



# The Superintendent's Update

December 16, 2011



## NEWS FROM KELLY

**Rory Rottschalk Awarded December Superintendent's Award:** Rory Rottschalk was recognized at the December Board meeting for the many contributions he has made to Chico Unified School District and in particular, to the children of Rosedale Elementary School. His volunteerism started at Rosedale when he shared his idea of connecting community members with students. He already had a group of his employees ready to become "big brothers" and "big sisters" to support students one child at a time. Since that time, Rory has brought numerous resources to our schools and our community. He is responsible working with the Chico Rotary club to support numerous campus beautification projects at Rosedale, including the landscaping and school sign at the front of the school. He also used his Rotary contacts to initiate a Strategic Tutors program. Rory has also been instrumental in the coordination of community members with *Love Chico* and bringing the *National Night Out Community Event* to our schools. Rory's belief in community stewardship has not only benefitted Rosedale, but has also served as a model for other schools as well as our community. Rory embodies the "pay it forward" mentality as he gives selflessly of his time and of his resources. We thank Rory for all he has done and look forward to many more collaborative efforts with him.



**Eric Snedecker, CUSD Leader of the Month:** Thanks to the generosity of Horace Mann/Golden Apple Insurance and Financial Services, at the Leadership Team meeting each month we recognize a "Leader of the Month". In December, **Eric Snedecker**, Principal at Loma Vista, was presented with this award. Congratulations to Eric.

**Water Well Project:** The Chico High School Friends of Ag have joined forces with **Ron Reed** and **Will Bono** on a water drilling project. Ron Reed has done volunteer work in Africa drilling wells with a solar powered attachment for water pumping. Will Bono is now working with Mr. Reed to build the trailer mounted rigs. The equipment will be used for agriculture in Africa as well as for their domestic water supplies. Mr. Reed's group is now paying African teams to drill their own wells and has worked to ensure women are part of the teams, something previously unheard of in Africa. The CHS Friends of Ag suggested that the student farm would be a perfect place to try a well using drip tube. It was further suggested that **Ronnie Cockrell**, CHS Ag Teacher, might be able to work with students to build one of the units in the shop and the CHS Ag students could help drill the well on the CHS Ag Farm. With water in place, the students could then plant the crop, lay the drip line, and use solar power to run the pump. CUSD staff agreed this would be a great educational opportunity for our high school ag students as well as engineering and science students. Mr. Reed and Mr. Bono are covering all costs, including permits. We look forward to hearing more about this educational partnership. Thank you Mr. Reed, Mr. Bono and the CHS Friends of Ag for collaborating with our Agriculture students!

**Citrus Bike Project Benefiting Boys and Girls Club of Chico:** I had the wonderful opportunity on Thursday to listen to Citrus students present their Bike Projects. At Citrus Avenue Elementary School, sixth graders bring math, science, and language arts to life by integrating key curriculum into the yearly Holiday Bicycle Give Away Project where students rebuild and refurbish old bicycles. Once stripped down to the frame, each bike is repainted and rebuilt with new parts then the bicycles are donated at Christmas to children from the Boys and Girls Club of Chico. The academic knowledge was tremendous as the project entailed a research component, a writing component, a speaking component, and some serious math. I asked a group of students to tell me how many times they would have to pedal to go a mile. They said they hadn't done that math yet, but they would figure it out and tell me...and within 10 minutes, they had an answer for me and could describe the math (and logic) they used to get the answer. Kudos to teacher **Ray Bransky**, his fabulous sixth grade students, and the Citrus community for their support of this project. It is a wonderful service learning project that not only enhances student's learning but also fosters a love for bicycles, a hands on experience with recycling and helps less fortunate children in our community.



**PVHS Winter Concert:** Kudos to the PVHS Band for an excellent Winter Concert held this past Monday night. The evening started out with performances by the Jazz Ensemble and the PVHS Brass Quintet. The PVHS Vocal Jazz group added an innovative touch as the Jazz instrumental selections were complemented by talented young vocalists. The evening ended with the outstanding PVHS Symphonic Band who played uplifting holiday tunes. Thank you to **Dan Holmes**, Director, and all of the students who contributed to this musical evening. Thank you also to **Sean Sullivan** and the Band Booster group who support the band throughout the year.

**Reading Partners:** (From Joanne Parsley)

**CHS Choir Community Performance:** I also had the opportunity to see the Chico High Choral students in action performing for our community. **Sue Delgado** and her talented students entertained for the Chico Rotary Holiday Dinner...and even sang songs for Santa. It is my understanding that this was just one of the many community events where the choral students performed. Thank you Sue and CHS Choral Students!

**Bill Patton:** It is with deep sympathy that we share the passing of Bill Patton, the CSEA representative to the Personnel Commission. He was known to those who worked closely with him to be a genuine, honorable man who cared deeply and strived to always act in the best

interest of others. He will be missed by the CUSD community. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to his family and friends.



