



# Wildcat Tribune

VOLUME I ISSUE VII

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/DVHSTribune



@WildcatTribune

## HEY TRIBUNE READERS!

The Tribune will be taking a break after this issue. Look for Issue VIII on Feb. 14!

Thank you for your support, and good luck on your finals!

## Driving Test Tips to Pass

By Michael Tobin  
Web Editor

The Pleasanton DMV used to be one of the last places teenagers in the Tri-Valley would want to go to get their license. That was because the toughest driving examiner in the history of mankind worked there – a man everyone simply called “Scary Larry.” Well, okay, maybe this is a bit of an exaggeration about Scary Larry (aka Larry Chan), but rumor has it that he did fail A LOT of teenagers. So when Scary Larry announced his retirement two years ago, after working 20 years for the California DMV, it was big news amongst us teenagers. The *Contra Costa Times* newspaper published an article about it, titled, “Scary Larry, a driving test examiner with a reputation for failing grades, retires.”

Despite the fact I knew I would no longer have to worry about facing Scary Larry when I signed up for the exam last August, I was still very nervous. One reason is that the Pleasanton DMV is situated in an area that has several complicated intersections that are often used in the test. Especially tricky are those that have right turn lanes that split off in a Y-shaped fashion sandwiched between two different traffic signals: a signal light immediately to the left and a merge sign immediately to the right. Like deciding which parent to listen when one tells you to do the opposite of what the other told you to do (usually they are unaware of this),

SEE “DRIVING TEST” PAGE 4

## Finals Schedule Stresses Students

• “Real life does not have test choices”, but we’ll stress anyway

By Victoria Lu  
Staff Writer

“I have a dream”...that every little boy and every little girl will be able to overthrow the stresses of finals week and be able to live their lives in peace.

Indeed, the notorious finals week is dated the Tuesday immediately after Martin Luther King Jr. Day. And like with all other holidays, MLK Day is more celebrated as the last day of cramming for the two hour finals among Dougherty Valley students than the significance of the event itself.

Finals do have their merits in reviewing and impacting the information over the course of the past few months. For those who have a crazy good memory or are just really fast (re)learners, finals week may not be such a big deal. It’s a week when the days are only from 9:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.; it may even seem like a paradise.

I acknowledge that teachers do put in substantial effort to help students achieve. Teachers do spend the weeks before finals reviewing information and state plainly that if anybody needs any help, they are available. Exam Jam in the library provides a more personal teaching style than just a class setting.

However, the fact remains that finals bring additional stress to the already hectic lives of Dougherty Valley students. In addition to the several hours of homework per day are the several hours of studying per day. Finals are weighted so heavily that students are simply afraid to fail. A grade teetering on the edge between an A and a B or a B and a C and so on, threaten to collapse. RogerHub and



PHOTO COURTESY OF UISJOURNAL.COM

the Final Grade Calculator suddenly become everyone’s best friend. Instead of having finals viewed as something positive, or as something to verify knowledge, it’s viewed as the bane of every student’s existence. The stress just seems to be mounting higher and higher.

The solution? I’m not sure if there is a single, clear-cut solution. Perhaps having finals the week before Winter Break would be more beneficial than having it right before the end of the semester.

First, because all information retained from the beginning of the year suddenly disappears over the two week break. But more importantly, it would relieve the nagging thoughts: *Just after this joyous holiday season, there are finals or, I can’t afford a break, I need to study.*

Another option could be that instead of a strictly multiple-choice scantron sheet, a creative project that involves the same information would be assigned. This project could promote qualities outside of just test-taking.

Dougherty Valley has a culture of filling in bubble sheets and guessing-and-checking. Real life emphasizes determination, creativeness, communication and freedom. Real life does not have tests or choices A, B, C, D or E.

When finals week comes to an end, students at Dougherty Valley are able to break the chains of additional stress and work. As for what they’ll be thinking? “Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!”

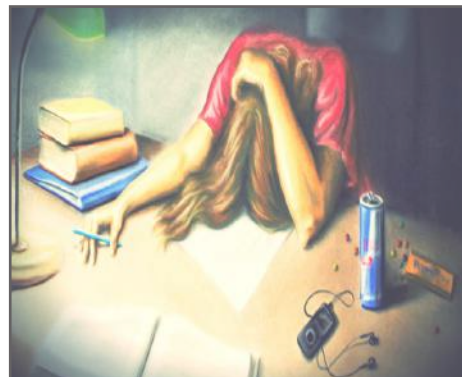


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NEXT POLL: Do you think Valentine's Day is ....

- an excellent opportunity to show your love for someone?
- a necessary evil to keep the peace? (CHOCOLATE)
- a made-up greeting card holiday and you're not playing along.

