

TEXAS HOME SCHOOL COALITION

# REVIEW

KEEPING TEXAS FAMILIES FREE

## CELEBRATING 30!

30 Accomplished  
Home School Grads

30 Foods for  
Better Focus

30 Beach Reads  
by Home Schooled Authors



# 30 YEARS DRIVING

HOME SCHOOLING FORWARD IN TEXAS



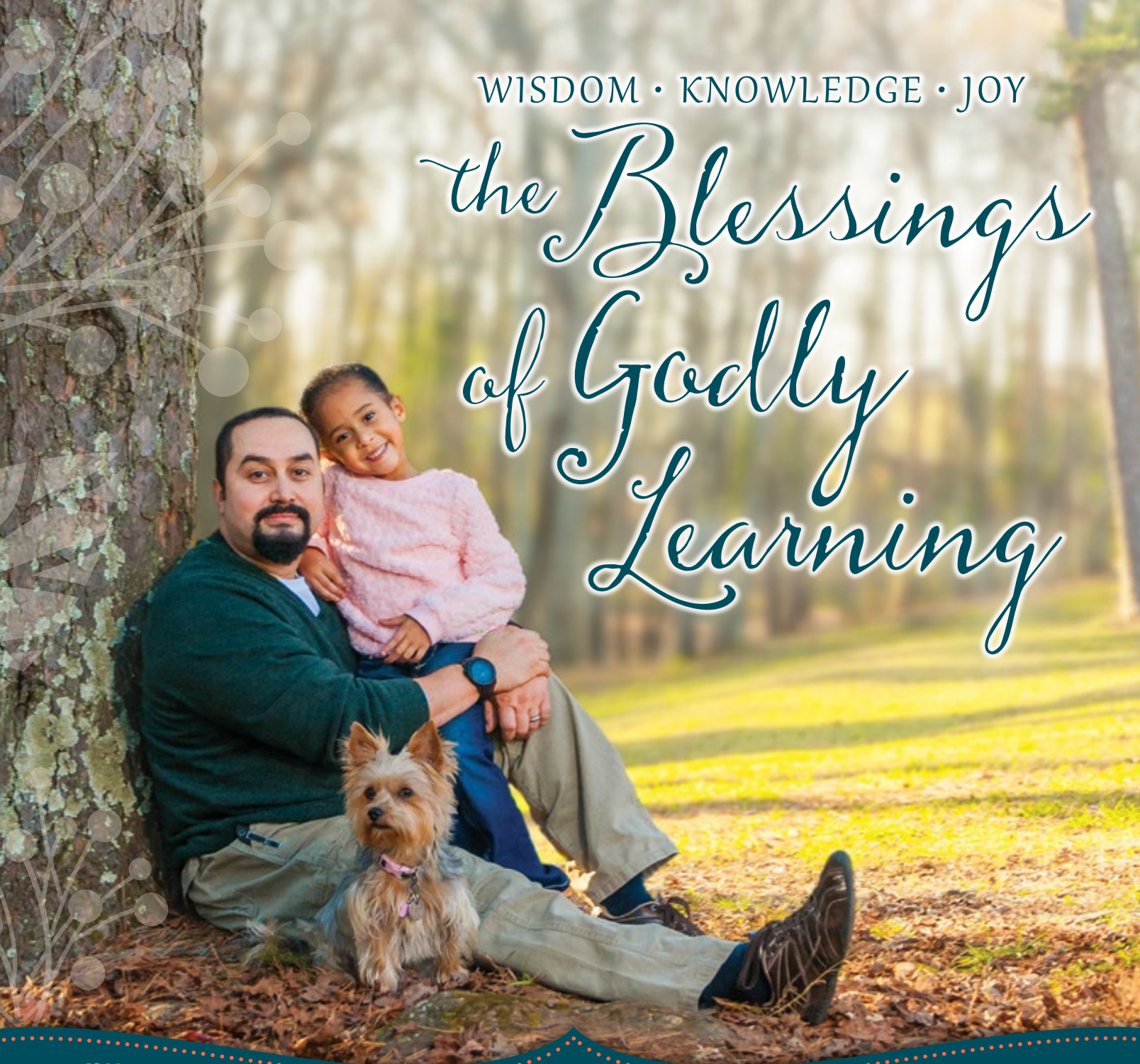
MAY 2016 | VOLUME 20, ISSUE 2

[www.THSC.org](http://www.THSC.org)



WISDOM • KNOWLEDGE • JOY

# *the Blessings of Godly Learning*



*You* put your heart into homeschooling. We get that. And you want your child to get enjoyment and success out of homeschooling. We get that too.

So for more than a quarter of a century, we have been putting our hearts into helping you make your homeschool a place of wisdom, knowledge, and joy.

Check out materials homeschoolers like you have helped us provide. Come see how we too treasure the blessings of godly learning at [bjupresshomeschool.com](http://bjupresshomeschool.com).



[bjupresshomeschool.com](http://bjupresshomeschool.com) 800.845.5731

 Find us on Facebook.





## FEATURE

### 30 SUPER FOCUS FOODS TO BOOST LEARNING

PAGE 26

#### FEATURES

- 8 30 HOME SCHOOL GRADS DOING GREAT THINGS  
by Sarah Elisabeth Sawyer
- 14 30 GOOD BEACH READS BY HOME SCHOOLED AUTHORS  
by Sarah Holman
- 20 FOUR IMPORTANT TOOLS FOR CHARACTER TRAINING  
by Lyndsay Lambert
- 26 30 SUPER FOCUS FOODS TO BOOST LEARNING  
by Peggy Ployhar
- 32 30 SIGNS THAT POINT TO COLLEGE  
by Donna Schillinger
- 40 10 TIMELESS TRUTHS ABOUT HOME SCHOOLING, PART 3  
by Lori Hatcher

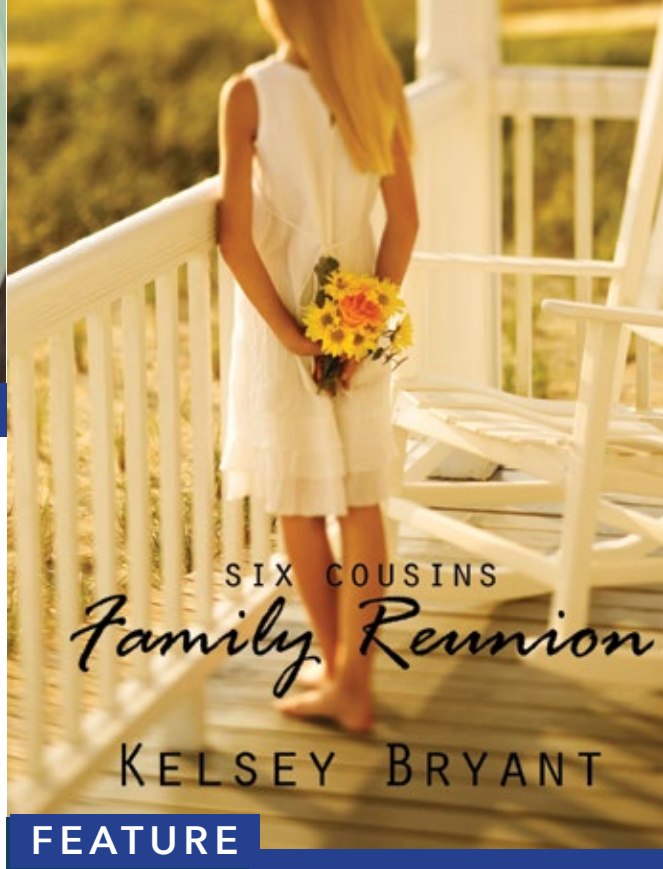
- 6 PRESIDENT'S REVIEW
- 24 30 YEARS OF THSC
- 44 AD INDEX
- 46 AT THE END OF THE DAY  
THE 30 MOST IMPORTANT MINUTES OF THE DAY

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ray Ballmann, D.Min., D.D., S.T.M	Tim Lambert
Kent Dowden	Doug McKissick
James Frank	Gavino Perez
Donna Harp	Sarah Singleton
Pat Hurd	David Strassner
Mary James	Ray VanNorman

#### THE PUBLISHING TEAM

**President/Publisher** | Tim Lambert  
**Publications Manager** | Donna Schillinger  
**Editors** | Jennifer Kirby & Maxine Mitchell  
**Advertising** | sales@thsc.org  
**Cover Art** | Andrew Albright  
**Page Design** | Hannah Badeer  
**Centerspread Design** | Grant Wilbanks



## SIX COUSINS *Family Reunion*

KELSEY BRYANT

## FEATURE

### 30 GOOD BEACH READS BY HOME SCHOOLED AUTHORS

PAGE 14

*Beyond entertaining, these 30 books inspire and encourage, because they were all written by home schooled authors—many from Texas!*

Your copy of the Texas Home School Coalition REVIEW © 2016 Magazine is sent to you free as a courtesy of its advertisers and THSC. The THSC REVIEW is published quarterly by the Texas Home School Coalition Association (THSC Association). THSC is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving and informing the home school community and promoting home education in Texas. Contact THSC for permission to reproduce articles or portions of articles.

Editorial correspondence and address changes may be directed to review@thsc.org. The deadline for article submission for the AUGUST 2016 Issue is June 1st. Interested authors should see Writers' Guidelines at THSC.org.

The articles in this magazine reflect the freedom of home educators in Texas to choose from a wide variety of home school philosophies and teaching methods. Opinions and attitudes expressed in articles do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of the Texas Home School Coalition Association. THSC does not endorse or advocate any one method or philosophy. The board encourages each home educator to seek God's will in determining what is best for him, his school, and his students.

Publication of advertisements does not signify endorsement of items or services offered.

PO Box 6747 Lubbock TX 79493 staff@thsc.org  
(p) 806.744.4441 (f) 806.744.4446 THSC.org

# Faith

IN THE TRENCHES



THURSDAY  
NIGHT

**FREE**

• Shopping  
• Keynote Sessions  
with  
Andrew Pudewa &  
Reb Bradley



TEXAS  
HOME SCHOOL  
COALITION

*Keeping Texas Families Free™*



REGISTER TODAY  
**THSC.ORG/CONVENTIONS**

# 2016 THSC CONVENTIONS

**Arlington**

May 5-7, 2016

**The Woodlands**

July 21-23, 2016

## Keynote Speakers



**Dianne Craft**  
MA, CNHP  
Arlington

Identifying and  
Correcting  
Blocked  
Learning Gates

Training Your  
Child's  
Photographic  
Memory

Smart Kids Who  
Hate to Write



**Heidi St. John**  
The Busy Mom  
The Woodlands

Becoming  
MomStrong  
(Encouragement  
by Chocolate)

The Distracted  
Mom (iMom)

The First Three  
Years: A  
Workshop for  
Home School  
Rookies



**Andrew Pudewa**  
Institute for  
Excellence in  
Writing

Conquering  
Corrupt Culture  
by Raising  
Christian  
Communicators

Paper and Pen:  
What the  
Research Says

Leadership  
Education: The  
Seven Keys of  
Great Teaching

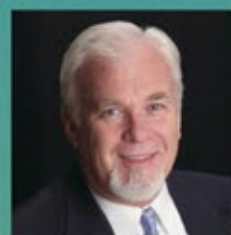


**Bev Bradley**  
Family  
Ministries

Teaching Your  
Children To Love  
One Another

When the Home  
School Dream  
Doesn't Come  
True

Warrior Mother:  
Fight FOR the  
Kids and Not  
WITH Them



**Reb Bradley**  
Family  
Ministries

Reading the  
Mind of Your  
Home School  
Wife (For  
Fathers Only)

Solving the  
Crisis in Home  
Schooling: How  
We Raise  
Prodigals

Influencing Your  
Children's  
Hearts (Not Just  
Behavior)



**John R. Erickson**  
Hank the  
Cowdog

Toward an  
Animated Hank

Hank's Family in  
Concert



## PRESIDENT'S REVIEW



Texas Home School Coalition (THSC) is completing 30 years of service, and we think it's kind of a big deal. We hope you will enjoy this special "30" issue, and in particular, "30 Home School Grads Doing Great Things," in which we see the fruit of our combined labors.

We may be 30, but we're showing no signs of slowing down! With the primary goal of advocating for parents and home schoolers, THSC has had an increasing presence on Capitol Hill in Austin for the last 30 years. It's been a roller coaster of large obstacles, great successes, and small victories in a steady advance against the threats to parental rights and home schoolers in Texas.

Over the years, we also have multiplied the amount of ministry letters that we send on behalf of our members—letters to the Social Security Administration, universities, judges and attorneys, Child Protective Services (CPS), potential employers, and many other entities—in order to inform them of the laws concerning home schooling and parental rights. These letters advocate on behalf of the THSC member and intervene in situations where the home school family is facing some level of discrimination because of their status as a home schooler. Numerous families still face these issues every day, and last year we sent a record 89 ministry letters on behalf of our members. In the first quarter of 2016 alone, already we have sent over 36 ministry letters. As more families join THSC as members, we are pleased to be able to advocate on their behalf by reminding various entities of the status of home schooling in Texas and laws governing these issues.

Finally, as our membership has grown, so has our legal network. One of the primary benefits of being a THSC member is access to our 24-hour CPS hotline, where THSC members can call to get help, advice, and legal representation any time CPS comes to the door. In 2015 THSC was able to assist several families who were unjustly targeted by CPS, resolving the issues without further escalation. THSC also continues its defense of the Tutt family, whose children were illegally removed by CPS in 2013. Although six of the children have been returned home, one remains in foster care; the case is currently pending before the Texas Supreme Court.

THSC has never been a short-term project. Our past is scarred by lengthy legal battles. Our future is plotted like a voyage to a new world. We view our work for home schooling and parental rights with the same steadfast determination as the hymn writer who penned, "Let us hope and trust, let us watch and pray, and labor till the Master comes." ■

FROM THE PRESIDENT | TIM LAMBERT

We all come to Jesus with "grave clothes," so to speak—habits and qualities that need to be "taken off" in the new life.  
*Lyndsay Lambert, p. 21*

1990: Tim Lambert takes the helm of THSC and moves the office to his Lubbock home—one phone, one computer, and calls returned collect.  
*30 Years of TSHC, p. 24*

We were amazed at how perfectly Diane Craft connected all the seemingly unrelated issues we had been seeing in our children to a simple explanation: an overpopulation of bad bacteria and yeast in their guts.  
*Peggy Ployhar, p. 26*

Then it dawned on me, that as my daughter's home school biology teacher, I'd be responsible for all the labs associated with her class. Including frogs. And bugs. And worms, crayfish, and even a fetal pig. Ew!  
*Lori Hatcher, p. 42*





# YOUR CHILDREN ARE ONE OF A KIND.

Their language lessons should be, too.