## NEWS FROM EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

**Secondary Math Professional Development:** All CUSD junior high and high school math teachers will meet January 4 for professional development in essential standards, learning targets and student achievement. The teachers will take this information and use it to begin building toward the future implementation of The Common Core. The professional day comes as a result of a planning team made up of administrators from each secondary school and the district office.

**English Articulation Meeting:** English teachers from the junior high and high schools will meet on January 11. The purpose of the meeting is to create expectations for learning for all 8th grade students before they reach high school. This is designed to ensure all students promoting from 8th grade have learned the prerequisite skills necessary for success in high school English.

**Districtwide Student Progress Assessments:** The next administration of the district Student Progress Assessments will take place from February 21 to March 2. Secondary teachers will have an opportunity to review results with colleagues of the November Student Progress Assessments at the January 11 districtwide meeting. Grades 2-11 were assessed in English and Math at the beginning of the school year to establish a baseline for measuring progress in the learning. An overview of the district's assessment system may be found at: [CUSD Assessment](#).

**Leadership Team:** The administrative Leadership Team met after school on December 8. Agenda topics included discussion of a book-in-common on improving student learning, a review of districtwide Student Progress Assessment results, and were given a complete set of the new CA common core standards. Congratulations to [Eric Snedeker](#) who was recognized by his peers with a Leader-of-the-month award.

**California Educational Research Association Conference:** A group of CUSD high school teachers and administrators attended the California Educational Research Association conference December 1 and 2. Four hundred professional educators and researchers attended this year's conference. Keynote addresses included "Problems with the Use of Student Test Scores to Evaluate Teachers", Transitioning to the Future: Common Core State Standards, New Assessments, and ESEA Reauthorization", "College and Career Readiness." Funds used for conferences are designated professional development funds. The general fund is not impacted.

**CALPADS:** To fully comply with federal accountability requirements, California has enacted a data collection and reporting system, California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS). Collection and reporting of this data is a joint effort between all CUSD schools, Business Services, Educational Services, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Nutrition Services. Thank you to [office managers](#) and [registrars](#), [ELD teachers](#) and [ELD aides](#), and to [Jennifer McCall](#) and [Joe Loomis](#) for checking and ensuring data accuracy of thousands of student records. The CALPADS Fall 1 data was submitted and approved prior to the state deadline. Work continues on Fall 2 data submission and on California Partnership for Achieving Student Success (CalPASS) data submission.

**California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE):** The next administration of the CAHSEE will be February 7 and 8, 2012, for all students in grade 10, and for students in grade 12 who have not yet passed. CAHSEE results may be found at [California High School Exit Exam \(CAHSEE\) Results](#).

**STAR Testing:** Thanks to [STAR site coordinators](#), [psychologists](#), [case carriers](#) and to [Jennifer Bevers](#), the STAR testing order was submitted. Over 20,000 test booklets were ordered. The dates for the STAR Writing Test in grades 4 & 7 will be March 6 and 7, 2012. The STAR multiple-choice testing window will begin on April 16, 2012. The 2011 STAR test results were released on August 15 and may be found at <http://star.cde.ca.gov/star2011/>. An informational overview of all STATE TESTING PROGRAMS may be found at:

[Chart of California Assessment System](#)



## NEWS FROM BUSINESS SERVICES

**Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA):** Beginning in 2010-11, per agreement, CUTA unit members share in the revenue generated from MAA reporting. For several years MAA funding was held by the State; last year revenues for 06-07, 07-08, and 08-09 were released in early fall and CUTA members were beneficiaries of that income. This year funding has not come in as timely. To date we have received the first three quarters for 09-10 and hope to receive the final fourth quarter by late winter. If so, the benefits of that income will be paid in March 2012. In the event the revenue does not come in before March, we will notify the membership as to when they can anticipate checks. Between now and March, **Maureen Fitzgerald** will send updates on what she knows and when the revenue for the fourth quarter does arrive. **Please note:** The check received last year was for three years, the 11-12 check will only include the 09-10 reporting year. Feel free to contact **Maureen Fitzgerald** if you have any questions...

**Maintenance and Operations (M&O):** With Christmas break starting, there are some sites that will have all the custodians on vacation. Here are some things that all staff should do before leaving on Friday:

- Take classroom pets home for the holidays. The heat will be off and it will be cold!
- If you have a manual thermostat in your room, make sure it is off.
- Remove all food items from the classrooms.
- Unplug all appliances, including lamps.
- Secure your windows and doors.

During the break, M&O will be preparing all the portable I-wing buildings at Pleasant Valley High for removal. All the furnishings in the classrooms must be removed. The portables are going to be taken to Patterson, California for refurbishing. They will then be placed at the new Inspire campus at Chapman Elementary this summer. There were also two portables moved from the Hooker Oak campus and placed at PVHS for Special Ed classes. M&O will be moving the kitchen from I-3 to one of those portables during the break. We are also building offices in both J-8 and J-9. All this is in preparation to clear the area for the new building to be constructed at Pleasant Valley.

