Offending size chart with height in cm and weight in jin (0.91 lbs.)

Netizens’ outcry was swift, criticizing the poor wording for shaming body shape and causing age-related issues for women. On Nov. 12, the company released an official statement on Weibo apologizing for its “inappropriate wording, which had caused public discomfort.” It also stated the company investigated the incident and that the only store that used the sign had since removed it. The company also vowed to “strengthen its internal management” to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

Despite its apology, the online community has continued to leave comments on Weibo, some threatening to boycott the store.

This incident took place just as the government started an anti-food waste campaign to encourage people to eat less. China Women’s News, which is operated by the Communist Party-affiliated All China Women’s Federation, said on its official Weibo account that the chart was “detestable.” About a month earlier, Chinese President Xi Jinping, speaking on women’s issues at a United Nations conference, said that world leaders should reiterate efforts “to promote gender equality and advance the global cause of women’s development.”

In the past, restaurants in China had adopted fat-shaming behaviors under the pretense of promoting the country’s anti-food waste campaign, going as far as making customers weigh themselves before eating and ordering.

The silver lining to all this is it raised awareness and discussion of fat-shaming and other discriminatory practices.
Publisher’s Pronouncements

Greetings:

As many of us are elated to see 2020 fade in the rearview mirror, many are questioning will New Year resolutions be helpful or harmful for 2021?

It is a popular tradition to set New Year’s resolutions at the beginning of the year, but since 2020 was a year unlike any other, do resolutions even deserve a place on your to-do list?

Many of us set resolutions in the name of good health or kicking some kind of habit, which seems harmless. After a year, though, when everything was turned upside down and uncertainty is the running theme, is it time to finally ditch resolutions for something more useful? Rather than drafting a list of behaviors you wish to change, think about what you want the theme of your life to be.

New Year resolutions are undeniably a marker of another year for many, an opportunity for a clean slate, or just to start off on the right foot. However, if there ever was a year to skip them, it is 2021. There’s no point putting more pressure on ourselves. If I were going to make a New Year’s resolution, it would be to continue observing all COVID-19 safety protocols and take the vaccine as soon as possible so that herd immunity is achieved.

Although China Insight was forced to discontinue publication of the printed newspaper, we continue to serve the community by producing a digital tabloid that is posted on our website at www.chinainsight.info. We are also proud to be celebrating our 20th year of publication and will continue to work on refining our digital product.

Please read the article on the Congressional Gold Medal for Chinese American Veterans of World War II on page 4. Find out on page 5 how you can be a Ground breaker and all of us at China Insight wish you a great 2021.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Hugh
President – CEO
China Insight, Inc.

FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Getting to know you . . .

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Entry form

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The top two articles that interested me the most in this issue are:

Page Article title

☐ I would like to see more articles on

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☐ Student

☐ Self-employed

☐ Retired

☐ Other (please specify):

☐ Age

☐ 19 & under

☐ 20 - 40

☐ 41 - 60

☐ Female

☐ Other (please specify):

☐ Gender

☐ Male

☐ Ethnicity

☐ Asian

☐ Caucasian

☐ Hispanic

☐ African American

☐ Other

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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.

If you would like to contribute an article, please contact Greg Hugh at 612-723-4872 or email ghugh@chinainsight.info.

China Insight welcomes guest articles and letters to the editor. Correspondence should be addressed to:

China Insight

750 Mainstreet, #230
Hopkins, MN 55343

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articles@chinainsight.info

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Chinainsight info

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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A digital subscription is FREE and brings a full year (10 issues) of new understanding about today’s China, from language to business opportunities.

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China’s 2021 holiday schedule will, per tradition, include two week-long holidays: Chinese New Year, aka Spring Festival, which will take place Feb. 11-17; and the National Day Holiday, Oct. 1-7.

Other official holidays are:
- New Year’s Day: Jan. 1-3
- Tomb Sweeping Festival: April 3-5
- Labor Day: May 1-5
- Dragon Boat Festival: June 12-14
- Mid-autumn Festival: Sept. 19-21

No go

A phrase that made the Oxford English Dictionary in 2018 was rejected for welcom-ing in 2021 in Hong Kong. “Add oil” is a popular phrase used as encouragement. During the 2008 Beijing Olympics, chants of “Add oil China” and “Add oil Hong Kong” were used to cheer the athletes. Hong Kong’s chief executive uses it in her social media posts. And, the phrase lit up buildings across China in 2020 as a sign of solidarity with healthcare workers during the pandemic.

So, when a Hong Kong district council proposed putting “Hong Kong add oil” on festive lighting to welcome in 2021 and was rejected by the Home Affairs Department, it was puzzling.

The official reason for rejection? The phrase may “cause misunderstanding and affect social harmony” since “Add oil Hong Kong” was used by pro-democracy protest- ers in 2019.

What did the authorities decide on? “Best wishes for the new year.” Not quite the same, is it?

Conduct violations

On Dec. 28, China’s top anti-graft body announced six “typical cases” of violations over its eight-point frugality code. This announcement was intended to let CCP members know how to improve their official conduct.

According to the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, “typical” viola-tions included misusing public funds (for banquetts!), accepting money and gifts against regulations, misusing public ve-hicles, awarding unauthorized bonuses or allowances, wasting food, etc. Officials and Party members caught have been punished for “serious intra-Party warnings” and even dismissals. Continued “discipline in-spection and supervision at all levels” will be conducted over New Year and Spring Festival holidays and offenses will be publi-zed “in a timely manner.” Does that mean public shaming?

