

McDonald's on Citrus Circle Update

Jeremy Lochirco, Senior Planner for the City of Walnut Creek, has informed the Board that McDonald's submitted an application on June 30 for a fast food restaurant in the former bank building at the corner of Citrus and Oak Grove (see previous article in the July issue at *www.woodlandsasson.org*). In my discussions with Jeremy, this is how the process will proceed:

30-day review period - a formal application is submitted, and the city is bound by mandate to review and respond within 30 days. Review will focus on the overall scope of the project - the building design, arbor impact (will trees need to be removed to accommodate expansion), a traffic review, parking analysis, etc. The key consideration for the city - is the application complete? Does it adequately respond to each of the critical issues the city requires before it moves to the next stage.

- Environmental review/assessment A more thorough review of the plan, including zoning. The building is zoned for a drive-thru, as it was formerly a bank, but it is not zoned for a retail food establishment. This is a high hurdle to jump over from the city's viewpoint. For example, when Carl's Jr. moved to the neighborhood, the franchise owner tried to secure the same building, but was informed it was not zoned for food, and the corporate ownership of Carl's Jr. advised the franchisee to move it across the street as it would be too long (and possibly costly) a process to get the building through the city approval process (*note Carl's Jr. was only approved by the City Council after they agreed not to have a drive-thru).
- At some point, McDonald's will request a public meeting to inform the public of their plans, and make their case as to why they would like to bring their establishment to our neighborhood. The process must include this step.
- The City of Walnut Creek, and more succinctly, the City Council, would be involved in approving or denying the McDonald's application, once all of these steps are complete.
- It is important to note that the City does not take a position for or against an issue until the sequence of events noted above take place, and a big influencer is community reaction. Additional details and artist renderings can be found on the Woodlands website.

Our July newsletter prompted a number of residents to send "emails to the editor". A representation of these letters follows this article. Please continue to visit our website *www.woodlandsassn.org* for updates and to join our email list to be kept informed on the issue, including the announcement of a town-hall meeting, which the Board is looking to coordinate for a date to be determined in August 2010.

Thank you from the Woodlands Board.

See Your Neighbors Comments On Page 3



In This Issue...

McDonald's Update	1
Want to Write Something?	2
Thank You For the Flags	2
McDonald's Comments	3
Woodlands Safety Event	4

Established in 1965, the *Woodlands Newsletter* is a monthly publication that is published by the Woodlands Association. Archived issues are located at www.WoodlandsAssn.org

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> Neighborhood Inquiries: e-mail a Board member @ http://www.woodlandsassn.org/ boardmembers.htm

Woodlands Association P.O. Box 31085 Walnut Creek, CA 94598

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Want to Write Something?

The Woodlands newsletter provides a community service by keeping neighborhood residents informed about issues and events of interest. We encourage Woodlands residents to submit articles for the newsletter and we regula



residents to submit articles for the newsletter and we regularly receive articles that are published in the newsletter.

If you would like to contribute an article, please contact us and we will be happy to work with you to help get it edited and published. Our publication guidelines are relatively simple – topics should be of interest to Woodlands residents, the newsletter can not be used as a forum to air issues between individuals, and articles may need to be edited to fit within available space (typical length is 200 words or less). To meet our publication schedule for a monthly newsletter, we have established a closing date of the 10th of each month. To the extent that space is available, articles received and ready for print by the 10th of the month will be published in the next version of the newsletter.

We appreciate your help in making the newsletter as informative, useful, and relevant to Woodlands residents. To submit an article, please write to <u>woodlandsassn@yahoo.com</u>.

Thanks for the July 4th Flags

We want to thank local realtors Ron Vallerga and Steve Poirier for the U.S. flags planted in the Woodlands neighborhood. This is a longtime tradition and we appreciate it!



Woodlands Association Board of Directors

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Board email ID's can be found at www.WoodlandsAssn.org

Upcoming Board Meetings

Saturday, August 7th at 8:15 am and Saturday, September 4th at 8:15 am in Carl's Jr. Conference Room

Woodlands residents are encouraged to attend board meetings

August 2010

Comments on having McDonald's at Citrus Circle

Hi,

Thanks for collecting opinions on the issue of having a McDonald's in our neighborhood. I am writing to say that we are very opposed to such an idea, on many levels.

Certainly we have enough fast food restaurants across the street in the Nob Hill plaza, so there is no need for another such business, Carl's Jr. serves similar foods.

Fast food restaurants in general are not a good thing for the health of America, contributing to the obesity epidemic we are in the midst of. This establishment would not be one that would make would make a positive contribution to the health of our city. There are already many, many places in Walnut Creek that cater to a fast food diet.

The location in question is the first establishment you see when you enter our community on Citrus Avenue. Having a McDonalds fast food restaurant is not the image we should present of our neighborhood. It is an older established neighborhood with beautiful trees at the base of a wonderful open space that draw families here in part for its natural beauty.

