



# news

Spring 2003

Santa Barbara, California

Volume 19, Number 3



*Peggy Lubchenco*

## Lubchenco named Teacher of Year

**P**eggy Lubchenco, who has taught seventh grade science at La Colina Junior High for the past eight years, was named 2004 Santa Barbara County Teacher of the Year. The announcement was made by County Superintendent of Schools Bill Cirone at a press conference convened during the monthly meeting of the Santa Barbara County Board of Education May 1.

Lubchenco, one of a number of outstanding countywide nominees for the honor, was selected by a committee including representatives of teachers, administrators, PTAs, and school boards. Two Distinguished Educators were also named and will be announced at the June board meeting.

Superintendent Cirone expressed congratulations for Lubchenco's professional-

ism, enthusiasm, creativity, and successes in the classroom and in the community.

Lubchenco holds a B.A. in environmental science from Colorado College, a teaching credential in life sciences from Chapman College, and a master's degree in ecology and evolution from Brown University

She began her career teaching computer, math, life science, and physical science at Marina LaVia High School. She subsequently taught computer and life science at Mulcahey Junior High and physical and life science at Seekonk Intermediate School, before taking a position at La Colina in 1995.

In related experience, Lubchenco worked as a research assistant with Oregon State University at the Smithsonian in

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## Green Geckos win second annual Battle of Books

**T**he Green Geckos took top honors in the second annual countywide Battle of the Books, held in March in the SBCEO auditorium. Nearly 170 students attended from 27 schools throughout the county. Teams with the top six scores were to compete in the state Battle of the Books in Kern County in May.

The Green Geckos consisted of students Tatiana Castro, Miller School; Cameron Evans, Mountain View School; Shae Kakos, Los Berros School; Mikail Khan, Main School; Matt Madden, Montecito Union School; and Alexandra Wallace, Alice Shaw School. Students were awarded custom-made tee-shirts and a bag of coupons and prizes donated by local businesses throughout the county.

A good sportsmanship award was given to Team #16, The Book Mice, whose members received a colorful pin that noted Attitude is Everything.

*From the desk of*

***Bill Cirone, County Superintendent of Schools***

## **It's time for bold actions at the state level**

The Chinese symbol for “crisis” is a combination of the symbols for “danger” and “opportunity.” I believe that the California budget crisis provides our state with an unprecedented opportunity to take steps that will improve our educational structure for generations. But we will have to take some very bold actions and we will need real leadership to make it happen.

We all know that the magnitude of the budget crisis in this state is without precedent. It can be debated forever whether leadership actions could have lessened the impacts of the decline in the national economy and the cynical manipulation by energy companies in this state, but the fact remains that the results have now come home to roost. The state is drowning in red ink.

The size of the state’s shortfall is generally projected to be around \$30 billion. That amount is larger than the budgets of every state in the nation except New York. The magnitude is beyond what most of us can comprehend. The governor would have to forego his salary for the next 180,000 years to cover it. Small cuts will not do.

California, which once led the nation in terms of school success AND school funding, dropped to the bottom of the nation—41<sup>st</sup>—in terms of funding per pupil after the passage of Prop.13 and has slowly clawed its way up to 29<sup>th</sup> this year. We spent \$6,816 per pupil last year, placing us just below Kansas. New York spent \$11,021 per pupil. Connecticut and New

Jersey both spent more than \$10,800 per pupil. That’s a spread of more than \$60,000 per classroom.

Instead of trying to reach adequate funding levels, the budget shortfalls have forced schools to move in the opposite direction, slashing muscle and bone.

And here’s the kicker: All the “experts” are predicting that the budget impasse will continue well into the fall, with no budget agreement reached before school reopens. This means that schools must make massive cuts, without any indication of just how massive they will have to be. Schools must make decisions on staffing, facilities, textbook purchases, and roof repairs completely in the dark.

