

New Heights Educational Group, Inc.



New Heights Educational Group
Educational Resources to Help You Reach Your Goals

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 6 Issue 5

June 2016

Monthly Points of Interest

=====
Recognition Day 2016 =====

Meet Victoria Marie Lowery

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Cooking: Banana Split Lasagna

=====
We Did It Again!

=====

Background Checks

=====
Your ADHD Child Organized In 30 Days!

=====
BBQ Safety Tips

=====

Allergies and its symptoms

NewHeightsEducation@yahoo.com



Pamela S. Clark
Founder/Director
(419) 786-0247



www.NewHeightsEducation.org

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Our Mission Statement

The New Heights Educational Group Inc. supports literacy for children and adults by offering a range of educational support services. Such services include assisting families in their selection of schools, organization of educational activities, and acquisition of materials. We promote a healthy learning environment and offer Enrichment programs for families of preschool and school age children, including children with special needs.

New Heights Educational Group, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit organization located in Defiance, Ohio. We provide educational support services beginning 2006 for families in Ohio to bridge the gap from inadequacies in home school, charter school, and public school systems.

New Heights Educational Group

10th Anniversary

2006 — 2016



From A Dream to A Reality

New Heights Educational Group Recognition Day 2016

Come out and celebrate our 10th Anniversary with us!

June 11, 2016 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Harvest Life Fellowship (non-religious event)

20000 County Road 424 Defiance, Ohio



June 2016

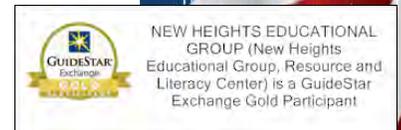
A great education is one of the most important tools someone can possess. It is for everyone that is willing to work to better themselves. The best news of all is that there is no expiration date for learning.

Pamela



ON MY MIND

Pamela Clark



Ever Dream of having you own Radio Show?

New Heights Educational Group is a Resource and Literacy Center based in Defiance, Ohio. We share a concern with families having access to information for those with special needs, including the topic of Autism.

We offer live internet radio shows to discuss various educational topics and we are looking for a VOLUNTEER to host a half-hour radio show on special needs once a week. We would give the necessary training and the volunteer can choose the time of the show on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday. This show would keep all listeners up to date on anything to do with Autism and other special needs. This will include discoveries in medical fields. Anyone interested in applying please email us at NewHeightsEducation@yahoo.com or call 419-786-0247 for more info.



[Please support our library and satellite office at:](#)
gofundme.com/9z4paprw



The New Heights Show on Education
Internet radio program



Join Shannon Williamson

New Heights

As she shares a new story each week on this pre-recorded show



On April 1, HSLDA asked the Missouri Court of Appeals to order Circuit Court Judge R. Craig Carter of Ava to stop his attempt to summon a homeschooling family to appear before a court that doesn't exist.

Tiffany and Anthony Swearingin had been sending their 6- and 8-year old children to public school, until they became convinced that the children could make better progress at home. Soon after beginning to homeschool their children, they [received a document](#) in the mail that looked exactly like a real court document. It was signed by an official and mandated the Swearingins to show up at "truancy court" with their children at the Juvenile Court Center in Mountain Grove, over 30 miles from their home.

This frightening document said the "truancy court" would discuss the kids' school attendance, "which brings them within the jurisdiction of the juvenile division of the Circuit Court." Even worse, the document threatened that if they did not show up, officials might seek to put the children into state custody.

On the advice of friends, the Swearingins had joined HSLDA. So they knew who to call.

As the HSLDA legal team looked into the situation, we quickly learned that the "truancy court" is fake. No such court exists. And the alarming letter was fraudulent. It was typed up to look exactly like a real court document for the sole purpose of fooling people and scaring them into obeying.

Our investigation revealed that Judge R. Craig Carter is responsible for this program. We also learned all new homeschool families in Douglas County can now expect the same treatment the Swearingins received.

"Using deception to motivate people is beneath the dignity of the courts," said HSLDA Chairman Michael Farris, "and it's illegal. That's why our legal team and I worked together to [prepare documents](#) asking the Missouri Court of Appeals to order Judge Carter to stop this sham." Farris continued, "It's important to protect public confidence in the court system and the rule of law. We anticipate that the Missouri Appeals Court will rebuke Judge Carter."

On Friday, April 1, 2016, we told you about a writ that we had filed earlier in the day, in which [we asked the Missouri Court of Appeals to prohibit a circuit court judge from summoning a homeschooling family to a court that does not exist](#).

Late on Friday night we learned that the Court of Appeals had denied our writ, which meant that the fake "truancy court" hearing scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday morning was still technically on. On Saturday, we asked the Supreme Court of Missouri to consider our writ. Meanwhile, HSLDA Senior Attorney Scott Woodruff flew to Missouri on Sunday to appear for the family on Monday morning at 10 a.m. At that appearance, Judge Carter told Woodruff that the Supreme Court had called him about the writ and that the hearing would not be held after all.

As of this writing we do not have any official word from the Supreme Court of Missouri, but we will keep you posted.

Several other jurisdictions around the state have informal programs (which they also call "truancy courts") to encourage regular school attendance. Those programs, however, don't try to trick people or scare them into thinking they are in a real court. They are honest and transparent.

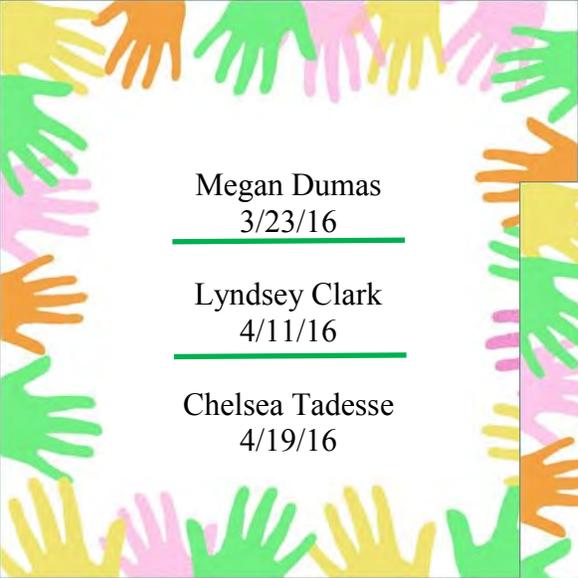
Encouraging students to obey the attendance laws is an honorable goal. But those who pursue that goal must themselves obey the law.

Sincerely,

Scott Woodruff

Missouri Contact Attorney

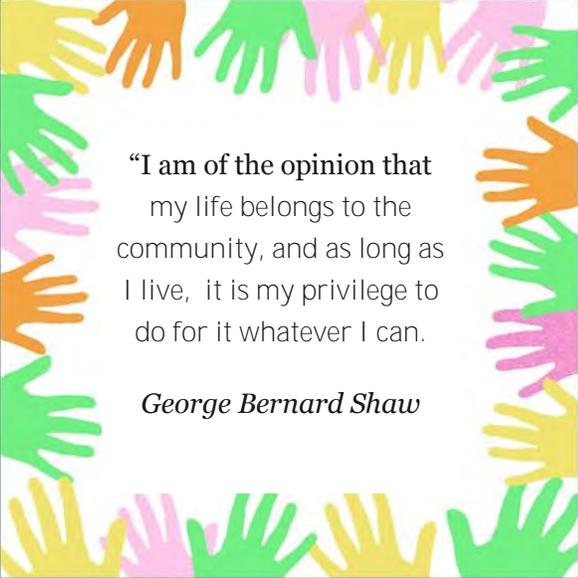
Our Newest Volunteers



Megan Dumas
3/23/16

Lyndsey Clark
4/11/16

Chelsea Tadesse
4/19/16



“I am of the opinion that
my life belongs to the
community, and as long as
I live, it is my privilege to
do for it whatever I can.

George Bernard Shaw

Anne Coburn-Griffis
Graphic Designer
Website Administrator

Aisha Marballie
Graphic Designer

EXPERIENCE HIGH SCHOOL



Join Our Hands-on History Lesson

During Homeschool Days, students and their families can enjoy hands-on activities and revolutionary experiences designed to make colonial dramas come to life in a way that is educational and interactive. Plus, visits can be tailored to make your trip unforgettable with on-site lodging, 18th-century tavern dining, entertainment, and much more! Inspire the next generation of dreamers with a Colonial Williamsburg experience.

Colonial Williamsburg's Homeschool Days September 10-25, 2016

For more information:

https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/plan/groups/homeschoolers/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=iContact&utm_campaign=HomeschoolApr2016&NCK=8885281012



The Revolutionary City invites your group to embark on an 18th-century adventure. Experience a colonial capital and meet the citizens who helped build a nation. Colonial Williamsburg offers a variety of ways for groups of all sizes, interests, and ages—from kindergarteners to senior citizens, from scouts to families—to explore the 301-acre town, browse our world-class indoor museums, and discover something new about the creation of America. For more than 70 years, Colonial Williamsburg has provided a premier school field trip destination, offering schools assistance in addressing educational standards and individually tailoring an experience that fits unique classroom needs. Once your students step into the Revolutionary City, they are fully immersed in 18th-century Virginia's colonial capital city. Our interactive programs and cross-curricular investigations will engage students' minds. They will see and experience life as the founding families did in the 1700s, and our professional tour guides will make their learning fun! Choose one of Colonial Williamsburg's School and Group Tours' packages or customize your own group experience with the help of our trained staff.

NHEG Volunteers of the Month

NHEG's Volunteer of the Month program recognizes the dedication and work of some of our most active volunteers. NHEG relies on volunteers to help with our education programs, our special events, public outreach, and other activities that help fulfill our mission of supporting literacy for children and adults by offering a range of educational support services. Contact us to learn more about volunteering.

This month we recognize a special group of volunteers: those that have gone above and beyond what is needed in their everyday duties. NHEG is an all-volunteer organization. We have volunteers from all around the world!

Jyoti Dave

Anuja Jose

Brian Steinberg

Lyndsey Clark

Robert Hall

Khrista Cendana

Chelsea Tadesse

Fatema Chinikamwala

Ersula May

Brittany Brzezinski

Jiawei Chen

Roberta Perkins

Samuel Custer

Jeny Espinal

Vanh Vue

Marina Klimi

Nisha Zachariah

Jon Aitken

Daniela Silva

Tonya Beaty

Brad Williams

Sheila Wright

Bill Naugle

Priscilena Shearon

Briana Dincher

Victoria Lowery

Shannon Williamson

Yaminee Patel

Dr Marina Kamenetskiy

Kiyoko Green

Siti Khairuniza DP Hj Ja'afar (Niza)

Kevin Adusei

Tanushree Tiwari

June
2016

Volunteers
are just ordinary people
with extraordinary
hearts.

They offer the
gift of their time
to teach, to listen,
to help, to inspire,
to build, to grow,
to learn.

They expect no pay,
yet the value of their
work knows no limit...

They've known the
unexpected joy
of a simple hug.

They've planted tiny
seeds of love
in countless lives.

Volunteers
are just ordinary people
who reach out
and take a hand
and together
make a difference
that lasts a lifetime.

The Many Voices **NHEG**

Introducing



Victoria Lowery



Pamela Clark



Charlotte McGuire



Kaden Behan



Priscilena Shearon



Shannon Williamson



Briana Dincher



Sadia Eijaz



Maria Ortiz



The New Heights Show on Education

LIVE Internet radio program




Join Host Priscilena Shearon
Sunday at 5:30 p.m. CST/ 6:30 p.m. EST

New Heights

As she explores new COMMON CORE topics each week

Dial **347-934-0450** for Priscilena Shearon

Staying or Going, Tech Advice to Relax This Summer

When summer fun calls, it's nice to be able to answer without any worries or stresses eating at you. Whether it's a day at the pool, an afternoon at the lake, or a trip to a new exciting destination, relaxation is key. And despite the common mindset to "unplug," technology can actually help.

Use the following tech tips to welcome a relaxing, yet fun-filled summer season.

EASY, BREEZY TRAVEL: If you or the family are traveling this year, get up-to-date on all of the latest travel apps before you start adventuring. Top travel apps are a plus for anyone who is flying. There are apps that can help plan itineraries and offer details on flight delays, layover times, and airport amenities. Other apps can provide travelers with neighborhood guides for cities across the globe, and include a wealth of information to find cheaper accommodations or, if you're so inclined, host other travelers.

