Sharon, Rex and Lacy McNay listen as the Easter Bunny talks about the 13th annual Easter egg hunt Saturday, April 18 at Cordova Park (see page 4).
around the town

Fishermen have a line on Lake MV

During the summer months, Lake Mission Viejo is transformed into the community's playground. Association members and their families flock to the 124-acre recreational facility to swim, picnic and sail. Sounds of children's laughter, water splashing and lifeguard's whistles drift through the late morning and early afternoon air.

When the lazy days of summer fade away and children return to school, Lake Mission Viejo takes on a new complexity, one of serenity and almost eerily quiet.

Only the occasional hum of an electric outboard motor, the whir of a fishing reel and the splash of a hooked trout or catfish fighting the inevitable break the morning silence.

Despite the absence of its more common summer noises, Lake Mission Viejo becomes a well visited fishing spot each year during the winter and early spring.

"The lake is well suited for year round fishing because we stock it well," said Chuck Rogers, the lake's general manager. " But our "off-season" (non-summer months) seems to bring out more fishermen."

From October to May, the lake is stocked with 20,000 pounds of trout, a species of fish which thrives best in colder waters. A total of 10,000 more pounds of catfish are put into the lake from June to September.

Florida bass, bluegill perch, crappie, shad and mosquito fish (to keep the insect count under control) are also stocked into the lake to maintain the feeding chain so the supply of smaller fish isn't greatly diminished.

One fisherman who seems to have the lake wired in terms of finding the "big ones" is Ben Stubbs, Jr.

A typical morning at Lake Mission Viejo's entrance gate finds eager trotlers in line before the weekday 8 a.m. and weekend 6 a.m. opening times to be the first out on the lake. Many of the faces in line are familiar ones to Rogers and lake association employees.

"We have a lot of regulars who come here daily," said Rogers. "Fishing serves as a very good complement to our busy summer months."

One of the regulars is Harold Coward, a Casta del Sol resident who drives to the lake with his 12-foot aluminum boat in tow each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. He has been trout fishing for 55 years.

"I'll be here regularly until May, I do love to fish," said Coward as he prepared to launch his boat near Playa del Norte just minutes after the 8 a.m. opening time. "This time of year, a lot of the lakes in the Sierras (in northern California) are frozen over. They stock this lake well during the winter."

"Natural mountain lakes offer the best fishing in the west due to an abundance of algae, murky water, trees and other vegetation along shorelines and the lack of swimmers and boaters."

"The best fishing lakes are ones not aesthetically pleasing," said Tom Paulsen, Lake Mission Viejo's operations manager.

"We've got an optimum lake for optimum uses. The trout are easy to catch during the winter and the bass and catfish easy to catch in the summer."

"And we stock catchable size fish," he added.

A limit of four fish per day exists and Coward admits, "very seldom do I miss catching the limit."

Special habitats were integrated into the lake's design to encourage spawning. Minnows are stocked into the lake to maintain the feeding chain so the supply of smaller fish isn't greatly diminished.

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Rec Centers plan Easter egg hunt

Children ages eight and under are invited to participate in the 13th annual Easter egg hunt sponsored by Mission Viejo Recreation Centers. Egg hunt will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 18 at Cordova Park. Colorful eggs along with special gold and silver eggs will be hidden around the park, located across the street from Felipe Recreation Center. Parents should provide each child with a bag or basket to store eggs. Children two years old and under can visit the Easter Bunny underneath the large canopy at 9 a.m. Egg hunts for three and four year olds will begin at 9:30 a.m., for five and six year olds at 10 a.m., and for seven and eight year olds at 10:30 a.m.

Flea Market sign ups to begin

Space reservation sign ups for the third annual Flea Market will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 4 and 11 at Montanoso Recreation Center. Recreation Center members can reserve a car-sized space for the event on April 4 for $10, non-members on April 11 for $20. Thousands of bargains will be sold from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 2 at the Montanoso parking lot. No business is allowed. This year’s event promises to be the biggest ever. Persons lacking enough merchandise to occupy a full car-size space are encouraged to share the space with a friend or neighbor.

Benefit run for hospital scheduled

The Tres Osos Guild of Children’s Hospital of Orange County will sponsor a 5K-10K run Saturday, April 25 at Laguna Niguel Regional Park with proceeds going to the hospital. Runners can register for either race at Seaside Savings and Loan, co-sponsor of the race, in Mission Viejo, or at Second Sole footwear in El Toro. Fee is $7, which includes a T-shirt, or $4 without a shirt. Participants can also register on race day for $5, which does not include a shirt. Refreshments will be served and door prizes given away. For more information, call 581-7631.

St. Patrick’s parade big hit again

Mickey Mouse served as the parade’s grand marshall.

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Nancy Rico finds success no cheap skate

For a while, Nancy Rico, like Rodney Dangerfield, wasn’t getting any respect. Rico, a five-time national roller skating champion and now instructor at Mission Viejo Skateway, said people often got the wrong impression when they found out she was a roller skater.

“They used to think I was in the roller derby,” the petite blonde recalled. “Roller skating never got the recognition it deserved, but that’s changing now.”

With the almost meteoric rise in popularity of roller skating in recent years, Nancy is now getting the respect she deserves.

Following an illustrious career as an amateur, Rico turned professional in late 1978 and has since appeared on numerous television shows, including Real People, PM Magazine and episodes of “Chips” and “Buck Rogers.”

In addition to TV programs, she also skates at nightclubs and at shopping center openings. Just as the roller skating boom has hit the country by storm, so did Nancy Rico’s success as a dance and figure skater.