Poop station

Oh yeah! Something the little kidlets can really get into!

A new interactive exhibit, Amazing Digestive Adventure, opened at Hong Kong’s Megabox Mall last month and will run through Feb. 28. The exhibit has seven main sections that show how food flows through the human body. Visitors enter through the mouth and wind their way through the stomach, small intestine, large intestine and, finally, exits like poop via a brown slide through a structure that resembles a human derriere, landing in a ball pit.

The tour of innards includes bigger-than-life burgers and sushi props. There also is a “poop mountain” where kids can clamber up before being pooped out into the ball pit.

Perfect edutainment for curious, anal kids! ♦

US vs China

Thompson/Reuters reported that the December annual report from the Centre for Economics and Business Research, one of the leading economics consulting agen-cies based in the UK, has pegged China to overtake the U.S. as “the world’s biggest economy” by 2028 based on recovery rate from the COVID-19 pandemic.

China’s average annual economic growth from 2021-2025 is slated at 5.7 percent before slowing to 4.5 percent from 2026-2030. The U.S. would probably see a strong rebound in 2021, but estimated to slow down to a paltry 1.9 percent per an-num from 2022-2024 and drop further to 1.6 percent p.a. after that.

The report stated that China’s “skillful management of the pandemic” and adverse long-term impact on western economies tipped the U.S.-China rivalry in China’s favor. The report also stated “the pandemic’s impact on the global economy was likely to show up in higher inflation, not slower growth” and “an economic cycle with rising interest rates in the mid-2020s.”

Fighting highs

One in five mainland Chinese is affected. Approximately 300 million Chinese live with it. Annual medical costs for treating it is around US$4.8 billion. It kills more people than any other disease in China. What is it? High blood pressure.

China’s National Center for Cardiovas-cular Diseases says the chronic condition has become a “leading cause of death and disabil-ity” in China.

The recent report showed the occur-rence rates of hypertension, diabetes and high cholesterol among adult Chinese have increased to 27.5 percent, 11.9 percent and 8.2 percent respectively, prompting the government to launch a pilot program this month to help its citizens manage and fight three highs: high blood pressure, high blood sugar and high level of fats and lipids in the blood. Initially, the program will cover 200,000 people and expand to 34 districts and counties by 2022.

Individually crafted

Those famous terracotta warriors found at Emperor Qinshihuang’s Mausoleum in Xi’an were all individually crafted by groups of artisans, so says researchers from the University College London and experts from the Mau stoleum site. Previous studies had suggested that the warriors were perhaps created under a mod-ular production system, i.e., assembled from prefabricated components made in various workshops with different materials and/or techniques. However, in the new research, scientists employing X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy – a non-invasive technology – studied and analyzed the geochemical composition of the clay paste of 28 restored warriors. They found two distinct markings: Gong or Xianyang, which were determined in the warriors’ production.

More than 8,000 figurines of warriors and horses have been unearthed from the site, cleaned and restored; and the ones with the “gong” marking possess finer workmanship.
It has been a long and uncertain journey, but Chinese American veterans who served their country in World War II were finally awarded the Congressional Gold Medal on Dec. 9, 2020.

Efforts to enact the Congressional Gold Medal Act for Chinese American veterans first began in December 2016. An exploratory committee led by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA) set out to secure the support of members of Congress. The bills were the result of a campaign organized by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA) led by E. Samantha Cheng, who started the lobbying effort to recognize Chinese American service members who volunteered or were drafted when the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 was still in place – they fought for their country in World War II.

Although it has taken 75 years after the war ended, thousands of Chinese American World War II veterans have been finally honored with the Congressional Gold Medal. The official ceremony was originally planned to take place over four days this past spring, but because of the coronavirus pandemic, it had to take place as a virtual ceremony.

Following are a few excerpts from the ceremony that included Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Congressional Leadership and other members of Congress.

**Speaker Pelosi:** "Hello. As Speaker of the House, it is a privilege to welcome you this evening to this celebration of courage and patriotism. We come together today to bestow Congress' highest honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, on the valiant Chinese American Veterans of World War II."

"Thank you to the Members of Congress whose tireless efforts were instrumental in making this momentous event possible, and to the U.S. military leaders representing each branch of the armed services."

"You, as well, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Chair Judy Chu, Congressman Ted Lieu, a proud veteran, and our bipartisan, bicameral Congressional leadership for helping to ensure that this virtual ceremony would be such a wonderful success."

"And finally, you thank all those joining us online to recognize and pay tribute to the Chinese American heroes of World War II."

"Ladies and Gentlemen, at this time, please stand as you are able for the presentation of colors and the national anthem."

"Nearly 80 years ago this week, more than 2,400 Americans were killed in the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, propelling America into World War II and changing the course of history. In the aftermath of that infamous day, Americans of all backgrounds stepped forward to defend our nation."

"Despite decades of systemic racism, discrimination and xenophobia, as many as 20,000 Chinese Americans bravely answered the call to serve to defeat tyranny and to safeguard freedom for all. Shamefully, due to the hateful laws of the time, including the bigoted Chinese Exclusion Act, Chinese immigrants were unable to gain U.S. citizenship. Still, in the face of this injustice, approximately 8,000 Chinese immigrants who were denied their rights proudly served."

"The patriotic Chinese Americans who served hailed from every state in the union, served in every branch of the U.S. military and courageously fought in every theater of the war. And wherever they served, their heroism helped secure victory for the Allies and advance the promise of liberty for people around the world."

