



# Homeschool Herald

## The Newsletter Created By and For Homeschoolers

*The place to share your creative creations.*



### Welcome!

Homeschool Excursions hopes you enjoy the June 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 creations.

*-Vered Kleinberger  
Program  
Coordinator*



We hope you enjoyed the first issues of the *Homeschool Herald*. June's issue is here, and we're really excited with how it's turned out.

The homeschoolers have let their creative juices flow and they have shared their articles, original



artwork, stories, crafts, and more. Read on and let us know what you think! Hopefully your creative creations will be included in future issues. Everyone is welcome to share, and we would be delighted to publish your contributions! You are



invited to join our bi-monthly Herald planning meetings, usually held in Pickens County. Contributions may also be submitted via e-mail or snail mail.

Please contact us with any questions, comments, ideas, or suggestions.

### SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING!

There are more chickens than people in the world.  
A goldfish has a memory of three seconds.



#### VIDEO GAME REVIEW

Artist:  
Laurana  
Bartlett

For all the video game lovers, I have made a game review for some cool games that I and others have found fun.

The video game systems I have chosen for this review are Playstation 2 and Gamecube.

Kids flying kites on a sunny day



The first game is called Kingdom Hearts for Playstation 2. It is rated E for everyone. In this game you play a boy named Sora who lives in a world called Destiny Islands. He and his two friends, Kahari and Rikku, decide to build a raft and explore different worlds. Once the raft is built they are ready to sail, until something terrible happens. Evil creatures called "The Heartless" attack and destroy Sora's world. Before Sora realizes it he is thrown into a different world with no one he knows and is given a strange Key - Blade Sword. Now it is Sora's duty to protect and unite the worlds because it is he who wields the Key blade. This game is a great game because you get to explore all the Destiny worlds such as Tarzan's Deep Jungle and see different characters such as Jack Skellington from Disney's The Nightmare Before Christmas. I rate this game with two thumbs up!

Artist:  
Laurana  
Bartlett

The second game I have chosen is called Super Smash Brothers Melee. In this game all the Nintendo characters come together to battle for trophies. You can use interesting weapons such as a dynamite flower! You also get to choose from really cool battle grounds. This game is rated T for Teen for comic mischief and mild violence. I rate this game with two thumbs up! Although it is rated T, there are no things like blood or gore so I think it is o.k. for little kids.

Summer

By Video Game Critic Breanne Grover



**BEAD BUGS**

Pipe cleaners  
Large Beads  
Google eyes  
Glue (I used glitter glue)



Get the first pipe cleaner, find the middle point and bend it there. Then take a nice bead and slide it on the point where it is bent. Slide the bead down a little bit, but the two ends should stick out and make the legs. Then, take another pipe cleaner, and find the middle point



and curve it around the first one. Wrap it around until it looks right. This makes the arms.

Then, take a round shaped bead, slide it on the first pipe cleaner so it sits on top of the arms.

Now, if you have extra pipe cleaner sticking out, you should fold it down inside the bead part that is the head. If you don't want antenna, then you can just put a drop of glue there and let it dry.



If you do want antenna, you take a colored wire and stick it through the loop coming out of the head. Curl the wire on both sides around your finger or a pen. Put a dot of glue on the top of the bead to hold it. Glue



the eyes on the bead and you are done!

Craft Contributed by Sage Gilleland,, age 9

**MMMMM....FOOD!****BLUEBERRY LEMONADE**

1 cup fresh blueberries  
6 large lemons  
1 cup sugar  
6 cups water

Dissolve the sugar into the water and set aside. Juice the 6 lemons (should be around 1 cup of juice) and put that in a blender with the blueberries. Blend well. Mix into the sugar water and chill.



Contributed by Master Chef Ayla Bartlett

**FROZEN FRUITY YOGURT POPS****Ingredients**

- 1 cup strawberry yogurt
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 and 1/2 cups raspberry juice

You will need 8 five ounce popsicle molds or paper cups. Set the molds or paper cups on a work surface. Spoon and equal amount of the yogurt into each mold or cup and press down with a spoon to fill the bottom evenly. Cover the molds. If using cups, cover each with a square of aluminum foil, pressing it firmly around the sides. Poke a popsicle stick through each foil cover, pushing it into the middle of the yogurt. Set the molds or cups in the freezer until beginning to set, about 40 minutes.



