

CONFERENCE "WEEKEND GETAWAY"

Spend the evenings alone together or take the opportunity to renew friendships with other couples on this conference weekend. Why not grab this opportunity and attend the winter conference while "recharging" too? Friday and Saturday evenings the conference ends early enough to grab a bite to eat, spend some time relaxing and catching up with each other or friends. Hotel accommodations are available at the Comfort Inn, 21222 State Hwy 249. Call 281-370-2727 for reservations.

1, 2, 3. . . GO! READ TO SUCCEED BEGINS

Earn tickets to Six Flags Arlington or Fiesta Texas in San Antonio by participating in the Read to Succeed Program (K-6th grades). The RECREATIONAL reading of 360 minutes does not include any reading required for school. Get your library cards and READ! Sign up with your support group or contact SETHSA at sethsa@sethsa.org or you may call 281-370-8787 and leave a message with the answering service. Reading begins on January 2nd and ends on February 10th. All reading logs must be received in the SETHSA office by February 15th. Logs need to reflect book title, author, date(s) read, and number of minutes each day. Logs may be emailed to SETHSA or sent through the U S Postal Service.

SPELLING BEE COUNTDOWN

"Paideia". We see that word every year as the title to the study book, but has your speller paid attention to the word: how it is pronounced, its' origin, and meaning? It is a good place to begin in your studies, but hopefully those studies have long begun as the New Year ushers in the final support group spelling bees! All support groups will be holding their Level I Spelling Bee and The Just For Fun Spelling Bee in the month of January with the deadline for group registration on Friday, January 27th. Both 1st and 2nd place winners of the Level I and The Just For Fun Spelling Bees are eligible to advance on to the SETHSA Level II and The SETHSA Just For Fun Bee. The SETHSA Bees will be held on Saturday, February 11th for the 4th year at Lindale Assembly of God. The SETHSA Just For Fun Spelling Bee will run first with check-in to begin at 8:00 am, competition to begin at 8:30 am. The two Level II Bees that will run concurrently, will follow with check-in at 9:30, competition to begin directly following the Just For Fun Bee at approximately 10:00 am. Websites/email addresses to refer to:

Scripps National Spelling Bee:

www.spellingbee.com

The Houston Chronicle:

www.houstonchronicle.com/cie

SETHSA:

www.sethsa.org/sethsa@sethsa.org

SETHSA Spelling Bee Coordinator:

linda@landrum.cx



WIN UP TO \$25,000 IN SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The National Geographic Bee will be held in the Earl Elliott room at the Barbara Bush Library (northwest Houston) on Friday, January 6, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. State winners are invited to National Geographic headquarters in late May to compete in the national finals for scholarships in the amount of U.S. \$25,000, \$15,000 and \$10,000.

The bee is open to 4th through 8th graders and for the younger grades there is the Just for Fun Bee! For fun and to sharpen your skills, visit the National Geographic website at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee. If you are interested in registering your student for this event, please call 281-370-8787 or e-mail sethsa@sethsa.org.

YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

Have you ever heard the marching of soldiers around the city of Jericho – then the sound of the trumpets and at last you hear the crumbling of the buildings? The Bible in Living Sound has been doing Bible dramatization for many years. The Weidner family has listened to these tapes for over a quarter of a century with great enjoyment.

Mr. Dean Sanders has such a heart to preach the gospel to all nations that he has made available this 75 CD set on 2 MP3s for third world countries. Please consider helping him in this endeavor by sending a small donation of \$6.50 to the Bible in Living Sound. Each of these small donations will help spread the gospel in China to 10 different homes! For more information you can visit their website at www.bibleinlivingsound.org and even listen to the tapes in Mandarin. Donations may be mailed to PO Box 234, Nordland, WA 98358-0234 or call 800-634-0234.

Southeast Texas Home School Association (SETHSA) is a volunteer, non-profit 501(c)3 organization committed to ministering to home schoolers in the southeast area of Texas. We receive over 4000 phone calls per year in which we inform and encourage new and veteran home educators. SETHSA provides central communication through our monthly newsletter, *The Teaching Pioneer* as well as on the web, which contains information on legal updates, as well as local news and activities. SETHSA hosts two conferences each year with more than 130 workshops and 250 vendors. As well as sponsoring Bees, reading incentive programs, home school day's and much more.

Individual subscriptions to *The Teaching Pioneer* are available. Contact SETHSA through email or by the phone number listed below to find out more information.