You can vote online at [www.thewildcattribune.com](http://www.thewildcattribune.com)! Then, check back next issue to see results!

DAPPER AND CHARLIE By Amy Cu and Eunice Chan

**FINAL EXAM JAM**  
 Question 5:  
 A 36 year old bus driver is driving at 24 mph. On the bus are 10 school children with 20 cookies each. What is the probability the bus driver has blue eyes?

**NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION IS GIVEN**  
 58%  
 Dapper is incorrect, Charley is correct.  
 58% is the answer

**FINAL EXAM JAM**  
 Question 6:  
 1 + 1 =

**FINAL EXAM JAM**  
 Question 6:  
 1 + 1 =

Um.

**SPRING 2014**

# ELITE OF SAN RAMON

**TEST DATE INFORMATION**

SAT REASONING : MARCH 8  
 MAY 3  
 JUNE 7

SAT SUBJECT : MAY 3  
 JUNE 7

ACT : APRIL 12  
 JUNE 14

**HOW TO REGISTER**

Enrollment in our program is on a first-come, first-served basis. Register early to avoid the late rush and to secure a place in the proper class. Each week students take a free diagnostic test and meet with a director before being placed in the appropriate class.

\* A \$50 non-refundable registration fee is charged for first-time students.

**SAT REASONING**

This SAT preparation program is the ideal program for a student interested in taking a spring SAT. Our highly successful and effective SAT curriculum is designed to accommodate students' busy schedules during the school year. Each week students take a full length 3.5 hour practice SAT, and attend 4.5 hours of test review and lectures in Critical Reading, Writing, and Math.

**TESTING (select one)**

Friday Evening	4:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Saturday Morning	9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

**COURSE (select one)**

Saturday Morning	8:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Saturday Afternoon	1:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Tuition: \$480 / 4 weeks

3160 CROW CANYON ROAD, SUITE 190  
 SAN RAMON, CA 94583  
 + 925 830 9200

**SAT SUBJECT**

Elite's SAT Subject courses will be ten weeks long preparing students for the June 7 exam. Each SAT Subject session will consist of a one hour full-length practice test and a two hour lecture with test review. Classes begin March 21, 22 or 23. Classes will not be held April 18, 19 or 20.  
 \*Register and pay in full by 2/1 for \$100 discount.

**Mathematics Level 2 (select one)**

Saturday	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Saturday	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Sunday	8:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Sunday	10:30 AM – 1:30 PM
Sunday	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Chemistry**

Friday	4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
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Tuition: \$800 / 10 weeks

**PSAT**

Elite's demanding PSAT program is designed for 9th and 10th graders who want to get a head start on preparing for the SAT. The course consists of a practice exam and Critical Reading, Writing, and Math taught at a pace more suitable for younger students.

**Testing**

Saturday Morning	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
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**Course**

Saturday Afternoon	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
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Tuition: \$320 / 4 weeks

**READIPREP™**

As a leader in the field of education, Elite and its ReadIPrep™ courses are designed to help students develop skills necessary for high school success in reading, writing and mathematics.

**Level 1**

Saturday	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
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**Level 2**

Saturday	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
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Tuition: \$320 / 4 weeks

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

Elite's Advanced Placement courses will be ten weeks long preparing students for the May exams. Each AP session will consist of a one and one-half hour practice test (a mixture of multiple choice and free response questions) and a two and one-half hour lecture. Students enrolled in the AP course will be fully prepared to take the corresponding SAT Subject exam. Classes begin February 22 or 23. Classes will not be held April 19 or 20.  
 \*Register and pay in full by 2/1 for \$100 discount.

**Biology (select one)**

Saturday	3:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Sunday	8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Chemistry (select one)**

Saturday	8:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Sunday	11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Calculus AB**

Saturday	3:00 PM – 7:00 PM
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**World History**

Sunday	11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
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**European History**

Saturday	3:00 PM – 7:00 PM
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**United States History**

Saturday	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
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Tuition: \$1000 / 10 weeks

**ACT**

Elite's ACT preparation program is ideal for students with SAT Reasoning experience interested in taking the April 12 ACT exam. For each week of the 8 week course, students will take a full length 3.75 hour exam and attend 4 hours of lectures in English, Math, Reading and Science. Course begins February 15.

**Testing**

Saturday	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
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**Course**

Sunday	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
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Tuition: \$960 / 8 weeks

# "HEY YOU!"

HEY YOU, SS, okay.

HEY YOU, Happy Birthday, KBear!

HEY YOU, It's so AWKWARD reading the newspaper when I'm sitting on the toilet and drying my hands ...

