



IN A

# Nutshell

No. 161

Community newsletter of the City of Walnut Creek

SPRING 2013

## Spotlight shines on Walnut Creek

Discover a side of Walnut Creek you may not have seen before! Each month, the Second Saturday Spotlight will shine on a different aspect of Walnut Creek with a free, fun tour.



Spring Spotlights include the Public Services Corporation Yard Expo (March 9); Open Space Highlights (April 13), and the Historical Society's Downtown Walking Tour (May 11). Programs run from 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Advance registration is requested. Go to [www.walnut-creek.org/spotlight](http://www.walnut-creek.org/spotlight) or call 925-256-3505.

## City garages to become advertising palettes

The City's three parking garages will soon have a fresh look in the form of creative advertising. Avenue K Marketing applies the ads directly to garage surfaces in high-traffic areas, including elevators, stairs, columns and walls.

In addition to bringing in revenue for the City, the ads will brighten up otherwise drab and uninteresting spaces. The City will have final approval of all advertisement locations and content.



An example of an ad applied directly to a stairwell ceiling.

## Remember Memorial Day

The City will host a Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 27, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Civic Park gazebo. More information will be on the City's website in early May.



The Veterans Memorial, above, and "Fountain Head," below, are examples of public art. A March 20 workshop invites the public to give input on aspects of the City's Public Art Master Plan.

## Wanted: Public ideas on public art

The City of Walnut Creek is improving its public art program and wants to hear from you!

Everyone is invited to a community workshop at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 20 at Civic Park Community Center on the Public Art Master Plan.

Much of the artwork on downtown City streets was paid for by developers when they built new buildings. The City's Arts Commission is reviewing the Public Art Master Plan to simplify the public art process and corresponding



ordinances, where possible, and to realize more quality public art projects.

At the March 20 community workshop, attendees will have the opportunity

**See PUBLIC ART, Back Page**

## Look who's turning 100!

Walnut Creek officially became a city on October 21, 1914, after residents voted 127-67 to incorporate. That means there's a centennial to celebrate in 2014.

Planning is in the very early stages. The Centennial Steering Committee welcomes suggestions. Visit [WalnutCreek100.com](http://WalnutCreek100.com) to share ideas, sign up for updates, and learn how to get involved.



First-century Walnut Creek kids: Walt A. Rogers, Jr. and his cousin Gertrude McCann on Main Street in 1915.

### Spring highlights

Check cable listings for showtimes or go to [walnutcreektv.org](http://walnutcreektv.org)

### State of the City

Miss the Mayor's State of the City presentation at the Leshner Center? Watch it from home on Walnut Creek TV, or at [walnutcreektv.org](http://walnutcreektv.org).

### Love conquers all

*Living History* presents *Bill and Vera*, the true story of how an American GI and a Ukrainian beauty risked it all for each other. Now longtime Walnut Creek residents, Bill and Vera Armstrong faced harrowing situations in the final days of WWII. Available at [walnut-creek.org](http://walnut-creek.org) and on the City's YouTube channel.

### Public Meetings

City Council, Planning, Transportation, PROS (Parks, Recreation & Open Space) and Design Review meetings are televised live and available on demand.

**Find us on YouTube**  
[www.youtube.com/cityofwalnutcreek](http://www.youtube.com/cityofwalnutcreek)

### Channel information

Walnut Creek TV is on Comcast Channel 28 (incorporated WC only), Rossmoor 26, Astound Channel 29, and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99. For programs on demand, [www.walnutcreektv](http://www.walnutcreektv).

## Hot August nights with Jazz at the Leshner



Pianist Cyrus Chestnut kicks off Jazz at the Leshner

Jazz at the Leshner Center, presented by the Diablo Regional Arts Association, returns this summer for a second season of phenomenal jazz performances.

The season kicks off August 3 with critically acclaimed pianist Cyrus Chestnut, left, whom *Time* magazine declared, "the best jazz pianist of his generation."

The four-concert series continues with world-renowned jazz singer Stacey Kent (August 10), the sizzling Brazilian vocalist/pianist Eliane Elias (August 17), and a Stride Piano Summit featuring master pianist Dick Hyman (August 24).

All shows are Saturday evenings in the intimate Margaret Leshner Theatre at the Leshner Center for the Arts, with 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. performances. Subscriptions are \$125. Call 925-943-SHOW or visit [www.lesherjazz.org](http://www.lesherjazz.org). Last year's debut season sold out within days. Sale of any unsold single tickets will be announced at a later date.

