



Keeping Touch

SANTA BARBARA, CA • JUNE 2012 • VOL. 30 • No. 10

FROM THE DESK OF **BILL CIRONE...**

Here's to a great summer

Another year has sped by. This is the last issue of KIT for the 2011-12 school year, and I want to be sure to wish everyone a great summer.

This year was just one more in a long series marked by cutbacks, freezes, and frustration in the face of cuts to services we know benefit students countywide. It remains difficult to watch the process unfold.

The state of California stands on very tenuous financial footing, and there is no way of knowing which path the voters will choose in this election. We know it is difficult to support higher taxes when everyone is hurting. Professionals from other institutions, and members of the families we serve, all share our frustrations.

Regardless of the outcome of the votes on the governor's proposals and local tax initiatives, there will still be painful cutbacks to deal with; the votes will merely determine the magnitude. I am very proud of all our staff members who continue to do what is right, despite a truly daunting financial reality. You simply never give up.

When I look at our staff and our programs, I continue to see cause for celebration and optimism. Your successes can be seen at every turn, here in the office and also on the faces of young lives that we touch together in so many ways.

I continue to be impressed with your dedication, your professionalism, your efforts, and your very evident achievements.

We have an outstanding team at every level. You contribute in ways both large and small, directly and indirectly, to the betterment of students. Some of you work directly with young people. Others provide services that enable teachers to do their job more effectively. What you do makes a difference.

KIT will resume in September. Until then, thanks again for your good work this year and best wishes for a happy summer season.

Dressed for success

This is a friendly reminder that with the hot summer months coming shortly, it's a good time to think about appropriate work attire. Our office is a public institution and we represent all of public education in this county.

Though the weather might make it tempting to do otherwise, it is still important to wear work-appropriate clothing at the office—**no flip-flops, shorts, low-cut tank tops, logo tee-shirts, or anything you might wear to the beach.** This is especially important for those offices most commonly visited by members of the public.

Even on casual days, **shorts, jeans, or tennis shoes need prior approval from a supervisor.** Normally these clothes would only be permitted for a "clean up" or manual work day.

People make inferences about our professionalism based on initial impressions, and it's important not to undermine our seriousness of purpose with inappropriate attire. We always strive to reinforce the fact that public education is in the hands of skilled professionals.

Thank you so much for your cooperation in this important area.

Quote of the Month...

“

Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained.

—James Garfield

in a letter accepting the Presidential nomination, 1880

”

Comings & Goings...

✦ **Petti Pfau**, director of teacher programs and support, will retire at the end of this month. ✦ **Steve Keithley**, currently director of instructional media services (IMS), will take Petti's position, and the teacher programs department will move into the Instructional Services division. ✦ **Matt Zuchowicz**, currently director of the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) will take Steve's position, returning as director of IMS. ✦ **Ryan Gleason**, currently an assistant principal at Dos Pueblos High School, will take over as BTSA director.



Alan News...

Seventeen years ago Bob Nishi worked in the Computer Center (as it was called then) as the Microcomputer/Network Support person. Since then, he has worked extensively in sales training and business management. He is an experienced instructor, and has facilitated sales performance workshops

for clients around the world. His work has taken him across North and South America, throughout Europe and the Middle East, and to many locations in Asia and Australia. He has been a co-author, ghostwriter, or book consultant for numerous business books, as well as the most recent book, *Brain School: Stories of children with learning disabilities and attention disorders who changed their lives by improving their cognitive functioning*. Bob presently works with FLIR Systems (infrared technology). He occasionally drops by SBCEO to say hello, but will be leaving Santa Barbara to live in Singapore for the next two (or more) years and continue traveling in his work.

—Carole Cole/SBAS

Technology showcase a big hit

IMS, CTAP, and Partners in Education collaborated in hosting the 5th annual Classroom Technology Showcase on May 2, which attracted a crowd of over 160 teachers, administrators, and vendors. Six local teacher-presenters provided inspiration by sharing their innovative use of technology in the classroom.

