

# VALLEY HOME EDUCATORS SEPTEMBER 2005 NEWSLETTER

## VHE MEETING

**Wednesday, Sept. 14, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**  
**Wenatchee Public Library**  
**Small meeting room, lower level inside near the computer lab**

**Information** about filing your Declaration of Intent to Homeschool, **connect** with other homeschoolers this fall and **changes** in the rules for Alternative Education Programs such as Parent Partner Programs, now required to allow part time attendance by Home-based Instruction students.

### **RCW 28A.200.010**

Home-based instruction -- Duties of parents.

Each parent whose child is receiving home-based instruction under RCW 28A.225.010(4) shall have the duty to:

(1) File annually a signed **declaration of intent** that he or she is planning to cause his or her child to receive home-based instruction. The statement shall include the **name and age of the child**, shall specify whether a certificated person will be supervising the instruction, and shall be written in a format prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction. Each parent shall file the statement by September 15 of the school year or within two weeks of the beginning of any public school quarter, trimester, or semester with the superintendent of the public school district within which the parent resides or the district that accepts the transfer, and the student shall be deemed a transfer student of the nonresident district. Parents may apply for transfer under RCW 28A.225.220;

This form is for children age 8 - 18. You get it from your local school district office. It is always a good idea to ask for a date stamped photo copy when you turn yours in.

The Washington Homeschool Organization web site has an informative page about filing your Intent to Homeschool.

[www.WashHomeschool.org](http://www.WashHomeschool.org). Look on the left of the page for where to click for the Declaration of Intent.

## **Alternative Learning Experience Programs Have New Revised Rules - WAC 392-121-182**

ALE programs, sometimes called Parent Partner Programs, have been around in many forms for some time. Many school districts in NC Washington have such programs, sometimes also called homeschool programs. These programs are governed by public school regulations not the Home-based Instruction Law. Over the past year or so the rules - Washington Administrative Code - WAC - regulating these programs have been amended with some important changes that relate to home-based instruction students. These new rules were effective August 5, 2005. During the month of August the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) held workshops for local school officials and other interested persons outlining the changes. Emilie Fogle and I attended one in late August. There are many important changes in the rules for these programs. Most of the changes will have little or no effect on home-based instruction students, but there are two important ones that will.

1. - ALE students may enroll part time. Previous to this rewrite of the rules, home-based instruction students and private school students were excluded from participating in the ALE program unless they enrolled full time, which meant giving up your home-based instruction status. Classes taken by part time students are under the direction and control of the certificated staff at the school's program but the rest of the student's education, under the Home-based instruction law is

not. Students enrolled part time in the ALE and are receiving Home-based Instruction the rest of the time do not have to take district mandated testing, such as the WASL.

The new WACs require local school boards to adopt policies and procedures for ALE programs. There may be policies and procedures passed that deal with part time participation. School boards cannot arbitrarily determine that an ALE program is not open to part time enrollment but they can pass policies relating how many may participate. Stay informed. Any one can contact their school district and get information about upcoming board meetings and what will be discussed. If you do this ask for information about ALE programs using the WAC 392-121-182.

2. Prior to enrollment, even for part time, parents/guardians are to be given and must sign a paper outlining the differences between ALE programs and Home-based Instruction. This paper is to be kept on file by the school district.

Much more than this was covered at the meeting as to the changes in how these programs are to operate. As always, the best advice is to be informed. Read the new rules yourself. Some or all of the information given at the meetings is or will be soon on the OSPI web site. [www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us) At the top of the page you will see a blue bar with many choices. Put your curser on Student support/Operations. Alternative Education will be the top of the list. Click on it.

Another helpful web site is - [www.walakids.com](http://www.walakids.com). This is the site for Washington Association of Learning Alternatives. This is not a government agency but it deals with many education alternatives. The forms from the workshops we attended are on this web site as well. You will see WAC 392-121-182 on the left in red. Also on the bar in the left click on WALA forms. If you have any trouble getting to these web sites give us a call and we can help. Emilie Fogle - 884-1237 or Sandy Briggs 663-0364

Always the best way to be informed is to inform yourself. If this issue is of interest to you take the time to read the information on these web sites. Don't rely on what you are told by a friend, who heard it from a friend. Read it for yourself.