## Here's what's happening

### Antiques appraisal event

The annual Antique and Collectibles Appraisal Event will be held Sunday, March 10 from noon to 4:30 p.m. at the Gardens at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Drive. The cost for entry and appraisal of the first three items is \$15, plus \$5 for each additional item. Call 925-947-1678 or visit [www.gardenshf.org](http://www.gardenshf.org).

### Renowned violinist at Leshner Center

Chamber Music San Francisco presents violinist Sarah Chang at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 10 at the Leshner Center for the Arts. Chang debuted with the New York Philharmonic, and the Philadelphia Orchestra, at the age of 8. To order tickets, call 925-943-7469 or visit [chambermusicsf.org](http://chambermusicsf.org)



### Walnut Creek Concert Band concert

"Songs and Dances" is the theme of the Walnut Creek Concert Band's spring concert, to be held at 7:30 p.m. March 12 at the Leshner Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$17 and \$12; call 925-943-7469, or visit [www.Leshner-artscenter.org](http://www.Leshner-artscenter.org).

### Artist's Market & Clay Arts sale

Find original art in a variety of mediums at the Artist's Market, March 22 - 24 at Shadelands auditorium, 111 N. Wiget Lane. March 22 hours are 5 to 9 p.m. with live music, hors d'oeuvres and beverages. The sale continues

March 23 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and March 24 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Clay Arts Guild Warehouse Sale at their studio in Civic Park will be March 23 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and March 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The sale features original pottery including dinnerware, garden and wall art, and sculpture, along with demonstrations.



### Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt

Walnut Creek's annual egg hunt for kids of all ages will be hosted this year by the Equestrian Center of Walnut Creek with help from local youth organizations including Clayton Valley High School Cheer and Dance and Contra Costa County 4H. The Egg Hunt starts at 9 a.m. March 30 at Heather Farm Park, 301 N. San Carlos Dr.

### Horse Faire 2013

Gallop on over to Horse Faire 2013 on Saturday, March 30 for free family entertainment, including the chance for kids to interact with miniature horses, horse riding demonstrations and activities for kids. The Horse Fair will be Saturday, March 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the back of Heather Farm Park, and is sponsored by the Equestrian Center. Visit [www.ecwc.org](http://www.ecwc.org).

### Creek cleanup

The Friends of the Creeks annual creek cleanup will take place on May 11. Come to the Civic Park gazebo at 8:45 a.m. for continental breakfast. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Wear old sneakers and bring gloves.





**\$32.5  
MILLION  
DOLLARS**

TOTAL **DOLLARS** GENERATED  
BY ARTS AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS AND  
THEIR AUDIENCES IN DIRECT ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

**865  
JOBS**

NUMBER OF (FTE) **JOBS** SUPPORTED  
BY THE ARTS AND CULTURE INDUSTRY

**\$2.8  
MILLION  
REVENUE**

CULTURE-RELATED **REVENUE**  
GENERATED FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

**88%  
COST  
RECOVERY**

THE LESHNER  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS AND ITS RESIDENT PROGRAMS,  
CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY AND THE BEDFORD  
GALLERY RECOVERED 90% OF THEIR \$5.5 MILLION  
BUDGETED COSTS FOR THE 2011-12 FISCAL YEAR.  
THANKS TO TICKET SALES, THEATER RENTALS,  
SPONSORSHIPS AND COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS,  
THE PROGRAMS ARE ON TRACK TO DO THE SAME IN  
2012-14.

## The Arts Mean Business

**By Barry Gordon**

*Director of Arts, Recreation &  
Community Services*



Recently, Americans for the Arts, the nation's largest arts advocacy organization, released the results of the Arts and Economic Prosperity IV Study. While many understand and appreciate the value of the arts, most do not view the arts as an industry, nor do they think about its impact on the local economy.

The study measured the economic impact of 22 Walnut Creek nonprofit arts and culture organizations and their audiences on our community in 2010-11. It took into account the direct and indirect economic impact by these groups. Figures were derived by an econometric input/output model customized by project economists for our community.

What the study revealed is that the arts are a \$32.5 million dollar industry in Walnut Creek. The industry supports 865 jobs and generates \$2.8 million in state and local government revenue. Surprisingly, the median of similar study regions with populations of 50,000 to 99,999 people was only \$10.8 million in annual expenditures.