Homeschool

Your homeschoolers deserve language lessons just as unique as they are. With Rosetta Stone® Language Learning for Homeschool, you can adjust lesson plans to fit your child's specific needs. Self-guided learning allows kids to explore a new language independently and empowers them to progress at their own pace. And our interactive immersion approach makes learning engaging, easy—and fun.

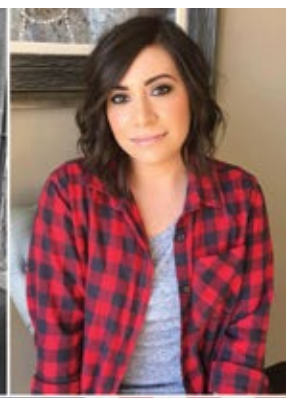
Start your children's unique language learning journey today.

## DISCOVER THE ROSETTA STONE DIFFERENCE

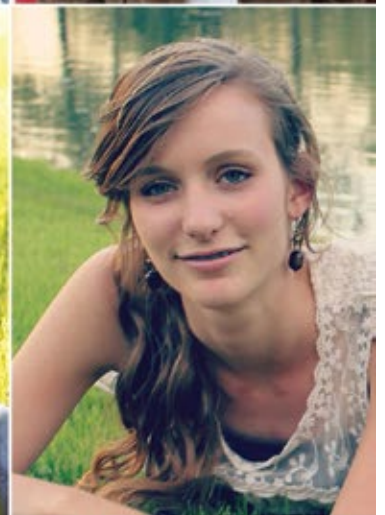
- Track your child's progress with Parent Administrative Tools.
- Put your child's unique needs first with customizable lesson plans.
- Keep your child engaged with interactive learning.

**[RosettaStone.com/homeschool](https://RosettaStone.com/homeschool) | (888) 232-9245**





30 HOME  
SCHOOL  
GRADS  
DOING  
GREAT  
THINGS



Thirty years of investing in home schooling is paying dividends across the country and around the world. From mission work to filmmaking, business owners to second-generation home school parents, here is a sampling of accomplishments of millennial Texas home school grads.

*By Sarah Elisabeth Sawyer*

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF  
THE HOME SCHOOL GRADS

TOP ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT)

--Daniel and Christa Blanchard and their sons, Joshua and Kaiden. Photo by Jessica Guenther

--Grace Hays. Photo by Rachel Arlena Heaton

--Jessica Alvarado. Photo by Elaine Alvarado

SECOND ROW

--Kevin Karaki Sharp

--Liberty McArtor. Photo by Mae Rachelle

Photography

--Matthew Bradley

THIRD ROW

--Aaron Alvarado. Photo by Britney Tarno

--Aspen Daniels. Photo by Ali Reese

FORTH ROW

--Mollie Reeder operating a Steadicam.

Photo by Kelsey Williams

--Brack and Kellie Waddell. Photo by Tammy

Lenamond

--Brooke Franqui and family. Photo by Elizabeth Castro

FIFTH ROW

--Catherine Frappier. Photo by Jennifer Frappier

--Christine and William Herman, their daughter, Jubilee Noel

--Clare Johnson with her coach, Nuno

Merino. Photo by Cara Merino

Aaron Alvarado

(Forney, Texas) Aaron started leading worship at his church in 2014 with weekly rehearsals, putting music together for new songs, and creating group devotionals and readings. He is now a part of the church leadership team.

Jessica Alvarado

(Edgewood, Texas) Jessica owns North 19 Vintage, a design and resale company, and is staff photographer, design assistant, and social media contributor for LaurieAnna's Vintage Home. She's also the sound tech and media director at her church. Jessica was the inspiration for this article.

David and Danielle Baucom

(Canton, Texas) David and Danielle started home schooling their own kids, and pursued growing their family through adoption. Navigating the public school system was a challenge, but a requirement for foster kids. After adoption, their new children wanted to be home schooled. David and Danielle love the opportunity home schooling provides their children to explore and experience life in the real world. One month, they loaded their seven kids in a travel trailer and explored Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, and Arkansas.

Daniel Blanchard

(Peoria, Ill.) Daniel is the facility manager for Samaritan Ministries

International. He and his wife Christa have been married for nine years, have two sons, and are expecting their third child in August 2016. They home school their children, always looking for ways to broaden their learning experiences.

Joshua Bradley

(Washington, D.C.) Joshua, a former staff member for Pine Cove Christian Camp, and a Bill Archer Fellow through the University of Texas System, is currently interning at the office of Congressman Louie Gohmert in Washington, D.C.

Matthew Bradley

(Tyler, Texas) Matthew, a graduate of LeTourneau University, has taught five years for Tyler ISD. A former teacher of the year, he hopes to continue working with students in various educational roles in the future.

Aspen Daniels

(Canton, Texas) Aspen worked eight months in the Gospel for Asia (GFA) office in Wills Point, Texas. She managed their social media as a School of Discipleship student. While with GFA, she visited the South Asia mission field for two weeks.

Kolby Elliott

Kolby is a cyber operations officer in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Ramstein, Germany, for the past three years. He and his wife have visited most of the countries in Western Europe, as well as Morocco.



Jenny Foster

(Tyler, Texas) Jenny studied at Trinity Valley Community College and received a Bachelor of Science in nursing from the University of Texas, Tyler. She is now a registered nurse at Trinity Mother Frances.

Brooke Franqui

Brooke worked five years as a casting director for Leftfield Pictures, one of the largest production companies in the country. She resides in Brooklyn, N.Y., with her husband and baby girl, and works remotely for the ministry of RREACH (Ramesh Richard Evangelism and Church Health).

Catherine Frappier

(Rains, Texas) Catherine is a student

at Criswell College pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy, politics, and economics. Her degree will include almost 50 college hours related to biblical studies, ministry, and biblical languages.

Grace Hays

Grace served as a summer children's theater director for five years and was the music director for the production of "Hairspray" at the Tyler Civic Theatre. She has sung in operas internationally and now resides in New York City.

Christina Herman

Christina, a missionary from age 15, has done extensive work in Mexico and Moldova. Christina and her

husband now have an interracial youth ministry in the East Dallas area.

Clare Johnson

Clare is a member of the 2014-15 World Championships U.S. Gymnastics team. She's the 2015 U.S. trampoline champion and synchro silver medalist, and she has her eyes on the 2016 Olympic Games. She is currently in Huntsville, Ala., for training.

Katherine Johnson

Katherine graduated with an Associate of Arts from Cedar Valley College before pursuing work in film and television. She has worked on three feature films, multiple television shows, and numerous short films.

# Give them a STRONG FOUNDATION

*You can inspire your children to love learning.  
You can teach them how to think, not what to think. We can help.*

Our Foundations, Essentials, and Challenge programs meet weekly to offer inspiration and encouragement for students and parents. Students enjoy having supportive peers, academic accountability, and challenging experiences such as presentations, debates, mock trial events, science fair and more! We provide practical, personal support and visionary leadership to help you succeed in homeschooling from age four through high school.

*Find Out More:*

To learn more and find a community near you, visit

[WELCOME.CLASSICALCONVERSATIONS.COM](http://WELCOME.CLASSICALCONVERSATIONS.COM)

or contact [clynch@classicalconversations.com](mailto:clynch@classicalconversations.com)

*Classical Conversations®*

Classical Christian Community



### Rachel Leichty

Rachel spent 10 months in Brazil getting to know her mom's family better as she learned Portuguese. She resides in Canton, Texas, and works at Disciples Crossing Camp.

### Rachel Libick

(Olathe, Kansas) Rachel is the supervising clinician at Applied Learning Processes, and works one on one with dyslexic children. Rachel graduated from MidAmerica Nazarene University in 2009 with a degree in English literature.

### Liberty McArtor

Liberty is a graduate of Patrick Henry College with a Bachelor of Arts in

journalism. She now works as a writer for First Liberty Institute, a non-profit legal organization dedicated to protecting religious freedom.

### Hannah Percival

Hannah, who has a master's degree in counseling, is currently at Texas Tech in Lubbock, working on a doctorate in fine arts, with an emphasis on music. Her current research combines music and psychology.

Sam, James, Emma, Johanna, and Grace Ramsey

The Ramsey siblings form Rambellwood, a close-knit family band that creates songs with an

eclectic fusion of guitar, piano, bass, drums, and carefully crafted melodies. Rambellwood is on pause while the siblings pursue college and other creative paths.

### Sam Ramsey

Sam, a professional filmmaker and photographer, lives in Austin with his wife Dusty and their children. Sam is preparing to complete a two-year worship residency at Austin Stone Community Church.

### James Ramsey

James graduates magna cum laude this year from the University of Texas, Arlington with an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering.



## WAYLAND: YOUR SCHOOL HOME AFTER HOMESCHOOL



“ I found Wayland's small class settings to be an easy transition from a homeschool community. I not only discovered an environment where professors invest in the lives of their students, but I became a part of a family. Just as your parents choose to teach you in order to provide an outstanding education, Wayland strives to focus on each student's needs and goals to give them the best learning experience possible and continuously succeeds. ”

– Bethany Rogers



CHRIST CENTERED ♦ LEARNING FOCUSED ♦ MISSION MINDED



806.291.3500

admitme@wbu.edu

www.wbu.edu





Emma Ramsey

Emma is also graduating this year, summa cum laude, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in creative writing, and minors in literature and German. She plans to pursue an M.F.A. in creative writing at North Carolina State University.

Johanna Ramsey

Johanna is a junior at the University of Texas, Arlington, pursuing an undergraduate degree in music education. She has won awards at the National Association of Teachers of Singing competition.

Grace Ramsey

Grace is taking classes at San Antonio

College and enjoying life and its many opportunities.

Mollie Reeder

(Arlington, Texas) Mollie, a filmmaker, started shooting professionally shortly after high school. She self-taught because she could not afford film school. This year she produced and edited "Aria Appleton," a musical headlined by kids. The story prominently features a home school family.

Johnny Sawyer

(Tyler, Texas) Johnny completed Youth With A Mission's (YWAM) Discipleship Training Program in Nicaragua with an outreach to Greece.

Johnny's missionary service includes working on construction at a Georgia church, cleaning up after a recent Oklahoma storm, distributing Bibles in Nicaragua, remodeling YWAM bases in Jamaica, and leading worship services.

Kevin Karaki Sharp

(Tyler, Texas) Kevin and his family got involved in sword fighting after a medieval history study with their home school co-op. They never stopped. Kevin has done re-enactments and taught medieval history and weaponry for 13 years. He's working at the University of Texas, Tyler School of Pharmacy while pursuing an M.B.A.

Brack and Kellie Waddell (Athens, Texas) Brack and Kellie are raising their two children by a credo of hard work, but always making time for fun. Kellie is an avid blogger for Christ, and Brack, the manager at Caplin Ranch, is a licensed minister and serves on church staff in youth ministry. ■



*Sarah Elisabeth Sawyer, also a millennial home school grad, is an award-winning inspirational author, speaker, and Choctaw storyteller of traditional and fictional*

*tales based on the lives of her people. The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian has honored her as a literary artist through their Artist Leadership Program for her work in preserving Trail of Tears stories. In 2015, First Peoples Fund awarded her an Artist in Business Leadership Fellowship. She writes from her hometown in Texas, partnering with her mama, Lynda Kay Sawyer, in continued research for future novels. Learn more about their work in preserving Choctaw history at [SarahElisabethWrites.com](http://SarahElisabethWrites.com) and [Facebook.com/SarahElisabethSawyer](https://Facebook.com/SarahElisabethSawyer).*

# SUBSCRIBE NOW!

TO ALL OF THSC'S QUALITY PUBLICATIONS

## E-PUBLICATIONS

Event Announcements  
Alerts and Calls to Action  
Legislative, Advocacy, & Political News  
Home School Group Leader Information  
THSC FrontPage  
Thrifty Thursday!  
Special Needs Information  
Help for Home Schooling

AND...

Get REVIEW magazine  
delivered to your home  
four times a year.  
It's free! Subscribe now.



TEXAS  
HOME SCHOOL  
COALITION  
*Keeping Texas Families Free™*



**HOMESCHOOLERS**

USE PROMO CODE

**496728TH** AND RECEIVE

*Free Shipping*

WITH YOUR ORDER OF \$35 OR MORE

**AT CHRISTIANBOOK.COM**

OFFER EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

Great news for homeschoolers! Use the promo code above when you shop at Christianbook.com and get free shipping with your order of \$35 or more. You'll find all the curriculum and supplies you're looking for, plus the web's largest selection of Christian books, Bibles, gifts, music, and resources—always at incredibly low prices, and from folks you can trust. After all, many of us are homeschoolers too.



**Christianbook.com®**  
**1-800-CHRISTIAN**

EVERYTHING **CHRISTIAN** FOR LESS!



