Memorial Day observance

Roxane Langevin will be the keynote speaker at the City’s Memorial Day Observance. The longtime Walnut Creek resident is the mother of Sean Langevin, who was killed in an ambush attack in Afghanistan on Nov. 9, 2007. In addition, plaques will be unveiled that list the names of Walnut Creek residents who gave their lives in World War I, World War II and the Korean War. The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. Monday, May 26 at the gazebo at Civic Park. Music will be provided by the Walnut Creek Concert Band.

Fourth of July concert & ice cream social

Music, art and ice cream highlight the Fourth of July celebration at Civic Park this year. The Walnut Creek Concert Band is continuing the tradition of playing patriotic music for all to enjoy, but new for this Centennial year are root beer floats served by former Walnut Creek mayors, and paintings from Valley Art Gallery’s Walnut Creek Paint-Out event. Music begins at 6 p.m. Bring a blanket and picnic dinner - the ice cream is free!

Get ready to get healthy

The first-ever Healthy Walnut Creek Festival and Skateboard Competition will take place on Saturday, Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to noon at Heather Farm Park. More than 50 City programs, community sports groups and local partners will be on hand to provide healthy activities, food, games and more. www.WalnutCreekRec.org.

Police introduce new community programs

School resources officers, monthly “coffees with a cop” in Rossmoor, the return of the motorcycle patrol units, and an intensified focus on neighborhood policing – these are a few of the ways the Walnut Creek Police Department is reaching out to the community, thanks to full staffing and a new and creative way of scheduling work hours.

Here are a few details:

On-campus presence
Both Northgate and Las Lomas High School will have a dedicated school resource officer, who will also be able to spend time at the middle schools and elementary schools that feed into their respective high schools, building relationships with the students and staff.

Neighborhood know-how
Instead of dividing the city into three sectors (coptalk for service areas), now there will be four: three dedicated to neighborhoods, and one focusing solely on the downtown and its unique issues. The neighborhood sectors will be further divided into three unique beats, each with a dedicated officer who

See POLICE, page 4
Citywide book club announces 2014 selection

To pay homage to Walnut Creek’s farming and ranching roots during this Centennial year, the 2014 selection for the Walnut Creek Reads program is John Steinbeck’s *The Pastures of Heaven*.

First published in 1932, *The Pastures of Heaven* is a short story cycle comprising 12 interconnected stories about a small, beautiful agrarian valley — similar to Walnut Creek in the early 1900s — located near Salinas and Monterey.

Copies of the book will be available starting in early June at both public libraries, online through www.ccclib.org, at the Rossmoor Library and through local bookstores.

Community-based programs to celebrate the book and facilitate community dialog on the book’s themes are slated for the fall.

For more information, visit www.WCLibrary.org or pick up materials at the Walnut Creek or Ygnacio Valley libraries.

Aquanuts “Celebration of Champions”
The Walnut Creek Aquanuts Celebration of Champions will be Saturday, June 14 at Clarke Memorial Swim Center. Doors open at 3 p.m. and the show begins at 5:30 p.m. This year’s theme celebrates Walnut Creek’s Centennial and pays tribute to the rich history of the Aquanuts. Tickets are available at www.aquanuts.org.

Antiques and Crafts Show
The Walnut Creek Historical Society’s Antiques and Crafts Show and Sale is on Sunday, June 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Among the offerings are large pieces of furniture from the 1900’s - dressers, mirrors, chests, an armoire, beds and chairs. Also available are 1930’s doll clothes, baby clothes, dressmaking trims, laces and fringes, and lots of antique glass and silver. The free event is at the Shadelands Ranch Museum, 2660 Ygnacio Valley Road. 925-935-7871.

Howe History Tour
James Howe was an Associated Press international correspondent before settling in Walnut Creek in 1935 to focus on hobbies such as winemaking and pigeon flutes. Join Ranger Art Janke on Sunday, June 8 at 11 a.m. to learn more about Howe’s life and the Howe Homestead. 2950 Walnut Boulevard. For details, call Ranger Janke at 925-943-5899 ext. 3521.

Art & Wine Festival May 31, June 1
The Art and Wine Festival comes to Heather Farm Park on Saturday, May 31 (11 a.m. to 7 p.m.) and Sunday, June 1 (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.) The free event offers more than 100 wine and beer varieties, two stages of live entertainment, 200 arts and crafts booths, and a Kid Zone. Visit the WC Chamber of Commerce website, www.walnut-creek.com.