The task for state government is this: Set priorities, make cuts and raise revenues to fulfill those priorities, devise a funding system that assures long-term sustainability, and do it soon. Is this difficult? Absolutely. But it is what we have elected our leaders to do. If ever there were a time for a state leader to step forward and shape a solution, it is now.

The legislature and governor have been elected to make the hard decisions and devise ways to meet the priorities of those they serve. We ask them to do so. We make these requests on behalf of the children and families, the neighborhoods and communities we serve every day.

***Where's your school's news?***

Send your school's news to the NEWS editor, Wendy Shelton, at the SBCEO, by mail, by truck, or by e-mail: [wshelton@sbceo.org](mailto:wshelton@sbceo.org). Deadline for next issue: **August 15.**



*The Dos Pueblos Mock Trial team, from left: Melis Tusiray, Moira Duffy, Anne Clarke, Eva Frye, Jenny Pedersen, Adda Birnir, Harrison Nalevansky, Andrew Cox, Janelle Sharer, Nicole Starczak, Brian Tobin, John Faulkner, Marina Kitchen, Steven Gordon, Chrissy James, Andrew Lewis, Ben Cappello, and Josh Schwartz*

## Dos Pueblos team wins county Mock Trial competition

The Dos Pueblos Mock Trial team bested the San Marcos Red Team to represent the county at the state Mock Trial competition.

Santa Barbara High and San Marcos blue were also in the semifinals.

Dos Pueblos has a long history of Mock Trial successes. This is the 15<sup>th</sup> time in the past 22 years that a team from DP has advanced to the state level of competition. On two occasions, a Dos Pueblos team advanced to the national competition and once placed second in the nation.

For winning the county champion-

ship, the team received an engraved trophy. The victory was sweet for Team Captain Andrew Cox, "I've been doing Mock Trial at Dos Pueblos for three years, so this win is huge for me," he said. "The team has really come together this time, both in friendship and in devotion to the craft. Everything came together, everyone was at their best, and at last we won."

The DP Mock Trial team was composed of: **Defense Team**—Melis Tusiray, Adda Birnir, Eva Frye, Joshua Schwartz, Moira Duffy, Harrison Nalevansky, Jennifer Pedersen, Nicole Starczak, Steven Gordon. **Prosecution**

**Team**—Andrew Lewis, Andrew Cox, Janelle Sharer, Brian Tobin, Benjamin Cappello, John Faulkner, Chrissy James, Marina Kitchen, Anne Clarke.

The team was coached by Dos Pueblos teacher Kevin Sheffield and local attorneys Lee Carter, Graham Lyons, Kevin McGee, and Mindy Wolfe. Sheffield, the Mock Trial coach, teaches pre-calculus GATE, SBCC statistics, trigonometry, and algebra 2.

Students meet six days per week during the school day in addition to Sunday and Wednesday evening practices with the attorney coaches.

## Santa Maria-Bonita breaks ground on two new schools

The Santa Maria-Bonita School District broke ground on two new schools in January. Brief ceremonies were held at the locations of a new junior high school in the northwest section of the city and a new elementary school on the corner of Stowell and Depot roads.

These are the first two SMBSD schools to be built with funding from Proposition 47—the statewide school construction bond which voters approved in November 2002. The district received nearly \$120 million to build

three new schools, increase the capacity at five schools, and modernize 11 existing campuses.

The elementary school will be open by December 2003 and will accommodate approximately 600 to 800 students. The junior high is estimated to be completed in April 2004. It will be a full junior high and will house 800 to 1,000 students.

The school board was to select names for both schools in May.

# Caring and sharing: Grants awarded

The Care and Share program was developed through a partnership between the Santa Barbara Foundation and The Teachers Network of the SBCEO. The Foundation provides funding to launch up to 15 grants, with a maximum of \$1,000 each, to K-12 public school teachers and classrooms. This year, 29 teachers were awarded Care and Share Grants, some individual and some as part of team grants. This reflected a total of 19 grants and \$15,000 awarded by SB Foundation Board representative Ken Saxon. Awards were given at the Grant Recognition Dinner in February at the Royal Scandinavian in Solvang. Tri-Valley Trophies, a time honored business partner, donated all of the engraved plaques that each individual teacher received.

