

Homeschool Herald

The Newsletter Created By and For Homeschoolers

The place to share your creative creations.



Scarecrows made in our Enrichment Program from dehydrated apples!

We hope you enjoyed the past issues of the *Homeschool Herald*. The February/March issue is here!

This issue of the *Homeschool Herald* fantastic! It's full of wonderful creative creations, including poetry, stories, and more! Thank you to everyone who's sent in submissions.

Spring is here, so tell us what you're up to! Have your sports teams started? How's the season going? What are your plans for Spring? Anything exciting??

Have you read any good books lately? Have you cooked any delicious recipes recently? Are you studying anything interesting? Have you done any exciting projects? What else are you doing this Spring?

Each issue of the *Herald* is unique. Students from throughout the state send us their recent work, and this issue actually has submissions from students from throughout the continent! An online English class has sent us submissions from their class project, and we thank them for

filling this issue with such spectacular contributions!

We look forward to seeing what you have to share! Send us your creative creations! We want it all! Almost everything is welcome, and we would be delighted to publish your contributions!

Submissions may also be sent via e-mail or snail mail. Please contact us with any questions, comments, ideas, or suggestions.

Welcome!

Homeschool Excursions hopes you enjoy the February/March issue of the *Homeschool Herald*.

Homeschool Excursions is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established to provide a valuable resource to homeschool families in Georgia. The *Homeschool Herald* will serve to build community and support since it's available to all families.

Our homeschoolers possess a wealth of creativity, and we hope this newsletter provides an accessible outlet for their expression. All contributions are welcome including pictures, stories, articles, and more. We invite everyone to share ideas, suggestions, and submissions.

*-Vered Kleinberger
Program Coordinator*

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING?

Most elephants weigh less than the tongue of the blue whale.

The animal responsible for the most human deaths worldwide is the mosquito.

SU DOKU

6			5	4		1	
				3		7	
	8	7			2	4	3
			4				9
		2		1		6	
	1				9		
3		1	6			5	8
	5			4			
	6		9		1		4

The numbers 1-9 must be in every column, row and box

WHY ARE CITIES WARMER THAN THEIR OUTLYING AREAS?

In almost every metropolitan area in the United States and Canada, the city is warmer than its immediately surrounding areas. Compared to suburban and rural areas, cities have gotten warmer throughout the twentieth century.

Do the cities themselves generate enough heat to raise the temperature measurably? Is there something about cities that allows them to retain heat? The answer to both questions: Yes.

The heat generated by buildings, factories, vehicles, lighting, and other byproducts of modern technology is enough to raise the temperature degree or two in densely populated cities. The hot air exhaled by air conditioners during summer months affects the temperature outside as surely, if less dramatically, as it affects the temperature inside an air-conditioned room.

But even if cities did not generate their own heat, they would still be warmer than rural or suburban areas. When the sun shines on the flat, featureless Kansas countryside, the light is reflected back to the sky. When the sun shines in midtown Manhattan, the light bounces from skyscraper to skyscraper like a manic ping-pong ball - more of the sun's warmth lingers close to ground level than on the Kansan farm and more warmth is absorbed in the city. In fact, buildings and cement pavements can retain more heat and more sunlight than grass, trees, or the farmer's topsoil.

Precipitation has a cooling in the country. Rain is stored in the ground and recycles itself through evaporation and plant respiration, thus absorbing heat. In the city, precipitation is channeled into sewers, effectively eliminating much of its cooling effect. The relative lack of this evaporation in the city explains why cities tend to be less humid than rural areas.

It is commonly assumed that air pollution is what makes cities warmer.

Since dust particles can absorb radiation, the theory goes, the more polluted the city, the higher the temperature is artificially raised. There is only one problem with this hypothesis: Dust particles can also reflect radiation, bouncing rays that would otherwise be



trapped near ground level back up to the sky. The jury is still out on the net effects of pollution on temperature.

One fact remains indisputable, though. On extremely windy days, the temperature differences between city and country tend to disappear; on calm days, there is more of a discrepancy than normal. the wind mitigates human intrusion upon the "natural" climate.

