

FutureHmong

Voice of the Hmong

October/November 2001

Hmong Festival!

25,000 people
attend national
summer festival

PROJECTS
LEADERS
AND
APPLICANTS
PARENTS

GET MONEY...
...for your children's
college education

The Positive Place for Kids
Boys & Girls Club



Shop the Valley's Import Leader

... where you'll get a great deal more in service, selection and price!

We have a great selection of new and pre-owned Toyota models and can access our statewide inventory to find the car you need! Hmong sales associates speak both Hmong and French. They'll help you with all the paperwork, financing and servicing your new car.

BERGSTROM

Lexus • Toyota • Honda
of Oshkosh

3285 S. Washburn Street

(920) 236-1000

1(800)947-1002

www.bergstromauto.com



Toyota Sienna

Toyota Corolla

Please bring
this ad in for an
additional \$200 off
any new or used
Toyota purchase.



Wa Moua, Sales Consultant

"I'm happy to show you Toyota vehicles so your family has options when buying a new car, truck or van."

"Kuv txous siab yuav qhia thiab koj koj mus saib cov tshab Toyota kom koj csev neeg paub txog kev yuav tshab thiab xws li tshab, truck los jog van."



HONDA

Shop the Valley's Import Leader

... where you'll get a great deal more in service, selection and price!

We have a great selection of new and pre-owned Honda models and can access our statewide inventory to find the car you need! Hmong sales associates speak both Hmong and French. They'll help you with all the paperwork, financing and servicing your new car.

BERGSTROM

Lexus • Toyota • Honda
of Oshkosh

3285 S. Washburn Street

(920) 236-1000

1(800)947-1002

www.bergstromauto.com



Honda Odyssey

Honda Accord

Please bring
this ad in for an
additional \$200 off
any new or used
Honda purchase.



Wa Moua, Sales Consultant

"I've lived in the area all my life and I'm proud to help the Hmong community. I can help you when you purchase or service a new or used car. Just ask for me!"

"Kuv ib txwm nyob haiv lub zej lub zos no tag kuv lub neeg thiab kuv zoo siab pab pab cov pej xeem Hmoob. Kuv yuav pab tau koj txog kev yuav tshab thiab, tshab qub, thiab kho tshab thiab. Thov tuij nug kuv!"

cover story

- 8 LAO/HMONG NATIONAL SUMMER FESTIVAL DRAWS RECORD CROWDS**
Executive Director Za Biong Vang sees over 25,000 people attending the Labor Day weekend event



4 FUTUREHMONG UPFRONT

Editor's thoughts about what September 11 means for you and your family

7 THE POSITIVE PLACE FOR KIDS

Boy's & Girl's Clubs are a great place for your kids to learn and have fun



10 BUILDING FUNDS FOR COLLEGE

Wisconsin State Treasurer - Jack Voight discusses a program to help with college expenses

17 WOUNDS OF THE WEST

The challenges of one young woman blending her culture with reality



21 MISSING MONEY

A list of Hmong people who may have money waiting for them



We'll Hand You Free Checking WITH INTEREST!

All you need is a qualifying direct deposit to your account at CitizensFirst. And interest is paid on your entire checking account balance. Our full account disclosures tell you more, so why not check it out?

Do you get that at your bank?

CitizensFirst
CREDIT UNION

Oshkosh • Menasha
Berlin • Pickett
236-7640
832-2125
800-448-9128
www.citizensfirst.com

NCUA

Peb teb tau nej tej kev nuj tag rau hau thi si

© CFCU 2001



Hong Kong Editor

What September 11 Means To You and Your Family

The September 11 crashing of two U.S. airliners into New York's World Trade Center buildings and another huge plane into the Pentagon in Washington could have huge effects on you and your family.

As Hmong Americans, many of us know first-hand the horrors of people killing other people for their own personal gain or beliefs. The slaughter of so many of our people in Southeast Asia is on our minds forever, so we understand the grief of all those thousands of families who had 6,000 family members, neighbors or friends killed by those terrorists. Our hearts go out to them.

In order to understand how serious this could be for you, it is necessary to look at the background of what has happened.

The New York building housed the headquarters of some of the largest, most important companies in the country plus a variety of government agencies. Over 50,000 people worked in those buildings.

Those twin towers were more than just a couple of New York building - they were an important part of America's business, economy and government structure. They were symbols not just buildings.

Secondly, the planes that brought these two 110 floor buildings down were hijacked from America's largest airlines, as was the plane that crashed into the Pentagon in Washington D.C. The Pentagon is the command center for America's entire military throughout the world. It was not just another government building.

Third, America has never experienced an attack on its own land by non-American's since WWII. More Americans were killed at one time than any other time in history.

Because the terrorists who committed these horrible murders were here in this country on visas, it now is going to be a lot tougher for people to get into this country. The government is looking at immigration policies. Some of your relatives waiting to get into the United States may have a difficult time now getting into the country.

The crashes hurt American businesses. People are fearful of flying, so the airlines and the businesses who employ people because of the airlines have already laid off over 100,000 people. The companies that build the planes and supply the materials to make the planes...the travel agents...the hotels and motels who have fewer visitors, all are losing business and laying people off.

Look around your own town and understand that a lot of companies are either laying people off or not hiring more people. It will be tougher to find good jobs for your family and to hold on to the jobs you have.

Next, it's going to be harder for you to travel. You'll need at least two forms of identification to get on an

airplane. You'll have to go hours earlier to stand in line while they search you and your luggage.

Some of your food will cost more because importing of items like rice will be more regulated, take longer and thus be more expensive.

There is some serious talk by government officials of imposing tighter security measures, which could mean more police and/or security personnel on planes, trains, in major building and the like.

The President has declared a state of war against these terrorists. If the war expands to several Mid East countries we could all see higher prices on things we buy regularly, like gas and oil.

What we Hmong people must realize is that we are a growing, vital part of the United States. As such, we should be joining our fellow citizens in support of this war against terrorists. We are Americans. This is our country. Be proud. Help each other and your neighbors for the sake of your family and your country.



Lub 9 hli ntuj hnub tim 11 txhais li cas rau koj thiab koj tsev neeg.

Thaum lub 9 hli ntuj, tim 11 ntawd American Airline 2 lub nyooj hoom tau los tsoo ob lub tsev ua lag ua luam, hu ua New York's World Trade Center thiab tseem muaj ib lub nyooj hoom loj los tsoo lub tsev Pentagon nyob rau hauv Washington DC ntxim yuav muaj kev nyuaj siab rau koj thiab koj tsev neeg.

Peb cov Hmoob American muaj nyob leej ntawv tus tau poob thooj tej kev phem uas neeg sib tua neeg vauv yug qhor yus xav tau los yog yus txoj kev ntseeg. Qhor kev sib raug tua nyob rau sub Southeast Asia nyob nruv hauv peb lub hluwb mus tag ib ndub, yug li ntawd peb sawv dawv yeej to tauh zoo txog txoj kev quaj ntseeg nrawm tsev neeg uas muaj ib tug hauv yus tsev neeg, tus txheeb tus ze los yog cov phooj yug tau tuag nyob rau hauv txhais txhais tus neeg uas tau tuag nrawm 7,000 (xya phav) tus neeg ntawd. Thov muab peb lub siab thiab kev hluwb mus neeg laus.

Yuav kom to tauh zoo txog qhor xwm txheej no tas phem npaum cas mas peb yuav tsum saib thiab tau xav kom tseeb txog tas nws yog dab tsf tshwm sim tag.

Ob lub tsev hauv New York yog ob lub chaw loj thiab tseem cebs rau ntawv lub companies nyob rau lub tch chaw no, thiab tseem nrog rau cov nom tswa tseem cebs ua hauj bwn nyob rau hauv. Muaj tsahaj li ntawm 50,000 tus neeg ua hauj bwn nyob hauv.

Ob lub tsev no tas yog loj thiab siab tsahaj plaws xwb, tab sis nws yog qhor chaw tseem cebs heev rau peem xeen American thiab tej kev lag luam nrog rau nom tswa kev ua hauj bwn. Ob lub tsev ntawd yog ib qhor cim "symbol" tas yog tsev loj thiab siab xwb.

Thiab ob ntawd, ob lub nyooj hoom uas tsoo ob lub tsev muaj 110 tsheej ntawd yug raug tseeb los ntawm American cov nyooj hoom uas yog loj tsahaj plaws lub uas tsoo Pentagon hauv Washington D.C. los ib yam

thiab. Lub tsev Pentagon yog ib lub tsev tsawj fwm txog American cov kev tsawj nrog thooj plaws tiaj teb no. Nws tsis yog ib lub tsev nom tswa xwb.

Thiab peb ntawd, peb havi neeg American tsis tau muaj ib zaug li uas nyob rau lub tch chaw no uas yus cov neeg yuav raug tua ua ke coob npaum li no los ntawm cov neeg sib hnub. Zaum no yog zaum uas tuag coob tsahaj plaws nyob rau sim neeg no.

Vim cov neeg phem no tuaj ntug rau lub tch chaw no nws ntawd ntawv vixas, yog li ntawm ntuj hnub no mas nws yuav nyuab heev rau bwn cov neeg uas xav tuaj nyob rau lub tch chaw no. Tej nom tswa yuav coj ntuj rog rau cov neeg tsib teb chaws. Nej tej neeg txheeb ze yuav tuaj teb chaws no tsis yooj yim li yav tag los.

Qhor tseeb meem no ua kev nyuab saib rau American tej kev lag luam. Tib neeg tau ntshai tsog kev caij nyooj hoom vim li ntawd cov tswa dav hlau no twb tau tso ib cov neeg ua hauj bwn mas so es txhob ua hauj bwn muaj li 500,000 tus lawm. Lub company uas ua cov nyooj hoom thiab ua cov khoom ua dav hlau...tej neeg uas ua hauj bwn txog kev mus ntug ua si...tej bey so (hurts). Lawv tau poob lag luam thiab no coob tus neeg ua hauj bwn mas so vim tsis muaj hauj bwn ua.

Saib xyuas hauv koj lub zus los yog koj lub ntrog, koj yuav pom tas muaj ntawv lub companies tau muab neeg rho tawm hauj bwn los yog tas txas neeg ua hauj bwn ntawv li lawm. Yuav nyuaj heev rau cov neeg nchav hauj bwn thiab muaj kev

txhawj xeeb tseem pham tsog hauj bwn uas yus niaj hnub ua.

Nxwm ntawd yuav nyuaj heev rau koj txoj kev caij dav hlau mus los. Koj yuav tsum muaj yam tsawj kawv los ob dag duab 10 nrog koj mas lawv thiaj yuav kam koj nce nyooj hoom. Koj yuav tau mus kom ntawv li ib ob xub mus es tos kom lawv tsawv koj cov khoom thiab tej phi xub tso.

Tej yam khoom nrog xws li tag tseem teb chaws tuaj yuav kam tsahaj qub vim yuav siv sijhawm phawv xyuas ua meej xa tuaj rau teb chaw no.

Tej nom tswa koj tau thum txog qhor yuav muaj kev saib ntawv tsahaj qub xws li yuav tsum coj qha ib cov lub ceev xwm saib xyuas nyob saum dav hlau thiab.

Thawj tsawj teb chaws (President) tau tso ntawj mas xav muaj tsoo nrog cov neeg phem (terrorists) ntawd. Yog tas muaj tsoo nrog rau bwn teb chaws nyob rau sub Mid-East mas tej zaum yuav muaj ntawv kam khoom uas peb muaj hnub yug thiab siv ntawd yuav nce neej siab xws li tej nej rau tsheeb thiab tej nej (off).

Xav kom peb cov Hmoob jumb txog tas peb cov pej xeeb Hmoob koj coob zoj zus, uas yog ib tseem tseem cebs muaj rau hauv teb chaws American, peb yuav tau muab kev koox tes sib pab nrog luag tawm tsum cov neeg phem uas tau tau tseem kev kub ntawv thiab tau peb pej xeen no. Peb yog neeg American lawm. Noy yog peb lub teb chaws lawm. Yuav tsum txas saib rau. Muab kev sib pab koox tes nrog peb cov pej xeen kom yus tsev neeg thiab peb lub teb chaws muaj qab nyob xeeb.

FutureHmong

Dedicated to the advancement
of the Hmong community.



Published by: Y Enterprises

Editor: Blong Yang

Account Manager: Paige Yang

Administration: Summit Marketing Group, Inc.

Contributors:

Gloria Nelson

Greg Lemke-Rochon

Wisconsin State Treasurer: Jack Voight

Design & Production: Ann Patton

All rights reserved. Reproduction or use of
any of the FutureHmong Magazine material
without permission is prohibited. No
responsibility is accepted for unsolicited
manuscripts, cartoons or editorial. Opinions
expressed in the magazine are not necessarily
endorsed, nor does the magazine assume
responsibility for statements made in either
advertisements or articles published.

Single issue price: \$5.95. Back issues

\$4.50 mailed, subject to availability.

Base subscription price: \$19.95 per year.

Reprints available for 500 copies.

Editorial/Advertising: 920/995-9690

Subscriptions: 920/995-9536

Fax: 920/995-9691

E-Mail: public@yuhnet.net

Postmaster:

Send change of address to:

Y Enterprises, Inc.

150 East Franklin Street

Appleton, WI 54911

THIS IS YOUR magazine

Make FutureHmong magazine your magazine. We want to
provide information, news and events that you are
looking for. Please take a few minutes to fill out this form and
send it in to us — because it's *your* magazine!

What's Going On?

List dates and times of any festivals, seasonal or cultural
events your community is planning in the next year. We'll
publish events in our Current Calendar in upcoming issues.

THESE EVENTS ARE PLANNED FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

Event

Date

Time

What Would You Like to See in FutureHmong Magazine?

☐ Childcare ☐ Fashion ☐ Lifestyle/Home

☐ Education ☐ Government ☐ Nutrition/Food

☐ Other interests _____

Who Is Not Receiving FutureHmong Magazine?

Please send a complimentary issue of FutureHmong magazine to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

We would be delighted to hear from you. If you have additional
information for us please feel free to send in clippings,
calendars or more names of friends or family you
would like to see receive FutureHmong
magazine. Send this form to:

Blong Yang
FutureHmong magazine
150 E. Franklin St.
Appleton, WI 54911





The Positive Place for Kids!

by Greg Lemke-Rachon

"I don't know what the future may hold, but I know who holds the future."

—Ralph Abernathy, U.S. religious and civil rights leader

When I was nine years old and a fourth grader at an elementary school in Appleton, a new kid came into our class. He had just moved to Appleton from Laos and his family was one of the first Hmong families to move into the area. He had spent some time in a refugee camp where he had learned to speak English fairly well. He was funny and smart, quickly learned how to play football and basketball, and soon became one of my best friends. He came to several of my birthday parties, was in my Cub Scout Troop, and I eventually visited his house and met the other members of his family. I remember being fascinated by what was my very first real exposure to a culture that was different than mine.

As we grew older, however, and moved into junior high school, we began to grow apart. He became less and less involved in school and other activities. He began to hang out with other Hmong youth that had since moved into the area and I began to spend time only with those kids who were just like me. Soon we were treating each other as if we'd never known one another. He had gone from being outgoing and funny with everyone, to quiet and reserved around those who weren't a part of his culture. I had gone from being excited over the differences in his culture and wanting to learn, to being afraid of being considered strange for hanging out with a Hmong kid. At the time, I didn't fret too much

over the loss of our friendship for I had a lot of other people in my life and I was pretty involved with sports and other things. To this day, I don't know if he was ever bothered by the loss of our friendship. I look back on that time with a mixture of regret and fondness. He was a good friend of mine and I value what he and I shared and how he opened my eyes to another way of life, but we grew apart and we both let our cultural differences and the pressures others put upon us get in the way. As kids, we really didn't know any better. But now that I'm an adult, I've found myself looking for ways to make sure that our cultural differences become our cultural treasures and that all our young people can be



friends throughout their lives.

Unfortunately, my experience nearly 25 years ago is still common today. Cultural differences remain barriers in the lives of too many of our kids. And while these barriers aren't the only causes, they certainly contribute to the many problems our young people face today. Kids need loving parents who give strong guidance, but they also need the support of the community they live in; they need a community that accepts all for who they are and one that works to give them access to the resources and opportunities they need to grow into happy, active, and responsible adults.

The Boys & Girls Club is an organization that strives to do just that. The Boys & Girls Club is a community organization with a mission to give all kids, especially those who live in challenging circumstances, a positive and safe environment through which they can become stronger and healthier individuals.

I am thankful to be a part of this amazing organization as Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club Fox Valley in Appleton, one of 21 different Boys & Girls Club organizations serving kids throughout the State of Wisconsin. The richness of the Boys & Girls Clubs comes from many things, but chief among them is the Club's focus on serving young people from diverse backgrounds. At our local Club, nearly 30% of the kids who participate are members of ethnic minorities; this in a community where more than 90% of the residents are Caucasian. I'd like to share with you some of the ways the Boys & Girls Club in your community can help support lifelong youth.

The Club offers young people what they need and want most—adults

who respect and listen to them; a safe environment where they can have fun and be themselves; and interesting, constructive activities that channel youthful energy into challenging pursuits. A youth development strategy that fosters a sense of belonging, competence, usefulness, and influence underlies all Boys & Girls Clubs programs and builds self-confidence and self-esteem.

You & Your Club

Boys & Girls Clubs are facility-based organizations that operate their many programs through the use of specially designed rooms and facilities that are dedicated to youth. For example, most Boys & Girls Clubs have education and technology centers to support the educational needs of their members and to house reading libraries, computers with Internet access, and reference materials. Other common spaces within Clubs include: gymnasiums, arts rooms, games rooms, teen centers, and food service areas. During the times the Club is open, these spaces are used only by and for kids. This helps the young people develop a sense of belonging—the building is theirs and they don't have to compete for the space with adults.

Caring and Professional Adults

Boys & Girls Clubs are also effective because they use professional staff to operate their programs and activities. Volunteers are an important resource and are used extensively as well, but in every Club the programs are the direct responsibility of caring, professional adults who have the training, education and experience necessary to provide quality youth development services. Clubs also seek to hire staff from diverse backgrounds. Here at the Boys & Girls Club Fox Valley, we have several lifelong individuals on staff including two full-time professionals and

several part-time program assistants. A diverse staff allows Clubs to work with many different populations of kids and to be able to communicate in different languages to parents who may not speak English.

Programs & Activities

Another key component of every Boys & Girls Club is its diverse array of programs and activities. Every Boys & Girls Club is different, but you can be sure that a young person who comes to a Club will be able to participate in activities within five major program areas:

- ✔ Sports, Fitness, and Recreation
- ✔ The Arts
- ✔ Education and Career Development
- ✔ Character and Leadership Development
- ✔ Health and Life Skills

Sports, Fitness, and Recreation activities include everything from board games played by a small group of kids that might require them to use their minds, to larger team sports such as basketball and floor hockey that require teamwork and physical skill and fitness. At the Boys & Girls Club Fox Valley, lifelong youth often participate in volleyball activities and have been members of the Club's traveling women's volleyball team. Teen nights at the Boys & Girls Club Fox Valley often involve as many as 50 lifelong teens playing volleyball in our gymnasium.

Arts activities frequently focus on the creation of visual arts, but performance arts are often included as well. The advent of new technology within many Clubs has resulted in tremendous expansion in the arts realm to include electronic arts forms such as photography and video production.



One area in the past few years that Clubs have prioritized has been education and career development activities. Many Clubs now have state-of-the-art technology centers where young people can learn how to use computers and where they become prepared for future careers. Homework help and tutoring programs often help Club members drastically improve their school performance. In one case at the Fox Valley Club, a young girl went from being in danger of failing 3rd grade, to getting straight A's in a matter of months because of the positive attention and guidance she received.

Character and Leadership Development activities as well as Health and Life Skills activities take on many different forms within Clubs. A certain element of each of these program areas is woven through all of the Club activities. For example, kids who are playing team sports are taught to play by the rules and expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship. Kids working on a visual art project may be asked to express a positive value through their creativity.

Clubs often provide additional programs and activities that help kids stay out of gangs and other kinds of trouble. Every Club in the State of Wisconsin, for example, offers a special program called Targeted Outreach through which young people who have been identified as being at-risk for gang involvement or other kinds of juvenile crime are matched with a professional staff person and guided towards more active involvement in the Boys & Girls Club. Many Clubs also provide counseling assistance, drug and alcohol resistance education, and truancy prevention and intervention programs.

Membership

Boys & Girls Clubs provide services for a wide range of kids. Most Clubs serve kids between the ages of 6 and 18 and do so through a membership structure. In other words, kids become members in a Boys & Girls Club, which allows them to participate in the Club's programs at any time that the Club is open. Perhaps one of the strongest qualities found in Boys & Girls Clubs is how easy it is to become a member. All kids are welcome to join and the cost is kept very low, generally no more than \$5 to \$10 per year. Kids and parents complete a simple membership application, pay their membership fee, and can begin attending the Club right away. All Boys & Girls Clubs are open at least five days per week four hours per day. Many have longer hours, especially during the summer months when many Clubs are open all day long. Because Boys & Girls Clubs are concerned that all kids have access, those who can not afford the membership fee are generally given the option of "working off" their membership by donating a couple of hours of community service to the Club. In most cases, parents are asked to come in for a parent orientation session as their children become members. This gives Club staff the opportunity to meet the child's parents and to explain the Club's goals, policies, and activities. It also gives parents a chance to ask questions and develop a level of confidence in the Club.

Benefits

Participation in a Boys & Girls Club brings with it a number of positives. In the first place, the Club gives kids a place of their own, a place where they can be themselves and feel safe and wanted. Second, the Club gives kids the opportunity to participate in a wide array of positive activities during non-school hours. This helps keep kids off of the streets and out of trouble. The after school hours is the

time when the vast majority of juvenile crime activity takes place. It's a time when many kids are unsupervised. Kids who participate in the Boys & Girls Club after school don't have the same opportunities to get into trouble as kids who hang out on the streets. In addition, the large number of fun and challenging activities the Club provides gives young people the opportunities they need to develop new skills, learn new things, and become better prepared to succeed in life.

Several studies of the impact of Boys & Girls Clubs have consistently demonstrated the Clubs' ability to reduce the incidence of some of our most pressing youth social problems. In one study, public housing neighborhoods with Boys & Girls Clubs showed a 22% decrease in teen drug activity and a 13% reduction in juvenile crime. A nationwide survey of Boys & Girls Club alumni showed that 52% of those surveyed believed the Boys & Girls Club had "saved their life," giving them hope and the opportunities to succeed they would have otherwise gone without.

Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the State of Wisconsin and around the nation are there to help improve the chances of success for our children in a world that has become increasingly dangerous and hostile to young people. The dangers kids face each day, whether through drugs, gangs, or crime, become overwhelming if our communities don't come together to offer help and hope. Local Boys & Girls Clubs reflect each community's best efforts and intentions to give kids every opportunity they need to grow into strong, healthy, and caring citizens. Take advantage of the wonderful services Boys & Girls Clubs offer and help your children become a part of **The POSITIVE Place for Kids!**

Graig Lenke Reichen is Executive Director of Boys & Girls Club/Fox Valley.

of the people...

GOVERNMENT

State and national legislative news

Wisconsin Has A Program To Help Send Your Children To College

by State Treasurer Jack Voight

The traditional custodial type accounts to save money for a child's college education have just gotten a boost.

Over the years parents have used series EE and U.S. Savings bonds, with tax exempt interest (if used for college and a few other conditions are met), Roth IRAs, which allow penalty-free withdrawals for college and Education IRAs, which allow for \$500 per year per child contributions to grow tax-deferred and tax-free withdrawal for college. While

some parents have opted for pre-paid tuition plans.

However, Wisconsin's three-year old state-sponsored college savings program, dubbed EdVest, has become a lot more attractive vehicle.

As of January 1, parents contributing to an EdVest Wisconsin account can reduce their taxable state income by up to \$3000 per child per year. This deduction is only available through EdVest.

There are other major benefits to consider:



Jack Voight

eligible public or private institution nationwide. The U.S. Department of Education maintains a list of eligible schools on its Web site.

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/Students/apply/search.html>.

Higher Education Contribution

Participants may invest enough to pay for five years of undergraduate enrollment at the highest-cost institution allowed by the program. The current maximum contribution is \$155,850, and can be made in a lump sum or in amounts as low as \$25 at a time.

No Income Limits

There are no income limits for participation in the program.

No Residency Requirement

The program no longer has a residency requirement. Neither the purchaser nor the beneficiary is required to live in Wisconsin to open an EdVest account.

Financial Aid Eligibility

EdVest account balances will not affect eligibility for state financial aid. The legislature wishes to encourage families to save in advance for college costs without jeopardizing potential financial assistance.



Yang Law Office

(920)993-7752
611 N. Lyndale Ave.,
Suite 190
Appleton, WI 54914



Attorney Thomas Yang and staff

Contact us regarding:

- Auto Accident
- Criminal Defense
- Immigration/Deportation
- Divorce, Child Support, Custody
- Business Law
- Bankruptcy

- Tishib Sib Nraus Raug Mob
- Toib Moen Uas Raug Tob
- Coov Xwin Ntes Kaw
- Raug Immigration Ka
- Taom Telechaw
- Siv Nraug
- Kev Cai Li Choj Kav Kev
- Ua Lag Ua Taom
- Iwv Nuq Ngi

Expanded Eligibility and Coverage

Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, legal guardian, and trusts may open an EdVest account. Individuals can open an account for their own use as well. The program now covers undergraduate and graduate tuition, fees, certain room and board costs, books, and equipment required for attendance at any

How to Open a Checking Account

There is a statewide program available for people who do not now have an account with a financial institution.

Called 'Get Checking' the program is a workshop which teaches people the basics of banking... choosing the right account, features and benefits of all types of accounts, how to operate an account... deposits, writing checks, reconciling and balancing a checkbook.

In addition, the small group workshops teach budgeting and credit... called the keys to successful money management.

Each person attending will receive a certificate allowing them to open a qualified checking or savings account at a participating financial institution. The class is taught by local community-based educators.

In order to get more information about the 'Get Checking' program call a local bank or credit union.



Some of the Participating Financial Institutions in the 'Get Checking' Program

Fox Valley Area

Citizens First Credit Union	920-832-5155
Community First Credit Union	920-630-7200
East Wisconsin Savings Bank	920-766-4046
Great Midwest Savings Bank	920-754-1426
M&I Bank	920-758-8800
Wells Fargo Bank	920-749-2500

Midwaukee Area

Alliance Credit Union	262-547-2400
AppleTree Credit Union	414-456-7813 x114
Fiserv Bank	414-874-2274
Great Midwest Bank	414-352-3710
Guaranty Bank	414-362-0890
Guardian Credit Union	414-649-0900
Ledger Bank	414-901-7517
Legacy Bank	414-343-6900
Manual Savings Bank	414-462-8880
St. Francis Bank	414-486-7009
State Financial Bank	414-525-5152
TCF Bank	414-344-3393
Wells Fargo Bank	414-224-2700

Minimum Investment Period

The program's minimum investment period will be reduced from four years to two years, beginning Sept. 1.

Refunds

Amounts not used by the beneficiary for qualified higher education expenses may be transferred to another eligible person's account or may be refunded to the initial purchaser. IRS rules require a penalty, currently 10 percent of investment earnings, if the funds are not used for educational expenses, unless the beneficiary receives a tuition waiver or scholarship, dies or becomes permanently disabled. Persons receiving refunds are also liable for taxes on investment earnings.

The EdVest Wisconsin program is administered by the office of Wisconsin State Treasurer Jack Voight. He said EdVest just became a lot more

attractive because the investment options available inside the account have just been increased.

"We've just negotiated with Strong Capital Management to offer expanded investment options and other services to program participants", said Voight. "The current system of investment options includes low risk, fixed return bonds will be supplemented with several blended fund portfolios, an index fund and an age-based or lifestyle allocation giving our people many more choices."

More information about the EdVest Program can be obtained by contacting Mr. Voight's office... State Treasurer of Wisconsin, 1 South Pinckney Street,

Floor 5, Madison, WI 53707-7871, phone 608/266-1714, or contacting investment companies in your own town.



We'll Hand You Free Checking WITH INTEREST!

If you need it a good thing doesn't deposit to your account at CitizensFirst, and interest is paid on your entire checking account balance. See full account disclosures at your store, or ask your clerk if not!

Do you get that at your bank?

CitizensFirst
CREDIT UNION

Chickadee • Menasha • Berlin • Portert
236-7800 • 632-2125 • 800-448-9228
www.citizensfirst.com

Pub lch tuc ag tag lun aug tag mho haw 09 01

MOVA

Sun Shines on Lao/Hmong National Festival of Wisconsin

September 1 & 2, 2001



Festival officials prepare for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Lao/Hmong National Festival of Wisconsin

Over 25,000 people attended the annual Lao/Hmong National Festival over the Labor Day weekend at the Brown County Fair grounds outside of Green Bay.



Dancers demonstrate their moves.



Crowds enjoyed the warm weather and sunshine.



Hmong veterans

The national festival drew people from Europe as well as parts of Canada along with festival goers from all over the United States.

The Executive Director of the hugely successful event is Za Biong Vang and the Chairman of the 2001 festival is Lao Xiong.

According to Xiong, the festival drew about 5000 people when it

started 14 years ago and has grown to a point now where it probably can't get much bigger.

"This is probably the peak now" said Xiong. Although the growth of the festival has been

achieved solely through participation of Hmong people.

Xiong said the festival could grow by attracting the rest of the community.

"We'd like to share our culture and tradition," he said.



*Miss Hmong Wisconsin candidates
adorn the stage during judging.*



*Za Hong Wang, Executive Director of the
Lao/Hmong Festival.*



WILDE TOYOTA



MIDWEST'S LARGEST TOYOTA DEALER

TOYOTA LARGEST SELECTION OF NEW & USED TOYOTAS IN THE MIDWEST!!

Pao Yang

Certified Sales Consultant

Wilde Toyota
3225 South 108th Street
West Allis, WI 53227-4021

Wilde Toyota is proud to present
Pao Yang, a Gold Level Toyota
Certified Sales Consultant who
has represented Toyota for over
three years.

"Are you looking for the best
inventory selection, price, and
service? Then call me. I will
assist you from start to finish...
making your experience at Wilde
Toyota the best you ever had!"

414-545-1000

WILDE TOYOTA

HWY 100 (3225 S. 108th St.) • West Allis • www.wildetoyota.com

Green Bay has a chiropractor that supports the Hmong Community!

PACKERLAND CHIROPRACTIC

Dr. Joseph Nelson

"I've helped many Hmong families and friends and I'm proud of the great strides you've made in the Green Bay area.

I look forward to helping you with your chiropractic needs now and in the future."



1641 Comanche Ave.
Suite C

Green Bay, WI 54313
(920) 496-8808

Dedicated to Helping Everyone Buy & Sell Homes



Mr. Vis
Client Customer Services

"Yog ciaj koj xav tau kev
pab nruag koj lub tsev
los yog xav yuav tsev,
kuv tmi] peev xwm pab
tau koj"



Kevin Dieck
Realtor

"ReMax tau pab ntau tsev
nrog yuav tsev thiab
nruag tsev rau sab NE
Wisconsin no tau los ntev
lawm...uas nruag ntau
yim yog nrog Hmong
lawm thiab. Hu suaj hnub
no cia pab pab koj."

RE/MAX Valley, Realtors

1000 N. Lyndale Dr., Appleton, WI 54914

Phone: 920-702-0122

www.kevindieck.com

missing money?

ARE YOU

Millions of dollars are being held by banks, insurance companies, businesses, and government offices waiting to be claimed by the rightful owners.

People have money coming from an insurance policy or moved and forgot about some money in a bank, or have money coming from an estate or dollars from a product rebate, or are entitled to a tax refund they haven't collected.

A current list of Wisconsin Among people with money owed them follows. Are you on the list? Do you know someone on the list? The person's last known address and the organization holding the money is listed. If you are on the list, contact the company shown.

Last/First Name	Last Known Address	Reported By	Last/First Name	Last Known Address	Reported By
Lin, Peng Wang	2225 S. Winchestr. Milwaukee	American WI	Yang, Chang Hong	1865 S. 37th St., Milwaukee	Wisconsin Electric
Lin, Qian N.	805 3rd St., LadySmith	WI Gas Co.	Yang, Chao	3207 W. Inc., Milwaukee	American Wisconsin Electric
Lin, Dai & Neng, Inc.	2364 N. 30th St., Milwaukee	American Standard	Yang, Hong	1631 Walnut St., Menomonie	American Wisconsin Gas Co.
Lin, Kai	1109 University Ave., Green Bay	E. Pruney	Yang, Gao Y	807 E. 3rd St., Beaver Bay	All State Insurance
Litt, Ma	615 West St., Wausau	GTE North	Yang, Kai Y	827 E. Walnut St., Green Bay	All State Insurance
Litt, Tina H.	3014 W. Oxford, Milwaukee	White Toyota	Yang, Pei	225 Sherman Ave., Stevens Pt.	Equitable
Liu, Yiu Hong	5305 N. 3rd St., Milwaukee	Dept. Of Corrections	Yang, Shoua	280 17th St., Wisconsin Rapids	Wisconsin Gas Company
Liu, Ying	744 N. 3rd, Milwaukee	American Family Mutual Ins.	Yang, Yang	1636 W. Milwaukee St., Appleton	Wisconsin Electric
			Xiang, Yue	695 McCollum St., Oshkosh	First Auto & Casualty Ins.
			Xiang, Yue	2506 Forest Ct., Oshkosh	First Auto & Casualty Ins.
Lot, Zi	645 Monroe St., Oshkosh	American Standard Ins. Co.	Xiang, Yue & Yu	2710 S. 10th St., Milwaukee	First Auto & Casualty Ins.
Moss, Chae	628 Logan St., Apt. 3, La Crosse	State Farm Mutual Automobile	Xiang, Feng Ping	2224 N. 3rd St., Wausau	GTE North
Moss, Phong	1500 E. Longview Dr., Appleton	Iowa National Add On	Xiang, Fens	2225 S. 10th St., Milwaukee	Marpower
		Legalization	Xiang, Tra V	39 N. Dodge Plz., Boardwalk	State of Illinois
Moss, Yang	809 Johnson St., La Crosse	Primerica Life Ins.	Xiang, Yang	645 McCollum St., Wausau	First Auto & Casualty Ins.
Moss, Yue	2955 W. Cherry St., Milwaukee	MetLife Bank	Xiang, Zui	617 N. Broadway & Green Bay	West Bend Mutual Insurance
Thao, Ying	1740 N. 32nd St., Milwaukee	Solo Realty	Xiang, Peng C	1910 N. State St., Milwaukee	State Of Illinois
Thao, Young Y	703 N. Durfee St., Appleton	Home Insurance Co. Inc.	Xiang, Su	1732 N. 3rd St., Milwaukee	American Standard Ins.
		Insurance	Xiang, Xue	1157 S. 28th St., Milwaukee	Minnesota Dept. Of Revenue
Thao, Ma	115 Kaskaskia St., Menasha	BP Processors	Xiang, Song	650 Centre St., La Crosse	Midland National Life Ins.
Thao, Phong	818 Hwy. 452, Menomonie	Auto Owners Insurance	Xiang, Soua	1401 S. 7th St., La Crosse	Landmarkers Mutual Casualty Co.
Thao, Thai	551 W. College Ave., Appleton	Thermo-Wisconsin	Xiang, Lu	4735 S. 50th St., Milwaukee	American Family Ins.
Thao, Waiwan L.	3900 Phoebe St., Wausau	Huddle Inc.	Xiang, Long	628 S. Maple Ave., Green Bay	Secure Insurance
Xiang, Yu	731 3rd St., Menasha	General Accident Insurance	Xiang, Lou	3212 Knight St., Marinette	Lakeview Foods
Xiang, Yu Mark	3825 N. 32nd St., Milwaukee	Heritage Mutual Ins.	Xiang, Mary	2127 Oakdale, Green Bay	State Of California
Xiang, Yue	911 Wood St., La Crosse	Progressive Northern Ins.	Xiang, May	804 18th Ave., Black River	Marpower
Xiang, Yue	9495 Carey Ave., Middleton	Jon Braunstein Inc.	Xiang, Moua	1194A N. 34th St., Milwaukee	Wisconsin Gas Co.
Xiang, Xiong	9334 W. Lupton, Milwaukee	Hudley Mutual Ins.	Xiong, Kei	524 E. McKinley St., Appleton	Community First Credit Union
Xiang, Xu	231 S. 9th St., La Crosse	State Of Washington	Xiong, Kuo T	1609 J. Bellinger St., Eau Claire	Minnesota Dept. Of Revenue
Xiang, Xue	337 Taylors Madison	Madison Gas/ Electric Co.	Xiong, Kuo	1820 Bellinger St., Eau Claire	American Family Ins.
Xiang, Yu	PO Box 6015, Madison	General Casualty Co. Of WI	Xiong, Hec	1585 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton	Community First Credit Union
Xiong, Song	905 S. River St., Appleton	State Farm Mutual Automobile Ins.	Xiong, Chae Mda	515 Hamilton St., Racine	GTE North
Xiong, Xue T	1706 W. Rogers, Appleton	State Of California	Xiong, Ding	555 Eugene St., Kimberly	State Farm Mutual Auto Ins.
Xiong, Xue	2034 N. 3rd St., Milwaukee	Jeune's Memorial Inc.	Yang, Gao J	1724 S. Lee St., Appleton	Poland Corp.
Xiong, Xue	1600 N. 33rd St., Milwaukee	IS West Communications	Yang, Fay T	736 Oxford Ave., Oshkosh	Insurance Co. Of North America
Xiong, Mei	4548 N. 48th St., Milwaukee	State Of Minnesota	Yang, Ping	315 Woodland Ave., Oshkosh	American WI
Xiong, Chong J	1340 N. 28th St., Milwaukee	American Standard Ins.	Yang, David	469 E. Thomas St., Wausau	First National Mutual Ins.
Xiong, Yu	1831 N. 11th Ave., Wausau	Scars Milwaukee Ins. Group	Yang, Ding	1134 Camp Circle Dr., Madison	Salisbury Stores
Xiong, Yu Zong	827 Walnut St., Green Bay	White Toyota	Yang, Duan	816 Reynolds St., Green Bay	State Of Ohio
Xiong, Xue	2702 W. State St., Milwaukee	M&F Bank Of Southern WI	Yang, Chao Cha	2801 W. State St., Milwaukee	Heritage Mutual Ins.
Xiong, Chong	522 Kenzie, Madison		Yang, Dang	1351 California St., La Crosse	Iowa National Mutual Ins.
			Yang, Chong Mi	800 S. Jefferson St., Green Bay	Iowa National Mutual Ins.
			Xiang, Allen	622 Miami Plz., Madison	American Standard Ins.
				646 Grand St., Wausau	Pizza Hut

Wounds of the West

by Gloria Nelson

A strong and proud people having no real country to call their own have moved from Laos to Thailand and finally the United States. People of the Hmong race had to uproot themselves during various times over the past hundred years, including the war in Vietnam during the 60's placing themselves in a foreign land. Each place they'd move to throughout history was their home, carrying with them their personal belongings, strong religious beliefs and rich culture they would share with their children. Each time they would move, they would need to adjust to some of the new ways of blending in with their current surroundings. The most challenging of those moves was when families came to the United States. It seemed as far as the east was from the west, in more ways than just miles.

One such young woman, who was born as a result of what would have been a crime in the United States, lived with parents in her early infant months after they were forced to marry to avoid shame. That union ended in divorce and the young mother remarried when the baby girl was two years old. She had been born in a refugee camp in Thailand and shortly after her family moved to the United States and eventually made their home in Appleton, Wisconsin.

While her mother could have been freed from the shame she bore, her strong cultural ties had her carry that shame as she did her personal belongings when she came ashore to the United States. The baby girl's stepfather took on the responsibility of raising this child, but the tie that should have bound them as father and daughter never took hold. The young woman, through tears, shares her story of always feeling differently than her brothers and sisters who were born later to the couple. Her mother also felt the need to single her out as her "special" child because of her shame; at times causing a great strain with her younger family members.

She was a daughter who felt the call of duty, respect and

honor in how she related to her parents. She was given the opportunity of a good education in a parochial Catholic school and scored well on her report cards. She was pretty, well behaved, intelligent and often used to interpret writings and legal issues for her parents and their friends. There were times when this young woman became confused growing up because the teachings in her home were Shamanism, vastly different than the Christian teachings she was learning in school. The gap began to widen between the ways of the East and the West.

Not only were there religious differences, but also this young woman was growing in the ways of the West and moving towards independence. She had a strong desire to be like her friends and fit in at school and her neighborhood. People in the States raise their children to become self-supporting and self-sufficient. It is usually the hope of American parents to give their children wings to fly and soar, providing a better way of life than their parents enjoyed. The understood ways of the East are to have children educated so they may provide for their parents in their aging years as their duty. The gap widens further.

This young woman grew into a beautiful teenager who had a desire to excel in school and also earn spending money and work toward saving for college. She saw clearly the value of education and how big the difference would be for her future if she failed to build a firm foundation for herself.

Her parents were displeased with her style of dress, her part-time work and were distrusting of the American friends she'd made and how they influenced their daughter. Fights over work and friends would become a regular part of this teenager's years at home and soon the fights turned physical. The type of discipline used when she was a little girl would have been cause for Social Services to remove the child from her home into

foster care. The type of emotional discipline used when she was a teenager became too much to bear and caused this young woman to speak to a counselor at school and be placed in a foster home.

The hurt to both the parents and the child were felt very deeply. She remained in a foster home for the last two years of her high school education until she went on to college. Her parents didn't understand how she could be so disrespectful, and she didn't understand how her parents could be so hurtful. Not only did they all have to adjust to their new homeland, but the pain of yet another separation. The gap of the first meeting West continued to widen.

As a young woman, she attended college and majored in psychology. Her relationship with her parents was that of a deep wound and she felt as though she could never bridge the gap or find healing.

She set about creating a new life for herself and worked in Minneapolis, Ohio and finally, came back to Wisconsin. Now a young woman of 24 with a successful business career, she has opened her heart as a first step to forgive her parents for not only the punishment that she felt was unfair as a young girl, but for the false trust of her actions when she'd done nothing wrong as a teenager. It was through a chance meeting of an older American woman that she opened her heart, as well as her hurt, and received the caring acceptance of another adult who listened and understood. It was this older woman's sharing that anger only hurts the person who feels it. It is like the saying, "Acid rots the pot it sits in." The older woman encouraged her to forgive her parents, reminding her that forgiving had nothing to do with allowing herself to be hurt again in the future. She began to understand healthy boundaries for herself and where and how to define them.

As an adult, she has realized that the journey was far more than thousands of miles for her parents. She has a heart of compassion for their loss of control over their lives, the changes in cultural surroundings and how difficult the adjustment has been for them over the years with all the barriers built around them. She no longer feels angry and hurt, but has opened her heart to feel their loss, their struggle with the difference in language,

culture and a lack of roots, as they have no home to return to, but were forced to make a life here in the United States.

Her parents have also changed. Their first reaction to her choice to live in foster care made them angry and they disowned her as if she had died. Her mother's longing to be with her daughter, and love, finally won out as they were reunited only a month ago. Through tears and hugs, mother, daughter and stepfather are all working toward accepting one another and their differences.

This young woman has grown and opened like a flower. Not only is she able to stand on her own two feet and take care of herself, but she is able to help her parents, without guilt or burden, as they grow older together.

Wounds heal. While they leave scars and we don't forget the pain of the journey, there is hope in healing for the differences between not only parents and their children, but hope for the blending and accepting of two very different cultures and worlds.

MATC Thov Caw Koj

We celebrate the significant contributions of the Hmong community. We support your success by inviting you to...

Asian Family

Career Exploration Night

Tuesday, November 6 • 5:30-7:30 pm

MATC - Truax Campus

3550 Anderson St., Madison

- Career options and MATC programs
- Discover support services such as English as a Second Language and financial aid
- Find out about student group activities
- Have fun with your family and neighbors
- Enter our raffle - you may win a prize

Translators are available
For more information call

Lue Thao:
608/246-6587

Calvin Williams:
608/246-6710



Madison Area
Technical College



Kev raug mob nyob rau sab hnub poob

by Gloria Nelson Translation by Ha and Sai Vang

Ib pawg neeg uas muaj peev xwm thiab txaus siab rau lawv tus kheej tab sis sis muaj ib lub teb chaws uas yog lawv ntawg tug tau khav tawm lub teb chaws los txuas los rau Thailand es thaum kawg txog rau lub teb chaws America. Hais neeg Hmoob tau tsiv teb txaws chaw ib qho rau ib qho rau muaj ib puas xyoo dhuu los lawm, nrog rau thaum ua tsor xog arog cov nyab taj liab thaum xyoo 60 tawm ntawd. Txhua qhov chaw uas lawv tau mus nyob ib zaug lawm lawv hu tias yog lawv lub teb chaws los yog lawv thaj av ib yam nkais thiab; yam uas coj tau nrog niam lawv mus txhua txhua qhov chaw yog lawv tej khoom siv, txoj kev ntseeg thiab kev lis kev cai uas lawv yuav khaws cia qhia rau lawv tej me tub me nyuam. Txhua zaug uas lawv mus nyob dua ib qhov chaw tshab lawv yuav tau xyuam qhov tshab kom haum xeeb nrog rau cov pej xeeb uas lawv mus nyob arog. Qhov uas loj thiab tseem ceeb tsuj yog thaum tuaj nyob rau lub teb chaws America. Nws zoo li deb kawg uas sab hnub tuaj yog sab hnub poob lawm, tsis yog ib ncua kev lawm xwb.

Muaj ib tug ntshais hlus uas yug los ntawm ob niam txiv ua tau raug quab yuam sib yuav thaum ntawm vim yog tsis xav poob ntsej muag. Yug mob teb chaws America no ces twb txhaum loj kawg li lawm. Nkawm niam txiv no tau sib ntau ces kee jiam tau mus yuav dua tus txiv tshab thaum tus nyuam no muaj ob xyoox. Tus me nyuam nu yug nyob rau teb chaws Thailand tsis ntev ntawd nws tsev neeg tau khav tawm tuaj mus nyob rau teb chaws America no. Thaum kawg

lawv tsev neeg kuj tau tuaj nyob rau hauv lub zos Appleton, Wisconsin.

Nws niam twb dhuu txoj kev poob ntsej muag tau ib nyuag ntu lawm, nws txoj kev lig kev cai tau khi nrog nws niam txoj kev poob ntsej muag tseem nyob tawm tias twb nyob rau teb chaws tim no lawm. Tus me nyuam kee txiv tshab tau ris lub nra tu tias me nyuam uas kee jiam coj los kom loj hlob, tiam sis qhov uas yuav khi kom tau kee txiv tshab thiab tus me nyuam me no kom nkaw yug ob txiv tub tag no jeej tsis tau li. Tus ntshais hlus no tau poob lub kua muag thaum nws plov txog nws txog kev xav uas txawv ntawm nws cov xiv ntawm thiab cov mus uas yog cov uas yug tom qab nws ntawd. Nws niam kuj tau cais nws tib keeg tawm li nws yog ib tug me nyuam txawv bwm tus vim tias nws tau ua lawv poob ntsej muag, lub caj ntawd kuj tau ua rau nws thiab cov yau tsis sib raug zoo.

Nws yog ib tug ntshais uas luag hu txog thaum twg ces yuav tau mus pab, sab tau luag bwm tus, thiab ris txiaj ntawm nws txoj kev sib raug zoo arog nws niam thiab tsiv lawv. Nws kuj tau txais kev qhuas los ntawm kev kawm ntawv zoo nyob rau Parochial Catholic School thiab kawm tau zoo heev. Nws yog ib tug neeg zoo nkauj, coj yam ntawv zoo, txawv nse thiab ntau zang lawv kuj tau siv nws txhais lus, sau ntawv thiab pab txog kev phab nrog rau nws niam nws txiv thiab lawv tej phooj ywg.

Muaj ntau zaum uas tus ntshais hlus no tau tsis to tauab zoo txog nws txoj kev loj hlob nrog rau txoj kev ntseeg ntawm kev ua neeb ua yang

nyob rau hauv tsev txawv ntawm txoj kev kawm txog kev ntseeg. Yajtwne nyob rau hauv nws lub tsev kawm ntawv. Qhov no ua rau nws muaj kev sib nrog thiab txawv loj xaj zus txog txoj kev ntseeg ntawm cov neeg sab hnub tuaj thiab sab hnub poob.

Tsis yog txoj kev ntseeg txawv xwb, tab sis tus ntshais hlus no kuj loj hlob mus nws li cov neeg sab hnub poob lawm thiab nws rau sab nso kom nws pab tau nws tus kheej. Nws muaj zoo hom phiaj li nws tej phooj ywg thiab coj thaum nrog lawv nyob rau tom tsev kawm ntawv thiab cov neeg ib neeg ntawm nws. Niam txiv nyob teb chaws no tu lawv tej me tub me nyuam kom muaj peev xwb pab kom tau lawv tus kheej. Qhov uas cov niam txiv neeg American ntshaw yog xav kom lawv pab tau lawv tej me nyuam tau lub neej zoo tsu thiab nyob kuj stab lig. Rawv li cov niam txiv nyob sab hnub tuaj txoj kev xav, lawv ntseeg tias lawv yuav pab lawv cov me nyuam kawm ntawb kawm ntawv txawj ntse es lawv thiab li pab tau lawv cov niam thiab tsiv thaum lub caj lawv laus lawm. Txoj kev xav no kuj txawv lawm thiab.

Tus ntshais hlus no loj hlob los zoo nkauj kawg thiab muaj lub hom phiaj zoo rau txoj kev kawm nyob hauv tsev kawm ntawv thiab tseem ua hauj bwm kom tau ntawj coj los siv thiab txawv ntawj los pab rau kev mus kawm ntawv qib sib (College). Nws pom qhov tseeb txog txoj kev kawm tseem ceeb npaum li cas thiab nws pab tsis nws lub neej yuav poob qis npaum li cas yog tias nws tsis npaj rau nws tus kheej.

Nws niam thiab txiv tsis nyiam tej khaub ncaus uas nws hnav, nws txoj hauj bwm "part time" thiab qhov uas nws niam kev phooj ywg nrog cov neeg American thiab nyiam ua li lawe. Kev sib ceg txog tej kev ua hauj bwm thiab tej phooj ywg niam tus ntxhais hnav no muaj nyob rau hauv tsy neeg niam zaus nws cia li rig mus ua kab mob kev nkaes lawm. Nrog rau tej kev cob qhia uas tsis rang kev rang cai thaum nws tseem yu los, qhov no tau muaj teeb meem ua rau tus me nyiam no rang Social Services nrog them nws mus nyob rau tom tser niam qhuav "Foster care". Tej kev qhuav no ua rau tus ntxhais no tsis tau mus thiab tau mus tham nrog tas "Counselor" nyob tom tser kawm nrawv ces lawv thiab li muab nws them coj mus so rau "Foster Home" lawm.