STAY CONNECTED RAIN OR SHINE: Summer fun usually involves something every phone fears — water. Be it rainstorms, sprinklers, bathtubs, pools, sweat, or spilled drinks, estimates say nearly 100 million cell phones have been destroyed by liquids in the U.S. alone. Stop taking chances and relax with a [waterproof smart phone](#) from Kyocera's Hydro Series. The Hydro Edge (\$19.99* at Sprint [[sprint.com](#)] and \$149.99 without a contract at Boost Mobile [[boostmobile.com](#)]) and Hydro XTRM (U.S. Cellular, \$29.99* [[uscellular.com](#)]) Android smartphones are designed to withstand sprays of water and full submersion in three feet for up to half an hour. They also have advanced speaker technology that makes phone calls audible in extremely loud environments. With a sleek smart phone that's both stylish and accident-proof, you won't sacrifice anything except undue anxiety.

PLUG IN ANYWHERE: From airport terminals and hotels to your own house, outlets are always in short supply. Plug in every crucial device using a mini surge protector with a USB charger. Some of these small tech gadgets can rotate 360 degrees to fit anywhere, and they offer five extra outlets. Imagine the serenity—Mom and daughters can get ready at the same time with multiple blow dryers and flat irons. Families can charge MP3 players, smart phones, and e-readers at once. Problem solved.

One last thing—if you are traveling off and on this summer and your household has a Netflix subscription, consider putting the account on hold. There's no reason to pay for a service while you're not using it. Summer relaxation, here we come!

P.S.B.B.

Public Service Bulletin Board

To be a volunteer, it takes...

Generosity, a willingness to give your time to others

Understanding, because their lives might be very different from your own

Empathy, an ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes and feel what they must feel

Compassion, to truly care about making someone else's life better

Patience, because the process doesn't always go as smoothly as it might

Dedication, to stick with the project and see it through

You've shown these qualities and so

Up Coming Holidays

May 30—Memorial Day

June 14 — Flag Day

June 19 — Father's Day

CHECK OUT OUR
NEW LOOK
WEBSITE →



New Heights Educational Group Recognition
Day 2016

Come out and celebrate our 10th Anniversary
with us!

June 11, 2016 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Harvest Life Fellowship (non-religious event)

Sign Up Now!

A Recipe Selected Just for You

Banana Split Lasagna



Ingredients

2 cups graham cracker crumbs

1/2 cup butter, melted

8 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

1/4 cup granulated sugar

2 Tablespoons + 3 1/2 cups cold milk, divided

16 ounces Cool Whip topping, divided

1 (23-ounce) container of frozen sliced strawberries, thawed/drain

1 (20-ounce) can crushed pineapple, drained well

2 (3.4 ounce) boxes of banana cream pudding instant pudding

Chocolate syrup

Maraschino cherries (optional, but encouraged!)

Nuts (optional)

Directions

1. Grease a 9×13-inch baking dish; set aside.
2. In a medium bowl, combine the graham cracker crumbs and melted butter. Stir the mixture until it's evenly moist. Then, dump the crumbs into your baking dish and press them into an even layer.

Then, place the baking dish into your refrigerator until you've prepared your next layer.

3. In another medium bowl, combine the cream cheese, sugar, 2 T of milk, and vanilla with a hand mixer on a medium speed. Mix together until fluffy and light. Then, using a rubber spatula, completely mix in 8 ounces of the Cool Whip. Once the mixture is completely combined, remove your baking dish from your refrigerator and evenly spread the cream cheese mixture on top of the graham cracker crust.
4. Pour your drained strawberries and pineapple on top of the cream cheese mixture and spread it evenly. It doesn't matter which fruit you put in first.
5. Mix the two boxes of banana cream instant pudding with 3 1/2 cups of cold milk. Whisk for a few minutes until the pudding starts to thicken. Then, use a rubber spatula to spread the pudding over the fruit layer. Let the dessert sit for about 5 minutes so that the pudding can firm up a bit more.
6. Spread the remaining 8 ounces of Cool Whip over the top of the dessert as evenly as possible. Drizzle (or pour, your choice) the chocolate syrup on top of the Cool Whip layer. Allow the dessert to chill in the refrigerator for at least 4 hours before serving or overnight.



DID YOU KNOW?

NHEG

DISABILITY RESOURCES

We have a huge collection of data regarding various disabilities and how to manage education of your kids. Click the links below to find articles, websites, etc., on various disabilities ranging from Autism and ADHD to Prader-Willi Syndrome. We have hands-on experience in dealing with kids from various backgrounds. If you have any questions or information to contribute, please contact us.

Autism spectrum disorder
ADHD
ALS
Bipolar disease
Cancer
Celiac disease
Cerebral palsy
COPD
Cystic fibrosis
Down syndrome
Driver education
Dyslexia
Disabled persons
Edward's syndrome

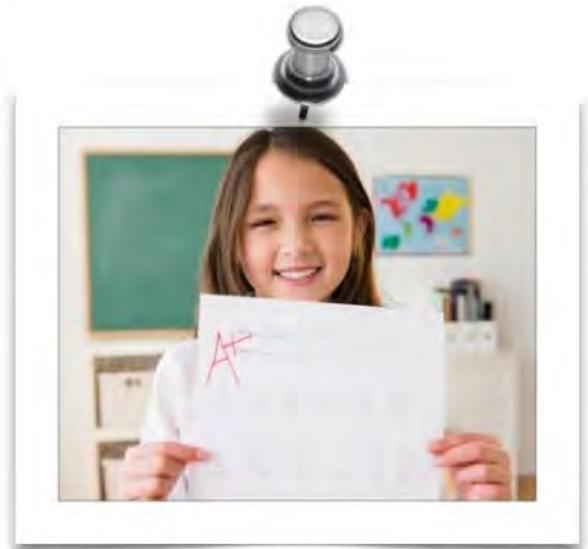
Fragile X syndrome
Hearing loss
Irlen syndrome
Neural tube defect
Paralysis
Phenylketonuria
Prader-Willi syndrome
Rett syndrome
Sickle cell disease
Spina bifida
Spinal deformity
Stroke
Tay-Sachs disease
Traumatic brain injury

NHEG

Can we help?



Share Your Story!!!



Do you have an educational story to share either by video or in written form? Has NHEG made a difference in your life? Would you like to be part of a video sharing your story and how NHEG has helped you?



New Heights Educational Group

Educational Resources to Help Reach Your Goals

Resource and Literacy Center

☎ 419-786-0247

🌐 NewHeightsEducation.org

✉ NewHeightsEducation@yahoo.com

The New Heights Show on Education

Internet radio program

BRIANA DINCHER

SHANNON WILLIAMSON



JOIN US



FRIDAYS
12:30 P.M. - 1:00 P.M. EST

PRE-RECORDED

As Briana and Shannon explore a new topic each week

Missed a show? Check out past shows here:

As they explore a new topic on education every week. . .

We're working hard!

We are working hard on creating a brand new, easy to navigate website.

Coming in 2016!



Did You Know?

Men sweat more
than **women**.

AND ARE MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO **HEAT-RELATED** ILLNESS

In a normal year
approximately
371 American
men & women
die from
extreme
heat.



A great reminder
why you should
always drink plenty
of **water**, wear
sun screen, eat
lightly, and **rest**
often indoors or in
shady areas this
summer. Learn more
about preventing
heat- related illness at

UCR | Environmental
Health & Safety

www.ehs.ucr.edu

Help us Reach Our Fund-raising Goals

Please collect the following items and share with NHEG to help us reach our fundraising goals.



TerraCycle

Outsmart Waste

Cell Phone Brigade®

E-Waste Brigade®

Inkjet Brigade®

Laptop Brigade®



[DONATE YOUR OLD CAR, BOAT OR RV](#) [Make a Car Donation](#) | [Make a Difference](#)

Call 1-800-240-0160 and a friendly car donation specialist will schedule your pick-up appointment.

A public charity 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization

The New Heights Show on Education

LIVE Internet radio program

Join Host Kathy Woodring
Sundays 11:00 pm - 11:30 pm

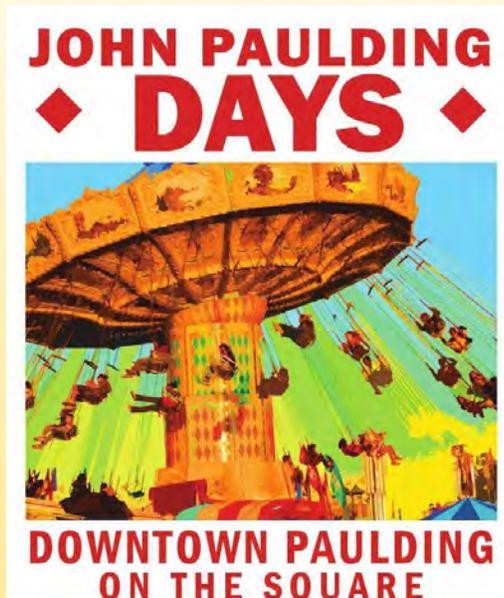
As she explores a new topic in American History every month



John Paulding Days

John Paulding Days are going to be on July 8-9, 2016. We have been invited as a local non-profit to be a food/game vendor. We are looking for volunteers to see if anyone is interested in setting up a game or food booth at JPD as a fundraiser for our non-profit. I don't have every detail ironed out yet, but if you are interested, please let me know so I can keep you in the loop! The Clark family won't be able to attend because this is a busy time for our family, so we really need someone to take the lead for this event.

If you can volunteer and help please email NHEG at NewHeightsEducation@Yahoo.com





New Heights Educational Group

Educational Resources to Help Reach Your Goals

Resource and Literacy Center

Pamela S. Clark

Founder/Director
14735 Power Dam Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512
Phone: 419-786-0247
NewHeightsEducation@yahoo.com
www.NewHeightsEducation.org

NEW HEIGHTS EDUCATIONAL GROUP HAS AMAZING, AWARD WINNING TEACHERS AND TUTORS AVAILABLE TODAY, TO HELP YOU START ACHIEVING YOUR GOALS.

MEET OUR TEACHERS AND TUTORS:



CHAD STEWART - CHAD HAS BEEN AN ANIMATOR SINCE 1992, WORKING ON PROJECTS THAT INCLUDE THE SIMPSONS, THE EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE, AND THE POLAR EXPRESS. IN 2007 HE BEGAN TEACHING AT AN ONLINE ANIMATION SCHOOL FOR CAREER-MINDED ADULTS AND NOW TEACHES SCHOOL-AGE STUDENTS. CHECK OUT ONE OF HIS COURSES HERE:



JENY ESPINAL - I HAVE MY MASTER'S OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEGREE IN FINANCE AND ALSO HAVE A BACHELOR'S IN ECONOMICS. CURRENTLY, I AM STUDYING FOR CFE EXAM TO BECOME A FRAUD EXAMINER. ALSO, I AM LOOKING INTO DOCTORAL PROGRAMS IN ECONOMICS. I WORKED IN FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SINCE 2006, AND HAVE 4 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN MANAGEMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. I AM AN EASYGOING, LAID BACK, INDIVIDUAL. I LOVE READING, ARCHERY, AND PLAYING THE VIOLIN. I ENJOY HELPING OTHERS AND I LOVE LEARNING NEW THINGS.



VANH VUE - VANH RECENTLY GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, GREENSBORO WITH A DEGREE IN ANTHROPOLOGY. SHE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER AT A LOCAL CHURCH AND HELP CHILDREN IN NEED. VAN HAS ALWAYS ENJOYED ASSISTING OTHERS WITH THEIR HOMEWORK, INCLUDING MATH, READING, SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE. VAN ALSO HAS ALSO TAUGHT JAWS, A PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS A BLIND PERSON TO USE THE COMPUTER.



SAMUEL CUSTER - SAMUEL HAS A BACHELOR'S AND AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IN ACCOUNTING. HE ALSO HAS STRONG PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COMPUTER SKILLS. HE HOLDS A CERTIFICATE AS A MICROSOFT OFFICE USER SPECIALIST IN WORD.

