

THE CROSSINGS
The Signal

JUNE 2017

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www.walnutcountry.com

SHRED IT AND FORGET IT!!!

(see page 6)

WALNUT COUNTRY T-BALL

(see page 4)

WALNUT COUNTRY BOOK CLUB

(see page 5)

GAS LINE REPLACEMENT UPDATE

The gas line replacement project is proceeding on schedule. Part of the process involves putting in a temporary asphalt patch after they have removed the steel cover and filled in the hole. This is a rough, temporary patch. At the end of the project they will come back to remove all of the temporary patches and do the permanent job right - steamroller and all! At about the same time they will do the remedial work on any of the lawns and sidewalks that were damaged in the process and erase or paint over all of the markings on streets and sidewalks.

MAILBOXES

As you are probably aware, many of your neighbors have replaced their mailboxes with locking mailboxes, and we encourage everyone to consider following suit. There are some things to consider, however, in replacing your mailbox. The post office will not allow you to change the location of your mailbox. If your mailbox, for instance, is on a post that is shared with 2 or 3 other mailboxes, your new mailbox must be installed on that same post as well. Another consideration is to get a locking mailbox with a big enough opening so that whatever you expect to have mailed to you - large envelopes, prescription refills, etc., can fit through the opening.



**CALIFORNIA WATER RESTRICTIONS
HAVE BEEN LIFTED!**

In case you didn't hear, Governor Brown ended the drought state of emergency and we are no longer under water rationing. YEAH! The reversal of his executive order provides us the opportunity to better maintain our front yards by watering lawns, plants and bushes during our HOT Summer months.

As weeds have flourished during our recent rainy season, please remember that weeds are not considered appropriate lawn covering. Please remove all weeds from front yards, driveways and sidewalks. Front lawns must have some form of ground cover as bare dirt is also not allowed in front yards. Please keep bushes cut back and away from the side and overhead of all sidewalks so that our residents can safely use the sidewalk.

Contra Costa Water District is still offering the Lawn to Garden Rebate Program

The CCWD Lawn to Garden Rebate Program provides rebates to qualified customers to replace their existing water-thirsty front lawns with water-wise landscaping. The rebate is \$1.00 per square foot with a maximum of \$1,000 per single family residence and they will even provide limited services of a landscape architect. Call (925) 688-8044 for more information.

ALL THREE POOLS ARE NOW OPEN!

If you haven't heard, all of the Pools are now open. The Swim Team has exclusive use of the Main pool and Baby pool from 3:30pm to 8pm Monday through Friday until June 9, and from 7am to 12pm Monday through Friday, June 12 to August 12, in addition to other scheduled events as posted. Cowell HOA residents may use the Main Pool at all other times that the pool is open. The side pools are open to all residents from 7am to 8pm until June 12, when all 3 pools remain open until 9pm.

Please remember that you will need to have your pool key and badge to gain admittance to all of the pools.

Enjoy yourselves and keep an eye out for each other.

Treasurer's Report (Year To Date)

BALANCE SHEET as of March 31, 2017

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Current Assets

Cash Operating Acct.	\$481,718
Cash Reserve Acct.	2,333,167
Receivables	4,822
Prepaid Expenses	34,424
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$2,854,131

Current Liabilities & Capital

Liabilities	\$78,610
Reserves	2,329,075
Owner's Equity	329,466
Income	116,980
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	\$2,854,131

Year-To-Date BUDGET REPORT

	Actual	Budget	Actual Over (or under) Budget
Total Revenues	\$503,533	\$534,782	\$(31,249)
Operating Expenses			
Payroll/Benefits/Taxes	\$32,315	44,832	\$(12,517)
Management Expenses	61,357	61,948	(591)
Office Equip/Supplies	8,776	9,100	(324)
Professional Services	5,492	7,064	(1,572)
Facilities Repair/Maint.	88,176	88,188	(12)
Recreation	5,606	7,996	(2,390)
Utilities	27,100	41,500	(14,400)
Security Expenses	10,808	16,296	(5,488)
Insurance	19,034	21,352	(2,318)
Tax & Licenses	8,909	4,196	4,317
Capital Acquisitions	2,680	14,152	(11,472)
Reserve Expenses	98,520	98,520	0
Miscellaneous Expense	0	0	0
WCST Expenses	17,780	27,957	(10,177)
Total Operating Expense	\$386,553	\$443,101	\$(56,548)
Net Income	\$116,980	\$91,681	\$25,299



Pat Magee, General Manager

The Crossings Business Office
925- 687-9961
Businessoffice@Walnutcountry.com**President's Corner – June 2017**

It was great to see many of you at our recent successful Annual Wine Tasting. This was our 7th annual event with over 130 folks enjoying their Sunday with us. We had a great selection of South American wines and food (although it went quick due to some over indulgence I think). As always, the best part of these events for me is to be able to talk and connect with so many of you. I heard suggestions as well as kudos for our staff and Board members. I appreciate the feedback.