Your financial contributions help SETHSA better minister to the home school community and are tax deductible. For more information or suggestions, email, call or write to:

SETHSA
PMB 297 4950 FM 1960 W. #A-7 Houston, Texas 77069
Ans Serv. 281-370-8787 FAX 281-655-0963
web page: <http://www.sethsa.org> e-mail: sethsa@sethsa.org

Submissions to *The Teaching Pioneer* are accepted and must be received electronically or in writing by the 15th of the preceding month. The newsletter is mailed or electronically sent on or before the 22nd of each month. SETHSA reserves the right to edit articles for content and length. Articles and reviews do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the SETHSA board. Send articles to the address above.

HSLDA NEWS

2005 HSLDA PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to the winners and all the participants for a job well done in the 2005 HSLDA Photo Contest. See for yourself how homeschooled photographers responded to this year's theme "Homeschooling in America" by visiting the HSLDA website and viewing the wonderful pictures. The website address to see these pictures is www.hslda.org/contests/Photo/Final2005/

November 1, 2005

UNREASONABLE SCHOOL DISTRICT FILES CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST A HOMESCHOOL FAMILY

The Cole family started homeschooling in October 2004 because they learned about the benefits of a home education. Also, their children were failing academically in the public school. In addition, the school kept giving one child double medication without the parent's permission, which led to even greater difficulties. Homeschooling proved to be a success because in just a few months the younger child went from third grade to fourth grade work. The parents were thrilled. *Read the entire article at the HSLDA website www.hslda.org/hs/state/tx/200511010.asp*

SETHSA GROUP DISCOUNT FOR HSLDA MEMBERSHIP

Give yourself and your family a gift this year for Christmas. Join the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) and use the SETHSA (Southeast Texas Home School Association) group number to receive a discount. You will save \$20 per year with the group discount (Group Number 296173). Membership is \$115 per year or \$95 with your discount. Don't delay, sign up today! You can sign up online at www.hslda.org/join

HSLDA Perx

ONLINE COLLEGE NETWORK

Can colleges find your homeschooler? HSLDA and HSF Friends of Home Schooling have joined with www.OnlineCollegeNetwork.com to offer free help. Online College Network (OCN) was created to help college-bound students gain exposure based on their performance. Student resumes are stored in OCN's secure database and college personnel search the database by specifying demographic, academic and/or athletic criteria. See the OCN website to review a sample search at www.onlinecollegenetwork.com/studsample1.asp

PATRICK HENRY COLLEGE DISTANCE LEARNING DISCOUNT

Patrick Henry College offers HSLDA Members and HSF Friends of Home Schooling a 5% discount on its new online distance learning program.

MISCELLANEOUS

CALLING ALL JUNIOR CHEFS

Have you longed for the day when you could sit back and relax while your children cooked a delicious dinner for you - without a visit from the local fire department? Indeed all "chefs" need some instruction in the basics of cooking to get their creative cooking juices flowing. This is the perfect class for your aspiring new cooks. Beginning in January, I will be teaching a Beginner Cooking Class for children ages 9-13. We will cover all the cooking basics including utensils, pots and pans, ovens, stoves, various food preparation and cooking methods, food properties, table setting and proper table etiquette, with a special luncheon in May prepared by the students. We may also tour a real restaurant kitchen to see "how it's done" professionally. Classes will be Monday afternoons from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm running **January 9th through May 13th** and will meet in the Champion Forest/1960 area. The cost for the classes will be \$30 per month with a semester supply fee of approximately \$30. The class will be limited to 10 students. Depending upon the response, an evening class may be offered. Please contact Debbie Gott at 713-560-3766 to register your child or for further information.

MEGAN'S FUND

Megan is an 18 year old girl from the Magnolia area that has sustained a brain injury from a routine surgery. Her family is struggling with many medical bills for exact diagnosis, treatment and rehab as well as attempting to keep a parent home to care for her.

Megan was homeschooled her entire life and was a superior student, horse enthusiast, and pianist planning to pursue a master's degree in music prior to the injury.

Her grandmother has set up an account at Wells Fargo Bank if you would like to make a donation to help the family with medical expenses and monthly bills.

Wells Fargo Acct# 5357516631

Cards and well wishes can be sent to 153 Oak Hills Ct, Magnolia, TX 77355. Your support and/or prayers are greatly appreciated.

