

# CLCN CHRONICLES

The official newsletter of the Christian Learning Center and Network

## October

## 2007

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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR (SEE BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION)

- October
- 5 Computer class begins
  - 6 Home Depot Make-n-Take
  - 10 LaPorte County Symphony Children's Concert
  - 12 College Fair at Portage Christian
  - 15 Commencement 2008 interest due
  - 16 Spring Co-op Mandatory Teacher Training
  - 25 Prayer requests/info. due for Nov. newsletter
  - 31 Registration ends for spring co-op

- November
- 3 Home Depot Make-n-Take
  - 25 Prayer requests/info. due for Dec. newsletter

### SPRING CO-OP PLANS RESUME!

Liberty Bible Church will continue provide its facility for the CLCN spring co-op, so plans have resumed for "Amazing Animals in the News," which will run for six consecutive Thursdays, February 7 to March 13, from 9:15 am - 12:15 pm. Kindergarten through 6th graders will explore different ecosystems and the amazing animals that live in them. In conjunction with that, the teens will learn the newspaper process, from planning, reporting, photography, writing and editing, to layout and publishing. They will also edit and publish a co-op newsletter to give each family on the final day. Submissions for the newsletter will come from stories and art submitted by the younger students, as well as contributions from the teens. The pre-school class will explore an animal alphabet. An amazing live-animal show will conclude the co-op sessions. Cost for the co-op is \$25 per family for early registration (on or before Tuesday, Oct. 16) and \$35 for late registration (Oct. 17-31.) There will NO registrations accepted after October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**A MANDATORY TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOP** will be held Tuesday, Oct. 16, from 7-9 pm at Liberty Bible Church, Room 140C, during which groups will begin planning for their assigned areas.

## FIELD TRIPS/SOCIAL EVENTS

**LaPorte County Symphony Children's Concert** - "Dancing to a Different Beat" is October 10, at 9:30 am, 11:15 am, and 12:45 pm. Tickets are \$1 with General Admission seating.

<http://www.lcso.net/subscription/childrens.htm>.

## COMPUTER CLASS HAS SPOTS AVAILABLE

A computer class is set to start Friday, Oct. 5 at 1:00-2:30 at CEI in Porter, and a couple of spots are still available. Students attending will learn various aspects of computers, including building one from parts. Classes are available for 9-10 year olds, as well as 11-13 year olds. The cost of the class will be \$56 for 5 weeks per child.

Directions to the school are: Take Rt. 49 (Chesterton exit from I-90) north to Rt. 20. Go east on Rt. 20 to the first stop light. Turn left. Head north to Canonie Drive (just a short way). Turn left and look for the Institute. For those wondering, the computers that the kids will build will be assembled from parts that are at the institute, they will not be taking the computers home. If anyone is in the market for a new computer, your child can build you a custom computer at cost (roughly \$450 including a flat screen monitor).

## 2007 LIFE CHAIN IS SUNDAY

"A Peaceful, Prayerful, Witness to the Sanctity of Human Life"

The Life Chain will be on Sunday, October 7, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Signs will be provided at the event. Please contact Stacie for more information.

*The Life Chain is the largest public pro-life witness in the whole world. This peaceful, prayerful event will be held throughout the United States and Canada. Local citizens will be lining up along Lincolnway & LaPorte Avenue in Valparaiso and along Central Avenue in Portage. I invite you to join my family and many others in our community in standing up for Life.*

For more information visit [http://nationallife chain.org/](http://nationallifechain.org/)

## 2008 CLCN COMMENCEMENT PLANS UNDERWAY

Do you, or someone you know, have a senior homeschool student in the house? Are you looking for a memorable way to recognize his or her educational achievements? Consider joining other area homeschoolers in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual CLCN Commencement Ceremony next spring.

Approximately 100 family and friends attended last year's inaugural ceremony, during which five homeschoolers received their diplomas from their respective parents. The ceremony included a homeschool choir and string orchestra, video and slide presentations of the graduates, a commencement speaker, comments and memories from each parent to their student, the presentation of diplomas, a group prayer over the graduates, and, of course, the obligatory

processional, turning of the tassels and recessional! The event concluded with a light luncheon, with memory tables for each graduate.

This year's ceremony will reflect the ideas and suggestions of the graduating seniors, and will be personalized according to their own preferences. The date will be decided jointly between the seniors and the availability of the church facility. The ceremony is open to any area homeschooler, not just CLCN members, but participants must agree with the CLCN doctrinal statement, which is available from any of the board members. A video copy of last year's ceremony is also available, for those who would like more information about the event.

Those interested in being a part of this year's celebration should contact Donna by October 15<sup>th</sup> so a group meeting can be planned.