"Today, with fewer than 300 Chinese American veterans of the Greatest Generation remaining, it is more important than ever that we honor their service and remember their sacrifice. We pay tribute to our Chinese American veterans not only as defenders of democracy, but as an inseparable part of the fabric of our country."

"In bestowing on them the Congressional Gold Medal, our Chinese American WWII veterans can now take their rightful place in the pantheon of American heroes. In accepting this award, they bring luster to it, as their service brings luster to the United States of America."

"On behalf of the United States Congress and all Americans, I am pleased to present this Congressional Gold Medal to the Chinese American veterans of WWII in recognition of their bravery and service and as an expression of our deepest gratitude and respect."

Hundreds of celebrants watched the ceremony that concluded with a prayer streamed on Youtube. Old photos of the veterans in uniform scrolled across the screen, displaying the faces of brave American. This is the link to watch the video.

What was extraordinary for these 20,000 Chinese American veterans was the choice they made in the face of gross prejudice, despite facing racial discrimination at home, including the despicable Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 that remained in place until 1943. These men and women were proud to serve our country even though this law prevented them from becoming U.S. citizens. Congressional Gold Medals have already been awarded to Japanese American and Filipino American WWII veterans as well as the Tuskegee Airmen and the Navajo Code Talkers for their World War II service. Thus, the medal for Chinese American veterans that served in WWII finally recognizes for the accomplishments in the United States as well as their patriotism as Americans.

**Background on the Congressional gold medal**


The obverse design depicts Chinese American service members and a nurse, representing all United States service branches in World War II and highlighting that they fought in every theater with honor.

The reverse design features an Iowa class battleship, an M4 Sherman tank, and a P-40 Warhawk from the Flying Tigers showcased in front of a World War II-era American flag.

**Obverse Inscriptions**

- Chinese American Veterans
- World War II
- Proudly Served as Americans
- Distinguished Service

**Reverse Inscriptions**

- Army
- Army Air Forces
- Marines
- Navy
- Coast Guard
- Merchant Marine
- Act of Congress 2018

For more information on the medal, visit the U.S. Mint’s website.

Simultaneously getting to the Congressional Gold Medal for Chinese Americans of World War II awarded, there were two books that have been written profiling these individuals: “Honor and Duty” by E. Samantha Cheng and “UNSUNG HEROES: Recognizing and Honoring Chinese American World War II Veterans” by Major General William Chen (U.S. Army, retired), Editor-in-Chief.

For complete information on the Congressional Gold Medal for Chinese Americans of World War II project, visit: www.caww2.org.
Minnesota exports (including agricultural, mining and manufactured products) were valued at $4.8 billion in the third quarter of 2020, falling by 14% (or $803 million) since the third quarter of 2019.

U.S. exports of goods fell 13% during this period. Reflecting the persistent widespread impact of the pandemic, exports decreased from 43 states and the District of Columbia. Exports increased from Nevada, Oregon, New Jersey, Idaho and Missouri; and were unchanged from Utah and Iowa.

Minnesota manufactured exports contracted 13% to $4.5 billion in the third quarter of 2020. U.S. manufactured exports sank 14%.

For first nine months of 2020, total Minnesota exports fell 9%, while U.S. exports dropped 15%.

Global Exports Still Largely in Decline – Some Markets Show Resilience and Growth

- The state’s exports fell sharply to all regions. Exports sank 10% to North America, 18% to Asia and 14% to the European Union. These three regions accounted for 89% of the state’s exports in the third quarter.
- Major markets, such as Mexico (down $146 million), Japan ($117 million), Germany (down $93 million), France (down $51 million) and the Philippines (down $48 million), experienced sharp declines.
- Exports surged to markets such as Slovakia (up $37 million – fueled by iron ores), Taiwan (up $19 million – led by plastics and optic, medical goods), the Netherlands (up $17 million – led by plastics and electrical equipment) and Switzerland (up $13 million – driven by vehicles and electrical equipment).
- Although third quarter trends among major markets were largely negative, monthly trends showed some signs of recovery, with export gains to some markets by September, at the end of the quarter.

Gains in Mineral Fuels, Meat and Beverages Help Offset General Widespread Declines

- Large declines in exports continued due to generalized weak demand among the state’s major markets. The state’s top five exported products accounted for about 60% of exports. Exports of optics, medical were down 18%; machinery was down 11%; electrical equipment was down 23%; vehicles were down 18%; and plastics were down 13%. These downward trends tended to be less severe than in the second quarter.
- Also losing significant ground were ores, slag, ash ($140 million, down 38%), pharmaceuticals ($116 million, down 30%) and food by-products ($125 million, down 27%).
- Global sales of meat leaped 22% to $101 million, propelled by demand in China (up 526%, or up $29 million) and Japan (up 63%, or up $8 million). These gains offset large losses in Mexico (down 40%) and Korea (down 59%). Frozen pork ($39 million, up 29%) and fresh, chilled pork ($27 million, up 77%) drove the gains.
- Canada drove growth in mineral fuels, oils ($192 million, up 54%) and beverages ($82 million, up 42% – mainly food-safe alcohols and water products). Canada accounted for over 95% of these exports.
- Despite broad declines in most product groups, selected markets and product segments had promising gains. Demand for plastics grew in markets such as the Netherlands ($26 million, up 195%) and Taiwan ($14 million, up 75%), and in segments such as polyacrylics (primary polyesters) (up 147%) and tubes, pipes, hoses (up 51%).
- China (up 13%), the Netherlands (up 86%) and Switzerland (up 47%) contributed to recovering segments of electrical equipment exports, such as industrial furnaces ($25 million, up 66%), household appliances ($18 million, up 106%) and electric generators ($27 million, up 18%).

