

## Public assists in picking library design firm

With the guidance of more than 850 interested residents, the City Council in May selected a South San Francisco architectural firm to design a new downtown branch library to replace the small, aging current facility.

The City chose Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc. from among four firms that had submitted conceptual designs for the new library that at least 1,700 citizens viewed and about which more than 850 provided written comments when the designs were displayed around the community May 3-10.

A selection committee comprising City Council members, commissioners, and library advocates recommended that the City hire Group 4, which had impressed the panelists with its design of the Central Park Library in Santa Clara and its long track record of designing public buildings that meet community needs.

Group 4 has planned and designed nearly 90 libraries throughout California, including many in the Bay Area. The firm has also planned and designed new community centers, senior centers, city halls, and other important community projects.

As part of its contract with the City, Group 4 will continue to work with the community to develop a revised conceptual design plan (different than the one displayed in May) to present to the Council.

The current downtown library, opened in 1961, has seen increased use in recent years despite its small size and deficiencies, which include inadequate space for patrons, staff, books, and computers.



Walnut Creek residents came out in large numbers May 3-10 to view conceptual models and illustrations prepared by four architectural firms vying for the opportunity to design the new downtown branch library. Here, three citizens jot down their comments about Group 4's entry, which ultimately helped Group 4 obtain the contract to design the new library.

## Judge decides Comcast must get City's written OK to do upgrade

A federal judge on May 5 agreed with the City that Comcast must get written permission to upgrade its cable system in Walnut Creek.

In a ruling issued by U.S. District Judge William Alsup in San Francisco, the court denied Comcast's attempt to force the City to allow it to rebuild its antiquated cable system without a formal agreement.

"The ruling is a complete victory for the City," said Senior Assistant City Attorney Paul Valle-Riestra. "We're anxious to see the upgrade occur. We just want to make sure that it's according to

terms and conditions that protect the public and the City's interests."

City Manager Mike Parness said the City is essentially requesting Comcast to make two vital commitments before it begins its upgrade.

"We're looking for protections in our neighborhoods during construction," said Parness, referring to such basic standards as establishing hours of work and notifications to residents. "Further, we want a guarantee that the new infrastructure that is ultimately installed will be technologically state-of-the-art to meet the long-term

**COMCAST, see back page**

## City Event Calendar

### July

**4**  
**4th of July Concert**  
 (See *What's Happening*)

**30**  
**Pops Concert**  
 WC Concert Band  
 (See article, this page)

### August

**20**  
**Movies Under the Stars**  
 "Ice Age"  
 Dusk  
 Heather Farm Park; free  
 (See *What's Happening*)

## City Meeting Calendar

**City Council**   
 July 19; Aug. 2  
 7 p.m.  
 City Hall, 1666 N. Main St.

**Planning Commission**  
 July 14, 28; Aug. 11, 25   
 7 p.m.  
 City Council chamber

**Arts Commission**  
 July (no meetings), Aug. 15  
 4:30 p.m.  
 Leshner Center for the Arts

**Transportation Commission**  
 July 21, Aug. 18  
 7:30 p.m.  
 City Council chamber

**Design Review Commission**  
 July 6, 20; Aug. 3, 17  
 7 p.m., City Council chamber

**Park, Rec & Open Space Commission**  
 July 11, August (no meeting)  
 7 p.m., City Council chamber

 **City Council meetings are televised live on Comcast Channels 6 and 26 (unincorporated), and on Astound Channel 29. They are repeated the following Saturday at 1 p.m. on all.**

 **Walnut Creek Currents, a City-produced 10-minute video digest on City activities and services: Comcast Channels 6 and 26 — Daily at 6 a.m., 9 a.m., noon, 3 p.m., and Wed. at 7:30 p.m. Astound Ch. 29 — Daily at noon and 7 p.m.**

## City's Center REP to stage John Denver tribute in West Coast premiere

The City's Center REPeritory Company will present the West Coast premiere on Sept. 8 of *Almost Heaven: John Denver's America*, the Broadway-bound musical that places the late songwriter's tunes in the context of his times.

