specifies exactly what you're going to do and in what situation (where and when)
2. Is under your control and not dependent on someone else's actions
3. Includes specific opportunities to meet the goal in situations likely to occur
4. Focuses on a goal you are motivated to accomplish

Most importantly, he says, "You have to picture yourself carrying out your plan. That's where the power of the plans lie, in imagining yourself completing the tasks."

Imagining doing something has a similar effect on the brain as really doing it. Since keeping resolutions is often about creating new habits, this gives you a head start on developing the desired behavior.

"It's all about making a habit out of the goal. A plan is like creating a habit ahead of time," says Masicampo, "before you have actually done anything."

This sort of planning works best for less complex goals. He suggests breaking down

New Year's resolutions into steps, so the overall goal can more likely be attained. Someone with a goal to lose weight, for example, should make "if, then" plans for specific situations that can help them accomplish the overall goal. "An

'if, then' plan pre-decides how you will act in a given situation," Masicampo says. For example, if you visit a particular restaurant, then you will order a salad instead of the cheeseburger and onion rings. The plan gives you a cue to act. If you commit to the plan, all you have to do is wait for the cue. When the situation arises, you just do it because you already know what you're going to do.

"Making a plan is like setting an alarm because you don't have to think about it until the alarm sounds and then you'll act."

A typical person is juggling as many as 15 different goals at one time. Planning makes it possible to stop thinking about one goal until the planned time and place.

"Every time you make a plan, you tether a goal to a future context, and it can stop floating around in your head and distracting you from your other goals," Masicampo says.

So, with good planning, this may be the year to check more than one New Year's resolution off the list. ■

Source: Wake Forest University / Newswise

Commerce continues from Page 1

Indigenous Innovation

China also announced a new high-level central government mandate requiring provincial and local governments – by Dec. 1, 2011 – to eliminate any policies that are not consistent with President Hu's commitment to sever the link between China's innovation policies and government procurement.

"This issue has been a top priority of the American business community. We are continuing to press China to eliminate any other policies that discriminate against foreign intellectual property," Ambassador Kirk emphasized.

Electric Vehicles

China confirmed that it does not and will not require foreign automakers to transfer technology to Chinese enterprises nor to establish Chinese brands in order to invest and sell in China's fast-growing market. China also confirmed that foreign-invested enterprises are eligible on an equal basis for electric vehicle subsidies and other incentive

programs for electric vehicles.

"I am pleased that China specifically confirmed it would not force U.S. auto manufacturers to transfer electric vehicle technology to Chinese partners," said Ambassador Kirk.

Agriculture

USDA and China's Ministry of Agriculture are finalizing the framework of a five-year strategic plan focused on food security, food safety and sustainable agriculture to build a stronger foundation for critical cooperation in agriculture. In discussions also including the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, progress was made on beef market access. The parties agreed to expand discussion beyond technical to the conditions that include scope of products available in the market. China also committed to make progress on removing avian influenza-related bans affecting several U.S. states, to finalize work on a longstanding market access request for U.S. pears, and

to complete work on a new dairy certificate to maintain existing market access.

Investment

"U.S. firms can compete and win when they enjoy non-discriminatory access in China. In today's meeting, China committed to create a fair and level playing field for all companies in its strategic emerging industries, including clean energy, biotech, and new generation information technologies. A strong business presence in China helps create more opportunities for exports from the United States, supporting good jobs at home," Secretary Bryson said.

According to published reports, in the next five years, China plans to invest US\$1.5 trillion in its strategic emerging industries which China defines as high-end equipment manufacturing, energy-saving and environmentally friendly technologies, biotechnologies, new generation information technologies, alternative energy, advanced materials and new energy vehicles.

Tourism

China expanded the U.S.-China Tourism Memorandum of Understanding to three additional provinces for a total of 27 provinces. Spending by Chinese visitors is expected to grow 232 percent to US\$16.6 billion by 2016, moving up from the seventh largest U.S. market in 2010 to the third in 2016.

Signings

In conjunction with the JCCT, U.S. companies signed commercial agreements that will result in nearly US\$40 million in U.S. exports and support jobs for American workers. The U.S. and Chinese governments also signed agreements related to intellectual property, high-technology trade, statistics and tourism and agreed to public-private partnerships in the areas of energy and U.S. export promotion.

