

Translating a US Thanksgiving to family in China

“Well, we have this big meal together with family, and we eat things like turkey and cranberries ...”

As I tried describing Thanksgiving Day, one of the most quintessential holidays in the United States, to my in-laws in China, I could already see their eyes glaze over with confusion and sense the questions forming in their minds. Turkey? Cranberries? Even though I expressed these perfectly in Chinese, the result was still



Jocelyn Eikenburg
Second Thoughts

gibberish because they had never seen a turkey or tasted cranberries.

So I attempted to translate the holiday through more familiar Chinese counterparts.

I described the roast turkey as something akin to Beijing duck. I equated the sweet-tart goodness of cranberries to Chinese hawthorn in the candied fruit skewers of *tanghulu*. I called stuffing a savory version of eight-treasures rice. I likened pumpkin pie to the pumpkin cakes, or *nangua-bing*, popular across their province of Zhejiang.

I compared the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade to the yearly Spring



Jocelyn and her husband enjoy preparing Thanksgiving dinner. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

Festival Gala on Chinese New Year's Eve.

And I characterized the entire celebration as an American version of winter solstice in China, as both holidays emphasize food and family and herald the start of the

It wasn't just that some of the food didn't have a clear analog in Chinese culture, such as mashed potatoes with gravy or the traditional green bean casserole sprinkled with crispy fried onions.

No words could ever fully

holiday season in our respective countries.

Yet as much as my in-laws nodded and smiled in acknowledgment, I recognized that even these explanations were a poor substitute.

encompass the Thanksgiving celebrations I had known in the US.

No matter how much I said, I could never transport them back to my uncle and aunt's home, and sit them down at the same long, rectangular tables draped with festive burgundy or white tablecloths. They would never be able to stand along with me at the buffet table, where we would serve ourselves from the steaming hot dishes lined along the wall.

We wouldn't have the chance to bow our heads together as someone recited a Thanksgiving Day prayer before the meal, or engage in delicious conversations over

dinner about plans for the coming holidays.

All of these rituals and the people behind them would forever remain out of their reach, and they would never personally encounter the delights of Thanksgiving Day, to truly understand why it was my favorite American holiday.

This is the kind of disappointment you face when you straddle two different countries, where you have experiences — like spending Thanksgiving Day with family — that you cannot pack up in your suitcase like a souvenir or render into a perfect verbal description.

As much as I wished I had more than my woefully inade-

quate introduction to the holiday, it would have to do.

Still, I had to remember the positive side to this exchange with my in-laws.

It's a precious thing when you can sit down with people from another country, and they're actually open to learning about your culture, including the holidays you love most.

So in the spirit of my American holiday, I silently gave a moment of thanks for having such incredible in-laws, who cared enough to listen to their foreign daughter-in-law talk about Thanksgiving Day.

Contact the writer at jocelyn@chinadaily.com.cn

Candid camera: Golden days

Ginkgo trees provide a colorful and seasonal backdrop for photos near Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing last week. Autumn hues ensured a golden landscape in the capital's many parks.

WANG JING / CHINA DAILY



This Day, That Year



On Nov 21, 2004, the first World Tourism Marketing Summit opened in Nanjing, Jiangsu province, as seen in the item from China Daily. It aimed to enhance cooperation between China and the world.

As the world's fastest-growing tourism market, China's tourism sector has developed

Editor's note: This year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up policy.

rapidly since the country joined the United Nations World Tourism Organization in 1983. Tourism has grown from a marginal to a major sector during the past three and a half decades.

The sector accounts for more than 10 percent of the country's economy and employment.

Chinese travelers are making their presence felt around the globe. Last year, Chinese tourists accounted for more than 130 million visits, representing a year-on-year growth of 7 percent, according to the China Tourism Academy.

In the next five years, Chinese tourists are estimated to make 700 million outbound trips.

Chinese travelers have also become the top spenders over the years, and accounted for

approximately one-fifth of the total consumption by global outbound travelers, according to the UN World Tourism Organization.

Inbound tourism numbers are also on the rise with the number of trips reaching 139 million.

A series of preferential policies such as tax refunds and

Summit targets tour strategies



visa waivers have been implemented in many big cities including Beijing and Hainan province, to boost inbound tourism.