Movies Under the Stars Returns!
Movies Under the Stars returns this summer with *Frozen* on July 11 and *The Sandlot* on Aug. 8. The movie will begin at dusk at Heather Farm Park’s Ballfield #2. Call 925-943-5858 or visit www.WalnutCreekRec.org.

Chevron Family Theatre Festival
Princesses, pirates and fairytale characters will mingle with delighted children at the Chevron Family Theatre Festival, Saturday, July 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lesher Center for the Arts. Shows will fill all three of the Center’s theaters, with ticket prices of $5 per performance, while free activities and events will take place both inside and out . Visit www.LesherARTSCenter.org.

Playground Bricks Still Available
Community members may still adopt commemorative bricks for the new All Abilities Playground, which will be at Heather Farm Park. Two sizes of bricks are available for individuals or families: 4” X 8” for $100 and 8” X 8” for $250. To donate, visit www.WCCivicPride.org.
Stunning sculpture moves to Civic Park

For 43 years, Hand of Peace, a 30-foot sculpture by Beniamino Bufano, stood tucked away in the Quail Court office park. Public art tours visited the sculpture, but few others saw this monumental piece, made from copper, mosaic and stained glass.

Now the completely restored Hand of Peace will make its home in Civic Park for the next 25 years, thanks to the generosity of the Chang family, who acquired the work when they purchased the Quail Court property in 1967. The sculpture is expected to be installed in early June.

This public art work is funded through a cooperative relationship with the Chang family and the City. In addition to loaning the piece to the City for 25 years, the family paid for its restoration and will be bearing the full cost of transporting the piece back to Walnut Creek, as well as its installation. Rather than using General Fund monies, the City will use In-Lieu Public Art Fees paid by developers to landscape the surrounding site, cover half of the annual cost of maintenance and conservator reports, and insure the art against damage.

Youth ambassadors visit Walnut Creek

Youth Ambassadors from Noceto, Italy and Siofok, Hungary visited their American Ambassador families in April for a week homestay. The Sister Cities exchange completed its second successful year.

The students visited their host schools, toured the Bay Area, and walked Walnut Creek, from the Veterans Memorial to Broadway Plaza. Las Lomas Leadership Class led a tour of the high school, impressing the visiting students with the facilities the high school offers.

Capping off the City tour, the mayor spoke to the teens about our City government and how women get into politics.

Still time to enroll children in summer camp!

The Arts, Recreation and Community Service Department is still accepting registrations for dozens of exciting summer camps for children ages 3-13. There are traditional summer camps with crafts and field trips, weeklong specialty camps, and camps focusing on arts and theater.

For recreation camps, call 925-943-5858 or go to WalnutCreekRec.org. For AAA or arts and theater camps, call 925-943-5846 or visit www.arts-ed.org.

The Amazing Race, Walnut Creek-style

Get ready for the first-ever “Amazing Race Walnut Creek,” sponsored by Walnut Creek Sister Cities International, on Sunday, June 8.

Using clues, participants will “race” to local Walnut Creek sites and learn about our two sister cities – Siofok, Hungary and Noceto, Italy. Cost is $10 per team, up to five people. Check-in begins at Heather Farm Park at 2:30 p.m., with the Race kicking off at 3 p.m.

After the race, return to Heather Farm for a prizes. Everyone is welcome to join the celebratory picnic in the park. Food is provided by Sister Cities; bring your own beverages. Cost is $10 for adults, $5 for children 5-17. Please register in advance! Go to the Events page at www.we-sister-cities.org.

Summer Pops concert

The Walnut Creek Concert Band presents their annual Summer Pops Concert, an entertaining program of light classical music and marches, on Tuesday, July 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lesher Center for the Arts. Summer Pops will include a special guest appearance by the Clarinet Fusion, an area clarinet choir founded by Walnut Creek Concert Band member Karyn Weber. Call 925-943-7469, or go to www.Lesherartscenter.org for tickets.

