



IN A Nutshell

No. 149

Official community newsletter of the City of Walnut Creek

July/August 2010

Food-scrap recycling coming this autumn

Get ready to “recycle” left-over food. Valley Waste Management is starting a food-scrap program in October for its Walnut Creek yard-waste customers.

Customers will receive a free food scrap collection pail with a tight-sealing lid to prevent odors. When the pail is full, empty it into the green yard-waste cart.

Keeping food scraps and other organic materials out of the landfill reduces methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

For those who are already composting at home, keep up the good work! Divert even more food waste by putting some items not normally included in home compost, such as meat, bones and fish scraps, into the yard-waste cart.

The food-scrap program is sponsored by the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority. Learn more by calling 925-906-1801 or go to www.wastediversion.org.

Leshner Center turns 20 with festive gala

Save the date! On Oct. 9, the Diablo Regional Arts Association’s annual gala “On Broadway” is moving to the Leshner Center for the Arts in honor of the Center’s 20th anniversary.

The evening features an elegant cocktail hour, one-of-a-kind auction items, a gourmet sit-down dinner and a headliner performance by *Manhattan Transfer* followed by desserts, a live band and dancing. Call 925-295-1470.



Honoree Dick DuBey, above center, trains a volunteer on how to help an unconscious “victim” during a May 22 CERT Area drill.

Walnut Creek Police honor citizen heroes

The Walnut Creek Police Department’s mission statement is “Working Together to Benefit Our Community.” The PD honored that goal on May 11 when Chief Joel Bryden recognized five everyday folks for stepping up and helping make the community a safer place.

Lisa Jones, a manager at Safeway on Bancroft Road, was honored for contacting police about a suspicious repeat customer. Her suspicions proved to be on target when an investigation uncovered 15 credit card fraud victims, stolen or fraudulent Social Security cards, passports and driver’s licenses; a credit card embossing machine; a fraudulently purchased vehicle and a felon with a loaded gun.

Lynn Bak was recognized for her work in spearheading a wildly successful Neighborhood Watch program in Livorna Estates. Bak used an e-mail network and old-fashioned flyers to share crime-prevention tips. Crime has dropped by 38 percent over the past year as a result.



Honoree Alexandria Corbeil, 7, with Police Chief Joel Bryden, who had shaved his head the week prior to raise money for children’s cancer research.

Dick DuBey was honored for taking on the role of Training Coordinator for Walnut Creek’s Community Emergency Response Team program. Through his efforts, the program has strengthened its team of volunteer trainers and beefed up the hands-on training, inspiring students and almost eliminating dropouts.

Alexandria Corbeil, 7, may be the youngest person to date to receive the WCPD Citizen’s Commendation Award. Showing a maturity beyond her years, Alexandria called 911 when her mom fainted and gave the dispatcher vital information, then kept her younger siblings calm and out of harm’s way until the police could arrive.

Finally, Nick Ghiorso received the Chief’s Award for trying to save a stranger’s life at a pool outside an apartment complex.

City Event Calendar

July

4

4th of July Concert

(See *What's Happening*)

17

Library Grand Opening

24

Chevron Family Theatre Festival

(see story, back page)

August

14

Ancient Ways activities

(See *What's Happening*)

City Meeting Calendar

City Council

July 6, 8, 20; Aug. 3
7 p.m.

City Council chamber
City Hall, 1666 N. Main St.

Planning Commission

July 8, 22; Aug. 12, 26
7 p.m.

City Council chamber

Arts Commission

July 19; no August meeting
4:30 p.m.

City Council chamber

Transportation Commission

July 15, Aug. 19
7 p.m.

City Council chamber

Design Review Commission

July 7, 21; Aug. 4, 18
7 p.m.

City Council chamber

Park, Rec & Open Space Commission

July 12; no August meeting
7 p.m.

City Council chamber

TV City Council, Planning and Design Review meetings are televised live on Comcast 28 (26 in Rossmoor), Astound 29 and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99. Video of the meetings is streamed live and available on demand at www.walnut-creek.org or walnutcreektv.org.

Bedford Gallery exhibit examines books as art

Sir Francis Bacon said, "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested."

The artists in the Bedford Gallery's summer exhibition *Unbound: A National Survey of Book Art* have other ideas in mind. This show features 40 artists who tear, paint, puncture and sew the pages, covers and spines of books to create new two and three-dimensional works. Some of the artists copy the book form in ceramic or fabric and others create one-of-a-kind books that pop up, fold out or hang on the wall.

Unbound includes several historic books by Ed Ruscha and Andy Warhol to complement the very latest work by artists like Michael Bartolos, Sas Colby, Lisa Kokin, Francesca Pastine, Maria Porges, Nancy Selvin, Richard Shaw and many more.