As part of the refreshments, **Kris Mainland White's** "spa water" was a big hit with everyone—a feast for the eyes as well as the taste buds. Kris was joined by fellow "decorating committee" members **Doris Buchanan** and **Kristen Walker**, who are experts at beautiful and unique table settings that flow from their combined creative juices (and cost next to nothing to boot!).

—Rose Koller/IMS

Credential application fees likely to increase

Recent correspondence from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing states the following: "...the Governor and Legislature are currently considering a budget proposal to restore <credential> application fees to \$70 ... If passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, the fee restoration could be in effect as early as July 1, 2012."

While this increase may be viewed by some as fairly minimal (the current credential application fee is \$55, so the net increase is \$15) I do want to take this opportunity to remind credential-holders that you are able to renew credentials up to one-year in advance of the expiration date of the credential. Early renewals do not cause a loss of time because the renewed credential is issued for the full term as of the previous expiration date.

Online renewals include a \$2 transaction fee (per credential), and may be completed at www.ctc.ca.gov. Please direct any questions to ext. 5266, or theiduk@sbceo.org.

—Tom Heiduk/HR

Life Imitates KIT

I've been writing for KIT for a few years and always miss our newsletter when it goes on break during the summer months. With the 2011-12 school year winding down, it was nice to hear from Special Education teacher **Alice MacKenzie** (who builds a cooking project into her curriculum each week) that she chose several recipe ideas from the May edition Question of the Month (recipe with five ingredients or less) to use in class. The only remaining mystery: what will the kids think of sautéed kale?

—Tom Heiduk/HR

It's time to sign up for 2012-2013 Fringe Benefits with the SBCEO!

Health Fairs

North County
 Wednesday, Aug. 1 • 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 402 Farnel Road, Santa Maria
 Board Room

South County
 Thursday, Aug. 2 • 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara
 Auditorium

Enrollment deadline:
 Friday, Aug. 17

You are invited to attend a health fair to meet Judy Stepka, Benefits Manager, and sign up for your fringe benefits and meet representatives from: Anthem Blue Cross; Delta Dental; Golden West Dental; Davey Administration, which administers our IRC 125 Flexible Spending Accounts; and representatives who provide insurance for long term and short term disability, term life insurance, cancer and heart attack/stroke policies, as well as Aflac reps. The Holman Group will provide information regarding our Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Also attending will be representatives from CalPERS 457 Deferred Compensation Program, Santa Barbara Teachers Federal Credit Union, CalPERS Retirement System, and CalSTRS Retirement System.

This is the time of year when employees may elect to add / change / terminate their health plans for the new enrollment period that will be effective Oct. 1.

Enrollment Deadline
Friday, Aug. 17



Tais Loomis shared her beautiful birthday cake (made by **Faith Hopwood**) on May 2 with her South County coworkers.

Dooley travels to Sacramento for 'Legislative Visits Day'

Tara Dooley, program manager for Children's Health Initiative Santa Barbara (CHISB) and an executive board member for California Coverage and Health Initiatives (CCHI), attended the annual "Legislative Visits Day" in March at the Capitol in Sacramento. She met with State Assemblymembers Katcho Achadjian and Das Williams; and with staff members of State Senators Sam Blakeslee and Tony Strickland.

Tara shared evaluation results and data from our local Children's Health Initiative. The figures illustrate a 94% decrease in uninsured children in Santa Barbara County after five years of partnerships and collaboration with public and private agencies to institutionalize children's health insurance screenings. In addition; the legislators were informed about CCHI's statewide network of counties with Certified Application Assistors (CAAs) and the expertise they will bring toward enrolling families into public health insurance products and the State Exchange program when the Affordable Care Act is implemented in 2014.

The Children's Health Initiative network has an established infrastructure within California that supports access to health insurance coverage and care. CHIs are uniquely positioned to help families navigate complex health care systems.

More information about CHISB is available from Tara Dooley, ext. 4460.