Established in 1983, the JCCT is the main forum for addressing bilateral trade and investment issues and promoting commercial opportunities between the United States and China. ■



FACT SHEET: EAST ASIA SUMMIT

At the East Asia Summit (EAS) held on November 19 in Bali, Indonesia, President Obama and other Asia-Pacific leaders discussed the importance of cooperation on the region's most pressing political and security challenges, including maritime security, non-proliferation, and disaster response.

President Obama's participation in the EAS was the first by a U.S. president and underscored the Administration's commitment to deepening engagement in the Asia-Pacific region and playing a leadership role in its emerging institutions. The President has made clear that full and active U.S. engagement in the region's multilateral architecture helps to reinforce the system of rules, responsibilities, and norms that underlies regional peace, stability, and prosperity.

The EAS was launched in 2005 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, bringing together leaders of the 10 member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and six other Asian countries. With the participation of the United States and Russia for the first time in 2011, the EAS now includes all the major powers of the Asia-Pacific region, including U.S. treaty allies Japan, the Republic of Korea, Australia, Thailand and the Philippines, as well as emerging regional powers India and China.

The Summit's traditional agenda has covered a wide range of regional concerns, including education, energy and the environment, finance, avian influenza, and disaster response. While offering support for the existing EAS agenda – especially disaster response – President Obama called for a broadening of the leaders' discussions to address strategic and security challenges. The President underscored the shared interest of EAS member states in reaffirming international rules and norms in these areas; enhancing partner capacity to address existing and emerging challenges; and promoting regional cooperation. Specifically:

1. Maritime Security

The Asia-Pacific region is home to some of the world's busiest ports and most critical lines of commerce and communication. Recent decades of broad regional economic success have been underpinned by a shared commitment to freedom of navigation and international law. At the same time, the region faces a host of maritime challenges, including territorial and maritime disputes, ongoing naval military modernization, trafficking of illicit materials, piracy, and natural disasters.

During the EAS leaders discussions, President Obama enunciated the principles-based U.S. approach to maritime security, including freedom of navigation and overflight and other internationally lawful uses of the seas, as well as use of collaborative diplomatic processes to address disputes. The President expressed strong opposition to the threat or use of force by any party to advance its territorial or maritime claims or interfere in legitimate economic activity. Reiterating his support for the 2002 ASEAN-China Declaration of the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea as a responsible approach to disputed areas, he encouraged all parties to accelerate efforts to reach a full Code of Conduct.

The President also welcomed engagement by all EAS members in regional institutions devoted to maritime cooperation, including the ASEAN Maritime Forum, which provides a platform to advance common understanding of international laws, including UNCLOS, as well as cooperative efforts on maritime issues. He called on the ASEAN Regional Forum, ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting Plus, and other groupings of EAS members to support maritime capacity-building measures, particularly in the search-and-rescue and disaster-response areas.

The United States is working with its partners in the Asia-Pacific region to build capacity and promote cooperation on maritime security issues, including by:

- Providing training, assistance, and equipment to regional maritime police and civil authorities to enhance their capabilities to secure the maritime space and address transnational security challenges such as piracy, illicit trafficking, and illegal fishing;

- Building facilities and providing equipment and technical support to enhance the ability of Southeast Asian nations to monitor the maritime domain and assess and share information;

- Hosting regional workshops to promote adherence to standard operating procedures and protocols that ensure safety at sea, help build a shared vision of international norms and behaviors in the maritime domain, and foster discussion of interpretations of customary international law; and

- Hosting and co-hosting multinational capacity-building exercises with regional military partners.

2. Non-Proliferation

The spread of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, material, their means of delivery, and expertise poses a grave risk to the international community. The Asia-Pacific region faces acute proliferation challenges requiring concerted international effort. The EAS is an important venue to advance President Obama's vision of a world without nuclear weapons, as outlined in his April 2009 Prague speech, and to promote regional cooperation and capacity building to counter proliferation threats.

