



# Signature

CENTRAL COAST DENTAL SOCIETY

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**CCDS President Dr. Keyla Springe**

Dear Friends,

Chat GPT is an advanced artificial intelligence (AI) tool that is designed to understand and respond to natural language inputs. It has been trained on massive amounts of data and can generate responses that are indistinguishable from those of a human. This technology has been developed by OpenAI and is based on the GPT-3.5 architecture.

As a dentist, you can use Chat GPT to your advantage in a number of ways. For example, you can use it to improve your marketing efforts. By incorporating Chat GPT into your website, you can provide prospects with a personalized and engaging experience. When prospects visit your website, they can engage with the Chat GPT system, ask questions about your services, and receive instant responses. This can help build trust and establish a connection with potential patients.

There are different ways to incorporate Chat GPT into a website. One way is to use pre-built chatbot platforms that allow you to customize and integrate the chatbot on your website. Some examples of these platforms are Tars,

Landbot, or Dialogflow. These platforms provide a user-friendly interface where you can create conversation flows, add responses, and customize the appearance of the chatbot.

Another option is to build a custom chatbot using APIs from OpenAI or other AI providers. APIs are mechanisms that enable two software components to communicate with each other using a set of definitions and protocols. This requires some programming skills or the help of a developer. Custom chatbots built with APIs require a fee per API call, which can be a fraction of a cent per call. However, the total cost will depend on the complexity of the chatbot, the number of calls, and any additional development costs.

The cost of incorporating Chat GPT into a website varies depending on the solution you choose and the complexity of the chatbot. Pre-built platforms usually have monthly or yearly pricing plans based on the number of conversations, users, or features you need. Prices can range from \$20/month to hundreds of dollars per month.

It's important to keep in mind that while the initial investment may seem high, Chat GPT can save time and money in the long run by automating repetitive tasks, improving customer service, and increasing conversions.

Additionally, Chat GPT can be used to streamline patient communications. For instance, you can use it to automate appointment reminders, answer frequently asked questions, and provide post-treatment care instructions. This can free up your staff's time and allow them to focus on other important tasks.

Chat GPT can be used to create engaging and personalized newsletters for your audience. Here's how:

1. **Generate content:** Chat GPT can generate content for your newsletter by analyzing previous newsletters, social media posts, or other sources of information. It can also use keywords or topics provided by you to create content that is relevant to your audience.
2. **Customize content:** Once the content is generated, you can use Chat GPT to customize it based on your audience's preferences. For example, you can ask Chat GPT to tailor the content based on the subscriber's location, interests, or

**President (cont. page**

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This publication solicits announcements, essays, and articles of interest to the general membership of the CCDS. All contributions are subject to space and/or content editing at the editor's discretion.

### CLASSIFIEDS:

Free to members of CCDS (limit 25 words). \$50.00 per issue for non-members (\$50 per word after first 25 words)

Address all communication to CCDS:

**Central Coast Dental Society**  
1356 Marsh Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 544-1113 • FAX (805) 544-2197  
E-mail: CCDS@charter.net

or

Keyla Springe, DDS  
143 Niblick Road, CA 93446  
Tel (805) 226-8126; FAX (805) 226-8127  
E-mail: kspringe@sbcglobal.net

President (cont. from page 1)

previous engagement with your newsletters.

3. Design the newsletter: Chat GPT can also help you design the newsletter by suggesting templates, layouts, and visuals. You can use Chat GPT to create a visually appealing and user-friendly newsletter that will catch your audience's attention.

4. Automate the newsletter: Once the content and design are finalized, you can use Chat GPT to automate the newsletter creation and delivery process. Chat GPT can integrate with email marketing platforms like Mailchimp or HubSpot to deliver personalized newsletters to your subscribers.

Overall, Chat GPT is a powerful tool that can help dentists improve their marketing efforts and streamline patient communications. By incorporating this technology into your practice, you can stay ahead of the curve and provide a top-notch experience for your patients.

