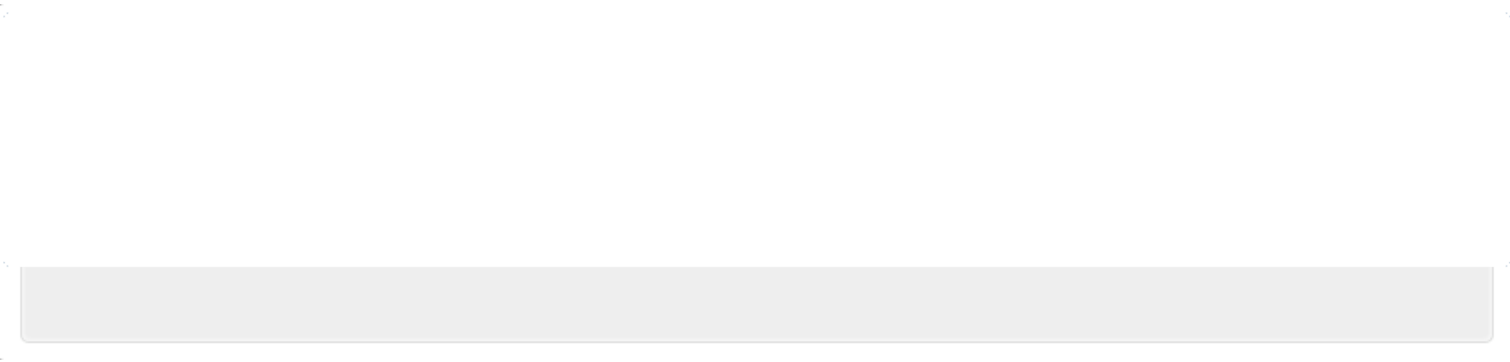



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[Welcome to my Home-School-Community Blog!](#)

Posted on March 25, 2009 by hollycraw

SEE SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AT THE END OF THIS POST.

[SITE MAP](#)

This forum is for the discussion of the following themes:

1. Homeschooling and related educational matters with links to fantastic resources
2. The topic of Community—what it means, what we yearn for, how to achieve it
3. Legislation and political events that relate to home education and family life.

The goal is to discuss the topics and examine viewpoints in a manner that will be helpful and edifying to the readers, even if views may differ. This is NOT a place for blaming, flaming, defaming or name calling each other or persons discussed, and those actions will not be tolerated and will be removed.

I believe that we can learn a lot from each other, and I know that my life is enriched by hearing other points of view and how people came to their ideas. Questions are encouraged for the purpose of understanding, with a spirit of hearing the other person's heart.

Thanks for checking out this blog!

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AND OPTIONS: (All of these options are FREE) [Read more »](#)

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[AZ Pachyderm Coalition: July speaker, AZ Attorney General Andrew Thomas](#)

Posted on June 17, 2009 by hollycraw



Seating is VERY limited

E-Mail Diane Douglas at azpatsfan@cox.net for your reservation. First come, first served.



Don't Miss Our **July** Guest Speaker **Maricopa County Attorney Andrew Thomas!** June 17th, 6 PM Dinner At The El Paso Bar-B-Que Grill 43rd Avenue and Peoria.

Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#), [Legislative Lookout](#) | Tagged: [Andrew Thomas](#), [Arizona](#), [AZ Attorney General](#), [citizens' rights](#), [Community](#), [Economic Crisis](#), [Legislative issues](#), [Pachyderm Coalition](#), [politics](#) | [No Comments »](#)

[AZ Dept Of Education, Tom Horne: School Finances, Illegal school kids, AIMS test](#)

Posted on June 17, 2009 by hollycraw

Don't Miss Our Next Meeting with AZ Dept.of Education Superintendent Tom Horne



Mark Your Calendar! Wednesday Night, June 17, 2009, 6:00PM

An evening with Arizona Department of Education

Superintendent Tom Horne



What is happening with school district finances?

Who is sponsoring proposed legislation to close the loop hole in the law allowing illegal immigrants to attend Arizona Charter Schools?

Are children from foreign countries illegally attending Arizona public schools and what is being done about it?

Is the A.I.M.s test worth the cost?

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – June 17, 2009

The **[PACHyderm Coalition](#)** Is Proud To Present

Arizona Department of Education
Superintendent Tom Horne

WE HAVE VERY LIMITED ROOM!

E-Mail azpatsfan@cox.net and Make Your Reservation Now!