# 30 GOOD BEACH READS BY HOME SCHOOLED AUTHORS

*By Sarah Holman*

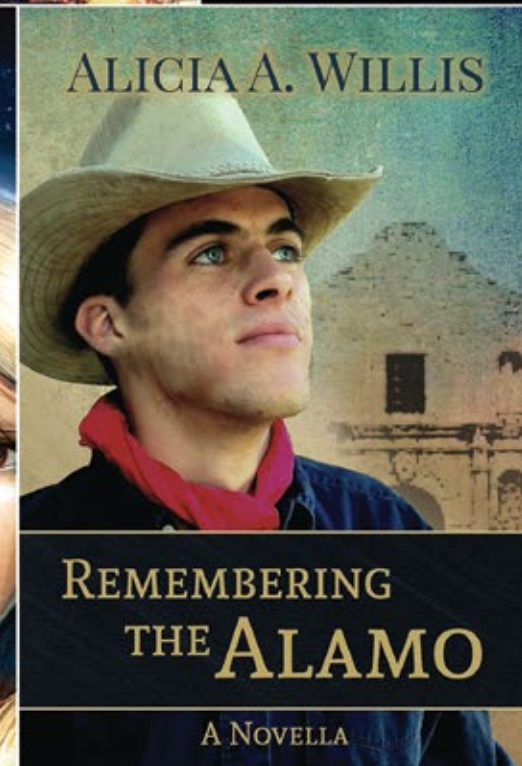
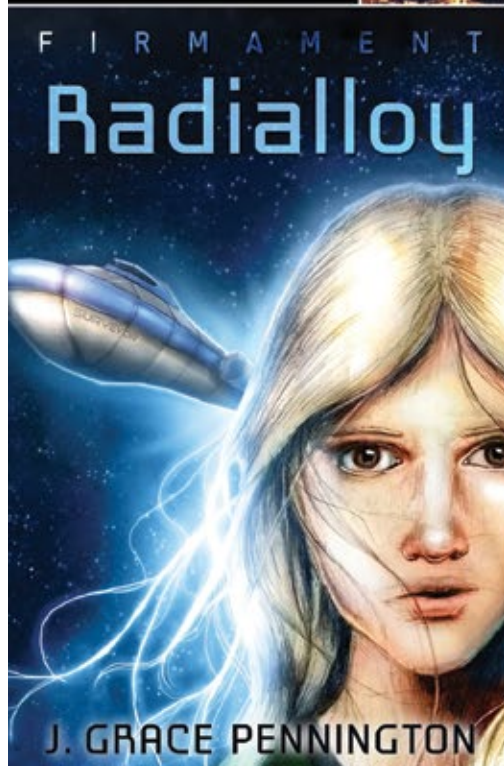
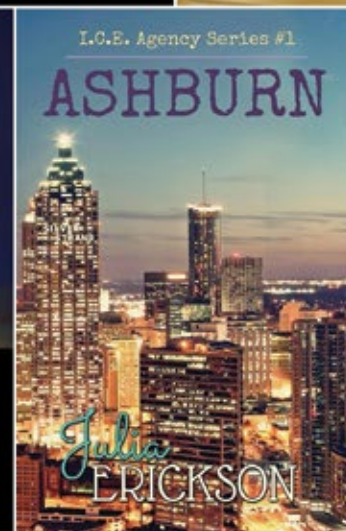
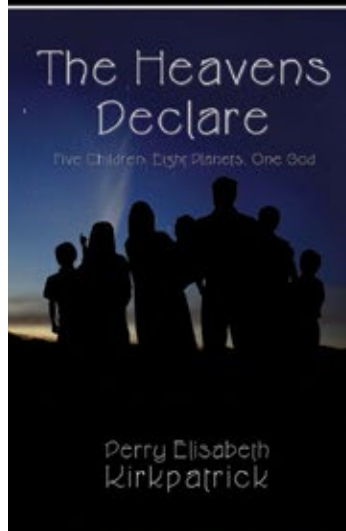
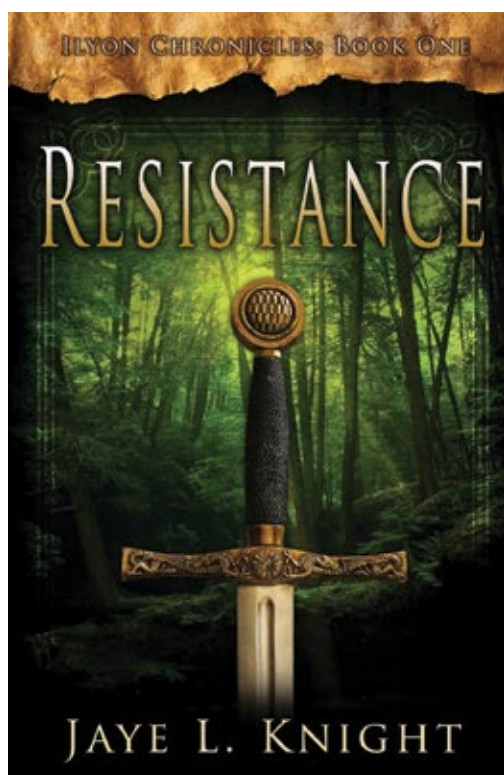
Summer is a great time to read for enjoyment. Whether it's in a hammock in the shade, on a sandy, sunny beach, or the back seat of the minivan while driving across Texas for summer vacation, a great book is the perfect companion. Beyond entertaining, these 30 books inspire and encourage, because they were all written by home schooled authors—many from Texas! And some even prominently feature home schooling families as characters. There are choices for any age—even for Mom and Dad—and all books are available on Amazon.com, of which THSC is a Smile affiliate.



BY A TEXAN AUTHOR



FEATURES A HOME  
SCHOOL FAMILY



## YOUNG READERS

### Martha's Fun Summer

Martha lives with her large family on a farm. She is in for a fun summer, one that she won't soon forget.

*Bekah O'Brien hopes to write a long series that follows Martha as she grows up.*

### Squeaky

Squeaky is as small as a mouse, but he is a cat. His siblings are regular size and can do lots of big things. As small as he is, can Squeaky do anything helpful?

*Ashley Elizabeth Blair Tetzlaff, originally from Texas, now lives with her husband in Washington.*

### The Prodigal Pup

This lovely children's story is an enjoyable read-aloud for the younger members of the family. An entertaining story that also teaches important principles.

*Sarah E. Brown is a young, Christian, animal-loving author and teacher from Minnesota. SarahEllenBrown.com*

### The Treasure Hunt

When David finds a package, it sets him and his siblings on a treasure hunt. A fun-filled adventure for younger readers.

*Kate Willis, a home educated young lady who loves the Lord, enjoys the Great Northwest with her family of 10.*

## INTERMEDIATE READERS

### Across the Stars

A fantasy book in the tradition of Narnia; a group of children find themselves in a world that is not their own, trying to help free a people from

oppression.

*Morgan Elizabeth Huneke is also a musician and a seamstress who loves historical clothes. MorganHuneke.com*

### Becoming Nikki

On the ice, everything seems to be going well for Nikki and her brother/ice dancing partner, but off the ice their relationship is deteriorating. Will an accident bring them together, or push them apart?

*Ashley Elliott lives in Georgia with her parents and six siblings. InklingsPress.wordpress.com*

### Sew, It's a Quest

Fairy tales collide, and two siblings search for their fairy-godmother, whom they are sure switched their gifts at birth. A light-hearted tale with magic, adventure, and many well-known characters from the fairy-tale world.

*Kendra E. Ardnek is the eldest of four children and lives in east Texas. KendraEArdnek.weebly.com*

### The Heavens Declare

Five siblings learn about the nine planets and the amazing world that God created. A wonderful story that will teach as well as inspire.

*Perry Elisabeth Kirkpatrick is a wife, mom, home school grad, author, book designer, and blogger.*

*PerryElisabeth.blogspot.com*

### The Mystery of the Missing Cufflinks

An 11-year-old in Regency England, Jemima is excited when her cousin, Aimée, comes to visit. However, after Aimée's arrival, some cufflinks go missing, and Jemima finds herself in the middle of a mystery.

*Alicia G. Ruggieri writes stories about the possibility of redemption for all things through the Cross.*

*ABrighterDestiny.blogspot.com*

### Unbroken

Orlena isn't happy when she has to move from the city onto a ranch in the middle of nowhere. Will Orlena discover the power of the love and faith her brother offers?

*Living at home in Missouri with her parents and sister, Rebekah Morris enjoys hand quilting, history, reading, teaching, and writing for a variety of age groups.*

*RSReadingRoom.blogspot.com*

## ADVANCED READERS

### Alyce

This is a Cinderella tale, but with a different slant. Alice doesn't want to go to the ball and is not interested in meeting the prince.

*Sarah Scheele is a native Texan devoted to words and storytelling.*

*StarDustandGravel.blogspot.com*

### Annabeth's War

Annabeth knows how to wield a sword but also knows how to act like a lady. Can she and her friends save her father and her people before it is too late?

*Jessica Greyson felt a call to be His ready writer and has been scribbling ever since. JessicaGreyson.com*

### Ashburn

Cara never set out to be a spy; she just got caught up in it when a childhood friend showed up. Will she live to find the God she has run from for all these years?

*Julia Erickson lives in Georgia with her*



## *A Different Kind of Courage*



SARAH HOLMAN

parents and two brothers. She has many hobbies, among which is making jewelry.

*JewelsByJulia-Lauren.blogspot.com*

Brothers at Arms 

Two brothers set out on an adventure. It will take them around the globe and challenge their relationship and faith.

*John J. Horn lives in San Antonio where he works in advertising.*

*JohnJHornBooks.com*

Family Reunion  

Six cousins meet during a family reunion, but find they have little in common. Will their

grandfather's treasure hunt bring them together?

*Kelsey Bryant loves to study the Bible, Israel, classic literature, history, classical music, and martial arts.*

*KelseysNotebookBlog.blogspot.com*

Firmament: Radialloy 

Andy helps her adoptive father, the starship's doctor as they travel through the stars. When her father seems to be losing his mind, it is up to Andy to find out what is happening.

*J. Grace Pennington lives in Texas and loves filmmaking and watching her favorite TV shows.*

*JGracePennington.com*

# PCApplus Virtual Academy



*Let us partner with you as you plan your student's future!*

**www.PCAplus.org**

Equipping students to "increase in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and man."

~Luke 2:52

Offering a full spectrum of biblically-integrated, fully accredited online courses—



- Full graduation curriculum
- Supplemental courses to enhance existing programs
- Foreign Language
- College Board Advanced Placement
- Dual Credit
- Full or Part Time Students



An affiliate of Prestonwood Christian Academy and a Ministry of Prestonwood Baptist Church

For more information:

(972) 930-4044 | [www.pcaplus.org](http://www.pcaplus.org)

### Journeys of Four 🏠

Four people struggle to live out their faith. Not all of them will make the right choice.

*Rebekah Jones is in her 20s and lives with her family, where she takes learning to be a homemaker seriously. [RebekahsQuill.com](http://RebekahsQuill.com)*

### Red Rain

Being a Christian is hard, especially since the government has outlawed home schooling. Philly is happy she gets to travel with her father to Mars, but she soon finds that there are a lot of strange things happening.

*Aubrey Hansen has worked on some Christian films in addition to writing. [AubreyHansen.com](http://AubreyHansen.com)*

### Remembering the Alamo

When Pastor Siegler takes his youth group on a midsummer vacation to San Antonio, he anticipates teaching them about honor and sacrifice at the Alamo. However, this becomes much harder when a troubled teen seems bent on ruining the trip.

*Alicia A. Willis is passionate about being historically accurate in all her books.*

*[TheComradesofHonorSeries.weebly.com](http://TheComradesofHonorSeries.weebly.com)*

### The Heart of Arcrea

Hoping to free his father from imprisonment, Druet sets out on a quest to solve an ancient riddle. Many memorable characters join Druet on his mission of justice, but opposition quickly rises to test their level of commitment and their faith.

*Nicole Sager enjoys writing inspirational fantasy that's magic-free and family-friendly.*

### The Rise of Aredor 🇺🇸

Corin tries to find his family and free his people, but time is running out for both. A tale of friendship, family, and adventure.

*Claire M. Banschbach is fourth of eight children and is currently working on a doctorate in physical therapy at Texas Tech Health Sciences Center.*

*[ClaireMBanschbach.tateauthor.com](http://ClaireMBanschbach.tateauthor.com)*

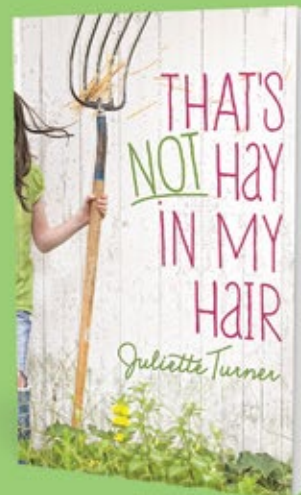
### The Sparrow Found a House 🏠

Everything changed when Jesse's mom remarried a man who had been in the military. He has a lot of old-



## FROM THE BIG APPLE TO BIG ADVENTURES

Get ready for side-splitting laughs, heart-wrenching tears, and surprising life lessons learned down on the farm and shared by fourteen-year-old Juliette.



AVAILABLE WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD.

READ A SAMPLE OF THE BOOK  
<http://bit.ly/1SCGFSM>

 ZONDERkidz



fashioned ideas about which Jesse isn't sure. Will he bring their family together, or pull them apart?  
*Jason McIntire, his mother, and one brother are all authors. ElishaPress.com*

### A Different Kind of Courage

William returns to Boston in 1774 to find himself in the middle of a great conflict. Pulled between the wishes of his father and the passion of his friends, William is forced to make a decision about his loyalty.  
*Sarah Holman is the administrator for HomeschooledAuthors.com. TheDestinyofOne.com*

### ADULT READERS

**Beyond Waiting**  
Is this really the purpose of your single years? In *Beyond Waiting*, you'll discover the true meaning of the word "wait," and learn why life can be so discouraging if all you're doing is pursuing that ever-elusive Prince Charming.  
*Rebekah Snyder continues to share her journey on her blog, BeyondWaiting.com.*

### Pajama School

Natalie shares stories of what it was like growing up in her home school family. The stories reflect the

challenges and values of her family and offer encouragement to others.  
*Natalie Wickham was home schooled through college, alongside her five siblings. PajamaSchool.com*

### Resistance

Two siblings find themselves at odds with the tyrannical ruler who is out to oppress Christians. Will they be able to resist and stand up for what is right?

*Jaye L. Knight also likes to make jewelry that is themed after her books. JayeLKnight.com*

### Tales of the Heartily Homeschooled

You will laugh your way through these



### BALANCED SUMMER PROGRAMS

*All ages. All faiths. All welcome.*

# 2016

Summer University at All Saints' Episcopal School in Fort Worth offers weekly classes for 3-year-olds through high school seniors.

**Learn more & Register:** [aseschool.org/SummerUniversity](http://aseschool.org/SummerUniversity)

Be one of the first 20 students registered, use the code

**THSCSU2016**

and receive

**15% OFF**

your initial registration on select classes.



funny and true stories of two cousins who were home schooled. As they take a road trip together, they reflect on their lives and adventures.

*Rachel Starr Thomson lives in Canada. She's a writer, editor, indie publisher, singer, speaker, Bible study teacher, and world traveler.*

[RachelStarrThomson.com](http://RachelStarrThomson.com)

### The Abolitionist

With the feeling of a Jane Austen novel and the backdrop of Wilberforce's fight against the slave trade, this book delights readers and will inspire them to action. One person can really make a difference. *Elisabeth Allen lives in England where she teaches at a local school and takes*

*long walks in the countryside.*

### The Ranch Next Door and Other Stories

This collection of short stories set in the Old West is perfect for short reading sessions. These stories will transport you back in time and make you feel like you are really there. *Elisabeth Grace Foley is in her mid-20s and is a lover of old movies, history, and classic books.*

[TheSecondSentence.blogspot.com](http://TheSecondSentence.blogspot.com)

### The Shadow Things

In ancient Britain, a Christian priest comes to a tribe of people. The chief's son is interested, but learns that following Christ may cost him more

than he ever imagined.

