

McKownville Improvement Association Announces Fall Meeting

The McKownville Improvement Association has scheduled its next general meeting for Tuesday October 2, 2001. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Express, 1444 Western Avenue. The meeting is scheduled for 7 PM to 9 PM.

All McKownville residents are invited.

A representative from the Vice President's Office for Finance and Business at the State University at Albany will discuss the ongoing construction and plans for new buildings for the campus and nearby areas. The University is McKownville's neighbor and many persons in McKownville have expressed interest in the University's expansion and rebuilding plans.

A second item on the agenda is a planning study of McKownville. The planning study is to be conducted by Lindsay Childs, Bert Schou and others. They will explain the study's objectives, financing, time table, schedule of meetings and so forth.

Additional items for discussion can be raised during the meeting. The president and vice president of the Association are Bill Meehan (7 Country Lane , 456-4564) and Don Reeb (5 Norwood Street, 489-3909).

Do come and bring a neighbor.

McKownville Improvement Association

Guiderland, New York 12203

Wednesday December 12, 2001, 7:00 pm there will be a public meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association at the Holiday Inn Express on Western Avenue. All residents of McKownville are invited.

Mr. Ken Runion, Supervisor of the Town of Guiderland is our guest speaker. Mr. Runion has been asked to discuss the future of Guiderland and the master plan.

Two items discussed at the previous meeting--the proposed new strip mall on Western near the Best Western Motel and the RFP and its suggestion to shift the center line of Western Avenue to the south--will be discussed again.

The McKownville Improvement Association needs to make more of an effort to improve our neighborhood. But what should it do?

Ask the town to: make the Town pond at Stuyvesant more of a recreation resource; plant more trees along our streets; mark (sign) the pedestrian paths such as those between Providence and Stuyvesant Plaza and between Parkwood and Elmwood; install pedestrian controlled crosswalk lights at Parkwood and at Schoolhouse Road; enforce building regulations such as for the vacant "blue house" property across from the firehouse; improve the crosswalk at Fuller Road; put in warning signs facing Fuller Road that the Burger King parking lot emptying onto Western has a traffic signal controlling access of cars leaving the parking lot; construct a bus shelter on Western Avenue; improve storm drainage at several intersections; and/or rehabilitate and construct sidewalks.

This latter item points to a possible conflict. To put in sidewalks not only means using tax dollars but may cause strips of front lawns of residents to be taken and paved. Even rehabilitation of existing sidewalks may lead to the removal of mature trees.

Preserving wider front lawns and mature trees may be more important for our residential area than sidewalks in some areas.

Residents should call Town Hall--356-1980--whenever something in McKownville needs correction. This is by far the more effective method. These calls may not have been happening. For example, storm drains along Western. Many are subject to flooding. A call to Town Hall by nearby residents should bring forth corrective action. If the calls have been made and nothing has happened then the Association should act. But to be more effective a list of problem drains is needed and that requires some small group to make a survey, then meet with the appropriate persons at Town Hall and follow through to make sure the work was done. Likewise for new trees to be planted, and so forth.

The meeting is scheduled to end at 9:00 pm.

McKownville Improvement Association Officers, 2001

President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Vice President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Secretary	Kathy LeRoux	106 Arcadia Avenue	438-1947
Treasurer	Steve Berg	7 Elmwood Street	438-6795

Board Members

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

John Smircich
60 Highland Drive
869-1256

Susan Hotchkiss
212 Woodscape Drive
482-8848

Jill Messner
9 Warren Street
482-9125

Jim Cameron
15 Glenwood Street
489-2487

Sue Brown
6 Waverly Place
482-2355

McKownville Improvement Association

Annual Meeting

May 21, 2002, 7-9 pm Holiday Inn Express

The annual meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association is at 7 pm at the Holiday Inn Express on Tuesday May 21, 2002. All residents are invited. The agenda includes the collection of the **Needs Survey** which is included with this announcement, a vote on **The Proposal for Western Avenue** prepared by the McKownville Improvement Association Planning Group, and, the election of Association officers for the coming year.

The McKownville Improvement Association is asking each household to complete the **Needs Survey** and bring it to the meeting. Or you may return it to the **Association Secretary, Kathy LeRoux, 106 Arcadia Avenue, 12203**. Or you may submit it to **dreeb@albany.edu**. Extra copies of the survey can be obtained by sending a request to the email address. The results of the **Needs Survey** will guide the work of the McKownville Improvement Association Planning Group, for example McKown Road improvements.

The Proposal for Western Avenue Study completed by the Planning Group of the McKownville Improvement Association since our December meeting, recommends curbs, new sidewalks, wider green strips, and trees along both sides of Western Avenue from Church Road to the Albany city line. The space is to come from reducing the seven foot width of the present bike lanes to three or four feet. Not one inch is to come from our front lawns. It also recommends improved walk lights at the traffic light controlled intersections, adding a pedestrian controlled walk light at Brookwood/Knowles Terrace, several bus shelters along the south side of western Avenue, improved street drainage, a reduced speed limit (30 mph) and other changes, including several pedestrian islands, to make Western Avenue more pedestrian friendly. Copies of **The Proposal for Western Avenue Study** can be obtained by requesting a copy from **dreeb@albany.edu**, or from the web site **http://www.atmos.albany.edu/mckownville/** or by calling **Kathy LeRoux at 438-1947** and telling her your name and address and a copy will be delivered to you by foot power. We will be asking all members to approve and sign **The Proposal for Western Avenue**. Copies of our **Proposal** will be delivered to all Town officers.

Thirdly, the nominating committee will present a list of candidates for the election of officers at the May 21 meeting. Additional nominations by those in attendance will be welcomed.

The Needs Survey

After each question indicate Y for Yes, N for No, or X for I Do Not Know/ I Do Not Care/I Have No Opinion. Use as much space as you need—including extra pages—for your answers.

Do you want:

1. A branch public library to be located in McKownville Y N X

2. A senior citizen's outpost/branch to be located in McKownville Y N X

3. Sidewalks and curbs along the four more important cross streets

Church Y N X Both sides Y N X Which Side _____

Schoolhouse Y N X Both sides Y N X Which Side _____

Fuller Y N X Both sides Y N X Which Side _____

McKown Y N X Both sides Y N X Which Side _____

4. A Town park/playground for the residents of Providence/Warren/Mercer streets (because it is the one area that is cut off from both Abele Park and the university, the latter often used as a park) Y N X

5. CDTA to provide express nonstop buses from Stuyvesant during rush hour Y N X

6. The reinstitution by CDTA of the Four Mall bus Y N X

McKownville Improvement Association

Tuesday October 1, 2002 Meeting Announcement

All residents of McKownville are invited to attend the upcoming meeting of the Association to be held at the Holiday Inn Express on Western Avenue on Tuesday October 1, 2002 at 7 pm. Also, please put on your calendar the date of the December meeting at the same location and at the same time on Thursday December 5, 2002.

Agenda items for the October meeting include; discussion and distribution of copies of the tabulated Needs Survey report, the proposal by the University to use the 1257 Western Avenue site to construct a university building, an update on the other proposed changes in McKownville including the Christ Lutheran Church property, the L'Ecole property at Stuyvesant, and, of course, Western Avenue and the Western Avenue Corridor Study by Creighton Manning which is expected to be completed soon. There will be an open discussion at the Meeting, as usual, and additional agenda items can be added by those in attendance.

Come to the meeting----- and bring a neighbor.

McKownville Improvement Association Officers, 2002-2003

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	Kathy LeRoux	106 Arcadia Avenue	438-1947
Treasurer	Steve Berg	7 Elmwood Street	438-6795

McKownville Improvement Association Board Members

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood Street
438-9160

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

David Knight
11 Mercer Street
438-9269

Paul Haldeman
5 Country Road
456-9557

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Jim White
8 Brookwood Street
459-9176

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood Street
438-0870

Public Meeting McKownville Improvement Association Thursday December 5, 2002

All residents of McKownville are invited to the meeting of the Association at the Holiday Inn Express on Western Avenue on Thursday December 5, 2002, 7 to 9 pm.

Four Bits of Great News. The State University has decided not to build an office building at 1257 Western (across from the fire house). **AND** The State of New York and Assemblyman Jack McEneny made \$50,000 available to Guilderland for the construction of sidewalks. **AND** The State University planted about a dozen trees at the end of Knowles Terrace to better protect residents from the sight and noise of cars using the University ring road. **AND** Stuyvesant Plaza was required to install trees and trim the parking lot lights to better buffer the Providence Street homes from the Stuyvesant parking lots. Additional items for discussion can be brought up by anyone in attendance.

Members of the Guilderland Town Board have been asked to come to the meeting to answer questions. Suggested questions concern the improvements that residents indicated that they needed and are tabulated in the **Needs Survey** (issued August 17, 2002, additional copies available at the meeting). (1) Sidewalks, how much of the McEneny money will be used for sidewalks in McKownville and how do we get additional sidewalks built along the through streets and the smaller streets? (2) What progress is being made on changing the pond at Stuyvesant into a park? (3) Elmwood Street, what is going to be done to stop through traffic from using Elmwood? (4) Is there any progress to report on the Providence, Mercer, Warren area playground? (5) What is being done to stop the flooding problem on Western near Stuyvesant? (6) What do we need to do to get more streetlights? (7) Traffic blocks Providence and Mercer streets sometimes, how do we get DO NOT BLOCK SIDE STREET signs installed? (8) The highway drains are insufficient along Western, what is being done to solve the problem? (9) Are the new SUNY buildings, CESTM and Sematec, going to cause dangerous air pollution problems in McKownville; (10) When is the Town going to start its tree planting program along the sidewalks? How is it going to work? Questions about other improvements, such as trees to block the noise from the Northway, the CDTA buses, and improvements in the walking paths, could also be asked by the audience.

The Association's budget is about \$280 a year. (We spent more this past year because of the large reports on Western Avenue and the Needs Survey). There are about 800 homes in McKownville and we distribute 6 to 8 meetings announcements per year to each. If we got \$1.00 from each household we would be OK for two years. We have \$306.29 in the Treasury. This includes the \$110 collected at the last meeting. If you can, please send a check or give a cash donation to the Secretary, Kathy LeRoux and this will keep us financially secure for another year or so.

My email address is **dreeb@albany.edu**. If you send me yours we can keep you informed more quickly about the Association. An Association web page is being prepared.

McKownville Improvement Association Officers, 2002-2003

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	Kathy LeRoux	106 Arcadia Avenue	438-1947
Treasurer	Steve Berg	7 Elmwood Street	438-6795

McKownville Improvement Association Board Members

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood Street 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	David Knight 11 Mercer Street 438-9269	Paul Haldeman 5 Country Road 456-9557
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood Street 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood Street 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association Meeting January 30, 2003 Holiday Inn Express 7-9 pm

All McKownville residents are invited to attend the upcoming Association meeting. At the most recent meeting, December 5, Guilderland Town Board members announced that \$50,000 for Western Avenue sidewalks has been secured through Assemblyman John McEneny. Construction will begin as soon as possible. The Town officers, Ken Runion, David Bosworth, Michael Ricard, and Bruce Sherwin (Patty Slavick was held up because of awful weather) gave more great news. A Town financed tree planting program will go forward in the Spring. Thirdly, a vest pocket park near Mercer Streets will be constructed. "Don't Block the Side Street" signs for Providence, Mercer and Warren are to get action from Supervisor Runion's office. The change over of McKownville reservoir/pond at Stuyvesant to a park is going to be done. And seventh, Chief Murley indicated that he will work with the Association to have the speed limit changed to 30 mph on Western Avenue from the City line to Johnson Road.

Creighton Manning Engineering (CME) issued its Report on the McKownville Corridor Study on December 5. The ideas which the McKownville Improvement Association put forth concerning Western Avenue and that many of you expressed at the public meetings with CME and the Town were generally followed. The 85 page CME Report, which includes the results of the Association's Needs Survey, will be discussed at the January 30 meeting. (The 11 pages of Comments on the Report were emailed to all residents who provided email addresses. My email address is dreeb@albany.edu if you want a copy. The full 85 page Report will be sent when it becomes available electronically.)

With the Town promised improvements and the CME Report submission to the Town, Action Committees are needed to work with the Town on implementation. The tree planting program needs specifics for implementation as does the sidewalk on McKown Road as does the sidewalk on Western Avenue as do the sidewalks on the side streets as do the drainage basins along Western and the walk lights and the street lights on the side streets and so forth.

The work of each Action Committee is to gather more specific information on the problem (street corner flooding, for example). With information collected by the Action Committee on the location of each drain basin and its flooding problems the Action Committee members are then equipped to meet with Town officers and hear their proposals to solve the problems, pointing out where their proposals appear to need changes. With the Association officers working with each Action Committee McKownville will be able to help the Town make improvements that will solve the problems pointed out in the Needs Survey and Western Avenue reports, hopefully avoiding future problems that need yet more tax money to be spent.

Discussion of the CME Report and getting the Action Committees in place are the agenda items for the January 30, 2003 meeting.

McKownville Improvement Association 2002-2003

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	Kathy LeRoux	106 Arcadia Avenue	438-1947
Treasurer	Steve Berg	7 Elmwood Street	438-6795

McKownville Improvement Association Board Members

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood Street 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	David Knight 11 Mercer Street 438-9269	Paul Haldeman 5 Country Road 456-9557
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood Street 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood Street 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association

Meeting Thursday March 13, 2003 Holiday Inn Express 7-9 pm

McKownville residents are invited to the March 13, 2003 meeting at the Holiday Inn Express. **Dennis Moore, Director, Parks and Recreation, Town of Guilderland will speak on "The Parks of Guilderland."** The recently purchased Western Turnpike Golf course, the new parks for McKownville, these are huge changes. Come to the meeting and find out more about Guilderland parks and recreation.

At the January 30 meeting Stephen Feeney, chair of the Planning Board, and Town Board members Dave Bosworth, Bruce Sherwin and Patricia Slavick announced that a \$735,000 grant will be awarded for the rebuilding of sidewalks, green strips, curbs, crossing lights, drainage and other improvements along both sides of Western Avenue in McKownville (from the Northway to the City line). The construction will begin in three to four years. This year CDTA will construct several bus shelters in McKownville and \$50,000 from Assemblyman McEneny will be used to build sidewalks along portions of Western Avenue in McKownville. At our December meeting Town Supervisor Runion and the Town Board members announced that the tree planting program and the Mercer Street vest pocket park had been approved with funds put into the budget for this year and plans for the pond and park at Stuyvesant are going forward. Advice was given by Mr. Runion on how to secure more street lighting and new sidewalks on the side streets. All of these improvements were requested in the Association's **Needs Survey and Western Avenue Report**. It is now McKownville's responsibility to push for the improvements and render advice as each planned improvement comes forward. The work of the Association's **Action Committees** is to become involved in these plans and improvements. **It is also your opportunity.**

The Action Committees formed at the January 30 meeting are: **1. Pond and park at Stuyvesant** (John Esler, chair); **2. Western Avenue improvements** (Don Reeb, chair); **3. McKown Road and other sidewalks and trails** (Doug Smith and Marty Gnacik, chairs); **4. Mercer Street vest pocket park** (David Knight, chair); **5. Tree planting program** (Sue Brown, chair); **6. Speed limit reduction** (Jim White, chair); **7. Securing more street lights** (no chair chosen yet); **8. Western Avenue CME final report** (Don Reeb, chair); **9. Flooding** (Martha Haraus, chair); **10. Bus shelters and crosswalks** (no chair chosen yet). Reports from the chairs of the Action Committees, and recruitment of more volunteers for the committees, will be the focus for the remainder of the March 13 meeting.

Big Big News In celebration of the 200th anniversary of the founding of Guilderland, our Bicentennial Party for everyone will be held on **Saturday, May 3, 2003, 2pm at the McKownville Fire Department** sponsored by the Fire Department and the Association. We especially want to honor long term residents (those who have lived in McKownville for 45 years or more). Those who moved here in 1958 or earlier, please call Don Reeb at 489-3909 so that you may receive a special invitation and program. Old photos of McKownville (do you have some to share?), stories (old stories are good stories!), entertainment for the kids, ice cream and much more. Come out and hear about "olde McKownville" and enjoy.

McKownville Improvement Association 2002-2003

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	Kathy LeRoux	106 Arcadia Avenue	438-1947
Treasurer	Steve Berg	7 Elmwood Street	438-679
Sue Brown	Martha Haraus	Marty Gnacik	
6 Westlyn Place	1445 Western Avenue	15 Elmwood Street	
482-2355	489-3855	438-9160	
Doug Smith	David Knight	Paul Haldeman	
5 McKown Road	11 Mercer Street	5 Country Road	
482-6081	438-9269	456-9557	
Alice Torda	Jim White	Joe Trapasso	
2 Knowles Terrace	8 Brookwood Street	25 Parkwood Street	
489-3613	459-9176	438-0870	

McKownville Improvement Association

General Meeting, April 29, 2003, Tuesday 7-9:00 pm

Bicentennial Celebration May 3, 2003, Saturday 2-5:00 pm

This is an announcement about two upcoming events in McKownville.

First The McKownville Improvement Association general meeting on Tuesday April 29, 2003 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Holiday Inn Express On Western Avenue. **Lindsay Childs**, a member of the Guilderland Pathways Committee and the advisory group of the Western Avenue Corridor Study, will be the featured speaker. Sidewalks, other paths, and Western Avenue improvements are the topics. Come, bring a neighbor and your questions.

Second The McKownville Improvement Association and the McKownville Fire Department are jointly sponsoring a Bicentennial Celebration at the fire house at 1250 Western Avenue from 2:00 to 5:00 pm on Saturday May 3, 2003. **A Party for Guilderland on its 200th birthday and for us.** With ice cream and other goodies to eat and lots of old photographs of McKownville and friendly neighbors to meet and a great place for children to play and see fantastic things like fire trucks and—well you get the idea. Special invitations were extended to about three dozen residents who have been “McKownville-ers” for many years. Come meet them and hear about “what old McKownville” was like.

McKownville Improvement Association 2002-2003

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	Kathy LeRoux	106 Arcadia Avenue	438-1947
Treasurer	Steve Berg	7 Elmwood Street	438-679

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood Street
438-9160

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

David Knight
11 Mercer Street
438-9269

Paul Haldeman
5 Country Road
456-9557

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Jim White
8 Brookwood Street
459-9176

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood Street
438-0870

file

McKownville Improvement Association
General Meeting
Thursday, September 25, 2003, 7 to 9pm, Holiday Inn

At our first meeting of the season, Chief David Clancy and Assistant Fire Chief Jim White of the McKownville Fire Department will speak on membership and explain how to become more involved in our neighborhood fire department. And William West, Superintendent of the Department of Water and Waste Water Management Town of Guilderland, will speak about the pond, the water supply and related topics.

By the time of the September 25 meeting it may be that the 1257 Western Avenue house--the Blue house, the Garrison home or the Quadrini house--will be gone, the lot will have become a mowed green lawn and after more than two dozen years of trying, our neighborhood will have gotten rid of a decayed house. The Town is purchasing the property. It will destroy the Blue House, change the overgrown fields into a lawn and turn the property over to the McKownville Fire Department which has agreed to maintain it. As a Board member suggested, maybe we should hold a party and picnic on the site in the near future to commemorate this magnificent accomplishment. We did it. With a lot of help from the Town, the fire department and the neighborhood association, we did it.

On the back of this flyer is a list developed by the Trees Committee of the Association--Sue Brown chair, with computer work by Sue Gutbezah. The idea is to get more trees planted in McKownville. Trees along a street, whether planted in the verge (the strip of land bordering the sidewalk and the street) or in the front garden area makes a street look better and provides other benefits as well. The Trees Committee, along with the other committees of the Association-- the Pond, Paths and Sidewalks, Speed Limits on Western and Fuller, and the Western Avenue Corridor--will give reports on their efforts and plans.

Advanced notice. The October meeting of the Association will be on Thursday October 23, 7 to 9pm at the Holiday Inn. A meet the candidates night. In years when there are elections for town offices the Association has usually held a meet the candidates night. Town office candidates and others will be invited to come and meet the neighborhood, make brief statements and make themselves available for questions.

Come and listen and ask questions--and bring a friend.

McKownville Improvement Association
Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	458-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	458-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnack 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 32 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood Street 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Public Meeting Thursday September 25, 2003, 7pm

Two questions—what have we accomplished and what are our goals? The McKownville Improvement Association—with your help and that of the Guilderland Town officers—has seen these improvements money from Assemblyman McEneny for sidewalks and Town purchase of the Blue House (1257 Western) and its planned removal, (both of these were at the initiative of the Town and the Association knew about neither of them until they were announced—but we probably had some indirect input into directing the efforts of the Town), signs reminding drivers not to block the side streets along Fuller of Providence, Mercer and Warren, the refilling of the reservoir and the cutting of selected trees, bushes and brush so the pond is more visible, a wonderful bicentennial party at the firehouse, A Needs Survey completed by the residents and submitted to the Town and to the consultant doing the Western Avenue Corridor Study Report, and acceptance by the Town of the consultant's Western Avenue Corridor Study Report and the related funding for bus shelters along Western Avenue, sidewalks along Western and McKown and improvements along Western such as trees, lighting, curbs, gutters, drainage and roadway changes near the SUNY entrance, Schoolhouse Road, Church Road. There are 48 recommendations in the Report. New/better sidewalks along the side streets are included in the Report but funding for these is yet to be found.

The second question—our goals—are the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Western Avenue Corridor Study Report (this will require four or more years)—and—the following additional improvements—trees for side streets and more improvements in the pond. Two very active committees—under the direction of Sue Brown for the former and John Esler for the latter—are working to make these happen. Funding for sidewalks for the side streets, improved paths—Board member Marty Gnacik is on the Town's Pathways Committee—is another goal. Improved street lighting, reduction in the speed limit on Fuller and Western, pedestrian crosswalk lights near Warren and SUNY on Fuller, crosswalk light near the firehouse and Brookwood and Knowles on Western are additional goals. The reverse of this announcement contains information from the tree planting committee.

McKownville Improvement Association
Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 32 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood Street 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Public Meeting Meet the Candidates
Holiday Inn Express, Thursday October 23, 2003, 7 pm to 9 pm

All are invited to the McKownville Improvement Association **Meet the Candidates** night. Come. Bring a friend. Ask your questions. Meet your neighbors. Be an informed voter. All of the following candidates have been invited to be at the meeting.

The candidates for Town Offices are--Ken Runion, Town Supervisor; Dave Bosworth and Mike Ricard, Town Board members; John Bailey, Town Justice, and Rosemary Centi, Town Clerk. The candidates for the County Legislature are Frank Commisso and Mary Lou Connolly. These candidates were nominated by the Democrat party.

Town Officer candidates are--Tony Esposito, Town Supervisor; Mark Jones, Town Board; John Bailey, Town Justice; and Todd Gifford, Superintendent of Highways. The candidate for the County Legislature is David Reid. These candidates were nominated by the Republican party.

Questions you might wish to ask the candidates:

1. What is your position on the Western Avenue/Schoolhouse flyover proposed by the Thruway Authority?
2. What is your position about making the Stuyvesant reservoir into a Town park?
3. Concerning the Western Avenue corridor plans that were developed by Creighton Manning, what is your position about implementing or changing their proposals for sidewalks, pedestrian crosswalks, etc.?
4. Are you in favor of a "tree planting program" for McKownville and the rest of Guilderland to be paid for by the Town? How would implement it?
5. How should the County Legislature interact with the citizens of Guilderland?
6. How do you intend to improve all of the neighborhoods in Guilderland?

Questions about storm water drainage, parks and playgrounds, speed limits, the library, youth services, housing for senior citizens, walking paths, and bringing the Town together could be asked also. A questionnaire about the McKownville reservoir/Stuyvesant pond is on the reverse side--residents are asked to complete it and return it to the Association. Finally--the next public meeting is November 20, same place, same time--topic is construction of the Thruway proposed EZPass flyover near Schoolhouse Road. (Please send your email address to dreeb@albany.edu if you want to be reminded of events involving McKownville

McKownville Improvement Association Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnack 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood Street 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

36

McKownville Improvement Association Public Meeting

Holiday Inn Express, Thursday November 20, 2003, 7 pm to 9 pm

The November meeting of McKownville Improvement Association will be held at the Holiday Inn, Express, from 7pm to 9pm-all are invited. There are several topics for discussion and action.