## CHELAN COUNTY FAIR TIME AGAIN

VHE has received a letter from the Chelan County Fair with information about times to enter our exhibits and School Day at the Fair. Exhibits in the Open Class Youth Department may be entered Tuesday, Sept. 6 from noon until 7:00m PM and again on Wed., Sept. 7 from 9:00 am until 9:00 pm. Youth exhibitor tickets are \$5.00. This exhibitor ticket serves as a Season Pass for admittance to the Fair for all 4 days.

The following is a quote from their letter:

"School Day is Friday, Sept. 9. All organized **school** groups (elementary and homeschoolers, and special education classes) along with their adult chaperones will be admitted free to see the fair on Friday, between 9:00 am and 2:00 PM. **A Group consists of 5 or more children and 1 adult.**

When you arrive at the Fairgrounds, please enter through the main gate (#1) and register with the ticket sellers. They will need to know the number of children and chaperones in your group. We ask that the children have a nametag with their name and their school's name. Parking is \$2.00"

I know not all of you will have a group of 5 students with 1 adult but that is the Fair policy and has been for several years.

## YMCA

The YMCA is offering an open swim for Youth / Families for Home Schoolers starting this September on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 1 PM to 2:30 PM. The YMCA is only offering this for three months on a trial bases. If it's not used enough the YMCA will discontinue it. <http://www.wenymca.org> Free to Members Non-Members Admission Fee:

Youth (0-15) \$2.00

Adult (16 and older) \$5.00 Eastmont YMCA Aquatic Center

## **Fall Home School Family Day at Wild Waves and Enchanted Village!**

Here are the details

Sunday, September 18, 2005

Park Hours 12 - 7 p.m.

Entire Park Open Exclusively for Home School Families!

Cost \$15.99 plus tax per person (Adult/Child/Senior)

2 & Under are FREE

Tickets available through Print-n-Go!

To purchase tickets go to [sixflags.com](http://sixflags.com), select Wild Waves and

Enchanted Village, select Print-n-Go and enter promotional code FALLHS.

For more information please call 253.661.8001

### **Spell to Write and Read Kick-Off Support Group**

Monday Sept. 12th @ 3:30 pm

Washington Elementary School Rm. 112

Cheryl Armstrong, Reading Specialist at Washington Elementary

If you have any question call Carol at 663-9421

### **White River Salmon Viewing Tour Saturday, September 17 9:00 AM - noon**

The White River supports the largest remaining population of sockeye salmon in the entire Columbia Basin. We will drive to several locations for outstanding views of spawning sockeye. Call the office at (509) 667-9708 for details, including where to meet. Limited group size – please RSVP to the office. A second tour later in the day may be added if the early tour fills up.

### **Environmental Film September 20th, 7:00 PM, “Slow Food Revolution”Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center**

Featuring beautiful photography and footage from around the globe, this documentary chronicles the Slow Food movement. This international movement - the antithesis of fast food - champions the protection of traditional culture, environment, and biodiversity, while encouraging regional production, food education, and pleasure. This is a must-see for anyone who enjoys the food they eat and cares about the environment in which they live - a celebration of the natural bounty of our land. Guy Evans (Broken Limbs) and Nick Stemm (Two Rivers Farm) will be on hand to answer questions and discuss the local slow food movement. This is the first of a series of six films shown on the third Tuesday of the month. The series is co-sponsored by the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center, the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, and the Hazel Wolf Environmental Film Festival. Suggested donation of \$3.00/person.