*Jennifer Freitag is a home school grad, wife of her childhood sweetheart, and the mother of a baby girl. [ThePenSlayer.blogspot.com](http://ThePenSlayer.blogspot.com)* ■

ALL BOOK COVER IMAGES COURTESY OF THE AUTHORS.



*Sarah Holman is a not-so-typical mid-20s girl, a home school graduate, and sister to six awesome siblings. If there is anything adventuresome about her life, it is that she serves a God with a destiny bigger than anything she could have imagined. You can find out more about her at [TheDestinyofOne.com](http://TheDestinyofOne.com).*

# WRITING ADVENTURES!

## HIGH SCHOOL

### ONE YEAR ADVENTURE NOVEL

- 78 Lessons on DVD
- Textbook + Workbook
- Teacher's Guide
- Webinars
- Online Forum

**NEW Edition**

Sample lessons online:  
**[www.OneYearNovel.com](http://www.OneYearNovel.com)**

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

### "Cover Story"

**Cathy Duffy**  
gives thumbs-up to these programs!

- Story technique and structure
- Literature
- Critical thinking
- Grammar disc

Sample lessons online:  
**[www.CoverStoryWriting.com](http://www.CoverStoryWriting.com)**

An engaging Language Arts curriculum for middle school students!

MAY 2016 | THSC.org 19





---

FOUR IMPORTANT TOOLS FOR

# CHARACTER TRAINING

---

*By Lyndsay Lambert*

A friend of mine once told me that if she was going to home school, she wanted to give her children things that they could not get anywhere else. I liked that, so I began to think about what that would be for my family. I decided it would be an education that incorporates scripture and character into all aspects of the curricula.

We believed that if we could teach our children to work with numbers, to read, and to write, and train them in character, they could educate themselves. How? They would have the tools and the desire, as well as the character needed to persevere. That does not mean we did not pursue academics; rather, we emphasized tools and character training as the most important part of schooling.

Character is moral or ethical quality. According to Character First, “Good character is the inward values that determine outward actions.” In practical terms, character is knowing what is expected and understanding why it is valuable to the extent that you are willing to do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

Why is character training important? Honestly, it makes everyone’s life easier. Think about it. If a person knows how to exhibit, for example, self-control, honor, contentment, and truthfulness, he will get along better with peers, he will be a better employee, and his parents will have more joy in raising him.

Also, our hearts’ desire was that all of our children would come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior at an early age and learn to walk with Him. We all come to Jesus with “grave clothes,” so to speak—habits and qualities that need to be “taken off” in the new life. We regarded character training as a way to help our children

develop qualities and habits that would ease the transition from unsaved to serving the Savior.

So what are the four tools?

## THE BIBLE

We believe that the Bible is the inerrant, inspired word of God—the final authority for all truth and practice. In other words, it is God’s handbook for life. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV) tells us, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

One day while meditating on this passage, I noticed a progression. The Bible teaches us God’s way. Doctrine tells us what that way is, reproof tells us how we have gotten off the right path, correction leads us back to the path, and instruction in righteousness teaches us how to stay on the path.



Psalm 119:11 says that hiding scripture in his heart helps a young man to not sin against God. Have your children memorize scripture. I made it a school requirement and put their weekly memory verse on their assignment sheet. (Hey, it’s your school; you can require whatever you deem necessary!)

Also, using scripture helps your children understand that they are accountable to God, not just to you. You are not always going to be with them when they come to important crossroads in their lives—when character makes a difference—but

God will be.

Some of our most used verses were Ephesians 4:32 (Be kind to one another...); Philippians 2:3-4 (Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself...); I Samuel 15:23 (For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft...); as well as many verses from Proverbs. It’s probably apparent why these verses were some of our most frequently used!

## CURRICULA

I found it helpful and less time-consuming to start with curriculum. Some curricula focus on individual qualities, starting with a definition then providing examples from real life or nature. Some reference applicable Bible verses and stories, and some suggest ways to demonstrate the particular character quality.

Take, for example, the character quality of attentiveness. (I have heard that it should be the first quality you teach, because if a child is not attentive, you will not be able to teach him anything else. Good point.)

- Definition of Attentiveness: Showing the worth of a person or task by giving my undivided concentration (Character First)
- Opposite: Unconcern (Character Journal)
- Verses: Deuteronomy 12:28; John 10:27; Hebrews 2:1
- Bible stories: 1 Samuel 3—Samuel hears God calling; Matthew 13—Parable of the sower
- Nature stories: “The Wood Duck” (Character Journal)

## STORIES

Have you ever noticed how quiet it gets



in church when the speaker illustrates a point by way of a story? It seems to grab everyone's attention, including young children's. Teaching character qualities using stories is no different.

Stories can be about, well, anything! They can be from books, Bible stories, real-life situations (their life, your life, or someone else they know), nature, world history, your own history, etc. They can even be made up!

***"Children learn more from what you are than what you teach."***  
W.E.B. DuBois

For example, a story from *Little House in the Big Woods* came in handy

once when I took one of my children to the doctor to learn the child was feigning sickness to get attention (I was pretty sure this was the motivation). A big storm was coming, and Laura Ingalls' father and uncle were trying to bring in the harvest before it hit. Laura's cousin didn't want to help. Several times he "cried wolf," faking an injury, and distracting the men from their urgent task. Then when he actually jumped on a hornets' nest and was being stung severely, they chose to ignore his cries.

I followed that with a story from my childhood about how I had told my parents I was sick when I wasn't. Later when I did in fact feel bad, they didn't believe me, and I threw up—in church!

How embarrassing!

I had learned the hard way as a child, but my story helped my child get the point, and we made no more false runs to the doctor.

## LEADING BY EXAMPLE

The most important tool is the hardest to implement! And yet, the other tools may not work without this one.

Remember that oft-quoted and oft-hated saying of some parents, "Do as I say; not as I do"? Unfortunately, that rarely works, because children are little mirrors! W.E.B. DuBois rightly opined, "Children learn more from what you are than what you teach." Put another way, "Children catch more than they are taught!"



## I AM APOLOGIA SCIENCE

"The biblical worldview of the Exploring Creation series and its authors is refreshing. These are real scientists who present God's creation in all of its awe and splendor. References to God's handiwork are intertwined throughout the texts at appropriate times. As we learned science, we were reminded where the earth and all of its creations come from."

**Sue Mercer, Homeschooling Mom**

"Apologia Science was a great launching point that helped me succeed throughout college. I would absolutely recommend Apologia to parents and students looking for an effective and interesting science curriculum. In fact, I already do whenever I meet homeschooling families!"

**Allyson (Mercer) Martin, Associate Food Scientist Professional Certificate of the Culinary Arts, Culinary Institute of America-Greystone, Bachelor of Science in Food Science, Purdue University**



apologia.com



Does this mean that you should not require your children to work on a particular character quality until you consistently exhibit that quality? Not at all! One of the great things about home schooling is how much we as parents get to learn alongside our children. Working on our own character is a part of that. A friend of mine calls home schooling “sanctification on steroids.” However, if you wait until you are perfect to require certain behaviors of your children—face it—it will never happen!

In summary, use a curriculum. It’s a good starting point. Teach your children that in all areas, including in our character development, scripture has the final word. Help them understand that everyone will exhibit character. Theirs should please the Lord.

Then pray like crazy! Ask God to help you be a good example to your children. Ask Him to help you be aware of areas in your life and in the lives of your children that need work, and for wisdom on how to best proceed (James 1:5). Ask God to bring to mind, and across your path, stories you can use to help your children understand what good character is.

Never forget that you are dealing with human beings (translation: sinners). They are probably not going to learn to exhibit good character after the first lesson—it may not even happen in your lifetime. God has not promised us that we will be successful, but He has called us to be faithful. ■



Lyndsay Lambert, a graduate of Texas Tech University, home schooled her four now-grown children for 16 years. She assisted Tim, her husband of over 35 years, in serving the home school community, first in helping to start and lead their local support group and, from 1990 - 2013, in running the Texas Home School Coalition, the state organization committed to serving Texas home schoolers. Her strongest desire, however, is to encourage home school moms and support group leaders in the work that they are doing. Lyndsay now blogs regularly at [FromAnOlderWoman.com](http://FromAnOlderWoman.com). Join Lyndsay Lambert at THSC’s 2016 Conventions in her workshop entitled, “Ready, Set ... Now What Do I Do?”

## RECOMMENDED CHARACTER TRAINING RESOURCES



Used with permission, Character First Education.  
[www.characterfirsted.com](http://www.characterfirsted.com)

### **Character First Education**

Age-appropriate character curriculum, non-sectarian  
Free materials online at [CharacterFirstEducation.com](http://CharacterFirstEducation.com)

### **Doorposts.com**

Bible-based books and charts about character and other topics

**Konos.com** Unit study based on character qualities

### *Character Sketches*

Three-book series, includes nature and Bible stories by the Institute in Basic Life Principles, [Store.IBLP.org](http://Store.IBLP.org)

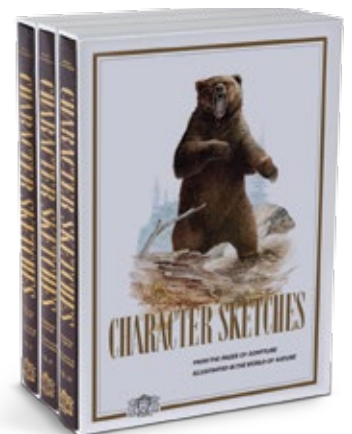
## AVAILABLE ON AMAZON

*Proverbs for Parenting: A Topical Guide for Child Raising from the Book of Proverbs* by Barbara Decker

*Teach Them Diligently: How to Use the Scriptures in Child Training* by Lou Priolo

*A Child’s Book of Character Building* by Ron and Rebekah Coriell.  
Two books with simple explanations and interesting stories for young children

*Character Builders, Looking Glass Series* by Ron and Rebekah Coriell, for ages 12 to 15





# 30 YEARS OF THSC



TEXAS  
HOME SCHOOL  
COALITION  
*Keeping Texas Families Free™*



## 1981-1985

AFTER ISSUING A NEW POLICY AGAINST HOME SCHOOLING, SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY (TEA) PROSECUTE 150 FAMILIES FOR HOME SCHOOLING. 10 FAMILIES TURN THE TABLES WITH CLASS ACTION SUIT LEEPER V. ARLINGTON I.S.D.

## 1986

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SEEKS TO RESTRICT HOME SCHOOLING. 6000 PEOPLE RALLY IN PROTEST. TEXAS HOME SCHOOLING LEADERS KIRK AND BEVERLY MCCORD FOUND THSC PAC AS A STATEWIDE MOVEMENT.

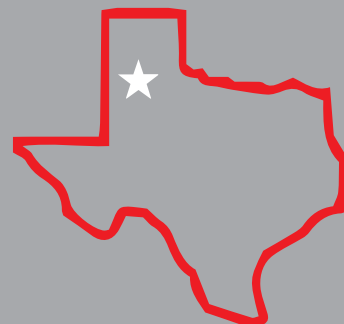


## 1987

IN LEEPER V. ARLINGTON I.S.D., LOCAL COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF HOME SCHOOLING. DECISION IS UPHOLD IN 1991 AND 1994 APPEALS.

## 1990

TIM LAMBERT TAKES THE HELM OF THSC, MOVES OFFICE TO HIS LUBBOCK HOME-ONE PHONE, ONE COMPUTER, AND CALLS RETURNED COLLECT.



20

THS  
NATIO  
RECO  
AS O  
THE P  
STATE  
SCHO  
ADVO  
GRO  
IN  
COU

TH

# 1995

- THSC HELPS TEA ESTABLISH POLICY FOR IMPLEMENTING *LEEPER* DECISION. HOME SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT FROM SCHOOL DISTRICT OVERSIGHT.
- THSC GETS IRS 501(C)(3) DETERMINATION.



# 1997

FIRST ISSUE OF *REVIEW* MAGAZINE GOES TO PRESS WITH LYNDSEY LAMBERT AS EDITOR.

# 2001

- THSC HOSTS FIRST CONVENTION FOR HOME SCHOOLING FAMILIES IN THE WOODLANDS.
- THSC MEMBER ASSOCIATION IS FOUNDED. SHELBY SHARPE, LEAD COUNSEL IN *LEEPER* CASE, SIGNS ON AS GENERAL COUNSEL.
- THSC ESTABLISHES HIGHER ED GRANTS ARE ALSO FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS.



# 2007

WITH MORE THAN 17,000 CALLS AND LETTERS, THSC KILLS SB 1440, WHICH WOULD HAVE EXPANDED THE AUTHORITY OF CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES. BILL IS VETOED BY GOV. RICK PERRY.

# 2015

- THSC DEFENDS THE TUTT FAMILY IN CPS CASE NOW AT TEXAS SUPREME COURT.
- THSC PREVAILS IN FEDERAL COURT CASE AGAINST TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION FOR UNCONSTITUTIONAL RULES AGAINST ASSOCIATIONS.
- GOV. ABBOTT SIGNS ANTI-DISCRIMINATION BILL FOR HOME SCHOOL COLLEGE ADMISSION.



# 2016

THSC IS  
NATIONALLY  
RECOGNIZED  
ONE OF  
THE PREMIER  
HOME  
SCHOOLING  
ADVOCACY  
GROUPS  
IN THE  
COUNTRY.







## 30 SUPER FOCUS FOODS TO BOOST LEARNING

*By Peggy Ployhar*

Years ago our two sons were dealing with a variety of sensory issues that manifested themselves as Asperger Syndrome, speech issues, and behavioral problems. Then we were blessed to meet Diane Craft at a home schooling conference. As my husband and I sat through Diane's presentations, we were amazed at how perfectly she connected all these seemingly unrelated issues we had been seeing in our children to a simple explanation: an overpopulation of bad bacteria and yeast in their guts. More importantly, she provided a simple diet plan she had used with other families to heal these same types of issues.

Within two months of our boys being on the diet, people were asking us what happened to our oldest, who had been diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome just a few years prior. He was calm! And our younger son's speech suddenly improved. We

realized we needed to maintain a healthy gut to keep these issues from returning.

Maintaining a healthy gut takes a three-pronged approach: feeding the good bacteria in your gut; avoiding foods that destroy the good bacteria; and eliminating foods that aid destructive bacteria. Fortunately, God has supplied mankind with all the food our bodies need to feed healthy bacteria. Eating foods rich in vitamins, minerals, fiber, and good fats—while avoiding overly processed foods filled with sugars and simple carbohydrates that lack natural forms of vitamins and minerals—is the key to maintaining a healthy gut that optimizes your child's ability to learn and successfully confront everyday issues.

