



# The Homeschooler

Teachingparents.org

August 2016

## START STRONG

August – time to begin the school year! We are busy buying school supplies, making lesson plans, and setting goals. We think about what the school year will look like for each of our children. All the things we want them to learn and know are like a running list in our mind. At this point, we have many hopes for how the school year will go for our family. We want to start strong.

Of course, starting the school year strong means lots of preparation on our part. Preparing for our children's academic needs, but we also need to remember to prepare ourselves. Homeschooling is more than the right curriculum and supplies. As teachers in our home we need the right attitude before we begin.

Some years we begin the year excited and so ready to get back to the schedule of school. Other years we feel like we could have a couple more months of summer and still not be ready to start. Wherever you are on this spectrum, there is one truth for all of us – we want to begin the year well. Setting the right tone for the academic year is important.

As the mother, and the teacher, what do you need to do to get yourself prepared to lead your children through the year? Praying for each of your children is always the way to start. Pray for the wisdom to see each of your children's needs. Pray to know how to help each child with their struggles – even before they appear. Then you can begin praying for yourself and the things YOU need for the school year. Maybe you need a night away from home to plan or just to play. Do whatever you need to be refreshed and ready to begin.

Planning and preparation are also invaluable before you begin teaching. Have the supplies ready and organized before you start the first day. For some people that is an easy task, but for other moms that takes a lot more work. Think through where you will 'do school'. What room, desk or table will your family use? Does one of your children need to be in a less distracting environment? Take some time to think through these things before the first day.

If this is not your first year to homeschool, think of last year. What were the struggles and what can you do to make this year go smoothly? Was there something that you tried that worked really well? Make sure to repeat that this year. Be reflective about the things you can change not just for your children but also with yourself.

We are blessed and honored to be able to educate our children at home. This is a big responsibility for us as parents. But there is no better thing than to see your children learn and grow with us there to guide their way.



### NEW HOMESCHOOLER WORKSHOP

TPA will be having its Homeschool 101 workshop on **Tuesday, August 2, 2016**. This Tuesday evening workshop is a great way for new homeschooling parents to get a strong start on their year. This workshop will cover the basics of how to homeschool – from a review of the laws for Kansas concerning homeschooling to a review of the different types of curriculum and learning styles and how to make lesson plans. You can see all the details on the TPA website.

The workshop is \$20.00 (spouse is free) and registration is open on our website at [www.teachingparents.org/TPA events/workshops](http://www.teachingparents.org/TPA%20events/workshops).

As always, we will have snacks, prizes, and a time for you to ask questions. Join us August 2, 2016, from 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at WATC North Campus, 4004 N Webb Road, in the Lecture Hall.

### TPA 2017 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY – May 12, 2017

If you have a homeschooled senior this year who would like to participate in the 2017 TPA graduation ceremony, you will want to attend the fall meeting for parents and their graduates! The senior year flies by swiftly, so it is advantageous to get an early start on the details.

**Date: Monday, September 12, 2016**  
**(NOTE the date change!!)**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

**Place: Central Christian Church (Hospitality Suite – use entrance #2)**

The deadline to participate in TPA 2016 Graduation Ceremony is February 1, 2017.

Questions? Contact Jeff or Jeanine Schantz at [graduation@teachingparents.org](mailto:graduation@teachingparents.org).

### 8TH ANNUAL TPA ZOOFARI DAY

Join us for TPA ZOOFARI DAY at the Sedgwick County Zoo on **Thursday, September 15, 2016!** This year marks eight years of partnership with TPA and the Sedgwick County Zoo. To help homeschool families, TPA is offsetting part of the admission price. This year you can enjoy all the fun and educational programs for only \$4.25 per person. The reduced rate is only good from **9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** You can also use your Zoo Membership, and all homeschool families are invited – you do NOT have to be a TPA member!

