

THE CROSSINGS The Signal

JANUARY 2017

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SOCCER at the CROSSINGS

(see page 5)

SIGNAL DELIVERY PERSON NEEDED

For Smoke Tree Court

(see page 5)

WCST ICE CREAM SOCIAL

(see page 4)

YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

Do you hit tennis balls at the backboard by the lower tennis courts? Do you play basketball there? Have you noticed the poor condition of the backboard? It was recently painted, but the paint was only a band-aid. The plywood all needs to be replaced. The asphalt surface of the court is also in poor shape and needs work. The Board would like to know what the Homeowners would like to do with this area.

Please send your opinion to:

businessoffice@walnutcountry.com

for the following proposals:

- ♦ Replace the plywood with thick, marine-grade, knot-free plywood, which should last 15-20 years.
- ♦ Replace the wood backboard with concrete, which should last up to 100 years, but at considerably more cost than plywood - maybe three times the price. The added benefit would be that since the projected life of the backboard would be more than 30 years, no money would need to be put into Reserves for its replacement.
- ♦ Remove the backboard and add another basketball hoop for full-court play. New, higher fences would need to be installed.
- ♦ Remove the backboard and install two bocce ball courts.
- ♦ Remove the backboard and install another children's playground, or two shorter basketball hoops for children.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS APPRECIATED!

Morning rush hour traffic through the Crossings can be daunting. Most of that traffic comes in to the community at the East entrance at Kenneth and Ayers. We have tried to limit this cut-through traffic by having the city install signs prohibiting it. But Concord police tells us these signs are extremely difficult to enforce because they have no just cause to stop vehicles to see if they have business in the Crossings or are just passing through.

So, the Board is contemplating another proposal. We would ask the city to install signs on Ayers prohibiting turns into Kenneth from Ayers between the hours of, say, 6:30am and 8:30am. This would be legally enforceable and police could issue tickets for anyone entering during those hours. While this could greatly cut down the number of pass-through vehicles, it could also inconvenience our own residents who might drive their kids to school and then have to drive to the West entrance to get back in.

Please email your opinion on this proposal to:

businessoffice@walnutcountry.com



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MAIN PLAYGROUND SUNSHADES ARE HERE!

After more than a year of work by the Board, new sunshades have been installed at the main playground! The shades total 1,890 square feet, provide 99% UV protection (great for playing in the sand), withstand winds as high as 80 MPH, and will keep our structures cooler in the summer. Please visit them to bask in their beauty and shade. This project is the first new structure built here since the Clubhouse renovation several decades ago. Thanks to Rich Ellenson for leading the charge and getting this done.

Treasurer's Report (Year To Date)

BALANCE SHEET as of November 30, 2016

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Current Assets

Cash Operating Acct.	\$443,786
Cash Reserve Acct.	2,236,090
Receivables	5,423
Prepaid Expenses	5,489
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>\$2,690,788</u>

Current Liabilities & Capital

Liabilities	\$98,870
Reserves	2,220,406
Owner's Equity	307,690
Income	63,822
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	<u>\$2,690,788</u>

Year-To-Date BUDGET REPORT

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	Actual Over (or under) <u>Budget</u>
Total Revenues	1,296,746	1,183,972	112,774
Operating Expenses			
Payroll/Benefits/Taxes	\$118,503	\$133,606	\$(15,103)
Management Expenses	163,002	161,018	1,984
Office Equip/Supplies	32,051	25,960	6,091
Professional Services	32,649	23,287	9,362
Facilities Repair/Maint.	266,210	286,341	(20,131)
Recreation	20,849	14,201	6,648
Utilities	165,391	168,786	(3,395)
Security Expenses	39,996	41,008	(1,012)
Insurance	54,045	57,750	(3,705)
Tax & Licenses	10,606	12,001	(1,395)
Capital Acquisitions	13,339	0	13,339
Reserve Expenses	260,502	260,502	0
Miscellaneous Expense	(720)	4,587	(5,307)
WCST Expenses	56,500	0	56,500
Total Operating Expense	1,232,923	1,189,047	43,876
 Net Income	 \$63,823	 \$(5,075)	 \$68,898

Bring on
the
NEW YEAR!

WELCOME



Pat Magee, General Manager

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

President's Corner – January 2017

As we end 2016 and enter the new year, we can take pause over the many accomplishments and activities of another successful year in Walnut Country – The Crossings.

There's a lot that will be happening in the next year and we will be facing increasing challenges and choices regarding our association, ongoing challenges and our expenses. To that end, the Board in its 2017 Budget has increased dues from \$95 to \$97 month. Please remember this increased amount when paying your dues in January. We look forward to addressing ongoing operations but also improving areas with capital improvements, especially in the areas of safety, security and communications.

After a year of well-attended and fun activities including our Wine Tasting, Spring Fest and Fall Picnic, we closed out with our last community events of the year - our **Crossings Winter Holiday Celebration and Our first New Year's Eve Party** in many years. We had a great time and great attendance. Check out the insert in this edition of the Signal to see the calendar of events for 2017. Coming up first will be our **Spring Festival** on April 15th.

With the turmoil of 2016 behind us, now is the time to look to the new year to treat others with both respect and kindness. As neighbors in the Crossings, there is much we can do to show this to each other:

- Keep your home and yard looking the best it can – this helps by beautifying our neighborhood and keeping everyone's property values up
- Follow our Association and community's rules, from keeping your dog on its leash to obeying the law when driving and parking
- Get involved. Join a committee, or volunteer for an event. Many in our association take things for granted. We need, and more importantly, want YOUR help. Take a part in making our neighborhood great!

We'll keep you abreast of our activities and invite you to join us a few times this year for one of the monthly Board of Directors' meetings. It's a great way to stay informed and involved. On that note, please join us on January 26th for our next regular monthly BOD meeting.