As part of the study, audience members were polled from various arts and cultural events held at the Leshner Center for the Arts in 2010-11. We learned that Walnut Creek attendees spend \$23.75 per person on average in our community beyond the price of a performance ticket. As one might assume, non-local attendees spent almost \$6 more per person than local attendees.

The arts have been resilient in tough economic times. Walnut Creek, as it is with its shopping and dining, is a regional destination for cultural and arts activities. Over 30 percent of the Leshner Center attendees come from outside of the county. When asked if people would travel to another community for the cultural experience if it were not offered in Walnut Creek, 59 percent said they would.

The non-profit arts and culture industry is an economic driver in our community--a growth industry that supports jobs, generates government revenue, and is a draw for tourism. The arts mean business. Supporting the arts in Walnut Creek makes dollars and sense.



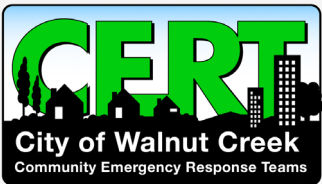
# New way to weigh in on key issues

A new online citizen engagement tool gives people a way to weigh in on specific topics from the comfort of their own homes.

Recognizing that many residents do not have the time to come to formal meetings, but do have valuable feedback to share, the City has launched "Open Town Hall." Participants are given the opportunity to share their opinion on a posted topic, or simply indicate support for another's opinion.

In its first deployment, "Open Town Hall" served as a "virtual open house" for those wanting to weigh in on way-finding designs (see related story, right). More than 130 people 'participated' in the virtual open house, with 24 providing written feedback

To subscribe to Open Town Hall and learn about future opportunities to give input on specific topics, go to [www.walnut-creek.org/opentownhall](http://www.walnut-creek.org/opentownhall).



## Join Walnut Creek's disaster response team

Help your community during disaster while staying safe yourself by becoming a trained Community Emergency Response Team member.

CERT training classes will be Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m. April 10 - May 15. There will be a final drill the morning of Saturday, June 1.

Course topics include light search and rescue, disaster medical operations and CERT team organization.

CERT graduates are sworn in as volunteer Disaster Service Workers for the City of Walnut Creek. In the event of an earthquake or other disaster, CERTs gather at pre-designated staging areas and work as a team.

Cost is \$25 and pre-registration is required. Email [cert@walnut-creek.org](mailto:cert@walnut-creek.org) or call 925-256-3556. Learn more at [www.walnut-creek.org/cert](http://www.walnut-creek.org/cert).



Wayfinding Committee member Jill Winspear looks at one of three proposed designs for a citywide wayfinding system.

## Citywide sign system moves ahead

After receiving feedback from more than 100 people, the Wayfinding Steering Committee completed its mission of coming up with a citywide coordinated sign system.

The goal of the system is to make it easier for visitors and residents to find their way to key amenities and locations throughout Walnut Creek. The system consists of City gateway (entrance)

signs, directional signage for both cars and pedestrians, pedestrian map directories and other media to make Walnut Creek more welcoming and accessible.

A full copy of the Steering Committee's report, including the proposed design and destination lists, is available on the City's website.

The recommendations will go to the City Council for approval this spring.

## Council to consider funding plan for renovating golf course clubhouse

The City Council this spring will consider a plan to finance renovation of the Boundary Oak Clubhouse by issuing bonds that will be repaid through golf course and clubhouse revenues.

Long-term financing of the clubhouse renovation is expected to be the most cost effective financing option for the City as general interest rates are near all-time low levels.

The 44-year-old clubhouse is in need of significant structural and mechanical repairs to ensure the safety of the building and comply with ADA requirements.

In addition, upgrading furnishings and kitchen fixtures and equipment, as well as renovating the Snack Bar, will enhance Boundary Oak's ability to increase food and beverage sales, which in turn will help pay back the bond debt.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$5.8 million. The golf course will remain operational during the renovation and golf course improvements will continue.

A staff report recommends using the City's General Fund to secure the debt. It notes that using debt financing secured by the General Fund for Boundary Oak capital improvements has been used successfully since the golf course and clubhouse were built in 1969, and that the debts are consistently paid for through golf course and clubhouse revenues.

While the City owns Boundary Oak Golf Course and Clubhouse, they are operated as an "enterprise fund," meaning that expenses are paid for by golf course and clubhouse revenues, rather than the City's General Fund.