While modern life hasn't seemed to affect wind patterns, we have already created a lifestyle that might permanently change our temperature patterns, at least in metropolitan areas. Meteorologists have little idea, at this point, if these barely perceptible changes (cities have become a few degrees warmer in the last fifty years or so) will create profound changes in our ecosystem. They might. And we could usher in the next Ice Age with our cities as hothouses.

Feldman, David. Imponderables: The Solution to the Mysteries of Everyday Life. New York: William Morrow, 1987. pages 168-169.

Index of images:

http://www.blueradios.com/images/City_buildings.jpg

BIOFUELS POWER INDIA'S WIRELESS SYSTEM

GGMA, Ericsson, and local wireless provider, Idea Cellular, are in the process of starting a plan that would give rural Indians mobile service. The current problem with mobile phones is the lack of reliable electricity grids. The base stations have to have fuel trucked to them weekly in order to stay running. Ericsson estimated half of the cost of running a base station is fuel. The new plan would lower that cost, give them a cheaper way to have a reliable power grid, and be better for the environment.



The plan is to use cotton seed, a mahogany like tree called neem, and jatropha to make biofuel that can power the base stations. Biofuel is created from combining plant oil with alcohol. The plants would be grown and processed locally, creating

more jobs. The companies hope to have ten base stations in the city of Pune, in the region of Maharashtra, running on biofuels by this summer.

I like the idea of biofuel. It is really good for the environment, and it will create lots of jobs for the people. It is a good use of inedible plants. If the system works and does not cost too much, then other poor, rural countries should also be able to do it. There is also a possibility that biofuels could replace fossil fuels as the main source of fuel for all of the country.

Written by Zack Jordan

Sources: <http://www.news.bbc.co.uk>,
<http://www.infoworld.com>, <http://www.redherring.com>
http://kanpurdehat.nic.in/IMG_jatropha.jpg

MY TREASURE

Thoughts of you make my heart soar,
 But I am trying for so much more;
 A way to pull you in for you to find
 That without you I would be blind.
 I can see us walking together,
 You pulling me close to save me from the cold weather.
 You look at me, and I look back at you,
 And I know for an instant my dreams have come true.

Written by Jennifer Hayden

SPRING HAS SPRUNG!!

H	P	L	K	S	B	R	N	T	Y
L	A	E	S	O	L	H	A	J	W
P	S	A	U	P	O	I	R	I	P
G	S	V	N	L	O	Y	T	S	N
R	O	E	S	E	M	R	K	E	T
E	V	S	H	Y	S	L	T	A	S
E	E	B	I	R	D	S	H	S	H
N	R	P	N	Y	U	W	G	T	I
O	B	R	E	E	Z	Y	L	E	R
Y	F	L	O	W	E	R	S	R	T

There are nine words hidden in the puzzle above. They can be found up, down, across, diagonal, and backwards.

Word List:

- | | | |
|----------|----------|---------|
| Flowers | Breezy | Sports |
| Easter | Passover | Birds |
| Sunshine | Rain | T-shirt |
| Leaves | Blooms | Green |

SHOPPING

Shopping certainly is not for me.
 Searching the shops for hours a day
 Feeling nothing but dismay
 Girls love to shop? How can that be?
 Nothing seems to fit you see
 So many choices, such an array
 Not one pair will fit, not me, no way!
 Let me out of this store, set me free!
 I may try on just one more pair,
 Around my waist and thighs they fit!
 They don't pinch or pucker when I sit;
 Finally pants with fashion flair!
 And now to look for that perfect shirt
 What are the chances it will come with a skirt?

Written by Elsa Aitchison



THE GETTYSBURG SOLDIER

The soldier lifts his heavy head
And looks o'er the mass of blue
The line of grey fills his heart with dread
He doubts that he'll come through

The first shot breaks the silent dawn
The next ones follow through
Three blues are stretched out on the lawn
Two grays are down, too

The grass before the day was done
Had turned from green to red
And only the perfect hand of God
Kept our man from being dead

He felt as though he had been
Through the darker part of Hell
Men litter the ground, both blue and gray
So many brave souls fell

The Gettysburg battle will forever remain
Within this soldier's mind
He'll always question why he was saved
While so many were left behind

Written by Ashlyn Farrell, age 13

VIVIAN THE VIXEN

She was beautiful, cunning, and deceitful. These three simple words describe the character, Vivien, from the book [The Story of King Arthur and His Knights](#). Vivien was a damsel who was sent by Queen Morgana le Fay to destroy Merlin the enchanter. Even though Merlin knew most things, he could never tell of what his own future would be. Thus, when Vivien brought a ring of great beauty to King Arthur's court and tempted Merlin to wear it, the fate of Merlin the enchanter was sealed. Because of the magic in the ring, Merlin fell deeply in love with Vivien, which in turn led to his own undoing. Though Merlin only saw Vivien's beauty, there was still more to her in the depths of her heart.