I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year! Until next month...

Mark Weinmann, President



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 old 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 know new neighbors and become more informed on how swim team works. New members and those who are returning for another fun season, all are invited and encouraged to attend. We'll have Coach Adrian there too 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 swim team before practice begins in April. All are welcome! Hope to see you there. Questions? Email Matt Dobbs at director.wcst@gmail.com



CONTACT SECURITY & CHOA ON YOUR PHONE

Have you ever been away from your computer and needed to contact our security company, the Clubhouse, or the Business Office? Thanks to our website's quick contact mobile page, reaching out has never been easier.

Just visit and bookmark:

walnutcountry.com/mobile to see tapable links to call Concord PD, our security company, the Clubhouse, and the Business Office. You'll also see shortcuts to commonly asked for information and a form to signup for the eSignal.

Rich Ellenson – Communications Liaison

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

DO YOU WEAR A HELMET WHEN BIKING?

- ◆ Make sure the helmet fits and your child knows how to put it on correctly. A helmet should sit on top of the head in a level position, and should not rock forward, backward or side to side. The helmet straps must always be buckled, but not too tightly. Take the Helmet Fit Test.
- ◆ EYES check: Position the helmet on your head. Look up and you should see the bottom rim of the helmet. The rim should be one to two finger-widths above the eyebrows.
- ◆ EARS check: Make sure the straps of the helmet form a "V" under your ears when buckled. The strap should be snug but comfortable.
- ◆ MOUTH check: Open your mouth as wide as you can. Do you feel the helmet hug your head? If not, tighten those straps and make sure the buckle is flat against your skin.

Andy Steinberg, Recreation Director

Clubhouse Office

925-825-0250

recdirector@walnutcountry.com

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...

January "Shoe Dog" by Phil Knight

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 17th, at 6:30pm in the Clubhouse.

SOCCER at the CROSSINGS

Come one, come all

5 to 7 year olds

Soccer Season will be coming to a community near you!

March registration

season starts in April

For information call 925-825-0250

VIEW FROM THE CLUBHOUSE

Wow, 2017 already! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season filled with good food, lots of gifts and lots of laughs. Now it's back to business. Here in the clubhouse that means preparing for upcoming CHOA sponsored events, soccer and T-ball seasons and welcoming new families to the community.

Speaking of soccer... we are now in the process of hiring four experienced soccer coaches. The obligation will be two hours a day, two days per week, for eight weeks. This is a paid position, but more importantly you will be helping young children learn the fundamentals of the most popular game played world-wide, sportsmanship, teamwork and the love of being outdoors. If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about this exciting opportunity please contact Andy at 925-825-0250.

Ka dish day ("Until Next Time" in Apache)

Andy Steinberg, Clubhouse Supervisor

XX

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!

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*** WE'RE IMPRESSED ***

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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

If you or someone you know is looking for a fun and fantastic learning environment, our open house is coming up January 9 at 7 p.m. Come by, talk with our teachers, and learn why Walnut Country Preschool is a great fit for your child. If you are unable to make the open house but would like a tour, contact the preschool at [925-798-9686](tel:925-798-9686) or email wcpreschool@astound.net

TREE TRIMMING TO BEGIN JANUARY 31

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

DECEMBER 2016 SENIOR POTLUCK ATTENDEES



Walnut Country Signal

SENIORS' POTLUCK DINNER

Please join us on Wednesday, January 11th in the lovely Walnut Country Clubhouse at 5:30 sharp. To find out what dish you can bring please contact Ken Cellini at 925-798-7839 by January 4th. And remember... this is an open monthly event for Walnut Country residents.

For all of you that have enjoyed participating in the monthly Senior Potluck dinner over the years we owe a huge debt of gratitude to Potluck Chairperson, Caroline Jackson. For the last 7 years Caroline has taken on the role of chief cook and bottle washer to bring you the best potluck in town. Thank you, Caroline from all of us potluckers! At the same time let's welcome Caroline's replacement, Ken Cellini. Ken has got big shoes to fill but we have the utmost confidence he will do a great job. Now on with the show!!

To Caroline Jackson ***



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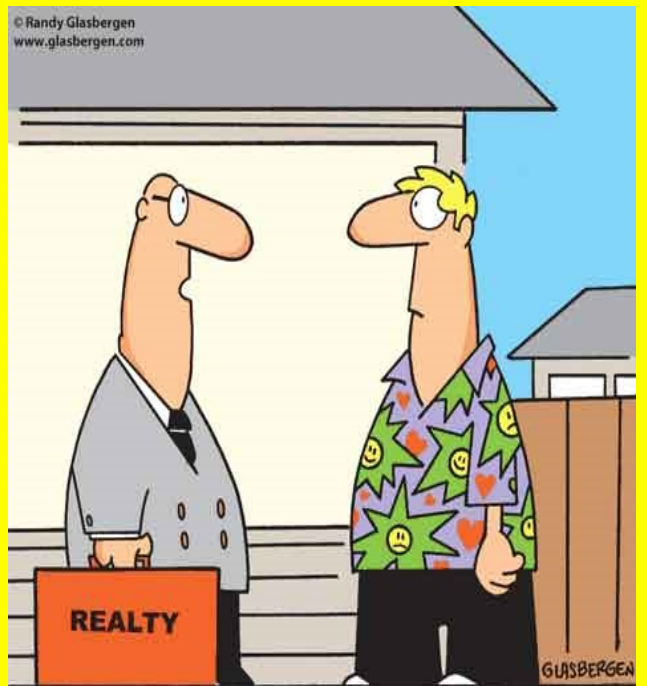
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"I think the seller will accept your offer,
but the Homeowners Association will
never approve that shirt."

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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