NEW! We hope you’ll file this issue for future use!

**Colorado**

**Rock Ledge Ranch Events**

- **Annual Sheep Shearing:** 531-6333, x2258 or Dennis Daily at 531-6333, x2250. Get together with another homeschool family and make it a summer fieldtrip!

**Colorado Springs Public Library District**

- **Colorado: Past and Present**
- **Colorado: The Highest State**
- **Colorado West: Land of Geology and Wildflowers**
- **Colorado: The Highest State**
- **Fiddle, Vittles, and Vino:** (see all events on the calendar)
- **Farmington Historical Society:** Visit the museum, and see which exhibits are currently on display.

**Pikes Peak Library District**

- **Teen Books on Colorado History!**
  - **J 582.13 Y75C**
  - **Phantoms in the Snow**
  - **Benner Duble**
  - **J 978.839 B218A**
  - **Alferd Packer's Wilderness Cookbook**
  - **J 978.8 H528C**
  - **Focus on Colorado Database Focus/Web Picks**
  - **J 978.8 E47C**
  - **Colorado: Past and Present**
  - **J 978.8 N769C**
  - **Colorado: A History in Photographs**
  - **J 978.813044 M453W**
  - **Hard Gold: The Rush of 1859, a Tale of the Old West**
  - **Avi**
  - **Hard Face Moon**
  - **Nancy Oswald**
  - **J 978.8 E47C**
  - **Colorado: Past and Present**
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**Colorado History and Heritage**

- **Rocky Mountain Mysteries**
- **Ghost Towns of the Mountain West: Your Guide to the Hidden History and Old West Haunts of Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Nevada**

**Field Trips through History**

Looking for something to do this summer? Hoping to do a little sightseeing in the sunshine? Try some of these field trips and experience the rich history and heritage of the Pikes Peak region. There are many opportunities for educational historical experiences right in our own backyard. This summer, you can gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for your home region and have fun with the family doing it!

**The Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum**

215 S. Tejon St.

is housed in the restored 1903 County Courthouse and is a great afternoon trip — free of charge! You can check to see which exhibits are currently being displayed or even request a special tour at cspm.org.

Learn about Colorado Springs founder, General William Palmer, at his home, **Glen Eyrie.** The mansion is open for tours and Victorian teas — although these events are not free, there is a special rate for educational tours with over 10 people, so getting together with another family or two would make the event more affordable.

Experience Colorado’s western heritage at the **Ghost Town Wild West Museum** (ghosttownmuseum.com), learn about Native American history at the **Cliff Dwellings** near Manitou (cliffdwellingsmuseum.com), admire Colorado’s natural history at the **Cave of the Winds** (caveofthewinds.com), the list goes on and on! Get out of the house and learn a little more about the beautiful area we live in by taking a field trip through history.

To contact PPLD’s Homeschool Committee, please email gsohns@ppld.org.
Little Known Secrets on Prepping for Those College Papers
by Carissa Horton

If I’m indicative of an average homeschool student, then it is likely that most homeschoolers struggle with college paper prep work, at least in the beginning. MLA or APA formatting for college papers was never utilized during my high school years. Needless to say, having to learn the format in college was a nightmare and made me wish that I had learned it before a professor would be grading my papers. Thankfully, there is a wonderful website that became something of a godsend during my college English classes. First, go to purdueowl.org and then click on PPLD Teens (link located on the right side of the page). From there you’ll click on Homework (left side of page) and then into the Writing/Research Tools link. Purdue Online Writing Lab (or OWL as it is affectionately called) should be link #10.

I know, it might not sound like fun to hop around on a writing website. Trust me. Purdue OWL will become a godsend. The Research & Citation link is where students spend most of their time, particularly when it comes to creating works cited pages and making certain the in-text citation is correct. The formatting needs to be precise for the entire paper, such as spacing, font size and which font is required by your professor. Purdue OWL can and does answer all these questions, and best of all, it’s updated regularly so students aren’t constantly buying revised MLA citation handbooks.

For every homeschool student planning for years of academia, Purdue OWL is required by your professor. Purdue Online Writing Lab (or OWL as it is affectionately called) should be link #10. The language is simple but strong, perfectly matched by the illustrations. Enjoy this book over and over. Art, Science, Literature – ages 5 - 9

Georgia in Hawaii: When Georgia O’Keeffe Painted What She Pleasured
by Amy Novesky (2012)

This lovely, brief book tells the reader about a time in 1939 when Georgia O’Keeffe took a boat to Hawaii, and then spent three months touring the islands. She was invited by the Hawaiian Pineapple Company; they wanted her to paint pictures about the delights of pineapple juice. But they would not let her stay near the pineapple fields, and Georgia did not like being told what to do. Georgia painted 20 paintings about Hawaii – and in the end, she did paint the two pictures. If you do a Google image search for “Georgia O’Keeffe and Hawaii” you will see some of the paintings.

The endnotes by the author and illustrator give even more information. Art, biography, history – ages 6 - 12

Biomimicry: Inventions Inspired by Nature
by Dora Lee (2011)

Wow! This is far more science than you will find in any science textbook in elementary school, and it is interesting to read, is well illustrated, and may even lead to more reading on different subjects covered in the book. The glossary is helpful in defining extra long words. The index can be easily used to find topics for more research/reading. Science – ages 9 - 12

Homeschool Lunch Bunch
There’s a different family learning experience every time. Enjoy your sack lunch while socializing with other homeschooling families after the program.

Fountain Library
1st Wed. of each month
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(contact Jessica at freeland@ppld.org for more information)

High Prairie Library
4th Wed. of each month
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
(contact Becky at bcampbell@ppld.org for more information, or call 260-3650 to register)

Science Lab
returning in September to East Library

Resource Fair
Mon., Aug. 13
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Come visit with local organizations and learn how they can help you educate your children. We’ll have enrichment programs, scouting, lessons, field trip destinations, support groups, and other resources represented.

Tools
Mon., Sept. 10
9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Mark your calendars! This is an excellent opportunity to discover the many resources the library has to enrich your homeschooling.

Teen-owned the Night
Grades 5 to 12

Teen: Own the Night
Grades 5 to 12
Teen Knitting Club
1st and 3rd Thu. of every Month
4 - 5 p.m.
Join the Knitting Kninjas in the East Teen Center! Yarn and needles are available for practice, but please bring your own projects, too! Ages 12 - 18 Only.

Featured Homeschool Family: The Porter Family

How old are your children? I have one son. His name is Owen and he is 8 years old.

Why did you decide to homeschool? My son has high-functioning autism. The “free and appropriate education” public schools are mandated to provide children with special needs is not good enough for me. I want my son to have the best education possible. He gets that through homeschooling.

What curriculum do you use? While we use some traditional curriculum, our favorite way to learn is through hands-on projects and life experience. From attending political events to hatchling and raising backyard chickens, the world is our classroom.

What does your homeschool day look like? Homeschooling is a misnomer because we don’t spend the day simulating public school at home. We’re out in the community. We go on lots of field trips, do volunteer activities, and participate in enrichment classes. But there’s still a place for learning at home too. School starts from the time we wake up until the moment we fall asleep.

Does your husband support/help you in a specific way in your homeschooling effort? Yes. The most significant way my husband supports us is through being our household provider. He looks for practical ways to help homeschooling efforts?

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Would you like to be a Featured Family? Contact Deborah at dworthey@ppld.org.