



IN A

Nutshell

No. 152

Community newsletter of the City of Walnut Creek

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2011

Residents sought for task force on City's fiscal health

Walnut Creek residents with an aptitude for finance and a passion for their community are invited to apply to serve on a Community Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Fiscal Health of the City. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13.

The City has been working for several years on maintaining its long-term fiscal health in the face of "the new normal" triggered by the recession, increased health care and pension costs, and ongoing State takeaways.

With the approval of the 2010-12 Budget, the City Council, in partnership with staff, closed an unprecedented \$20 million budget gap, in large part by cutting the equivalent of 30 full-time employees and reducing or eliminating some services.

Still, more will need to be done. The creation of the Community Blue Ribbon Task Force is the next step in realigning the City's budget strategies and ensuring

TASK FORCE, see back page

Be informed, have fun! 2011 Citizens Institute

Did you know that Walnut Creek makes its own street signs and conducts regular night-time checks to make sure the signs are easy to read in the dark? Or that our police department provides the Bomb Squad for the entire county?

These are the kinds of interesting facts that keep Citizens Institute students coming back for more. From a backstage tour of the Leshner Center to an in-depth

INSTITUTE, page 6



Photo by Bob Brittain

Rossmoor resident Don Liddle is a volunteer for "Rossmoor Books To Go." Every Thursday, volunteers pick up requested books from the Walnut Creek Library and take them to Rossmoor.

Here comes the Year of the Volunteer

2011 is the Year of the Volunteer in Walnut Creek — a time to celebrate those who already volunteer, and to motivate those looking for opportunities to give back to their community. Look for more information in the months ahead on our website and in the Nutshell. Questions or suggestions? Email community@walnut-creek.org or call Gayle Vassar, Communications & Outreach Manager, 925-943-5895.



Kat Mulkey, center, is a volunteer docent at the Bedford Gallery, opening eyes of all ages to the wonders of art.

Changes afoot for "In a Nutshell" newsletter

The New Year brings a new look and publication schedule for the "In a Nutshell" newsletter. Thanks to improvements in technology, printing photos in full color instead of black and white costs less than \$150 per issue — and there's nothing like living color to highlight the people and

places of Walnut Creek.

At the same time, we are moving to a quarterly publication. This not only saves money on printing and mailing, but it frees up time so staff can work on other ways to inform and engage the community using new technologies. Stay tuned!

Calendar

January

3

City offices reopen after winter furlough, holidays

17

Martin Luther King Day
City offices are closed

February

21

Presidents' Day
City offices are closed

City Meeting Calendar

City Council

Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Oak View Room, library
(note time, location)
Feb. 1, 15; March 1, 15
7 p.m.
City Council chamber
City Hall, 1666 N. Main St.

Planning Commission

Jan. 13, 27; Feb. 10, 24
March 10, 24
7 p.m. Council chamber

Arts Commission

Jan. 18, March 21
4:30 p.m.
3rd fl. meeting room
City Hall

Transportation Commission

Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 17
7 p.m.
City Council chamber

Design Review Commission

Jan. 19, Feb. 16
March 2, 16
7 p.m.
City Council chamber

Park, Rec & Open Space Commission

(No meeting in January)
Feb. 7, March 7
7 p.m.
City Council chamber

Watch at home!

City Council, Planning and Design Review meetings are televised live on Comcast Channel 28 (incorporated WC only), Rossmoor 26, Astound Channel 29, and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99. Video is also streamed live and available on demand at www.walnut-creek.org.



Photo by Liz Payne

It's not too late to learn to skate!

The ice rink in Civic Park is open through Jan. 17. Tuesday nights are Family Night; the whole family can skate for \$20 (except Dec. 28). The ice rink is sponsored by the Downtown Business Association and the Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce. For hours, rates and specials, visit www.iceskatewalnutcreek.com or call 925-935-7669.