*From all of us at M&O, everyone have a safe and Happy Holiday break.*



**Conversion of Substitute Employee Management System (SEMS):** We have imported the first set of data from the old **SEMS** to the new system SmartFindExpress system. The new system will go live on December 21 for final testing. A couple of important informational changes will happen with the new system. First, the phone number has changed. **The new telephone number will be (530) 924-0308.** The web address will change, also to <https://chicousd.eschoolsolutions.com>. We will redirect <http://sems.chicousd.org> to the new site on December 21.

There will also be a change for users who have multiple logins to the SEMS system. This would be staff that have both a substitute and teacher profile on the system. The SmartFindExpress will combine the user profile (two will become one) and the user ID and PIN will be **the teacher ID and PIN**. We will know more after the system is online and training on December 1, 2 and 5.

**New and Improved Fax Services are coming!!! Important Information:** The District is implementing centralized Fax Services for all sites starting with your site/department (list included at the bottom of this message). All fax lines are going to be consolidated in the District Office for the purpose of reducing costs associated with faxing, and improving fax services provided to all sites via integration with Uniflow and Email Systems.

**The migration to the new system will take place in the next few weeks.** As part of this centralization, ALL INCOMING faxes will be delivered via EMAIL to a designated Group, based on existing phone numbers (you keep your phone number), and will no longer require a dedicated fax machine at each site. This will reduce costs associated with incoming faxes as only faxes that NEED a physical (paper) copy, will be printed, saving both paper, and printer costs. In addition, because we are using lower cost Canon Copiers, those faxes that need to be printed, will actually cost less than using dedicated fax machines.

Because we are delivering incoming faxes via EMAIL, we have set up Fax Recipient Groups for each Site/Department. People assigned to those groups will see ALL incoming faxes for that fax line/phone number. For security purposes, the people in the group will be principals and/or office managers who will direct faxes (email forward) to the appropriate person or people.

We are also preparing documentation and instructions for sending faxes from the Uniflow or Email Systems. This documentation will give step by step instructions on how to send faxes from the Copiers (Scan to fax) or Email (Email to fax). We can also provide "hands on" training for sites who desire it.

We are very excited about providing this new service to our district. Following is the list of sites/departments that will be converted: Bidwell Junior High, Chapman Elementary, Chico Junior High, Chico High, Chico High – Athletics, Chico High – ASB, Chico Unified District Office, District Office – Certificated, District Office – Purchasing, Marsh Junior High, Parkview Elementary, Pleasant Valley High – Counseling, Pleasant Valley High, Shasta Elementary, Sierra View Elementary, Maintenance and Operations, Transportation, Warehouse, Nutrition Services, and Student Support Services.

### **Nutrition Services**

**Turkey Feast Smilebox Pictures:** To see pictures from the Turkey Feasts held at each site, please click the link below:

[Click to play](#)

**Local Produce:** Nutrition Services is rolling out the remainder of the elementary sites with the five entree menu. The roll out will be spread over the next two months. They are continuing to search for and use more local produce. They have apples coming from paradise for the next couple of weeks. They are also looking at summer feeding program options.

Nutrition worked with facilities on the Chico High School remodel. We finalized the themes for the food service area. We also rolled out our new nutrition logo to the site managers. We are also working with an intern nutritionist from CSLA.



## NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

**CSEA, Chapter 110 Negotiations:** The District and CSEA, Chapter 110 negotiations teams met on November 30 and again on December 13. The Chapter has provided a new proposal. The teams have been working well together to clarify the interests of each side and to provide appropriate counter proposals. Topics that have been discussed include the assignment of overtime, impacts and effects of layoff, personal necessity leave, leave of absence for child birth, vacation time for members with 25 years of service, scheduling vacation time, additional holidays, transfers and organizational security. The teams are scheduled to meet again on January 10, 2012.

**Chico Unified Teachers' Association (CUTA) Negotiations:** Last spring the parties successfully completed negotiations dealing with a variety of issues that were mutually opened including extended day kindergarten. We also successfully completed negotiations this fall on the impact and effect issues of the modifications to the medical plan imposed by the Butte County JPA. The current agreement between the parties states, in part, that:

“Not later than February 1, the CUTA and the District shall exchange their initial proposals for the next school year(s). The proposals shall be presented to the Governing Board at the next meeting of the Board.”

Therefore, negotiations for the 2012-13 school year should begin in February 2012.

**New Year's Day Holiday:** There appears to be some confusion about whether or not Monday, January 2, 2012, is a work day or a holiday. Many school districts are closed on Monday, January 2, 2012, to celebrate New Year's Day. Education Code 37220 (b) states that when New Year's Day (or any holiday) falls on a Sunday, that the public schools will be closed the following Monday. Education Code 37220(e) allows the Governing Board of a School District, by adoption of a resolution, to revise the date upon which the schools close in observation of holiday.

On December 2, 2009, the CUSD Board of Education approved, at the Board meeting, a resolution that moves the District's observance of New Year's Day in the 2011/12 school year to Friday, December 30, 2011.