Sheldon honored for saving life

Joel Sheldon, a teacher at Dos Puertas Juvenile Hall School, was honored by Superintendent Bill Cirone on behalf of the county board of education for saving a young man's life at Santa Maria Juvenile Hall. Joel reacted without hesitation and used excellent judgment after hearing unusual sounds coming from a nearby area and finding one young man suffocating another. He immediately intervened and helped subdue the perpetrator. "This incident reflects your continued efforts throughout the years to do what's right for young people... You approach to your work and to serving this special population of young people has always been outstanding in every way," said Bill Cirone.

Kudos to **Bill Cirone's** wife Barbara, who was honored by the County Board of Supervisors May 1 as Volunteer of the Week. Barbara started delivering Meals on Wheels in the early 1970s, with their young son Peter in tow. She has been coordinating the Santa Ynez Valley Meals on Wheels since 1988-- that's 24 years! She is one of more than 75 volunteers who deliver meals to some 50 seniors in Santa Ynez, Solvang, Ballard, Buellton, and Los Olivos.

—Mary Ann Wilkerson/
Superintendent's Office

Kudos to webmaster **Joan Gilmore**, for hours of great work, with graphic help from **Olga Aguilar**, and input of suggestions from a large committee, that culminated in the beautiful new SBCEO website. A work of art – and so easy to navigate.

Kudos to **Olga Aguilar** for the truly beautiful presentation of the old school buildings now hanging in the SBCEO board room, the halls outside it, the superintendent's reception area, and the superintendent's meeting room. Olga researched the history of all the buildings she could find, scanned and corrected the old photos, printed and mounted them and then hung them for all to enjoy. What a treasure.

Peter B. FitzGerald School student Evelyn Castellon recently participated in the Migrant Education Program, Region

XVIII State Speech & Debate Tournament. The competition was held in April at Robert Bruce Elementary School in Santa Maria. Evelyn was then to travel to Rancho Cordova to participate in the state competition in May. Thank you **Maria Garcia-Cacique**, **Minerva Rangel**, and the entire **Migrant Department team** for their hard work in bringing these types of exciting opportunities to our JCCS student population.

—Terri Ortega Carbajal/
FitzGerald School

After hearing several comments from staff about how beautiful the grounds look, kudos to **Dennis Lopez** for doing such a fine job. The grounds do look impeccable and colorful. Taking a walk is a wonderful escape, or sitting at the picnic tables to read a book, or have lunch, or make a phone call. Going up the driveway and around to the auditorium, the flowers, the trees, the grass, the shrubs — all immaculate. Thank you Dennis for keeping the grounds beautiful, to improve the quality and aesthetics of our environment in order to create a healthier and more beautiful place to live, work and play. And one man does it all: the Lone Groundskeeper.

—Carole Cole/SBAS

Has everyone seen the newly waxed floor in the south county auditorium? WOW!!

—Carole Cole/SBAS

Remember Ray Kirchmaier (SBAS)? **K**udos to his mother who turned 104 this year. She lives independently

in the home she has lived in since 1948, still drives herself everywhere, including shopping on the Mesa, volunteers every Tuesday at Direct Relief International doing clerical work and helping prepare emergency packets during disasters. She attends church and belongs to the crafts group that makes items for charity, is a member of its Senior Activities Group, and attends many social engagements. She hand-embroiders, maintains a beautiful garden, enjoys using her digital camera, surfs the Internet on her iMac, and stays connected with family by phone, the Internet and actual visits. For the last four years, she has traveled to Georgia to visit family. Did I say she is 104?

—Carole Cole/SBAS

Jane Jackson earns degree from NYU

After several years of taking intensive, sometimes grueling online classes, **Jane Jackson**, SBAS, is heading to New York in early June to claim her bachelor's degree in communications from New York University at a beautiful ceremony in the Lincoln Center.

Jane is graduating summa cum laude and was asked to be graduation speaker, though she chose to decline the honor. What an accomplishment!

A Glimpse or Two...



Steve Smith

Reprographics Supervisor, Cathedral Oaks

Kids/Pets: Steve and wife Diane have four children—Zach 16, Ariel 13, Jolie 9, and Lindy 3—and one dog named Basha.