The purpose of the Care and Share program is to develop an understanding and appreciation of philanthropy and community service, cultivate an ethic of giving, and provide youth with philanthropic learning experiences that enable them to realize their own power to make a difference in the community through the simple act of giving.

- **A Community of Readers**

Kathy Dubock, Santa Barbara Junior High

In an effort to promote literacy among children and young adults, Kathy's students will write reviews of books they have enjoyed, read their reviews on K-LITE radio station, then purchase the books and distribute them to Transition House and the Boys & Girls Club for their libraries.

- **Books for Kids, By Kids!**

Kathleen Tomscha, Canalino School, Carpinteria

Students will write and illustrate short books for children, then deliver them to the waiting rooms of dentists, doctors, and the pediatric ward of the Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital. Kathleen's class wants to bring cheer to other children and lessen their anxiety in these waiting rooms.

- **Bridging the Generation Gap**

Tina McEnroe, Vista de Las Cruces School

Tina's 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be visiting The Solvang Lutheran Home residents, and share individual histories, cook, write letters, read, etc. Students want to extend their friendship, understanding, and thereby diminish the isolation so often felt by residents.

- **Creating Compassionate Students**

Linda Corley, Ontiveros School, Santa Maria

Students will hold a school-wide coat drive, put together care bags on Valentine's Day, and hold an after-school fundraiser in the spring all to benefit The Good Samaritan Homeless Shelter in Santa Maria.

- **Dunes All Accessible!**

Therese Brady, Kelly Demarest, and Tracy Lipson, Ontiveros Elementary, Santa Maria

During a field trip to the dunes, Therese's 4<sup>th</sup> graders noticed that it would be difficult for disabled persons to discover and explore the dunes. To meet this need, students will use the Care and Share funding and raise an additional \$1,355 to purchase a "Landeez" all-terrain wheelchair, and donate it to the Dunes Center in Guadalupe.

- **Feeding Families**

Jodi Miles, Adams Elementary School, Santa Barbara

Jodi's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will hold food drives for the entire school, collect the needed food items, and then visit the Unity Shoppe to deliver the items.

- **Fighting Hunger Two by Two:**

Taylor School Ark Angels  
Kristen Burke and Jessica Rivera,  
Taylor School, Santa Maria

Students will help communities worldwide and offer hope to families who are poor and hungry by organizing a school-wide collection of "spare change" to benefit purchasing animals through Heifer International. The animals, such as milk cows, oxen, ducks, wool sheep, etc., give poor families the resources to help themselves for years to come. Grant funds will help them meet that goal.

- **From Our Hearts to Yours**

Cindy Busby, Kay Marsh, and Miriam Parker,  
Vieja Valley Elementary, Hope

Students in three second grade classes will reach out to residents of the Valle Verde Retirement Community by writing poetry for an anthology on the topics of kindness, love, friendship, and peace, and distributing the anthology to the residents. Other activities will include crafting, giving heart-themed gifts, and presenting a lunchtime musical, "Love Makes the World Go 'Round."

- **Helping Hands**

Diana Calderon, Gwendolyn Green, and  
Cathy McCue, Robert Bruce School, Santa Maria

Students will create gift baskets for needy families by providing items such as toothbrushes and blankets that often go overlooked in the traditional holiday gift baskets.

*Please see "Caring and Sharing" p. 10*

## Three teachers earn national certification

**M**ike Bryant, a math teacher at Santa Maria High School; **Kristen Burke**, a teacher at Taylor School in Santa Maria-Bonita; and **Karen Shumey**, a teacher at Lompoc Valley Middle School, all joined an elite group of teachers, who received National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

## Distinguished!

**R**ighetti High School, in the Santa Maria High School District, was named a California Distinguished School for 2003.

## Title I Achievers

**O**lga Reed School in Los Alamos has been selected as a Title I Achieving School. It joins Miller School in Santa Maria-Bonita District and Adams School in Santa Barbara as the three schools in the county with this distinction.