HEY YOU, I think Ife, Mimi, and Liya should be the ASB officers of our school.

HEY YOU, KK! You are a very gorgeous and compassionate person! I've never met somebody like you, truly one of a kind! We should go and meet up sometime.

HEY YOU, awk.

HEY YOU, Mr. Bellows is the goodest teacher ever.

HEY YOU, wah wah.

HEY YOU, Mimi, I love your fashion style!

HEY YOU, Follow me on Instagram @hbksahad.

HEY YOU, Hey upperclassmen, any tips on studying for a 27-chapter AP history final?

HEY YOU, A ID! I promise you will find your Zak/Nerd Prince one day. Amin mela lle :D :P ~Your (Hopelessly Romantic LHC Bookworm) BFF

HEY YOU, Raise your hand if the Doctor Who Christmas Special made zero canonical sense. Thanks, Moffat.

HEY YOU, Nin ore lin! ;) We shall find our Zak soon...just not here. Hopeless romantics for life x).

HEY YOU, Caleb, you were debating i\ kshvl

HEY YOU, Ms. Galaviz, I think you should throw a football party.

HEY YOU, Ms. Decker We Luv You- WT

HEY YOU, apparently dead week= give-students-more-homework week

HEY YOU, kudos to people who still remember their New Year's Resolution.

HEY YOU, KL get well.

HEY YOU, Liya I like your red beanie.

HEY YOU, PP your snapchats suck.

HEY YOU, Sunshine girls, you are rockin' it.

HEY YOU, whoever pulled the alarm, we'll find you.

HEY YOU, Ms. Getgen, thanks for being the cutest Spanish teacher ever.

*Got something to say to someone? Too shy to say it to their face?*

*Send a "HEY YOU" to [dvhsheyyou@gmail.com](mailto:dvhsheyyou@gmail.com) or submit via our website or Facebook. Staff & teachers welcome too!*

For more "HEY YOU"S check [www.thewildcattribune.com](http://www.thewildcattribune.com).

HEY YOU, Mr. Gendron, fear the tree (see you at Top Dog)!

HEY YOU, 49'ers are going to the championships.

HEY YOU, TL is cute.

HEY YOU, I give up on Chinese.

HEY YOU, MJ- Happy B-day (ehhh).

HEY YOU, AK Happy Birthday!

HEY YOU, Frank & Claire Underwood are my new favorite power couple. Move over, Macbeth.

HEY YOU, English 11 third period, BECAUSE IT IS MY NAME!

## New Year's Resolutions Tough to Maintain For Most

By Ye Bin Shin  
Photography Editor

5, 4, 3, 2, 1...Happy New Year everyone! And now it is time to make our fresh new year's resolutions. Many people decorate the start of the year with fancy resolutions such as losing weight, helping others, cleaning the house more and various other hopes and wishes.

2014 begun with promises. However, according to University of Scranton's *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 75% of Americans who make resolutions give up or fail to achieve what they wanted for the new year after a week with reasons such as : it's too cold(in particular to go outside and exercise), it's impossible to

achieve the resolution if they think about it now, or simply that they are too busy to keep it up.

So is it truly worth it to make resolutions every new year? It depends, but generally speak-

about solutions for our flaws and actually taking action. In contrast, people are just simply thinking of vague wishes or hopes that they want to achieve without really thinking about 'how' to approach it.

continue to make the resolution every year as if they are a necessary holiday decorations.

So if we are going to continue making our 'resolutions' anyways, why don't we make resolutions worthy of precious holiday time? Why don't we do something to bring up the chance of actually achieving the goal that we set? I suggest making the resolution as detailed as possible (so you know what exactly you have to do to reach the goal) and realistic as possible (not to mention that 31% of the resolutions are related to finding love ... cough, cough, which isn't in your domain) or making no resolution at all. Happy 2014! Best wishes to you!

### Statistics\* show that:

- 75% of people keep their resolution for the first week
- 71% keep it for two weeks
- 64% keep it for a month
- 46% keep it for six months

*Statistics compiled by Kristi Seto*

### What kinds of resolutions do people make?

- 47% want to improve themselves or their education
- 38% want to solve their weight problems
- 34% are related to money
- 31% are about relationships

\*Note: this WILL NOT add up to 100% because people have more than 1 resolution.

ing, we the people of United States are losing the original purpose of resolutions to improve ourselves by thinking

It is ironic because people know that they probably would not keep promises longer than a week or so, but they

# Review: Disney's "Frozen" Warms Up Viewers' Hearts

By Amy Cu  
Staff Writer

RATING: ★★★★★

Who doesn't love an exciting fairy tale filled with magic and adventure, especially when it's beautifully animated with an extremely well-written story? Add in catchy, original songs and lovable characters, and you get Disney's new movie "Frozen."