Hometown: This “surfer boy” grew up in Redondo Beach, and lived a couple of blocks from the ocean. To this day he can’t drive by the ocean without craning his neck to see how the waves are breaking.

Schools: South Torrance High School & SCROC (Southern California Regional Occupational Center) certifications in production art and printing.

Work history: Worked for many years at Kinko’s, becoming branch manager for stores in Van Nuys, Whittier, and Palos Verdes. Before that he worked for 11 years at Hughes Aircraft Company in El Segundo. He has been with the SBCEO for 7 years, working in Reprographics.

Quote or motto: The four “F”s of good leadership: friendly, firm, frank, and fair

Author/book/magazine: Enjoys the *LA Times* almost daily.

Movies/TV shows: *All Lord of the Rings* movies, *Oceans Eleven*, *The Office*, *The Colbert Report*, and lots of nature, science, and military shows.

Music: He is in a band called The Action League, a 7-piece Ska/punk band in SLO.

Hidden talents: Played youth club soccer and later played in the top men’s league in L.A. before the professional league (MLS) was established. He played against Rod Stewart’s team a couple of times.

Family bragging rights: His wife won a mural contest sponsored by the Town Center Gallery in Santa Maria. The “Harvest of the Valley” mural will be 20 feet long and is in process. It will be mounted and displayed at the Santa Maria Fairpark.

—Mary Ann Wilkerson/
Superintendent’s Office

Tom Heiduk

HR Credentials Analyst, Cathedral Oaks

Community interest/soapbox topic: Recycle everything.

Quote or motto: Whatever it is, you can start it today.

Author/book/magazine: Lots of favorites, including Poe.

Music: Lots, though Aerosmith is my favorite band of all time.

Movies/TV shows: *The Avengers*, *Star Trek*.

Leisure time activities/hobbies: Hiking, biking, gardening, swing-dancing, karaokeing, cooking, live music, camping.

Other interesting work: Ice cream merchandising.

Hidden talents: Master air hockey player.

Hometown: Santa Barbara (it’s my folks’ hometown, too).

Schools: Hollister Elementary, La Colina Jr. High, San Marcos High, SB City College, UCSB, San Jose State University.

Kids or pets: Freshwater, tropical fish called tetras (60 gallon aquarium).

Family bragging rights: Our family name loosely translates to “Robin Hood.”

When did you start at the SBCEO: June 30, 1997.

—Carole Cole/SBAS

I’m So Proud...

Terri Carbajal is a proud mama this May. Her youngest, Mercedes, is graduating from San Jose State University and her son, Jaime, is graduating from Allan Hancock College. The sad thing is that both graduations are taking place on the same day, almost at the same time, one in San Jose and the other in Santa Maria. Even a jet plane couldn’t help Terri attend both. Thank goodness for video cameras—she will have to enjoy one in person and one on film!

—Terri Ortega Carbajal/
FitzGerald School

SBCEO has two very proud S mothers and each has a son who feels very honored to be a D’Penguinier. **Pat Noronha’s** (C&I) son Kelvin and **Lauren Fuller’s** (SBAS) son Lane, are members of the Dos Pueblos High’s Robotics FIRST Team 1717, now ranked #1 in the world. Team 1717 competed in St. Louis at the World Championships. The robot worked flawlessly through the early rounds but encountered communication problems in the final rounds. The source of those problems, probably not related to the robots, is still a mystery but the team never made it to the championship match. Even though they didn’t make it to the championship match, their robot shot so well leading up to the World Championship and in the early rounds, that when all of the data was recalculated by an independent organization, DP’s FIRST Team 1717 still came out on top and are ranked #1 in the world out of 2,332 robots.

—Carole Cole/SBAS

Question of the Month???

What questions of the month would you like to see in KIT next year?

- What creative activity do you most enjoy (outside of work)?
- Are there any other SBCEO programs or departments about which you'd like to know more, and why?
- Share your favorite cookie recipe (other than chocolate chip).
- What is the coolest car you ever owned?
- What would you want in your epitaph?
- What is the weirdest way you've ever worn your hair?
- Which of your outfits do you most regret? Alternatively, what era of fashion has been your most and least favorite?
- When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up and/or who did you want for your partner?
- What is the first job you held?