**Therefore, Monday, January 2, 2012, is a student attendance day and a work day for employees in Chico Unified School District.**

**Student Calendar:** The Chico Unified School District continues to seek input from the community and employees as we develop a recommendation for a new three-year student calendar. To view the current calendar as well as additional information, please go to the District website at:

[www.chicousd.org/Departments/Superintendents-Office/HOT-TOPICS/index.html](http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Superintendents-Office/HOT-TOPICS/index.html)

We recognize that our school calendar affects students, staff, parents and the community. We want thoughts and ideas from a wide variety of people in order to provide the best possible schedule for all our students. Stakeholders are asked to provide input regarding what they like about the current calendar and/or to suggest improvements for the new proposal. To express your opinion, please email CUSD at: [schoolcalendar@chicousd.org](mailto:schoolcalendar@chicousd.org)

District staff will gather public comment until early January. Copies of what comes into this email address will be given to the Board of Education. The current timeline is that this issue will be on the Board agenda on January 18, 2012, as an INFORMATION ONLY item. No decision will be made at that meeting. It is anticipated that this will become an action item and that a decision will be made on this topic at the Board's meeting on February 15, 2012. For more information please contact: Bob Feaster 891-3000 x142.

**Classified Human Resources:** It is with great regret that I inform everyone that Bill Patton passed away. Mr. Patton was the appointee of CSEA for the Personnel Commission (PC) and has been a member of the PC for the last three years. He was truly a genuine and honorable man who cared deeply about all of the employees of the school district. Mr. Patton demonstrated that he followed his convictions and always acted because he believed that he was acting in the best interest of others. He will be missed. Please keep him and his family in your thoughts.

Internal Openings: Lateral Transfer openings are only open to current CUSD permanent employees whose position is at the same or higher level as the open position. If you are interested in any internal openings you must submit a Letter of Interest. Letter of Interest forms can be found at [chicousd.org](http://chicousd.org) or you may submit a hand-written letter to the Classified Human Resources office that includes the information requested on the Lateral Transfer notice. The notice(s) for the classification(s) can be accessed through our District's web site:

<http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Human-Resources/Classified-Non-Teaching/index.html>

There currently are no internal only openings as of the date of this report. Recruitments are expected to resume after the first of the year.

External Openings: If you are interested in a position that is at a higher level than the position you currently hold (promotion) or to be appointed to an additional position unlike your current classification, you must be on the eligibility list for the classification. Currently, there are no external openings. Recruitments are expected to resume after the first of the year. The link to reach external openings is:

<http://www.edjoin.org/searchResults.aspx?countyID=4&districtID=68&catID=3>

Employees are encouraged to review the Districts job descriptions located on the web at:

<http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Human-Resources/Classified-Non-Teaching/Job-Descriptions/index.html>

to ensure that they are aware of the requirements of classifications that they have not previously held. Employees are also encouraged to review the seniority lists located on the web at:

<http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Human-Resources/Classified-Non-Teaching/Seniority-Lists/index.html>

The seniority lists only reflect the employee's seniority for positions that they currently hold.

If you have any questions regarding these recruitments or any other classified issues, please contact Classified Human Resources.



## NEWS FROM SCHOOL SITES

**CHS Peer Medication Club:** On December 2 the Peer Mediation Club from Chico High presented anti-mean girl strategies, information, and personal stories to 45 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls at Bidwell Junior High.



From L to R : Barbara Henderson driver extraordinaire, Chico police officer Lori Kligerman, Carmen Miguel, Arianna Mojica, Inspire student Julia Borges, Sabrina Luu, Jenna Barajas. Kneeling; Student Teacher Erica Scott, Blia Lor, Study Thao, Advisor School Psychologist Mike Carroll. Continuing on second row; Angela Prior, Adrianna Salas, Xia Thao, Roxanne Winslow, Taryn Haslett, Kaci Spooner, and Mara Christensen

**Chico Museum Art Show:** On December 2 the Chico Museum hosted a student art show and reception for CUSD students whose art work was on display at the museum's Feathered Friends in the Rice Fields Art Show. Fine Art teachers **Penny Oster**, **Lorraine Slattery** and **Bonnie Parkin** selected the art work of one hundred and twenty CUSD students for the art show. Each student's art work depicted waterfowl living in the rice fields. Three hundred proud students, family members and teachers viewed the student art show and the museum's current exhibit, "Amazing Grains: The Story of Rice in California and Beyond", while enjoying refreshments. Two professional artists also met with many of the student artists, praised each student's art work and encouraged students to pursue their interest in art.



Fine Arts Teacher, **Penny Oster**, and her fifth grade Shasta School student, **Wyatt Gassiot**, with his junior duck stamp picture displayed at the museum.



