

THE CROSSINGS
The Signal

FEBRUARY 2017

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SOCCER COACHES NEEDED!
(see page 5)

SIGNAL DELIVERY PERSON NEEDED
For Smoke Tree Court
(see page 2)

COMMUNICATION NEWS
(see page 6)

TRAFFIC SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to the many homeowners who responded to our request for comments about considering asking the city of Concord to install no turn signs at the entrance at Ayers Road, and for your other ideas on how to help all of us with traffic and speeding in our community. It is great to see such active participation toward improving our neighborhood.

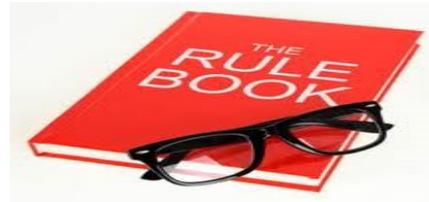
This request for no-turn signs came from several Homeowners, and so the Board decided to ask all Crossings residents for your opinions, to see if it should be pursued.

The responses were discussed at the January 26th Board of Directors meeting. The great majority of respondents were against no turn signs. The next step is for the Safety and Security Committee to review the opinions and other possible solutions to determine what it will recommend to the Board and community at large. Traffic mitigation is an ongoing concern that the Committee and Board take very seriously. The next Safety & Security Committee meeting takes place on Tuesday, February 21st, at 6:00p, in the Business Office.



2017 CHOA HOMEOWNER RULE BOOK

The Revised January 2017 Rule Book was sent to all Homeowners for review in November, along with the 2017 Budget packet. We are very pleased to announce that the Board of Directors formally adopted the 2017 Rule Book at their January 26 meeting. The Rule Book was last revised in 2005 and the current revision process began more than 2 years ago. Every word was scrutinized, not only by the Board, but by various committees. A draft was emailed to Homeowners, resulting in many comments and recommendations. All were reviewed and discussed and many changes were made in response. This was truly a Community-wide project. Special thanks go to Rules Committee Chair Donna Glover and her Committee members, Salinda Cardoza and the Architectural Committee and Rich Ellenson, editor extraordinaire. The 2017 Rule Book is available on our website, Walnutcountry.com. If you need a paper copy, please stop by the Business Office to pick one up.



Swimming

MAIN POOL OPENS FEBRUARY 28th FOR RESIDENTS

WCST SPRING CLINIC BEGINS FEBRUARY 27th

Our Walnut Country Swim Team begins their Spring Clinic on February 27. The following day the main pool will be open to all residents, beginning at 7am. The Swim Team will have exclusive use of the main and baby pools on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, from 3 – 8pm, until the clinic ends on April 7. The Side pools are scheduled to open Memorial Day Weekend. The Swim Team's pre-season begins April 10, and we'll have more information on that in the March Signal.

Treasurer's Report (Year To Date)

BALANCE SHEET as of December 31, 2016

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Current Assets

Cash Operating Acct.	\$433,338
Cash Reserve Acct.	2,244,736
Receivables	4,981
Prepaid Expenses	17,160
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$2,700,215

Current Liabilities & Capital

Liabilities	\$106,217
Reserves	2,240,645
Owner's Equity	307,690
Income	45,663
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	\$2,700,215

Year-To-Date BUDGET REPORT

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual Over (or under) Budget</u>
Total Revenues	1,409,105	1,291,287	117,818
Operating Expenses			
Payroll/Benefits/Taxes	\$126,029	\$145,746	\$(19,717)
Management Expenses	179,152	175,651	3,501
Office Equip/Supplies	37,714	28,300	9,414
Professional Services	33,253	25,415	7,838
Facilities Repair/Maint.	298,307	312,351	(14,044)
Recreation	22,775	15,500	7,275
Utilities	171,125	178,300	(7,175)
Security Expenses	43,690	44,735	(1,045)
Insurance	58,800	63,000	(4,200)
Tax & Licenses	10,606	13,100	(2,494)
Capital Acquisitions	41,862	0	41,862
Reserve Expenses	284,189	284,189	0
Miscellaneous Expense	(720)	5,000	(5,720)
WCST Expenses	56,657	0	56,657
Total Operating Expense	1,363,439	1,291,287	72,152
Net Income	\$45,666		\$45,666

Pat Magee, General Manager

The Crossings Business Office
925- 687-9961
Businessoffice@Walnutcountry.com

President’s Corner – February 2017

Traffic. We all see it, especially during the morning commute. The Board of Directors and our Safety Committee recognizes this is a major concern for all of us. In our last Signal and eSignal, we asked for feedback on a way to minimize this and we heard from many of you. Working towards improving the traffic issues is, unfortunately, complex as it involves not only our residents but also our city and police. We will be coming up with a plan to push these issues but we’ll need your help. Keep your eye on the Signal and eSignal for ways you’ll be able to help us push this agenda with our public agencies. We have more power in numbers and together we’ll be able to make a difference.

Through the recent heavy rains and storms, I’m very pleased to report that our greenbelt areas have “weathered” it well. We’ve had no major issues (trees down, large branches falling) which I take as a testament to our ongoing attention and maintenance as overseen by our Landscape Committee. The rain will undoubtedly help us with water savings as well but we’ll continue to keep our eyes towards continued improvements in this area.