What's Happening

Mayor to give State of the City address

Mayor Cindy Silva will speak at the Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce's annual *State of the City* luncheon on February 8. (The location was not available at time of Nutshell publication.) To reserve a seat, visit www.walnut-creek.com or call 925-934-2007.

Don't forget to 'tree-cycle'

Allied Waste Services will collect Christmas trees the week of Jan. 3-7. Simply leave your clean, unflocked tree at the curb on your regular trash collection day. Remove ornaments, other trimming and stands. Call 925-603-1144.



How much are your treasures worth?

Bring your antiques and collectibles to be professionally evaluated at the annual Appraisal Event, Sunday, March 6, from 1 - 6 p.m. at the Gardens at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Dr. The \$15 admission includes appraisal of three items; there is a \$5 fee per additional item. Bring your fine art, clocks, watches, jewelry, art deco, household items, toys, books and more.

Proceeds benefit the educational gardens and programs at the Gardens at Heather Farm. Call 925-947-1678 or go to www.gardenshf.org.

Walnut Festival Association crab feed

Here's a delicious way to help the Walnut Festival Association achieve its goal of supporting the community — come to their winter crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 15 in Heather Farm Community Center's Lakeside Room. Don't eat crab? Chicken dinners are also being served.

Social hour begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by a crab dinner at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40. Email walnutfestival@sbcglobal.net or call 925-935-6766.

Martin Luther King Day observance

The Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, in partnership with the City of Walnut Creek, will hold a Martin Luther King Day observance at noon Monday, Jan. 17 at Civic Park.

Hooked on books? Check out these sales!

The Friends of the Walnut Creek Library book sale will be in the library's Oak View Room from 2 to 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14 and 12 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15. Super shopper alert! From 3 to 5 p.m. Jan. 15, fill a bag of books for only \$3.

The Friends of the Ygnacio Valley Library's quarterly book sale will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22. From 4 to 5 p.m., fill a bag of books for \$3 (the Friends will supply the bag.) Members of the Ygnacio Valley Friends can start their shopping the night before, Jan. 21. Memberships will be available at the door for \$10.

Free tax preparation available

Free tax preparation is available starting in February through Tax-Aide's AARP-sponsored program. While Tax-Aide does not specify an income limit, the service targets low- and moderate-income taxpayers of any age with special attention given to those 60 and older. In addition, Tax-Aide partners with United Way's *Earn It, Keep It, Save It* program by serving their target population — those with household income less than \$49,000.

Beginning Jan. 2, for information or appointments at the following locations, call:

- Civic Park Community Center, 925-943-5851
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 925-979-5013
- Grace Presbyterian Church, 925-405-6278

For more information about the *Earn It, Keep It, Save It* program, call 2-1-1 or visit www.earnitkeepitsaveit.org.

Meet the manager!

Come meet our new City Manager, Ken Nordhoff, at an informal reception on Wednesday, Jan. 12 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall lobby. Nordhoff joined the City in December after being San



Ken Nordhoff

Rafael's City Manager. He has an extensive background in economic development and community partnerships.

City Hall is at 1666 N. Main Street. Please note that parking at City Hall is limited; nearby parking is available at the new Walnut Creek Library and at the 1390 S. Broadway garage.

Celebrating the best of performing arts

The 32nd Annual Shellie Awards Gala Celebration will take place on Saturday, January 15 at 7:30 p.m. This year's ceremony will celebrate the achievement of more than 120 individuals and their work in musical and non-musical theatrical productions.

The event will include a live band and selections performed from each nominated production. The evening concludes with a champagne gala. Join us! Call 943-SHOW.

Women's Conference in East Bay on March 7

Embrace Strength, Imagine Success is the theme of the 2011 East Bay Women's Conference, which will be held March 7.

Award-winning playwright, activist and author Eve Ensler keynotes this year's event, which features speaker presentations, breakout sessions, exhibitor booths, free health screenings, full lunch and afternoon reception.