Kev mob sib thiab ntxhov plawv ntawm leej niam leej txiv thiab tus ntxhais no ua rau mob tob kawg li. Nws tau nyob hauv Foster Home tau ib lub xyoo ua ntej nws tag "High School" mus txog rau thaum nws mus kawm college. Nws niam thiab txiv lawv tsis to taub cas cas nws thiab yug ib tug me nyiam uas tsis muaj kev hwm hlo li, thiab cas nws thiab tsis to taub tias nws niam thiab nws txiv mob sib npaum li cas. Tsis yog hais tias mus nyob lub teb chaws tsahis es yuav tau coj kev cai tsahis xwb, tab sis tsy neeg tseem sib tang tag thiab. Txoj kev xav tsis sib xws niam sib hnav tsaj mus mob rau sib hnav poob no pheej tseem muaj loj xaj zus.

Tus ntxhais no tau mus kawm nrawv nyob rau college thiab kawm txog psychology. Nws txoj kev sib rang zoo nrog nws niam nws txiv lawv zoo li yog ib lub qhov mob loj heev uas txawm nws yuav tuam tus choj li cas los yeej tsis txog thiab pheej ntshav tsis tau qhov tsuaj coj los kha qhov mob no kom ngawm.

Nws tau npaj sib pob lub neej tshah thiab ua hauj bwm nyob Minneapolis, Ohio thiab thaum kawg no, nws rov qab los nyob rau hauv lub xeeb Wisconsin. Tam sim no tus ntxhais no muaj hnoob nyoog li 24 xyoo nrog txoj kev nyoog nse, nws tau qhib nws lub sab uas yog thawj kauj niam zam txim rau nws niam nws txiv lawv uas tau rau txim rau nws uas tsis yog txoj kev nyoog nsees thiab nws niam nws txiv tau niseeg yuam kev txog tej yam nws twb tsis tau ua txhaum thaum nws tseem yau. Hmoov zoo muaj ib hnuv mus tau nseb ib tug poj niam American dweb los uas nws tau tham nrog thiab qhib nws lub sab rau thiab nws txoj kev mob yav tag los. Nws tau txais cov lus mus las muag ntawm tus neeg las uas txais sib mloog thiab to taub txog nws. Yog tib tug poj niam las no xwb uas tau tham txog kev chim es thiab mob nws lub sib xwb. Ua li hais os "Cov tsuaj nre qab tom nws lub kauj kaub". Tus poj las ntawd tau txhawv zog kom nws zam txim rau nws niam nws txiv, ua rau nws niseeg tias kev zam txim yuav tsis yog ib qhov ua rau nws mob ntxiv hnav nws lub neej yav tom ntej lawm. Nws rov qab to taub zoo txog qhov phem thiab qhov zoo ntawm nws tas kheej thiab qhov twg thiab yuav ntshav rau lub nseb-hus tseeb.

Thaum yis yog ib tug neeg loj paub tab lawm, ua rau nws paub txog tias txoj kev nws yuav tang tseem deb tsaj tsahis nyles ntawm nws niam nws txiv lawv. Nws muaj lub sib hnuv txog rau tej kev puam tsuaj uas lawv sawv dawv tau muaj dham los hnav lawv lub neej yav tag los, vim tej kev cai tsahis, kev xyam ua nws tej neeg nyob ib ncig ntawm lawv zoo li tws kev tag tsis pom qab ua zaj twg. Nws tsis chim thiab tsis hnav mob sib txog qhov phem thiab txoj kev ntxhov sib uas muaj

dham los lawm, tab sis nws qhib nws lub sib xav txog tej teeb meem uas muaj niaj hnab niam no xws li tej kev ib kev cai tsahis uas yis yuav tau yuog nyob rau hnav lub teb chaws no thaab vim tias yis hnav neeg Hmoob tsis muaj lub teb lub chaw nrog huag nyob yog li ntawd yis yuav tsam tau npaj lub neej kom rau nyob rau teb chaws America no.

Nws niam nws txiv lawv los kuj tau puav ntaw lawm thiab. Thaum sub thawj leej niam leej txiv muaj kev chim thiab to sib hais tias nws tau txawv tam sib mus nyob rau Foster Care lawv tau zam tias nws tau tag ib sim neej lawm no xwb. Nws niam txoj kev ntshav nrog nws tas ntxhais thiab, thiab txoj kev hlab ua rau lawv thaum kawg tau los sib sau nyob ua ke li qab los tau li ib hli lawm. Zaum no los lub kua muag vim yog kev zoo sib uas leej niam, leej ntxhais thiab leej txiv tsahis tau rov los sib sau los nyob ua ke dha thiab sib kho los sib hwm. Kom sib rang zoo ntawm ib tug rau ib tug.

Tas ntxhais no tau loj hlob yam li lub paj twg tshah. Tsis yog tias nws pab tau nws tas kheej nkais xwb nws muaj cuab kar pab tau nws niam nws txiv yam tsis xav txog yav tag dham los li xws li thaum lawv sawv dawv muaj hnuv nyoog las zaj zus ua ke.

Lub qhov mob ntawd txwv ngawm lawm. Txawm tias nws yuav muaj qhov caws phev thiab yur nco ntsoov tsis ploj tej kev mob yav tag, los, los peb tseem muaj kev cia sib tias peb yuav muaj txoj hnav kev los sib idu kom hnav xeeb ntawm leej niam leej txiv thiab tej me nyiam. Nixiv ntawd, peb tseem yuav muaj kev sib rang zoo thiab so taub txog hwm hnav neeg txoj kev coj moj coj ua thiab txoj kev xav.



Everything you need to create the best fish tank set-up ever!

Fish • Fish food • Fish tanks and accessories
Over 10,000 different products for your pet.

Shop
Pet Supplies Plus
for everything
you need for your
fish or pet.



Pet Supplies Plus
is your pet's
best friend!

Appleton locations:

Northland Mall
(920) 832-3858

Valley Fair Mall
(920) 993-1220

A great place for a new beginning!

"UW-Eau Claire has been my door to many opportunities. My involvement in student organizations, the community, intramurals, honor societies and work has contributed to my overall success and enhanced my educational experience."

"Kuv yog Maiv Hnub Muas. Kuv niam thiab txiv nyob Green Bay. Kuv kawmtawv nyob lub tsev kawmtawv qib siab UW-Eau Claire. UW-Eau Claire tau qhib qhov rooj dav rau kuv ntawv yam. Kuv koom ntawv lub koomhawm thiab ua haujlwm rau UW-Eau Claire thiab pab zej zog. Tej kuv ua noj txhawb kuv kev kawmtawv mus zoo miab mus siab."

Maiknue Moua
Communication
Green Bay, Wis.

For more information about opportunities for you at UW-Eau Claire, contact **Charles Chou Vue** (Hwm Tsu Vwj), Hmong/Southeast Asian program coordinator for the American Ethnic Coordinating Office, at vuecc@uwec.edu or call (715) 836-3367.

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire



***You Can Expect Personal Service
...and Powerful Results.***

I Am A Coldwell Banker The Real Estate Group Associate

***My fellow associates and I are dedicated to helping
you find the perfect home for your family.***

***We will take the time with
your special needs
and concerns.***

***We will work hard
to make your next
move a good one.***

***You can always expect
to receive our
personal best
in every transaction.***

***We'll work hard to make
Real Estate, Real Easy™.***

-Tou Lee

A black and white portrait of a man, Tou Lee, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

**13 LOCATIONS
IN NE AND CENTRAL WISCONSIN
1-888-407-2660**

COLDWELL BANKER
THE REAL ESTATE GROUP, INC.

FutureHmong

Voice of the Hmong

January 2002

Interracial Marriage

Different ethnic
backgrounds, one
idea of love

FEAT. 500
US PEOPLE
FIND
ASYLUM IN US
DEPT. NO. 20

HMONG POLICE
OFFICERS

EXCLUSIVE:
General
Yang Pao

100% Privately
Audited, WI Sales
Change Service
Required



Shop the Valley's Import Leader

...where you'll get a great deal more in service, selection and price!

We have a great selection of new and pre-owned Toyota models and can access our statewide inventory to find the car you need! Hmong sales associates speak both Hmong and French. They'll help you with all the paperwork, financing and servicing your new car.

BERGSTROM

Lexus • Toyota • Honda

of Oshkosh

3285 S. Washburn Street

(920) 236-1000

1(800)947-1002

www.bergstromauto.com



Toyota Sienna

Toyota Corolla

Please bring this ad in for an additional \$200 off any new or used Toyota purchase.



Wa Moua, Sales Consultant

"I'm happy to show you Toyota vehicles so your family has options when buying a new car, truck or van."

"Kuv txawv siab yuav qhia thiab koj koj mus saib cov tshab Toyota kom koj tsev neeg paub txog kev yuav tshab tshab xws li tshab, truck los yog van."



HONDA

Shop the Valley's Import Leader

...where you'll get a great deal more in service, selection and price!

We have a great selection of new and pre-owned Honda models and can access our statewide inventory to find the car you need! Hmong sales associates speak both Hmong and French. They'll help you with all the paperwork, financing and servicing your new car.

BERGSTROM

Lexus • Toyota • Honda

of Oshkosh

3285 S. Washburn Street

(920) 236-1000

1(800)947-1002

www.bergstromauto.com



Wa Moua, Sales Consultant

"I've lived in the area all my life and I'm proud to help the Hmong community. I can help you when you purchase or service a new or used car. Just ask for me!"

"Kuv ib txwm nyob hauv lub zej lub xos no tag kuv lub neeg thiab kuv zoo siab pab pab cov pej xeeb Hmoob. Kuv yuav pab tas koj txog kev yuav tshab tshab, tshab qub, thiab kho tshab thiab. Thov tuaj nug kuv!"



Honda Odyssey

Honda Accord

Please bring this ad in for an additional \$200 off any new or used Honda purchase.

FutureHmong

Vol. 2, No. 1

cover story

10 INTERRACIAL MARRIAGES

Comments from the Hmong community and an exclusive interview with a couple living the marriage.



4 FUTUREHMONG UPFRONT

Editor's view and comments about this issue's contents.

6 SALUTE TO POLICE OFFICERS

The growing number of Hmong officers in Wisconsin and an inside look at one of them.

8 HAPPY BIRTHDAY GENERAL VANG PAO

A look at a man credited by many as being the major Hmong leader.

17 FUTUREHMONG BEST BENEFIT'S DISCOUNT HEALTH CARD

Providing an easy way for Hmong families to save money.

20 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A photo essay of some of the Wisconsin celebrations.



Finding the Right Home Loan Just Got Easier!

- Friendly loan officers
- Easy loan application
- Affordable rates

Call us for Refinancing or
Purchasing a home

Do you get that
at your bank?

CitizensFirst
CREDIT UNION

Oshkosh • Menasha
Berlin • Pickett
236-7040 • 832-2125
800-448-9228
www.citizensfirst.com



Feb. 1st 2002 10:10 AM

© 2002 CITI

FUTUREHMONG DISCOUNT HEALTH CARD

At *FutureHmong*, we are always searching for new information and products that would benefit our readership. In the past, I have employed numerous Hmong employees and found that insurance and health benefits are an important issue for our people. That's why *FutureHmong* has partnered up with a company that will be able to help you save a lot of money on your prescriptions, vision and dental needs.

If you are interested in saving a lot of money, you will find more information about the *FutureHmong* Discount Health Card on pages 17 and 18. The only purpose of the *FutureHmong* Discount Health Card is to help you

save money. As we run into opportunities that will be beneficial to you, our readership, we will bring it to your attention.

ONE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION!

I greatly appreciate the numerous calls from people across the state inviting me to visit their New Year Celebration. I was not able to make it to all of them because many of them fall on the same day. There are some photos from a few of the celebrations in this issue to share with everyone. I hope every celebration was a success.

I am sure many of you have thought of it as well...having one centralized New Year Celebration for the entire state of Wisconsin. It can even be moved from city-to-city, year after year. Think of the

opportunities an event like this can create. The Wisconsin Hmong

population is, according to the 2000 census, about 31,000. However, according to the Hmong leaders around the state, the Hmong population should be around 45,000-50,000. This would be classified as a major event. There would be more sponsorship opportunities

from local and statewide businesses bringing additional dollars to help support our

communities. You would be able to see friends, relatives and neighbors from all across the state. And of course, there would be more fun!

On the downside, there would be much more responsibilities and work to be done to organize an event this big. However, many of the summer festivals already have been drawing up to 25,000 people. It can be done. This would show unity in the Hmong communities to everyone. Would you come? What cities would be favorable to host this event each year? Who would have the experience and manpower to organized something like this? Please send us your thoughts.

UNITY

General Yang Pao, at his 72nd birthday celebration in Milwaukee recently, talked about the unity of Hmong people. GVP said we should help and support each other for the better of all Hmong people. In my opinion, we are far from that. I see many Hmong people still only helping those with the same last names...socially and in the workplace. We only support Hmong businesses where the owner has the same last name as us. We compete with ourselves and lose sight of what's important...unity for all Hmong people. Until we learn to help and be supportive of each other, our struggles and challenges will continue.

Shang Yang, Editor

Kuv yog ib tug lows kbo mob (chiropractic) uas muaj peev xwm pab tau cov neeg uas muaj mob mob qaum, caj dab, caj npab, kuv ceg thiab lwm thoaj chaw ntwam yus lub cev. Kuv tau pab ntau tus dhu los lawm thiab tej zaum kuv yuav pab tau koj ib yam akau. Hu tauj hnub no teem sij hawm tauj nsih kuv.

Txiav daim ntwam no nqa ntrog koj tauj kuv yuav kuaj koj tas mob thiab ntrog koj cham ntrog koj yam tis xam nqi rau koj them li.

Tis kam siv ntrog lwm yam los kev nqi
Txaus hawm tau cov neeg ntsib cov thiab



Dr. Robert E. Swenson

**Swenson
Chiropractic S.C.**

954-6465

1414 North Richmond St.
Appleton, WI 54911

FUTUREHMONG DISCOUNT HEALTH CARD

Nyob rau *FutureHmong*, peb mob sib nhlhav txoj hauv kev pab thiab nhlhav yam uas yuav muaj nqis rau peb cov neeg uas nyceen peb tsah ntawv no. Yav tag los, kuv muaj coob tus neeg Hmoob ua hauj bwv rau kuv thiab kuv pom tau tias insurance thiab health benefits tseem ceeb kawg rau peb cov neeg. Yog li ntawd *FutureHmong* thiab li muaj kev koom tes ua hauj bwv ua ke nrog ib lub company uas yuav muaj peev xwm pab tau koj txuag koj cov nyiaj txog phab kev yuav tshaj, kuj qhov muag los yog txawv kev qhov muag thiab phab kev kho hnub.

Yog tias koj xav koom txuag tau nyiaj, koj yuav nhlhav tau ntau yam los ntawm *FutureHmong Discount Health Card* nyob rau nplooj ntawv 17 and 18. Lub hom phiaj ntawm *FutureHmong Discount Health Card* tsuas yog pab koom koj txuag tau nyiaj nkaus xwb. Yog peb mus nhlhav tau ib txog kev uas yuav pab tau koj thiab yuav muaj maj nqis rau koj, peb yuav qhia rau koj pab sai.

IB XYOOS TWG NOJ TSAIB PEB CAUG IB ZAUG

Kev zoo siab heev uas muaj coob leej ntau tas nyob hauv peb lub xeev no tau hu tuaj rau kuv caw koom kuv mus nrog lawv koom thiab mus saib lawv no! Tsiab Peb Caug. Kuv mus koom tsis tau ntau lub thiab vim yog tias ntau zaos muaj ob peb lub tsiaib peb caug noj rau tib hnub xwb ces kuj ua rau kuv mus tsis tau txhua. Hauv phau mawv no yuav muaj daim poav duab uas yees txog noj tsab peb caug rau nej txhua tus saib. Kuv

vam tias txhua tus lub tsiaib peb caug yuav mus tau zoo raws lub siab xav.

Kuv xav tias yuav muaj coob leej ntau tus xav tau lawm thiab tias...kheev peb lam muaj ib lub peb caug loj rau tag nrho rau peb cov pej xeev nyob hauv lub xeev Wisconsin no mac. Thiab muab noj ib zaug rau ib lub ntrog rau ib xyoo twg. Xav tias yog ua tau li no mishe yuav muaj ntau yam zoo tsawm sim rau peb heev. Nyob rau lub Xeev Wisconsin no peb cov neeg Hmoob muaj li 31,000 leej neeg raws li kev tshaj ntawm xyuas xyoo 2000. Tiam sis raws li peb cov thawj coj Hmoob hais mas muaj li ntawm 45,000 mus rau 50,000 leej neeg Hmoob daim. Yog peb ua tau li no mas mishe peb lub tsiaib peb caug yuav loj heev li. Nws kuj yuav yog ib qhov zoo ua peb cov tub tag tub hant hauv peb lub ntrog los yog bwv lub ntrog muaj kev ua lag ua. Hant thiab pab tau sab kev khwv nyiaj pab yus tej pej xeev thiab. Yas tseem yuav muaj kev sib ntlh yus tej kwe tij phooj ywg, kwe tij neej tsa thiab tej tshieb ze sawv daws ua yog cov nyob deb thiab ze tib si. Tsis tag li ntawd, peb yuav muaj kev koom zom dua thiab.

Qhov uas tsis tshua zoo mas yog li no, peb yuav muaj hauj bwv ntau tshaj, yuav tau siv zog tshaj qab thiab khwv tshaj qab mas peb thiab yuav khiav tau lub haug hauj bwv tawv koj rau peb lub tsiaib peb caug loj no. Txawm li cas los xli, peb twb tau muaj ntau lub Summer festivals uas loj heev muaj xws li 25,000 leej neeg no lawm. Yeej yuav twam ua tau xwb. Qhov no yuav qhia tau tias peb txhua leej

Hmoob muab kev sib koom tes thiab sib pab. Koj puas yuav tuaj? Lub xos twg thiab yuav txawv siab txawv lub tsiaib peb caug loj no tej lub xyoo twg? Leej twg thiab yuav muaj lub siab ntes thiab peev xwm los npoj khiav tej hauj bwv no? Thov qhia rau peb pab sib koj ho xav li cas.

UNITY

Yawg Hlob Nai Phoo Vaj Pev, nyob rau lub koom tshiej nco txog mws lub hnub yug uas yog muaj 72 xyoo tau npaj muaj nyob rau lub zos Milwaukee dheer los tsis tau ntev no, tau tham txog kev sib koom tes thiab kev ua ib pab ib pawg ntawm peb hauv neeg Hmoob. Yawg Hlob tau hais tias peb yuav twam tau sib txhawv zog koms peb cov Hmoob tsuas muaj zoo zuij zus mus ntxiv lawm yav tom ntej xwb. Rawv li kuv xav mas, peb tseem nyob deb ntawm qhov hais tag ntawd kawg li. Kiv pom tau tias tseem muaj coob leej Hmoob uas lawv tsuas muaj lub siab pab cov uas muaj tib lub xeev li lawv thiab xwb sis hais kev sib pab ntawm kev ua noj ua hant los yog nyob rau tom chaw ua hauj bwv. Peb tseem phleej pab txhawv tej kev lag hant uas nis tseem ntawd yog tus muaj lub xeev xws li peb lub thiab xwb. Peb tsuas coj li qhov peb nyiam xwb tab sis qhov tseem ceeb tshaj uas peb tsis pom. yog...kev sib peb thiab kev ua pab ua pawg ntawm peb hauv Hmoob tag nrho. Yog peb tsis xyawm sib koom tes thiab sib txhawv zog, peb tej kev nyuab siab thiab kev sib tawm tsam yeej tseem yuav muaj mus ntxiv.

FutureHmong

Dedicated to the advancement
of the Hmong community.



Published by: Y Enterprises
Editor: Hmong Yang
Administration: Summit Marketing Group, Inc.

Contributors:
Wisconsin Police Departments
General Yang Pao

Design & Production: Ann Parvus
Translation: Kay Yang and San Yang

All rights reserved. Reproduction or use of
any of the FutureHmong Magazine material
without permission is prohibited. No
responsibility is accepted for unsolicited
manuscripts, cartoons or editorial. Opinions
expressed in the magazine are not necessarily
endorsed, nor does the magazine assume
responsibility for statements made in either
advertisements or articles published.

Single issue price \$3.95. Back issues
\$4.50 mailed, subject to availability.
Base subscription price \$19.95 per year.
Reprints available for 500 copies.

Editorial/Advertising: 920/993-0690
Subscriptions: 920/993-9336
Fax: 920/993-0691
E-Mail: publisher@ahsmc.net

Postmaster:
Send change of address to
Y Enterprises, Inc.
130 East Franklin Street
Appleton, WI 54911

TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE

A Salute to Police Officers

BROWN COUNTY



Paul Thao



Neo Su Xiong



Brian Thao

LAKE COUNTY



Hong Lee



Hong Ky Mee



Long Vong

WAUKESHA



Guang Lee



Pao Yang

SHERIDAN



Hong Yang

There are many more Hmong
officers around the state.
Unfortunately, their photos were
not available. We will continue to
bring you Hmong people serving
their communities.



Chue Thao, Appleton Police Department

Police Officer...

one of the most important
jobs in our country, more so
now than ever before.

We're happy to report
that each year
there are more
Hmong officers on
police department staffs
throughout Wisconsin,
not just dealing with
the Hmong community
but with all
people in a city.

One of these officers is Chue Thao of the Appleton Police Department. Out of a staff of 110 Appleton officers Chue is one of only 12 selected as a school liaison officer.

Chue works in elementary schools, dealing with the students, teachers, administrators, parents and the community, performing a variety of duties and services.

"My job is a variety of duties," said Chue, "but mostly it's to help guide the kids so they can reach the potential they all have in them. It's about mentoring as much as it is dealing with behavior problems. It's about giving the kids someone they can talk to and trust...someone who can help them with relationships at home, in the classroom or with fellow students."

"I work with many kids and sure I deal with more Hmong youth than probably any other group because I can more easily relate to what they are going through," he said.

"Many times the Hmong parents are just not as involved in school activities as the parents of other kids and that often presents problems," Chue continued. "The kids are more Americanized and the parents don't quite understand what's going on, so I try to pull both sides together to benefit the family. I try to have them both understand the values of each culture and that we need to take the best of both in order for the kids to prosper."

"I do get involved in investigating crimes and abuse situations but I see my job more as one of prevention and counseling so that problems don't occur. There's a variety of resources available that I work with to help the kids, from within my department, from teachers and administrators, from places like the Boys

& Girls Club and from sports related organizations and from social service agencies."

"Many times," Chue said "I can tell what's bothering a kid just because I've lived many of the situations they're in. Once they realize that I really do understand, it's a lot easier to help them."

And Chue does know of what he speaks. He was born in Laos, spent six years in a camp in Thailand and came to the United States in 1982, when he was 12 years old. There were 15 in his family and his father passed away just two months after arriving in the U.S.

After spending some time in Chicago, where the family was sponsored by a church, they moved to Appleton. Not speaking the language was the biggest problem but he forced himself to learn as quickly as possible. Sports played a big part in developing not only his language skills but his ability to become part of his school and the community. He went through the Appleton school system, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, enrolled in the Appleton Police Academy program and spent 436 days training to become a police officer. When he graduated he became a field training officer for 12 months and finally a regular Appleton Police Officer. His wife, Chia Vang, is a teacher in the Appleton school system and his father-in-law is a minister at the Appleton Hmong Alliance Church. He met his wife at the church.

"I have one of the best jobs anywhere," he said. "Anytime you can help guide and influence a child to achieve more than what they believe they can, or help straighten out a troubled kid and get them on the right path it not only helps the kid and the family but the entire community," Chue concluded.

Happy Birthday To General Vang Pao

A man honored and respected by Hmong and Americans alike, and credited with bringing the Hmong people to the United States turns 72.

by Bling Yang



General Vang Pao and his wife thanking the Hmong people of Milwaukee for the party.

I have never met General Vang Pao in person before his 72nd birthday. I have heard very positive and very negative things said about General Vang Pao, the man many credited with saving hundreds of thousands of Hmong people by bringing them to the United States.

On December 8, 2001, General Vang Pao's (GVP) supporters threw a birthday party fit for a king for him in Milwaukee. I was invited and introduced to GVP. Many Hmong people my age (31) and younger, more than likely, only know GVP through word of mouth, Hmong media or our parents. Obviously many

have their own opinion of GVP. I had the opportunity to find out for myself.

GVP seemed to be a man of few, but powerful words. It is clear he is a leader that is respected and honored by many...Hmong and Americans. My job was to find the

reasons why. I watched. I listened. And I talked to many who have known and supported GVP for most of their lives. One man said, "The General is kind and cares greatly for Hmong people. He shows his kindness with money, food and his leadership support. At a time like this where our people are scattered

all over the world and are looking for hope, it is important for us to know and show our support for GVP. He truly cares and will continue to help Hmong people."

Most are aware GVP played the key role in working with the United States during and



State Senator Gary George sitting with General Vang Pao.

after the Vietnam War to bring the majority of the Hmong people to the United States. And for that we are forever grateful. What I was looking for though was what is it about this man that most still look to him as the current leader of the Hmong people? Younger generations especially do not understand. What I found out was GVP seemed to be a man of honor. He is a leader who seemed to truly care about his people...a leader with the strength, knowledge and wisdom to still lead the Hmong people today.

I would describe him as a man with powerful words, a man with strong character and a man who wants to see great things for the Hmong population. GVP mentioned he is working hard with organizations, such as Wells Fargo Bank, helping them to understand the potential of Hmong people in business and in personal finances. That is why they should invest in the Hmong communities across the country making it easier for Hmong to borrow money for business ventures, as well as others such as mortgages, car loans, and personal banking.

I do not know this man well. As part of a generation of Hmong people who grew up in United States and do not know much regarding Hmong history and based on the words of many, General Yang Pao is a good man and a strong leader who's trying hard to leave something "good" for Hmong people for generations to come.



The General is escorted to his limousine as he prepares to depart.

A great place for a new beginning!

For more information about opportunities at Eau Claire, contact **Charles Chau Yue** (Hien The Ve), Hmong Southeast Asian program coordinator for the American Ethnic Coordinating Office, at cecho@aeo.edu, or call (715) 836-3387.

University of Wisconsin
Eau Claire



See me for all your
family insurance
needs.

✓ AUTO ✓ LIFE ✓ HOME ✓ HEALTH



Kevin Andrasek, Agent
605 S. 24th Avenue Suite 22
Wausau, WI
715-846-6243

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there®
statefarm.com™

State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois



Interracial Marriage... A Look at Both Sides

by Blong Yang



We are part of America and America is completely made up of different races, nationalities and cultures. That is what makes America strong - the blending of many other cultures throughout the world.

We Hmong are the latest to become involved in this American blending process. There are certainly many different views within the Hmong community about the marrying of our people to non-Hmong Americans.

Wanting to get different opinions, we asked Hmong people on the internet for their input. Realizing that most of the people who would answer us were probably younger Hmong who have access to the internet, we none-the-less got a varied response. We were surprised by the number of people who answered us, so we know it's an important subject. The results of the responses are as follows:

- About 75% of male responses were **against** interracial marriages/dating.
- About 75% of female responses were **for** interracial marriages/dating.

The question now is, why is there such a significant difference between male and female responses for and against interracial marriages or dating? Here are some experts so you can better judge...

"Look around at the Hmong who married into other races. Do their marriages last, or have they already been divorced? I have three friends, two guys and an attractive young Hmong girl. They were married to white chicks and a rich white man. But ten years later their lives were miserable and ended up in divorce... please marry your own race and you'll have a long lasting life here in the USA."
Male

"...just because some have married other races and failed does not mean that all marriages of different races will fail. I strongly disagree that just because you marry your own race automatically guarantees success. The success or failure of any marriage is not based on race alone. It is based on the compromises, compatibility, love, caring and the STRONG belief in the faith that marriage is forever. So many Hmong and Americans

divorce today because it's the easy way out, the quick cure. If we Hmong are guaranteed to have successful marriages when we marry our own kind, why is it that the number of Hmong divorces continue to climb so rapidly?"
Male

"...I think we judge too harshly on marriage with other ethnic cultures or races"
Female

"I guarantee that if you are married to a Hmong girl...your life would be better much, much better...because you speak the same language and of course both parents are Hmong...not like those low-life who married trash and then life begins to fall apart. Remember Hmong people are unique!"
Male
(This guy obviously has issues!)

"I myself have thought I'd marry a white man (due to the environment I grew up with), however relational experiences with persons of other cultures (White, Hispanic, Black—platonic or not) have made me reassess this stance. I need someone who understands my culture and consciously works to adhere to some of its practices (familial loyalty and communal obligations)."
Female

"When you're married/dating a nationality other than your own...you don't see them as 'different' You just see them as your equal-half...I can't explain the feeling...only the ones actually married to or is dating someone of another nationality know what I mean."
Unknown

"As a Hmong female, I hate narrow-minded and racist people. I can't stand people who think everyone has to be like them to get their approval. Man, if you have

live long enough, you should know that no two people are quite the same. There you are, looking like you know every White, Chinese or Black person on earth. You can't judge by one experience as one person." *Female*

We are so worried and are always conscious of what others think of us. We wonder if "they" like or accept us. We try to protect our children from discrimination. And yet, we forget to sometimes look to the interior.

To give a glimpse of what the future will be like in America for many Hmong children, here is one example of what you will continue to see as we slowly all become Americans.

Wyndi and Jason are both 20 years old, have been married for several years, live in Wisconsin and both work professionally.

Jason, born and raised in Wisconsin, and Wyndi (Hmong name...Chuan), were not attracted to each other because of race, but because of the person. "You can't really control who you fall in love with," said Wyndi.

Chuan (who uses Wyndi as her professional name because it's easier for people) was born in Thailand and has been in this country for over 20 years. Her parents are traditional Hmong who still value culture and traditions very much.

Wyndi has dated outside the race before but had never discussed the possibility of marriage with a non-Hmong person with her parents. After a period of time during Jason and Wyndi decided to get married... another for many couples. The only problem was that Jason had never met Wyndi's family before. Wyndi, knowing her parents are traditional Hmong parents, was concerned about their reaction to the marriage idea.

Jason's parents, on the other hand, accepted Wyndi and the marriage idea rather quickly. In fact, according to Jason, his parents visited Wyndi more like their daughter and Jason as the son-in-

law. Wyndi's parents, when they found out about the marriage idea, were somewhat disappointed. "I don't think it was me personally, but the fact that I was not Hmong and that... I understood," said Jason.

Prior to sharing the good news with Wyndi's parents, the couple consulted Wyndi's brother-in-law and had asked him to help break the news to her parents, which helped the situation tremendously. Then the two sets of parents, with Wyndi and Jason, got together for dinner. "It went fairly well and it also helped that some of Wyndi's cousins had also married outside the race," said Jason.

What really made the marriage more acceptable was Jason's willingness to go through the traditional Hmong marriage ceremony. "It was my way of showing her parents and the culture respect and that our intentions are to be married to Wyndi and her family not just Wyndi," said Jason. Many Hmong parents fear they will lose their children when they marry outside the race. Jason and Wyndi were married twice, once in the traditional Hmong ceremony and also later in a church wedding.

There were, and continue to be, adjustments the two of them have had to make. Very few problems appeared outside the immediate family. There's the occasional stare at a restaurant by, as Jason puts it, "... people that don't know any better..." but paying attention to them is "just a waste of time."

Within the family, Jason's difficulty involves annual communication. "While I'm learning a little Hmong at a time, I'm having trouble talking to some family members. My brother-in-law is great translating for me, but I sure would like to be able to sit down and talk with Wyndi's grandmother. I'd like to answer her about our life together and my respect for the Hmong traditions."

Wyndi, on the other hand, is the lucky one. She's able to communicate with everyone. She is family with both sides and has the best of both worlds. "Our most satisfying times are that we know

we have a lot of acceptance by my family," said Wyndi. "It's been a bit of an uphill trip, but it's coming and my family knows that we're still a major part of their lives and always will be."

Truly, Jason is a security conscious and Wyndi is a devoted hugger. As for the future, they both will be taking it as it comes, as many other married couples do, and are looking forward to starting a family.

"We both want children," said Wyndi, "probably in a year or two, when we're in our own home." They both agree that their children will have the advantages of getting to know both cultures and will be taught both languages as well. "They will have both an American name and a Hmong name," said Jason, "and will be able to take the best of both worlds with them throughout their lives. There will always be some racism in the world, but no one can do too much about the ignorance of a few."

We are not sure if Jason and Chuan are completely typical of an interracial couple, but we believe they are more so than not. One of the numerous parents at first getting and then over coming challenges. For Hmong parents, hear what your children are saying to you. America is different than Laos and Thailand. They want to fit in. We want to hold our children accountable for decisions they make... good or bad, but we have to let them make some decisions in order to hold them accountable.

For Hmong children, know the hearts of your parents. They love they will love you forever. They scold and yell but their message is, "I love you and I don't want to lose you." The last seems to be out race, not culture, but how two people really feel and care about each other.

Most parents tell me the most important thing is them to be the constant of knowing their children are happy and are doing well, that they have families of their own, and that they love one another. The rest, over the long haul, seems to be unimportant.

Kev Xav Los Ntawm Ob Tog... Txog Kev Sib Yuav Nrog Lwm

Say los ntawm: Hong Yang

Translated by: Kay Yang and Sao Yang



muaj ntawv yam uas pab ib leeg xav xawv ib leeg nyob rau hauv peb huav neeg hauv txog kev sib yuav/sib tham nrog rau tus uas tau yog neeg Hmoob Americans.

Xav paub thiab xav hnub saib hwm tus neeg ho xav li cas peb tau muaj ntawv tus Hmoob nyob rau hauv internet saib lawv ho xav li cas. Peem ntawv ntawm cov tau teb peb cov lus muaj rov qab ntawd yug cov hluas tus bwe paub ntawd tau muaj rau hauv internet, peb kuj tau txuas muaj tus cov lus teb rov qab tuaj thiab. Peb kuv zoo siab tias muaj ntawv tus teb muaj ua rau peb paub mas qhov no yog ib nqi lus teem ceeb heev thiab. Cov uas tau teb muaj ntawd muaj txawv li ntawv qab no.

- Muaj li 75% uas yog cov tawv neeg tau teb tuaj lawv tawv txam txog kev sib yuav/sib tham nrog rau hwm huav neeg.
- Muaj li 75% uas yog cov poj niam tau teb tuaj lawv pom zoo sib yuav/sib tham nrog rau hwm huav neeg.

Qhov xav paub yog li no yog vim li cas qhov kev xav ntawd thiab li txawv ua kuj huav txog kev sib tham hwm huav neeg thiab yuav hwm huav neeg los ntawm peb cov tawv neeg thiab poj niam Hmoob? Huav qab no yog ib cov lus uas lawv tau huav rov qab tuaj, kuj ho meem thiab sah kuj ho xav li cas...

"Sim saib ib nqi ntawm peb cov Hmoob uas tau yuav huav hwm huav neeg seb. Lawv piam na huav lub xawv nto nto, los yog hwb sib muaj huav? Kuv muaj peb tug phooj yug, ob tug yug tawv neeg thiab ib tug yug sibntawv hmoob-ntawv muaj xom hwm ntawd. Lawv tau yuav poj niam uas yog huav duab thiab yuav hwm uas yog neeg huav duab muaj nyiaj nplawv muaj. Tham



*Good Neighbor Service...
Good Neighbor Agent*



Pa Nhia Lo, Agent
1270 Main Street Suite 140
Green Bay, WI 54301
920-884-3125
pa.n.lo.jr@statefarm.com



"Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there."
statefarm.com

State Farm Insurance Company • Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois

AUTO • LIFE • HOME • HEALTH

si tom qab 10 lub xyoo aban mus
ntabul laave' lam loj kev lej ab
ntebow plates' bece ntawm haug
laave' kuj sib muaj haug... abow yuav
yus coo neeg xab es thab li tau lub
neef nam meef thab nts ntse nyob
ram teb USA tim no." Tus Tse Neef Hais

"...tsis yog bats tas tus pome tau
yuav hwm hwm neeg es laave' lub
neef mus tsis nto ntse tsis lam
tshab bats thee tag nyob coo' uas
tau mus yuav hwm bats neeg yuav
mus tsis tau thab tsis ntawm haug
tib si. Kuv tsis ntawm tib si tag yuav
yuav yuav bats neeg Hmoob laam
es yeg kev los tau yuav tam tau
lub neef 200 tau xab. Qhov tas
yuav tau lub neef 200 thab bats 200
no kuj tsis yog kus ntawm kev yuav
hwm bats neeg ntawm xab. Nws
tsis yog nyob ntawm yuav tsis kev
tib ntawm neef, cob lam sib ntawm
kev sib thab, ts tag tsawj pab ts
tag thab qhov uas muaj tag tsab
plates' cas yog kev tsis ntawm xab
thab muaj kev ntawm tib kev ab
yuav zom no yog yuav sib tau
nyob na ke mus tag tsis tobi. Muaj
cob kev American thab ntawm tus
Hmoob tau tsis ntawm sib tau tag
tib bats tas qhov ntawm yog tsis
kev, yog yim tau laave' daws laave'
qhov tsis muaj xab. Yog muaj
tsab bats tas yuav Hmoob yuav yuav
Hmoob cas lub neef yeg 200 xab
xab no uas cas ntawm hwm ntawm no
pab Hmoob muaj kev tsis ntawm
cob xab tas laam ma?" Tus Tse
Neef Hais

"...Kuv tau mus pab muaj laam
tam haug kev tsis tag ntawm hwm
bats neeg kev aban laam." Tus Tse
Neef Hais

"Kuv pab tsab tas yog kev yuav
pajam Hmoob... koj lub yuav
yeg yuav 200 xab... tsis bats tas
tib ob kev bats tas tsis yuav hwm
thab ob kev ntawm tsis kev pab
yeg Hmoob... tsis yog coo neeg lub
neef qis qis es mus yuav coo ntawm
neeg seem bow tag thab lub neef
pab pab tsis tag tas xab. Nws
ntawm bats tas, Hmoob yog coo

neeg uas 200 tsab plates'... coo
ntawm ntawm kev ntawm yuav hwm
haug uas ntawm kev tsis tam tam laave'
bats neeg dsa." Tus Tse Neef Hais
(Tas no muaj kev tsis hwm laam
tib)

"Kuv, yog ts tag tas tas tas tas
ntawm yuav yuav ts tag tsis uas yog
neeg laave' daws (ntawm ts kev tsis
kev tsis thab pab pab ntawm
kas tag thab tag tas), tamam ts cas
ts tag, mus ts yuav tag tas uas kev
tsis tas plates' yeg ntawm hwm tas neeg
uas tsis yog neeg Hmoob (daws,
maw, daws... na kev plates' yeg xab
kas tag) uas tas tas coo' uas yuav
qhov tsab plates'. Kuv tas tas ts
tag tas kas ts kas tag tag thab
sib yuav ts kev tsis kev coo' ntawm
ntawm (daws yuav tas neeg muaj ntawm
thab tag tag kev neef kev
kas)." Tus Tse Neef Hais

"Thaum kev yuav tsab thab ntawm
hwm bats neeg uas tsis yog kev coo
neeg laam... koj yeg tsis pab qhov
uas laam 'coo' ntawm'. Kuj ntawm
pab laam 200 ts yuav ntawm ts kev
thab xab... kas pab tsis tas qhov
kev tas ntawm... laam yog coo' uas
tas thab hwm bats neeg kas tag
yuav hwm bats neeg ntawm thab
pab qhov kev bats no xab." Tus
bats tsis qhov kev

"Tas ts kev tag ts tag ntawm
Hmoob kas ntawm coo' neeg tsab
ntawm uas plates' thab haug hwm
bats neeg haug ts. Kas nyob tsis
tas tag coo' neeg uas neef plates'
kas hwm ntawm tas yuav tam 200
ts mus xab es mus thab ts pab 200
ntawm. Yog tsis kev muaj tsis ts
nyob ntawm mus kev yuav tam pab
tas tsis muaj kev tag tas yuav 200
ts yuav ts kev. Kuj tas; kev bats
thab ts uas kev pab thab kev
kas tsis nyob tas lub ntawm tib no.
Kuj thab kas tag qhov tsis tsis
tib tag neeg uas kev tas pab
ntawm xab." Tus Tse Neef Hais

Pab xaw daws ts ts ntawm ntawm
tag qhov haug hwm tsis xab ts cas
tas pab thab no' ntawm tas tam
tag tsis xab ts cas tas pab no xab.
We tsas xaw ntawm tsis ts 'tag tag'

yus yuav ntawm yus kas tag thab
yus. We ntawm hwm pab coo' kom
pab tsis ne' ntawm tsis (xob tag
haug hwm hwm neeg cas thab
tham. Tam tsis, pab tsis tsis noo
qab tsis pab tsis kev hwm tam tas
thab.

Muaj tsis ts ntawm kom tsab tsab
tsis lub neef nyob tas ts chaw
America no yuav 200 ts cas tas pab
tsis ne' ntawm Hmoob, uas yog ts
qhov pab tas ts pab tsis yuav
pab tas tsis mus tag tsis thab
pab tsis tag tsis mus ts neeg
American laam.

Wendi thab kas ntawm ob kev
pab kev muaj 26 xyoo ts ts laam,
ntawm tas ts yuav tas ob pab xyoo
no laam, nyob tas lub xab
Wisconsin thab tas haug hwm 200 tas
laam.

Jason, yuav thab tsis hwm nyob tas
neef Wisconsin no, thab Wendi Gape
Hmoob... Chaw, ntawm tsis tsis
ntawm kas tag tsis ntawm tsis
ntawm ntawm coo' ntawm daws, ts
tsis tsis yuav ntawm tas kev
xaw. 'Kuj yeg coo' tsis tas tas kev
yuav hwm kev kev tag tsis. Wendi
hwm ts

Chaw (tsis tsis uas lub neef Wendi
xaw ts kev tag kas kas yuav yuav
tas tas daws ts), uas yuav nyob
tas ts chaw thab tas nyob tas
ts chaw no tas 20 tas xyoo no
laam. Nws ntawm thab mus tsis
hwm daws coo' Hmoob tas kev tag
kev cas qab tag thab tsis muaj ntawm
kas ts.

Wendi kuj tas thab hwm ntawm uas
yeg hwm hwm neef tsis tsis tas
tham tag qhov uas yuav ts yuav
kas tag tsis tas tsis lub neef ntawm ts
tag neef uas tsis tag Hmoob ntawm
uas ntawm thab (tsis ntawm ts tag
ts). Tam qab thab Jason tas ts ntawm
ntawm thab tag tsis tam tsis tsis
yuav... 200 ts yuav ts hwm ntawm
ntawm tsis thab. Qhov tsis ntawm
yeg tsis Jason yeg tsis tas pab
Wendi tsis neef tsis ts. Wendi, pab
laam tas uas ntawm thab tsis tsis
coo' Hmoob kev tag kev coo' hwm mus

xyov lawe yuav xaw li cas txog, ntawm qhov nkawv txoj kev sib yuav no.

Jason niam thiab txiv kuj yog zoo thiab. Lawv los txais Wendi thiab lub tshoob yam tsis muaj dab tsis li. Qhov nteeb, nws li Jason tau hais, nws niam thiab txiv nkawv seem hlob. Wendi li nkawv tus ntawm hos seem thiab Jason li tus yav. "Wendi niam thiab txiv yeej tsis txais sib pes txawg txog qhov wb yuav sib yuav. Kuj tsis yog lawv tsis niam kuv tsis kheej tab sis txuas yog tsis kare tsis yog ib tug neeg Hmoob xwb... los kuv kuj to taub lawv zoo thiab," Jason tau hais.

Va ntej uas yuav hais qhia rau Wendi niam thiab txiv, nkawv tau thiam neeg Wendi tus txiv laus thiam es miam li kome nws pah neeg nkawv mus hais qhia nws niam thiab nws txiv xwb, kuj ua rau qhov no mus rau zoo kwag li thiab. Ces nkawv thiab li tau teem ntug nkawv niam thiab nkawv nteeb tsis kom lawv muaj mus nej lomo ua kev ntug rau nkawv ob leeg ib si. "Nws kuj mus rau zoo thiab kuj paub tias Wendi kuj muaj cov vix ncaus kwv tli tau mus yam txiv bwn hais neeg thiab," Jason tau hais.

Qhov uas zoo tsisai plawv uas nkawv txoj kev sib sau ua neej no mus rau zoo mus yog tias Jason txuas sib mus yuav Wendi nws li peb Hmoob txoj kev cai thiab. "Nws yog ib qhov uas kuv qhia rau nws tsev neeg tias kuv yuav tias nws tsev neeg thiab lawv txoj kev cai thiab tsis yog kuv yuav Wendi nkawv xwb," Jason tau hais. Coob kee ntawv tus niam txiv Hmoob tau poob sib tias lawv yuav plam lawv tsis metnyam mus tas li lwm yog tias nws mus yuav bwn hais neeg lwm. Jason thiab Wendi nkawv tau sib yuav ob zaug, ib zaug yog sib yuav ntawv Hmoob txoj kev cai tas ntawd nkawv miam li ho sib yuav dua ib zaug ntawv nyoh rau tom Church thiab.

Kev xyaum sib kho thiab sib yooq ntawm nkawv ob niam txiv yeej seem muaj. Kuj muaj tej teeb meem me me nyob sib nrauv uas tsis yog

lawv ob tsev neeg ktag ua thiab. Xws li mus noj mov nyob tom chaw noj mov es muaj neeg tau tsis nkawv heev, "...tej neeg uas tsis paub tab dab tsis li..." ntsa thiab ntawg tej mawv ces "nkim yus lub sijhawm xwb."

Nyob rau hauv tsev neeg, Jason kuj muaj teeb meem uas tsis sib to taub cov lus. "Kuv kuj tau xyaum hais thiab no tauh me ntawv tsis Hmoob, kuv tau muaj teeb meem thiam neeg tus nyav nyob rau hauv tsev neeg. Kuv tsis dab kuag kuj txhais tau las zoo kwag, rau kuv thiab, tab sis kuv kuj xaw kom kev txawj es zaum thiam tau ntug Wendi pog thiab. Kare xaw hais qhia rau nws paub txog ntawm wb lub neej uas wb tau los sib sau ua neej thiab kom nws paub tias kuv nyam thiab sib lawv txoj kev txoj cai rau nej thiab."

Wendi, nws yog tus Hmoob zoo es tseem muaj peev xwm thiam tau ntug txhais tus huav tib si. Nws yog tus zoo rau ob tug tib si thiab zoo li nws tau sau ob lub ntiaj teb los nyob ua ke. "Qhov uas wb zoo sib tsisai plawv yog tau kev tsis txais los ntawm kuv tsev neeg," Wendi tau hais. "Nws kuj zoo li txoj kev nce toj kwag, thiab tab sis kuj zoo toj zas thiab vim paub tias kuv tsev neeg seem xam txawv tias wb seem muaj nej nej rau hauv lawv lub neej thiab."

Ntawm lub mam no, Jason yog ib tug Security Consultant thiab Wendi yog ib tug Dental Hygienist. Lub neej tom ntej nkawv kuj ib yam li bwn kee bwn tus txawj nkawm thiab, npaj sib yuav pib lub neej rau tsev neeg.

"Wb ob leeg xav tau me nyuam tib si," Wendi tau hais, "tej zaum ib ob xyov tom ntej no xwb, thiam twg wb muaj vaj muaj tsev thiab wb mus nyob wb lwm." Nkawv ob leeg kuj xav tau tias nkawv cov me nyuam yuav paub ob txoj kev lig kev cai thiab yuav paub hais ob yam lus tib si thiab. "Lawv yuav seem muaj ib leeg ob hls npe, ib lub yog npe Hmoob hos ib lub yog npe America," Jason tau hais, "thiab yuav seem cov

kom tau zoo rau ob tog rau ob lub ntiaj teb no mus tag lub neej. Kev sib nrauv seem thiab sib thiam bwn hais neeg yeej yuav nrauv muaj mus tag mus li nyob hauv lub ntiaj teb no, tab sis Yeej yuav seem muaj kev sib nrauv seem nyob rau lub ntiaj teb no xwb, tab sis yeej tsis muaj leej twg yuav txawv tau los yog ishem tau tej las tsis muaj ntsis no ces yuav tau uv me ntsis xwb."

Peb kuj tsis paub zoo tias Jason thiab Chona nkawv puas yog ob nkawm niam txiv xws li bwn nkawm niam txiv tab sis peb ntseeg tias nkawv seem yuav zoo dua thiab. Kev txhawj xeeb thiab ntsis tej yam uas yav nws tsis paub yuav ua rau peb tsis muaj kev lej hlob thiab yuav ua chaw nyuj sib thiab ntxoob sib rau peb. Peb cov ua niam ua tsis, yuav tau ntawg peb tej metnyam hais thiab. Tej chaw America kuj txawv Ntlog teb thiab Thab teb. Peb xav kom peb poa tau thiab haur neeg huag tau. Peb yuav tau ntawg thiab ntawv nej rau peb cov me nyuam qhov kev txawv txim sib thiab... (ntawm zoo los yog phem, tab sis peb yuav tau cia lawv txiv txim sib rau lawv tsis kheej thiab kom lawv thiab paub tias lawv muaj teem law ntawm lawv tsis kheej. Peb cov me nyuam Hmoob, peb yuav tau xam pom peb niam thiab peb tauv lub sib thiab kev ntawv. Lawv txhawj xeeb tias seem lawv plam nej mus tag ib tshis. Lawv nteb thiab cem peb heev, tab sis lawv lo kuv yog hais tias "kuv hlob koj thiab tsis xav plam koj mus tag ib tshis." Lub ntiaj hais tsis yog ntawm daim ntawv, tsis yog txoj kev lig kev cai, tab sis yog ntawm peb qhov kev xav thiab hlob tshis ntawm peb ib leeg rau ib leeg xwb.

Feem ntawm ntawm cov niam txiv Hmoob tau hais rau kuv tias qhov seem creb tsisai plawv rau lawv ces yog xav poa thiab paub tau tias lawv cov me nyuam muaj kev zoo sib thiab muaj lub neej vam nceej, muaj lub zoo cuob yig, ntawv sib thiab. Ntawv ntawd, rau sib ntsis ua lub neej xwb ces yog qhov uas zoo lwm.

DON JACOBS TOYOTA

A GREAT DEAL BETTER



2002 New Year Sales Event

All NEW 2002 Toyotas

Sale Priced for this Once A Year Event!