SERVICE PROJECT - 30 HOUR FAMINE

30 Hour Famine is an international youth movement to fight hunger. Participants, for 30 hours, will go without food to discover what true hunger is. That is where you come in. By sponsoring a participant, you can pay for food and care for one day for a child. All it takes is one dollar. Thirty dollars a month (\$360 a year) will feed and care for a child for one year. My name is Elizabeth Frederick and I am a homeschool teen. I will be participating in the next 30 Hour Famine on **February 24th and 25th**. If you are able to help sponsor my famine with a donation of \$1 or more, please contact sjf@jsoft.com. If you would be interested in participating in the famine yourself, the website is www.30hourfamine.org and the phone number is 800 7 FAMINE. Save a life. Do the Famine.

KID'S CORNER

January Elementary Question:

1. Captain James Cook sighted what land mass on January 18, 1778?
2. Kevin is 14 inches taller than George. The difference between Kevin and Richard is two inches less than between Richard and George. Kevin at 6'6" is the tallest. How tall are Richard and George?

January Jr. High/High School Question:

1. At the age of 6, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart began performing in concert halls across Europe. He died at the age of 35. About how many works did he compose before his death?
2. Two trains are on a head on collision course. The trains are currently 65 miles apart. The north bound train is traveling at 55 miles per hour and the south bound train is traveling at 80 miles per hour. What is the distance between the trains two minutes before they collide?

December Elementary Answers:

1. Who was the founder of the modern circus, who found that by using centrifugal force, he could perform impressive stunts?

ANSWER: Englishman Philip Ashley

2. Fill in the missing numbers in the following series: 101 99 102 98 103 97 ? ?

ANSWER: 104 96

There are really 2 series in one, one starts at 101 and counts up; the other starts at 99 and counts down.

December Jr. High/High School Answers:

1. In 1976, the first Concorde jets took off simultaneously from Heathrow Airport and Orly Airport. The Concorde was the fastest passenger airliner in the world. How fast did it fly?

ANSWER: Top speed was 1,354 mph.

2. Find a simple method of solving:

$$6751X + 3249Y = 26751$$

$$3249X + 6751Y = 23249$$

ANSWER: Add the equation to give: $10000X + 10000Y = 50000$

Divide by 10000 to give: $X + Y = 5$

Subtract to give: $3502X - 3502Y = 3502$

Divide by 3502 to give: $X - Y = 1$

Therefore: $X = 3$ and $Y = 2$

We encourage all students to respond to our Kids' Corner. The first students with the correct answer mailed, emailed or faxed each month will have their names published in the following month's edition of The Teaching Pioneer. Our fax number is 281-655-0963, or e-mail: sethsa@sethsa.org, and our address is SETHSA, PMB 297, 4950 FM 1960 W. #A7, Houston, Texas 77069

CONGRATULATIONS

KINGWOOD ROBOTICS TEAM WINS REGIONAL

ET - Extra Technology, a team primarily of homeschoolers from Kingwood, Texas won 1st Place Performance and the Director's Award at the Texas Lone Star FIRST LEGO League (FLL) robotics tournament on December 3rd. Over 80 teams competed at this tournament at the University of Houston. ET was also a final 4 finalist for robot design. As Director's Award winner, ET advances to the 2006 FIRST LEGO League World Festival in Atlanta, Georgia - April 27th, 28th & 29th. The theme for this season's challenge was Ocean Odyssey.

ET needs to raise additional funds for travel and tournament expenses, including the \$1,000 registration fee, if you can help with sponsorship or donations, please contact Susan Reese at susilugal@earthlink.net. The FLL World Festival will feature 75 teams from around the world, please consider helping send this Houston area team to this international event. Every little bit brings Atlanta one step closer.

MORE HOMESCHOOL ROBOTICS WINNERS:

It was a clean sweep of awards by homeschool teams at the Central Texas FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Robotics tournament that was held on December 10th in Austin, Texas. Twenty-seven teams competed in this event. Congratulations to the following homeschool teams which won awards:

Undersea United (San Antonio) - Director's Award and 1st Place Performance Award. Undersea United is also eligible to attend the FLL World Festival in Atlanta.

The Yellow Submarines (Austin) - Robot Design Award Great White Bots (Temple) - Project Award Pirates (Magnolia) - Teamwork Award and Spirit Award Pirates were also high score of the day with a 305.

Texas BEST Robotics held on December 3rd at SMU in Dallas:

Mission to Hubble - 1st place BEST award;

3rd place - Texoma Home Educators.

The Woodlands Homeschoolers Game Award -

3rd place - Integrity Educators;

4th place - Tech Home Schools

Founders Award for Creative Design -

2nd place - Texoma Home Educators

You may get the full results of these competitions at

www.texasbest.org/#bestawardresults

At the Frontier Trails BEST Regional held in November, the Wichita Home School team took first in the BEST award contest and first in the game competition.

www.kansas.com/mld/kansas/news/local/13263839.htm

TEXAS HOMESCHOOLERS

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Sign up for FREE e-lets now:

www.freetohomeschool.org

HOME SCHOOL
LEGAL DEFENSE
ASSOCIATION



HSLDA. Here for you—every day.