[El Paso Bar-B Que Grill](#)

43rd Ave and Peoria Glendale, AZ

Dinner Starts At 6:00 PM

Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#), [Home School Helps and Resources](#), [Legislative Lookout](#) | Tagged: [Legislative issues](#), [constitution](#), [citizens' rights](#), [Economic Crisis](#), [conservatives](#), [Arizona](#), [Community](#), [AZ Dept of Education](#), [Tom Horne](#), [school finances](#), [illegal immigrants](#), [AIMS test](#) | [No Comments »](#)

[Lou Pritchett: Why Obama Scares Me](#)

Posted on June 16, 2009 by hollycraw

This came in from [The Patriot Depot](#):

Open Letter to President Obama from Lou Pritchett:

Dear President Obama,

You are the thirteenth President under whom I have lived and unlike any of the others, you truly scare me.

You scare me because after months of exposure, I know nothing about you. You scare me because I do not know how you paid for your expensive Ivy League education and your upscale lifestyle and housing with no visible signs of support.

You scare me because you did not spend the formative years of youth growing up in America, and culturally you are not an American. [Read more »](#)

Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#), [Legislative Lookout](#) | Tagged: [Citizen Intervention](#), [citizens' rights](#), [Legislative issues](#), [Lou Pritchett](#), [politics](#), [President Obama](#), [US citizens](#) | [2 Comments »](#)

[ABC: The President's Personal News Station: Freedom, Fairness and Fast?](#)

Posted on June 16, 2009 by hollycraw

[ABC News](#): *Freedom of expression, Fairness on Reporting and fast on deliverance is the motto of our company "ABC News & Info Services", Which ABC Live team adopts.*

Let's take a look at this motto.

- Freedom of expression. That would seem to imply that everyone has a right to express their views, and opposing ideas should be equally newsworthy.
- Fairness on Reporting. I am guessing that means both sides are covered with no bias or leaning to one side or the other.
- Fast on deliverance. On the spot for the breaking news and able to get it out to the masses in record time.

That certainly sounds noble and charitable and trustworthy, doesn't it?

What happens when the news media and the politicians become blatant bedfellows, and the viewing public is subtly informed that this is the new reality, like it or go away? We have entered into a new realm of historical revisionism—only this time the rewriting of history will happen at the front end, seemingly before we “sheeple” recognize that we have been snookered.

From the [Drudge Report](#)

ABC TURNS PROGRAMMING OVER TO OBAMA; NEWS TO BE ANCHORED FROM INSIDE WHITE HOUSE

Tue Jun 16 2009 08:45:10 ET

On the night of June 24, the media and government become one, when ABC turns its programming over to President Obama and White House officials to push government run health care — a move that has ignited an ethical firestorm!

Highlights on the agenda:

ABCNEWS anchor Charlie Gibson will deliver WORLD NEWS from the Blue Room of the White House.

The network plans a primetime special — ‘Prescription for America’ — originating from the East Room, exclude opposing voices on the debate.

The Director of Communications at the White House Office of Health Reform is Linda Douglass, who worked as a reporter for ABC News from 1998-2006.

Late Monday night, Republican National Committee Chief of Staff Ken McKay fired off a complaint to the head of ABCNEWS:

[Read more »](#)

Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#), [Legislative Lookout](#) | Tagged: [ABC News](#), [Citizen Intervention](#), [citizens' rights](#), [Fairness on Reporting](#), [Freedom of Expression](#), [Legislative issues](#), [National Health Care](#), [President Obama](#), [US citizens](#) | [No Comments »](#)

[Get FREE food on Cow Appreciation Day](#)

Posted on June 16, 2009 by hollycraw

What in the World is Cow Appreciation Day?



According to Chick-Fil-A, it is an unofficial, yet nationally recognized holiday.

On Friday, July 10th, come to a participating Chick-Fil-A restaurant, in a complete cow costume in honor of the 5th annual Cow Appreciation Day you will receive a *Free combo meal!* No coupon needed, just a lot of cow dots and a great smile! See some [FAQ's](#) here!

A great way to celebrate Dad's day: On Saturday, June 20. take your father to Chick-Fil-A where he will a *free hand-spun milkshake*. (Chances are he will be so pleased, he will buy you something, too! Check [here](#) to see if the location close to you is participating!

If you are a chicken lover, you can even become a member of their free insider club to get specials & coupons by email when you [Click here](#).

What are we waiting for? Get out the cow costumes!

Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#) | Tagged: [Chick-Fil-A](#), [chickens](#), [cows](#), [Father's Day](#), [Free food](#), [Free STuff](#) | [No Comments »](#)

[Biden says, “Everyone guessed wrong . . .about the state of](#)

[the economy](#)'

Posted on June 16, 2009 by hollycraw

We have to wonder once again, “Where is all the money going?”

Last week, President Obama declared that the stimulus program and bailouts “saved or created” 150,000 jobs, and the next round would create 600,000 jobs. Not a word has been said about where those jobs are or how they were saved, and certainly nothing is said about where the next batch of new jobs will come from.