## WCPD strategy for next 5 years

The Walnut Creek Police Department will focus on seven goals over the next five years to maximize its resources, partnerships and crime-fighting abilities, according to a new five-year Strategic Plan.

The goals are: A Safe Community; Traffic and Pedestrian Safety; Information Technology and Infrastructure; Department Restructuring; Parking; Personnel Development; and Community Outreach.

While the department has produced strategic plans since 1973, today's challenging economic times, changing demographics and sociological factors make the need for a new plan more important than ever, said Police Chief Joel Bryden.

Resources and staffing available today are less than they were five years ago, when the last plan was created. There were 81 authorized sworn positions in 2007; currently, there are 77 with an additional position authorized for the 2013-14 fiscal year.

Prison realignment and cutbacks in the county court system, partner law enforcement agencies and social services at the county and state levels, are placing additional demands on the department, the plan states.

The Strategic Plan recommends streamlining or restructuring some programs and services so the Department can focus on its core functions of patrol and investigations.

Many of the recommendations have already been implemented, such as elimination of school-related programs like Character Counts and Every 15 Minutes, and restructuring the Community Policing Team to concentrate on issues relating to the downtown.

The Plan was to be presented to the City Council at its Feb. 19 meeting, after this issue of the *Nutshell* went to print.



## Walnut Creek TV features bomb squad

The Walnut Creek Bomb Squad serves all of Contra Costa County and responds to about 65 calls for service a year, ranging from a suspicious package to an explosive device. Training and equipment for the bomb squad are paid for through federal Homeland Security Funds. Being a member of the bomb squad is a collateral duty, done on top of the member's regular assignments. Walnut Creek TV spent some time with this highly trained group - to see the video, go to [www.Youtube.com/cityofwalnutcreek](http://www.Youtube.com/cityofwalnutcreek).

## 2012 crime rates show little change

After two years in which serious crime dropped a total of nearly 27 percent, the 2012 crime rate remained fairly steady. There was a slight increase (2.5 percent) in Part I, or more serious, crime (see chart, right), and a slight decrease (5 percent) in Part II crime, considered less serious.

Of note in the Part II crime statistics are drunk driving arrests compared to drunk driving accidents. While officers made 85 more drunk driving arrests in 2012 than in 2011, drunk driving accidents dropped from 54 to 31.

Chief Joel Bryden attributed the drop in accidents to proactive work by officers in arresting drunk drivers before accidents could occur.

He also credited the creation of a Downtown Policing Team in early 2012 with the slight drop in drunkenness and disorderly conduct for the year.

Bryden will be presenting the 2012 statistics on March 5 to the City Council.

| Part I Crime  | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---------------|------|------|------|
| Homicide      | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Rape          | 5    | 2    | 3    |
| Robbery       | 40   | 14   | 19   |
| Aggr. Assault | 71   | 52   | 63   |
| Burglary      | 439  | 422  | 447  |
| Theft/Larceny | 1791 | 1470 | 1468 |
| Auto Theft    | 158  | 138  | 151  |
| Arson         | 5    | 6    | 5    |

| Part II Crime  | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------|------|------|------|
| Forgery        | 42   | 63   | 37   |
| Fraud/ID Theft | 310  | 323  | 348  |
| Stolen Prop.   | 58   | 51   | 39   |
| Vandalism      | 536  | 534  | 461  |
| Weapons        | 42   | 55   | 43   |
| Narcotics      | 227  | 241  | 193  |
| Drunk Driving  | 358  | 335  | 420  |
| DUI accidents  | 19   | 54   | 31   |
| Drunkenness    | 446  | 390  | 363  |



Receive emergency alerts via text, phone, email

Sign up online to receive telephone, text and email emergency alerts for up five Contra Costa areas or cities through the Community Warning System.

The system is managed by the County Office of Emergency Services and alerts

people to imminent threats to life and safety in a specific geographic area.

The website address is [www.cococws.us](http://www.cococws.us). Residents without Internet access or needing assistance may call 925-313-9622.



## Put butts where they belong!

### City to embark on tobacco litter campaign

Armed with special Clean Water program funding, the City is taking aim at an egregious source of water pollution: discarded cigarette butts. Butts tossed to the ground or crushed out on sidewalks eventually make their way into storm drains that lead to waterways.