The hot weather has come down upon us and with it our need for water will be going up. On that note, you may have seen trenching on the center greenbelt area. This is our ongoing landscape irrigation upgrades which have yielded great savings since we began. We will continue to invest in our community this way to make it as efficient as possible while lowering our costs. We've also seen many homes re-landscape their front yards to be more drought tolerant. With the change of weather, make sure you continue to maintain your landscaping as it helps maintain the beauty of the community (and keeps property values up!).

While I don't like talking in this column about issues, I do feel a need to cover a couple. For the safety of all, PLEASE keep your dogs leashed at all times on the greenbelt. There is no exception to this. It is not only our rule by a county ordinance designed to keep all safe. Traffic continues to be an issue. Speeding and failure to stop is unfortunately too common. As I've spoken with the police who do on occasion patrol and cite violators, it's not just people from outside the Crossings...our homeowners and residents are at fault as well. A couple of weeks ago, I witnessed a car go at least 60 MPH though the stop sign. It had an accident but fortunately no one was injured. Please slow down and drive safely.

Finally, I would like to ask all of you for your help. Our association does not run itself. In addition to those we employ, we have dedicated board members and volunteers – but we don't have enough of them! Walnut Country/The Crossings is a great place to live. We want to make sure it stays that way and need your help to do so.

Consider...

Working at one of our community events for a couple of hours

Bringing your voice/expertise to one of our committees – this only take a few hours a month

Becoming a member of our Board of Directors. Our annual election will be coming up. Those on our board always look for “new blood” that can continue our great work.

We would be pleased to have you join us on June 22nd for our next regular monthly BOD meeting.
Until next month...

Mark Weinmann, President

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

CERT NEWS

"Pet Preparedness"

Have you thought about what to do for your pet in the event of a disaster?

CHOA Safety & Security committee, CHOA CERT and Concord CERT will offer suggestions on what to do and how to prepare your pet for a disaster.

A FREE session on "Pet Preparedness" will be given on **Saturday, June 3rd from 1:00 to 3:00** in the CHOA Business office by Carmen Estrada from Concord Cert.

SAFETY & SECURITY NEWS

April 15th was not only tax day, but safety preparedness day at the Clubhouse. The Red Cross provided outstanding fun and educational training geared towards our younger residents. Kids ranging from 3 to 12 years old attended our first "Pillow Case Project". This fun and lively group of kids enjoyed learning many of the basic safety precautions during the presentation. Whether it was crawling under a table during an earthquake and covering up, or learning how to quickly and safely exit a building in the event of smoke or fire, the kids enjoyed the event. At the end of the event, all children received a pillow case that they customized with artwork and safety items to take with them in the event they had to quickly exit during an emergency. Based on the success of this event, there will be plans for another Pillow Case Project in the future.

The warmer weather and longer days are inviting us to get outside with our pets and enjoy a walk throughout our Association. Please remember Contra Costa County has a strict leash law that our HOA fully supports. Even the friendliest dog can be intimidating if it runs up to someone when off leash. It is in the interest of everyone's safety including your furry friend to remain on leash at all times.

The PG&E project is in full swing and will continue through at least July. When traveling through the construction zone, please keep your speed down for the safety of all, including your car! It may be tempting to swerve around the temporary road patches and avoid the bumps, but please don't. Slowing down and staying in your lane will get you and your vehicle home safely.

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

WALNUT COUNTRY T-BALL

A new season of baseball for 4–6 year old boys & girls is coming to Walnut Country!

Register at the Clubhouse office NOW!

The season starts June 12th

and ends August 2nd.

Play is every Monday & Wednesday

from 5–6pm.

Registration fee is \$85 for WC residents

and \$90 for non-residents.

Registration fee includes a uniform

& end-of-the-season pizza party.

For more information call

925-825-0250

* ONE MORE COACH NEEDED *

WALNUT COUNTRY BOOK CLUB

For more information about the Walnut Country Book Club 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...