When she was just seven years old, Nancy went to a local roller rink for a friend’s birthday party. The now 23-year-old showed immediate knack for skating and a few months later, her father bought the same rink.

Rico, not yet eight years old, placed second in her introduction to competitive skating. By her ninth birthday, she became the youngest person ever to win a first-place trophy in the senior class, the highest level of amateur skating, in statewide competition. Nancy earned top honors in not one but four categories: senior singles, senior spot reeling (backwards skating in a.hourglass pattern with fancy steps), senior reeling couples and reeling.

Her trophy, she notes, was “bigger than I was at the time.”

Nancy began artistic skating at that point, fulfilling a promise to her mother that she would do so as soon as she won the reeling titles.

At age 10, Nancy tried speed skating and took a third in the southwest United States regionals.

Shortly after her 11th birthday, Nancy won the regionals in three events and later garnered a national title in speed skating to go along with a pair of third-place finishes.

She captured two more national titles—in artistic dance and speed skating—in 1972 and also earned a gold medal, the highest level of skating that can be achieved through testing.

In 1976 and 1978, she again won national championships in dance. She gave up her amateur status three months after winning her 1978 national crown when she appeared as the feature skater on “Bobby Vinton’s Rock ’N’ Rollers,” a one-hour national TV show.

“I turned pro because I had accomplished all that I wanted to as an amateur,” she said. “It was a great opportunity.”

Nancy was asked to take over some classes at Mission Viejo Skateway in April of 1978 when the regular instructor was out sick. She added exercising on skates in the class curriculum and was eventually hired on a permanent basis the next month.

The San Diego resident now commutes to Mission Viejo weekly to teach exercise and skating technique classes and gives private lessons.

She says skating is a way to keep in shape as well as a form of recreation.

“It’s really good exercise. You can burn off quite a few calories in an hour. It does more for your body overall than jogging with less strain. And it’s fun,” she said.

“We have some women in our classes who are in their 70s and they’re really unwind and have good times.”

Although Nancy readily admits she “grew up in a skating link,” she said all her efforts have been “for the fun of it.”

“After you buy your skates, it’s something you can do all year long without paying very much,” she added.

**Sports camp for disabled youths slated**

Disabled children will not be experiencing sports from the sidelines when they attend a sports camp at Saddleback College April 13-16. Sponsored by the National Wheelchair Tennis Foundation and supported by Mission Viejo Company, the event will offer a camp-like atmosphere to nearly 200 children seven to 18 years of age from Orange, Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties.

Under the guidance of national-caliber athletes who are themselves confined to wheelchairs, the camp will provide instruction in tennis, basketball, softball, soccer, archery and weight training.

The camp’s co-directors are Brad Parks, chairman of the National Wheelchair Tennis Foundation (NWTF), and NWTF board member David Kiley.

Parks is the undefeated number one ranked wheelchair tennis player in the world. He is also the national singles champion in the 100-, 400-, 800- and 1,500-meter wheelchair races.

Kiley, a recreation therapist at Casa Collina Hospital in Pomona, is ranked as one of the world’s best wheelchair tennis players. He was named Most Valuable Player in the 1980 Special Olympics held in Holland and the 1975 Special Olympics gold medalist in the 100-, 400- and 1,500-meter wheelchair races.

Sue Carroll, a 16-year-old actress and tennis player, will also serve as instructor. She recently starred on the television movie “Skyward,” a “Little House on the Prairie” episode and is the top women’s junior wheelchair tennis player.

Other nationally ranked instructors include Jim Worth, member of the 1980 national champion basketball team and the third ranked wheelchair tennis player in the world; Candy Cable, national and world Olympic track champion, a highly ranked wheelchair tennis player and record holder in the Orange Bowl Marathon; Greg Burns, an outstanding athlete and top ranked swimmer for the past four years; and Andy Fleming, director of Handicapped Sports of Santa Barbara and member of the Southern California All-Star basketball team.

All instruction will take place at Saddleback College between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Persons interested in volunteering at the camp can call Brad Parks at 851-2277.

**CdS Art League plans exhibit, sale**

The Casta del Sol Art League will stage a one-day exhibit and sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 1 at the Casta del Sol Recreation Center.

Watercolor, oil paintings and ceramic works will be displayed along with items from the camera and lapidary groups.

Continuous entertainment will be provided by minstrel Hal Propp, mime Elgin Scott, magician and singer Roger De Witt and pianist Lee Childress.

In case of rain, the event will be held on April 11.

For more information, contact Dorothy Slovak at 830-0041.
# APRIL IN MISSION VIEJO

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<td>13th Annual Easter Egg Hunt (Cordova Park)</td>
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### TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

- **Orange County Fire Department** 538-3501
- **Orange County Sheriffs Department** 834-3000
- **Orange County Transit District Dial-A-Ride** 830-6500
- **U.S. Post Office (Mission Viejo branch)** 495-5020
- **Saddleback Community Hospital** 837-4500
- **Mission Community Hospital** 831-2300
- **Mission Viejo Company** 837-6050
- **Mission Viejo Recreation Centers** 951-6872
- **Casta del Sol Recreation Center** 837-6921
- **Lake Mission Viejo** 770-1313
- **Mission Viejo Skateway** 581-4647
- **Mission Viejo Equestrian Center** 495-1571
- **Casta del Sol Public Golf Course** 581-0940
- **Cultural Resources Center** 770-0709
- **Community Maintenance (county roads)** 634-7016
- **(parks, landscape areas)** 837-3360
- **(street sweeping)** 634-7005
- **New Home Warranty** 837-8917
- **New Home Sales** 837-6050