Special “ash towers” will be installed in April at participating downtown bars and restaurants where patrons gather on outside patios to smoke. Other outreach will include public service announcements created by Walnut Creek TV and informational graphics (see graphic, right). Data will be collected prior to the start of the anti-cigarette litter campaign, and again a few weeks later, to measure its effectiveness. Results will be included in the City’s annual report to the State Water Board.

Learn more about ways to keep creeks and waterways clean at [www.walnut-creek.org/cleanwater](http://www.walnut-creek.org/cleanwater).

## Take the Sustainability Challenge

Take action and be counted! The weekend of May 18 – 19, thousands of powerful actions will be taken to grow food, save energy, and build a resilient community.



Let the Sustainability Challenge inspire YOU to do something you’ve been meaning to do for years. Whether you plant herbs, get a home energy upgrade, convert your lawn into a water-sipping landscape, or pledge to ride your bike twice a week – every action counts.

Find ideas about a project to take on and pledge your action at [www.sustainablecoco.org](http://www.sustainablecoco.org).

## Home composting for busy people

Learn how easy it is to compost at home at a free workshop sponsored by the Contra Costa County Solid Waste Authority. The 90-minute workshops are held throughout the year; there will be a workshop on March 17 at 3 p.m. at the Lindsay Wildlife Museum, and one May 22 at the Contra Costa Times community garden.

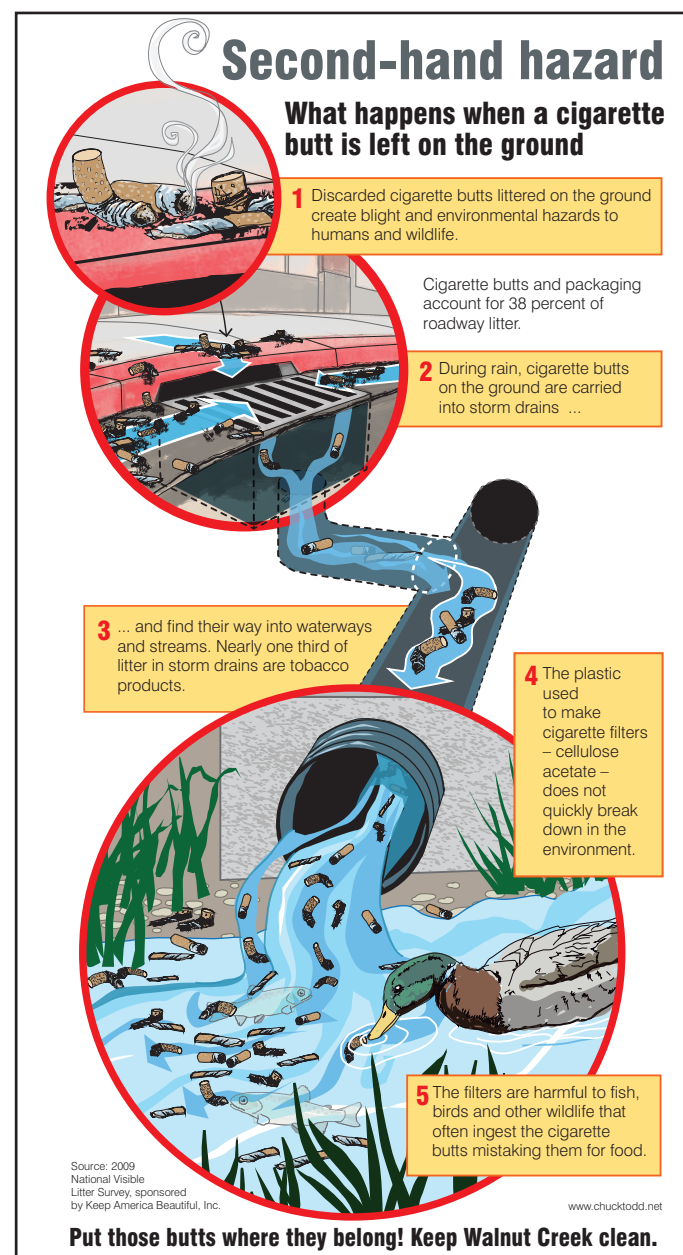
To register, and for information about locations and other workshop dates, call 925-906-1801 ext. 306 or visit [www.wastediversion.org](http://www.wastediversion.org).