Minnesota Quarterly Export Statistics is the most current resource available for tracking the state’s export trends in manufactured and other goods, and is prepared for the Minnesota Trade Office (MTO) by the Department of Employment and Economic Development’s (DEED) Economic Analysis Unit (Thu-Mai Ho-Kim). The quarterly and annual statistics reports primarily cover export data based on the Harmonized Tariff System (Schedule B), collected by the U.S. Department of Commerce (USDOC) and distributed by IHS Markit. Reports are available on DEED’s website at “Export and Trade Statistics” (http://mn.gov/deed/data/export-stats/).
China Center webinar on Chinese bronzes, Jan. 27

In the early 20th century, guided by personal taste and self-taught connoisseurship, Alfred Pillsbury amassed a large number of Chinese objects that, over time, have come to epitomize the classic periods of Chinese art history. Among others, his collections of nearly 150 ancient Chinese bronzes are exceptional in depth, rarity, and high aesthetic standards.

These are now at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Pillsbury’s collection is typically considered to be one of the top in the U.S. for its stylistic diversity, beauty and condition. Representing all periods of the Bronze Age, the collection is particularly rich in products from the metropolitan foundries of the late Shang (ca. 1600-1046 BCE) and the Western Zhou (ca. 1046-771 BCE) dynasties.

This lecture tells the story of how from the early 20th century, when the center of the antiquities market shifted from Europe to the United States, American collectors recognized bronze art constituted one of the most brilliant elements of Chinese civilization. Thus, several unique collections of bronze, including the Pillsbury’s assemblage, were formed. By comparing the types of Pillsbury objects with other major bronze collections in the U.S., the lecture highlights the uniqueness of Pillsbury’s taste and aesthetics. Like other major bronze collections in the West, the majority of the Pillsbury bronzes are unprovenanced due to a lack of archaeological context. Considering recent Chinese archaeological discoveries, the lecture provides the most updated perspectives on several masterpieces in Pillsbury’s collection and on Chinese Bronze Age art in general.

The speaker is Dr. LIU Yang, curator of Chinese Art at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Liu received his Ph.D. in art history and archaeology from the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London.

The webinar starts at noon, Jan. 27 and is part of the Considering China webinar series. Please register at the China Center site.

CAAM served pre-Thanksgiving lunch to homeless at Dorothy Day Place

By Zan Gao and Yingying Chen, contributors

The Chinese American Association of Minnesota (CAAM) provided and served a pre-Thanksgiving Chinese lunch at the Dorothy Day Place of Catholic Charities in St. Paul on Nov. 15, 2020, to 246 homeless people.

It was a cold Sunday and St. Paul was covered with white snow. The chill from this early winter and the second surging wave of the COVID-19 pandemic did not stop this group of local Chinese Americans from delivering food to the local homeless. Before 10 a.m., CAAM board members arrived at the charity center and started lunch preparations: washing apples, cutting tomatoes, making fruit salad, opening cans of peaches, etc. An hour later, the owner of the Rose Garden Chinese Asian Bistro of Minneapolis delivered the Chinese food ordered by CAAM, which went into some lunch boxes for the homeless people with compromised mobility. The rest of the food was placed in the warm food incubators and on the insulation table in the service area in front of the kitchen. When the doors of the activity center were opened to the public at 11:30 a.m., there was already an orderly line of homeless ready to receive their meals. The atmosphere was warm and lively. Under the careful arrangement of CAAM, this “Pre-Thanksgiving Free Lunch” event provided a variety of delicious and nutritionally balanced items such as vegetable spring rolls, chicken noodles, egg fried rice, salads, peaches, cookies, etc. Milk and orange juice were provided by CAMM and went into some lunch boxes for the homeless people.

By Zan Gao and Yingying Chen, contributors
Chinese Language Corner (漢語角)

What someone is doing and greetings

By Pat Welsh, contributor

Some of the vocabulary we will use this month are:

**Chinese Characters**

- **带 (a pretransitive verb that works with many other verbs)**
- **本 (a classifier that must always be inserted between numbers and a counted noun, it is also inserted between demonstrative pronouns, that, which, and the following noun.)**
- **把 (a classifier for books)**

**English**

- take
- bring to
- correct / right
- a verb or suffix indicating a new or changed situation
- to give; for
- pick up; take; hold in one’s hands
- pick up
- that book, the book
- who, whom
- in one’s hand
- one book, a book
- to be at 2) am /are /is... (used with certain verbs where motion is involved)
- just, just now (happening to...)
- am / are / is... (now)

**Pinyin**

- bā
- dài
- zhèbĕn shū
- năbĕn shū
- shéi-năi
- shŏu-lì
- yībĕn shū
- zăi
- zhènbĕn shū (zhèbĕn shū)
- zhèngzài

**Chinese Characters**

- 一本书
- 一本书 (this book)
- 一本书 (this book) takes (something) and gives it

**English**

- He is putting the book on the table.
- He is opening the book.
- He is closing the book.
- She is buying a book.
- She is selling a book.
- He picks up a book from the table.
- He is picking up the book from the table.
- He is opening the book.
- He is putting the book on the table.
- He is picking up the book.
- He is giving the book to you.
- He is putting the book on the table.

**Pinyin**

- Tā zài bă shū făng zài zhūōzǐ-shăng.
- Tā zài dăkăi shū.
- Tā zài guăn bì shū.
- Tā zài măi shū.
- Tā zài xiě shū.
- Tā zài măi shū.
- Tā zài zǔ dăng zài shū.
- Tā zài jīng zài shū.
- Tā zài făng zài zhūōzǐ-shăng.
- Tā dăkăi shū.
- Tā guăn bì le shū.