You can try it, like I did to write this article, by logging to <https://openai.com>. Remember that this is an AI program and it is not accurate 100% of the time. Keep this in mind. Have fun!

Keyla Springe, DDS

## PHIL FEE, DDS IS TURNING 90!

I would like to surprise my dad, Phil Fee, with 90 birthday cards, for his 90th birthday in June. He practiced dentistry in Santa Maria for 40 years. If you know dad and would like to send a card, please do so to:

Phil Fee  
P. O. Box 8513  
Santa Maria, CA 93456

I will be collecting them until June 17, 2023.

Thank you for helping me make his 90th birthday special.



# ADA



## ***WINNER, REMODEL*** **Jeffery S. Kahler, DDS** **Paso Robles, CA**

*by Stacie Crozier*

For nearly 30 years, patients who received their dental care from Jeffery Kahler D.D.S. in Paso Robles, California knew their dentist had a love for African animals and art. So, when Dr. Kahler moved to his newly remodeled office in Templeton, California, in May 2021, it was no surprise that his new office was designed with the touches of an African safari lodge, complete with grass and bamboo ceilings in the hallways that were made in Africa.

“When people walk through the door for the first time, it’s a jaw-dropping experience for them,” Dr. Kahler said. “We wanted the reception room to feel like a comfortable family room. We wanted our patients to feel comfortable from the start, in an environment that is less like a typical dental or medical office.”

The dental office’s new design is both elegant and whimsical, providing patients comfort and cultural immersion and providing the dentists and staff with a streamlined, state-of-the art workplace and three times the space they had before.

Dr. Kahler and his wife, Sheilah, are animal lovers, he said. “We have goats, chickens, cats and many old, blind or ill dogs we have rescued over the years. We have always loved African animals and the safari motif. My office has always had that theme. When Sheilah and I met over 10 years ago, it was a commonality that we discovered in each other — my office was decorated ‘safari’ and her home was decorated ‘safari’. It seemed natural to go big with the idea for the new office. This project would not have been possible without my wife’s full support, constant encouragement and creative talent.”

Until the new office opened, Dr. Kahler spent his entire career in his former office and knew well the pain points he wanted to solve and the updates and upgrades he wanted to make. The last time his lease came up for renewal, he knew he was ready to grow the practice. He found a new multi-use office space that housed two different businesses and signed a long-term lease. He continued to operate his practice at the old location until the new space had been renovated.

“Among the top things we wanted to fix was our existing lack of space, and our aging equipment,” he said. “The new location is three times the size of the old one and has a modern sterilization area and new upgraded operator chairs and delivery units. One of the top challenges in the remodel was creating the design within the confines of an oddly shaped building. Even with taking down all the internal walls, it was difficult, and we created over 20 variations of floor plans before we settled on one.”

The office design literally allowed him to check off everything on his wish list: expanding the number of treatment rooms from three to seven while leaving room to add two or three more in the future; having a centrally located sterilization area with easy access to all the treatment rooms; installing all new chairs, delivery units and cabinets, computer equipment, phone system and practice software; and adding new technologies including digital scanners and space to add a milling system and cone beam computed tomography imaging in the future.

“The practice flows seamlessly during operation because we had been there in our minds first and worked out potential problems ahead of time on paper with the architect, designer, builder, dentists, staff and friends,” Dr. Jeffery Kahler (cont. on page 7)

**UPCOMING 2023 & 2024  
CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023**

**\*In Person and Virtual—you choose\***

**“Infection Control, OSHA, and the CA dental Practice Act”  
Nancy Dewhirst, RDH, BA**

**\*FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2023(Date Change)**

**\*In Person and Virtual—you choose\***

**“Pediatric Dentistry”  
David Rothman, DDS**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024**

**\*In Person and Virtual—you choose\***

**“Responsibilities and Requirements of Prescribing Schedule II Opioids”  
& “Medically Compromised Patients”  
Patrick Quaranta, DMD**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024**