*Sunshine On My Shoulders, Rocky Mountain High* and *Annie's Song* are among the many favorites that punctuate this tribute to Denver's life and music that runs Sept. 8 - Oct. 8 in the Margaret Leshner Theatre. Season tickets are now available; call 943-SHOW.



John Denver

## WC Band to perform at Pops Concert July 30

Movie themes and Oscar-winning songs will be performed by the Walnut Creek Concert Band at its annual Summer Pops Concert at the Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts on Saturday, July 30 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 at the Regional Center Box Office, 1601 Civic Drive or by calling (925) 943-7469 (SHOW).

The Walnut Creek Concert Band, under the direction of Harvey Benstein, has been the official band of Walnut Creek since 1987.

For more information about the band, go online at [www.WalnutCreekBand.org](http://www.WalnutCreekBand.org)

## What's Happening

### 4th of July concert at Civic Park

The Walnut Creek Concert Band under the direction of Harvey Benstein returns to the Civic Park gazebo will present its annual Independence Day Concert on July 4 at 6 p.m. as part of the City's PARKconcert series. The Devil Mountain Barbershop Chorus will perform Sunday, Aug. 7, 6 p.m. at the gazebo. Bring a picnic and a blanket.

### Movies Under Stars: 'Ice Age' Aug. 20

The next family-friendly feature in the City's popular "Movies Under the Stars" series will be the 2002 animated hit "Ice Age" on Saturday, Aug. 20 on ballfield #1 at Heather Farm Park. The movie will begin at dusk and admission is free. Low lawn chairs are OK but no pets, please.

### New documentary on Lindsay Museum

A new documentary on the Lindsay Wildlife Museum will debut July 16 at 6 p.m. at the museum, 1931 First Ave. Filmmakers Julie Gesin and Mike L. Jones explore the connections between humans and our animal neighbors in *Near Wild: The Story of Lindsay Wildlife Museum*, a 45-minute film that tells the story of museum volunteers and the animals in their care. A reception precedes the film screening. Please RSVP to 925-935-1978. Admission is free, but donations are gladly accepted. For more information, go online at [www.wildlife-museum.org](http://www.wildlife-museum.org).

### Gardens at Heather Farm in summer

Cool summer mornings are a wonderful time to stroll the demonstration gardens at the Gardens at Heather Farm's six-acre site at 1540 Marchbanks Dr. The gardens showcase healthy garden practices and plants adapted to our climate. For more information and to learn how to rent the facilities, visit [www.gardenshf.org](http://www.gardenshf.org) or call 925-947-1678.

### Benefit shows for WC arts programs

The first annual "Hearts for the Arts" Smooth Jazz Series 2005 to benefit Walnut Creek's arts programs will be held at the Dean Leshner Regional



Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive. The series will feature trumpeter Chris Botti on July 10, 6:30 p.m.; guitarist Craig Chaquico, July 29, 7:30 p.m.; and jazz guitarist Earl Klugh, Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m. Each show will include performances by the award winning Moving Arts Dance troupe. Autographed guitars and a silent auction with children's art will benefit the Diablo Regional Arts Association, the fundraising arm for the City's cultural programs. Call for show times. Admission is \$175 for three shows (single performance tickets are not available). For tickets, call 925-943-7469 or go online at [www.dlrca.org](http://www.dlrca.org) or [www.heartsforthearts.cc](http://www.heartsforthearts.cc)

### Girls Golf program seeking members

LPGA-USGA Girls Golf, a developmental junior golf program for girls ages 7-17, is recruiting new members. The only national initiative of its kind just for girls, the program provides the opportunity to achieve success, progress in golf and establish a life-long interest in the game. Girls work with an LPGA or PGA instructor to learn the basics in rules, etiquette, full swing, short game and putting. All levels of experience are welcome. Membership dues are \$75 and include free participation in 13 clinics/playdays and \$8 Green Fee week-days at Boundary Oak Golf Course (9 holes). For more information on joining our program, contact Deborah Hicks at [deborahhicks18@yahoo.com](mailto:deborahhicks18@yahoo.com) or 415-474-9778.

