

## *Henan Kids International*



### *Love Changes Lives*

*Our motto is simple but speaks volumes. We adopt because we have love to give. But it doesn't stop there. We cannot turn our backs on those still waiting in the orphanages in Henan. They have no voice of their own, no means to ask for more. We are their voice. We are their advocates. If we do not speak on their behalf, who will? As we enter this season of giving, please consider making an extra end-of-the-year contribution to Henan Kids- you can specify it for a specific orphanage or purpose or to be used in any way we need to.*

*-Emily Adcox  
Co-founder of HKI*

## *Calendar Sales*

A BIG thanks to all of you who ordered calendars this year! We sold a total of 150 calendars, with \$1500 going directly to helping pay for different projects going on in Henan.

### *Running for Henan*

Amy Cantilina is wife of nearly 20 years to Tom, and mother to Jared, Anna, and Lillian Joy (An Xiao Xue). In addition to caring for her family and her home, Amy is a triathlete, an open-water swimmer, a swim coach, an indoor cycling instructor, a Bible study teacher, and wears whatever other hats the US Air Force lifestyle brings along.

Lilly joined the Cantilina family in March of 2009, coming home from Anyang City, Henan Province, just one day after her 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Amy spent many of the agonizing



months of waiting for Lilly's referral training for the 2008 Marine Corps Marathon, which she did as a charity run to sponsor a little boy waiting for his forever family in China. Having taken some time off from any intense training following Lilly's adoption this year, Amy is now excited to dive back into serious training for the Tallahassee Marathon on 7 February 2010.

Because running for such a meaningful and practical cause makes the miles of training such a joy, and because having a Henan kid in her family has been such a blessing, Amy is eager to raise support for Henan Kids International. Any money donated in Amy's name will allow other orphans in the Anyang Social Welfare Institute—one of the poorer orphanages in Henan Province—to receive the care that they need as they await their forever families. If you would like to donate to Amy's efforts, please indicate "Amy Cantalina Marathon Fund" when you donate!

## Mei-Mei Statues



### Extraordinary Mei-Mei sculpture created to help the children of Henan, China

Taun Olson, a recognized artist in Scottsdale, AZ, has created an amazing sculpture of a Chinese girl called Mei-Mei (*Little Sister*). After meeting a friend's daughter who was adopted from China, Taun was touched by her story in such a way; he began visualizing a piece he wanted to create that would tell the story of Chinese babies and their journey to find a forever family.

The beautiful Mei-Mei sculpture takes one's breath away the minute her upper body, shaped in the form of a heart, is recognized. Throughout her hair there are eight special symbols hidden. You will notice a heart with a brick wall symbolizing the many barriers each child has to overcome in order to experience trust and love in their new family. Behind her pony tail is a silhouette of the Chinese birth

mother pregnant with her child, dreaming of a new life for her baby. Above the birth mother, a melting clock illustrates the time the little girl waits for her forever family to take her home. You will also find a Chinese lantern to light her way through her life and forever light the way for her Chinese ancestors to find her; as celebrated each Chinese New Year. Near her right ear is an image of the Chinese Dragon, the divine, mythical creature of China's culture that is believed to bring abundance, prosperity and good fortune. Many Chinese mothers travel a long way to leave their babies in larger cities, in hope of their baby receiving the best care possible. To illustrate this journey and the baby's journey yet to come, railroad tracks are running just under the dragon's feet. At the back of the sculpture is the Chinese symbol for "Family" which is also a synonym for "Home". And finally, at the top of the sculpture is a map of China and the U.S. connected by a red thread that shows the journey from East to West. It is believed that an invisible red thread joins those in life who are destined to connect, regardless of time, place or circumstances; the thread may stretch or tangle but never break.