Fast food restaurants are meant to be that, 'fast', and so the number of cars intended to be pulling in and out would be high, at an intersection that already has more than it's share of congestion and accidents. The intersection is one which the children of our neighborhood must cross in order to get to both Foothill Middle School and Northgate High School, many on foot or on bicycles.

I hope that this does not come to fruition as it would add no positive impact to our community and probably would be detrimental.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Rose-Lerman, Woodland's resident

I just read the newsletter and am against any fast food including McDonald's to occupy the former bank building. – Anonymous

Dear Sir/Madam:

Thank you for publishing an article about possible McDonald's appearance in our neighborhood. As a family living on Citrus Circle we would like to provide some comments.

First and foremost, we are strongly opposed to such a development because it would most certainly increase traffic, noise and litter on Citrus Circle and nearby streets. It will make our child-friendly neighborhood less safe and attractive for families. While increasing number of schools around the country are banning unhealthy food and drinks from their cafeterias, it would be extremely frustrating to see a new McDonald's restaurant opening in a direct proximity to an elementary school and a residential area full of children.

My family and I would like to encourage the Woodlands Board to fight this proposal with all your might. Quick internet search shows that communities around the globe have been fighting opening of McDonald's restaurants in residential neighborhoods (http://www.mcspotlight.org/campaigns/current/residents/index.html), and there are precedents of the people winning: Fremont, CA: http://www.mcspotlight.org/media/press/mcds/ mercurynews110702.html, Rocklin, CA: http://www.mcspotlight.org/campaigns/current/residents/rocklin.html

From our side our family is ready to provide any possible help and support we can.

Sincerely, Natalia Usmanova

Woodlands 1st Annual Safety Event

I am a long time Woodlands Resident who sees a need to help my neighbors get better prepared for any type of disaster that might strike. I invite you to get better prepared and learn what you can do to be ready for all types of situations and stay safe. Please plan to attend for a couple hours and bring your friends, but remember to RSVP. The Wilson Family will see you there!

Save The Date! <u>Saturday, August 7th from 2:00-4:00 P.M.</u> <u>Woodlands Cabana Club 111 Longleaf Drive</u>

Come join us at the 1st Annual **Are YOU Ready?** Safety Event. This is a unique opportunity to gather information on everything you need to keep you, your kids, your home, your pets and even your identity SAFE!.

Walnut Creek Police Officers will visit with their canine unit, Members of CERT, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, American Medical Response, American Red Cross, P G & E and even a Shred-It Truck will be on hand sharing important information!

There will be Raffle Prizes, Goodies for the Kids and Refreshments for all! (PLEASE: Let us know that you'll be joining the fun so we can order enough food.)

RSVP to Dayna Wilson 925.788.6582 / <u>Dayna@Day-RealEstate.com</u>



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Dumploads On Us	4
J Rockcliff Realtors - Galindo/Willams	9
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Want Ads - line ad with 30 words or less:

\$5 Woodlands Residents, \$13 Non-Residents

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Next Advertising Deadline Please submit all ads and payments for the next issue by August 15, 2010

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Walnut Creek Clinician Offers New Technology Providing Faster Pain Relief and Healing

Walnut Creek, CA – McDuff Chiropractic Center, Chiropractic Neurology and Nutrition - is pleased to announce the addition of laser therapy treatments to the care options provided.



TerraQuant laser therapy provides pain relief and healing through this FDA cleared modality. This is the world's most advanced pain relieving modality which has been used by Olympians, professional teams / athletes, as well as people of all

ages and conditions who choose an effective treatment without drugs or invasive procedures.

Worldwide, laser therapy is embraced to treat conditions such as acute, sub-acute and chronic pain, back pain, bursitis, carpal tunnel, arthritis pain, fibromyalgia, ligament sprains, tendonitis, tennis elbow, soft tissue injuries and muscle strain. This treatment option is now available locally.



There are over 4000 studies that validate the effectiveness of laser therapy. Throughout the world, laser therapy has been embraced for over 20 years. In



the United States, athletes who compete internationally were some of the first to embrace the modality as they saw their competing athletes using the technology with great results. Now, laser therapy has been embraced nationwide by clinicians to treat all those in need.

Contact Dr. Peter McDuff at 925-933-3000 for an assessment to learn if laser therapy is an option for you.

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<u>Woodlands Annual Garage Sale</u> <u>Sunday, October 3, 2010</u>

A map of the neighborhood, identifying the locations of those who are participating in the garage sale is created to aid buyers to find your homes. Maps will be provided to the participants to hand out to buyers. To get on the map you need to register. You may still participate without registering.

Beginning Monday, August 23 rd call <u>945 - 4575</u> To Register !

Registration Ends Sunday, <u>September 26th !</u>

When you call, please leave (1) your name, (2) home phone number, (3) address, & (4) a brief description of the items for sale. You will receive a call back to confirm the information within a few days.

> Garage sale hours are advertised as 9:00 a.m. to 3:00p.m. You can open and close your garage whenever you wish.

Because of the details involved in setting up this event, Please Call No Later Than 6:00 p.m., Sunday, September 26th



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