## Ontiveros teachers win whale of a grant

**T**hree teachers at Ontiveros School in Santa Maria-Bonita won a \$6,184 grant from the California Coastal Commission to teach their fourth grade students about the ways the ocean impacts lives. Therese Brady, Kelly Demarest, and Tracy Lipson will teach about the ocean's importance in the lives of California residents in the past and present and how the ocean can be preserved for the future.

The grant paid for a field trip for 100 students and 20 adult chaperones to visit East Anacapa Island, part of the Channel Islands. The students completed standards-based science, social studies and language arts assignments based on what they saw and learned.

### Santa Barbara County Education Office

4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, P. O. Box 6307, Santa Barbara, CA 93160-6307  
William J. Cirone, Superintendent



**INTERNET ACCESS**  
only \$9 per month\*

This service is available to active or retired public or private school employees, parents of children in grades K-12, and adult students.

#### **Internet access with e-mail service includes:**

- Local dial-up numbers in Santa Barbara County
- Free Internet technical support
- Internet access 24 hours per day
- Filtered service available to block inappropriate sites for children
- Filtered service available to block unsolicited e-mail (spam)
- E-mail virus protection
- Unlimited access

*Internet access without e-mail is also available for about \$8 per month.*

**To receive an application, call:**

**Computer Center, 964-4710, ext. 5250**

or visit

**[www.sbceo.org](http://www.sbceo.org)**

and under **Internet Services**, click on

**Internet help desk**

*\* Based on an annual payment. A one-time set-up fee of \$15 will be added.*



## SBCC gives Hope

*Fifth grade students at Monte Vista School in Hope enjoy working on computers donated to their classroom through SBCC's computer donation program. Watching, from left, are classroom teacher Janis Spracher, SBCC technical services specialist Nancy Toliver, and SBCC director of information technology Kent Richards.*



## National Hispanic Scholars named

*Five Santa Barbara High School District seniors were named Scholars in the National Hispanic Recognition Program, a College Board program. Scholars selected were, from left, Alexendra Bachan, Santa Barbara High, and, from San Marcos High, Jessica Haro, Cecilia O'Donnell, Karen Ramirez, and Beth Presser.*



## Students w

**S**chools in the Santa Maria-Vista, CA, as part of a program to



*Jordan DeHoog takes a closer look at a Mint herb seedling. Students wrote about appearance, texture, size and even the s donated plants.*

## Guadalupe aw

A grant award of up to \$236,047 per year School District in a highly competitive Century Community Learning Centers the only district funded in Santa Barbara

“The superseding goal of the grant experiences, and providing for a safe weekends,” explained superintendent H

The school district is the lead agency grant. Partners include the Boys and Girls Association, Guadalupe Dunes Center,

# Welcome spring with new plants and seeds

Bonita School District received hundreds of plants. The 3,500 plants, which included herbs, were donated by Altman Plants of San Diego to support gardens in schools.



...a Chocolate  
...at the  
...smell of the

Nearly every school in Santa Maria received plants. Taylor School teachers Sally Woelper and Kristen Burke helped obtain the donation through their connections to Cal Poly's gardening education program.

Burke said most of the seedlings are going into school gardens. Others will be part of classroom garden plots; some will beautify campuses. But in all cases, the plants will be used as a learning tool.

"There are so many standards-based lessons across the curriculum that teachers can center around the plants," said Burke.

SMBSD is the first Central Coast school district to receive seedlings from Altman Plants under the school garden program.



At top, Taylor School third grade students Shannon Patterson and Jeffrey Garin write in their science journals about the plants—mostly herbs and vegetables—donated by Altman Plants. At bottom, Taylor teacher Kristen Burke (right side) gives instructions to some of her students who are examining flats of seedling varieties. Next to Burke are, from left, Tatiana Smith and Jordan DeHoog. In front of Burke are (L to R) Shannon Patterson, Jeffrey Garin, and Leann Lott.