## Work continues on new skate park in Heather Farm Park

Construction commenced on Walnut Creek's new skate park following a festive groundbreaking ceremony April 9.

A crowd of over 100 celebrated the start of the long-awaited project as City Council members were joined by leaders of the Friends of the Skate Park in the shovel-wielding ceremony.

The 12,250-square-foot skate park, located at the corner of Heather Drive and Marchbanks Drive in Heather Farm Park, will be completed early this fall. Watch for details on the grand opening in the next issue of the *Nutshell*.

The Friends of the Skate Park, in partnership with the Walnut Creek Fountain for Youth Foundation, has launched several fundraising opportunities to pay for skate park amenities such as lighting, benches, and a water fountain.

The organization has raised one third of the \$90,000 it needs to meet its goal. Other fundraising activities include personal inscription tiles and a major donor plaque in the skate park entrance, as well as T-shirts and map of the park.

The design firm of Purkiss-Rose-RSI of Fullerton, CA designed the Skate Park along with area skaters during 3 group design sessions. Among its unique features are elements for street skaters and vertical skaters, with rails, spines and bowls. The Phase II design of the Skate Park includes a pool featuring actual pool coping and tile. When this phase is funded, Walnut Creek will have the only skate park of its

## Bike advisory group seeks new members

The City of Walnut Creek is seeking two enthusiastic candidates to serve a three-year term on the City's Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC).

The BAC advises the City's Transportation Commission on bicycle issues and meets every other month on a Wednesday evening. Candidates must work or live within the City's "sphere of influence."

If you are interested in receiving an application, or know someone who is, contact Julie Iamele at 925-256-3529 or [iamele@walnut-creek.org](mailto:iamele@walnut-creek.org).

The application filing deadline is Friday, July 29 at 5 p.m.



Spectators watched John Alday, 11, a fifth grader at Murwood School in Walnut Creek, become airborne during the skateboarding exhibition following the groundbreaking for the new Walnut Creek Skate Park in Heather Farm Park on April 9.

kind in Northern California.

The precise description of the site and project involved and other technical information may be obtained from Joe

Sadri of the City's Engineering Division at (925) 943-5899, ext. 217, or by going online at [www.walnut-creek.org](http://www.walnut-creek.org) and clicking on "Skate Park" under Quick Hits.

## Recycling center seeking new home

Recycling program officials are busily searching central county for a new site for their recycling center.

The Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority, which administers the 18,000-square-foot facility located on Lawrence Way, needs to relocate the recycling center by February 2006, when its lease expires.

Walnut Creek has allowed the Solid Waste Authority to use the property for \$1 year since the agency took over the recycling center operation in 1996.

City officials say that after 20 years of making a home for the recycling center,

Walnut Creek can no longer donate the use of the site in an area that is evolving toward more appropriate land uses.

City Manager Mike Parness said it is now necessary for the Solid Waste Authority to find another acceptable site for the continued operation of the center.

"Walnut Creek is willing to work with the Authority in their search for an acceptable alternative," said Parness.

The Solid Waste Authority is soliciting ideas on where to relocate the center. Persons may call the Authority at 925-906-1801.

## Low-cost home rehab loans available

If you need to bring your home up to code or make an improvement for safety or energy efficiency reasons, the City offers low-interest loans to qualified residents.

Under its Home Rehabilitation Loan Program, the City offers loans of up to \$60,000 with 3 percent simple interest over 20 years, and payments aren't due until the house is sold.

To qualify, a family of four must not earn more than \$90,420 a year. A two-person household is limited to \$72,325.

In 2004-05, the City issued six loans.

This year, \$320,000 in loans is available through the program.

Emergency grants up to \$10,000, which do not need to be repaid, are also available to low-income households for roof repairs, plumbing problems, and other emergencies. To qualify, a two-member household must not earn more than \$53,000 a year.