In support of these objectives, President Obama and other EAS leaders welcomed the successful conclusion of a 40-year long negotiation between ASEAN and the Nuclear Weapons States to enable the latter's accession to the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ) protocol. All sides have agreed to take the necessary steps to enable the signing of the protocol and its entry into force at the earliest opportunity.

President Obama also called on EAS leaders to:

- Reaffirm their full commitment to the complete and verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in order to maintain peace and stability in the region;

- Work together to ensure full compliance and implementation of relevant United Nations non-proliferation commitments and to pursue cooperation through other multilateral mechanisms;

- Reaffirm their support for the Nuclear

Non-Proliferation Treaty Action Plan adopted at the May 2010 Review Conference and for the Nuclear Security Summit to be held in Seoul in March 2012, and agreed to work together toward a successful Biological Weapons Convention Review Conference in December 2011;

- Endorse efforts undertaken in other regional institutions, including the ARF, to strengthen the capacities of all EAS members to address the challenge of proliferation in the Asia-Pacific region;

- Reaffirm their commitment to develop a culture of transparency throughout the Asia-Pacific region with regard to the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, to increase cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and to ensure the IAEA has the resources and authority it needs to carry out its role; and

- Commit to sign and bring into force Additional Protocols to Safeguard Agreements with the IAEA with an aim to have the Additional Protocol in place throughout the Asia-Pacific region as soon as possible.

3. Disaster Response and Humanitarian Assistance

The Asia-Pacific region is prone to large natural disasters that have an impact beyond any single country's ability to respond effectively. EAS member countries experienced eight of the world's 10 deadliest disasters in 2009 and five of 10 in 2010. The United States has a strong record of working with EAS member countries in disaster preparedness and institutional strengthening, and of bringing a unique set of capabilities, skills,

and expertise in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

In order to enhance the region's disaster response capabilities and cooperation, President Obama:

- Pledged further efforts to advance humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in the region, including through a proposal to further develop a Rapid Disaster Response Agreement to create a legal and procedural framework for accelerating deployment and acceptance of assistance personnel, supplies, and services in the event of future disasters;

- Called for regular disaster relief exercises as a means to improve preparation and interoperability, noting Indonesia and Japan's successful co-hosting of the ASEAN Regional Forum's Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx) in March 2011 and commending the Republic of Korea for its decision to host the next DiREx;

- Endorsed an Indonesian-Australian paper on enhancing regional cooperation on disaster relief, including enhanced information-sharing, capacity-building, and interoperability; and

- Encouraged efforts to build resilience and preparedness at the community level, including developing mechanisms to coordinate public and private sector efforts, such as the recently launched Pacific Rim Coordination Center, a virtual platform that facilitates disaster information-sharing and strengthens public-private partnerships in order to enhance the region's disaster risk reduction and response activities. ■

The Year of the Dragon will be celebrated as Chinese New Year approaches

Continues from Page 6

throwing out the good fortune of the New Year. "Before New Year's Day you want to buy new clothes or cut your hair" in order to have a fresh start. Wearing black is not allowed due to its association with death, however, wearing red is encouraged as the color is associated with warding off bad spirits.

Another popular custom is to hang up signs and posters on doors and windows with the Chinese word fu written on them, which translates to luck and happiness. Buying flowers for the home is also commonplace since they symbolize the coming of spring and a new beginning. In Chinese neighborhoods, special lunar New Year flower markets often sprout up during the days prior to the New Year.

On the eve of the Chinese New Year it is customary to visit with relatives and partake in a large dinner where a number of specific foods are served. Typically families do eight or nine dishes because they are lucky numbers. The Chinese word for eight is baat [in Cantonese], which rhymes with faat, the word for prosperity." The word for nine means "long-lasting."

A lot of the foods are very symbolic.

Some popular foods include: dumplings ("because they look like golden nuggets"), oranges ("because they are perfectly round, symbolizing completeness and wholeness"), and long noodles ("served to symbolize long life").

Sticky rice cakes and sweets are also served and are tied to a story about the Kitchen God-- a Santa Claus-like figure who reports to the Jade Emperor in heaven on whether families have been good or bad through the course of the year. According to legend, when families serve the Kitchen God sticky, delicious foods, his mouth gets stuck together and therefore he cannot report any bad things about the family to the Jade Emperor.