See why we are your best choice for a vehicle

Largest Selection of Minivans, Trucks and SUV's in our history!

The All New 2002 Toyota Camry is On Sale!

Special Financing Rates that give you the lowest payments

AND DON'T FORGET.....

*Factory Recommended Oil changes are included
with every New Vehicle Purchase for as
long as you own it at no additional charge!**

**See our HUGE Selection of
Pre Owned Vehicles All on Sale this Month
Because...The Best New Cars Make The Best Used Cars.**



TOYOTA | everyday

Easy to Get to From ANYWHERE!



M-F 9:00am-9:00pm, Sat 9:00am-5:00pm
414.281.3100 1.800.572.6490
www.donjacbstoyota.com

**EARN UP TO
\$75,000
PER YEAR**

*No Experience Necessary
Training
Full Benefits*
Car Allowance*
& More!*

** Please ask for more
information*

*Don Jacob Toyota has a great
opportunity for a fun and
outgoing salesperson.*

*Don Jacob Toyota will train and
equip you to help people own
some the best cars in the
world...TOYOTAS! Start making
some serious money today and
have a great time doing it!
Good English and Himong
preferred.*

*Call or send your
resume today to:*

**Andy Haros
Don Jacob Toyota
5727 S. 27th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53221**

(414) 281-3100

Equal Opportunity Employer

*Every 7500 miles for the original owner with any new car purchase or lease. See our professional sales staff

Success Story



Thuha

MATC Graduate, Computer Information Systems – Operations

"I was happy that MATC provided free tutoring, English As a Second Language instruction, financial aid, helpful instructors and other services such as: counseling, educational planning, job placement and the United Asian Student Association Club.

My learning experience at MATC was excellent. I think as a student with language barriers who doesn't yet understand U.S. culture, MATC is the best place to help a person grow and learn in this country. MATC has helped me to prepare for my future and to become a valuable member of the community."

BECOME A SUCCESS STORY.

For information on short-term certificates, 1- and 2-year programs or college transfer options, call 608/246-6587 or email: [Lus.Thao](mailto:Lus.Thao@madison.tec.wi.us), Asian Student Advisor, at lythao@madison.tec.wi.us



Madison Area
Technical College

www.madison.tec.wi.us



Everything you need to create the best fish tank set-up ever!

- Fish • Fish food
- Fish tanks and accessories

Over 10,000 different products for your pet.

Shop
Pet Supplies Plus
for everything
you need for your
fish or pet.



PET SUPPLIES PLUS
We don't just feed & dress you.

Pet Supplies Plus
is your pet's
best friend!

Appleton locations:

Northland Mall
(920) 832-3858

Valley Fair Mall
(920) 993-1220

If not now, when?

Leather for Every Lifestyle

LEATHER
LIFE-TOGETHER FURNITURE
Your Appointments Only

Menards - Friday 10-9 • Sam's Club 10-6 • Staples 11-7
1633 W. College Avenue • Appleton • (920) 835-0596
2429 Allied Street • Green Bay • (920) 338-3145

FutureHmong's Best Benefits Discount Health Card Saves You Money



FutureHmong has put together a discount plan for the Hmong community to save money on vision care, dental care and prescription drugs.

Turn the page and fill out the form that will help you begin saving money!

We realize that a lot of people don't have insurance coverage, or have insurance plans that don't cover a lot of the costs of eye care, dental work and prescription drugs. So we partnered with Best Benefits and designed a plan to help with these expenses.

It's called the *FutureHmong* Best Benefit Discount Health card and here's how it works.

You pay only \$89.95 and receive the discount health card, with your name on it. The card covers your entire family and comes with a 60 day free trial. You can cancel it at anytime during the 60 days if you decide to and receive your money back, or you can cancel it anytime during the year and receive a refund for the unused fee. It's great protection in case you decide against keeping the card, but we're sure you won't when you see the savings you can receive by using the card.

Then, when using the card, you simply take it with you when you need to buy prescription drugs or have dental or vision care done at any one of thousands of healthcare places. You will receive an immediate discount by just showing the card.

You'll receive discounts of up to 30% on prescription drugs, up to 50% on vision care and up to 70% on dental work and you can get the savings at the most popular stores, like Shopko, Kmart, Walgreens, Target, Walmart, Osco and hundreds more. The dental network is not quite as well established as Central

Wisconsin as it is in Southern Wisconsin and the Fox Valley, but we're working on it.

As an example, if you and/or members of your family need glasses and the bill comes to \$400 you would only pay about \$200 (depending on the frames you select, some are a bit more, some a little less) and you can use the card as many times per year as you like. Your whole family could get eye exams if needed. Or if someone in your family needs to take prescription drugs, no matter if its once or every month, each time you use the card you'll receive up to 30% off the bill when you buy the drugs. It's that simple. The same system is used when you go to one of the dentists in the plan and the savings are up to 70% for anyone in your family.

The cards are available through *FutureHmong* Magazine — there's a coupon on the next page that you just have to fill out and send to us along with your payment — and we'll have your family card sent back to you, along with a list of all the places you can use it. The cards will also be available soon at Hmong grocery stores throughout the state. If your store doesn't yet have them just tell them to call us at 800/264-5973 and we'll take care of it.

We know these benefits will save you money when you use the *FutureHmong* Discount Health Card. We'll continue to look for ways to provide benefits and money saving opportunities for you and your family.

Order your discount health card today and start saving money!

- Complete and mail this form to...
FutureHmong
130 E. Franklin St.
Appleton, WI 54911
- Include a check or money order made out to: Best Benefits
- ☐ **Yes!** Please send me the Best Benefits
FutureHmong Discount Health Card for my family.



Name _____

Street Address _____ Phone _____

City/State/Zip _____

Fall / Winter Maintenance Special

\$49⁹⁹ Includes:
• Oil and filter • Tune chassis
• Tire off-balance • Rotate tires
• Check & adjust pressure
• Check engine & battery
• Check of exercise lights, belts,
brakes, shocks and arms, tension
and adjust

Only at Van Zeeland's American Car Care Centers with this coupon.
One coupon per customer. Please present coupon before order is written.
This offer discounts apply. Coupons may not be combined with other
coupons. Not valid on prior sales. (OFFER ENDS 12/31/02)

**\$5⁰⁰ Off An
Oil Change**

Tubefac Change,
drain oil, add up to 5 qu.

Only at Van Zeeland's American Car Care Centers with this coupon.
One coupon per customer. Please present coupon before order is written.
No other discounts apply. Coupons may not be combined with other
coupons. Not valid on prior sales. (OFFER ENDS 12/31/02)

WILD CARD

\$20⁰⁰ OFF
any auto repair
over \$200

Only at Van Zeeland's American Car Care Centers with this coupon.
One coupon per customer. Please present coupon before order is written.
No other discounts apply. Coupons may not be combined with other
coupons. Not valid on prior sales. (OFFER ENDS 12/31/02)



**American Car Care Centers
has tires for every
make and model.**

Exhaust & Brake Service

\$40⁰⁰ Off
\$20⁰⁰ Off
ANY EXHAUST OR
BRAKE SERVICE
\$190 OR MORE
ANY EXHAUST OR
BRAKE SERVICE
\$99 OR MORE

Only at Van Zeeland's American Car Care Centers with this coupon.
One coupon per customer. Please present coupon before order is written.
No other discounts apply. Coupons may not be combined with other
coupons. Not valid on prior sales. (OFFER ENDS 12/31/02)

**\$10⁰⁰ Off
Radiator
Service**

Only at Van Zeeland's American Car Care Centers with this coupon.
One coupon per customer. Please present coupon before order is written.
No other discounts apply. Coupons may not be combined with other
coupons. Not valid on prior sales. (OFFER ENDS 12/31/02)

GRAND CHUTE

Corner of Prospect & Hwy. 41 • 4100 N. Prospect Ave.
Mon. - Fri. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm • Sat. 7:30 am - 1 pm
728-5660

APPLETON

Corner of R. Gresh & O • 100 W. Northland Ave.
Mon. - Fri. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm • Sat. 8 am - 1 pm
738-3533

NEENAH

220 W. Cecil
Mon. - Fri. 7:00 am - 5:00 pm • Sat. 8 am - 1 pm
722-1149

LITTLE CHUTE

Hwy. 50 • 305 E. North St.
Mon. - Fri. 7:30 am - 5:00 pm • Sat. 8 am - 1 pm
788-6788

Coupons valid only
at these locations.

The 7th Annual Hmong National Conference

**"Meeting the
Challenges:**

**The Complexity of the
Hmong Identity"**

April 14 – 16, 2002

Milwaukee, WI

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Opening Remarks by

Dr. Jacques LeMoine

and

Dr. Kou Yang

Hmong National Development, Inc. is proud to present the 7th Hmong National Conference. The Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin From April 14 - 16, 2002. The theme for the upcoming Conference is "Meeting the Challenges: The Complexity of the Hmong Identity."

According to the Conference Chair Phyllis A. Birmingham, the theme represents the key issue that many Hmong face in America. She states, "Over the last 25 years, the Hmong have made tremendous strides in acculturating and advancing their lives in America. However, one central issue underlies these struggles and successes: retaining their Hmong heritage and identity as they become part of the fabric of America."

The Conference aims to build capacity and provide assistance to Hmong communities and persons interested in learning more about the Hmong-related issues. The conference enables service-providers, educators, students, and professionals to network, share best practices, and learn more about the various issues

affecting the Hmong community.

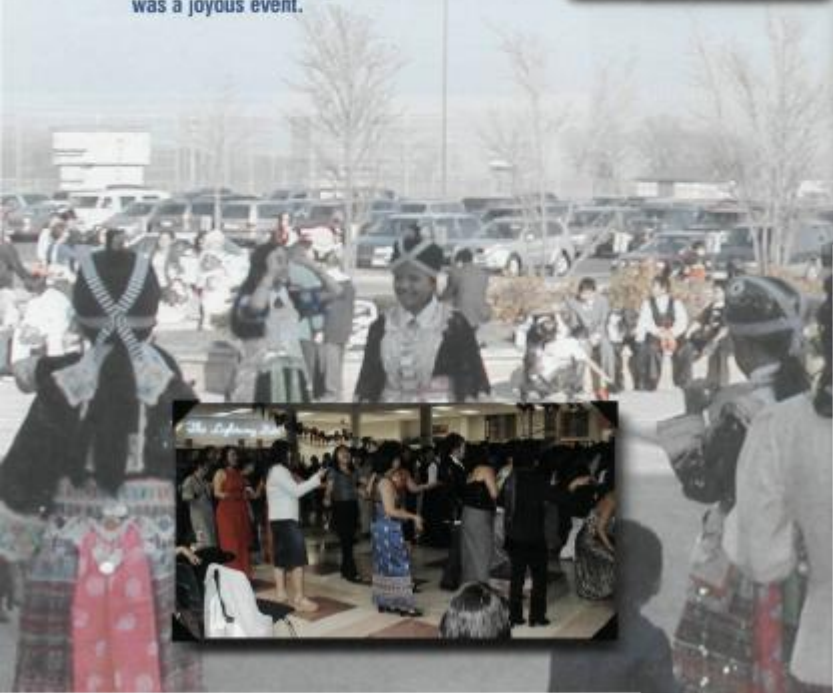
The Conference goals are: 1) Increase the professional capacity of Hmong persons and persons serving the Hmong; 2) Mobilize the Hmong community to be more active in the civic process; 3) Develop the leadership capacity of Hmong youth; and 4) Promote and insure that Hmong scholarly works are beneficial to the community.

The 7th Hmong National Conference promises to be a place where ideas can be exchanged and new ones born; where one's energy can be ignited and renewed; and where new relationships are built and continued. Each participant brings to the conference his/her experience and expertise, and will leave with more knowledge. We hope you will join us.

To receive a Registration Form, Call for Presentation, Nomination Form, Booth Application, Sponsorship Form, or be a Volunteer, please contact Tong Lee at (202) 463-2118 or via e-mail, tong@hndlink.org. These forms may also be downloaded from our website at www.hndlink.org.

Happy New Year!

Fellow Hmong celebrated their New Year in November. The pictures shown are from a celebration held at North High School in Appleton. By all accounts it was a joyous event.





Attendees enjoyed the musical talents of the group *Altogether 75*.





At top and left, dancers in native dress prepare to entertain at the Sheboygan Hmong New Year festival while, above, dinner is served.



David Blong S. Lee D.D.S.

825 Michigan Ave.
Sheboygan, WI 53081
(920) 459-9010

New Patients Welcome
We accept most
dental insurance.
Flexible office hours:
Evenings and Weekends



Dr. David Blong Lee

Offer Dental Treatment for

- Dental Examination
- Cleaning & Gum Care
- White & Silver Filling
- Crown & Bridge
- Partial & Denture
- Oral Surgery
- Tooth Whitening

Dr. Nplooj Lis yog ib tug Doctor Hmoob kho hniav. Nws zoo siab yuav pab kho koj tsev neeg txhua tus li hniav kom zoo raws li nej siab nyiam kom zoo li zoo tau. Yog koj muaj teeb meem, aws li hniav: mob, thiab, khis, to qhov, kab nuj, ua zog, ua paug, pos hniav o, pos hniav los noobas, hniav khob & daj, lov hniav los yog tsis muaj hniav noj mov, nws yuav pab tau koj.

Tsis txhob qeeb siab, hu xov tooj tuaj cuag Dr. Nplooj Lis nws thiab pab cwm tau koj lo hniav. Nws zoo siab yuav pab nej txua tus. Ua Tsaug.

MONEY FOR THE HMONG COMMUNITY

NYIAJ RAU PEB COV PEJ XEEM HMOOB

- Buy a Home
With little or no money down
- Buy a Car
- Get Rid of Credit Card Debt
- Refinance Your Home To a Lower Interest Rate
- Home Equity Line of Credit
- Yuav tau tsev txawm tsis muaj nyiaj los yog muaj me me xwb
- Yuav tseb
- Pab tshem koj tej nuj tawm uas koj muaj los ntawm koj daim credit card.
- Rov qiv nyiaj them nqi tsev nrog paj tsawg dua qub
- Nyiaj ua yus lub tsev twb muaj nuj nqi lawm



Whatever you need money for,
I am here to serve our
Hmong people of Wisconsin
Just call me!

Txawm tias koj xav tau nyiaj coj mus
ua dab tsi, kuv nyob ntawm no ua
yuav pab peb cov neeg Hmoob uas
nyob hauv xeev Wisconsin no.
Hu tuaj rau kuv.

Toll Free 1(877)810-6367

Chee Xiong

Value One
Mortgage Bank, Inc.

WJL170

825 Lawrence Street • Appleton, WI 54914



At David Hobbs Honda, we pride ourselves on the service we provide.

We make owning a new Honda or a used car
very easy and we always strive to save you lots of money.



Honda Odyssey



Honda Accord

Getting the Best Deal on a New Honda Has Never Been Easier

Buy your new Honda from us, and if you can find a lower price
on the same car within three days, in writing, we'll refund the difference, or your money back.
No questions. No counter-offers. No problems.



"One of the most difficult things
for himing people when it comes
to buying a car is communication.
My job is to help you own a new
Honda or a used car and make
it as easy for you as possible.
Call me today!"

"Ib qhov ua nyuaj tshaj paws rau
peb cov Hmoob thaum lub caj
mus yuav ib lub tshab tshab yag
tsis paub kis zoo. Kuv txoj hauj
lwm yag yuav pab koj kom koj
yuav tau lub tshab Honda tshab
kis yag tshab qub thiab yuav ua
kom yooj yim rau koj heev.
Hu rau kuv hnub no!"

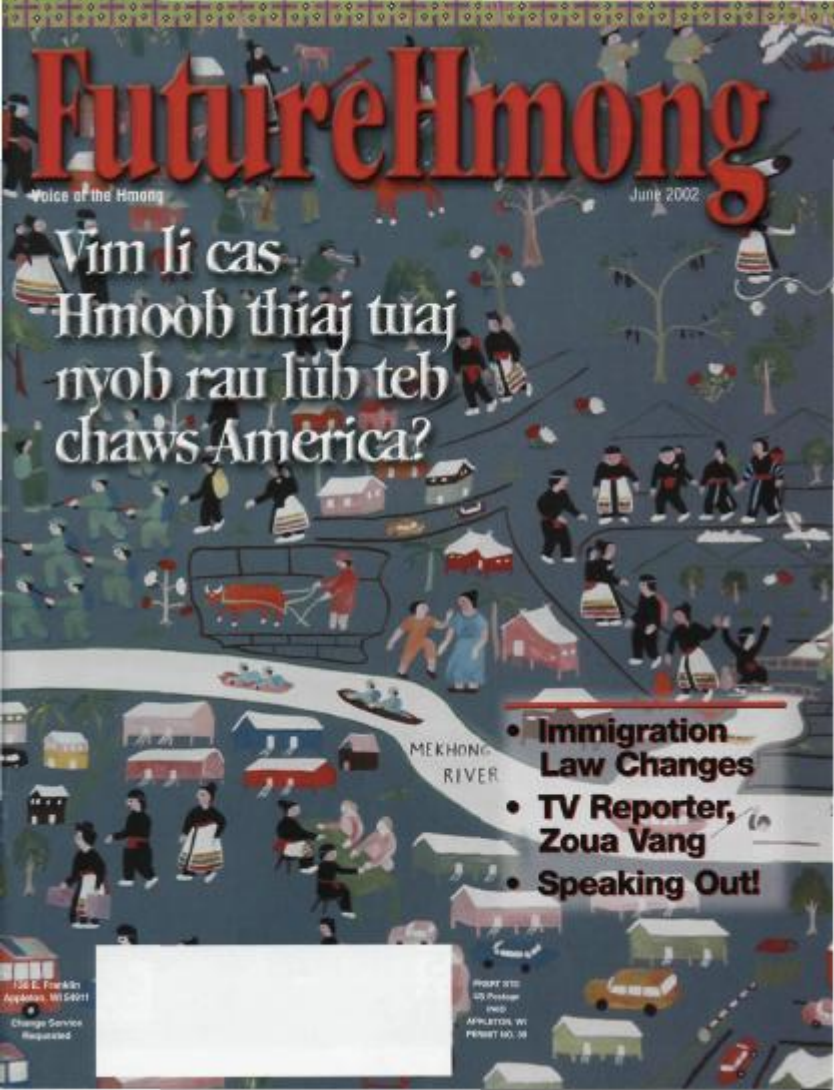


Cheaper Than You Thought!
6100 N. Green Bay Ave. • Glendale

**Toll Free: 1-877-63HOBBS
(414) 352-6100**

**Fax: (414) 352-6745
www.davidhobbs.com**

FutureHmong



Voice of the Hmong

June 2002

Vim li cas
Hmoob thiaj tuaj
nyob rau lub teb
chaws America?

MEKONG
RIVER

- Immigration Law Changes
- TV Reporter, Zoua Vang
- Speaking Out!

156 E. Franklin
Appleton, WI 54911

Change Service
Requested

POST TO:
US Postage
P60
APPLETON, WI
PERMIT NO. 38



BERGSTROM

USED MINIVANS

EXIT NOW

WHERE YOU GET A GREAT DEAL MORE!

Certified
USED VEHICLES

THE RIGHT WAY, THE BERGSTROM WAY.



'01 & '02 Chevy Astro

rear A/C, automatic, power windows
& locks, tilt, cruise & more.

Starting at **\$17,990**

Certified
USED VEHICLES

THE RIGHT WAY, THE BERGSTROM WAY.



'01 & '02 Chevy Venture

A/C & rear A/C, auto, power
windows & locks, tilt, cruise & more.

Starting at **\$17,990**

Certified
USED VEHICLES

THE RIGHT WAY, THE BERGSTROM WAY.



2001 Pontiac Montana

Rear A/C, auto, power windows
& locks, tilt, cruise & more.

Starting at **\$18,990**

Certified
USED VEHICLES

THE RIGHT WAY, THE BERGSTROM WAY.



2001 Olds Silhouette

auto, A/C, rear air, power sliding door
& windows & locks, tilt, cruise & more.

Starting at **\$18,990**



2001 Dodge Caravan

auto, A/C, rear air/heater, power
windows & locks, tilt, cruise & more.

Starting at **\$18,990**



2001 Ford Windstar

auto, A/C, rear air/heater, power
windows & locks, tilt, cruise & more.

Starting at **\$17,490**

www.bergstrom.com



Pat Brown



Andy Collier



Iva Collier



Tony Kruse



Keith Hovick



Jason Rockmann



Bill Schiff



Mark Soering



Dave Stohle



Brad Thomas



Chuck Witt



BERGSTROM
USED CAR CENTER

Corner of Hwy 41 & Winchester Road • (920) 720-7000

440 N. Green Bay Road



Banking people to people



At North Shore Bank, we're proud to offer you banking that's done people to people...the kind of service that makes us *North of Expected*.

While we have the resources and technology of a big bank, you can still talk to a real person who will take the time to help you and treat you the way you want to be treated.

Each of our employees statewide makes a commitment to treat everyone they encounter with courtesy and dignity.

Find out what a difference it makes when banking is done people to people. Stop by, call or visit us at www.northshorebank.com

38 offices in Wisconsin including Milwaukee, Green Bay & Fox Cities
Call 1-800-236-4672 for a location near you.



NORTH SHORE BANK

North of Expected™



 northshorebank.com

Make a move to State Farm



State Farm Insurance understands success. After all we insure more cars and homes than any other insurer. And now you can get on the successful path that's been traveled by thousands of State Farm agents.

We're looking for someone with the drive, determination and "good neighbor" ideals it takes to service the insurance needs of this community.

Now it's time for
you to make a move.

For agency opportunities in Wisconsin,
please call Bonita Hansbrough at 414-267-8029.

An Equal Opportunity Employer



State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois • statefarm.com®

Kuv yog ib tug kws kho mob (chiropractic) tam muaj peer xwm pab tau cov neeg uas muaj mob mob qaum, caj dab, caj npab, kuv ceg thiab hwm thiab chaw ntawm yam lub cev. Kuv tau pab ntaw rau dhu los lawm thiab tej zaum kuv yuav pab tau koj ib yam nkaws. Hu rauj hnub no teem sij hawm tauj msib kuv.

Txiav daim ntawv no nqa nrog koj tauj kuv yuav kuaj koj tas mob thiab nrog koj tham nrog koj yam tsis xam nqi rau koj them li.

This card is not valid until you see us.
This card can not be used without seeing us.



Dr. Robert E. Swenson

Swenson Chiropractic S.C.

954-6465

1414 North Richmond St.
Appleton, WI 54911

APPLETON

2002 HONDA ACCORD
LX SEDAN

2.9% APR**



CG5642PW

**ONLY
\$18,664***

- *4 Cylinder Engine
- *Automatic Transmission
- *Air Conditioning
- *Power Windows
- *Power Locks
- *Power Mirrors
- *AM/FM Stereo with CD Player
- *Cruise Control
- *Anti Lock Brakes

2002 HONDA CIVIC
LX SEDAN

2.9% APR**



ES1552PW

**ONLY
\$14,753***

- *4 Cylinder Engine
- *5 Speed Manual Transmission
- *Cruise Control
- *ABS
- *Side Spoiler
- *Power Windows
- *Power Mirrors
- *Cruise Control
- *Anti Lock Brakes

gotta go

GUSTMAN

GUSTMAN HONDA

2400 W. SPENCER ST.
(920) 733-6693

It begins
with
You

Chia Chang
Management major
Wiscanu, WI

For more information about opportunities at UW-Eau Claire, contact Charles Chou Yue (Hien Tau Vei), Hmong/Southeast Asian program coordinator for the American Ethnic Coordinating Office, at yuco@uwec.edu, or call (715) 836-2067.

University of Wisconsin
Eau Claire



www.uwec.edu

Milwaukee's Hmong Insurance Agents



Chai "Charles" Vang Agency
1726 West National Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53235-0068
PHONE: 414-649-8331
FAX: 414-649-8335
MOBILE: 414-899-5814
E-MAIL: crang@honda.com

Offering:

- Auto
- Home
- Life
- Health
- Loans
- Business



(77) Thai Vang Insurance Agency
7101 North Green Bay Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53209
PHONE: 414-354-4887
FAX: 414-354-4857
E-MAIL: trvang@honda.com



Andrew Hoi Agency
1077 S. 7th Street
West Allis, WI
PHONE: 414-343-9995
FAX: 414-343-9991
MOBILE: 414-207-0718
E-MAIL: ahoi@honda.com

HAUS LUAM YEEB THAUM KOJ LUB CEV TAB TOM XEEB TUB YUAV TSIS ZOO RAU 2 TUG NEEG TXOJ SIA PEB XAV TAU NEEG PAB:

The Wisconsin Ethnic Network Collaborative xav tau ib nkawm niam txiv uas nyob rau hauv pab lub zej zog no uas tau nchuav me nyuam los yog poob me nyuam vim kev haus luam yeeb thaum tus poj niam lub cev tab tom xeeb tub. KoomHaum Wisconsin United Coalition of Mutual Assistance Association thov nej pab hu rau pab ntawm tus xov tooj (608) 781-5744, mus plav txog neb lub neej rau lwm tus neeg paub es lawv thiab paub hais kev poob me nyuam vim txoj kev haus luam yeeb ntawd ua rau yus lub siab mob npaum li cas. Cov neeg ua luam yeeb tseem pheej muag lawv cov luam yeeb coj los lom pab cov neeg txawm lawv paub lwm hais tias nws yog ib qho tsis zoo rau pab lub cev thiab txoj sia. Lawv yeej tsis quav ntsej txog hais tias txoj kev mob ntawd yuav raug rau leej twg li. Pab thiab yog cov uas yuav sawv los tiv thaiv yam khoom uas tseem ceeb tshaj plaws ntawm pab lub zej zog uas yog pab tej neeg.

HU RAU (608) 781-5744 YOG HAIS TIAS KOJ TXAUS LAWM

Tau txais kev pab cuam los ntawm koom haum Wisconsin Tobacco Control Board

SOMETHING TO

Think About

INSPIRATIONAL PROMISES about hope

No king is saved by his great army.
No warrior escapes by his great strength...
But the LORD looks after those who fear him,
those who put their hope in his love.
He saves them from death
and spares their lives in times of hunger.
So our hope is in the LORD.
He is our help, our shield to protect us.
PSALM 33:16, 18-20

If God is with us, no one can defeat us. He did not spare his own Son but gave him for us all. So with Jesus, God will surely give us all things. Who can accuse the people God has chosen? No one, because God is the One who makes them right.
ROMANS 8:31-33

The LORD'S love never ends;
his mercies never stop.

They are new every morning.

LORD, your loyalty is great.

I say to myself, "The LORD is mine,

so I hope in him."

The LORD is good to those who hope in him,

to those who seek him.

LORENTATIONS 3:23-25

A NOTE FROM MAX ABOUT HOPE

It's hard to see things grow old. The town in which I grew up is growing old. Some of the buildings are boarded up. Some of the houses are torn down. The old movie house where I took my dates has "For Sale" on the marquee...

I wish I could make it all new again. I wish I could blow the dust off the streets... but I can't.

I can't. But God can. "He restores my soul," wrote the shepherd. He doesn't reform; he restores. He doesn't camouflage the old; he restores the new. The Master Builder will pull out the original plan and restore it. He will restore the vigor. He will restore the energy. He will restore the hope. He will restore the soul. -"The Applause of Heaven"

You never promised us that this world would be easy. And yet, all of us can look ahead to the city that's set on a hill, so the lights that call us to eternity. And we take hope.

"God's Inspirational Promises" by Max Lucado.
Copyright 1996 by Max Lucado. Used by permission
of J. Countryman, a division of Thomas Nelson, Inc."



K-Care Center

Family Day Care
License/Pre-school/
After school tutoring

Phone: 578-3991

Email:

kcarecenter@hotmail.com

Kob Vaj

K-Care Center muaj sibb thag xav yav paw
xav koj cov me nyuam hmo xav.

K-Care Center muaj thov thaj qhov xav me nyuam xav.
Nws ua zaub maw rau cov me nyuam noj, koj yuav tsis muaj
kav tohawj xav thag koj cov me nyuam thaum koj
muaj ua hauj leem los yag mus leem yam hauj leem.
Feb kev xav me nyuam muaj xav li hauj qo no.

- Feb twis cov me nyuam hmo nyuag 6-kob leem hmo mus
thag 12 nyuag
- Monday thag Friday, 3:00 xav au thag 12:00 is thag hmo
- Feb muaj noj, xav thag noj hmo lag
- Feb qha hmo lag hmo thag hmo lag American
- Qhia nyuag thag qha no hmo work
- Feb thag thag xav koj xav me nyuam hmo qha
yam tsis xam nej noj koj

Yag xav paw ntawv hu rau K-Care Center hmo no hmo



Allstate.
You're in good hands.

**Sherine McManus
Agency, Inc.**

**Exclusive Agent
Allstate Insurance Company**

Sherine McManus

308 E. Northland Ave.

(920)730-0246

Sherine yog ib tug insurance specialist ua
haaj lawm nyob rau ib lub insurance company
loj tshaj plaws nyob rau me kas teb, Allstate.
Nws muaj peev xwm yav paw tau koj txhua
yam hais txog insurance rau nqi taubhau, tsheb,
vaj tsev, thiab lag luam. Hu nws hmo no
es nws mam paw lis txhua yam rau koj.

APPLETON

FutureHmong

Vol. 2, No. 4

cover story

16 WHY ARE THE HMONG IN AMERICA?

Tracing our journey to this country and the reason it happened.



8 FUTUREHMONG UPFRONT

The importance of talking to each other.

10 SPEAK OUT!

Your feedback to us and our readers.

11 NEWS YOU CAN USE

Important information about immigration law changes and private mortgage insurance.

12 YOU ARE THE GOVERNMENT

State and local officials — why they are important to you.

18 TELEVISION REPORTER, ZOUA VANG

Reporting the news and telling the Hmong story.



Finding the Right Home Loan Just Got Easier!

- Friendly Loan Officers
- Easy Loan Application
- Excellent Rates

Citizens First Credit Union tau
pub ntawv tsev neeg hmoob yuav
tsev los lawm. Yog koj xav yuav
tsev los yog refinance hu rau
peb tau hmoob no. Tej zaum peb
yuav pub tau koj thiab.

Do you get that
at your bank?

CitizensFirst
CREDIT UNION

Oshkosh • Menasha
Berlin • Pickett
800-448-9228

www.citizensfirst.com

Serving the counties of
Winnebago, Outagamie, Calumet,
Fond du Lac and Winnebago



The Answers You Need.

© CFCU 2001

Hmoob tsis hlub Hmoob, leej twg yuav hlub Hmoob

It's sad to hear of such things describing our people. I have heard of others describing our people like this:

"Imagine a basket filled with Hmong people in America. Outside the basket are all the successes, riches and beautiful things America has to offer. In the basket, are a few Hmong who try very hard to climb out and are close to going over the top. At that very moment, due to jealousy, envy and selfishness, everyone at the bottom decides if they can't go over, neither should the few that worked so hard to climb as far as they had. The mass at the bottom decides to pull the few back down."

Another analogy is this... "Imagine a fruit tree like no other. This fruit tree has enough fruit to feed all people. At the bottom is a group of Hmong people. A few decide to work hard and climb the tree in an attempt to reach the fruits of knowledge, success and all the beautiful things America has to offer. As the few climb higher and higher, out of jealousy, envy and selfishness, everyone at the base of the tree decides if they can't have the fruits right away as well, neither should the few that

worked so hard to climb as high as they had. The mass at the bottom decides to pull the few back down."

This is how people of other cultures and many Hmong as well describe us... a group of selfish people who do not care enough to help one another to succeed in hopes that, one-by-one, the entire community will succeed. We talk about "Hmong helping Hmong." We preach this to our children, friends and family. We write songs about it. Yet, we do the exact opposite.

Doesn't it make sense to practice what we preach? I understand no one group of people is perfect. However, if a few have ideas and inspirations to become successful, shouldn't we help these people in any way we can? Is it not in the best interest of our people to have successful doctors, lawyers, businesses people, students, friends and families? We only have a 'handful' of sir names. If we allow our sir names, selfishness, envy and pride to determine who we help and who we don't help, we have truly missed the notion that America is the land of opportunity.

Do you agree or not? What are your thoughts on this issue? Write or email me and let your voice be heard.

Eau Claire Hmong And American Community Embraces Each Other...

On April 25th I witnessed one of the best examples of a Hmong and American community working together, hand in hand, that I have ever seen.

For thirteen years and running, the Eau Claire Hmong and American community enjoyed an annual feast of Hmong food, put together by the Eau Claire Area Hmong Mutual Assistance Association (ECAHMAA). The dinner is called the Community Fellowship Dinner. "It is a chance for the entire community, Hmong and non-Hmong, to celebrate and share the successes of how wonderful it could be when everyone works together," said Thai Yue, Executive Director of the ECAHMAA.

The dinner celebrated successful programs of all sorts. Community members from corporations, businesses, other non-profits and individuals attended and contributed in all aspects. While guests were enjoying a gourmet buffet style dinner, beautiful young Hmong girl dancers in traditional Hmong clothing provided entertainment. It was awesome to see how wonderful it could be when Hmong and American communities work together. Eau Claire should be proud it has the first and only Wisconsin Hmong principal, as well as being the only Wisconsin city to have three Hmong elected city officials. The strength in unity is obvious in Eau Claire. Other communities have a lot to learn from Eau Claire. ♦

Blong Yang, Editor







SunAmerica Securities
A SunAmerica Company

IRA 401(k) 403(b) Keogh SEP IRA	term insurance variable life variable annuities mutual funds qualified plans college funding retirement strategies
---	--

XAI KHAO
1013 North 3rd Avenue, Suite-1
Wausau, WI 54401
office (715) 675-8967
fax (715) 675-9723
alex_khao@hotmail.com

Hmoob tsis hlub Hmoob, leej twg thiaj yuav hlub Hmoob

Tu sibb uas hnua ntau yam hais txog peb Hmoob. Kuv tau hnua hnua tus hais txog peb Hmoob li ntau nce.

"Pi txwv hais tsis peb hauv Hmoob hauv lub teb chaws America nyob rau hauv ib lub pob tawb. Sib ntau ntawm lub pob tawb no muaj kev yam meej, kev nplua nqj thiaj muaj ntau yam zoo kawg li. Nyob rau hauv lub pob tawb no muaj tus puag Hmoob uas tau siv zoo kawg nkaus npaj sibb yuav nce lub twb no kom dhau mus lewm ntawd. Nyob rau lub sij hawm ntawd, vim muaj txoj kev sib khb, sib ngam nshai tsam hnua tus ho tau zoo dia hnua, txhua tus uas nyob rau hauv qab pob twb thiaj xav tias yog yus mus tsis dhua hnua cee yuav tsam tsis txhob cia lawm ntau ib yam nkaus thiaj. Thaum ntawd cov nyob hauv qab pob twb thiaj lub cov saub ko tau kom lawv poob nro los rau hauv thiaj."

Ib qhov piv txwv ntau yog li no... "Pi txwv tias muaj ib toob txiv ntawm uas qab thiaj plains bwm yam. Toob txiv no yeej tau txiv ntau txog peb txhua tus no. Nyob rau hauv qab ntawm yam peb hauv nroog Hmoob. Tus puag tau txiv txim sibb siv xog ntau nce mus de cov txiv uas yog cov txiv ntawm kev txawj kev nte, kev yam meej uas muaj nyob rau hauv lub teb chaws America no. Thaum tus puag tau nce mus sibb zoj zus uas yuav txog cov txiv ntawd lawm, muaj covb tus uas nyob hauv qab ntawm uas muaj kev sib khb, sib ngam sis xav kom bwm tus tau noj noj, thaum ntawd cov nyob hauv qab ntawm uas txawj sibb kev cov saub toob ntawm kom poob nro los."

Muaj bwm puag meej thiaj ntau tus Hmoob isem tau muaj peb piv li no... peb yog ib puag meej uas muaj lub sibb ngam uas tias muaj kev sib khb thiaj sib txhob kom muaj kev yam meej zoo zoj zus ib tug dhau ib tug, ces tias nteev ces tag nrho peb hauv nroog yuav muaj kev yam meej. Peb hais tias "Hmoob pob Hmoob." Peb qhuab qhia peb tej me nroob me nyuam, tej phooj yug thiaj peb tsev nroog. Peb sau ntawm lub nroog qhov ntawd. Tib sis, peb sis ua li qhov peb hais.

Nws puas yuav zoo dia yug peb ua nws li qhov peb niaj hnub qhuab qhia rau hnua tus? Kuv no tawh tias tias muaj ib

puag meej twg yuav zoo tag tag txhua tus. Tib sis, yog thaum peb ho muaj tus puag muaj lub tsev yam thiaj lub zcem muaj caum nws txoj kev yam meej. Hauv lawv lub nroog hnua, peb yuav tau pob ntawm li peb pob tau. Peb puas muaj kev zoo sibb yog thiaj peb hnua tias peb muaj ntau tus Hmoob tau kawm taw doctors, lawyers, muaj ntau tus tub tag tub kum muaj nyaj muaj txiaj, nroog rau me nyuam kawm nroog, phooj yug thiaj tsev nroog? Yog peb cia peb txoj kev sib khb thiaj peb lub sibb ngam los coj peb thiaj qhia peb tias peb yuav pob leej twg thiaj tias pob leej twg qhov no yuav ua kom peb sis pom toob hauv kev peb peb mus rau txoj kev yam meej nyob hauv lub teb chaws America no?

Koj puas xav li ntawd thiaj? Koj xam pom li cas txog qhov no? Nws ntawv rau kuv qhia saib koj ho xav li cas.

Txoj Kev Sib Reug Zoo Ntawm Peb Hauv Hmoob thiaj Tsam Nroog American Nyob Rau Hauv Lub Zos Eau Claire...

Nyob rau hnua tim 25th lub plaub lub kav tau pom tias peb hauv nroog Hmoob thiaj tsam nroog American tau ua li qhov yam ntawv zoo ntawm txoj kev sib pab ua hauj hnua ua li yam zoo kawg nkaus li.

Tau muaj kum peb xyoo dhau los no, peb cov Hmoob thiaj tsam nroog American tau koom roj mov uas muaj txhua xyoo nyob rau hauv lub zus no, uas yog tsim los ntawm Eau Claire Area Hmoob Mutual Assistance Association (ICAHMAA). Roj mov no tau muaj tsis lub npe rau ua Roj Mov - Kev Ua Phooj Yug. Nws yog ib lub zoo caji xyoo rau tag nrho peb cov pej xeeb. Hmoob thiaj cov sis yog Hmoob tau koom kev zoo sibb uas sawv dawv tau sib pab koom tes ua ntau yam zoo ua ke". Thiaj Vwj sis yog tus Executive Director

hauv ICAHMAA tau hais li ntawd.

Roj mov no yog kev zoo sibb uas sawv dawv tau sib pab koom tes ua hauj hnua txhua yam dhua los. Muaj ntau tus nroog muaj koom roj mov no xws li cov nroog muaj huay corporation, cov tsev khua lag huam, thiaj bwm tus nroog ua hauj hnua rau hauv koom hnua tau muaj koom nroog kev zoo sibb thiaj muaj lub caj sawv dawv roj mov ua ke, isem muaj peb cov ntchais-Hmoob nroog rau lawv cov toos nroog Hmoob los seer cev ua kev lom zem rau sawv dawv tau saib thiaj. Nws yog ib lub sij hawm zoo tus qhia tau tias peb hauv Hmoob nroog rau isem pej xeeb American tau muaj kev sib raug zoo thiaj sib koom tes ua hauj hnua ua ke. Lub zus Eau Claire yuav tsam zoo sibb tias lawv tau muaj thiaj twg Hmoob uas yog ua tus thiaj twg hauv tsev kawm ntawv (Principal), thiaj tias tag li ntawd isem muaj 5 tug Hmoob uas tau raug xav tias mus ua hauj hnua nyob hauv lub nroog no thiaj. Lub zug ntawm kev sib pab thiaj kev sib koom tes yog zoo li Eau Claire. Zwem lub nroog muaj ntau yam yuav kawm los ntawm lub nroog Eau Claire. ♦



David Blong S. Lee DDS

825 Michigan Ave.
Sheboygan, WI 53081
(920) 459-9010

New Patient Welcome
We accept most
dental insurance.
Flexible office hours:
Evenings and Weekends



Dr. David Blong Lee

Offer Dental Treatment for:

Period Examination • Cleaning & Gum Care • White & Silver Filling
Crown & Bridge • Partial & Denture • Oral Surgery • Teeth Whitening

Dr. Nplooj Lis yog ib tug Doctor Hmoob ib hnua. Nws zoo sibb yuav pab kho kev nroog hnua tau li hnua kom zoo nroog li nej sib nroog kom zoo li zoo tau. Yog hauv muaj tsev meev, xws li hnua, moth, thiaj khia, no qhov, kub noj, ua zog, ua puaq, pom hnua o, pes hnua los hnua, hnua khob & diaj, los hnua los yog tias muaj hnua roj mov, nroog yuav pab tau koj.

Tias tawh qhov sibb, hauv nroog muaj oug Dr. Nplooj Lis mus thiaj pab cawm tau koj li hnua. Nws zoo sibb yuav pab nej tias rau. Ua Tsang

Dedicated to the advancement
of the Hmong community



Published by
Y Enterprises, Inc.

Editor
Hong Yang

Administration
Summit Marketing Group, Inc.

Contributors
Jeff Lindsay
Glenn Nelson

Design & Production
Ann Harris

Illustration
Kay & Sai Yang
Mai See Muen

Given gratis courtesy of
Hmong American Partnership/Appleton

All rights reserved. Reproduction or use of
any of the FutureHmong Magazine material
without permission is prohibited. No
responsibility is accepted for unsolicited
manuscripts, cartoons or editorial. Opinions
expressed in the magazine are not necessarily
endorsed, nor does the magazine assume
responsibility for statements made in either
advertisements or articles published.

Single issue price \$3.95. Back issues
\$4.50 mailed, subject to availability.
Base subscription price \$19.95 per year.
Reprints available for 500 copies.

Editor/Ad/Advertising 920/993-9000
Subscriptions 920/993-9536
Fax: 920/993-9691
E-Mail: pubinfo@futureh.com

Postmaster
Send change of address to:
Y Enterprises, Inc.
130 East Franklin Street
Appleton, WI 54911

speak out!

EXCERPTS FROM YOU TO US

...Thank you for doing an article on education. As a teacher assistant, I see so many challenges
Hmong parents and children face everyday. It is important for everyone to understand that
education will be the key to a successful future for all Hmong in the U.S.

...Ib tug tob nej tau teb hais tib kev yau ntau tus poj niam yog kev ywj phooj ntau nws tus
khonej xab. Kaj tau tib tus tob nej ntau tib poj niam ywj phooj ntau kev lej yau yau. Pua
tau lej poj niam lej tau tes jog ntau yus ib tib los koj tau. Ahoj ntau kev ntau tes
yau kev lawm. Nij lej ntau. Ib tug cia koj ib tug poj niam ntau kev lawm. Ohoj ntau ntau
pau kev ntau lej ghoj yau ntau tus poj niam. Cas ped ho tib hais as, pub ho ntau
hmoj coj los sib thum xab tib.

...I am a college student now. I wanted to say thank you for printing articles that talked about
marrying more than one wife. In high school, my father decided to marry a second wife. My
parents are now divorced (Hmong style). All they would do is fight. Our lives were one big
mess and I couldn't talk about with anyone. It destroyed our family. My brothers and sisters
and relatives are no longer speaking to each other because of it. I agree that there are many
more families like mine in the Hmong community today. Thank you again for making things
like this public. We can't and shouldn't hide things like this anymore.

...To all our American friends, there had been many incidents of Hmong people involved with the
drug opium. I would like to say there are reasons many Hmong must have this drug now. Many
Hmong soldiers were wounded during the Vietnam War and due to chemical warfare used to
poison the Hmong people by the enemies that American left us to fight alone without any
capacity of medical care and treatments, Hmong people turned to drugs like opium for relief. Of
course many does abuse the drug for other purposes, but please don't label us all as drug addicts.

...I agree with...the response that said the editor attacked the Hmong community by
labeling us with a bad name. I don't want to see the editor attack us with information or bring
up our bad incidents and make it as a normal thing in our community. I like to restore the
credibility of FutureHmong by suggesting a few examples the editor have said and should not
say in the future. First, the editor said many Hmong parents don't care about their kids at all.
Second, the editor mentions that polygamy is the problem of all Hmong's failures. The editor
may disagree with polygamy but it can work if the family is formed with mutual
understanding....Third, the editor said that our failure was the result of Hmong people's failure
to change. The editor told me to not read the articles if I don't like it. Maybe he should name
the magazine, Hmong's future instead....The editor must apologize for the damages he had
caused if the credibility of FutureHmong is to be restored....I don't think the editor is in a
good position to tackle our social problems and even if he is, he does not know how to do it.
I am writing this letter on behalf of more than 100 readers of FutureHmong, young and old. I
hope there will be actions taken upon receiving this email.

*Editor's Response: An older and much wiser man once gave me some great advice. He
said, "In life, if everyone agrees with you, you are doing something dramatically wrong. For
every ten people who agree with you, there must be three or so that do not. This is an
indicator you are traveling the right road."*

*Here's my apology. I am sorry if you have misunderstood the message in the articles.
Maybe you need to go back and read them again. The success and failure of this magazine
does not depend on 100 or so readers. We want to have over 55,000 Hmong. I hope there are
more than a mere 100 or so readers who disagree with us on the issues. For every
response I received disagreeing with the articles in FutureHmong, there are many more
that state how thankful they are for a voice willing to talk about the REAL issues affecting
our people. Although I greatly appreciate your opinion and email, I must say again, so
much passion, yet so misplaced.*

*FutureHmong is for the entire Hmong population as well as those who would like to have
a REAL insight into the challenges Hmong people face daily in America. My goal is not to
make a few happy or only talk about what we all agree on. It's to give perspectives about
the things we do and how it will affect our future. So many people (Hmong and non-
Hmong) preach wonderful words, but only a few actually follow through with actions.
I am challenging everyone to follow through with what you preach.*

By the way, the suggestion on the name change to Hmong's Future is a great idea!" —Blong

Send comments to FutureHmong • 130 E. Franklin Street • Appleton, WI 54911
920/993-9691 (fax) • pubinfo@futureh.com (email)

Changes to the Immigration Laws



As many of you may know, the 1996 Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act (IIRIRA) has disproportionately affected many Hmong American families. This Act dramatically changed the INS deportation and release provisions. It expanded the definition of "aggravated felony"; thus, many crimes previously not deportable are now deportable. The 1996 law is also retroactive, so crimes committed 20 years ago, for example, where the person has served their time, are still deportable. According to INS, an estimated 9,000 SEAs have either final orders or pending orders for removal.

Recently, we learned that Cambodia has signed an agreement to deport detainees back to Cambodia. The three countries left without agreements are Laos, Vietnam and Cuba. We fear that the next country to sign an agreement will be Laos. As an organization, HND opposes the forcible deportation of Hmong individuals back to the country from which their families escaped. Not only is this a gross injustice for lawful permanent residents, Hmong families would again be ripped apart. Many individuals who would be deported have no family members in Laos, do not speak the language well, if at all, and do not understand how to make a living in Laos. The government of Laos is also known for committing human rights violations against their own people, and we fear corrupt government officials would target Hmong deportees from the United States for special abuse.

Hmong families arrived here as refugees, many of our parents fought alongside American soldiers. We are Americans and have worked hard to build this country, and we belong here.

With this recent news, we again urge all Hmong individuals to become US citizens. It is necessary that Hmong Americans become US citizens and vote, and actively participate in the civic process in this country to shape the nation's policies. Individuals that have had any arrest and convictions in the past should seek attorney advice before applying for citizenship.

At this time, HND is working with many of our colleagues to correct the '96 law, but we need you to also communicate with your legislatures.

To find your State Representative, go to <http://www.house.gov/represent/> or <http://clerk.house.gov/member/memberbycongress/housemember.htm>

To find your State Senators, go to http://www.senate.gov/senators/assessor_by_state.cfm

Hmong National Development, Inc.

Private Mortgage Insurance (PMI)



Private mortgage insurance is a program used by lenders to help people realize the dream of owning their own home. It makes it possible for people to buy a home with a down payment as small as three to five percent of the home's purchase price, instead of the usual requirement of twenty percent down. Using private mortgage insurance means

you can afford to stop paying rent and can buy a home sooner than you might think!

Private mortgage insurance is used on any loan when a home is purchased with a down payment of less than twenty percent, even for borrowers with excellent credit. It protects lenders against a loss if a borrower stops making their mortgage payments and is the reason the lender can extend a loan with a lower down payment.

The borrower pays a fee, or premium, for the private mortgage insurance. The cost of the premium depends on the size of your down payment, the type of mortgage loan you are getting and the amount of insurance coverage required by your lender. There are three ways private mortgage insurance premium can be paid:

1. An annual plan where an initial premium is paid at loan closing with a smaller premium paid monthly;
2. A single premium plan where a lump sum is financed as part of your loan amount; or
3. A monthly plan where the premium is added to your regular mortgage payment.

The lender will make the arrangements for the coverage and will discuss the various options for payment with you when you apply for the loan.

The private mortgage insurance coverage is continued while you have your home loan. However, borrowers have the right to request it be cancelled when there is twenty percent equity in the property. Also, by law, the lender must automatically cancel the insurance when there is twenty-two percent equity in the property.

Article courtesy of CitizensFirst Credit Union, Appleton/Dubuque ♦

YOU ARE THE government

PART THREE



For the last two issues we have described how the United States government operates. We now move on to state and local government. The important thing to always remember is that all the people that make the laws are elected by you and are responsible to you. They work for you, not you for them.

State and Local Government

State governments have their own constitutions, similar to that of the national Constitution; however, the laws made in individual states cannot conflict with the national Constitution. Each state's constitution differs from one another. This is because each state has its unique history, needs, philosophy, and geography.

Here in Wisconsin we have an elected governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state treasurer and superintendent of public instruction, all elected on a statewide basis. We also have a state supreme court, also elected by all the citizens of Wisconsin.

There are two legislative bodies, the Senate and the Assembly. Members of both these houses are elected on a local basis. The senators are elected every four years and members of the state assembly every two years.

As with the federal government, Wisconsin has three separate but equal branches...the executive branch, headed

by the governor, which supervises the day-to-day administration of programs and policies; the legislative branch which passes the laws and sets broad policy objectives and establishes the general structures and regulations for carrying them out and the judicial branch which makes sure the laws are carried out the way the legislators have intended.