Her beauty was a thing that no one could resist. For Queen Morgana le Fay even said, "Now thou, Vivien, art far more beautiful than I was at thine age. Wherefore I believe that thou wilt easily attract the regard of Merlin unto thee" (165). This Vivien did without any dilemma. When Merlin first saw her he looked upon her sourly, but when he saw that she was beautiful, he loved her. Because of the magic ring, her beauty was so irresistible that Merlin said he would teach Vivien everything he knew.

Vivien's quick wit and cunningness helped her along the way too. When Merlin asked what he could do to make Vivien love him, she said that if only he would teach her the things of magic, then and only then would she love him. After consenting to her wish, the two of them went off into the woodlands to practice her magic. Vivien was very cunning indeed for she knew how to use flattery quite well. After Merlin built her a castle using pure magic she said, "Master, thou art the most wonderful man in all of the world" (175)! Though she said this unto him, she still hated him because she was evil and Merlin was a good man.

If only Merlin knew how deceitful this girl was, then he would have never taught Vivien anything. After building her a castle and teaching her everything of magic he knew, Vivien prepared a feast for the both of them. "Then Vivien took the chalice and she went to where Merlin sat and knelt down before him and said, 'Sir, I beseech thee to take this chalice and to drink the wine that is within it'" (176). The wine in the chalice had a certain potion in it to which Merlin was very unaware. Not knowing so, he took the chalice and drank all of the wine it held. After Merlin woke from the sleep into which he fell because of the wine, he knew Vivien had deceived him. For now he was paralyzed forever because he trusted Vivien the Vixen.

The Lord himself said, "Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised" ([Proverbs 31:30](#)). Because Vivien did not fear the Lord, she messed up her own life and many others. She tricked so many people, including Merlin, into thinking she was just a beautiful, witty girl. Now that you know more about her, you can decide for yourself what you think her character was. I have already told you what I have thought of Vivien, and how I thought that she was a very sneaky and clever girl. But now it's your turn to ask yourself, 'Am I a Vixen, or do I fear the Lord?'

Written by Tiffany Massey

Resource

[Confessionism.com](http://www.confessionism.com), The online bible.

<http://www.confessionism.com>

Pyle, Howard. [The Story of King Arthur and His Knights](#). New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1965.

WEEDS? WHAT WEEDS?

Spring has sprung, flowers are blooming, leaves are sprouting, the sun is shining...Remember, don't pick those weeds! Learn about them and use them!

Some plants that seem to be popping up everywhere are wild onions, garlic, and chives, but I'm just going to focus on chives. Though often overlooked unless they're included with bagels and cream cheese, they actually have many beneficial properties. Some of these include:

- They're a good source of calcium; chives are believed to strengthen nails and teeth when consumed.
- The oil has antibacterial properties.
- Chives are used to stimulate appetite and promote digestion, especially when poor appetite is due to a cold.
- Like onions, garlic and leeks, chives contain health-promoting compounds that are believed to help prevent cancer and treat high blood pressure.
- As a member of allium family, which includes onions, garlics, and leeks, Asian chives have a generous amount of potassium and bone-building phosphorus.
- They also have good amounts of vitamin A.
- Garlic chives pack a major nutritional punch for a mere 30 calories per 100 grams. Low in fat and high in dietary fibre and protein, they contain high amounts of Vitamin C and carotene, and are a good source of calcium. They also contain Vitamin B1 and B2. In Chinese medicine, garlic chives are considered to be a yin or warming food.