**Shasta Elementary Shares with Riverside Convalescent Hospital:** The Shasta Elementary School Student Council Coin Drive raised \$659 dollars to benefit patients at Riverside Convalescent Hospital! The activities director at Riverside Convalescent Hospital shared that the patients loved the TV Shasta students purchased for them two years ago (last year Shasta donated four computers) but on movie days the patients in the back had difficulty hearing. Costco had just what they needed – a four speaker wireless system, so this year Shasta purchased a surround sound system for the patients. Thank you Shasta students, staff and parents for helping provide a Happy Holiday for the patients at Riverside Convalescent Hospital!



## **CUSD IN THE NEWS**

### **Enterprise Record**

[CUSD board apologizes for blocking comments](#)

[Editorial: Logic restored on food rules](#)

[Letter: Teachers undergo rigorous evaluation](#)

[Save our Summers group finally has their say during CUSD school ...](#)

[Chico State prof heading CUSD board](#)

[Brown pulls the 'trigger': Colleges, schools and services for ...](#)

### **Other**

[Spotty progress on childhood obesity; long way to go](#)

[Letter: Fundraising options being explored](#)

# Holiday Book Drive

Help us give the gift of literacy this season.  
Our annual Holiday Book Drive provides books  
to children in need across the country.  
Each store chooses its own local recipient group.

CUSD Elementary School Libraries have been chosen by  
Chico's Barnes & Noble Store located on  
2031 Dr. Martin Luther King Pkwy

*Visit your local Barnes & Noble  
for details on how you can make  
a difference in your community.*





## How do you spell help? It's easy as .

If you're looking for help to balance work and life, your **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)** has the answers. We make it easy for you – and everyone in your household – to get free, confidential services including referrals to counselors, information on child care and elder care, consultations with legal and financial experts, and more.

There's no need to enroll. Just call **800-999-7222** anytime of the day or night. Or visit **[anthemEAP.com](http://anthemEAP.com)** and enter Butte Schools for access to a website full of timely information, self-assessment surveys, shopping discounts and links to useful resources.



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JANUARY 18, 2012



*Your Employee Assistance  
Program (EAP) presents:*

## EATING RIGHT FOR LIFE WORKSHOP

**January 18, 2012  
7 pm – 8 pm**

Program will be held via  
Live Webinar in the comfort of your home

**Program Overview:** Donuts for breakfast, candy bar for lunch? Eating on the run? Does this sound familiar? Participants in this seminar learn the benefits of nutrition, including the importance of making informed food choices to develop and maintain sound eating habits.

*Free Stress Ball  
provided to the  
first 10  
registrants!!!*

In this workshop, participants will learn about:

- Understand what food your body needs for optimal health
- Navigate foods and food marketing based on sound nutrition advice
- Learn to manage weight, energy and long-term health with nutrition guidance
- Review and understand the 2010 Dietary Guidelines issued by the USDA and HHA

To register scan the QR code or email [bssp@bcoe.org](mailto:bssp@bcoe.org)  
Questions? Contact Christy Patterson at  
[cpatters@bcoe.org](mailto:cpatters@bcoe.org) or (530) 532-5837





## Homework for the Holidays: Inspiring Healthy Habits

Tanya Harter, Nutrition Specialist, Chico Unified School District and [choosemyplate.gov](http://choosemyplate.gov)



Making healthy choices over the holidays is hard enough for parents, but for kids who are still learning the importance of eating right, resisting the temptation of holiday buffets and limitless sweets is virtually impossible. Thankfully, schools and families have a new tool to help children learn about well-balanced meals and healthy choices this holiday season. You may have seen the MyPlate icon on your school menu, or posted in the cafeteria this year. School nutrition programs have been using this healthy food guide to encourage students to try the fruits, vegetables and milk served with every school meal, but MyPlate provides great resources for parents too.

**Ten Tips for Making Healthy Foods More Fun for Children.** Encourage children to eat vegetables and fruits by making it fun. Provide healthy ingredients and let kids help with preparation, based on their age and skills. Kids may try foods they avoided in the past if they helped make them.