It was great to see such a large and diverse turnout at our first New Year’s Eve Party. We had 150 of you in the Clubhouse to enjoy the food, drink and music. A big Kudo goes to Donna Glover and the Activities Committee for making this a memorable (and definitely annual event). At our Board meeting we talked of the value of our events to the community and we feel we have made strides in creating a better sense of community at Walnut Country. Our next event will be the Spring Festival on Saturday, April 15th. Our Safety Committee had a great idea to also hold a Safety Fair with this event where you can meet with representatives for public agencies, the Red Cross and the like. We feel that combining these two events will bring our neighbors and families out for both fun and benefit.

Please join us on for our next Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, on February 23rd. Until next month...

Mark Weinmann, President

SIGNAL DELIVERY PERSON NEEDED

Smoke Tree Court

If you have about twenty minutes free time one day per month to deliver the Signal to your neighbors please get in touch with Andy at the Clubhouse office: 925-825-0250. Your help is greatly appreciated!



GSG PROTECTIVE SECURITY - (855) 371-5300 - Security for Common Area

**WALNUT COUNTRY SWIM TEAM
ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

Interested in joining the Walnut Country Swim Team in 2017 or catching up with friends before the season starts? Join us at the clubhouse on Sunday, February 12 from 2pm-3:30pm! Our ice cream social is a great way to get to meet neighbors and become more informed on how the swim team works. New members and those who are returning are invited to attend. We'll have Coach Adrian there with a special "Catch up with Coach" session from 2:45-3:30, so bring any questions you have. It's a great way to meet other swim parents and get to know the ins and outs of the WCST before practice begins in April. All are welcome! Hope to see you there. Questions? Email Matt Dobbs at director.wcst@gmail.com

SAFETY & SECURITY TIPS

As our community ages, so do our mailboxes. When rusty, loose, and failing mailboxes are replaced, you might want to consider a modern locking mailbox. Many of these newer style boxes can be seen around the neighborhood as people make improvements. With ongoing issues of mail and package thefts continuing to be reported, updating your mailbox to a security locking mailbox can help protect personal information from being stolen. The business office has some examples of mailboxes that some homeowners have installed.

A reminder to our "walkers" in the community, it is very important to use the sidewalks as intended. Walking on the street can potentially be dangerous as vehicles come perilously close to the sides of the roadway. As we have learned in the past, the white line does not indicate a bike lane. Unfortunately, vehicles continue to swerve around the speed bumps and come extremely close to the sidewalk. Be Safe – stay on the sidewalks.

Greenbelt Lighting –

As soon as we have enough consecutive dry weather days, our contractor will be able to finish the Greenbelt lighting retrofit. This updated lighting will not only provide outstanding lighting, it will have tremendous cost savings to the Association.

Safety & Security Committee

REWARD

The Board of Directors is prepared to pay up to \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone who willfully destroys or damages association property, including graffiti. If you know of or see someone using a marking pen, paint pen, or spray paint, etc. to deface property within The Crossings, please contact the CHOA Manager at 925-687-9961 or email businessoffice@walnutcountry.com.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

POLICE (Non Emergency)	925-671-3200
GSG Protective Security	855-371-5300
CHOA Business Office	925-687-9961
Clubhouse Office	925-825-0250
John Muir Hospital Emergency	925-939-5800
CC Emergency Med Services	925-646-4690
CC Water District	925-688-3158
CCC Fire Protection District	925-941-3330
CC Animal Services Dept.	925-335-8300

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

It's that time of year again. Please remember to take down your holiday decorations, as it is more than 30 days after the holidays. We really look forward to seeing them again next year.

And pay special attention to all the weeds that may have sprung to life in your yard after all the rain we've had. Please remove them as soon as possible.

Thank you so much for keeping Walnut Country/The Crossings a fantastic place to live!

The Board of Directors and Collins Management



WALNUT COUNTRY BOOK CLUB

For more information about the WC Book Club you can go to: info@berkshire-books.com or call the Clubhouse at 925-825-0250.

The following books have been chosen by Book Club members for...

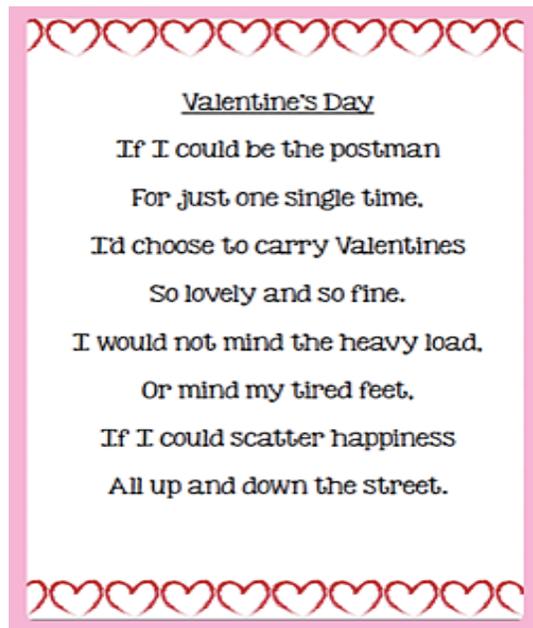
February: "Roseanna" by Maj Sjowall

March: "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes

April: "The Terror Years"
by Lawrence Wright

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 21st,
at 6:30pm in the Clubhouse.