As the countdown to the Year of the Dragon continues, the biggest human migration takes place when Chinese all around the world return home on Chinese New Year eve to have a traditional gathering dinner with their family.

You are cordially invited to celebrate the Chinese New Year by attending any of the many celebrations being hosted by many organizations throughout the Twin Cities area as noted throughout the newspaper. ■

Putting more emphasis on imports

China changes its economic policy as world changes gear

By Diao Ying, China Daily



Swedish cookies on the shelves at a supermarket in Nanjing, capital of East China's Jiangsu province. [Photo/China Daily]

BEIJING - For Chinese travelers abroad, shopping for gifts can be a headache. Souvenirs from New York, London or Cairo may look exotic at first, but a closer examination will find most of them are labeled "Made in China".

Joining the World Trade Organization has transformed China from a closed economy into the world's factory. Cheap products from China make daily necessities much more affordable for people worldwide. By buying products from China, people in the United States saved US\$600 billion over the past decade, and each household in the European Union could save 300 euros a year, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said recently. It also benefited China itself: The manufacturing sector in the southeast of the country flourished, providing jobs for millions of people.

Things are changing 10 years after China's entry into the WTO. The biggest world factory is on the way to become one of the largest world markets. The country now is the world's second largest importer. It imported US\$1 trillion of goods in 2009, compared with US\$243.6 billion in 2001. Imports will exceed US\$1.7 trillion in 2011, with total imports amounting to about US\$10 trillion over the next five years, according to Chen Deming, the commerce minister. China now is the largest export market for Japan, South Korea, Southeast Asia, Brazil and South Africa, the second largest export market for the European Union, and the third largest for the United States.

The increase of imports has pulled down the trade surplus, which has been a main target of criticism in its trade relations. China's trade surplus amounted to as much as US\$295.6 billion in 2008, about 6.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP). In the first three quarters of 2011, the surplus has dropped to US\$107.1 billion, or about 2.2 percent of GDP. "China will combine the expansion of imports with export stability and aim to balance international trade," Wen said in a recent speech. Wen said the government is improving policies to make it more convenient for enterprises to expand imports.

The change in trade policy is in accordance with the country's overall growth

strategy. China has long relied on exports, investment and consumption as the three drivers of its economic growth. Exports are faced with more difficulties as a main growth engine. "Made in China" already takes more than one fifth of the world market share, and it is hardly getting any bigger. Cheap labor costs used to be the main advantage for manufacturing in China but now workers' wages are rising. The country is also facing fierce competition from Africa and other emerging economies. Further, the overall export market is shrinking as consumers in the developed world cut spending as the world economy weakens.

As a result, domestic consumption has become more and more important as an alternative policy. "For the past 30 years, China has been encouraging exports. Now is the time to make the import policy our national strategy," said Wei Jianguo, a former commerce vice-minister.

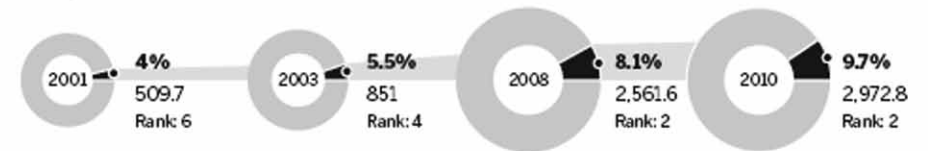
Demand for raw materials and resources in particular is going up. As the world's second largest energy consumer, China imports half of its energy resources. The imports of primary goods increased sixfold from 2001 to 2009. About one third of the imports were primary products last year, compared with 19 percent in 2001. By 2009, China had become the world's largest importer of soybeans, corn, coal and iron ore, according to Han Xiushen, a researcher with the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation, a research institute under the Ministry of Commerce.