—Bonnie Beedles and
Michelle Magnusson/CCE

- Who is the most interesting person you've ever known?
- Who has been the biggest inspiration in your professional (or personal) life?
- Do you have an interesting story about how you came to be in your present job?
- Do you have any interesting stories about a job you've held in the past?
- If you could retire tomorrow, what would you do?
- If you could live and work any place in the world, where would it be and what would you do to earn a living?
- What's the most important thing you look for in a job?
- Do you have any embarrassing job interview or resume gaffes to share? (Oh, boy, do I have some!)

—Rose Koller/IMS

- What were you doing in 1975?
- What's one of your funniest on-the-job incidents?

- What are some of your tips for getting in the housing market in Santa Barbara?
- What is the best financial advice you ever received?
- How do you get exercise during the workday?
- What are some little known historical facts about SBCEO?
- Which common misuse of the English language really gets you hot under the collar?

—Kristen Walker/IMS

- Not this month's question.
- What do you find most interesting about our age of electronics and gadgets?
- If you suddenly found yourself turned into the opposite sex, how would you spend your day? —Carole Cole/SBAS

- I'd like more questions about what kind of questions we would like to see in the KIT. That, and where you can buy a really decent pair of comfortable shoes cheap. —John Kafel/ITS

Paraprosdokians for your amusement...

A "paraprosdokian" is a phrase or sentence that leads us down the garden path to an unexpected ending. "Where there's a will, I want to be in it," is a paraprosdokian. Winston Churchill loved them.

1. Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
3. Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up; we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.
7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. Evening news is where they begin with "Good Evening," and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
9. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal ideas from many is research.
10. A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.
11. I thought I wanted a career; turns out I just wanted paychecks.
12. Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says, "In case of emergency, notify:" I put "DOCTOR."
13. I didn't say it was your fault; I said I was blaming you.
14. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
15. Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.
16. A clear conscience is the sign of a fuzzy memory.
17. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.
18. Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.
19. I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.
20. You're never too old to learn something stupid.
21. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
22. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine. —Rose Koller/IMS

sbceo Crossword

“ED-ucation”