Each one of these branches has a variety of agencies and departments working for them. For example, the executive branch, headed by the governor includes the five other statewide elected officers, has 18 departments, 13 agencies, four authorities and a public non-profit corporation. The judicial branch, headed by the state Supreme Court, has the Court of Appeals, and also circuit and municipal courts and their staff as part of their makeup.

At a local level in your own area you have a county government structure and a city or town government. Each of Wisconsin's 72 counties has an elected county executive, elected county board members and elected county judges. The cities have elected mayors and city council members.

All of these governments have one thing in common - they are all structured roughly on the federal government structure, which elects people to represent us citizens and protect our rights.

That puts the power of government in the hands of the people rather than a handful of individuals. We all determine how we are to be governed not someone telling us what they want us to do. It's called freedom and the United States people are the ones who ultimately keep the country free through the election process.

Voting

That's why it's so important for all of us to vote for or against people to represent us. Any citizen of the United States over the age of 18 and who meets certain other requirements can vote. You can register to vote at a variety of government offices, depending on where you live (call your local county or city clerk's office if you need help) in the state. Many locations allow you to register to vote right at the polling places at the time of an election.

But the key is - you must be a citizen of the United States. And being a citizen of this great country gives you the freedoms, protections and legal rights which the Constitution promises. You not only can vote - you should vote. By not voting you are allowing some other group or individual to take over your voice in how you are governed.

America is a nation of immigrants. It is a melting pot of different peoples from all over the world. From the first English settlers through our Hmong people, millions upon millions of people have come to America to be free and enjoy the benefits of this great country. But in order for all of us to continue to prosper we must have a voice in how the government operates. And that means voting.

Educate yourself about the people who want to represent you and vote for the people who you think will best follow your beliefs.

The Hmong people in Wisconsin can be a force in the state. But for that to happen we must be part of the political process and that means taking an active part in your local government. It's in your best interest now and in the best interest of children in the future.

Remember, you are the government! ♦

People Who Are Elected By You To Represent You... They Work For You!

CITY

Mayor, City Attorney, City Assessor, City Clerk, Alderperson
Contact: Your City Hall
School Board
Contact: School Administration Office

COUNTY

County Executive, Clerk, Clerk of Courts, Treasurer, Registrar of Deeds, Sheriff, Coroner, District Attorney, County Supervisor, County Judges
Contact: Your County Courthouse

STATE

Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Supreme Court Justices, Your Local State Senator and Representative
Contact: State Offices in Madison

FEDERAL

President, Vice President of the United States, Two State Senators and One State Congressman
Contact: Government Section of the Phone Book

All these people, in one way or another, determine how you live in this country and the future of you and your family. It is not only the right thing to do, but the smart thing, to get to know who they are, what they stand for and what they should be doing. If you don't agree with them, vote for someone else. If you agree with them, support them. It's what America is all about and you are an important part of it.

WHY ARE THE HMONG IN AMERICA?

Jim Lindsay, Appleton, Wisconsin

Like their American counterparts, many Hmong people in the United States do not really understand why the Hmong are here. Most young Hmong people know they are here because of fighting that occurred in Laos, but do they really understand the monumental sacrifice their people made to help the United States? And do non-Hmong Americans understand their debt of gratitude to the Hmong people? Given the misunderstanding (I have seen on both sides, I think it would be helpful to review a little history.

In the late 1950s, Southeast Asia, including Laos, was viewed as an important region to the West. With the fall of China to communism and the rise of Communist rebellion in Vietnam, the U.S. sent elite soldiers, the Green Berets, to train Hmong guerrillas to oppose the Vietnamese and the Pathet Lao communists of Laos. Though the Hmong had no desire to play political roles for other nations, they loved freedom and knew that there would be little freedom under Communism. They were threatened by the intrusion of North Vietnamese troops into Laos. The U.S. then encouraged them to fight and provided training and weapons. With CIA assistance, General Vang Pao became the leader of a secret army of 9,000 Hmong men in 1961. Laos was officially neutral as the Vietnam War broke out, and the U.S. had signed an international agreement, the Geneva Accords, intended to keep Laos neutral and prevent fighting there. In reality, this agreement gave the Communists the upper hand, for they flagrantly violated the agreement. Responding to the presence of active North Vietnamese troops in Laos, the U.S. tried to oppose them without appearing to violate the Geneva Accords by secretly recruiting freedom-loving locals to fight the Communist - and these freedom-loving locals were the Hmong.

Most Americans thought that Laos was not part of the Vietnam War, but Laos played a critical role, especially since supplies from North Vietnam to its warring troops primarily moved along the Ho Chi Minh trail that passed through Laos. Much fighting occurred along this trail and the surrounding

regions in Laos. But our military efforts there were not publicized to avoid international criticism. So we pretended that nothing was happening in Laos, while North Vietnamese troops were actively helping the Pathet Lao take over the country and while thousands of poorly equipped Hmong were fighting a war against terrible odds. Many Hmong lives would be lost in the unpublicized battles of Laos.

The Hmong apparently were told that they could briefly fight for the U.S. because the United States would always be there to protect them should local communists turn on the Hmong. It was a relationship of trust, but Hmong trust in the U.S. would be sadly misplaced.

In 1963 the Kennedy Administration had the CIA increase the secret Hmong army in Laos to 20,000 soldiers. Significant battles occurred as the North Vietnamese and Pathet Lao occupied major areas in northern Laos in 1964. Meanwhile, the U.S. began a secret air war in Laos. By 1968, U.S. pilots would be doing 300 dangerous sorties a day to battle many thousands of Communist troops. Hmong soldiers rescued many American pilots who were shot down. Sometimes dozens of Hmong would die in order to rescue one American pilot. Over 100 Hmong pilots were recruited and trained by the U.S., and they ran missions after missions until they were all killed. Hmong courage seemed to know no bounds in the fight for freedom. But sadly, much of the fighting seems to have been in vain.

Years after the war, when the infamous "Pentagon Papers" were published, shocked Americans and Hmong patriots would learn that much of the war was fought by the United States under secret rules we have agreed to that almost guaranteed the fall of South Vietnam to the Communists. Just as the Hmong were told to only fight defensively and not to take steps that could directly throw the North Vietnamese out of their country, so too were U.S. actions continually hampered by rules of engagement, apparently orchestrated by Robert S. McNamara, U.S. Secretary of Defense at the time. For example, U.S. pilots were

not allowed to attack Viet Cong anti-aircraft installations until they were fully functional. Though hotly debated, many are convinced that the war could have been won by cutting off supplies to the North Vietnamese and hitting them in the regions where they were most vulnerable - something that was forbidden by our rules of engagement. Instead, American soldiers died unnecessarily in jungle skirmishes that gave an upper hand to those familiar with the territory.

The loss of 60,000 American lives for a no-win war in Vietnam was a tragedy to the huge nation of America, but it was a relatively small percentage of the nation compared to the loss the Hmong people suffered. In 1969, at the time when Congress first learned of our secret war in Laos, about 18,000 Hmong soldiers had already been killed in battle. Many women and children had died as well. The Hmong were taking a great risk in boldly fighting for the United States, trusting we would stand by them. But in 1975, the U.S. began to pull out of Laos, leaving the Hmong on their own to fight thousands of North Vietnamese troops in Laos. By 1975, Laos had fallen completely into Communist hands, and the lives of all Hmong people who helped fight the Communists were in jeopardy. More than 100,000 Hmong fled to Thai refugee camps. Many would be killed along the way, especially when crossing the Mekong River to get to Thailand. According to Thai officials, for years during the Hmong migration from Laos to Thailand, 50 to 60 dead Hmong bodies were fished out of the Mekong River per day with nets. Aside from that, Communist forces killed an estimated 30,000 Hmong while trying to reach Thailand. Over 100,000 Hmong people died as a result of the war, and today nearly every Hmong family in the U.S. has terrible tales of loss and tragedy relating to the war.

After taking over Laos in 1975, the Pathet Lao Communists stated they would wipe out the Hmong. A Vietnamese broadcast apparently called for genocide against them. From 1976 to 1979, there were credible reports of chemical warfare used

against Hmong villages. The world tried to ignore these reports, and some influential voices in the United States tried to discredit the evidence, claiming the "yellow rain" that had been used to kill Hmong people was just natural bee feces, not a chemical toxin. By the time overwhelming evidence had been gathered to shatter the "bee feces" theory, the media no longer seemed interested in exploring charges of genocide by Communist forces.

The United States, recognizing the sacrifice made by Hmong soldiers to fight for the U.S., began accepting Hmong refugees into the United States in December of 1975. By 1990, about 100,000 refugees had entered the United States. Today approximately 250,000 Hmong are in the U.S., and a similar number still live in Laos. Over 5 million Hmong people are in Southern China, also under Communist rule.

Writing to an American who was confused about the Hmong people, Jack Austin Smith, a Vietnam Veteran and a retired career soldier, wrote the following in 1996 (quoted from his e-mail to me, with permission):

"The war in Vietnam was fought on several fronts and I served in two of them. The main American battleground was in the Southern end of South Vietnam. In order for the North Vietnamese forces to fight us there, it was necessary for their supplies and troops to go through Laos and Cambodia on the Ho Chi Minh Trail, and Laos was controlled by a Pro-Communist Government at that time. Therefore America was not allowed to have any forces on the ground, although we were allowed to bomb and attack North Vietnamese troops with our aerial forces. About 98% of the combat forces on the ground were Hmong irregulars who were persuaded by Americans to forget about being neutral, and to fight the N Vietnamese regulars (not relatively poorly trained Viet Cong guerrilla forces). We supplied air cover, but every combat trooper knows aircraft can't take and hold ground. We depended on the Hmong to do this...without modern arms, without medical help.

After the fall of Saigon we pulled out of Southeast Asia and left the Hmong to continue the fight without air support. When we left, the Hmong had to fight both the Laotians and the N Vietnamese. They could not fight tanks, heavy artillery and aircraft with rifles. A great many Hmong were slaughtered in their villages. Many were

slaughtered at airfields where they waited for evacuation planes that never came. A few were able to fight every foot of the way across Laos and cross the Mekong River into refugee camps in Thailand where they were further mistreated by either corrupt UN and Thai officials. Out of an estimated 5,000,000 prewar Hmong population less than 200,000 made it to safety. One other ill informed or stupid writer said "they were all gone" meaning, I guess, that the combat Hmong were all dead, they are wrong. Most of the survivors are in Australia, France and here among us.

Now I don't know about those heroes who have never heard a shot fired in anger, but I am embarrassed that my country so mislead these people. The Hmong gave up literally everything for us: their country, their homes, their peaceful way of life, most of their families, everything that we would cherish. We promised them our continued support and then we bugged out.

You mentioned having relatives who fought in Vietnam and I hope they all survived. However their chances would have been much less if the Hmong hadn't intercepted over 50% of the N Vietnamese troops and supplies. If you truly loved your relatives, you should be grateful for the Hmong's sacrifices."

The Vietnam War and subsequent genocidal actions shattered so many lives and families. Every Hmong family in the United States was violated in some way, often with the tragic loss of loved ones. I have heard so many stories of sorrow and loss, the stories of desperate parents trying to hide their children from murderous soldiers, sometimes overclothing their children with opium to keep them from crying and revealing their hiding place. I have heard stories of trying to cross the Mekong River and having loved ones drown or be shot. For those who escaped torture and death in Laos, there would yet be tales of gruesome life

in neglected refugee camps, tales of families split up by careless bureaucrats, and tales of shock and confusion as penniless refugees are dropped off in the strange world of America, where the citizens have no idea who the Hmong people were and sometimes viewed them as enemies. I can understand the sorrow of the old people, who sometimes stare out the window and seem immobilized by the tragedy of their loss, yearning for the once peaceful and happy days in the hills of northern Laos. But I cannot understand the ignorance of many Americans, who have not bothered to learn who these people are and why they deserved to be brought to the United States. They bled and died for us. They saved hundreds of American lives at great loss to them and their families. We used the Hmong people and their freedom-loving courage, and suddenly abandoned them to genocidal tyrants, keeping their sacrifices largely secret from the American people. Ours is a debt of gratitude that remains incompletely expressed. And for today's Hmong-Americans, yours is a legacy of courage and valor that I hope will inspire you to stand for the highest of human values and bring further honor to your people and your ancestors. ♦

There is no better way to celebrate great wealth, longevity and prosperity than coming together with family. For over 70 years American Family Mutual Insurance Company has been providing the values and goodness the members of our families all need. With the best advisors policies in effect for 25 years, you can trust our experience in insuring what's important to you and your family too. Call and talk to one of our helpful agents today. Or visit our website at www.aftm.com

You have family behind you.



All Your Protection Under One Roof.



VIM LI CAS HMOOB THIAJ TUAJ NYOB RAU LUB TEB CHAWS AMERICA?

Jeff Lindsay, Appleton, Wisconsin

Peb Hmoob los kuj zoo ib yam li cov neeg American thiab, peb ntau tus uas nyob rau lub teb chaws America no tsis paub qhov tseeb tias yog vim li cas es peb thiaj tau tuaj nyob rau lub teb chaws no. Feem ntau ntawm peb cov hlus paub hais tias peb tau tuaj nyob rau lub teb chaws no vim yug muaj kev sib ntawm sib tau nyob rau lub teb chaws Nplog, tab sis lawv puas paub qhov tseeb uas peb cov neeg tau paub hais neeg America yam tsis khur xim lawv tsaj sia klag? Thiab tsom neeg American puas to tauh txoj tias lawv tshav tau nqis npaum li cas rau cov neeg Hmoob? Vim kuv tau pom hais tias nws muaj kev tias sib to tauh ntawm eb tog, kuv xav tias kuv zaj dab neeg me me hauv qab no yuav pab tau sawr daws kom to tauh zoo me nws ntxiv.

Nyob rau xyoo 1950 tawm ntawd, nyob rau sab southeast Asia, ntau lub teb chaws thiab teb chaws. Nplog yog ib thaj tsum uas tseem ceeb heev rau cov neeg sab hlub poob. Vim lub teb chaws Suar tau poob mus rau communism thiab kev nrawm tsum ntawm cov neeg communist nyob rau hauv Nyab laj teb, U.S. thiaj tau xa ntawm tus tub rog uas muaj kev txawj txog phab kev ua tsob rog. Cov Kus Mom Nistawb mus qhia kev ua tsob rog tiv thav cov neeg Nyab laj liab thiab cov Nplog liab. Txawm hais tias hais neeg Hmoob tsis tau muaj txoj kev xav nrog huag toj teb txoj chaw los yog kev kas moos los krev yeej ntshaw txoj kev ywj pheej, thiab lawv paub tias yog lawv poob rau hauv communist qab sib teg kawm ces krev yeej yuav tsis tau txoj kev ywj pheej uas lawv ntshaw kawm. Nyab laj liab tau xa tub rog tuaj tau thiab tseeb teb chaws Nplog. U.S. tau pab riam phom thiab qhuab qhia cov neeg Hmoob thiab txhawb zom kom lawv tiv thav cov Nyab laj liab no. Neeg rau kev pab los ntawm phab CIA, yuav hlob nai phoo Vaj Por thiaj sawr los ua tus thawj coj ntawm cov tub rog

li 9000 tus tsiv neeg Hmoob nyob rau xyoo 1961. Thaum lub sijhawm uas muaj tsob rog nrog cov Nyab laj liab no, Nplog yog cov neeg uas yog nyob rau nrawm nraw, thiab U.S. tau xee daim ntawv uas yog international agreement, the Geneva Accords, uas yog xav kom teb chaws Nplog yog ib lub teb chaws nraw nraw thiab tsis paub muaj tsob rog rau hauv lub teb chaws no. Qhov tseeb thiab, qhov kev sib cog lus no ua rau cov neeg communist tseem haj yam muaj zog tshaj qab xwb, vim krev yuam txoj cai thiab tsis ua nraw li tau sib cog lus cia. Vim yog muaj cov Nyab laj liab no tuaj tau rau hauv lub teb chaws Nplog. U.S. thiaj li tau pab tiv thav yam tsis hais txog qhov uas cov Nyab laj liab no tau thav lawv qhov kev cog lus Geneva Accords, yog li nrawv U.S. thiaj li tau ntshav cov neeg uas ntshaw txoj kev ywj pheej mus tiv thav tau nrog cov neeg Communist ntawd cov neeg ntshaw txoj kev ywj pheej yog hais neeg Hmoob.

Ntau tus neeg American tau xav tias kev ua tsob rog hauv teb chaws Nplog yeej tsis muaj feem thiab tsis yog ib qhov kev tsob rog nrog cov Nyab laj liab-Vietnam War, tab sis teb chaws Nplog yog ib qhov muaj feem tseem ceeb nyob rau hauv, tshej xeeb vim yog hais tias kev xa riam phom thiab tej khoom siv ua tsob rog uas xa mus rau tom tshav rog yeej yog xa tang txoj kev Ho Chi Min trail uas yog hia hauv Nplog teb. Kev sib tau yeej yog muaj nyob rau ntawm txoj kev no thiab ib ncig ntawm ciam teb Nplog. Tab sis kev ua tsob ua rog zaum no yeej tsis hais tawm rau hwem lub teb chaws sab nraw paub. Yog li ntawd peb thiaj ua me ntshag to li tsis muaj dab tsis ntshwm.

sir nyob rau hauv lub teb chaws Nplog no, thaum lub caij cov tub rog Nyab laj qum teb yog cov pab Nplog liab tseeb lub teb chaws, thiab lub caij uas phar phar tas Hmoob uas yeej tsis muaj riam phom zoo tau tiv thav ua rog nrog

cov neeg phem no. Peb ntau tus Hmoob txoj sia tau tu nyob rau hauv qhov tsob rog no yam tsis muaj neeg paub txog.

U.S. tau hais rau hauv neeg Hmoob tias yeej meem ua sib tawv qhawv ua tsob rog pab rau U.S. vim krev yuav nyob ntawm ib sab pab hauv neeg Hmoob tiv thav cov neeg Communist. Nws yog txoj kev sib eug zoo thiab kev ntseeg stah, tab sis txoj kev ntseeg U.S. yuav yog ib qhov yuam kev thiab tu stah.

Nyob rau xyoo 1963, Kennedy tsom txoj fwm kev ua hauj lwem tau kom CIA ntshav cov Hmoob ua tub rog coob li ntawm 20,000 kee. Txoj kev sib ntawm sib tau muaj ntshwm sim ntau yog thaum cov Nyab laj liab thiab cov Nplog liab tau tseeb tsaw los xav zov tus rau ntawm thaj tsum qum teb hauv Nplog teb nyob rau xyoo 1964. Thaum ntawd U.S. cov dav hlau sib tau nyob muaj ntug los pib muaj ntau zov zov. 1968, U.S. cov neeg tsaw dav hlau ya li 300 fwm mus tau cov tub rog communist tom tshav rog. Tub rog Hmoob tau pab cawm American ntau tus neeg tsaw dav hlau uas nang tau poob. Ntau zov muaj cov tub rog Hmoob tau pheej lawv txoj sia cawm cov neeg ya dav hlau uas nang tau poob no. Thaum ntawd peb muaj tau tshaj ntawm 100 tus Hmoob tau mus xyawm tsaw dav hlau sib tau uas yog qhia los ntawm cov neeg U.S. thiab lawv tau khawj lawv lub huag hauj fwm ib eug hlau ib zang txog thaum lawv tau tag lawv txoj sia. Hmoob muaj lub sib tawv qhawv vim ntshaw txoj kev ywj pheej. Tab sis txawm tu stah, vim ntau zov txoj kev ua tsob rog mus tsis zoo nraw li lub stah xov.

Ntau xyoo tom qab qhov tsob rog no tag kawm, tsab ntawv pentagon "Pentagon Papers" tau luam tawm ua rau ntau tus tub rog American thiab ntau tus tub rog Hmoob tau ceeb vim lawv tau paub hais tias ntau qhov tsob rog uas U.S. tau muaj no yog ua ntshag to tsis paub



leey twg paub thiab yeej pom tias Nyab
 laj qab teb yawv poob mus rau cov
 communist. Luag tsuas hais qhia rau
 peb cov tub rog Hmoob kom tsuas tiv
 thav lawv nas kheer tab sis sis tsahob
 txawv kooj riam mus ntawv Nyab laj
 qaum teb kom lawv muaj peev xwm
 tawm hawv lawv lub teb chaws. U.S. tau
 siv tej cai no los twg ua rau kev ua rog
 mus tsis yooj yim klag thiab. Robert S.
 McNamara nas yog tus twg sab kev ua
 tsawv rog U.S. Secretary of Defense nyob
 rau lub sij hawm no. Piv txawv li no,
 ayob rau lub caij ua tsawv rog ntawd yeej
 tsis pub cov tsawv dawv hlaa sib tua no ya
 mus tua cov phom loj uas yog cov Nyab
 laj kab npaj txais cov dawv hlaa ua ntej
 cov Nyab laj liab no yeej npaj zoo tos
 siv txais lawm. Muaj ntawv tus tau hais
 tias peb muaj peev xwm yeej kev ua
 tsawv rog zaum no yog hais tias peb mus
 tua txawv txoj kev uas cov nyab laj liab
 siv xa lawv cov khoom siv thiab riam
 phom mus pub rau Nyab laj qaum teb
 thiab tua tej thiab chaw uas paub hais
 tias yooj yim ntawv, tej no ruag tsawv
 tsis pub ua los ntawv txoj cai uas tau
 hais ntawd. Cia ntawv tus tub rog
 American tau ruag tos kev tua nyob rau
 hauv phawv lawv zoox loj thiab cov Nyab
 laj liab no muaj rog vim lawv paub tej
 chaw ua tsawv rog no zoo tsah lawm.

Muaj li 60,000 tus tub rog American tau
 ploj tuag nyob rau qhov tsawv rog nrog
 cov Nyab laj liab zaum no uas yog ib
 qhov uas swb loj kawg rau hauv neeg
 American, tab sis yog muab saum los ces
 tseem tsawg dawv qhov hauv neeg
 Hmoob uas tau ploj tuag thiab tau txais
 kev txom nyem loj tsahj phawv. Nyob
 rau xyoo 1969, thaum oscom thawj coj
 kav teb kav chaw nyob rau hauv U.S.
 (congress) tau paub txog kev ua tsawv
 rog hauv lub teb chaws Nploj, muaj li
 18,000 tus tub rog Hmoob tau ploj tuag
 nyob rau tom tsawv rog. Ntau tus poj
 niam thiab me nyuam yau los kuj tau
 tuag ib yam thiab. Hauv neeg Hmoob
 tau ua siab tawv qhawv pheej lawv txoj
 sia ua tsawv rog pub rau U.S. vim muaj
 kev ntseeg tias lawv yuav nyob ntawm
 ib sab pub txoj thaum kawv. Tib
 sis nyob rau xyoo 1973, U.S. tau tho
 tawm hauv lub teb chaws Nploj cia
 cov Hmoob ua tsawv rog tiv thav lawv
 lub teb chaws nrog phawv phawv tus tub
 rog Nyab laj liab yam tsis muaj neeg
 pub. Nyob rau xyoo 1975, lub teb chaws
 Nploj tau poob rau communist txhais
 tes, thaum no ua rau txhua tus tub rog

Hmoob uas tau ua rog pub rau U.S. muaj
 kev tsawv xeeb ntsah thiab nyuaj siab.
 Muaj ntawv tsahj li 100,000 tus Hmoob
 tau khawv tawm hauv lub teb chaws
 Nploj mus rau Thaib teb. Ntau tus ruag
 tua tuag thiab ruag mob thaum lub caij
 lawv saut sim khawv teb tsawv chaw,
 tsawv xeeb yog thaum lawv hlaa tus dej
 Naj Khoom mus rau teb chaws Thaib.
 Raws li cov tseem twg thiab tau hais
 mas nws muaj li 50 rau 60 tus neeg
 tuag uas yog poob deg tuag nyob rau ib
 hnuab twg. Cov neeg communist tau tua
 cov Hmoob khawv yees li 30,000 leej
 nyob rau thaum lawv khawv hlaa tus dej
 Naj Khoom mus rau sab Thaib teb. Muaj
 ntawv tsahj 100,000 tus Hmoob tau tuag
 vim ua tsawv rog, thiab niaj hnuab niam
 no txhua tes neeg Hmoob tseem muaj
 txoj kev ntsah los ntawm txoj kev ua
 tsawv rog no.

Tom qab lub teb chaws tau poob
 lawm, cov neeg communist Nploj
 tau hais tias lawv yuav muab cov
 Hmoob ua kom tu noob. Xov tooj cua
 Nyab laj los kuj tsahj tawm txog qhov
 yuav tua cov Hmoob kom tag nyob rau
 hauv lub teb chaws Nploj. Txij li xyoo
 1976 mus txog rau xyoo 1979, nws
 muaj ntawv tus hais tawm
 hais tias luag tau tso
 tshuaj lom neeg los
 yog chemical rau cov
 zej zog Hmoob. Lub
 ntiaj teb ua qhov tsis
 hmoov tsis pom tang tej
 yam uas lawv tau ua
 phem no thiab tsis
 ntseeg txog tej yam
 uas lawv tau ua phem
 rau hauv Hmoob li,
 tseem hais tias tej
 tshuaj lom neeg uas
 lawv hu ua "nap dej"
 uas yog cov lom ntaw
 tus Hmoob no tsis
 muaj tiag, nws tsuas
 yog quav muv poob
 saum qab ntug los
 swb yeej tsis yog
 tshuaj lom klag li.
 Niew mus thaum tau
 tsawv pom tias qhov
 lawv hu ua "quav
 muv" no muaj tseeb
 tias yog cov tshuaj
 lom neeg tiag, thaum
 ntawd luag twb tsis
 xav hmoov thiab mob
 siab pub nhlav txim

rau cov neeg communist phem no
 lawm.

Lub 12 hlis xyoo 1975, lub teb chaws
 America tau osco txog kev tsahj ntawm
 uas hauv neeg Hmoob tau pub ua tsawv
 rog pub rau U.S. lawv thiab li txais coob
 tus neeg thoj riam Hmoob tuaj mus
 nyob rau lub teb chaws America no.
 Naj hmoov no muaj khawv yees li
 250,000 tus Hmoob nyob rau hauv U.S.
 thiab tseem tsawv coob ib yam ntawv
 uas tseem nyob rau yav qab qab tim teb
 chaws Nploj. Muaj tsahj li 5 laab tus
 Hmoob nyob rau sab qab teb hauv Suv
 teb uas yog nyob rau hauv communist
 kev twg coj.

Tau sau ib tsab ntawv mus rau ib tug
 tub rog American uas tau ua tsawv rog
 nrog Nyab laj liab, Jack Austin Smith,
 nws tau sau ib daim ntawv rau kux
 thaum xyoo 1996 nws li hauv no:

"Nyob rau kev ua tsawv rog nrog Nyab laj
 liab, muaj kev sib tua ntawv zaum thiab
 kev tau koom ob zaug. American lub
 chaw hauv paus loj npaj ua tsawv rog yog
 muaj nyob rau sab qab teb kawv ntawv
 hauv Nyab laj qab teb. Cov Nyab laj
 qaum teb yuav tuaj tua tej neev ntawm thaj

See me for all your
family insurance
 needs.

✓AUTO ✓LIFE ✓HOME ✓HEALTH



Kevin Andrasek, Agent
 605 S. 24th Avenue Suite 22
 Wausau, WI
 715-848-6243

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there®
 statefarm.com™

State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois



chaw nrawd los peej yur tuam yog xa
lawv cov tub rog thiab lawv cov niam
phom hla lub teb chaws Nploj thiab
Cambodia mus txoj kev Ho Chi Minh
Trail, lub sij hawm nrawd cov Nploj uas
nyiam sah communist yog cov tsawj lub
teb chaws Nploj. Yog li nrawd American
thiaj tsis muaj peev xwm siv lawv lub
rog myob rau hauv av, txawm hais tias
American muaj cai siv dar hlau too foob
pob rau cov tub rog Nyab laj qum teb.
Muaj li 99% nrawm cov tub rog hauv av
yog cov Hmoob uas muaj kev ntseeg
hauv neeg American kom lawv yur
ntsam pab lawv ua tsov rog nrog cov
Nyab qum teb no. (Cov Nyab laj liab
no koj yog cov tau kawm sib tus txuas
nkaw). Peb pab lub rog sah nruab ntrog
los yog dar hlau tau rog, tab sis txhua
tus lub rug yej pab zoo tias dar hlau
xwb yej ti thiab thiab nruv tias tau
cov nyob hauv av. Peb yej cia siab rau
hauv neeg Hmoob ua tej hauj lwm
no... yam tsis muaj niam phom zoo heev
thiab tsis muaj kev pab txog phab kho
kev raug mob li.

Tom qab lub ntrog Saigon tau pob
lawm, peb tau thim cho tawm hauv
Southeast Asia thiab cia cov Hmoob tiv
thiab nruv yam tsis muaj kev pab sah
nruab ntrog kiag. Thaum peb tau thim
rov qab lawm, cov Hmoob tau sib tus
nrog cov neeg Nploj thiab cov neeg
Nyab laj qum teb tib si. Lawv tsis muaj
peev xwm tiv thiab thiab tau nrog
cov tshab sib tus tank, thiab cov phom
uas yog tau saum cov dar hlau los. Ntau
tus Hmoob tau raug ntes tau myob rau
hauv lawv lub zej lub zos. Ntau tus
raug ntes mus tau thum kev tseem
nab nom tos dar hlau muaj pab tseem
lawv mus rau lwm thiab chaw nab sis dar
hlau tsis tshwm li. Tus puw tau tiv thiab
lawv tus khej tag kev npaj siab khav
hla dej Naj khoom npaj siab mus cuag
lub zos thoj nam hauv Thab teb uas
yog muaj ntau zaas lawv tseem raug
qab yam thiab tsim txoom los ntawm
cov neeg phem myob hauv Thab teb
thiab. Hauv neeg Hmoob muaj coob li
ntawm 3,000,000 tus ua nej muaj tsov
rog nrawd, tsawg tsaj li 200,000 tus
hmoob thiab khav tuaj tau yam tsis
muaj tshwm xeej dab ts. Muaj ib tug
neeg uas tsis pab tab dab ts tau sau ib
qho tus hais tias "lawv tau noob lawm",
kuv xav mas nruv txhais tias cov tub
rog Hmoob raug tau tuag tag lawm, tab
sis qhov nrawd tsis muaj tseeb kiag.
Feem ntau ntawm hauv Hmoob khav

din yog myob rau Australia, France thiab
myob rau lub teb chaws no.

Niaj hmoob niam no kev peej tsis tau
hnov cov uas tsis tau hnov dua ib lub
soub phom neev muaj kev chum li, tab
sis kev tsaj muag uas kuv lub teb
chaws tau dag hauv neeg no. Hauv neeg
Hmoob tau ua txhua yam tau peb, lawv
lub teb chaws, lawv tej vaj tsev, lawv
lub neej uas txwm nyob kag siab lag.
lawv tsev neeg, thiab txhua yam uas
muaj nro rau lawv. Peb tau cog lus
yur pab lawv tab sis thaum kawg peb
tsis tes khian.

Koj tau hais tias koj muaj kev tiv uas
tau mus ua tub rog ua tsov rog
nrog cov Nyab laj liab thiab kuv cia
siab tias lawv txhua tus yur din txoj
sia rov los. Tiam sis, lawv txoj hmoob uas
yaur rov los tseem mas tsawg kawg yog
hais tias tsis muaj cov tub rog. Hmoob
pab tiv thiab tsaj li 50% ntawm cov
tub rog Nyab laj liab thiab lawv tej niam
phom. Yog koj muaj kev hlub txog koj
cov kwr tiv uas tau ua tub rog nrog
nrawd tiag, koj yur tau muaj tsaj
ntsim thiab zoo siab rau hauv Hmoob
uas tau muab lawv txoj sia rau peb
sawv daws."

Tsov rog Nyab laj thiab kev siab phem
nrawd tau tsim kev puam tsawj thiab
too ntau tus neeg txoj sia. Txhua tus
neeg Hmoob muaj kev chum thiab mob
siab vim ntau zaas yog thaum ib tug
neeg uas yus hlub hauv yus tsev neeg,
tau tag nws txoj sia. Kuv tau hnub ntau
tus hais tej zaj dab neeg uas txuas
ntshai thiab txuas ua siab heev. Xws li
tej dab neeg uas leej niam leej txiv
muah tej me nyuam me zais anawm cov
tub rog phem tua neeg, ntau zaas lawv
muah yeeb hom lawv tej me nyuam
kom txhob quaj tes cov tub rog phem
thiaj tsis hnub lawv. Kuv hnub ntau tus
hais dab neeg txog thaum hla tus dej
Naj Khoom es tus neeg yus hlub tau
pob dej los yog raug tau. Ntau tus uas
tau khav dim ntawm kev tsim txoom tau
tuaj mas rau hauv chaw thoj nam hauv
teb chaws Thab teb tseem muaj ntau
zaj dab neeg uas yog tau raug kev txoom
myem myob rau hauv xws li ib tug tau
ncwm ib tug mas myob rau ib qho vim
yog tej kev cai pheem tsis neaj nees,
thiab tsis tag li tseem hnub txog cov
uas tau khav tuaj myob rau lub teb
chaws American no nrog kev txoom myem
tsis muaj nyiaj txiag thiab ntau zaas cov
neeg myob lub teb chaws no yej tsis

pab qhov tseeb tiag tias hauv neeg
Hmoob yog leej twg tiag, qee zaas lawv
tseem pom tias Hmoob yog cov neeg
phem thiab. Kuv xam pom thiab hlub
txog cov laus uas niaj hnub myob ntsa
ntsoov lub qhov ni mus tsis tau qhov
rov vim yog lawv pob lawv lub teb
chaws, ntsawb lub neej yav qub qab uas
muaj kev sib haum nyab xeeb ntrog lub
nej kag sib nyob saum noob siab
ntawm sah qum teb hauv lub teb
chaws Nploj. Tib sis kuv kuj tsis to
taub txog hais tias muaj ntau tus neeg
American yej tsis xeeb txob los kawm
kom pab tias cov neeg no yog leej twg
tiag thiab lawv tsim nyog tuaj myob rau
lub teb chaws American no. Lawv ntsawb
nruv, lawv mas lawv txoj sia rau peb.
Lawv tau pab cawm dim ntau tus
American txoj sia. Peb tau siv cov
Hmoob ntrog rau lawv txoj kev ntshaw
kev ywj pheer ntrog lub siab sawv
qhawv pab peb, tsis ntev ho muab lawv
too rau cov neeg liam hiam tsim txoom,
tiam sis ho ua qhov tsis pab tias pom
txog lawv lub tsaj ntseim yav tag los.
Ntawm peb, nej lub tsaj ntseim yaur
muaj mas tag ib sim tsis plog thiab loj
heev yam tsis muaj qhov piv tau.
Ntawm nej, yog ib yam tshwm sim uas
nco ntsoov tias hauv hauv neeg Hmoob-
Americans yog cov muaj lub siab sawv
qhawv thiab kuv yam tsis nws yur
txhawb nqa nej mus rau qhov zoo tsaj
paws hauv sis neeg lub nej thiab lub
mej muaj ntau rau nej cov neeg txhua
tus niaj hnub ntau no thiab txhua tus
yav tag los tib si. ♦

*Tragic Mountains: The Hmong, the Americans,
and the Secret War in Laos, 1942-1992*, by Jane
Harrilton-Merritt (Indiana University Press, 1993).

Jack Austin Smith, Letter to the Apogee Democrat
(newspaper of Hualapai County, California), July 2,
1986.

Other sources listed or linked at

http://www.jefflindsay.com/Hmong_inquiry.html

Shadow War: The CIA's Secret War in Laos,
by Kenneth Conboy (Paladin Press, Boulder,
Colorado, 1995).

*"Optimists of History," Special Report of the
Sacramento Bee*, <http://www.sacbee.com/sacbee/archive/news/projects/fixing/hmeline.html>,
viewed May 2002.

Various articles at WorldNetDaily.com
(links available at http://www.jefflindsay.com/Hmong_inquiry.html).

Jeff Lindsay <http://www.jefflindsay.com>

ZOUA VANG

She Has What It Takes

by Gloria Nelson

The celebration of Mother's and Father's Days are more than special days created by greeting card companies. They are days when we show our parents how much we love and respect them by our thoughts and deeds. A young 24-year-old NBC-TV reporter in Fresno, California, Zoua Vang, never forgets the sacrifices and hard work of her parents and tries to show them how grateful she is each and every day.

Zoua's mother says she was born in Xiengkhouang, a tiny village in Laos. It isn't difficult for Americans to remember the fall of Saigon, but for those who lived in Zoua's little village, two years passed before the news arrived that General Vang Pao had fled after the fall of Saigon. It is said that Zoua was born during this time of the harvesting of wheat. They celebrate her birth on June 27, 1977.

Fleeing Laos, they went to a refugee camp in Thailand for about a year. Zoua was about age two or three at that time. In 1980, they followed an uncle who agreed to sponsor them and headed toward their new homeland and settled in Mobile, Alabama. After a couple years, they moved to Fresno, California.

Zoua remembers growing up in the housing projects in Fresno with an older brother and sister and four younger sisters. Other siblings were sadly lost in the war. There they grew up in government subsidized housing with lots of friends. Along with lessons learned in school, they learned under the hot sun in the farmer's fields. Zoua recalls working hard in school Monday through Friday and equally hard on weekends as they picked rotating crops with other Hmong workers. "I have such vivid memories of waking up before the sun rose and feeling for grapes or tomatoes," says Vang. It was here that she learned the lessons of hard work and her parents made sure she understood the value of an education. Those lessons spilled over into her schoolwork and made her



Zoua Vang with her parents, Bua Lee and Nao Nao Vang

strive to be the best. At that time, the most any parent would hope for a little Hmong girl would be that she would grow up to be a teacher or nurse.

Zoua attended Edison High School, enrolled in the school's GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) program as a student who was on fire to not only learn, but also to excel. It was at Edison High School that she took her college prep classes and ended up being so far ahead of the class that she attended college in the afternoon. Graduating valedictorian, she went on a local cable program called *Hmong Today* and talked about graduating at the top of her class. "I recall the excitement my family had at that time seeing Connie Chang on television. Every time she appeared on CBS, the family would all come running to see the Asian girl on TV," says Zoua. It was then that she revealed her hidden dream. She wanted to be a news reporter. Stepping out boldly from traditional career choices for young Hmong women, she asked herself questions like, "Who am I to want to be a news anchor?" She says, "I always thought they were more intelligent, prettier. Who am I to think I could do this and what would others think?"

Her first appearance on *Hmong Today* landed her a spot to host the show. It was a chat show that Zoua saw was important to the Hmong community with information about educating your children or how to get a loan. "What was really cool about it was the parents and older viewers really liked me as well," says Vang.

Zoua received a full-ride scholarship to California State University in Fresno where her parents and educators pressured her to declare Liberal Arts as her major. She was undecided because of her hidden dream. After her first semester she declared herself a history major, but the dream still burned deeply inside her. She struggled saying, "I knew what I wanted to do, but I also knew what other people wanted me to do."

After a depressing first semester, Vang says, "I walked into the journalism department and met with R.C. Adam, head of the journalism department. I decided to take a leap." She wanted to ask someone who knew what it took, "Look at me. Can I make it? Do I have the face? Do I have what it takes? If you don't think so, I'll declare myself as a liberal arts major." Professor Adam's said, "I think you do and I think you can."

Zoua spent hours digging for scholarships and found an application for the Asian American Journalist Association, completing a form that would change her life and begin to shape her future. AAJA holds a convention every year for students who receive the award and want to get into journalism. "I filled out the form, sent it in and the same year, my brother found a job in the Twin Cities in Minnesota. Mom and dad followed my brother and moved." Zoua's parents followed him as they only had one son. It wasn't proper for a young girl to live on her own. "My parents understood how important it was to me so I stayed behind in Fresno with my grandparents. My grandfather assured my mother and father that no one would talk about me."

Zoua's grandfather, a Shaman, was not only a wise man, but very forward thinking as well. Shamans were fearful of losing their culture, but her grandfather learned to balance his beliefs with those in their new country. Her parents left for Minnesota and she stayed in Fresno with her grandparents. However, fate stepped in and two weeks later her grandfather suffered a stroke and passed away. She had spent countless hours videotaping and recording her grandparents and parents over the years. She loved to hear the stories they told bringing her comfort in the weeks and months that followed. She recognized her opportunity to stay in Fresno did with her grandfather:

"I'm a big believer in fate and that we can do as much as we can in our lives and then fate takes over. Fate would have it that the AAJA convention would move to Minneapolis that year," says Vang. She moved to the Twin Cities, rejoining her family, attended the convention where she learned much and made so many contacts that she was set for the duration of her stay in Minneapolis/St. Paul, or so she thought. "My parents had no money and I lost my scholarship and grants because of the move. Faced with out-of-state tuition and not being an established resident, my parents sadly said there wasn't anything that could be done but drop out of school for a year until I met the criteria to return," said Zoua.

She refused, dug in her heels, remembered the hard work in the fields and decided that no matter what it took,

she couldn't see herself as a drop out. "I worked my way through school and would borrow money if need be," she says. "I went to the local university and they looked at my transcripts. I had lost the majority of my credits, as they wouldn't transfer. I vowed it would take me no more than four years to finish." After making the scholarship rounds, working and taking 20+ credit hours per semester, she did just that with a double major in journalism and history and no loans. Zoua loves Asian and American history, having to have them both; she still managed to graduate from University of Minnesota, Summa Cum Laude.

"I had to get all A's and I did. With the university coming through with the scholarships, I was set for the last three years of my education." Zoua's father would get up each day at 4:00a.m and worked each day in a florist shop, returning home weary at days end. She would get up at 5:00 or 6:00 taking her younger sisters to school, arriving on campus to find no parking spaces available so she would park off-site and take a bus to her classes. Involved in work-studies throughout her education she landed a job her senior year as a reporter in training for the Minneapolis/St. Paul ABC affiliate, KSTP-TV.

If it weren't for the courage of her parents and grandparents, how differently her life may have turned out. She decided the way to honor them most would be to apply for citizenship before she graduated. She chose to take on the name of Pa-Naobla. "Pa is for my Grandfather, Nao is for my Father and Bla is to honor my mother. These are the people who made all the sacrifices for me to be here. Everything and anything I receive in awards and achievement is shared with them. That is my way of honoring them," says Vang.

It wasn't long before Zoua was working in the Minneapolis newsroom as an intern. A tragedy had occurred with a Hmong woman killing her six children and the news director knew Zoua was passionate about the story. She was sent on assignment and tracked the husband down, who was only living three doors down from where the crime happened. She said to the father, "I want to talk to you. I don't want to take advantage of you and I explained what going on camera meant throughout the country," says Vang. "I did that throughout the

summer. At the beginning of my senior year I was offered a job in Eau Claire, Wisconsin to commute and do the weekend news," she says. She spoke to her Minneapolis news director and the next thing she knew he said, "Don't take the job... give me until tomorrow..." and then he created a position they'd never had before! I became a reporter in training!" she excitedly shares.

She graduated in May and began looking for another job and began to question herself. "Did I get the job because I'm Hmong or because I'm good?" she'd ask. She spoke to stations in Madison, Wisconsin; Syracuse, New York and then Fresno began courting her. "I did some serious soul-searching at this time. Why did I get into this business to begin with... to tell the stories that no one else has told or potentially can tell," she says. She knew she had to first pay her dues and then be true to herself. "I had to come to Fresno. This is where the stories are and I grew up here as a little girl. I needed to feel challenged," she recalls.

For the past two and a half years, she has been a general assignment reporter for KSEE-TV, an NBC affiliate in Fresno, California. Covering breaking news, she also tells stories that would make her grandfather proud.

She's telling stories of Hmong people, where they have come from and where they are going. She wanted to tell her stories and made that clear to the station management to be accepted on those terms. A story of a strawberry farmer that went from planting to harvest shared how this hardworking farmer managed to put his four children through college from tilling the soil. The story won her first journalism award from the Associated Press. She believed in the story and the journalistic community supported it as well.

Her most recent project is to tell the story of the Hmong. "I was so emotional at the screening event that Sunday... I broke down and everyone was crying. I feel a huge load lifted off of me. My grandfather came to this country over 22 years ago. He was dragged onto a plane because he heard the United States had no salt, only sweets with dragons that would consume you. I think he knew in his heart this was his family's chance for a future," she says.

Stories began to pour out from Zoua, recalling the villages that had been bombed, leaving an uncle who was blind, knowing it was the last time her grandfather would see him. "You have all these stories weighing you down...it's all so heavy...I thought someday I could tell the stories to unburden their weary souls," said Vang.

She's doing just that. A Trail of Tears: The Hmong Story began to take shape. Her station sent her to Thailand with a doctor to tell his story, "A Medicineman with a Message". A physician went with his church to spread the word of Christianity and to also deliver medical treatment to the villagers. "These stories have been in the making for me ever since I was born. The project is so much greater than I am. The story honors all those who didn't make it out of Laos. I'm telling the story now, but perhaps 20 years from now, it may be another child telling the story from Afghanistan," says Vang.

The Journey to Freedom allows the viewers to connect with Zoua. "It is a burden, but it's also a saving grace. It's my center of motivation. My parents and grandparents, relatives and neighbors all lived through this. Remember the events of September 11, 2001? Remember how we felt as we watched? How angry? How upset and concerned? Every day of my life is like this with the burden of witness my mother carries with her," says Zoua.

"My parents are very nontraditional. I was concerned about how people would talk and how that would reflect on my parents and family," shares Zoua. Her parents said, "If that's what you want to do, we will put our support behind you 110%." She states, "They take the hardest blow. One of the young men at the project unveiling that Sunday asked me if I was married. I've not even dated to protect my parents." Her life by comparison has been one of work, a handful of close friendships and little thought in the present about anything more than her world of work.

When asked about her future plans and any dreams to get into network news she says, "It's not what I see myself doing right now. I want to

continue to tell great stories in a wonderful environment that impacts people's lives. I'm not on any timeline. I think I'll know when I feel it." She continues, "Who knows? When I don't believe in the business or when I don't think I'm making an impact any longer, maybe someone else will come along. I've opened the door, providing the coverage and the perspective."

She encourages young people as well as viewers by saying, "You need to write editors, call television stations and if

they don't do anything, then you have to make those changes from the inside. If you don't paint the images of your community, then someone else will do it for you and not always with the same fair perspective," she states with passion.

No matter the time of year, with Zoua's commitment to telling the stories of her people, it brings honor to her family making every day Mother's and Father's Day in the Vang household. ♦

Koj xav tau dab tsi?

Koj yuav nrhiav tau ntau yam khoom pheej yig nyob tim Goodwill.

Ris tsho zoo
 Khau
 Khoom siv hauv
 vaj tse
 Rooj tog
 Khob
 Twj taig
 Tej nyuag kheb
 cav me
 Kauj toog npab, qhws ntsej
 Tshuaj ntxuav tsev
 Ciaj
 Txaj chaw
 Ntawv
 Thiab tshuav ntau yam heev!



Goodwill®

Call for the nearest location! 1-800-482-8036

Puas yog koj tab tom nrhiav cov rooj
tog tawv uas zoo txhahj plaws?

KOJ KAV TSIJ XAIV NTAG!



Calgary Sectional



Sierra Sectional



Durango Sectional



Regal Sofa

Yog hais tias koj xav tau cov rooj tog uas
yog tawv thiab zoo txhahj plaws thiab
muaj utau hom rau koj xav, mus rau
nrm qhov chaw muag rooj tog tawv
Leather Furniture.

Appleton • Green Bay

**LEATHER
FURNITURE, LTD.**

Areas Largest Leather Furniture Showrooms

Mon-Fri 10-9 Saturday 10-6 Sunday 11-5

Appleton: 2600 W. College Ave.
(920) 830-0586

Green Bay: 2979 Allied Street
(920) 338-5143

events
COMMUNITY

Announcements...



Check It Out! Hmong Summer Festivals 2002

Appleton-Green Bay: August 31-September 1 (Labor Day weekend)

Contact person: Nhis Za Yang... (920) 730-3793

Milwaukee Area: (3 festivals) June 8-9 • July 13-14 • August 17-18

Contact person: Chirn Sab Yang... (414) 643-0701 Fax: (414) 383-5412

Minnesota/St. Paul: July 5-7

Oshkosh: June 1-2, August 17-18

Contact number: (920) 235-5133

Sheboygan: August 10-11

Contact number: (920) 458-0808

Stevens Point: June 15-16

Contact person: Tia Vae... (715) 341-3703

Wisconsin Rapids: October 5-6

Contact number: (715) 424-4981

Send announcements/event dates/happenings to:

FutureHmong Magazine

130 E. Franklin Street • Appleton, WI 54911

fax: 920/993-9691 • email: publishr@athenet.net

For Free Listing In This Column

Deadlines for material is the 12th of each month for the following month's issue.



Technology so fast
 you get it two months
 before you have to pay for it.

FREE plus **FIRST 2 MONTHS FREE** **ROAD RUNNER**
HIGH SPEED ONLINE™

Get **two free months** of high speed internet access with **free installation**

- 100x faster than dial-up service
- No busy signals – always on line
- Costs around the same as dial-up service and an extra phone line
- J.D. Power and Associates 2001 award for high speed internet service
- Includes complete email service

Discount rate applies to promotional period only. Service has standard monthly fee and apply. Offer good for "new" customers Time Warner Cable Green Bay service area only. Speed limited they not be available in all areas. Some restrictions may apply. Offer does not include Network Interface Card (NIC) or Modem (if needed). Offer expires April 30, 2002.



TIME WARNER
CABLE

ROAD RUNNER
HIGH SPEED ONLINE™

AROUND TOWN



Register to Win!!

Log on to: www.newroadrunner.com

TODAY!

Enter the secret code below and register
 for your chance to win an
MP3 Player, or
A Digital Camera!

SECRET CODE:
RR4237

What's your time worth?

www.newroadrunner.com

RISK FREE + NO CONTRACTS
30-DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

GREEN BAY / DE PERE
920-496-2040

OSHKOSH
920-233-2700

FOX CITIES
920-738-3160

MARINETTE
715-735-6667



Please bring
this ad in for an
additional \$250 off
any new or used
vehicle purchase.

W. Moua,
Sales Consultant

"I look forward to helping you get the financing you need for a new car, truck or van. We offer \$0 down to qualified credit and the car you're driving now can be your down payment."

Kuv xav pab koj txais nyiaj los yuav koj
lub tsheb tsheb. Yog koj muaj credit
200, koj tsis tas them down payment
es cia koj lub tsheb qub los ua down
payment xwb los tau.

BERGSTROM

Toyota • Honda
Nissan • Lexus

3265 S. Washburn Street
(near Prime Outlets Mall)
Oshkosh, WI

(920) 236-1000
1(800)947-1002

www.bergstromauto.com



NISSAN

INTRODUCING BERGSTROM NISSAN!