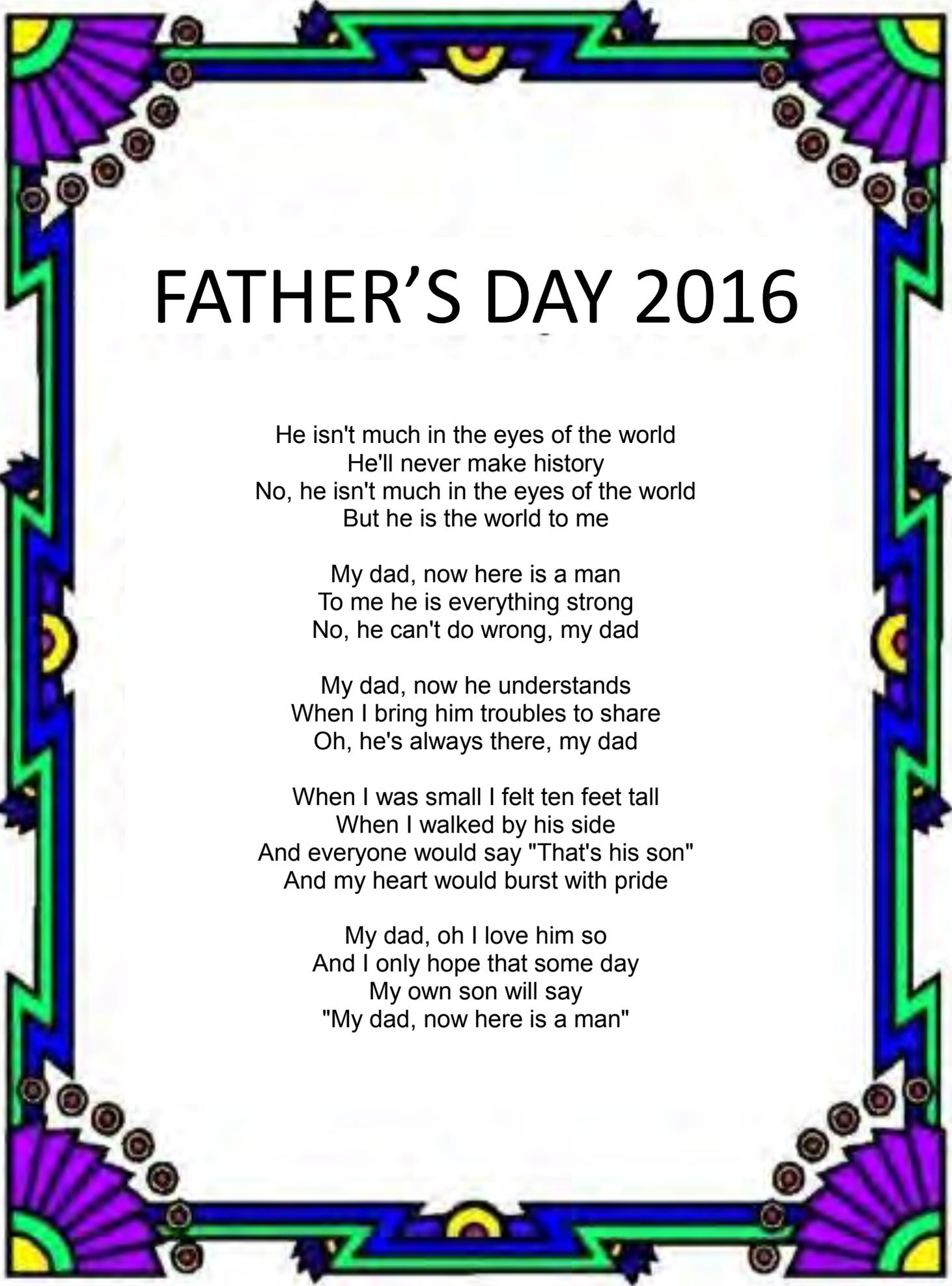
CONTACT US TODAY:

 419-786-0247

 NEWHEIGHTSEducation.ORG/

 NEWHEIGHTSEducation@YAHOO.COM





FATHER'S DAY 2016

He isn't much in the eyes of the world
He'll never make history
No, he isn't much in the eyes of the world
But he is the world to me

My dad, now here is a man
To me he is everything strong
No, he can't do wrong, my dad

My dad, now he understands
When I bring him troubles to share
Oh, he's always there, my dad

When I was small I felt ten feet tall
When I walked by his side
And everyone would say "That's his son"
And my heart would burst with pride

My dad, oh I love him so
And I only hope that some day
My own son will say
"My dad, now here is a man"

We Did IT Again!



New Heights Educational Group

**HONORED AS SILVER STEVIE® AWARD WINNER
IN 2016 AMERICAN BUSINESS AWARDS**

Stevie winners will be presented with their awards on June 20 in New York

Defiance, Ohio – May 2, 2016 – The New Heights Educational Group was named the winner of a Silver Stevie® Award in the Organization of the Year - Non-Profit or Government category in The 14th Annual American Business Awards today. The American Business Awards is the nation’s premier business awards program. All organizations operating in the U.S.A. are eligible to submit nominations—public and private, for-profit and non-profit, large and small. Nicknamed the Stevies for the Greek word meaning “crowned”, the awards will be presented to winners at a gala ceremony at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York on Monday, June 20. Tickets are now on sale. More than 3,400 nominations from organizations of all sizes and in virtually every industry were submitted this year for consideration in a wide range of categories, including Startup of the Year, Executive of the Year, Best New Product or Service of the Year, Marketing Campaign of the Year, Live Event of the Year, and App of the Year, among others. The New Heights Educational Group was nominated in the Organization of the Year—Non-Profit or Government. Pamela Clark, Executive Director, said, “We are truly honored to receive recognition from the Stevie Awards, which they have done for the last four years. We will treasure this year’s ABA award for years to come, and appreciate them recognizing our team of over 80 volunteers and our work. We work hard to better education in our community as well as nationally, and in bringing opportunities to all families regardless of school choice or beliefs. Some of the judges’ comments can be seen below:

“Excellent company filling a need in the educational industry”

“Nice job, New Heights Educational Group.”

“Sounds like a nice organization with a solid cause.”

“Literacy and leadership programs have NHEG addressing student development at the earliest stages.”

More than 250 professionals worldwide participated in the Judging process to select this year’s Stevie Award winner.





Home Food Safety®
www.homefoodsafety.org

A Collaboration Between
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
ConAgra Foods



Food Safety at the Grill



DOWNLOAD THE FREE IS MY FOOD SAFE? APP



H C

Wash grill according to manufacturer's instructions.

WASH

Wash hands thoroughly with warm, soapy water before, during and after food preparation.

Wash all utensils and cutting boards after use.

Pack moist towelettes or hand sanitizer for those moments when soap and water are not readily available.



Keep

SEPARATE...From

Cooked and ready-to-eat foods

Raw meat and poultry

Have a clean platter and utensils ready at grill-side for serving.

Don't let perishables sit out for longer than **two hours**, or **one hour** if the outdoor temperature is above **90° F**.

Make sure perishable foods stay below **40°F**.

REFRIGERATE

Transport food in the passenger part of the car, **not in the trunk.**

40°F

COOK

Always use a food thermometer to cook to a safe temperature

- Hot Dog: 165°F
- Chicken: 165°F
- Hamburger: 160°F
- Bratwurst: 160-165°F
- Fin Fish: 145°F
- Pork: 145°F
- Steak: 145°F



Use separate coolers for different food items



Are you packed for the cookout?

These non-food items are indispensable for a "safe barbecue."



Beverages



Raw meats, poultry & seafood



Cooked food and raw produce



Trash Bags



Hand Sanitizer



Paper Towels



SOAP



Bring extra plates and utensils



Food Thermometer

NHEG Family's Newest Member

Neal Singh

7.15 lb and was 19.5 inch long at birth



Savneet Singh, author of *One Non-Profit's Journey to Success*, and her husband Amit, welcomed their second son Neal Singh on Friday, April, 29, 2016.

Their first son Naunidh Singh, 6, is very excited and is experiencing a whole new world with his baby brother!

Neal weighed 7.15 lb and was 19.5 inch long at birth.

Savneet authored *One Nonprofit's Journey to Success*, released in 2015. It is an inspiring story of the New Heights Educational Group and its rise as a nonprofit organization. The book throws light on the organization's mission, goals, and the mammoth efforts of NHEG's Founder, Ms. Clark, and its volunteers to keep the organization completely afloat during difficult times. The book weaves together various services offered by NHEG, its relationship with the local people, and the awards and recognition it has earned over the years.



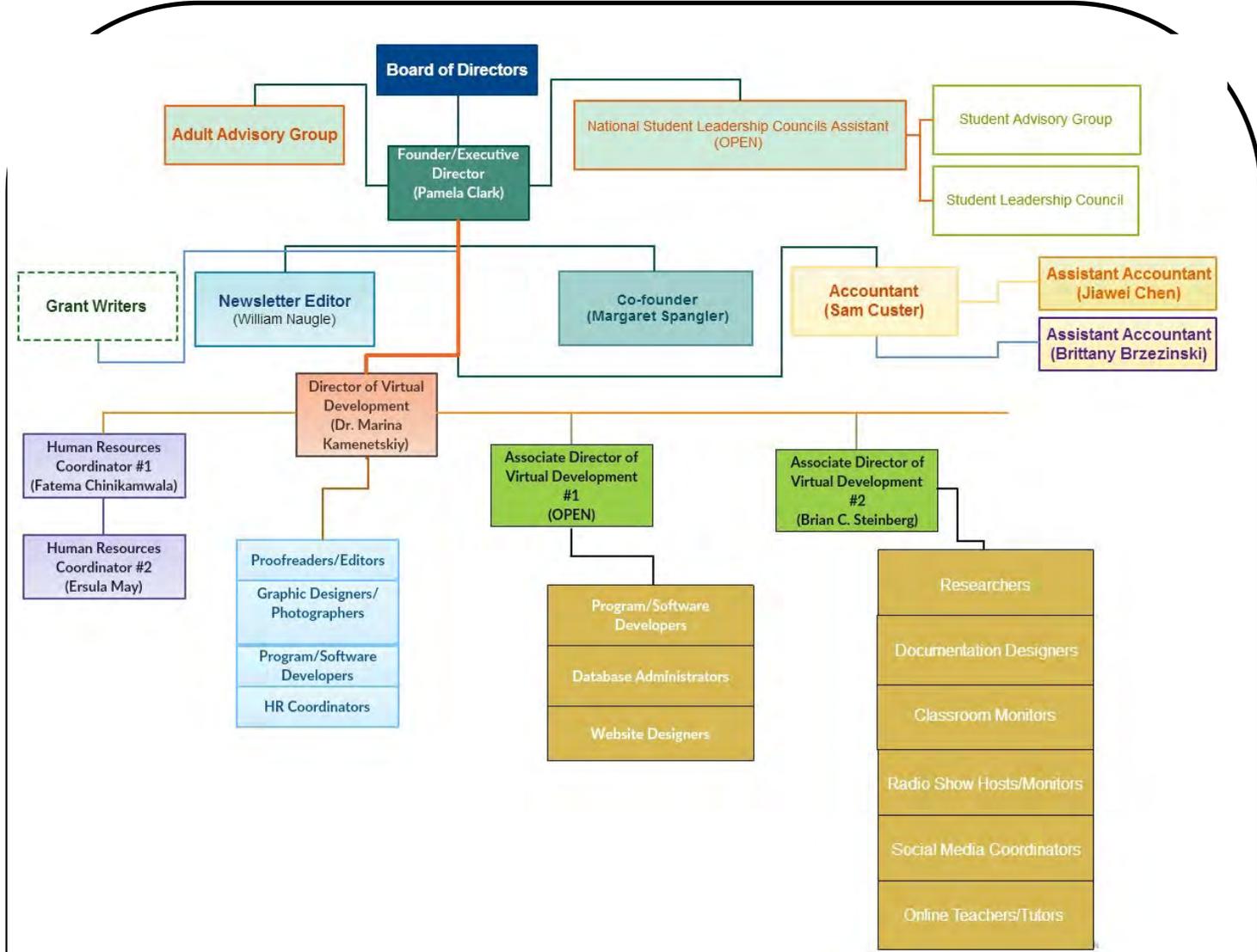
June 1st, 2016
Our 10th Anniversary
And
Our New Website!



10 *years*
120 *months*
522 *weeks*
3,652 *days*
87,658 *hours*
5,259,000 *minutes*
315,569,260 *seconds*

That NHEG has existed to help families with their educational needs & concerns. From a dream to a reality—and that dream will continue for the next 10 years!

NHEG Organizational Chart



17th Annual

SECOND AND SEVEN

FOOTBALL CAMP

PRESENTED BY



Huntington

THE DATE IS SET!

FOOTBALL CAMP FOR KIDS 7 TO 14
JUNE 20, 21, 22, 2016
AT HILLIARD WEAVER MIDDLE SCHOOL



The 17th annual Second and Seven Football Camp presented by Huntington will allow kids to enjoy three days of drills, contests and speakers, with a focus on having fun.

The kids will learn basic fundamentals of football and be introduced to important attributes such as teamwork, goal-setting, positive attitude, and commitment. Campers receive an official camp shirt, snacks and lunch every day along with special instruction from former Buckeyes, NFL players and local high school football coaches. All proceeds from the camp benefit The 2nd & 7 Foundation.