Here are 30 foods to improve your children's gut health. Enter the recipe names in the search bars of the respective websites to see the full recipes.





## BREAKFASTS:

### CHOCOLATE AVOCADO

**SMOOTHIE** Avocados are filled with easy-to-absorb vitamins and minerals, and are high in enzymes that carry toxins out of the body, particularly the digestive system. DoctorOz.com

### CHOCOLATE PECAN

**GRANOLA** Pecans promote colon health because of their high fiber content and anti-inflammatory properties. WithAllYourLife.com

### CINNAMON COCONUT FLOUR

**COFFEE CAKE** Not only does cinnamon help to naturally control blood sugar levels, but it also attacks bad yeast in the gut, reduces irritable bowel syndrome, and increases attentiveness, memory, and cognitive development. TheCoconutMama.com

### ROLLED OMELET WITH

**SPINACH** Spinach is loaded with vitamins and fiber and is especially efficient at oxidizing free radicals in the colon. MarthaStewart.com

### BLUEBERRY-BANANA

**SMOOTHIE** This smoothie contains flax, the richest plant-based source of omega-3 fatty acids. Flax helps tremendously with memory functions and brain cell formation. WholeFoodsMarket.com

**OVEN POPOVER** Eggs are high in choline, an essential component

the brain needs to create strong signals and build cell membranes. WithAllYourLife.com

### COCONUT FLOUR CARROT

**MUFFINS** Coconut flour is helpful for maintaining healthy gut bacteria because of its natural anti-fungal and anti-bacterial properties, and for aiding in cell growth and repair throughout the body. WellFedHomestead.com

### APPLE PANNEKOEKEN

Apples have been proven to raise neurotransmitter levels in the brain, which helps with memory, mood stabilization, and stress control. Cooks.com

### BANANA OAT MUFFINS

Bananas increase the body's serotonin levels, improving mood. They soothe the digestive tract and help to boost good bacteria in the gut. CookieandKate.com

**Your Success is Our Goal!**

Over 30 years experience serving homeschool families.

**BCE Academy**  
With Personal Academic Assistance

- Individualized Diagnostic placement by subject
- Permeated with Biblical truths in every subject
- Easy for parents and students to use
- Start at any time of year
- Reasonable rates
- Accredited High School Diplomas
- Curriculum also available "A la carte"

**Bible Based Curriculum**

Call 866-567-2446 or visit us on the web — free catalog

**www.BasicChristianEducation.com**

**Let Us Show You the Money!**

See BILLIONS of dollars and learn about the production and history of United States paper currency at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, located in Fort Worth, Texas.

The Tour and Visitor Center includes:

- Two Floors of Exhibits and Displays
- Self-guided Tour on Elevated Walkway
- Theater Movie
- Moneyfactory Gift Shop

**ADMISSION IS FREE**

**Hours of Operation**  
Tuesday - Friday 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.  
Closed Federal holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

**Bureau of Engraving and Printing - 9000 Blue Mound Road - Fort Worth, Texas 76131**  
817-231-4000 or toll-free 866-865-1194 and press 2  
[www.bep.gov](http://www.bep.gov)



**BAKED OATMEAL** Oats not only boost energy levels, but also are effective in helping with digestion because of their unique blend of soluble and insoluble fibers. [YourHomeBasedMom.com](http://YourHomeBasedMom.com)

## SNACKS:

**ROASTED LENTILS** Lentils help with digestion regulation, make the body feel full longer, and feed healthy gut bacteria. [EdiblePerspective.com](http://EdiblePerspective.com)

**CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER SUGAR PLUMS** Chocolate contains a flavonoid that increases cellular signals in the brain. When eaten with prebiotic food, it increases how

effectively the body feeds its good gut bacteria. [WithAllYourLife.com](http://WithAllYourLife.com)

**PUMPKIN SEED TRAIL MIX** Pumpkin seeds are high in omega-3s and in zinc, a mineral in which many children with learning issues are deficient. [CinnamonSpiceandEverythingNice.com](http://CinnamonSpiceandEverythingNice.com)

**COCONUT OIL CHIA BARS** Chia seeds have a unique blend of omega-3s, fiber, and protein that help to detoxify the gut and decrease inflammation in the digestive tract. [WithAllYourLife.com](http://WithAllYourLife.com)

**YOGURT BERRY POPSICLES** Berries tend to have few natural sugars, making them perfect for adding color to kids snacks without the worry of chemicals or artificial sugars. [CleanEatingMag.com](http://CleanEatingMag.com)

**HUMMUS DIP WITH CARROT STICKS** Recent research has shown that many children with learning issues have diminished eyesight. Carrots, with their high levels of Vitamin A, are great for your child's eye health. [AltonBrown.com](http://AltonBrown.com)

**KALE CHIPS** The benefits of kale are that it contains phytonutrients which boost memory, improve brain performance, and stabilize behavioral functions. [SteamyKitchen.com](http://SteamyKitchen.com)

**"CHEESY" POPCORN** Brewer's yeast is a nutritional yeast with a cheesy taste that kids love. It contains high levels of vitamins that increase brain vitality and stabilize mood levels. [GimmeSomeOven.com](http://GimmeSomeOven.com)



Photo Courtesy of Leigh Anne Wilkes  
[YourHomeBasedMom.com](http://YourHomeBasedMom.com)



**COUNTER CULTURE**  
CONFERENCE  
GO AGAINST THE FLOW

**FAMILY CREATION ADVENTURE**

Spiritual vitamins for the entire family  
fortified with Biblical truth

**August 11 - 13, 2016**  
Solid Rock Christian Camp/Resort  
Eastland, Texas

*Sponsored by*  
The Discovery Center  
Days of Noah Ministries  
Abilene, Texas

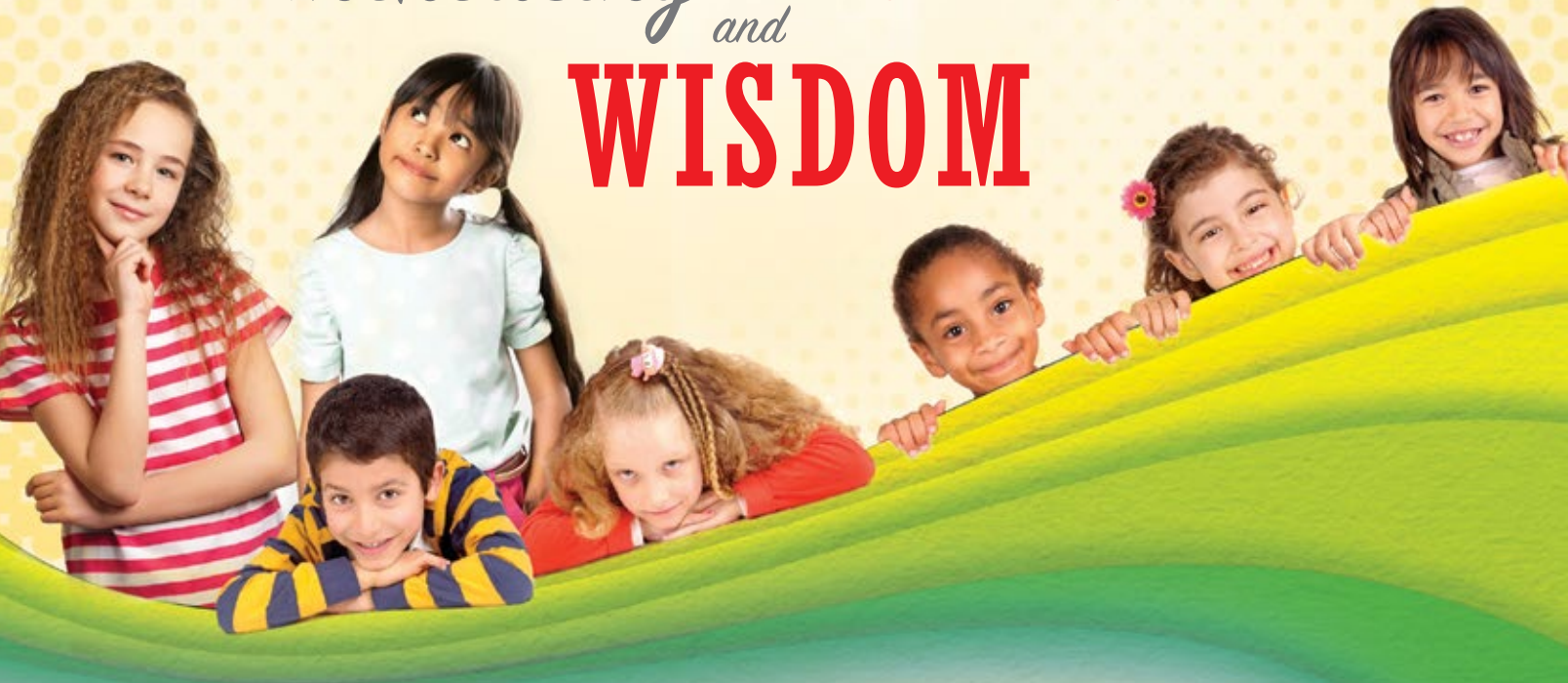
Nationally recognized speakers:  
Eric Hovind, Dr. Jobe Martin, Paul Cornelius

Lots of recreational activities!

**SAVE \$100/FAMILY WITH REBATE  
CODE: CCREBATE2016**

For more information  
and to register:  
[www.counterconferenceconferences.com](http://www.counterconferenceconferences.com)

# Engaging **EXPERIENCES,** Increasing *in* **KNOWLEDGE** *and* **WISDOM**



At God's Big WORLD, WORLDkids, and WORLDteen, we're excited to enter the second year of partnering with you to promote learning, adventure, and truth in the lives of your children!

Our desire is for preschoolers, elementary-age children, and young teenagers to sharpen their skills and grow in their faith by engaging with our content as we look forward to the start of the new school year.

For more information or to get God's Big WORLD, WORLDkids, or WORLDteen, visit [wng.org/children](http://wng.org/children)



**WORLD** worldkids



**WORLD TEEN**



**YOGURT AND FRUIT PARFAITS**  
Yogurt sold with “live and active cultures” helps to increase the amount of good bacteria in the gut. FoodNetwork.com

**GRAIN-FREE PUMPKIN COOKIES** Pumpkin is a great food that aids in a healthy immune system so kids have fewer sick days and more days to learn. TheHealthyHomeEconomist.com

## LUNCH OR DINNER:

**SMOKED SALMON FRITTATA BITES** Salmon increases a child’s ability to focus. Research has proven that children who eat salmon on a regular basis show

a decrease in ADHD symptoms. CupcakesandCashmere.com

**CHICKEN BONE BROTH SOUP WITH ZUCCHINI NOODLES**  
Bone broth, made over a 12- to 24-hour period, is touted as the most healing food for the body. In relation to gut health, bone broth has been proven to heal and seal gut lining that has been damaged by long-term abuse of consuming processed foods. Inspiralized.com. Visit RealFoodRN.com for Bone Broth Pho Chicken Soup recipe.

**BLT LETTUCE WRAP** Tomatoes reduce stress, improve eyesight, and aid in brain cell regeneration. BreakingMuscle.com

**SWEET POTATO TURKEY MEATBALLS** Sweet Potatoes reduce brain fog caused by inflammation in the brain. Food.com

**COLD FERMENTED THAI PEANUT BUTTER NOODLES**  
Peanuts contain many minerals essential to generating new cells in growing children. Plus, the added benefit of fermented peanut butter is having a probiotic-packed food children love. WithAllYourLife.com

**CHICKPEA PEPPERONI SOUP**  
Chickpeas are considered a gut healing food as they not only help with digestion but also work to balance pH levels and bacteria in the gut. WithAllYourLife.com

A CHRIST-CENTERED APPROACH TO  
EMERGENCY TRAINING AND RESPONSE



PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED TO IMPACT THE WORLD!



**ALERT**  
AIR LAND EMERGENCY RESOURCE TEAM  
903-636-2000 | alertacademy.com



Find Bible curriculum  
that helps you tell  
His story.

# MAGNIFY GOD

Discover new resources at  
**positiveaction.org/homeschool**

We publish Bible studies to help you magnify the majesty of God. As you tell His story, we pray that these materials will challenge each of your students to discover God in His Word.

  
**PositiveAction**  
BIBLE CURRICULUM  
positiveaction.org • (800) 688-3008

## SPROUTED CHICKEN

**QUESADILLA** Sprouted grains are easy to digest and offer more readily available minerals like zinc and magnesium, in which children who experience learning issues often are deficient. OMamas.com

## CREAMY HEALING BROCCOLI

**SOUP** Broccoli contains many phytonutrients which help to naturally detoxify the body and gut without the use of a harsh diet.

MegUnprocessed.com

## FRESH BEAN SPROUT SPRING

**ROLLS** Bean sprouts are high in fiber and rich in minerals which improve brain development in children.

WhiteonRiceCouple.com

## BAKED SWEET POTATOES

**WITH CHILI BEANS** Pinto beans naturally detoxify the gut from sulfates most commonly found in processed meats, creating a healthier gut in which good bacteria thrives. SproutedKitchen.com

Diane Craft will present five workshops at THSC Arlington Convention, including "The Biology of Behavior" and "Identifying and Correcting Blocked Learning Gates." Peggy Ployhar will present "An Introduction to Special Needs Home Schooling," as well as participating as a member of the panel for "Troubleshooting 101."


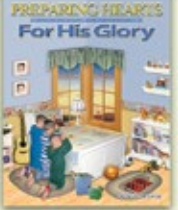






As Texas Home School Coalition's Special Needs Consultant, Peggy Ployhar leads the special needs ministry for THSC. This ministry includes consultations, event speaking, relevant blogging, and the Special Buddies® program at THSC Conventions. Peggy is the former MACHE (Minnesota Association of Christian Home Educators) Special Needs Coordinator whose home school journey started when her oldest child was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome. Peggy, her husband Doug, and their three children (19, 17, and 11) live and home school in Conroe, TX.