Here's a little history about chives:

- The ancient Chinese used chives as long as 3,000 years ago, and since then, much legend has surrounded the small, grass-like plant.
- The Romans believed chives could relieve pain from a sunburn or sore throat, and Romanian gypsies used chives in fortune telling.
- It was also believed that hanging bunches of dried chives around the home would ward off disease and evil.
- Marco Polo is reputed to have experienced chives on his travels in China, where they were a native plant, and reported back their culinary attributes on his return to



the West, where they were readily accepted and cultivated ever since.

- The word *chives* is said to be derived from the Latin *cepa*, meaning onion. Chives have been used in cuisine for thousands of years.

Please research all plants before using them, and NEVER pick and eat anything without first consulting an herbalist or a qualified plant guide. Always be aware of whether the area you are gathering from may have been sprayed with chemicals.

Index of images and information:

- <http://www.recipeland.com/laurie/herbs/chives.epi>
- <http://www.paulparent.com/now/herbsplanter.html>
- <http://www.bigoven.com/whatis.aspx?term=chives>
- http://chinesefood.about.com/od/vegetablesrecipes/a/garlicchives_2.htm
- <http://www.theherbspiral.com/ChivesHistory.htm>
- <http://www.garden.org/images/App/articles/2084a.jpg>
- <http://www.pagehalf.com/chives.jpg>

Please consult your physician before making any medical or dietary decisions.

Compiled by Plant Enthusiast, Vered Kleinberger

BIG SISTER

If you trip and hurt yourself,
And Mommy's not nearby,
I'll gladly step in, kiss your scrapes,
And help you not to cry.

When you are frightened late at night
Of monsters on the creep,
I'll tip-toe in and sing to you
Until you fall asleep.

If you can't tie your shoelaces,
But try time and again,
I'll come and help you loop and pull,
Until at last, you can!

Sometimes you're a royal pain,
Destructive as a twister,
But even so, I'll always love you—
I am your big sister!

Written by Hope Grajcar

FOREVER ARISES

Phoenix, phoenix, thou flames of flight
Beautiful bird in the night
From the ashes always born,
Forever wakening in the morn!

Cinnamon nest ignites
How does this bird of flight
Come, go, flee, and fly
Why doest thou, fiery bird, not die?

Thy wings so wide
Show thy freedom inside
Make evil shiver
As you fly above her!

Come phoenix, thou immortal
Show me thy world
For freedom abounds with every sound
In the world thou dwell in, never death bound!

Thou, Oh bird, art beautiful, fiery and true
Compared to thou, I'm boring and blue
Why doest thou with wings, fly in the sky
When my own legs on the ground must rely?

Cursed and blessed with an undying death
Admiration, wonder, and awe hath
Made you a symbol to Christians alike
A sign of our Savior and all of his might!

Phoenix, phoenix, thou flames of flight
Beautiful bird in the night
Always born from the ashes
Now and forever, the phoenix arises!

Written by Rachael Saathoff

SUMMER

Do you enjoy the summer?
If you don't, then that's a bummer.
You may go to the beach,
Unless it's beyond your reach.
You can swim in the ocean
As long as you have on protective lotion.
You can build a sand castle,
If it's not too much of a hassle.
If you hate the beach, try the pool
For its all much better than school!
Before long, down goes the sun
But the fun has just begun!

Written by Courtney Evans



SNOWMAN PANCAKES

Two cups of bisquick- (I use organic mix)
1 Tbs of sugar (again I use the organic)
2Tbs of lemon juice
2 eggs
1 cup milk
2 tsp baking powder
Don't forget the chocolate chips and real maple syrup!!



Submitted by the
Swims Family

2006 VARSITY AND JUNIOR VARSITY FALCONS FOOTBALL TEAMS



EAGLE

Eagle, Eagle flying high
Soaring smoothly through the sky
Can man or woman create
The mold of you that God did break?

Is any bird thy equal?
Can any creature sequel,
Your long stretching wing?
Those that make my heart sing.

You roost in the high trees
Your feathers wisp in the breeze.
Are your eyes always watching
For danger ever stalking?

Do you ever have a moment
When your grace isn't fluent?
Do you ever wonder why
You can fly so very high?

Eagle, Eagle flying high
Soaring smoothly through the sky
I wish to ask, can I fly with you
So we may sail the sky so blue?