SIGN UP EARLY FOR DISCOUNTED PRICE!

If you sign up by April 30, the cost to attend camp is \$100.

SIGN UP NOW!

www.secondandseven.com

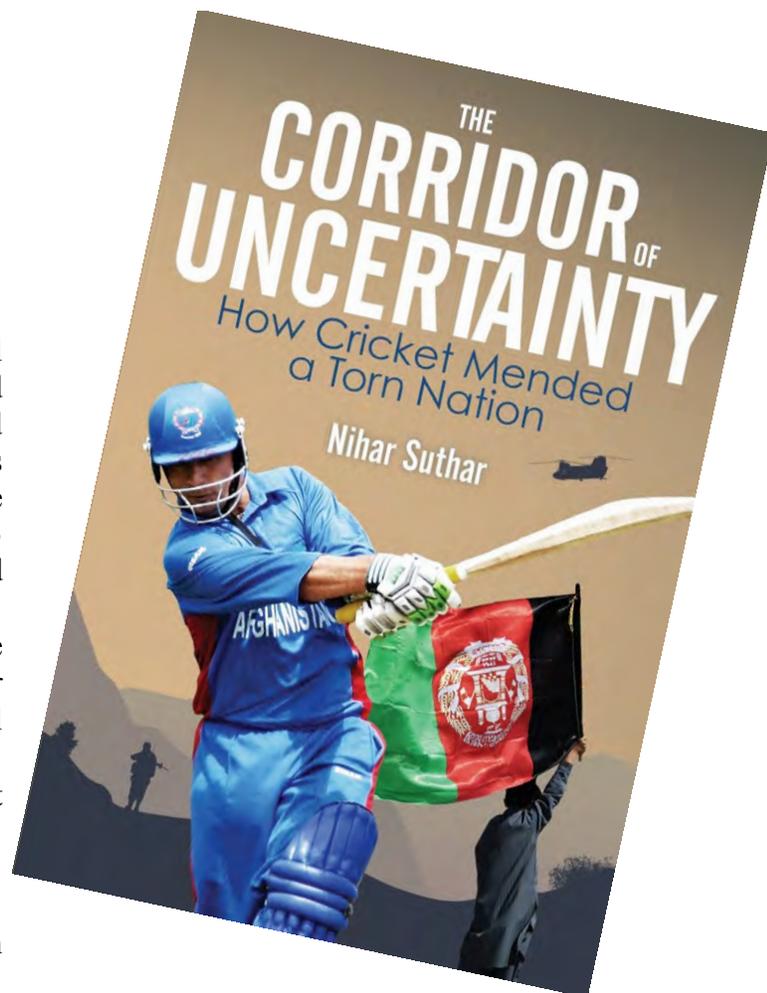
The Corridor of Uncertainty: How Cricket Mended a Torn Nation

Nihar Suthar, author

•Nihar Suthar graduated cum laude from Cornell University where he studied applied economics and managements, with concentrations in finance and strategy. He is an award-winning writer who enjoys covering inspirational stories around the world. He wrote his first book, Win No Matter What, in May 2013 in response to his observations of the busy fast-paced lifestyle of NYC.

•For his second book, The Corridor of Uncertainty, he traveled to the United Arab Emirates to better understand the story of the Afghan cricket team, as well as to study Pashto, the official language of Afghanistan.

•Cricketweb.net calls it a “superb book and one that deserves to be widely read.”



Cost:

•The book was published on February 1, 2016 by Pitch Publishing Ltd.

•Due to the book's recent publication, it does not have widespread popularity, but is provided on Amazon (Kindle Price 9.99\$, Paperback New 7.26\$), Book Depository.com (US 10.26\$), and WHSmith (€6.99).

Text Review/Effectiveness

•The book is educational in nature and provides all elements of a story (Introduction, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution, Narrative Hook).

•The book chronicles the formation of an Afghan Cricket team and its grueling journey to the Cricket World Cup.

•The book provides insight into the history and politics of Afghanistan and sheds light on major historical events, such as the Soviet Union's attacks and invasions in Afghanistan, the World Trade Center Bombing on September 11, 2001, and Taliban rule in Afghanistan.

•In some sections of the book, Nihar describes war, violence, and strict political power in detail. This makes the text mature in content, and better suited for high school students.

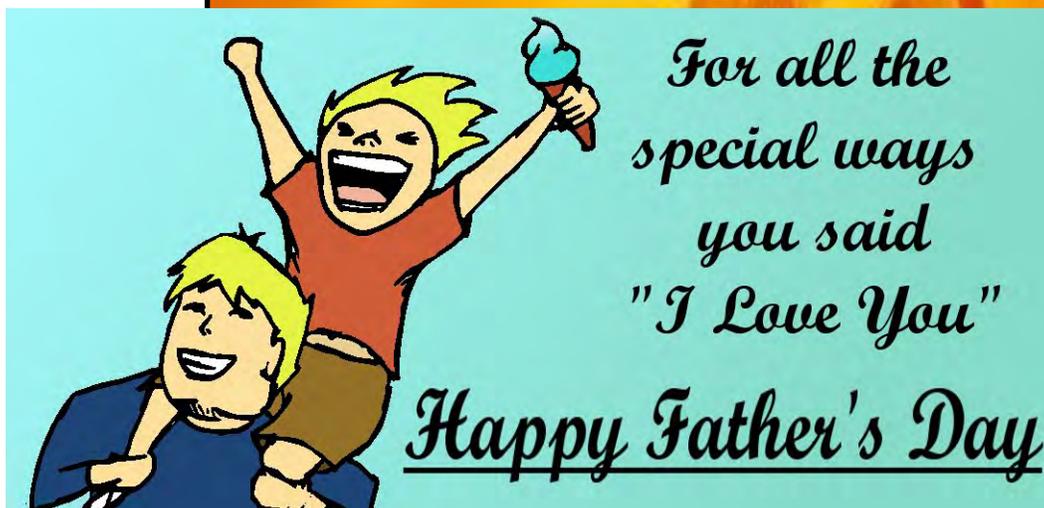
•The text provides overarching themes in perseverance despite devastating obstacles and negative circumstances, as well as taking pride in one's culture and country.

•The book is written at a level where high school students could understand its content and learn valuable information.

In regards to the Corridor of Uncertainty, I do think that the book is based on fact and unbiased. For the release of the book in Feb of 2016, Suthar traveled to the United Arab Emirates to better understand and chronicle the story of the Afghan Cricket Team as well as learn the language of Afghanistan, Pashto, to better understand Middle Eastern culture. I could not find much information about whether Nihar Suthar was familiar with Cricket or had a prior interest in Middle Eastern culture before writing the book; that could have possibly made him bias towards those subjects. But according to his website, he enjoys covering inspirational stories from around the world. So, I believe that he was just truly invested in this book, and wanted to make sure he could teach about the inspiring journey of the Afghan Cricket team.



From the Mind of Kevin Adusei



Across

- 1. Computer sold in lime and strawberry flavors
- 5. Speak in Spanish?
- 10. "Super Trouper" group
- 14. Prefix with rail or pole
- 15. Popular reeds
- 16. Fertile soil
- 17. Argument in favor?
- 19. Supermodel Kate
- 20. Nice friend?
- 21. Campus drill grp.
- 22. Endor aliens
- 24. It's in tune but not sung
- 26. Goats and antelopes?
- 29. Call for
- 31. Cause for a re-trial
- 32. Tristan's beloved
- 35. King James verb ending
- 36. Where to find a winner's belt
- 41. Competition for the "bobtail nag"
- 42. Outplayed
- 43. Irreverence
- 47. It may make you drool
- 51. Prison conveyance?
- 54. Send as payment
- 55. Like old cheese, perhaps
- 56. Laugh-fest
- 58. Ghostly greeting
- 59. Like the biblical magi
- 60. Cash-box for a roadside shop?
- 63. Like some skirts

- 64. Schleppe
 - 65. First murder victim
 - 66. Falconer's aid
 - 67. Visionary ones
 - 68. Strokes
- Down**
- 1. Prepare for shish kebab
 - 2. Follower of Joseph Smith, Jr.
 - 3. Apply oil to
 - 4. Trig. ratio
 - 5. Yuletide yuks?
 - 6. Is the wheelman
 - 7. "Ship of Fools" artist
 - 8. Aloha wreath
 - 9. "_____ on TV"

- 10. Nearly
- 11. Tally accounts
- 12. Washtub musicians?
- 13. Store opening hrs.
- 18. Obvious fact
- 23. FDR agency
- 25. Titanic mother?
- 27. Utopias
- 28. Highest degree
- 30. Prune
- 33. Tripoli's home
- 34. Unknown surname
- 36. Soothing tea
- 37. Mesmeric ritual
- 38. Ways to go, abbr.
- 39. "_____ of Space" (radio show)
- 40. Run without moving
- 41. Ball-point brand
- 44. Oceanic specks
- 45. LAX letters
- 46. Liaisons
- 48. Take on water?
- 49. Purple perennial
- 50. Reef rings
- 52. Seeing red
- 53. Frisco fullback, e.g.
- 57. They may be long
- 59. It covers the NYSE
- 61. Kind of shoe
- 62. Kind of shoe

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17				18							19			
20				21					22	23				
24			25			26		27						28
29					30			31						
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43			44	45	46				47			48	49	50
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59					60	61					62			
63					64						65			
66					67						68			

Everything You Need To Know About Background Checks and Pre-Employment Screening

What Type of Information Is Available Via Background Checks?

Background checks can include everything from criminal history to consumer reports and many other points of data. The type of information that is requested depends on the reason why the background check is being run.

Common types of information that are requested during employment screening can include:

- Criminal records
- Sex offender records
- Incarceration records
- Legal working status
- Social Security Number (SSN)
- Driving records (if driving is a part of the job that is being applied for)
- Education records
- Prior employment records
- Workers' compensation records
- Credit reports and bankruptcy records
- Court records
- Drug test records
- Personal references
- Military records
- State licensing records

Depending on the type of job that you are applying for, the pre-employment screening process can vary greatly. Individuals applying for jobs working with children, elderly, or disabled are carefully screened for past criminal activity.

Everything You Need To Know About Background Checks and Pre-Employment Screening

(Continued From Previous Page)

Those applying for jobs that could pose a threat to security will also be screened more thoroughly. These include law enforcement, airport and airline related jobs, and national security jobs. Also, people who work in shipping ports will have to pass a more extensive background check.

Why Would Someone Run A Background Check on Me?

The most common reason someone would run a background check on you is when you are applying for a job. The extra steps in the screening process that are part of the background check give employers greater peace of mind when hiring new employees. Background checks can prevent employers from hiring employees who are not qualified or could cause problems in the workplace. Under federal law, and in some states, background checks are required for a person to be eligible for certain jobs.

The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) clearly defines what information can be accessed in a background check conducted during pre-employment screening. An employer that is using a third-party company to conduct a background check must disclose that they are running a background check to the applicant. Certain pieces of information (education, military, and medical records) must be requested via special permission by the applicant. Landlords may also request a background check to screen tenants. These background checks include credit, criminal, and employment history. For the purchase of firearms and explosives, the federal government has created the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). Buyers must fill out a form that initiates the background check process. It is usually a quick process, however, the FBI may take up to three days to process a NICS request. Once three days have passed, the buyer can purchase the firearm or explosive—even if there are no results received. Background checks and the sale of guns is controversial as no background check is federally required if the transaction is through a private seller (which is frequently referred to as the "gun show loophole").

Everything You Need To Know About Background Checks and Pre-Employment Screening

(Continued From Previous Page)

How Long Does It Take For a Background Check to Process?

Depending on the amount of information that is requested, a background check can take longer to process. In most cases, a pre-employment background check will take anywhere from three days to one week. Some background checks can be instantaneous, but these often provide results that are incorrect or information that is incomplete.

What Is The Quickest Way To Get a Background Check?

The quickest way to get a background check is not the best way. It is best to request employment background checks from a FCRA compliant employment screening company, such as GoodHire. There are many different companies that offer pre-employment background checks. Reputable background screening companies will take you through the process of requesting a background check step-by-step to make sure that you as an employer are following regulations.

How Accurate is the Information in a Background Check?

Instantaneous or free background checks are not reliable. A good, reliable background check from an FCRA compliant screening service can cost from \$20-100 for one report depending on the amount of information that is requested. Some background check companies will offer discounts for background reports bought in volume.

Can I Get a Free Background Check?

Background checks that are free usually report information that is incomplete or inaccurate. Free background checks are not comprehensive and require you to look in several different places for the information that you want. However, there is a free service that offers self background checks so that you can make sure that the information that shows up in your background report is correct.