WHAT'S HAPPENING LOCALLY

HEAVEN SENT HOME SCHOOL CHOIR ENROLLMENT

Heaven Sent Home School Choir is currently enrolling students in grades K through 12 for the next semester. Rehearsals begin on **January 9th**. The spring semester will include several ministry opportunities; a March fundraiser at Chick-fil-A, a performance in April at Disney World, and a gala concert in May. To find out how to be a part of the choir, please call Kathie Fleming at 281-429-5083. Heaven Sent Choir is a non-profit organization with students from all over the Houston area.

4-H IS NOT JUST ANIMALS!

Did you know that there are 40 different project areas to choose from in 4-H? How about Food and Nutrition, Photography, maybe Leadership? There is even Consumer Education, Clothing and Textiles, as well as Leadership and Community Service. We invite students who live in Harris county to come visit the Green Monkey 4-H Club on from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, Thursday, **January 12th**, at Trinity Lutheran Church - 18926 Klein Church Rd (Community Center building facing Spring Cypress), Spring, upstairs in room 213-A. For more information, please contact Karen Garza at greenmonkey4h@yahoo.com or 281-370-6222 or visit our web site - www.geocities.com/greenmonkey4h/greenmonkey.html. See you there! Sites to visit are: Harris County 4-H web site -

WHAT'S HAPPENING LOCALLY CONT.

urbantaex.tamu.edu/Harris/4h.html; Texas 4-H site (includes details on available projects) - <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects>

SCIENCE FAIR WORKSHOP

This is it! Time to get registered to attend on January 21, 2006 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Tomball College Convention Center! The deadline is **January 13th**. Just log on to download a registration form from our website at www.geocities.com/northsidesciencefair/ or drop us a line via email, northsidesciencefair@yahoo.com or give us a call at 281-370-6222. Don't miss this opportunity! This is for students K-12th along with their parents for a fee of \$10 *per family* to cover teaching materials and handouts. Lunch (pizza and drink) is optional for \$5 *per person*. It would be helpful if arrangements were made for younger children. Nursing babies are welcomed. Each topic will include a *hands on* application exercise. Topics to be covered are:

9:00 – 10:00 am - Pick a Perfect Project

10:15 – 11:15 am - Ready...Set...Wait! What am I doing?

11:30 – 12:30 am - Bored with your Board?

12:30 – 1:30 pm - Lunch (pre-paid) – Q&A + Fellowship

Get ready to for the Regional Northside Science Fair on April 1st!



HCYA 2006 GRADUATION

The HCYA Graduation application process is now beginning. The graduation program is slated for 10:00 am - 12:00 noon on Saturday, May 13, 2006 with a reception following from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm at Champions Forest Baptist Church located at 15555 Stuebner Airline Road, Houston, Texas 77069. The 2006 Graduation Package is now available and you will want to apply now to get a slot. Do NOT use a 2005 Package to apply for 2006. Space is limited to 100 graduates with the application submission deadline on **January 14th**. Only completed applications will be considered. Due to the limited number of graduates, prompt submission of the application is encouraged. Visit the HCYA (Homeschool Christian Youth Association) graduation website at www.hcya.org/graduation.htm or the HCYA website at www.hcya.org/

EVENINGS FOR EDUCATORS AT MFAH

Evenings for Educators are scheduled from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm for **January 25th**, February 21st, and March 28th at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Registration is \$5 and pre-registration is not required. For more information, call 713-639-7590 or email schools@mfa.org The Museum of Fine Arts (Houston) <http://mfa.org/>

CAROLE JOY SEID SEMINAR

"Begin with the End in Mind" is a seminar presented by Carole Joy Seid on **January 28th**, from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm. This seminar will be held at Christ The King Presbyterian Church, Houston Community College

You know you're a homeschooling mom when...



Todd Wilson - www.familymanweb.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING LOCALLY CONT.