**Commonly used phrases:**

- What’s up?
- What's new?
- Nothing new.
- Just gradually getting over a bad cold
- I am just getting over a bad cold
- Nothing new, same old thing.

**Pronunciation Reminders**

This system follows Chinese Pinyin with the exception that the letter “u” which has two pronunciations. Sometimes it has the value of (i) “ei” as in see with rounded lips. At those times we use the symbol “ü” instead of Pinyin “u.” In making this sound, it is most important that the vowel more resembles an “ee” sound and definitely not sounding like “u” or “ü.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Pinyin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The &quot;a&quot; in these syllables sounds like the &quot;a&quot; in “father.”</td>
<td>a, an, ang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The “o” here sounds much like the “oo” in “ooze” or “spoon.”</td>
<td>cong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds like the “oi” in “cow.”</td>
<td>de, ke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds like the “ae-ehn” or “yen” (Here “ehn” and “en” almost sounds like the word “yen.”)</td>
<td>ei, en, eng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds like “chee” in “cheese.”</td>
<td>qian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds like “chee” in “cheese” but uttered with rounded lips.</td>
<td>shi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds like almost the “shir” in “shirt.” The tongue is retracted and lightly curled.</td>
<td>si</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds somewhat like sz, the vowel is short, it is between “i” in “it” and “u” in “must.”</td>
<td>ü</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds much like the “ee” in “see” but the vowel must be uttered with rounded lips.</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds almost like the English word “way.”</td>
<td>zi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds like a weak “sh”; xing sounds like “sheen.”</td>
<td>zh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds somewhat like the “yo” in “yodel.”</td>
<td>zhì</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds like a “tz” without any aspiration. Pronouncing this as ‘dz’ betrays American accent which will still be understood by the listener.</td>
<td>zì</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued on page 11
While air travel is still risky health-wise and lockdowns are common, here is a chance for us to “travel” and see New York City’s Chinatown.

The Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) and the Center for Jewish History (CJH) are co-hosting a new online exhibition, “An Unlikely Photojournalist: Emile Bocian in Chinatown,” at https://exhibits.cjh.org/bocian.

This highly anticipated online exhibition explores the work of Emile Bocian (1912-1990), who became a photojournalist in the 1970s and ’80s for The China Post, a Chinese-language daily in Manhattan’s Chinatown. Bocian’s images comprise MOCA’s largest collection of photographs in its archive of 85,000-plus historical artifacts that were nearly destroyed in last January’s fire at 70 Mulberry Street. The preliminary batch of Bocian’s photographs and artifacts chosen for this exhibit were brought over to CJH one week before the fire, sparing this small selection from potential ruin.

On Thursday, Jan. 28, 4 p.m. EST on ZOOM, co-curators of the exhibition Kevin Chu, assistant director of Collections at MOCA, and Laurens Gilbert, senior manager of Public Services at the Center for Jewish History, will share a behind-the-scenes look into Bocian’s life, his collection, and the genesis of the exhibition. Bocian’s grandniece and nephew will also be in attendance to share their memories. A registration link for the event will be sent to the public closer to the event date.

In 1972, the Pagoda Theater in Chinatown hired then-Midtown press agent Bocian to run a publicity campaign for the U.S. premiere of the Bruce Lee film, “Fist of Fury.” This chance encounter began Bocian’s nearly two-decades-long relationship with the community that lasted for the remainder of his life. Born in New York to Eastern European Jewish immigrants, Bocian was a self-proclaimed “expert on Chinatown.” Though he was an outsider and never learned Chinese, over his long residency and photojournalistic career, Bocian and his camera became familiar fixtures on the streets of Chinatown.

As a Polish Jew, he shared an immigrant’s status with his neighbors. This commonality made Bocian a fitting ambassador and bridge-builder between the two communities.

“As we traverse through life, we may miss the beauty of the everyday, we may avoid the challenge of the unknown, but Bocian and his work gifted both elements back to Jewish and Chinese American communities in New York’s Chinatown. His images connected people living in overlapping place,” said Nancy Yao Maasbach, president of MOCA.

“This online exhibition is a natural extension of MOCA’s collaboration with the Center for Jewish History, an organization whose values align closely with ours as we continually seek new and innovative ways to build bridges between communities.”

“While many of the stories that have dominated the news in 2020 have revolved around division and mistrust, this exhibition offers a rare glimpse into how an outsider, Emile Bocian, who was Jewish, became widely accepted and ultimately gained the trust of the community in Chinatown,” said Center for Jewish History President and CEO Bernard Michael.

“Through his images Bocian was able to capture the struggles and successes of the daily lives of the residents of the area. We are proud of our partnership with MOCA and our ability to jointly spotlight our shared histories.”

During his time in Chinatown, Bocian befriended Chinese American actress Mae Wong. She would rescue over 120,000 photographs, negatives and contact sheets from his apartment after his death in 1990, donating them to MOCA in the mid-1990s.

Bocian’s photographs of protests, celebrations, and crime scenes, as well as storefronts and street scenes, provide a glimpse into a vanishing New York. These images are on exhibit for the very first time, along with shots of local luminaries and Chinatown visitors like Terence Cardinal Cooke, Muhammad Ali, and even Big Bird, the character from “Sesame Street.”