For more information on the Home Rehabilitation Loan Program and emergency grant program, contact Pat Corum, 925-335-1137, or go online at [www.walnut-creek.org](http://www.walnut-creek.org).

## A Look Back at 1952

# Main Street: Taming a titanic traffic tie-up

**A**h, nostalgia. These recently discovered photographs, circa 1952, illustrate how knotted up traffic was on a daily basis at the historic crossroads of Walnut Creek's downtown: Main Street and Mt. Diablo Boulevard.

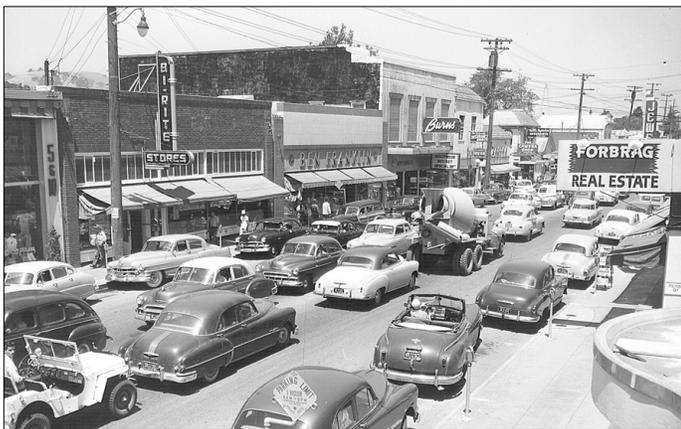
The titanic traffic jams at this intersection were spawned by the opening of Broadway Shopping Center (today's Broadway Plaza) in October 1951. It's believed the City commissioned these pictures to show state legislators how much a freeway was needed to ease the downtown traffic congestion.

The strategy worked. The state opened the new freeway in March 1960.



Looking west down Mt. Diablo Boulevard from Main Street in 1952 as cars and trucks queue up to come into downtown Walnut Creek.

Ted Gurney



Ted Gurney

Main Street in 1952 (at left) was also designated as State Highway 24, which explains the congested conditions as traffic lumbers through the historic downtown past Burns furniture store, Ben Franklin, and the BiRite Store. Today, at right, traffic is noticeably lighter in the same location.



# West Nile Virus threat looms this summer

**W**est Nile virus (WNV) continues to be a threat to the health of Californians as this summer brings more possibility for mosquito-bred infection, according to state officials.

In 2004, there were 830 West Nile virus infections reported from 23 counties in California (including Contra Costa) — of those 28 were fatalities. There have been no reports of human illness due to WNV in 2005, although West Nile virus has been detected in 21 California Counties so far this year.

The early season detection of WNV indicates that the virus successfully survived the winter and will pose a

statewide public health threat this year.

As a result, the public is again being asked to provide the state with information about birds that have been dead for less than 48 hours by calling a toll-free hotline: 1-877-WNV-BIRD.

WNV is transmitted to humans and animals through a mosquito bite. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. Human-to-human transmission of WNV generally does not occur. However, human WNV infection was associated with blood transfusions and



organ transplants in 2002.

Most individuals who are infected with WNV will not experience any illness. Others will have mild to moderate symptoms, such as fever, headache and body aches. Less than one percent of individuals will develop serious neurologic illness such as encephalitis and meningitis. The elderly and those with lowered immune systems are more susceptible to serious illness.

Horse owners are advised to contact their veterinarians about vaccinations.

For more information about WNV or to report dead birds, visit the website at [www.westnile.ca.gov/](http://www.westnile.ca.gov/).

# GETTING READY

## City program trains citizens on how to cope in emergencies

**G**oggled and protected with a flame retardant coat, Rose Tranby cautiously approached the three-foot-high flames with a fire extinguisher, looking like a nervous lion tamer with chair in hand. But after a few short blasts of the hose, the menacing flames were nothing but a cloud of white smoke. A triumphant smile signaled Tranby's success at handling the hefty cannister.