The conference is presented by the Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce and Chevron Corporation. Cost is \$165 and preregistration is required. Call the Chamber of Commerce, 925-934-2007 or visit www.walnut-creek.com.



Eve Ensler

Curator's Corner

Carrie J. Lederer
Bedford Gallery curator



Naturalist John Muir is the subject of the upcoming exhibition at the Bedford.

Happy New Year, Walnut Creek!

Our 2011 season theme at the Bedford Gallery is "Our history, our land." We ring in the New Year with an exhibition that pays tribute to the lifework of John Muir — a prolific, industrious and dynamic naturalist. *Nature's Beloved Son: Rediscovering John Muir's Botanical Legacy* opens with a reception on Thursday, Jan. 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. Join us!

The Bedford Gallery was selected as the opening venue for this international tour because of its prominence in Contra Costa County as the premier art gallery and the special relationship between Muir and the region. John Muir lived in the Alhambra Valley in Martinez on the family ranch from 1890 until his death in 1914. We are grateful to Shell Oil for sponsoring *Nature's Beloved Son* with a generous grant.

Don't miss this exhibition before it launches on an international tour. It will be on view at the Bedford through March 27.

Calling all artists!

Sign up early for our new Artists Workshops @ Bg, a unique series of one-time workshops run by professional artists who will teach you some new tricks and techniques for your studio toolbox. In January we will offer a terrarium workshop with artist Jen Pearson, where you can explore building



your very own ecosystem! In early February, book artist Sas Colby offers *Creating Unique Valentines*, and in March we present *Screen Printing onto Objects* with master ceramist Nancy Selvin.

Subscribe to our Bg Enews today by going to www.bedfordgallery.org. Enews subscribers always get early notification—before we mail to the general public or post on our website.

For our audiophiles

Did you know that the Bedford Gallery offers free audio tours? We launched our first audio tour for our fall exhibition *The American Scene: New Deal Art, 1935-43*. Ask about the audio tour next time you visit the gallery.



Docent Mary Jo Eigelberner, right, giving a tour to school children.

Pass the word and join in

The Bedford Gallery offers docent-guided tours for kids and adults year-round for a truly enlightening experience. Considering becoming a docent!

Also, the Bedford opens each exhibition with a celebratory Artists Reception, hosted by the Bedford Gallery Guild and sponsored by the Diablo Regional Arts Association. Join our email list at www.bedfordgallery.org to stay informed about our exhibitions and programs.

And remember, if you're attending a theater performance at the Leshner Center for the Arts, your ticket buys you free entrance to the gallery that same day. Take advantage of your ticket to the Arts!

I hope to see you at the Bedford Gallery soon. Happy 2011!

Sincerely yours,

City News

City council changes

The City Council on Dec. 7 selected a mayor and mayor pro tem, said good-bye to long-time member Sue Rainey, and welcomed a new councilwoman.

Cindy Silva will be mayor for the next year. She joined the City Council in 2006 and was re-elected this year. Prior to joining the Council, she was a Planning Commissioner.

Councilman Bob Simmons was named mayor pro tem. Simmons won election to the City Council in 2008, and previously served on the Planning and Parks, Recreation and Open Space commissions.

Joining the council for the first time was Kristina Lawson. Lawson was on the Planning Commission prior to her November 2010 election to the City Council.

Celebration for Sue Rainey

An evening celebration in honor of Sue Rainey will be held Jan. 29. Rainey retired from the Walnut Creek City Council on Dec. 7 after 13 years. She has been involved in public service since being elected to Moraga's first Town Council



Sue Rainey with her husband, former State Sen. Richard Rainey, at the Leshler Center for the Arts' 20th anniversary gala.

in 1974; she also served on the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Board and the county Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). Rainey was Walnut Creek's mayor three times. For information about the Jan. 29 celebration, call Kim Coles in the City Manager's Office, 925-943-5812.