June: "Girl Waits With Gun"

by Amy Stewart

July: "A Man Called Ove"

by Fredrik Backman

August: "Killers of the Flower Moon"

by David Grann

Sept: "Major Pettigrew's Last Stand"

by Helen Simonson

*Next meeting: Tuesday, June 13th
6:30pm in the Clubhouse*

***Feel free to Join us on June 13th.
There is always room for more
book lovers!***

ABOUT LOVE OF BOOKS

"What one means by integrity, in the case of the novelist, is the conviction that he gives one that this is the truth.

. . . When one so exposes it

[integrity] and sees it come to life one exclaims in rapture, But this is what I have always felt and known and desired! And one boils over with excitement, and, shutting the book even with a kind of reverence as if it

were something very precious, a stand-by to return to as long as one lives, one puts it back on the shelf."

— Virginia Woolf, A Room of One's Own

VIEW FROM THE CLUBHOUSE

Hurray, school's out for summer! With that comes plenty of time for swimming, outdoor games and lazing in the shade. Here's a couple of reminders: to use any of the pools you must have your ID badge, guest badges if you intend to bring guests with you, and a key. No one is allowed to open the swimming pool gates for another person. Why, you might ask? Simple: safety. We do not know everyone that lives in the Crossings. We absolutely do not want unauthorized people having access to what is private property. Thank you!

Now on to another outdoor activity... T-BALL. There is still time to sign up your son, daughter, grandchild, niece, nephew, whatever. Parent/coach meeting is set up for Monday, June 5th at 6:30pm in the Clubhouse. The season will begin the next Monday, June 12th at 5pm on the lower greenbelt. Please be signed up ahead of that June 5th date so we can expedite the process. I also have to order uniforms. By signing up ahead of time will give the vendor enough time to process our order in a timely fashion. It's going to be great fun, so don't miss out.

It ain't over till it's over ("Until Next Time" in Yogi-ism)

*Andy Steinberg,
Clubhouse Supervisor*



*** WE'RE IMPRESSED ***

4412 SMOKE TREE COURT

Great job everyone and thank you for helping make the Crossings a really cool place to live!

Recreation, Preschool & Communications News

WALNUT COUNTRY PRESCHOOL

We have had a wonderful time at Walnut Country Preschool this year and our students still have a few more fun days ahead before summer break. The students will finish the school year with a swim day and end-of-the-year carnival.

All of us at Walnut Country Preschool would like to thank you, the Crossings residents and surrounding neighborhoods, for sharing your children with us and supporting our program. We wish everyone a safe and fun-filled summer and look forward to seeing you all again in the fall.

WALNUT COUNTRY SWIM TEAM NEWS

Dinner, Poker Tournament, Dancing & Silent Auction

Host: Walnut Country Swim Team

Saturday June 3, 2017

6pm – 11pm Walnut Country Clubhouse

You can buy tickets at <https://wcstcasinonight2017.eventbrite.com>



Be sure to mark if you want to participate in the poker tournament – limited seating available

TENNIS ANYONE?

Are you a 3.0 - 4.0 USTA player and interested in playing on the Walnut Country (Crossings) 2017 Mixed 18 & Over 7.0 summer league? Please visit <https://www.ustanorcal.com/teaminfo.asp?id=75371> or contact Joe Ibrahim at joetennis@astound.net or Greg McWard @ gmcward@gmail.com.

Non residents pay a \$40 fee.

SHRED IT AND FORGET IT!!!

Another FREE SHREDDING event brought to you by:
Nancy Bennett of The Bennett Team at Keller Williams
and
Greg Lartilleux of Avenir Mortgage Planners

SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH 9AM – 1PM

The Crossings Business Office – 4498 Lawson Ct., Concord

Look for the Shredlogix truck

BOOKMARK WALNUT COUNTRY'S MOBILE WEBSITE FOR FAST INFORMATION

While our website contains boatloads of information about our community, if you've ever needed quick access to CHOA points of contact, safety and security personnel, or community links, consider bookmarking our mobile website available at: Walnutcountry.com/mobile

This page, designed for smartphones, includes direct links to call Concord Police, our security company, and the Business Office. Other links let you email the Business Office, find commonly sought website pages (calendar of events, pool hours, etc.), and even signup for the eSignal.

Walnut Country Signal

SENIORS' POTLUCK DINNER

Next Potluck: We'll be taking a break over the summer, so there will NOT be any dinners in June, July & August. We'll resume again on Wednesday, September 13th.

Have a wonderful summer... and whatever you do, be careful out there!



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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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