Sharon Lutz Administrative Director Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Phone (509) 667-9708 [www.cdlandtrust.org](http://www.cdlandtrust.org)

## **BIOLOGY LAB FOR HOME SCHOOLERS!**

- \* 1 year of High school level Biology laboratories (I've taken students as young as 8th graders).
- \* Lab work begins late September, 2005; ends early June, 2006.\* We will meet on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings for 1 ½ hours from 9:15-10:45 AM.
- \* 3-week break for Christmas & New Year in December.
- \* 2-week Spring break in late March.
- \* Cost: \$40/month per student (8 total payments during the year) plus a \$30 one-time lab fee.
- \* We use *A Beka* Biology text and lab books (parents purchase) plus supplemental materials I provide.
- \* Minimum class size is 8, maximum is 14.
- \* For further details, please contact Rob Fitch.
- \* Home phone: 662-5589; Home email: [rfitchk@aol.com](mailto:rfitchk@aol.com)
- \* Work phone: 682-6755; Work email: [rfitch@wvc.edu](mailto:rfitch@wvc.edu)

## **ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY LAB FOR HOME SCHOOLERS!**

- \* One year of High School level Human Anatomy & Physiology laboratories.
- \* 1 year high school level Biology recommended as prerequisite.
- \* Course begins late September, 2005; ends early June, 2006.\* We will meet on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:45 AM.
- \* 3-week break for Christmas & New Year in December.
- \* 2-week Spring break in late March.
- \* cost: \$40/month per student (8 total payments during the year) plus a \$30 one-time lab fee.
- \* We use Anatomy & Physiology Coloring books (parents purchase) plus supplemental materials I provide.
- \* Minimum class size is 8, maximum is 14.
- \* For further details, please contact Rob Fitch.
- \* Home phone: 662-5589; home email: [rfitchk@aol.com](mailto:rfitchk@aol.com)
- \* Work phone: 682-6755; work email: [rfitch@wvc.edu](mailto:rfitch@wvc.edu)

## *Great Expectations ~ A Framework for Homeschooling*

Our 10-hour course, sponsored by Cascade Bible College, is packed with practical information as well as a unique message that has tremendous value for any homeschooling parent. This class not only meets the Washington State legal requirement for parent qualification to provide home-based instruction, but it also provides a great opportunity to begin networking with other like-minded parents who share the same excitement, struggles, questions, and fears about educating children outside of a traditional school setting! This is what our graduates are saying:

\*\* "Your seminar was so inspiring . . . and it left me longing for more. I cannot thank you enough for your help and information." ~~ C from Federal Way

\*\* "Every homeschooling parent should attend this course, not just newcomers to homeschooling." ~~ Too many parents to list!

\*\* "Thank you for a wonderful homeschooling experience...so much information ... presented in a way that kept our attention and made it exciting." ~ D & S, Edmonds

GREAT EXPECTATIONS does not promote one curriculum over another. In fact, we do not recommend one method of teaching over another (natural learning, traditional, etc.). We convey that each family must decide what is best for their family.

Our course is very intensive; we pack volumes into our seminar as we want to give homeschooling families the most value in the least amount of time, so they spend as little time away from their families as possible. We break up the 10-hour instruction time into two sessions -- one 3-hour Friday evening session and one 8-hour all-day Saturday session, which includes a 1 hour "on site" lunch break.

The instructors, Alice Wescott, Ph. D. and Beth Rosenzweig, M. Ed., have homeschooled children from birth to college entrance and for many years have served the homeschooling community in Washington State, providing annual testing and assessments, teaching classes for homeschooling children and parents, and serving on boards in local and state organizations. Plan to come to be informed, inspired, and encouraged about homeschooling your children.

**Just the FACTS, please!**

LOCATION: Wenatchee

DATE: September 23-24, 2005

TIME: Friday evening 6:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M. & all day Saturday, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

FEE: \$95 Individual/\$125 Couple. However, if the registration form and check are postmarked 10 days prior to the date of the seminar, deduct \$10 (\$85 & \$115 respectively).

### **SPECIAL FALL Testing: BASELINE ASSESSMENTS**

Baseline Assessments identify the skill levels of children (aged 6 – 17) whose parents are BEGINNING to homeschool. These tests can be used to assist the parent with instructional planning.

Children are tested in small groups during a 45 minute appointment in the core skill areas of Reading, Writing, and Math.

The purpose of each test is to determine:

1) the grade level at which the child is performing

2) identify any gaps in the child's skill development

3) identify skills the child should work on. FEE: \$35 for children in grades 1-3 AND \$45 for children in grades 4-12 (with a \$5 per test discount for early registration).

