

September/October

2012

Eddyville~Blakesburg~Fremont
Home School Assistance Program



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Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, September 12, 10:30-
Russell Wildlife Conservation Center, Fossil Hunt/Nature Walk,
Oskaloosa, <http://www.mahaskaconservation.com/index.php>
- Monday, September 24, 6:00-
Home School Kick-Off Picnic at Eddyville Frog Pond
- Monday, October 1, 10:00-12:00-
Reiman Gardens in Ames
<http://www.reimangardens.iastate.edu/index.cfm>
- Monday, October 15, 9:30-11:30-
Autumn Acres (behind Stam's Greenhouse), Oskaloosa
<http://stamgreenhouse.com/>
- Tuesday, October 23, 10:45-
Uncle Bill's and Carroll's Pumpkin Farm, Grinnell
<http://www.carrollspumpkinfarm.com/>

Event Information

- **Russell Wildlife Conservation Center-** This is a rescheduled field trip from last May. We are planning to go on a fossil hunt, visit the bird blind, and check out exhibits in the Conservation Center. Remember to wear old clothes and shoes.
- **Home School Kick-Off Picnic-** Plan to join us at the Frog Pond for an informal time of socializing and eating. We will supply hot dogs, buns, and condiments. Please bring your own table service, drinks, and a side dish or two to share. There is playground equipment, baseball/softball fields, and a basketball court for the children. Please check your email and/or our fb page in case of inclement weather.
- **Reiman Gardens-** We are so excited to finally have a field trip here. Please see page four for more details.
- **Autumn Acres** is located one mile east of Oskaloosa on the north side of Hwy 92. If you have never been there, please check out their web site. The cost for students is \$3.50, and there is no cost for parents. This is a favorite of our families every year. They have a big slide, corn maze, hayrides, and a lot more. This year there is a new feature...a two story pirate ship!
- **Uncle Bill's and Carroll's Pumpkin Farm** is located at 244 400th Avenue. It is very easy to find; you just make one left turn off Hwy 146 as you are coming into Grinnell. The cost is \$6 per person. A favorite activity here is the wagon ride into the pumpkin field to choose a pumpkin. There are oversized trikes, goats to feed, tree houses, and a giant orange jumping pillow (which even Melanie and Robin jumped on)!



Innovations and Ideas

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The Great Prairie Area Education Agency, (GPAEA), is a valuable resource for supplemental learning materials for schools and home school families. If you are new to our program or have never taken advantage of AEA learning materials, contact the office and we will help you learn how to access the online lending library and various databases. All you need is a username and password to check books out online. If you have forgotten your password we can contact the AEA and they will send an email with your information to your home email address. **[I love the fact that I can choose a streaming video to watch right now, or check out dvds and books for later. We have checked out series on the presidents, first ladies, historic events in history just to watch over Christmas...for fun! I like the way you can just watch a clip of a streaming video instead of the whole film. ---Robin]**

October 31st is the deadline for submitting *Box Tops for Education* logos. We earn ten cents for our home school program for each logo turned in. In the past we have used *Box Top* money for art supplies, drinks and supplies for group activities, and Christmas craft projects. If you are wondering what the logo looks like or want more information about *Box Tops for Education* visit their web site at:

<http://www.boxtops4education.com/>

RSVP List

- * *Reiman Gardens Trip*
October 1, rsvp by Sept 14
- * *Home School Kick-Off Picnic*
September 24
- * *Autumn Acres*
October 15
- * *Carroll's Pumpkin Farm*
October 23

School Pictures

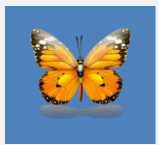
On Thursday, September 20th, school pictures will be taken at the Eddyville Elementary. If you live in Fremont or Blakesburg and you would like to take school pictures nearest you, just contact the school for picture times. It is generally best to go earlier, contact the secretary when you enter the building, and expect to wait a little bit as they may have to fit you in between classes. The secretaries or photographers will have extra picture envelopes.

Welcome to the 2012-2013 School Year!

As we begin the school year at the EBF HSAP Office, you will notice some changes. Our district is now consolidated with Fremont Community Schools so the new name of our group is Eddyville Blakesburg Fremont Home School Assistance Program (EBF HSAP). We also have new office email addresses. They are listed on the front of your newsletter. Next time you visit the office, you will notice we have a new room arrangement because the district installed a Promethean Board in our room. A Promethean Board is the latest in learning technology. Once we understand how to utilize it, we will be organizing some group activities for our students and parents. This year we are planning to have regular office hours four days a week. If we have a field trip that we are both attending the office will be closed. We always try to post the office hours on the calendar to avoid confusion. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need an appointment outside of regular office hours.

Reiman Gardens Information

At 10:00 AM sharp, we will gather to listen as a trained guide shows us hundreds of native and tropical butterflies. If we are lucky, we will witness insect life cycles in action as butterflies emerge from their chrysalides in the emergence cases. As we enjoy the plants in the beautiful tropical conservatory, we will also learn about plant life cycles. There will be time to venture through the outdoor gardens and enjoy the large Lego sculptures that are on display until the end of October. For any families who would like to pack their lunch there is a shelter and picnic tables where we can eat outdoors on the grounds. The field trip will be held rain or shine so dress according to the weather conditions and plan on being at Reiman Gardens for approximately 2 ½ hours. If your students and family plan to participate in this field trip, we need an RSVP by phone, email, or Facebook no later than Friday, September 14th. Please let us know the number of enrolled students, adults, and non-enrolled students older than 3. We are required to send payment two weeks in advance so only those who RSVP will have tickets to attend. The EBF-HSAP will cover the cost of tickets for students enrolled in our program who RSVP by the deadline. Adults and other students who wish to attend will need to reimburse the EBF HSAP for their tickets on the day of the field trip. Ticket prices for adults are \$8.00 and students over 3 years old are \$6.50. If you sign up to attend this field trip, please watch your email for additional details as the time gets closer.



Applause! Series at the Civic Center

We have reserved tickets for two Applause! Series performances at the Civic Center in Des Moines. These productions are designed for school age audiences, last about one hour, and only cost \$1/ticket. We reserved 20 tickets for the Thursday, November 1st, 12:30 showing of *Voices from Ellis Island* (grades 4-9), and 25 tickets for the Thursday, February 28th, 12:30 performance of *The Ugly Duckling & the Tortoise and the Hare* (grades K-4). If you would like to reserve tickets just call, email, or send a Facebook message with your name and the number of tickets you would like. To learn more about the Applause! Series visit the web site at:

<http://www.civiccenter.org/education/k-12/applause-series/2012-2013/>