"It's harder than I thought it would be," said the 41-year Walnut Creek resident after completing a critical exercise in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training offered by the City of Walnut Creek and the Contra Costa Fire Protection District.

Tranby and 29 other classmates were learning some of the most critical precautions at the fire district's training facility in Concord. During the 20-hour course, the group will also have learned how to shut off a gas main, perform light search and rescue, and learn rudimentary disaster first

aid tips such as how to stop bleeding.

"These CERT classes are really nice," said Roc Lumley, a five-year Walnut Creek resident. "What I really like best is being ready for your neighborhood."

Walnut Creek, the first city in central Contra Costa County to offer the training, is conducting four CERT training sessions in 2005. Already 84 residents have completed the course since it was first offered last fall.

"It's so that people can take care of themselves, their families, and their neighbors in the 72 hours immediately following an emergency," said Community Relations Officer Gayle Vassar, program coordinator. "I think it takes away the fear that people have that they can't take care of themselves."

Funded with a federal Homeland Security grant, the CERT program is offered on Tuesday nights from 6 to 9:30 p.m. either at City Hall or at the training



Walnut Creek resident Rose Tranby uses a fire extinguisher with the assistance of partner Roc Lumley during an emergency training session in Concord on June 1.

facility in Concord.

To sign up for the next session, set July 19 to Aug. 23, call Vassar at 925-943-5899, x. 189 or go online to [www.walnut-creek.org](http://www.walnut-creek.org) and click on "Emergency Preparedness training" under Quick Hits.

The City will also stage its first Emergency Preparedness Fair on Saturday, Sept. 11, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Civic Park. The public will be treated to demonstrations of search and rescue dogs, hands-on training in shutting off the gas, and an up-close look at a fire engine. Admission is free.

## Tips on how to prepare and cope

Citizens can do their part to prepare for any disaster by following these common sense steps:

- Remain calm. Stay informed. Identify credible sources of information, such as local law enforcement agencies or the County Office of Emergency Services
- Have an emergency preparedness kit, such as for earthquakes. Keep kits up-to-date and stocked for at least 72 hours of self-sufficiency. Include items such as: bottled water, flashlight and extra batteries, food and snacks, a portable radio, an emergency plan to get your family together should they become separated, and an updated emergency phone list.
- Choose an out-of-state friend or

relative who you and your family members can call after an emergency to report your whereabouts and conditions.

- Expect delays for local government services.
- Expect delays due to bags and vehicles being searched.
- Expect traffic delays and traffic restrictions, including parking restrictions near government buildings.
- Avoid crowded public areas.
- Be prepared to evacuate if ordered.
- Do not pass on unsubstantiated information.
- Report all suspicious packages, persons, vehicles, activities, etc.
- Be aware of your surroundings.

### Survival kit checklist

- Water — 2 qrts-1 gal/person/day
- First aid kit, freshly stocked
- First aid book
- Food (packaged, canned, no-cook, baby food, and for special diets)
- Can opener (non-electric)
- Blankets, sleeping bags
- Portable radio
- Flashlight
- Spare batteries
- Essential medication
- Extra set of glasses
- Fire extinguisher (A-B-C type)
- Food, water for pets
- Cash (ATMs may not be working)
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toilet paper)
- Tools (axe, shovel, hammer, etc.)

## City Council Update

### Downtown business district OK'd

The City Council on June 7 established a downtown business improvement district to help promote and market downtown Walnut Creek. The City in August will begin collecting annual fees ranging from \$125 to \$1,000 a year from over 500 businesses to generate an estimated \$118,000 a year to fund the Walnut Creek Downtown Business Association's operations and activities.

### Tot lot upgrades approved

The City Council awarded a \$392,150 contract to Blossom Valley Construction, Inc. on May 17 to expand tot lots and replace play equipment at Larkey Park and Civic Park.

### New commissioner takes seat

Brian Krcelec took the oath of office April 19 as the newest member of the City's Transportation Commission to complete the unfinished term of Ron Chesney, which ends in 2007.