Commission vacancies

Interested in serving on a City Commission? Recruitment for open seats will happen in January.

Sign up to be notified about any openings on the City's website under the "Services" menu. Use the "E notify" tab and follow the prompts.

For more information, contact City Clerk Patrice Olds, 925-943-5819.



Photo courtesy of Walnut Creek TV

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE. The annual Veterans Day Celebration, held for the first time at the Leshler Center for the Arts, proved to be a moving and colorful ceremony. 2011 Northgate High School graduate Mike Ergo was the keynote speaker, sharing his experiences while serving two tours of duty in Iraq with the U.S. Marine Corps. In the photo above, Mike, far right, stands for the Pledge of Allegiance, led by the Color Guard from the Navy Operational Support Center, Alameda. The Walnut Creek Concert Band, under the direction of Harvey Benstein, provided patriotic music.

County Civil Grand Jury accepting applications

The Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury is composed of 19 citizens who keep watch over many aspects of county government to ensure that governmental units are serving the best interests of county residents. Grand Jurors serve one

year and are selected through an interview process and lottery.

More information may be obtained by going to www.cc-courts.org/grandjury.

Applications for 2011-2012 must be submitted by April 15.

Free workshop for those facing foreclosure

Free help for persons facing foreclosure is available Saturday, March 26 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Civic Park Community Center, 1375 Civic Dr.

Learn about your options and legal rights from non-profit attorneys and HUD-certified housing counseling agencies. Information includes available

government programs, the foreclosure process, tenants' rights, refinance issues, foreclosure rescue scams and more.

Bring your loan documents to meet with a lender or housing counselor. Sessions are on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Housing Specialist Margot Ernst at 925-943-5899 ext. 2208.

Homeless prevention assistance available

Help is available for Contra Costa residents having difficulty maintaining their current rental housing or who have lost their housing due to the economy.

The Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program provides rental assistance to those who:

- have a household income at or below 50 percent of area median income.
- are behind for a month due to the economy but able to remain in housing.
- can develop an achievable plan to

adjust the household income and expenses to remain in housing.

Assistance is also available for residents who are homeless and:

- have a household income between 20 and 50 percent of the area median.
- can develop an achievable plan to adjust the housing income and expenses to remain in housing.

Call Shelter Inc. at 925-295-1038 or Anka Behavioral Health Services at 925-827-5140.

Tips for traveling safely in the rain

By Alicia White
Crime Prevention Coordinator

It's now officially winter... which means wet weather. Here are some tips to help you drive safely in the rain.

- Make sure your tires are properly inflated and that the tread is not worn down. This is especially important when driving in the rain as under- or over-inflated tires or worn tread can cause a vehicle to hydroplane.

- Give yourself extra time to get to your destination. Drive a little slower in the rain. It is much easier to lose control of your vehicle at high speeds.

- Allow extra space between your car and the vehicle in front of you. Wet roads mean less traction, which means it will take longer to stop.

- If your windshield wipers are going, your headlights need to be on. It's the law!

- Pay special attention to pedestrians, especially at crosswalks without stoplights.

- If you are a pedestrian, wear brightly colored clothes so that you are easier to see.

Alicia White may be reached at 925-943-5844 or white@walnutcreekpd.com.

Sandbag stations stocked for winter

Did you know the City's maintenance division stocks sandbag stations for residents to use?

Sand and sandbags are available at Larkey Park parking lot, Howe Homestead parking lot, Heather Farm Park Community Center parking lot and Lancaster Road at Orchard Lane.

Sandbags and sand are provided to residents free of charge. Don't forget to bring a shovel.

And please! If you live near creeks or open ditches, do your best to keep them free of debris and obstructions to reduce the chance of flooding this winter.

Calling all HAM Radio Operators

The City is seeking volunteer Ham Radio Operators to be part of the communications link between its Emergency Operations Center and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in the neighborhoods.