Southwest Campus, 5601 West Loop South, Houston TX. Houston Community College is just South of the Galleria on West Loop South. The cost is \$45 for advance registration postmarked by January 13th or \$53 at the door. Feel free to bring your own bag lunch to allow opportunity for visiting. For a registration form or more information, go to <http://www.carolejoyseid.com/>

2006 SHOWCASE OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND CHILDREN'S CAMPS - EDUCATION FROM THE INSIDE OUT

The 2006 Showcase of Private Schools and Children's Camp is a Free, fun and informational event for families held at the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion on **March 4th, 2006** from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm. Over 100 private schools (boarding, special needs, parochial, non-sectarian and independent) and summer camps (both local & nationwide) will have booths with free goodies and information about their programs and. There will also be entertainment such as face painting, rock climbing, stilt-making, etc available for children. Thousands of dollars in scholarships will be raffled off at this year's event. For further information contact: Christine Gautreaux at showcase2006@sbcglobal.net or 832-381-4635. Visit the following websites for even more information:
www.privateschoolsandcamps.org/
www.woodlandsonline.com/evps/evitem.cfm?ID=9631

REGIONAL NORTHSIDE SCIENCE FAIR 2006

Come be a part of our 10-year anniversary! We are excited that Ward's Natural Science is teaming up with ICARE as we host this year's fair. Don Allen from Ward's is donating door prizes along with items to be included in each exhibitor's gift bag. Visit them at www.wardsci.com. Don't miss out! Join us this year on **April 1st** (no fooling) at Tomball College Convention Center!

Fee: \$7 per exhibitor, teams limited to 2 students
Registration deadline: Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Make sure to check out the article in this newsletter on a science fair workshop that can help prepare your family to participate. Visit us at www.geocities.com/northsidesciencefair/ or contact Karen Garza at northsidesciencefair@yahoo.com. We look forward to serving you!!

HOMESCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL SPRING SEMI-FORMAL EVENT

A semi-formal event will be hosted by CACHE Homeschool Support Group from 6:30 pm to 11 pm (extra hour this year!) on Thursday, **April 27th**, at the Woodlands Waterway Marriott. This is for all area homeschool high schoolers (grades 9-12) and homeschool alumni. Parents, grandparents and invited guests are also welcome. Dress is modest semi-formal. No dates are required. This is an opportunity to dress up for fun and fellowship with other area homeschool high school students. This event is a smoke-free and alcohol-free event! Cost per person, which includes a dinner buffet, is \$45 until January 14th (early registration) and \$50 thereafter. For registration information contact Susan Frederick at sjf@soft.com. Over 80 homeschoolers attended last year's event.

ROBOFEST HOUSTON

On Saturday, **April 22nd**, at Matthew Lutheran Church, 21434 East Hardy Rd, Houston, TX 77073 (FM 1960/Hardy Toll Rd area). Students design, construct and program their robots while learning problem-solving techniques, mathematics, logic, creativity, physics, electronics, mechanics, teamwork, computers and computer programming. Started at Lawrence Tech in 2000, Robofest has grown rapidly. There will be a Junior (5th-9th grade) and Senior (9th-12th grade) level competition as well as an exposition (robot dance). Teams can enter either the exhibition (2-7 students) or the game competition (4-7 students). There is a need for teams, volunteers, judges and sponsors. Students from all over Texas are invited to participate. This is currently the only Texas Robofest event scheduled. All questions should go to robofest@jsoft.com. For Robofest Houston information: <http://www.jsoft.com/ts/robotics/RoboFest/>

For more about robotics see:

Robotics - <http://www.jsoft.com/archive/robotics/>

FIELD TRIP IDEA OF THE MONTH

PORT OF HOUSTON

Have you ever considered a field trip to the Port of Houston? One of the most important economic industries in the Houston area, this is an opportunity take your students on a field trip which will enlighten them about this industry. Take a waterborne tour of one of the busiest ports in the world, view international cargo vessels, loading docks, and operations at Turning Basin Terminal, and cruise aboard the air-conditioned M/V Sam Houston. This field trip requires advance reservations and you may receive newspapers and student guides that



MEMORIAL ATHLETIC CLUB
AND AQUATIC CENTER

Youth Aquatic Programs for 2006

- ☉ American Red Cross Certified Swim Instructor Staff with over 200 years experience collectively 
- ☉ Warm indoor instructional pool and heated outdoor lap pool
- ☉ 18th year of personalized instruction in private, semi-private and group settings for folks 6 months to adult
- ☉ Morning, midday and afternoon classes offered weekday and Saturday
- ☉ Non-competitive swim team for experienced swimmers
- ☉ Healthy, active Private Pool Parties on Friday and Saturday evenings
- ☉ Convenient online registration (www.fitmacaquatics.com)
- ☉ Long standing Better Business Bureau Member



Contact: Kathy Veen MS Ed.
Aquatic Director
14690 Memorial Drive
Houston, Texas 77079
281-759-1748