### **Annual Testing: Standardized Testing for Homeschooled Children**

Administered by Alice Wescott, Ph. D. and Beth Rosenzweig, M.Ed.

The administration of a standardized test to children receiving Home-based Instruction is governed by state law and publisher requirements. We administer the Stanford Achievement Test, 9th Ed. Abbreviated, and we are qualified under the publisher's specifications for administration of this test.

#### **Why Test With Us?**

- (1) We offer a convenient ONE-DAY schedule, which includes:
  - \* A half-day group standardized test (3 hours) for grades 3-12
  - \* On-site hand scoring
  - \* Same afternoon parent review - in order to see how each question was answered.
  - \* Only parents receive test scores – we keep no results
- (2) The test is administered in a group setting, as required for valid standardized testing.
- (3) There is no waiting for tests to arrive and then no second long wait for the test scores to be returned.

(4) In addition to the SAT group test for grades 3-12, we offer a more friendly test option for younger children in grades 1-2 and for special needs children: an abbreviated assessment, which gives the parents a grade-level score for Reading, Spelling, and Math for the same fee that we charge for our group test. Parents are given these results immediately after the test.

**FEE:** (\$35.00 per test) If registration and check are postmarked 14 days prior to test date, pay early registration fees: **1st and 2nd child: \$30 per test; 3rd child: \$25 per test; 4th (and subsequent children) \$15 per test.**

**QUESTIONS? REGISTRATION FORM?** Contact us at: (425) 697-4021 or [www.EduGreat.com](http://www.EduGreat.com).

## ESD annual membership deadline is Oct. 3rd

Hi, as some of you know we are extremely fortunate to have this contract with the North Central Educational Service District that allows us access to thousands of media resources for our homeschooling. There are DVDs, videos, some CD-ROMs and equipment rental. Also included are researchable online data bases with magazines, newspapers, film clips and maps for research papers or general interest - the libraries are ProQuest and eLibrary. AND, on top of this we are able to laminate for very competitive prices.

How much is all this going to cost you? Only \$20 per student per year. There is no limit to how many DVD you watch, or the number of times you research a subject. And you can utilize this all year long, not just the school calendar months. There is no other service like this for homeschoolers in Washington state. I've received numerous private company flyers and they are hundreds more than this.

If you have questions, you may call, email or come to a meeting.

General meeting: **Monday, Sept. 19th 3 p.m.**

ESD office , 640 S. Mission in the large meeting room

ProQuest meeting: **Friday, 23rd at 1 p.m.**

ESD office in the computer room

All previous accounts will still be active on these dates so Louise can help you. However, if you are new, contact me so we can have your information in their system and we can show you directly how you use this service.

### **\* The DEADLINE: Oct. 3rd \***

Mail your checks to me but make them out to NCESD

I need:

Your name

Address

email

Number of children

Check

Emilie Fogle

1413 Easthills Terr.

East Wenatchee, WA 98802

884-1237

[gardnfev.em@verizon.net](mailto:gardnfev.em@verizon.net)

## **Piano Lessons for Beginners**

Experienced teacher located in the Leavenworth/Peshastin area.

Call 548-0594. Ask for Mary.

## **Interested in Piano lessons?**

### **Stop HERE!!**

**Looking for:** Elementary students who are interested in beginning classical piano lessons

**Offering:** weekly 45 min lessons to students with no piano experience to beginning level experience

**Who is the instructor:** Diane Carlson, who will be student teaching under instructor Diane M. Stober with the Dal Segno studio

If interested contact Diane Carlson at (509) 662-6853 or [di-rachelle@hotmail.com](mailto:di-rachelle@hotmail.com) Limited space available

## **Civil Air Patrol Accepting Applications from Qualified Individuals [www.cap.gov](http://www.cap.gov) Education, Training, & Adventure**