## Cleaning up the creek

Kelsey Dimmick, 14, places some debris from Walnut Creek into a plastic bag held by her friend, Amelia Fambrini, 12, during the 16th annual Creek Clean Up Day on May 16. The two Walnut Creek Intermediate School students were among an estimated 300 volunteers who helped pull over 30 cubic yards of trash from Walnut, Las Trampas and San Ramon creeks. The event was co-sponsored by the City and the Friends of the Creeks.

## Arts Ed offices move to City Hall



Arts Ed Office Assistant Carol Chiavetta attends to resident Margean Marshall, the first citizen to find Arts Ed (formerly Civic Arts Education) when it opened its new offices May 23 in City Hall. After 42 years, Arts Ed administration offices moved from portable units in Civic Park, which had been their headquarters since the program's inception in 1963. New modular units are being built near the Shadelands Arts Center to be used as studios for painting, drawing, and other classes. Registration for all Arts Ed classes can be done on-line at [www.arts-ed.org](http://www.arts-ed.org), by phone at 925-943-5846, or in person at either the office on the first floor City Hall or the Shadelands Arts Center, 111 N. Wiget Lane.

## Planners to wrap up General Plan rewrite discussion this fall

The Planning Commission will hold five more televised public meetings on the first major General Plan revision in 16 years before making its final recommendations to the City Council in October.



The following meetings will be in the City Council Chamber at City Hall, 1666 No. Main Street, and aired live on Comcast Ch. 6 and Astound Ch. 29:

- Thursday, July 7, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, July 21, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 11, 5 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 25, 5 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m.

Additionally, the Planning Commission invites the public to attend one of the following workshops on the draft General Plan (no TV coverage):

- Tuesday, Aug. 9, 7-9 p.m.; St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 1924 Trinity Ave.
- Saturday, Aug. 13, 10 a.m.-noon; Heather Farm Community Center, 301 N. San Carlos Dr.



## CopTalk

By Officer Lee Herrington

### Motorized scooter rules

Alternative forms of transportation are becoming more popular as the price of gasoline approaches the three-dollar mark. Two-wheeled vehicles always rise in popularity during gas shortages, and a new vehicle is emerging: the motorized scooter. Commonly sold under brand names such as Go-Ped, motorized scooters have become very popular in the past few years. Motorized scooters are typically electric or gas with handlebars and a deck upon which a rider can stand. They can also have a seat but it may not interfere with the rider's ability to stand on the deck.



In California, motorized scooters:

- 1) Must only travel on streets which have a speed limit of 25 mph or less or travel in separate, exclusive bicycle lanes
- 2) May not drive more than 15 mph
- 3) Must ride as close as practicable to the right side of the road.
- 4) May not ride on sidewalks. This would prohibit a motorized scooter from being operated on a sidewalk that has been declared a bicycle lane, such as those along Ygnacio Valley Road and Treat Boulevard.

Further, riders must have a California Driver License or Learners Permit, and all traffic laws apply to the operator of a scooter, including driving under the influence.

Local Authorities may prohibit motorized scooters from traveling on bike and foot paths. Here in Walnut Creek motorized vehicles are prohibited from parks, the Iron Horse Trail, and the Contra Costa Canal trails. Riding a scooter in those areas can result in a citation.

Further, non-electric motorized scooters must have a muffler that may not be modified or bypassed.

Remember that the Walnut Creek Police Department is committed to safe use by all vehicles on our roadways and does enforce vehicle code violations related to motorized scooter use, particularly when complaints or accidents occur.



### Character Counts' first grads

Police Officer Sean Wallace introduces students from Valle Verde Elementary School who successfully completed the City's new Character Counts program this spring during the program's first graduation on May 4 at the Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts. Nearly 800 fifth graders from 12 public and private schools throughout Walnut Creek participated in the program, which reminds children to be honest, treat others with respect, and take responsibility for their actions.