**\*In Person and Virtual—you choose\***

**TBD**

**FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024**

**\*In Person and Virtual—you choose\***

**TBD**

## **DENTAL OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE**

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**Long-time Dental Office  
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# Darren Hulstine

CENTRAL COAST PRACTICE SALES AGENT



## Your Local Broker with Integrity Practice Sales

In 2011 Darren co-founded Integrity Practice Sales and turned his attention towards helping dentists with successful transitions. He has now been in the dental industry for 29 years and, as a long-time resident of the Central Coast, he has a well-established dental network. He also holds a wealth of knowledge in regard to local practice sales trends and successful practice transitions.

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## SLO NOOR DENTAL CLINIC SEEKING DENTIST /PART-TIME

SLO Noor Dental Clinic is looking for a skilled dentist to join our dental family. We are a local nonprofit serving uninsured and low-income adults here on the beautiful Central Coast and are committed to delivering dental treatment in a caring and compassionate manner.

This is a perfect opportunity for an experienced doctor to practice direct patient care without the pressures of billing, bottom lines, and production. Our practice is a friendly, positive, patient focused setting to help our patients feel supported and cared for.

### General responsibilities:

- General dentistry
- Restorative
- Dentures/Partials
- Crowns and Bridges
- Address Periodontal concerns

### Requirements:

Licensed dentist in the State of California including current healthcare provider CPR.

Supports the mission of SLO Noor Foundation and can offer encouragement to patients.

Demonstrates effective communication and interpersonal skills.

Pay- \$90-\$100 per hour.

Two days per week.

### Contact:

Annie Steel - [asteel@slonoorfoundation.org](mailto:asteel@slonoorfoundation.org)

## CALIFORNIA DENTIST SHOULD REVIEW C.E. REQUIREMENTS AS DENTAL BOARD RESUMES AUDITS!

*Provided by CDA, May 11, 2023*

CDA encourages dentists to review continuing education rules and requirements as the Dental Board of California resumes conducting C.E. audits this year.

The dental board will mail audit notices to randomly selected licensees. While the odds of being selected for a C.E. audit are low, licensed dentists should ensure their correct address is recorded in **BreEZe** — the Department of Consumer Affairs' online licensing and enforcement system. Licensees who receive an audit notice have 30 days from the date of notice to respond with all requested C.E. documentation.

Practice owners are additionally responsible for knowing the C.E. requirements of their employees and ensuring, for example, that dental assistant employees provide evidence of certain completed courses and certifications.

### Mandatory C.E. courses and required minimum units for renewal

Common C.E. deficiencies identified by past dental board audits include:

Licensee has not completed a mandatory C.E. course.  
Licensee has not completed the minimum required units for renewal.

Licensee did not take a mandatory C.E. course from a provider approved by the dental board to provide the mandatory C.E.

Currently, California-licensed dentists are required to complete four mandatory courses and a minimum of 50 units to renew their license. Registered dental assistants and RDAs in extended functions must complete three mandatory courses and 25 units for license renewal. Anesthesia and sedation permits have additional minimum C.E. requirements.

The mandatory courses are:

- Board-approved course in infection control (2 units).
- Board-approved course on the California Dental Practice Act (2 units).

- Course in basic life support provided by either a CERP or PACE provider or by the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or, as of January 2023, the American Safety and Health Institute.

- (For dentists only) Board-approved course on the responsibilities and requirements of prescribing schedule II opioid drugs (2 units).

A portion of the basic life support course may be completed online, but licensees must complete an in-person, hands-on skills practice session to satisfy the mandatory C.E. requirement.

The **required course on opioid-prescribing** is a newer requirement effective January 2023, as CDA reported last fall.

(Relatedly, dentists with DEA registration must comply with a new federal act requiring opioid use disorder training. Read the **CDA article** published in March for details.)