“This exhibit is a fascinating look into an under-documented period in Chinatown’s history. It is also a nostalgic trip for those of us who were alive at the time, and an eye-opening glimpse into the near past for those who weren’t, allowing a peek into NYC in the era of pay phones, bula hoops, mom and pop shops, and some interesting fashion choices,” said Gilbert.

The online launch of this exhibition is MOCA’s latest successful pivot to providing its curatorial, collections, and educational content via digital, online and social media platforms. Since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic in mid-March 2020 that forced museums across the U.S. to temporarily shutter their physical operations, MOCA has been offering live-streamed tours of its exhibitions, public programs, family festivals and educational workshops, and masterclasses to thousands of virtual attendees.

This exhibition has been made possible in part by The David Berg Foundation’s creation and support of The David Berg Rare Book Room, a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the Human Endeavor, public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and a Humanities New York CARES grant.

Vanishing storefronts: As a result of COVID-19’s work-from-home trend, at least 50% of the businesses in Chinatown have already shuttered permanently.
Youth suicide prevention resources

Death is not something Chinese, or anyone, for that matter, like to talk about. However, superstitions aside, suicide prevention, especially for youth, is an extremely worthy topic to discuss, especially after a strange and stressful 2020. For example, did you know:

• In 2007, suicide was the 8th leading cause of death for Asian-Americans, whereas it was the 11th leading cause of death for all racial groups combined.
• In 2007, suicide was the second leading cause of death for Asian-Americans aged 15-34, which is consistent with the national data (the second leading cause for 15-24-year-olds and the third leading cause for 25-34 age group).
• Also, in 2007, among all Asian-Americans, those aged 20-24 had the highest suicide rate (12.44 per 100,000).
• More teenagers and young adults die from suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia, influenza, and chronic lung disease, combined.
• Each day in the U.S., an average of more than 3,703 young people grades 9-12 attempt suicide.
• The 10-14 age group has seen an alarming increase since 2006.
• Minnesota ranks suicide the leading cause of death for young people ages 12-18, which represents most middle and high school age youth.
• Minnesota also ranks as the second-leading cause for the 10-24 age group in Minnesota.
• Four out of five teen who attempt suicide give clear warning signs.

Common warning signs

• Statements such as “I hate my life.” “I’d be better off dead.” “I won’t be bothering you much longer.”
• Depression, including sudden change in personality, expression of hopelessness, declining grades and school performance, lack of interest in activities, withdrawal from friends and family, changes in eating and sleeping habits.
• Anger and increased irritability resulting in interpersonal violence such as fights.
• Changes in appearance, particularly in lack of personal hygiene and not dressing the usual way.

Preoccupation with death exhibited through writings, art, social media posts and conversations about death and dying.

Final arrangements such as giving away their favorite things and/or saying goodbye to people.

The Jason Foundation is dedicated to the prevention of the “silent epidemic” of youth suicide through educational and awareness programs. It is recognized as a national leader in youth and adult suicide awareness and prevention with 145-plus affiliate offices in 38 states, and provides services for all 50 states. Its 24/7 text line is free and allows confidential access to trained crisis counselors.

Its founder, the father of Jason Flatt, a 16-year-old who became a statistic by committing the heart-breaking act of taking his own life, is determined to provide resources and tools to help identify and help at-risk youth. The Foundation offers a series of online staff development and training modules on awareness and prevention of youth suicide suitable for teachers, coaches, parents, first responders or anyone who interacts with young people. The training modules are provided at no cost and can be requested by creating an account at the Jason Foundation website.

Suicide is preventable.

Entertainment

“We Are Bruce Lee” exhibit in San Francisco fall 2021

By Elaine Dunn

The Chinese Historical Society of America (CHSA) in San Francisco’s Chinatown (905 Clay Street) will host the “We Are Bruce Lee: Under the Sky, One Family” exhibit this fall. It will feature artwork, films, memorabilia and rarely seen artifacts from Lee’s life, including handwritten letters and drawings.

The exhibit is meant to celebrate the remarkable, but tragically short, life of Bruce Lee, the Chinese American icon. It examines Lee’s various personas — visionary, unifier, athlete, thinker. Visitors will come away with a rich, in-depth understanding of this man whose influence extends well beyond movies and TV.

The martial arts actor and instructor was born in 1940 in San Francisco while his parents were on tour with the Chinese Opera. Raised in Hong Kong, Lee was a child actor appearing in more than 20 films. At the age of 13, he began studying wing chun gung fu, a concept-based Chinese martial art and form of self-defense. At age 19, attending college in the U.S., he supported himself by teaching martial arts at schools he established in Seattle, Oakland and Los Angeles. He also began to develop new concepts about martial arts and training based on his own experiences. Eventually, he created his own philosophy called Jeet Kune Do (in Cantonese), or “The Way of the Intercepting Fist.”

In 1971, Lee starred in the first of five legendary martial arts films that contributed to his success as an international star. Sadly, two years later, Lee passed away from an allergic reaction to pain medication taken to alleviate a cerebral edema (fluid build-up in his brain) at the age of 32. A month after his death, “Enter the Dragon” was released.

About the CHSA

Chinese Historical Society of America is the oldest organization in the country dedicated to the interpretation, promotion and preservation of the social, cultural and political history and contributions of the Chinese in America.

When founded in 1963, there were fewer than 250,000 people of Chinese descent living in the U.S. and CHSA was a lone voice for the study and dissemination of the history of this segment of the population in the country. Today, as the number of Chinese in the U.S. has risen to nearly 5 million, CHSA strives to be a responsible steward of the remarkable narrative of this rapidly growing and increasingly visible community.
North America was optimistically called.