The Western Avenue flyover. If this is built there will be increased noise from traffic for those on Highland and nearby streets as well as for those living along Providence and nearby streets. Air pollution levels will likely rise and some of the buildings along the western side of Schoolhouse Road may be taken for construction of the thruway flyover-- www.thruway.state.ny.us/studies/index.html can be found the following statement concerning the proposed reconstruction of the 25 miles of the Thruway, from Exit 21A to 25A and the flyover.

Can you tell me more about the flyover ramps to and from the Northway and the Thruway? One project alternative that will be reviewed is to construct E-ZPass only ramps to and from the Thruway in the vicinity of the School House Road Bridge near the Western Avenue ramps to and from the Northway. The Authority will consider whether this connection would improve service and reduce delays.

The document received by Todd Gifford-the Town Highway Superintendent--from the Authority-he is Guilderland's representative on the Albany Corridor Study--does not indicate how many if any of the eight or so homes and offices along the western side of Schoolhouse would be taken for construction, nor does the document include any sketch or drawing of the flyover or information about noise or pollution effects. The next step??

The McKownville Reservoir/Stuyvesant Pond. Making the pond more appealing for walking and sitting along its shores is the proposal and has been met with general approval by both residents and Town officers. The next steps need be discussed.

Other topics include the Blue House, Western Avenue improvements, the sidewalks along McKown Road and other streets, and the tree planting program. Please come-participate-McKownville is your community.

McKownville Improvement Association Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Mcchan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood Street 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

Please send your email address to dreeb@albany.edu This will help the Board to involve you in discussions about our community.

McKownville Improvement Association

Public Meeting

Holiday Inn

Thursday, January 22, 2004

7 to 9pm

As we discussed at our most recent (November) meeting, the New York State Thruway Authority is developing an Albany Corridor Study. It involves changes in the design of thruway exits and the number of highway lanes from exit 21A to 25A. It may also involve the construction of a "flyover" or overpass, flying over Western Avenue near the McKownville Methodist Church. The overpass would connect the Thruway to the Northway directly, but only for EZPass users. If constructed the flyover would add to the noise (especially from truck traffic) for McKownville residents in three areas of McKownville: those living on and near Country Road, those on and near Providence Street, and those in and near Woodscape. Together these may impact a majority of the 900+ homes in McKownville. The Thruway's Draft Summary of the Access Improvement Concepts(about 60 pages) is now available. Only **one** of their six alternatives seems to not involve the construction of a Western Avenue flyover. Frank Commisso, Albany County legislator for a portion of McKownville, serves on the Advisory Panel for the Thruway's Albany Corridor Study. The Panel is meeting on Tuesday, January 20 and Frank will be the featured speaker at our meeting on Thursday, January 22 to help us understand the Thruway's plans.

It is very important that every McKownville resident inform the Thruway Authority that the flyover must not be built (remember the "Crossgates rumble strips"?). Also, you should ask to be notified of the exact time and place of the next Thruway Authority public meeting on the Albany Corridor Study (tentative date February 24). You can use the web address for the Authority, www.thruway.state.ny.us/studies/index.html, its post office address which is New York State Thruway Authority, 200 Southern Boulevard-P.O.Box 189, Albany, New York 12201, or its telephone number which is, 436-2700 (Thruway Public Information Office) to register your opposition. We need everyone's help to stop the construction of the flyover.

Additionally, the work of the Association's committees (Sidewalks, Speed Limits, Park and Pond, Western Avenue, Trees and Treasurer) will be discussed. Come. Bring a friend. Make your opinion about your neighborhood count.

McKownville Improvement Association Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Harasz
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St.
489-9176

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood St.
438-9180

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

Please send your email address to dreeb@albany.edu Keep informed. Stay involved in your community.

McKownville Improvement Association
Neighborhood Meeting Thursday February 19, 2004, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, Western Avenue

At our neighborhood meeting this month the featured speaker is Todd Gifford, Guilderland Highway Superintendent, who, along with his other duties, is on the Thruway advisory panel which is considering the Western Avenue flyover. As highway superintendent Todd Gifford major responsibilities are Guilderland streets and sidewalks, the plowing of the sidewalks and storm water management. Many homes in McKownville have been laboring this winter with unusual amounts of storm water in basements, garages and backyards. It is nearly guaranteed that our Holiday Inn meeting will be a lively one. Bring a friend, bring a neighbor but come and be an active concerned citizen.

The most important topic is the upcoming New York State Thruway sponsored meeting, on the Western Avenue flyover, Tuesday February 24, 2004, Beltrone Living Center, 4-8pm, 6 Winners Circle in Colonie. The Beltrone Center is (approximately) behind the old Service Merchandise store on Wolf Road. Anyone needing a ride to the meeting can contact me and leave a message. My phone number is 489-3909. It is very important that McKownville have as many residents at this meeting as possible. Come. Be heard.

Also, each resident should contact the Thruway, 436-2700, to tell it of your opposition or contact the Thruway at www.thruway.state.ny.us/studies/index.html and click 'talk to us' and write out your comment about how you do not want the Western Avenue flyover or send the Thruway a letter at 200 Southern Blvd., P.O.Box 189, Albany, New York 12201 to tell it of your opposition to the flyover. Everyone we have contacted, Guilderland Town Supervisor Ken Runion, Mary Lou Bartollota Connolly, Frank Commisso, all the Town Board members, Assemblyman John McEneny, Senator Neil Breslin, McKownville Methodist Church (David Reid) and many many others have indicated that they oppose the Western Avenue flyover as does the Association. We hope that you can join us in expressing your opposition. Now and on February 19 and February 24.

The Trees Committee of the Association has made great progress. We will begin a street planting program in the Spring. More information is contained on the other side of this announcement. Please read it and plan to plant a street tree come Spring.

McKownville Improvement Association Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St. 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Neighborhood Meeting Thursday April 1, 2004, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, Western Avenue

A special election for County legislators is to be held Tuesday April 27, 2004. The county legislative candidates for McKownville are—Frank Commisso (possibly he does not have a challenger), Mary Lou Bartolotta Connolly, and David Reid.. The format will be brief statements by each candidate and answers to questions from those in attendance. What questions--try these--(1) the Western Avenue flyover—what have you done to help us stop it?; (2)reducing the speed limits on Western Avenue and Fuller Road—can you help us get relief?; (3) as someone said McKownville is in the “cross hairs” of the Thruway Authority, the State Department of Transportation, and Crossgates development. How can you as our County legislator help us?; (4) worries are increasing about air pollution in McKownville from automobiles on Western Avenue and computer chip experiments at CESTM. What can you as our County legislator do to help us?

McKownville has made some progress—gotten the University’s to abandon its plans to construct a building on Western Avenue in McKownville and our Trees Committee has put in place a street tree program. Moreover, the Town government has helped us on more than a half dozen crucial improvements. Plans and/or finances are now in place to build bus shelters in McKownville, to construct sidewalks along McKown Road and Western Avenue, to improve Western Avenue without taking any more of our front lawns and to remove the “Blue House”. The McKownville Fire Department, the Town and the Association worked together on our May 2003 bicentennial party which gave special recognition to our long term residents. Your interest and supportl continues to be terribly important—never forget that.

The major part of the meeting will be given over to ongoing projects. About the Thruway proposed Western Avenue flyover, at the Beltrone Center meeting about a dozen elected officials—see the list of our public supporters on the reverse side—and about 125 of our neighbors came and spoke out against the Western Avenue flyover. What to do next? Keep up the pressure—that is why the petition is on the back of this announcement. Return it and we will forward it to Governor George A. Pataki and New York Thruway Executive Director Michael D. Fleischer.

McKownville Improvement Association Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St. 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

Neighborhood Meeting McKownville Improvement Association

Tuesday May 18, 2004, 7-9pm

Holiday Inn Express, Western Avenue

Come and bring a friend to the May meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association. The agenda is first and fore-most, SIDEWALKS. The Association's Sidewalk Committee chairs, Marty Gnacik and Doug Smith, have authored the two page survey on sidewalks that is being distributed with this flyer. PLEASE fill it out and mail it back. Sidewalks are high on the agenda for many McKownville-ites. So take a moment and fill out the questionnaire and mail it back. Thank you.

The "blue house" is gone--1257 Western and the treed lot looks much better than the old derelict building. Thank you, thank you and thank you Town Board members for making this happen--Dave Bosworth, Michael Ricard, Bruce Sherwin, and Patty Slavick and especially Supervisor Ken Runion. You all did a great thing for us--and we appreciate it--every one of us.

The tree committee of the Association took delivery of the 13 ordered trees and supervised their planting in April. It was Sue Brown and committee (Sue Gutbezahl, Ellen Manning, Ricardo Lopez Torrijos) that did most of the work with help from Paul Haldeman and his volunteers from the Guilderland High School Key Club. Congratulations to the committee and to McKownville. Street trees makes our neighborhood a nicer place to live.

Other successes. The storm sewer line in the alley between Glenwood and Parkwood was unplugged by Todd Gifford and his men from the Highway Department--thank you much-ly. Board member Laura Whalen is preparing a grant proposal for the pond/reservoir--thank you very much. Other items to be discussed at the meeting--progress concerning Western Avenue speed limits, the Thruway proposed flyover (signed petitions opposing the flyover are still being collected), Western Avenue improvements, a sidewalk along McKown Road, and bus passenger shelters. And at next month's June meeting--June 24th--we will have our annual election--for three Board members and the four officers. Please send nominations to Alice Torda-489-3613 at 2 Knowles Terrace.

Sad to say but the Association's bank account is about empty again--this is another annual event, like elections. We could charge dues but that is not the way we do it. So if some of you could send us \$1, \$5 or \$10 or \$20 please do it. We spend about \$600 a year. It all goes for the printing of the flyers that the Board members and officers distribute and we do not have to pay for the use of the meeting room at the Holiday Inn Express. So if you can afford to send us a contribution it won't go to waste. Active neighborhood associations are good things and I think we have one of the best ones in the Capital District.

Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St. 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St. 438-0870

Neighborhood Meeting McKownville Improvement Association

Thursday, June 24, 2004, 7-9pm

Holiday Inn Express, Western Avenue

Our annual election of four officers and three Board members will be conducted. Nominations should be given to Alice Torda, 489-3613.

Supervisor Ken Runion will be our featured speaker.

Reports will be given by: Board Member Laura Whalen about the grant she submitted for improving the pond; Board members Marty Gnacik and Doug Smith will talk about the sidewalk survey they conducted; Treasurer Paul Haldeman will give the report on the donations received and finances of the Association; Board member Sue Brown will talk about the Tree committee—and there will be other reports (about the Thruway flyover and the Thruway petition, etc.)

As you know, many of our elected officials come to our meetings---the Town Board members (Ken Runion, Dave Bosworth, Bruce Sherwin, Michael Ricard and Patty Slavick), our County legislators (Mary Lou Connolly and Frank Commisso) and our locally elected State legislators (representatives from Assemblyman Jack McEneny's office and Senator Neal Breslin's office). The meeting is a great opportunity for you to ask questions—and to improve your neighborhood.

Accomplishments this year. We held a street tree sale and it was quite successful. The blue house is gone—thanks to the Town. We made a great showing at the meetings with the Thruway Authority. We told them quite clearly that we oppose the Western Avenue flyover. The petition opposing the Western Avenue flyover was sent forward to the Authority. A grant for improving the pond was prepared and submitted. A sidewalk survey was done. The storm sewer behind Glenwood Street was cleaned and made functional again (thanks to Highway Superintendent Todd Gifford). The old pump house at the pond has found a new use (the Town secured funds to make it into a Town government record storage site).

What's next? September 23 will be the first meeting after our summer vacation, followed by a meeting on October 21. There will be another Street Tree Sale, in August, again conducted by Sue Brown and her Tree Committee. We need to keep up the pressure on the Thruway Authority concerning the flyover. And fourthly, we need to continue to work to make McKownville a great neighborhood.

Officers 2003-2004

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2003-2004

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St. 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St. 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Thursday, September 23, 2004, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, Western Avenue

Our New York State **Assemblyman, John McEneny**, will be the guest speaker at the September meeting. We need to thank Assemblyman McEneny for his support of our community. He has been tremendous. Come and hear what he has to say about our concerns such as—the Thruway proposed Western Avenue flyover----the University's Nano-tech center and its future impact on our community----the Thruway noise study he has proposed----and the Western Avenue flooding problem. **Come, bring a friend, support your community.**

Other business to be discussed. The Trees Committee of the Association, Sue Brown is chair, has put together a planting program again. Three new selections were added for the Fall planting. The order form is on the reverse side of this page. Orders must be received by September 17. Plant a tree. It will make our community better.

The McKownville community was again very generous and gave the Association over \$800. That so many contribute so much is wonderful—thank you.

A Shabbos house, a meeting house for Jewish students, is presently located at 316 Fuller Road and seeking to expand to a 10,000+5,000 square foot new building at 320 Fuller Road. **This is not acceptable.** The University provided an empty lot away from residences for the Chapel House—it can do the same for the Jewish student center.

Don Csaposs and Lindsay Childs and the Pathways Committee of the Town put in a grant application for funds to construct a sidewalk along the west side of McKown Road to Woodscape. We should know the results of the grant application sometime later this Fall.

Fuller Road is to be rebuilt by Albany County in 2005. Sidewalks, a cross walk light for pedestrians crossing Fuller, a reduction in cars cutting through Elmwood from Fuller, and a reduction in traffic using Fuller are some of our concerns.

If you have not yet signed the petition opposing the Western Avenue Flyover, do so now. Petitions will be available at the meeting or you can call me for a copy. Our elected officials come to our meetings. The Town Board members (Ken Runion, Dave Bosworth, Bruce Sherwin, Michael Ricard and Patty Slavick), the County legislators (Mary Lou Connolly and Frank Commisso) and the locally elected State legislators (representatives from Assemblyman Jack McEneny's office and Senator Neal Breslin's office). We have continued to wage our fight against the Western Avenue Flyover proposed by the Thruway Authority—with their help—and with yours. **Please help us continue to fight the Flyover.**

Officers 2004-2005

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2004-2005

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St. 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Thursday, October 21, 2004, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express

First of all and most importantly, in November there is an election—for national, state and local government offices— so remember, come election day, please take the time to VOTE.

As you may have noticed, some construction work was being done last week at the Fuller Road-Western Avenue intersection—wiring etc. for new walk lights. And at the recent Town Board meeting it was announced that there will be similar work done at the Parkwood/Western Avenue intersection and also at the McKown Road/Western Avenue intersection. This is being paid for by State funds (\$142,500) secured through Assemblyman Jack McEneny's office and the efforts of our Town officers.

The Town has been helping us to improve our alleys as well as our streets. The alley nearest Norwood and Waverly streets is being cleared of trees and made more usable for cars, walking, etc. by the Town. When you see Mr. Runion and other Town officers, you might want to say thanks—we do appreciate all of their efforts on behalf of our neighborhood.

The Thruway announcement should be coming soon concerning the Western Avenue Flyover. We are still telling them that we do not want it and you should send your comments to the Thruway Authority also--[www.thruway.state.ny.us/Albany Corridor Study](http://www.thruway.state.ny.us/AlbanyCorridorStudy)—or call the Thruway at 471-5946—or write Jane Fisher, New York State Thruway Authority, 200 Southern Blvd., P.O. Box 189, Albany New York 12201.

CESTM/State University announced another construction project. The Association has invited the planners from SUNYA and CESTM to speak at the November 18, 2004 meeting.

The Tree Committee of the Association received about a dozen orders for trees this Fall—another very successful effort by the Committee (Sue Brown, chair)—and they will be available for planting in the next few weeks. It probably came as surprise to others than myself to learn that Fall planting of trees is more highly recommended than Spring planting. Additional topics for the meeting are the Shabbos house proposal and the planning for the party with the McKownville Fire Department and the Town to celebrate the transfer of the 1257 property—the Blue House—to the Fire Department. Lastly, the County responded to our letter about Fuller Road and made several suggestions about Elmwood Street as well.

Officers 2004-2005

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	458-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	458-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2004-2005

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-8795

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Jim White
8 Brookwood St.
459-9178

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

Please send your email address to the writer of this announcement—dreeb@albany.edu to receive reminders about McKownville meetings.

**McKownville Improvement Association,
Public Meeting
Thursday November 18, 2004, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express**

All McKownville residents are invited. Our guest speakers this month are from SUNYA and NanoTech—John Giarrusso and Thomas Yurkewecz—capital planner and director, respectively, of the two campuses.

You will want to come and listen to their presentations about what construction has taken place on the two campuses since they were last with us on October 2, 2001. You may also want to ask them questions about campus plans—for new buildings, for new driveways, for the purchase of additional land, for the construction of new parking lots, for the construction of University/NanoTech buildings on the Harriman campus, for expansion of enrollment at the University, for expansion of employment at the University and at NanoTech, for the expansion of the sports facilities and the new Sports Master plan, and for the conjoining of the roadways of the Harriman and SUNYA campuses. And what about sidewalks along Fuller Road near each campus?

The Association's **Action Committee** reports---Trees, The Pond, Pathways, Western Avenue, Thruway Flyover, Pollution-----will be given along with the Treasurer's report..

Immediate development issues such as the corner of McKown and Western (proposed coffee-sandwich-ice cream-shop), Fuller Road (Shabbos) will be discussed and reviewed.

You may have read of the recent burglaries in the community. No one was physically threatened by the sneak thief or thieves but this invasion does raise the question about what we can do to make our community more safe.

The Thruway plans concerning the Thruway Corridor (Exits 21 to 25) are still being worked on at Thruway headquarters. We must keep on telling them that we do not want the Western Avenue Flyover and you should send your comments to the Thruway Authority--www.thruway.state.ny.us/Albany Corridor Study--or call the Thruway at 471-5946--or write Jane Fisher, New York State Thruway Authority, 200 Southern Blvd., P.O. Box 189, Albany New York 12201.

The Tree Committee of the Association distributed its trees for planting this Fall--thank you Sue Brown, chair of the committee and Sue Gutbezahl, Ellen Manning and Ricardo Torrijas, the other inspired and hard working members of the Trees Committee.

Officers 2004-2005

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2004-2005

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

**McKownville Improvement Association,
Wednesday January 26, 2005, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue**

We will have two guest speakers this month. Mike Franchini, Commissioner, Albany County Highway Department, will talk about planned County highway construction in the McKownville area. And Tom Ellis, Citizen's Environmental Coalition and CCNL, will talk about pollution. Mike will be speaking at 7pm.

But first there is something for you to do today---there have been parking and speeding complaints. When parking remember to leave enough space for snow plows and emergency vehicles. This just makes sense. But it is also the law that from November to April vehicles CANNOT be parked on Guilderland roads from 2am to 7am and of course "correct or regulated" side of the street parking must be followed all year long. Second, the curves and hills on some of our streets and the wintery skies and snow banks make it difficult to see pedestrians and oncoming vehicles so it makes sense to drive more slowly during the winter. Park with greater concern about safety and the law and drive with more care. Your neighbors will appreciate your consideration.

At our November meeting, John Giarrusso of SUNYA and Tom Yurkewecz of CESTM gave updates of building plans. Three changes are planned for the SUNYA campus: some new equipment and reconstruction for the heating plant on Fuller Road, a new maintenance building to be located near the pond and a new artificial turf field near the "bubble" building. For CESTM, a new building on the site of the old maintenance building on Fuller Road is planned. The Harriman State Office Building campus redevelopment may be the site for new SUNYA and CESTM buildings also.

The gas station at the corner of Western and McKown Road has requested a change in zoning from BN-RP to Local Business. A sandwich shop is being proposed for the front portion of the building. The Town Board hearing on the request will be February 1, 2005. As for the Shabbos house property on Fuller, no date for the next hearing has been scheduled. The Picotte building, 1450 Western, is being redone and a Western Avenue sidewalk is expected to be constructed, also. The Christ Lutheran Church vacant lot may be developed and then there are the other neighborhood issues---all of which bring us to the Association's **Action Committee** reports----Trees, The Pond, Sidewalks and Pathways, Western Avenue, The Thruway Flyover, Pollution-----and these will be discussed along with the Treasurer's report.

Officers 2004-2005

President	Don Reeb	5 Norwood Street	489-3909
Vice President	Bill Meehan	7 Country Road	456-4564
Secretary	David Knight	11 Mercer Street	438-9269
Treasurer	Paul Haldeman	5 Country Road	456-9557

Members of the Board of Directors 2004-2005

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

**McKownville Improvement Association,
Wednesday March 30, 2005, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue**

Guilderland Tax Assessor Carol A. Wysomski will be our speaker this month. Please come, bring a friend, be informed, ask your questions.

Other business during the evening will include reports from the Tree Committee (Sue Brown chair), the Treasurer (Paul Haldeman), and the Farmer's Market Committee (Laura Whalen, David Knight). During the past few weeks there was another burglary in McKownville and more complaints about odors from the City land fill. The Hearing on the proposed Starbucks at 1206-1210 Western--near Sutters--is yet to be held. Generally, the Association is concerned about its appearance, parking, traffic, the safety of pedestrians, and storm water runoff from the site. The site is partly in the City of Albany and its low point at the rear is a collection spot for storm water from properties in both the City of Albany and nearby Guilderland properties. The proposal is made more complicated because part of the site is leased to Sutters for parking.

This year--in 2005--construction of the sidewalk on McKown Road and installation of bus shelters along Western Avenue in McKownville--will likely occur. These are wonderful improvements that we have worked very hard for. Give yourself--and our elected officials--a warm round of applause.

And on May 21, 2005, noon to 3pm the McKownville Volunteer Fire Department and the Association will host a party to celebrate the transfer of the 1247 Western Avenue property (the Blue House) to the Fire Department. Games and food will be provided along with a horse and buggy ride---please come and help us celebrate--and to thank the Town officers for getting rid of the infamous Blue House.

Concerning the Thruway proposed "flyover," we must keep up the pressure. Recently the Thruway indicated that noise barricades would in all likelihood be installed to protect McKownville residents in Woodscape and nearby properties. This is a GREAT victory. It pays to protest. Do call the Thruway again and ask that the Western Avenue flyover not be built.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

Comments about this announcement can be sent to dreeb@albany.edu.

**McKownville Improvement Association,
Tuesday, April 19, 2005, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue**

Janet Kaplan, the manager for all of the Stuyvesant Plaza, will be our speaker this month. Please come and bring a friend, ask your questions, find out about our downtown (Stuyvesant Plaza) and its plans.

Write a note to yourself now: McKownville Firehouse, May 21, a party from noon till 3pm. Games, hotdogs, ice cream, hamburgers, face painting, buggy and pony rides, balloons, bouncy-bounce (trampoline) for all the kids and a good time to tell the firemen how much we appreciate their work for our neighborhood. Come, enjoy, and celebrate the Town's removal of the infamous "blue house" and the transfer of the site to the fire department.

You have undoubtedly seen the construction crews along Western Avenue. New signals for crossing Western are being put in place. Also, at the meeting we will discuss the reports from the Association's committees. But the most amazing news concerns the Farmer's Market to be located at Stuyvesant Plaza. It will be located in the parking lot behind the liquor store and will open about the week of June 19, 2005 and close about the second week in September. Jim and Cindy Barber, Middleburgh farmers, will be the market operators. Many of you probably have used their farm stand in Middleburgh. They are the proud operators of a family farm that has been operating since 1857. Jim and Cindy are still lining up additional farmers so it is unclear who will be offering produce besides the Barber's and how many days each week it will operate but they hope to be able to do it every day, from about 10:30am till about 5:30pm. It is really exciting to get a farmer's market in our neighborhood. Town Supervisor Ken Runion put us in touch with the Barber's and arranged for the meeting with Janet Kaplan, Stuyvesant Plaza manager. So if you get a chance, tell Mr. Runion thanks.