Written by Carmen Smith

THE STUDENT'S GIFT

A young person dying of lack of education
Suffering from moral discrimination.
Cried out to God for grace in this predicament.
God looked down through the clouds,
And saw the young person with a creased brow.
"What shall I do," God asked,
"To free this young person from his past?"
"Whom shall I send?"
"A person who can educate this young man"
"A person with patience and love do I seek."
"Where oh where shall I find thee?"
As the great Lord spoke,
A certain man came and knelt at His throne.
"I am not much, my Lord, and I do not know everything,
But patience and love have I, as well as a passion for
learning."
The good Lord immediately knew that this man had a
heart for teaching.
As you can probably guess everything turned out all right,
But one thing I would like to leave with you.
Teachers were not created to spoil your fun,
A teacher is the Father's gift to a young person from
above.

Written by Kayla Bramnick

2006-2007 NORTH GEORGIA FALCONS VARSITY BASKETBALL

The Falcons ended their inaugural basketball season with a win over War Hill Christian School that was settled in overtime.

War Hill started strong taking a 14 to 4 lead in the opening period. The Falcons came back in the second quarter by holding the Warriors to 2 points while Dane Tadsen and Jordan McDaniel each scored 4 points. The halftime score was 16 to 13 in favor of War Hill.

The third quarter was nip and tuck as both teams responded when the other team scored. The third quarter ended with War Hill ahead of North Georgia 27 to 25. The fourth quarter saw a flurry of activity, but not a lot of scoring.

Leading into the final seconds of the game, Reggie Cherry brought the ball down the court with War Hill in a press



defense. A lane opened up and C h e r r y passed the ball to A n d r e w Fleming who put it up for 2 points which brought the F a l c o n s within 3

points of tying the score. War Hill inbounded the ball and got to half court when Caleb Jefferson stole the ball and passed it off to Jordan McDaniel. With less than a minute to play, McDaniel scored from behind the three point arc to tie the game at 34 - 34 and put the game into overtime.

In overtime neither team was able to score alot, but the pace of the game was hectic. The Falcons went ahead 35 to 34 on a free throw shot by Caleb Jefferson. With 5 seconds left, War Hill scored up 37 to 36. An inbound pass near half court was stolen by Caleb Jefferson. Reggie Cherry lofted an inbound pass to Dane Tadsen who was breaking for the basket. Tadsen caught the ball and laid it up off the glass into the basket as the buzzer sounded. Falcons 40 War Hill 39. It was a great way to end the season.

Caleb Jefferson scored 7 points, Andrew Fleming scored 8, Jordan McDaniel scored 11 while Dane Tadsen led with 14 points and 15 rebounds. Falcons won 4 and lost 10 games in this their first season.

Submitted by Hank St.Denis

NORTH GEORGIA FALCONS JV VS. WAR HILL CHRISTIAN JV

War Hill took the early lead and led 12 to 6 at the end of the first quarter. At the half, it was War Hill 20 North Georgia 14.



Andrew Fleming led the first half scoring 6 while Gabe Jefferson scored 5. In the second half, the Falcons came out strong and took the lead. At the end of the third quarter, the score was Falcons 27

War Hill 26. War Hill stormed back in the fourth quarter and won the game 41 to 35. Gabe Jefferson led the Falcons in scoring finishing with 15 points. Andrew Fleming finished with 10 points and 5 rebounds. Others scoring were Zane McDaniel, Michael Jefferson and Jared Stephens.

HOMESCHOOL EXCURSIONS UPCOMING EVENTS

Our calendar is always changing. Continue checking our website or join our e-mail list for updates.

The Spring and Summer Calendars have been posted, but are far from complete. We are still working on schedule coordination with many of our instructors, so please visit the website for the current listing of upcoming events. But, here are a few of our exciting activities.

- April 5 Tour the Roswell Fire Station, and more! Additional activities are being planned to accompany this tour, so check back for details.
- April 12 Galapagos George at the Center for Puppetry Arts
- April 15-21 Earthskills Rivercane Rendezvous in Lafayette, GA
- April 19 Monthly Climbing Day at Adrenaline Climbing Gym in Suwanee
- April 24 Walking Tour of Inman Park in Atlanta
- May 3 Beauty and the Beast at the Center for Puppetry Arts

We have many outdoor and craft activities in the works, so check back soon. Don't miss out on the fun!!