The newspaper and beyond

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Real horse merry-go-round kicks up controversy

A carousel that uses real horses has sparked an online outcry. The merry-go-round has been operating for the past two months in Chengdu, Sichuan province. The attraction involves four harnessed horses walking on a rotating circular platform that acts as a treadmill. Shangma Equestrian Club, which operates the ride, said the horses walk on the carousel for four hours every day. Each ride lasts about four minutes. Three trainers are also on site at all times, the operators said.



Freeze-dried death could replace cremation

A burial method that uses liquid nitrogen to freeze and disintegrate a body is being heralded as the future of cremation by its creator, Swedish biologist Susanne Wiigh-Masak. Dubbed "promession", the process takes place in a custom-built machine. A body is placed into it and is quickly reduced to powder. This is then placed into a biodegradable bag and buried in a shallow grave, and any leftover metals (like tooth fillings) are given back to the family.

Chinese included in BBC 100 Women list

BBC 100 Women has announced its list of 100 inspiring and influential women from around the world for 2018. Ranging in age from 15 to 94, and from more than 60 countries, they include leaders, trailblazers and everyday heroes. There are three Chinese women on the list: Deng Ziqi is a top-selling female musician who uses her influence to support charities and organizations dedicated to music, education and poverty relief; Luo Yang has been taking photos of young Chinese women since 2007 for her portrait series and Zhao Jing runs an online network that helps women to learn and discuss their bodies.

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Society: Wuhan sets up mountaineering school

China's first mountaineering and outdoor sports school was established in Wuhan, Hubei province. The China Mountaineering and Outdoor Sports College will train students in mountaineering and outdoor sports at both amateur and professional level, as well as in scientific research. As one of the co-founders of the school, China University of Geosciences boasts a long tradition of mountaineering. A mountaineering team was set up at the school in 1958. Over the past 60 years, the team has produced many high-caliber mountaineers.

Video: Poetry contest held in Shanghai

The Shanghai Foreign Students' Chinese Poetry Recitation Contest, which featured about 150 overseas students from 37 countries, closed on Sunday at Fudan University. Eighteen contestants from 12 colleges in Shanghai made it to the finals. A Russian student, whose Chinese name is Lin Feng, won the individual contest. Themed "Meaningful Poetry, Song of Friendship", the event was supported by the Shanghai Language Commission, the Shanghai Municipal Commis-

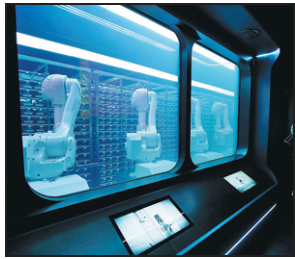
sion of Education and Yangpu district's government.

Culture: Museum unveils tea heritage

Two ancient tea containers were unveiled at Beijing's Palace Museum last week to promote the role of the drink and those who made it. Hundreds of years ago, oolong tea from Fujian province was sent as a tribute to the emperor. Tea in China can reflect regional culture. "Tea is closely related to the lifestyle and spirit of Chinese people," said Zhu Hongwen, secretary of the Discipline Commission of the Palace Museum. "In the new era, we should let the Chinese tea culture shine from the inheritance."

Animals: Dog helps clean up our mess

Lila is a dog with many talents. Originally trained to dive for lobster, she has since used her skills for an environmentally friendly cause. Trained by environmental group 4ocean co-founder Alex Schultz, Lila initially honed her skills in his swimming pool. Now she walks along the beach and picks up plastic with her owner before boarding his boat to head out to the open water to collect more floating waste.



Tech: Haidilao opens smart restaurant

Haidilao, China's biggest hotspot restaurant chain, has unveiled its first smart restaurant in Beijing. The kitchen, equipped with two rows of robotic arms, can automatically collect prepackaged dishes from cold storage. According to Haidilao, the whole process, from placing an order to delivering food to customers, takes just two minutes. Founded in Sichuan province by former tractor factory worker Zhang Yong 24 years ago, Haidilao now has 362 outlets nationwide, as well as outlets in Singapore, Japan, South Korea and the United States. Haidilao plans to open two more smart hotspot restaurants in Beijing next year.