Along with this flyer you are being given a letter to be sent to the Governor concerning the Western Avenue flyover. The Association feels that we MUST make more effort to get the attention of the Thruway. Those of you who attended the meetings with the Thruway know that we have not been given much encouragement by them—we must take the initiative and demand that they pay attention to our needs. WE DO NOT WANT THE WESTERN AVENUE FLYOVER. Please, sign the letter, put in an envelope, address it to Governor Pataki, and mail it. Do it now—do it for yourself and your neighbors.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Jim White

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu <mailto:announcement?dreeb@albany.edu>

June
McKownville Improvement Association,
Thursday, May 9, 2005, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Scott L. Bowman, Chief, Western Turnpike Rescue Squad, is our guest speaker for the June meeting of the Association. The community is very proud of the work of the Rescue Squad. But each of us needs to know what to do in emergencies when the Squad's help is needed desperately. And how to avoid the emergencies—that will also be what Chief Bowman will discuss—whether it is in walking or hiking, biking, swimming, boating, taking care of our children or doing repairs and other chores around the house.

It is time for another Association election. The four officers (Don Reeb, Bill Meehan, David Knight, and Paul Haldeman) ending their one year terms and the three Board members (Sue Brown, Doug Smith and Alice Torda) ending their three year terms have each agreed to be renominated.

The Thruway issued a report this week on the public meetings held to discuss the Western Avenue flyover and other options. Copies are available at the Guilderland Library as well as on the Thruway's web page. The June 2 Times Union article on the report said it contained no conclusions concerning the Western Avenue flyover but was once again a review of the options.

The Community Day at the McKownville Fire House was a great success—several hundred people and lots of kids and lots of good times. The Association and the Fire Department want to thank all of those who worked so hard to make the celebration a great success—and the Town for getting rid of the derelict “blue house” across from the Fire Department.

The survey crews are working on McKown Road—the sidewalk is coming as well as a bus patron shelter (in front of Passonno). **The farmer's market, organized by Cindy and Jim Barber, is coming—opening day is Tuesday, July 5. It will operate five days a week, 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and will be in the parking lot between the Stuyvesant Liquor store and the Executive Tower office building. Your support is essential if it is to be a success.** CESTM will construct a 200,000 square foot building on Fuller Road. The repaving of Schoolhouse Road is about to begin, along with Russell and Krumkill roads. The New York State Department of Transportation turned down our request for sound barriers along the Northway near Laughlin, Warren, Mercer and Providence streets. There is no news about the proposed Starbucks on Western, the proposed medical building next to Christ Lutheran, the proposed restaurant on Fuller where L'Ecole used to be, or the proposed Shabbos House on Fuller.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

**McKownville Improvement Association
Neighborhood Meeting
Thursday, September 8, 2005, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue**

The Farmers Market—Jim and Cindy Barber's Farm Market at Stuyvesant Plaza—is a marvelous success. Everybody loves it. This has been a great new business for our neighborhood. The market has been open Monday through Friday. After Labor Day it will be open only on **Tuesdays and Fridays**, from 11am to 5pm, until the farm no longer has produce to harvest and sell. Association Board members Laura Whalen and David Knight proposed it, Guilderland Supervisor Ken Runion found us the farmer and put us into contact with Stuyvesant Plaza Vice President Janet Kaplan who found us the space.

The Thruway flyover—the sidewalk on McKown Road—the sidewalks and improvements on Western Avenue—the rebuilding of Fuller Road—the pond—the bus patron waiting shelters on Western—the Schoolhouse Road rebuilding--these and more will be discussed at the meeting.

There are three proposals on the agenda this month.

The Across the Street Pub—1238 Western Avenue--between Arcadia and Hillcrest on Western—is proposing to add a deck. It would be located in the southeast corner of the parking lot that borders Arcadia. Parking at the Pub is inadequate at present and tight up against neighboring parcels. The added noise would be another negative effect.

A Starbucks coffee house is proposed for 1210 Western Avenue. It would have a drive-in service window as well as interior and exterior seating. Plans indicate that there would be very few spaces for the drive-in lane, required setbacks would be below standard and the parking would be up against neighbors' property.

The new Shabbos House—320 Fuller Road—would be 10,000 square feet. It would have nearly zero parking and be about seven times larger than the average residence on Fuller Road.

**The October meeting of the Association will be Thursday, October 6, 2005, 7-9pm----
Meet the Candidates Night.** All the Town offices are up for election this year. Please put this on your calendar. Get your questions ready for the candidates--like--“How are you going to make McKownville and Guilderland better?”

But please come to the September meeting also—and bring a neighbor.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Thursday, October 13, 2005, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Meet the Candidates Night. Come, meet the candidates of both political parties. The election for Guilderland Town officers is this year—Tuesday November 8, 2005---and, as if McKownville residents did not already know this, who the Town officers are makes a big difference in the quality of life. Sidewalks, street paving, storm sewers, walking paths, zoning regulation enforcement, street cleaning, property taxes, police protection, parks and recreation, water, the safety of pedestrians, bike rider safety, tree trimming, snow plowing and on and on---these are important parts of our lives—and these are the issues that our elected Town officers make decisions about every day. So—ask the big question----**HOW ARE YOU—AS AN ELECTED OFFICER OF THE TOWN--GOING TO MAKE LIFE BETTER FOR THE PEOPLE OF MCKOWNVILLE AND GUILDERLAND?** And if you are not registered to vote you have until October 14 to do so—call the County Election Board 487-5060 or go to its office at 32 North Russell Road, across from Westgate, or go to www.elections.state.ny.us for a registration form. If you don't think that voting is important, then you don't understand how things work.

Yesterday, October 6, 2005, the Guilderland Town Board appointed members to the Western Avenue-McKownville Zoning Study Committee—the members are—Steve Haraus, Mark Macomber, Laura Whalen, Alice Torda, and myself, Don Reeb—all residents of McKownville. Today businesses need much more space, both for a building and for parking. Gone are the one dentist office practice and the one employee coffee shop and customers walking to the business. Most building lots in McKownville are quite small—7500 square feet or even less. The result is that neighbors find themselves with dozens of cars from neighboring businesses parked illegally—customer's cars parked in their driveways, blocking streets to fire trucks and other emergency vehicles and other obnoxious conditions (noise, smells etc.). Meanwhile attractive residences are located along Western Avenue in McKownville and in the City. The Study Committee hopes to be able to make useful recommendations to reduce the zoning problems along Western Avenue in McKownville.

The Farmer's Market is closed until next year. Everyone deserves thanks for making it a great success. The McKown Road sidewalk might still be constructed this year. No decision yet about the Western Avenue flyover. No reply from Mayor Jennings concerning our letter complaining about the City land fill. The pending zoning cases—Shabbos House, the L'Ecole site at Stuyvesant, the Across the Street Pub request for a deck, the proposed Starbucks near the City line—these are still in process. And no replies yet to the grant applications to improve the pond.

President Hall of the University of Albany hopefully will be our guest speaker at the December meeting. No meeting is planned for November.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Thursday, January 12, 2006, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Happy New Year. Western Avenue commercial property use will be the major discussion topic at the McKownville Improvement Association meeting in January.

Beginning in 2000 the Town and the Improvement Association worked together to create a plan for public improvements on Western Avenue—sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm water drainage, lighting, bus patron shelters and so forth. This was long overdue and we will soon see these plans being put into action. Now the Western Avenue highway improvements need be coupled with a restudy of commercial property zoning along Western, especially the south side of Western.

Taco Pronto is for sale/lease as is Denny's as is the vacant lot next to the Christ Lutheran Church as is the house next to Sutters as is 1434 Western (Capital Winnair—the Tusang building). Then 1208/1210 Western is looking to be redeveloped, the Capitol Lodge may be replaced, and Across the Street Pub is looking to expand. As these and other commercial properties along Western are reused, it is important that their redevelopment make the neighborhood a nicer place to live. We are named the McKownville Improvement Association.

To promote this, a Zoning Study Committee was created by Mr. Runion and the Town Board. Its members are Steve Haraus, Mark Macomber, Alice Torda, Laura Whalen and me. We will have had two meetings by the time the Improvement Association meets on the 12th.

More often than not, Western Avenue commercially zoned lots in McKownville are too small to have sufficient parking for the number of customers the businesses now need. Also, the sites commonly have access difficulties because of Western Avenue traffic (the Christ Lutheran empty lot is a great example). The result is that businesses require oversized variances for parking and green space which in turn create problems of parking, traffic, noise and smells for neighbors. The zoning needs to be restudied.

Other news. CESTM&Nanotech expansion plans. The Shabbos. Starbucks. The City land fill. The reuse of the Harriman campus (State office building campus). The Renaissance Hotel at Crossgates. The McKown Road sidewalk. The Flyover. And the Across the Street Pub. The Pub was discussed at the December Zoning Board meeting.

To build the proposed deck on the Pub—it would be in its Arcadia parking lot and next to the older McKownville Fire department building—a 50 percent parking variance would be necessary. This is far in excess of what is usually granted. The Zoning Board chair made the motion to deny the variance. The surprise was that the motion was defeated, with the majority of the Board ignoring the problem of insufficient parking for this use. Neighbors on Arcadia are quite upset. The Association supports the neighbors. The case is still pending and a Zoning Board decision will likely be made in January/February.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

6795

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Thursday, February 9, 2006, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The McKownville Improvement Association will attempt to hold all of its future public meetings on the second Thursday of each month, September through June.

The Town appointed McKownville Zoning Study Committee has been hard at work. Its work so far is focused on the future of property uses along Western Avenue—what do we want McKownville to look like along Western Avenue? While this is important, it is the preamble to the larger question of what we want all of McKownville to be in the future.

Besides the work of the McKownville Zoning Committee why are we discussing this now? Five reasons. There are about 19 business properties along Western Avenue that either are for sale, for rent or being considered for rebuilding. But also all of our major roadways—Western, McKown, Fuller and Schoolhouse—are about to be redone in some significant way. Third, major land uses around McKownville are changing----for example, Crossgates has proposed a new hotel, CESTM is adding 250,000 square feet of new buildings, the Harriman campus is changing its use, and new buildings along Washington Avenue---medical buildings and motels---are being constructed. Then of course there are the yet to be announced plans for the Thruway near McKownville—the often discussed flyover. Then there is the Town of Guilderland Comprehensive Plan issued in 2001 which requires that McKownville undertake its Neighborhood Master Plan. While that process may not begin for a year or more, having a “neighborhood dialogue” will help us when the Master Plan process does get underway.

The February meeting will mostly be devoted to discussing what you want McKownville to become but of course there will be the usual report---on CESTM, the Shabbos House, Starbucks, the Across the Street Pub, the Harriman campus, the City landfill, the McKown Road sidewalk, the Thruway and other concerns such as the burglaries and other topics you consider to be important.

But the most important business of the evening will be you telling us what you want McKownville to become. To make sure that each person gets an opportunity to state what McKownville should become, the meeting will consist of small group discussions. Someone will write down the ideas presented in each group and a comprehensive report will be constructed and submitted to the Town.

Come---speak out---tell us what you want McKownville to be in the future--and bring a neighbor. And if you have news or questions about what is happening in McKownville, contact one of the Board members. The list below contains their names, addresses, phone numbers and email address.

- Officers**
Ed McEwen, Vice President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 3 Country Road, 458-9557
- Members of the Board**
Sue Linn, 482-2335
Doug Smith, 482-8081
Alice Torda, 489-3815
Martha Haraus, 489-3855
Laura Whalen, 482-2531
Jim White, 489-9178
Mady Gnack, 438-8180
Steve Berg, 438-6795
Joe Trapano, 438-8870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Thursday, March 9, 2006, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

will soon be the second Thursday of the month and time for yet another McKownville Improvement Association meeting. This is also the month for the Tree Committee flyer to be distributed. We all know that there are places in McKownville that need a tree—a street tree, a front yard tree, a back yard tree. Trees are good for the soul and good for the environment. Plant a tree and make a wish about the future. **SO PLEASE READ THE BACK OF THIS FLYER**

What has been happening? The Thruway is holding a public meeting on March 14 at St. Sophia at 7pm—the Thruway will be installing sound barriers behind Woodscape and McKown and Strawberry Lane but McKownville needs a good turnout to ask that sound barriers be extended to include the area near Country, Oak and Shady also. Secondly, the Harriman campus had a meeting on February 28 to describe its tentative plans. And the CESTM/NanoTech campus requested the Association appoint several members to a review panel. More about these at the meeting.

McKownville has been waiting since 1924 for some improvements—like sidewalks on both sides of Western Avenue. Implementation of portions of the McKownville Corridor Study, construction of a sidewalk in front of 1450 Western Avenue, construction of a sidewalk along the western side of McKown Road, reconstruction of Fuller Road and of Schoolhouse Road, and construction of a bus shelter at McKown Road are in process and it is vital that as contracts are prepared we add in the little changes we want—for example, decorative street lights along Western Avenue. These little add ins help create McKownville's future and its VISION. At the February meeting we discussed the Vision our neighbors want for McKownville. We are still seeking more ideas—like parking along part of Fuller and/or Western. So the agenda for Thursday is both a review of what construction is in store and what your neighbors(and you) have said that might be added.

Finally, the Washington Avenue Corridor, from Brevator Street to Rt. 155 and from Western to Washington, has more than 20,000 jobs and will be gaining more. The area includes medical offices at Great Oaks and along Washington Avenue, Stuyvesant and SUNYA and CESTM/NanoTech and Harriman and Crossgates and Crossgates Commons. As a major employment area for the Capital District it is surrounded by neighborhoods, McKownville, Westmere, two in the City (Upper Washington Avenue and Eagle Hill/Tudor Road), and several more in Colonie and Guilderland. Combined development impacts from Harriman, SUNYA, CESTM and office buildings on these neighborhoods have not been studied because some of the neighborhoods are in the City, some in Colonie and some in Guilderland. The impacts, from traffic, for example, flow into all the neighborhoods. Neighborhood needs, like storm water runoff management and public transit needs can better be solved jointly. Access to the Pinebush and Lake Rensselaer is needed by all of these neighborhoods, for example. The joint study of the Washington Avenue Corridor (requested by County Legislator Frank Commisso) will help McKownville get long overdue improvements.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Public Meeting
Thursday, April 6, 2006, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The Harriman campus--330 acres--also called the New York State Office Building campus--is located between Brevator and the University at Albany campus and between Western Avenue and Washington Avenue and there are plans for its redevelopment. Though the Harriman campus does not border McKownville, its redevelopment could change McKownville as much as did the development of the University forty years ago or Crossgates twenty years ago.

Mr. Tim Dunn from the Harriman Research and Technology Corporation will be the guest speaker. The plans being developed for reuse of the campus include---maybe---office buildings and a hotel along the Washington Avenue boundary with homes between the new office buildings and Western Avenue. Possibly a lake will be added, an amphitheater and park areas. Possibly two new north/south streets. One from approximately the Homestead/Western Avenue intersection to Washington Avenue. Maybe another from the Orlando/Western Avenue intersection to near Washington Avenue. There will be maps and displays at the meeting to better explain the plans.

One concern of McKownville---maybe the overwhelming concern---has to be any additional traffic on Western Avenue in McKownville stemming from the redevelopment of the Harriman campus. The traffic count on Western Avenue continues to increase. The McKownville Corridor Study called for traffic calming on Western and everyone agrees that the noise and other negative impacts from traffic on Western need be reduced.

The replanning of the Harriman campus and its traffic is a great opportunity for McKownville to get some relief from the overuse of Western Avenue. As long as Western Avenue has heavy and increasing traffic, it will be difficult to bring McKownville together. People living on the north side of Western Avenue should not be isolated from those living on the south side. We are one place and should be able to travel back and forth across our streets--as well as up and down our streets--safely.

What else? The Board of the Association has met with the people from Harriman; we will be meeting with the people from NanoTech; discussions are ongoing concerning Jim Barber's farm stand; the contracts for construction of the sidewalks (at 1450 Western and on McKown Road) are in process but no firm date yet for installation. The Trees committee has sent in the orders for trees. Thank you very much for your tree orders. And the May 11 public meeting with President Hall is scheduled.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Public Meeting
Thursday, May 11, 2006, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The guest speaker for the May meeting of the Association is Kathy Lowery, Vice President of Finance and Planning at the University at Albany. She will be discussing plans for new buildings and other developments at the University. So come, meet a very important University administrator, and learn what McKownville's neighbor will be building and planning.

What else is happening? It is time for the Association to hold another election. Three Board members and the four officers are up for reelection. While the seven persons holding these positions have been re-nominated, additional nominations are welcome. Nominations can be given to Alice Torda, chair of the nominating committee. Alice's phone number is 489-3613.

The Association does not have dues but relies on donations. We need about \$300 a year for printing the flyers, our only expense. If you can, please send a check for a few dollars to the Treasurer, Paul Haldeman. Paul's address is 5 Country Road.

The Western Avenue flyover. We need to keep reminding the Thruway Authority that we do not want the Western Avenue flyover to be built. Following a suggestion made at the April meeting an email will be sent every few weeks for you to forward to the Thruway Authority. The Thruway's email address will be included, also. So, if you want to help stop the Thruway Authority from constructing the Western Avenue flyover make sure that your email address has been provided to dreeb@albany.edu.

The McKownville Farm Stand this year will be next to Passonno Paints, on the corner of McKown Road and Western. Tom Delaney and Richard Cunningham of Passonno have given permission to Jim and Cindy Barber, who operate a farm near Middleburgh, to use the site. The Farm Stand should be open about June 27. Much thanks to Jim and Cindy and Richard and Tom. They are helping our neighborhood have another summer eating fresh farm produce grown in New York.

Summer also means getting reacquainted with neighbors. Street picnics, neighborhood barbecues and multi-family garage sales are great excuses for neighbors to have some fun. Take some time, organize a street get together. It is a fine tradition in McKownville.

Old business--the McKown Road sidewalk, the sidewalk in front of 1450 Western, the new pedestrian lights at McKown Road, the bus patron shelter at McKown Road---the Town of Guilderland has all of this construction in process and it should be in place by the end of the summer.

The next meeting of the Association will be in September. Have a great summer.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

**McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Public Meeting
Thursday, September 14, 2006, 7-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue**

The first meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association this season will be on Thursday September 14, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue. It will be a “dessert” meeting!

FREE—ice cream sundaes, cookies, wine and other refreshments for everyone. The Officers and Board members of the Association will be serving the desserts along with the refreshments. The meeting and eating begins at 7:00 pm—close enough to the dinner hour so that you can skip your dessert at home and have your dessert with your neighbors. So come, enjoy, and meet your friends and neighbors.

On the back of this announcement is a Tree Order Form. The Association’s Tree Committee has again made it possible to purchase wonderful trees. More trees improve the residential appearance of McKownville and they reduce traffic noise and air pollution. Make McKownville better—plant a tree. The Association not only delivers the tree to your home but also helps you plant it.

The McKownville Farm Stand is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday this month and has been a great success all summer. The new location, next to Passonno Paints, on the corner of McKown Road and Western, was a great choice. Many requested that the Farm Stand have later hours and offer more fruit this year—it is doing both. Hopefully the Barber’s of Middleburgh, who grow the produce and operate the stand, have had a great year overall because New York needs farmers and we certainly want the Barber’s Farm Stand back in McKownville next year.

The Harriman campus plans have been issued, as have the plans for the new building on the NanoTech campus of the University at Albany. The Association has been meeting monthly with NanoTech officers: traffic, environmental safety, sidewalks and paths have all been topics of our conversations.

The Town of Guilderland, you may remember, appointed Mark Macomber, Steve Haraus, Alice Torda, Laura Whalen and Don Reeb to a zoning study committee—to review the zoning along Western Avenue in McKownville—to make sure it conforms to the plans for the reconstruction of Western Avenue. That report has been delivered to Mr. Runion, our Town Supervisor, and will be discussed at the September 19th Town Board meeting. Come to the Town Hall meeting that night if you can.

And to the many new (and old) residents of McKownville—come, hear the news, discuss the plans for McKownville, eat some dessert, have a glass of wine and meet your neighbors.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Public Meeting
Thursday, October 19, 2006, 7-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The second meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association this season will be on Thursday, October 19, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue. We have attracted three guest speakers for this meeting. But first, an invitation to a Halloween party.

The McKownville Fire Department and the McKownville Improvement Association are hosting a neighborhood Halloween party--6pm to 8pm at the McKownville firehouse. There will be a child's Halloween costume parade--make sure to bring your camera--and there will be a clown--and there will be treats and great things to eat--and there will craft projects --and there will be games--and there will be lots of laughter. But most of all there will be tons of fun for the children and those of us who once were young. So plan on coming to the firehouse on Halloween. Bring your neighborhood friends. And have a great Halloween. See you October 31.

But on Thursday October 19, from 7 to 8pm the McKownville Improvement Association meeting will be something like a Guilderland school board meeting---the speakers will be Guilderland School Board President Richard Weisz and Guilderland School Superintendent Gregory J. Aidala. McKownville has many new homeowners with school age children or younger. So come on out to the neighborhood meeting and get acquainted with your school officials. Ask questions--about school taxes, about the quality of the schools, about test results, about graduation rates, about school safety, about school expansion plans, about the curriculum, about school sports and activities, or about how you can volunteer at the schools.

The second half of the Thursday October 19 meeting will address topics every bit as important when the speaker will be Assemblyman Jack McEneny. Issues you may wish to ask Assemblyman McEneny could include----the Thruway suggested Western Avenue Flyover, sound barriers along the stretch of the Northway in McKownville (end of Providence, Mercer, Warren and Laughlin streets), the terrible odors from the City land fill and the proposed expansion of the land fill, construction on the NanoTech/University campus, plans for the development of the Harriman campus and state aid for education. With the election in November of a new governor (and the appointment of dozens of new persons to direct State offices and organizations, such as the Thruway Authority and the Harriman Development office) possibly Assemblyman McEneny might be asked to share some of his thoughts about the impact of the election on McKownville and Guilderland.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Public Meeting
Thursday, November 16, 2006, 7pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The third meeting of the season for the McKownville Improvement Association will be on Thursday, November 16, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue. Our three guest speakers are Guilderland Police Chief James Murley, Albany Police Chief James W. Tuffey and University Police Chief J. Frank Wiley. Events in the news such as terrorism, child abduction cases, violence in schools and the consequences of teenage partying make all of us uneasy. What should we as parents be doing to help prevent these tragedies?

On Thursday night, November 16, we will be able to ask questions of three of the most knowledgeable police officers in the Capital District. What kinds of questions? Here might be a few suggestions: (1) My son will be going to college next year—what should he and I know that will make him safer while a college student? (2) My daughter drives to the high school - is there anything that I can do to make that journey safer? (3) I am worried about sexual predators contacting my children through the computer, what can I do? (4) Is there something that we can do to prevent identity theft? (5) What kind of dangers are you seeing for our children that we may not be aware of? (6) Just how dangerous is it for our children at the local malls? (7) What changes in state or local legislation should we be advocating to make our children and ourselves safer? Please come and bring your own lists of questions.

A number of people in our community are concerned about the horrendous methane odor coming from the Albany Landfill. For those who are we have some information on whom to contact. Tom Reynolds is from DEC Region 4 and his office handles the Albany Landfill. Tom indicated that he gets few complaints because many people think there is nothing that can be done. He needs and will welcome in-put from the community. Please send complaints to him at his E-mail address trreynol@gw.dec.state.ny.us or call him at 518-357-2045. Mr. Reynolds advised us that we could also inform the landfill staff directly at 869-3651, then select #1. This will get you to the landfill manager, Joe Giebelhaus, you can then leave a message or speak directly to him. In either case please give the following; the date, time, something about the nature and magnitude of the odor, the location where it was observed.

Now for some happy news. McKownville had a marvelous Halloween Party. Jim White, Steve and Eileen Haggerty, Paul Sweeney, Martha Haraus, Alice Torda, Marty Gnacik, Sue Brown, Paul Haldeman, and our County Legislator Mary Lou Bartolotta Connolly did a wonderful job decorating the firehouse, staffing the craft tables and operating the ingenious Halloween games. Possibly as many as 90 families with their little kids attended and had a great time. The McKownville neighborhood should be very proud. Not only do we work hard to get community improvements such as sidewalks installed and a bus patron shelter built on Western Avenue, across from Parkwood Ave, but also we know how to have a great party. Remember, it is never too early to choose your costume for next year's party.