FIELD TRIP IDEA OF THE MONTH CONT.

the Port of Houston Delivers at no additional charge. Group size is limited to 45 persons which includes babies. There is no minimum required to participate in a tour. It is advised that large groups make reservations 2-3 months in advance. Small groups have greater likelihood of being able to get reservations on short notice. Call the Public Relations Department at 713-670-2413 and speak to Marie to make your reservations or go online at www.portofhouston.com and follow the links to the Sam Houston Boat Tour Reservations. SETHSA would love feedback on your field trip. There is information you need to know before going on this field trip, so be sure to visit the website listed above whether you call or make reservations online. SETHSA would love to have some feedback about your field trip to the Port of Houston.



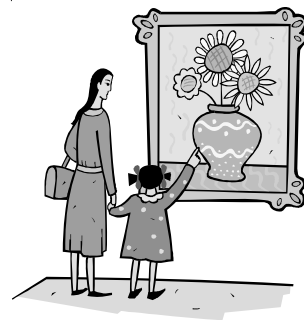
FIELD TRIP IDEAS

CHECK OUT THESE FREE OPPORTUNITIES TO DIFFERENT MUSEUMS

John P. McGovern Museum of Health & Medical Science
1515 Hermann Dr.
713-521-1515
www.museumofhealth.org
Thursday 2- 5pm FREE admission

The Jung Center of Houston
5200 Montrose Blvd.
713-524-8253
www.junhouston.org
FREE admission

Lawndale Art Center
4912 Main Street at Rosedale
713-528-5858
www.lawndaleartcenter.org
FREE admission



The Menil Collection
1515 Sul Ross
713-525-9400
www.menil.org
Wed - Sunday 11- 7pm - FREE admission

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
The Caroline Wiess Law Building
1001 Bissonnet Street
The Audrey Jones Beck Building
5601 Main Street
713-639-7300
www.mfah.org
FREE admission open till 9pm on Thursdays

FUN & EDUCATIONAL OUTINGS

HOMESCHOOL DISCOUNT FOR DORA THE EXPLORER ON STAGE
Discount tickets are available now through January 4th or while supply lasts, for Dora the Explorer on stage at the Hobby Center in Houston. You have a choice of either 11:00 am or 2:00 pm shows on Saturday, February 11th. Multiple price and seating levels are available. Please contact Susan Frederick at sjf@jsoft.com with any questions. Ticket order instructions can be found at www.jsoft.com/archive/taffie/Broadway.html

TOYOTA CENTER UPDATE

There are currently several group sales offers for homeschoolers available through Tiffany Hill; Smuckers Stars on Ice (1/22/06), Harlem Globetrotters (2/10 and 2/11/06) and NBA Jam Session - interactive basketball theme park (2/16-2/20/06). To order tickets contact Tiffany Hill at 713-758-7577. For event description see: <http://www.jsoft.com/archive/taffie/Toyota.html>

SPACE CENTER HOUSTON HOMESCHOOL OVERNIGHT

It's that time of year again! Space Center Houston announces the annual Home School Overnight on February 16th. This program has grown

FUN & EDUCATIONAL OUTINGS CONT.

every year and this year will be no exception. This is a special night designed specifically for Home School families. Our program includes hotel accommodation for one night, dinner on the night of the overnight, a continental breakfast at the hotel and free admission on Home School Day on Feb. 17th, all for \$75 per student and \$60 per adult. You students will participate in 3 exciting hands-on activities, which are based on age level. We have programs for students ages 4 to 18. Come join us at Space Center Houston and watch your student's imagination Blast OFF!!!

HOMESCHOOL DAY AT SPACE CENTER HOUSTON

Come join other homeschoolers on February 17th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm for Homeschool Day at Space Center Houston. This will be the only Homeschool Day in 2006. Don't miss these Special Educational Opportunities: Spacesuit Demonstrations, NASA's Educator Resource Center Presentations, Giant Screen Presentations, Inside the International Space Station, and NASA Tram Tours. For further information Call: 281-244-2164 or visit www.spacecenter.org/homeschool.html

FEDERAL RESERVE FIELD TRIP FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Houston Branch is hosting a field trip for homeschool high school students. The field trip will be Tuesday, February 21st from 9:00 to 11:00 am. The field trip includes a tour of their new building on Allen Parkway, followed by a talk from Mr. Bill Gilmer on the economy of the Texas Gulf Coast. Bill Gilmer is vice president in charge of the El Paso Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. This is a wonderful opportunity for high school age students who are interested in the economy and business.