Everything You Need To Know About Background Checks and Pre-Employment Screening

(Continued From Previous Page)

Is There A Way To Do a Self Background Check?

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) offers Self Check, a free background check service. This tool helps you ensure that your background report will not prevent you from a potential job opportunity. Under the FCRA, every person is also entitled to one free credit report every year. It is extremely important to check your yearly credit report and your credit score regularly. Changes in your credit report or score could mean that your identity has been stolen.

Where Does the Information In a Background Check Come From?

Some of the information can be accessed via public record. Arrest records and convictions, as well as the sex offender registry, are all public record. Court records and bankruptcies are also public record. A criminal rap sheet is not public record and requires permission to access. Consumer reports, medical records, military service, and certain educational records are all confidential. Background checks can also provide information taken via social media. Employers will often check candidates' social media as a first step in the screening process. It's important to note that employers conducting their own investigation into social media do not fall under the FCRA. Be careful what you put online and avoid uploading information that could hurt your chances with a future employer.

What To Do When a Background Check Has Incorrect Information?

Luckily, the FCRA protects us from incorrect information. Employers who choose not to hire because of something on someone's background report must first tell the potential employee why and provide them with the report. The job applicant then has the opportunity to dispute the information included in the background check. If there is an issue in the consumer reports, you must file a complaint with the consumer reporting agency that has the incorrect information. The consumer reporting agency will investigate and correct any inaccuracies.



Everything You Need To Know About Background Checks and Pre-Employment Screening

(Continued From Previous Page)

How Far Back can a Background Check Go?

The FCRA states that an employer should not request arrest records that are over seven years old from the date of the pre-employment screening. Vice versa, consumer reporting agencies should not report this information. Background reports also cannot include criminal records that have been expunged.

Can A Company Not Hire a Person Because of a Background Check?

Yes, but the FCRA closely regulates this. For example, bankruptcies, workers compensation, and injuries cannot be held against you when applying for a job. An employer also has to tell you that they are not hiring you because of something they found in your background check. The employer must provide you with the report, the reason, and allow you to dispute it if the information is incorrect or should not have been included.

Some employers will simply say that it wasn't due to the background report, but because there were more talented candidates, which exempts them from sharing the background report with you and allows them to bypass the regulations set forth in the FCRA.

Is There Anything I Should Do Before a Pre-Employment Background Check?

Run a background check on yourself! You can use a government tool, like Self Check, or use a paid background check service. IdentitySmart offers a self background report when signing up as a way to protect and monitor your identity. Ask for a credit report to make sure there are no inaccuracies and that your credit is in a good state. Request to see court records (if you've ever been involved in a lawsuit) and driving records (if the job includes driving) to make sure that they are accurate and don't include information that is over seven years old. Know your rights as protected under the FCRA.

Flag Day 2016

Long May she wave in FREEDOM



One flag over one land,
one flag, our ever-loving
freedom.

One flag evangelize,
one flag to teach world peace.
One flag alone stands tall,
one flag in righteousness.

One flag when tattered shows,
one flag over struggling rights.
One flag of history's pride,

one flag over any other.
One flag, remembrance,
one flag, freedom's sacrifice.
One flag alone stands tall,
one flag; the red, white, and
blue.

One flag, one heart, one hand,
one flag over this great land.

One flag in protest fly,
one flag, responsible liberty.

One flag, my God allows,
one flag, my worship free.

One flag, Old Glory,
one flag, American banner.
One flag, one nation's flag;
I pledge to this one flag.

One Flag

by
Roger W Hancock

Ohio State Agency Reverses Anti-Homeschool Diploma Policy

After a protracted fight with HSLDA, an Ohio state agency has agreed not to discriminate against homeschool graduates applying for jobs.



MIKE DONNELLY

Contact attorney for Ohio

But when 2009 homeschool graduate Gabriel Sage applied for a position as a correctional officer in Trumbull County, the corrections department rejected his application, saying they would not recognize any homeschool diplomas issued before July 1, 2015, when the law was signed. As a veteran of two previous corrections officer positions in Ohio, Sage was surprised that the department not only rejected his diploma, but also ignored his previous experience.

This was obviously not the intended interpretation of the law. Mr. Sage's parents, who are members of Home School Legal Defense Association, asked HSLDA to intervene. HSLDA Staff Attorney Mike Donnelly began to contact state officials on the graduate's behalf, but was stonewalled by the department for months.

Finally, after HSLDA published an article about the case yesterday (see ["Kasich's Homeschool Law Fails to Budge State Agency"](#)), we learned that Kim Rowe, Chief of Personnel, and Amy Parmi, Chief Legal Counsel to the Ohio Department of Corrections, have issued a policy that it will treat all homeschool diplomas equally as required by law, effective immediately. The department has indicated that it will re-evaluate Mr. Sage's application in light of this new policy.

Last year, Ohio Governor John Kasich signed a law that said homeschool graduates would be treated the same as anyone else for purposes of state employment or admission to higher education opportunities.

Daily:

- 1 Dare Day
- 2 National Rocky Road Day
- 3 National Doughnut Day
- 4 Hug Your Cat Day
- 5 World Environment Day
- 6 National Yo-Yo Day
- 7 National Chocolate Ice Cream Day
- 8 Best Friends Day
- 9 Donald Duck Day
- 10 Iced Tea Day
- 11 National Corn on the Cob Day
- 12 Red Rose Day
- 13 Sewing Machine Day
- 14 Flag Day
- 15 Smile Power Day
- 16 Fresh Veggies Day
- 17 Eat Your Vegetables Day
- 18 International Picnic Day
- 19 Father's Day
- 20 Finally Summer Day
- 21 International Yoga Day
- 22 National Chocolate Eclair Day
- 23 National Columnists Day
- 24 Take Your Dog to Work Day
- 25 Log Cabin Day
- 26 Forgiveness Day
- 27 Sun Glasses Day
- 28 Paul Bunyan Day
- 29 Hug Day
- 30 Meteor Day

June Celebrations



Weekly Celebrations:

- Week 1 Fishing Week
- Week 2 Email Week

Monthly:

- Aquarium Month
- Candy Month
- Dairy Month
- Fight the Filthy Fly Month
- National Accordion Awareness Month
- National Adopt a Cat Month
- National Fresh Fruit/Vegetables Month
- Rose Month
- Turkey Lovers Month



New Heights Educational Group

Educational Resources to Help Reach Your Goals
Resource and Literacy Center

Pamela S. Clark
Founder/Director
14735 Power Dam Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512
Phone: 419-786-0247
NewHeightsEducation@yahoo.com
www.NewHeightsEducation.org

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The New Heights Educational Group Welcomes Radio Host Victoria Lowery

May 2016

Defiance, OH—The New Heights Educational Group (NHEG) welcomes Victoria Lowery who will host her first live internet show on June 16, 2016. Ms. Lowery’s show will air live weekly on Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. EST; NHEG’s other broadcasts as part of “The New Heights Show on Education” are mostly live. On her show, Ms. Lowery will talk about friendships, dating, love, and workplace relationships.

This is the ninth show started by NHEG in three years. The shows have had over 1,900 listeners per year. Kathy Woodring hosts a history-related show; Briana Dincher hosts a multi-topic show that airs every Friday from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. EST; Shannon Williamson hosts a pre-recorded show in which she shares a story with her audience once a week; and Priscilena Shearon discusses Common Core myths and realities.

NHEG looks forward to expanding its listening audience and welcoming a new host.

Contact

Anyone interested in finding out more about NHEG can email NewHeightsEducation@yahoo.com or call 419-786-0247 for more information.

Learn more about the New Heights Educational Group by visiting: <http://www.NewHeightsEducation.org/new-heights-radio.html>.

Very Sincerely,

Pamela S. Clark

The New Heights Show on Education

LIVE Internet radio program

Join Host Victoria Lowery

Thursday 6:30pm - 7:00pm EST

New Heights

She will talk about friendships, dating, love and workplace relationships



Victoria Marie Lowery

NICE TO MEET YOU!!

Victoria Marie Lowery was born to Elmer and Sandi Deitering in Dayton, Ohio. They moved to Piqua, Ohio before her junior high years where her father built his wife's dream home on their 55-acre farm. Victoria was their youngest child at the time with one older brother. Within two years, the family adopted her younger brother and sister.

With Elmer being a devout Catholic, the children were raised in parochial schools. Elmer would have chosen life as a priest had it not been for his strong desire to have a family. Victoria was raised with these primary values of faith and family first.

She attended modeling school at age 15, which culminated in large job offers and a proposed agency-sponsored trip to auditions in New York. As a minor, parental consent was required. Her parents turned the offers down because they believed in education and thought that the entertainment industry was a "dirty business."

So Victoria pursued higher education at a private college in Indianapolis. Marian University was founded by the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes. During her freshman year, she was nominated to the Sweethearts Court and played tennis on the men's team. After two years she transferred to complete her degree at Wright State University while playing tennis for the Lady Raiders.

Victoria completed her degree and married in the same year. She gave birth to three incredible daughters, but the relationship was marred by her husband's drinking, money schemes, and (secret) infidelity. Victoria was raised to believe divorce was not an option.

Victoria worked as a live talk show host filmed at the Shelby County fairgrounds. She became Mrs. Ohio in 2001. The organization promoted "today's married women, their accomplishments, and commitment to family and marriage." But her own marital pressures soon mounted to the point of causing grave health problems, and she had to face the gut-wrenching divorce decision. Ironically, it was mentoring from a local priest who showed her that the only answer was divorce.

As a single mom, Victoria worked as the CEO at the Chamber of Commerce in Tiffin, Ohio. A few years later, in 2006, she and her three daughters moved to Tiffin, Ohio, where she accepted the position of CEO of the Chamber of Commerce. Two years later she became CEO of the state professional association, the Chamber of Commerce Executives of Ohio (CCEO).

During a divorce-recovery session, the counselor (with a PhD) proclaimed these words, "He sounds like a sociopath." This new term struck a chord and provoked years of study on the subject. But fear of judgement and concern for her daughters' well-being kept Victoria quiet about her true story while working for the Chambers of Commerce.

In 2010, Victoria left the business world to dedicate herself fully to her deepest passion: human relationships. This decision was fueled by an inner-fire to empower others with the knowledge to have the most fulfilling relationships and eliminate divorce. This was also the year something called the Yes Test presented itself as the formula to lasting love. She began using this tool as a life coach and speaker. Victoria is now the author of books that promote success in love and life. In 2013, she married a high school physics and anatomy teacher, Dan Robert Hopkins. They enjoy a loving marriage and family.



KIDS CAN COOK

Rice Krispies No Bake



INGREDIENTS

- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 package (10 oz., about 40) JET-PUFFED Marshmallows
OR 4 cups JET-PUFFED Miniature Marshmallows
- 6 cups [Kellogg's® Rice Krispies® cereal](#)
- Canned frosting or decorating gel
- Assorted candies or toasted nuts

DIRECTIONS

1. In large saucepan, melt butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat.
2. Add KELLOGG'S RICE KRISPIES cereal. Stir until well coated.
3. Using buttered spatula or wax paper, evenly press mixture into 13 x 9 x 2-inch pan lined with foil and coated with cooking spray. (Or, press mixture into two 9-inch round pans lined with foil and coated with cooking spray.) Cool. Remove from pan(s). Remove foil.
4. Decorate with frosting and/or candies. Best if served the same day.

MICROWAVE DIRECTIONS:

In microwave-safe bowl, heat butter and marshmallows on HIGH for 3 minutes, stirring after 2 minutes. Stir until smooth. Follow steps 2 thru 4 above. Microwave cooking times may vary.

20	40	12
Minutes Prep	Minutes Total	servings

Why is volunteering important?

It's a pretty common mistake to think of volunteering as just something nice that people can do. Sure, it may make them feel great about helping, but what impact does it really have?

Getting things done

Volunteers have an enormous impact on the health and well-being of communities worldwide. Think of all the ways that volunteers make a difference in day-to-day life:

- Volunteers deliver critical services—from serving as volunteer fire fighters or participating in search and rescue, to delivering meals to homebound seniors or homeless youth, to manning the phone lines at domestic violence and sexual assault centers.
- Volunteers help to keep our neighborhoods, streets, parks, rivers, green spaces, and water clean and safe for everyone.
- Volunteers tutor, teach, mentor, coach, and support young people with everything from math homework to dealing with personal crises to football and soccer tournaments.
- Volunteers walk dogs, pet cats, clean cages, help with adoptions and feedings, and contribute veterinary expertise to organizations like animal shelters and wildlife rehabilitation centers.
- Volunteers educate the public on health and safety; doctors and nurses donate time and medical knowledge to free clinics and natural/civil disaster areas worldwide.
- Volunteers take tickets at film centers and performing arts events, lead tours at museums and historical societies, and ensure that arts and cultural festivals—from small-scale gatherings to massive multi-stage concerts—run smoothly.
- Volunteers build houses and schools, dig wells, and repair infrastructure around the globe.