Photos by Maggie White

## awarded huge grant

...ar for five years was awarded to the Guadalupe ... process. The grant was obtained through the 21st ... Program (No Child Left Behind). Guadalupe was ... a County.

...t application is education, remediation, new ... environment for students after school and on ... Hugo Lara.

...ncy in the implementation of this collaborative ... rls Club, Guadalupe Educational Technology ... and Healthy Start Family Services Center.



## Free help available for districts to clean up school bus emissions

**S**anta Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is helping schools in the county obtain free equipment for school buses that can reduce pollution by 25 percent or more.

The retrofit is part of a new program offered by the California Air Resources Board (ARB).

Diesel exhaust from school buses contains cancer-causing and smog-forming pollution. Children are more harmed than adults by breathing diesel school bus exhaust because their lungs are still developing and they breathe more often than adults. Recent studies show that the air inside and outside a diesel school bus has high levels of pollution.

The California Air Resources Board has established the Lower-Emission School Bus Program designed to reduce children's exposure to both cancer-causing and smog-forming air pollution found in school bus exhaust.

In Santa Barbara County, the Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is overseeing this program and strongly encouraging all schools in the county to apply to take advantage of this free opportunity.

All funding must be allocated by September 2003, or it will become unavailable for this use.

Further information on the program can be obtained by calling Anthony Fournier at 961-8874, or e-mailing him at [adf@sbcapcd.org](mailto:adf@sbcapcd.org).

Schools should also know that there are new state rules to control idling of school buses near schools. Information is available at [www.sbcapcd.org/itg/itg.htm](http://www.sbcapcd.org/itg/itg.htm).



## Calendar contest underway; Planet Polluto available online

**T**he Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and Traffic Solutions are gearing up for the fourth annual Kids Care for Clean Air Calendar Contest. Deadline for entries is June 20.

The aim of the contest is to promote alternative transportation to reduce traffic and air pollution.

The contest is open to Santa Barbara County students ages 5-12. One grand prize winner will receive a \$100 savings bond and a new bicycle; 12 monthly winners will receive \$50 savings bonds. Winning artwork featured in the 2003 calendar can be viewed on the APCD's website at [www.sbcapcd.org/121002rel.htm](http://www.sbcapcd.org/121002rel.htm). Entry forms are available online at [www.sbcapcd.org](http://www.sbcapcd.org). Further information is available by contacting Frances Gilliland at 961-8838 or via e-mail at [GillilandF@sbcapcd.org](mailto:GillilandF@sbcapcd.org).

The APCD is also distributing Planet Polluto, a new computer game for students grades 4-8 that teaches the causes of air pollution and ways to improve air quality.

More information and sample games are available at [www.sbcapcd.org/edu/polluto.htm](http://www.sbcapcd.org/edu/polluto.htm). Scheduling an APCD Save Planet Polluto visit with presentation and information about receiving a free copy of the Planet Polluto CD-ROM are both available by contacting Mary Byrd at 961-8833 or [byrdm@sbcapcd.org](mailto:byrdm@sbcapcd.org).



### Goleta Valley students take Math Counts by storm

*Goleta Valley Junior High School students J.R. Riggs, Daniel Polchinski, Michael Reveles, and Henry Wu were unbeatable at the chapter level of the annual MathCounts competition in February in Ventura. The first-place, award-winning team earned the right to move on to the state level of competition at the University of California—Irvine where they also performed well. "The students did a great job individually and as a team," said first-time coach and pre-algebra teacher Wendy Pendergraft. "It's exciting to see them succeed."*

# Lubchenco named County Teacher of the Year

*Continued from page one*

Panama, and served as a fisheries biologist for both the Oregon and California Departments of Fish and Game. She has worked as a laboratory technician at Stanford University and as a science editor for Intellimation Computer Software Company.