1. **SMOOTHIE CREATIONS**: Blend fat-free or low-fat yogurt or milk with fruit pieces and crushed ice. Use fresh, frozen, canned, and even overripe fruits. Try bananas, berries, peaches, and/or pineapple. If you freeze the fruit first, you can even skip the ice!
2. **DELICIOUS DIPPERS**: Kids love to dip their foods. Whip up a quick dip for veggies with yogurt and seasonings such as herbs or garlic. Serve with raw vegetables like broccoli, carrots, or cauliflower. Fruit chunks go great with a yogurt and cinnamon or vanilla dip.
3. **CATERPILLAR KABOBS**: Assemble chunks of melon, apple, orange and pear on skewers for a fruity kabob. For a raw veggie version, use vegetables like zucchini, cucumber, squash, sweet peppers, or tomatoes.
4. **PERSONALIZED PIZZAS**: Set up a pizza-making station in the kitchen. Use wholewheat English muffins, bagels, or pita bread as the crust. Have tomato sauce, low-fat cheese, and cup-up vegetables or fruits for toppings. Let kids choose their own favorites. Then pop the pizzas into the oven to warm.
5. **FRUITY PEANUT BUTTERFLY**: Start with carrot sticks or celery for the body. Attach wings made of thinly sliced apples with peanut butter and decorate with halved grapes or dried fruit.
6. **FROSTY FRUITS**: Frozen treats are bound to be popular in the warm months. Just put fresh fruits such as melon chunks in the freezer (rinse first). Make "popsicles" by inserting sticks into peeled bananas and freezing.
7. **BUGS ON A LOG**: Use celery, cucumber, or carrot sticks as the log and add peanut butter. Top with dried fruit such as raisins, cranberries, or cherries, depending on what bugs you want!
8. **HOMEMADE TRAIL MIX**: Skip the pre-made trail mix and make your own. Use your favorite nuts and dried fruits, such as unsalted peanuts, cashews, walnut or sunflower seeds mixed with dried apples, pineapple, cherries, apricots, or raisins. Add whole-grain cereals to the mix, too.
9. **POTATO PERSON**: Decorate half a baked potato. Use sliced cherry tomatoes, peas, and low-fat cheese on the potato to make a funny face.
10. **PUT KIDS IN CHARGE**: Ask your child to name new veggie or fruit creations. Let them arrange raw veggies or fruit into a fun shape or design.





**[www.RecycleButte.net](http://www.RecycleButte.net)**

**Your on-line Recycling Guide**

**The Fall/Winter 2011 Butte County Recycling E-Newsletter has arrived, just in time for the holidays.**

### Quick Hits

- ♻️ Through the third quarter of 2011, Butte County residents were disposing 4.08 pounds of trash per person per day compared to the statewide average of 4.5. In 2010, we disposed of 4.23 pounds of trash per person per day. That small decrease in daily disposal (About 2 1/2 ounces per person) totaled over the year represents more than 6,000 tons of waste that will not get buried in landfills. Good job Butte County!
- ♻️ Helpful Hint: "Biodegradable" does not always mean "Compostable". It is a good idea to keep packaging products and other items labeled biodegradable out of your backyard compost bin.
- ♻️ Butte County's annual Christmas Tree Recycling program will be in full swing starting December 26. For complete information click [here](#).
- ♻️ Happy Holidays from the folks at the Butte County Public Works Department!

***Stere Rodowick***

**Butte County Recycling Coordinator**



### **Archives**

To review past edition of the Recycling E-Newsletter, go to [www.RecycleButte.net](http://www.RecycleButte.net)

### **In this issue:**

- Holiday Feature** – Keeping the Landfill off your gift list
- Special Waste** – Used Tires: They're not just for swings anymore
- County News** – Household Hazardous Waste Facilities update
- E-Waste** – Electronic Waste and R2 Certification



**Keep Butte County  
Butte-i-ful**

**Everyday is America Recycles Day  
(Not just November 15<sup>th</sup>)**

### **Holiday Feature: Keeping the Landfill off your gift list.**

It would not be a surprise for most people to learn that the Neal Road Recycling & Waste Facility experiences a spike in activity during the winter holiday season. Considering the extra retail activity, increased dining out and more cooking at home, both residential and commercial garbage trucks come through our scale house significantly heavier than in most other times of the year.

There are ways to keep those trash trucks as light as possible and still have an enjoyable gift giving and belly stuffing holiday season. A little pre-planning can save money, time and landfill space. Here are some ideas:

- **Shop the Thrift Stores first:** That perfect gift may be sitting on a shelf of a local thrift store. By purchasing at a charity thrift store, you will not only be supporting a local non-profit, but likely saving loads of money as opposed to purchasing that item new. And while your there...
- **Donate your outgrown, under-used and** otherwise classic items that somebody else will appreciate. You will also get that tax deduction in before the end of the year.

- **Bag it, don't wrap it:** Reusable gift bags are not only cheaper, as they are used over and over again, but they are easier and quicker when preparing the gift for giving.
- **Donate the leftovers:** If you're hosting a holiday party and you've got way too much food leftover, donate what is still fresh or non-perishable to a local charity kitchen.
- **Compost those veggies:** If you've got a backyard compost full of fall leaves, those vegetables will balance out the leaves quite nicely. A combination of green food waste and brown dried leaves make for an ideal compost mix.
- **Precycle the packaging:** Before you give a gift, consider removing and recycling the packaging prior to giving it. This will ensure that the packaging does get recycled and won't overload your recycling bin post holidays. And finally...
- **Don't purchase garbage:** Some things that people buy are just destined for the landfill. Whether it's because it's made cheaply or it just has no real lasting use (Remember the singing fish?), it's best to give gifts that will be valued for a long time.

### Special Waste: Waste Tires, they're not just for swings anymore

We're all familiar with the iconic image of the tire strung from a tree by a stout rope to make a backyard swing. It's what use to come to mind when thinking of uses for waste tires. Or, tires being employed on the football practice field to train gridiron gladiators. As good as these uses are for what to do with waste tires, there are not enough backyards or practice fields to accommodate the over 40 million waste tires produced annually in California.