You get the idea...

By the numbers

Another way to measure the impact of volunteers is to take a look at statistics like hours served and the economic value of volunteer time.

According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, 61.8 million individuals in the United States contributed 8 billion hours of volunteerism in 2008 alone.

The economic value of all this volunteering? \$162 billion U.S. dollars.

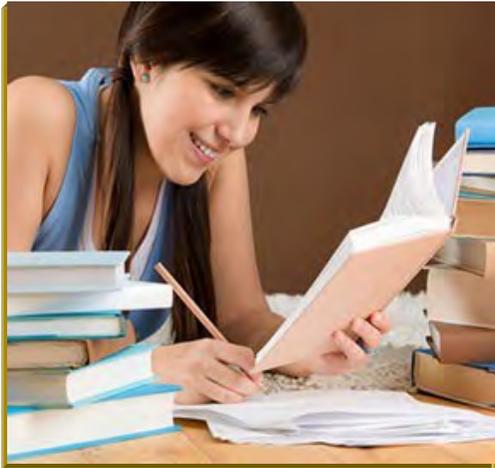
To put that in context, this is roughly equivalent to the 2008 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Egypt. And that's just U.S. volunteers (to check out your country's stats, [click here](#))!

Volunteers are critical partners of and participants in societies throughout the world. Whether actively giving their time through formal or ad hoc organizations, or taking part in what is sometimes called "informal volunteering" where citizens voluntarily participate in community activities or provide personal care for family, friends, neighbors, or even strangers as part of accepted cultural norms of giving and reciprocity.

The impact of no volunteers

Finally, here's one more way to visualize the impact of volunteers. Try this little exercise: imagine if one day, all volunteers simply didn't show up.

What would our cities, towns, state/provincial parks, schools, places of worship, and libraries look like? What basic needs would go unmet? What opportunities to grow, learn, and thrive as a society would be lost? The truth is you likely cross paths with a volunteer at least once if not several times a day, no matter where you are in the world.



States Undergo Changes to High School Equivalency

State education communities that are preparing students to earn a high school equivalency certificate have had to make some major adjustments over the last year and a half. With some states dropping the old test for new ones, states choosing to have multiple options, and the implementation of College and Career Ready (CCR) standards, the landscape has undergone an overhaul and drastically changed in a short period of time.

Here's what educators and those looking to achieve this educational milestone should know about recent changes:

1: 2014 marked the first year in U.S. history that alternative tests were used by states.

Twenty states administered alternative tests after choosing to either drop the GED test within their state or offer multiple tests for students to choose from. The HiSET exam developed by Educational Test Service and the TASC Test Assessing Secondary Completion by CTB/McGraw Hill allows those who haven't completed high school to earn their high school equivalencies.

Introducing numerous branded tests broke conventional terms and understanding of how people actually go about earning a high school credential.

2: People are learning you don't "get a GED."

Employers, education administrations, and institutions of higher learning erroneously ask an applicant whether they have their "GED." Having proof of a high school credential is essential for either employment or for many careers and post-secondary education. However, GED is a test—not something earned.

HiSET, GED, and TASC scores are mobile, meaning they can be used for employment and college applications throughout the United States. Test takers now have a choice as to what test they choose to take based on various categories such as price, or whether the test is available in paper or online formats.

3. The results are the same.

All three tests measure high school equivalent skills, and each has implemented CCR standards. Whether one takes the HiSET, GED, or TASC test, the end result is that the individual will earn a state-issued credential. For example, in California, a student can take either test and earn the California High School Equivalency Certificate when passing each test's subject areas.

The trend toward alternative testing shows no signs of slowing as more states consider new test options and vendors in the near future. Options in how one earns a high school credential have changed, but the outcomes are the same—increasing one's ability to achieve a more secure future by reaching this education milestone.

For more information, visit www.hiset.ets.org.

CALLING ALL YOUNG PLAYWRITERS!

HYT's annual mentoring program will match your child with an adult theatre expert to assist them in devising a short, one-act play. We then choose up to 4 of the plays to perform at our One Acts in June!
 Cost: \$15 per student. *Suggested minimum grade level is 4th grade.*



DRAMA CLUB SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK

June 2016
 Director: Cassie Greenlee



TOP 5 HOT PICKS FOR THE GRILL

	STEAK TOP PICK: SAVORY GARLIC/MARINATED STEAKS	81%
	CHICKEN TOP PICK: ROSEMARY RANCH CHICKEN KABOBS	72%
	BURGER TOP PICK: CHRIS' BAY AREA BURGER	70%
	VEGETABLES TOP PICK: CORN ON THE GRILL	49%
	HOT DOGS TOP PICK: DETROIT-STYLE CONEY DOGS	48%

Don't leave food out for more than one hour if the outside temperature is over **90°F**.

MOST FOODBORNE BACTERIA GROW FASTEST AT TEMPERATURES FROM **90°F-100°F**.

SAFE INTERNAL TEMPERATURES

	145°F		160°F		165°F
STEAK		GROUND BEEF		CHICKEN	

Clean

Wash hands and surfaces often. Clean your grill.

Preheat Properly

Light the coals at least 30 minutes before you plan to begin cooking. Do not put foods on the grill until the fire dies down to glowing coals.

Serve

Hot food should be held at 140°F or warmer. Perishable food should not be left out more than 2 hours at room temperature.

Storage

Always refrigerate perishable food within 2 hours. (1 hour when the temperature is above 90°F).

Cook

Cook to proper temperatures, checking with a food thermometer.

A food thermometer helps you to avoid overcooking, giving you a safe and flavorful meal.

Rest

Remove meat from a heat source. Allow it to rest for the specified amount of time. Its temperature remains constant or continues to rise, which destroys harmful germs.

For the perfect hamburger: Choose the right meat, use high heat and cook them fast, and flip only once.

Wash your hands for at least 20 SECONDS to eradicate germs.

PRECAUTIONS

- NEVER GRILL INDOORS.
- KEEP YOUR GRILL A SAFE DISTANCE FROM FLAMMABLE OBJECTS INCLUDING PORCHES AND DECKS.
- KEEP PETS AND CHILDREN A SAFE DISTANCE AWAY FROM THE GRILL.
- NEVER LEAVE YOUR GRILL UNATTENDED.
- KEEP YOUR GRILL AND TRAY FREE FROM GREASE OR FAT BUILDUP.



Are you sharing our newsletter and would like to be added to our Newsletter mailing list?

Drop us an Email to: Newsletter@newheightseducation.org

Start by doing what's necessary;
then do what's possible;
and suddenly you are doing the
impossible.

St. Francais of Assisi

Missing

Anthony Walton

Missing Since: **Dec 13, 2015**

Missing From: **Dayton, OH**

DOB: **Feb 11, 2001**

Age Now: **15**

Sex: **Male**

Race: **Black**

Eye Color: **Brown**

Height: **5'6"**

CALL 911 or
1-800-843-5678 (1-800-THE-LOST®)

Weight: **120 lbs.**



Have You
Seen
These
Children?

Missing

Kaley Alstork

Missing Since: **Mar 14, 2016**

Missing From: **Dayton, OH**

DOB: **Dec 24, 2000**

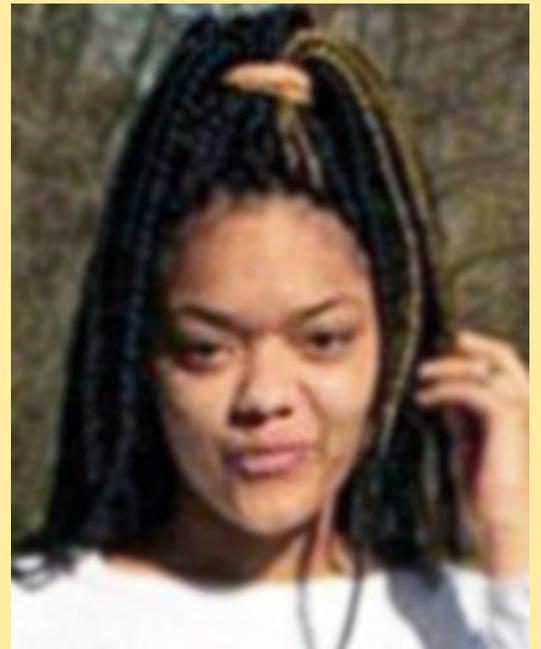
Age Now: **15**

Sex: **Female**

Race: **Black**

Kaley was last seen on March 14, 2016. She may be in the company of other juvenile females.

They may still be in the local area.



CALL 911 or
1-800-843-5678 (1-800-THE-LOST®)

We just received permission from Hillsdale College in Michigan to share their courses on our website. Each link offers a group of classes.

Some of the non-credit courses being offered:

Course Catalog

- [An Introduction to C.S. Lewis: Writings and Significance](#)
- [Winston Churchill and Statesmanship](#)
- [The Federalist Papers](#)
- [A Proper Understanding of K-12 Education: Theory and Practice](#)
- [The Presidency and the Constitution](#)
- [Great Books 102: Renaissance to Modern](#)
- [Constitution 101: The Meaning & History of the Constitution](#)
- [Great Books 101: Ancient to Medieval](#)
- [Economics 101: The Principles of Free Market Economics](#)
- [History 102: American Heritage, From Colonial Settlement to the Reagan Revolution](#)
- [History 101: Western Heritage, From the Book of Genesis to John Locke](#)
- Other Lectures and Programs
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SHADE & WATER

Protect your pets from the sun's rays and keep them hydrated.



NO CARS

Never leave a pet in the car, not even with the window cracked.



HEAT STROKE

Excessive panting, discolored gums, and mobility problems are signs. Seek veterinary attention immediately!



NO ASPHALT

If it's too hot for bare feet, it's too hot for bare paws.



LIMIT EXERCISE

Don't let playful pets over exert themselves in the heat.

The New Heights Show on Education

LIVE Internet radio program

Join Host Briana Dincher

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Get Your ADHD Child Organized In 30 Days!

If you're tired of the once-a-month screaming matches over your child's messy room, try this 30-day plan to get him or her organized—and teach them skills that will last a lifetime.

by [Devon Frye](#)

ADHD children are notoriously **disorganized**—which can lead to frustrated nagging, angry blowouts, and hurt feelings. Following this detailed, straightforward 30-day plan—and keeping your child involved every step of the way—will put him or her on the right track to getting organized, and learning how to stay that way.

THE BEDROOM

Day 1: Clear Off the Bed

Your child's bed should be for **sleeping**, not storage. Clear off any clothes, stray papers, or LEGO pieces that may have mysteriously made it into your child's bed, and enlist his help in changing the sheets. Have your child pick one stuffed animal that will stay on his bed—all others are sent to the playroom or to the toy box. Ensure him that he can swap the stuffed animal for another one any time he likes—as long as only one comes back.

Day 2: Sort Through the Desk

If **your child's desk** is more of a madhouse than a workspace, you'll need to revamp it with a whole new organizational system. Buy brightly colored boxes, Tupperware-type drawers, or hanging files to separate your child's belongings into labeled places. Important papers can go in the big bottom drawer, while pens and markers can go in boxes in the smaller top drawer. Tell your child she can help you organize it however she wants—as long as she works hard to keep it that way.

Day 3: Set Up a Clear Spot for Trash

If the room is short on space, this can be as simple as a bag on the door handle. The important thing is to give your child a designated spot for trash in his personal space—so you're not digging out candy wrappers from under his pillow.

Day 4: Organize the Bookshelf

Set aside a few hours on a Sunday to go through all your child's books. Which can be donated? Given as gifts? Talk to your child and figure out how she thinks they should be organized. Does she like them alphabetical? By subject? By color, even?

Remember, the easier it is for her to find the books she likes, the more likely she is to read them!

Day 5: Set Up a Reading Spot

If your child is a big reader, set up a comfy chair or a beanbag near the bookshelf so he can curl up with a book whenever the urge strikes. Keeping books close to the bookshelf—even when they're in use—gives them a higher chance of being put away properly.

Day 6: When In Doubt, Label

If your child is particularly prone to disorganization (as many ADHD kids are), stick labels everywhere—and we mean everywhere. Bookshelves, dresser drawers, hangers. If your child is younger, try putting pictures next to the words.

