

Fleet Maintenance Division

'Green' Practices Earn Award

The Brentwood Public Works Department's Fleet Maintenance Division has gone green. Not in color but environmentally.

The Fleet Maintenance Division has been certified as a "Green Business," says City Fleet Manager Scott Dempsey.

A "Green Business," as certified by the Bay Area Green Business Program, an arm of the Association of Bay Area Governments, is one that conserves energy and water, recycles and reduces its waste and makes extra efforts to avoid polluting.

Public agencies as well as private firms are eligible to earn the distinction. Brentwood Car Wash, Kendall Automotive and Budget Blinds of the Delta were the first

local private ones to gain the certification.

Qualifiers are certified by a team from PG&E and various environmental agencies as well as the local waste disposal agency.

The Green Business people first contacted the Public Works Director and asked about participation in the program. He referred them to Dempsey who agreed to participate.

The certification process included a review of the fleet's environmental and energy conservation practices plus pollution prevention efforts, which, Dempsey says, was not a problem for his team.

"We already were doing much of it," he says. "Anything we create or use, we
(See GREEN, Page 8)

Citizens' Comments Sought for Downtown

(DOWNTOWN, from Page 1)

Hall, will be under construction in the next year.

A citizens' committee has recommended a list of amenities to be constructed Downtown including a new library, senior/community center and arts/cultural facility. These projects will be included in the long-range plan to insure that at buildout the City has a vibrant civic center in the Downtown.

Other exciting projects for Downtown include a public parking garage, eBART station, and private investment opportunities.

The workshops will begin in late May and wrap up by the end of June. The final schedule will be advertised in the newspapers and posted on the City's website, www.ci.brentwood.ca.us.

For further information contact Gail Leech, Management Analyst for the City of Brentwood at (925) 516-5118.

The Vineyards to Provide Housing for Active Adults

Construction could start this fall on a new active adult development on 481 acres near Fairview and Concord Avenues, City planning officials say.

Known as the Vineyards, the Shea Homes project targets active adults 55 years and older. It will include 1,100 active-use housing units, 128 custom homes, a 100,000-square-foot commercial-retail building, a six-room bed-and-breakfast inn and 100 to 150 open-market apartments, says Jeff Zilm of the City planning staff.

The Vineyards will include 200 rooms for conjugate care for residents needing long-term, round-the-clock care, Zilm says.

The development will also have an amphitheater for concerts and other productions and a winery with a tasting room.

A \$2,000 Prize for New Carpoolers

Commuters from Brentwood and elsewhere in the county have an added incentive to carpool — a chance to win \$2,000 worth of gas cards.

A drawing will be held in July, 2006.

Sponsored by 511 Contra Costa, the prize is in addition to the \$60 gas card new carpoolers receive when joining an existing carpool or forming a new one in the organization's Carpool Incentive Program.

The prize was based on commute dis-

tances and the gas mileage for a typical car.

The contest is open to carpoolers who have signed up since July 1, 2005, and to new ones who sign up by June 30, 2006.

Rules and further details are available by calling (925) 407-0355 or by logging on to www.511contracosta.org and clicking on "Carpool" on the website.

The website also contains information about rewards for those trying mass transit for the first time as a commute option.

Drivers Are Encouraged to Bicycle in May

Brentwood drivers commuting locally are encouraged to switch from cars to bicycles throughout May, National Bike Commute Month, and especially on May 18, this year's Bike to Work Day.

Maps of bike trails between home and work are available by logging on to www.511contracosta.org and clicking on the "Bicycling" tab at the top of the page.

New for 2006 is a "Team Bike Challenge." The competition will be among five-member teams consisting of:

- A minimum of two cyclists who

bicycle for leisure or are new to commuter biking;

- An "honorary" member such as an elected official or corporate executive; and
- As many regular bike commuters as needed to bring the team total to five.

Teams must track their bike trips during the month of May. The winning team will be awarded as grand prize a bike rack that will be installed at any public place the team chooses. For details call (925) 407-0354 or visit www.511.org and click on the "Bicycling" tab.