Her awards and honors have been numerous. She was named AAPG California Earth Science Teacher of the Year K-12 and AAPG

National Earth Science Teacher of the Year K-12. She has served as her district's Earth Science Mentor Teacher. She also served as a delegate of the U.S. State Department at the Munich Olympic Games; was named a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Scholastic Honor Society; and was a member of the National Masters Swimming Team Champions. She was a finalist for Outstanding Youth Educator in Monterey County and was named Outstanding Teacher in Marina. She was named a GLOBE National Teacher Trainer as well.

Grants she wrote have totaled more than \$68,000. She has presented seminars and workshops on marine biology, computer technology in the classroom, life sciences, and earth sciences. She has presented Computer Science in-services for teachers, NSF Bookshelves in Biology Workshop, GLOBE Workshops, the JASON Project, Researcher Experience Teachers Seminar, National Ocean Literacy On-Line conference, Beyond the Classroom Colloquium, California Science Teachers Conference, and a SEASET district workshop.



Her community involvement includes her roles as wife, mother, and teacher.

She has been a Girl Scout Leader, has assisted the swim team and helped run water polo matches. She has taken part in PTSA events at a wide range of schools and has been involved with fund-raising as well.

She has organized field trips to Martha's Vineyard, Yosemite, Figueroa Mountain, Sedgwick Ranch Reserve, Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes, and local Santa Barbara beaches.

She also volunteers as a guest speaker for student teacher classes at UCSB.

Lubchenco's nomination will next be reviewed for consideration as California Teacher of the Year in the fall. The California winner will then proceed into consideration for 2004 National Teacher of the Year.

As Santa Barbara County Teacher of the Year, Lubchenco will be available to speak countywide, and can be reached at La Colina Junior High School in the Santa Barbara High School District at 967-4506, or at the County Education Office by calling Carol Gregor at 964-4711, ext. 5281.



## VITA students crunch numbers for taxpayers

Students in the Regional Occupational Program at Santa Barbara High School took part in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, donating their time at the Franklin and Westside Community Centers for 10 weeks leading up to tax day, helping hundreds of community members with their returns. The help was free of charge.

VITA volunteers took a three-week series of workshops to learn about IRS forms and how to

complete them. Instructor Lee Ann Ben-Kinney was available to help if needed, as was IRS revenue agent Bob Correa, who watched over the students' work.

The returns were then filed via internet from the high school's computer lab, using a special ID number from the IRS. Santa Barbara High is the only high school in the nation to be given this capability.

# Caring and Sharing grants awarded

Continued from page four

- **Helping Hands and Happy Hearts**

Donna Beal, Joe Nightengale School, Orcutt

Each month kindergarten students will reach out to a different group in the community. Some of the groups include infants (students will create Literacy Bags for expectant mothers), pre-schoolers (students will hold a school-wide book collection and give books to local needy pre-schools), and other activities for groups clear up to adults in need.

- **Honoring Our Seniors:  
Your Footsteps Light the Way**

Leslie Gravitz, Main School, Carpinteria

Leslie's 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will honor the seniors in their community, enrich their lives with activities of learning, and let them know that they are needed and loved. Activities will include a holiday welcoming party, making an "all about you" book with interviews and photographs, scrapbooks, poetry writing, storytelling, art projects, and a shared potluck dinner.

- **Making Holidays Special**

Diona Durham, Paula Wiggins, Olga Reed School, Los Alamos (and SBCEO)

Students will reach out to residents of the Villa Maria Convalescent Home by reading books to them, singing to them, sharing snacks and making special gifts for them.

- **May Day Exchange**

Mike Heyl and Teresa Iturriria,  
Mary Buren Elementary, Guadalupe

After reading the story *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox, first grade students and senior citizens from the Guadalupe Senior Citizen Center will participate in a May Day basket art activity and write poems about their memories of childhood and Guadalupe. A reception of parents, students, and community members will be held and students and seniors will share their completed poems. The children will then give the seniors the completed baskets.