Come, ask your questions and learn what we can do.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St.
438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Neighborhood Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2007, 7pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The February neighborhood meeting will be in our usual location, the Holiday Inn Express.

Our guest speaker this month will be **Barbara Nichols Randall**, Director of the Guilderland Library. Our Guilderland library offers numerous services and resources. This is the time to come and find out what the library can do to help you, your friends, neighbors and family get more enjoyment from this marvelous resource. What does the library offer? A music performance program, book discussion clubs, foreign language study groups, genealogy research facilities, tax filing assistance, tax forms, books on tape, large print books, used books for sale, and so much more. It is your library. Make it better by coming and talking to the director about the services you would like it to offer.

The McKownville Improvement Association Tree Committee again has been hard at work and put together the tree order form for this spring's planting. It is on the reverse side of this announcement. There are nine (9) different trees to order. Everyone knows that a tree makes a home site more beautiful, reduces the need for cooling in the summer, helps to shelter us in the winter while promoting cleaner air and improves the resale value of a home. So order a tree. We will help you plant it. Make McKownville a more beautiful place to live.

Some neighborhood news. The Strassburg home site, 1 McKown Road, is to be repartitioned into four lots. The Planning Board Hearing on this proposal is February 14, 7:30pm at Town Hall. The Tusang-Barhydt building, 1434 Western Avenue, next to Germano's garage, is again occupied. The Albany County Veterinarian office, 1506 Western Avenue, has a new owner. The Denny's building, 1512 Western Avenue, continues to be vacant. Starbucks, 1246 Western Avenue, has been open for several months now. The Capital Lodge Motel, 1230 Western Avenue, is now a Days Inn and has been much improved in appearance. The Holiday Inn Express added some attractive new features to its building. The NanoTech campus has a new natural gas line. It has removed the old maintenance building. The Harriman campus has received budget approval for \$7.5 million for roadway construction. The reconstruction of Schoolhouse Road/Russell Road is to be completed by the County this year. And the new sidewalks along Western Avenue and McKown Road will be built this year.

But the greatest news is that **Supervisor Ken Runion** announced on December 19, 2006 that the Town had received a grant from the State for making the McKownville Reservoir into a more usable park. This has been long awaited. A pond to walk around, a place to sit on a bench, read a newspaper, enjoy a cup of coffee, eat a sandwich, have a chat with a friend, but in general find some outdoor relaxation. A colonial village had its village green—we will have our **McKownville Reservoir Park**. Thank you Mr. Runion.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Neighborhood Meeting
Thursday, March 15, 2007, 7pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The March neighborhood meeting is in our usual location, the Holiday Inn Express. (Please note: the Holiday Inn provides us our meeting room without charge—thank them however you can).

Guilderland Town Supervisor **Ken Runion** is our featured speaker. Please come to show our support for his work and to discuss his views for our town and our neighborhood.

In the next few years McKownville will see many improvements. There will be improved sidewalks on both sides of Western Ave., from the City line to the Northway. Fuller Road will have sidewalks on both sides plus other improvements as well. Schoolhouse Road will have improvements similar to those on Fuller Road. McKown Road will have a new sidewalk along its western side. An additional bus patron shelter will be installed on Western, like the one recently installed. Better pedestrian crossing lights are slated for crossings on Western Ave as well as Fuller Road. A grant from the Office of Parks Recreation and Historical Preservation has been received for the development of the McKownville Reservoir as a park; this is in the design phase. Flooding of Western Avenue is being studied by NYDOT and could be eliminated soon. Sound barriers along the Thruway behind Woodscape and other nearby homes will soon be put in place. The Thruway flyover construction has been halted. The lot where “the blue house” stood should receive “fill” soon and some landscaping. The complete list of improvements to come is long and wonderful. Without the support of Ken Runion and our other elected officials, none of this would have been possible.

Neighborhood news. There has been Town zoning/planning hearings on several parcels. The Strassburg parcel on McKown road and Westlyn Place. A proposal for a home on Shady Lane to become a veterinarian home office. A proposal for the Tusang-Barhydt building on Western near McKown Road to become several retail stores. There was also a meeting of Association officers with CESTM and Frank Commisso and public meetings for the Harriman campus transportation plans and another concerning the Albany City landfill expansion.

The Tree Committee of the Association very much wants to remind you to get in your tree orders by March 30. Planting a tree is a great way to show your support for our neighborhood.

The April meeting will be held on the 19th and the May meeting will be on the 17th. Cindy Wadach, Senior Citizen Services Coordinator for the Town of Guilderland will be the guest speaker in April.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Doug Smith 5 McKown Road 482-6081	Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Steve Berg 7 Elmwood St. 438-6795
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Jim White 8 Brookwood St 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association
Neighborhood Meeting
Wednesday, April 18, 2007, 7pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The meeting is on **Wednesday** this month. The Holiday Inn provides us our meeting room without charge, and this month all of their meeting rooms were booked by paying customers for Thursdays. Thus the Wednesday meeting. (This is true for the May meeting as well). **Ice cream and cookies will be served starting at 6:45—so come and have some dessert with your neighbors.**

Last month Guilderland Town Supervisor Ken Runion and John Esler, a former Association president and very supportive McKownville neighbor) were our speakers. Mr. Runion spoke about the upcoming construction of sidewalks along Western and McKown Road and other improvements. John spoke about the history of the McKownville Reservoir. As an engineer John helped rebuild the Reservoir when McKownville had a separate water system. He presented the McKownville Fire Department with a pipe made from a wooden log, which was used at the Reservoir for many years.

The featured speaker for Wednesday's meeting is the Senior Citizen Advisor for the Town of Guilderland, **Cindy Wadach**. Cindy will not only tell us about the wonderful services the Town provides for seniors but will be looking for suggestions about how to make the services more available and useful. **Ice cream and cookies will be served starting at 6:45—so come and eat your evening dessert with your neighbors.**

Great news. The Barber's Farm Stand will be returning to McKownville again. Their opening date should be about July 1. The farm stand will again be on McKown Road behind the Passonno Paint Store. This is the second year the paint store has made the site available to us, and free of charge. The farm stand will be open four days each week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from noon until 6pm and Saturday from 9am until 2pm.

The Tree Committee (Sue Brown, Ellen Manning, Sue Gutbezahl, and Ricardo Lopez Torrijos) of the Association very much wants to thank the neighborhood for its support. The trees that were ordered will be available before the end of May

More great news. **The McKownville Fire Department** (and the Association) is sponsoring a **SPRING FLING** at the firehouse on Saturday May 19th, from 2-5pm. There will be raffles for a gas grill and other prizes. Our neighborhood is great—come out---support it—enjoy it!!!

Remember: the May meeting will be held on Wednesday the 16th. Please note the change on your calendar.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

**McKownville Improvement Association
Neighborhood Meeting
Wednesday, May 16, 2007, 7pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue**

The final meeting of the season for the McKownville Improvement Association is on Wednesday May 16. **Ice cream and cookies will be served starting at 6:45—so come and have some dessert with your neighbors.**

This Wednesday meeting will be our annual election meeting (our bylaws provide that we hold our election on the third Tuesday of May—so we are a day late this year). Three board members and all four officers are up for election. Alice Torda and Sue Brown are the nominating committee and all residents are encouraged to make their nominations to the committee, though nominations can be made at the meeting. The Association no longer collects dues but relies upon donations. Annual expenses of the Association are about \$400 and there is nearly that much left in the treasury from last year's donations. So, if you can give, send or give just a small check to the Treasurer, Paul Haldeman, 5 Country Road, 12203. Thank you once again for your generosity.

Please send your email address to dreeb@albany.edu. While there is no crisis in McKownville at this time, the Association wants to be able to contact households quickly when such occurs, like the home break-ins of a few years ago. The email notices sent out at that time were important and undoubtedly such will be important once again.

The featured speakers for Wednesday's meeting are Nancy Heinzen, Albany County Storm Water Coordinator and Ed Zyniecki, Guilderland Town Storm Water Coordinator. Everyone knows that McKownville has an historic problem with flooded basements and other storm water problems. What can be done? Come. Find out.

Great News. On the other side of this notice is an invitation for all to come to the McKownville Fire House on Saturday May 19, 2007 for a party—from 2-5pm for the Spring Fling. Our fire department not only protects us but it helps us pump the rain water out of our basements, hosts a Halloween Party each October and a Spring Fling each May/June. Come on out. Honor those who have been serving you. Bring the children. Have a hotdog. Chat with your neighbors. Take some great pictures. Buy a raffle ticket. And for those of us who are somewhat older, there will be ice cream and places to sit and watch the little ones have a ball.

The Strassburg property is still being studied by engineers concerning storm water runoff problems. The School Board election is Tuesday May 15. The Guilderland Performing Arts program at Tawesentha Park will begin Thursday June 14 and run for 11 consecutive Thursdays. And. Our fall meeting will be in September.

Officers

**Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557**

**Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355**

**Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081**

**Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613**

Members of the Board

**Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855**

**Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531**

**Jim White
8 Brookwood St.
459-9176**

**Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160**

**Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795**

**Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870**

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Wednesday September 19, 2007
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

Guilderland Police Officer Roger Ginder and Sergeant Adam Meyers will be the guest speakers at 7 pm for the September meeting. There has been various safety problems in McKownville not the least of which was damage to our lovely new sidewalk on McKown Rd. The two officers will speak to how our community can improve the safety in our neighborhoods and for each of us personally.

NEWS The McKownville Farm Market has been a huge success and is attempting to continue its operation behind Passonno's through the end of September. The produce is still magnificent. Fraida Varah Real Estate provided the Association data on home sales in McKownville for January 2006 to July 2007. There were 52 sales in that 18 month period. Alice Begley, (456-3032), the Town Historian, is looking for old photos of McKownville for the book on Guilderland she is writing. The Shabbos house proposed for Fuller Road is up for decision at the Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday September 19 at about 7:30 pm. And the Association was once again generously supported by donations and we can continue our operations for another year.

The Tree Committee has been doing its work and the tree order form for the fall is on the reverse of this announcement. Do buy and plant a tree. It helps you, it helps the environment, it helps the neighborhood and it makes you feel better. The Tree Committee will deliver the tree to you, arrange for the hole to be dug and the tree to be planted and staked. All at no added charge.

The McKownville Fire Department and the Association will again be sponsoring a Halloween Party come the end of October. Do NOT plan on missing it. You will be delighted to watch the little children enjoying themselves, and the ice cream and other treats are delicious and free. The Fire Department provides the overwhelming bulk of the financing for this party so make sure that you thank them, once again, for their community effort.

This is an election year. That means that the October 17 meeting of the Association will be a Meet the Candidates night.

And for more timely neighborhood announcements send your email address to dreeb@albany.edu.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Aaron Harrel
30 Schoolhouse.
528-4020

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Wednesday October 17, 2007
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

Meet the Candidates----and have an ice cream sundae. Come early—desserts will be served starting at 6:30 pm. You can Meet the Candidates informally. The formal program begins at 7:00 pm and the Town and County candidates will introduce themselves and answer questions. Then there will be time to again Meet the Candidates—and eat another sundae. McKownville residents are well known for getting registered and for voting—an exceptionally large portion of McKownville residents turn out on election day. That is our tradition here in McKownville and it is a tradition we take great pride in.

Do come to the meeting and bring a friend.

This year's **Halloween Party** at the McKownville Fire house will be on **October 31, 6 pm to 8 pm. The McKownville Fire Department** and the **Association** are the sponsors. The party is for kids of all ages. Come and see the wonderful costumes of the little kids and eat some ice cream and candy and donuts and cookies and you can even blow up a few balloons. What fun. Hey—why not dress up in your snazziest Halloween costume. When was the last time you wore your fantastic “Wizard of Oz” costume? There is no reason to let the little ones have all the fun.

The **Tree Committee** did a wonderful job as usual. Our trees should be here about November 1st. Little by little we will get McKownville better treed. More trees, especially along Western Avenue, would make McKownville look much more like the residential community it truly is.

News. On November 7th the Shabbos house is expected to be up before the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Barber's farm market was a great success—for us and for them. They expect to be back again next year. Alice Begley, (456-3032), the Town Historian, is still looking for more old photos of McKownville for the book on Guilderland she is writing. The fantastic sidewalk along McKown Road—a sidewalk that is so great it deserves a special trip on your part just to walk on it--is completed and the Western Avenue sidewalk is progressing nicely. And the vacant lot across from the McKownville Fire Department is looking much much better.

And for more timely neighborhood announcements send your email address to dreeb@albany.edu.
--

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
--	--

Laura Whalen 12 Providence St. 482-2531	Aaron Harrel 36 Schoolhouse. 528-4020
---	---

Jim White 8 Brookwood St 459-9176	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St 438-0870
---	--

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Thursday March 27, 2008
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

Spring is here officially so come on out to our **SPRING MEETING** and bring a friend or two.

Mike Franchini, Albany County's Highway Commissioner, will be our featured speaker. The topic, of course, is **Fuller Road**, and the County's plans to rebuild it. We have been assured that new sidewalks from Western Avenue to Central Avenue are in the plans. But when will construction begin and when it will be completed? Will there be pedestrian crosswalks along Fuller and where they will be? Will the roadway be widened? Will a roundabout be constructed at Washington Avenue and Fuller and at Fuller and Railroad Avenue? Will curbs, street lamps and landscaping be part of the improvements and new storm drains? And who will plow the snow off the sidewalks since Colonie, the City of Albany, and Guilderland all share Fuller Road?

McKownville has asked for sidewalks along Fuller Road for many years and so this meeting is a magnificent event. Without the leadership of our County Legislator, Frank Commisso, the Fuller Road improvements would not have happened. McKownville has a lot to be thankful for.

The **Tree Committee**—Sue Brown is the chair and committee members are Sue Gutbezahl, Ellen Manning, and Ricardo Lopez Torrijos--did a wonderful job as usual. The trees orders are due March 30 and the order form is on the reverse side of this announcement.

The McKownville Fire Department on Saturday May 17 from noon to 4 pm will host a party to celebrate its 90th anniversary--- with ice cream and Bouncy Bounce and pony rides and lots more for the kids and their families. Please plan to attend. And bring a neighbor.

News. Plans for the new Mangia restaurant at Stuyvesant and the Strassburg property on Westlyn are up for Town approval. The remainder of the sidewalk along the south side of Western Avenue is in the early engineering stage. Plans are still being developed for solving the flooding problems on Western Avenue and for creating a park at the McKownville Reservoir. The floods in our neighborhood this season saw our McKownville Fire Department again pumping out McKownville basements---and we do thank all of our firemen for their work on our behalf.

And for more timely neighborhood announcements send your email address to dreeb@albany.edu.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Aaron Harrel
36 Schoolhouse.
528-4020

Jim White
8 Brookwood St .
459-9176

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Thursday May 22, 2008
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

Guilderland Town Supervisor Ken Runion will be our speaker this month. I know you have many questions to ask him about McKownville and Guilderland--so come on out and say "Hello" again to your Town Supervisor and ask all the questions you have been saving up for the past year.

There is a new idea in Albany—**NNORC—Neighborhood Naturally Occurring Retirement Community**—it is an interfaith (Catholic and Jewish) supported service for seniors who wish to continue to live independently. Deb Riitano will explain how it works.

The McKownville Fire Department on Saturday May 17 from noon to 4 pm will host a party to celebrate its 90th anniversary--- with ice cream and Bouncy Bounce and pony rides and lots more for the kids and their families. Our fire department has done outstanding work every day for 90 years—please come out and thank them for their hard work. Bring your children and bring a friend. Have some ice cream—and say hello to your neighbors.

Fourthly, the Albany County Department of Public Works meeting to discuss the rebuilding of Fuller Road was held May 8, 2008. The presentation was clear concerning sidewalks, bike lanes, bus shelters, turning lanes, medians, crosswalks, traffic lights, street lights and pavement width, but there were unanswered questions: the Harriman campus, the NanoTech campus and the University of Albany campus have yet to reveal their construction plans.

Tuesday May 20 is the school and library election. Do vote—if you are registered for the general election you are eligible to vote in this election—voting is 7am to 9pm at your elementary school. A good education is possibly the most important gift you can give. Vote!

This month's meeting is the annual election meeting for the Association. Three Board member seats are available and the four officer positions as well. Nominations can be sent to Martha Harausz—489-3855 and sharauz1@nycap.rr.com It is also time to make the annual request for donations—we don't need much (about \$300 a year) so if you can afford to, a small donation would help. We have nearly enough in the Treasury for another year but a little cushion is always nice.

And please—as a reminder—do send me your email address---it really helps to keep you informed—dreeb@albany.edu

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Harausz
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St .
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Aaron Harrel
36 Schoolhouse.
528-4020

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Thursday September 18, 2008
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

Trees-----the Tree Committee has again put together a very attractive list of trees that can be purchased through the McKownville Improvement Association. As you walk around McKownville it is obvious where another tree would add to the magnificence of our neighborhood. So please—plan on purchasing a tree this season. You select the tree and the spot—the Tree Committee will plant it for you. The order form is on the reverse side.

If you have not sent in your **Storm Water Survey** to the **Town of Guilderland**, please do so. A large response will indicate we are interested in our neighborhood---and---the information you provide will help the Town direct the Town's efforts to the most troubled spots. Call me at 489-3909 if you need another survey form.

Todd Gifford, the Town Highway Superintendent, also takes care of the Town's storm sewers. He and his people are working on the storm sewer system in the Knowles Terrace area of McKownville. Several storm sewer catch basins were improved, a broken pipe was repaired, and area homeowners report that they have seen a dramatic reduction in storm water run-off in their basements. The storm sewer system in McKownville is old and it is not easy to keep it functioning.

Plant family fund raisers were organized by the McKownville Fire Department, St. Margaret Mary's, Dave Bosworth and Mickey Cleary (with raffle prizes contributed by businesses in McKownville and by the Guilderland Chamber of Commerce). Neighbors helping neighbors.

The Barber's farm stand, our splendid farm stand on McKown Road behind Passonno's---in September it will be open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday rather than six days a week.

What else? Zoning report; Strassburg house and adjoining lots; Shabbos house; dentist's office (Esmay); Stuyvesant Plaza construction; the reservoir; Fuller Road construction; Western Avenue storm drains; preliminary results of the storm water survey; University construction plans; NanoTech construction plans; Harriman campus plans; and-----**ICE CREAM SUNDAES.**
Come out, enjoy, bring a neighbor, meet a new friend. And do forward your email address---it really helps—dreeb@albany.edu

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St .
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Aaron Harrel
36 Schoolhouse.
528-4020

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Thursday October 23, 2008
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

Kathy Burbank is our guest speaker in October. She is the director of the **Guilderland Chamber of Commerce**. You may remember that the Chamber stepped forward to help a McKownville family, the Plant family, when they had horrendous damage to their home from this year's rain storms.

The **September meeting** was very successful with a sharing of information about McKownville. Town Supervisor Ken Runion answered numerous questions about the Town's plans to reduce Western Avenue flooding and other storm water problems in McKownville. Laura Plant expressed her deep appreciation for the aid her family received from the McKownville Fire Department and the neighborhood. And, we had marvelous ice cream sundaes served up by Paul Haldeman, Doug Smith, Alice Torda and Marty Gnacik, officers and board members of the Association.

The **Halloween party** sponsored by the McKownville Fire Department and the McKownville Improvement Association will be held at the McKownville Fire House on **Friday October 31 from 6-8 pm**. All are invited for ice cream, games, entertainment provided by a wonderful clown, face painting provided by Marty Gnacik, and much more. Come, and enjoy being a kid again.

November 4 election. McKownville has made terrific progress (new sidewalks, repaired and new storm sewers, several bus patron shelters, and more than a dozen additional accomplishments). Reducing storm water problems is the most pressing problem for McKownville. But to complete the recommendations in the 2003 McKownville Corridor Study and to make sure our neighborhood of 1,000 homes continues to be an attractive community and a safe community for us and for future residents are longer term goals. For all of these, we need political help. **So vote!**

News---the Tree Committee, Sue Brown, chair, reported that five tree orders were received. The recent budget hearing at Town Hall indicated that Town finances are being well controlled, even amidst the chaos in the world economy. **November's meeting** will be on Thursday **November 13**. John Giarrusso and Tom Yurkewecz, the capital planners of The University at Albany and NanoTech, will be our guest speakers. **Come to the meeting, enjoy, bring a neighbor, and meet a new friend.** And do forward your email address to dreeb@albany.edu. It really helps.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St.
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Aaron Harrel
36 Schoolhouse.
528-4020

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St.
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Thursday November 13, 2008
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

November's meeting will be on Thursday November 13. **John Giarrusso and Tom Yurkewecz** will be our speakers. John Giarrusso is the Associate Vice President at the State University at Albany for facilities management and Tom Yurkewecz is the Vice President at NanoTech for facilities and infrastructure. This is your opportunity to learn more about the capital plans of two of our very important neighbors and to ask questions.

The alternate side of the street parking regulation on portions of Glenwood, Norwood, and all of Parkwood in McKownville has been objected to for many years by residents. It requires people who park on certain portions of these 3 streets to move their cars at midnight. None of the other 41 streets in McKownville have alternate side of the street regulations. It is not obvious that any portion of these 3 streets need alternate side of the street parking requirements. Capt. Cox and the Safety Committee of the Town were contacted and they are interested in what we have to suggest. Talk to your neighbors about the parking regulations on these 3 streets. Send your comments to dreeb@albany.edu, or 489-3909, or Don Reeb 5 Norwood Street, Albany, NY 12203.

The **Halloween** party at the **McKownville Firehouse** was a great success. Over a hundred neighbors attended. Eileen and Steve Haggerty did a wonderful job in decorating the firehouse and doing all that was necessary to make the night a fantastic success. Once again Marty Gnacik, Sue Brown, Alice Torda, Paul Haldeman, Doug Smith and I added our efforts. And the children and their parents added the most important ingredients---families, children and beautiful costumes. And Mary Lou Connolly, our County legislator, again donated her time and hundreds of apples. Thanks to everyone.

The **Tree Committee** has planted the five trees ordered this season—on Glenwood, Oak and Top Ridge. Thanks to the tree purchasers and to Sue Brown, Doug Smith, Paul Haldeman, Laura Whalen and Ricardo Lopez Torrijos for digging the holes and to everyone for helping our lovely community look even better. There will be another tree order opportunity in the spring. The next public meeting of the Association will be in **March, 2009**—unless some important issue arises. Do forward me your email address to keep you informed of email worthy news.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St.
459-9176

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Aaron Harrel
36 Schoolhouse.
528-4020

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St.
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Monday March 16, 2009
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

*Please note—this meeting is on **Monday***

Mike Franchini, Albany County Public Works Commissioner, and **Patrick Kenneally**, Greenman Pedersen Engineering, will be our guest speakers. The topic is the rebuilding of **Fuller Road**, from Western Avenue to Central Avenue. The money is in hand and the first phase of the construction, from Western Avenue to the NanoTech campus, will get underway this summer, in August-September 2009. The web site <http://www.albanycounty.com/departments/dpw/public-meeting-docs.asp?id=211> for the Albany County Department of Public Works contains the information about the design of the project as of last Fall. So come, listen, ask questions and bring your ideas about our new road and sidewalks.

Much has been accomplished by the Association (with the assistance and leadership of our Town, County and State elected officials---Ken Runion, Paul Pastore, Patti Slavick, Frank Commisso, Mary Lou Connolly, Assemblyman McEneny, Senator Breslin, and most especially Dave Bosworth). For their help we are indeed thankful and we will continue to need their help if we are to get better storm sewers, better sidewalks, the McKownville Reservoir transformed into the McKownville Park, the flooding of Western Avenue remedied, and the McKownville Corridor Study plans implemented. So thank you for ten years of progress—all of you have been wonderful.

The Association attempts to keep the neighborhood informed through email. Forward your email address to dreeb@albany.edu to receive more timely information.

The **Tree Committee** (Sue Brown, Sue Gutbezahl, Ellen Manning, Laura Whalen, and Ricardo Lopez Torrijos) has again organized the opportunity for us to purchase trees for our gardens. Planting assistance, as always, is provided along with the tree. The **order form** is on the reverse side of this flyer.