There is still more room to increase. The government could further lower import tariffs of consumer goods to boost imports. Import costs on consumer goods include tariffs, value added taxes and consumption taxes. Together they make some products much more expensive in the domestic market than overseas. The price of a Louis Vuitton handbag in a shopping mall in Beijing, for example, can be twice as much as it is in Paris, and an iPhone here costs much more than it does in the United States. Chinese people often have to travel abroad to buy these products. That might change soon, too. Lowering the tariff of these products is only "a matter of time", a spokesman for the commerce ministry said recently. ■

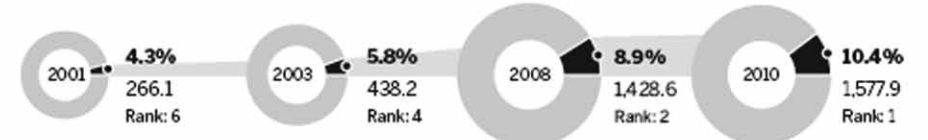
Source: China Daily

FOREIGN TRADE STATS

China's foreign trade and its contribution to the world's total
Unit: \$billion



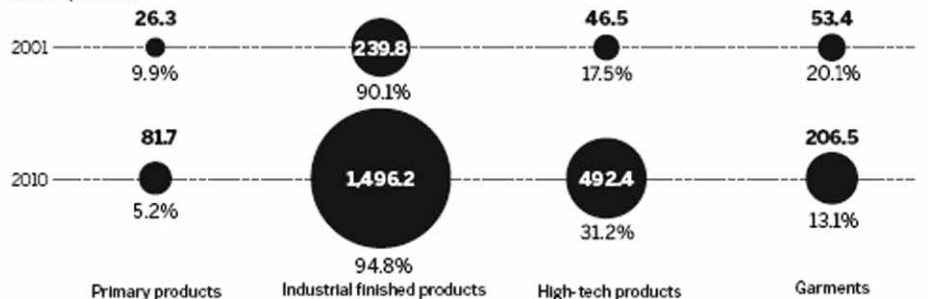
China's exports and their contribution to the world's total
Unit: \$billion



Source: National Bureau of Statistics report based on World Trade Organization data

The structure of China's exports

Unit: \$billion



Source: General Administration of Customs

China's foreign trade surplus

Unit: \$billion



Source: World Trade Organization

ZHANG YE / CHINA DAILY

Call for Articles...

Concerned about misconceptions about China?

CHINA/INSIGHT is a local newspaper fostering U.S.-China cultural and business harmony.

We are interested in publishing articles that engage audiences in America. Potential topics range from understanding daily life in China (or for Chinese in America) to discussions of business markets from both an American or Chinese viewpoint.

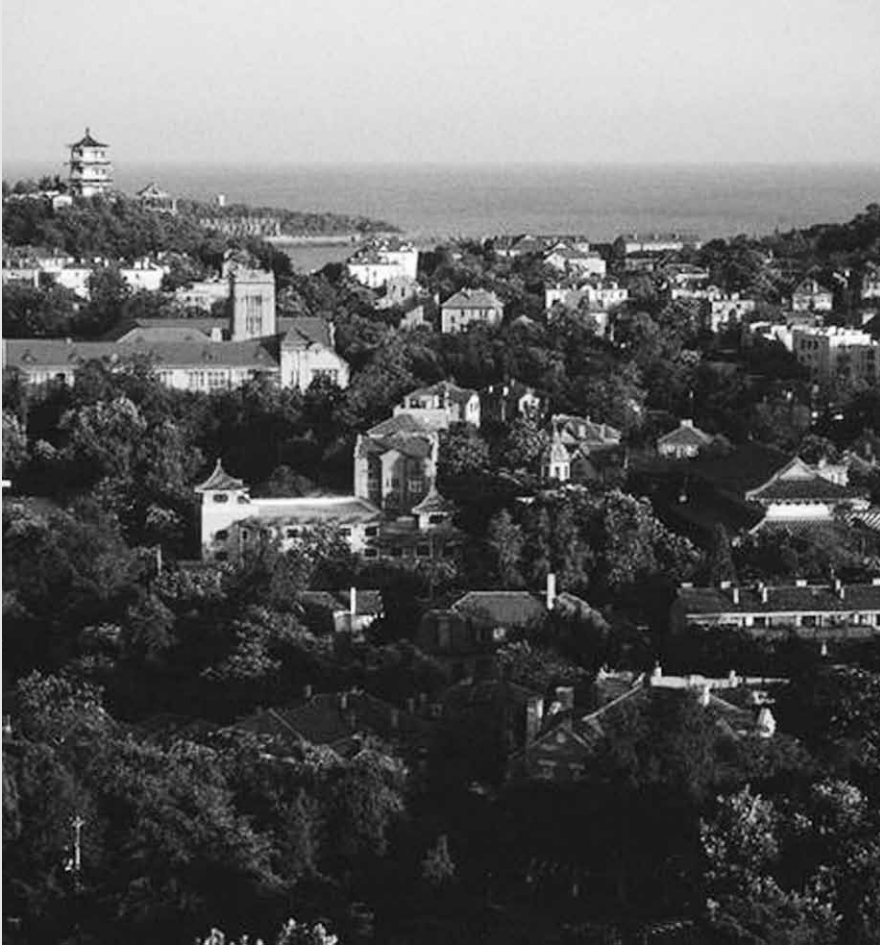
For example, consider the following:

- Chinese movies/entertainment
- Book reviews
- Old Minnesota-China ties/relationships
- Recommended Chinese restaurants/food
- Chinese painting/calligraphy
- Chinese impressions of America
- Tea
- Impressions of China by Americans
- Chinese musical instruments
- American business people in China
- Questions about China
- Cartoons
- Chinese immigrants that have succeed in America
- Local Chinese Businesses
- Chinese-owned businesses in Minnesota
- Travel tales
- Cross-cultural exchanges in education and businesses
- Americans who are studying Chinese – why are you learning Chinese?
- How do Chinese students adapt to America?
- Chinese business customs

If you have an article on one of these topics are any others that might be of interest to our readers, please contact Greg Hugh at (952) 472-4757 or e-mail ghugh@chinainsight.info.

China's Top Ten Seaside Cities

Continues from Page 11



Architecture from the period of the German colonialists still stands intact

Xiamen in Fujian Province sits on the southeastern coast, and its Gulangyu Islet epitomizes the refined urban culture of the city. The [0.8-square-mile] islet is separated from Xiamen by the [1980-foot-wide] Lujiang River, but can be reached by a five-minute ferry ride.

Gulangyu is nicknamed Piano Islet. There are more than 700 pianos for a local population of 20,000, averaging one for every ten families. Many of the families are dynastic pianists, and have produced some of the best pianists and musicians domestically and internationally, such as pianists Yin Chengzong and Kong Xiangdong, and conductor Chen Zuohuang. The municipal music school, concert hall, symphony orchestra and piano museum are located on this islet. On holidays, family piano concerts are often held, and it is not uncommon for three generations to play together.

New Holiday Resorts

Rizhao, Zhuhai and Beihai are late-comers compared with the aforementioned seaside resorts.

Rizhao is [496 miles] from Beijing in the southern part of the Shandong Peninsula. In terms of commercial prosperity and service facilities, it pales beside its big brother Qingdao on the northern coast of the peninsula. However, it is a convenient getaway from urban bustle and has the same climate and beaches. When the traditional seaside resorts around Beijing become crowded, many Beijing urbanites go to Rizhao.

Rizhao also offers good prices for a

seafood feast. Wangjiazao is a popular seafood catering community with many eateries to choose from. Locals too go there for seafood delicacies, as a meal averages a reasonable RMB 30 per person.

Zhuhai, on the southern coast of Guangdong Province, is close to Hong Kong and Macao. It is one of the earliest special economic zones in China, and, as a new seaside resort, is characterized by tranquility, cleanliness and fresh air. The city has an attractive long coastline, with 146 islets.

Marine hot springs are what's unique to Zhuhai. The Ocean Spring Resort, [18.6 miles] from city proper, is currently the most frequented holiday destination of the city. According to the operator, the high-quality, crystal-clear spring originates deep in the sea, and is rich in minerals and trace elements.