Bergstrom Nissan of Oshkosh is here! Stop in to see our full line of Nissan models and get a great deal more!



TOYOTA **NATIONWIDE**
SUMMER
EVENT

BERGSTROM Toyota
Where You Get
A Great Deal More!

CAMRY

'02 Toyota Camry

Air conditioning, AM/FM stereo cassette,
rear defrost, air bags and more!

Starting at — **\$18,799***



(*Tax, title and license extra. Excludes MSRP. See your Bergstrom sales consultant for current incentives.)

HONDA

GET A GREAT DEAL MORE!

For a limited time **2.9% APR Financing***
on new 2002 Accord, Civic, and Passport!

'02 Accord DX Sedan

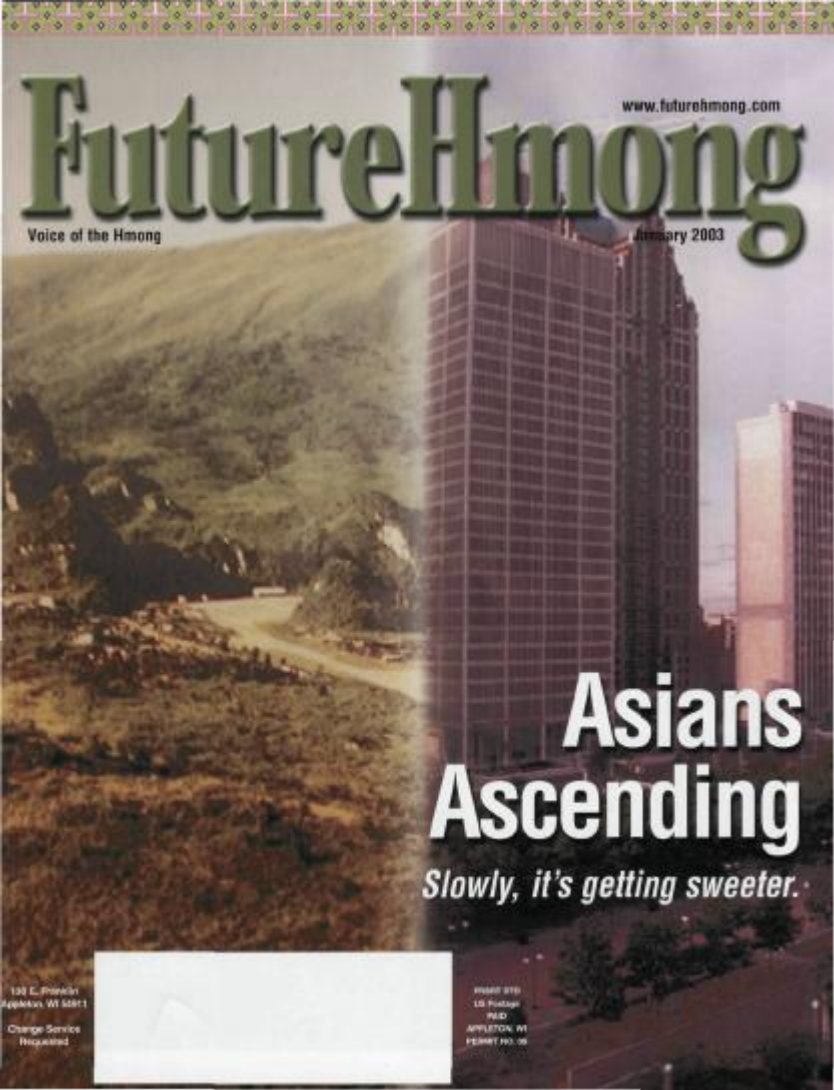
Air conditioning, AM/FM stereo cassette,
rear defrost, air bags

Starting at — **\$15,995***

Accord DX Sedan
LE 1800000000



*2.9% for 36 months and 4.9% for 48 or 60 months on approved credit. Limited time only. Tax, title and license extra.



FutureHmong

Voice of the Hmong

www.futurehmong.com

January 2003

Asians Ascending

Slowly, it's getting sweeter.

130 E. Pinecroft
Appleton, WI 54911

Change Service
Requested

ISSN 875
US Postage
PAID
APPLETON, WI
PERMIT NO. 36



Now Open,

3401 E. Calumet St., Appleton
(Highway 441 and Calumet).

Come and visit!



Lobby:

Monday – Wednesday
Thursday & Friday
Saturday

8:30am to 5pm
Until 6pm
9am to Noon

Drive Up:

Monday – Wednesday
Thursday & Friday
Saturday

7am to 5:30pm
Until 6pm
9am to Noon

Did You Know?

- With a Fox Free Checking account you will enjoy no minimum balance and unlimited check writing!
- Save time and money with a check card from us!
- Other convenient services include online banking, biweekly payments and home equity lines of credit!

"The lending service at Fox Communities Credit Union was great. They were very cooperative and friendly. All my questions were answered very quickly and the whole process went smooth."
Sue, member

"The service at Fox Communities Credit Union was excellent. The staff is friendly and efficient. Our loan was handled in a timely manner."
Scott, member

Appleton & Kimberly 920-993-9000

- 3401 E. Calumet St., Appleton
- 611 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton
- 1724 S. Lane St., Appleton
- 2511 Highway Dr. OO & A, Appleton
- 529 S. Washington St., Kimberly

New London & Clintonville

- 1302 N. Sherman New London 100/982-9420
- 516 Main St. Clintonville 715-623-2391

Check us out on the web:
www.foxcu.org



Proudly serving the area for
over 65 years!

Family Law
mauj peev xwm thiab ntseeg
tau, kev raug mob tom hauj
lwm, teeb meem txog vaj tsev,
kev raug mob ntawm yus tus
kheej kev raub plaub ntug/kev
tsav tsheb, kev ua huaj
lwm thiab kev
ua lag luam



Attorney Ma Manee Moua

Ma Manee Moua, yog ib tug
Hmoob coj plaub coj ntug uas
tau ua hauj lwm nrog rau
Law offices of DiRenzo &
Bomier, LLC. DiRenzo thiab
Bomier practices Family Law,
mauj peev xwm thiab ntseeg
tau, Kev raug mob tom hauj
lwm, teeb meem biog vaj
tsev, kev raug mob ntawm yus
tus kheej, kev raug plaub
ntug/kev tsav tsheb, kev ua hauj
lwm thiab kev ua lag luam. Yog
koj muaj ib yam plaub ntug dabtsi
uas koj xav tau kev pab no hu rau Ma
Manee Moua hnuv no tau.



231 East Wisconsin Avenue
Neenah, WI 54956
(800) 725-8464
Email: db@direnzolc.com



'Insurance for the Hmong Community'

LIFE INSURANCE...100% Guaranteed to age 100...save money with low premiums...
no increases in rates...face amount returned at age 100

HEALTH, DENTAL, DISABILITY INSURANCE...all available for individuals at low rates

ANNUITIES...to give you higher interest rates...tax deferred...solid protection

PERSONAL SERVICE...we come to see you anywhere in the state and are always available
with agents throughout Wisconsin

Call & talk to us about your needs

800/666-2364

HMONG PROTECTIVE INSURANCE AGENCY

Make a move to State Farm



State Farm Insurance understands success. After all we insure more cars and homes than any other insurer. And now you can get on the successful path that's been traveled by thousands of State Farm agents.

We're looking for someone with the drive, determination and "good neighbor" ideals it takes to service the insurance needs of this community.

Now it's time for
you to make a move.

For agency opportunities in Wisconsin,
please call Renata Hansbrough at 414-267-8029.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois • statefarm.com®



Polygamy...Right Or Wrong?

Last November, an article appeared in a couple of local newspapers in Northeastern Wisconsin regarding polygamy in our community. The article had several people giving their opinions, including myself, about polygamy in the Hmong community and how it affects everyone. After the article ran, I received several letters and comments from Hmong men.

The Hmong men who talked to me said I am too young and do not have the life experience yet to talk about such an issue. Therefore, anytime there's an opportunity to share Hmong culture with the rest of the community I should consult older Hmong men, so I would not end up shaming or embarrassing our people as I have done. In other words, he and

tell others how wonderful our people are in all aspects of our culture. The truth is our culture is not perfect and neither is any other culture. Polygamy exists and is still being practiced by some Hmong men today. That's the truth!

I understand many Hmong men had polygamist families prior to coming to the United States. I understand this is not a simple problem for those who had this lifestyle prior to coming to America. I understand those who had multiple wives and children from polygamist families can't simply just get rid of them. I even agree that many Hmong polygamist families are economically better off than some monogamist, "Americanized" families today. What I cannot understand is why those who know polygamy is illegal and those who have seen it destroyed families in this country, continue to support and even encourage it? What I cannot understand is why telling the truth is, "shaming Hmong people," as some Hmong men suggested? The fact that those who continue to practice and encourage it, "have to do it behind closed doors," (as a reader mentioned), should tell us we are wrong in continuing to practice polygamy in America. Doing the right thing and telling the truth is not shameful.

Our elders have always taught us to tell the truth. We are taught to have strong family values. We are taught to always do what is good. Yet I am disappointed in those who teach us one thing and practice another. I am disappointed in our elders who trust us with their lives, yet when we speak the truth, we are considered, "naïve and too young to understand." People learn by example. What kind of examples are our parents and elders setting?

When we talk about subjects like polygamy, it doesn't shame our people to the rest of the world. It holds us accountable for what we do. If you are ashamed or embarrassed talking about polygamy, it is because you do not want to be held accountable for the wrong you are doing. We don't touch fire because it burns. We don't cut ourselves because it hurts. We don't kill because it's wrong. Until we are held accountable for the things we do in life, we will not learn. It is wrong for all of us to not acknowledge the devastating negative affects of polygamy to our families in this country. It is time for our people to wake up and smell the truth in action and not just words.

I have recently seen and heard our elders try to save polygamist marriages over and over again and failed. The reason for failing polygamist marriages is not because one wife did not give consideration to the other wife, or how one wife did not get enough time with the husband or who's children did not come first? The answer is clear and simply, polygamy is illegal and will never work in this country because it is considered morally wrong and not accepted by the community as a whole. ♦

* You can find feedback comments in this issue's Speak Out section. The article ran in the Appleton Post Crescent on November 28, 2002 and in the Green Bay Press Gazette on November 21, 2002.

Jon Lancaster
Toyota
Madison, WI

Yog koj xav tau tus nqi zoo
tsahj rau lub tsheb Toyota
tsiab, truck los yog SUV no,
mus ntsib Jon Lancaster.

"We Deliver Statewide"

Direct Line 608/243-5596
Toll Free 1-800-843-8941

Txoj kev yuav poj niam ntawv tsabj ib tag...txhaum los tsis txhaum?

Lub 11 hlis dhan los no, tau muaj ib tsab ntawv tawm hauv mawv xov xwm nyob rau hauv lub qauv ntsoog hauv NW Wisconsin uas yog tau txog kev yuav poj niam ntawv tsabj ib tag. Thab mawv no muaj ntawv tsab neeg (kuv los nyob rau hauv tsabj) tau plov txog qhov kev xov txog ntawm kev yuav poj niam ntawv tsabj ib tag los sis yog kev yuav niam hlob niam yuav uas muaj tsawm vim rau peb pej xera. Hmoob thiab muaj feem nrog peb tshuab tus li cas. Tom qab tsab ntawv no tau tawm lawm, kuv tau txais ntawv tsab ntawv tsabj ntawv tsabj ib tag los sis yog kev yuav niam hlob niam yuav.

Muaj ib tag txiv nee Hmoob uas ntrog kuv thiam tau hais rau kuv hais tias kuv tseem hloos dhan uas tseem tias tau parb txog. qhov yuav los thiam txog tej no. Yog li ntawd, thaum twg yog kuv yuav thiam los yog hais txog peb Hmoob kev coj noj coj ua rau hwm tus neeg, kuv yuav tsum tau nrog peb cov kev nee neeg hais thiam ua ntej es kuv thiab li tsis dhuav peb Hmoob lub kooj npe thiab thiab tias ua rau peb txog muaj li qhov kev tau ua tag los. Los yog txhais hais tias, kev yuav tsum tau tag thiab qhia rau txhua tus hais tias peb cov neeg yog ib cov uas zoo tsabj paws nyob rau txhua yam hauv peb kev li kev cai. Qhov tseeb tag peb txog kev li kev cai yeej tias zoo tag tag thiab txhua hauv neeg los yeej tias zoo tag tag ib yam nkaas thiab. Kev yuav poj niam ntawv tsabj ib tag los yog kev yuav niam hlob niam yuav tseem niaj hlob muaj tsawm vim los ntawm ntawv tsabj nee Hmoob niam hlob niam no. Qhov no muaj tseeb tag!

Kuv to tauh tias muaj peb ntawv tsabj nee Hmoob uas yog yeej muaj niam hlob niam yuav ua ntej tau rau hauv teb chaws America no lawm. Kuv koj to tauh tias qhov no tsis yog ib qhov tseeb meem tae rau cov uas muaj lub nee zoo li no ua ntej tau mus rau lub teb chaws America. Kuv to tauh txog cov muaj niam hlob niam yuav thiab muaj me tub me nyam los ntawm ib tsev neeg li no uas yeej tias yooj vim kiag uas yuav muab sis ishem kiag. Kuv koj ntseeg tias muaj ntawv tsabj nee uas muaj niam hlob niam yuav tseem muaj lub nee zoo muaj noj muaj hais tsabj ntawv tsabj nee uas yog tag kev tag muaj hlob niam no. Qhov kev tias to tauh yog vim li cas cov uas twb paub zoo hais

tias kev yuav poj niam ntawv tsabj ib tag tias kev yuav poj niam ntawv tsabj ib tag no thiab twb pom tias qhov no yuav ua rau tsev neeg niam vim thiab piam tsaj los tseem pom zoo rau lub tswy yim no thiab tseem txhawb zog kom yeej nteem ua li no thiab? Qhov kev tias to tauh yog thiam yus hais qhov tseeb ces yog "thiam peb Hmoob nteem muaj" li ntawv tsabj nee Hmoob tau hais tias kuv tau ua dhan los ib? Qhov tseeb tag cov nyam lub tswy yim no thiab txhawb zog lub tswy yim no. "Yuav tau ua ntrog lub qhov noj kaw ntom nti," ua li ib tag tau hais, yuav tau qhia tias kev yuav niam hlob niam yuav tias nrog kev tag cai nyob rau lub teb chaws America. Ua qhov yog thiab qhia qhov tseeb yeej tias tsaj muaj kiag.

Peb tej hais yeej ib txwm qhia peb kom hais lus tseeb, qhia kom peb muab peb tsev neeg tsab muaj niaj npe. Qhia peb kom ua qhov zoo. Tib sis kuv to tsab rau cov uas qhia peb sij noj tah sis hawv ho mus ua tag to. Kuv muaj kev to tsab rau peb cov hais uas ntseeg peb nyob rau hauv lawv lub nee, tib sis thiam peb hais qhov tseeb, lawv hais tias peb yog ib tag me nyam yam thiab hloos dhan los to tauh txog tej no. Peb twb neeg kawm los ntawm ib tag qhov. Peb cov niam cov txiv thiab cov hais ua tus qauv piv tswy li cas rau peb xyaum?

Thaum peb thiam txog tej yam xws li kev yuav niam hlob niam yuav, nws tias yog thiam peb cov neeg rau hwm hais neeg hauv lub ntiaj teb no. Nws yuav ua kom peb paub txog peb tus kheej thiab paub txog qhov peb ua. Yog koj xav tias thiam txog kev yuav niam hlob niam yuav ua rau koj tsaj muaj niam hwm hais neeg, nws yog vim koj tias xav lees qhov kev txhaum uas koj tau ua. Peb tias kev hloos tawm yam nws yuav lub peb. Peb tias ua hloos peb vim nishab muh. Peb tias ua neeg vim nws yog kev txhaum. Yog peb tias kam lees yam peb tau ua hauv peb lub nee, tias

muaj hlob peb yuav paub. Nws yuav tias muaj uas peb sawv dawb tias kam lees paub txog qhov piam uas muaj tsawm vim tag rau tsev neeg los ntawm kev yuav poj niam ntawv tsabj ib tag nyob rau hauv lub teb chaws no. Nws txog lub sij hawm lawm uas peb yuav tau rau qhov muaj los tsab qhov tseeb sis txhob yog hnov luag hais xwb. Kuv tau pom thiab hnov ntawv tsabj nee tag muaj neeg. tau los txhob kho ntawv yim neeg uas muaj niam hlob niam yuav tab sis dhan kawg lub nee tseem piam tag thiab. Qhov tseeb meem uas ua rau ntawv yim neeg sis muaj niam hlob niam yuav tau tag thiab piam tsaj tias yog vim ib tag niam tias zoo rau ib tag los yog ib tag sis muaj sij hawm txawv rau ib tag nrog tus txiv thiab tias yog hlob ib tag me nyam es ho tseeb ib tag. Qhov no ces peb yeej paub tseeb tias qhov tseeb meem ces yog...kev yuav niam hlob niam yuav yog ib qhov uas tias nrog kev tag cai thiab tias yog ib lub tswy yim uas yuav ua hauj hwm nyob rau lub teb chaws no vim nws txhaum txoj kev tag cai thiab hwm tus ntseeg hauv peb tej peb uas thiam tias kam lees txais paub txog lub tswy yim no. ♦



David Blong S. Lee DDS

825 Michigan Ave.
Sheboygan, WI 53081
(920) 459-9010

New Patients Welcome
We accept most
dental insurance.
Flexible office hours:
Evenings and Weekends



Dr. David Blong Lee

Offer Dental Treatment for:

Dental Examinations • Cleaning & Gum Care • White & Silver Filling
Crown & Bridge • Partial & Denture • Oral Surgery • Teeth Whitening

Dr. Niplooj Li is a dentist who has been practicing for over 20 years. He is a member of the American Dental Association and the Wisconsin Dental Society. He is a skilled and experienced dentist who provides a wide range of dental services to his patients. He is a friendly and caring dentist who takes the time to listen to his patients and to provide them with the best possible care. He is a dedicated and committed dentist who is always up to date on the latest dental technology and techniques. He is a professional and courteous dentist who is always ready to help his patients with their dental needs.

Tis txhob qhov tias, ha xov xwm tag Dr. Niplooj Li uas thiab paub cawm rau koj li hais. Nws zoo xav yuav paub koj ntawv tsabj. Ua Txog.

Dedicated to the advancement
of the Hmong community.



Published by
Y Enterprises, Inc.

Editor
Hmong Yang
Hmong@futurehmong.com

Administrative Design
Summit Marketing Group

Contributors
Lydia Stroth
De Dee Lo

Hmong Protective Insurance Agency
Hmong National Development

Consultant
Kay & Sao Yang
Mabona Xiong

All rights reserved. Reproduction or use of any of the FutureHmong Magazine material without permission is prohibited. No responsibility is accepted for unsolicited manuscripts, cartoons or editorial. Opinions expressed in the magazine are not necessarily endorsed, nor does the magazine assume responsibility for statements made in either advertisements or articles published.

Single issue price \$3.95. Back issues \$4.50 mailed, subject to availability.
Base subscription price \$19.95 per year. Free subscription to all Wisconsin residents.
Reprints available for 500 copies.

Editorial/Advertising: 920/995-9690
Subscriptions: 920/995-9556
Fax: 920/995-9691
E-Mail: info@futurehmong.com

Postmaster
Send change of address to
Y Enterprises, Inc.
150 East Franklin Street
Appleton, WI 54911

speak out!

EXPERTS FROM YOU TO US

I too am struggling with the clashes of being Hmong adhering to the tradition and values that makes us Hmong men and women great. Yet at the same time trying to assimilate into a culture that at times defies our core values and tradition and makes it hard for many families to find happiness. I agree with you that the only way to better position oneself in America is to change but change does not have to come at a price so great that we must give up certain traditions and beliefs that will rob us of our own identity. We should all be proud of who we are and where we come from. By changing the way we think does not mean that we have to forget a part of our past. The problem here is not the willingness to change but the knowledge to change. I think that the key to successfully assimilating into this culture is the understanding of ones culture and history. Only when we youths truly have a sound understanding of our past can we help our parents to grasp the future. Only then can we make the change for the better it is not just a one sided problem lying solely on the heels of our parents.

...We live in a new world with new rules and new ways of doing things. I agree if we do not change, we will not succeed in this country. Although change is hard and most will resist it, it must be done. I agree that any tradition or value we have, as a culture that does not serve us positively in this country should be left behind. Most people try to blame a specific group of people, like the kids, or our parents, or our men or women. The reality is all of us have to change. As FutureHmong mentioned, we must take what is great about our culture and apply them to our lives in this country. Do not lose it. Yet, we must do away with things that hinder us too. I am not saying, and don't think FutureHmong is saying, "forget everything about us." I understand FutureHmong to say we must adapt to this new environment we are in so we will survive. And that starts with our parents because they are the elders...the ones who make decisions and lead us. They are the leaders of our people today. What they say and do will have influence on all our lives. I am 28 years old. I can't remember the last time when it comes to "life," that our elders listened to my views and took a to heart. Although I am still very traditional in thinking and practice, when the issue of "life" is being discussed, what our elders say matters most.

...I think the editor of FutureHmong is just upset or something. We are Hmong. We will live as Hmong no matter what we do or say. If the editor doesn't like it, that's too bad. American rules and laws are made for American people, not for Hmong. I will live, as I want to. And I want to live like a Hmong person. I want to marry as many wives as I choose to. It's my Hmong right. I want to cut pigs' feet at lunch at work if I choose to. I want to speak Hmong loudly in public places so everyone can hear me because I am proud to be Hmong. I like being served by my wife and kids. They treat me like a king. Why should I want to change? People should live the way they want to and that includes our people!

...Hmong people have survived for centuries always being outcasts. We will survive here as well. Our past is proof that we have accepted change well. The proof is we are still alive and kicking. So why is it that so many of us are not willing to give up some cultural practices and survive in this country as well? I am 36 and from MN. In the last 5 years or so, many MN Hmong families have been killed over "cultural" issues. How many of our people have to die before we can give up such cultural practices as marrying more than one wife, forcing our children to marry as kids, give special treatments to our sons versus daughters, men cheating on women all the time, but when women cheat the man kills the entire family and so many more. Yes, there are a lot of great things about our culture. We should hang on to it all forever and ever. But we need to recognize the negatives too. I believe most of us have been avoiding the negatives, yet we boast about our greatness. If we are ashamed, it's because we have something to be ashamed of. I am proud and glad FutureHmong is printing this out and talking about it. Only a few are brave enough to talk about these things openly. Keep up the good work.

...Kaw thou muab lub sij hawm no ua koj tsawg, vim koj rau bim muaj thab xa ptxawj muaj FutureHmong no rau kaw thab tsawg nrog tsij thawm koj idm tsawj los lawm. Vim tias koj tsawj hawm no yuav muaj tau zoo. Kaw thab kuv poj niam vim niam sah koj phauj muaj hawm la ua tsawg dntx tsawg nroib ghov yam oim sam nqi.

Send comments to FutureHmong • 150 E. Franklin Street • Appleton, WI 54911
920/995-9691 (fax) • info@futurehmong.com

Naturopathic Medicine yog hom tshuaj kho mob li cas & Naturopathic Doctor yog tus kws kho mob li cas?

Sau los ntawm Dr. Bee Lo



Dr. Bee Lo

Naturopathic medicine yog hom tshuaj kho mob uas tib neeg yeej ib txwm tau muab los siv ua ntej thauj neeg tau txawm muaj cov tshuaj uas peb siv nia muab niam no uas yog tau muaj txawm myob rau yav thauj xyoo 1940s thiab 50s uas neeg pib nyiam siv cov tshuaj tshuab uas tau txawm muaj no. Nws yog txawm los ntawm kev siv tshuaj kho mob thiab kev txawj nse ntawm ntau lub teb chaws, thiab ntau lub neeg (Europe, India, China, America, Greece, etc.)

Kws kho mob Naturopathic yog cov kws kho mob uas yog kawm tawm los siv cov tshuaj peb yeej ib txwm siv nia muab niam no thiab siv cov tshuaj ntsuab-cag hmuab cag ntsoo, tshuaj qab los, zuaj ib ce, kho pob txa, siv dej los ntawm tus mob zoo, pub dawb kev ntxhov siab, pab kho mob ib ce, qaug zaub mox, muab tshuaj yv thauv kab mob, phais tus mob, siv ultrasound tsoo nruab nrog, siv lhuav tawv xob los nruab lub cev thiab roj ntsa, siv tshuaj suav thiab tshuaj Ayurvedic.

Tshuaj ntsuab yog cov tshuaj muab los ntawm cag hmuab cag ntsoo myob nruab hnyav zoo los yog cag uas yog siv nyooos, los yog muab zlab qhuav los yog muab nyoj ua kua lawm. Yuav siv cov paj, cov nplooj los-cov cag ntawm tsob tshuaj ntsuab ntawd los tau myob ntawm nws yuav ntshim.

Homeopathy yog ib yam tshuaj uas muaj zog heev uas yog muab los ntawm cag hmuab cag ntsoo, muab los ntawm tsuj thiab hwm yam. Nws muab los ntawm lub tawv yim uas hais tias "zoo xws li no yuav kho tau xws li no" Qhov no txhais hais tias yog muab ib qhov tshuaj no rau ib tug neeg uas khov kho tsis muaj mob nkeeg es nws ua rau tus neeg no muaj qhov tshwm sim tawm npaum li cas ces yog yam tshuaj no yuav siv tau los tus kab mob uas muaj qhov tshwm sim npaum ntawd thiab.

Noj yam zaub mox zoo uas tseem ceeb rau yus lub cev thiab pab tiv thauv thiab dawb tawm kab mob.

Zuaj los yog zaws kom ib ce xob thiab roj ntsa khav zoo, Qhov no yuav pab kom tshob muaj mob thiab pab tshwm yus tus mob.

Kev zuaj pob txa cag qum yog ib qho uas tus kws kho mob kawm tawm los ntawm zuaj tus txa cag qum kom sib dlios thauj nws sis sib dlios zoo lawm thiab kom cov leeg ntang thiab roj ntsa khav zoo.

Kev siv dej kub los yog dej txias los pab kom yus cov nshor khav zoo, kom pab txhawb zog rau yus lub cev thiab kom yus lub cev kub tsuj qab thiab pob tiv thauv tau kab mob los yog tshwm tawm yus tus mob.

Pab muab tawv yim dawb kev nruab siab ntxhov plawv ntawm ib tug neeg yim tus kws kho mob no yuav ua tib zoo mloog nws tej tech meem uas ua rau nws muab tub hau los yog ntxhov siab thiab yuav tawm tawv yim rau tus neeg mob no kom nws yuav to tub txog nws qhov tech meem no.

Nruab tes nruab raw kom yus cov nqaj thiab leeg xob thiab tshuab xyuas saib qhov rug yog qhov ua rau yus mob ib ce. Qhov no yuav pab kom yus cov roj ntsa khav zoo thiab yus cov leeg thiab ngaj xob.

Naturopaths kuj pab tshuab xyuas ib tug neeg saib nws noj hom zaub mox twg tsis haum rau nws lub cev. Nws yuav pab qhia tias yam zaub mox twg yog yam ua rau nws muaj mob nkeeg ntawm nws lub cev.

Cov kws kho mob Naturopathic kuj yog kawm tawm los ntawm kev muab tshuaj dawb kab mob, tshuaj tiv thauv kab mob thiab phais tej yam mob me (minor surgery). Ua ntej tshuaj yog lawv yuav nruab kev pab los ntawm cov tshuaj los ntawm ntuj tsim teb raug xwb (natural forms of medicine) yog tsis zoo ting lawv mam siv hwm yam tshuaj ntawj pab rau.

Kev pab kho mob los ntawm kev siv hmuab tawv xob pab kom yus lub cev kub. Qhov no yog yuav siv lub tshuab los ua kom yus lub cev kub kom tus mob ntawv zoo sai tsaj.

Naturopaths los kuj yog kawm tawm txog kev saib neeg mob uas yog siv tshuaj suav thiab tshuaj Ayurvedic. Peb mam tham dua qhov no kom meej hwm tsab ntawv.

(414)672-6693



Noodle House

It's so good!

On the corner of S. 35th & W. National

For the best Hmong, Thai, Chinese and Vietnamese food, come dine at the Noodle House. The Noodle House is Wisconsin's largest and nicest Hmong restaurant. A nice warm bowl of Pho is waiting for you!

-Milwaukee-

THE NATURAL HEALTH CENTER



Dr. Bee N.D.



134 2nd Avenue North
Onalaska, WI 54601

By appt. only: (608) 779-4137

432 Cass Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

By appt. only: (608) 779-4137

Dr. Npis Lauj yog thawj tus thiaj maum hmcoob kawm taw tshuaj dawb thiaj tshuaj ntsuab, tshuaj noj zaub mov, tshuaj phiv, kev ntua neeg, zuaj ib ce, rub pob bha, thiaj tab tom kawm tshuaj suav nkaug koob cua nrog tshuaj ntsuab.

Koj xav tau dab tsi?

**Koj yuav nrhiav tau ntau yam khoom
pheej yig nyob tim Goodwill.**

Ris tsho zoo

Khau

Khoom siv hauv

vaj tse

Roog tog

Khob

Twj taug

Tej nyuag kheeb

cav me

Kauj toog npab, qhws ntsej

Tshuaj ntshuav tsev

Ciaj

Txaj chaw

Ntawv

Thiab tshuav ntau yam heev!



Goodwill

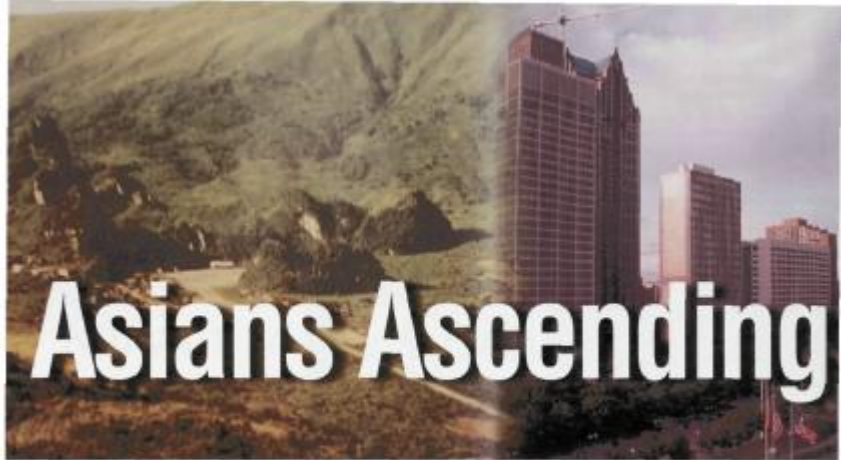
Call for the nearest location! 1-800-482-8036

Tus kws kho mob Naturopathic no yog ib tug kws uas yog kawm taw plaub xyooz los ntawm lub nsev kawm ntawv uas yog kawm cov tau hais los tag no, thiaj yuav tsum xeeb dhaa national board examinations thiaj ntawv rau tshua yam uas tau hais tag los saum no. Tus kws kho mob naturopathic no kuj yog kawm muaj ntsis sib xws li hem cov kws kho mob thiaj; tsuas yog hais tias, lawv yuav saib xyuas lawv tus neeg mob no kom paub tshua yam ntawm tus neeg no - nws lub hlwb, lub cev, tus ntiaj plig thiaj tshua yam ntawm ib ncig nws. Thiaj lawv yuav siv lub tswv yim kev txawj ntawm naturopathic thaum kho tus mob ntawd li no:

- Ua ntej ntawv yuav tsis pub kom nws raug mob
- Yuav nrhiav nws tus mob
- Yuav pab kho tag ntso nws lub cev
- Siv lub tswv yim kev txawj uas yog los ntawm ntiaj raug teb tsum los
- Pab txog kev tiv thiaj kab mob kom ntsh kev noj qab nyob zoo

Kws kho mob Naturopathic yuav pab ib tug neeg muaj mob muaj nkeeg hauv nws ntiaj nrog tua, tsis yog yuav nrhiav tshuaj kom loog es tsis tshuab hnub nws tus mob xwb. Thaum pom tau hais tias tus mob no ntob loj kawm uas nws yuav tsum tau raug phas loj los yog yuav tau siv kheev-miv-kawm los tau tus kab mob no lawm, thaum ntawd tus kws kho mob naturopathic no miam xa nws mus rau cov kws kho mob uas yog kho ntis rau phab ntawd. Peb muaj kev sib koom tes nrog kawm caj ces txog phab kev kho mob kom peb cov neeg mob yuav tau txais kev pab ntaw ntawm li ntaw tau. ♦

Dr. Bee Lo ntiaj ob qhov chaw no hauv havi pab neeg mob nyob rau La Crosse, WI thiaj nyob rau Onalaska, WI. Koj nrog nws thiam tau ntawm: (608) 779-4137



Asians Ascending

By Lydia Strobl as printed in Horizon Magazine, reprinted with permission.

For the agrarian, clan-based Hmong, America's streets haven't been paved with gold. But for those who are finding their niche in a new economy, life is slowly getting a little sweeter.

May Xiong is a 33-year-old single mother, with long dark hair and dancing black eyes. She can neither read nor write English, so she's thankful for her job on the line at iCorps, in Brooklyn Center, outside of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., assembling microwave and other electronic components. When work got slow at her last job, it took months to find another one.

Even though she is employed, she worries constantly. Her husband left her three years ago, and \$7.96 an hour isn't enough to feed her and her six kids. After rent and utilities, she has \$10 to \$20 left in her pocket every month. She also gets \$200 a month in state food assistance, which she stretches by buying 100 pounds of rice at a

time, or a whole pig.

"If I had more help or child care, I would go to night school but I don't want to leave my kids," says May. Just to make the 35-mile trip to work on time, she must leave her children, ages 9 to 16, to get themselves to school. Sometimes they do, sometimes they don't. And sometimes, the police call her to pick one of them up at the police station. May doesn't know what she'll do if her 13-year-old is expelled from school for "borrowing" a car he and some friends took for a joyride.

When she calls her husband - who she says left her for a "smarter" woman and continually ducks his court-ordered \$1,000 a month child-support payments -

for help, he yells at her. She and her children came to St. Paul from Fresno in 1996, leaving her parents and siblings behind. Now, she has no one to turn to.

"I think they have a lot of jobs here so I came here, just me and my kids," says May, who has been trying to tell her story in English but, crying, lapses into Hmong.

"She is constantly thinking about her children alone, and what to do," translates Foua Hang, her 27-year-old social worker, eyeing the tissue box herself.

Strange Land, Unfamiliar Ways

May's story, a familiar one to Foua, has a terminally heart-wrenching quality. The Hmong were resettled

here after the Vietnam War. Today, there are 200,000 to 300,000 Hmong nationwide. Subsistence farmers by tradition, they struggle with the practices and protocols of America's business economy. Most compete against poverty and illiteracy, making the Hmong a stark exception to the American stereotype of successful, overachieving Asians.

Hmong means free, and for centuries this nomadic tribe lived a peaceful life in the Laotian highlands, until they took the side of first the French and then the Americans against the communists. In the '60s and '70s, foreigners supported this daring force of guerrilla fighters by air dropping rice and other staples to the Hmong in exchange for their loyalty in a war-torn land.

Then the United States pulled out of Vietnam, leaving the Hmong to fend for themselves. The ruling communist Pathet Lao vowed to exterminate them, forcing entire families of the proud, clan-based people to flee their homeland, with their children on their backs. Some made their way through the jungle and forged the Mekong River to Thailand, where the U.S. had set up refugee camps.

Many died, but those who reached Thailand have been resettled around the world, many in the U.S. Initially, they came primarily to California, particularly to Fresno and Sacramento, where the agricultural economy suited their skills. Though few Hmong are still coming to the U.S. - in 1998, just nine entries were recorded - they are still moving. The largest concentration live in Minnesota and Wisconsin, where unemployment is low.

Driven by welfare reform and clan loyalty, one family member will

venture North, and secure a job and a home. Then, the rest of the typically large clan - Hmong families have an average of six children - will move to join him or her. Also drawing people North is the prevalence of charitable nonprofits. In the wake of U.S.-run refugee camps, faith-based groups - particularly the Lutheran church - have traditionally been the mobilizing forces behind Hmong resettlement.

"We say pack a lunch when you go look for work here, because you're sure to find a job," says Fu Hang of the Asian Development Corporation in Minneapolis-St. Paul, which today boasts the largest Hmong community outside of Thailand, and probably the most prosperous. Second-generation Hmong with degrees have created a professional middle class and an estimated 250 Hmong businesses. Mpls St. Paul magazine even included a Hmong woman - Bao Vang, a Bush Foundation fellow, former co-director of the Hmong National Organization and a mother at 14 - in its list of 100 People to Watch this year.

Hard Lives and War Ghosts

But while some young Hmong have succeeded, for others life here is not as free as they had hoped. Their

new master is poverty. Bereft of English and the skills valued in an industrial economy, elders of the clan are no longer revered. Young and old alike rely on welfare, or participate in an alternative street economy buoyed by a new clan structure of gangs and accompanied by violence, drugs and lawlessness. Women must work outside the home to make ends meet. The community is rocked by depression, domestic violence and teen pregnancy. The latter, which occurs mostly among married young women, is the cultural norm for the Hmong. But here, it becomes yet another avenue to poverty.

May is one of three women who have left their children at home to come to the Women's Association of Hmong and Lao in St. Paul on this subzero night and tell me their stories.



Rick Christ
LUTC Graduate



Allstate
You're in good hands.

**806 Oregon St.
Oshkosh, WI 54903**

(920)233-8460

Rick yog ib tug insurance specialist ua hauj lawm nyob rau ib lub insurance company loj tshaj plaws nyob rau me kas teb, Allstate. Nws muaj peev xwm yuav pab tau koj txhua yam hais txog insurance rau nqi taubhau, tsheb, vaj tsev, thiab lag luam. Hu nws hnub no es nws mam pab lis txhua yam rau koj.

OSHKOSH



Dr. Cha Lee, M.D.

Lee Medical Clinic

- Owned by Hmong
- Established for Hmong
- To help Hmong

Lee Medical Clinic

muaj siab tiag yuav pab
peb tsoom Hmoob txog kev
mob kev nkeeg kom peb
yuav tau txais kev noj qab
nyob zoo tshaj qub.



Call
Today!

Call
Today!

Lee Medical Clinic, S.C.

Dedicated to Hmong families

414-616-8901

6815 W. Capitol Dr.
Suite 217
Milwaukee, WI 53216

"I wanted to share my feelings with you," says Lou Lee, age 35, a single mother of five children, ranging in age from 4 to 16, "because for women with no skills and no language life is hard all the time. You are on your own all the time and [there's] no one to share it with or to help."

The cryptic logo on her secondhand purple coat reads: "This very relaxed and natural look is simple to achieve." But for Lou, nothing is simple. She came to the U.S. four years ago from a Thai refugee camp, where she and her family had stayed for years, members of a minority of Hmong who hoped against hope they might one day go home.

Finally realizing they would never go home, they came here; then her husband abruptly left her. Not that she misses him: she says he beat her and kept the assistance checks for himself. But Lou herself doesn't grasp English at all, and as a result, is seemingly unemployable. She can produce the intricate needlework that's a trademark of her culture, which some Hmong women have turned into a source of revenue. But she says needlework is out of the question lately because she is too stressed for the intense, painstaking handwork. Lou attributes this to her situation, though it may also be post-traumatic stress disorder. Ghosts of the war still haunt many Hmong. They share a quality I can only describe as shell-shocked. Though the war was over years ago, the challenges of life here continually bombard them.

Neighbors with Machetes

Lou's demeanor reminds me of a Hmong family I met a decade ago on assignment for Pittsburgh



The Xiong Family

Magazine. Despite their poverty and perpetual bewilderment at American culture, they were full of grace. Whenever I dropped in to chat, Mrs. Xiong would insist on feeding me fresh spring rolls or a soup of glass noodles. When I bought a new home, the entire family came with machetes to tame my unwieldy tangle of lawn. Uncomfortable with the concept of single women in their thirties, Mr. Xiong would call to check on me and my dating status, not so subtly outlining the benefits of marriage. It took years for these proud, close-knit Hmong to trust strangers.

So I am honored by Lou's confidences. She tells me she is looking for some kind of assembly-line job, and has been since 1998. She's applied to more than 15 places to date, with no luck. She raises her children on \$760 a month in cash assistance and \$300 in food stamps. She is lucky to have public housing, paying under \$200 a month for a four-bedroom apartment, but another \$200 to \$300 for utilities. That leaves about \$500 a month to feed six hungry mouths.

It's better than the money May Xiong earns at her job. The 1996 welfare reform law imposes a five-year maximum limit on family assistance, but gives states the ability to end benefits earlier. Minnesota has not, but Lou Lee's assistance, regardless, will end in 2003. She must find work. Jim Anderson, planning specialist for low-income and homeless services in Ramsey County, estimates that of the 70,000 Hmong in Minneapolis, 45,000 to 48,000 reside in the county. And although assistance is hard to track, he estimates almost 2,000 Hmong families receive cash assistance through Minnesota's welfare program, and more than double that number receive some kind of medical assistance. Cases like Lee's confound him.

"They have the triple whammy," says Anderson. "Those who remain on assistance had no education when they arrived, and were parents so had little opportunity to get education. It's been a struggle. There's no one magic-bullet solution." ♦

*Continued in
February issue...*

ARE YOU A TEAM PLAYER? ...SIGN UP HERE!

U.S. Bank continues to provide outstanding opportunities for people who want to join a team destined for success. Interested team players must have: clerical experience, customer service experience, and computer skills. Previous banking experience is preferred, but not required.

*Check out our full-time or part-time open positions at our two Corporate Loan Services locations in Oshkosh:

**Customer Service Representatives
Loan Documentation Processors
Loan Accounting Specialists
Data Entry Operators
Imaging Processors
File Clerks**

U.S. Bank provides its team players with an awesome benefits package!
Some of our outstanding benefits include:

- 10 Holidays
- Vacations
- Sick Days
- Medical and Dental Insurance
- 401(k) and Pension Plans
- Flexible Spending Accounts
- Company Life Insurance

If you want to join our winning team and help us build the best bank in America: stop at one of our U.S. Bank locations to fill out an application, fax your resume, or apply via our website:

U.S. Bank Consumer Loan &
Lease Operations
1850 Oshtemo Avenue
Oshkosh, WI 54902
Fax: (920)426-7446

U.S. Bank Commercial
Loan Services
400 City Center
Oshkosh, WI 54901
Fax: (920)236-0645

HR Hotline # (920) 424-8444



Come join our team today!

*An affirmative action/equal opportunity employer/affirmative
Committed To A Drug Free Workplace*

www.usbank.com

Call Us For Your Life Insurance!



Truong Yang, HHC
Sheboygan, WI
(920) 438-3664



Chia King Yang
Madison, WI
(608) 836-1922 or
1-800-883-1922



Kahao Vao
Chippewa Falls, WI
(715) 720-7734



**NATIONAL
MUTUAL
BENEFIT**

A Fraternal Life Insurance Society
PO Box 1507 • Madison, WI 53701-1507
(608) 833-1308 or 1-800-770-9386



Tan Yang

Rachelle Laine

Nee Xiang

Yang Xiang

Free, Professional Hmong Translations

Nyob rau lub ntiaj teb uas muaj ntau
txoj kev lig kev ai thiab ntau hom
lus ua ke, lub hom phiaj uas kom peb
sawv daws los sib yooq tau yog yuav
tsim muaj kev txhais lus kom zoo
rau thaj chaw ntawd.



Connecting Cultures

PO Box 262 • Little Chute, WI 54146

Appleton: 920-937-8407

Dekesh: 920-385-1887



safe • reliable • convenient

When I ride the bus...

It means I don't have to worry about
driving. It means I don't have to wait for
someone to drive me anywhere. The bus is
safe and it's cheap! It's like my very own
limousine service...with a little more room
of course.

Safe, Reliable & Convenient

For more information call

920-832-5800

www.appleton.org/vt

881 Whitman Avenue, Appleton, WI 54914

* Riders over age 65 ride at just 60¢ a trip when they show valid ID.



Jon Lancaster Toyota has a position
open in their sales department for
someone who truly wants to help all
people including Hmong to own Toyota
cars. Good English is a must!

Jon Lancaster Toyota offers competitive
industry benefits and the opportunity to
earn above average income.*

**Inquire with HR department for detail information*

JO!

JO!

JO!

Send resume to:

Jon Lancaster Toyota

3502 Lancaster Dr.

Madison, WI 53718

(608) 243-5500

Equal Opportunity Employer

MADISON

Hmong in America

.....a quick look at where we are and how we're doing.....

Hmong American Population

State	2000 Census	Community Estimate*
Alabama	3	5
Alaska	284	300
Arizona	30	30
Arkansas	27	75
California	65,095	95,000
Colorado	3,000	5,000
Connecticut	145	250
Delaware	1	5
District of Columbia	6	9
Florida	118	200
Georgia	1,468	5,000
Hawaii	20	20
Idaho	33	30
Illinois	485	500
Indiana	150	200
Iowa	280	500
Kansas	1,004	1,500
Kentucky	10	10
Louisiana	14	40
Maine	3	10
Maryland	10	10
Massachusetts	1,127	2,200
Michigan	5,383	15,000
Minnesota	41,800	70,000
Mississippi	9	10
Missouri	24	20
Montana	210	300
Nebraska	101	340
Nevada	98	100
New Hampshire	18	20
New Jersey	22	25
New Mexico	10	10
New York	222	700
North Carolina	7,093	20,000
North Dakota	3	10
Ohio	376	1,000



Oklahoma	549	500
Oregon	2,101	3,000
Pennsylvania	758	1,500
Rhode Island	1,001	3,000
South Carolina	519	1,500
South Dakota	31	50
Tennessee	146	200
Texas	347	1,500
Utah	157	500
Vermont	5	5
Virginia	45	50
Washington	1,294	3,000
West Virginia	2	5
Wisconsin	33,791	50,000
Wyoming	0	0
Total	160,428	283,239

*Hmong estimates are based on figures given to HND by local Hmong leaders and service organizations.

ECONOMIC STATUS

Statistics pertaining to the economic and professional success of Southeast Asian Americans (1990 Census)

Population	Total USA Population	All Asian Pacific Americans	Cambodian Americans	Hmong Americans	Laotian* Americans	Vietnamese Americans
Poverty rates, all ages	10%	14%	47%	66%	67%	34%
Labour force participation rates, older than 16 years old	65%	67%	47%	29%	58%	65%
Mean wage and salary income ages 18-64		\$22,579	\$14,364	\$9,923	\$13,634	\$17,590
Percent with less than a bachelor's degree, older than 25 years old			94%	97%	93%	83%
Percent who "do not speak English very well," older than 5 years old		56%	73%	78%	70%	65%
Percent older than 5 years who are "linguistically isolated"		35%	56%	61%	52%	44%

JOBS

Statistics pertaining to the economic and professional success of Southeast Asian Americans (1990 Census)

Population	Total USA Population	All Asian Pacific Americans	Cambodian Americans	Hmong Americans	Laotian* Americans	Vietnamese Americans
Managerial	12%	13%	4%	4%	2%	6%
Professional	14%	18%	6%	9%	3%	12%
Technical & Sales	16%	18%	13%	7%	7%	18%
Administrative Support	16%	15%	11%	12%	8%	12%
Service	13%	15%	18%	20%	15%	15%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Precision Production, Craft & Repair	11%	8%	17%	14%	20%	16%
Operative & Laborers	15%	12%	30%	32%	44%	21%

What Kind of Life Insurance Is Best For You?

There is no right answer because every person and every family has different needs. The trick is to pick the plan and coverage that fits your needs at the best price, so that you receive proper coverage and value for your premium dollars.

To decide how much life insurance you need, figure out what your dependents would have if you were to die now, and what they would actually need. Your policy should come as close to making up the difference as you can afford.

In figuring this out, think of the income your dependents will need for family living expenses. Think also of cash needs - for the expenses of a final illness, for paying taxes, mortgages, or other debts.

There are two basic kinds of life insurance: term insurance and cash value insurance. Term insurance generally has lower premiums in the early years, but does not build up cash values that you can use in the future. You may combine cash value life insurance with term insurance for the period of your greatest need for life insurance to replace income.

Term insurance covers you for a term of one or more years. It pays a death benefit only if you die in that term. Term insurance generally offers the largest insurance protection for your premium dollar. It generally does not build up cash value.

You can renew most term insurance policies for one or more terms even if your health has changed. Each time you renew the policy for a new term, premiums may be higher. Ask what the premiums will be if you continue to renew the policy. Also ask if you will lose the right to renew the policy at some age. For a higher premium, some companies will give you the right to keep the policy in force for a guaranteed period at the same price each year. At the end of that time you may need to pass a physical examination to continue coverage, and premiums may increase.

You may be able to trade many term insurance policies for a cash value policy during a conversion period - even if you are not in good health. Premiums for the new policy will be higher than you have been paying for the term insurance.

Cash value life insurance is a type of insurance where the premiums charged are higher at the beginning than they would be for the same amount of term insurance. The part of the premium

Continued on page 20...

American ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATES
2 Great Stores In One!
American Home

The **BIGGEST**
selection of
**Electronics,
Appliances
& Furniture
in Wisconsin**

- More Big Brands
- The Latest Technology
- The Low Market Price **EVERYDAY**

Check Americans Website
for more information &
job opportunities at
americantv.com

Appleton

4750 Grande Market Dr. (920) 733-1000

3 Milwaukee Locations Brown Deer

6700 W. Brown Deer Dr. (414) 362-1000

Waukesha

190 & Hwy. 164 (262) 521-1000

Oak Creek

190 & Ryan Rd. (414) 768-1000

American
ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATES

that is not used for the cost of insurance is invested by the company and builds up a cash value that may be used in a variety of ways. You may borrow against a policy's cash value by taking a policy loan. If you don't pay back the loan and the interest on it, the amount you owe will be subtracted from the benefits when you die, or from the cash value if you stop paying premiums and take out the remaining cash value. You can also use your cash value to keep insurance protection for a limited time or to buy a reduced amount without having to pay more premiums. You can also use the cash value to increase your income in retirement or to help pay for needs such as a child's tuition without canceling the policy. However, to build up this cash value, you must pay higher premiums in the earlier years of the policy. Cash value life insurance may be one of several types: whole life, universal life, and

variable life are all types of cash value insurance.