# Heart of Dakota Publishing

## Christ-centered Learning from Our Heart to Yours

<b>AGES 2-5</b>  <b>LITTLE HANDS TO HEAVEN</b> Ages 2-5	<b>AGES 5-7</b>  <b>LITTLE HEARTS FOR HIS GLORY</b> Ages 5-7	<b>AGES 6-8</b>  <b>BEYOND LITTLE HEARTS FOR HIS GLORY</b> Ages 6-8	<b>AGES 7-9</b>  <b>BIGGER HEARTS FOR HIS GLORY</b> Ages 7-9 extending to 10-11	<b>AGES 8-10</b>  <b>PREPARING HEARTS FOR HIS GLORY</b> Ages 8-10 extending to 11-12	<b>AGES 9-11</b>  <b>CREATION TO CHRIST</b> Ages 9-11 extending to 12-13	<b>AGES 10-12</b>  <b>RESURRECTION TO REFORMATION</b> Ages 10-12 extending to 13-14
<b>AGES 11-13</b>  <b>REVIVAL TO REVOLUTION</b> Ages 11-13 extending to 14-15	<b>AGES 12-14</b>  <b>MISSIONS TO MODERN MARVELS</b> Ages 12-14 extending to 15-16	<b>AGES 13-15</b>  <b>WORLD GEOGRAPHY</b> Ages 13-15 extending to 16-17	<b>AGES 14-16</b>  <b>WORLD HISTORY</b> Ages 14-16 extending to 17-18	<b>AGES 15-17</b>  <b>U.S. HISTORY I</b> Ages 15-17 extending to 18	<b>AGES 7-15</b>  <b>DRAWN INTO THE HEART OF READING</b> Ages 7-15	

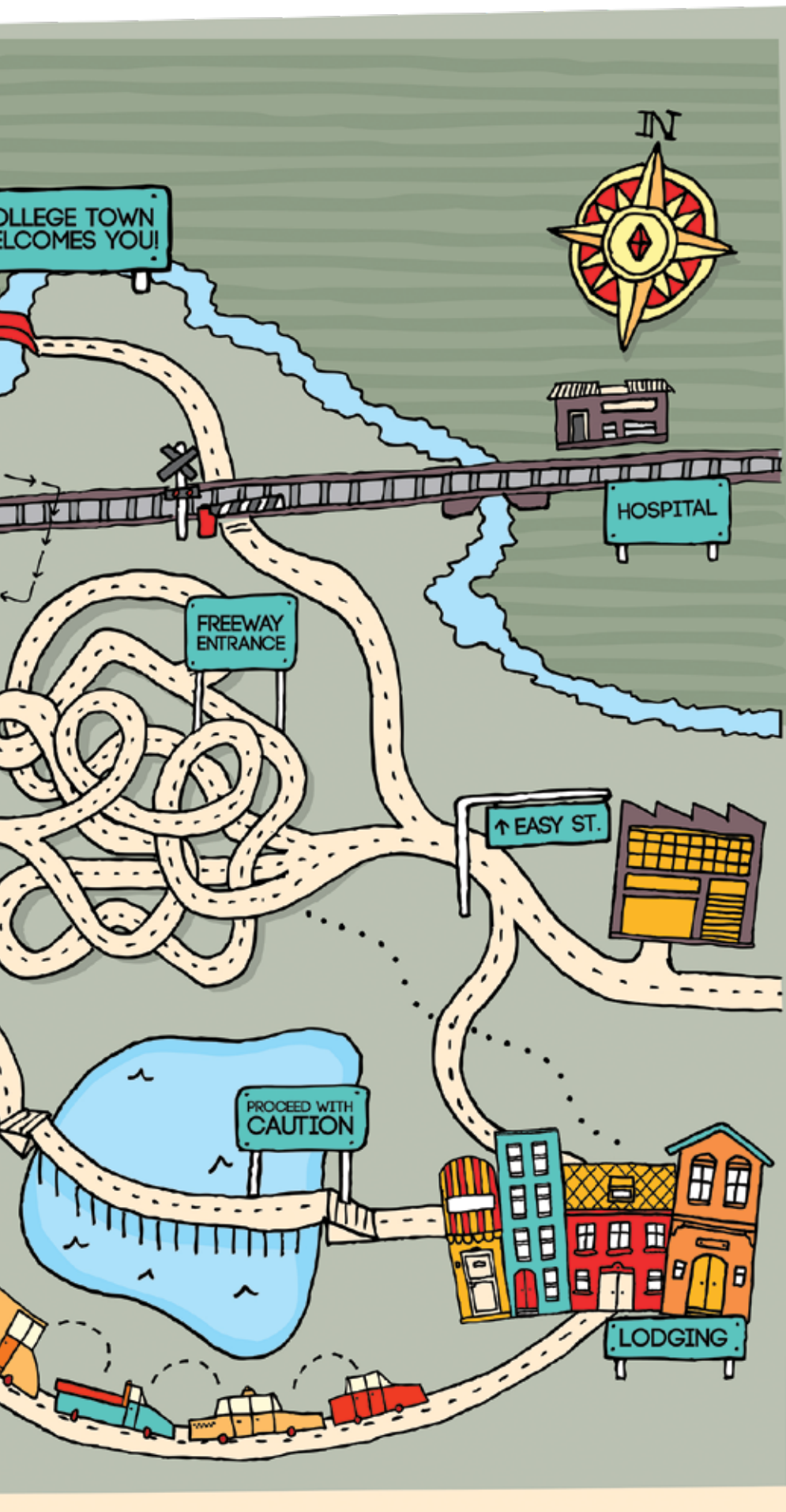
**Discussion Board - [heartofdakota.com/board](http://heartofdakota.com/board) • [facebook.com/heartofdakota](https://facebook.com/heartofdakota)**

**[heartofdakota.com](http://heartofdakota.com) • 605-428-4068**



By Donna Schillinger





Going to college requires a little more preparation than your average road trip. Ideally, the journey starts in junior high by taking on advanced math, science, and language arts. Also essential are good grades beginning in ninth grade. In junior year, it's time to put it into high gear and pay attention to the road ahead. Whether college is a familiar destination, or completely uncharted territory for your family, here are 30 road signs to point the way.

**MILE MARKER 1:** Usually taken in the sophomore year, the PSAT is useful for discovering the hidden geniuses living among us. For the rest, the PSAT is the first taste of what the SAT and ACT are like. It's a great reality check for just how much farther we have to go. Learn how home schoolers register for the PSAT and about the National Merit Scholar program at [THSC.org](http://THSC.org). Search "National Merit Scholarship Tips."

**ROAD FORKS AHEAD:** Before you go any farther consider well: Is college for me? What are my skills, talents, aptitudes? Are they best developed in traditional higher education? If so, what kind? A two-year technical school? A four-year liberal arts school? A university that offers terminal degrees,



like in law and medicine? Pull over now and answer these questions before you arrive at the fork in the road.

**ACT 19, SAT 920:** Most southern colleges use the ACT, while the SAT is used more in the western and northeastern states. The composite scores listed on this sign are typical thresholds needed to get into most colleges. “Are we there yet?” Your PSAT score is a good indication of how you will perform on the SAT, or convert your score to an ACT equivalent at [Studypoint.com/ed/sat-to-act-conversion](http://Studypoint.com/ed/sat-to-act-conversion). Now plot a standardized test study route that will ensure you meet these thresholds, or far exceed them if you hope to score scholarships or attend a competitive university.

**INSPECTION:** Sign up to take the ACT or SAT. All but the child prodigies should plan on taking the ACT or SAT more than once, particularly if there’s scholarship money riding on a slightly higher score. Visit [CollegeBoard.org](http://CollegeBoard.org) and [ACT.org](http://ACT.org). Allot approximately eight hours a week to building vocabulary, reviewing algebra and geometry, and taking practice exams in the month leading up to taking the exam. Take practice ACT or SAT questions as a daily pop-quiz, getting you into the mental groove of efficiently answering standardized questions.

**DIVIDED HIGHWAY:** Take dual credit courses at a local college. There are so many reasons why this is a good idea, not the least of which is getting some core degree requirements out of the way to either lighten your load later, or to free yourself up to take more of the classes you love in college. It is also a good opportunity to check out the local college and obtain college credits at a serious discount! Learn more at [THSC.org](http://THSC.org). Search “Early College Start.”



**FREEWAY ENTRANCE:** Take every opportunity to build your resume by participating in church, civic organizations, extra curricula, summer camps, and national competitions, and by joining honor societies. Visit [THSC.org](http://THSC.org) and search “National Honor Societies.” Develop specialized skills via internships and apprenticeships. Join our Rangers program ([THSC.org/about-thsc/rangers](http://THSC.org/about-thsc/rangers)) or volunteer at our conventions. When you make a strong connection with a leader or mentor, ask for a letter of recommendation.

**SCENIC OVERLOOK:** Early junior year, if not before,

develop criteria for what’s important in your choice of colleges. Here are some factors to consider: proximity to home, location in a particular state (or country), urban or rural setting, provision of particular degrees or majors, and affordability for your family. Also consider worldview, clubs and intermural sports offerings, Greek organizations (or lack thereof). Use a site like College Navigator ([NCES.ed.gov/CollegeNavigator](http://NCES.ed.gov/CollegeNavigator)) or Big Future ([BigFuture.CollegeBoard.org](http://BigFuture.CollegeBoard.org)) to help you find colleges anywhere in the nation that fit your criteria.

**LODGING:** If after surveying the landscape, you wonder if you really want to leave home at all, there are other options. While some brick and mortar colleges require freshmen to live on campus (as a strategy to improve retention), it is possible to commute to others, which has the benefit of stable home life and considerable savings. Alternately, earn your degree online from home—check out [OnlineCollege.org](http://OnlineCollege.org) and [CollegePlus.org](http://CollegePlus.org) for starters.

**POINT OF INTEREST:** Once you’ve narrowed the field to a couple of dozen or fewer colleges that meet your criteria, browse each college’s website and create a “pros and cons” list. Create a point system, weighing your top priorities more heavily. If proximity to home is a top priority, give every school with that pro five points, and so on, until you’re able to score the schools and narrow your choices to about five.

**PROCEED WITH CAUTION:** Make sure your top five offer your desired degree plan. Don’t worry if you haven’t yet decided on a major. Most degree plans require a distribution of core courses that build in time for students to weigh their options before declaring a degree, all while staying on track for graduating within four years.

**ROUND ABOUT:** There are a number of directions you can go here, and none is wrong. Apply to your top five favorites before your college visits so you can conduct interviews while on campus, or check out the schools first, then circle back for interviews. Think it through, factoring in how far away from home your favorite college choices are, as well as how much time you and your parents can spare for college visits.

**VISITOR’S CENTER AHEAD:** Transferring can be expensive and time-consuming, so don’t skimp on college visits. Contact your top five or more schools and set up a campus visit—there’s no better way to assess a school than to actually see and experience where you might be



Behavioral Sciences

Biology

Chemistry

Computer Science

**Engineering and Physics**

Family and Consumer Sciences

Health Sciences

Kinesiology

Mathematics

## Improving the quality of life

Engineering is an evolving field. In the same way, Harding's department of engineering and physics changes and adapts to meet the needs of this growing career. With programs in computer, electrical, mechanical and — most recently — biomedical engineering, the department offers state-of-the-art equipment and skilled faculty members to help students prepare for in-demand jobs, which improve the quality of life for individuals and society. Students are given hands-on opportunities to put theory into motion and are equipped with the tools they need for success as Christian professionals after graduation.



**HARDING**  
FAITH, LEARNING AND LIVING

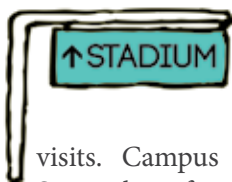
Harding.edu | 800-477-4407  
Searcy, Arkansas





living for the next four years. Bonus: Colleges often give goodies to prospective students—anything from a candy bar to free lunch to a t-shirt.

**HISTORICAL MARKER:** When you visit campuses, take time to visit with a professor in your major's department or sit in on a class. Depending on your career interest, you may want to learn the worldview or particular theories to which key professors subscribe. Bring along portfolios of writing, art, and more, and ask professors how to strengthen them.



**STADIUM:** Got skills or talents for which colleges will pay? Schedule sports tryouts and music/theater auditions for during your campus visits. Campus visits should be wrapping up in September of senior year.

**TOLL BOOTH:** If you didn't take this route before,

once a top-five tier of schools has emerged from your analysis, apply to each of them, ideally by Labor Day of your senior year. Some schools charge an application fee; it's a toll worth paying to see which school can make you the sweetest financial aid deal.

**REST AREA:** Let's pull over here and make sure our fluid levels and tire pressure are still good. Seniors often get so fixated on getting to college, they let grades slip a little. A strong finish to senior year is important because many scholarships depend on a certain high school GPA that includes that last semester of senior year.

**FINANCIAL DISTRICT:** About 85 percent of college students spend some time here—researching grants, scholarships, and loans. Let's take it one block at a time, but as a first stop, parents need to make sure they either file their taxes on time or have the data to make a close estimate when approaching the single point of entry to federal grants, loans, and work study—the free application

# UMHB FACTS

-  Student body includes more than 3,700 students from 26 countries; 90% of full-time freshmen live on campus.
-  UMHB was chartered in 1845 by the Republic of Texas and has operated continuously ever since.
-  More than 60 majors are offered across seven colleges (Business, Christian Studies, Education, Humanities, Nursing, Science, and Visual and Performing Arts).
-  The low student-to-faculty ratio cultivates an environment where students can grow and thrive.

**UNIVERSITY of MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR** / *Education for Life... Experience of a Lifetime*  
Office of Admissions • 900 College St., UMHB Box 8004 • Belton, TX 76513 • 800.727.8642

**umhb.edu**

for federal student aid (FAFSA). By March 15 of senior year, complete this form at Fafsa.ed.gov. By this time, your top five choices have either accepted you, or rejected you (hopefully in the kindest way possible). There's a place in the FAFSA application where you specify where to send your student aid report (SAR). It should go to any university you are still considering.

**GRANT AVENUE:** Best kind of money for college is free money. Texas has a variety of grant programs for Texas universities, some based solely on needs, others on need and merit. And yes, home schoolers are eligible! Learn more at CollegeForAllTexans.com. Federal grants are based solely on need. And need is assessed through the FAFSA. When completed on time, you will automatically be considered for the Pell grant and other federal programs. The universities that have accepted you and received your SAR will automatically add federal funds for which you qualify to your financial aid package.

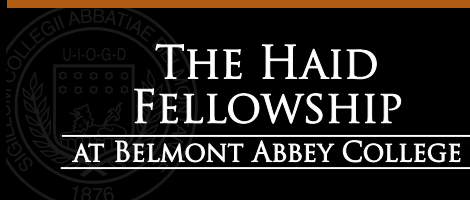
**SCHOLARSHIP STREET:** You've met with coaches and choir directors and consulted the financial aid office at your top tier schools about competitive scholarships, right? Now go all the way down this street and search off the beaten path for sources of scholarships like church funds, civic organizations, essay or art contests, and special scholarships like THSC's own Patrick Henry Scholarship (search THSC.org). Make a spreadsheet to track scholarship deadlines and requirements so you only have to ask your references once for the number of signed original letters you'll need for all the applications (among other reasons). If several scholarships require a general topic essay, write one, and adapt as needed. Prove you're smart by having the best writer you know edit your essay. Then meet the deadlines.