The Ham operators would work in the Police Department and relay critical information to and from the CERT Staging Areas in the event of disaster.

Volunteers must go through a background check and become part of the Volunteers in Police Services program. Training will be provided following successful completion of the background check and interview.

For an application, contact Training Coordinator John Haithcock, 925-943-5879 or Tori Maxfield, 925-943-5869. For questions about the program, contact Lt. Mark Covington at 925-943-5844.



During a CERT drill held at Lar Rieu Park, radio operator Brad Heckman, foreground, listens to a message from a neighborhood team sent via FRS radio. After taking the message, he will relay it to the City's Emergency Operations Center via a Ham radio. Sitting with Heckman is CERT Training Coordinator Dick DuBey.

Get ready, WC! 2011 CERT training set

Join Walnut Creek's thriving Community Emergency Response Team program and be ready to help in event of disaster.

CERT training provides the practical skills necessary to safely assist others. CERTs work in teams, searching their neighborhoods for damages and injuries, and sending back vital information to the City's Emergency Operations Center. CERT training includes disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, and



fire safety and utility control.

CERT graduates are sworn in as Disaster Service Workers.

The next CERT

training will be Thursdays, April 14 - May 19, from 6:30-10 p.m., followed by a Saturday morning drill. Preregistration is required. Cost is \$25. To register, call 925-256-3556 or email cert@walnut-creek.org.

More information is available at www.walnut-creek.org/cert.

Is your neighborhood at risk for flooding?

Are you prepared for a flood in your neighborhood? Walnut Creek last experienced a major flood in 1958 when much of downtown was inundated with up to 2 feet of water.

Floods in 2002 and 2005 caused hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage to properties in Walnut Creek.

What should you do *before* a flood?

- Know the flood risk to your property.
- Purchase flood insurance for your property.
- Protect your property by retrofitting your residence.
- Maintain drainage channels and pipes free from obstruction and debris.
- Do not dump trash, leaves, or any

other kind of debris into any part of the drainage system.

- Keep an emergency supply kit and develop a family evacuation plan.

What should you do *during* a flood?

- Tune in to local radio or television to monitor weather forecasts.
- Turn off gas and electrical service.
- Seek shelter in the highest areas possible and avoid low lying areas.
- Avoid wading or driving through moving floodwaters.

Contact the City's Engineering Division at 925-943-5839 for additional information about retrofitting property and permitting requirements, or to determine the flood risk for your property.



Not too soon to plan summer fun

Walnut Creek Recreation's Summer Camp Guide comes out Feb. 7. Check your mailbox for your copy, or visit www.walnutcreekrec.org to browse our easy-to-use online version. Whether it's Sports Camp, Specialized Recreation, Lego Camp or Afternoon Adventures, there is something for everyone!

Mark your calendars for Summer Camp registration which begins on March 7. Sign up early to save your child's spot for a fun-filled, exciting summer.

'Spin' local coupons with GoTown application

Check out Walnut Creek's own mobile phone app – GoTown! This free app is now available on iPhone, Blackberry and Android smart phones. The app lists dining, shopping, events, parking and special deals in Walnut Creek.



A unique feature is *Spin to Win* (think slot machines). Shake your phone and try to get three of the same images. When you win, a coupon is yours to take into the business to redeem via your phone.

Curious? Go to www.gotown.com.

Find bargains on Facebook

Fans of the Downtown Business Association's Facebook page receive weekly updates about events and current promotions for downtown merchants. Become a Facebook Fan of "I Love Downtown Walnut Creek" to start getting free giveaways.



Photo by Matt Bolender, Walnut Creek TV

LPGA touring professional Liz Janangelo, right, offers some pointers at a recent workshop at Boundary Oak Golf Course. Classes for all ages and abilities are available.