This year is really special because we get to meet the Zoo's new friends – the elephants! There is even a special class about the elephants included in our schedule.

A special meal deal will be available to TPA Zoofari Day participants. Lunches include a hamburger, fruit snacks, chips and juice, and all is packaged in an exciting animal-themed reusable tote bag for \$5.00. Lunch reservations begin on August 15. Please call the lunch line at 266-8330 and leave the requested information. Lunch orders must be placed by September 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm.

Don't forget the educational classes just for homeschool families! All events will take place in (or around) the Pavilion, located to the west of the Plaza Beastro Restaurant. Please refer to our website for the descriptions of the classes.

9:30 am:

Birth to Kindergarten - Animal Tales Story Time  
1st – 5th Grade – Habitats  
6th – 12th Grade – Zoo Careers

10:30am:

Birth to Kindergarten - Animal Tales Story Time  
1st – 5th Grade – Critter Café  
6th – 12th Grade – Habitats

11:30am:

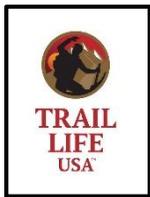
Birth to Kindergarten - Animal Tales Story Time  
1st – 5th Grade – Great Plains Mall  
6th – 12th Grade – Critter Café

1:00pm: All Ages – Elephant 411



Is your daughter wanting to be part of something that is fun, educational, social, and only for girls? **American Heritage Girls** is for any girl between 5 and 18 years of age. Come join us for an Informational meeting for parents on **Monday, August 29, 2016, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**. Our American Heritage Girls members and leaders will be having a special event at the same time in the gym, and your daughter is invited! We meet at Riverlawn Christian Church at 4243 N. Meridian in Wichita. Please enter on the north side of the building at the adult wing entrance.

AHG has troop meetings the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday evenings each month from September – May from 7:00 pm - 8 :30 pm at Riverlawn Christian Church. Girls may visit our troop any time throughout the year. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Durkee at [crdurkee@gmail.com](mailto:crdurkee@gmail.com).



**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED REGISTERING YOUR SON(S) FOR TRAIL LIFE?**

Trail Life USA is an Outdoor Adventure, Character, and Leadership program for boys and young men K-12 grade. Teaching Parents Association is the charter organization for Trail Life Troop KS-0281 in Wichita. We meet on Monday nights from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm at Riverlawn Christian Church, 4243 N Meridian (just north of I235/K96).

Our Woodlands Trail (K-5th grade) Summer Adventure Day Camp is August 4-6. Contact us for more information if your son would like to attend.

For more information about Troop 281 in Wichita or if you have questions about starting a Troop in another area of Kansas, contact Scott Durkee at [316-518-0948](tel:316-518-0948) or [tpatroop281@gmail.com](mailto:tpatroop281@gmail.com).



**IT'S YOUR RIGHT!**



**ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 2**



**AREA EVENTS:**

**HOME GROWN EDUCATION**  
**SCHEDULE 2016-2017**

- September 1 & 2 **MONARCH MIGRATION**
- October 6 & 7 **PUMPKIN PREDICTIONS**
- November 3 & 4 **SEED DISPERSAL**
- December 1 & 2 **MICROBES**
- January 5 & 6 **METAMORPHOSIS**
- February 2 & 3 **STATES OF MATTER**
- March 2 & 3 **NATURAL RESOURCES**
- April 6 & 7 **FLOWER LAB**
- May 4 & 5 **POND ECOSYSTEM**

**REGISTRATION**  
 Appropriate for grades K-5th. Fee is \$6 for members, \$18 cap per family, \$8 non-members, \$24 cap per family. Classes start at 1 p.m. Fees include admission to the Gardens, including Downing Children's Garden. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required by Noon the day before the class. For reservations call **KELSEY WEBB** at 316-264-0448 ext. 117.