Ancient Ways program

Experience cultures going back 10,000 years at Ancient Ways, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sugarloaf Open Space. Toss the spearlike atlatl, walk over a rope bridge, and use primitive tools to make simple craft items. $2 per person donation is requested to help cover material costs. For more information, contact Ranger Bruce Weidman at 925-943-5899 ext. 2665 or weidman@walnut-creek.org.

Community Service Day projects being accepted

Community Service Day 2014 is set for Saturday, Sept. 27, and local non-profits, public schools and libraries are invited to plan a project for the day.

Last year’s Community Service Day featured 61 projects with more than 1,400 community volunteers. Visit www.Walnut-Creek.org/Service for details. Project submission deadline is June 20.
Employees of the Year announced

Arts, Recreation and Community Services Business Manager Jackye Harbert and Police Sgt. David Rangel are the 2013 Rosie Coan Employees of the Year.

Jackye has worked for the City for almost 10 years. In addition to being responsible for the financial oversight of the ARCS department’s 12 division budgets, Jackye led the effort to renovate the Boundary Oak Clubhouse, navigating the complex financial and legal issues related to funding the project.

David joined the City in 1994. David’s leadership on the Police Department Recruitment Team earned him high praise from his colleagues. He also co-founded the Department’s Annual Toy Drive with Sgt. Steve Bertolozzi.

Thanks to Jackye and David for exemplary service to the public.

Workshop to plan affordable housing for west downtown

The West Downtown Specific Plan is taking shape! The vision and guiding principles for land uses, urban design and streetscapes within the plan area’s districts have been drafted.

The next step will be the drafting of affordable housing policies for the specific plan.

A discussion on affordable housing strategies for the West Downtown will take place early this summer (the actual meeting date was not available prior to Nutshell publication).

Sign up for updates and meeting notices by going to www.walnut-creek.org/westdowntown.

Police

will have the time to get to know the people and businesses in his or her beat.

“I want the officer to feel personally offended if anything bad happens in his or her beat,” says Police Chief Tom Chaplin.

Reaching out to Rossmoor

A cross-departmental team has stepped up to beef up services in Rossmoor. In addition to monthly coffees where any Rossmoor residents can drop by to chat with a cop, the team is able to make more frequent patrols in Rossmoor, to provide regular columns to the Rossmoor News, and to partner with residents on personal safety.

Motor patrols are back

And, the motorcycle patrols are back in action, ready to respond to problems and to make sure streets stay safe for drivers and pedestrians alike.

Smart scheduling

Chaplin credits members of the police department with coming up with a plan that puts more officers on the streets during key hours without costing additional money. The secret? An innovative seven-team patrol model, in which officers work 12.5 hour shifts. This deployment model increases the overlap of schedules and provides officers with the time to focus on criminal activity and quality of life issues, in addition to handling calls for police services.

Getting social

Social media is also helping the department connect with the community. People can follow the Walnut Creek PD on Facebook or visit walnutcreekpd.com.

And for those in the Twittersphere, you can follow the Chief on his own Twitter feed @WCPChiefChaplin.

Flood map information for Walnut Creek properties

Floods are one of the most common and widespread of all natural disasters. Walnut Creek is no exception. Recent flood events in 2002 and 2005 resulted in thousands of dollars of flood damage to properties in Walnut Creek. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has mapped the 100-year floodplain or Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) within Walnut Creek. Over 500 properties within Walnut Creek are partially or entirely located in the floodplain.

To find out if a property is in the SFHA, call the City’s Engineering Division at 925-943-5839. Additional information about the requirements for purchasing flood insurance will also be provided. There is no charge for this service. The City also maintains copies of Elevation Certificates for new and substantially improved buildings constructed since 1991, available for review at City Hall.
Fran Robustelli is the new Director of Human Resources for Walnut Creek. She has more than 15 years of experience in Human Resources, and was Director of Human Resources for the City of Hayward prior to coming to Walnut Creek.

Robustelli is a graduate of the University of South Florida, and earned a Human Resources Management Certificate from UC Berkeley Extension’s Professional Certificate Program. She has extensive experience in employee relations, labor negotiations, recruitment and organizational development.

Jeff Mohlenkamp joined the City on April 7 and is leading the Finance and Information Technology Divisions. He has more than 27 years of experience with the State of Nevada, most recently as Budget Director for the State with overall responsibility for development and management of the State budget.