Swing into spring at Boundary Oak classes

By Lance Iwanaka

Boundary Oak Golf Course

With spring just around the corner, Boundary Oak Golf Course offers a great opportunity for outdoor activity through the game of golf. There are classes and activities for all ages and skill levels, coordinated by former PGA Tour player Dave DeLong, now Director of Instruction at Boundary Oak.

Among the options is the First Tee program, a year-round program for ages 8-18 which teaches life skills and instills core values through the game of golf.

Girls ages 7 to 17 can learn to play golf, build lasting friendships and experience competition in a fun, supportive environment through the LPGA-USGA Girls Golf program. The students learn values inherent to the game of golf, such as practice, respect, perseverance and honesty, preparing them to meet the challenges of today's world with confidence.

Junior Golf Camps will be offered starting June 2011. Look in the Walnut Creek Recreation guide for information or go to www.playboundaryoak.com.

Institute

from page one

look at how the City makes land-use decisions, the Citizens Institute highlights the people, programs and services of the City of Walnut Creek.

The 2011 Citizens Institute kicks off the morning of Saturday, Feb. 5, followed by seven Wednesday evening sessions Feb. 9- March 23, and a graduation bus tour and luncheon on Saturday, March 26.

Registration is open to all who live or work in Walnut Creek, but space is limited. The program fee is \$25, payable the first day of class. To learn more, go to www.walnut-creek.org/institute.

To register, call Gayle Vassar, Communications and Outreach Manager, at 925-943-5895 or email community@walnut-creek.org.



Even parking meters can be fun, as these Citizens Institute members discovered while visiting the Traffic Operations Center.

The risk rats and mice leave behind

Take these step to safely dispose of rodent droppings

By Nola Woods

Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District

As we head into the cool, wet months of winter, rats and mice often seek shelter in our warm, dry homes. And where there are rodents, there is often a health risk.

Rat and mouse waste and nesting materials can contain diseases. When we sweep or vacuum the dry materials, they can break up, potentially putting virus or bacterial particles into the air. If inhaled, these particles can cause a very serious, and sometimes life-threatening, respiratory infection. That's why properly removing rodent waste is very important.

The best course of action is to make a solution of one-part bleach and nine-parts water in a spray bottle or use a general purpose household disinfectant.

Wearing rubber or plastic gloves, spray the solution or disinfectant on the dried urine, feces and nesting material until the substances are soaking wet. After five minutes, use a damp paper towel to wipe up urine, droppings and nesting material. Throw out the paper towel and waste materials in a sealed plastic bag.

Once the waste materials are removed, it's important to spray the area where the mess had been with more of the bleach solution and wipe it down with another towel or sponge. Be sure to place that towel or sponge in a plastic bag.

After washing the gloved hands with soap and water, take off the gloves, put them in the bag as well, seal it up and place in a lidded garbage can. Washing the ungloved hands is the last step to ensure a proper removal of rodent waste products.

The bottom line is to look carefully for evidence of rat droppings, urine and nesting materials and be sure to follow the steps to dispose of it and disinfect the area properly.

Most importantly, NEVER sweep or vacuum rodent waste because of the risk of putting disease particles in the air.

For more information, visit WWW.ContraCostaMosquito.com, or call Nola Woods, 925-771-6158.



Adraine Gardner, left, of PG&E presents a check for \$12,274 to Assistant City Manager Lorie Tinfow, who managed the Walnut Creek Library project.

New library earns some green for being green

The City received a \$12,274 check through PG&E's incentive program for energy efficient design. The Walnut Creek Library incorporates many "green" strategies, and is pending LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification at the Silver Level. To learn more about how the library saves energy,

check out the first-floor kiosk shown in the photo above. In addition to saving energy, the new library is inspiring community members to take advantage of all that libraries have to offer. As of late November, 46,257 people with Walnut Creek addresses have library cards — up from 42,712 prior to the library's July 2010 opening.

