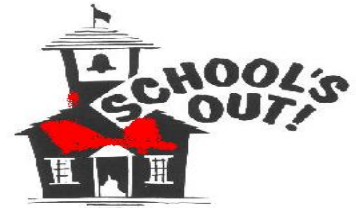


ACT NOW

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



“Thank You” to everyone who took the time to write letters, sent emails, or called their legislators; went to a mall for grade-in, visited local police and fire stations (and baked them cookies!), participated in rallies or even just wore red for “Public Ed” on Tuesdays! Your collective participation and support is what unionism is all about. Also, let me not forget Brian Jeffrey for joining CTA’s rally in Sacramento! “Thank You, Brian!”

The governor’s May revise looks like a bit of an improvement from the January budget proposal, but it still needs cooperation from a couple of Republicans in each house, so do not stop calling your legislators. Continue to reach out to them using 1-888-268-4334 or www.cta.org to contact them by email.

Please check your district e-mail periodically during the summer for updates on the budget and/or CTA’s organizing plans. Also, continue to check www.castateofemergency.com for information on statewide organizing activities.

Congratulations to our new retirees, who were well-feted at ACT’s Retirement and Installation Banquet on May 6th. The Retirement Committee did a wonderful job of planning and decorating. Barbara Shiffermiller’s son, Chris, took pictures, which should be turning up on the ACT website soon. Thanks to all who provided their time and energy in organizing and planning this year’s annual banquet.

Congratulations to all for completing another successful school year and enjoy your summer!

Jan

ON THE JOB



California Teachers Rally For Tax Hike Extension

The [AP](#) (5/10) reports, “Hundreds of teachers from around California descended on the state Capitol Monday to make the case for extending tax hikes as a way to stave off deep budget cuts to public education.” The piece notes, “The California Teachers Association and other interest groups are calling on lawmakers to vote on the taxes outright before they expire, rather than waiting for a special election the teachers say would take too long and imperil about 20,000 public school jobs. That’s about the number of layoff notices that were issued to teachers and other staff for the next school year.”

The [Orange County Register](#) (5/10, Leal) reports, “Nearly 300 educators, parents, and students rallied on Monday outside the Orange County offices of state Assemblyman Chris Norby, R-Fullerton to support proposed tax extensions they said will prevent billions in cuts to public schools.”

Associated Chaffey Teachers

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FAX: (909) 390-5784

Website

www.chaffeyteachers.org

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Marcia Rogers, Staff Secretary
ACTSecretary@gmail.com



THE OPENING BELL

NEA IN THE NEWS

NEA, Other Unions To Push Back Against States.

[USA Today](#) (5/5, Schouten) reports that “some of the nation’s largest labor groups are focusing their political activity to challenge state laws that sharply curb union rights or to oust the legislators who crafted them.” The piece notes that this could erode the donations that Congressional Democrats typically receive from unions, but adds that “national labor leaders say they are unlikely to follow the lead of the International Association of Fire Fighters, which announced last week that it would cut off donations in next year’s presidential and congressional elections and redirect its money to state fights. ‘We can multitask,’ said Karen White, political director of the 3.2-million-member National Education Association, whose members have staged rallies from Idaho to Tennessee this year to protest plans to limit teachers’ collective-bargaining powers. ‘We will also be engaged in federal elections.’”

NEA On “Frontline” Of Labor Debate. [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (5/5, Logan) on the political movement against unions in the US, noting, “despite this week being ‘National Teacher Appreciation Week’, teachers’ unions have been in the frontline of this offensive. In a remarkably short period of time, teachers have gone from being everyone’s favorite public employees to being viewed as the cause of the ills of the entire educational system.” The piece notes that “conservative politicians and pundits argue” that “teacher bargaining” is “the clearest indication that the education system is being run for the benefit of underperforming teachers, and not for (increasingly underperforming) students. At a speech last Friday at Harvard University, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie – the ‘nation’s most interesting governor’, according to conservative columnist George Will – called America’s largest teachers’ union, the 3.2 million member National Education Association, a ‘political thuggery operation’ that uses intimidation and exploits school students ‘like drug mules’ on the issue of parental political participation.”

SCHOOL FINANCE

California Performance-Based Teacher Layoff Bill Dies In State Senate.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/13, Song) reports that a bill to allow “districts to lay off teachers based on performance, not seniority, failed in a state Senate education committee Wednesday.” It would have “called for school districts to create new administrator and teacher evaluations that would be partially based on student test score data. It would have allowed district officials to lay off teachers based on performance. Currently, by state law, teachers are laid off strictly by seniority during budget shortfalls.” The Times notes that a similar measure failed last year as well, adding that Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa had supported the measure.

