



Dear VMDT,

Happy Friday!

Nancy

Included:

- “Vietnam Town” in Chicago
- Celebrate adoption with Build-A-Bear Workshop!
- 2007 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month - MN Calendar of Events
- New Listserv for “tweens”

“Vietnam Town” in Chicago

Excerpted from Viet World Kitchen: Quick Bites by Andrea Q. Nguyen

While in Chicago, I checked the Southeast Asian enclave around Argyle Street (called "Vietnam Town" but there's a tiny Thai market has great takeout too) as well as the humongous Super H (owned by [HMart](#)) grocery store in Niles, a suburb about 30 minutes outside of Chicago. About 40% Korean, the pan-Asian inventory was dizzyingly large -- the same size as the Home Depot that was in the shopping center. Super H is also like a deluxe mainstream American market in its cleanliness and orderliness. The kimchi was fantastic!

Celebrate adoption with Build-A-Bear Workshop!

Excerpted from AdoptionWeek e-Magazine - 25 Apr 2007

[Adoption.com](#), through the Joint Council on International Childrens Services, is proud to join with Build-A-Bear Workshop to raise adoption awareness during a special campaign: STUFFED WITH HUGS: HUGS SWEET HUGS. This effort is part of a month-long celebration of adoption and service to children around the world. Your family can be a part of it too! Help make bears for children in need by going to your local Build-A-Bear Workshop on Saturday, May 19th and make a bear for FREE! All bears made for this event will be donated to children at home and abroad. To find a Build-A-Bear Workshop location near you visit <http://www.buildabear.com/aboutUs/contactUs/findastore/>.

2007 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month - MN Calendar of Events

Submitted by Caroline Ticarro-Parker

See attached .doc file for details – there are many fun events planned and several are specific to Vietnam such as:

May 9, 6:30 pm Augsburg Park Library, 7100 Nicollet Ave., Richfield, MN 55423, 952-847-5300.

May 22, 6:30 pm Oxboro Library, 8801 Portland Ave.S., Bloomington, MN 55420, 952-847-5775.

Spice and Slice of Asian Culture: Vietnamese Cuisine and Art. Owners of Mai Village, St. Paul, will show how easy it is to create the delicate taste of Vietnamese cuisine in your own

kitchen. They also will tell why traditional wood engravings (collection on display) embody Vietnamese culture.

June 9, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Third Annual Vietnamese Arts and Cultural Heritage Exhibition – “Vietnamese People and Cultural Entertainment.” This all-day event is a celebration of the Vietnamese arts and cultural heritage featuring history of Vietnam, Seven flags for Vietnam, Vietnamese arts and crafts, ethnic food and live entertainment. Other fun activities include: children's games and activities, a raffle for prizes, bingo and much more! Vietnam Center, 1159 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN. Free admission. Information: contact 651-642-0999 or info@vietnamcenter.us .

New Listserv for “tweens”

Submitted by Beth Christensen, originally posted on FCC national website

To all adoptive parents of kids headed toward puberty!

My 11.5 yr old doesn't really want to talk adoption or read a Lifebook; she's too busy talking to her friends via cell phone and reading "The Clique"! This doesn't mean we don't see the Seven Core issues emerge from her 'evil twin' (or baby self?) from time to time. . But it does mean I need to figure out new approaches to my adoption parenting. . .

Debbie Carr-Taylor (FCC mom and contributor to "Adoption Parenting: Creating a Toolbox, Building Connections") recently suggested the creation of a list devoted to the concerns of adoptive parents with kids aged 8-12. She is facilitating a Tweenie workshop that I am doing in the Detroit area in September, and wanted to have a "place" where parents could continue to connect after the workshop was over--an online tween parent community. I thought Debbie had a terrific idea, and we put together a NEW offshoot of Adoption Parenting for the attendees at my upcoming tweenie presentation (with therapist Doris Landry) this weekend for FCC-Indianapolis.

Adoption Parenting Tweens is NOT a topic-driven list It will be a helpful spot to file resources, book and DVD lists, articles and links--all pertaining to the tween years. This new list is designed for parents of tweenies, however ALL adoptive parents are welcome to listen, learn and contribute. Parents with tween / young teen-related questions, comments or information are free to post at any time. Adoption Parenting Tweens (APT) will not be in competition with the Adoption Parenting list, and I don't expect a high volume of email. APT is a dedicated, but laid-back endeavor! I think a group has been needed to share adoptive tween issues for quite awhile, and Debbie and I, as APT co-moderators, would like to offer everyone a chance to join and participate. It will hopefully be a place to learn, and a place of SUPPORT for those of us growing young adults.

To join: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AdoptionParentingTweens/>

Description from the website:

"ADOPTION PARENTING TWEENS: Adoption adds a layer of complexity to an already confusing life event: puberty! As adoptive parents, how do we guide tweenies through new situations, or lend a hand without alienating our changing children? How do we reinforce our family structure, and set the stage for a smooth adolescence? How do we use the Seven Core Issues in Adoption to help chart a safe course for the teen years ahead?"

Adoption-Parenting Tweens is open to addressing issues that pertain particularly to adopted children aged eight through twelve: change and transition (Middle School!), racial identity, anxiety, sensory issues, making friends, and risky behaviors--and may include practical adoption-parenting advice, shared resources and honest discussion.

AND, as our children change, so does our parenting role! Giving our children their own set of coping skills and acting as a support team rather than a project manager causes a shift in our mom and dad identity. How do we PARENTS handle the growing up years???"

Jean MacLeod

APT co-mod with Debbie Carr-Taylor.