Energy efficiency home improvement loans

Are your monthly utility bills increasing? Would you like to reduce your heating and air conditioning bills? The City has Federal Energy Efficiency Block Grant funds available to loan to low- and moderate-income homeowners for energy efficiency home improvements.

Water heater, roofing, insulation, furnace and window replacements are examples of eligible upgrades. The loan repayment is deferred with a rate of 3 percent annual interest. For more information, contact program coordinator Pat Corum at 925-335-1115.

THE FUTURE OF FUEL: Local Solutions to Global Energy Challenges

SUNLIGHT

BIOFUELS

JGI SCIENCE @ THE LESHER

From the sun to your gas tank: A new breed of biofuels may help solve the global energy challenge and reduce the impact of fossil fuels on global climate change.

KTVU Channel 2 Health and Science Editor John Fowler will moderate a panel consisting of Joint BioEnergy Institute CEO Jay Keasling, Joint Genome Institute Deputy Director Jim Bristow, and Staff Scientist Susannah Tringe who are developing ways to convert the solar energy stored in plants into liquid transportation fuels.

FREE TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2011 7:00PM - 8:30PM

Call the ticket office at 925-943-7469 to reserve free tickets to this event.

JGI
DOE JOINT GENOME INSTITUTE
A DIVISION OF ENERGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

jbei
Joint BioEnergy Institute

Leshner Center for the Arts
1929 943-SHOW

Task Force

From page one

that the strategies align with the community's priorities, which were defined and refined in 2009.

The charge of the Task Force is to make recommendations on long-term solutions for fiscal health.

The City Council seeks to create a Task Force representing a range of community interests, neighborhoods and demographic groups. Applicants should have an aptitude for finance, a broad-based understanding of the community, and the ability to make a considerable time commitment. Applicants may live in incorporated or unincorporated Walnut Creek.

The Task Force will begin its work in February and meet two evenings a month for about a year. In addition, Task Force members can expect to work in subcommittees on specific topics. The City's Treasurer and two Council members will serve as advisers to the Task Force as needed.

The Task Force will make regular reports to the City Council.

Applications are available at www.walnut-creek.org or by calling the City Clerk's Office, 925-943-5818. For more information, call City Manager Ken Nordhoff, 925-943-5812.

Here's what's playing on Walnut Creek TV

Walnut Creek TV announces the debut of *Living History: Stories of Walnut Creek*. The periodic episodes feature local residents sharing their life stories.

Now playing are segments on longtime residents Bob Schroder and Woody Ogden.

Schroder, a former City Council member, County supervisor and local businessman, tells stories about attending Walnut Creek Grammar School in the 1930s to meeting President Gerald Ford when Ford came to Walnut Creek in the 1970s. He reminisces about the changes that took Walnut Creek from a sleepy town to the bustling city it is today.

Woody Ogden served in the Korean War, taking his home-movie camera with him. The movies he brought home give a rarely seen glimpse of Korean life during the 50s, as well as what it was like for the young men serving so far from home.

Check local listings, or go to www.walnutcreektv.org for airtimes. The segments are also available on demand at www.walnutcreektv.org and www.youtube.com/cityofwalnutcreek.



Former mayor, county supervisor and longtime Walnut Creek resident Bob Schroder, above, and Korean War veteran Woody Ogden, center, below, are featured on "Living History: Stories of Walnut Creek."



Walnut Creek TV is the City of Walnut Creek's government access channel. Its mission is to promote transparency in government and to build community through communication. Walnut Creek TV airs on Comcast Channel 28, (26 in Rossmoor), Astound Channel 29, and on AT&T U-verse Channel 99 under the menu option "Walnut Creek Television." It is also streamed live at www.walnutcreektv.org.



CITY COUNCIL
Cindy Silva, Mayor*
Bob Simmons, Mayor pro tem
Kish Rajan
Gary Skrel
Kristina Lawson

* For appointment: Call 256-3504

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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CITY ATTORNEY
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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.
Please call 943-5895

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



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