The diary came to light in the 1960s, when Wong’s maternal grandmother Wanda Joy Hoe was Hoe’s paper, put away in a box for years and resurrected. This incident, redolent with ignorant, vicious racism, was made when Dukesang Wong had been living four years in British Columbia, employed as an unskilled laborer in the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It serves to highlight an extreme case of the attitude taken not just by Americans, but by many Canadians as well, towards the thousands of Chinese workers who had been providing the sweat and toil needed to complete the railway since the mid-1860s. It also illustrates how Chinese were thrown, together with Indigenous people, into a maelstrom of hatred, fear and discrimination, abetted by the activities of scurrilous groups such as the Victoria People’s Union. Dukesang Wong’s account of his work with the CPR, after which he started up a successful tailoring business. He embarked in Portland, Oregon (he initially thought it would be San Francisco), which he at first found was “a good place, even though we hear tales of wild and crazy events outside town.” With a rather touching naïveté he adds “I doubt the truth of these tales,” only to witness, sometime later, “a man being violently beaten by another of his own kind,” adding “I could not believe what my eyes were seeing ... Surely there are no manners and rules here.” In spite of this, he is determined to succeed: “I must save as much as I am able,” he says, “and live humbly in piety and no cares and worries.”

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“I Dream of Popo” by Livia Blackburne

Livia Blackburne is the New York Times bestselling author of the “Midnight Thief” and “Rosemarked” duologies. Blackburne was born in Taipei, Taiwan and moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, when she was 5. After a 12-year stint at Harvard and MIT, where she earned an AB in biochemical sciences and a PhD in cognitive neuroscience, she moved to Los Angeles, where she now lives with her husband and daughter. And she’s taken up writing full-time.

Julia Kuo is a Taiwanese-American illustrator who has worked with The New York Times, Google, and Science Friday. Kuo has taught illustration courses at Columbia College Chicago and at her alma mater, Washington University in St. Louis. She has illustrated many other books.

Blackburne’s picture book, although fiction, draws much from her own experience. It tells the story of a young girl leaving her grandmother behind in Taiwan to start a new life in San Diego when her family emigrated to the U.S. The little girl misses her grandmother in Taiwan. And, hints at the language barrier the grandmother and the foods she prepared straddling two worlds, the memories a food evokes, and the occasional slip of using the wrong language in the wrong country linger well beyond childhood and into adulthood.

“My hope is that Chinese American children across the country will get the opportunity to see themselves reflected in the story, and that the book will serve to honor and preserve our Chinese heritage for the next generation,” wrote Blackburne.

Both Publisher’s Weekly and Kirkus magazine gave the book starred reviews (reserved for books of exceptional merit).

Book launch event
To celebrate the publication of the book, there will be a Zoom panel discussion on Jan. 10, 4 p.m. Pacific time. (6 p.m. in Mnn.) on the Chinese immigrant experience, the nuances of growing up between two worlds, and how linguistic and geographic distance affect family relationships.

If you would like to join the discussion, please use this link to register.

Chinese Language

Continued from page 7

Tones

Using numbers: 5 = your normal high 4 = mid-high 3 = your normal mid pitch 2 = mid low pitch 1 = your normal low pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| à      | High level pitch (55)                 | Regarding tone à
| â      | Mid-Rising Tone (35)                  | 1. when occurring directly before another dipping tone, tone â becomes tone à. Thus “bên háo” (very good) changes to “bên hăo” (31)
| ā      | High falling pitch (51)               | 2. occurring directly before any other tone, Tone ā will change to a mid-falling tone
| a      | An unstressed neutral tone. Following other syllables, syllables in this tone tend to be somewhat lower that of the previous syllable. The lone exception is when it occurs after tone à when the neutral tone is often slightly higher in pitch. |

My next offering will continue to show how to ask and tell what someone is doing. Some greeting situations will be added.

About Pat Welsh

In 2009 while teaching English at Sichuan University, Welch was asked to give a speech where he was introduced to the audience as a “pioneer of Chinese American relations” as a result of his cooperative work in international banking during the Deng Xiaoping era. For more than 65 years, Welch has been learning Chinese and has used this knowledge both professionally and personally to enhance his understanding of Chinese and Asian affairs. He uses Beijing Mandarin most frequently when meeting with senior Chinese government officials when conducting business in China.

For 17 years, Welch taught Chinese, German and Spanish in two local high schools. Now fully retired, he currently resides in Georgia where he used to lecture on China to a number of classes at Dunwoody High School.
Fate of Beijing’s 2022 Winter Olympics

By Elaine Dunn

The 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing opened with great fanfare. It was China’s debut on the world stage, an opportunity to showcase its history, culture and its athletes to a global audience. Fast forward to the 2022 Winter Olympics. Once again, Beijing will be the venue. However, circumstances are quite different.

Back in 2008, the world was welcoming to a China in ascendency and the world was awed by the impressively choreographed opening ceremony. However, in the ensuing 11.5 years, China had lost much luster. It appears the world may be finally standing up to China’s abuse of human rights and other issues.

By the end of 2020, China was at odds with the U.S. and many western countries over its treatment of the Uighurs and Tibetans, and its narrative over the coronavirus pandemic. Its military build-up in the South China Sea aggravates its Asian neighbors. Its aggressive and repressive policies over Hong Kong are denounced by the free world. In fact, the UK had recently declared China in “clear breach” of the Sino-British Joint Declaration that guaranteed Hong Kong autonomy until 2047.