- **Reading Buddies That Care**

Kim Nodal, Mary Buren Elementary, Guadalupe

The Special Day Class students want to be reading buddies with Kim's 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, but the special students have auditory and visual disabilities that make it difficult for them to participate. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders will scan book pages while recording the text, with the use of specially designed software. These

electronic books can then be accessed by the Special Day Class students, allowing them to read independently. The two partner classes can then be reading buddies.

- **Santa Maria Style Caring**

Tricia Epperson, Miller School, Santa Maria

Tricia's 3<sup>rd</sup> graders have adopted Sargent Sarah Bowdish, a Santa Maria resident who is on active duty in the military. The students will make and send gifts, letters, stories, e-mail messages, and exchange photos with Sargent Bowdish and her troops. The goal is to lessen the loneliness and anxiety of being in active duty.

- **Seasons of Life: Biography as Service**

Ruben Gil, Santa Barbara Junior High School

Eighth graders will interview senior citizens at the Santa Barbara Retirement Community, chronicle their lives from birth to present, and create biographies documenting their stories, adventures, and rich lives. Students will present the seniors the autobiography heirlooms to be cherished.

- **Vieja Valley School/Cieneguitas  
Creek Restoration**

Tairy Carter, Vieja Valley School, Hope

Tairy's 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will clean up the Cieneguitas Creek adjacent to their school, create a nature trail with information signs, and plant native plants. The creek is part of the Murdoc Preserve and the children want everyone to enjoy a clean creek and learn about the area.

- **We're All "Kids on the Block"**

Mary Ellen Pankratz, Nightengale School, Orcutt

Students will learn puppet show scripts dealing with disabilities such as Down's Syndrome, blindness, and those who are wheelchair bound. They will perform the puppet shows for classes at their school, other schools, and for community/service groups. Students will help others gain new understanding and appreciation for people with disabilities.

- **Wrapped Up in Love**

Marcy Bremer and Amy Randeem,  
Robert Bruce School, Santa Maria

Jackets will be purchased for needy students in neighboring schools, then Marcy and Amy's children will make cards to put in the pockets and will walk to the local schools to deliver them.

# Plan Ahead . . .

## May

- 1 – County Board of Education meeting, 2 p.m., SBCEO Board Room
- 5 – Teacher Appreciation Week (National PTA)
- 6 – Superintendents meeting, 9 a.m., Santa Ynez HS Board Room
- 6 – Day of the Teacher
- 7 – Education Celebration, 5:30 p.m., Rancho SB Marriott, Buellton
- 7 – CalPERS Achieving Financial Security Seminar (for members more than 10 years from retirement), SBCEO Auditorium
- 8 – CalPERS Retirement and Estate Planning Seminar (for members 10 or less years from retirement), SBCEO Auditorium
- 9 – CalPERS Retirement Planning Workshop, SBCEO Auditorium
- 12-16 – Author-Go-Round, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. daily, SBCEO Auditorium
- 19-23 – Classified Employees Week
- 19 – School Business Officials Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Los Alamos
- 22 – North County Staff Appreciation Luncheon, 12 p.m., NCOE board room
- 23 – South County Staff Appreciation Luncheon, 12 p.m., SBCEO Auditorium
- 24-26 – *I Madonnari* Italian Street Painting Festival, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, The Santa Barbara Mission
- 26 – MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY (SBCEO closed)
- 28 – SB County COOP/Title III-LEP Consortium Meeting, 9-11:30 a.m., Santa Ynez HS Board Room

## June

- 2 – Superintendents meeting, 9 a.m., Santa Ynez HS Board Room
- 2 – North County Spirit Awards, Nightingale School

- 5 – County Board of Education meeting, 2 p.m., SBCEO Board Room
- 5 – South County Spirit Awards, SBCEO Auditorium
- 14 – Native America Voices Circle, “Youth and Elders: Past Present and Future,” facilitated by Lakota elder Ed Tepper, 2 to 5 p.m., the Martin Luther King Room of the Eastside Library, 1101 E. Montecito St., Santa Barbara. Information: Susanna Shreeve, 682-6838.