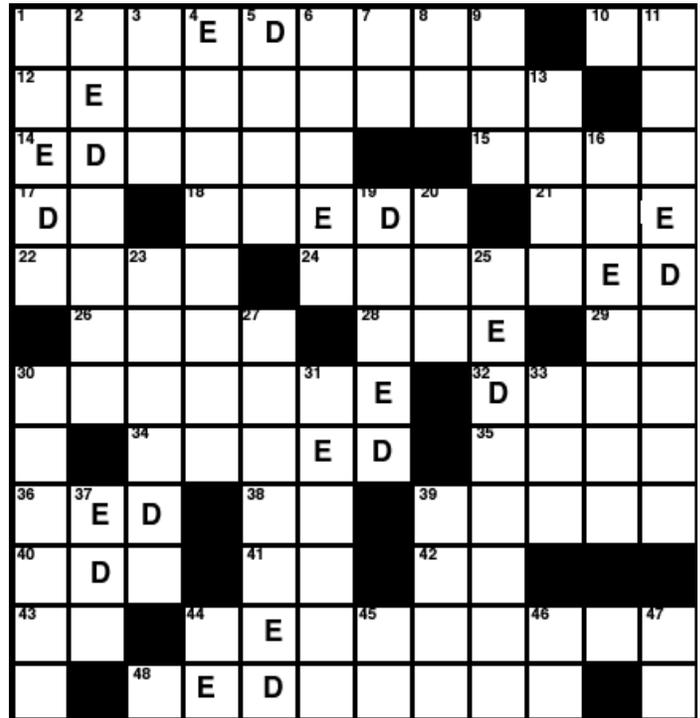
Submitted by Fred Borchers

ACROSS

- 1 Admin. Secretary II Anna in Curriculum & Instruction
- 10 You need to pass this test to work at SBCEO
- 12 Start of “Hide & Seek” game forewarning
- 14 First name of Lompoc District Office Network Systems Engineer
- 15 Proboscis
- 17 Santa Barbara Union School Dist. Superintendent; init.
- 18 Female students
- 21 Definite article
- 22 *Those days of ___ and pretzels and beer.”*
- 24 First and last name of Special Day Class Instr. Asst. at Montecito Union School Dist.
- 26 Language ___
- 28 Day of the wk.
- 29 Ralph Dunlap School SDC No. 2 Interpreter of Deaf/Hard of Hearing; init.
- 30 Church spire
- 32 Not a Repub.
- 34 ___ as a beet
- 35 Copernicus, John Paul II, or Wayne Gretzky
- 36 Skelton or Buttons
- 38 Admin. Asst. at Montecito Union School; init.
- 39 El Camino Jr. High Office Manager Araujo
- 40 They’re worth 6 pts. in football
- 41 Cleveland Elem. School Secretary; init.
- 42 Battles School Asst. Principal; init.
- 43 Migrant Educ. Lompoc District Recruiter/Support Staff Asst.; init.
- 44 Beginning again, like a store with a new owner
- 48 Children and Family Resource Services Administrator Florene

DOWN

- 1 Borchers, Cook, Madrigal and Razo , for a few
- 2 Historical term for a British army soldier
- 3 Enterprise Asset Management acronym
- 4 Provides schooling for
- 5 Short for Dynamometer
- 6 Abundant ore deposits
- 7 Beyond Tolerance Center Program Coordinator; init.
- 8 Celebrity known for his mugshot; init.
- 9 Pine Grove Principal Hart
- 11 Curriculum and Instruction’s Admin. Secretary I Vera
- 13 Kind of bag
- 16 Civil War General William or 70’s teen idol Bobby
- 19 Went out with
- 20 Home of the Mustangs near Dallas
- 23 Fears greatly
- 25 Octagonal traffic stops (2 words)
- 27 Applied paint with an aerosol
- 30 Kinda
- 31 Ono’s hubby
- 33 English Language Arts acronym
- 37 Albright, Cora, and Fassiotto, for a few
- 39 ___ in the headlights
- 44 Arellanes Jr. High School Office Manager; init.
- 45 Santa Maria-Bonita School District Office Supt.’s Exec. Serty; init.
- 46 First half of International House of Pancakes
- 47 ___ *Tell It On The Mountain*



Welcome Aboard!

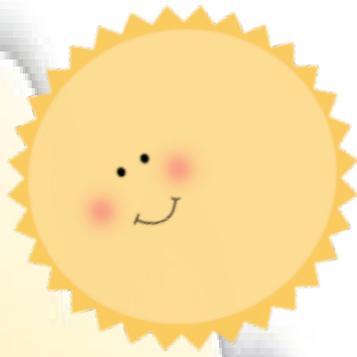
Special Education

Joyce Walker
Instructional Assistant III
SESS-N

Amber Montano
Instructional Assistant III
Ontiveros School
Santa Maria



Answers to this month’s puzzle on page 8.



The KIT reporting staff wishes everyone a wonderful summer.

Enjoy the season — and take good notes so you can report on all of it for the September issue of KIT!

(Deadline is Aug. 15.)



Have a wonderful summer!



KEEPING IN TOUCH is produced and distributed monthly during the school year by the Public Information Office, **Wendy Shelton**, editor; **Tracey Beauchamp**, asst. editor; **Olga Aguilar**, graphic designer; and the efforts of the entire Reprographics staff. Many thanks to our contributing reporters from each department:

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- Mary Ann Wilkerson, Superintendent’s Office
- Jeri Wynn, ROP

Answers to Crossword (p. 7)

F	R	E	E	D	L	A	N	D		T	B
R	E	A	D	Y	O	R	N	O	T		R
E	D	M	U	N	D			N	O	S	E
D	C		C	O	E	D	S		T	H	E
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