Starring the voice talents of Kristen Bell and Idina Menzel, who play Princess Anna and Queen Elsa, respectively, Disney puts a new twist on Hans Christian Andersen's "The Snow Queen." The story starts out in the beautiful kingdom of Arendelle, where Elsa harbors a dark secret that she keeps from everyone, including her beloved sister Anna.

But years later, when Elsa steps up to be queen, her secret is revealed, and the kingdom is frozen over in cold and ice. As Elsa runs away in fear, Princess Anna is determined to find her sister and bring her home to stop the winter.

However, for Dougherty students, Elsa's story brought cheer to their winter.

"I like that it had a good message about love," commented Kristen Eng.

Aishwarya Murali said, "I haven't seen it yet, but I really want to because everyone says it's good."

Including stellar songs "For the First Time in Forever," "Do You Want to Build a Snowman," and much more from the soundtrack that has reached the iTunes top charts, "Frozen" is filled with fun music, performed by the voice actors themselves! "Let It Go," performed by Queen Elsa (Idina Menzel), was nominated for multiple awards, including the



PHOTO COURTESY OF ENMNETWORK.COM

Golden Globe for Best Original Song in a Motion Picture. The whole album also took first place in Billboard 200's highest-selling albums list, which shows how stunning the music is.

"Frozen" is a movie everyone will enjoy for generations to come, so visit to your local cinema to experience the magic of Disney's "Frozen" today!

## DRIVING TEST

you feel like the law is going to crack down across your shoulders regardless of what you do. Also, the Pleasanton DMV examiners have a reputation for being especially tough on the crosswalks and the bike lanes. "Touch the painted white line of a bike lane or turn into a crosswalk with a pedestrian (no matter how long the crosswalk is or how far away the pedestrian is relative to your car) and it's game over man," one of my friends warned.

So, with typical test anxiety, I drove my car up to the designated starting area in the DMV parking lot and waited for the next available examiner. About five minutes into the wait, I looked up and saw a man dressed in a dark t-shirt and faded jeans, sporting straggly shoulder length hair, approach my car. In a loud voice, he said, "Good morning, Einstein. Ready to take your test?" Why was he calling me Einstein?, I wondered, and was that a good thing or a bad thing? Although Einstein was one of the greatest physicists of all time, he definitely was not known for his good looks. Then it dawned on me that my Hawaiian t-shirt had a small picture of Einstein in the upper right corner. Well, at least

he seems friendly, I thought. Then the man proceeded to offer me some strange advice, which confused me even more. "Remember to turn right when you want to go right, and turn left when you want to go left, and you will do just fine," he instructed. Before I could finish pondering how bizarre his comments seemed, he crossed back over to the curb side, picked up a discarded cigarette butt off the street, popped it in his mouth, and then disappeared around the corner. Whoa. Just as the "I don't think that was the real DMV guy" light bulb went on in my head, another man approached my car carrying a clipboard. This guy did prove to be the real examiner, and so my behind-the-wheel exam officially began.

Approximately 30 minutes later, I found I did pass the exam, with only a few minor errors marked on my score sheet. For those of you already done with driver's education and driver's training and are now almost done with the required 50 hours of supervised provisional permit driving, you may be wondering, what exactly will the DMV behind-the-wheel test cover and how will they score it? The behind-

the-wheel score sheet actually consists of three parts: the Pre-Drive Checklist, the Critical Driving Error section and the Maneuvers evaluation section.

In the Pre-Drive part of the test, the examiner doesn't yet get into your car. He stands outside your parked car and asks you questions to see if you know how use the turn signals, emergency flashers, windshield wipers, defroster, horn etc. He will also quiz you on arm signals. Your car itself will also get looked over. The examiner will not even get in your car if the headlights, brake lights, seat belts, or turn signals aren't working. To pass the exam, you can make no more than 3 errors in this Pre-Drive section.

The remaining two parts of the exam, the Critical Driving

from Page 1

Error section and the Maneuvers evaluation section, begin as soon as the engine is turned on and you and the examiner exit the DMV parking lot. In an approximately 4 block radius around the DMV, the examiner will spend the next 20 minutes grading your driving skills. To pass the exam, you not only can have no more than three Pre-Driver errors, but also zero Critical errors and fewer than 16 Maneuver errors.

In part two of this two part article, which will be published in the next installment of the *Wildcat Tribune*, I will go over the eight critical errors the DMV warns you must avoid to pass the exam. Words of advice will also be offered from fellow DVHS students who already passed the exam. Future drivers: stay tuned!

## DRIVING SCHOOL





(925) 225-1066

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