He served on the State of Nevada Cabinet, an appointment made by the Governor, and has extensive experience working with elected officials to pass a balanced budget.

He earned his Bachelor’s degree in Accounting and Management from the University of Nevada, Reno, and is a Certified Public Accountant.

New directors join City’s Executive Team

Pedestrian Master Plan under way

Walnut Creek’s Pedestrian Master Plan has taken its first step! The citywide planning effort focuses on making walking in Walnut Creek safer, easier and more popular. The plan will:

- Assess existing conditions for walking, including obstacles and challenges
- Identify high-priority projects for funding and construction
- Recommend programs and activities to promote and encourage walking
- Formulate guidelines for the design of sidewalks, crosswalks and footpaths

Particular attention will be paid to improving access to schools, to transit and within the Downtown, as well as to open space areas, parks and neighborhood shopping centers.

Tell us what you think!

Take the online survey to share ideas about making Walnut Creek walkable. www.WCWalks.org

Public input sought on community needs with eye to funding

The Contra Costa County Consortium (Antioch, Concord, Pittsburg, Walnut Creek and Contra Costa County) receives federal HOME, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding every year. Over a five-year period, these funds will total over $50 million.

The funds can be used to build new affordable housing; rehabilitate homes for lower income and senior homeowners; improve or construct public facilities and parks; improve infrastructure in lower income neighborhoods; provide employment training and assistance to small business owners; and provide a wide variety of services for lower income families and individuals.

Help determine how these funds are spent to address the community’s greatest needs. There are two ways to participate:

- Online at www.cccounty.us/conplan
- In person at a public workshop, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 29 at Civic Park Community Center

For more information, call Housing Program Analyst Margot Ernst at 925-943-5899 ext. 2208
There are 100 (and more!) ways to celebrate Walnut Creek. Here are some choices; for more ideas, visit www.walnutcreek100.com.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Community Parking Lot Sale**
Saturday, May 31, 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
1801 Lacassie Avenue
www.wcpres.org

**Celebration of Northgate High School’s History**
Jack DeRieux Little Theatre
Tuesday, June 3, 7 p.m.
www.northgatehighschool.net

**Habitat for Humanity Dedication**
Pleasant Creek Homes, 1935 Barkley Ave.
Saturday, June 7, 10 a.m.
www.HabitatEBSV.org

**Amazing Race Walnut Creek**
Walnut Creek Sister Cities Int’l.
Heather Farm Park
Sunday, June 8, 3 p.m.
www.wc-sister-cities.org

**Ombudsman 1st Annual Golf Classic & Dinner Show**
Rossmoor Golf Course
Monday, June 23, 10:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
www.ccombudsman.org

**Walnut Creek Paint Out Exhibition**
Civic Park
Friday, July 4, 3-7 p.m.
www.valleyartgallery.com

**Ancient Ways Program**
Sugarloaf Open Space
August 10, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.walnut-creek.org

**FESTIVALS**

**33rd Annual Art & Wine Festival**
Heather Farm Park
Saturday, May 31, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 1 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
www.walnut-creek.com

**Downtown Wine Walk**
Downtown Walnut Creek
Wednesday, June 18, 6 p.m.
www.walnutcreekdowntown.com

**GARDENS & OUTDOORS**

**20th Annual Sculpture in the Garden**
Ruth Bancroft Garden
Opening: Friday, June 13, 6-8 p.m.
Show: June 14-July 13
www.ruthbancroftgarden.org

**LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE - Walnut Acres 3rd grader Freya Grant shows her mom, Hanna, her vision of Walnut Creek in 100 years as part of Walnut Acres Elementary School’s “Futuristic Walnut Creek” project. Inspired by third grade teachers Mirabai Bangs, Ellen Bellendir and Gee Amundson, the youngsters created detailed maps and written descriptions of Walnut Creek 2014 – think renewable energy and lots of hovercrafts - and invited family and friends to take a trip to the future in the school’s multi-use room on April 7.**

**Full Moon Hike**
Saturday, July 12, 8:30 – 10 p.m.
Shell Ridge Open Space entry at end of Rocks Spring Place
www.walnut-creek.org

**Bike 100 Miles for the Centennial**
For details: www.bikewalnutcreek.org

**HISTORY**

**Downtown History Walks**
Walnut Creek Historical Society
June 14, July 12, August 9
Liberty Bell Plaza, 9:30 a.m.
Online reservations: www.walnutcreekhistory.info