Whole life insurance covers you for as long as you live if your premiums are paid. You generally pay the same amount in premiums for as long as you live. When you first take out the policy, premiums can be several times higher than you would pay initially

increase your premium payments, or lower your death benefits. Even if there is enough in your account to pay the premiums, continuing to pay premiums yourself means that you build up more cash value.

Variable life insurance is a kind of insurance where the death benefits and cash values depend on the

Whatever plan you choose make sure you deal with a qualified, licensed agent who isn't just trying to sell you something. An agent who will take his/her time to work with you to build the best possible coverage plan for you and your family.

for the same amount of term insurance. But they are smaller than the premiums you would eventually pay if you were to keep renewing a term policy until your later years. Some whole life policies let you pay premiums for a shorter period such as 20 years, or until age 65. Premiums for these policies are higher since the premium payments are made during a shorter period.

Universal life insurance is a kind of flexible policy that lets you vary your premium payments. You can also adjust the face amount of your coverage. Increases may require proof that you qualify for the new death benefit. The premiums you pay (less expense charges) go into a policy account that earns interest. Charges are deducted from the account. If your yearly premium payment plus the interest your account earns is less than the charges, your account value will become lower. If it keeps dropping, eventually your coverage will end. To prevent that, you may need to start making premium payments, or

investment performance of one or more separate accounts, which may be invested in mutual funds or other investments allowed under the policy. Be sure to get the prospectus from the company when buying this kind of policy and Study It Carefully. You will have higher death benefits and cash value if the underlying investments do well. Your benefits and cash value will be lower or may disappear if the investments you chose didn't do as well as you expected. You may pay an extra premium for a guaranteed death benefit.

Whatever plan you choose make sure you deal with a qualified, licensed agent who isn't just trying to sell you something. An agent who will take his/her time to work with you to build the best possible coverage plan for you and your family.

Information supplied through Hmong Protective Insurance Agency. They can be reached at 800/666-2364 ♦



**Dean of
Professional and Graduate
Studies**

The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay is a public institution with 5,500 students and 20,000 alumni. Founded in 1965, it is located in Wisconsin's third largest metropolitan area.

The Dean of Professional and Graduate Studies reports to the Provost and is the academic and administrative leader for Professional and Graduate Studies.

Learn more about UW-Green Bay at the University's Web site - www.uwgb.edu

Review the full job description at our online site - www.uwgb.edu/hr

Initial screening date is January 13, 2005; position opens until filled.

UW-Green Bay is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. Dates of application may be disclosed solely upon request of applicant. Dates of finalist will be released.



THE HMONG BACHELOR

PAO YANG

- Age: 30
- Lives in: Milwaukee, WI
- Profession: Financing
- College: UW Whitewater

Interests Include:

- Camping
- Good Hmong Food
- Nature
- Traveling
- Water Sports
- Large Family

Who is Pao Yang?

Pao Yang, a 30 year old Hmong professional from Milwaukee, is looking for a Hmong woman to date and possibly marry.

Pao has a 4 year college degree and is working in the finance department for a large corporation in Milwaukee. Pao says with many Hmong women getting married in their late teens to early twenties, it has been hard to find "marriage material" now that he's finally ready for family.

Pao's friends and family describe him as: "fun, loving, free willed, strong character, honest, easy to get along with, strong minded and hard worker. He is ethical and bottom line... a good man. Any woman would be so lucky to have a husband like Pao."

If Pao Yang sounds like your dream guy and you are Hmong, please send a picture, introduction letter, your address, email address, and or phone number to: **FutureHmong Magazine, c/o Pao Yang, 130 E. Franklin St., Appleton, WI 54911.**

NOTICE

This advertisement is sponsored by Pao Yang's family as they are trying to encourage him to start a family. Pao Yang is a pretty good looking and successful professional who does not have any problems dating. He makes a good living and likes his privacy, but his family really loves him and is just simply trying to help by placing this ad. (By the way, he drives a Lexus...)

CONSIDER A CAREER AT: GREAT AMERICAN FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS, LLC

Are you a recent college graduate or individual with an interest in operating your own business?

Are you currently selling Life Insurance and would like to offer your clients Auto, Home and Business Insurance as well?

If you answered **YES** to one or more of the above questions, give us a call at

1-800-340-4931

Great American Financial Solutions, LLC • 312 N. Jed St. • Madison, WI 54704

We are a Multi-Line Independent Insurance Agency offering: Auto, Home, Health, Life, Annuity, IRAs and Business Insurance. An equal opportunity employer.

Kuv yog ib tug lawv kho mob (chiropractic) uas muaj peev xwm pab tau cov neeg uas muaj mob toob qaum, caj dab, caj npab, kaw ceg thiab bwm thaj chaw ntawm yam lub cev. Kuv tau pab ntau rau dhau los lawm thiab tej zaum kuv yuav pab tau koj ib yam nkaus. Hu tuaj hnub no teem sij hawm tuaj ntawb kuv.

Txiav daim ntawv no nqa ntrog koj tuaj kuv yuav kuaj koj tus mob thiab ntrog koj tham ntrog koj yam ntsu xam nqi rau koj them li.

Tsis kam siv ntrog lwim yam kev haw nqi
Tsis kam rau cov ntrog mob thiab mob thiab



**Swenson
Chiropractic S.C.**

954-6465

1414 North Richmond St.
Appleton, WI 54911

Dr. Robert E. Swenson



**Everything you need to create
the best fish tank set-up ever!**

- Fish • Fish food
- Fish tanks and accessories

Over 10,000 different products for your pet.

Shop
Pet Supplies **Plus**
for everything
you need for your
fish or pet.



Pet Supplies **Plus**
is your pet's
best friend!

Appleton:

Northland Mall • (920) 832-3858

Let Nedra Nichols & Hector Guillermo be your mortgage loan professionals.



Serving The Fox Valley and Green Bay
(920) 481-4268
email: nichols@northshorebank.com



Serving Milwaukee and Racine
(414) 328-4632
email: hguillermo@northshorebank.com

- Specializing in 1st-time homebuyers government programs, construction, refinancing and investment loans.
- Over 20 years of real estate lending experience
- Fast, friendly service
- Competitive rates and loan programs
- \$100 off closing costs *

 northshorebank.com



*When you pre-qualify your mortgage or call 800-481-4268 for a mortgage loan, we will have \$100 off your closing costs at closing. Offer expires 120 days following the date of your pre-qualification request. Not valid with any other offers or discounts. Subject to loan approval. Ask for details.


NORTH SHORE BANK
"North of Expected"

**CREATE YOUR FUTURE.
CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 16TH.**



**COLLEGE.
THE MATC WAY.**

At MATC, getting a college degree is more convenient - and more accessible - than ever before. Whether you're looking to earn credits toward a 4-year degree, upgrade your job skills or find a new career, an MATC education will change your life. Choose from more than 170 programs. Discover a great learning environment - with an impressive 18:1 student-to-faculty ratio. Go to classes at times and locations that fit your lifestyle. And see why more than 8 of 10 MATC graduates find jobs in their fields of study within six months of graduation. Contact us today. Create your future with a college education that works. At MATC.

matc

Milwaukee Area Technical College

www.matc.edu • 414-297-MATC

MILWAUKEE • DOWNTOWN MILWAUKEE • RACINE • WEST ALLIS



Import SuperCenter

**WHERE YOU
GET A GREAT
DEAL MORE!**

VISIT WISCONSIN'S PRESIDENT'S AWARD WINNING DEALER!

Civic Si
12 HONDA



'02 Honda Civic Si

Lease **\$197/mo***

Own **\$16,895**

160 HP, alloy wheels, power windows, locks & mirrors, ABS brakes, keyless entry, moonroof, CD player and more

\$197/month, 48 months/\$8,000 mile lease, \$1,000 down plus 1st month payment for total of \$1,297 due at signing. Tax, title and license not included. To approved credit. #291322EW

The Pilot EX
H HONDA



'03 Honda Pilot EX

Lease **\$395/mo***

Auto, 4x4, V6, seating for 8, power windows/locks/mirrors, ABS brakes, moonroof, keyless entry, CD player and more

\$395/month, 48 months/\$8,000 mile lease, \$1,000 down plus 1st month payment for total of \$1,297 due at signing. Tax, title and license not included. To approved credit. #291322EW

Civic EX Coupe
12 HONDA



'03 Honda Civic EX

Lease **\$196/mo***

Automatic, air, power windows/locks & mirrors, ABS brakes, moonroof, keyless entry, sunroof and more.

\$196/month, 48 months/\$8,000 mile lease, \$1,000 down plus 1st month payment for total of \$1,500 due at signing. Tax, title and license not included. #291322EW



Wa Moua, Honda Sales Manager

"I've lived in the area all my life and I'm proud to help the Hmong community. I can help you when you purchase or service a new or used car. Just ask for me!"



Yi Yang, Sales Consultant

"I'm proud that our store is helping the Hmong people! We hope you think of us first when anyone in your family needs a new or used car, truck or van!"



**Import
SuperCenter**

Hwy 41 & 44, Exit 116,
near Prime Outlets Mall,
Oshkosh • (920) 236-1000
(800) 947-1002

FutureHmong

www.futurehmong.com

Voice of the Hmong

September 2003

Hmong Demographics*

- ☐ Nationally
- ☐ In Wisconsin

50,000

283,239

*****AUTO**S-DIGIT 53706
NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS LIBRARIAN
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN
S16 STATE ST
MADISON WI 53706-1482

123-2402

PRINTED BY:
US Postage
PAID
APPLETON, WI
PERMIT NO. 30

130 E. Franklin
Appleton, WI 54911

Change Service
Required



At home with Family.

Joy! Your own place. Celebrating your space and loving your new home! Since 1927, homeowners have trusted American Family Insurance to keep their homes safe. Our "Family" commitment to honest answers and good advice has been helping our customers to live life to the fullest for over three generations. Give us a call or visit www.amfam.com today. Discover the peace of mind of knowing Family's always at home protecting what matters most to you. American Family Insurance.

Check your local telephone directory for the agent nearest you.



American Family Mutual Insurance Company and its Subsidiaries.
Home Office: Madison, Wisconsin 53703
www.amfam.com



All your protection under one roof.

Lowe Law Offices, S.C.

Attorney Christopher Lowe

Personal Injury Attorneys

Legal Representation For Injuries or Death Due to Accidents

- Free Consultation
- Home / Hospital Visits Available
- No Fee unless we succeed

Statewide Representation



Hmong Speaking Staff Available

Lowe Law Offices, S.C.

(414) 476-1900

Toll Free: (877) 569-3529

lowelaw@execpc.com

It's like having a bank right at home.



Free Online Banking

Visit www.northshorebank.com and you'll find the resources of one of our offices right at your fingertips.

- Get information about North Shore Bank including office hours, products and services, financial calculators and consumer tips.
- Complete your transactions from home or anywhere with Online Banking. Make loan payments, transfer funds and check your balances.
- Plus, you can simplify paying your bills and save money with our Bill Pay service.



Member
NAB

35 offices in Wisconsin including Milwaukee, Green Bay & the Fox Cities.

Call 1-800-236-4537 for a location near you.



NORTH SHORE BANK

North of Expected™

Great American Financial Solutions, L.L.C.

"Serving the Hmong community's insurance needs for over 5 years."

"Peb muag Life Insurance phееjyig heev."



Fong Chang
Insurance Specialist

"Life insurance is an important part of our lives. It's important to me that you get the insurance that's best for you, your family and/or parents. If I do my best to help you, call me today."

We provide affordable life insurance for all people who qualify!*

For a free **Life Insurance** Quote or more information call today!

1-800-340-4931

(800 # valid in Wisconsin only) *Please refer to the actual application and

illustration for coverage, exclusions and underwriting requirements.

Also Available:

- Auto
- Home &
- Business Insurance

FutureHmong

Vol. 3, No. 9

14-15 HMONG POPULATION AND INTERESTS

A snapshot of
Our Life in the
U.S. and Wisconsin



6 FUTUREHMONG UPFRONT

Our 2nd Anniversary

8 SPEAKOUT!

Readers React to Articles



10 THE STIGMA OF A DIVORCED WOMAN

Hmong Translation of
a Very Important Article

17 HMONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Building a Strong
Business Community

20 THE DANGERS OF HIGH SPEED INTERNET ACCESS

Virus Dangers and how
to Protect Yourself



Bring this ad in and receive a certificate for a 100 lb. bag of rice with any purchase over \$100. Limited to the first 5 customers of each Milwaukee location only. Offer expires September 30, 2003.

The **BIGGEST** selection of **Electronics, Appliances & Furniture in Wisconsin**

- **More Big Brands**
- **The Latest Technology**
- **The Low Market Price EVERYDAY**

Check Americans Website
for more information &
job opportunities at
americantv.com

3 Milwaukee Locations **Brown Deer**

6700 W. Brown Deer Dr. (414)362-1000

Waukesha

194 & Hwy. 154 (262)521-1000

Oak Creek

194 & Ryan Rd. (414)768-1000

American
Electronics Appliances Furniture

Happy 2nd Anniversary!!

This issue, September 2003, marks the 2nd anniversary of FutureHmoing. It would not be possible without the support of many, especially our advertisers.

FutureHmoing's mission is to provide information, education and open discussions about the challenges of our community. By accomplishing these goals, FutureHmoing hopes to help make life a bit less complicated for our people in America. From all the feedback we have received, we believe FutureHmoing has accomplished our goals and plan to continue to do so.

People often ask why we do not charge for subscriptions or ask who pays for all the expenses? The answer is simple. Through surveys we found that our community has not realized the value of having a media outlet such as this. Less than 15% of all Wisconsin Hmoing were willing to invest one dollar per month to

receive FutureHmoing. In order to serve our community as our mission stated, we needed to find a way to get FutureHmoing into the hands of our people for free. The only way that was going to be possible was through the advertising support of many great businesses throughout Wisconsin.

We made sure all advertisers in FutureHmoing have a positive and useful product or service that is important to our people. We love our cars. Rosemeary International Auto Mall in Wausau, Kokosoto Toyota in Appleton, Bergstrom Automotive throughout most of Wisconsin and Karcz Ford in Pulaske are just a few of the great car dealerships that have and are still supporting our community tremendously.

Need legal advice? How about Lowe Law Offices out of Milwaukee or Hubash, Hubash & Rottler with offices throughout Wisconsin or maybe Dilemno & Bomler in Neenah? If you live in Wisconsin they all may be able to help you.

Everybody needs insurance. Try American Family Insurance, National Mutual Benefit, State Farm Insurance or Rick Christ with Allstate in Oshkosh. How about an independent agent like Fong Chang at Great American Financial Solutions in Madison?

Need a job? Call the numerous companies advertising in our Employment Section like WPS, US Bank, New York Life, Karcz Ford, National Mutual Benefit, North Shore Bank and others.

Everyone needs God in his or her lives? Try Appleton Alliance Church in Appleton or Lao Evangelical Church in Milwaukee.

How about financial institutions for loans, checkings, savings, investments and more? Go visit Fox Communities Credit Union in the Fox Valley, North Shore Bank with offices from Milwaukee to Door County and US Bank throughout the state. Visit Citizens First Credit Union with offices throughout Winnebago County, including Menasha. Maybe you live in Fond du Lac; try Marine Credit Union.

Maybe you're looking for a quality education. Go to our University Wisconsin Eau Claire and La Crosse. Perhaps a

technical college is more suited for you. Visit Northeastern Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay.

We never forget great food! In Milwaukee check out Noodle House and in Appleton enjoy Asian Taste. Need a chiropractor? Call Dr. Swenson in Appleton at Swenson Chiropractic. Want to golf? Try Wiragami Golf Club in the Fox Valley. Mary Beth, the owner, invites all Hmoing golfers to come and have a great time. Need clothing, furniture, and odds and ends AND want to save lots of money? Shop Goodwill throughout Wisconsin. And of course don't forget to ride the bus in the Fox Valley with Valley Transit, especially on the 25th of each month, it's only 25 cents per ride because it's their 25th anniversary in 2005.

Don't forget, September is the last month for you to get a FREE 100 lb. bag of rice with any purchase over \$100 at American TV. Remember to take a copy of the American TV ad from this issue with you. Good ONLY in Milwaukee locations though. FREE 100 lb. bag of rice!! WOW! Last but not least, if you need a dentist, visit Dr. Bong Lee and Dr. Long Lee with offices in Milwaukee and Sheboygan.

These are only a handful of businesses currently supporting FutureHmoing. They make it possible for everyone to receive FutureHmoing FREE each month. Please remember that without these generous and supportive advertisers, FutureHmoing would not be possible. Let's show our appreciation by supporting their businesses as well. Every time you shop one of these businesses, tell them, "Thanks for supporting FutureHmoing."

Thank you to the readers, to all who have contributed, and a special "thank you" goes out to our advertisers. Happy 2nd Anniversary to all of us! ♦



Rick Christ
LUTC Graduate

Hmoing families who bought insurance from me stay with me because they say I can be trusted to do what's best for them. Call me for a quote today. You'll be surprised!

(920)233-8460

806 Oregon St.
Oshkosh, WI 54903

OSHKOSH

Translated by Maifana Xiong

Phon ntwan rau lub 9 hls mui, xpoos 2005 no yag cwmn ho xpoos rikans FutureHmong. Yog ibs muaj cov lag hmoob pub txhawb no peb yug ua tsis tau mev li no.

FutureHmong lub hmoob phiaj no muab txhawb no xwmn kev kawm kev qhia koj los ntuam rau pej seem sawvaws thum thiab kawm rau. Peb ua tau nws li peb lub hmoob phiaj no FutureHmong xas tsis yuav pub peb hauv noog ua lub neej noogm me nws muab teb chaw no. Raw li, cov neeg tau hais mu peb mas FutureHmong koj ua tau nws li lub hmoob phiaj tawm thiab seem yuav qhia ua mas hmoob yam tom mej.

Therex phieq nqaag noog hauv rau ua cov peb tas kom hauv tej them ntuam mu peb cov ntwan no los yag noog tas kujreng tas na them cov nee los tsim phiaj ntwan xas. Lo hmoob rau ntuam mas yoojreng tau. Peb ntuam peem tas peb cov pej seem Hmoob sib rau pubh thog tas muaj ib tsuq kev yam ua tsuq yam tawm rau sawvaws xws li FutureHmong no yag ib qho muaj ntuam ntuam hias. Thawg tsuq 15% Hmoob noob hauv lub la Wisconsin no thiab li cwm sib kam them ib hls no li dollar kom tas ntuam phiaj ntwan tau. Yuav kom ua tau nws li FutureHmong lub hmoob phiaj tas no, no peb yuav tsim ntuam kom tau hmoob ntuam hmoob peb them no peb cov Hmoob thiab li tau meem daws. Yog li no, ib tsuq kev tas yuav pub them tas cov yag cov ntuam losis tas ntuam ib lagham hauv thooj plaw Wisconsin no them kom tsuq qhia lawv kev lagham tawm rau sawvaws pubh.

Peb yoj ua tsis zoo xysuam kom cov lagham tsuq hauv FutureHmong no yag tej yuav tsuq hauv ntuam mu peb hauv noog thiab. Peb tsuq peb tej tsuq. Tej lagham muaj tsuq hauv pub tsuq FutureHmong yag: Rosemary International Auto Mall hauv Wausau, Kokosoo Toyota hauv Appleton, Bergstrom thiab Karcz Ford hauv Polaski.

Kujreng xas yuav kev pub tas phiaj muaj: Lowe Law Offices noob hauv Milwaukee los yag Hahush, Hahush & Bortier muaj offices thooj plaw Wisconsin no thiab Delkazo & Bortier tas noob Neenah. Yog koj hauv hauv lub la Wisconsin no xws cov lawv tsuq tas muaj ntuam no yuav pub tas lag.

Sawvaws yuav tsim muaj insurance. Sib In American Family Insurance, National Mutual Benefit, State Farm Insurance los yag Rock Christ ntuam All State hauv Idaho noog Oshkosh. Tsis li ko hu rau Phog Chang ntuam Great American Financial Solutions hauv noog Madison.

Kujreng xas ua hauvmev. Hu rau ob peb qhia chaw xws li WPS, US Bank, New York Life, Karcz Ford, National Mutual Benefit, North Shore Bank tas tsuq tawm yuav noog ua hauvmev.

Tshu na tas xas muaj yajreng hauv mas

hmoob? Sib In American Appleton Alliance Church hauv noog Appleton los yag. Lao Dongical Church hauv Milwaukee.

Cov chaw tsis nyiaj cia nyiaj tsis hmoob yam tsuq nyiaj tsuq mej. Hu Fox Communities Credit Union hauv Fox Valley, North Shore Bank tas muaj offices ntuam Milwaukee mas tsuq peem Door County. Thiab US Bank tas muaj thooj plaw hauv Wisconsin no. CitizensFirst Credit Union muaj offices thooj plaw Winnebago County los mas tsuq hauv noog Menasha. Tej xam yag koj noob hauv Fond du Lac sib In rau Marine Credit Union.

Tej xam koj xas tau kev kawm ntuam zoo. Mas ntuam xysuam University Wisconsin Eau Claire thiab La Crosse. Tas tag li xws, tej xam koj ho yuav ntuam mas kawm technical college xas. Yog li ntuam no, hu rau Northwestern Wisconsin Technical College hauv noog Green Bay.

Peb yoj ntuam noog tsuq tej tsuq mev qhia. Hauv Milwaukee no mas sib Noodle House thiab hauv Appleton mas noob hauv Asian Tastes. Yog koj ntuam mas ntuam ib co/Chiropractor no koj hu rau Dr. Swenson hauv Appleton ntuam Swenson Chiropractic. Nyiam ntuam golf no mas tsuq Wraganier Golf Club hauv Fox Valley.

Mary Ruth tas yag tas tsuq them cov tsuq tas tsuq hauv ntuam mas ntuam golf tas kev kom xas tsuq. Pasa xas yuav tsuq tsuq, noog tsuq, thiab tej yam tas yuav tsuq ntuam them tsuq. Yog li no, mas yuav Goodwill tas muaj thooj plaw hauv lub la Wisconsin no. Tas tag li no xws, caji cov tsuq mas tsuq mas no huav Fox Valley no, no cov caji tsuq.

Ntuam noog tas lub 9 hls mui no yag lub hls kawm tas koj yuav tas ib hmoob tsuq 100 ib daws yag tas koj ntuam yuav ib yam khoom daws tsuq 1500.

hauv American TV. Koj yuav tsuq tsuq ntuam ntuam/ais mas American TV tas tsuq tsuq hauv FutureHmong ntuq koj tsuq tsuq muaj yuav mas khoom tas tsuq \$100 no tsuq li yuav tas ib hmoob tsuq daws. Tas tag li no xws, yag koj xas mas ntuam mas khoom mas mas khoom De Blong Lee thiab Dr. Long Lee. Ntuam muaj chaw tsuq mev hauv Sheboygan thiab Milwaukee tsis.

Cov lagham muaj mev nws li xam no yag cov tas tsuq tsuq FutureHmong ntuq hmoob no. Yim yoj muaj laev pub es sawvaws tsuq li tsuq tsuq phiaj FutureHmong los seem DWSH. Thos no ntuam tas yag tsis muaj cov lagham no los them nyiaj tsuq lawv tej lagham cov FutureHmong yuav mas tsis tas. Peb yuav tau mas pub tsuq tsuq lagham kom lawv ib tsuq tas peb tsuq lawv tsuq tsuq. Thos mas xas koj mas yuav ntuam cov lagham mas, no hauv rau lawv tas. Yuav tas koj tsuq tsuq tsuq FutureHmong.

Yuav tas cov neeg tas meem, cov tas tsuq tsuq tsuq tsuq tsuq tsuq tsuq tsuq cov lagham tas tas them nyiaj los qhia tsuq lawv lub lagham hauv phiaj mas ntuam FutureHmong no. ♦



Dr. David Blong Lee



Dr. Long Lee

"Maintaining Your Healthy Smile is Our First Priority"

Dental Care Includes

Dental Examination • Cleaning & Gum Care • White & Silver Filling
Crown & Bridge • Period & Denture • Oral Surgery
Tooth Whitening • Emergency Care

Dr. Nphooj & Lee ntuam zoo sib tas mas yuav pub tej tsuq tsuq. Ntuam yuav pub koj no cov tsuq mas zoo mas li tsuq tsuq xas xas li zoo tas.

We accept most dental insurances.
Milwaukee Office also accepts medical insurance including DHMO, Flexible
Expense Plans, Advantage and BlueCross.

David Blong S. Lee DDS
825 Michigan Ave.
Sheboygan, WI 53081
(920) 459-9010



Long SN Lee DDS, SC
3955 N. 76 St.
Milwaukee, WI 53222
(414) 463-0855

**Dedicated to the advancement
of the Hmong community.**



Published by
Y Enterprises, Inc.
Editor
Hmong Yang
Hmong@futurehmong.com
Advertisement/Design
Suzanne Marketing Group
Advisory Board
Tou Ger Lee, Director of IT
David Sengthamane,
Product Development Manager
Ma Nance Hosa, Attorney
Yee Yang, Attorney
Fong Chung, Self-Employed
Dr. Chu Lee, Family Doctor
Contributors
Kay & Sai Yang
Masana Xiong

Population figures supplied by
National Hmong Development Office

All rights reserved. Reproduction or use of
any of the FutureHmong Magazine material
without permission is prohibited. No
responsibility is accepted for unsolicited
manuscripts, cartoons or editorial. Opinions
expressed in the magazine are not necessarily
endorsed, nor does the magazine assume
responsibility for statements made in other
advertisements or articles published.

Single issue price \$3.95 back issues
\$4.50 (subject to availability).
Base subscription price \$39.95 per year.
Free subscription to all Wisconsin residents.
Reprints available for 500 copies.

Editorial/Advertising: 920/993-9600
Subscriptions: 920/993-9536
Fax: 920/993-9601
E-Mail: info@futurehmong.com
Website: www.futurehmong.com

Postmaster
Send change of address to:
Y Enterprises, Inc.
130 East Franklin Street
Appleton, WI 54911

Speak out!

EXCERPTS FROM YOU TO US

My husband and I have been reading your
magazine for sometime now and we're very impressed
with the content. Your magazine not only provides
much needed information to the Hmong
community, but you are willing to bring up
controversial topics that Hmong people have
shunned for years but are afraid to take a stand and
do something about. A very good example would be
the topic on Polygamy that you published awhile
back. Unlike other Hmong media who make Hmong
living look like it's just nice and peachy, you are
willing to bring the problems up front and really
make Hmong think about them.

My whole life growing up, the Hmong
community around me has always looked upon men
with two or more wives with a quiet disapproval but
willing to accept it. The same goes with husbands
abusing their wives. You'll hear about this husband
not loving his wife, going out all night, verbally
abusing his wife, even physically but they don't take a
stand or offer to help the abused wife because they
are afraid of offending the other clan or family within
the clan. If there is someone willing to take the
stand, that person will not only be known as the
Black Sheep but will also be shunned by the clan.

I've found out through experience that when one
person or family lives differently from the so-called
Hmong way of living within their clan, that person
or family gets shunned. I really commend the
Hmong lady who was willing to share a bit of her
experience in an abusive forced marriage
relationship and had the courage to walk out. I am
sorry to say that the grandfather, father and mother
should be ashamed of them when they were worrying
about their reputation with the community more
than their daughter's welfare. That really made me
cry and made me want to do something to help
women and children like her, but I just don't know
how.

My two cents worth on polygamy. Have you ever
wondered why some men can't get enough of just
one mate but need to have more? I wonder if it's
because they don't understand the purpose of
marriage. I know that there is more out there that
shows that people by nature are selfish. The purpose
of marriage is not to see what I can get out of the
marriage, but it is to see what I can contribute (give)
to the marriage. When two people give of
themselves they receive the gift of giving
wholeheartedly and then a strong marriage is
formed. When two people give the love, compassion
and expect to receive abundantly not only will they
want to see how much the other can give, the
marriage will not be anything because the reward
they expect is not there. Now there are also
situations where one gives all the time and the other
receives but does not give back. This also creates a
marriage crying for help because while one person
is living in misery, the other is enjoying. This kind of
marriage will not last. A person can only give so
much and after while they lose all hope of their
spouse knowing how to love them back. When this
topic comes up in conversation, I always ask the
people "What makes you think you can make him
happy when the one he has isn't satisfying enough
and he wants another? Will you be enough?"

Keep doing what you're doing. We need more
people like you who are not afraid to talk about
subjects that are taboo. I believe that FutureHmong
may just be the voice to wake up Hmong here in
Wisconsin to say this part of our culture is not right
and we need to fix it. Being Hmong is a blessing and
we should feel that way. If there are things going on
in our community that are not right, we should not
just talk and hope it goes away, we should be the
ones to take action. This is the only way other
cultures will look upon us with respect and awe.
- 40 O Hing, Hmonglove

I thought Mr. Hmong Yang was exactly right in his
Upfront column in the August issue when he wrote
about how frustrating it is that all we do is fight
about everything and anything. It's so hard to
believe we care for our own people. We say it, but
we don't mean it. It's more like we care about
ourselves and that's it. We only say we care about all
Hmong to make us look better. When will we start
to do as we say. Truly care and look out for each
other as a community? If you look at most
"minority" groups they have organized support for
their community. I don't mean like all our Hmong
offices. I believe they are all in it for themselves
anyway. I am talking about true support of our
people as a whole. On the Hmong media such as
Hmong Online, people posted that in order for our
community to change for the better, most of our
Hmong elders would have to die off... within 15-20
years. I don't hope there is another way. -
Gloria Hing, Appleton

According to David Sengthamane's statement,
understanding many Hmong people group all
divorced women under one category: disobedient,
disrespecting, lazy and evil and whatever dysfunctional
name you can think of. I would like to know why
they would think that way? Why are divorced Hmong
women talked about that way? What gives people
the right to talk and give her a bad reputation? So
women who are abused and divorced are evil, lazy,
disobedient, etc. are to be talked about? Did people
ever think about if the stayed with an abusive
husband that she could end up in the hospital or
even worse, dead? If women that... no they do not.
All they think about she brought shame to her
family so they give her the impression that Hmong
people could care less about their daughters well
being and care more about themselves and their
family name. And why are only the divorced women
talked about? What about talking about the divorced
men for a change? Why aren't the divorced men
given a bad reputation as well? But instead of talking
about them do we praise them if they did or do to
their wife? Do people still think divorced men that
they had every right for hitting their wife? Or are
people too afraid to talk about these? What is up
with that? We can criticize their wife and not say one
word about the husband!

For the Hmong people, I think most of us forget
that we are in America. We have laws and rules that
we must follow. And yes, those laws apply to each
and every person residing in America. And did I
mention that this is America? The year is 2015. So

Send comments to FutureHmong • 130 E. Franklin Street • Appleton, WI 54911
920/993-9601 (fax) • info@futurehmong.com

All comments must have a name and a city included to be considered for print.

why do Hmong people still stick to tradition? It starts here in America that we are all BQIAL. So then I ask, why are divorced Hmong women treated like second-class citizens? And not only do we had enough divorced Hmong women, we had enough about every Hmong woman. We tell one person and that person tells another and so on. And pretty soon the whole Hmong community knows. Ladies and gentlemen, that is known as gossip. And like what David Beardsmore once stated, I am sure everybody has heard their parents, aunts, uncles, family friends talk about that divorced daughter and what shame she brought to her family. I hear my whole family bubble on everything about how someone brought shame to his/her family. I just want to tell them to shut up since they don't know anything. But they never change their ways. Can't we ever talk about something else for once?

I think Hmong people should open their eyes. We don't exist that far out the track. We hear the news from someone else and we believe further every word and we talk amongst ourselves. Since I've ever heard of, "Don't believe everything that you hear!" Yet we still continue to talk about that person cause the only thing we know is what we heard. We never ask that person and find out the truth for ourselves. So what gives them the right to abuse or cheat on their wives? Is it because she's getting old or she did something wrong according to them? It's ridiculous to abuse their wife for any reason. Couldn't they talk things out or do something else to release the tension? But instead they lose grip and send their wife to an emergency room or to an early grave. And to cheat on them, the whole point to their marriage was for them to be together. Yes, I know that life doesn't end in a fairy tale. There are hard times and life is like a roller coaster. We have our good and bad times, but that gives them no right to abuse their wife when things are a little rough. And there is no reason to cheat on their wife. Men should learn to keep their pants on and control themselves. Yes, I also know that some women do cheat on their husband as well. But that has it ever been proven that a washed up divorced woman would make your marriage a complete failure? And if so, I would like to see proof wrong, but what gives people the right to label a divorced Hmong woman as evil? So I think people should keep their mouths shut because they make themselves look more like ignorant fools when they think they know just about everything. -
Xong Xing Lee, Stoughton

This is a response to January Vice of Applause in the July issue talking about how Mr. Biong Yang uses this magazine to make himself rich while using Hmong people to do it. First, you must be an idiot. Only an idiot can say such a thing. You must think the Hispanic Magazine is using Mexicans to make money. You must think Hmong Time from MN uses Hmong people as well. How about the Hmong grocery stores selling stuff to poor, stupid Hmong. They must be using Hmong people too right? This is called business. If you would open your eyes and see that most advertisers in HmongTime are from American businesses. Their money helps fund this magazine so you and I can get it for FREE because we are too cheap to pay for it. According to Mr. Biong Yang at a event in Milwaukee last year, less than 15% of Hmong people were willing to pay \$1 per issue. It just hurts me when someone like Mr. Biong Yang who takes all the risk of starting a new business so far and then I can earn something like 10cents/Hong for five and then people like you had enough him. - Master Thao Watan

I have just finished reading the article "the signs of a divorced woman". It's not right for some of the Hmong men to think that the girls of today are still like how their mothers were. I think the elders expect too much from girls. What they are expecting of me, many of today's Hmong girls including myself are not even aware of. And more importantly, it's not something I am interested in doing either. The content in the article is very offensive to women. -
Melying Hong, Green Bay



Habush Habush & Rottier s.c.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



**WHEN ACCIDENTS OR INJURIES
HAPPEN TO SOMEONE YOU
LOVE OUR FAMILY OF LAWYERS
WILL PROTECT YOUR FAMILY.**

WHY CHOOSE ANYONE ELSE?®

Injuries or Deaths From Accidents, Malpractice or Product Defects

- Over 70 Years of Experience Helping Wisconsin Families
- Wisconsin's Largest Personal Injury Law Firm
- Free Consultation
- No Fees or Costs Unless We Are Successful

- \$100's of Millions in Settlements and Verdicts Collected For Our Clients
- More Nationally Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyers Than any firm in Wisconsin



**HMONG SPEAKING
STAFF AVAILABLE**

**CALL TOLL FREE:
(800)757-8644**

www.habush.com

3rd Annual Southeast Asian Business & Economic Development Conference

Presented By:
Hmong Educational Advancements, Inc.
&
Hmong American Friendship Association

DATE: TIME:
JULY 13/14 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

WHERE:
WJ State Fair Park
Towers Thompson Youth Center
8600 W. Greenfield Ave.
West Allis, WI 53214
414-256-7000



"Uniting the People Together."

Goal:

The goal of this conference is to promote business success in the Southeast Asian business community. It takes careful planning, commitment, and a special kind of drive to be a successful business owner. The ability to access resources and develop a network of support is critical for business success, whether you currently own or dream about starting a business.

Register to attend the HAPA/HOA Southeast Asian Business & Economic Development Conference. This event is designed to maximize your business skills and knowledge, gain access to various loan programs, borrowing procedures, and much more.

Registration

Registration fee is \$25.00.
The fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, and conference material.
Scholarships are available.

Send business name, your mailing address & phone along with Registration fee to:

HAPA
3624 W. Vliet St.
Milwaukee, WI 53238
Attn: Thu Chang
Fax: 414-344-0272
Phone: 414-342-0878

SEA
3414 W. Vliet St.
Milwaukee, WI 53209
Attn: Yung Yang
Fax: 414-335-8245
Phone: 414-335-2034



Kev Poob Ntsej Muag Ntawm Ib Tug Poj Nrauj

Peb Hmoob ib txwm xyaw lub npe tsis zoo rau cov poj nrauj. Yog vim licas? "Rau cov txivneej Hmoob uas tseem coj kev cai Hmoob heev mas kuv xav hais tias lawv xav yuav tus pojnam hlus tsaj thiab tsis tau musj dua txiv ib zaug li es thiaj li ua rau lawv zoo siab rau lawv tus kheej. Tus pojnam twg uas tau nrog hwm cov txivneej dua lawm yeej tsis muaj nuj nqi heev rau cov txivneej Hmoob," ib tus pojnam Hmoob tau hais li no. Nws kuj yog ib tug niam hlob niam yaus tim teb chaws Los Tsas tuaj thiab. Nyuam qhuav muaj ib lub tshoob tsis ntev tas no, muaj ib co pojnam Hmoob tau tham tom tsev mov txog hwm cov pojnam nrauj txiv uas tsis tuaj koom lub tshoob ntawd. Cov pojnam no piv

txog cov poj nrauj li ib li no thiab siv tej lus xws li "cov niaj poj niam zoo li ntawd."

Yuav kom peb tau taub tias yog vim licas es cov poj nrauj no thiaj raug xyaw li ntawd no mas peb yuav tsum tau taub txog Hmoob kev lis kev coj thiaj kev ib txwm xav txog tej yam no. Muaj ib co txivneej uas tsis kam kom sau lawv lub npe rau now, tau hais tias, "cov poj nrauj ces zoo li khib nyiab xwb. Thaum koj siv tas ces koj muab pov tseg xwb," tus txivneej hais li no muaj 46 xyoo. Muaj ib tug lus Hmoob tau hais ntxiv tias "ib tug tub hlus twg tsis tau muaj dua pojnam ib zaug li yuav tsum tsis txhob tham thiab yuav ib tug poj nrauj twg li. Tus pojnam ntawd twb yog qub lawm xwb. Yog

tus hlus twg tseem tham thiab yuav mas yuav ua rau nws tsevneg poob ntsej muag heev." Nws hais ntxiv tias "ntau zaum mas yeej yog muaj tej yam tsis zoo ntawm tus poj nrauj ntawd xwb." Hmoob yeej ib txwm xyaw tej lus no txog cov poj nrauj puag thaum ub los.

Thaum nrog ntau tus Hmoob tham tas mas lub ntsej lus yeej meej meej tias cov poj nrauj ces tsuas yog zoo me ntsis cov khib nyiab xwb. David Sengkhannec yog ib tug tub hlus Hmoob ua haujwm rau AOL/Time Warner Cable hauv Appleton tau pom raws li hauv qab no:

"Hais neeg Hmoob mas txhawj txhawj txog qhov: huag tej hwm tus xav licas rau yus, tseem ceeb tibaf ces yog cov txivneej Hmoob. Kuv los TXHAWJ ib yam li thiab. Kuv xav hais tias kev yuav txwv nkaus mas yuav tsum yuav ib zaug xwb, labaj qhov tseeb tiag muaj ntau tsaw ntau yam ua rau tej ntawntse sib caws xws li sib ceg sib ntawv thiab cov tau ntawv hwm tus no yuav tsum muaj twm rau lawv. Tu siab ntau rau tag nrbo cov poj nrauj-tseem yog lus uas tsis mloog thiab tsis yuav baib, tus siab siab pben siab tsis ncaj, tus tub nroog thiab tus siab pben siab dub, tsis baib tus zoo licas li nyob



ntawm lub npe tsis zoo ntawv txawj tsis rau xwb. Kuv ntseeg tau baib tias sawdaus yeej hnce lawv niam lawv tsis; niam ntawm tsis ntawm, niam hlob tsis

David Sengkhannec: hlob, thiab tej phooj yug Hmoob twg cov ntxhais nrauj tsis na rau ntawntsej poob ntsej muag."

Peb Hmoob uas tseem coj kev cai Hmoob heev heev mas qhov tej kawvli, neejsa, thiab pejceem sawdaus saib tas lawv mas yog ib qho tseem ceeb kawg. Vim yog li ntawd es cov txivneej Hmoob tseem coj kev cai Hmoob heev thiaj li tso

tsis tau hwj chim mus tham thiab yuav cov poj nrauj li. Nov ces ib yam li cov poj nraim ror hais tus xaly txog lwm cov poj nraim thiab. Tsis tag li xwb, cov Hmoob uas tsis sab kev cai Hmoob hloj lawm ces lawv ho muab kev sib tham sib yuav los ntawv noj tias yog lawv nraim kev hlob thiab kev phooj ywg xwb. Txawm yog tias lawv ua tau yuav kev me ntsis lawm los lawv muab ua kev kawm xwb. Vim tus yuav xav lica los muaj es thiab li ua rau tej tsev neeg tsis puab yuav taug txoj kev twg li. Thiab thiab li muaj teebmeem rau tej meymuam thiab niaxtxiv, txwv nkawm, tej mus muaj thiab pej xeev sawvaws.

Tsis ntev tas no 80% peh xeev Hmoob tau teb peh hauv Internet hais tias tsis tsim nyog cov poj nrauj yuav raug hais phem nraim nrawd. Txawm tias muaj coob tus xam pom li ntawd los tsis muaj ib tug twg yuav kam los qhia lawv lub npe lees tias lawv yog leeg twg no.

Muaj ib tug poj nraim Hmoob nrauj tsiv muaj 20 tawm xyoo, nyob hauv Sheboygan, WI, tau hais tias "qhov kuv hnov lwm cov poj nraim Hmoob hais rau kuv heer tshaj mas hais tias kuv yog ib tug neeg phem es kuv tus tsiv thiab li nrauj kuv no. Thiab zoo kuv yog hom poj nraim uas yuav nus tham lawv cov tsiv no." "Cov txivneef hais tias kuv tsis muaj noj nraim li ib tug tibneeg no, tabsis, tsis muaj leepwag yuav hais kiag li rau kuv lub ntsej muag tabsi mus neeg yeej tham tom kuv qab kawg. Kuv tsis cia tej los nrawm los txob kuv siab rau qhov yog thaum rwg lawv puab kuv zoo li lwm tus neeg es tsis yog tus poj nraim no lawv kuj ceeb tias kuv muaj siab heev los ua kuv lub neej kom zoo siab thiab kaj siab tug."

Dr. Cha Lee hauv Milwaukee tau tham li no txog cov poj nraim. "Kuv xav tias qhov muab ib tug neeg twg saib qis tshaj lwm cov no yog ib qhov tshaj tshaj phawv txawm tus neeg ntawd lub txim yuav yog dabts. Qhov tshaj xwb tshaj yog

kev sib nraim vim ib tug tsis muaj kev hlob rau ib tug, los yog kev nraim vim ib tug ntawv ntawv ib tug. Peb hais Hmoob ces cov txivneef yeej ib txim ua tus cov es yog vim li ntawd tus poj nraim yeej raug saib tsis muaj noj nraim li tus yuav nraim. Yog tus poj nraim



tsis muaj noj heev no ces tus yuav nraim yuav: tsim tsis muaj noj ib yam thiab. Tabsis, peb ho tsis saib cov yuav nraim qis nraim cov poj nraim, kuv xav tias peb ua li no mas tsis yog lawm. Sib nraim yeej tias zoo tiag tabsis mus ntawd yuav zoo tshaj qhov raug lwm tus ntawv thiab tiag mus ua phos ua yj saib nraim. Kuv ua hauv lwm kbo mob mus kuv pom cov poj nraim Hmoob ntaw tus raug lawv cov txiv ntawv heev. Cov poj nraim no tsis kam nraim lawv cov txiv vim lawv tsis xav tau lub npe phem. Kuv ntseeg thas cov txivneef uas ntawv thiab lwm hluas ntawv yuav tsim raug saib noj tshaj lawv cov poj nraim txawm tias tus poj nraim nraim lawv lawm. Yog peb tsis tau peb kev cof thiab ntseeg thas tus txivneef yog tus cof thiab yuav tsim zoo tshaj poj nraim no ces ntawd peb hais Hmoob yuav tsis kam neef mus deb li."

Yeej muaj cov poj nraim Hmoob uas tham hluas nraim thiab, tabsis, cov poj nraim tham hluas nraim tsis muaj ntau tus. Qhov ib tug neeg twg raug lwm cov saib tias tsis muaj heev li peb cov poj nraim Hmoob no tsis yog lawm. Piv txwv tias, yog kuv tus muam tus tsiv muab nws tias tias es nraim nws lawm no kuv yeej tauj nws tog. Kuv yeej hais rau lwm cov neeg tias yog tim nws tus tsiv thiab nws tus tsiv yog tus phem no tiag.

Kuv muaj poj nraim lawm, tabsis



Khu Hmoob ci os, npua, thiab lawm qab tshaj!
Excellent Food!
Excellent People!
Excellent Service!

Zoo siab tias tus peb ib txoom Hmoob tauj noj peb cov zaub mov Hmoob thiab yog peb ntug tag.

Asian Taste, located between Memorial Dr. and Ononda on Calumet St.



236 W. Calumet St., Appleton, WI 54915
(920)749-4747



Proud to serve
all of Wisconsin

UNIVERSAL
Translation & Staffing, Inc.



HMOOB SIS PAB HMOOB
Tshaj sis peb dawb rau peb cov Hmoob koo thaj kev twg wub ntawv phawv tus mus thaj los Ametika. Thiab ntawv! Thiab noj hmoob rau tsiv tsiv tsiv ib txim nraim hais. Nov yam pab koj tshaj sis nraim rau tsiv tsiv hmoob, heev lawm nraim, kev cov xawv, kev hloj, kev lawm, kev ua hmoob, kev yuav rau phawv koj qab hmoob, thiab hmoob qhov chaw. Thiab twg cov twg tshaj sis nraim rau neeg hmoob rau muaj koj ib txim nraim mus pab qhia rau hmoob nraim.

Chaw pab qhia 24 tsiv noos
Fox Cities (920)734-1702
Madison (920)652-1008

Green Bay/Oshkosh (920)128-6485
At Universal Translation, we are professional, confidential, dependable, and reliable!

Money in Minutes at 236-7040

Need Dough?

Call the best place in town for a quick answer to your loan request.

CitizensFirst
CREDIT UNION

www.citizensfirst.com
236-7040 • 800-448-9228

YOUR PLACE FOR LIFE'S FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

tias yog kuv tsi muaj pojniam no es kur ho pom ib tug poj nrauj twg zoo rau kuv los kuv yeej yuav taus nws thiaib tiag. Kuv tsi ntseeg tias tus pojniam ntawd lub neej yav tas los lawm yuav muaj dabtsi los cov nyoj nws lub neej tom ntej thiaib qhov tshwj xeeb tiag ces feem ntau rwb yog tim cov txwneej es thiaj li sib nrauj.

Thaum xaas no, tibneeg yeej yog tibneeg tiag. Peb ua neeg no yeej yuav muaj ua yuav kev. Muaj tej co sib nrauj mas vim lawv tau ua tej yam los yog vim lawv tsi tau ua tej yam thiaib. Tsis yog txhua tus poj nrauj yuav yog neeg phem, siab dub siab tsi zoo, tub nkeeg los yog txawj dag. Tsis muaj ib tug lej qhov twg los ua povthawj tias yuav poj nrauj ces lub neej yuav phem xwb xwb no. Tsis tag li xwb, tsi muaj ib qho povthawj dabtsi los ghia tias yog yuav tus ntshais nkauj xwb no ces lub neej yuav tsum zoo xwb xwb thiaib no. Nyob hauv phau Vajluskub tshiaib, hauv Mathais 7:1-5, Yexus ghia txog kev sib thum. "Tsis tshob thum lwm tus, nyob tsum koj raug luag thum thiaib. Ib yam li koj thum hem tus, koj yuav raug thum raws nkaus li koj tau thum luag thiaib. Piv txwv tias ua cas koj ho sab xyav luag qhov phem xwb es koj tsi rov xyuas/pom koj qhov phem li. Koj ho hais txog luag li phem xwb es koj tsi pom koj qhov phem li. Koj yuav tsum tau tshem koj qhov phem ua ntej no koj thiaj li mus hais tau lwm tus qhov phem." Peb Hmoob ib txwm ntseeg hais tias yog yus hais hais lossis thum thum lwm tus ces ib hns twg yus yuav raug hais thiaib thum ib yam li. Yog li ntawd, ua ntej koj yuav hais thiaib thum lwm tus no koj yuav tau rov noog koj tus kheej tias "Kuv puas yuav nyiam lwm hais thiaib thum kuv?" ♦



KOLOSSO TOYOTA

Kolosso Toyota

"a xav pab peb pej xeem Hmoob txog kev yuav tshab thiaib kev kho tshab kom tau zoo raws li nej lub siab xav. Vim li ntawd peb thiaj tau muaj ntau tus Hmoob ua hauj lwm muag tshab thiaib kho tshab nyob rau ntawm no. Thaum koj tuaj yuav tshab ntawm Kolosso Toyota lawm, koj yuav tau lub tshab tshiaib los yog lub tshab qub nrog rau tus nqi uas qis tshaj plaws."

"Kuv tau pab peb cov pej xeem xog kev yuav tshab tshiaib thiaib tshab qub los tau ntawd ib xyo no bawm. Kuv yuav ua tau yoo yim rau koj thiaib pab kom koj nrauj peb xwm yuav tau lub tshab uas koj li tauw ntawm. Ho tau kev bawm ua?"



Heavy Service Technicians

(920) 738-3666

3000 W. Wisconsin Ave.

www.kolossotoyota.com

APPLETON

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Mammogram Parties for Hmong women are slated for Saturday, October 4 at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton - call Pa Lee Moua, Minority Services at Fox Valley Technical College, 920-735-4825 to participate and Saturday, October 18 at The Sheboygan Clinic in Sheboygan - call MyShoua Yang at the Hmong Mutual Assistance Association, 920-458-0808 to participate.

Other events are planned to ensure that Hmong women in Wisconsin continue to learn about women's health concerns and health screenings. Breast health education workshops are scheduled at the Lake Winnebago Area Hmong Mutual Association in Oshkosh on August 26, 2003 and at Lutheran Social Services, Thompson Community Center in Appleton on September 20, 2003.

The workshops focus on breast cancer and cervical cancer and how mammograms and Pap tests can save lives. Women attending the programs receive gifts, prizes and have the opportunity to socialize and enjoy refreshments.

The workshops include videos in Hmong and a presentation by a medical professional with a translator from the Hmong community assisting. The American Cancer Society and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP) sponsor the events.

"We want Hmong women to know that you can survive breast or cervical cancer," said Sandy O'Neill, a WWWP representative. "The key is diagnosing the cancer at an early stage. Breast cancer has a 95% survival rate if diagnosed early. Health screenings such as the mammogram and the Pap test are so important. They can help find the cancer when there is a good chance to cure it."