HOMESCHOOLERS HAVING FUN!



Touring the Original Mattress Factory



At the Woodruff Arts Center, fooling around before Go Dog Go!



Touring the Fox Theatre, examining the intricate mosaic in the floor.



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Plato*

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SCHOOL ID# 130495

CUT THIS OUT AND TAPE IT TO YOUR
COMPUTER AS A REMINDER.

Homeschool Soccer League at Noonday Park

Spring season begins in March for 8 weeks

\$40 per player + \$7 tee-shirt fee

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ages 3-15



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www.freewebs.com/homeschoolsoccer

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The Creative Mind

The Creative Mind is the brainchild of Phillis Bostar. As a Homeschooling mother, she understood the need for a creativity based learning program that would help her children learn and enjoy the journey. Over the years, she developed a program using discovery, curiosity, & imagination for children ages 4 to 13 years. Ms. Bostar has enjoyed the popularity and success of her classes through the eyes of her own and many other children.

Look for Creative Mind classes offered through Homeschool Excursions.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Many families have asked if their homeschoolers can submit contributions even if they can't attend the planning meetings in Pickens County. Of course they can! You are welcome to e-mail or snail mail their creative contributions to Homeschool Excursions.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO...

- All the homeschoolers who contributed to the production of each issue. This couldn't have been done without you!
- Janis Kleinberger for all her assistance and generosity.
- The Daniels Family for their support and encouragement.
- Teri Verhine for her relentless devotion to provide a fantastic Enrichment Program for our homeschoolers.
- Our advertisers for their help in making the newsletter possible.

IMAGES AND WORKS CITED:

- [HTTP://WWW.FUN-FACTS.COM/](http://www.fun-facts.com/)
- [HTTP://WWW.PEOPLE.IUP.EDU/MMCCARTY/IMAGES/SUNFLOWER-NEW.JPG](http://www.people.iup.edu/mmccarty/images/sunflower-new.jpg)
- [HTTP://WWW.MARLINISD.ORG/](http://www.marlinisd.org/)
- [HTTP://WWW.EVERBE.COM/PRODUCTS/SPORTS/CWDATA/SOCCER%20BALL.HTML](http://www.everbe.com/products/sports/cwdata/soccer%20ball.html)

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Thank you for your support!
We're looking forward to a fantastic year!!

Mail form to: Homeschool Excursions
PO Box 1283, Jasper, GA 30143



The February/March Issue

Many homeschoolers have helped make this issue of the *Homeschool Herald* terrific, but a special thanks must be extended to Ms. Ganies' online English class. She teaches an online class through the Potter's School, and one of the requirements for her class were for her students to publish something they wrote. Their poetry, creative writing, and more have made the February/March issue one of the best yet! Thanks!

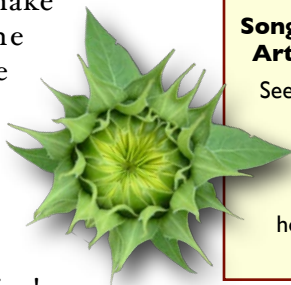
We hope that more homeschoolers will submit creative creations that they've worked on for school. Heck, if you've already made it, you may as well share it with the rest of the homeschool community! It's a

great way to receive recognition for your hard work and accomplishments.

And remember, the online issue can contain video and audio! Do you play a sport or an instrument? Have you created animations or other computer graphics? Have you edited your own videos? Send them our way!

So again thank you to the students of the Potter School for helping to make this issue of the *Herald* great! We look forward to seeing your future submissions!

Have a terrific Spring!



What's Inside?

Fuel can be made from most organic matter

Read about India's new way of powering their cellular industry.

Weeds? What weeds?

Spring has sprung and chives are popping us everywhere. Did you know how good they are for you??

Ms. Gaines' English Class

Poetry, stories, and more! Enjoy the wonderful submissions by the students in this online homeschool class.

Songs, Poems, Pictures, Stories, Articles, Games, and More

See what the homeschoolers have created this month. Each *Herald* is very different, so explore this issue, and we hope you enjoy the creativity of these homeschoolers!

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