Remove the molds from the freezer. If using cups, carefully lift off the foil, but leave the sticks in place. Pour an equal amount of the orange juice into each cup or mold. Cover. Return the molds or cup to the freezer, and freeze until firm, about 40 minutes. Repeat the procedure with the raspberry juice. Freeze until solid, about 4 hours or over night.

To serve, slip the pops from the molds or remove the foil and peel away the paper cups!!

Enjoy!!!!

Presented by Breanne Grover

**STORIES FROM ABROAD**

While in college, I had the opportunity to live in the amazing country of Australia. I moved to the city of Adelaide, the capital of South Australia where I attended the University of Adelaide (locally known as the Uni). I wanted to get the true ‘Australian’ experience, so rather than participating in an organized program through an American university and living in dorms, I moved there on my own. I couldn’t have made a better decision!



My major in college was Anthropology, so I studied Australian History and Australian and Aboriginal cultures during my semester abroad. I lived in a house with a local Australian and a Chinese student in a suburb of

Adelaide. The best thing about studying abroad independent of an established program was my freedom to travel whenever I wanted, as long as it didn’t conflict with my classes. I was able to immerse myself in the local culture, and to explore the country.

Following school, I traveled around the eastern half of Australia. But first, here are a few facts about the country. Aborigines were the first inhabitants of the continent. Australia was colonized by the British, but initially it was used as a place to deposit their criminals and prisoners. Eventually Europeans, such as Captain Cook, explored the rest of the country, new regions were settled, and more people moved down. The official language is English, and they drive on the left side of the road. Australia is roughly the same size as the continental United States, but very little is livable. The center of the country is desert, know as the Outback, so the majority of the large cities are located around the perimeter, mostly on the east coast.

Adelaide is located on the southern coast, and is the westernmost large city before entering the Outback. This was the starting point for my adventures since this is where I had been living and attending school. I joined a tour, the Wayward Bus, which was different from most tour companies. There was an itinerary we followed,



but my group of 12 people chose how long to stay in each place. Some of the highlights of the trip included the Great Ocean Road, exploring small oceanside communities, and jumping into an inactive volcano. The tour ended in Melbourne, where I began the next leg of my journey.

I did not have a car, so I bought a Greyhound Bus pass. The pass included a limited number of kilometers (Australia uses the metric system), and I could travel wherever I wanted, stopping as often as I liked. This enabled me to visit all of the easily assessable cities on the east coast, staying in hostels along the way. A hostel is a place to sleep, usually costing \$5.00 to \$10.00 a night. The rooms are dorm style and there is a communal kitchen. Hostels are a great way to meet other travelers; there are hundreds of people from all over the world traveling around Australia, and many of them stay in hostels.

I traveled from Melbourne up the east coast, visiting Sydney, Byron Bay, Brisbane, the Whitsunday Islands, and more. The bus went as far north as Cairns, at which



point I picked up a tour into Daintree. The Daintree is a rain forest located north of Cairns, and it contains plants dating back to the time of the dinosaurs. It is one of two places in the world where rain forest meets the coastline, and a reef comes up to the shore, otherwise known as where the Rain Forest meets the Reef. (The other place this happens is located in South America.) The Great Barrier Reef runs along the eastern coast of Australia, is the largest reef on earth, and provides home to many unique animal species. I camped in the Daintree for a week and a half, exploring the area, eating lots of coconuts, meeting many fascinating people, but staying clear of the fresh water streams which provide homes to many hungry crocodiles!

In Cairns, I reboarded Greyhound for the long drive through the Outback to the center of the continent. Alice Springs is the only larger sized city in the middle of the country, but the primary interest in this part of Australia is Ayers Rock and the Olgas. Ayers Rock, known as Uluru to the Aborigines, is a massive red rock rising from the middle of the flat Outback. It is often referred to as the ‘heart’ of Australia, and is a major tourist attraction. However, Uluru has always been a sacred site for the Aborigines. They ask that it is not photographed without special permission, and they wish

that tourists would not climb the rock (though their request is often ignored). It is an amazing geologic wonder, especially at sunset when it appears to glow.

My adventure concluded with the trip back to Adelaide, located directly south of Alice Springs. It was an amazing trip, and I hope to have the opportunity to revisit Australia some day. I highly recommend that all students take advantage of study abroad opportunities, especially while in college. And parents, my entire 6 month stay in Australia, including my travel expenses, was only a little more than my tuition costs for a semester at school in the United States!