To sign up, please email Melinda McNicoll at mrmcnic@earthlink.net. Include the name and grade level of your high school student as well as the names of parents who will be attending in the email. Since this is a place of business, all attending will need to wear appropriate clothing.

Please go to their website at www.dallasfed.org/fed/houston.html and browse for additional information and history of the Federal Reserve System.



HOUSTON ROCKETS HOMESCHOOL DISCOUNT

The Houston Rockets Homeschool Discount will be on Friday, February 24th at the Toyota Center. Invite your friends and family to come with you to see the Houston Rockets take on the Golden State Warriors and get a great group discount for the game. This event is open to all homeschoolers, friends, and family members. Order your tickets early while supplies last. By popular request, our group discount will include the option for better seats with more leg-room, closer to the arena floor.

PACES

Parent And Child Educational Services

IT'S FINALLY HERE!!
THE BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR!
P.A.C.E.S. FAMILY SOCK HOP
FEB. 17, 2006 AT LINDALE ASSEMBLY ON 610 N. LOOP. 5-9PM.
WITH SILENT AUCTION, CARNIVAL, SODA SHOP, TALENT CONTEST.....AND.....
FEATURING..... HOUSTON'S HAPPENING HOMESCHOOL DADS,
THE WORD,
PLAYING YOUR FAVORITE 50'S AND 60'S HITS. COME SWING DANCE AND JITTERBUG WITH ALL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

ADMISSION \$5.00 AT DOOR

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I-TERM CLASSES
NW Location—Living Stones Church
South Location—Bay Area Christian Church
Central Location—Lindale Assembly
Week of 2/13/06, visit our website for details.

I-TERM Class Offerings include, Financial Peace for the Next Generation, Texas History, Writing with Style, American Government I, Photography/Scrapbooking, Dance/Gymnastics, How Great Thou Art, Speed reading, SAT Prep and more.

Tickets are: \$15, \$23, and \$40 and are subject to availability. Get your family and friends together and join us for another great night of Rockets basketball! Order today for best seating while supplies last! Tickets ordered less than 10 days before the game will be available at Will Call.

There are three ways to order:

1. Contact Meredith Bland at 713-758-7459
2. Online orders at www.jsoft.com/archive/taffie/Rockets.html
3. Download and mail the order form.

Updated information on this event will be posted at the above website. If you have any questions, please email Susan Frederick at sjf@jsoft.com



WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

TEXAS HOME SCHOOL STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS FEAST

Come watch homeschooled athletes compete in the State Basketball Tournaments! Tournaments will be at 25 Burwood, San Antonio, Texas on January 26th thru 28th - all Girls Divisions and Boys 16 and Under Division. Then on February 9th thru 11th, the Boys 14 and Under and Boys 18 and Under Divisions will hold their tournament at the same location. These tournaments are a perennial source of fun,

WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE CONT

fellowship and great basketball. This year there is even more reason for you and your family to attend — admission into the games will be free for everyone! Questions and volunteers: sapatriotsbball@aol.com Family Educators Alliance of South Texas (FEAST) www.homeschoolfeast.com/

AGGIELAND SATURDAY

Attention high school students considering attending Texas A&M. The Office of Admissions and Records at Texas A&M University invites you to the open house called Aggieland on Saturday, February 18th, at Texas A&M, College Station. Come join this once a year event in which prospective freshman and transfer students travel to Texas A&M University to experience the spirit of Aggieland. Participate in a variety of group sessions that will provide you with information about freshman and transfer admissions, financial aid, student services, student organizations, and student traditions. Come and discover why Texas A&M University is one of the top academic institutions in the nation. www.tamu.edu/aggiesaturday/

EXPLORE UT LEARNING FUN DAY

Students (K-12) in your home schools - and their parents - are invited to a day of enrichment activities from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm on March 4th at the University of Texas at Austin. It's free and no registration is required. You can choose from more than 300 activities across the campus. Visit the University of Texas website at <http://www.utexas.edu/events/exploreut/>

TAMU JUNIOR SCIENCE BOWL

The TAMU Junior Science Bowl is scheduled for March 4th at Texas A&M, College Station. The National Junior Science Bowl and its regional competitions are math and science competitions among teams of junior high/middle school students (grades 6-8) throughout the country. The program is designed to encourage students and teachers to achieve educational excellence in the sciences. The fast-paced question-and-answer categories are astronomy, earth and life sciences, computer science and technology, physics, chemistry, mathematics and general science.