The local Civil Air Patrol squadron is looking for individuals who would like to become volunteers in this aviation based organization. Civil Air Patrol members participate in Emergency Services and Aerospace Education activities. An important part of the Emergency Services operation is the homeland security mission, which has been added since 911. There are two categories of membership. Senior membership ages range from 18 years old and up. Cadet membership is for ages 12 to 21. To qualify for membership, the applicant must be service minded and able to pass a basic background investigation. If you have an interest in serving your country and community through the Civil Air Patrol and would like to learn more about the organization, call **Captain Greg Barker at 421-8623** or e-mail: [gregb3006@hotmail.com](mailto:gregb3006@hotmail.com) **Major Miles Darlington at 884-4153** or [mtdarlington@juno.com](mailto:mtdarlington@juno.com)

## **Christian Heritage Regional Homeschool "Kick-Off" Picnic**

*Spokane, Sept. 10, Comstock Park  
Centralia, Sept. 17, Fort Borst Park  
Yakima, Sept. 24, Kissel Park*

Kick off the school year with enthusiastic camaraderie and spiritual encouragement!

Get acquainted with other Washington homeschooling families beyond your normal circle of friends during a time of fun and games, food and fellowship.

Start the homeschool year inspired with a short talk by Michael Bradrick, "Establishing the Vision & Reaching the Goal." directed to dads with ideas for how fathers can steer the school in their home toward success. Learn about Christian Heritage, as well as the Christian Homeschool Network (CHN—your Washington

homeschool lobbyist and legislative alert organization).

Enjoy family activities such as Tennis, Baseball, Volleyball, Bocce Ball, Badminton, Ultimate Frisbee, (bring your own sports gear, if you have it,) and organized activities for small children.

Bring the whole family . . . and another homeschooling family, too! What to Bring: picnic blanket or lawn chairs, a picnic dinner for your family, a dessert to share. **Picnics are free of charge.** Picnic Schedule: 2:00-4:30 Enjoy family activities such as Tennis, Baseball, Volleyball, Bocce Ball, Badminton, Ultimate Frisbee, (bring your own sports gear, if you have it,) and organized activities especially for small children. 4:45-5:30 Hear a little about "Christian Heritage" and "CHN" and take in this year's Homeschool Kick-off Message by Michael Bradrick. 5:30-6:00 Enjoy sharing your picnic meal with your family. 6:00-7:00 Share in the Potluck Dessert Buffet and Fellowship Time. **RSVP number in your family attending and which picnic you will attend at [contact@christianheritageonline.org](mailto:contact@christianheritageonline.org) or 360-249-2424.**

2005 Mother and Daughter Luncheon Retreat - Oct. 15, Red Lion Hotel in Olympia, WA  
Several mothers present insights from God's Word about raising Godly, virtuous daughters  
Several daughters share to inspire other maidens in their callings as young women

2006 Homeschool Day at the Capitol - February 8, 2006  
Introduce your children to state government, take tours, and meet legislators who support homeschooling

2006 Christian Heritage Home Educators Conference - May 12-13, Overlake Christian Church, Bellevue  
Keynote Speaker - Doug Phillips of Vision Forum  
Vendors and organizations sell or provide a great variety of homeschooling resources

Call the CCHEW office at 360-249-2424 or Scott Jonas at 884-8467 for more information or to RSVP for events. You can also e-mail and RSVP at [contact@christianheritageonline.org](mailto:contact@christianheritageonline.org). The main website should be up and running soon; keep checking.

**YOUR ARTICLES, EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IDEAS ARE NEEDED AND WELCOME FOR THE NEWSLETTER. PLEASE SEND ITEMS TO SANDY BRIGGS AT [esbriggs@aol.com](mailto:esbriggs@aol.com) or 706 Schons PL. Wenatchee, WA 98801**

**Deadline for the OCTOBER Newsletter is September 25**

Events of interest to homeschool families are gladly included. Our newsletter reaches many in the North Central Washington area and beyond so please don't limit your contributions to only the Wenatchee area.

Subscriptions to Valley Home Educators Newsletter are free via email.

Send an email to Sandy Briggs - [ESBRIGGS@aol.com](mailto:ESBRIGGS@aol.com) with

VHE subscription in the subject line and please include your name and either a postal address or phone number.

To unsubscribe send an email to the same address.

Postal Subscriptions are \$10.00 per year. Contact Sandy for mid year rates. 663-0364. Make checks to Valley Home Educators. Mail to 706 Schons PL, Wenatchee, WA 98801