Trip to German Village in MI

In 1845, Reverend August Craemer, a Lutheran minister, accompanied by fifteen German citizens, founded Frankenmuth, Michigan in southeastern Saginaw County. The small band of settlers came to the area from Neuendettelsau, Germany to evangelize to the Native Americans. The first structure built was a church, and the second a school. Seven years after their arrival, the people of Frankenmuth built eighty cabins and farmhouses. On January 14, 1904 the village of Frankenmuth came into existence. The city's status became effective on October 1, 1959 after a vote from the people approved the measure.

Intended as a missionary settlement, Frankenmuth was named after Franconia, a region in Bavaria, and "muth," a German word meaning "courage." Frankenmuth has become known as the Christmas capital of the world, featuring unique shops, restaurants and resorts that keep the Christmas spirit alive throughout the entire year. It includes a covered bridge, an old mill, and several famous inns, which feature old-fashioned chicken dinners, German-style. It is also known for many festivals held year-round - the Summerfest in August, the Autofest each September, and of course, the annual Oktoberfest. During the Christmas season, the whole town is lit up at night. That is worth the trip itself! Come and join the three million people who visit Frankenmuth annually, and experience a large part of Michigan's cultural heritage for yourself!

To get to Frankenmuth from Livonia, take I-75 North to exit 136 at Birch Run and make a right hand turn onto Birch Run Road. After three miles, make a left at the stop light onto M-83, which becomes Main Street in Frankenmuth after five miles.

Written by Jung-Won Lee

Welcome to Library

The interviewee of the month is Helene Quattro, who has worked at Madonna University's library for eleven years.

Ms. Quattro loves working in the library. She said, "I have two grandchildren. Students working in the library are like extension of my family. I know some international students feel homesick once in a while. I hope they feel free to come and talk to me whenever they need help." Ms. Quattro provides students with useful information about the library that students may not be aware of. She encourages students to seek assistance when needed. She said, "We are here to help you and happy to answer questions. It is not a problem for you to ask question."

According to Ms. Quattro, the Madonna library has an audio-visual room. If a student misses a video showing in class, they are welcome to view it in the library. Students can also watch videos that are available in the library.

Ms. Quattro also recommends that students reserve a conference room in the library when they need a quiet place to study. She welcomes students to use the library as often as possible. "We enjoy talking to students and want them to feel comfortable at the library. You are here to learn and we are here to help you," said Ms. Quattro.

We are very fortunate to have such a good librarian like Ms. Quattro at Madonna University.

Written by Sun-Jung Lee

The U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Service

F-1 Student Regulation Information

A student may be out of status, if:

1. The student is enrolled less than full time and does not have a waiver from the International Office.
2. The student does not complete the transfer process.
3. The student enters the U.S. on another school's I-20 but did not attend that school.
4. The student is issued an I-515 upon entry but does not send the required documents to Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Service (BCIS).
5. The Student does not have a valid reason for extending his completion date beyond that written on the I-20.
6. The student does not apply for an extension in time.

A student will need to apply for reinstatement to F-1 status if he/she is out of status.

See International Students Office for detailed information or visit the USCIS Office's website www.uscis.gov

Compiled by Yoon-Kyung Kim
Apples have been an American symbol for good nutrition and the topic of stories in literature over the years. One of the most popular is the legendary character Johnny Appleseed, who was also known as John Chapman. Apple picking is a popular American tradition where family and friends get together and travel to the orchard to pick apples from various types of apple trees. Besides apple picking, there are other enjoyable activities such as riding a wagon pulled by horses to view the beautiful scenery. While doing so, you can enjoy fresh, homemade, hot apple cider and fried apple crisp donuts. After picking the apples, families bring them home by the bushel and make a pie, applesauce, or even try bobbing for apples. It is a fresh and pleasant experience, so contact your host family and enjoy something perfect for the fall season.

Written by Natalja Tinina

International Student of the Month

This month’s international student is Joanna Smandz, from southern Poland. She has been in the U.S on a scholarship studying international business since December 2002, and has about two more semesters left until she finishes.

She decided on this area of study because she has always been attracted to different cultures and languages, and she chose the program offered by Madonna University because it looked like the most interesting international business program from the universities she was considering.

The classes required for her major are geared toward general business, but include some international-specific ones which she enjoys very much, like comparative Politics. “There’s also accounting,” she says, crinkling her nose, and it’s required.

She likes the atmosphere at Madonna, especially in the dorms, “It’s the biggest treasure to meet different people and hear different languages.” She says. In her city in Poland, a foreigner was a great rarity.

After graduating, she hopes to get a job with a company having subsidiaries in Europe, but is not yet certain if she will make her home in the U.S. She misses her family, but has adjusted well to life in the U.S. She returns to Poland for summer break every year.

Written by Ana-Marie Marier

Let's Learn Foreign Languages

"Good Luck"

In Russian: Udachi
In Spanish: Bwena Swertay
In Japanese: Gannbatte
In Rumanian: Noh Rok
In Korean: Heng Un Eul Bim Ni Da.
In Chinese: Zu Ni Hao Yun

Compiled by Jung-Jun Hwang

Cinnamon Applesauce

Makes 2 1/2 cups

3 pounds Macintosh apples (about 6), peeled, quartered and cored
Juice of one lemon (about 2 tablespoons)
1 cinnamon stick, broken in half
1 to 2 tablespoons light-brown sugar (optional)

1. In a medium saucepan, combine apples, lemon juice, and cinnamon. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, until the apples have cooked into a sauce for 20 to 25 minutes. Remove cinnamon sticks.
2. Use immediately or store in the refrigerator in an airtight container for up to one week.

Written by Jill Johnston

Romanian Christmas

Christmas in Romania is in some ways similar to Thanksgiving in the U.S. There are large amounts of delicious, special foods and families get together to cook the feast, celebrate the holiday, and enjoy each other's company.

Usually, a family buys a whole pig or lamb from the butcher, which will be used to make the main dishes, such as homemade sausages, meatloaf, stuffed cabbage, and so on. The oldest woman in the family handles the cooking and also bakes the Christmas sweets.

There isn't much decorating, except for the Christmas tree, which is set up about a day or two before December 25th, and kept until a day after New Year's Day. Christmas trees are expensive, so most families use the same synthetic tree each year.

On Christmas day, parents and grandparents put presents under the tree for the children, and the whole day is spent as an extended feast. Groups of carolers travel the streets and sing religious carols at different doors. They receive pastries in return.

A Romanian Christmas is a family holiday, with less emphasis on presents, and more on the food and remembering the birth of Christ.

Written by Ana-Marie Maier

Announcement

1. International Festival (In January)
2. Field Trip: Detroit Science Center (In January)

Compiled by Yoon-Wook Kim

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