### EARLY COLLEGE PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY

Have you ever considered a career in public service? Well, if you have, Butler Community College has the start you need. Our Early College Public Safety Academy is for high school juniors and seniors, and you can gain knowledge and experience in Criminal Justice, Fire Science, EMT, or Emergency Communications (911). You can also earn an associate's degree while completing high school. The 2016 Fall Semester starts on Monday, August 22, and it's not too late to apply. To request information or schedule a visit, please contact Dona Larimer at 316.218.6150 or [dlarimer@butlercc.edu](mailto:dlarimer@butlercc.edu).

#### BUTLER FIRE SCIENCE

Our Fire Science program has a brand new training facility and our very own fire truck. For more information, please contact [dlarimer@butlercc.edu](mailto:dlarimer@butlercc.edu) and check out [www.butlercc.edu/fire-science](http://www.butlercc.edu/fire-science)

#### 2016 Fall Semester Begins August 22

It's not too late to get enrolled for fall classes.

**Contact: Butler of Andover: 1810 N Andover Rd  
316.218.6259**

**Butler of El Dorado: 901 S Haverhill Rd  
316.322.3163**

**Butler Service Center - Wichita: 2626 S Rock Rd  
316.691.9456**

#### PIANO STUDENTS BEING ACCEPTED

Susanne Haynes, a piano instructor, performer and professional accompanist for over twenty-seven years, is now accepting piano students. Any age and level of ability welcome. Susanne studied piano performance and pedagogy at WSU. She has accompanied professionally for a variety of churches, schools and local theater companies. She currently plays for Central Christian Church as well as for WCT and takes on various freelance accompanying positions for vocal and instrumental soloists.

Susanne teaches students theory, technique and a wide variety of repertoire. Students meet once a week for half an hour and then are expected to practice throughout the week to perfect new techniques taught during the lesson. Free recitals are held twice a year. Lessons are \$50 for the month. Daytime lessons are available as well as evenings and Saturdays. Families with multiple students are welcome; games, books and study space are provided for waiting siblings. Located in the Historic Old Town section of Wichita. 316-210-1567 or email at [nrg4@att.net](mailto:nrg4@att.net) for more information, or to sign up.



### BLISS BOULDERING & CLIMBING COMPLEX

#### Homeschool Open House

Thursday, August 11

Join us on Thursday, August 11 between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm for our free homeschool open house event! Bliss will be offering a Fall Semester rock climbing P.E. course for homeschool families. Stop by to climb on our indoor rock wall for free, get in the drawing for a Free 1-Month Prepaid Family Membership for up to 4, and receive a discount on our P.E. program.

During this open house, we will have a course orientation and runs through why a rock climbing course is right for your child along with an outline for the course.

Orientations run for only 25 minutes.

Times include 10:30 am, 11:30 am, and 12:30 pm.

Give us a call with any questions at 316-831-1479 or visit our website at [www.climbbliss.com](http://www.climbbliss.com). We hope to see you there. We know you and your child will love this program!



### MUSIC DEPARTMENT

1200 S. MAIN & THE WAREHOUSE | 107 E. AVENUE E | MCPHERSON, KANSAS

Piano Clinic at Central Christian College Central Christian College is hosting a Homeschool Piano Clinic on Friday, February 10, 2017, designed for high school and junior high-age piano students. This event will allow students to work with a music faculty member in a 20-minute mini-lesson, interact with CCC music students, and experience a day of college life on the campus of Central Christian College. The day will conclude with a "Classic Meets Cool" piano concert by guest Barron Ryan.

9:00 a.m. Check-in Registration

9:30 a.m. Chapel at CCC

10:30 a.m. Music Theory IV or Mini-Lesson

11:30 a.m. Lunch in the Cafeteria

12:30 p.m. Mini-Lesson or Campus Tour

1:45 p.m. Concert Choir or Campus Tour

2:45 p.m. Songwriter's Lab or Mini-Lesson

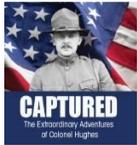
4:00 p.m. Music Theory Games with CCC Music students

7:00 p.m. Piano Concert featuring Barron Ryan

Registration is limited and the fee for the clinic is \$10 per student. The fee covers all events, including the meal in the cafeteria for the student and family.