### Mandatory C.E. courses only count when provided by approved entities

To qualify for license renewal, mandatory C.E. courses must be taught by an approved provider.

As already noted, the course in basic life support must be provided by either a CERP or PACE provider, the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross or American Safety and Health Institute (the latter as of Jan. 1, 2023).

Courses on infection control, the Dental Practice Act and the responsibilities of opioid prescribing will only count toward license renewal if they are taught by providers preapproved by the dental board. For example, the board **approved the CDA course** "Responsibilities and Requirements for Prescribing Controlled Substances (Schedule II Opioid Drugs)," created in partnership with Western University of Health Sciences, to satisfy the newest license renewal requirement.

Dentists can use the **BreEZe license search tool** to determine if a course provider is approved. Registered C.E. providers must have a "current-active" (not expired) permit to be valid.

### Scope of license and permits may affect eligibility for C.E. credit

The education a licensee receives does not necessarily enable them to perform the services within that course and, in some cases, may not qualify for C.E. credit. For example, a course related to the provision of elective facial cosmetic surgery would not enable the licensee to perform such services unless the attendee has an EFCS permit (see 16 CCR 1016(b)(4)(F)).

Licensees should evaluate the educational value of C.E. courses and are always responsible for knowing the scope of their license and permits.

**Jeffrey Kahler (cont. from page 3)**

Kahler said. “My wife and I began collecting art for the project for several years before we even selected the site for the new office. We collected items from antique stores, eBay, garage sales, gifts from patients and her own trip to Africa years ago. ‘Unique’ is what we were striving for, and I think we accomplished that. Although I have only been to Africa in my mind, we are planning on taking a trip there together soon.”

He notes that while the buildout itself took over eight months, the project from concept to completion – including securing the location, the financing, designing and planning and encountering some COVID-related delays – spanned more than three years.

“I could never have imagined doing this when I was fresh out of dental school,” he said. “My years of experience as a dentist affected the design in significant ways. My advice is to take on a project like this after at least five years in practice, and 10 would be better. Also, choose a good architect and builder with experience in dental construction. I also recommend working through a loan broker to save time and money. My broker matched me with the lender that was most likely to do the deal for a reasonable price. Also, do a cash flow study so you have a constant reminder that the project makes good financial sense. It helped me sleep better at night knowing that the project pencils out.”

He said the added space and equipment upgrades have made for more productivity, happier patients and staff “and it just feels a bit dreamy when I arrive at work every morning.”

Although Dr. Kahler loves every space in the new office, his most favorite space is a small waiting area down the grand hallway. “It was a design element that I insisted on,” he said. “In my old office, children, elderly or disabled patients would often be accompanied by a parent or caregiver who would have to stand out in the hall while x-rays were being taken. With this space, not only do they make themselves comfortable, but also gives them a space to relax in while their loved one is receiving care.”



Dr. Kahler’s reception area, affectionately known as “the lounge”, has a cozy living room feel, with comfy furniture, fireplace, a television and statement art pieces showcasing African animals.

**Jeffery Kahler, DDS (cont. on page 8)**

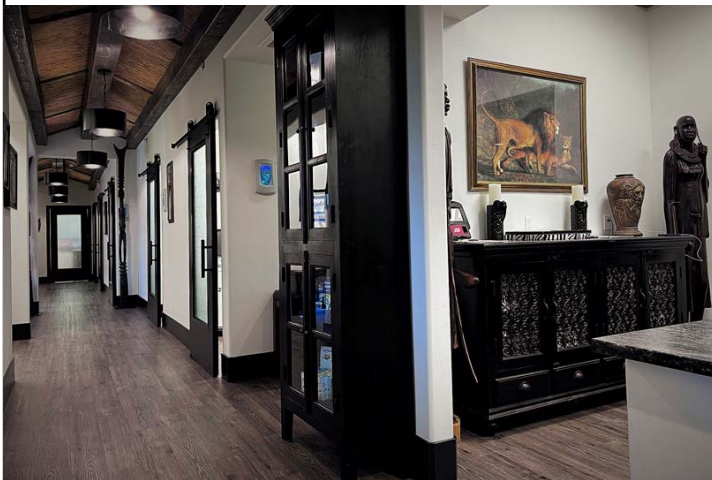
Jeffery Kahler, DDS (cont. from page 7)



Waiting area for parents and caregivers to relax in while their loved one is receiving digital imaging services.