O'Neill noted that the WWWP provides free mammograms and Pap tests. A woman may qualify for free health tests if she is between the ages of 35 and 64, does not have any health insurance or her insurance does not pay for a mammogram or Pap test, and her income is within the program's limits. (See adjacent ad for details.) ♦

For more information about the Hmong women's health program or the WWWP, please contact the following:

- Fox Valley Area - Pa Lee Moua (920-735-4825) or Maivue Thao (920-235-5133)
- Green Bay Area - Mee Ho (920-448-6426)
- LaCrosse Area - Maichor Lee 608-758-9723)
- Manitowoc Area - Yee Kue (920-683-4155)
- Sheboygan Area - My Shoua Yang (920-458-0808)
- Wausau Area - Pang Moua (715-261-1938)



Sponsored by the American Cancer Society
American Cancer Society, 1515 North Dearborn Street
Chicago, IL 60610-5999
Contact: 1-800-4-A-CANCER

Are you due for a
Mammogram or
Pap Test but can't
afford it?

We Can Help!

The Wisconsin Well Woman Program helps women get free mammograms, Pap tests and certain other screening tests.

Do You Think You Qualify?

If you can answer **yes** to all three of the following questions you may be eligible for free health services:

1. Are you a woman, age 35 - 64?
2. Are you without health insurance, or your insurance does not cover basic checkups, or you are unable to pay deductibles or co-payments?
3. Is your income within the following guidelines?

2003 - 2004 Income Guidelines

Net taxable income for both families and self-employed persons.

Family Size	Annual Gross* Household Income
1	Up to \$22,450
2	Up to \$30,300
3	Up to \$38,150
4	Up to \$46,000
5+	Add \$7,850 for each additional Family Member

For more information about the Wisconsin Women's Health Program in your area, call:

1 (800) 218-8408

(Translators Available)

United States Among Population

Total Number of Hmong in all 50 States and District of Columbia

**Estimates are based on figures given to HMD, by local Hmong leaders and service organizations.*



- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. California - 95,000 | 18. Oklahoma - 500 | 35. New Jersey - 25 |
| 2. Minnesota - 70,000 | 19. Illinois - 500 | 36. Arizona - 30 |
| 3. Wisconsin - 60,000 | 20. Iowa - 500 | 37. Missouri - 20 |
| 4. North Carolina - 20,000 | 21. Utah - 500 | 38. Hawaii - 20 |
| 5. Michigan - 15,000 | 22. Nebraska - 340 | 39. New Hampshire - 20 |
| 6. Colorado - 5,000 | 23. Alaska - 300 | 40. Kentucky - 10 |
| 7. Georgia - 5,000 | 24. Montana - 300 | 41. Maryland - 10 |
| 8. Oregon - 3,000 | 25. Connecticut - 250 | 42. New Mexico - 10 |
| 9. Washington - 3,000 | 26. Indiana - 200 | 43. Mississippi - 10 |
| 10. Rhode Island - 3,000 | 27. Tennessee - 200 | 44. Maine - 10 |
| 11. Massachusetts - 2,200 | 28. Florida - 200 | 45. North Dakota - 10 |
| 12. Kansas - 1,500 | 29. Nevada - 100 | 46. District of Columbia - 9 |
| 13. Pennsylvania - 1,500 | 30. Arkansas - 75 | 47. Alabama - 5 |
| 14. South Carolina - 1,500 | 31. Virginia - 50 | 48. West Virginia - 5 |
| 15. Texas - 1,500 | 32. South Dakota - 50 | 49. Delaware - 5 |
| 16. Ohio - 1,000 | 33. Louisiana - 40 | 50. Vermont - 5 |
| 17. New York - 700 | 34. Idaho - 30 | 50. Wyoming - 0 |

Midwest

About Us in Wisconsin

Here's a snapshot of a few aspects of life within the thriving community in Wisconsin. The information was developed through 2002 readership surveys by **FutureLiving** magazine.

Our Households... 8500+ statewide

Average family size: 6.23

Average adults per family: 3

Average adult age: 33

• Household Income

Up to \$25K	8%
26-35	31%
36-50	19%
51-75	31%
75+	19%

Home Ownership 62%

Home (within one year)	47%
3 BR + Ranch	74%
3 BR + 2 Story	12%
Side-by-side	6%
Investment	3%

• Education

Children Planning to Attend	
Higher Education Schools	85%
4 year system	46%
2 year system	23%
Technical School	16%

• Where we spend our money

Purchases planned within 12 months	
Auto	76%
Make	
Toyota	58%
Mitsubishi	24%
Mazda	11%
Honda	52%
Nissan	32%
Ford	6%
Hyundai	13%
Chevrolet	9%
Kia	6%
Dodge	12%
Other	5%

Appliances/Furniture	67%
Electronic/TV	
Cell phones/Computer	43%
Clothing	52%
Life/Auto/Other Insurance	92%
Investments	34%
Legal Services	41%
Financial Institution	56%
Accountant	24%
Dental	69%
Medical	54%
Vision	54%
Hearing	13%

• What we like to do

Recreation/Entertainment planned within 12 months	
Full Package Vacation	22%
• Within USA	46%
• Outside USA	51%
Air Only	73%
Other Means	5%
Casinos	18%
Movie Theater	85%
Movie Rental	92%
Sports	38%
Video Games	77%



Ms. Munee Ibrahim, yang di bagai
sintesis oleh piala ini, mungkin
baru saja datang dari rumah dia
offices of Difference & Diversity,
U.C. Difference telah bekerja
praktis Family Law, mulai
dari rumah pribadi rumah dia,
kemungkinan lebih dari itu, dan
tidak mungkin lagi yang lain, dan
mungkin lebih banyak dari itu, dan
kemungkinan lebih banyak dari itu,
dan itu adalah, dan itu adalah
saya, yang ini mungkin di rumah
saya ini dan saya ini dan saya ini
dan saya ini dan saya ini dan saya ini



231 East Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60601
800.775.6404
www.rockwellautomation.com

Come to UW-La Crosse for a fall visit! Campus tours are offered at 11 a.m. and 2:15 p.m., Monday through Friday. In addition to a campus tour, you may schedule a visit with an admissions representative. If you would like to take a closer look at our campus, come to an all-day Campus Open-up program. Fall dates are: Oct. 17, Oct. 30, Oct. 31, and Nov. 14. To make visit arrangements, contact the Admissions Office at (608)785-8939 or e-mail at admissions@uwlax.edu

Discover your possibilities!

www.uwlax.edu • (608)785-8939



It means I don't have to worry about driving. It means I don't have to wait for someone to drive me anywhere. The bus is safe and it's cheap! It's like my very own limousine service...with a little more room of course.

* Riders over age 60 ride is just 60% of pop who have shown valid ID.

SPECIAL

SPECIAL!
Fourtimes, 18 Months,
Power-rail & Current Fan
ONLY \$99 Valid Mon-Fri at
this ad. See us online at www.theres.com

SPECIAL

SPECIAL:
Five small bottles of
Garni hair or body wash
every \$10 AND so the oil
remains in the hair.



The Wednesday, 27.9.2001

- 

6 miles west of Hwy. 41 on RR

Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce



The Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce (HWCC) was established in November 2001 primarily to support Hmong businesses in Wisconsin. HWCC's mission statement is, "To build a strong Hmong business network throughout Wisconsin which members can share successes, discuss challenges, seek support and work with a unified front for the success of the entire Hmong community."

The founders of the HWCC felt that even though there were many Hmong businesses, there was no unifying umbrella group to organize them. HWCC knew there were many Hmong Mutual Assistance Associations, yet these HMAAs could not stray far beyond the grant guidelines that others set for them. There was a definite need for an organization that was independent of outside forces. Since the HWCC is privately supported, it can lobby the government for changes to benefit Hmong businesses. This ability sets the HWCC apart from other organizations.

One of the challenges facing HWCC is to build legitimacy within the Wisconsin business community. HWCC has been in existence for less than 2 years. Many do not yet know

about HWCC. However, in that short span of time, HWCC has accomplished a few items to note. The HWCC has developed a good working relationship with several city governments across the state and at the state capitol. This has allowed HWCC to gain greater resources for Hmong business development Wisconsin. HWCC has also begun Hmong business after hour socials across the state. These after hour socials include short presentations from local business experts benefiting Hmong businesses. These are a few of examples of how HWCC can leverage its relationship with government, businesses and non-profits to provide a service that may be lacking in the community.

All members of HWCC are business owners themselves. Jeff Yang, owner of three businesses and featured in the Milwaukee Business Journal, expressed the need to build HWCC into an organization that represent all Hmong businesses in Wisconsin. "I want to encourage businesses to participate in the HWCC so that it can have a strong membership foundation. This will allow HWCC to lobby for action on behalf of Hmong businesses," said Mr. Yang. He pointed out that due to

lack of business training and resources, many Hmong businesses do not make it pass 2 to 3 years. Hmong businesses need support in terms of management training, consultation services, loan assistance, money management, and marketing.

Hmong businesses can help HWCC and themselves to gain respectability by joining the association as a member. Although based in Milwaukee, HWCC represents Hmong businesses throughout Wisconsin. To apply for membership, you simply fill out an application with the HWCC and pay the membership fee. Individuals can show their support by becoming members as well. More members can help HWCC to negotiate better terms for financial and technical support. The HWCC has already helped its cause a great deal through



- Men & Women's Clothing (We have clothing items from Thailand)
- Casual/Country Tailoring
- Books and Gifts
- Hmong, Lao & Thai Music Sales & Rental

Classic Media & Tailoring-Alteration

1276 Main St. • Green Bay

(920) 437-1909

(414)672-6693



Noodle House

It's so good!

On the corner of S. 35th & W. National

For the best Hmong, Thai, Chinese and Vietnamese food, come dine at the Noodle House. The Noodle House is Wisconsin's largest and nicest Hmong restaurant. A nice warm bowl of Pho is waiting for you!
-Milwaukee-

being listed in the 2003 Wisconsin Small Business Resource Guide, funded by the Small Business Administration (SBA).

Current HWCC President, Charles Yang, in discussions with an official from the SBA, learned that in the State of Wisconsin, more Asians qualify for SBA loans than any other ethnic minority. Of the \$270 million SBA loans available, \$26 million was allocated to Asian businesses. Mr. Yang speculated that this could be due to the good credit history of most Asians and their strong family support systems. Mr. Yang also had a statement to Hmong entrepreneurs who are thinking of starting their own business.

"From now on, our social services (non-profit associations) will be obsolete. The challenge is to develop private corporations to meet the needs of the future Hmong generations. Even if some fail, others will prosper. I would like to encourage more Hmong businesses in all areas to have a good business plan. Entrepreneurs should be prepared to fail but have enough resources so that even if they fail, they can get right back up and try again."

Current members of the Board of Directors include: Charles Yang (President), Hong Yang (Vice-President), Sao Yee Yang (Secretary), Chimsiab Yang, Yang Xiong, Jeff Yang, Thai Yang and Ma Manee Moua. Other resources for the small business owner can be found at the SBA's web page, www.sba.gov. ♦

Koj xav tau dab tsi?

Koj yuav nrhiav tau ntau yam khoom
pheej yig nyob tim Goodwill.

Ris tsho zoo

Khau

Khoom siv hauv vaj tse

Rooj tog

Khob

Twj taig

Tej nyuag kheeb cav me

K auj toog npab, qhws ntsej

Tshuaj ntxuav tsev

Ciaj

Txaj chaw

Ntawv

Thiab tsuav ntau yam heej!



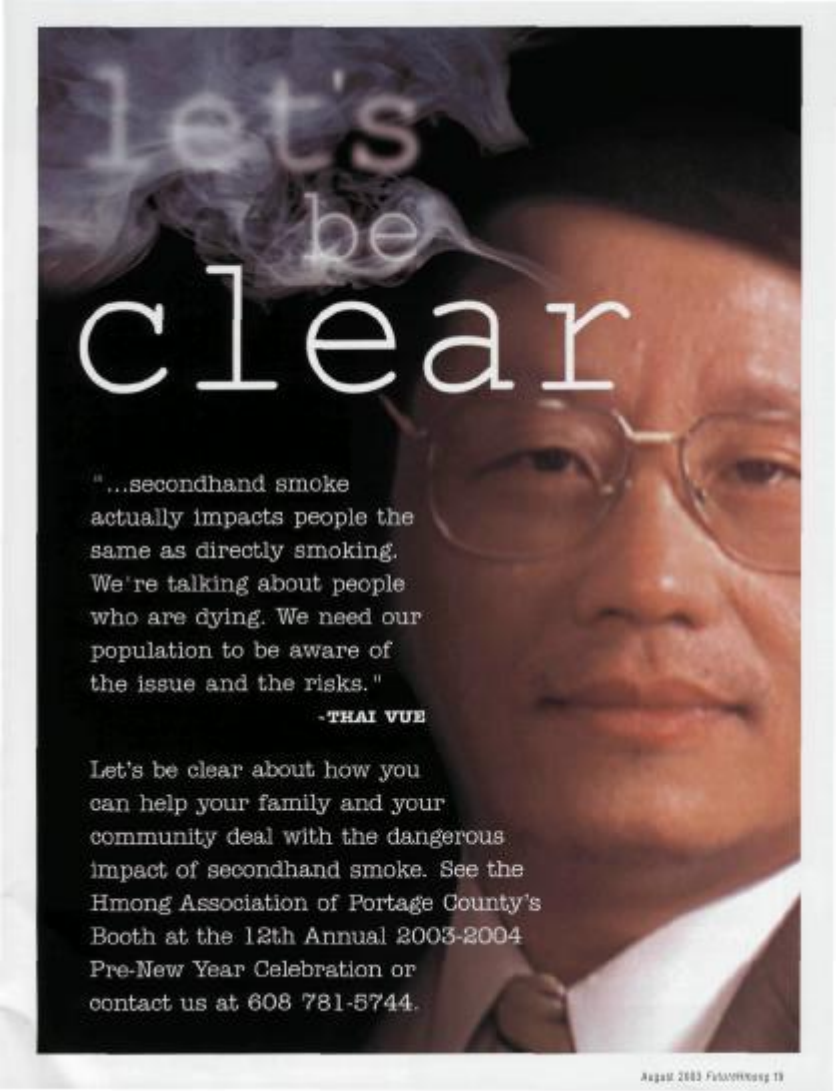
Goodwill

Call for the nearest location! 1-800-482-8036

HWCC can be reached at
3730 West National Avenue,
Milwaukee, WI 53215.

By telephone at
414-649-8331.

And by fax at 414-649-8115.



let's be clear

"...secondhand smoke actually impacts people the same as directly smoking. We're talking about people who are dying. We need our population to be aware of the issue and the risks."

-THAI VUE

Let's be clear about how you can help your family and your community deal with the dangerous impact of secondhand smoke. See the Hmong Association of Portage County's Booth at the 12th Annual 2003-2004 Pre-New Year Celebration or contact us at 608 781-5744.

It begins with You



Ms. Chou Yue
Asian Program Coordinator
Social Work major
Eau Claire, WI

For more information about opportunities at UW-Eau Claire, contact Charles Chou Yue (Hmong/Tau Vaj), Hmong/Southeast Asian program coordinator for the American Ethnic Coordinating Office, at chouyue@uwec.edu, or call (715) 836-3367.

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire



Excellence. Our mission, our motto, our goal.

Ib Qho Kev Cog Lus Los Ntawm Tsev Kawm Ntawv Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC)

Kom ua raws tsawm faw txoj cai vaj huam sib luag (U.S. Office of Civil Rights) thiab tsev kawm ntawv Northeast Wisconsin Technical College yuam ua raws txoj cai sis pub nruab ntawm.

NWTC tsis cais tib neeg los ntawm halv neeg, nqaj txwv, nyob txawv teb chaws txwv, poj niam/txwv neeg, paws cev los sis hem yam yam zoo thooj li txoj cai li chof tau hais bag nyob rau hauv txoj kev ua hauj lwm pob neeg, kev ntawv neeg ua hauj lwm, kev kawm ntawv, kev sib lwm, thiab kev sib cuag. NWTC kuj muaj kev noj nrog tas bawm lej lwm sis pub nyem ntawm txawv hais bag zos los yuam tsis yog ib qhov teeb meem bawv kev ntawv los thiab kom tsev kawm ntawv nrog rau txoj kev kawm.

Muaj lus xaw pawb bag txoj cai raws tsis pub cais tib neeg hu mus cuag tas txawv txwv sib kev nqaj noos, College Diversity Office nyob rau hauv tsev kawm ntawv Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, chaw nyob 2740 W. Mason St., Green Bay, WI 54307-9042. Xov txoj (920) 499-8828.

 **Northwest**
Wisconsin Technical College

www.nwtc.edu

The Dangers of High-Speed Internet Access

By Ben Ling



High-speed Internet access is available in most cities today. It is such a wonderful thing to have. Yet, for many unsuspecting customers, it has caused them a ton of headaches. Why? You are connected directly to the Internet whenever your computer is on. If you are connected to the Internet, anyone can connect to your computer if they know how.

Not only can people connect to your computer, there are also thousands of malicious programs and viruses hiding out on the Internet waiting to infect your computer. These programs and viruses can infect your computer whenever you go to certain websites. Your computer can even be infected even if you don't surf the Internet. As long as your computer is on, someone can send you a virus directly to your computer because with broadband, you are always connected to the Internet.

We've all heard of viruses causing millions of dollars of damage to large corporations already. How do viruses infect your computer? The most common virus infection is downloading files off the Internet, especially if you are using file-sharing services such as KaZaK and Morphos. Many of the files people share on these types of services are infected with viruses. Other ways include simply going to certain websites or through email.

Some programs are not malicious in nature. However, they can affect the performance of your computer greatly. Some of these programs will install themselves onto your computer and monitor everything you do from what programs you use and where you go on the Internet to what you are looking for on the Internet. It then knows exactly what to advertise to you while you are on the Internet. Ever heard of 'cookies'? These 'cookies' are sometimes called spyware. They spy on you through your computer. Some of these spyware will steal your passwords, account information as well as your contacts in your address book and then use your own computer to email it back to the owner of the spyware program. That's how they get your information.

How do you fight back? The two most important things you can do are first have a good antivirus program installed on your computer. McAfee and Norton are the most common. Not only do you need to have an antivirus program, it needs to be updated with the latest antivirus definition files. An outdated antivirus program is like trying to kill a rhino with a slingshot. The second best thing you can do for your computer is to have a firewall between your computer and the Internet. While some software firewalls like Zone Alarm can be downloaded for free, you need to know how to configure it to use it properly. For most people, I would recommend getting a router with a built-in firewall. Some routers do not have a built-in firewall so make sure you get the right one. Just plug your cable or DSL modem to the router and then connect the router to your computer.

While having a router and an antivirus program does not guarantee you are safe, it will reduce your computer problems significantly. One of my favorite tools to use to fight spyware is Adware. It is a free tool you can download from the Internet. It will get rid of most spyware on your computer. If anyone has specific questions or problems with your computer(s) and would like an answer, feel free to email me at byndeech@yahoo.com. I will try my best to answer as many as possible. Until next time... ♦



Employment



NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

A GREAT COMPANY WITH GREAT OPPORTUNITY

If you are an ambitious person looking for a position in a growth company, a career in insurance and financial services, New York Life Insurance Company may be right for you. We are looking for qualified persons to enter our comprehensive training program. Successful candidates may earn an excellent income and will have the opportunity to build their own client base.

Please contact us for more information:

New York Life

One Honey Creek Corporate Center

125 South 84 Street, Suite 201

Milwaukee, WI 53214

Attention: Loretta Boche

Phone: (414) 256-8700

Or fax your resume: (414) 256-8735

Equal Opportunity Employer
M/F/V/H



The Company You Keep®

Tired of Moving Around?

Where would like to be in five years? Korte Ford Mercury is a seven time President's Award Winner. We are very proud of the outstanding income potential our employees achieve. We are looking for career minded people who want to stay. We are not afraid to pay if you are not afraid to stay.

In the first year, you would earn up to \$60,000 or more. We provide a health plan, 401k and paid vacation.

For a confidential interview, call Rick Korte 909-602-1222



JOIN OUR TEAM

U.S. Bank has open positions in: customer service, loan documentation, data entry, and leadership.

Qualified applicants must have: clerical experience, customer service, and computer skills. Previous banking is preferred, but not required. Benefits include medical and dental ins., holidays, vacation, 401k, and more!

Check out our website and apply online, or fax your resume, or stop in to fill out an application. Two locations in Oakbrook: 1550 Oakview Ave and 400 City Center. Fax: 909-425-7646. Call/Email: (909) 425-8448

or email your resume to: recruiting@usbank.com
www.usbank.com



Explore your career possibilities at North Shore Bank.

Local, committed employees are the strength of our organization.

We invite you to join our team. Bilingual candidates welcomed. Call e-mail or visit us: www.northshorebank.com
180@northshorebank.com
(920) 451-1204



NORTH SHORE BANK
South of Superior

ADMISSION POSSIBLE

Help make college a reality for inner-city teens.

Great opportunity for aspiring Teachers!

Work w/ 8-12

low-income teens in TC schools;
teach test prep & help with college applications.

Full and

part-time positions available.

PT 2 yr commitment - 9/03-5/05.

Compensation approx. \$10.63/hr.

Interested?

Visit www.AdmissionPossible.org
or call 651-917-3525.

People Creating A World-Class Energy Company

WPS Resources is an exciting energy corporation that provides customers with the best value in energy and related services to much of Wisconsin, Upper Michigan and beyond.

At WPS Resources diversity creates an energy all its own. We're about people power - the strength and dynamics of a team combining a wide spectrum of perspectives, backgrounds, life experiences and interests.

www.wpsr.com

WPS Resources is an equal opportunity employer - women and minorities are encouraged to apply.



WPS Resources Corporation

SOMETHING TO *Think About*

Worthless Idols *By Os Hillman*

*Those who cling to worthless idols
forfeit the grace that could be theirs. -
- Jonah 2:8*

Have you ever exercised your will over the will of God? Have you ever been so willful that you were going to go your own way no matter what God said? If so, you have been at the same place as the prophet *Jonah*. God called *Jonah* to deliver a message to God's people as a warning. *Jonah* flatly refused. It was *Jonah's* will over God's. Guess who won?

Talk about willpower, *Jonah* had it! In fact, he was so rebellious toward God's will that he got on a ship to go the opposite direction. But he couldn't go far enough. The omnipotence of God caught up with *Jonah*, and he was hurled overboard when the seas became rough and the ship's crew figured *Jonah* was the source of their problems. Overboard he went and into

the belly of that big fish.

God has a way of getting us to rethink our decisions, to reconsider our position. In fact, we see the extent of *Jonah's* willfulness by the amount of time he was willing to hang out in the belly of that fish - three full days. Then, *Jonah* decides enough is enough! Obedience is better than this fish belly and seaweed. From inside the fish, *Jonah* prayed to the Lord his God.

He said: "In my distress I called to the Lord, and He answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and You listened to my cry. You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all Your waves and breakers swept over me. I said, 'I have been banished from Your sight; yet I will look again toward Your holy temple.' The engulfing waters threatened me,

the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But You brought my life up from the pit, Lord my God. When my life was ebbing away, I remembered You, Lord, and my prayer rose to You, to Your holy temple. Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs. But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to You. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the Lord." And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited *Jonah* onto dry land. Then the word of the Lord came to *Jonah* a second time: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." *Jonah* obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh" (*Jonah* 2:2-3:3a).

In the midst of realizing his own calamity, *Jonah* made a seemingly out-of-context statement: "Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs." *Jonah* was thinking of the sailors who threw him overboard and how they prayed to worthless idols. In the business world, we rub shoulders with those who cling to worthless idols every day. How tragic.

But this story's primary message is for every believer. And I can identify with *Jonah*. There's been many a man placed in the "belly of the fish" to encourage him to fulfill the purposes of God for which He called him. *Jonah's* situation changed immediately upon his obedience. Obedience is a mysterious thing. Jesus had to learn it through the things He suffered (see Heb. 5:8). If Jesus had to learn obedience through suffering, what does that mean for you and me? Sometimes willing obedience requires encouragement. ♦

APPLETON Alliance CHURCH

Connecting you
with GOD
and one another



www.appletonalliance.org

2693 W. Grand Chute Blvd.
Appleton, WI 54913
Call or go online for
service times and directions.

920-968-0700

Senior Pastor, Dennis Episcopo
Come visit us in our new facility
at Hwy. 41 & Lynndale.



Lao Evangelical Church

ເປັນຄວາມສຳຄັນ ສຳລັບ ຄົນ ລາວ ທຸກຄົນ ທີ່ມີ ຄວາມ ສຳຄັນ

1800 W. Arlington Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53206

ເປັນຄວາມສຳຄັນ ສຳລັບ ຄົນ ລາວ ທຸກຄົນ ທີ່ມີ ຄວາມ ສຳຄັນ
ເປັນຄວາມສຳຄັນ ສຳລັບ ຄົນ ລາວ ທຸກຄົນ ທີ່ມີ ຄວາມ ສຳຄັນ
ເປັນຄວາມສຳຄັນ ສຳລັບ ຄົນ ລາວ ທຸກຄົນ ທີ່ມີ ຄວາມ ສຳຄັນ

Yakusapuan 25.8

XE Nao Tui Xong

Pres. Dr. Mounou Mounou

(614) 353-8737

(614) 383-1419

Fox
Communities
CREDIT UNION
www.foxcu.org

3401 E. Calumet Street, Appleton
610 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton
2531 Highway Dr. (OO & A), Appleton
1724 S. Lawe St., Appleton
528 S. Washington St., Kimberly
1302 N. Shawano St., New London
3 N. Main St., Clintonville



Open a Fox Free
Checking today
and your 1st box of
checks is on us!

Visit any
one of our
7 convenient
locations
or call
993-9000
today!

NCUA

Must present this at time of account opening. Offer ends 8/31/11.
Fox Communities Credit Union custom checks, 175 checks per box.
Limit one free box of checks per person.

You Deserve More Than Just The Best Price.

- LIFEGUARD Lifetime Powertrain Guarantee
- Free Weekly Car Washes
- \$9.95 Oil Changes Forever
- Free Winterizing Service
- Free Yearly Safety and Brake Inspection



- Complete Service History on File For Your Convenience
- Free Shuttle/Loaner Vehicle Low Cost Rental
- 10%Discount on Parts and Accessories *Εν γλῶσσῃ ὁμιλῶν* Every New Vehicle

1700 Bus. Hwy 51 Exit 194 Wausau 675-7775
www.rosemurgyautomall.com
www.rosemurgyrewards.com



Toyota • Mitsubishi • Jeep • Hyundai • Isuzu • Mercedes-Benz



Future Hmong

Voice of the Hmong

January 2004

We Are Hmong

• President Bush Signs Bill That Will Benefit Hmong

• The Truth About The Hmong Cultural Center In Milwaukee

*****AUTO**3-DIGIT 537
NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS LIBRARIAN
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN
816 STATE ST
MADISON WI 53706-1482

29-601

Fox
Communities
CREDIT UNION
www.foxcu.org



"I purchased a \$15,000 car,
used my home equity line of
credit, I'll pay it off in 5 years
and my payment is only \$277!"

Appleton & Kimberly
993-9000

New London • 920-982-9420

Clintonville • 715-823-2191

Stop in today at any one of our
7 convenient locations or browse
our website at www.foxcu.org
for more information.

Great interest rate of 4.00% APR
with a Home Equity Line of Credit.

Loan Amount	Loan Repaid In	Monthly Payment
\$5,000	5 years	\$92.08
\$15,000	5 years	\$277.00
\$20,000	5 years	\$368.33

APR= annual percentage rate, 4% prime rate and is adjusted quarterly. Credit Score of 690 and above required for 4%. Rates are contingent upon having autopay from a Fox Communities Credit Union checking account. Rates are based on 10% loan-to-value ratio. Minimum line amount of \$5,000. Minimum payment is 1.5% of the outstanding balance or \$10. APR lines do not exceed 10% in the state of Wisconsin. Rates are subject to change. Other rates are available. Closing costs may apply. Check with tax advisor for tax deductibility. Rates and payments are approximate.

It's like having a bank right at home.



Free Online Banking

Visit www.northshorebank.com and you'll find the resources of one of our offices right at your fingertips.

- Get information about North Shore Bank including office hours, products and services, financial calculators and consumer tips.
- Complete your transactions from home or anywhere with Online Banking. Make loan payments, transfer funds and check your balances.
- Plus, you can simplify paying your bills and save money with our Bill Pay service.



38 offices in Wisconsin including Milwaukee, Green Bay & the Fox Cities.
Call 1-800-236-4672 for a location near you.



NORTH SHORE BANK

North of Expected™

Lowe Law Offices, S.C.

Attorney Christopher Lowe

Personal Injury Attorneys

Legal Representation For Injuries or Death Due to Accidents

- **Free Consultation**
- **Home / Hospital Visits Available**
- **No Fee unless we succeed**

Statewide Representation



Hmong Speaking Staff Available

Lowe Law Offices, S.C.

(414) 476-1900

Toll Free: (877) 569-3529

lowelaw@execpc.com



Habush Habush & Rottier s.c.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

WHEN ACCIDENTS OR INJURIES
HAPPEN TO SOMEONE YOU
LOVE OUR FAMILY OF LAWYERS
WILL PROTECT YOUR FAMILY.



WHY CHOOSE ANYONE ELSE?®

Injuries or Deaths From Accidents, Malpractice or Product Defects

- Over 70 Years of Experience Helping Wisconsin Families
- Wisconsin's Largest Personal Injury Law Firm
- Free Consultations
- No Fees or Costs Unless We Are Successful
- \$100's of Millions in Settlements and Verdicts Collected For Our Clients
- More Nationally Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyers Than any Firm in Wisconsin



**HMONG SPEAKING
STAFF AVAILABLE**

**CALL TOLL FREE:
(800)757-8644**

www.habush.com

Kawm Ntaub Ntawv

**Thiaj Vam
Meej**

Thiab

Pab Zej Zos



Northeast
Wisconsin Technical College

2740 W Mason St • Green Bay, WI

(920) 498-6895 • www.nwtc.edu



Yee Moua

Hmong Representative

"Txi zeum kuv yam
muaj peev xwm pab
txu koj bog kev qv
nyiaj yam koj lub
baw los yag thaum
koj xav qha to qhov
lag luam. Mu rau
pab qhov chaw ua
huaj fam los yag
office thiab nrog kuv.
Kuv txawv txawv
nrog koj thiab bog
qhov koj xav tau."

www.wheda.com



**Wisconsin Housing and
Economic Development Authority**

WHEDA is an independent state finance authority that works through participating lenders to provide low-cost financing for housing and business development.

WHEDA toll free: 800-33-HOUSE (800-334-6873)

Madison Office

201 W. Washington Avenue
608-266-7884 Fax: 608-267-1099

Milwaukee Office

101 W. Pleasant Street
414-227-4039 Fax: 414-227-4704

FutureHmong

Vol. 4, No. 1

10 WE ARE HMONG

What we wear.
How we live.
Where we come from.



6 FUTUREHMONG UPFRONT

Tradition Worth Saving

8 SPEAKOUT!

Reader Comments

13 TECHNOLOGY

14 PRESIDENT BUSH SIGNS BILL THAT WILL BENEFIT HMONG

17 UNDERSTANDING YOUR CREDIT PART 2

Traps and tips

19 HEALTHY BALANCED EATING

20 THE TRUTH ABOUT THE HMONG CULTURAL CENTER IN MILWAUKEE

21 SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT



Fast, Accurate, Affordable Translation Services

Does your organization need written material translated into Hmong, Spanish or other languages to be more effective with today's diverse marketplace?

FutureHmong now offers written translation services for a variety of languages for businesses, government agencies, non-profits, school systems and more. From promotional manuals, employee handbooks, newsletters to what ever your organization's needs are...FutureHmong can help.

Call today for more information and start communicating with today's diverse marketplace without having to actually speak it.

414-831-0675



Tradition Worth Saving

Blong Yang, Editor

I have never seen it in person. However, I have seen many videotapes of it and in movies. Of course, our elders would talk about it as well. I am hoping I get a chance to go back to Laos soon and witness it for myself.

I am talking about celebrating a Hmong New Year the way it's supposed to be, like on the videotapes I have seen from Laos. I think we do a great job of it when it comes to the performances, the welcoming of the New Year and shedding of the old. I think we do a great job in honoring the VIP guests, including government leaders, community leaders and Hmong leaders. I also feel we are exceptional with the variety of traditional dances and performances. I am especially impressed with all the young boys and girls performing their dance moves to perfection. However, I am saddened and disappointed that all the New Year's celebrations I have seen in this country have lost focus on the organization of the traditional bull-tossing and the courtesy of our young people.

In the movies and videotapes I have seen, while bull-tossing, when either person drops the ball, that person normally performs

a traditional song. A woman at the Appleton New Year's celebration mentioned me that it's such a shame for our culture to lose this part of us. I agree. I remember seeing in Hmong movies that when a woman dropped the ball she sang those traditional songs; it was so incredibly moving. Her voice was beautiful and the words of happiness and sorrow were so haunting that it made grown men and women around her weep. The lady I met at the Appleton Hmong New Year also mentioned to me that very few New Year's celebrations in America take the time and make the effort to organize this part of the New Year anymore. Traditional hand made clothed bulls are replaced with yellow tennis balls; organized lines and formation of bull-tossers are replaced with people tossing balls however they like or are unable to find room to do so.

Here, our New Year celebrations used to be outside in wide open fields and in 80-degree weather. Today, we are restricted to mostly school facilities and staying indoors due to weather. I understand that many Hmong youth today do not know these

traditional Hmong songs. However, there are still many who do and would love to share the experience. I also see the importance of honoring VIPs, dance performances and the tradition of shedding of the old year and welcoming of the New Year. But it's a shame we simply not organize the major function of each Hmong New Year celebration... the bull-tossing, singing and courtesy of our young and singles.

Here are my suggestions: Prior to each New Year celebration, the people in charge of the celebration should contact with the many talented Hmong women to make as many traditional handmade cloth bulls as

possible. A tennis ball just does not feel the same nor is it very "Hmong." There should be people assigned to organize the bull-tossing area. This will help to make a place for people to walk around and observe our beautiful traditional Hmong clothing, the people who are losing their shirts (literally) and hopefully to hear the beautiful traditional Hmong songs sung from deep within the soul.

Many of our elders' worst fears are for our young people to lose our culture. This is one of the most beautiful parts of our culture that we should not lose and that we have control of its destiny. I encourage the organizers of Hmong New Year celebrations in this country to recognize this and bring tradition and culture back to our New Year celebrations. I have never seen and would greatly appreciate the opportunity to see it in person for the first time. I am sure many others would as well. ♦

FutureHmong Live, The Radio Show

If you live in the Milwaukee area, remember to tune into 1250 AM, WEMP, every Thursday night from 8 pm to 9 pm for FutureHmong Live.

This is where I host a one-hour live Hmong talk show discussing and debating the issues we feature in this magazine. The good, the bad and the ugly... I talk about it all! I have had about 6 shows so far and the response has been overwhelming.

Starting in January 2004, each month I will be giving away prizes like 10000, bags of rice, CDs, movies, gift certificates and much more. So listen and WIN with FutureHmong Live.

How do we measure Excellence?
One graduate at a time.

"At UW-Eau Claire I made lifelong friendships and got the education I needed for my career in the business industry."

Choi Chang - Wisconsin, MBA
Associate General Manager
UW-Eau Claire College of SBA
Executive Management Development supervisor
Hofstra Health Plan - Appleton, WI.

For more information about opportunities at UW-Eau Claire, contact Charles Chou Yue (Hem Tsu Yue) at ccyue@uwec.edu, or call (800) 895-4923.

University of Wisconsin
Eau Claire

Excellence. Our measure, our motto, our goal.



Peb Txoj Qub Kev Cai Tsim Nyog Khaws Cia

Kuv tsis tau pom dua klag ntawm qhov muag. Tiam sis, kuv tau pom nyob rau hauv ntau daim videotapes thiab nyob rau hauv ntau qhov yeeb yaj kab los yog movies. Tsis tag li ntawd, peb cov laus tseem niaj hnub thum txog ib yam nkaws. Kuv xav ntsoov tias muaj ib hnub kuv yuav muaj lub caij nyogov rov qab mus teb chaws nplog es koj kuv tus kheej mus kem pom klag.

Qhov kuv tab tom hais txog no yog kev noj tsiab peb caug txais xyoo tshab nws li kuv tau pom hauv daim yeeb yaj kab uas yog yees nyob hauv teb chaws Nplog. Kuv xav mas peb yeej yu tau zoo kawg nkaws li lawm hais txog kev ua si seev cev lom zem rau sawv dawv tau saib, kev txais xyoo tshab xaus xyoo laus. Thiab peb kuj yu tau zoo kawg lawm hais txog kev caw tej nom tsaw tseem ceeb uas muaj nemej mom tuaj koom nrog peb lub tsiab peb caug xws li cov koj noj koj ua hauv peb lub nroog thiab cov thawj koj ntawm peb pej xeeb Hmoob. Tsis tag li ntawd, kuv tau pom hais tias peb tau muaj niam qhov yeeb yam rau cov neeg tau saib xws li tej yeeb yam seev cev uas yog peb cov tub hluas thiab ntshais hluas ua tau zoo saib kawg nkaws li. Txawm li ntawd los, kuv yeej tseem tu siah hais tias peb kev noj tsiab peb caug nyob rau teb chaws no tsis zoo xws li yav thum ub ua peb yeej ib txwm muaj xws li i kev pov pob thiab kev nrhiav nkauj nrhiav nraug ntawm peb cov hluas nyob rau hauv lub tsiab peb caug.

Nyob rau hauv daim yeeb yaj kab los yog daim videotape uas kuv tau niaj, thum lawv sib pov pob, yog ib tug twg ua lub pob pool, tus ntawd yuav tsum tau hais ib zaj kwev txhij. Muaj ib tug poj niam Hmoob uas kuv tau ntsib nyob hauv nroog Appleton lub tsiab peb caug dhuu los, tau hais rau kuv tias nws tu siah uas peb tau muab tej kev lom zem uas peb ib txwm muaj no tem pov tseg tag lawm. Kuv los xav li nws hais thiab. Nyob rau

hauv daim yeeb yaj kab no, kuv pom ib tug ntshais tau hais kwev txhij vim nws tau ua nws lub pob pool. Ntsia qhov no zoo li cov hluas hauv no muaj kev lom zem kawg nkaws li. Tus ntshais muaj lub sawv kwev txhij zoo nroog cov ntsiab lus uas tu siah thiab zoo siah uas muaj peev xwm ua rau cov poj niam thiab tsiv neej uas sawv ib ncig ntawm nws quaj. Tus poj niam uas kuv ntsib no tau hais tias muaj tsawg tsawg lub tsiab peb caug hauv teb chaws America no uas thiab tseem muaj kev noj tsiab peb caug lom zem li yav qub qab thauv. Tej pob uas koj los pov los tsuas yog pob tennis xwb tsis zoo li yav thum ub uas yog siv ntau xws ua lawm. Cov neeg pov pob los pov tsis muaj kab tsis muaj ciav nrias xav pov qhov twg los tau tsuav muaj chaw xwb.

Muaj tseeb tiag, peb kev noj tsiab peb caug dhuu qab yeej ib txwm ua muaj nyob rau nraug tsaw pob dav nrog rau tej huab cua so v li ntawm 80 degree. Niaj hnub nim no, feem ntau ces yeej yog ua muaj nyob rau hauv tsev kawm ntawv xwb vim yog huab cua los tsis zoo li yav qub qab thum ub. Kuv to tau hais tias feem ntau ntawm peb cov hluas niaj hnub nim no yuav tsis pab hais kwev txhij Hmoob lawm. Tawm li ntawd los, kuv xav hais tias yeej tseem tshuav coob tus uas tseem nyiam thiab txawj hais kwev txhij Hmoob uas yuav tau pab qhia twm tus kom pab txog. Kuv kuj pom tau hais tias nws tseem ceeb uas peb muaj kev tos txais tej nom tej tsaw, muaj tej kev seev cev lom zem rau sawv dawv tau saib thiab kev xaus xyoo laus tos txais lub xyoo tshab. Tiam sis kuv yeej tseem tu siah uas peb tsis muaj tej yam uas peb Hmoob ib txwm muaj ua kev lom zem nyob rau hauv tsiab peb caug. Xws li i kev pov pob, hais kwev txhij lom zem rau peb cov tub cov ntshais hluas.

Ntawm no yog kuv qhov kev xav. Ua ntej thum lub tsiab peb caug, cov khiaj hauv twm rau lub tsiab

peb caug no yuav tsum tau nrhiav cov poj niam Hmoob uas txawj xaws pob los xaws cov pob no kom ntau li ntau tau rau peb cov hluas tau pov. Vim lub pob tennis yuav tsis zooj tes li lub pob xaws thiab nws tsis yog "Hmoob". Thiab yuav tsum tau muaj tus saib xyuas thiab tsum pov pob ntawv kom muaj kab muaj ciav. Qhov no yuav zoo nkauj thiab yuav yooj yam rau cov neeg uas xav tau xyuas tej tsoos tsho Hmoob los yog muaj ncig mloog lub suab kwev txhij zoo uas yog hu twm tag nrho hauv lub tsev yim.

Peb cov laus ib qhov kev ntshai yog txhawj tsum peb cov hluas tso tej kev lis kev cai uas peb ib txwm muaj pov tseg. Tej no yog tej yam zoo uas peb yuav tau txhob pab plam mus thiab peb yeej muaj peev xwm ceev kom tau. Kuv xav txhawb zog peb cov thawj koj khiaj hauv twm rau tsiab peb caug kom peb yuav muaj kev noj tsiab peb caug lom zem zoo li peb ib txwm muaj. Kuv yuav zoo siah yog tau pom tej yam zoo li no ua thawj zaug. Kuv ntseeg tias ntau tus yuav zoo siah ib yam nkaws yog lawv tau pom. ♦

FutureHmong Live, Kev Sib Tham Hauv Xov Tooj Cua

Yag koj nyob ib cheeb laus hauv nroog Milwaukee, no ntseeg ib mas rau lntooj 1230 AM, WEMP, tshab hauv Thursday thum ib mas tias ntawj mas trig rau 9 phev trawv ntaj. Kuv yuav muaj laj rau hauv ib ib xwb mas nraug sawv dawv sib tham tag tej yam uas peb tau saw nyob hauv peb phav nraug magazine. Qhov zoo, qhov phom, qhov tsis nraug nyawv... kuv tham tag orho! Kuv hoo hoo! thum tau muaj li 6 mas lawm thiab kuj muaj nraug las muaj las nraug nraug tau tham nraug.

Pib tej li lub ib hlis xyoo 2004, thum lub hlis kuv yuav muaj khoom plog (prizes) xws li ib nraug trawv 1000, CDs, movies, gift certificates thiab nraug yam. Mloog xov laj rau FutureHmong Live.

**Dedicated to the advancement
of the Hmong community.**



**Published by
V Enterprises, Inc.**

Editor

Hong Yang
hong@futurehmong.com

Administrative/Design

V Enterprises, Inc.

Advisory Board

Tou Ger Lee, Director of IT

David Sengkhommee

Product Development Manager

Ma Mawt Mawt, Attorney

Yer Yang, Attorney

Fong Chang, Self-employed

Dr. Cha Lee, Family Doctor

Readers

Kay & Sao Yang

Melissa Xiong

All rights reserved. Reproduction or use of any of the FutureHmong Magazine material without permission is prohibited. No responsibility is accepted for unsolicited manuscripts, cartoons or editorial. Opinions expressed in the magazine are not necessarily endorsed, nor does the magazine assume responsibility for statements made in either advertisements or articles published.

Single issue price \$3.95. Back issues

\$4.50 mailed, subject to availability.

Base subscription price \$19.95 per year.

Free subscription to all Wisconsin residents.

Reprints available for 500 copies.

Editorial/Advertising: 414/831-0075

Subscriptions: 414/831-0675

Fax: 414/831-0076

E-Mail: info@futurehmong.com

Website: www.futurehmong.com

Postmaster

Send change of address to

V Enterprises, Inc.

7255 W. Appleton Ave., Ste. 200B

Milwaukee, WI 53216

Speak Out!

EXCERPTS FROM YOU TO US

I am writing to you in regarding to an article a reader wrote on your current November issue. As I was sitting in my chair reading your magazine I couldn't believe what I read. I understand everyone have their rights to their opinion. But, please if you going to write something for the sake of heaven don't make us "Hmong Woman" feels degraded like we ALWAYS have for years. In their comment, they said "Men having more than one wife and men abusing their wife. This is very common in our culture, but what about the woman? More and more of the women are having an affair these days and this is not common in our culture. I understand that these women are not happy with their life or marriage, but that does not give them the right to have an affair. They have all the right after they divorce their husband. And to all the divorced women or widows out there, please do not go after someone else's husband if you do, go to hell. If you don't, God bless you!" As Hmong women, this statement is an endorsement and stereotyping the Hmong women in our culture. I am sorry, but for centuries we Hmong women have been the slaves to our husband as they sit in their ass and go out and sleep with other women, feeling lowered to them—which we shouldn't be. We too are humans. Just recently we are breaking away from that tired and feeling relieve to have our own freedom of choices. Yes, I notice recently more and more Hmong women are having an affair or doing things that our not seem in our culture. The reader is right that it doesn't give them the right to do that but more Hmong women are being educated and they are not going to sit in their ass while their husband are abusing them or having multiple wives/partner it does take two people in every situation. If we are going to by any means survive in this world we have to try live the American life. Yes, I know it's hard but it doesn't require you to lose your heritage. Why does in our culture we ALWAYS seem to be pointing finger at someone else? If a woman does something that is not acceptable in our "culture" EVERYONE has a fking cow but if a guy in our culture does it, it is OKAY!!! Give me a break I still can't believe that after all these years in America we still hold that gender sexism and favorites. The overall picture is that no one is perfect but we need to point out the flaws in our culture, which no one wants to admit or speak of. How are kids going to really understand our culture if we presently do not?

— Jilab's Chang, Milwaukee

In Response to Luc Yang, Milwaukee Speak

out! Criticism of Bush and his policies isn't solely from the left. Old chiefs of the Bush administration, military officials, international leaders, and so on have all expressed disapproval.

Bush assured the American public, our armed forces, and the international community military success would be swift. WMD easily found, and Saddam's regime toppled without significant time, cost, and loss of life-American and Iraqi. Following, he asserted minimal U.S. involvement, and assured Iraqi control over oil contracts and establishing a democratic government. The majority of Americans supported Bush and Cheney's war, including 110 of 257

Congressional Democrats, largely because of those assertions and purported "intelligence evidence" now admitted as intentional and/or depicted by ineptitude. Though he's been less than forthcoming, Bush has suffered little. In fact, his administration has profited nicely. Halliburton Co., where Cheney was a top executive, has no-bid Army contracts worth more than \$1.7 billion. Need I mention the shareholders? They're not the hundreds of thousands of American soldiers deployed to the Middle East, nor husband's nephew included. Merely writing for Bush for his "deciduousness" in national security is shortsighted. Money Bush promised has fallen significantly short, leaving states possibly more vulnerable due to heightened foreign liabilities. Likewise, his unilateral bid for war alienated several of our allies, and furthered the development of WMD, consider North Korea. When writing, weigh other issues such as the economy, health care, education, environment, and social services. Being a non-warrior isn't any worse than being an uneducated one.

—Sandy Thao Van, Madison

This is a reply to Luc Yang's remark in the November 2005 issue of FutureHmong: Luc Yang, I know that you feel strongly for your country and our president, but I think you lose credibility when you only consider your own perspective. Yes, you believe that war was the initial thing to do, but have you really considered the global effects of the war? Who are we to have the right to invade a country and destroy it and then spend billions of dollars reforming it when we have hungry children and local issue here in the U.S. that need to be dealt with? You can call me an idiot, but the reason we agreed to this war in the first place was because our president claimed that there was concrete evidence of Iraq having weapons of mass destruction, now correct me if I'm wrong, but since then, they have been unable to produce any proof of that. So, in a sense we

Send comments to FutureHmong • 7255 W. Appleton Ave., Ste. 200B • Milwaukee, WI 53216

414/831-0676 (fax) • info@futurehmong.com

All comments must have a name and a city included to be considered for print.

entered this war under false pretenses. And please don't make proud the fact that no terrorist attacks have been made on American soil since the war because we still have troops being killed everyday in other countries, especially in Iraq. This is nothing to celebrate, and yes talk is cheap, so hopefully president Bush will act somehow to atone for the destruction, controversy, and deaths that have occurred because of this war. This is not to say that I don't support our government, I just think we tend to make decisions before considering the consequences because we are whom we are. So, in conclusion, please be sensitive to other's opinions, you might learn a thing or two.

- Mei/Yuu Lee, Birmingham

This is in response to Meia Thao about his own frustrations. Well first off...There's always going to be competitors around. Of Think about it, we all fight, we want the best, like you said - "live healthy and fruitful lives in this country" right? Well in order to do so we have to fight for our own liberties! Certain situations come by choice not by chance. Don't get me wrong I understand where you're coming from about how we all should "just get along" but it's impossible! We're human and we have human weaknesses- it's life and God didn't intend it to be easy if it were easy we wouldn't be arguing about this right now. And what the other living people we about you, you know it's not true, just ignore them and let them come to their own conclusion, let them come to terms with themselves. I'm sure you're a nice guy and people are just misunderstanding. You know how everybody thinks that everybody knows about everybody else but nobody really knows anything about themselves because they're all worried about everyone else. So it's up to you to change yourself and others and make a difference, don't worry so much about who's controlling who and just focus on your own life. God Bless! and I will keep you in my prayers, and just remember that in times like these and in times like those... what will be will be... life goes on and on.

- Mai Hsiao, LaCrosse

When it comes to dating there are no referees in life. I'm appalled by your article "Are You Dating an Older Guy?" I hope this isn't a sympathy letter for someone's mistake. I hope if someone you know is involved with someone your senior that doesn't necessary mean they're much more mature. Maturity comes through respect for one another, years of turning, and accountability. Marriage should be between two respectful and consenting adults not juveniles who think they're in love. It's a shame Wendy had to find out the hard way. What's most pathetic is that there are young girls out there, right now, making these same mistakes. Boys will always be boys. There are only a few real men out there. A real man has integrity and isn't afraid to be challenge by others. People are where they are at because of their own decisions not anyone else's. Next time, watch what people do not what they say. If any of you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Hai Hung at (920) 829-8874 for a free consultation.

