



# Santa Barbara County Service Learning Initiative

## THE SERVICE LEARNING

### CURVE



On Friday, May 4, **Santa Barbara County Service Learning Initiative** held its first year-end celebration for Service Learning Site Advocates and Mentor Teachers. The festivities took place at **American Flatbread** ([www.foodremembers.com](http://www.foodremembers.com)) in Los Alamos and we are deeply indebted to **Drew Staub, Cindy Cripe, Meg Feil** and the entire American Flatbread **staff** for their wonderful support of and commitment to Service Learning. Coordinators **Irene Falzone** and **Kathy Kelly** welcomed upwards of 35 attendees\* who were able to tour the acre-plus garden (which will be in full bloom by harvest time), visit with other Service Learning teachers and administrators, and sample the various delicious pizzas for which American Flatbread is duly renown.

Examples of students' work on the American Flatbread flags were exhibited and blank flags were distributed to those present to take back to their classrooms. **Charlene and Tom Huston** from **Angels Bearing Gifts** (<http://www.angelsbearinggifts.com>) introduced participating teachers and described the Angels program. **Louise Fisher** announced a special (and simple!) Santa Barbara Foundation grant opportunity, available in the fall to every third-grade teacher in the county, that will enable them to access \$250 for their classrooms. **Art Fisher** discussed SBCEO's commitment to Service Learning and introduced **Bill Cirone, County Superintendent of Schools**, (attending with his wife, **Barbara Cirone**). **Mr. Cirone** is also Chairman of the National Center for Learning and Citizenship, an organization focused on Service Learning research and advocacy at the national level. He discussed the great importance of Service Learning and thanked the teachers for their valuable service. Those teachers present also received a copy from SBCSLI of *A Life Like Mine*, a UNICEF book published by Dorling-Kindersley.

We would like to thank all of our **SBCSLI Site Advocates** for the wonderful and inspiring Service Learning work that they have done this year. We look forward to working with all of you next year to continue and expand the wonderful work that has begun. Thank you!!

\***Sally Fisher** (Los Alamos), **Ken Parker** (Orcutt), **Bob and Judy Forbes** (Guadalupe), **Jan Clevenger** (SBCEO), **AJ Winckler** (Los Olivos), **Barbara Frombola** (Montecito), **Gail Winn-Jones** (Orcutt), **Ann Kemper** (Santa Maria-Bonita), **Kristin Burke** (Santa Maria-Bonita), **Katrina and Michael Soltero** (SBCEO), **Rosalie Jones** (Santa Maria-Bonita), **Tino Aleman** and **Bianca Aleman** (Guadalupe), **Corinne and Michael Araki-Kawaguchi** (Santa Maria-Bonita), **Heather Blanchard** and **Cora Blanchard** (Los Olivos), **Lee Knodel** (Santa Barbara), **Hazel Anderson** (Santa Barbara), **Kat LaGrone** (Santa Maria-Bonita), **Joanna Airey** (Santa Maria-Bonita), **Lynn Seigel-Boettner** (Hope), **Colleen Million** (Goleta), **Bill and Barbara Cirone** (SBCEO), **Linda Edwards** (Cold Spring), **Paul Oisboid** (Los Alamos), **Suzanne Dalton** (Santa Barbara), **Sue Green** (Santa Barbara), **Charlene and Tom Huston** (Angels Bearing Gifts), **Art and Louise Fisher** (SBCEO), **Irene Falzone** (SBCSLI), and **Kathy Kelly** (SBCSLI).

~ *Kathy Kelly, Irene Falzone, and Art Fisher*





# IN THE GARDEN



Because so many of you are involved with school gardens, we are including some helpful sites to inspire your work! A wonderful source of information (and free seeds!) for teachers is:

## Kids Gardening

(<http://www.kidsgardening.org>)

Among many other things, this organization provides a free email newsletter, a resource directory, a project library and suggestions for activities linked to curriculum, as well as information about grant opportunities.

Here are just a few sample projects to be found at the site under "Thematic Explorations"

**Service-Learning: Helping Kids and Communities Grow** (<http://www.kidsgardening.com/themes/service1.asp>)

**Planning an Edible Landscape: Beauty and nutrition from the same plants**



**Gardening for a Sustainable Future: Gardens and habitats as dynamic ecosystems**

**Growing Cultural Understanding: Using plants and gardens to explore world geography, historical eras, and contemporary cultures.**

**Cultivating Literacy in the Garden: Weaving reading, writing, and language acquisition into a school garden and habitat project**

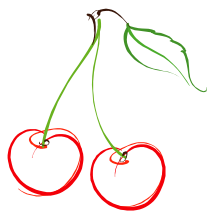
**Honing Math Skills in the Garden: Cultivating math and science skills**