## Diablo Valley Literacy Council recruiting volunteer English tutors for adults

The Diablo Valley Literacy Council is seeking volunteers interested in becoming trained to be English tutors.

For some who cannot effectively speak English, simple tasks like reading product labels or talking to a child’s teacher can be intimidating. Tutors can make the difference.

The next three-part workshop will be held on Saturday, March 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Tuesday, March 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; and Saturday, March 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is a nominal fee. Visit [www.dvllc.tripod.com](http://www.dvllc.tripod.com) or call the hotline at 925-685-3881.



## DVC seeking host families

The International Education Center at Diablo Valley College is looking for local families to host international students on a temporary basis while they improve their English skills. All types of families are welcome - single adults, couples, or families with or without children. Short- and long-term placements are available. Host families will receive a monthly stipend of \$825 per student, and must provide a private bedroom and two meals per day. Contact Fia Parker at 925-876-0080 or email [fparker@dvc.edu](mailto:fparker@dvc.edu).

## Photo exhibit at Boundary Oak

Local photographers Lorraine Castillo, Lisa Franklin, Phil Lee, Sheila Reid, Marilyn Verducci and Cathy Yih will be showing their work in a group exhibit at the Clubhouse at Boundary Oak Golf Course, 3800 Valley Vista Road.

The exhibit, sponsored by Civic Arts Education, runs through May 2.



Photo by Karen Lamiero

Hannah Smith, left, and Joan Hackett, right, share a laugh while crafting items for the holiday bazaar. The Walnut Creek Senior Club Bazaar Group meets year round at the Civic Park Community Center on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Both experienced and those new to crafting are welcome. Call 925-943-5851.

## Sister Cities youth exchange program adds Noceto, Italy

After a successful debut year of YAE!! youth ambassador exchanges with Siofok, Hungary, Walnut Creek Sister Cities is adding Noceto, Italy to the 2013-14 program. Foothill Intermediate science teacher Margaret Elliott traveled to Noceto in February to visit schools and help establish the YAE!! ambassador exchange for eighth grade students.

In late March, the Sister Cities group plans to host a teacher from Noceto. Hungarian students from Siofok will visit Walnut Creek for a week beginning April 13.

Planning is in process for the 2013-14 school year to exchange ten youth ambassadors with both Siofok and Noceto for a one-week home stay. The students will shadow a host student through their local classes and participate in field trips.

Applications and interviews for interested 7<sup>th</sup> grade students began in February. Selection of the 2013-14 ambassadors will be announced in April. The participants’ cost, estimated to be under \$2000, will be primarily air fare and insurance. The students will stay in host homes.

For more information concerning YAE!!, the Youth Ambassador Exchange, please call Walter Schick, 925-934-0656 or Karen Cassano, 925-944-1238.

## Free tax preparation offered

Free tax preparation for the 2013 tax season is available from AARP’s Tax-Aide and United Way’s “Earn It, Keep It, Save It” (EKS) programs. All tax preparers are certified by the IRS. Both programs serve taxpayers of any age. Tax-Aide does not have an income limit; EKS can only serve individuals whose incomes do not exceed \$50,000.

To make an appointment for the Tax-Aide sites serving the Walnut Creek area, call 925-943-5851 (Walnut Creek Senior Club site); 925-405-6278 (Walnut Creek Grace Presbyterian Church site); 925-979-5013 (St. Paul’s Episcopal Church site). For general information, call 925-726-3199. For information on EKS call 2-1-1 or visit [www.earnitkeepitsaveit.org](http://www.earnitkeepitsaveit.org).

## Projects sought for 2013 Community Service Day

It’s not too soon to begin thinking about sponsoring a project for the 2013 Community Service Day, set for Saturday, September 28. Last year, more than 1,200 volunteers worked on one of 45 projects. Project sponsors must be non-profits or government agencies (including schools). Projects should take no more than four hours to accomplish, and should be able to accommodate a range of ages and skill levels. For more information, email [community@walnut-creek.org](mailto:community@walnut-creek.org).



## Find used book bargains and more at Friends of Walnut Creek Library store

Looking for a used bookstore in Walnut Creek? Come visit the Friends of the Walnut Creek Library Bookstore located in the downtown Walnut Creek Library and find a wide selection of current fiction, non-fiction, children’s books, cookbooks, Russian books, DVDs, and CDs for low prices and in excellent condition.