The [Orange County Register](#) (5/13, Leal) reports adds that the measure’s sponsor, state Sen. Bob Huff (R), said it “would have allowed school districts to retain quality teachers as they work to maintain balanced budgets. ... It called for creating a system where principals and administrators could use results of student test scores in basing layoffs.” However, “Officials with the California Teacher’s Union have said teacher performance measures are too inconsistent and unproven to solely base layoffs on.”



THE OPENING BELL *(CONT'D FROM PAGE 2)*

ON THE JOB

Mathematics Expert Rejects Use Of Value-Added Modeling In Education.

John Ewing, president of Math for America, writes at the [Washington Post](#) (5/10) “Answer Sheet” blog about the misuse of mathematics historically, noting that the “most common misuse of mathematics is simpler, more pervasive, and (alas) more insidious; mathematics employed as a rhetorical weapon—an intellectual credential to convince the public that an idea or a process is ‘objective’ and hence better than other competing ideas or processes. This is mathematical intimidation.” He adds that value-added modeling is “the latest instance of the phenomenon,” noting that it is “touted as the modern, ‘scientific’ way to measure educational success in everything from charter schools to individual teachers. Yet most of those promoting value-added modeling are ill-equipped to judge either its effectiveness or its limitations.”

California Teacher Protest Results in 65 Arrests In Sacramento.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/11, Goldmacher, Mishak), reports that California police arrested “65 protesters in the state Capitol on Monday evening when they refused to leave after the building had closed,” after “the first day in a week of statewide protests planned by the California Teachers Assn., which is opposed to cutbacks in education funding.” A police spokesman said that most of those arrested “appeared to be college-age students who passed the time by dancing.” He added that “most teachers exited before arrests began.”

The [Sacramento Bee](#) (5/11, Ortiz) reports that the union “revved up its faithful Monday to lean on state lawmakers to extend current tax rates – and eventually increase them. The daylong rally by the California Teachers Association kicked off a week of budget lobbying, press events and teach-ins by the union.” The protest came amid “concerns that some activists might stage Wisconsin-style sit-ins at the Capitol or commit other acts of civil disobedience. Although law enforcement officials said the crowds were generally peaceful, they arrested about 65 protestors after warning them to leave the Capitol rotunda after the building closed at 6 p.m. They were charged with misdemeanor trespassing.” The Bee estimates that around 1,000 protestors “began in the morning, urging lawmakers to immediately pass a tax extension to avoid deeper cuts to education budgets around the state. After that, they want a tax hike put before voters.” The [Ventura County \(CA\) Star](#) (5/11) runs a similar report.

Several California Teachers Arrested During State Capitol Budget Protest.

The [AP](#) (5/13) reports that roughly two dozen teachers and California Teachers Association President David Sanchez “were arrested at the state Capitol Thursday night as part of a protest over education funding in the state budget. The California Highway Patrol began arresting the teachers shortly after the building was scheduled to close at 6 p.m. Thursday.” The piece notes that earlier, Sanchez had “led a group of about 75 protesters singing and chanting outside the office of Senate Minority Leader Bob Dutton, R-Rancho Cucamonga.”

The [San Jose Mercury News](#) (5/13, Williams) reports that the protests in Sacramento stem from teacher’s frustrations with steadily increasing class sizes and workloads. Meanwhile, “Amid frustrations over past and potential budget cuts, another reality has been emerging for many of those in the profession.: Teaching has never seemed less appealing.” Moreover, “Teachers face increasing expectations from the state to boost student performance and must deal with a growing population of non-English speaking students, yet classrooms are being hit hard by the state’s ongoing fiscal woes.”

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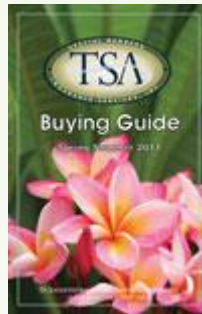
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Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. (P.S.T.)

Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (P.S.T.)

**Spring / Summer 2011
Buying Guide**



For a hard copy of our latest Buying Guide, please request one [here](#). Prices are subject to change without notice. Processing and shipping fees may apply.

Tickets may be purchased by phone and mail. We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and personal checks. Quantities are limited and all orders are subject to approval. Prices are subject to change and certain restrictions apply



CTA Members Safer in Time of Rising Identity Theft

Identity theft is America's fastest-growing crime, but you can protect yourself by staying one step ahead of identity thieves. California Casualty, the CTA-endorsed auto and home insurance benefit provider, makes that easy with their newly enhanced **ID Defense** services. CTA members who are California Casualty customers have had free and automatic access to **Identity Theft Resolution** services for the last few years. Just recently, that service became part of the more comprehensive **ID Defense** program, designed to protect your identity in every stage of life.