Registration deadline is February 23rd. For further information see: <http://outreach.science.tamu.edu/juniorbowl.asp>

15TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The National Christian Homeschool Basketball Championships has scheduled the 15th Annual tournament to be held in Oklahoma City, OK on March 14 - 18, 2006. The 2005 NCHBC was the most successful year yet. Over 250 teams participated at the NCHBC and there were 30

WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE CONT

plus games broadcast over the internet. Five thousand players, coaches and fans were at the opening ceremony and almost eight thousand spectators attended throughout Championship Saturday at the Sawyer Center. The 2005 NCHBC was the largest homeschool sporting event for the fourteenth straight year. Be a part of the NCHBC by registering your team on the website at www.homeschoolbasketball.com. Please direct all questions to Tim Flatt, Executive Director, at the following email address: tflatt@homeschoolbasketball.com.

TAMU Vet School Open House

Come to the TAMU Vet School Open House from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. on April 8th. The Open House is a chance for the College of Veterinary Medicine to reach out to the community to promote and stimulate education about the many aspects of veterinary medicine, public health, and the roles of animals and veterinarians in our society. There will be educational exhibits in the veterinary school, small animal clinic, and large animal clinic. No one is too old or too young to attend Open House. There is something here for everyone! <http://www.cvm.tamu.edu/openhouse/>

CONTESTS

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS PROGRAM

The Scholastic Writing Coordinator for Harris County Department of Education would like to invite home school students within Harris County to participate in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards program for students in Grades 7 -12. This is a very prestigious competition and offers students a chance to be recognized for their achievements in art and/or writing. Receptions are held honoring regional winners, and students can receive cash awards of up to \$1000.00. Work that receives a gold key at the regional level is entered in the national competition in New York. The website at www.hcde-texas.org has more information about the program and how to enter.

JUST FOR FUN - PART 3

Nobody asked for them, but here are some little known Texas facts. I know y'all just can't wait to read 'em! PART 3

Texas is the only state to enter the U.S. by TREATY instead of by annexation. (This allows the Texas flag to fly at the same height as the US flag.)

A Live Oak tree near Fulton is estimated to be 1500 years old.



Caddo Lake is the only natural lake in the state.

More Next Month

SOUTHEAST TEXAS HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AT THE
**10TH ANNUAL WINTER
GULF COAST HOME EDUCATION CONFERENCE**
FRIDAY & SATURDAY - JANUARY 27-28, 2006

**CHRISTCHURCH BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP - 12501 CHAMPIONS FOREST DRIVE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 770066**

SETHSA is proud to present the 10th Annual Winter Gulf Coast Home Education Conference. Two workshop tracks will be offered: a beginner series and a veteran series. The Friday night general session will be held jointly, whereas the Saturday tracks will be held concurrently. For directions and more information visit: www.sethsa.org

Conference Schedule

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2006

6:30 pm	Registration Begins
7:00 pm	Exhibit Hall opens
7:30 pm	General Session – James McDonald
9:30 pm	Exhibit Hall closes

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2006

8:30 am	Registration Begins & Exhibit Hall opens	5:30 pm	Exhibit Hall closes
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Beginner Series

Time	Workshop	Speaker
9:00 am	Why Home School?	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Golden
10:00 am	Beginning Home Schooling	Dr. Denise Boriack
11:00 am	Organization and Lesson Planning	Dr. Denise Boriack
12:00 noon	Lunch Break	
1:00 pm	Choosing the Curriculum	Mrs. Joanne Juren
2:00 pm	Discipline in Homeschooling	Tom & Evangeline Reed
3:00 pm	Time for browsing the Exhibit Hall	

Veteran Series

Time	Workshop	Speaker
9:00 am	Time for browsing the Exhibit Hall	
10:00 am	Homeschooling/Schooling at Home?	Valerie Bendt
11:00 am	Reading Made Easy	Valerie Bendt
12:00 noon	Lunch Break	
1:00 pm	Intro to Unit Study with Q&A Time	Valerie Bendt
2:30 pm	Time for browsing the Exhibit Hall	
3:00 pm	Making Memorable Books with Children	Valerie Bendt
4:00 pm	Time for browsing the Exhibit Hall	

To Expedite Your Entrance, Please Bring This Completed On-Site Registration Form to the Conference.

ON-SITE REGISTRATION FORM

LAST NAME: _____

FIRST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

REGISTRATION FEES:

_____	\$15.00 per person (18 yrs. & up)
_____	\$20.00 per couple
_____	\$ 5.00 per child (3 yrs. – 17 yrs.)
_____	\$5.00 Friday night ONLY (13 yrs. – Adult)
_____	Total Amount (Make checks payable to: SETHSA)