The Friends of the Walnut Creek Library, an all-volunteer organization, operates the bookstore with books donated by the community. The Friends donated more than \$50,000 in 2012 to the Walnut Creek Library through bookstore sales, membership, online sales and quarterly book sales.

Visit the Friends Bookstore, buy a book, donate a book, and support the WC Library. Visit [www.wclibraryfriends.org](http://www.wclibraryfriends.org).



## Bike news

An updated map geared for bicyclists in Walnut Creek is now available on the City website, at City Hall and the libraries. The map identifies bike routes in Walnut Creek, and specifies the type of route, from a dedicated bike lane to a shared route.

The map also contains information such as location of bike parking, water fountains and restrooms, and contact information for local bicycle stores.

Visit [www.walnut-creek.org](http://www.walnut-creek.org) or email Senior Planner Jeremy Lochirco at [lochirco@walnut-creek.org](mailto:lochirco@walnut-creek.org).



# News from the Bedford Gallery

## Public Art Walking Tours



The Bedford Gallery's Public Art Walking Tours for adults return on April 20. The 60-minute docent-led tours explore Walnut Creek's prime public artworks around the downtown. Tours begin at 11 a.m. the third Saturday of each month. The \$5 admission includes a free pass to the Bedford Gallery. Meet in the lobby of the Leshner Center and wear comfy shoes!

## 'Peaceable Kingdom'

*Peaceable Kingdom: Animals Real and Imagined* is at the Bedford March 3 through May 19. This exhibition examines the complex role the animal kingdom plays in our cultural and artistic landscape. Art works from all media were selected by guest jurors Cathy Kimball, Executive Director and Chief Curator of the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, and Stephanie Cannizzo, Assistant Curator at the Berkeley Art Museum.



Crystal Morey, *Predator and Prey*, 2012

## DRAA grant provides free school tours

Thanks to a generous grant by the Diablo Regional Arts Association, school tours at the Bedford Gallery are now free to all Contra Costa County schools. The tours are available weekday mornings, and are followed by a hands-on art project. Call 925-295-1416 to reserve a tour.

## Volunteer at the Bedford

An information session for prospective Bedford Gallery volunteers will be held April 15 from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at the gallery. If you've ever wanted to become more involved in the world of contemporary art, this session will help you get started. Can't make the session? Call 925-295-1416.

## Public Art

From page one

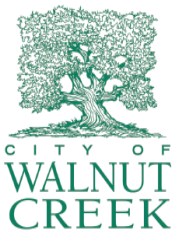
to offer ideas and feedback on various aspects of the Public Art Master Plan, including:

- Identifying what role murals play in public art
- Exploring temporary public art installations and the role they play in our public art scene
- Identifying types and sizes of buildings that should have a public art requirement
- Reviewing how the public art fee is determined

Help build a strong public art program and bring dynamic new artworks to Walnut Creek! Learn more about the public art program and the Master Plan at [www.bedfordgallery.org/publicart](http://www.bedfordgallery.org/publicart).

## Armchair Lecture series

The docent-led Armchair Lecture series explores everything from the role of women in art to the rich history of public art in Walnut Creek and beyond. To register a group, call 925-295-1416. There is a \$60 fee.



### CITY COUNCIL

Cindy Silva, Mayor\*  
Kristina Lawson, Mayor pro tem  
Bob Simmons  
Loella Haskew  
Justin Wedel

\*For appointment: Call 256-3504

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

CITY MANAGER  
Ken Nordhoff  
CITY ATTORNEY  
Bryan Wenter  
CITY CLERK  
Suzie Martinez  
CITY TREASURER  
Ronald Cassano

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
Lorie Tinfow, Director/Assistant City Manager  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
Sandra Meyer, Director  
ARTS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES  
Barry Gordon, Director  
POLICE  
Joel Bryden, Chief of Police  
PUBLIC SERVICES  
Heather Ballenger, Director

## IN A Nutshell

Published quarterly and mailed to Walnut Creek residents and businesses

Editor:  
Gayle Vassar

Communications and Outreach Manager

We welcome your comments and questions  
Call 943-5895 or [vassar@walnut-creek.org](mailto:vassar@walnut-creek.org)

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

CITY OF  
WALNUT CREEK  
1666 North Main Street  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
WALNUT CREEK CA  
PERMIT # 282

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*  
POSTAL CUSTOMER