



C.H.E.S.S. COMMUNICATOR

Christian Home Educators of the South Suburbs

www.CHESShomeschool.org

April, 2011

Orland Park CHESS News
15150 S. Oak Park Ave.
Oak Forest
Grace Fellowship Church

Mark Your Calendar

Orland Park
Meeting/Event Dates
7 p.m.

April	19	Geography Fair
May	10	Graduation Rehearsal
May	17	Graduation
May	24	All CHESS Curriculum Fair

Geography Fair
April 19, 2011

Don't miss this night of family fun traveling around the world without leaving one big room. Sign up this year with your favorite country, state, or historical site. Dress in costume and bring ethnic food to celebrate the diversity of our world! Make sure you bring a stamp or sticker to validate the passports of all the visitors to your country or state. Sign-up to participate by e-mailing Sandi Grutzius SGrutzius@ymail.com The night begins at 7 p.m. at Grace Fellowship Church in Oak Forest. Even if you don't have a project prepared, invite grandparents and neighbors, and come to see what other homeschooling families have been studying. This is a great opportunity for free travel!

South Holland CHESS News
2248 186th Street
Lansing
Living Word Church

Mark Your Calendar

South Holland
Meeting/Event Dates
7 p.m.

April	25	Fitness Night & Graduation Meeting
May	23	Graduation
May	24	All CHESS Curriculum Fair

Fitness Night and Graduation Meeting
April 25, 7:00

Join CHESS South Holland on Monday, April 25th, 7:00 pm., for a fun night of fitness. Exercise Physiologist Katie Cummings will show us how to get ready for spring and summer sports, stretch safely, and exercise for good general health. Wear comfortable clothing as we participate in the class. Please RSVP to Anna at dues2@wowway.com. by April 10th. Space is limited.

Graduation meeting is also at 7:00 on April 25.

ATTENTION
GRADUATION CORNER



CHESS Orland Park Graduation
May 17, 2011

Graduate families need to turn in their completed graduation packets with all required fees if you have anything outstanding. The graduation theme with the most votes was Philippians 3:13,14 "Embracing What Lies Ahead." Again, the graduation rehearsal is May 10th at 7 p.m. [This is a mandatory rehearsal with our sound man. If you are not at the rehearsal, you will not graduate.](#)

**If you have a graduate in 2012, please sign up this year to assist in the 2011 Graduation Ceremony. Thank you!!!

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

Presented by
The Drama Group
Daytime Children's Theater

April 12-13-14-15-16-17

TU- 9:30a.m. ONLY

W-TH-FR 9:30a.m.& Noon

SA- 10:00a.m. & 1:00p.m.

SU- 1:00 ONLY

One hour child friendly shows

\$6.00pp-In Advance

\$7.00pp-At the Door

\$5.00pp-Groups of 25+

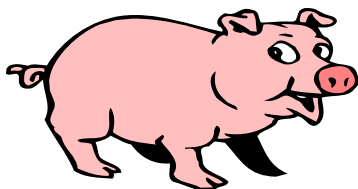
The Drama Group Studio Theatre

330 West 202nd Street-Chicago Heights, IL

(Off Ashland Ave./ 1Blk. N. Of Marion Catholic H.S.)

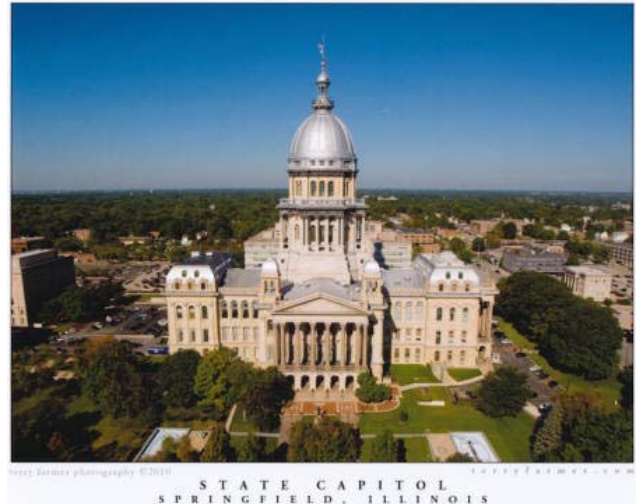
For tickets-call 708/755-3444

www.dramagroup.org



Attention All CHESS Members

All CHESS members, whether Orland Park or South Holland, may attend any CHESS meeting and participate in any CHESS event.