VIEW FROM THE CLUBHOUSE



Lehitraot ("Until Next Time" in Hebrew)

Andy Steinberg, Clubhouse Supervisor

XX

IN THE WORKS

A few of you long time residents have probably noticed our now old and tired Foosball game from your youthful days of hanging around the clubhouse. Thanks to one of your generous neighbors those of you who come to the clubhouse and play air hockey have noticed the vast difference in this fast moving machine over the old one. Well, now we are working on purchasing a brand new Foosball game. We hope it will arrive in time for spring break from school for all to enjoy.

SOCCKER at the CROSSINGS

Come one, come all

5 to 7 year old boys and girls

A beginning soccer league

is coming to Walnut Country!

Registration will begin in March

The season will start in April

For information call

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Great job one and all and thank you so much for helping make the Crossings a great place to live!

Recreation, Preschool & Communications News

WALNUT COUNTRY PRESCHOOL

January was a fun time at Walnut Country Preschool. Once our students returned from their break they got back into the fun of learning all about the winter season and dinosaurs. We also enjoyed our Dad's Day. The students are looking forward to Valentine's Day and a wonderful February.

Registration is going on now. If you know a child who would love to learn with us, please give us a call today at (925) 798-9686 or email us at wcpreschool@astound.net.

TREE TRIMMING AT THE CROSSINGS

Our annual tree trimming and removal is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, January 31, and finish on Monday, February 6. Trees throughout the North and South Slopes, as well as the central greenbelt will be trimmed for safety and tree health. Dead and dying trees will be removed. The total number of trees to be trimmed and removed is far less than last year, when we needed to play catch up.

BOY SCOUT TROOP #429

Boy Scout Troop 429, sponsored by the Cowell HOA, was founded in the late 1960's and has continually provided life skills training, outdoor adventures and leadership development to boys (11 years old and up). With a strong tradition, Troop 429 has built a solid foundation on teaching Boy Scout skills, experiencing the outdoors and having fun!

We invite all Scouting-aged boys (11 years old and up) and their parents to visit our Troop Meetings on Monday's from 7:00p - 8:00p in the Crossings Club House. For more information, please contact: Scoutmaster Anita Luttrell Phone: 925-270-7289 E-mail: JamesL@astound.net

COMMUNICATION NEWS: THE CHOA WEBSITE

With our website running well it's time to bring the first of many monthly tips, tricks, and features available for our residents.

Residents often have the same questions about making changes to their homes, learning CHOA Board procedures, using our facilities, and paying their monthly dues. To help answer questions before reaching out to Pat in the CHOA Office, consider visiting the "How Do I?" section on our website.

Located in the green main menu bar, toward the right, after you click "How Do I?" you'll see loads of questions and answers grouped by My CHOA Account, Facilities, My Home, and CHOA Board and Committees. As more questions arise, we'll add more answers. If you have any ideas for this area, please contact me at choadir2@walnutcountry.com. If you need other questions answered, please contact Pat at businessoffice@walnutcountry.com.

Receive CHOA news in your inbox!

If you want to get your community news delivered to your inbox about once a week, then signup for the eSignal, our electronic newsletter containing more timely articles not found in the monthly Signal. There are two easy ways to signup. 1. Use your cell phone and send the message "WALNUTCOUNTRY" to 22828 and you'll be prompted for your email address. Or 2, visit WalnutCountry.com, scroll to the bottom, and look to the right for the "Connect With Us" form. Just submit your name and email there and you'll be kept abreast of all of our community's news throughout the month.

Walnut Country Signal

SENIORS' POTLUCK DINNER

"Hearts, Chocolate and Flowers"
means it's Valentine's Day!

Please join us on Wednesday, February 8th in the Walnut Country Clubhouse at 5:30 sharp. To find out what dish you can bring please contact Ken Cellini at 925-798-7839 by February 1st. And remember... this is an open monthly event for all Walnut Country residents.



"O.K., first things first—did everyone sign the card?"

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LANDSCAPE CARE NOTICE

Our landscape company will be treating lawn areas for broadleaf weeds throughout February, depending on local weather conditions.



WANT TO RENT THE CLUBHOUSE?

Rental rate is \$350 for the lounge area (up to 8 hours). Game room is an additional \$50 and use of the fully equipped downstairs kitchen is an additional \$75.

Conditions apply including:

- Serving alcohol requires hiring and paying for a security officer.
- Certificate of Insurance (COI) is required.
- If you book a party you **MUST** be present during the entire party.
- The resident who books the party is responsible for what takes place during the entire event.

To reserve a date you must put down a \$500 security/cleaning deposit.

All fees and paperwork are due at least two weeks prior to your event.

To reserve the Clubhouse, or for inquiries concerning renting the clubhouse, please call **925- 825-0250.**



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