**LOAN LANE:** No one likes going this direction, but it's often the most expedient route. Your SAR will include your

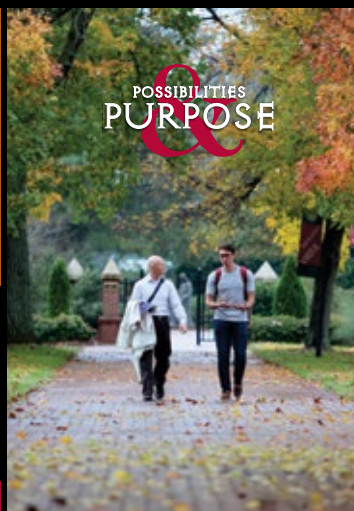
## WITHIN YOUR REACH

*You CAN afford a  
private college education!*



## THE HAID FELLOWSHIP AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

- ✓ Save more than 60% on a private college education
- ✓ Graduate in 3 years
- ✓ Study on campus plus online



With the Haid Fellowship, you'll enjoy an outstanding, faith-based, liberal arts education in beautiful North Carolina *and* from your own home! Mix a true residential college experience with two interactive semesters online, and you'll save more than 60% over the average cost of a private education. *Plus*, you'll graduate in three years.

Now you don't have to go to a local public college to reduce costs and hope to transfer credits. The Haid Fellowship's flexibility and savings now put a private college education within your reach. **You were made for greatness. Find it at Belmont Abbey College.**

To learn more & apply today, visit:  
[www.belmontabbeycollege.edu/haidthsc](http://www.belmontabbeycollege.edu/haidthsc)





eligibility for federal loan programs. Most will qualify for something, but if you don't, call banks locally to inquire about student loans, if they are absolutely necessary.

**WORK STUDY WAY:** Also determined by the FAFSA process, students with need are guaranteed part-time employment, the wages of which can be applied to the tuition bill. This is an optional program with limited hours weekly, and limited job opportunities. It may make more sense to get a regular part-time job and set up an automatic debit to pay on tuition.

**STOP:** Financial aid offers from the schools you've been accepted to should be arriving spring semester senior year as early as March, or as late as May (assuming you filed the FAFSA on time). It's time to commit. The aid package may make one school the clear choice, but hold here for a time of spiritual discernment. When you and your parents see the way is clear . . .



**RIGHT TURN ONLY:** Send in your housing deposit, and accept that financial aid package! Your destination is coming up in four months!

**ALTERNATE ROUTE:** If you decide to take a gap year (one year off between high school and college), be sure to complete all the steps for applying to college on the same timeline as if you were going right on to college. Then, contact the registrar and ask to defer enrollment for one year. Additionally, confirm with any non-institutional financial aid sources (state grants and private scholarships) that taking a gap year won't jeopardize eligibility.

**BUDGET BOULEVARD:** Last stop in the financial aid district. Now that you know how much financial aid you're getting, it's time to figure out how much more you will need—for tuition, living, transportation, mad pizza money, etc.—and from where that money is

## DISCOVER CREATION TRAINING INSTITUTE

A Unique 1-yr college-level program featuring:

- Exciting Field Trips
- Hands-on Learning
- Costa Rica Outreach

- Worldview Studies
- Creation Science
- Biblical Studies



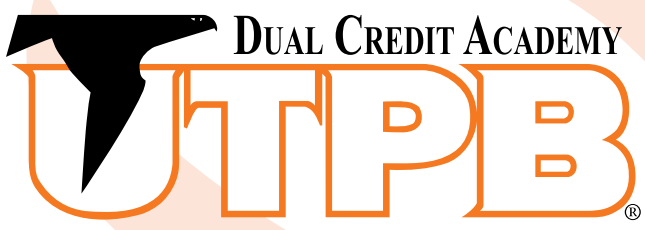
**Also Available:**

- Family/Teen Camps
- Training Classes



**ALPHA OMEGA  
INSTITUTE**

Call 800-377-1923 or visit: [www.DiscoverCreation.org](http://www.DiscoverCreation.org)



**DUAL CREDIT ACADEMY**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN

Let us help your student succeed!

Benefits of participation in  
UTPB Dual Credit Academy:

- UTPB Dual Credit courses are \$150 per course per student.
- English 1301 and 1302 courses are \$200 per each course.
- \$500 SPUR Scholarship awarded to dual credit students who complete a dual credit course with a 70 or better which can be used after graduation.
- UTPB provides grade reporting every 3-4 weeks.
- UTPB Dual Credit courses transfer to Texas public institutions of higher education.

For more information, please contact:

Heather Cress: 432-552-2106 or [cress\\_h@utpb.edu](mailto:cress_h@utpb.edu)  
 Rey Lascano: 432-552-2555 or [lascano\\_r@utpb.edu](mailto:lascano_r@utpb.edu)  
[dualcredit@utpb.edu](mailto:dualcredit@utpb.edu) • <http://www.utpb.edu/academics/dual-credit>

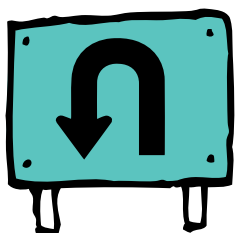
going to come. Plan on a full-time summer job and part-time employment during the school year. This added responsibility has actually proven to enhance academic performance.

**MERGING TRAFFIC:** After high school graduation, it's time to send the final transcript for both high school and concurrent college credits to the registrar's office. Merge more credits by testing out of your best subjects (including languages, for all you bilingual students). Check with your college about which they will accept; then learn more about Clep, Dante, and Excelsior tests for college credit from this Fast Company article: [TinyURL.com/z8jl425](http://TinyURL.com/z8jl425). Also, skip intro-level courses by taking placement tests. Learn more about getting ahead in college before you hit campus on [THSC.org](http://THSC.org). Search "The Home School Graduate and College."

**EASY STREET:** Now the fun part. Attend orientation, preferably in the summer. Besides making friends, you will learn your way around campus and will register for classes, which will ease anxiety about the big move and help you enjoy the rest of the summer. Some colleges are assigning summer reading for incoming freshmen, but wait to buy the rest of the books until a couple of weeks before classes start, in case there are changes to your schedule. Save money on textbooks by purchasing ebook versions, renting textbooks and purchasing used books.

**HOSPITAL:** Don't plan on stopping here, but just in case you do, sign up for a student accident insurance plan offered by the university if your parents' policy won't cover a torn ACL from a flag football accident.

**COLLEGE TOWN WELCOMES YOU!** You made it! You'll be on your own soon enough, so don't ask Mom and Dad to drop you at the curb. Let them help you settle in, at which point you will inevitably remember about \$100 worth of stuff you still need from Wal-Mart. Show your parents how much you still need them by letting them take you shopping one last time.



**U-TURN:** Head back to the financial district each March to renew FAFSA filing, keeping you eligible for grants, institutional scholarships, loans, and work study. ■

**School Days**  
Tuesday and Wednesday  
November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>

**21st Century Learning  
in a 16th Century Environment**

The Texas Renaissance Festival invites all public, private, and home school students and educators to join us for School Days, where students can be immersed in an enriching environment that stimulates creativity, sparks the senses, and engages the student in an educational environment like no other.

Highlights include:

- \* Authentic ongoing craft demonstrations in blacksmithing, candle, soap, pottery making, printing, glass blowing, weaving, broom making, armor crafting and more
- \* Authentic jousting twice a day
- \* Musicians playing authentic period music, some featuring authentic period instruments
- \* The Birds of Prey Falconry show- an informative demonstration using live predatory birds such as hawks, owls, falcons, and vultures
- \* School of Sword and School of Dance
- \* Live entertainment: juggling, clowning, knife-throwing, whip-cracking, and stage illusion!
- \* Student competitions in music, theatre, art, writing, journalism, costume, and physics

**TexRenFest.com**



CONTINUED FROM FEBRUARY 2016 ISSUE

## 10 timeless truths ABOUT HOME SCHOOLING | PART 3

*By Lori Hatcher*

In the last two issues of *Review*, I shared seven of 10 timeless truths about home schooling. I wrote about how inadequate we feel as parents; how it's normal to have good and bad days; how we learn so much through home schooling; and how many interesting places we visit because we've chosen to home school. We also talked about how we can't always predict success; how home schooling will probably be the hardest thing we'll ever do—all while making some great memories.

Today I'd like to complete this series by sharing three more timeless truths.

## 8 You can't do it alone.

Home schooling families are pioneers in many ways.

From my friend Zan Tyler, who faced truancy charges for home schooling her children in the early 1980s, to the father who works with public schools to gain permission for his children to play organized sports, to the mom who calls the local gymnastics studio to set up the first home school gymnastics class, we've all had to forge our own paths. Sometimes, however, we're too independent. We forget we need each other.

Just as the white-hot coal sitting in the center of the fire pit grows cold when moved away from the other

briquettes, we too can grow cold in isolation. Our enthusiasm wanes, our creativity loses its spark, and our resources become limited when we minimize our interactions with others. Home school support groups, co-ops, and online communities are great sources of encouragement and friendship.

During our early years of home schooling, I'd often invite other home schooling moms with young children to meet us at a park for playtime. My husband and children loved it when I'd swap babysitting with another home schooling mom for the occasional date night. As our children got older, four other moms and I organized a science and English co-op.

I gained lifetime friends because of my interaction with other home schooling families, and my children did too. The friendships we made in the home schooling community continue to be some of the deepest relationships we have, long after we closed the last textbook.

## 9 Home schooling makes you face your fears.

I avoided biology class in high school because I knew I would have to dissect a frog and collect insects. By the time I reached college, we were well past frogs and bugs, so I thought I'd



# DISCOVER TTUISD

**Texas Tech University Independent School District (TTUISD) offers flexible educational opportunities that meet the same rigorous standards as traditional brick and mortar schools. Courses are self-paced and students have up to six months to complete a course.**

- TTUISD is accredited by the Texas Education Agency and follows the International Association for K-12 Online Learning standards.
- We offer courses and Credit by Exams – both are aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.
- TTUISD graduates receive a Texas high school diploma.

**Explore all of TTUISD's educational opportunities at [www.ttuisd.ttu.edu](http://www.ttuisd.ttu.edu).**



## TTUISD

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

A GLOBAL EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY





weaseled out of those nasty tasks. Then it dawned on me, that as my daughter's home school biology teacher, I'd be responsible for all the labs associated with her class. Including frogs. And bugs. And worms, crayfish, and even a fetal pig. Ew!

**"The friendships we made in the home schooling community continue to be some of the deepest relationships we have, long after we closed the last textbook."**

I had a similar fear of public speaking, traveling to developing countries, and algebra, but guess what: Home schooling forced me to face my fears. Because my hang-ups had the potential to hinder my children, I knew I had to gather my courage, pray for strength and composure, and either step outside my comfort zone, or come up with a creative alternative.

I enlisted a nurse friend to coach us through our biology dissections. Instead of being grossed out, I was awed by the intricacies of God's design for the human body, as my friend led us through a heart dissection. I helped another, more outgoing friend begin a debate club, and in the process, I became a more confident

and articulate speaker. We joined with yet another family to take our children on a short-term mission trip, and on the journey, I grew in self-confidence and love for others. Although we never quite mastered algebra, overall, facing my fears was empowering.

**10 Home schooling is one of the most rewarding things you can do.**

When your child reads her first book without your help... Oh my! When he beams with pride because he taught his



**In a sea of curricula,  
one stands out from the rest.**

**ACE** Find out more at [www.aceministries.com/thsc](http://www.aceministries.com/thsc)  
or 1-866-882-3492.

little sister how to write her name... Pass the Kleenex. When he walks across the stage to accept his diploma, races through the house to show you his college acceptance letter, or signs on the dotted line to join the Navy the day after high school graduation... Prepare for your heart to burst. The satisfaction in knowing that by God's good grace you've trained, educated, and prepared your children for life is priceless and worth all the sacrifices you have had to make.

Keeping these timeless truths in mind can help you take a long view of the home schooling process and empower you to stay the course. I'm rooting for you! ■

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up"  
-Galatians 6:9



Lori Hatcher is a 17-year home schooling veteran and the author of *Joy in the Journey: Encouragement for Homeschooling Moms* and the five minute devotional book, *Hungry for God; Starving for Time*.

A women's ministry speaker, she enjoys walks with her dog, chocolate-covered almonds, and sunshine. She and her husband live in Columbia, S.C. [LoriHatcher.com](http://LoriHatcher.com)

## 10 TIMELESS TRUTHS RECAP

1. *You will never feel adequate as a home schooling parent.*
2. *There will be really good days and really bad days.*
3. *You will learn way more than your kids.*
4. *You will go places you never dreamed you would go.*
5. *You can't always predict success.*
6. *Home schooling will be the hardest thing you'll ever do.*
7. *You will make an incredible set of memories.*
8. *You can't do it alone.*
9. *Home schooling makes you face your fears.*
10. *Home schooling is one of the most rewarding things you can do.*

Register Now  
for the...

# 26TH ANNUAL FEAST HOME SCHOOL CONVENTION

June 9-11, 2016

SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES

### BE READY



Teen Staff  
Leadership  
Training  
Ages 13 - 19



SALLY MAY'S  
CHUCK WAGON CHALLENGE  
Tween Girls Ages 10-12

Meanwhile...  
*Back at the Ranch*  
Children's Fair  
Boys & Girls Ages 6-12



"Shop till you drop" at our extensive curriculum fair, and be edified by our many other workshop speakers.

