

## JANNA BURCH GOES TO CHINA



Students in Fengdu, China

My name is Janna Burch. I am a senior at Coker College, where I am double majoring in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. This past May, I had the pleasure of going on a two-week educational tour of China. The trip was hosted by Coker College's education department. The journey represented the culminating experience of a semester-long study that focused on the central question: Why do Chinese students typically outperform American students on international comparisons of mathematics competency?

During our trip, our group visited two schools, the Children's Palace of Shanghai and a rural elementary school in Fengdu. At the Children's Palace, we got to observe a school that gave artistically gifted and talented students an opportunity to further develop their talents in such areas as movement, art, music and languages. At the school in Fengdu, we got to observe a math class. My professor, Dr. Sara Odom, has written several children's books. Our tour guide translated Dr. Odom's books into Chinese and presented them to the teacher at the school in Fengdu. He was very excited to be able to share them with his students.

Aside from seeing the two schools, we got to travel all over China. We started our journey in Shanghai and then flew to Yichang for a cruise on the Yangtze River, the 3rd longest river in the world. On the Yangtze River, we got to see The Three Gorges Dam. We ended our cruise in Chongqing and then flew to Xian. In Xian, we visited the Terracotta Army. One of the most memorable times I had on the trip was going to a park in Xian. At the park, people met every morning to dance, sing, and play games. The people who were singing asked us to sing "Jingle Bells" for them! Our last flight in China was to Beijing. Beijing was my favorite place we visited!



The Great Wall of China

We got to visit the Forbidden City, the Tianamen Square, the Ming Tombs, the Beijing Olympic stadium, and climb on the Great Wall!

My trip to China was an unforgettable experience. I decided to go to China, not only for myself but for my future students as well. I cannot begin to explain the wealth of information I have gained from this trip. This has been one of the best experiences of my life and I will be a better teacher because of it! China was amazing, but there is no place in this world like Mt. Croghan, South Carolina!

Janna Burch



My friends from Coker College



Cruising the Yangtze River

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Homecoming Festival**  
September 24  
12:00pm—4:00pm

**Christmas Tree Decorating**  
Nov 27  
2:00pm



### Congratulations

are in order! Mt. Croghan residents Hannah Brigman, Heather Deese, and Taylor Self all recently graduated from high school. And Jennifer Burch graduated from Coastal Carolina University with a degree in Business Marketing. The town extends warm wishes for bright and happy futures for all four.

Beth Leonard

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Town Hall  
55 Burch Street  
Mount Croghan, SC 29727

### NEW FLEA MARKET HOURS



The popular Mt. Croghan Flea Market has extended its hours of operation to Saturdays from 6am to 1pm. Located on Hwy

9 between Pageland and Mt. Croghan, the flea market has long been a successful place for vendors and buyers to come together on Sunday mornings. With many different offerings, the market draws people from surrounding towns as well as counties. If you're looking for a deal, drop in and browse what's available Saturday and Sunday. Vendors are welcomed! For more information or to check out planned events log onto:

[www.mtcroghanfleamarket.com](http://www.mtcroghanfleamarket.com) or call James Taylor at 843-634-2150.

*Beth Leonard*



Mark your calendars! The Mt. Croghan Hometown Homecoming is scheduled for September 24, 2011 from 12pm to 4pm on the grounds of the Mt. Croghan Museum. Lunch will be provided by the town. Various door prizes will also be given out to the lucky winners. Interested participants are welcomed to join a cruise-in that will be located beside the Community Center during the homecoming. Live music will also be provided for entertainment throughout the day. The homecoming festivities are always enjoyable so be sure to make plans to join the rest of the Mt. Croghan residents in celebrating our town!

*Beth Leonard*

## SPRING CLEAN-UP



Spring is that wonderful time of year when great things happen.....flowers begin to bloom, the weather begins that turn from bitter cold to comfortably cool and, if you're a resident of Mt. Croghan, it beckons citizens to hit the streets for a town wide clean-up of discarded trash. The weeklong event began April 18 with town council members urging residents to pick up trash on or surrounding their property and it ended April 23 with a concentrated clean-up of downtown Mt. Croghan. Over 200 bags of trash were collected during the week! Following the town clean-up participants gathered together inside the Community Center for lunch (hosted by the town, the Mt. Croghan Country Cafe, and County Councilman Al Johnson). Children were then ushered outside to take part in an Easter Egg hunt in Rivers Park. All children received candy to stuff inside their baskets. With clean streets, high community involvement, and good food the spring clean-up proved to be a fun filled success!

*Beth Leonard*

## RELAY FOR LIFE



The Mt. Croghan Community Center hosted Relay for Life Fan Fest April 16. Relay for Life, the premier fund raising event for the American Cancer Society, is widely known for leading the charge against cancer. It raises money for research and strives to support people battling cancer, as well as survivors of the disease and caregivers. The poor weather did little to discourage the group of people who showed up to enjoy a concert performed by the local band BandAnna. After good music and lively dancing the band took time to meet with fans. Cancer survivors and caregivers also spent time sharing stories about the devastating role cancer has played in their lives. Mt. Croghan Town Clerk, Dell Chapman stated, "Cancer is a devastating disease and unfortunately the majority of us have encountered it in some way. We were honored to host the Relay for Life Fan Fest featuring "BandAnna" to raise funds for cancer research and awareness. We appreciate the response from everyone and hope that they, along with many others, will continue the fight to conquer this horrendous disease." For more information about Relay for Life events log onto [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org). or contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345.

*Beth Leonard*



### CUSTOM EMBROIDERY

Shelley Spielman is the enthusiastic owner of Embellish Custom Embroidery located at 14 Cross Street right here in Mt. Croghan. Though Mrs. Spielman has just recently opened her business, she states, "I have always been fascinated by embroidery. I decided to give it a try and have found that I really enjoy it." She is capable of embroidering items that customers already have or she offers the option of obtaining the material for her customers. Much of her business is within the equestrian world where she works on items from team apparel to horse blankets. The most unusual item she has ever worked on was a bridal veil. She is able to complete many orders on the same day and most others within 24 hours. If necessary, she will pick-up an item from a customer and then deliver it once it is complete. Not only does she offer friendly, local service she also has over 400 colors of thread customers are able to choose from. Mrs. Spielman welcomes the opportunity to answer any questions. You can reach her by calling 843-634-2175 or 352-266-3970. Her email is [EmbellishLLC@gmail.com](mailto:EmbellishLLC@gmail.com)

A website will be available soon at: [www.EmbellishLLC.net](http://www.EmbellishLLC.net).

*Beth Leonard*



Randy and Betty Knight  
May

### YARD OF THE MONTH



Dell and Ronnie Chapman  
June