'Notebook, Vol. 2', 2009
ceramic, Nancy Selvin
(photo by Kim Harrington)

Please join us for the opening reception on Thursday, July 15 from 6 - 8 p.m. Find out more about book art workshops and related programs at www.bedfordgallery.org.

What's Happening

Celebrate the 4th with music at Civic Park

The Walnut Creek Concert Band, under the direction of Harvey Benstein, will give a free 4th of July Concert beginning at 6 p.m. at the Civic Park gazebo. This is a free event. Bring a picnic supper and celebrate a musical Independence Day.

Special "Sculpture in the Garden"

The Ruth Bancroft Garden's *Sculpture In The Garden* exhibit is a unique mix of professional

sculptures created by outstanding local artists.

The exhibit will remain on display through July 18

and will be open seven days a week from 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m. Also offered this summer are special

workshops designed to educate the public about sustainable gardening.

"Botanical Illustration" will be Saturday, July 10,

and "Drought Tolerant Gardening 101" will be Saturday, Aug. 14. All workshops take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call for more information, 925-944-

9352 or go to www.ruthbancroftgarden.org.



CERT classes scheduled

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training will be offered Thursday evenings, Sept. 2 - Oct. 7, plus Saturday, Oct. 16. Cost is \$20.

CERT graduates are registered as volunteer Disaster Service Workers for the City. A daytime series will be offered in Rossmoor in November. To find out more, go to www.walnut-creek.org or call 925-256-3556.

Ancient Ways at Sugarloaf Open Space

Atlatl competition returns for the second year to Sugarloaf Open Space on Youngs Valley Road on Saturday, August 14 from 10 a.m. to noon. Learn how to use this primitive stick in competitive primitive technology contests, games and activities. Crafts and games include making and spinning an acorn top, playing stick dice and other games, and making simple crafts from cattails and tules. Exhibitors will have even more to share. Make this a family day at Sugarloaf by bringing a picnic lunch. More information is available from Ranger Bruce at weidman@walnut-creek.org.

Host families sought for exchange students

AYUSA International, a non-profit youth exchange organization, is seeking families in the area who are interested in hosting an outstanding high school student from Europe, Asia and elsewhere. Host families have the opportunity to broaden their horizons, provide a unique contribution to their community and make a positive impact on global youth. For information on how to host or be an exchange student, contact Lauren Ross, AYUSA's East Bay Community Representative, at laureng24@comcast.net or go to www.ayusa.org.

Keep up with City events and news

Want up-to-date information about City events, news and activities?

Follow us on Facebook! The City of Walnut Creek, Walnut Creek TV, Open Space, Bedford Gallery and the Leshner Center for the Arts each have a unique Facebook page to share information with the community. Become a fan!



Tsukiyama book chosen for 'Walnut Creek Reads 2010'

Gail Tsukiyama's bestseller, *The Street of a Thousand Blossoms*, is this year's selection for the popular "One City, One Book: Walnut Creek Reads" program. The book is steeped in politics and ancient Japanese traditions and recounts the lives of two orphaned brothers during World War II and post-war reconstruction.

Book lovers and occasional readers are invited to read the book this summer and participate in various citywide celebratory events in September and October. Highlighting the fall events will be a special evening with author Tsukiyama on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at the new Walnut Creek Library.

The complete calendar of events and the book discussion guide for the "One City, One Book" program are available online at www.walnutcreekreads.org and at local libraries.

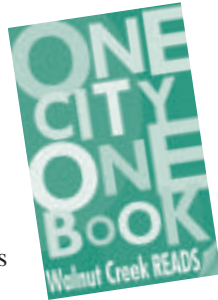
The book is available at the new downtown library (opening July 17), the Ygnacio Valley library (2661 Oak Grove Road) and the Rossmoor Library.

Borges Ranch school tours return this fall

School tours of Borges Ranch in the Shell Ridge Open Space are back! Beginning June 1, schools in Walnut Creek may make reservations for programs starting in September. The reservation period opens for schools outside of Walnut Creek on Sept. 1.

School tours cover Walnut Creek and ranching history from 1900 to 1946. Rangers guide students through the historic buildings and share stories of life on an early 20th century ranch. Program content correlates to state curriculum standards.

The cost for the 90-minute program is \$75 per class of 25 students. For information or reservations, contact Supervising Ranger Nancy Dawson Dollard at dollard@walnut-creek.org.



Forgotten no longer

The 2010 Memorial Day observance paid special tribute to veterans of the Korean War, often referred to as "the forgotten war." The keynote address was delivered by three veterans of the Korean War, each representing a different branch of the Armed Forces. Above, from left, keynote speakers Stephen Williams, Army; Alan Kite, Navy; and Bill Harbin, Marine Corps. At right, Owen Jones shows waves the American flag from his perch on dad Dan Jones' shoulders.