For more information go to: [homeschoolfeast.com](http://homeschoolfeast.com)

## FEATURED SPEAKERS



Phillip Telfer



Woody Robertson



Norman Wakefield



Mary James



Andrew Pudewa



John R. Erickson



Dave Nutting



Jody Hagaman



Jenni Stalman



Beverly Parrish



Lyndsay Lambert



Tim Lambert



# ADVERTISER INDEX

2	BJU PRESS	30	INTERNATIONAL ALERT ACADEMY
4-5	THSC EVENTS - CONVENTION	30	POSITIVE ACTION BIBLE CURRICULUM
7	ROSETTA STONE	31	HEART OF DAKOTA PUBLISHING
10	CLASSICAL CONVERSATIONS	35	HARDING UNIVERSITY
11	WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY	36	UNIVERSITY OF MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR
12	THSC PUBLICATIONS	37	BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE
13	CHRISTIANBOOK.COM	38	ALPHA OMEGA INSTITUTE
16	PRESTONWOOD CHRISTIAN VIRTUAL ACADEMY	38	THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN
17	ZONDERKIDZ	39	TEXAS RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL
18	SUMMER UNIVERSITY AT ALL SAINTS'	41	TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
19	ONE YEAR ADVENTURE NOVEL	42	ACCELERATED CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES
22	APOLOGIA SCIENCE	43	FEAST HOME SCHOOL CONVENTION
27	BCE ACADEMY	45	HEIRLOOM AUDIO
27	BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING	47	THSC MEMBERSHIP
28	COUNTER CULTURE CONFERENCE	48	LETOURNEAU UNIVERSITY
29	WORLD NEWS GROUP		

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### THSC Home School Convention

May 5-7, 2016  
Arlington, TX

[THSC.org/Conventions](http://THSC.org/Conventions)

### FEAST - Annual Convention

June 9-11, 2016  
San Antonio, TX

[HomeSchoolFeast.com](http://HomeSchoolFeast.com)

### Texas Home School Convention

July 21-23, 2016  
The Woodlands, TX

[THSC.org/Conventions](http://THSC.org/Conventions)

## THSC Association Membership Benefit Providers

The following companies offer discounts and benefits to THSC Association members. Find out more at [THSC.org](http://THSC.org)

**Blue Cross/ Blue Shield Health Insurance**  
[bcbstx.com](http://bcbstx.com)

**CollegePlus**  
[collegeplus.org](http://collegeplus.org)

**Creation Illustrated**  
[creationillustrated.com](http://creationillustrated.com)

**Discover Texas**  
[discovertexasonline.com](http://discovertexasonline.com)

**Driver Ed in a Box**  
[driveredinabox.com](http://driveredinabox.com)

**Education Plus**  
[homeschooltranscripts.com](http://homeschooltranscripts.com)

**FEAST**  
[homeschoolfeast.com](http://homeschoolfeast.com)

**HEP Bookstore**  
[hepbookstore.com](http://hepbookstore.com)

**Homeschool Spanish Adacemy**  
[homeschoolspanishacademy.com](http://homeschoolspanishacademy.com)

**Liberty Mutual**  
[libertymutual.com](http://libertymutual.com)

**Mega Mortgage of Texas**  
[THSCmortgage.com](http://THSCmortgage.com)

**MiQuotes.com**  
[miquotes.com](http://miquotes.com)

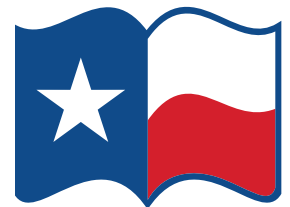
**My Favorite Campground**  
[myfavoritecampground.com](http://myfavoritecampground.com)

**Samaritan Ministries**  
[samaritanministries.org](http://samaritanministries.org)

**TeenPact Leadership Schools**  
[teenpact.com](http://teenpact.com)

**THSC Association**  
[thsc.org](http://thsc.org)

**UberSmart Software**  
[ubersmartsoftware.com](http://ubersmartsoftware.com)



The Texas Home School Coalition (THSC) is a 501(c)(3) educational organization that is supported by tax-deductible donations. THSC is dedicated to serving the home school community; it promotes home education in Texas by educating the public, the home school community, and officials about home schooling.

THSC Association, a 501(c)(4) advocacy organization dedicated to serving and protecting the home school community of Texas, is supported by membership fees (not tax-deductible) and sales of resources. The Association now offers legal assistance in regard to home education issues as a benefit to its members, along with several other benefits and discounts.

The work of the THSC PAC (Political Action Committee)—endorsing and supporting pro-home schooling candidates—is supported by donations that are not tax-deductible. See [THSC.org](http://THSC.org) for more information.

# New Christian Audio Series From The Former Producers Of Adventures In Odyssey!™

**Captivating “Worldview” Entertainment For Families Who Care Deeply About The Content Their Kids Are Exposed To!**

Read the exciting story below to find out what some parents have already discovered. And, if you don't agree that it's great Christian entertainment...

**I'll send you a crisp 10 dollar bill, straight from my own wallet!**

Dear Friend,

If you're looking for “5-Star” Christian entertainment that your kids will love to listen to, this will be the most important message you will ever read. Here's why:

The *Adventures in Odyssey*™ audio series has been a family favorite for decades. I think it's because parents love Christian content that's both safe and fun. We all trust “Focus” to consistently deliver.

In fact, I think “Odyssey-style” audio programming has been so amazing that it's left many parents wanting more. That's why I'm writing to you today.

**Here's the story:** The good news is that some very talented, former *Adventures in Odyssey*™ producers and sound designers have created a brand new audio series.

And, like *Adventures in Odyssey*™... the new audio series features true, family-friendly entertainment you can trust.

The new stories are exciting and very fast-moving, so we call them “**Audio Adventures**”. Production quality is high too. In fact, one listener actually described it as “Disney™ for the ears.”

So why all the buzz? Why are these new productions winning awards and getting 5-Star ratings by moms and dads across the country?

**Here Are Seven Great Reasons:**

**Reason Number One:** Action! Our Audio Adventures are not slowly read books on tape. Which means your family is going to experience full, high-energy “theater of the mind” audio with multi-dimensional sound.

**Reason Number Two:** Character-driven stories about great Christian heroes. Our “heroes” teach kids about making Godly decisions when life gets tough. (That's when our character is really tested after all!) So if you're looking for real life inspiration for yourself and your family... keep reading.

**Reason Number Three:** Studies show that “listening and learning” with audio actually improves how a child's brain works. It's true. With audio learning, the left hemisphere of the brain gets stimulated in a way that no other learning method can stimulate.

Here's the key: Once the left hemisphere is activated, research from Carnegie Mellon shows increases in

verbal memory and fluency. Other studies show the ability to use imagination is dramatically enhanced and “focus” improved. (Who wouldn't want more “focus” from their kids?!)

**Reason Number Four:** Kids need real history. Christian history has almost disappeared completely from our culture. But it's not just secular textbooks in school that have dropped all references to our faith. Nope. Christian history is now gone from movies, books, even coffee-shop conversations.

**Reason Number Five:** Manners and respect. Another thing that grieves me is the fact that so many kids today show little respect and thankfulness. That's why all of our Audio Adventures teach biblical “reverence” as well as an attitude of gratitude.

**Reason Number Six:** Extremely easy to use. Audio Adventures come as 2-CD sets and are also downloadable. So just press play.

**Reason Number Seven:** You need a break. It's true. Probably the thing parents love most about our new audio series is that just like *Adventures in Odyssey*™... our Audio Adventures are “content safe” for kids.

So once you press play... you can step away. That means if you need it, you'll have some time for yourself. Time that can help you get everything else done that your hectic schedule demands. And maybe, just maybe, you can even find a little time to do something you love to do. So Audio Adventures are a perfect tool to help you...

**Get Control On Crazy Days!**

So why am I telling you this? It's simple. Most parents end up with “drained batteries” from daily schedules that border on the impossible. With Audio Adventures, you can put Christian entertainment on auto-pilot, knowing you're cultivating a...

**Strong Christian Worldview While Your Kids Have A Lot Of Fun Listening!**

And, after years of research and study, I really believe my team has “cracked the code” on how to put together *worldview* training you can trust... with a fast-paced story that kids actually want to listen to. I'm even more excited because now you can actually...

**Listen With Zero Risk!**

Even better: Your family can also listen to the new Audio Adventures without any risk on your part. Plus, if you decide later that this isn't something that your family would benefit from, I will actually...

**Pay You Ten Dollars Just For Checking These New Audio Adventures Out!**

Am I crazy? Nope, not at all. I simply believe your family is going to love these Audio Adventures so much



I'm willing to take all the risk here. So, I'm going to refund your money and then pay you \$10 dollars just for your trouble if you decide later it's not for you.

**It's Easy To Get Started!**

[www.FamilyAudioAdventures3.com](http://www.FamilyAudioAdventures3.com)

**Important:** Once you're on the site, you should use coupon code **TH10** to bypass the regular pricing system that my accountant set up. If you do... you'll get a stunning 67% off. What am I up to here? Well, I've got an idea that you're going to love. As a matter of fact, it could be...

**The Biggest “Value Bargain” Of Your Life!**

It's my “give away the farm” plan for the first 77 people that order from this magazine. Here's what I'm going to do: I'm going to actually double your order if you use that code. That means you'll get the first set at a huge discount. Then, I'm going to throw the second set in absolutely free. Why am I doing this? The answer is simple. I want you to give them away!

Yep. I'm sure you know a family in church or in a homeschool group that you think would enjoy this type of wholesome, family-centered entertainment.

What's in it for us? Well, it would really help us “get the word out” about our new Audio Adventures.

And remember... you really don't risk a penny because you have our incredible...

**100 Percent Money Back Guarantee!**

So go to the website and watch Kirk Cameron talk about why he thinks this is a Christian entertainment breakthrough. You can also watch some of the great “behind-the-scenes” action in the studio.

[www.FamilyAudioAdventures3.com](http://www.FamilyAudioAdventures3.com)

When you get to the site, order the introductory set of 4 Audio Adventures. Your order will be rush-shipped by FedEx to you. Then, take your time and listen to them with your kids to decide if you think they are worth it.

If, after six full months, you decide the Audio Adventures don't meet your needs - for any reason - simply return the set for a full refund. And, I'll add an extra \$10.00 just for trusting me on this. No questions asked. No hassles either. Your word is gold here.

For Raising Kids With Character,

Bill Heid  
Executive Producer  
Heirloom Audio Productions

**P.S.** It's our heartfelt goal to unlock the hidden potential in every child with audio. And you know what? I'm convinced every child is at least twice as smart as parents and teachers think.



THE 30 MOST IMPORTANT  
MINUTES OF THE DAY

Every minute may have 60 seconds, but all minutes are not equal. Thirty minutes of a favorite sitcom seem to fly by, whereas 30 minutes waiting in line seem terminal. Most minutes of the day are the speedy variety. With a to-do list that includes baseball practice, grocery shopping, oil change, and laundry, hours wing by without much intentional thought.

Stocking the fridge is certainly a good use of time, but the most important 30 minutes of my day is that brief suspension before sleep. My eight-year-old has showered, taken his vitamins, brushed his teeth; we've read a story, and now lights are out. For Chaise, sleep comes slowly; and so we have developed a relaxing routine of prayer and conversation to usher him to dreamland.

We take turns every other night praying. And then the most wonderful conversations happen; conversations about slavery, refugees, the homeless guy we gave a dollar to that day, and Chaise's biological mother and father. This is the time when we connect as souls. Equal, yet one mentoring the other. One teaching the other how to talk to the Father and recognize His voice, even though we can't physically perceive Him. We have escaped time and connected with eternity.

This half hour is, of course, part of a larger context of regular religious instruction and concerted efforts to build character and teach morality. But this half hour is one Chaise craves as a space to wrestle with the many ways in which the world doesn't make sense. "Why is Ms. Marie sick with cancer? Why didn't we bring that man under the bridge home with us? Why did you adopt me?"

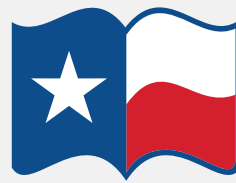
The questions arise from our prayers, and that's as it should be. If our prayers don't raise questions, we haven't prayed deeply enough. The resolutions lie in our prayers as well. "Father, heal Ms. Marie. Please provide rescue and restoration for that man under the bridge, and thank you, Father, for bringing us together as a family."

A soft snuffle brings me back to earth at breakneck speed. Chaise has drifted off to where little boys fight dinosaurs, set sail on big ships, and actually grow a quarter inch in nine hours. It has been a precious half hour between mother and son.

This routine won't last too much longer—two, maybe three years. Then I will seek out some other way to organically mentor my son for the 30 most important minutes of the day. ■

*Donna Schillinger serves as publications manager at Texas Home School Coalition.*





T E X A S  
**HOME SCHOOL**  
COALITION ASSOCIATION  
*Keeping Texas Families Free™*

Join us to continue the mission of

# KEEPING TEXAS FAMILIES FREE

with **20% off** a one-year membership

VISIT [WWW.THSC.ORG](http://WWW.THSC.ORG) • PROMO CODE: JOIN20

Offer Expires June 30, 2016

## Benefits *Exclusively* for THSC Members...

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE ★ CPS HOTLINE ★ FREE  
CONVENTION REGISTRATION ★ SPECIAL NEEDS  
CONSULTATIONS ★ HOME SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

GRADE SCHOOL REPORT CARD ★ CUSTOMIZABLE  
DIPLOMAS ★ HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT TEMPLATE ★  
STUDENT AND TEACHER IDs ★ TX GOVERNMENT  
UNIT STUDY ★ TX HOME SCHOOL HANDBOOK

As a coalition impacting over 150,000 Texas home school families with a staff and volunteer network of hundreds, Texas Home School Coalition (THSC) connects and provides your family with invaluable advocacy, information, and support. THSC is the recognized authority on home education and parental rights in Texas. As such **you can depend on us to protect and support your freedom as a Texas family.**

## THSC Members Help Shape History...

**THSC is founded.** Home schoolers push back against prosecution.

1986

**THSC bill passed:** Parents free to teach **driver's ed.**

1995

**THSC bill passed:** State **colleges** must end discrimination of home schoolers.

2003

**THSC kills 2 bad bills** giving doctors and grandparents ability to trump fit parents.

2013

1994  
Texas Supreme Court: **Home schooling is legal.**

2001  
**THSC bill passed:** Home schoolers free to participate in **dual credit classes.**

2007  
**THSC bill passed:** public schools must allow home school students to take **PSAT tests.**

2016  
**THSC stands up to rogue judge** and CPS for illegal removal of seven children.





# LETOURNEAU UNIVERSITY

## We love homeschoolers.

In fact, more than 20% of our student body were homeschooled. And many of our faculty and staff homeschool their own children. Our campus community not only gets your learning style, but also gets you. **As a homeschooling family, you understand the value of learning through hands-on experiences.** At LeTourneau University, these experiences are at the core of our courses from day one. Our students put their analytical skills to use designing and building their own 3-D printers during their first semester of college. They go on mission trips bringing student-designed water pumps to the parched earth of Senegal, West Africa. And that is just naming a few of the hundreds of examples.

We live out our Christian faith in all we do, and our graduates change the world in every workplace and every nation.

Check out more than 90 degree options at [www.letu.edu/thsc](http://www.letu.edu/thsc) for more information about LETU and homeschoolers.

*LeTourneau University has one of the largest endowed scholarships in the nation dedicated to only homeschooled students!*

Longview, Texas

[www.letu.edu/thsc](http://www.letu.edu/thsc)