Beihai is a small and relatively young city on the southern coast of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Like Rizhao and Zhuhai, it is also a place for repose with fresh air and fine beaches. The best known is Silver Beach, though many outsiders prefer Weizhou Island, the largest island in Guangxi and the youngest volcanic island in China. Weizhou features beautiful tropical vegetation, fantastic lava terrain, and a wonderful land topography as a consequence of sea erosion and sedimentation. The sea is so clear that the sunlight pierces through and reveals the seabed. Weizhou has 16,000 residents, and interestingly, a third of them are Catholics. ■

What to look for in a remittance company when sending money home for the holidays or any occasion

Remittances are the money that immigrants send to their families and communities abroad. Remittances are primarily utilized to support households overseas, respond to emergencies or celebrate the holidays. The total value of remittances has increased steadily over the past decade. According to the World Bank, outbound remittances from the United States totaled over US\$48 billion in 2009, while remittances from the United States to Mexico alone accounted for US\$22 billion.¹ In total, remittances sent across the globe totaled over US\$325 billion in 2010.²

For years, traditional money transfer services (non banks) were the primary vehicle for immigrants to send money to their relatives abroad. In the last ten years, banks have made significant inroads and are now capturing a growing share of the remittance market. According to a study conducted by Bendixen Associates in 2008, 26 percent of Latin American remitters usually sent money to their family via banks and credit unions. The great news is that this figure is on the rise and remitters are turning more toward financial institutions to conduct all of their financial needs, including remittances.

Today, there are a plethora of remittance options that are available, including sending money through remittance companies, online service providers, prepaid card solutions, and financial institutions. With so many options, remitters need to know what to look for in a remittance partner.

Money Transfer Companies

Money transfer companies have traditionally dominated the remittance market. In fact, as much as 50 to 60 percent of Latin American remittances are sent through this method. While these companies have adapted to the needs of remitters by offering convenient locations and hours, they tend to charge higher fees per transaction and less favorable exchange rates.

Financial Intuitions

Financial institutions have entered this market in the last decade and face heavy competition from the remittance companies. In 2001, financial institutions began accepting government issued ID card – Matricula Consular – as a primary form of identification to open bank accounts. This helped pave the way for financial institutions to compete in the remittance market.

The biggest challenge faced by financial institutions is that many Latin American immigrants are leery of banks and prefer to keep their money at home. An FDIC press release from December 2, 2009, highlighted that one in every four households in the United States are considered unbanked or underbanked. In addition, the study showed that 24% of all Hispanic households are unbanked. It has been a slow process, yet U.S. financial institutions that work with Latin American banks are beginning to expand banking access to the poor and rural populations of several countries.

There are many factors to consider when selecting a remittance partner including fees, limitations on fund transfers, customer service, relationship benefits and corporate responsibility.

Various Fees

Fees vary from company to company. Remitters should ask companies for a complete disclosure of information on costs. For example, is there an account set-up fee? What is the transfer fee? What is today's exchange rate? Are there additional fees charged (as a percentage of amount sent) when a remittance exceeds a specific amount

Limitations

Companies have various limitations when it comes to sending money. Based on their personal needs, remitters may want to know how quickly the money will get to their beneficiaries and how much they can send at one time.

Customer Service

Remitters should look for companies that have a designated 800-number for customer service and offer various channels for sending money, including in person counters/tellers, online or through a phone bank. Remitters also want to look for institutions that deploy innovative platforms that improve speed and security of their money transfer.

Relationship Benefits

Establishing a relationship with a financial institution can provide a number of additional benefits for immigrants. Many financial institutions offer reduced or even waived remittances fees for customers who have an established relationship.

Financial Literacy

Financial literacy is key to helping immigrants succeed financially. Remitters should select a company that offers free (and not product-based) financial literacy to raise awareness about money matters and inform them of their consumer rights involving remittance and financial transactions.

Community Support

Remitters should request information on the level of engagement that the institution they select has with their community. Do they support organizations and events that are geared to help their community succeed? Do they truly care about their community or are they only interested in selling them a service? ■

This content provided by Wells Fargo Bank. For financial services and information, visit: www.wellsfargo.com

1. <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/migration-and-remittances>
2. web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/0,,contentMDK:21924020...

Gong Xi Fa Cai!

January 23, 2012

The Year of the Dragon



Wishing you a bold and confident
start to the new year

Together we'll go far