Flood map information available

Floods are among the most common and widespread of natural disasters. Walnut Creek is no exception. Floods in 2002 and 2005 resulted in thousands of dollars of damage to properties in Walnut Creek.

The National Flood Insurance Program has mapped the 100-year floodplain or Special Flood Hazard Area within Walnut Creek. More than 500 properties are partially or entirely located in the flood plain.

The City of Walnut Creek maintains the

Walnut Creek PD seeks volunteer youth Cadets

Young people ages 16-22 interested in learning about law enforcement careers and the Walnut Creek Police may apply to be a volunteer police Cadet.

Candidates must have a clean criminal record and be in high school or a high-school graduate. Cadets must maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average and live within Walnut Creek's sphere of influence. Cadets work special details such as the Walnut Festival and school safety fairs, maintain the bicycle fleet and tend to many other duties. Contact Officer David Rangel 925-256-3523 or Cadet Lt. Brian Fidelibus, Fidelibus@walnutcreekpd.org.

floodplain maps and will determine whether a property is within the Area and provide the base flood elevation, if shown on the map. This service is provided to homeowners, lending institutions, real estate agents and insurance agents.

To find out if a property is in the Special Flood Hazard Area, please contact the Engineering Division at 925-943-5839. Additional information about the requirements for purchasing flood insurance will also be provided. There is no charge for this service.

Registration changes coming for Arts and Recreation customers

Civic Arts Education and Recreation customers may notice some changes to the online registration process when registration opens on Aug. 16. Customers will be able to sign up for arts and recreation courses through the same EZ Reg system, all in a single transaction.

The change is being made to improve customer service and increase access to both Civic Arts and Recreation classes.

Learn more about all Arts and Recreation has to offer at www.WalnutCreekRec.org or www.arts-ed.org.

Chevron Family Theatre Festival returns

The fun is back! The 4th annual Chevron Family Theatre Festival welcomes the community to a day of affordable, high quality family entertainment on Saturday, July 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The City of Walnut Creek, the Leshner Center for the Arts, the Diablo Regional Arts Association and Chevron work closely together to transform the Leshner Center and the plaza out front into a day-long festival of child-friendly fun, arts and entertainment.

Artists appearing this year include The Sippy Cups, Fantasy Forum Actor's Ensemble performing *The Wizard of Oz*, the Pushcart Players performing *Cinderella*, Trout Fishing in America,



The Sippy Cups return to the Chevron Family Theatre festival on Saturday, July 24.

PapaHugs Band and Ken Bergmann's *Percussion Discussion*. Events outside are free; performances inside are just \$5 per person. To purchase tickets, call 925-943-SHOW.

Design Review meetings live and on demand

Walnut Creek residents can now watch Design Review Commission meetings as they happen without leaving home, either on TV or via the City's website.

Not able to watch the meeting when it happens? Simply go to the Public Meetings page at www.walnut-creek.org and view it on demand. Meeting agendas are posted on the same webpage.

The Design Review Commissions are the latest to be added to the Walnut Creek TV lineup. City Council and Planning Commission meetings are also videocast live and posted on the website for viewing on demand, giving the public more ways to stay informed and involved.

Check your cable provider's schedule or go to www.walnutcreektv.org.



'City at Work' goes behind the scenes with public services

Go behind the scenes with Walnut Creek's Public Services Department and learn about the innovation, technology and people who keep our streets, buildings, parks and open space running smoothly, with Walnut Creek TV's *City at Work*.

Find out how signs are made, meters are monitored and ladybugs are deployed to fight aphid infestations in park gardens.

Walnut Creek TV is available on Comcast 28 (Channel 26 in Rossmore), Astound 29 and AT&T U-Verse 99.

And now, it's available 24/7 on any computer by going to www.walnutcreektv.org.

View streaming video of 'what's playing now,' or choose to watch any locally produced video by going to the On Demand section. Program listings are also posted on the website.



CITY COUNCIL
Sue Rainey, Mayor*
Cindy Silva, Mayor pro tem
Kish Rajan
Bob Simmons
Gary Skrel

* For appointment: Call 256-3504

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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CITY ATTORNEY
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CITY CLERK
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CITY TREASURER
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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INA **Nutshell**

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Editor:
 Gayle Vassar

We welcome your comments and questions.
 Please call 943-5895
 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For past issues, go online at www.walnut-creek.org



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A Day of Fun for the Entire Family



10:00 Opening Ceremony
Civic Park Entrance

Special Programs for Children & Adults
Oak View Room



11:00 "The Princess Mermaid" (preschoolers)
Nick Barone Puppets

1:00 "Backyard Wildlife with Gary Bogue"

3:00 "Mother Moose Tales" (school-age children)
Stories and music with Willy Claflin and Maynard Moose