**Nurturing Young Scientists: Growing understanding**

**Linking Gardens and Nutrition: Growing healthy bodies and minds**



**Growing a School Garden Business: Using gardening savvy to turn a profit**



If your interest is peaked visit:

<http://www.kidsgardening.org>

and sign up for the free Kids Gardening e-newsletter

For **FREE SEEDS**, go to:

## Operation Green Plant

[http://www.america-the-beautiful.org/free\\_seeds/index.php](http://www.america-the-beautiful.org/free_seeds/index.php)

and fill out the application form





## Junior Master Gardener® Program

The Junior Master Gardener (JMG®) Program was introduced in California in 1999. This exciting national youth gardening program, developed by Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System, cultivates leadership and volunteering by utilizing fun, hands-on horticultural projects. It also kindles and ignites an interest in science (biology) through exciting hands-on activities. It fosters personal pride and responsibility, and encourages peer and cross-generational mentoring. The University of California 4-H Youth Development Program is a State Partner with the JMG® Program, joining approximately 31 states in the national JMG® Program.



**Susan Gloeckler, State Director of the JMG Program, will conduct TWO workshops at the August 13 Service Learning Institute in Carpinteria!!!**

**Junior Master Gardener® Curricula** The Junior Master Gardener program engages children in novel, "hands-on" group and individual learning experiences that promote a love of gardening, develop an appreciation for the environment, and cultivate the mind. JMG encourages youths to be of service to others through service learning and leadership development projects and rewards them with certification



**New Curriculum!** To cultivate the connection children's gardening experiences to great books, the Junior Master Gardener program has developed *Literature in the Garden*. This curriculum utilizes six Growing Good Kids Book Award-winning titles to inspire learning through outdoor activities, creative expression and open exploration. It will enhance youths' understanding of the messages and powerful illustrations conveyed in these stories. *Literature in the Garden* will serve to make both their learning and the stories they are reading more relevant. Using quality children's literature to connect kids to gardening and the natural world is a compelling concept. And bringing gardens and great books together may just be another way to grow good kids.

In *Literature in the Garden*, children will:

- explore the natural world with activities that encourage leadership development, personal pride, responsibility and community involvement.
- develop critical thinking skills, identifying local conservation concerns and taking action to address them through individual and group projects.
- use quality children's literature to connect kids to gardening and the natural world.

**All while taking part in an integrated curriculum that will *strengthen skills* in math, science, language and social studies. Projects are directly linked to California standards:**

<http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/jrmastergardener/>



## COMMON CENTS: PENNY HARVEST

Common Cents is an educational, not-for-profit organization, which specializes in creating and managing service-learning programs for young people. Its most popular and best known program is the Penny Harvest, the largest child philanthropy program in the United States. As a result of an award SBCSLI received this year at the National Service Learning Conference in Albuquerque, **one of our SBCSLI schools will be the lucky recipient**

**of the Penny Harvest program for one year. Details will be announced August 13 at the 7th Annual Service Learning Institute in Carpinteria** (details on the last page of this newsletter).

<http://www.commoncents.org>



# 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Service Learning Institute



## CLIMATE PROJECT: ROMANCING THE EARTH

Monday, Aug. 13, 2007

Carpinteria High School 8a.m. - 3 p.m.

4810 Foothill Road, Carpinteria, CA

Morning and  
Afternoon  
Grade-Level  
Sessions!



Resources  
and  
Resource

-Keynote: "Global Warming—Service Learning and the Future"

John Zavalney, LAUSD. National Science Foundation and Presidential Award Winner

-SL Site Advocacy Training/ Money for Service Learning/ Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots

Santa Barbara County Service Learning Initiative ~ Site Advocate Seminar

-The Junior Master Gardener Program/ Links to Service and Standards

Susan Gloeckler ~ JMG Program State Director

-After School Programs ~ YSCal Service Learning After-School Toolkit

Youth Service California Representatives



Please fill out the information below and fax or mail to: Art Fisher/Center for Community Education, P.O. Box 6307, Santa Barbara 93160 **by Aug. 8: Adults \$20 – Youth \$10 (after Aug. 8: \$25 & \$15)**. Make out checks to SBCEO/Service Learning. (Team? Please state name of team and then list individual names with contact information on a separate sheet.) **Fax: 682-9016**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Position \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Lawrence A Fisher, Ed.D., Coordinator, Service Learning, SBCEO: 805 967-4711 x4400

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

Questions about Institute or hotel accommodations? Contact Ann McLennan, 805 964-4711 x4480

**\*Attendance at the Institute satisfies the fall training requirement for SBOSLI Site Advocates\***