TeenPact
Leadership School
Week of April 11th, 2011

Come join other Illinois students this April for TeenPact. TeenPact classes focus on developing godly leadership, citizenship, and spiritual growth in its students. It strives inspire youth to pursue truth and righteousness, and develop a passion for citizenship and justice.

The dates for the Illinois TeenPact, 2011 are April 11th-14th, for ages 13-19, with April 15th as an optional speech class. There is also a one-day class for ages 8-12 on April 15. TeenPact meets in Springfield, IL at the Illinois State Capitol Building. There are group discounts for 10 or more first time students, and early bird discount for registering 60 days prior to the class. You can get multiple discounts.

Please see the Teenpact website www.teenpact.com for more information and to register.

*Illinois Christian Home Educators
2011 Annual Spring
Convention
June 2-4, 2011*



Mark your calendars and plan to attend the 2011 ICHE Convention on June 2-4, 2011.

Keynote speakers will include **Ken Ham**. Missionary to America and Founder of Answers in Genesis, Ken Ham has become one of the most in-demand Christian conference speakers. His Australian accent, keen sense of humor, captivating stories, and exceptional PowerPoint illustrations bring life to his audiences with faith-building talks on the relevance and authority of the book of Genesis. He provides biblical and scientific answers to some of the most difficult questions people ask about the Christian faith.

Other keynote speakers include Mike Smith, Eric Ludy, and Diana Waring.

Also this year, **Woody Robertson** will be featured with his workshops "What about College." As a first generation homeschool graduate, Woody has been where most students are now and desires to help them wisely answer some of life's biggest questions concerning their future. His ultimate responsibility is to come alongside the American family and their college-bound student with alternative resources that will help them save time, money and most importantly strategically equip them for leadership. You'll want to be a part of his rallying workshops!



Legislative Day on April 27, 2011:

Come to Springfield for the day to learn about how your state government works AND meet your local representatives. Everyone brings a cherry pie to give their legislators. It's a great day to show government officials the many beautiful faces behind homeschooling. We're the only group that comes to Springfield and **ASKS FOR NOTHING** except to be left alone! Plan to come and make your homeschooling presence known!!!! See the ICHE website for more information www.iche.org

CHESS Group Registration for ICHE Convention

Save up to \$15 on your ICHE Convention registration by registering with CHESS. Email Leslie Willis at romans815@comcast.net to get the group discount code to use with your on-line registration. You must register by May 2 to take advantage of this discount.

Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra

Make a reservation for your 3rd through 8th grade students to attend the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra's 2011 Youth Concert, *Bang Boing Boom!* on May 3 or 4! Call (708) 481-7774 ext. 103 to hold your seats today!

For more information, see the website at

<http://www.ipomusic.org/ipokids.cfm>

Father/Daughter Dinner

Christian Heritage Church is sponsoring a Father/Daughter Dinner on Monday April 18, 2011 at 6 p.m. (arrive as early as 5:00 for pictures!) This is a beautiful evening to affirm your Father/Daughter relationship.

We are very excited this year to have [Rob Rienow](#), founder of Visionary Family Ministries and author of Visionary Parenting and Visionary Marriage to challenge the Fathers and Daughters in family discipleship. We are confident that you will be both inspired and encouraged!

This is a semi-formal event with games and Father/Daughter slow dances at the end of the evening. This wonderful night will take place at the beautiful DiNolfo's of Homer Glen (14447 West 159th Street, Homer Glen 60491).

The cost is only \$20 per ticket! Don't miss this special night -- a memory of a life time for your daughter!