For more information on Australia, please visit these links:

- <http://www.csu.edu.au/australia/>
- <http://www.australia.gov.au/>
- <http://www.about-australia.com/>
- <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/destinations/australasia/australia/>

Written by Vered Kleinberger



### LIFE IN THE ARMY

My grandpa, Ted Bartlett, was in the army. He was in the army down at Fort Hood, Texas where my dad was born. He didn't go to the Vietnam War but was instead sent to Germany to take place of the troops that were sent to Vietnam. I want to tell you about life in the army.

Their uniforms look exactly alike so you have to put your last name in your uniform. The uniforms were not all camouflaged. They wore two kinds of uniforms. One kind was green and another is khaki. The green is for work and the khaki is for going down to town. They always wear their uniforms but not when they go to bed.



In case you get lost you have a dog tag. It had your name and blood type on it. It was used to let people identify you and if you need blood they could give you your type of blood. They also had vehicles like Jeeps, 1 1/4 ton pick ups, and 2 1/2 ton trucks. I think it was very brave of him as he didn't have to go into the army but he did so anyway and I love him.

Interview conducted by Ayla Bartlett

### HOMESCHOOL EXCURSIONS UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 21 Crerokee Rivercan Blowguns
- June 25 Medicinal Plant and Salve Class
- June 27 Veggie Cars
- June 30 Cooking with Sara Ohlin
- July 11 Funk Heritage Center in Canton
- July 12 Cagle's Dairy
- July 12 Homeschool Herald Meeting, 4:00-6:00
- July 14 Hansel & Gretel at the Center for Puppetry Arts



## A PONDERING ECOLOGIST'S TAKE ON OUR ENERGY RESOURCES

Energy is a complicated industry. Every gallon of fuel is taxed multiple times by multiple players before it enters our vehicles. There is a similar situation in the other energy industries. Unfortunately, our government is highly reliant on our energy resources as a source of revenue. There are potentially more effective, sustainable, and environmentally friendly solutions to our energy needs. The difficulty comes when you begin to structure new energy sources in a way that will feed the needs of our government and the other large corporations that currently monopolize this industry.

There is no perfect energy source currently available to us today. Most of our energy sources are composed of a compressed form of our sun's energy. These include oil, coal, alcohols, and vegetable oil. All of these work on a CO<sub>2</sub> producing combustion principle.

Our fossil fuel resources are produced in very rare circumstances where high levels of plant and animal material were deposited more quickly than they were able to decompose. This occurs at the mouths of large rivers, like our present-day Nile or Mississippi. Then, this matter needs to be covered and compressed. Since everything alive is made of carbon compounds, after millions of years of pressure and temperature, our modern fossil fuel supplies were formed.

Coal is much more common and the supply within the United States boundaries could supply our nation with energy for hundreds of years. My primary concern with coal is the land-devastating techniques used to harvest it, which completely destroys local ecosystems. It also releases toxic and greenhouse gasses, including CO<sub>2</sub>. Nuclear energy is initially much cleaner to produce than other sources, but has nuclear waste as a byproduct which must be stored safely for thousands to millions of years. Natural gas is a clean-burning fuel source that is generally harvested off the top of large oil deposits. It is a cleaner energy resource, but, is unfortunately limited.

Why is carbon dioxide a concern for us? Throughout history, a direct relationship has been found between CO<sub>2</sub> levels in the atmosphere and earth's temperature. It is one of the primary greenhouse gasses responsible for global warming. When burning coal and oil, you are releasing carbon dioxide into the atmosphere that was originally in the air millions of years ago, but was taken out by the plants and animals of that time period. (C + O<sub>2</sub> = CO<sub>2</sub> + energy C = building block of all life). When you burn petroleum, you are burning dinosaurs! I am currently experimenting with vegetable oil as a fuel source. When I burn veggie in my diesel, I am releasing carbon dioxide that plants harvested from the atmosphere either last year or this year. I am still releasing harmful gasses, like all fuel sources do, but I am not intensifying the global warming issue very much. Alcohol, a fuel source used in unleaded engines, is primarily utilized in South and Central

American countries where sugar cane is plentiful. Methane can be harvested from landfills, chicken houses, waste sites, and other locations, and can be utilized in a variety of ways. Both of these work on a similar carbon principle as vegetable oil.