In the not too distant past, approximately 8 million of the 40 million waste tires were landfilled or stockpiled annually. These stockpiles posed a fire threat and subsequent environmental and human health risks. Standing water in tires provided a breeding ground for mosquitoes, which potentially carry diseases like West Nile Virus, encephalitis, and dengue fever.



Since passage of the Tire Recycling Act in 1989, California has dramatically increased the number of waste tires diverted from landfill disposal in favor of beneficial end uses. The beneficial use of 30 million tires represents a recycling rate of 72.7 percent in 2009.

The California Tire Recycling Act authorized CalRecycle to [award grants and loans](#) to businesses and public entities for activities that could expand markets for used tires. The act specifically lists several types of projects: polymer treatment, crumb rubber production, retreading, shredding, and the manufacture of such products as rubber asphalt, playground equipment, crash barriers, erosion control, floor and track surfacing, oil spill recovery, roofing, and other environmentally safe applications. Grants are intended to fund research projects, to encourage business development, and to assist local government in implementing collection, outreach, and public education programs.

Locally, waste tires have been recycled as all weather tracks at Paradise, Durham, Pleasant Valley and Chico High Schools. Also, waste tires have been recycled in to playground surfaces in Biggs, Palermo, Thermalito, the Town of Paradise and Paradise Lake.

Several local businesses have started up for the specific purpose of developing uses for waste tires. *Safepath Products* of Chico produces a variety of surfacing and transition products made from waste tires. They introduced the first recycled rubber ramp that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1997. *Waste Tire Products* of Orland also produces award winning rubber mats made from recycled tires.

A material that was once discarded in our canyons and back roads is now a valued commodity that when recycled, creates jobs, saves valuable landfill space and makes for a healthier environment. For more information on waste tire recycling, you can click on the link below.  
[www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Tires/Info/default.htm](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Tires/Info/default.htm)

### County news: Household Hazardous Waste Facility update

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is a critical part of waste stream generated by Butte County residents. It is the waste that cannot be disposed of with regular trash and must be brought to a household hazardous waste facility. Materials like paint, oils, caustic cleansers and fertilizers all must be disposed of at a permitted haz-waste facility.

In Butte County, there are three facilities permitted to accept HHW from the public. The County facility

at the Chico Airpark Complex, located at 1101 Marauder Street is open Fridays from 9:00 to 1:00 and Saturdays from 9:00 to 4:00. They will accept up to 5 gallons or 50 pounds of HHW from the public at no charge and is available to all Butte County residents. Recology of Butte Colusa Counties (533-5868) operates their HHW facility in Oroville at 2720 S 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. They operate on the first and third Fridays of the month from 1:00 to 5:00. They accept HHW from all residents of Oroville and all Recology customers in the county. Northern Recycling and Waste Services (876-3340) operates a HHW facility at their recycling operation located at 920 American Way (Off lower Clark Rd.) in Paradise. They accept HHW on alternating Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 to 1:00. They will accept HHW for all Town of Paradise residents and NRWS customers in the county. For more information on the County's HHW facilities, click [here](#).

## **E-Waste – Electronic Waste and R2 (Responsible Recycling) certification**

We've all seen the scenes on television where old electronics from the United States are shipped overseas to some third world country where the recycling/dismantling process causes tremendous damage to the environment and to the health of the workers doing the work.



It's a common question by residents regarding where electronic waste generated in Butte County ends up. Is it handled responsibly or does it get shipped overseas with little or no oversight?

Butte County Public Works deals exclusively with two electronic waste recyclers. The County's computer refurbisher, Computers for Classrooms, and our electronic waste recycler, Sims Recycling Solutions, have both earned the R2 certification that acknowledges that they have met a comprehensive list of environmentally safe practices.

R2 certified electronics recyclers have demonstrated through audits and other means that they continually meet specific high environmental standards and safely manage used electronics. Once certified, the recycler is held to those high standards by continual oversight by an independent accreditation body.

The vast majority of electronic recyclers conduct their operations in a responsible and environmentally sound manner, whether they are certified by an independent agency or not. However, it's a good idea to check with your recycler to make sure that all their materials are handled in a way that will not cause harm to people or planet.

If you are not sure with a company's compliance record, you can search the database of [State Certified Electronic Collectors and Recyclers here](#).

All the listed locations are audited by the State for general environmental compliance; however R2 Certification ensures that the electronic recycler has met a high level of environmental compliance beyond what the State of California requires.

## **Recycling Road Show**

Would your club, classroom or organization like a presentation about current trends in recycling and waste management? Our staff will speak at your school or function about local recycling and waste issues and be happy to answer questions about local and national waste trends. Call 879-2352.