For more information and to register, please see the Christian Heritage Church website www.chcop.org



South Holland Library Youth Activities

TODDLER TIME Thurs. April 7 6:30 PM
2 year olds with a parent. Team up with your toddler for 30 minutes stories and activities about Spring. Pre-registration is necessary and begins March 24.

DESIGN YOUR OWN COMIC DRAWING WORKSHOP Sat. April 9 2:00 PM Grades 3-8

Learn how to make your own comic from professional artist Christine Thornton. There will be a presentation of several types of comics. Participants will then invent and draw their own main character, side kick and nemesis! Pre-registration is necessary and begins March 26.

GOING GREEN Tues. April 12 3:45 PM
Ages 4-8 Celebrate Earth Day with stories, activities and green food! Pre-registration is necessary and begins March 29th.

SPRING BREAK MOVIE Thurs. April 28 2:00 PM All ages of children. Sam's vacation is anything but boring as he helps track down a jewel thief. Children under 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is not necessary.

To register for a program, stop by the Reference or Youth Department at the Library or call them at 708-331-5262

MIDWEST HOMESCHOOL FINE ARTS

We would like to invite you to our exciting spring concerts and dramatic productions. Come and enjoy these evenings of high quality drama and music!

April 8 - 7:00 p.m. - Young Thespians and Children's Choir present "Stuart Little"

This is the endearing classic about a mouse named Stuart Little who is born into an ordinary New York family. All the charm, wisdom and joy of the E. B. White original are captured in this adaptation. The many adventures - both big and small - of Stuart Little are brought vividly to life in this story's theater presentation. The Children's Choir will sing fun selections on the animal theme.

*Admission is free (\$2.00 suggested donation)

May 19 and 20 - 7:00 p.m. (same production both nights) - Classic Players present "The Scarlet Pimpernel"

A bloodthirsty Republic of the French Revolution hunts the aristocrats and beheads them for being nobility. One man dares to defy the guillotine: the Scarlet Pimpernel. Based on the 1905 novel by Baroness Orczy, this theatrical adaptation rollicks with adventure, wit and hilarity for all ages.

*There is a \$5.00 per person admission for the dramatic productions. Tickets sold at door.

May 24 - 7:30 p.m. - Band and Tonechime Concert

This concert features classic band literature, sacred numbers and music from "Fiddler on the Roof"

May 26 - 7:30 p.m. - Orchestra and Concert Chorale Concert

This concert features fun orchestral works like "Hoedown", pieces from the classical repertoire and selections from "The Sound of Music". The Chorale will be performing sacred, classical and spirituals as well as a fun novelty number.

* Free admission to the music concerts. (Freewill offering will be taken.)

All concerts/plays are held at: Family of Faith Church, 6645 W. Steger Rd., Monee IL (conveniently located near I-80 and I-57)

ANNOUNCING NEW PROGRAM - BOLINGBROOK FINE ARTS

For those of you who may live further north or west, we have started a new Fine Arts program in Bolingbrook.

May 10 - 7:30 p.m. - concert featuring Concert Chorale, Tonechimes, Band and Orchestra

Location: Independent Baptist Church, 380 Boughton Rd., Bolingbrook IL (near I-55 and I-355)

For more information about our programs, please contact Brian or Kathy Wessel at (815)478-3046 or bkmusic84@sbcglobal.net

Christian Literature Fellowship

Now in its seventh year, the Christian Literature Fellowship (CLF) has expanded to include not only ladies, but daughters as well (those that can stay up past 8 p.m. please!). We had over 30 ladies and daughters over the course of last year! I am encouraged by the enthusiasm of these ladies who want to fellowship and learn together for the glory of God! This year we will be reading **Passionate Housewives, Desperate for God** by Jennie Chancey and Stacy McDonald. The location information is as follows:

Fourth Monday of Every Month at 7 p.m.

