

Hello Adoption Friends,

In the July 30, 2007 edition of the ThinkingOfAdopting.com Newsletter you will find the following adoption news and information items that I hope you'll find helpful for your adoption journey.

1. Behavior and the Adopted Child
2. Want to Learn More About Attachment?
3. Adoptive Parent Shares Heartfelt Story
4. Christmas in July: Great Holiday Ornaments for Adoptive Parents
5. Recommended Reading ...
6. Mark Your Calendars: Adoption Conference September 29th

1) Behavior and the Adopted Child

Behaviorist Nadya Molina, M.Ed., BCBA, shared some great tips for dealing with challenging behavior from our adoptive children during her talk at our recent "Raising and Healing the Adopted Child Conference" near Baltimore, Maryland. I've summarized some of her key points in an article I posted to my Adoption News & Information Blog that you can read by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.thinkingofadopting.com/blog/2007/06/behavior-and-adopted-child.html>

2) Want to Learn More About Attachment?

It's the most frequent request we received from pre- and post-adoptive parents! If you would like to learn more, "Attachment and Adoption: What is It and Why is It so Important?" presented by Lark Eshleman, Ph.D. (author of *Becoming A Family: Promoting Healthy Attachments with Your Adopted Child*) provides a great overview of attachment including recognizing attachment challenges. This is a recorded webinar that I would highly recommend that you watch. Training on attachment will be required of adoptive parents as part of the Hague Treaty, and a certificate of completion is available upon request. To learn more or to register use the following link:

http://www.thinkingofadopting.com/html/adoption_telecourses.html#AttachAdopt

3) Adoptive Parent Shares Heartfelt Story

I'm pleased to announce that we've added our fourth adoption story to ThinkingOfAdopting.com! In "From Birth Mother to Adoptive Mother: One Woman's Journey", Mary Beth Wells shares the pain and heartache she experienced when she relinquishing a baby when she was very young, her subsequent suffering with infertility, and finally the joy of adopting two girls from Guatemala. It's a very honest and heartfelt story, and I'm glad that Mary Beth has decided to share it with us. As with our other three adoptive parent stories: "Healing Hannah", "True Blessings" and "His Will", you can listen to Mary Beth tell her story through your computer's speakers or download it to your iPod or MP3 player free of charge by going to our Adoption Telecourses page using the following link:

http://www.thinkingofadopting.com/html/adoption_telecourses.html

4) Christmas in July: Great Holiday Ornaments for Adoptive Parents

You've heard of Christmas in July ... well, Hallmark and UNICEF have an ornament coming out this year called "A World of Hope" that has children from various nations holding hands around a globe, and the word "hope" appearing in English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, French and Arabic. Hallmark also has new ornaments in a series called "Joy to the World Children" that includes children from Africa, China and Mexico as well as "Joy to the World Angels" that includes African and Russian angels. The ornaments are to be available at Hallmark retailers.

5) Recommended Reading ...

Just starting your adoption journey? The Complete Book of International Adoption: A Step-by-Step Guide to Finding Your Child by Dawn Davenport is a great resource. In the back of the book there is a country-by-country section that gives great details that I have not seen in any other book, including information on the stability of the adoption programs of various countries, the Hague Treaty, post adoption reports, why children are available for adoption, and the issues medical international medical doctors are seeing in children from these countries. Plus, the book has a lot of real life examples from adoptive families. You can learn more by going to our Adoption Books page by using the following link:

http://www.thinkingofadopting.com/html/adoption_books.html

6) Mark Your Calendars: Adoption Conference September 29th

I'm excited to announce that ThinkingOfAdopting.com and Project Katherine will be presenting an Adoption Conference led by Alla Gordina, M.D. FAAP, on Saturday, September 29, 2007 in New Brunswick, New Jersey. The speakers and other details will be announced soon, so mark your calendars. I'll hope to see you there.

Help Spread the Word

As always, I'd certainly appreciate if you would help spread the word about adoption and ThinkingOfAdopting.com. Please feel free to pass this information on to anyone who you feel would be interested. I'd sincerely appreciate your help in getting the word out. There are so many children who need homes!

My best to you on your adoption journey. If there is anything I can do to help you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robin Bartko

Adoptive Parent

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"Inspiration & Information for Your Adoption Journey"

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