The **hole in Route 20/Western Avenue**, at 1445 Western Avenue, was brought to the attention of the State last year. It still has not been fixed. New York State Department of Transportation has not been forthcoming. Nevertheless, we are working on it along with several other problems that will be discussed at the meeting. And the Association bank account could use some donations, please.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Jim White
6 Brookwood
459-9178

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Aaron Harrel
36 Schoolhouse.
528-4020

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St.
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Monthly Meeting, Thursday April 16, 2009
Holiday Inn Express 1442 Western Avenue, 7-9 pm

John McGuire, Superintendent of **Guilderland Schools**, will be our guest speaker for the April meeting at the Holiday Inn. A representative of the School Board has also been invited to attend. Nearly everyone is very proud of our Guilderland schools—many McKownville residents have either graduated from these schools or have children or grandchildren either attending the schools or slated to attend. We hope many residents will join us to learn more about the opportunities now available. For many of us, education is one of the great hopes for our family's future. By taking an active interest in our Guilderland Schools we are providing for future generations as well as keeping McKownville a very desirable place to live.

Mike Franchini, Albany County Public Works Commissioner, and Patrick Kenneally, Greenman Pedersen Engineering, were our guest speakers last month and the rebuilding of Fuller Road is expected to begin in August 2009 and be completed in 2010. For more information about Fuller Road, see <http://www.albanycounty.com/departments/dpw/public-meeting-docs.asp?id=2111>.

The Association attempts to keep the neighborhood informed through email notifications. If you wish to receive these more timely notifications please forward your email address to [**dreeb@albany.edu**](mailto:dreeb@albany.edu)

News. The **Tree Committee** (Sue Brown, Sue Gutbezahl, Ellen Manning, Laura Whalen, and Ricardo Lopez Torrijos) have received tree orders—thank you to both the purchasers and the Tree Committee. It is sad to report that the **hole in Route 20/Western Avenue**, at 1445 Western Avenue, has once again been filled—but NYSDOT refused to fix the broken storm sewer pipe that caused the hole. No further comment is needed.

Guilderland Town Supervisor Ken Runion is trying to get federal-state Stimulus Funds to rebuild McKownville's storm water system. He has asked for each of us to send letters to our elected officials requesting their help in getting the needed \$5.7 million. **On the reverse side is a sample letter** and addresses for the officials---so please send letters to each representative. Emails are acceptable, so the email addresses are included. McKownville needs your help if it is to gain control over our storm water problems.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Jim White
6 Brookwood
459-9178

Anita Behn
27 E. Parkwood
489-8015

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St.
438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

2009

**McKownville Improvement Association and
The Traffic Safety Committee of the Town of Guilderland
Joint Meeting, Friday May 8, 7pm
Holiday Inn Express**

For some time the Association has been receiving complaints about the parking regulations on Parkwood Glenwood and Norwood streets. The complaints become more common after a number of persons receive tickets for illegal parking—but complaints come in nevertheless.

At the Western Avenue, end of these three streets the parking signs indicate that alternative side of the street parking is in force, with the changeover to take place at midnight. When person do not move their cars at **midnight**, sometimes neighbors call the police and the police have no alternative but to come and write tickets for those cars parked illegally. Recently some 21 cars were ticketed on Norwood Street. Clearly, midnight is not a convenient time for residents to move their car from one side of the street to the other.

At the university ends of Glenwood and Norwood streets, the parking signs indicate that no street parking is to occur during the day while Parkwood Street has signs, which indicate alternative side of the street parking is in force.

While various stories exist about the origin of these parking regulations—the important point is that the present regulations irritate. Therefore, the Association asked the Town Public Safety Committee to convene a meeting of the 150 or so homeowners on the three streets to create a better set of parking regulations.

Please make every attempt to attend the meeting or send your written proxy with a neighbor concerning your preference for parking regulations on your section of the street. Capt Cox and Town Board member Patti Slavick will conduct the meeting. I have every reason to believe that the Town will accept any reasonable set of proposed regulations.

McKownville Improvement Association
Public Meeting, Thursday May 28, 2009—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1445 Western Avenue

We have three guest speakers this month--**Ron Byrne, David Clancy and Butch Lawyer**. The topic is home maintenance, safety and weatherization. **Ron** heads the **UMBRELLA** organization. It provides lower cost repair services for homeowners. **David** is Chief of the **McKownville Fire Department**. How to make your home safe from fires will be David's topic. **Butch** is director of the **Cornell Cooperative Extension Weatherization Bureau**. He will explain how to achieve cost savings in heating and cooling our home. **Saving money and home safety**—sensible topics at any time, especially now. **And ice cream sundaes will be provided for all—so come early.**

On May 8, 2009, the Town of Guilderland Traffic Safety Committee held a meeting at the Holiday Inn Express at the request of the Association. The topic was parking on the three streets--Parkwood, Glenwood and Norwood. They are subject to special parking regulations. Parkwood residents have to switch their cars at midnight from one side to the other. Glenwood and Norwood residents on the lower half of these streets have to switch their cars at midnight while those on the upper half are prohibited from parking on either side of the street during the day from 10 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday. Unhappiness with these regulations has been expressed by many (but certainly not by all) for some years now.

Several suggestions were made including the following. A door-to-door survey conducted by the Association might help us all discover what parking regulations are preferred. Secondly, the time designated for moving the cars, midnight, might be adjusted to a more comfortable time, that time to be discovered through the door-to-door survey. Thirdly, the two parking signs in front of both 17 and 18 Glenwood are in conflict and need be changed.

It is time for the election of Board members and officers. The four officers, myself, Doug Smith, David Knight and Paul Haldeman (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer) have agreed to be nominated for another one-year term. The three officers of the Association whose terms are expiring have agreed to accept a nomination for another three-year term. They are Anita Behn, Martha Harausz and Jim White. Alice Torda is the Board member in charge of nominations. Additional nominations can be forwarded to her at tordaa@hotmail.com or by calling her at her home at 2 Knowles Terrace, 489-3613

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Harausz 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 6 Brookwood 459-9178	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 489-3616
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Anita Behn 27 E. Parkwood 489-8015	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St. 438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Public Meeting, Wednesday September 23, 2009—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1445 Western Avenue

The guest speaker this month is **Ken Johnson**. He is employed by Delaware Engineering, the firm that was hired by the Town of Guilderland to develop the **storm water improvement plan for McKownville**. It is difficult to imagine a timelier topic for McKownville than storm sewer improvements. Please notice that the September meeting is on **Wednesday**—but at the usual place—Holiday Inn Express—and at the usual time—7 pm-9 pm.

The Tree Committee of the Association again is offering trees for sale—please see the reverse side of this announcement. Sue Brown, Ellen Manning, Sue Gutbezahl, Laura Whalen and Ricardo Lopez Torrijos are once again the persons who make this happen. While these are difficult economic times it is important that the forty-seven residential streets in McKownville appear to be residential and well cared for—and there is hardly anything like tree lined streets to give that appearance . An investment now pays big dividends for many years to come.

The McKownville Fire Department is sponsoring a “Fire Prevention Day” on Monday October 5 from 5:30 pm to 7 pm at the firehouse. Besides having refreshments for everyone and gifts for the children, you will learn how to promote fire safety in your home—and your participation will send the great message to the McKownville Fire Department that we very much appreciate their work on behalf of Guilderland and the McKownville neighborhood.

The **Shabbos House** on Fuller Road had its open house on Sunday September 13. The Association and all of McKownville wish Rabbi Mendel, his family, and the Shabbos House good luck as they move into their new building. The **McKownville Reservoir** at Stuyvesant Plaza is being re-made (through Town, State and Stuyvesant Plaza financing) into a park for Guilderland and McKownville—it should be completed this fall. County financed reconstruction of **Fuller Road**, McKownville portion, will get underway in the spring. Some poles are being moved at this time. The **new traffic signals** at McKown Road and at Parkwood Street were completed along with new pedestrian crosswalk lights. The **Barber’s Farm stand’s** new operation times are Monday, Wednesday, Friday from noon until 5:30 pm. The Thruway reconstruction between Exits 23 and 24 is beginning, which will mean we will soon have the new **sound barriers** at the end of McKown Road and nearby areas. And the University at Albany announced the construction of a new dormitory at the eastern end of its campus, near its pond.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnack 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 6 Brookwood 459-9178	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 489-3616
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Anita Behn 27 E. Parkwood 489-8015	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St. 438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association
Public Meeting, Wednesday November 19, 2009—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The November meeting will be an **“open microphone”** session. Everyone will be given the opportunity to express what the next project(s) should be for the Association. Since many improvements have been completed in McKownville in the past decade, our neighborhood has the opportunity to look forward and discuss the next focus of the Association and our neighborhood---**where do we go from here to make McKownville a better neighborhood.**

The dozens of improvements that have been made include sidewalks on Western Avenue and on McKown Road, the new McKownville Park, street paving, traffic lights, pedestrian crosswalk signals, completion of the McKownville Corridor Study, and the storm sewer study is underway. We are grateful beyond words for the help given to McKownville by so many---Guilderland Town elected officials, State of New York elected officials and local businesses. As we seek completion of the Western Avenue sidewalks and the storm sewer study and subsequent improvements **what should we turn our attention to next?**

Here are some suggestions for thought. Should we offer to do some of the gardening and trash pick-up at the new park? What about creating a program with the Guilderland Library or schools? Should the Association sponsor a neighborhood gardens contest? Alternatively, maybe the Association should organize a walking tour of “historic” McKownville. Or maybe organize a dance party or a dessert and music party? Or maybe a clean-up day for the five alleys in McKownville, or a clean-up day for the ends of our many dead end streets or possibly something once again with the McKownville Fire Department? **What do we want—that is the question for discussion? What is the next step?** (Once upon the time, the Association sponsored monthly card parties.)

News—The McKownville Fire Department will be receiving its new truck in the next few days and the Halloween party was a great success. The Denny’s site will host a restaurant again---Five Guys—there is another Five Guys at Mohawk Mall. Sutters purchased 1210 Western—it had been the site of a palm reader service—the adjacent parking lot has been extended and resurfaced and the house will be improved and rented as a home. The contract for Fuller Road improvements by Albany County has been signed so construction work on moving the poles will begin with major construction when warm weather is here again. No word yet on where the University plans to locate its new dorms nor on when the Thruway will be installing sound barriers near McKown Road. **But our McKownville Park at Stuyvesant Plaza is nearly finished.**

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnack 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 6 Brookwood 459-9178	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 489-3616
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Anita Behn 27 E. Parkwood 489-8015	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St. 438-0870

Comments about this announcement should be made to Don Reeb at 489-3909 or sent to dreeb@albany.edu

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday February 18, 2010—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The February meeting will focus on storm water.

The Albany County Storm Water Coalition asked to present their work on the Krumkill watershed area to the McKownville neighborhood. Mr. Kelly Nolan conducted much of the research and he will make the presentation.

As McKownville wrestles with its storm water problems and proposed solutions, it is important for the neighbors to understand storm water quality regulations and how they could impact proposed solutions for McKownville water issues. For example, can McKownville just dump more and more of its storm water into the Krumkill without concern about the water quality of the Krumkill or downstream impacts?

Mr. Nolan, having analyzed water quality at 8 locations throughout the watershed, will relate his findings to the Clean Water Act, in particular how these water quality assessments fit the overall architecture of the Clean Water Act, stream classifications, best use criteria, 303d waterbody lists, and other stormwater regulations.

This assessment was paid for by the NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program, with the Hudson Basin River Watch program. The Albany County Stormwater Coalition includes 11 municipalities, Albany County and SUNY Albany. The Coalition representative for Guilderland is Rodger Stone while Nancy Heinzen is the director of the Stormwater Coalition of Albany County.

This will be an overview of Kelly's results throughout the watershed, and does not involve anything related to the Delaware Engineering study, or drainage within the Krumkill. Our purpose in sponsoring this program is to promote public education and assist the outreach requirements embedded within the stormwater regulations.

Send your email addresses to dreeb@albany.edu for additional news about McKownville.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
27 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Jim White
6 Brookwood
459-9178

Anita Behn
27 E. Parkwood
489-8015

Marty Gnacik
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St.
438-0870

860-3768

446-9344

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday March 25, 2010—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Our guest speaker for the March meeting is Janet S. Kaplan, Stuyvesant Plaza's Vice President. With its 60 shops and restaurants and its adjoining Executive Park where there are doctors and other services used by McKownville residents, Stuyvesant is "our downtown". Stuyvesant Plaza is one of several (the University, NanoTech, Harriman Campus, the Thruway and the Northway) major influences on the quality of life in McKownville. Their plans are important for McKownville's future.

Great news—our recent rainstorms did not cause flooding of the Fuller Road-Western Avenue intersection. The financing provided by Town Supervisor Runion, Assemblyman McEneny, Stuyvesant Plaza and State agencies changed McKownville Reservoir into McKownville Park. It also rerouted storm water through the reservoir basin and into enlarged pipes that connect to the Krumkill stream, thereby preventing Fuller Road-Western Avenue flooding. Nicely done everyone.

For those who require some help, Association members will install battery operated CO detectors in McKownville homes. The cost of each CO detector is \$20. Alice Torda has arranged for a discount for a larger order so the final price might be less. Call Alice at 489-3613 or email her at tordaa@hotmail.com by April 15 to place your order and arrange a time for installation.

Tree-planting season is here again. McKownville needs trees to enhance the overhanging treescapes on our streets. The Tree Committee, Sue Brown, chair, is again offering many different kinds of trees—at prices that are comparable to what other communities offer. The Committee, as the information on the reverse side of this announcement explains, takes care of the ordering, delivery and planting as well as contacting the utility companies to make sure that the site you select for your tree is far enough away from utility pipes and buried lines. Many McKownville homes once had two or more trees in the front yard or on the strip of land between the sidewalk and the street. Replacing those that have been lost is a very good thing for each homeowner to do.

Send your email addresses to dreeb@albany.edu for additional news about McKownville.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St. 438-9160
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9178	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 489-3616
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Anita Behn 27 E. Parkwood 489-8015	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St. 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday April 22, 2010—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

School Budget. The speakers this month are Guilderland Central Schools' Assistant Superintendent for Business Neil T. Sanders and Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Dr. Demian Singleton. Probably everyone is aware that this is a difficult budget year for our schools—largely because of the financial depression, which has gripped this, and many other nations. The quality of our schools means a great deal not only to our children and their future but also to the future of our neighborhoods. Of course, people want to live where high quality schools are available. Schools are a great attraction for those looking to buy a home, but people are also concerned about school taxes. Come and learn what the school budget will be--ask questions. Stay involved—it is your community and your future.

Saturday April 24—the McKownville Fire Department will celebrate its new fire truck with a “wet down”—at 11:30 on the University’s Indian Quad Archway. A wet down is where many fire trucks come and spray high arches of water on the new truck. It should be great fun. Afterwards the fun will continue at the McKownville Firehouse—hotdogs, ice cream, a “bouncy-bounce” for the children. Come, support our firefighters—they do so very much for our neighborhood.

April 24—“electronics day” you can recycle your old electronic devices at Taft Furniture on Central Avenue from 7am to 1pm--be sure to get your required but free certificate for participation at Town Hall or at the Transfer Station in Guilderland Center beforehand.

April 24 —a lacrosse game at the University at 7pm. The University has supplied free tickets, you will find yours on the reverse side of this notice. Fireworks will follow—thank you President Philip—it is always great to have a concerned and generous neighbor.

Tuesday May 4 —a Town Board hearing on the proposed changes in the Town Zoning law. A copy of the law is available at Town Hall and was emailed to those on the McKownville Improvement Association email list.

May 17-28— the Town will flush the water lines in McKownville.

Send your email addresses to dreeb@albany.edu for additional news about McKownville.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9178

Anita Behn
27 E. Parkwood
489-8015

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St.
438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday May 20, 2010—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

McKownville—the topic this month is **traffic**—specifically a possibility that Express Bus Service and Park and Ride facilities will be established along the Western Avenue Corridor by CDTA (Capital District Transportation Authority), our bus company.

The guest speakers will be Anne Savage, Ross Farrell and Margaret Irvin. A proposal for improved bus service is the focus.

Many in McKownville have asked for improved bus service to not only reduce the duration of the trip to work but also to reduce traffic accidents, lessen air pollution and make the streets safer for bike riders and pedestrians. When the Association was formed in 1924, one of the first agenda items was to acquire better bus service along Western Avenue.

A reminder: there will be school budget and library budget votes on Tuesday May 18, along with votes on school board membership and library board membership. It is your turn to say what you want—do not pass up the opportunity. Stay involved—it is your community.

Items---the McKownville Fire Department celebrated its new fire truck with a “wet down” at the University Indian Quad Archway. Many came, watched the high arches of water being sprayed on the new truck, and then went to the firehouse for food and fun. In addition, later that night many took advantage of the free lacrosse tickets provided by the University. A good day for all—thanks to both the McKownville Fire Department and the State University of New York at Albany.

The Town Board hearing on the proposed changes in the Town Zoning law on May 4 saw the Town Board send the proposal back for more study. You can watch the discussion by going to the Town web site.

On May 17-28, the Town will flush the water lines in McKownville.

Send your email addresses to dreeb@albany.edu for additional news about McKownville.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Martha Haraus 1445 Western Avenue 489-3855	Marty Gnacik 15 Elmwood St.. 438-9160
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9178	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 489-3616
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Anita Behn 27 E. Parkwood 489-8015	Joe Trapasso 25 Parkwood St. 438-0870

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday September 16, 2010—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The September meeting will focus on McKownville and its future. We are wrestling with some very important issues at this time and the Board has selected four issues to discuss at this meeting. They are:

1. The upcoming hearing on the proposed changes in the town **zoning** law. The hearing is October 6th before that occurs what steps and options would best benefit residents of McKownville. What would the changes mean to our neighborhood?
2. The **McKownville Park** on Western Avenue, bordering Stuyvesant Plaza. As a neighborhood what is our vision for the park, what could it be?
3. **Storm water** management within McKownville. We will discuss the use of the \$500,000 MultiModal funds that Senator Breslin and the Town Board helped the Town secure.
4. Storm water flowing into McKownville due to the Nano Tech expansion and possible solutions to this problem. With discussion of the proposed reconstruction of the **Fuller Road/Washington Avenue intersection** and how this might impact this issue.

There are a number of other issues that could be touched on if there is interest from the audience and time allows. A few that come to mind are:

New sidewalks—especially along Western Avenue.

Reduced speed limits—on both Western Avenue and Fuller Road.

More acceptable parking regulations—is there neighborhood agreement for revised regulations.

Alleys (carriageways)---how should they function?

Additionally, there will be the **election of officers and board members** and **Ice Cream Sundaes** will be available—free of charge of course—before and after the meeting. The October McKownville Improvement Association meeting will be on October 21.

Just a reminder ...

September 14 is **Primary Election Day**. In New York State if you are a registered voter and are enrolled in a political party (Conservative, Democratic, Independence, Republican, Working Families) you can vote in your party's primary. (You can still vote for any party's candidate in the general election). Primary elections are to choose who will represent your party in the general election, which is on Tuesday, November 2, 2010. Voting is more than a right—it is your way to tell everyone that you care about your neighbors and your neighborhood.

Send your comments about McKownville to dreeb@albany.edu or donreeb@gmail.com

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
489-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
1 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday October 21, 2010—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The October meeting will focus on—storm sewers. That is right—storm sewers. Ken Johnson and Fred Grober from Delaware Engineering will lead the discussion on storm sewers in McKownville—answering your questions about where they are, what problems Delaware Engineering found in their survey, their report to the Town --- maybe you can add to the body of knowledge by telling them what you know about the storm sewers in your neighborhood.

All of this will lead to the first phase of improving storm drainage in McKownville. There are not many problems more important in McKownville than storm drainage. Eventually—not just now because there is not yet enough money on hand - but eventually the system will be rebuilt. There is \$500,000, of the \$6 million needed, to begin the work. Since the construction of these sewers was a long time ago, it is doubtful that another rebuilding will occur within the next 75 years. We want to make sure that the most accurate information available is in hand. Make sure you come, listen, and share your information.

Other topics for conversation at the meeting:

ZONING Town Supervisor Ken Runion directed the Town Zoning Revision Committee to include a “hamlet” provision in the proposal for adjustments in the zoning law. Two questions—what does it mean, and what do we want it to mean? The idea is to exempt the McKownville Hamlet—and possibly three other hamlets--- from certain provisions of the zoning law or make special provisions applicable only to the McKownville Hamlet. One example of where this might be necessary is for “mixed use developments”. These developments could result in some residences becoming businesses on the first floor and rental apartments on the second---something that could further reduce the residential character of McKownville. These zoning implications need much more discussion.

SPEED LIMITS Board members Alice Torda, Ellen Manning and I met with the members of the Traffic Study Committee of the Town to request that the speed limit on Fuller Road be reduced from 40 mph to 30 mph as soon as possible. Captain Curtis Cox and the other members of the Traffic Safety Committee of the Town pointed out that Fuller Road is a county road that includes portions of the Town of Guilderland, the City of Albany, and the Town of Colonie and that if possible it would be advisable to coordinate speed limit changes with these other governments. Therefore, sometime this winter we may see the speed limit reduced, for Guilderland and possibly for all of Fuller Road.

IN ADDITION, Election Day is Tuesday November 2. VOTE—it is important to vote—and remember, the space to be filled in on the ballot is **NEXT TO THE NAME**—not below it... We had a great turnout for the primary and we need a great turnout for November as well.

HALLOWEEN PARTY It is Sunday October 31, 3-5 pm, sponsored by the McKownville Fire Department, with a little help from the McKownville Improvement Association. So dress up, get out, have some ice cream and enjoy the children enjoying themselves. It is a wonderful neighborhood event. It costs nothing more than a few smiles...

Send your comments about McKownville to dreeb@albany.edu or donreeb@gmail.com

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday November 18, 2010—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The November meeting will be the last for this calendar year (it will be March before the Association meets again) thus it is important to attend on the 18th and get your “community spirit” fully charged. And ice cream sundaes will be provided, once again.

Zoning will be the topic for our first speaker, **Mr. Peter Barber**. Mr. Barber is the chairman of Guilderland Zoning Board of Appeals, and also sits on the Zoning Revision Commission, which is submitting recommendations for revisions to various parts of the town’s zoning laws. While these revisions do not change the zoning status of any home or other property, the revisions might impact McKownville in other ways. How will the new proposals affect issues of long standing concern to the Association? A few areas of concern are: 1. enforcement of the grouper law (multiple students or others occupying a home), 2. the mechanism for zoning enforcement, 3. the paving of front lawns for parking, 4. home occupations (people operating businesses in their homes), 5. the addition of apartments to homes or to business properties. Still another issue is the alleys—how should they be zoned?

A major zoning change is the proposed definition of McKownville as a “Hamlet”---what does this means and can it make McKownville a more sustainable community. While a “hamlet” has no power to tax or in other ways function as another layer of government, it does confer a special status to a neighborhood in the zoning laws. The idea was presented by Town Supervisor Ken Runion at an Association Board meeting and seems to be well worth further development, exploration and definition.

The second speaker is **Ross Farrell** from CDTA, which is our well-known bus service. CDTA is undertaking a major project in the next year to restructure its route services within Albany County. The intent is to create a new route system that better aligns its services with demand. CDTA is currently undergoing a public outreach effort to inform residents and riders of the restructuring and to obtain as much input as possible on improvements they would like to see enacted. Part of this process is to meet with as many neighborhood associations as possible to gain a better understanding of needs and concerns. Concerns in McKownville might include; how to make CDTA more accessible to the elderly, could there be provisions for a park and ride facilities along the Western Avenue corridor, how can CDTA reduce the litter problem at their present stops.

The Halloween Party at the McKownville Fire House was October 31 and was a great success—thanks to all who worked so hard once again and to the children who brought their parents. The southern portion of Fuller Road is nearly finished, along with the new and beautiful sidewalks. Finally, members of the Board of the Association met recently with representatives of New York State Department of Transportation, Region 1; there just might be money available to build more sidewalks along Western Avenue in McKownville. This, of course, is very exciting—but money is always a problem and we are not yet at the stage to know for sure that it will happen—but like tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow—it appears to be more likely today that it did six months ago

Send your comments about McKownville to dreeb@albany.edu or donreeb@gmail.com

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday March 24, 2011—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The March meeting will feature two topics—the construction plans of the university—and the progress of the Zoning Review Committee of the town.