Next meeting: April 25, 2011

Discussion Leader: Sandi Grutzius

Place: Grutzius Home

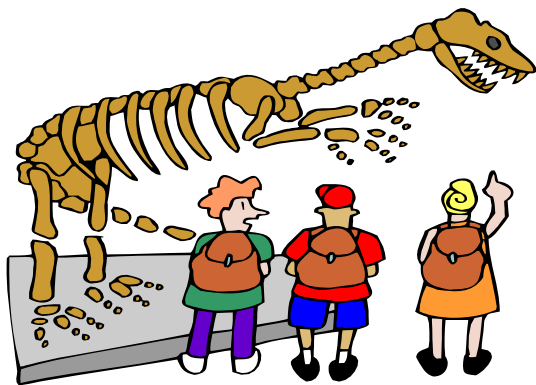
16620 Grant Avenue

Orland Park, IL

Phone: (708)446-6861

CHESS Field Trip Co-op Having Fun While Learning

If you would like to plan a field trip for the co-op, please contact Sandi Grutzius at sgrutzius@ymail.com. There is no financial obligation if you become involved in planning a field trip. All participants in the actual field trips must submit their payment in full by the deadline prior to the event. This is a great opportunity to get to know other home school families and have fun learning at the same time.



Fine Arts Talent Program with Patriotic Theme

Have you been taking lessons and need to play for someone who will appreciate you? Do you love to sing but never would make it on American Idol? Do you love to bring joy to those who are downcast? Then mark Tuesday, April 19, 2011 on your calendar for an afternoon to show off your talent at Providence South Holland (former Rest Haven South). Providence is located 16300 Wausau Avenue just south of 159th Street. It is next to the public library and near the police station and post office. It's only about a mile off of Interstate 94 exit 159th Street West.

Musicians may perform on the piano (provided), on an instrument or in song but you must register to April by e-mail Wigboldy@comcast.net with the title of your song and the medium (piano, voice, guitar, trumpet, flute, etc.) no later than April 12.

On the 19th musicians will meet briefly on the third floor lunchroom at 1:45 PM for instructions, line-up, and warm ups. Then we perform on the first floor stage. Grandparents, friends and family may come to the first floor program. Snacks are provided following the program which should end about 3 PM.



Read to Succeed Program Six Flags Great America Tickets

Great America Read to Succeed tickets are in and will be distributed at the May 24th Curriculum Fair. Please pick them up or have someone pick them up for you as they will not be mailed. Thank you.

YUCK 105

(for Jr. and Sr. High students)

To register for the following class: email Sandi Grutzius at sgrutzius@ymail.com and designate the class and time you would prefer. Upon confirmation of availability, send a check made out to CHESS to Sandi Grutzius, 16620 Grant Avenue, Orland Park, IL 60467.

Dr. Lainna Callentine has a great love for teaching. She is a pediatrician, home school mother, and former classroom teacher with a certification and masters in elementary education. Dr. Callentine continues to have wonderment for the beauty of God's creation in the human body. She left formal medicine in the ER to stay home and home school her three children. However, she still practices her hobby of medicine at a Christian clinic in Bolingbrook.

YUCK 105 – The Digestive System: In this workshop, students will investigate the anatomy and functions of the digestive system. Activities include a pig stomach and intestine dissection. Come and see the fascinating innards of God's creation! Two sessions of this 2 hour class are available.

Thursday, April 7 ~ cost \$20/student 9:30 – 11:30 or 1:00 – 3:00

Register soon, only a few spots left!



ALL CHESS CURRICULUM FAIR

Reserve your table today at one of the largest used home school Curriculum Fairs on Chicago's South Side!

Date: May 24, 2011

Time: 4 -- 8 p.m.

Location: Grace Fellowship Church (15150 Oak Park Avenue in Oak Forest)



You won't want to miss the great deals and money making opportunities to sell curriculum you are no longer using (or never used!). There is limited space available, so reserve your table today. The cost of a table is \$5 (donated to the church hosting this event).

E-mail Sandi Grutzius at sgrutzius@ymail.com for a table or details. Please invite anyone interested in buying or selling home school items. It's a great night for everyone!

Come to buy, sell or both!

Submissions for the May 2011 Newsletter are due by April 20th to Leslie Willis at romans815@comcast.net .

CHESS Orland Park

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