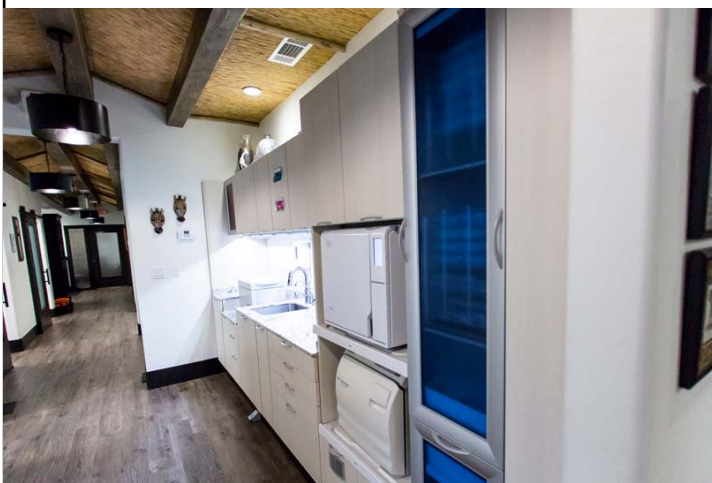
The front desk and business office area offers a sleek workspace and showcases the motif of the office.



Grass and bamboo ceilings from Africa add a special touch to the office's grand hallway.



All seven operatories in Dr. Kahler's office have their own unique design touches.



Dr. Kahler and his design team located the sterilization area in a central location for easy access from and treatment room.



Even the sleek and relaxing staff lounge in Dr. Kahler's office reflects the African safari feel of the entire office.

**CONGRATULATIONS DR. KAHLER!!**



## **DENTAL EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

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**Contact me any time, day or night  
805-975-6045 or [Cyanchep@gmail.com](mailto:Cyanchep@gmail.com)**

### **EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

**Dear Colleagues,**

**I would like to encourage our  
members to submit articles, events, birth an-  
nouncements or local news to me to  
include in our newsletter. Please forward them to  
my email address:**

**[Jonfu.dds@gmail.com](mailto:Jonfu.dds@gmail.com)**

**I look forward to hearing from you.  
Sincerely,  
Jon Fu, DDS**

## REQUIRED POSTER SETS

As a benefit of membership, CDA develops and distributes sets of required postings for dental offices. The *2021-2022 poster set* is the current set employers should have hanging in their practices. These easy-to-display poster sets contain the specific health, safety and employee rights information required by state and federal agencies.

To ensure members have current and accurate postings, CDA regularly reviews and updates these sets. **A new poster set for 2023–2024 will be available as of Spring 2023**, reflecting the latest federal and state regulations and compliance requirements.

**CDA will mail practice owners one poster set at no charge.** Member dentists who have more than one dental practice will need to purchase additional poster sets through the [Practice Support Store](#).

CDA members are encouraged to check their [www.cda.org](http://www.cda.org) online profile to verify that the correct and preferred mailing address and practice ownership is reflected.





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**\*IN PERSON\***

**CDA PRESENTS THE ART AND  
SCIENCE OF DENTISTRY**

September 7-9, 2023.....San Jose, CA  
May 16-18, 2024.....Anaheim, CA

**\*IN PERSON\***

**ADA ANNUAL MEETING**

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October 23-27, 2024.....Seattle, WA

**\*IN PERSON\***

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