Opposition from the international community to restrict China’s “disdain” for world opinion is growing. At last count, 140 countries had signed and presented a petition to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to revoke Beijing’s hosting of the 2022 Winter Olympics. A September 2020 editorial in the Washington Post stated, “The world must ask whether China, slowly strangling an entire people, has the moral standing to host the 2022 Winter Olympics. We think not.”

A coalition of human rights advocates have been calling on the IOC for the 2022 Winter Olympics to be moved out of China, stating that the 2008 games “did not help the country’s human rights record.”

The IOC had been accused by various groups as turning a blind eye to “the widespread and systematic human rights violations” committed by the communist Chinese authorities while hiding behind the excuse it does not want to cross the line between sport and politics. It defends its choice of China’s hosting role because it believes in “the separation between sport and politics.”

Not surprisingly, China agrees, stating that “so-called human rights issues … an attempt to put pressure on the Chinese side …”

The British Foreign Secretary stated in October 2020: “The concern over what’s happening with the Uighurs is not something we can turn away from. Let’s consider, in the rounds, what further action we can take.”

The UK Parliament has had a number of debates over the atrocities the CCP carried out on its own citizens, including organ harvesting of political prisoners. MPs Chris Evans stated emphatically, “… we want a positive relationship with China, but we will always act to uphold our values, our interests, and our national security.”

Germany, on behalf of 39 countries including the U.S. UK, Japan, and EU members, called out Beijing’s treatment of the Uighurs during a recent UN Human Rights Council meeting.

Even Turkey chimed in. “As a country having ethnic, religious and cultural ties with the Uygur Turks, we have been particularly alarmed by the recently published reports and news on human rights practices against the Uygur Turks and other Muslim minorities in Xinjiang,” its ambassador said.

In addition to the human rights issue, security for participants have also been brought up.

The Canadian Olympic Committee said last month it cannot ensure the safety of Canadian athletes to Beijing’s Winter Olympics citing China practices “hostage diplomacy.” (There are two Canadians abducted and held in China since December 2018 in retaliation for Canada’s detention of Huawei’s CFO in Vancouver.)

An Australian senator told ABC Australia last November that he supported a boycott of the games because of security concerns of participants. Australians politicians encouraged its athletes to boycott the games lest they “become collateral damage of untapped hostility and unintended participants” in communist Chinese propaganda.

India is also considering following the Australian approach. As for Japan, who is furious over China’s irresponsible and unconscionable initial response to the coronavirus outbreak that essentially caused Japan’s Tokyo Summer Olympics to be postponed, may see a boycott as a form of retaliation.

Of course Beijing is pushing back. Following is an excerpt from the Dec. 23 China Daily editorial (The entire editorial is below): The attempt to politicize the sporting event for the purpose of shaming and blaming China on human rights issues is nothing new … The mixing of sports and politics goes against the trend of the times and tramples on the Olympic spirit that promotes mutual understanding, solidarity and fair play. Not to mention the fact that “the IOC has neither the mandate nor the capability to change the laws or the political system of a sovereign country”.

Perhaps no one better understands the harms caused by a boycott to the Olympics than the IOC chief himself, who experienced that of the 1980 Moscow Olympics Games following the invasion of Afghanistan by Soviet troops. As the chair of the West German athletes’ commission then, Bach strongly opposed the boycott because he believed it “not only punished the wrong ones, but that it also had no political effect whatsoever.” In fact, the 1980 boycott, which he described as “a very humiliating experience”, only triggered the revenge boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

The call for a boycott of the Beijing Winter Olympics is especially deplorable given how painstakingly China has been working to prepare for the event in the face of the onslaught of the novel coronavirus pandemic, with progress made in not only venue construction, but also global recruitment of volunteers and the appeals for medal, torch and apparel designs.

The Olympic Games are not about politics, but about bringing together the world’s best athletes from all members of the IOC family in a peaceful sporting competition and helping them realize their Olympic dreams. Any efforts to try to dash that dream using whatever excuse is ill-intentioned, and must be rejected and condemned.

The 2022 Winter Olympics are slated to begin Feb. 4, a good 13 months away. Beijing is pushing ahead with its preparations, which include a committee looking into and assessing cybersecurity issues and plans, and how to integrate systems with the numerous facilities to prevent targeted attacks.

But, the international community is no longer satisfied with verbal “outrage” of China’s behaviour around the world.

Whether Beijing will be able to hang on to its hosting role or will its tightened controls over civil society and blatant disregard for human rights derail it? We shall see.

Points of View

**Politics of Winter Games runs counter to Olympic spirit: China Daily editorial**

China Daily, Dec. 23, 2020

According to reports, some human rights groups recently sent an open letter to International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach, asking that the 2022 Winter Olympic Games be removed from China, citing “the widespread and systematic human rights violations being committed by the Chinese authorities”.

The attempt to politicize the sporting event for the purpose of shaming and blaming China on human rights issues is nothing new. Many politicians are already engaged in such stunts now that preparations for the Beijing Games are well underway, with all the competition venues and related infrastructure due to be completed by the end of this year. For example, British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said that the United Kingdom could boycott the 2022 Winter Olympics; and Australian Senator Rex Patrick has openly called for Australian athletes to shun the Games.

But having failed to produce any evidence to substantiate their allegations, the cacophony of the anti-China chorus sung by a few human rights groups and politicians has so far been largely ignored by the international community.

A member of China’s national alpine skiing team zips down a course while undergoing skills training at Zhangjiakou’s Changchengling Ski Resort in North China’s Hebei province, on Dec 20, 2020. [Photo by Wei Xiaohao/chinadaily.com.cn]

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