Day 7: Monsters Under the Bed

If your child's idea of "cleaning her room" is to shove everything under her bed, make that tougher for her to do by using the under-the-bed space as extra storage. Get some clear plastic bins and throw in sports equipment, extra sheets, or anything else that needs a home. Just make sure the boxes are clearly labeled.



Get Your ADHD Child Organized In 30 Days! (Continued from previous page)

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by [Devon Frye](#)

The Closet

Day 8: A Week of Shelves

We've all heard of laying out your clothes the night before to save time, but imagine how much stress you'd save if you conquered a whole week at once! Set up a place in your child's closet—like a small shelving unit—where he can lay out five outfits. Then, on Sunday night, work together to pick out what he's going to wear throughout the week. During the week, he can pick whichever one of the five he wants, giving him a bit of autonomy while keeping his closet neat.

Day 9: Store Off-Season Clothes

Get some more large plastic boxes and put in your child's unused seasonal clothing—winter coats in the summer, shorts and swim suits in the winter. Label them clearly and put them on the top shelf in your kid's closet, where they can be easily accessed the second you need them.

Day 10: Put Laundry Front and Center

Don't hide the laundry basket in the back corner of the closet—if it's difficult to get to or easy to overlook, your child will be more likely to throw his clothes straight on the floor. Instead, put it directly in the center, or right outside the closet door. If you're extra ambitious—or looking to give an older child a little more responsibility—consider getting a [two-part laundry basket](#) so he can sort the clothes himself.

Day 11: Categorize Clothing

Sort clothing by type, so all the pants, shirts, sweatshirts, etc. go together. To make this easier for you and your child, consider getting cheap closet organizers like [these](#).

Day 12: Shoe Racks

Say goodbye to the days of tripping over stray boots! Get simple shoe racks for older kids, and for younger kids, clear plastic bins. During the winter months, move the shoe bin to the front door so your kid doesn't track her wet boots all over the house.

PLAYROOM:

Day 13: A Place for Toys

The first step in tackling the playroom is simply making sure every toy has a distinct place. Get large, brightly-colored bins to keep like toys together: LEGOs with LEGOs, Barbies with Barbies, and so on. Pull out your trusty label maker again, 49

and make it clear what goes where.

Day 14: Toss Old Toys

If your child hasn't played with her toy trains in a year, it may be time to donate them. If she starts to panic at the thought of losing all her old toys, get her involved in the process so she doesn't feel quite so helpless. If she still insists she needs to keep everything, set a clear limit—try something like, "All the toys that you can fit in this red basket can stay." Take used toys down to your local thrift store together, so your child can get some closure and see the good her unwanted toys can do for another kid.

Day 15: Repurpose Whenever Possible

Search through your garage to find things that can be reused in the playroom. If you have old sheets that were on their way to the garbage, consider using them as a tablecloth that your child is free to get paint on. If you have old bowls, use them to hold crayons on the art table.

Day 16: Create Play Centers

Store the toy food in the toy kitchen, the train cars near the train tracks, and video game controllers near their consoles. Encourage your child to keep play as close to the designated area as possible, and make sure he puts away what he's playing with before moving on to the next toy.

Day 17: Make Things Double Up

Hide storage wherever you can. If you have a table in your child's playroom, for example, use small, brightly-colored storage boxes as chairs. Just make sure they're sturdy enough to hold your child's weight!

Day 18: Use the Walls

If your child likes to play dress up, add hooks so he can hang his costumes up when he's done with them. If he collects cars, add magnetic strips so he can display (and store) his Hot Wheels proudly. There are a lot of things you can do with all that empty space—get creative!

(Continued Next Page)

Get Your ADHD Child Organized In 30 Days! (Continued from previous page)

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by [Devon Frye](#)

The School

Day 19: Get a Planner...

...and teach him how to use it. Work together for the first few weeks, making sure all homework assignments, sports practices, and playdates are entered into the planner. He'll learn responsibility and boost his self-esteem, and you won't feel like such a nag.

Day 20: Master Calendar

Take the planner one step further and get one big master calendar to keep track of your entire family's schedules. Help your child add her appointments to the calendar, and make sure she's paying attention when you add your own—she'll learn an important lesson about how everyone's schedules overlap and interact with each other.

Day 21: Make a "School Shelf"

Set up a small shelf or table by the door where your child can put anything he needs to bring to school the next day, like permission slips or PE uniforms. Get your child in the habit of checking it each morning before you leave.

Day 22: Tackle the Backpack

Buy a backpack with multiple compartments, and use brightly colored labels to assign a subject to each compartment. That way, everything that has to do with math—notes, homework, calculator, etc.—can be found in the same place.

Day 23: Keep It Clean

We all know how gross backpacks can get—food crumbs, dirty napkins, and paper scraps can add up fast! Before you start putting stuff back in the backpack, shake it out over a trashcan or give it a quick vacuum. Schedule a regular appointment with your child to clean out her bag—depending on her level of uncleanliness, this could be anywhere from once a week to once every two months.

Day 24: Sort Supplies

Group supplies together by type—so notebooks and folders go together, pens and pencils go together, and so on. Assign everything to an easily accessible place in the backpack, and then...

Day 25: Make a Map!

Draw a simple map of the backpack, labeling where everything needs to go. Have your child empty the bag out a few times and put things away according

to the map. Keep the map in the front pocket of your child's backpack, so she can reference it whenever she needs to pack up.

Day 26: Check it Off

Buy a cheap, clear luggage tag and slip in a checklist of the things your child needs to bring to school every day. Practice checking the checklist with him for a few days, then encourage him to do it on his own.

Day 27: Ask for Extra Textbooks

If your child frequently leaves his textbooks at school, set up a meeting with her teacher and ask if you can keep an extra set at home. If your child has an IEP, consider requesting it as an accommodation.

Day 28: Display Your Child's Best Work

If your child has art projects or A+ essays that she doesn't want to throw away—but don't need to be in her backpack—buy a large corkboard and display them prominently in the kitchen or another common space. Having her best work front and center will give your child a boost of confidence, and the compact corkboard will keep everything sorted and out of the way.

Day 29: Designate a Study Space

This could be his desk, the kitchen table, or any other place where he has minimal distractions and can focus to the best of his ability. Whenever he starts his homework, set up his "study spot" with a snack, a drink, and all the materials he needs. He'll soon learn to associate the spot with getting his work done.

Day 30: What Time Is It? Study Time!

Similarly, stay on a consistent homework schedule—same time, same place, every night. Remember, organization is more than a physical process—it's about getting in the habit!





New Heights Educational Group

Educational Resources to Help Reach Your Goals

Resource and Literacy Center

Pamela S. Clark

Founder/Director

14735 Power Dam Road

Defiance, Ohio 43512

Phone: 419-786-0247

NewHeightsEducation@yahoo.com

www.NewHeightsEducation.org

4/04/2016

Dear Volunteers,

I am writing this letter because of many changes happening within NHEG. As some of you already know, we added the role of Virtual Development Director and HR Coordinator to our list of volunteer positions last Fall. You may have seen the organizational chart in our newsletter or in your email. I think there is some confusion on what these roles entail and how it has changed NHEG. Thus, I'm writing this letter in the hopes of creating support and I am asking for your understanding.

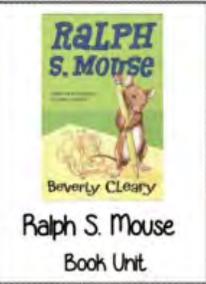
The HR Coordinator position is straightforward in description, this person(s) screens potential volunteers and brings them onboard our team when they provide all required information. Dr. Marina Kamenetskiy is our leading Virtual Development Director who provides assistance to the HR Coordinators in the hiring and terminating process. She also oversees the positions listed under her name (see organizational chart). The other two Development Directors act as assistants to her and also oversee the positions under their name. I know that many of you have been with me for many years and have only spoken to me. I value all of you and this has been a little bittersweet in regards to trusting someone else to help you with your positions. However, until Dr. Marina came on board I was managing over 40 positions mostly on my own. I hope you can see that isn't sustainable. With Dr. Marina's help we are creating job description documents for each position within NHEG to provide you with a reference/definitions of your job duties. We have also created an onboarding packet that all new volunteers receive and I am also sharing this with you for your reference. We want to share the most up-to-date information with you. We ask that you look over the organizational chart and if your position falls under one of the development directors, that you work with them. However, if you don't receive an assignment or you have a problem I want you to contact myself at NewHeightsEducation@yahoo.com or Dr. Marina at DrMarinaK@NewHeightsEducation.org.

Because of these changes we have started to grow rapidly in many ways, we need your support in making this team run as smoothly as possible in the hopes of furthering our mission. I still want you to know that I am just an email or a phone call away, but please do what you can to work with these other team leaders.

Very sincerely,
Pamela S Clark
Executive Director

Suggested Book Unit

Downloads For May

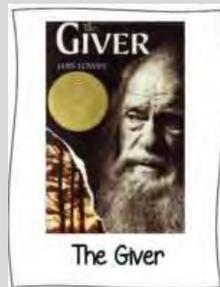


Beverly Cleary Books including "Ralph S. Mouse"

<http://www.christianhomeschoolhub.com/downloads.htm?a=&act=view&id=2246F098-658C-428B-9A6A-B1A5A90350AC>

Newberry Medal Book "The Giver"

<http://www.christianhomeschoolhub.com/downloads.htm?a=&act=view&id=91979D3F-1313-4D94-AE8C-9A783850DC2D>



Laura Ingalls Wilder "Little House" Books

<http://www.christianhomeschoolhub.com/downloads.htm?a=&act=view&id=1373111D-00AC-4C26-B461-5E07503A6D57>



"The secret of
CHANGE
is to focus all of
your energy not on
fighting the old, but
on building the new."
-SOCRATES

A teacher takes
a *Hand*, opens
a *Mind* and
touches a *Heart*

Change can be scary,
but you know what's scarier?
Allowing Fear to stop you
from Growing, Evolving
and Progressing.

- Mandy Hale -

SayingImages.com



Attention teachers and tutors!

Did you know that izzit offers streaming videos for you to access for free!!

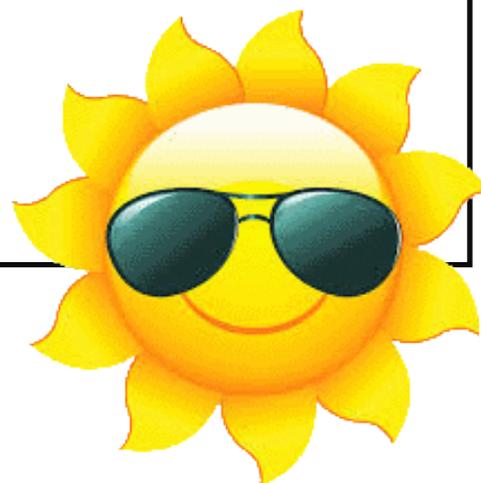
<http://www.izzit.org/teachertools/>



Some of the things we're working On for next month .

Summer

- ◇ 10th Anniversary News
- ◇ Recognition Day 2016
- ◇ Back to School Info





Guide for Online Colleges

Here at AccreditedOnlineColleges.com, we recently published our 2016 College Resources for Students with Disabilities. In the course of our research, we found that most students with disabilities were not aware of all the grants, scholarships, and education resources that are available to them. So we decided to create a user-friendly guide that explores rights and protection provided by law, the many different education opportunities, as well as in-depth grants and scholarship programs designed specifically to support higher education. We hope our guide will not only answer common questions, but make it easier for those living with disabilities to leverage the educational benefits they have earned.

You can see the entire guide along with some of its features here:

<http://www.accreditedonlinecolleges.org/resources/accredited-online-colleges-and-disability-education/>

Largely in part because of our unbiased, data-driven approach, we're a trusted source for government entities and organizations throughout the US. Many publications and organizations already use our guides as resources for their readers. Here are a few examples:

State of Massachusetts, <http://www.mass.gov/anf/employment-equal-access-disability/oversight-agencies/mddc/helpful-links-and-other-disability-resources.html>, listing us as "Accredited Online College and Disability Education".

Resources for Independent Living, <http://ril-va.org/programs-services/resources/>, listing us as "Accredited Online Colleges and Disability Education".



OUR POOL RULES



Do Not Run
On Deck!

Do Not
Swim
Alone!



No Pushing!



Parents Are
Responsible For
Their Children's
Safety!



Use Bathroom
(Not Pool!)



No Diving Off
Shallow End!



Do Not Leave
Suit In House!



No
Rough Play!



Don't **DUCK** The Rules!



What are Allergies and Their Symptoms

An allergy is a heightened sensitivity to a foreign substance (called an allergen) that causes the body's defense system (the immune system) to overreact when defending itself.

Normally, the immune system would only react if a harmful substance, such as bacteria, attacks the body.