**Howe Homestead History Tour**
Sunday, June 8, 11-2:30 p.m.
2950 Walnut Boulevard
www.walnut-creek.org

**WILDLIFE**

**100 Ways to Support Wildlife**
Lindsay Wildlife Museum
How We Care for Injured Animals: June 7
Meet Animals at Petting Circle: Saturday, July 5
Bee Alive! (Observe an Active Bee Hive): Aug. 2
www.wildlife-museum.org

**CENTENNIAL GROVE**
Help us fund the A living monument to the spirit of Walnut Creek – past, present and future The Centennial Grove at Heather Farm Park will be a lasting legacy gift to future generations. 100 trees, both native and from six different continents, will represent the diversity of people who settled in Walnut Creek to create our beautiful hometown. The Centennial Grove will include public art by a renowned artist and a peaceful place to relax and reflect by the pond. Everyone is invited to contribute to this legacy gift by making a donation of $250. The names of project supporters will be etched onto the Centennial Rock.

To donate, or for more information, visit www.walnutcreek100.com or call 925-943-5895

Donations to the Centennial Grove may be tax deductible; consult your tax adviser.

**Lindsay Web Events @ www.wildlife-museum.org**
June: 10 Ways to Support Wildlife in the Summer Heat
July: 10 Ways to Connect Children with Nature
August: 10 Ways to Support Pollinators

**40th Birthday Celebration for Richard, the Turkey Vulture**
Saturday, June 21
Lindsay Wildlife Museum
www.wildlife-museum.org

**YOUTH & FAMILIES**

**Walnut Creek Aquanuts Celebration of Champions**
Clarke Swim Center
Saturday, June 14, 5-9 p.m.
www.aquanuts.org

**Chevron Family Theatre Festival**
Lesher Center
Saturday, July 19, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
www.lesherartscenter.org

**Healthy Walnut Creek Festival & Skateboard Competition**
Heather Farm Park
Saturday, Aug. 23, 9 a.m.-noon
www.WalnutCreekRec.org
Help us fund the CENTENNIAL GROVE
A living monument to the spirit of Walnut Creek – past, present and future

The Centennial Grove at Heather Farm Park will be a lasting legacy gift to future generations.

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Donations to the Centennial Grove may be tax deductible; consult your tax adviser.
Centennial store opens

Centennial keepsakes are available at the Walnut Creek Downtown Business Association office. Items include water bottles, flying discs, baseball caps, coffee mugs and more! Items range in price from $5 to $15.

Also available are the historic homes cookbook “Vintage Homes and Legacy Recipes,” ($20) and “Walnut Creek: An Illustrated History” at a special Centennial year price of $25. Proceeds benefit Centennial activities and the Historical Society.

The Downtown Business Association office is on the first floor of City Hall, 1666 N. Main Street. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 925-933-6778. For a complete list of items, go to walnutcreek100.com.

‘Skull Show’ comes to the Bedford Gallery

This summer, the Bedford Gallery is narrowing its focus to the physical and historical world of the skull. The Skull Show, July 12 through August 31, examines the role that skulls have played in the historical register, as well as an iconic contemporary image including skate, tattoo, and graffiti counter cultures.

The public is invited to an opening reception on Thursday, June 12, 6 to 8 p.m. Cost is $5. Rock your skull attire and accessories!

Don’t miss these special programs with “Skull-A-Day” artist and blogger Noah Scalin: for adults, Arts and Craft Beer, July 31; and for families, Make a Skull, Aug. 2.

Open call to artists for Centennial exhibit

In honor of Walnut Creek’s centennial, the Bedford Gallery will begin the fall season with Walnut Creek Turns 100: Celebrating the City Through Art, opening September 21.

Submissions to Walnut Creek Turns 100 are open to members of our community who live or work in town, and to all those who love our city. Artworks submitted should reflect Walnut Creek’s rich history, land, commerce, community, and culture, both past or present.

The deadline to apply is Sept. 4. For entry guidelines and instructions on how to submit artwork, go to www.bedfordgallery.org/WC100 or pick up an info packet at the Bedford Gallery. Entries will be accepted online and in person.