## **PORTAGE CHRISTIAN TO HOST COLLEGE FAIR**

A Christian College fair will be held on Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at Portage Christian School. The event will be during the day and would be perfect for homeschooling parents and students to attend. Several solid Christian Colleges and Universities will be at the event, as well as an admissions/financial aid workshop.

## **NATIONAL HOMESCHOOL HONOR SOCIETY**

A local Northwest Indiana chapter of Eta Sigma Alpha, the National Home School Honor Society is starting up, and they need at least 5 members for a charter. Here is a link to their website where they explain the membership requirements:

<http://www.iag-online.org/groups/nwihonorsociety/>. And here is a link to the national organization: <http://esa.homeeducationpartnership.com/>.

## **FREE FIELD TRIPS**

**Brookfield Zoo** Free general admission is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays in January, February, October, November, and December. Additionally, Saturdays and Sundays are free in January and February.

**Adler Planetarium** Museum admission is free on the following days in 2007: Oct 8-12; every Mon & Tues in Oct. - Oct. 1, 2, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30; every Mon & Tues in Nov - Nov. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27

**Field Museum** Discount Week - Oct 8-12; every Mon & Tues in Oct (same as above); every Mon & Tues in Nov (same as above)

**Chicago History Museum** Free on Mondays

**Shedd Aquarium** October discount week (Oct. 8-12) October - Mondays and Tuesdays (Oct. 1, 2, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30); November - Mondays and Tuesdays (Nov. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27)

**Museum of Science & Industry** October 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 and 30 November 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20 and 22 December 24

**Hellenic Museum & Cultural Center** No free days; Admission \$3/person

**Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum** Free days are Thursdays; suggested donation of \$7/adult

**Jane Addams Hull House Museum** Free every day

**Art Institute of Chicago** Thurs. and Fri. evenings are free from 5pm-9pm until August 31.

**Chicago Cultural Center** Free every day

## **FREEBIES!**

--Register at Homeschool eStore to receive one free download per week. Previous downloads have included: an astronomy study guide, Monet and the Impressionists for Kids book that contains 21 activities, blackline maps for World History, spelling rules index cards, composers & instruments lapbook e-book for 4th-12th grades and many more!

<http://www.homeschoolestore.com/catalog/login.php>

--Another great website, DonnaYoung.org contains lesson planners, planning tips for homeschoolers, calendars, household planners, printables for handwriting, math, and other various subjects - all for free! <http://www.donnayoung.org/>

--Choosing curriculum and wish you could talk to someone who has used it before? Check out this website for reviews by other homeschooling parents. <http://www.homeschoolreviews.com/>

--Home Depot hosts a FREE kid's workshop the first Saturday of every month where kids can make (or take home to make) a fun wooden kit? Kits have included a race car, butterfly house, plastic bag storage box, and a roller coaster car. Each month is a different kit. A work area is set up in the back of the store where kids and their parents can complete their project. Each child receives a Home Depot work apron the first time and can use it to keep the pins they will receive after completing each new project. The workshop runs from 9 to noon on the first Saturday of each month.

--Hoosier Energy Rural Electric Cooperative has a free lending library with materials for math, science, history, etc. in a searchable database? You can order and check out ten items for 30 days. They even mail the items to you for free and send a prepaid envelope with your order to return it all! They send the order within a day or two, so it generally gets to you the same week you order. To take part in the Freshwater Fred Lending Library, visit [www.hepn.com/library/content/splash.asp](http://www.hepn.com/library/content/splash.asp).

--You can find/give away free items through the Freecycle network? This web-based group is located by zip code all around the country and provides a place to recycle items and ask for

something you need. A free Yahoo account is necessary to join, but is simple and quick to set up. Go to [freecycle.org](http://freecycle.org) for more information. This is a great way to share God's blessings in our lives!

## **YAHOOGROUPS.COM**

To get in on our e-mail loop, go to [www.yahogroups.com](http://www.yahogroups.com) and search for CLCN and join. This is an easy way to get information to and from homeschoolers in NW Indiana.

## **HOMESCHOOLING RESOURCES**

The Indiana Association of Home Educators (IAHE) sends out the *Informer*, a bimonthly magazine to provide information, inspiration, and support to homeschooling families. It is free upon request (317-859-1202 or [iahe@inhomeeducators.org](mailto:iahe@inhomeeducators.org) or write IAHE at 8106 Madison Ave, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227.

Some other helpful websites include: [www.ifhsonline.org](http://www.ifhsonline.org) Indiana Foundation for Home Schooling, and [www.hslda.org](http://www.hslda.org) Home School Legal Defense Association.