Identity thieves are constantly finding new and unexpected ways to access and use sensitive information. Did you know that the following life events are prime opportunities for thieves and might require fraud specialist assistance?

- You get married or divorced and want to change your name.
- Your young child receives a credit offer.
- You're slated for active military duty.
- A loved one dies, and creditors must be notified.
- You're planning a move or traveling overseas.

ID Defense has no service limits, so members who are policyholders are encouraged to call and be connected with a fraud specialist whenever a life change makes personal information vulnerable. We and California Casualty believe early intervention is key to safeguarding your identity.

ID Defense is free and automatic to every CTA member who is a California Casualty policyholder, covering members' household family members as well*. This service saves you time, money, and frustration. In fact, a recent survey revealed customers rated their satisfaction with **ID Defense** services at 4.98 out of 5.00. If you are shopping for an auto or home policy or looking to compare your current coverage, call California Casualty today for a free quote at 866-271-6339.

*California Casualty **ID Defense** Services are available to a spouse, domestic partner and/or relative who lives in the household.



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ACT RETIREMENT/INSTALLATION BANQUET ~ 2011

On Friday, May 6th, ACT hosted its' annual Retirement & Installation Banquet, celebrating the years of dedication and service of the CJUHSD Retirees for 2011. Our retirement honorees in attendance were:

Marilyn Irwin of ALHS

Deborah Mitchell of CHS

Christine Soeten of ALHS.

ACT Officers, Hank Mollet (Vice-President) and Trevor Rogerson (Treasurer) were installed for the next term. Campus Directors for the term of 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 were installed as follows:

ALHS.....Sherry Grasso	EHSKurt Burger	OHS.....Bill McConnell
CHS.....Dave Masterson	LOHS.....Brian Jeffrey	RCHS.....Pam Hines
COHS.....Christopher Chang	MHS..... Barbara Shiffermiller	VVHS.....Cynthia Slater
DO/AE/ASP.....Judy Peterson	M/L.....Richard Ortiz	

This year's Scholarship Recipients:

- Miss Marlene Vallalta (a student at EHS)Recipient of the Bill Pitts Math Scholarship Award
- Mr. Chauncey Mann (a teacher at CHS)Rrecipient of the MaryEllen Hill Scholarship Award

This year's banquet was held at the Sheraton Airport Hotel located in the city of Ontario, CA. While honoring a Western theme, our guests arriving in true fashion, duded in a variety of choice cowboy/cowgirl boots, hats, belts and such.

Among our many honored guests were Trustee Sue Ovitt (accompanied by husband SBC Supv. Gary Ovitt); Trustee Shari Megaw (accompanied by husband Andy Megaw); CJUHSD Superintendent Mat Holton; CJUHSD Deputy Superintendent Bill Bertrand; and CJUHSD Asst. Superintendent of Personnel Lynne Ditfurth.

Receiving a grand welcome our guests were greeted with hats, badges, corsages/boutonnieres and lively music with a good ole' down home twist to it. Adorning our dining room were tables draped with red & white checked tablecloths, western confetti and candy tidbits, topped off with beautiful floral centerpieces (compliments of our very own Mt Baldy ROP Floral Design). Amongst the festive decorations was a banquet setting filled with a scrumptious feast of bar-b-que chicken, mashed potatoes, hickory smoked beans, corn on the cob, penne arrabiata, salad, rolls, and chocolate cake. *And I must say that the food was quite tasty!*

With the evening kicking off with a welcome from ACT President Jan Thornhill, our MC, Hank Mollet (ACT Vice-President) began by giving recognition to our retirees, scholarship recipients, and installation officers. Since it is ACT's custom that the previous year's recipient of the Dear Union Girl Award does the honor of turning over the title and plaque to the current year's award recipient. To his total surprise, this year's recipient of the Dear Union Girl Award was Kurt Burger in recognition for his faithful service and continued support to our local throughout the year. Thank you, Kurt!

Many thanks to Mt Baldy ROP (floral designs); Chuck Finlayson and Perfek Blend (musicians); Sheraton Hotel Catering Staff; Chris Shiffermiller (Photographer & Barb's son) for giving his valuable time and photo expertise. We thank you for the many photos you took of our guests and event; The organizing, planning, and team work of the ACT Retirement Committee; Our committee chairperson Rene Castillo for assisting with the planning & gift purchases; Richard Ortiz for all your organizing & planning (and staying on top of things); Barbara Shiffermiller for planning & decorations; Marcia Rogers for securing the music arrangements, planning & organizing; "Mary Ortiz (wife of Richard Ortiz) for all your help with setup; and all those who gave their support and assistance in making this event a joyous and memorable occasion.

And....To our Retirees, we say, "Thanks for the Memories"