- Phong Nong, Madison

I love to read your articles. Thank you for giving us a place to speak our mind. I would like to respond to some of the articles in your recent issues. In October, Mr. Parkinson said that living men are marrying and having sex with underage girls, and that living dads sell their daughters into sexual slavery. Those are some very ethnicentric observations. If you look closely, living make a very small portion of the abused women and teenage marriages in this country. Most

marriages today are not arranged and usually the choice to marry is made by the kids. All living parents I know want their kids to finish high school and go to college. Usually when it is a teenage marriage, the bride and the groom are about the same age and it is mutually agreed upon. You cannot put all the blame on the parents. It's a tragedy what happened to your wife but maybe it was a choice she made, not her parents. She made a bad choice to marry a bad man just like many of the abused women in my culture. Many living men today are loving, respectful, and educated. Just because you know a few bad ones does not mean all of them are like that. I'm a 24 years old woman engaged to a loving 26 years old living man. Not marrying young is my choice. And my parents never told me to do anything I don't want to do.

- Holly Xiong, La Crosse

I'm responding to the "Are you dating an older guy?" article. I'm so sick of girls making bad choices and blaming other people for it. Notice that Wendy was 16 and her husband was 18 when they got married. They were both stupid kids making bad choices and disregarding their parents' loving words of wisdom. What does an 18 year old boy barely out of high school know about starting and raising a family? When you said older guy, I thought you meant a 15-18 year old girl marrying a 20+ year old guy. I'm not saying that this is right but if she did marry someone older who's educated and employed, her life would've been different from marrying an 18 year old. My point is, whether you're a guy or girl, if you're 18 and under you're still a kid and too young to know what you really want in life. That's why there are an increased divorce rate in the living community today. Most people I know who married young end up divorcing. Of course, there are few who are actually successful.

- Mai Xiong, Madison

UWP

WHAT COLLEGE SHOULD BE!

WHAT UWP HAS TO OFFER:

- Excellent educational programs
- Outstanding faculty
- Involvement opportunities
- Beautiful campus
- Supportive community

PIONEER PREVIEW VISIT DATES:

November 8, 2003 Saturday
January 30, 2004 Friday
February 21, 2004 Saturday
March 26, 2004 Friday
October 28, 2004 Thursday
October 29, 2004 Friday
November 15, 2004 Saturday

Let's find out how UWP can help you!
UWPLATT Division Administration

Call to Schedule a Visit UWP Today!
877.UWPLATT (877.897.5288)

WWW.UWPLATT.EDU

WE ARE HMONG

The Hmong are a minority ethnic group that live primarily in China and Southeast Asia. Between 100,000 to 600,000 Hmong live in Southeast Asian countries, such as Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and Myanmar. Another approximately 8 million Hmong live in the southern provinces of China. Since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975, Hmong refugees from Southeast Asia have settled in Australia, France, Canada, and the United States. The United States has the largest Hmong refugee community, with a population of more than 110,000.*

The word Hmong, which means "man" in the Hmong language, is the name used by the Hmong people themselves. The Hmong are known in China as Miao and in Southeast Asia as Miao. Many Hmong dislike these terms, which they translate to mean "barbarian." During the Vietnam War, some Hmong began translating the name Hmong as "free man" to express their desire for political independence.

LANGUAGE

Hmong in all parts of the world share a common local language. Each spoken syllable has a pitch, similar to a musical note, which indicates the meaning of the word. The Hmong language contains seven tones. In written form, the last letter of a word is not pronounced, but indicates the tone. For example, the syllable *mi* can be pronounced in different tones to produce a variety of words, such as *mi* (sweet), *mi* (noodle), *mi* (woman's breast), and *mi* (cat). European and American missionaries developed a written form of the Hmong language in the mid-1900s. Many variations of the Hmong language have developed in widely separated local communities.

SUBGROUPS AND CLANS

Within Hmong society, subgroups speak slightly different versions of the Hmong language. The largest subgroups are White Hmong, Red Hmong, Black or Green Hmong, and Striped Hmong. A traditional Hmong story tells how these subgroups originated from a strategy devised by a Chinese emperor to divide the Hmong people. The emperor ordered Hmong villages to adopt different styles of dress, hoping that over time they would begin to think of themselves as different peoples. Although the Hmong never lost their shared cultural identity, subgroups did develop small differences in language and in customs, such as weddings and funeral

*Current figures show about 305,000 Hmong in the United States.



White Hmong Costume



Striped Hmong Costume



Green Hmong Costume

ceremonies.

Today the women of each subgroup wear distinctive traditional clothing. White Hmong women wear plain, white skirts. The skirts of blue or green Hmong women are highly decorated with needlework. Striped Hmong women wear skirts with blue and black stripes encircling their long sleeves. Differences in men's clothing are less notable. The traditional Hmong men's costume consists of a black tunic and black wide-legged trousers. However, many Hmong men have now adopted Western clothing styles. Prior to the 20th century, Asian Hmong women made most of the clothing for their families from hemp. They made their own dyes from vegetables and other plants and learned numerous needlework techniques to create paj ntaub (flower cloth).

Clans, which consist of extended family members, also play an important role in Hmong society. Hmong custom forbids members of the same clan from marrying each other. A Hmong bride joins the clan of her husband. Marriage is seen as the union of two families, and clan leaders usually negotiate marriage contracts between the families.

SPIRITUALITY

Hmong spiritual beliefs combine ancestor worship and animism, the belief that all things have spirits. Hmong women decorate clothes with embroidered symbols and patterns to attract friendly spirits and ward off unfriendly ones. Shamans serve as spiritual advisors and healers. They erect altars in homes and place shrines in fields and along trails. Shamans also perform ceremonies and prescribe remedies for some illnesses, which are thought to be caused by evil spirits.

In the early 1900s, Christian missionaries began visiting Hmong villages throughout China and Southeast Asia. Although they studied Hmong culture and developed the written form of the Hmong language, these missionaries made few converts. However, since the Vietnam War, a substantial number of Hmong living in refugee camps and the United States have converted to Christianity.

FAMILY FARMS

In China and Southeast Asia, Hmong practice swidden agriculture, a farming method that involves cutting and burning a forested area to clear fields for crops. Hmong farmers plant rice, corn, cucumbers, melons, yams, eggplant, onions, beans, sugarcane, and various herbs and spices. Men and boys hunt to bring in extra food. Village blacksmiths make all the necessary tools.

HISTORY

Most scholars believe the Hmong migrated to southeastern China from central Asia approximately 5000 years ago. In the

early 1800s, thousands of Hmong left China and settled high in the mountains of Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar (Burma), and Thailand. In 1893 many of these Hmong settlements were incorporated into French Indochina, a French colony encompassing Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. With French encouragement, many Hmong turned to opium cultivation during World War II (1939-1945). When Japan invaded French Indochina in 1940, Hmong militias, under the leadership of Tobey Fong, sided with the French. After the Japanese surrender in 1945, the Viet Minh, a Vietnamese nationalist group, resisted the restoration of French rule in Vietnam. Some Hmong sided with the French and others joined the nationalist forces. On May 8, 1954, the Viet Minh overwhelmed the French army in the Battle of Dien Bien Phu.

Following the French defeat, negotiations held in Geneva, Switzerland, resulted in the division of Vietnam into northern and southern zones. The United States gradually entered the conflict as allies of the new South Vietnamese government. In North Vietnam, the Viet Minh set up a Communist regime and attempted to reunify the country. As the Vietnam War erupted and spread into neighboring Laos, agents of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) recruited Hmong to fight against the Communists. Under the leadership of Vang Pao, a Hmong officer in the Lao military, the Hmong waged guerrilla warfare against the Communists in Laos and Vietnam from 1961 to 1975. Hmong soldiers monitored and attacked enemy supply lines, rescued downed American pilots, and ambushed Communist soldiers. They also guarded radar installations in northern Laos used to guide American bombers over Laos and North Vietnam. At the war's peak, Vang Pao commanded a force of nearly 30,000 men. The whole operation remained secret because it violated an agreement guaranteeing the neutrality of Laos that was signed by the United States and 13 other countries in 1961. In 1975 the United States withdrew its forces from all of Southeast Asia. Hundreds of thousands of Hmong, fearing revenge from the victorious Communist governments of Vietnam and Laos, fled to Thailand. There, Hmong families crowded into crude refugee camps, often without adequate supplies of food and water. Although the United Nations (UN) and international relief agencies brought supplies and services to the camps, many refugees died from disease in the first few years.

HONG IN THE UNITED STATES

Between 1975 and 1994, more than 110,000 Hmong refugees resettled in the United States. Churches, nonprofit agencies, and families in at least 32 states sponsored refugees. Sponsors oriented the Hmong to their new communities, helped them to find

homes, and provided financial assistance. The U.S. Department of State tried to spread the refugees out across the country to minimize the impact on any one region. However, once within the United States, Hmong families relocated to reunite their families and clans. The largest Hmong-American populations now reside in California, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, because Hmong tend to have large families, these communities have grown rapidly. Hmong families have faced considerable challenges in adapting to American life. Lack of English language fluency, education, and job skills have forced many to rely on public assistance. Some have successfully started small businesses, such as grocery stores and restaurants. Hmong women have earned money selling their colorful needlework. Many young Hmong Americans, raised in the United States, have enjoyed greater success in the job market than their immigrant parents.

Like other immigrant groups, the Hmong have formed self-help associations in their communities. Lao Family Community, Inc. and Hmong Mutual Assistance Associations help new arrivals make the transition in American life. They offer translation and interpretation

services, language and cultural orientation classes, food pantries, and housing and employment programs. These organizations also serve as community centers, offering opportunities for the surrounding non-Hmong population to learn about the Hmong. They offer frequent workshops and sponsor annual New Year festivals that are open to the general public. ♦

*Text Contributed By: Timothy M. Pfaff
Photos provided by Galen R. Freylinger*



Green Hmong Costume



Green Hmong Costume



Vietnamese Hmong Costume



White Hmong Costume

It all started at Fox Valley Technical College...

"I feel comfortable at Fox Valley Tech. Diversity is encouraged and emphasized, and people of all ages, races and educational backgrounds are welcomed. FVTC is great because it's close to home, it's diverse and tuition is affordable. There are also so many available scholarships and the teachers and staff are very knowledgeable."

Dr. Lu Anna

2004 FVTC Administrator/Student Union
Administrative Assistant, Minority Resource Center
Fox Valley Technical College



1-800-735-FVTC

www.fvtc.edu

Appleton • Chilton • Clintonville • Neenah
Oshkosh • Waupesa • Wausau

President Bush Signs Historic Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003



"Our nation has made a promise, a solemn promise to America's seniors. We have pledged to help our citizens find affordable medical care in the later years of life. Lyndon Johnson established that commitment by signing the Medicare Act of 1965. And today, by reforming and modernizing this vital program, we are honoring the commitment of Medicare to all our seniors."

President George W. Bush, December 8, 2003

December 8, 2003: President Bush Signs Historic Medicare Legislation

President Bush today joined a bipartisan group of lawmakers to sign into law the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003. This historic legislation will help to create a modern Medicare system, allow for the biggest improvements in senior health care in nearly 40 years, and provide seniors with prescription drug benefits and more choices in health care.

President Bush applauded Congress for keeping our promise to America's seniors by giving seniors more choices, better benefits - including prescription drug coverage - and real savings.

Prescription Drug Savings for America's Seniors

For the first time in the history of Medicare, a prescription drug benefit will be offered to all 40 million seniors and disabled Americans in Medicare to help them afford the cost of their medicines.

- Seniors will start seeing help quickly. Beginning next year seniors will save 10-25% off the cost of most medicines through a Medicare-approved drug discount card which they can use at their local pharmacy. Since the typical senior spends \$1,285 annually on his or her medicines, the card could save a senior who lacks drug coverage as much as \$500 annually. The drug card will provide savings until the full drug benefit goes into effect.

- Beginning in 2006, seniors without coverage will be able to join a Medicare

approved plan that will cut their yearly drug costs roughly in half, in exchange for a \$35 monthly premium. In many cases, the savings will be even greater.

- Seniors with no drug coverage and monthly drug costs of \$200 will save more than \$1,700 on drug costs each year.
- Seniors with no drug coverage and monthly drug costs of \$800 will save nearly \$5,900 on drug costs each year.
- Seniors will be protected against high out-of-pocket costs with Medicare covering 95% of drug costs over \$3,600 per year.
- Low-income seniors will receive additional help paying for their medicines.
 - A \$690 annual subsidy will be added to their drug discount card.
 - There will be no additional premium, no deductible and low co-payments (\$2 for generic or \$5 for brand-name drugs) for seniors with limited savings and incomes at or below 135% of poverty (individuals with yearly incomes under \$12,125 and senior couples under \$16,362).
 - There will be reduced premium, a \$50 deductible, and 15% co-insurance (85% of their drug costs would be covered) for seniors with limited savings and incomes between 135% and 150% of the federal poverty level (individuals with yearly incomes under \$15,470 and senior couples under \$18,180).
- All seniors will save from steps to bring safe, lower cost generic drugs to market

sooner. President Bush took steps earlier this year to bring generic versions of drugs to market sooner, and this legislation will strengthen those efforts that are estimated to save American consumers about \$15 billion over the next 10 years.

More Choices—Better Benefits—And the Choice to Stay with the Coverage You Have Today

In addition to providing coverage for prescription drugs, this legislation achieves a second great goal - giving seniors more health care choices so they can get the coverage they deserve.

America's seniors will have more choices—including the same kinds of choices that members of Congress and other federal employees enjoy today. Seniors will be able to choose the health care plan that best fits their needs—instead of having that choice made for them by the government.

- Seniors can choose to stay in traditional Medicare and still get prescription drug coverage. Or they can choose a new Medicare-approved private plan where the drug benefit is integrated into broader medical coverage, including disease management programs and protections against high out-of-pocket medical spending. Or seniors who like the lower cost sharing and extra benefits often available in managed care plans will be able to make that choice as well.
- Under a modernized Medicare, there will be better coverage for preventive care (e.g. a "welcome to Medicare" physical that would include screening for cancer, diabetes, and heart disease, as well as immunizations against pneumonia and the flu).
- All Americans can benefit from

provisions in the bill that will remove excessive restrictions on health savings accounts, which will give individuals more control over the costs of their health care and give them access to coverage that is affordable, flexible and portable.

Reforms to Strengthen and Modernize Medicare

Private health plans will compete for seniors' business by providing better coverage at affordable prices—helping to control the costs of Medicare by using market-place competition, not government price-setting.

Private sector competition will result in more innovation and flexibility in coverage. This will be a significant improvement over the way benefits are provided in Medicare today—where politicians and bureaucrats, rather than health care markets, decide what is covered and what is paid.

Private employers will receive incentives to continue to provide drug coverage to their retirees.

For the first time ever, the legislation will require the Medicare Trustees to analyze the combined fiscal status of the Medicare Trust Funds and warn Congress and the President when Medicare's general fund solvency exceeds 45 percent. This new fiscal safeguard will put the program on a stronger financial foundation by alerting future congresses and Presidents when Medicare's dedicated revenues fall below adequate levels.

What They're Saying about Medicare Legislation

"AARP supported this legislation for one reason and one reason only - it will provide important prescription drug coverage and financial relief for millions of current and future Medicare beneficiaries. Though certainly not perfect, the bill represents an historic breakthrough after years of partisan gridlock in Congress and an important milestone in the nation's commitment to strengthen and expand health security for older Americans and their families." (AARP, "Why AARP Said 'Yes' To Medicare Prescription Drug Bill," Press Release, 12/1/03)

"The Senate made history by helping seniors gain access to affordable prescription drugs, while giving hospitals the resources needed to help them keep their promises of care." (American Hospital Association, "Senate Passes Medicare Bill," 11/23/03)

"America's health plans and health insurers applaud the bipartisan work of the House and the Senate, as well as the Administration, in bringing this important goal to the doorstep of reality." (AAPH-RIAA, "Health Insurers Had Senate Passage Of Medicare Prescription Drug Benefits," Press Release, 11/25/03)

"By moving Medicare into the 21st century, present and future Medicare beneficiaries will now have access to prescription medicines and new health care options. Now, in addition to providing financial security when seniors are ill, Medicare is a program that will keep retirees free." (Alliance To Improve Medicare, "Alliance To Improve

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN LA CROSSE

UW-La Crosse offers

- A supportive community
- Marketable programs
- Excellent faculty
- Involvement opportunities
- A beautiful educational environment

Discover the UW-La Crosse through a campus visit! Make an appointment to meet with a counselor and sign up for a campus tour.

Campus tours are offered at 11 a.m. and 2:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the academic year.

To make visit arrangements, contact the Admissions Office at (608) 785-8939 or e-mail at admissions@uwlax.edu



My Mao Xiong
May 2003
Graduate
Master of Science
in Education
College Student
Development and
Administration

Discover your possibilities!

www.uwlax.edu • (608) 785-8939

Kuv yog ib tug kws kho moh (chiropractic) uas muaj peev xwm pab tau cov neeg uas muaj mob nrob qum, caj dab, caj npub, kuv ceg thiab lum thaj chaw ntawv yus lub cov. Kuv tau pab ntawv rau dhu los lawm thiab tej zaum kuv yuav pab tau koj ib yam nkais. Hu tuaj huab no teem sij lawm tuaj neib kuv.

Txiav daim ntawv no nqa nrog koj noaj kuv yuav kuj koj tus mob thiab nrog koj tham nrog koj yam tsis xam nqi rau koj them li.

"Tis kam siv nrog been yam kev los nqi
Taus kam rau cov neeg mob thiab cov thiab



Dr. Robert E. Swenson

**Swenson
Chiropractic S.C.**

954-6465

1414 North Richmond St.
Appleton, WI 54911

Medicare Applauds Lawmakers For Delivering Stronger Medicare To America's Seniors," Press Release, 11/25/03)

"This legislation provides senior citizens and disabled citizens with prescription drug coverage for the first time in the history of Medicare and protects Medicare beneficiaries' access to the physician of their choice. It also helps hardpressed rural providers offer the care their patients need. AMGA strongly supported this legislation and we look forward to

President Bush signing this bill into law." (*American Medical Group Association, "AMGA Applauds Congressional Passage Of Medicare Prescription Drug Legislation," Press Release, 11/25/03*) "The Seniors Coalition is strongly supportive of the Medicare Conference Agreement that will finally provide seniors with a needed prescription drug benefit and provide reform of a Medicare system that was, without President Bush's leadership, headed for economic disaster" (*Seniors Coalition, "The Seniors Coalition*

Statement On The Medicare Conference Report," Press Release, 11/26/03)

"I knew in my heart of hearts that the seniors in my great state are going to be better served by this bill than they are today," Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) said. (*Candlyn Leeband, "Medicare Bill Gives GOP Wind On Doctor Turf," San Francisco Chronicle, 11/26/03*)

Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) "Mark my words, seniors will see that the benefits of this bill are extraordinary." (*Bill Walsh, "Medicare Overboard Passes Senate," [New Orleans] Times-Picayune, 11/26/03*)

"Senate Democrats and Republicans ... put aside party politics to add \$400 billion in prescription drug coverage to Medicare - a single, important vote that will dramatically improve the daily lives of older Americans nationwide," Sen. John Breaux (D-LA) said. "We will finally add prescription drug coverage ... for not only seniors, but the 77 million baby boomers on the verge of retirement." (*Sen. John Breaux, "Breaux Pleds To Clinch Victory When Senate Passes Sweeping Medicare Bill, Adds Prescription Drugs For Seniors," Press Release, 11/25/03*)

Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) "I'm pleased that the Senate took action to pass the prescription drug bill ... because I believe it was the right thing to do for our nation's seniors. They have waited too many years to receive prescription coverage under Medicare - and now we've gotten it done." (*Sen. Blanche Lincoln, "Lincoln Hails Passage Of Medicare Prescription Drug Bill," Press Release, 11/25/03*) ♦

Koj xav tau dab tsi?

Koj yuav nhlav tau ntau yam khoom
pheej yig nyob tim Goodwill.

Ris tsho zoo

Khau

Khoom siv hauv vaj tse

Rooj tog

Khob

Twj taig

Tej nyuag kheeb cav me

Kauj toog npah, qhws ntsej

Tshuaj ntxuav tsev

Ciaj

Txaj chaw

Ntauw

Thiab txuav ntau yam hwen!



Goodwill

Call for the nearest location! 1-800-482-8036

Lus Qhuab Qhia

Txog Credit -Part II:

Koj Tsis Tas Yuav Nqa Nrog Koj Thaum

Koj Tawm Hauv Koj Lub Tsev mus



(Txawv ntxiv ntawm Part I nyob rau hauv phom ntawv December 2003)

Credit Card Yog Kev Xwm Txheej

Txhawv ntuj nqis ntawv xaj xas. Thaum nqa muaj daim credit cards nrog yas lawm, muaj ntawv tus neeg xaj hais tias lawv muaj peev xwm siv nyiaj "tsis puab tag". Thaum sis muaj thab ntawv lawm, nws yuav tau ua ib qhov nuq nqis koj hwev tau peb yuav nqa muaj peev xwm them tau nqis qub. Nws yooj yim hwev tau peb kev siv credit cards, tam sis yuav tau xav txawv tias qhov kev yooj yim no tauq nqis ntawv nqa nqis li cas.

Feem ntawv ntawm ib neeg ceev lawv tus kheej kom lawv kev siv nyiaj (txawv yooj yim, lawv tus nqa ib daim credit card nrog lawv xwb thab ntawv yas yug muaj los siv xwm puav nkawv xwb). Yog hais tias peb muaj peev xwm, peb yuav tau them kom tag cov nuq nqis ntawv ntawv hli. Txhawv cia ntawv xaj xas.

Tsis kam them ntawv daim qhov txawv ntawv ntawv los yug minimum payment. Pib txawv hais tias tus yugv HARRY Shoulder muaj siv credit card yuav ib yam khoora sis rau hwev tsev ruq nqis li ntawv \$2,000 thab mus txawv them li ntawv 2% ntawv hli xwb, nws yuav siv sij lawm li ntawv 94 lub hlis them thiaj li yuav them nqis! Kam tag ntawv ua ke, HARRY tauv ruq them li ntawv \$3,760 rau yam khoora sis mus tau nqis yug \$2,000 mus nws yuav ntawv (qhov nuq ntawv xwb twb yug li \$1,760 lawm). Yog hais tias nws ntawv ruq nyiaj es ua kug ib ntawv them ces nws twb beg tau ntawv lawm hwev tau. Los yog HARRY xam mus yuav ib yam khoora yuav tsev ruq 300 nqis koj yug ib lub tsev xim 300 thab.

... Nws ntawv ntawv ntawv ntawv rau yug siv (Over the credit limit). Muaj ntawv lub credit card companies tseem xam ib tag nqis rau yug them thab ib tag ib neeg tau siv ntawv ntawv qhov lawv pub nws siv lawm,

Pib txawv tias, lawv mus pub ib tag neeg siv li \$500 xwb tam sis nws ib muaj siv ntawv ntawv lawm, lawv yuav rub ib tag nqis li ntawv \$30 ntawv rau nws them rau nws tau siv ntawv ntawv qhov lawv tau hais beg.

lawm. -Them nqis mus lig (Late fees). Ntau lub credit card companies muaj tau cai kom yug them ib qhov ntawv yim yug them mus lig sis nws nws li lub sij lawm lawm them cia. Yog hais tias lawv tau ntawv qhov ntawv tas them mus lig li ib lub lawm, nws yuav tau ruq them li ntawv \$25 los yug \$50 rau qhov ntawv lig no. Feem muaj ntawv qhov ntawv them mus lig no yug li ntawv \$27.

Kev ntawv them paj ntawv ntawv qub (Readily Interest Rates). Qee lub credit card companies yuav sij ntawv txawv kev siv nyiaj txawv ntawv ib tag ib tag neeg. Pib xam hais tias yug lawv poms tias nws muaj daim credit card mus lawm-qhov no ua rau lawv ntawv sib me hais tias nws nws tseem muaj peev xwm them tauv nws yug, thab no lawv nws nws qhov ntawv koj interest sib ntawv qub. Txawv hais tias koj yeej tias tau ntawv ib lub hlis xas tias tas them li los, lawv yug tseem nce qhov paj no qees. Feem ntawv ntawv qhov paj (APR) tas tau hais no yug li ntawv 22.8%.

Tus Nqis xas them ntawv xyo (Annual fee). Qee lub credit card companies hais tas koj thiaj yug ib tag neeg ntawv ntawv neeg yas tau siv lawv daim credit card ntawv xwb, yug koj them rau lawv li ntawv \$50 los yug \$75 ntawv lub xyo. Yog li ua muaj thab koj yuav siv cov credit card no, koj yuav tau ntawv xyo ntawv lub credit card no, koj yuav tau ntawv xyo ntawv lub credit card no, koj yuav tau ntawv xyo ntawv lub credit card no, koj yuav tau ntawv xyo ntawv lub credit card no.

-Them paj ntawv ntawv ntawv (Late fee). Muaj qee lub credit card companies cov hais hais lawv lub credit card companies muaj qhov paj ntawv ntawv ntawv, tam sis ib peb hais xas qub koj siv lawv daim credit card lawm, lawv yuav ntawv ntawv paj ntawv ntawv ntawv. Yuav

tas ua ib ntawv ntawv cov lub ntawv ntawv nws lawv tas rau hais daim ntawv. Lawv hais kom koj them li cas tag? Qhov paj qis tas lawv hais no yuav lawv mus li hwev nws?

Tas ntawv ntawv. Qee lub credit card companies tau ntawv ntawv ntawv ntawv cov hais tias lawv qhov ntawv ntawv ntawv ntawv, tam sis kom qub tias ntawv xwb lawv ntawv ntawv ntawv ntawv ntawv. Muaj qee ntawv lawv hais tias tias muaj ntawv ntawv ntawv xyo los yug annual fee, tam sis lawv ntawv ntawv qees thab.

Koj Yuav Ua Cas Thiaj Tsis Maj Credit Card Rooj Ntxiab

TSC, rau hais tias peb yuav tau siv peb daim credit card kom txawv li ntawv tau. Yog hais tias muaj ntawv ntawv ntawv ntawv ntawv ntawv. Ntau tus neeg yuav ceev li thab khawv xim daim thab lawv siv lawv cov ntawv ntawv thab qhov no yuav ua rau lawv siv ntawv txawv ntawv. Qee ntawv neeg ntawv siv credit card daim thab lawv lawv lawv daim credit card nrog cov ntawv. Cov no nws yuav yug ib lub ntawv yim 300 yug lawv tias thab ntawv credit card neeg lawv.

Tam sis, yug hais tias thab koj siv koj daim credit card lawm, ob peb kab las hais qhov no yuav pub tau koj.

-Them kom tag koj cov ntawv ntawv ntawv.



-Them koj cov ntawv kom ntawv ntawv lawm ntawv ntawv. Nqa ib daim credit card ntawv ntawv.

-Yuav tau ua ib 300

xav saib yam khoom mawd puas yag yam twem ceeb thiaib puas tam nrog yuav yog thaum koj pom mos muag pherj yag law nqj los yog on sale. Xyuas koj qhov kev siv nyiaj txiaj kev mawd puas yuav them tam twi. Yog thaum koj tshabw ib tam khoom twem, muab mos sau cia rau ntawm koj lub tub rees li 50 hauh. Tam qab 50 hauh lawm koj twem xav yuav qeeb thiaib koj sau hais tas them tas tag, mam ib muv yuav los yeeb tas.

-Tas txhob lam sau npe yuav cov credit card tas lawv hais tas koj yuav tas txais li 10% twem ntawm sis nqj yuav koj yuav lawv daim credit card ntawd. Ntau tus neeg lawv sau npe yuav ntawd daim credit cards dho sa rau lawv cov poj nce sibb tsahj koj twi lawm. Vim li cas? Thaum koj muaj peev xwm qiv nyiaj siv ntaw tsahj qub lawm, cov neeg tas qiv nyiaj sau koj ntawd yam tsahaj xeeb tas tam koj tas muaj peev xwm them rau qab koj cov nuj nqj. Ntau daim cards muaj peev xwm ua tsis zoo rau koj kev siv nyiaj txiaj.

-Ua tib zoo sib thiaib ua tib zoo nyem koj daim nqj ua koj lub credit card company xa rau koj. Ua zoo sib seb puas muaj tej qhov nqj xas tsb twem nyuab muab xam rau huab thiaib yuav tam ib mus hais yog pom, tas twem yag ua yuam kev twem. Nyob rau tas ntaw tag los no tau muaj ib

noj phial soob txog ib lub credit card company, tus ua hauj twem sau xyuas phiaj nyiaj txiaj, John D. Hawke, Junior tau hais tas:

Peb cov xas qiv nyiaj siv tas tas yuav yag cov xas tsahaj ntawm cov qhov twem thiaib tej lus xas tau xwm beg cia ntawm daim credit card. Peb yuav tam sis txhob lam tas txais ib tag nqj li ntawm \$165 es hais tas yog ib qhov nqj yuav kev tiv thaiv ntawm peb daim credit los yog credit protection policy tas peb twi tas tau xaam sib yam. Thiaib yag lawv cog lus tas peb yuav tas txais ib qhov bonus thaum peb pum peb cov nuj nqj rau lub company tsahaj twem, peb yuav tam tau txais qhov bonus no tag thiaib lawv yuav tam sis txhob hais tas yuav tam qiv nyiaj li ntawm \$10,000 thiaib yuav tam txas."

Kev rov qab qiv nyiaj them lub tsaw dua thiaib kev siv yus cov nyiaj uas muaj nyob ntawm yus lub vaj lub tsaw lawm (Equity loan)

Vim muaj kev qiv nyiaj ntaw qhov uas lawv muaj paj tsawd muaj hauh mu, mas tus neeg ntawm rov qiv dua nyiaj mas them lawv lub twis los yog muab lawv qhov nyiaj equity ntawm lawv lub tsaw cog los siv kha vaj kho twem, yuav tsheb, siv mus neig teb

chures, los yog them nuj nqes. Peb yuav tam tau ceer faj kom zoo sa ntawd mus qiv cov nyiaj equity loan no. Nws yuav rov siv sij hawm ntawd xoo tam rov muaj dua cov nyiaj equity ntawm yus lub twi no. Qhov nyiaj no yog ib qhov twem ceeb thiaib ntawd muaj kuj heev rau form ntawd twem twem neeg American, vim nws muaj sij nqis tsahj yus cov nyiaj law, stocks, bonds, los yog mutual fund. Tam sis twas muaj ib ntawm 40 seem pum ntawm cov neeg thiaib li no tsahj twem, qhov twem ceeb ntawm lawv qhov hawm equity xwb.

Muaj kev kev tau rau lawv cov nyiaj home equity ntawm lawv cov twis los siv, lawv twem yuav poob nyiaj rau tas neeg ua ntawd ntawd los yog tas neeg mortgage broker thiaib tas tag li ntawd, lawv yuav tsahaj nuj nqes mas thiaib qub twem. Vim tau kev kev twis tas tag tag tej nqj no cov lawv sis tsahaj xyuas sau qhov twi thiaib yog qhov zoo tsahj rau lawv.

-Xav siv sij hawm ntawd ntawm li cas koj thiaib muaj qhov nyiaj equity ntawm koj lub twi?

-Yog koj lub nuj nqes mas tsahj qub, yuav ntawd ntawm li cas thiaib yuav them tag tej nuj nqj no thiaib koj thiaib yuav rov muaj qhov nyiaj equity rau koj lub twi dua?

-Pam muaj twem tau kev zoo dua, los yog pteed yag dua mas qiv pob nyiaj no?

-Ua li ho sis txhob qiv pob nyiaj no kuaj ne puas tau?

Nws puas twi nyog uas rub nqj ntawd mas koj lub twi thiaib yuav ua ntawd xoo twem koj cov nuj nqes uas koj siv yuav tej khoom siv xaw li khaub ntawd, los yog cov khoom siv uas tas ntawd xwb ces twi piam tag ua ntawd them tag tej nuj nqes no?

Nyob ntawd ntawd neeg qiv tau nyiaj uas muaj paj los yog interest sib dho ces mus yeej zoo dua yog hais tas rov mas qiv dua ib pob nyiaj uas muaj paj qis los them lub twi ntawd. Tam sis, yuav tau thiam neeg tus neeg uas koj ntawd ua ntawd koj yuav mas qiv pob nyiaj no thiaib yuav tau xaw dua tib zoo ua ntawd koj yuav tau koj cov nyiaj equity ntawm koj lub twi mas siv rau twi yam.

Koj Puas Muaj Kev Txhawj Xeeb Txog Koj Qhov Credit Los Yog Koj Qhov Nu Nqes?

Txi li yoo 1985, FISC tau pob phaw tus ib neeg tas hais cov muaj nyiaj los yog cov twem (paj tas hais muaj kev tsahaj) xeeb twem phaw kev siv nyiaj txiaj. FISC yog ib hui hauj hauj twi Consumer Credit Counseling Agency uas muaj ib xov. Ua tsawd tau tej kev tsahaj twem los ntawm United Way Fox Cities thiaib kev koom nrog Goodwill Industries haw North Central Wisconsin. Koj muaj peev xwm hu tau rau FISC ntawm tus xov twi 800-366-8161, koj yuav tau daim kev pob twem tej kev tsahaj xeeb uas koj muaj yam sis xam nqj rau koj them hais. ♦



KOLOSSO TOYOTA

Kolosso Toyota

"a xav pab peb poj xeeb

Hmoob txog kev yuav tsheb thiaib kev kho tsheb kom tau zoo raws li nej lub siab xav. Vim li ntawd peb thiaib tau muaj ntawd tus Hmoob ua hauj lwm muag tsheb thiaib kho tsheb nyob rau ntawm no. Thaum koj twaj yuav tsheb ntawm Kolosso Toyota lawm, koj yuav tau lub tsheb tsheb los yog lub tsheb qub nrog rau tus nqi xas qis tsahj plaws."

(202) 738-3666

3000 W. Wisconsin Ave.

www.kolassotoyota.com

APPLETON



Hmong Service Technicians

Healthy Balanced Eating

Amy L. Lee, MS, RD, CD. (Masters of Science, Registered Dietitian, Certified Diabetes Educator)
I have been a dietitian for 10 years and work primarily in the hospital setting.



The food guide pyramid is your guide to your daily food choices. By following the portion sizes on the food pyramid, you will be able to stay healthy, lose weight, and avoid getting diabetes, high blood pressure or prevent having a heart attack.

Starchy Foods (bottom of pyramid)

- Includes breads, cereals, rice, pasta, crackers.
- Look for whole grain products like whole wheat bread and brown rice for a change.
- Try to eat moderate amounts of rice at meals. One serving is only 1/3 cup.

Fruits and Vegetables

- Whole fruits and vegetables are healthier than juices. They provide fiber, which help you to stay full—not hungry—and help you lose weight.
- Eat a variety of fruits and vegetable, examples: oranges, apples, peaches, bananas, grapes, mangoes, eggplant, pumpkin, squash, mustard greens, bok choy, Chinese broccoli, Thai chili peppers.
- Reduce the amount of oil you add to your vegetables during cooking.



Meats

- Remove the fat and skin from meat. It is not recommended to eat this fat because it is not healthy for your heart.
- Eat only small servings of meat. A serving size is the size of your hand—without the fingers. You should have no more than 2-3 servings of meat a day. Eggs are included in the meat group.
- Buy fresh tofu that has been made with calcium sulfate. Look for these words on the package. This means that the tofu has added calcium which is good for your bones.

Milk

- Buy fat free or low-fat (reduced fat) milk.
- If milk gives you a stomach ache, drink less than 1 cup of milk at a time.

Fats

- Eat smaller amounts of fat like butter, lard, shortening, oil, margarine, dressings and meat fat.
- Look for lower fat products in the grocery store.

Remember to eat your meals and snacks at regular times everyday. Eat about the same amount of food everyday. Try not to skip meals. If you are trying to lose weight, cut down on your portion sizes. ♦



The Truth About the Hmong Cultural Center Project in Milwaukee

By Xiong Xiong, information provided by Hmong Consortium

The Hmong Consortium, which consists of the five (5) Hmong service agencies in Milwaukee, has been working together for almost a year now to create and build a Hmong Cultural Center to supersede the Hmong community of Wisconsin. Other goals include: to help educate and inform the non-Hmong community about Hmong culture and people.

The Hmong Cultural Center in Milwaukee was understood to be an original idea brought about by Lao Family, Charles Yang, Chai Siah and a handful of people. Very few others in the community were even aware of the project until mainstream media got a hold of it. A bill to build the center was included in the state budget, which was vetoed by Governor Jim Doyle. There were many questions with no answers.

Here is the truth and truthful information about the project today:

• **Untruth:** Nao Sreua Xiong declaring \$5 million dollars had been approved by the state to build the Hmong Cultural Center is not true. In fact, the bill proposed by Lao Family has been vetoed twice.

Truth: The state has not approved any figures as of yet. However, a representative from Governor Doyle's office is working with the Hmong Consortium to hammer out the details. The Hmong Consortium, as it stands today, does not have the cooperation of Lao Family. The Hmong Consortium has offered repeatedly for Lao Family to continue to work

with them to assure the building of the center but Lao Family has refused to cooperate unless the consortium turns over complete control of the planning process, building process and governing process to Lao Family once built.

• **Untruth:** According to Lo Neng (Executive Director of Hmong American Friendship Association) and Chien Xiong (Executive Director of Hmong American Women Association), certain people have been spreading untruthful information, saying that The Hmong Consortium is made up of people who sleep with their employees, people who will cheat and steal, people who want to take the Center away from the rightful constituents of the center...the Hmong people.

Truth: There are five Hmong organizations represented in the Hmong Consortium. Four (Hmong American Women Association, Hmong American Friendship Association, Hmong Educational Advancements and Street View Community) are in agreement to move forward with plans for a Hmong Cultural Center that will benefit the Hmong community, as it was originally set out to be. A Board of directors would oversee the center with an executive director who will be open minded and will have the knowledge and expertise to make the center a success for all. Lao Family, on the other hand, wants to be the sole owner and operator of the Hmong Cultural Center. This is the disagreement between Lao Family and the

rest of the Hmong Consortium and it is the truth.

• **Untruth:** Unidentified individuals written an "unsigned" letter to the Hmong community naming Charles Yang, Jeff Yang, Chien Xiong and the rest of the Hmong Consortium as people who sleep with their employees and women who sleep with their co-workers. The letter further falsely accused these individuals of being evil and of being bad people. Yet it is unsigned.

Truth: People should not fear the truth. If these accusations are true, why should the author be so afraid to sign his name or even come forward? The truth is Charles Yang, Jeff Yang, Chien Xiong and the rest of the Hmong Consortium are progressive Hmong leaders who want what is best for Hmong people. That is why they are fighting to have the Hmong Cultural Center be built and be run by a board made up of representatives from the Hmong community and the community as a whole. This will ensure the center is not controlled and dominated by one person or organization.

A draft timeline of the project regarding moving forward with the consortium has been put in place. The Hmong Consortium is continuing to work with the state and its building commission office to hopefully start breaking ground in 2005. The Hmong Consortium welcomes all suggestions and input from all Hmong people and will start holding regular community meetings to keep people informed of the center's progress. ♦

The Difference Between Credit Unions and Banks by 6/02

When you walk into a financial institution lobby or call a loan officer, what makes a credit union different from a bank isn't immediately apparent. The two financial institutions may offer similar products and services, but there the similarities stop. Crucial differences exist in ownership, in cost of borrowing money, and in use of services.

• If you are a member of a credit union, you own your credit union. Credit unions are member-owned nonprofit financial cooperatives dedicated to improving members' lives. More than 80 million members own 10,500 U.S. credit unions with combined assets of \$450 billion. Stockholders own banks (with combined assets of \$6.2 trillion). Banks make money for stockholders, not for customers.

• Credit unions are the only democratically controlled financial institutions in the United States. You and other members elect a volunteer board of directors to oversee the credit union. The manager or president/chief executive officer reports to this board. Bank directors, however, are paid and are legally bound to make decisions that benefit

stockholders, not customers.

• Credit unions have the best deposit rates. Credit unions price loans, pay interest on funds you've deposited, and charge fees to provide you with high-quality, low-cost services. Banks price products and services to make a profit. You earn more on your savings—in some cases up to one percentage point at a credit union.

• Credit union loan rates also are better. The average credit-union interest rate is four percentage points better at credit unions vs. banks. And credit union auto loans average almost one and one-half percentage points less than banks' auto loan rates. Credit unions make consumer loans and some member business loans. Banks offer consumer loans but really emphasize business loans.

• Credit unions educate members about money matters. They provide publications such as newsletters to keep you advised of rates, loan rules, and financial trends that affect you. Credit unions stress education, providing materials and holding seminars on

financial planning, car and home buying to help you make informed buying decisions. Many banks simply advertise their rates and sell their services.

Because you're an owner of a credit union, you have a say in how credit unions do business. Let us know how you think we're doing, and what services you want at your credit union. ♦

Article provided by For Communities Credit Union. Copyright 2002 Credit Union National Association Inc. Information subject to change without notice. For use only by members of a single credit union. All other rights reserved.



SOMETHING TO *Think About*

Leadership That Frees

by Os Hillman

Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. - 1 Peter 3:1-2

"I am having a real problem with something that I need input from you guys," said the lady in our fellowship group. "My husband wants to make a major purchase that I am opposed to. We cannot afford it right now. I understand what the Bible says about headship in the home, but what do I do when I totally disagree with his decision?" The men at the group looked at each other, realizing the sensitive nature of such a question, especially in today's society.

Then someone said, "You really only have a few options if you adhere to the principle that God has entrusted the man as the leader in the home. God has placed you under the umbrella of his protection as well as your husband. There are times when he will not make the right decision. Does that mean God is not protecting you?" No. There may be several things working here. God may be testing your own obedience to this principle. He may use you to open up your husband's spiritual life due to your obedience and submissive spirit. Your obedience may cost your family something, but it will be beneficial in the long term. Your alternative is to rebel and pay him back for his decision by withholding your love from him, which is often what a wife does in this situation. It becomes a vicious circle of paybacks. My suggestion is to tell your husband how you feel about his decision and the impact you feel it will have on you and your family. If he still wants to make the purchase, you might let him duct it and support him. What happens next will rest in God's hand as your intimate protector."

A few weeks later our sister in Christ came to our meeting. "I have some wonderful news. We did make the purchase. However, we were able to make it in such a way that we did not go into debt and I was able to support my husband. I have already seen a change in his attitude towards me and for the first time I reported to him in this. It has been a real blessing for me. I see him much more open to spiritual things since I made this decision and supported him even though I disagreed with it."

God has made men and women equal in His sight. Yet He has given each a different role to play in marriage. Husbands must answer to God for their leadership in the home. They will be judged for that leadership. When a wife submits to that leadership, God protects her from wrong decisions of that husband, although sometimes it may not appear that way at first.

You can trust God to protect you in your decisions that are made in obedience to His Word.

The one who calls you is faithful and He will do it (1 Thessalonians 5:24) ♦



When I ride the bus...

It means I don't have to worry about driving. It means I don't have to wait for someone to drive me anywhere. The bus is safe and it's cheap! It's like my very own limousine service...with a little more room of course.

Safe, Reliable & Convenient

For more information call

920-832-5800

www.appleton.org/vt
801 Whitman Avenue,
Appleton, WI 54914

* Riders over age 65 ride at just \$66 a trip when they show valid ID.

25¢ ride on the 25th of every month in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Valley Transit!



Lao Evangelical Church

Phu nang hien nang lao mau tau Vajrasray Traj nang lao
apple ton
3809 W. Anderson Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53206

Phu nang lao nang Vajrasray Traj 2 - 4 there eban eban tau Sunday.
Naj lej eng nang tau nang phu nang lao nang Vajrasray phu nang lao
tau nang tau nang lej tau nang.

Yakapuan 3:58

XI Nao Tai Xiong

Pres. Dr. Mounou Nounounouan

(414) 355-8737

(414) 383-1419



www.appletonalliance.org

2693 W. Grand Chute Blvd.
Appleton, WI 54913

Call or go online for
service times and directions.

920-968-0700

Senior Pastor, Dennis Episcopo
Come visit us in our new facility
at Hwy. 41 & Lyrindale.

"Hmong Refugees In Thailand Will Be Offered Resettlement in the U.S."

Washington, DC - After years of uncertainty, Hmong refugees in Thailand, primarily at Wat Thamkrabok, will have an opportunity to seek resettlement in the United States. The Department of State announced that it will begin providing information about this to Hmong refugees in January 2004, and begin registration in February 2004.

The Hmong are known for their close relationship with the U.S., serving as paramilitary soldiers in Special Guerrilla Units with the CIA during the Vietnam War. After the war, the communist Pathet Lao sought to obliterate the Hmong, and thousands fled to find refuge in Thailand.

Though refugee resettlement was an option before the last refugee camps closed, some Hmong chose to remain in Thailand hoping to become legal permanent residents there, or to return to Laos once it was safe. The reality, though, has not worked out well for this group. Virtually none have been able to obtain legal status in Thailand, and because of their ties during the

war, many feel unsafe to return to Laos. Given the situation, many have concluded that the only hope for their future and the future of their children is to come to America.

"We are grateful to the United States for continuing its longstanding commitment to protecting refugees. We urge that the process starts as soon as possible, so that the refugees can take advantage of the unfilled refugee quota set by the President for this fiscal year," states Bo Thao, Executive Director of Hmong National Development.

HND recommends that resettlement include the following strategies:

- Community-wide Education and Communications - Hmong refugees in Thailand, as well as Hmong Americans, should be made thoroughly aware of the resettlement process. Transparency in the process will clarify confusion about qualifications, and ensure that Hmong Americans are prepared to assist new Hmong refugee families quickly integrate into American society.

- Translation and Language Comprehension - Hmong Americans should be involved in the resettlement process. HND strongly urges that Hmong American personnel are hired, so that they can communicate the facts, and provide accurate communications between individuals and institutions to make the process efficient and effective.

- Work with Existing Hmong Mutual Assistance Associations (MAAs) - Community-based organizations that serve primarily Hmong refugees already exist all over the United States. These organizations have expertise and infrastructure in place to work with the incoming Hmong refugees, and should be part of the integration strategy. ♦

Introducing the NEW 2004 TOYOTA...



NEW for '04 4Runner
Available 3rd Row Seat

4Runner Starting at \$29,999



Sienna Starting at \$23,999

TOYOTA

"Call me for the best deal on a new or used Toyota."

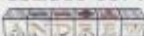


Oua Vang

"*Hu rau kuv yog koj xav tau tus nqi zoo tshej plawv nruam lub tshab Toyota tshab lus yog tshab Toyota qub.*"

Andrew Toyota
1550 N. Silver Spring Dr.
Milwaukee

888/300-0674



Hmong National Development, Inc. (HND) works locally and nationally with private and public entities, as well as individuals to promote educational opportunities, to increase community capacity, and to develop resources for the well-being, growth, and full participation of the community. HND is also a resource, providing information about the status and concerns of Hmong Americans.



Employment



Explore Your Career Possibilities at North Shore Bank

Loyal, committed employees are the strength of our organization. We invite you to join our team and see the "North of Expected" opportunities we have to offer. Bilingual candidates welcome. Apply in-line at www.northshorebank.com or call (920) 491-4204 for more information.

NORTH SHORE BANK
North of Expected®

Fox Communities Credit Union

FOCU is a very successful credit union with 7 locations. We currently have openings in our various departments and locations. Positions may open from time to time on our teller lines, the loan department, administrative offices, etc. Cash handling and sales experience is always a plus for our teller position. Apply in person or send a resume to:

Fox Communities C.U.
Attn: Human Resources
3400 E. Calumet Street
Arlington, WI 54915
Equal Opportunity Employer

Success Is Waiting. Are You Ready?

You can take charge of your career, and State Farm can help. Explore becoming a "Good Neighbor" Agent. This is an entrepreneurial opportunity. Call Renata Hansbrough, State Farm Agency Recruiter, 1849 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212, (414)267-8029.

2010 NEW YEAR

U.S. Bank has open positions in: customer service, loan documentation, data entry, and backoffice.

Qualified applicants must have: clerical experience, customer service, and computer skills. Pleasant working is preferred, but not required. Benefits include medical and dental, 401k, vacation, 408a, and more!

Check out our website and apply online, or fax your resume, or stop in to fill out an application. Two locations in Oakbrook 1824 Oakbrook Park and 400 City Center. Fax: 309-426-7446. Call today: (800)24-0444

U.S. Bank is an equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

usbank
Member FDIC

Tired of Moving Around?

Where would like to be in five years? Karsa Ford Mercury is a career free President's Award Winner. We are very proud of the outstanding income potential our employees achieve. We are looking for career minded people who want longevity. We are not afraid to pay if you are not afraid to stay.

In the first year, you would earn up to \$40,000 or more. We provide a health plan, 401k and paid vacation.

For a confidential interview, call: 800 Karsa 320-623-5222

Karsa
FORD • MERCURY
EOE

AUTOMOTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Bergeson Automotive is looking for people who like cars and like to have fun at work. Here is your opportunity to join the largest automotive retailer in Wisconsin. We currently have openings in the following areas: Sales Consultant, Sales Manager, Parts Counter, Body Shop Technician, Service Technicians, Express Lube Technicians. As a part of the Bergeson team you enjoy excellent working wages, generous health and dental insurance. Retirement plan after 90 days. Some of the car equipment. An acceptable driving record and valid license are required. If you are looking a challenging opportunity with a dynamic and growing industry, please call or send your resume to:

Bergeson Automotive
One Plaza Drive
P.O. Box 348
Neenah, WI 54957
Fax: 920-725-0145
Email: www@bergesonauto.com
Visit our on the internet at: www.bergeson.com EOE M/F/H/V



People Creating A World-Class Energy Company

WPS Resources is an exciting energy corporation that provides customers with the best value in energy and related services to much of Wisconsin, Upper Michigan and beyond.

As WPS Resources diversity creates an energy all its own. We're about people power - the strength and dynamics of a team combining a wide spectrum of perspectives, backgrounds, life experiences and interests.

www.wpsr.com

WPS Resources is an equal opportunity employer - women and minorities are encouraged to apply.



WPS Resources Corporation

Success Is Waiting. Are You Ready?

You can take charge of your career, and State Farm can help. Explore becoming a "Good Neighbor" Agent. This is an entrepreneurial opportunity. Call Renata Hansbrough, State Farm Agency Recruiter, 1849 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212, (414)267-8029.

You Deserve More Than Just The Best Price.

- LIFEGUARD Lifetime Powertrain Guarantee
- Free Weekly Car Washes
- \$9.95 Oil Changes Forever
- Free Winterizing Service
- Free Yearly Safety and Brake Inspection



- Complete Service History on File For Your Convenience
- Free Shuttle/Loaner Vehicle
- Low Cost Rental
- 10% Discount on Parts and Accessories Included With Every New Vehicle

1700 Bus. Hwy 51 Exit 194 Wausau 675-7775
www.rosemurgyautomall.com
www.rosemurgyrewards.com



Toyota • Mitsubishi • Jeep • Hyundai • Isuzu • Mercedes-Benz