For people with allergies, their immune systems are working too hard and react even when relatively harmless substances, such as pollen, are present. The severity of an allergic reaction can vary from mild discomfort to life threatening situations.

Allergens can stimulate an immune response when you breathe in or touch the allergen, or by ingestion of food or beverage, or from injections of medication.

Common allergies include eczema, hives, hay fever, and asthma. You can get an allergic reaction from food, pet dander, airborne pollen, and the venom of stinging insects, such as wasps and bees.

Treatments for allergies include avoidance, use of anti-histamines, steroids or other medications, and immunotherapy to desensitize the allergic response.

General Allergy Symptoms

When you have an allergic reaction, you may have a combination of the following allergy symptoms:

- sneezing
- wheezing
- nasal congestion
- coughing
- itchy, watery eyes
- runny nose
- itchy throat
- stomach ache
- itchy skin
- hives
- fatigue
- irritability

What are Allergies and Their Symptoms (Continued from previous page)

Weather plays an important part for many allergy sufferers. This is why we include the extended weather forecast on Pollen.com. We are not weather forecast specialists, therefore we get this data from the experts at NOAA and Weather Trends.

Our allergy forecasts include daily allergy reports that note the pollen count for your location. Find out more about our Allergy Alerts™ that can be mailed directly to your inbox. This allergy information can help sufferers manage their allergy symptoms.

How Can You Learn What Type Of Allergens Affect You?

The most common method doctors use to identify specific allergies is a skin test. By scratching the skin, or making an injection just underneath it, the doctor can observe your body's reaction to various allergens.

This skin test cannot classify all allergies, however it does cover major categories, such as common respiratory allergies, penicillin, food, and insect stings. Being aware of your allergy could prevent a future allergic reaction that could be life threatening.

The children of those with allergies have a greater chance of having allergies themselves. As a result, doctors often learn about a patient's allergies based on family and personal medical records.

Finally, doctors find clues in the recent activities patients engage in by asking a battery of questions to gauge allergy information. For example, to determine whether your reaction is a result of food, airborne, or chemical allergens, the doctor might ask, "Have you eaten anything unusual recently?", "Have you been working or exercising vigorously outdoors?", or "Did you come into contact with anything which might have irritated your skin and eyes?" Your doctor will likely ask if you suffer from asthma, since allergies increase the risk of an asthma attack.



We've teamed up with HSLDA's Generation Joshua to bring you [iCitizen Live](#): a new, teacher-led, live interactive government course worth one half credit for any student in high school!

Here's what your teen can expect from iCitizen Live:



1. Study with experienced instructors.

GenJ's Jeremiah Lorrig is teaching iCitizen Live. Jeremiah, a Patrick Henry College graduate, has served on almost 100 political campaigns and led GenJ youth events across the country.

2. Focus on ideas that matter.

Your students will learn about the purpose and origins of the Constitution, the three branches of government, American political parties and campaigns, the economy, and more!

3. Earn credit for high school.

iCitizen Live is a one-semester course offered in both fall and spring.

Add it to your homeschool transcript for the half credit of U.S. Government recommended for all high schoolers.

[Sign up today](#) and save up to **\$150 per course** through **June 14**.

Besides iCitizen Live, the Academy offers 19 other online high school courses.

Check out our full course list below!

[Foundations in Writing](#) — 8th grade level and up

[English 1: Exploring Literature & Writing](#) — 9th grade level and up

[English 2: World Literature & Writing](#) — 10th grade level and up

AP® [English Language & Composition](#) — 11th grade level and up

AP® [English Literature & Composition](#) — 12th grade level

[Algebra 1](#) — 8th grade level and up

[Algebra 2](#) — 9th grade level and up

[Geometry](#) — 10th grade level and up

[Pre-Calculus & Trigonometry](#) — 11th grade level and up

AP® [Calculus AB](#) — 12th grade level

[iCitizen Live](#) — 8th grade level and up

[Constitutional Law](#) — 10th grade level and up

AP® [World History](#) — 10th grade level and up

AP® [European History](#) — 10th grade level and up

AP® [Microeconomics](#) — 10th grade level and up

AP® [Macroeconomics](#) — 10th grade level and up

AP® [U.S. Government & Politics](#) — 11th grade level and up

AP® [U.S. History](#) — 12th grade level

Planned for 2017!

English 3: American Literature — 11th grade

Spanish 2 — 10th grade level and up

Latin 2 — 10th grade level and up

Spanish 3 — 11th grade level and up

Latin 3 — 11th grade level and up

[Spanish 1](#) — 9th grade level and up

[Latin 1](#) — 9th grade level and up

Questions?

Email academy@hsllda.org

or

call 540-338-8290.

Miracles Do Happen: Governor and Chair of Common Core Organization (NGA) Rejects Common Core

Governor Herbert surprised a lot of people this week, including me.

After spending the past six years promoting, marketing, and providing workforce alignment strategies to serve Common Core; and after rising to the throne of Common Core's organization, National Governors Association, to become its chair; and after going out of his way to have the Utah Attorney General provide "proof" that Common Core supposedly represented local control—after all of this, Herbert has now turned his back on the Common Core and has written a letter to the State School Board, asking it to move away from Common Core.

The media in Utah says that they are "puzzled" and confused. Not me. I'm doing the happy dance!

Regardless of the Governor's motives in this election year, regardless of the possibility that Utah might just endure a wasteful rebranding effort that could redeliver Common Core under a new name (as many other states have done and done and done), I still see this letter from Governor Herbert as a home run for the freedom team.

Read it. The letter **admits that Common Core is not an example of local control, that it is the federal will, and that it damages local control—of testing, data collection, curriculum, and instruction.**

The letter asks the board to keep these principles in mind **while it moves away from Common Core**: 1) maintain high academic standards; 2) keep the **federal government out** of educational decisions in Utah; and 3) **preserve local control of curriculum, testing, data collection, and instruction.** It also says, "**Just as important as the actual educational standards is the process by which we arrive at those standards. This should be a Utah process with public comment and discourse.**" It continues, "...[W]e all understand the shortcomings of a one-size-fits-all

approach. It is imperative that any new standards are flexible enough to allow a wide variety of curricular decisions by individual school districts...I believe that our teachers need more freedom to be creative in the classroom."

Well, those words are a surprise—and a miracle—to me.

Some people are suspicious because the governor is in the middle of his re-election campaign, while his challenger has been extremely successful with voting delegates because of his staunchly anti-Common Core stand. I was there when the governor got booed by a crowd well over 1,000 delegates at the Utah County GOP Convention last month when he spoke about Common Core. I know he is under campaign pressure, but he didn't have to do this! He knew it would make him look like a fair-weather politician. He knew that most of those who are already voting for the more-conservative Johnson won't change their minds and that those who already support him won't likely change their minds. So why did he really do it?

Maybe a key to why the governor wrote this letter is in its closing paragraph. **His own children and grandchildren do not like the Common Core.** The letter says, "**I have eleven grandchildren in Utah public schools. I have seen firsthand the frustration they and their parents have had...**"

What grandfather can stand up to his own grandchildren's lobbying efforts against the Common Core? So he caved, in a good way. He's publically admitted that Common Core is academically miserable and politically for socialists. I cannot see this letter as anything but great news.

So what's next? What will the Utah State School Board do?

I don't think it can get away with yet another meaningless rebranding job. The now-somewhat-savvy Utah public won't stand for that, knowing what so recently happened to Utah's previously-good science standards, or knowing what happened when Oklahoma, Arizona, New Jersey, Tennessee, Indiana, and other states passed Common Core

repeal laws that resulted in nothing better but common core 2.0 (under new names).

To the dismay of those who actually wanted freedom and autonomy beyond the federal 15% no-change alignment "suggestion", better standards didn't actually mean better standards. But we have the advantage of other states' errors to learn from today.

The letter didn't spell out every problem with education reform. For example, it didn't say, "Let's finally permit parents to opt children out of the federal/state data monitoring system SLDS".

But I don't see the federal SLDS (Utah's federally-provided student data mining system, which came to Utah alongside Common Core) very much longer reading "long life and happiness" in its fortune cookie. Why? Too many Utahns are aware that common data standards and common academic standards were a package deal from day one. Utah legislators recently passed bills that took protective action on student data privacy—taking a stand against the opposition's national data-mining-and-monitoring movement. The governor will not be able to sidestep SLDS, even if he wants to. SLDS didn't need to be in the letter because it's on everyone's mind.

One of my happiest thoughts, after seeing this letter, has been thinking about the countless Utah teachers and administrators who have previously not felt free to speak their minds about Common Core. The governor's letter, in many ways (and unintentionally, perhaps), helps to reclaim freedom of speech for Utah educators. While educators opposed to Common Core have mostly remained quiet or anonymous, some of those who have not have been bypassed, mistreated, or branded as "insubordinate" for speaking out—for refusing to pretend to like Common Core either academically or politically. Some have even been pushed to resign.

But now, if even the reigning governor is saying he's not happy about the Common Core—academically nor in terms of lost local control—then finally, perhaps any teacher or principal can pipe up, too.

So, this letter is very good news. Thanks, Governor Herbert.

Why Does Your Congressman Want to Psychologically Profile Your Children?



If the GOP-led Congress had not done enough damage to public education by passing the statist Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), it's poised to make things even worse. The new threat is the Strengthening Education Through Research Act (SETRA). If SETRA passes in its current form, the federal government will be empowered to expand psychological profiling of our children. Parents must understand this threat so they can mobilize to stop it.

SETRA is a proposed reauthorization of the Education Sciences Reform Act, which created bureaucracies and funding for education research (the results of which are routinely ignored if they contradict the dogma of the progressive education establishment). But SETRA would go beyond merely wasting money and plunge the government into an area it has no constitutional, statutory, or moral right to invade: the psychological makeup of children.

Section 132 of SETRA expands authorized research to include “research on social and emotional learning [SEL]” SEL is defined as “the process through which children . . . acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.”

SEL is all the rage in public education. The idea is that imparting academic knowledge is passe' because if a student wants to know something, he can Google it (seriously—this is a common theme in education circles). Instead, the theory goes, schools should focus more on “non-cognitive” skills to jumpstart education—helping students develop government-approved thoughts, feelings, attitudes, and behaviors that will supposedly make them more productive workers. In other words, the school will do what the parents should be doing—encouraging development of these non-cognitive traits—while the parents do what the school should be doing (i.e., teach math).

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SETRA would authorize the federal government to sponsor research on these social and emotional attributes. This means the government may analyze a child’s psychological makeup, collect the necessary data, and do Heaven knows what with it.

Even experts in the field admit that these sorts of SEL indicators are extraordinarily subjective and difficult to define and measure. A leading researcher in this area, Dr. Angela Duckworth of the University of Pennsylvania, warns that trying to measure these indicators and use them to trigger real-world consequences, such as school “accountability” scores, is not realistic. Yet the federal government marches on.

But even if there were real, measurable, educational value in analyzing every child’s psyche, do members of Congress really believe government has any business doing this? Are any of them parents? Would they trust the government—any government—with this type of highly personal information on their children?

Even worse, SETRA also allows the approved bureaucracy to “establish. . .cooperative education statistics systems for the purpose of producing and maintaining. . .data on early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, postsecondary education, adult education, and libraries, that are useful for policymaking at the Federal, State, and local level.” So it looks as though longitudinal data systems, such as the state systems resulting from federal bribery/coercion, may be established to warehouse all the data points about how children’s brains work. Nothing to worry about there.

Especially since the federal government protects data with all the competence of Inspector Clouseau. A congressional hearing held in November 2015 revealed that the U.S. Department of Education’s data security is essentially nonexistent. As Chairman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) warned after hearing the testimony, the Department’s negligence is likely to produce “the largest data breach that we’ve ever seen in the history of our nation.” And now we want to add to this data trove the most sensitive information imaginable about innocent children.

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It's always useful to identify the backers of these types of truly terrible ideas. Consider in this case the corporate- and Gates-funded Data Quality Campaign (DQC), which advocates the government's right to collect womb-to-tomb data on children—for their own good, of course. DQC loves SETRA. "DQC sees immense value in the ability to link data across early childhood education, K-12, postsecondary, and workforce systems. . . SETRA would require grantees to do that." Parents might want to speculate why corporations are so enthusiastic about ramping up collection of psychological data, which would someday be linked to "workforce systems".

SETRA passed the Senate on a voice vote and now awaits action in the House. House members, take note: A vote for SETRA in its current form is a vote for psychological profiling of innocent children. It's bad enough that so-called conservatives in Congress voted for ESSA. It will be unforgivable if they vote for SETRA.