John Giarrusso, Associate Vice President, Finance and Business Facilities Management, University at Albany, will be the first speaker. The University is our neighbor and about one-fifth of the campus is in McKownville. Information concerning the University's construction plans; i.e. the placement of new dormitories, the often-discussed new football stadium, the future road connecting the Harriman campus to the University campus, are all of great concern to McKownville residents. So come and learn and ask your questions!

The second set of speakers will be **Peter Barber**, chair of the Zoning Board, and **Steve Feeney**, chair of the planning board, both of whom also serve on the town **Zoning Review Committee**. The Association has worked very hard to ensure that McKownville maintains its residential quality, so come and ask your questions of Mr. Barber and Mr. Feeney and find out how the changes being designed by the Zoning Review Committee might help us achieve the goals each of us have in mind for our community. Please come and ask your questions!

Announcements---the Tree Committee plans to offer trees for purchase in September. **Ellen Manning** is the new chair of the Tree Committee, replacing **Sue Brown** who chaired the committee for some time. Sue will continue to serve on the Tree Committee and on the Board of the Association. Sue's leadership in both capacities has inspired many to work harder for McKownville.

The **Barber's farm stand** will be back again—July 4th is the tentative opening date. So for the best sweet corn in New York (and vegetables, as well as apples, cherries and other fruits when in season) please drop by the stand which will once again be located next to Passonno Paints. **Bill Meehan**, a past president and present Board member of the Association, has been appointed to the Town's property tax assessment review committee—congratulations Bill. **Stuyvesant Plaza**—our very attractive “downtown”—announced that a meat/cheese market will soon be opening where Rugged Bear presently is located.

On **April 28** the **Guilderland School Superintendent Marie Wiles** will be our guest speaker.

The final meeting of our fiscal year will be **May 26**. **Supervisor Ken Runion** will be the guest speaker. We will hold the annual elections for the McKownville Improvement Association Board members at this meeting as well.

And once again, **ice cream sundaes** will be available at our meeting—so skip your dessert at home and come early and bring a friend and a taste for a free and delicious ice cream sundae.

Send your comments about McKownville to dreeb@albany.edu or donreeb@gmail.com

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday April 28, 2011—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The April 28 meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association features **Guilderland School Superintendent Marie Wiles, Ph.D. and School Board members Judy Slack, Denise Eisele and Emilio Genzano**—the topics, of course, are school budgets, school quality and school taxes. Education--there is hardly anything more important to the future of McKownville than the Guilderland schools. Many of our neighbors chose to live in McKownville because of the high quality of Guilderland schools. Hard decisions about the future of the school program, school management and costs are put before the voters every year; this year is certainly a very important year. Before you vote on the school budget this year, come to the meeting and become more informed.

Martha Harausz, a McKownville Improvement Association Officer, has been in contact with Joe Giebelhaus from the Albany City Landfill concerning appropriate reporting procedures should odors from the landfill become a problem. If at any time you smell odors from the landfill please call 518 453-8288 and report the incident. You will need to leave a message recording the date and time of the odor where it was noticed and also some reference to its strength. There is an informative news letter concerning the landfill that can be accessed by email. If you would like to have your name added to the email list please contact Mr. Giebelhaus at giebej@ci.albany.ny.us and ask to be added to the list. In early June a tour of the facility is being schedule for McKownville residents interested in attending.

The New York Thruway Authority is working on the expansion of the Thruway from Exit 23 to Exit 24. A benefit to McKownville is that a portion of our neighborhood will get sound barriers in late 2011. The reconstruction work includes construction of 12 ponds to collect storm water runoff from the roads. If you have further questions or comments regarding the Thruway, please contact the Public Information Office at public.info@thruway.ny.gov. The engineer's office for the project is at the intersection of Russell Road and Schoolhouse Road where you can review the construction plans and drawings.

National Grid and the telephone and cable companies have removed the pole in the alley behind 12 Parkwood, the pole that broke the storm sewer pipe. The McKownville Fire Department and the Town Highway Department have been pumping the storm water out of the alley for weeks and Mr. Runion and the Highway department will repair the pipe as soon as it is possible to do so. Temporary easement forms, signed by adjoining property owners will be needed. In addition, the severe flooding from broken and/or clogged storm water pipes in the Mercer Street area (Tracy, Ann, Providence, Warren) will also be the focus of work by the Highway Department, as soon as it is possible to do so—and again, temporary easement forms will be collected. These forms permit the Town to enter your property, do whatever digging is required—with the promise to restore your property to its pre-digging condition.

The final meeting of our fiscal year will be **May 26** when **Supervisor Ken Runion** will be the guest speaker. We will hold the annual elections for the McKownville Improvement Association Board members and officers at that time. **Ice cream sundaes** will be available at the April meeting—so skip your dinner dessert, come early and enjoy. Send your comments about this flier to dreeb@albany.edu or donreeb@gmail.com Thanks

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Harausz, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday May 26, 2011—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Guilderland Town Supervisor Ken Runion is the guest speaker for the May 26, 2011 McKownville Improvement Association meeting. The annual election of Association officers and Board members is scheduled also, and once again ice cream sundaes are served both before and after the meeting. Self-nominations or nominations of friends and neighbors for the three Association Board seats and four officer positions are welcome. Angie Parsons is the chair of the nominations committee. Her phone number is provided below.

On June 1 at 11:00, those who are interested in a tour of the Albany County Landfill should meet at 525 Rapp Road at 10:50 a.m., the first building on the left. The tour will take about 1 hour and will be lead by Joe Giebelhaus, Manager of Solid Waste for the City of Albany. Please try to car pool as parking is limited.

The Guilderland Highway Department has been trying to get into the alley behind Elmwood Street and Parkwood streets to fix a broken storm sewer pipe but has not been able to because of the rain. Steve Oliver, the acting highway superintendent, indicated that it would happen just as soon as ground conditions permit.

Mr. Runion spoke to a member of the Association on Monday about the possibility of purchasing a gazebo for the park/pond near Stuyvesant Plaza. A suggested model can be seen at www.genuineamishmade.com, or at their business site, 4022 Western Ave, about a mile west of Rt. 158, on the south side of the road. It is white, octagonal, vinyl and comes in diameters such as 8, 10, 12 and 14 feet.

The University is building a new dorm—Liberty Dorm—and the sanitary sewage from it will be using the Dillenbeck pumping station. It will connect to the Guilderland sewage pipes near Knowles Terrace in McKownville. This will involve digging near the old firehouse and near Dunkin Donuts; other digging will be further east than the homes along Upper Hillcrest, Gaskell and Wood streets. Maps showing the route and places for digging will be available for viewing at the meeting.

The final four items. (1) The Association Secretary, Martha Harauscz, is our person working with the New York State Department of Transportation Region I concerning the new sidewalks to be constructed along Western Avenue—both sides—from Rt. 155 to the Albany City line. The funds are in hand, the design is in process, and construction is expected to begin in McKownville in 2012. (2) To control the invasive plants at the park/pond near Stuyvesant Plaza, Association Board member Ellen Manning has secured the cooperation of specialists from Cornell Agriculture. She is also working with other McKownville volunteers who are interested in this venture. (3) The Barber Farm Stand is returning to McKownville—July 1, if the weather cooperates. (4) The date of the next Association meeting, in September, has not yet been determined. To keep informed over the summer about these and other McKownville Improvement Association efforts send your questions to dreeb@albany.ed.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Harauscz, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Marian Hoyle 22 Glenwood 438-6544
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 489-3616
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association
Special Meeting—Concerning the University and McKownville
Thursday July 21, 2011—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The University is looking to buy and redevelop the Holt-Harris property in McKownville. The property is nearly 9.0 acres and borders Norwood Street, the University ring road and Waverly Place. The asking price is \$1.6 million. Its assessed value is \$597,900, it includes two houses (one of which is occupied), is nearly fully treed and has several sizable hills. These features help to buffer numerous McKownville homes from the University. One of the houses on the property is of historic value and should be preserved.

Members of the Board of the McKownville Association met with **University President George Philip** on Wednesday, June 29, 2011 to discuss the University plans for the Holt-Harris property. President Philip informed the group that the University was interested in purchasing the property, but only at a more reasonable price than what it is now listed for. He did not indicate what the University planned to do with the property. Several other sources, however, indicate that the University could use the 9 acres to construct a University gymnasium and or a baseball field.

During the meeting, Association Board members emphasized that when the University was constructed it promised that it would not convert residential property in McKownville to University use. Since the 1960's McKownville residents have banked their home owning futures on this promise, it is essential that this promise be kept. Less than a decade ago the University pulled away from buying the home at 1257 Western Avenue (the now vacant lot across the street from the fire house) due in large part to the Association's reminder of this promise, and some other concerns about its development.

In addition to the major concern, violation of a long-standing promise, University use of this property will bring issues of parking, noise, traffic, light pollution and other intrusions into our neighborhood. Additionally, the loss of property tax revenue would be meaningful to the McKownville Fire District, which relies on property taxes.

The Association Board members informed President Philip that their preference is that the property continue to be of residential usage. If more intensive development is to occur, additional private housing is the neighborhood's preference. The Holt-Harris site is zoned R-15 which would allow residential structures on 15,000 square foot lots.

As a community we need to be mindful of the fact that the University, as part of the state government, is not subject to zoning and other Guilderland land use regulations. When it comes to development of this land by the University we will have to rely on public appeals, letters, petitions and other actions. This **Special Meeting** of the neighborhood is to explore what we should do. **We need ideas and we need neighbors to join together to stop this institutional incursion into the residential area of McKownville.**

Our Association believes that keeping McKownville a wonderful residential neighborhood should be our goal. Conversion of the Holt-Harris propter to University use does not further this goal.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown 6 Westlyn Place 482-2355	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Marian Hoyle 22 Glenwood 438-6544
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 489-3616
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Wednesday September 14, 2011—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The University is threatening to buy residential land in McKownville and tear down two homes. It must be stopped. We met with President George Philip and we showed him the 1962 promise that the University made to keep out of McKownville—we showed him literature about the historic home on the Hoyt-Harris parcel—we showed him by our presence that the neighborhood was strongly opposed to the University purchase—he indicated that the University would continue to look at buying the nearly 10 acre Hoyt-Harris property, its two homes and barn. The 100 lawn signs are up—we will picket the University.

Please come: Saturday September 17, 2011, 4:30 pm, Western Avenue University entrance. Your support is needed.

The Barber's farm in Middleburgh and our beloved farm market are gone with the flood. If you care to send the Barber's a card or donation, their address is 3722 State Route 30, Middleburgh NY 12122.

Thank heavens for the McKownville Fire Department—they pumped out dozens and dozens of basements. The help received from other fire departments and the Guilderland Highway Department was wonderful—good people helping good people.

The Irene hurricane floodwaters made clear that urgent help is needed to clean, repair, and rebuild our storm sewers.

McKownville needs to thank **Supervisor Runion** and Park Superintendent **Dennis Moore** for efforts to improve **McKownville Park**—there are benches and picnic tables—and the Association promised to recruit neighbors to help to improve the park, cut weeds, spread rock dust on the paths, and make donations to buy benches—they cost \$200

McKownville needs to thank Highway Superintendent **Steve Oliver** and his crew for repairs on the Parkwood/Elmwood storm sewer. The McKownville Tree Committee has a tree purchasing option on the back of this announcement. With so many trees being threatened by the University purchase of the Hoyt-Harris property, we need greenery. Think about it.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Wednesday October 26, 2011—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The major topic of this month's meeting will be the Holt-Harris property. On October 13, 2011 UAlbany President George Philip reported that the University made an offer to buy the Holt-Harris property. The offer was for a fraction of the listing price and it was rejected by the seller. President Philip then went on to say **"...and we do not anticipate making a counteroffer at this time"**. A McKownville resident, Laura Barry, was at the University meeting and will discuss the announcement. The question for McKownville is, what do we do now? One option is to ask the Town to buy the property (creating a McKownville special tax district to fund the purchase). The recent survey polling interest on this subject will be discussed.

The hurricane floodwaters made obvious to all that urgent help is needed to clean, repair, and rebuild McKownville storm sewers. We have to work with the Town to find a path to relief. The Town did repair the storm sewer near Parkwood and also the cave in from a broken storm sewer at 1449 Western as well as others. Homeowners on alleys, which are in daily use, are actively investigating whether more paving is one solution to the storm waters cascading down the alleyways. We need to intensify our effort to find answers. The solutions that some residents are using to solve their storm water issues may not be sustainable as owners attempt to sell their properties and inspection of the house is undertaken. We are not the only community with storm water problems, none-the-less we need to increase our effort to solve the problem.

The Barber's farm stand in McKownville will be closing for the season Friday, October 28.

The McKownville Tree Committee has several orders for trees again this season—thank you!

Other topics to be discussed—a safer crosswalk on Fuller near Mercer, a lowered speed limit, a report on Western Avenue sidewalks, work on McKownville Reservoir Park and the Thruway widening and installation of sound barriers near Woodscape.

The annual Halloween Party at the McKownville Firehouse is Monday, October 31, from 5:30-7:30 PM. Joey D the Magician will be performing his Halloween Safety Magic Show.

November 8 is Election Day. Please vote. It is important to you and to your neighborhood.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Wednesday November 30, 2011—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The guest speaker for the November meeting is Rodger Stone, Zoning Enforcement Officer for the Town of Guilderland. Zoning enforcement is a continuing focus for the McKownville community. Residents often have questions concerning zoning regulations and when they or their neighbors might be in violation of regulations. These issues may include the following:

Shrubs overhanging sidewalk areas. Fences that are too tall. Fences constructed in a sideyard when the home is located on a corner lot. A business operated in a home. Storm water running off one property onto another. Boats parked on lawns. Boats parked on the street. Camping trailers parked on the street or parked on the lawn. Large trucks parked on the street. Movable storage sheds parked on a property for weeks and weeks. Sheds located too near a property line. Smells from nearby restaurants. Snow pushed into the street. Unlicensed cars on a property. Business signs that are too large. Grass clippings thrown into the street. Major house repairs done without building permits.

Residents are at a distinct disadvantage in interpreting the zoning ordinance because we do not use it on a regular basis. Rodger does, and he has the power to recommend legal action if there is a violation. Come join us and learn more about Guilderland Zoning Law.

Tree planting was a success---Ellen Manning, Sue Brown and Ricardo Lopes Torrijos again handled the delivery of the trees and their planting. Thanks to each of you. The Halloween party at the McKownville Fire House was wonderful—Mary Lou Connolly, Marty Gnacik, Sue Brown, Doug Smith, Jim White, Ellen Manning and Paul Haldeman, along with members of the Fire Department had the fun of watching the magician while donating their time and talent to help make the party a success. Thanks to the McKownville Fire Department, an evening of fun was once again provided to the community.

The Holt-Harris property is still being watched carefully. Supervisor Runion and several members of the Association Board met with Mr. Steve Cronin, the realtor for the Holt-Harris property. Mr. Runion explained to Mr. Cronin the concerns of the community and we may get some feedback from the realtor and the owners in the next few weeks. **The University has not indicated any further interest in buying the property though there have been many rumors of such.**

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Wednesday March 28, 2012

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue, 7pm

Since the previous meeting, on Wednesday November 30, 2011, the electronic sign requested by Stuyvesant was denied by the Guilderland Zoning Board of Appeals. As a flashing sign it was prohibited by the Guilderland Zoning Ordinance. We are please that the Zoning Board enforced the law as it is written.

It is wonderful that dozens of people wrote letters to express their opinions on the matter of the flashing sign. The significant number of citizens who attended and spoke at the Zoning Board meeting was also impressive. Community support and involvement is truly the key to keeping McKownville the type of community we are happy to live in.

The Holt-Harris property is still in the hands of the Holt-Harris inheritors. We know of no change in the owners' terms of sale. We can only hope that with time they come to see the benefits of working with the community.

The McKownville neighborhood did an unbelievably fine job of demonstrating to the University at Albany that we value our neighborhoods and are willing to work to maintain it in both size and quality. Hopefully, the clear action by McKownville residents will forever dissuade the University from buying and developing property in McKownville.

The University did announce that the football stadium--on the site of the Giants practice field--would go ahead. That site is in Guilderland but Town Zoning laws place no restrictions on State government property uses.

The sidewalk along Western is still in process of being designed. What a great day that will be when McKownville gets usable sidewalks on both sides of Western in McKownville. When will it be built---maybe 2012, maybe 2013--but the money is there along with the commitment by the Town and the State. Therefore, they are coming.

Drainage--storm water flooding---continues to be a problem. In 2010, The Town contracted Delaware Engineering to do a Drainage Study (it is available on the Town web page). We are fortunate to have such a good document to use as a basis for discussion. The proposed complete solution is of course very costly. Nevertheless, it is the belief of the McKownville Improvement Association's Board that we should try to take steps towards addressing this issue. It is clearly understood that an immediate or even projected complete solution to our storm water issues are not possible unless a great windfall of money should appear but as a community we should start thinking about what steps are possible. Drainage is a neighborhood problem and it needs neighborhood involvement and a group effort to work toward a solution. Come to the meeting on March 28, 2012 to join with your neighbors to begin a discussion on the issue of Storm Water.

The McKownville Tree Committee—Ellen Manning Chair—again provides the opportunity to buy trees for planting. The brochure is printed on the reverse side of this announcement. While McKownville has numerous trees they are more often than not located in the rear of the property rather than along the street—and it is streets trees that make a neighborhood much more attractive to neighbors and potential neighbors. If you have a place for a street tree, please consider planting one now. Thank you.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
489-3616

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Wednesday April 18, 2012
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue, 7pm

At the March meeting, it was noted that National Grid would replace faulty gas pipes on Knowles Terrace. The residents on Knowles Terrace have had the problem of water getting into the gas pipes that then shuts down the pilot lights on furnaces, hot water tanks and stoves. Letters and phone calls to National Grid and NYS Public Service office got action and the pipes are being replaced.

Other news: Washington Avenue Extension is being rebuilt so that more buildings for NanoTech can be constructed. Though many residents expressed doubt that this was a reasonable use of \$26 million—the cost of moving the highway—it is happening. In addition, sound barriers on the Thruway near Woodscape—something McKownville residents have been requesting from the Thruway Authority for many years--will be installed in 2012 or 2013. Concerning the Holt-Harris property: nothing more has come from the real estate firm handling the property for the owners. Therefore, the proposal to create a woodland park on the 10-acre site is moot for the time being. The University is busy building a dorm, a business school building and other buildings. The field at the north end of Knowles is being excavated for its football stadium. A new sidewalk along Western is still in process of being designed. When will it be built---maybe 2012, maybe 2013--but the money is there along with the commitment by the Town and the State. The stakes with pink/red tags along Western Avenue---there is one near Dr. Esmay's ex-office and another near the end of Norwood Street—mark the State right of way—not the location of the sidewalk.

The Zoning Board's Hearing on Wednesday April 18, 2012, 7:30pm at Town Hall, will again consider the request for a home occupation on Providence Street. The applicant wants to operate a "garage-attic-basement cleaning-disposal service" from his home and park a trailer on his lawn for storage. At the recent Hearing, several neighbors sent emails objecting to the business and a neighbor and I spoke against it. Attend the Hearing or email your comments to cropseyd@townofguilderland.org or call 356-1980 and ask to speak to Don Cropsey to register your comments.

This month's meeting will be focused on storm water problems in McKownville and what can be done to reduce McKownville's flooding problems. In 2008, the Town and the McKownville Improvement Association cooperated in conducting a drainage (and sidewalk) survey of problems in McKownville. Over 200 Survey's were returned (the 31 streets surveyed have 693 homes). Some 53% of respondents reported property flooding problems and residents assumed (correctly, given the US Geological Survey data available) that the rising water table is a problem. Of the more than 200 respondents, some 40% have sump pumps, while over 21% have water proofed their basement walls, about 16% have regraded their property to reduce flooding, and more than 4% have put in auxiliary electric generating equipment to operate sump pumps when the electricity gets interrupted. One home has used sand bags to divert storm water from entering the basement.

However flooding is more than a basement problem—the storm water needs to be moved out of the neighborhood more quickly and that means the storm sewer pipes need to be improved. That is what needs to be addressed—how the neighborhood is going to get this done---and that is the focus of the April meeting.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Marian Hoyle
22 Glenwood
438-6544

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Wednesday May 16, 2012
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue, 7pm

This month's meeting is focused on storm water problems in McKownville and the proposal to create a **Drainage Special District** for a major portion of McKownville. It is felt that the formation of this district is necessary in order to get the storm water pipes and storm water catch basins in McKownville inspected, serviced, cleaned, maintained and repaired on a regular basis. This has not been done in the past, partly because of the lack of a **Drainage Special District** and many of the pipes and basins are located on private land.

The pipes were used to drain both septic tank leach fields and storm water. Since the installation of a sanitary sewer system in the 1970's the pipes and catch basins are used only for storm water drainage. The Town Highway Department services them in emergencies, but to limit Town liability it needs permission to do so when the pipes are on private land. The formation of a **Drainage Special District** would give the Town ready access to the pipes and catch basins.

Delaware Engineering in 2010 issued its Town of Guilderland financed survey of the drainage problems in McKownville. It estimated \$6.5 million to construct adequate drainage pipes and catch basins. Neither the Town nor McKownville property owners can afford this. The Town is looking for grants and has had some success. In the meantime, the best hope to reduce drainage problems in McKownville is to improve the maintenance of the present system of pipes and catch basins.

The Town of Guilderland in 2008 conducted a storm water survey of homes within the Association's boundaries, which are the same as the McKownville Fire District. Of the 867 homes in the district, 232 surveys were returned and half reported flooding problems. Of those responding 40% have sump pumps, more than 4% have put in auxiliary electric generating equipment to operate sump pumps when electricity is interrupted and 48% said a modest tax to reduce drainage problems would be acceptable.

Therefore, to maintain and improve the McKownville drainage system, the Association is proposing the creation of a **Drainage Special District with a tax of \$0.26 per thousand-dollars of assessed property value**. For a \$150,000 home, this would amount to a yearly tax of \$39.00. For a \$200,000 home, this would amount to \$52.00. No more than \$15,000 of the yearly revenue will be used each year for maintenance with the remainder deposited in a fund and used along with grant money for improvements as they occur. The district boundaries will be those of the McKownville Improvement Association and the McKownville Fire District but not including the following streets---Gaskill, Wood, East and West Dillenbeck, the Woodscape streets, Coralberry, Elderberry, and Strawberry. Their benefit from inclusion in the **Drainage Special District** would be too small to justify their paying the tax.

Finally, an election of officers and Board members will occur at the meeting---Alice Torda is serving as the nominations chair---to enter a nomination call Alice at 489-3613 or make the nomination at the meeting.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Road 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday September 20, 2012—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Supervisor Ken Runion will be the guest speaker at the September meeting. Much of the discussion undoubtedly will focus on the proposed drainage district for McKownville.

Thirty-one volunteers---William Dealleaume, Lynn Nasadoski, Henry Tedeschi, Angie Parsons, Harriet Temps, Bob Benson, Richard Goldstein, Judi Kavaney, Marcia Luther, Bill Goergen, Paul Graves, Dave Bosworth, David Shub, Steve Campbell, Marty Gnacik, Laura Barry, James White, Kevin Quinn, Jessica Mann, Carl Patka, Doug Smith, Debbie Trees, Emily Baglione, Ricardo Nirenberg, Tom Robert, Janet Reilly, Bert Schou, Lisa Stanzione, Anita Behn, Dennis Mason and myself---went door-to-door numerous times to get signatures on the petitions---404 signatures from 444 homes.

Nearly 91 percent of the homeowners contacted support the creation of the McKownville Drainage District.

The signed petitions were handed to the Guilderland Town Board on Tuesday September 4, 2012. The Town Attorney, Mr. Richard Sherwood, was given the assignment by the Town Board to develop legislation and the other information necessary for the Town Board. The Town Board will schedule public hearings. When the Town Board will vote is not yet known.