Contact [brett.janssen@centralchristian.edu](mailto:brett.janssen@centralchristian.edu).

620-241-0723, ext.372.


**MUSEUM AFTER HOURS**

Program Series  
6:30 p.m. Fridays • FREE

Kansas Museum of History classroom

Join us for a special program series, Museum After Hours, at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. The upcoming program on August 12 is "From Fatherland to Farmland: German POWs in the Great Plains", featuring Matt Thompson, an independent public historian and former registrar at the Eisenhower Presidential Library. During World War II many German prisoners found themselves performing agricultural labor in states like Kansas, where they also developed a significant, albeit unofficial, cultural dialogue with the American citizens who lived nearby. The presentation addresses some of the political, social, and economic factors that led to such arrangements and offers some analysis of their longer term consequences.

For more information on this program and others please visit the event website: [kshs.org/19670](http://kshs.org/19670)

**CAPTURED: THE EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES OF COLONEL HUGHES - May 28, 2016 – May 28, 2017**

Visit the Kansas History Museum to enjoy the special exhibition, Captured: The Extraordinary Adventures of Colonel Hughes. Hughes' story is both common and exceptional. He was born in Topeka in 1888. The timing of his birth, the influence of his military father, and the impact of world politics shaped his life. He began his service as a member of the Kansas National Guard and was sent to the Texas border with the American Expeditionary Forces in 1916. As a member of the U.S. Army he served from 1917 to 1948 and fought in both world wars. He photographed battlefields and towns in Europe, recorded his daily survival as a Japanese POW. In essence, he captured his life.

The Kansas History Museum is open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday – Saturday. Admission is \$8 for Adults, \$6 for students, and FREE for children 5 and under.


**IKE: Interactive Kansas Educator**

Meet IKE, the Interactive Kansas Educator! The Kansas Museum of History is now offering virtual tours of the museum and collection storage. It is a great way to teach with primary sources and take a field trip without leaving your classroom.

For more information or to schedule an IKE tour, call Joy at the Museum at 785-272-8681, ext. 415 or

email us at [education@kshs.org](mailto:education@kshs.org). To learn more about IKE, visit our website: [kshs.org/19206](http://kshs.org/19206)

**EDUCATOR APPRECIATION NIGHT**

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 10, 2016

Join us for a night of fun at the Topeka Zoo presented by the Topeka Alliance of Museum Educators, including the Kansas Museum of History. Please remember to bring your teacher I.D. for FREE admission for yourself and your immediate family to the Zoo. For more information visit the event website at: [kshs.org/19624](http://kshs.org/19624)

**HISTORY LAB**

Introducing the History Lab at the Kansas Museum of History! The new History Lab is a place to visit with your students, 4th grade and older at the Kansas Museum of History. It is an interactive space for students to learn from artifacts, documents, ephemera, people, books, and more!

There are three different ways you can take advantage of the History Lab on your next visit:

1. Add 15 minutes to the beginning of your Museum visit. We can help your students better understand the question "How do we know that?" with a fun activity. FREE with paid admission to the Museum.
2. Schedule an hour visit to solve a "History Mystery." \$3 per student. Does not include admission to the Museum.
3. Home School Wednesdays are held on the first Wednesday of the month, 1:00-3:00 p.m., beginning September 7, 2016. Special activities for children 4th grade - high school. The Discovery Place is available at the same time for children under fourth grade. Find a list of topics online at [kshs.org/19710](http://kshs.org/19710). \$5 per student and includes admission to the Museum.

For more information or to schedule a visit, contact Joy Brennan at 785-272-8681, ext.415; [jbrennan@kshs.org](mailto:jbrennan@kshs.org).

**POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUBS & CLASSES**

for High Schoolers. Clubs fill an important experience as youth mature. They also help youth practice leadership, learn how to relate well with others, round out college applications in a way the colleges understand.

But Clubs for Home Schoolers often involve travel (with Mom + siblings WAITING), and expense.

In an effort to make Clubs accessible to Home School High School Clubs without time, travel and expense, I am launching a trial of 6 ONLINE Political Science Clubs. Working online each week, utilizing Moodle—

a learning platform like “Blackboard. Moodle allows us to have a private “community”—place to share, to respectfully discuss, to list necessary activities/resources, etc. without the travel time and shelling out another \$175-\$200.

These clubs have an introductory cost of \$20/sem. Registration is due by Aug 20th. These are LEARNING CLUBS. They are an opportunity for some good solid life-knowledge.

We will generally meet face-to-face 1x a month—we will have to work together to choose a generally acceptable time for this after we have a roster of club members. Our students need to learn about the options more in line with traditional American thought and Judeo-Christian based morality.

Difficulty Rating 1-5

Club 1 “HAPPENING TODAY - Political Science Club”--Current Events - Grades 9-12, Diff. 3. We will use specific news sources, Op-ed articles and commentaries.

Club 2 “PRAGER U SCHOLARS - Political Science Club”--Using prageru.com - Grades 8-12, Diff. 1  
Prager University offers online short 5 min. lectures w/ simple graphic on political science-culture (Left vs Right), political science issues, Economics, History, Life studies, Environmental studies, and Religion or Philosophical lectures—all based on the principles of Judeo-Christian & traditional American Values & Virtues.

Club 3 “CIVICS - Political Science Club” - Grades 7-12, Diff. 2. Learning about Political Parties, Elections, Political leaders & institutions (branches of Gov’t), and Good Citizenship.

Club 4 “UNCLE ERIC - Political Science Club” (May meet weekly\*) - Grades 7-12, Diff. 3. Fall: Whatever Happened to Justice--This is a book club—members will read & discuss some of Richard Maybury’s books. Members may have to purchase the books to read together.

Other Club Topics are in Development-- especially one called “Family CIVICS Club”. This is support to learn together Principles of Liberty & Constitutionality as a family. Presently, this would NOT be a POLITICAL SCIENCE club for a college application. This will have elements from the above clubs. Please let me know if there is interest.

These clubs have grown out of classes I teach on Am. Government for High School Home School Students for Lifetime of Learning which focuses on the Declaration of Independence & the US Constitution—not the usual Gov’t classes offered

today. I am now offering the same classes in Derby—for College Bound Home School High Schoolers. (If you are interested in Wed. Classes with Lifetime of Learning, call Lori Beckstrom at 648-8338).

2 Semester Am. Gov’t class— Sem 1) Political Philosophy & Principles of Founding Fathers  
Sem 2) Principles into Application—the US Constitution. The Goal is to learn to discern & articulate a view other than STATISM (Progressivism)—the “old” view that make American a land of liberty & aligns with Judeo-Christian virtues, one which values LIFE, LIBERTY, PROPERTY—and accepts the DUTIES that at attached to those privileges.

I also prepared some semester CLASSES which would meet 1x/wk:

- 1) The Battle for Truth—(David A. Noebel) comparing 4 prevalent World Views (shorter version on Worldview than the very excellent Understanding the Times) - SEP-DEC 2016, Grades 8-12
- 2) 2A. Uncle Eric Scholar (Essential reads I) - SEP-DEC 2016, Grades 8-12
- 3) Bill of Rights In-Depth - JAN-APR 2017, Grades 8-12
- 4) The American Tradition & Character - Upon Request, Grades 8-12

The Following Classes are for ADVANCE STUDENTS (Adv. Class Pre-requisite of 2 Sem. Class above)