### Free gun locks available from Police Department

Prevent a tragedy from occurring in your home by using gun locks on your registered firearms. Free cable-style gun locks are available at the front lobby counter at the Police Department, 1666 No. Main St., Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Creek-friendly tips for washing your car

That late spring rain has finally let up. Are you anxious to wash or tune-up your car for your summer get-away? Please consider a creek-friendly approach.

To wash your car, take it to a commercial carwash that recycles water and discharges it directly to the sewer for treatment at the wastewater treatment plant. If washing your car at home, use the following creek-saving steps:

- Use paper towels to wipe brake dust off of wheels before washing,
- Use soap sparingly (even biodegradable soaps pollute creeks and the bay)
- Wash your car over a grass or gravel area where the soapy water will not run into the street or storm drain.
- Empty your bucket of soapy water into a sink, NOT into the street or storm drain.

Fundraising car washes can be more

creek-friendly by using these same steps!

It's always a good idea to regularly tune-up your car and keep it leak-free. Recycle and dispose of auto fluids properly. One gallon of used motor oil can contaminate up to one million gallons of our fresh water. That's enough water to supply 50 people for one full year. Also, recycled

motor oil requires about half as much energy to produce. To find a recycling station near you, call 1-800-NO DUMPING.

In the event of an accidental spill, sprinkle the area with sawdust or kitty litter to absorb all liquids, sweep it into a plastic garbage bag, and take it to a household hazardous waste facility. DON'T hose down the area.

For more great information on creek-sensitive car care, go online at: [www.cccleanwater.org/residents/prevent\\_pollution/your\\_automobile.php](http://www.cccleanwater.org/residents/prevent_pollution/your_automobile.php)





## Big check for Blue Star Moms

Walnut Creek resident Sharon Stirm, left, of the Blue Star Moms organization accepted a \$500 check from Shirley Walker and Ed Lahey of the Walnut Creek Seniors Club on May 27. The club made the donation to the group to assist in its ongoing practice of sending packages to military personnel serving in Iraq and other overseas locations.

## Comcast

### From front page

needs of the community for years to come.”

Valle-Riestra said the City provided Comcast officials a written agreement in May that would allow the company to begin the upgrade, but by June 1 Comcast

had not approved the agreement.

Meanwhile, Valle-Riestra said franchise negotiations with Comcast involving the City and a consortium of neighboring cities and the county may be wrapped up in early fall.



## City Directory

Arts Education classes	943-5846
Bicycle registration	943-5844
Building Division, permits	256-3549
Business licenses	943-5821
Cable TV questions	943-5895
City Clerk's Office	943-5818
City Hall main number	943-5800
City Manager's office	943-5812
Civic Park rentals	943-5853
Crime prevention	943-5885
Employment hotline	943-5817
Fingerprinting	943-5844
Flood zone info	943-5839
Garbage collection	603-1144
Graffiti reporting	943-5834
Heather Farm Pool	943-5856
Heather Farm Park rentals	256-3575
Leisure Service classes	943-5858
Mayor's Office	256-3504
Open Space information	943-5854
Planning/Zoning hotline	256-3558
Police/Fire emergency	911
Police (non-emergency)	943-5844
Pot holes	943-5854
Public Information	943-5895
DLRCA Ticket Office	943-7469
Senior citizen activities	943-5851
Street light outages	943-5854
Tree removal permit	943-5854



**CITY COUNCIL**  
**Gary Skrel, Mayor\***  
**Kathy Hicks, Mayor pro tem**  
**Sue Rainey**  
**Gwen Regalia**  
**Charlie Abrams**

\* For appointment: Call 256-3504.

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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**CITY ATTORNEY**  
**Thomas Haas**  
**CITY CLERK**  
**Cathleen McKay**  
**CITY TREASURER**  
**Ronald Cassano**

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**Gary Pokorny, Director**  
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**Tom Soberanes, Chief of Police**  
**PUBLIC SERVICES**  
**Dan Richardson, Director**

## IN A Nutshell

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Editor:  
 Brad Rovanpera

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For past issues, go online at [www.walnut-creek.org](http://www.walnut-creek.org)



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