To finally get unified responsibility for all of the old storm sewer pipes—to remove from individual property owners the responsibility of maintaining the storm sewer pipes on their land—to get better maintenance of the existing pipes—to get older broken pipes replaced---to get better protection from flooding for our homes, garages, gardens and property---to finally get some relief from flooding and the threat of flooding---to move one step closer to having a new and adequate storm sewer system---all of this for about \$40 a year in additional taxes per home—it seems to the Board of the McKownville Improvement Association that this is something we should all work hard to support.

Mr. Runion at the Town Board meeting encouraged those with questions about the drainage district to write, call or come in to talk with him. So come to the meeting. Ask questions. And send a clear message—about your support for the formation of the drainage district. It may be the most important action you can take to preserve your home and your neighborhood. If no one in your household had the opportunity to sign the petition, please call (489-3909) and I will bring a petition to you for your signature.

News--- the Barber farm stand on McKown Rd has great produce to sell for another few weeks--the Town made more improvements to McKownville Park--Hansen flooring is asking for permission to have another business in its building—Stuyvesant Plaza has not asked for another hearing to put a flashing sign at its Western Avenue entrance—the sound barriers along the Thruway in McKownville are nearly finished--the University redesigned its Western Avenue entrance—CDTA changed its bus schedule on Western Avenue—NYSDOT announced that the Crossgates flyover will be rebuilt next year—several streets in McKownville have been resurfaced by the Town Highway Department--and the University is remodeling buildings along Fuller Road.

The Association's Tree Committee has again done stalwart work and provided us with a selection of trees to purchase. The order form is on the reverse side. Along with the concern about getting more trees planted in the front of homes, it is of concern that homeowners have trees removed before it is necessary to remove them for safety reasons and do not replace them quickly. It takes less than a day to cut down a mature tree but a generation to grow an adequate replacement.

The October meeting is Thursday October 18th—the topic will probably again be the drainage district—it is worth a least two meetings.

Ice cream sundaes will be served at the September meeting—so come early and have dessert with your neighbors. The Association spent more than expected this past year—for the printing of the petitions and for the postcards that were mailed to each home concerning the proposed district. Therefore, donations are needed. If you can afford to send some money, please do. Another 10 donations of \$10 to \$25 each would put us in decent shape for another year.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown	Janet Reilly	Laura Barry
6 Westlyn Place	18 Norwood	3 Waverly
482-2355	446-1766	813-9694
Bill Meehan	Jim White	Angie Parsons
7 Country Rd.	8 Brookwood	136 Arcadia
456-4564	459-9176	944-7311
Alice Torda	Ellen Manning	David Shub
2 Knowles Terrace	3 Norwood	3 Parkwood
489-3613	482-3779	438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday October 18, 2012
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue, 7pm

The October meeting at the Holiday Inn will have two guest speakers----John Grady of the NYS Department of Transportation and Officer Patti Stallmer of the Guilderland Police Department.

John Grady will be speaking about the on-going Fuller Road/Washington Avenue re-construction. John is the Construction Engineer at New York State, Department of Transportation, Region I. The timetable for completion of the project, its configuration and other aspects of our newest important intersection will be the focus. Since Fuller Road is one of the more important travel routes through McKownville, it is important to many of us and in several different ways.

The second special guest will be Officer Patricia Stallmer of the Guilderland Police Department. She is one of the outreach persons for Neighborhood Watch and other community activities at the Guilderland police department. McKownville residents have been hit with car break-ins, stolen bikes, thefts from garages, door-to-door salespersons (possibly unlicensed), drug dealing from homes, and other criminal activities. Neighbors need to protect themselves and each other. Our children need to be protected. Officer Stallmer will talk with us about how better to protect the neighborhood and how the Guilderland Police can help—through Neighborhood Watch and other actions.

The McKownville Fire Department is sponsoring a HALLOWEEN PARTY—Wednesday October 31, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at the McKownville firehouse. Games, face painting, a fantastic magician, prizes, good things to eat (including ice cream sundaes) will be provided, free of charge of course. The McKownville Improvement Association will again be helping. Do come—bring the children---it is a great way to visit the fire department and for the children to see the amazing fire equipment. (It is never too early for children to think about becoming a member of the volunteer fire department someday).

Guilderland Town Supervisor Ken Runion announced that the Town Board hearing on the proposed McKownville Drainage District will be held Thursday November 8, 2012 at Town Hall, 7:30pm. The hard work of the nearly 40 volunteers who collected over 400 signatures in support of the drainage district has made this public hearing possible.

If you can attend, please do so. It is important to “give witness” to the 406 signatures collected on the petitions in support of the McKownville Drainage District. Public support is vital. If we fail, it is not obvious what alternative exists. The Drainage District is our initiative to step forward, admit that we have a responsibility as a neighborhood community by paying a small additional tax, and help reduce McKownville’s long existing storm water problem. Your support is needed---Thursday November 8—7:30—Town Hall.

Other news. The Association wants to thank County Legislator Mary Lou Connolly for donating a bushel of apples for our October meeting. The Association’s treasury has been enriched by donations--\$435--and there is now sufficient money for another year. Ice cream sundaes will be provided at the Thursday evening meeting, beginning at 6:30 pm. So do come—bring a friend—have your evening dessert at the meeting. McKownville is a great neighborhood—but please do not take it for granted.

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday March 21, 2013—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Our first public meeting of 2013 should get us in the mood and ready for spring.

Sandra S. Walck, Garden Designer----will be our first featured speaker at this March 21st meeting. Sandra is a professional garden designer and has been working in the Capital District for 25 years. She specializes in using native plants and emphasizes using ecologically sound practices and completely organic materials. The most immediate place to enjoy Sandra's gardening design is around Creo Restaurant in Stuyvesant Plaza. She, also, works with the Pine Bush association. Sandra will give a short presentation and then she will gladly answer questions about the gardening challenges and opportunities that our area presents.

Storm sewers----after the petitions containing 406 signatures were delivered to the Guilderland Town Board the Town Board directed Delaware Engineering to prepare the necessary papers for filing the request with NY State to form a Special Storm Water Sewer District for McKownville. **Town Supervisor Ken Runion will speak at our March 21 meeting and answer questions about the proposed storm sewer district.**

Up-coming meetings ---Thursday April 18 and Thursday May 23 are the Association meeting dates for the remainder of this fiscal year. There are a number of community improvements we should discuss — a better pedestrian crosswalk light at Mercer/Fuller, lowered speed limits on Fuller Road and Western Avenue, a pedestrian crosswalk light at Knowles-Brookwood, an island, for safer pedestrian crossings, near the University entrance, and other improvements. Suggestions are welcome.

Ice cream sundaes will be served this week, so come early, bring a friend, enjoy yourself, and do your part to make sure that McKownville continues to improve as a community.

Now a bit of catching up on McKownville news:

It is with great sadness that we inform those who may not know that **Sue Cobb Brown**, a long time Association Board member from Westlyn Place, passed away in November. A moment of silence and a few brief comments about her extraordinary contribution to the community will be part of our meeting. In addition, the community will plant a tree in her honor in McKownville Park---the Tree Committee of the Association (Ellen Manning, Sue Gutbezahl, Laura Whalen, Janet Reilly, and Ricardo López-Torrijos) will conduct the tree planting ceremony. An email announcement will be sent when the dedication date draws near. The Tree Committee, which Sue helped to found, and its **announcement concerning trees for sale this spring**, is on the reverse side of this flier. Remember—a tree planted in front of your home is a benefit to you and your neighborhood.

Western Avenue Sidewalks--- the Western Avenue sidewalk design is in progress at NYSDOT. Construction could begin in 2014.

Stuyvesant's Flashing Sign---the electronic sign proposed by Stuyvesant Plaza for its Western Avenue entrance was denied by the Town. The Association argued that it would violate the Town's zoning ordinance on several grounds. We are pleased that the zoning regulations were upheld.

Stuyvesant Plaza----about one-half acre of land was provided to Stuyvesant Plaza by the Town through an easement in 2009 for construction of 26 parking spaces. This land borders (south of) TGIFriday's. The land had long been part of the McKownville Reservoir property. The Town Planning Board has discussed the parking plan and it was sent on to the Town Zoning Board; further discussion will occur at their April 3 meeting. Since the easement has been granted the discussion is now focused on issues such as lighting and other portions of the "Special Use Permit," a permit required before construction can begin on land uses involving businesses.

University and Nano-Tech---surely all residents are aware that Fuller Road roundabouts have been constructed and the University is busy building a new football stadium and other buildings. We are pleased to note that our best information tells us the ten acres of the Holt-Harris property is not under consideration by University for ownership and development.

Treasury---- we appreciate the nearly two dozen residents who responded to the request for donations to the Association. The Treasury now has \$330, enough for another year of operation. Thank you.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debbie Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday April 18, 2013—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy is our district's new state assembly representative and will be a guest speaker for the April meeting of the Association. She is a member of five Assembly committees---Banking; Children and Families; Environmental Conservation; Higher Education; and Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports. As McKownville's State Assemblywoman she needs to know what each of us are interested in---reducing drunk driving, improving pedestrian safety, better bike lanes, more school aid, less air pollution, better mass transit, and so forth. In addition, Assemblywoman Fahy is interested in learning more about the unique problems of the McKownville neighborhood--- --for example, that NanoTech re-directed its storm waters into our neighborhood and that is causing flooding problems for McKownville residents (especially on Fuller, Warren, Mercer, and Providence streets). So come to the meeting— let Assemblywoman Fahy see that McKownville is a committed and caring community. **This is a great opportunity to talk with Assemblywoman Fahy about what is important to you and your neighborhood.**

Our Guilderland schools are one of our most cherished public services: **Guilderland Schools Superintendent Marie Wiles, Ph.D., will be a guest speaker at the April meeting also.** Like all public services, schools ask for public support and that means neighbors need to be kept informed about its programs. The programs offered by the Guilderland schools and the accomplishments of the students (our children and grandchildren) will be one focus of her talk- --the other portion being available to answer questions.

At the April meeting ice cream sundaes will be served----come early—have dessert with your neighbors. The May meeting will be Thursday the 23rd and Geoff Wood, NYSDOT will be the speaker, discussing the new sidewalk to be constructed along Western Avenue in McKownville. Also at the May meeting there will be the election of Association officers.

McKownville Drainage District. At the April 3rd Guilderland Town Board meeting the proposal for a McKownville Drainage District was discussed and sent on to the Town Clerk to be recorded. This was a very important step. The next step is for the Town Board to hold a **public hearing** on the Drainage District. It is scheduled for **Tuesday May 15th.** There were about 25 neighbors at the April 3rd Town Board meeting. Hopefully even more will attend the May 15th Town Board meeting. **Please put it on your schedule.**

Stuyvesant Plaza. The Plaza is proposing to construct a 26-space parking lot between TGIF and McKownville Park. The Plaza gave over \$123,000 to the Town to re-construct the pond-reservoir and the Town provided, in November 2009, an easement to use 0.51 acres of town land for a parking lot. Some have questioned not just the plans for the parking lot but why Stuyvesant spent the original \$123,000 and now seems willing to spend some where in the area of \$800,000 to construct a small parking lot. The plans for the parking lot, as presented by Stuyvesant, cuts down many trees, takes a big chunk of Park land, increases the dangers from left turns in the Plaza, which in turn causes the threat of backing up even more traffic on Western. These are just some of the problems associated with this planned parking lot development. The Zoning Board hearing on the Plaza's proposal will be on **April 17, Town Hall 7:30pm.** Do come. **Stuyvesant Plaza is attractive but it is misusing our public parkland.**

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debbie Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday May 23, 2013—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The guest speakers for the May 23 meeting are Geoffrey Wood and Steve Taylor, from the New York State Department of Transportation, Region 1. They are the Director of Design and the Project Manager for the sidewalk project on Western Avenue in McKownville and Guilderland, from the University entrance to Rt. 155..

This, \$1,000,000++, project will construct sidewalks on both sides of Western Avenue. The construction of the sidewalk on the north side of Western Avenue will begin in 2014 and be completed from the University entrance to Rt. 155 in that same year. The south side of Western Avenue will have its sidewalk constructed the following year (2015). This is a great opportunity to ask questions about the construction of the sidewalk in McKownville and let NYSDOT know what is wanted—better drains—curbs—bike lanes—sidewalks properly slopped for drainage—for example. The design is not finished so there is time to put forth concerns and requests.

Storm water. At the May 7th Town Board Meeting one agenda item was the **McKownville Drainage District**, the district petitioned for in the summer of 2012. To great surprise, Town Supervisor Ken Runion proposed that rather than forming a Drainage District the Town would allocate \$100,000 each year to the Guilderland Highway Department for repair and replacement of storm sewers. This would eliminate the formation of the district and the previously proposed special district taxes of \$0.26 per \$1,000. The expectation is that much of the \$100,000 will be used in McKownville, although it is for all of Guilderland. Supervisor Runion indicated the Town would continue to search for major grant monies to fund portions of the McKownville storm sewer project. Mr. Runion's proposal was adopted unanimously by the Town Board. Strangely, just prior to the Town Board Meeting many McKownville residents received a robo-call asking them to oppose the drainage district. It was sponsored by the Republican Party. At the Town Board meeting, no one opposed either the drainage district or Supervisor Runion's alternative.

The "Sue Brown Oak Tree" was planted on April 27, 2103 at the McKownville Reservoir Park. Ricardo Lopez-Torrijos, Ellen Manning, Jim White and Sue Gutbezahel made the arrangements and conducted the ceremony. Do visit the tree and pour a bottle of water on the roots. Nurturing is what Sue Brown did so very well and we need to nurture her tree.

In a related matter, the Association would like to **stop Stuyvesant Plaza from building a parking lot on .52 acres of the very parkland where the recent tree dedication was held.** Hiring a lawyer, picketing, writing letters to Town Hall and the newspapers, boycotting Stuyvesant Plaza, are among ideas being circulated within the neighborhood. The Town Zoning Board will be reviewing the proposal this Wednesday at a public meeting. **The ZBA meeting is at Town Hall on Wednesday May 15, 7:30.** At present, there are wooden stakes in the Park showing the position of the wall that will support the parking lot. This wall will be over 10 feet high, at points, and consume much of the grassy area on the north side of the Park. **Please come to the ZBA meeting or email Jackie Suidy—zoning administrator—"Jackie Siudy" <siudyj@townofguilderland.org>, indicating your opposition.**

Ice cream sundaes will again be served at the Association meeting on Thursday May 23rd—the annual election of officers and three Board members will be held, also—nominations should be directed to Alice Torda—at 489-3613.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees	Janet Reilly	Laura Barry
8 Ayre Drive	18 Norwood	3 Waverly
489-1519	446-1766	813-9694
Bill Meehan	Jim White	Angie Parsons
7 Country Rd.	8 Brookwood	136 Arcadia
456-4564	459-9176	944-7311
Alice Torda	Ellen Manning	David Shub
2 Knowles Terrace	3 Norwood	3 Parkwood
489-3613	482-3779	438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Tuesday September 24, 2013—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The first guest speakers for the September meeting are Geoffrey Wood and Steve Taylor, from the New York State Department of Transportation, Region 1. They are the Director of Design and the Project Manager for the sidewalk project on Western Avenue.

Geoff Wood and Steve Taylor will be explaining to McKownville residents the design for the new sidewalks on Western Avenue in McKownville. The tentative timetable and other information will be available, as will Geoff and Steve to answer questions. McKownville residents, especially those living on Western Avenue, and the Town financed McKownville Corridor Study have strongly supported new sidewalks. The present sidewalks, where they exist are often covered with mud, storm water, and are broken beyond repair.

Steve Oliver, Guilderland Highway Superintendent, will be our second guest speaker. The Guilderland Highway Department not only builds and maintains our town roads but also is in charge of maintaining storm sewers—and recently the McKownville storm sewers have been added to his department's responsibilities.

Steve Oliver will report on the storm sewer work that has been completed and be available for questions about plans for more storm sewer work in McKownville. The storm sewers in McKownville are in need of repair and replacement. The Town financed a storm water sewer system concept study, and that report, by Delaware Engineering, is available. The town recently—May 7th-- allocated \$100,000 to the Guilderland Highway Department to be use on storm water issues. This should become a reoccurring yearly allocation, which will allow the department to have funds to address emergencies and do some limited proactive projects. The major goal still remains, to acquire grants and fundings to finance the major needs.

NEWS The Town of Guilderland passed a resolution to lower the speed limit on Fuller Road in McKownville to 30mph. It will now match the speed limit on the remainder of Fuller Road. McKownville residents, especially those living on Warren, Mercer, Providence and Elmwood, requested this. The lower speed limits will improve safety not only for drivers but also for pedestrians and bike riders.

The Town Highway Department is constructing a sidewalk along the west side of Elmwood Street, from Western to Fuller Road. This is a new venture by the Town and the Highway Department. The portion that is completed is very attractive and the residents have praised the work.

The recent primary election did NOT experience a large turnout—hopefully, this is will not be the case when the November election occurs. Remember—without large voter turnouts in McKownville there is no way our neighborhood can continue to convince elected officials that our requests for improvements should be given serious consideration.

The McKownville-Barber farm market on McKown Road continues to have the finest vegetables—Monday, Wednesday and Friday, noon until 5:30pm. Ice cream sundaes will be served at the Association meeting—come early—have dessert before the meeting with a friend or neighbor.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday November 21, 2013—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The November meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association will feature two reports from guest speakers.

Geoff Wood and Steve Taylor of the New York State Department of Transportation, Region 1 will give an update concerning the Western Avenue sidewalk construction. This is a major improvement for McKownville---when complete we will have new sidewalks on ALL of our through streets—McKown Road, Fuller Road, Schoolhouse Road, and Western Avenue---improvements that 15 years ago were unimaginable.

Richard Goldstein, a McKownville resident living at 24 Warren Street, had solar panels installed on his house roof several years ago. Residents have expressed curiosity about the costs and “profit” that can be attained by installation of panels. Richard will relate his family’s real experience with the use of solar panels.

In 2017 CDTA plans to introduce “BUSPLUS” to the Western Avenue corridor. BUSPLUS is like an express bus---it has limited stops, better bus patron shelters and other improvements. Currently there is a BUSPLUS route along Route 5 between Albany and Schenectady. The very preliminary plans for a Western Avenue route will be discussed.

The McKownville Improvement Association Board Members would greatly appreciate community feedback as to what items and areas of improvement are most important to the community. The items on the reverse side of this form will be discussed at the meeting. If you are unable to attend this meeting please take a few moments and rank the items listed, “A” being the most important. Feel free to write-in an idea not listed. Please return your survey to Don Reeb, either by email, donreeb@gmail.com or by US mail, 5 Norwood St.

The parking lot near TGIF at Stuyvesant is nearly complete. The easement agreement signed by Stuyvesant provides that persons other than users of the Plaza may park in the new parking lot. It is clear that parking spaces are available for park users and since the easement is both exclusive and nonexclusive easements (p.2, 11/16/2009) there are additional option open to the public. However before the public takes advantage of this, a clear understanding with the Guilderland Police Department and Stuyvesant Plaza is necessary and that has not been finalized. We will keep you informed on this issue.

One of the defining characteristics of McKownville is the voting record of its citizens, this year was no exception. Town wide about 9,000 votes were cast. McKownville’s two election districts accounted for 735 of these votes, 225 more votes than in 2011. McKownville Election District 3 (the McKownville area north of Western) and Election District 4 (the McKownville area south of Western) each increased the number of persons voting this year. McKownville’s voting was between 40 and 50 percent of registered voters while that for Guilderland was closer to 30 percent----the Board of Elections is still tabulating the absentee ballots so final numbers are not yet available.

Ice cream sundaes will be served at the Association meeting—come early—have dessert before the meeting with a friend or neighbor.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday April 3, 2014—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The April meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association will feature University at Albany Associate Vice President for Finance and Business John Giarrusso.

We have invited Mr Giarrusso to our meeting because it is important for us to remain informed about University activities for many reasons. They are our neighbor with a significant portion of the campus is in McKownville.. Students at the University are volunteers with the McKownville Fire Department and student organizations regularly benefit our community by doing litter collections along Western Avenue. Many McKownville residents use the campus for recreation, and, as a reminder, their library is available to all.

Current items that are of interest to us are: a parking garage, an ETEK building (incubator for new businesses), a football stadium addition and other construction. Additionally, reconstruction of dorms are in the discussion stage for the campus. While not all of these changes will be in Guilderland, they will impact our neighborhood in various ways and so we welcome hearing form the Vice President.

Other topics of interest that are open for discussion, are:

- The informational meeting that was held concerning a private dorm that might be built on Western Ave near Tudor Road.
- NanoTech's construction of a building and a plan to build a second
- The Harriman campus may be constructing a large science building, Wadsworth Labs, this season
- Apartments are planned on Schoolhouse Rd, opposite Oak and Shady Streets, they are not just approved
- Crossgates is planning an additions, despite ongoing traffic concerns on the Northway ramp
- The former grade school building owned by St. Margaret Mary's is available for lease
- A developer is proposing 220 new apartments to be constructed near Patricia Lane and Westmere School.

Earlier this year Gordon Associates met with Board members to describe its plans for a **strip mall** on the Christ Lutheran property, approximately across the street from the entrance to Stuyvesant Plaza. The Board was not able to encourage this project because we believe that it would cause horrible traffic problems. Traffic consideration on Western Ave, as well as East Highland, would make this use of this property unacceptable. The nearby entrances and exits for Stuyvesant Plaza and the dentist's offices on Western already have the area saturated with ingress and egress needs. In addition, the Board questioned what impact this project would have on flooding in the immediate area.

A sidewalk update; Geoff Wood and Steve Taylor, of the New York State Department of Transportation, Region 1, informed us that they are not quite ready to "go to contract" on the **Western Avenue sidewalk**. Tentatively, the final plans will be ready to discuss with the neighborhood at the Association Meeting in May.

Ice cream sundaes will be served at the Association meeting—come early—have dessert before the meeting with a friend or neighbor.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Tuesday April 22, 2014—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

On Tuesday, April 22 there will be a special meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association to discuss an apartment and retail store proposal for Christ Lutheran Church's vacant lot on Western Ave.

Gordon Companies, of 50 State St, Schenectady, 462-7411, will be presenting their proposal for this property. They will be discussing their vision of placing 15 to 20 apartments above two retail stores at this location.

The apartments would be approximately 800 square feet for a one-bedroom apartment and 1500 square feet for a two-bedroom unit. The apartments will also have garages.

The retail stores are envisioned as a mattress store and a telephone store, or similar businesses.

In the last few months, at the request of the Gordon Company, board members of the McKownville Improvement Association have met with Gordon Company representatives Jeff Gordon and Jared George.

The neighborhood association raised three major areas of concern: 1. traffic problems inherent in the site location, 2. the history of flooding problems associated with this location, 3. the lot is not zoned to permit construction of an apartments/retail store complex.

The Board of the McKownville Improvement Association suggested that McKownville residents, and especially those living on E. Highland Dr, Valley Lane, and Country Road, should have the opportunity to hear the proposal directly from the Gordon Companies representatives. Please take advantage of this opportunity to hear what is being proposed, ask questions, make suggestions and voice your opinion.

The special meeting is Tuesday, April 22, 7pm, Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Please ask your friends and neighbors to attend.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday May 1, 2014—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

With the election of school and library board members at hand, Tuesday, May 20th from 7a.m. to 9p.m., the McKownville Improvement Association is pleased to have the opportunity to give neighbors an opportunity to hear from two people in leadership positions with these organizations. We hope this will give residents a chance to become knowledgeable about the operations of each group, the property tax rates for each, and the changes proposed in their programs. And, of course, to ask questions.

To begin our informational evening, on May 1, we will hear from Dr. Marie Wiles, Guilderland School's Superintendent. On April 8 the Guilderland Board of Education unanimously adopted a \$92,132,900 budget for the 2014-15 school year. If approved by voters, on May 20, it would result in a 1.94 percent tax levy increase for the coming year.