- A) Never Before in History—The Origins of the ORIGINAL Am. Political System - SEPT-DEC 2016, Adv. Class
- B) The Confusion of Political Views—LEFT (Radical Liberal) to RIGHT (Conservative Right) - SEP-DEC 2016, Adv. Class
- C) What Happened to America? From Progressivism to Socialism to Radicalism: The March of Moral Relativism - JAN—APR 2017, Adv. Class
- D) What is REVISIONIST History? - UPON REQUEST, Adv. Class
- E) What HAPPENED to the SUPREME COURT? - UPON REQUEST, Adv. Class
- F) Socialism 101 (Progressivism’s Undercover Deceit) - UPON REQUEST, Adv. Class
- G) Federalist Papers for Studs - UPON REQUEST, Adv. Class (Uses Federalist Papers in Modern Language)
- H) The Founding Documents—In Your OWN WORDS - UPON REQUEST, Adv. Class (Using the methodology of Excelling in Writing)

If these CLUBS or classes are of interest to you, please email [melaniepetersen7056@gmail.com](mailto:melaniepetersen7056@gmail.com).



## HOME SCHOOL DAY AT WORLDS OF FUN

August 12, 2016

Join Home Schools from around the Midwest for Home School Day at Worlds of Fun & Oceans of Fun.

Admission Only \$33.99 (plus tax)

Purchase at [www.worldsoffun.com/HomeSchool](http://www.worldsoffun.com/HomeSchool)

Admission rate valid for home school students, home school instructors, family, friends, and chaperones

## WICHITA AREA HOMESCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

This fall, the Wichita Warriors are looking forward to beginning our 23rd year as an organization. We offer homeschooled, student athletes a place to compete in football, volleyball, soccer, cross country, basketball, track and field, golf, and cheerleading.

After 22 years at the helm, our founder and Athletic Director, Kenny Collins is retiring. The Wichita Warrior Nation would like to say THANK YOU to Kenny, Peggy, and the entire Collins family, for 22 great years! We have come a very long way from one junior high boys' basketball team in 1994.

Beginning in July of this year, Jeff Masterson took over the role of Athletic Director. If you have questions or are interested in participating with the Wichita Warriors in any sport, please feel free to contact Jeff at [wichitawarriorsad@gmail.com](mailto:wichitawarriorsad@gmail.com). We are currently looking for junior high (5th-8th grade) and high school (9th-12th grade) students who might be interested in football, soccer, volleyball, cross country or cheerleading. If you would like more information, please contact Jeff Masterson at [wichitawarriorsad@gmail.com](mailto:wichitawarriorsad@gmail.com). Our fall sports begin practice August first.



Welcome to KIP, the only parkour and free running gym in Wichita, Kansas. If you have any questions

please speak with Matthew or Renee Moore, the owners of KIP. Also, you can follow us on Facebook for news and updates.

Open Gym Hours:

Monday 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Wednesday 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Friday 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Saturday 2:00pm – 4:00pm

These hours will vary as future parkour classes are scheduled.

Gym Rates:

Open gym: \$15 for the first family member, \$10 for each additional family member

Intro to Parkour class: \$100 for the first family member, \$75 for each additional family member if paying upfront; \$25 per student if paying per class

Payment is due upon arrival. Sorry; there will be no refunds.

1012 E MacArthur, [ksparkour.com](http://ksparkour.com), 316-992-5542



## PIANO LESSONS AT HOME

Would you like your child to take piano lessons, but don't want to deal with the hassle of getting to them? Now you can have lessons come to you! This is a great, easy way for you to add music to your curriculum. Family discounts and generous referral discounts. Spots are limited and will fill fast. Contact Julia for more information. Call/text 316-214-3636 or check out our website [www.AccentStudioKS.com](http://www.AccentStudioKS.com) or Facebook page [www.facebook.com/AccentStudioKS](http://www.facebook.com/AccentStudioKS)