*Lakota elder Ed Tepper will facilitate the Native American Voices Circle June 14.*

- 16 – School Business Officials Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Los Alamos
  - 18 – CalPERS Retirement Planning Workshop, SBCEO Auditorium
- ## July
- 3 – County Board of Education meeting, 2 p.m., SBCEO Board Room
  - 4 – INDEPENDENCE HOLIDAY (SBCEO closed)

## August

- 4-15 – 2003 Summer Institute, various locations, contact Curriculum and Instruction for more information
- 7 – County Board of Education meeting, 2 p.m., SBCEO Board Room
- 15 – Deadline for NEWS, Fall 2003
- 21 – SBCEO Management Retreat

## Native project targets youth

The Native Project, a part of the Endowment for Youth Committee's ongoing Multicultural Media Literacy Project works to provide youth with:

- Understanding of local Chumash culture and how it relates to the environment around us.
- Understanding that there are more kinds of resources than financial—such as cultural and environmental—regarding the world around us.
- Understanding and appreciating cultures that have been long misunderstood and learning new communication skills based on humanity and sensitivity to those who are different than us.
- Having learning experiences such as taking creek samples at various levels of elevation and determining what affects the quality of water; then using GPS units, uploading data to CampInternet website for discussion and providing information to other youth; gathering materials to make gifts for Hopi children; and learning the cultural significance and importance of “gathering” to Native Americans.
- Involving children in local KCSB Youth Summer Radio Project, as a crosscultural experience. Hopi children are involved in Hopiland with KUYI Hopi Radio Youth Project.

Anyone wishing to assist or join the project was asked to contact Denise M. Daniels, executive director, Endowment for Youth Committee at 730-3349 or E-Mail: [eyc@endowment4youth.org](mailto:eyc@endowment4youth.org)

## Two Tunnel School teachers listed in “Who’s Who”

Two longtime teachers at Tunnel School in Santa Maria received a national honor for their education excellence. Fifth grade teacher Barbara Jones and sixth grade teacher Jim Galvez were selected to be in the 2002 edition of “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.”

Many teachers are nominated by former students for the honor. Both Galvez and Jones began their teaching careers at Tunnell—Galvez in 1974 and Jones in 1988. The “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers” pays tribute to America’s most respected teachers and also provides a resource for aspiring teachers who are seeking mentors.

## Student volunteers to HE/LP

Daniel Rodriguez, a student at Goleta Valley Junior High, volunteered to provide a soccer clinic for students of the Homeless Education/Liaison Project at the Transition House Shelter for families.

Daniel is rated No. 1 in Santa Barbara in his age group in soccer and 137 nationally.

The HE/LP program, which serves more than 1,200 children and youth countywide each year, is always on the lookout for role models. Daniel held a practice clinic, fielded questions, and presided over a drawing for soccer balls donated by Mike Buck of Carpinteria.



## Fighting hate

Harrison one of three in nation chosen by ADL

*Melis Tusiray, left, and Harrison Nalevanksy, of Dos Pueblos High School in Goleta, were two of eight teens from the Anti-Defamation Leagues’ Pacific Southwest Region to join 100 youths for the ADL National Youth Leadership Mission in Washington, D.C. Ten students were then chosen as Sugihara Fellows and were invited to submit an essay about the importance of Chiune Sugihara’s actions of rescuing 6,000 Jews during the Holocaust. Three applicants were then selected to represent the ADL on a fully-funded, one-week tour of Japan. Harrison was one of those three national representatives.*

## CEC honors Banigan

Cheryl Banigan, a teacher at Goleta Valley Junior High, was recognized as an exemplary special educator by the California Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children.

## News

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