The artist's gift will go beyond providing a significant and touching sculpture to those who purchase and come into contact with a Mei-Mei. Taun is donating *all* proceeds of each sale of a Mei-Mei sculpture to Henan Kids International. He began conceiving the idea of Mei-Mei in order to create a significant piece of art that would touch the lives of adoptive parents, Chinese children and family members. However, he also wanted to ensure that the babies left behind in China have an opportunity to thrive while they wait for their forever families; exactly the same mission as Henan Kids International is working to achieve.

With two recent sales, there are only 15 additional Mei-Mei sculptures available. In order to ensure this piece is not over produced only 20 sculptures will be made in total. Each piece will not only remain emotionally valuable to each family who brings one into their home; the Mei-Mei sculptures are numbered and will also appreciate in financial value over the years. This wonderful piece of art will continue to touch many lives, adoptive families, Chinese boys and girls who have found their forever families and those babies and children still left behind in the Henan Province.

***To see more pictures of Mei-Mei and learn how you can bring her into your home, please see either website: [www.taun.com](http://www.taun.com) or [www.chinacharm.org](http://www.chinacharm.org) (gift shop at CCAI).***



*Be a drip!*

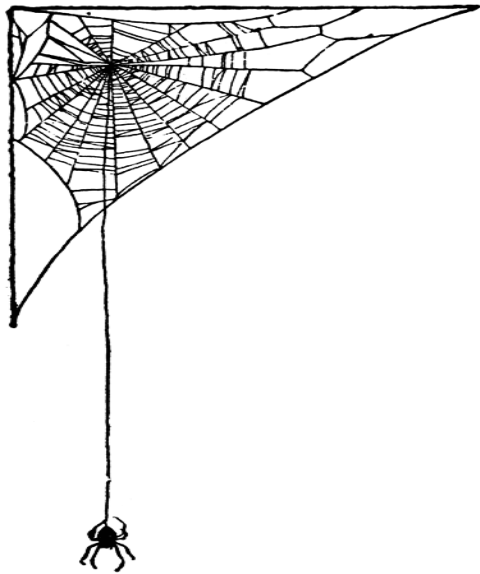
While selling calendars helps to boost our funds, it in no way will allow us to make a significant difference in Henan. We need you to be a drip! We need you to commit to donating a small amount of money each month. What is small, you ask? Small is \$10-\$20-- which equates to several Starbucks lattes or a lunch out with a friend. Donating \$10 a month is a like a drop of water falling into a lake. It doesn't do much. However, hundreds of those drops can make a ripple, and over time that ripple can turn into a wave. If we ALL commit to donating a small amount every month- Henan Kids could have \$50,000 with which to pay for surgeries, pay for renovations or equipment or training. Instead of wasting weeks trying to raise money at the last minute, we will be able to fulfill requests as we get them! Let's amaze the adoption officials in China and in Henan specifically with our ability to love.

[Click on the drip to be a monthly donator!](#)

Are you still looking for that special gift for a friend, teacher, or relative? Then head over to [www.juliepdesigns.com](http://www.juliepdesigns.com) to order your handmade Chinese Calligraphy necklace now! **Don't procrastinate if you want it in time for Christmas!!!!**

[Chinese Calligraphy Necklaces](#)





### [On the Web...](#)

Have you ever stumbled around in your bedroom at night looking for a book and then stubbed your toe on the foot of the bed? Well that's what navigating our website is like!!!! We desperately need someone who can do website design to donate some/all of their services to creating a lovely website. We do need to keep the same address, but we need a make-over! If this person is you- please email Emily at [info@henankids.org](mailto:info@henankids.org)

We also have a button, designed by Alexis at [www.blogdesignsbyalexis.com](http://www.blogdesignsbyalexis.com) to put on your blog:



This button is FREE to put on your blog! Got to my blog at [www.adcoxfamily.blogspot.com](http://www.adcoxfamily.blogspot.com) and you will find the button on my sidebar. Grab and copy the code beneath the button and then paste it in your elements section in blogger layout. So pass the button!

Thank you so very much for partnering with us these past 4 months; I am excited to see what we can accomplish in 2010!