This past Sunday, Vice President Joe Biden appeared on “[Meet the Press](#)” and conceded that the American people had been misled about the economic impact of the Obama Stimulus Plan. Instead of creating 3.5 million new jobs as promised, the stimulus would help to create 600,000 jobs – if that. That means each new job would come with a price tag of approximately \$1.3 million!

We have been “mislead”?

Here is what [Dictionary.com](#) says about the word:

mis-lead [mis-**lead**]  [Show IPA](#) *verb*, -led, -lead-ing.

–verb (used with object)

1. to lead or guide wrongly; lead astray.
2. to lead into error of conduct, thought, or judgment.

–verb (used without object)

3. to be misleading; tend to deceive:

Mr. VP, are you telling us that we were **deceived and lied to**? That there was deliberate attempt to paint a better picture of the economy and the outcome of the trillions of dollars that we are spending than was realistic?

You make the statement that “Everyone guessed wrong at the time the estimate was made about what the state of the economy was at the moment it was passed”.

Everyone guessed? Why on earth is everyone guessing about this money that was so urgent to spend that the bills were rushed through before anyone had time to read them? Why was no one asking or listening to those who might have some wisdom about the matter? I saw reports that the CBO had a **MUCH** different picture of the situation than the administration did, as well as a number of Republican spokespersons. Why was no one listening to them? What about the people whom you all represent? There were huge outcries about these budget matters, with millions of calls and letters to the Congress begging you not to go ahead with this foolishness.

Is our country and citizenry so worthless in your eyes that we who elected you have no place of input in to the socialist agenda of the big government machine? That you are willing to strangle us all with debt by throwing billions and more billions at a solution that is a guess, and a poor guess at that? You mentioned on Meet the Press that econometric models have been used that have been in place for decades, but apparently the economic rules have changed and the model is no longer relevant for the results to be so far off the mark.

I think it is time for Americans to hear the full story. What and where exactly are these positions that are being developed? How much do they pay? How much bureaucracy is buttressing up each job?

Can you prove that all this government intervention is really making a substantive difference that absolutely would not be there if the citizens and businesses and stock market were allowed to make their cyclical corrections?

I think there is a general sense among the people that attest to feeling that we have been misled. I believe that we are all wanting government officials who want to put the best interests of the country at the

forefront, and work in integrity to find real solutions to our problems. Many of those answers will lie with the populace being allowed and empowered to creatively work out solutions apart from the government.



Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#), [Legislative Lookout](#) | Tagged: [Citizen Intervention](#), [citizens' rights](#), [Economic Crisis](#), [economy](#), [Joe Biden](#), [politics](#), [President Obama](#), [stimulus funds](#), [taxes](#), [Vice president](#) | [No Comments](#) »

[Bemoaning the cost of groceries? How about FREE stuff?](#)

Posted on June 15, 2009 by hollycraw

I love a great bargain, and every once in awhile, I come across something that really makes me crow! I used to be a couponer—back in the days before the internet, before Walmart price matching, and when I thought I had more time than money.

Somewhere along the way, we gave up the daily newspaper, and coupon clipping went by the wayside as the duties of homeschooling became more time consuming. Now, I am about to come full circle.

My daughters are both married, and realizing all those things I tried to teach them are really true—you can save a lot by saving a little on many every day items, instead of going for a certain name brand or buying produce in the off-season.

My eldest took a class with a [CouponSense](#) instructor and reported a grocery purchase of \$150+ for which she only paid \$33. She was most excited about the doubled coupons and the items she got for FREE. Not bad, even when you figure in the the \$18 a month she spends on newspapers and the \$15 a month dues for Coupon Sense.

Now, I can do pretty well with admatch at Wal-Mart, but I haven't usually come home with that great of a deal. Couponing seems like a lot of work, especially when we don't currently get the paper. If I counted the time I might spend plus the costs of the papers and the CouponSense membership, I usually feel it isn't worth it.

I have found that there are some free sites on the internet that provide access to coupons you can print yourself without getting a newspaper. I have ventured into that realm a little and have come up with some nice deductions on the grocery bill.

One part of CouponSense that is very appealing is the database of all the local stores and their ads, correlated to the active coupons that you can get online or in the paper. You also can type in your shopping list, and get back a detail of all the stores with your item on sale, plus the coupons that can be used. That is starting to sound a bit better.

I just saw an email with a blog site that may be the happy medium that gets me back into couponing: <http://theholthouse.blogspot.com/>. Becca Holt is in Arizona, and she lists the weekly coupons and sales at the stores that can be combined to get fabulous deals—lots of free items. She has links to the online coupons and location and date references to the publications that have hard copy coupons. Best of all, the

information on her blog is free.

Now that sounds like a deal that I will really want to crow about!

Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#), [Home School Helps and Resources](#) | Tagged: [Arizona](#), [Becca Holt](#), [Community](#), [couponing](#), [CouponSense](#), [cutting the grocery bill](#), [Free STuff](#), [home education](#), [home school](#), [homeschool resources](#), [Homeschooling](#), [shopping](#) | [No Comments »](#)

[Planning to go to the AFHE Homeschool Convention? Early Deadline June 17](#)

Posted on June 15, 2009 by hollycraw

HOMESCHOOL CONVENTION EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE THIS WEDNESDAY

One last reminder ... if you're planning to attend the 26th Annual Arizona Home Education Convention and Curriculum Fair hosted by AFHE July 17-18, 2009, take advantage of the early registration discount. Save 50% off convention admission if you register by the early registration deadline.

Early registration is required for the Parents of Preschoolers free admission program. This program is for couples with children under the age of 6 who have never attended the convention. After the early registration deadline, admission is only available at the door for full price regardless of membership status. No free admissions to parents of preschoolers will be given at the door.

The AFHE homeschool convention is the largest gathering of homeschoolers in the state. With 48 invited speaker workshops, 16 exhibitor workshops, and 80,000 square feet of exhibitor space with over 200 booth, a teen program, plus a Mentoring Moms booth where veteran homeschool moms are available to answer your questions ... there's something for everyone! It's a great opportunity to come get refreshed, re-focused, re-energized, and encouraged as you continue in the adventure of educating your children at home.

WHEN: Friday, July 17 and Saturday, July 18, 2009

WHERE: Phoenix Convention Center, South Building

COST: \$30 early admission (AFHE membership required for \$25); \$60 at the door. Prices are for an individual or married couple.

Children/teens – \$10 each; non-homeschooling grandparents can attend for free with their adult children who are registered for the convention.

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Registration forms must be submitted so they are postmarked no later than Wednesday, June 17

CONTACT: AFHE, convention@afhe.org, 602-235-2673 (voicemail) – Email is preferred.

WEBSITE: www.afhe.org/conventions.htm

Filed under: [Home School Helps and Resources](#) | Tagged: [AFHE](#), [Arizona](#), [Arizona Families for Home Education](#), [college prep](#), [Curriculum](#), [home education](#), [home school](#), [homeschool convention](#), [homeschool resources](#), [starting to homeschool](#) | [No Comments »](#)

[Using Unit Studies to Give Your Students a Great Advantage!](#)

Posted on June 15, 2009 by hollycraw

I recently received this question about unit studies from a homeschool mom, and would like to share the correspondence.

For those in the Phoenix area who are interested in Unit Studies, I have a [workshop](#) on July 8 that will cover these areas:

- *What is a unit study*
- *Why a unit study approach gives your kids a huge advantage*
- *How a unit study meets the needs of all the ages and learning styles*
- *How to develop your own unit study*

My responses are in italics and bold.

Holly,

I have a question for you..what are your thoughts about:

..doing an in depth study in only ONE subject a month, or two weeks, etc.?

Basically, that is called a Unit Study, and is a very common teaching style. [Read more »](#)

Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#), [Home School Helps and Resources](#) | Tagged: [Homeschooling](#), [home education](#), [home school](#), [homeschool resources](#), [starting to homeschool](#), [college prep](#), [Curriculum](#), [Arizona](#), [Learning Styles](#), [Free STuff](#), [Holly Crow](#), [Unit studies](#) | [No Comments »](#)

[NASA has a Moon Launch June 17; Looking for Questions from the Public!](#)

Posted on June 14, 2009 by hollycrow

Attention: NASA needs your help!

ATTENTION! CALLING ALL STUDENTS!

NASA RETURNS TO THE MOON IN 2009!

THE LUNAR RECONNAISSANCE ORBITER (LRO) MISSION WILL LAUNCH ON JUNE 17!

The NASA LRO team at ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY (ASU) will command the camera system called the LUNAR RECONNAISSANCE ORBITER CAMERA (LROC)!

The LROC team is taking questions about lunar exploration from students, teachers and the public!

We will pick some of the most interesting questions, and then members of the LROC Science Team will answer them on

video at the LRO launch event – less than a month away!

These videos will be posted on the LROC website for the world to see (<http://roc.sese.asu.edu>):

ASK A SCIENTIST!

ASK AN ENGINEER!

ASK A MISSION PLANNER!

Visit our website to submit your questions at:

<http://roc.sese.asu.edu/EPO/askquestion/>

SEND YOUR QUESTION TODAY

Filed under: [Community Chronicles](#), [Home School Helps and Resources](#) | Tagged: [homeschool resources](#), [lunar exploration](#), [LUNAR RECONNAISSANCE ORBITER CAMERA](#), [moon launch](#), [NASA](#), [rocket science](#), [science](#), [US citizens](#) | [No Comments »](#)

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