Water, wind, and solar power all have advantages and disadvantages. Water power can limit fish migration and reproduction, wind farms can be hazardous for bird populations, solar power is weather and season dependent. In my opinion, compared with our options, these energy sources are superior to burning carbon-based materials.

Decentralization is a beautiful concept. If every house had solar cells on the roof, then you would take our energy needs from a centralized plant and make your neighborhood a power plant. Then you would just need an effective way to store the energy, and maybe a coal plant for emergency backup. The less we are reliant on centralized institutions for our needs, the stronger we are as a society. It is impossible to blow up an energy plant if every roof in the city is a power plant. This concept does not have to be limited to solar. Every area has an energy source that will work optimally within its climate.

Hydrogen fuel cell technology is wonderful and simple. It uses this equation:  $2\text{H}_2 + \text{O}_2 = 2(\text{H}_2\text{O}) + \text{energy}$ . You use any energy source to break the chemical bond in water, store your hydrogen in a tank, then when you need electricity, you combine the hydrogen from your tank with the oxygen in the atmosphere to get energy and water as your byproduct. The government has plans to make hydrogen fuel as a petroleum product. The only problems with this fuel source is hydrogen is flammable and the technology has some evolving to do.

Since there is so much money to be made in energy, we probably won't see alternative and creative ideas really taking hold until we are all much older. Who knows, the perfect energy source may be out there already, or just around the corner. But for right now, we just have to work with what we've got. Remember:

TURN OFF THE LIGHTS!  
Reduce Reuse Recycle

Written by Oren Kleinberger  
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[Pickens Yahoo Group](#)

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### PROGRAMS AT THE PICKENS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

**June 16:** Welcome to the Reading Guitar Man!

\*Starts at 2:00

\*Local author Chris Rumble will entertain us with his "FUNtastic" musical reading program.

**June 23:** Marionette Puppetry

\*Starts at 2:00

\*Youth in grades 3 or above are welcome to join us in making and learning to control a marionette puppet. We will do some puppet skits with them.

\*Please pre-register

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT  
THE PICKENS COUNTY LIBRARY AT  
(706) 692-5411

### *First Christian church of Jasper is having a fundraiser for Horizen Outreach* (a regional women's shelter)

We are inviting all of you to come and have your car washed and enjoy some wonderful baked goods. You will have two chances to come help us help those that need it.

Dates: June 25 and July 16

Time: 10:00 to 3:00

*Please join us and bless the women of our area.*

Directions: From South:

North on 515 to Highway 108 interchange in Jasper. Turn right onto 108 East. Travel 2/10 of a mile to Refuge Road. Turn left onto Refuge Road. Travel 9/10 of a mile to Burgess Road. The church is located at the intersection of Refuge Rd. and Burgess Rd.

From North:

South on 515 to Highway 108 interchange in Jasper. Turn left onto 108 East. Then follow the above directions from 108 East.





**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 this first issue. This couldn't have been done without you!
- The Pickens County Library for allowing us to use your facility for our meetings.
- The homeschool parents of Georgia for your messages of support and encouragement.
- Janis Kleinberger for all her assistance and generosity.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY OF IMAGES**

Logo on front drawn by Abby, Sam, Breanne, and Ayla  
Clip Art drawn by Abby, Ayla, and Breanne

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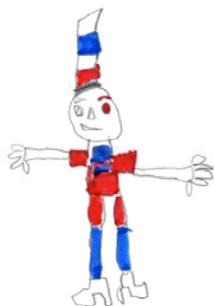
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# The Patriotic Issue



Often times, the editors of the Homeschool Herald decide to have a theme for the month. They decided that the June issue should focus

on patriotism since the July/August issue will be available after the Fourth of July. The themes do not limit the content of the submissions, but rather serve to direct the contributors if they

need some help coming up with a topic for their piece.

Throughout this issue, you will see artwork and read articles depicting images from Fourth of July celebrations, the American flag, and other patriotic themes. However, you'll also read about video games, delicious recipes, and more.

We hope you enjoy the June issue of the Homeschool Herald!  
Happy Independence Day!



## What's Inside?

### **Yummy Recipes**

Try these tasty creations!

### **Crafty Crafts**

Let your creative juices flow as you make these at home

### **Stories From Abroad**

In each issue, an article about another place or country will be included. Read all about Australia this month.

### **Songs, Poems, Pictures, and More**

See what the homeschoolers have created. Each Herald is very different, so explore this issue, and we hope you enjoy this month's submissions!

Homeschool Excursions, Inc.

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