



Friday, March 14, 2008

Dear VMFC,

This edition is a mix of things, hopefully there is something interesting and/or useful for you!

Think spring (or at least spring break)!

*Nancy*

**Included:**

- Request for Your Photo's!
- Adop-Source Press Release
- Waiting Families Group
- Article: Adopting Across Color Lines: One Family's Story
- IntoEdVentures Student Exchange Program
- Misc. collection of VN related websites
- Doodle 4 Google

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**Request for Your Photo's**

Jen Komatsu, our dear website wiz, has asked for everyone to send her photo's of your children/families to her. She will add them to our website – they will not include anymore information than you want posted (e.g. first names only, etc.). Jen can be reached at: [jarkomatsu@earthlink.net](mailto:jarkomatsu@earthlink.net). The website is at: <http://www.fcvn-mn.org>

Submitted by Caroline Ticarro-Parker

**PRESS RELEASE**

**“Adoptees...New Local Non-profit...AdopSource Membership Drive”**

AdopSource, a new local non-profit, will be creating a center for adoptees and their families in the next two years. This will be a place where adoptees and others connected to the adopted experience can learn about heritage, cultures, and identity. AdopSource is requesting contributions and public support through its membership drive.

Today, we have an estimated over 30,000 Asian adoptees in Minnesota. As a population, these individuals are not recognized as a collective group. Many of these adoptees have stories that need to be heard. Others have needs that should be addressed by bringing services together focused specifically to adoptees and their families.

AdopSource's mission is to support the integration of culture, identity, and life experience for adopted individuals, their families, and the greater community.

As an organization, AdopSource strives to accomplish the following objectives: promote learning and understanding about who we are as a community, build a comprehensive network of organizations, and engage community leaders in a process of increasing knowledge and skills.

AdopSource will offer services that target the Asian adoptee community, with adaptable resources for all adoptees, representing all cultural backgrounds, to feel as welcome participators. Some of the services will include cultural education, creative arts, language, post-adoption services, a collective and comprehensive library, and culturally specific counseling and support.

Visit AdopSource at [www.adopsource.org](http://www.adopsource.org) or call 612-208-0443 to learn more information and sign-up to become a member. Every membership counts. Thank you for helping to create the first adoptee center, here in Minnesota.

Contact: Ami Nafzger  
Adventure Works  
Phone: (612) 208-0443  
Fax: (612) 208-0467

P.O Box 18435  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
[www.adopsource.org](http://www.adopsource.org)

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## Waiting Families Group

For those of you who are either waiting for your child or those who recently have come home with your child, you may be interested in joining a Twin Cities group of waiting families. They have formed a Yahoo Group, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TwinCitiesAdoptVietnam/>. It's by invitation only, to ensure the communication is confidential. Please pass this along to anyone you know waiting to adopt from Vietnam and is in the Twin Cities area.

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From Adoption.com

## Adopting Across Color Lines: One Family's Story

By Mary Martin Mason

As a transracially adoptive family living in Duluth, the Gows with their four sons, Richard (14), Ahkeim (11), Rahiem (10) and Xavier (8), have been profiled on television and in...

<http://e-magazine.adoption.com/articles/572/adopting-across-color-lines-one-familys-story.php>

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## IntoEdVentures Student Exchange Program

<http://shareyouramerica.homestead.com/>

*If you're looking to share your America and open your home to a new and exciting culture, then you've come to the right place! We are looking for quality host families to host high school exchange students from exciting cultures and help them to discover America.*

Editor's note: Two 16 year old Vietnamese girls participating in this program are looking for a host family.

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## Miscellaneous Vietnam-related websites

(most originated from APV postings)

Vietnamese lullaby:

<http://www.tienghatquehuong.com/Samples/Audio/SGtoHN/RuCon.mp3>

Vietnamese Hanoi food blog:

[http://stickyrice.typepad.com/my\\_weblog/](http://stickyrice.typepad.com/my_weblog/)

Adopted: The New American Family movie:

<http://www.adoptedthemovie.com>

*Director Barb Lee and her production partner Nancy Kim Parsons had always wanted to explore the increasingly popular trend of international adoption in America, an issue they know particularly well as Korean adoptees themselves. With this deeply personal*

*understanding, they set out to create a documentary that told the story of two families at different points along the adoption journey. In the end, both Barb and Nancy hope to inform, educate, and challenge the viewer's preconceived notions of not only adoption, but of family as a whole.*

Northern Vietnamese Recipes

[http://www.seasite.niu.edu/Vietnamese/vn\\_dishes/bunthang.htm](http://www.seasite.niu.edu/Vietnamese/vn_dishes/bunthang.htm)

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## **Doodle 4 Google**

Although this is completely unrelated to adoption or Vietnam, it may be something of interest to your creative children. Google offers a competition to children to modify their home page logo. This year's theme is "What if...". As an adult, some ideas that come to my mind are "what if every child had a home" or "what if every child could go to school", but your kids will come up with their own wonderful ideas! Registration ends March 28<sup>th</sup>, so get those markers fired up! Everything you need to know can be found here: [www.google.com/doodle4google/](http://www.google.com/doodle4google/)

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