## **Coming in the Spring 2012 Issue:**

- **Landfill Gas to Energy - There's power in trash**
- **Agricultural Oil Recycling coming to Biggs**
- **Closing the Loop – A guide to buying recycled content products**
- **Recycling Profile - Our friend the worm**

Questions, comments, suggestions? Email us at [recycle@buttecounty.net](mailto:recycle@buttecounty.net). We will respond as soon as possible.



**Consider the trees and those over-priced ink cartridges. Please don't print this newsletter.**



# EAT WITH YOUR HANDS.

Just how big is a “serving”? Sometimes it’s easy to just **look at the label to find out** -- eleven chips might make a one-ounce serving, or a big candy bar might actually contain two or three servings. But other times, it’s harder to tell what makes a serving, especially when you’re eating at a restaurant or fast food



the big number

# 210

Today’s 5-6” bagel has 210 more calories than the 3-4” bagel that was the more typical size 25 years ago.

place. And that means **we sometimes eat WAY more than we think we do**. So look at it this way: a cup is about **the size of a fist**, an ounce of cheese is **as big as a thumb**, a teaspoon of peanut butter or mayonnaise is a dollop about **the size of your thumbnail** (and three teaspoons make a tablespoon), and a 3 ounce serving of meat, fish, or chicken **fills up your palm**.

**EAT BETTER. PLAY HARDER.  
LIVE HEALTHIER. LEARN EASIER.**

**WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!™**

*This newsletter is provided as a wellness resource by our District Nutrition Services Department. Check out [www.chicousd.org](http://www.chicousd.org) and click on the Nutrition Services Department for more information.*

# WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!™

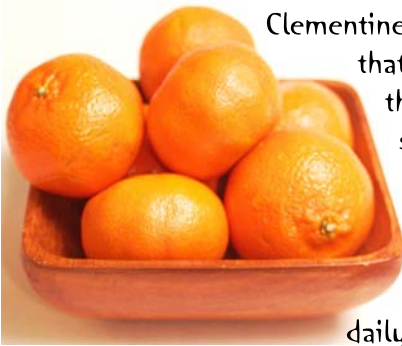
HELPING YOUR WHOLE FAMILY FEEL WELL AND DO WELL!

"EAT WITH YOUR HANDS"

## EAT BETTER

Try lots of different fruits, veggies, and whole grains for a healthy diet. You're bound to find a few you really like!

### CLEMENTINES



Clementines are small citrus fruits that are a winter favorite in the U.S. They're usually seedless and each juicy, easy-to-peel little orange contains 35 calories, a gram of fiber, and 60% of your daily vitamin C requirement.

## LEARN EASIER

One way to keep from eating too much is to eat more! Eating a healthy snack between meals can actually help keep us from overeating at mealtime. And when kids have a little something to eat after school -- apple slices and peanut butter, anyone? -- they can bear down and concentrate on their homework instead of their stomachs!



## PLAY HARDER

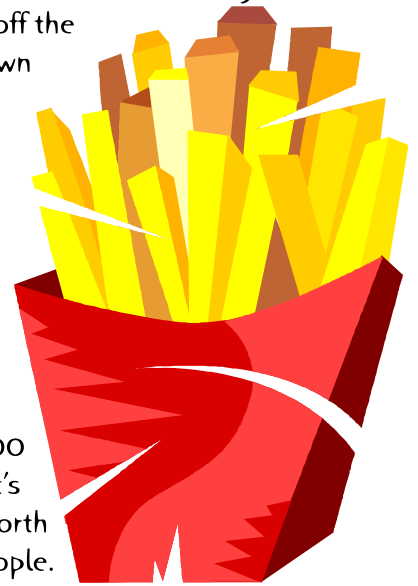
It's easy to find a chart on-line telling you how many calories you burn doing various activities. For example, running for an hour at a 6 mph pace burns



about 500-900 calories, depending on your weight. The rest is math. Want to indulge in a big portion of a favorite food? Have at it! But then be sure to work it off.

## LIVE HEALTHIER

Just because something is called a "value," a "combo," or a "deal" doesn't mean it's saving you money. Studies show that most folks actually spend more ordering a so-called "value meal" than they would ordering smaller sizes off the menu. And wolfing down those ever-growing portion sizes also cost us plenty in health-related costs over time. The largest size of fries might contain 3 times the calories and fat of the smallest size, and a super-sized fast food meal might contain 1500 calories or more -- that's two-thirds of a day's worth of calories for most people.



## Just the right size.

Did you know that school meals have portion control built right in? USDA requires that our lunches, when averaged over the course of a week's menus, provide one-third of the recommended daily calories for kids. That's 550-650 calories on average for K-5 lunches, 650-750 for grades 6-8, and 750-850 for grades 9-12. Our lunches must also get fewer than 10% of their calories from saturated fat, and we can only serve items that have zero grams of trans fat per serving according to the nutrition label or supplier's specifications. And we are subject to regular inspections and reviews to ensure our meals are meeting these high standards.

Convenient, economical, healthy School Meals. A perfect fit for your kids!

**School Meals**  
*We serve education every day™*