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Bilingual: Wildlife and drones

无人机下的动物们

中国日报双语新闻

近日，一段熊宝宝坚持不懈爬上雪山的视频感动了无数网友，但是视频背后的真相却发人深省。下面，请跟双语君一起看看视频背后的故事吧！

A two-and-a-half-minute video of a baby brown bear trying to scale a snow-covered mountain went viral recently and sparked a heated reaction.

近日，一段棕熊宝宝试图爬上雪山的视频被疯狂转发。这段时长2.5分钟的视频引发网友热议。

It captures the cub repeatedly clambering up and sliding down a steep incline — and, at one point, nearly slipping off a cliff.

镜头里，陡坡上的小熊不断地拼命往上爬，又不断地滑下去，有一次甚至差点从悬崖上跌落。

Eventually, the cub was reunited with its mother. 最终它回到了妈妈身边。

An avalanche of online commenters praised the cub's climb as an inspirational message about the power of perseverance.

视频引来网友雪花般的评论，为小熊表现出的这种坚持不懈的精神点赞。

However, when biologists started watching the video, they saw a very different story, The Atlantic reported.

然而，《大西洋月刊》的报道，生物学家却从这个视频中看到了一个完全不同的故事。

"The video, they say, was clearly captured by a drone. And in it, they saw the work of an irresponsible drone operator who, in trying to film the bears, drove them into a dangerous situation that almost cost the cub its life."

“生物学家认为这段视频显然是由无人机拍摄的。而这架无人机的操作员毫无责任心可言，为了拍到这两只熊而将它们逼入危险的处境，甚至差点害得小熊丢了性命。”

National Geographic reported, "In fact, the presence of the drone — and the desire to flee from it — could explain why the mother and her cub are traversing such treacherous terrain to begin with; Mothers with such young offspring usually avoid difficult travels unless necessary."

《国家地理》认为：“实际上，正是无人机的接近让两只熊仓皇想逃，所以母熊才会带着小熊横跨这么危险的地带。带着幼崽的熊妈妈通常会尽量避免走这样危险的路，除非万不得已。”

The Atlantic also added, "By harassing animals, drones can chase them into dangerous positions, as was the case with the bear cub. They can interrupt hunts, cause high levels of stress ... drive them away from sources of food or parts of the landscape they depend upon."

《大西洋月刊》也认为：“无人机对动物造成的干扰会把它们逼到危险的处境，视频中的小熊就是这样。无人机会影响动物捕食，给动物造成巨大的压力……并迫使它们离开赖以生存和捕食的栖息地。”

Jacquelyn Gill, ecologist from the United States, said on social media, "Harassing wildlife for a photograph, a selfie, or a video is never OK."

美国生态学家贾坤里·吉尔在社交网络上表示：“任何干扰野生动物的行为——无论是拍动物、自拍还是录像——都是不妥的。”

The cub video is not the first case where drones scared wildlife.

这已经不是无人机第一次惊吓到动物了。

In 2014, a drone harassed bighorn sheep at Zion National Park in the US.

早在2014年，美国犹他州锡安国家公园里的一架无人机就惊扰到了大角羊。

According to The Atlantic, drones are still new enough that the regulations governing their use are piecemeal. In the US, the National Park System has banned drones within its lands.

据《大西洋月刊》报道，无人机还是一项新生事物，所以相关的管制法规还不成体系。美国国家公园体系已经禁止在园内操纵无人机。

Margarita Pazmany, a lecturer in unmanned aerial vehicles at Liverpool John Moores University in the United Kingdom, suggested that drone operators avoid flying at animals head-on, as this is thought to be most threatening, National Geographic reported.

《国家地理》报道引述了英国利物浦约翰摩尔大学讲授无人机课程的教师玛格丽塔·帕茨玛尼的建议：在操作无人机时，应避免迎面飞向动物，因为这样最容易让动物有威胁感。

"Similarly, all flights should be as short and discrete as possible, and models should be smaller ... Altitude is also key, and operators should strive to stay as high above the scene as possible while still gathering useful data."

“同样，操纵无人机时，飞行时间尽量要短，航程要分散，机型也要越小越好……此外，飞行高度也很重要，操作员应该在保障采集有效数据的同时，尽可能使无人机离目标越高越好。”



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