Throughout the Day
Children's Reading & Stories



Preschool Story Time
10:30, 12:30, 2:30



ARF All Ears Reading® (Grades 1-5)
1:30-3:00

Storybook Characters
10:30-3:00



Library Card Registration

Information Stations

★ Public Art
Self-Guided Tour

Demonstrations & Exhibits

- Lindsay Wildlife Museum
- Walnut Creek Historical Society
- Walnut Creek Sister Cities International
- John Muir Health
- Teen Media Showcase
- Business & Career Resources



Friends of the Walnut Creek Library
Bookstore Opening

Walnut Creek Library Foundation Mementos



Entertainment Festivities

Music · Ballon Artist · Face Painting

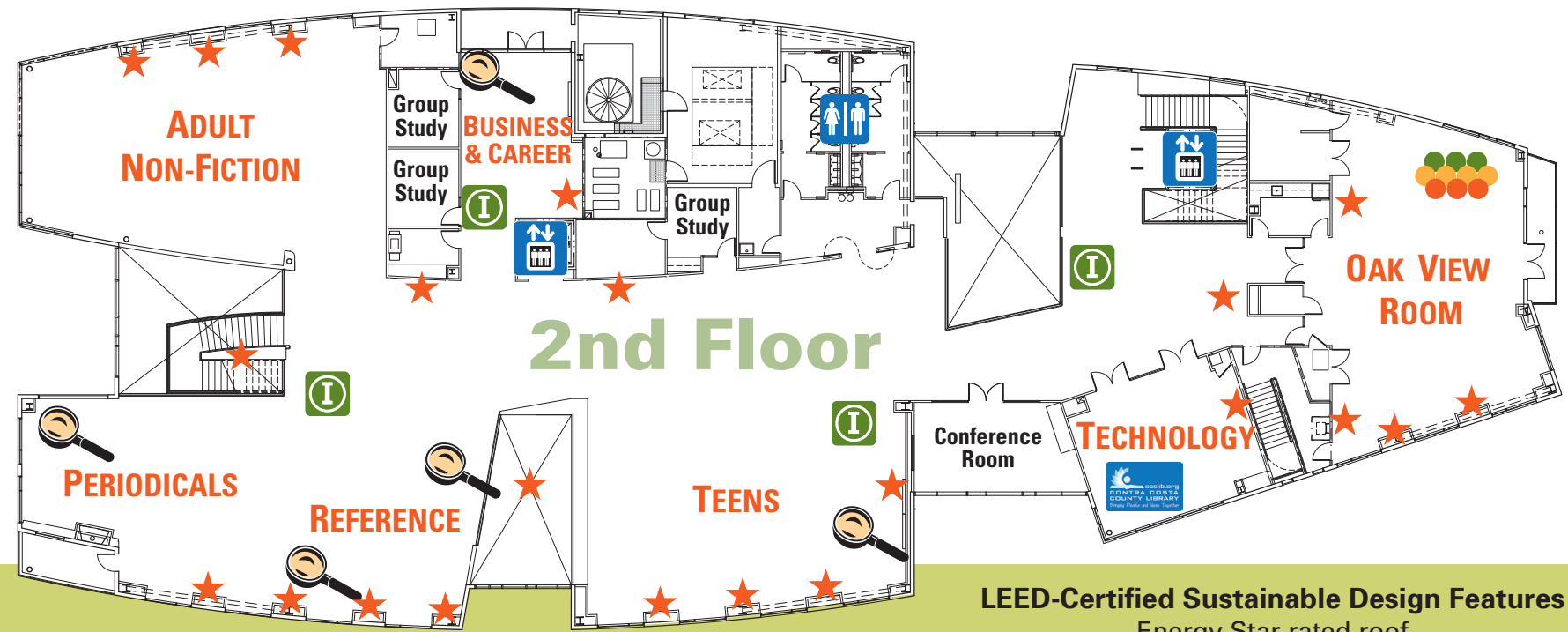


Downtown Passport

To welcome the new library, numerous downtown restaurants and merchants are offering special discounts on July 17 to celebrate Opening Day. Just look for the library card sign in merchant windows and show your library card to receive your Opening Day discount. A full list of participating businesses will be in the Opening Day program.



New library cards will be available at the library on Opening Day.



www.ccclib.org

Walnut Creek Library
1644 N. Broadway
925-977-3340
Mon-Thurs: 10am - 8pm
Fri-Sat: 10am - 6pm

LEED-Certified Sustainable Design Features
Energy Star-rated roof
High-performance window glazing
Daylight-harvesting controls
Photovoltaic-installation-ready infrastructure
Recycled and regionally manufactured materials
Energy-efficient heating, cooling and lighting



See Front Page for Parking Information



Our New
WALNUT CREEK LIBRARY

A PLACE FOR EVERYONE
A Place for You