The second speaker is Tim Wiles, director of the Guilderland Library. On March 13 the Library Board unanimously adopted a budget of \$3,541,967 for the 2014- 2015 fiscal year. If approved by voters on May 20, it would result in a 1.847 percent tax levy increase for the coming year.

In recognition of EARTH DAY, we are please to announce our very first CLEAN-UP-DAY for the McKownville Reservoir Park. It will be held on Saturday, May 3rd from 10 am to noon. Please plan to join your neighbors and help this neighborhood cause. Bring gloves, hand clippers, long handled loppers and hand saws (for thicker bushes). Sarah Jenkins and C. J. Gallup, of the Town's Parks Department, recently assisted several Board members on a walk-through to help form a plan for this clean-up. In addition to cutting back invasive species, there is of course trash to be gathered. We will meet at the TGI Friday's end of the park. Rain date Sunday May 4 at noon.

On April 22, 2014 there was a special meeting of the Association at the Holiday Inn Express. The purpose of the meeting was to hear a proposal for a mixed use complex to be built on the 2 acre lot adjoining the Christ Lutheran Church property on Western Ave. The Gordon Co., represent by Mr. Tim Gordon, would like to build a complex with 2 retail establishments on the first floor, topped by 2 additional floors containing 15-20 apartments. Most of those attending were from the streets to the south of this land. In general those present spoke of grave concerns. Some of the concerns highlighted were: the safety and feasibility of a "right only" entrance and exit on Western Ave., increased traffic on residential streets as patrons of this site search for a cut-through to allow travel to the west, the impact on already existing storm water problems, and the zoning changes required for this project.

Of course, ice cream sundaes will be served.

The June meeting will be Thursday June 5, 2014.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday, June 5, 2014 - 7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The sidewalk construction on Western Avenue will be underway soon and the NYSDOT engineer-in-charge, **Dennis Smith**, will be a guest speaker at the June 5, 2014 meeting. His field office is at 1732 Western Ave (near Johnston Road), and the phone number is 218-9777. Construction will begin at the University end of the project and proceed to Rt 155, on the north side only. The south side sidewalk will get underway next year.

On Saturday, September 20, 2014, the Association plans to have a **McKownville Neighborhood Party** to celebrate our new Western Ave sidewalk and to enjoy the refurbished park. This will be **pot-luck-bring-a-dish picnic**. We are planning an early evening event in McKownville Park, located between Western Ave and the Plaza. Volunteers are needed to help organize the party. If you are willing to help please email Martha Harausz at mharausz@gmail.com or Ellen Manning at ellenmanning1114@verizon.net to volunteer. Please think of this as a neighborhood wide street party, so plan to come and enjoy meeting your neighbors...even walking to the party if you can! More information will follow when plans are finalized.

At a recent Association meeting, Town Supervisor Ken Runion indicated that the Town is willing to pay for "street light pole banners" for McKownville. Eighteen banners are to be placed on Western Avenue and Fuller Road street light poles, to help declare and define the neighborhood. Hopefully, artistic residents will be willing to submit a design of the banner for consideration. (One design has been submitted). The design is to feature the word "McKownville" and needs to indicate that McKownville is part of Guilderland. Lastly, a graphic should be incorporated. So here is a chance for a lucky artist to leave a lasting impression in McKownville. Please get your entry to Don Reeb by July 4th.

Other items of interest are: the work the Town Highway crew (Steve Oliver, Highway Superintendent) is doing in McKownville to improve our storm sewers. Significant work was done in the alley between Parkwood and Glenwood, on Mercer Street, and between Mercer and Providence. Secondly the Town Zoning Board is discussing apartments on Schoolhouse Road. Finally, the Barber's Farm Stand will be opening in McKownville about July 1, again next to the Passonno Paint Store.

While the by-laws of the Association provide for yearly dues, \$1.00 a year per household, the Association has relied solely on contributions. Funds collected are used for printing flyers and the ice cream served at meetings. The Holiday Inn provides the meeting room without charge and the Association has no other fixed expenses. The treasury is presently at \$140; another \$150 would supply the treasury with operating funds for the next year. The election of officers and Board members traditionally occurs at the June meeting---the slate for officers is Don Reeb, Doug Smith, Martha Harausz and Paul Haldeman (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, in that order) while the board member slate is Debra Trees, Bill Meehan and Alice Torda. Nominations can be made before hand (by calling Ellen Manning, 482-3779) and at the meeting.

Ice cream sundaes will be served, as usual.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Harausz, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Board Members

Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Wednesday September 10, 2014—7 pm-9 pm

Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The McKownville Improvement Association has planned a **SIDEWALK CELEBRATION** on Saturday September 20, from 4 to 6:30pm in the McKownville Park next to TGIF at Stuyvesant Plaza. Music, a children's dog parade and contest, and a potluck supper have been planned. As you know, McKownville in recent years has acquired several new sidewalks—Western Avenue being the most recent. Fuller Road, McKown Road, Schoolhouse Road and a portion of Elmwood Street are the others provided through our Town government. So come and celebrate what we ALL have accomplished. **See the invitation on the reverse of this flyer for more information.** And please plan to attend. Support your neighborhood organization—it needs you and you need it.

Banners. The McKownville Improvement Association suggested street banners be placed on utility poles in McKownville and the Town of Guilderland agreed to pay for them. A design competition was held, a design was selected by a committee and the banners are being printed. The banners will be located on Western Avenue and on Fuller Road. The thousands of persons who travel through our neighborhood will know the identity of the neighborhood---McKownville—and proud of it.

NanoTech. It seems certain that Nano is intent on buying all of the Loughlin Street homes. Loughlin Street is located in the City of Albany and off of Fuller Road near the cemetery. The implied intent is for NanoTech to replace the ten houses with another Nano building. Understandably, property owners on nearby Warren, Mercer and Providence streets in Guilderland and McKownville are asking questions about whether their homes will be next. Everyone should know, **first** that the Fuller Road Corporation—the development arm of Nano--cannot force anyone to sell. It does not have the power of eminent domain. **Second**, a change in zoning is necessary for construction of an office building in a residential area and the Town of Guilderland will **never** grant such a zoning change for Warren, Mercer, or Providence street homes. These streets—the area is known as The Garden Park Estates--had a street party a few weeks ago at which this topic was mentioned---while different opinions about Nano's threat to the area exists, **it is up to all of McKownville to do the work necessary to control its own future.**

Alleys. About 106 properties in McKownville border alleys (and jointly own the alleys). These 106 properties include many of the older homes on Elmwood, Parkwood, Glenwood, Norwood, Waverly and Western. Some sections of these alleys are still used for their original purpose, to access garages. It is a responsibility of the 106 properties to maintain the usefulness the alleys. The Association is now more active in contacting the property owners and working with them to maintain the alleys—something that should have been done years and years ago.

Storm Sewers.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Wednesday, March 18, 2015—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Ross Farrell of CDTA (Capital District Transportation Authority) is our guest speaker on Wednesday March 18, 2015. To better serve the University campus, NanoTech, Crossgates Commons, and Crossgates CDTA is developing a Bus Plus route. This will have some impact on Bus Route #10, the Western Avenue bus, come and get early information and give feedback.

Storm sewers---the Town Board announced that a \$500,000 multi-modal grant received through Senator Breslin and administered by NYSDOT would be used in McKownville to construct a storm water pipe under RT 20, a new collection system and catch basins and a new outfall to the Krumkill. It may not be completed in 2015. Probably by the end of 2016.

Picnic in the Park---scheduled for September 26, 2015. Please hold that date for Sidewalk Celebration #2. Last year's picnic was a great success so please plan to meet your neighbors as we once again celebrate.

Sidewalks---the construction of sidewalks on the south side of Western Avenue has begun.

Other news: (1) the **drainage pond** that Nanotech uses, which empties into the Fuller Road storm sewer, has been emitting a foul odor for some months. NanoTech will remedy this during the upcoming construction season (2) the **Getty gas station**, 1229 Western across from DunkinDonuts, was closed some months ago and is under more de-construction. No information is available as to what comes next for that site (3) the **Black and Blue** restaurant, 1470 Western (former 99 Restaurant site), is under construction. Its opening date is unknown (4) the **Association petitioned** the Town to rezone three homes (1420 Western, 28 Schoolhouse, 8 McKown) from LB (local business) to R-15 (residential, 15,000 sqft lot size minimum), to better protect the residential character of our neighborhood (5) **McKownville banners**, National Grid, Verizon and Time Warner approved the use of their poles on Western and Fuller roads for placement of our banners (6) **Town approved** destruction of a home at 1422 Western to allow construction of a parking lot to serve the reconstructed building at 1424 (former Esmay dentists site) (7) a **proposed new zoning ordinance** is under discussion and a draft is available on the Town's web page.

Everyone is welcome at Association meetings. There are no membership dues or fees. Voluntary contributions are the source of our funds. Email donreeb@gmail.com to receive emails concerning McKownville. **And free ice cream sundaes are served at our neighborhood meetings.**

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Wednesday, April 29, 2015—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

Albany County Executive Dan McCoy and **Guilderland Library Director Tim Wiles** will be this month's guest speakers. The County of Albany is possibly the "hidden government service provider" for most people. It provides the County Courts (including the family court), the election board, maintenance of county roads (Schoolhouse Road and Fuller Road in McKownville). It provides other safety and social services for those in need including; Medicaid, the county nursing home, the county jail and the sheriff's department. Director Wiles will discuss the programs offered at The Guilderland Library: its book collection, children's programs, music programs and computers available for the use of patrons. This is your opportunity to learn more and ask Executive McCoy and Director Wiles your questions.

Street Banners — progress is being made, the contracts for use of the National Grid poles have been signed, the banners are being printed and soon the Town of Guilderland will be installing them.

Zoning— The plan to buy both Dr. Esmay's former dental building and the white house next door, 1424 and 1422 Western Ave, has been abandoned. During title searches it was learned that 1422 Western had a deed restriction that required it to be used only as a home. This will help the Town and the Association preserve the residential appearance of Western Avenue in McKownville.

SUNY Albany news—a new school for the College will be located on the Harriman campus near the State Police buildings. Some of the pressure to expand into McKownville is thereby reduced. At this time the University is renting several floors in Stuyvesant Plaza Executive Towers as "relocation" space. It needs these spaces to temporarily house staff as re-hab to some of its 50 year old buildings occurs.

Nano College and Its New Dorm—The Field Real Estate organization purchased 12 homes on Loughlin and Fuller Rd., all are located in Albany. Soon thereafter, Nano College put out a request for a private contractor to bid to build a dorm for 500 students, May 25th is the expected contract award date. It is important to assure that the city and county not loose the tax income from this area. Additionally, Loughlin Street is zoned residential therefore; a zoning change may well be needed for construction to occur. This project could have two substantial impacts on McKownville: increased storm water problems and "block busting"--the inability of zoning laws to protect residents. Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy has been working with Albany's Mayor and the Governor to express our concerns. **This is an appropriate time to write the Governor and let your voice be heard.**

Park Clean-up—May 2nd--come join us—9am-noon--sprucing up McKownville Reservoir Park. Bring your favorite tools for lopping or chopping or help pick up trash. The rain date is May 3rd, also from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Everyone is welcome at Association meetings. There are no membership dues or fees. Voluntary contributions are the funding source for our \$350 yearly budget. Email donreeb@gmail.com to receive emails concerning McKownville. **Free ice cream sundaes are served at our neighborhood meetings.** The May meeting will be May 21, 2015.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Haraus, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Ellen Manning
3 Norwood
482-3779

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Wednesday, May 20, 2015—7 pm-9 pm
Please note location change,
McKownville United Methodist Church, 1565 Western Avenue

New York State Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy is our guest speaker this month. She has been meeting and talking with New York State, Guilderland, Albany County and City of Albany officials about SUNY Poly's expansion plans. At this time it is not known if SUNY Poly plans to expand into McKownville but we welcome the opportunity discuss this matter with our representative.

McKownville residents are very concerned about SUNY Polytechnic Institute's (SUNY Poly) recently announced dormitory construction plans. SUNY POLY requested bids to construct a dormitory for 500 students, to be built in three phases, 2016, 2017, 2018. The exact location has not been decided but the requirement is that it be near the College. The winner of the SUNY Poly dorm contract will be announced May 25. Rumors are that Loughlin Street will be the location. A very large development firm, Columbia Development Companies, bought twelve homes and vacant lots on and near Loughlin. It also purchased a home on Mercer St. The SUNY Poly College is a giant on our border, with \$20 billion in investments. Unfairly, their expansion plans are seldom disclosed until construction is nearly underway.

Additional, proposals for the construction of privately owned dorms have been rumored and or announced. The most recent one is for the corner of Railroad Avenue and Fuller Road, in the Town of Colonie. It is not clear what connection any of these privately owned dorms would have with SUNY Albany or SUNY Poly.

A letter to Governor Cuomo from the Association said---"SUNY Poly should promise that it will not expand into McKownville". SUNY Albany's promise made in the 1960's to not expand into McKownville has continued to be honored. **We hope that SUNY Poly makes that same promise.**

NEWS. The underground tanks have been removed from the former Getty gas station, 1229 Western Ave. At this time no announcement concerning the future use of this property has been made.

The three apartment buildings on Schoolhouse Road, across from Strawberry Lane, are nearing completion.

Guilderland approved Local Law #2. The Town and Building Department Supervisor Donald Albright have been working to get this more rigorous building enforcement program underway. This program is designed to deal with poorly maintained, foreclosed, vacant and abandoned properties. Such properties are sometimes called "ZOMBIE" properties. Several dozen ZOMBIE properties dot the town (Governor's Motor Inn 2505 Western, and a home at 634 Top Ridge are two examples).

Nominations for Association officers are Don Reeb (president), Doug Smith (vice president), Martha Harausz (secretary) and Paul Haldeman (treasurer), each for one year terms. Janet Reilly, Jim White and Ellen Manning are nominated as Board members for three years terms. Additional nominations can be made at the meeting.

The elections for library and school budget and board members take place on May 19. **Please vote.** Free ice cream sundaes are served at our neighborhood meetings.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Martha Harausz, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 860-3768

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Tuesday October 27, 2015—7 pm-9 pm
Hampton Inn, 1442 Western Avenue

October Meeting Tuesday October 27 will be this month's meeting.

Our first guest speaker will be **Assemblymember Patricia Fahy**, our New York State Assembly representative since 2013. **State legislation helps guide our community and the services we enjoy.**

The former dental office of **Dr. Esmay at 1424 Western** is to become Dr. Francisco Banchs dental office. His is a "root canal" specialized practice. He will present his re-building plans for the site.

McKownville Fire Department Our neighborhood fire department is planning to remodel the fire department building. **Jim White, McKownville Fire Department Commissioner** (and Association Board member) will present the fire department plans for its building.

The **candidates for Town office** will participate in a **debate on Thursday-- October 29 Guilderland Town Supervisor and Board Forum ---7:00PM - 9:15PM**, Guilderland High School Auditorium-- League of Women's Voters is the sponsor. All are invited.

The general election for Guilderland Town Board and other political offices will be held Tuesday November 3rd. Be sure to vote. McKownville's reputation for "everyone votes in McKownville" is a title that we do not want to relinquish.

Neighborhood Halloween Party----to be held at and sponsored by the McKownville Fire Department (with the assistance of the McKownville neighborhood association) will be on **Saturday October 31, 6pm-8pm---**games and prizes—**magician--ice cream and donuts.** Do not miss it—it is fun.

The **11 homes on Fuller and on Loughlin** purchased by or for SUNY Poly are empty---no announcement yet concerning the next step.

The **"picnic in the park"**--on September 26, 2015 was organized by the Association and held in McKownville Park--near Stuyvesant Plaza. About 60 neighbors enjoyed great food, music, and sunshine.

Some discussion about the reuse of the former Getty station site (**1229 Western**) and the former "palm reader" home **1210 Western** has occurred. Restaurants were mentioned as possible uses.

About two dozen **McKownville Banners** have been installed--thanks to the Town Highway Department and the Town Board. Who would have thought we could be so fortunate—they look great.

Guilderland Town Supervisor Ken Runion is retiring this year. Ken has been a tremendous leader. McKownville residents know of his leadership---sidewalks on McKown Rd. Schoolhouse Road and Western, the McKownville banners, McKownville Park, the grants obtained for repair of our storm sewers and much more. Thanks Ken—Guilderland is better because of you.

Donations. The McKownville Improvement Association relies on donations (no dues) and our expenses are about \$300-400 a year—ice cream and flyers. **Hampton Inn** provides the meeting space free. If you can make a donation, please do. You can send it to Martha Harausz (treasurer) or to Don Reeb (president).

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Ellen Manning, Secretary, 3 Norwood St. 482-3779
Martha Harausz, Treasurer, 1445 Western 489-3855

Members of the Board

Debra Trees	Janet Reilly	Laura Barry
8 Ayre Drive	18 Norwood	3 Waverly
489-1519	446-1766	813-9694
Bill Meehan	Jim White	Angie Parsons
7 Country Rd.	8 Brookwood	136 Arcadia
456-4564	459-9176	944-7311
Alice Torda	Leslie John Craigue	David Shub
2 Knowles Terrace	214 Woodscape	3 Parkwood
489-3613	446-9344	438-1547

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday March 10, 2016—7 pm-9 pm
Hampton Inn, 1442 Western Avenue

The Thursday March 10, 2016 meeting will begin with a discussion of the proposed burger restaurant. The Getty Station (1229 Western Avenue, Zoning LB, lot size 200x130) was removed and a **BurgerFi Restaurant** is proposed. The builder/engineer will present sketches and other information.

The University at Albany Foundation purchased the 9.8 acre Holt-Harris parcel near Waverly and Norwood streets. A neighborhood emergency meeting was held January 21, 2016 to discuss opposition and to develop a resolution... **“asking the University to adhere to the town zoning ordinance and the property deeds in its use of the 9.8 acres”**... (limiting use to two homes). The Town passed a similar resolution. Neighbors are circulating a petition supporting both resolutions. **The petition will be available for signing at the meeting.**

Across the Street Pub (1238-1240 Western) is proposing a deck on the east side of its building. In addition, reconstruction of the dental office (1424 Western for Dr. Francisco Banchs) is in process.

A horrible house fire on Ayre Drive could have resulted in multiple deaths had not our McKownville fire department (the Guilderland police department, Five Quad ambulance service from the University, and others) been so prompt (and brave). Financial donations to aid the displaced Morrissey and Sawyer families continue to be needed. (Key Bank, Western Avenue is accepting donations).

A proposal for a **new zoning law** for the Town will be made—the hearing will be March 15, Town Hall, 7:30pm.

Concerning **SUNY Poly** and the 11 (now vacant) homes on Loughlin and Fuller, the neighborhood has been quite strong in registering its opposition to expansion of SUNY Poly into McKownville.

The November Halloween party at the McKownville Fire house was wonderful, as usual. **Thanks to the many donors** the Association is again secure, financially. The dates for public meetings of the McKownville Improvement Association are March 10, April 14, May 10, and June 16. Ice cream sundaes will be served, as usual, at the meetings.

Guilderland Town Supervisor Peter Barber will be the guest speaker at the April 14, 2016 meeting.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Ellen Manning, Secretary, 3 Norwood St. 482-3779
Martha Haraus, Treasurer, 1445 Western 489-3855

Members of the Board

Debra Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Leslie John Craigue 214 Woodscape 446-9344	David Shub 3 Parkwood 860-3768

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2016—7 pm-9 pm

Hampton Inn, 1442 Western Avenue

Guilderland Town Supervisor Peter Barber is the guest speaker at the April meeting. As the town's chief executive officer, he can help you make McKownville a better neighborhood.

The New York Primary Election The election to determine the presidential candidate for each political party will be **Tuesday, April 19th**. Additional elections will be: June 28 - for Federal (Congress) Primary Election; September 13 - for State and Local Primary Elections; November 8 - General Election for president and other offices. Please mark these dates on your calendar voting is a great way to support your community.

Email Addresses With the introduction of FIOS service in our area, or for other reasons, a number of the email addresses in the McKownville listserv are no longer valid. If you wish to receive McKownville Improvement Association news items send your email address to donreeb@gmail.com.

SUNY Poly and Loughlin Street SUNY Poly recently issued an amended environment impact assessment form. SUNY Poly's construction of a 750 space-parking garage and a 130-bed dorm will be built on its campus—not on Loughlin. Columbia Development owns the 11 homes on Loughlin. Hopefully Loughlin will return to a street of occupied single-family homes once again. **The fear that SUNY Poly will expand into McKownville has less justification now.**

The Holt-Harris property The University at Albany Foundation has removed dead trees and filled holes where wells once existed. Windows and doors on the buildings are covered with plywood. SHPO—New York State Housing Preservation Office was contacted by the McKownville Improvement Association and asked to determine the age of the older home and the barn. The LaGrange family (Albany settlers in the 1690's) owned the 9.8 acres and a much large tract that stretched from Patroon Creek (near what is now Washington Avenue) to the Helderberg escarpment and might have built the two buildings. A McKownville Improvement Association circulated petition, signed by over 200 McKownville neighbors, was mailed to 11 local government and State government officials including Governor Cuomo. It asked that the University pledge adherence to the zoning and deed restrictions that apply to the property. Our Assembly Member, Patricia Fahy, is closely monitoring use of the property, as is our Town Supervisor, Peter Barber.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Ellen Manning, Secretary, 3 Norwood St. 482-3779
Martha Haraus, Treasurer, 1445 Western 489-3855

Members of the Board

Debra Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Leslie John Craigue 214 Woodscape 446-9344	David Shub 3 Parkwood 860-3768

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Tuesday, May 10, 2016—7 pm-9 pm

Hampton Inn, 1442 Western Avenue

SUNY Poly and Loughlin Street SUNY Poly recently issued an amended environment impact assessment form. SUNY Poly's construction of a 750 space-parking garage and a 130-bed dorm will be built on its campus—not on Loughlin Street. Columbia Development (Mercer Properties LLC) owns the 11 homes on Loughlin. Hopefully Loughlin again will be a street of occupied single-family homes and SUNY Poly will not expand into McKownville. Columbia Development president Nicolla will be the guest speaker at the next meeting, May 10, 2016.

School and Library Vote The vote on the school budget, the selection of three persons to serve on the School Board, the vote on the library budget, and the selection of two persons to serve on the library board will be May 17—from 7am until 9pm. The proposed school budget raises taxes by less than 1% while the proposed library budget raises taxes by about 1.5%.

Voting is an important privilege and responsibility—so please vote.

Email Addresses With the introduction of FIOS service in our area, or for other reasons, a number of the email addresses in the McKownville listserv are no longer valid. If you have not received emailed McKownville news items recently you may wish to send your email address to donreeb@gmail.com.

The Holt-Harris Property The two houses and other structures on the Holt-Harris property have been demolished. The University at Albany Foundation will continue to remove dead trees, replace a fence that separated a Norwood Street property from the Holt-Harris property and fence off large holes on the Holt-Harris site.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Ellen Manning, Secretary, 3 Norwood St. 482-3779
Martha Haraus, Treasurer, 1445 Western 489-3855

Members of the Board

Debra Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Leslie John Craigue 214 Woodscape 446-9344	David Shub 3 Parkwood 860-3768

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Tuesday, June 21, 2016—7 pm-9 pm
Hampton Inn, 1442 Western Avenue

Senator George Amedore is our guest speaker at the June meeting Senator Amedore was elected to the New York State Senate in 2014. He represents the 46th District, which includes all or portions of five counties. The Amedore family is known for the construction of high quality housing as well as support for many charitable endeavors throughout the Region.

Helderberg Community Energy Bob Price asked to speak to the neighborhood about community net metering---where you “access” a solar panel that is not on your property—it could be of interest to those concerned with lowering their energy costs as well as those concerned about global warming.

Fresh Veggies and the Barbers Farm Truck The finest corn on the cob and other veggies will be available once again in McKownville on **McKown Road**, just south of Passonno Paint Store. Barbers Farm in Middleburgh operates the farm stand, Monday through Friday, noon-until 5:30pm, beginning Wednesday June 22. Come get it, fresh and delicious.

Loughlin Street The McKownville Improvement Association opposes the application for rezoning to multi-housing and the construction of 173 apartments on the 5.6 acres. That intersection is unsafe, the nearby historic cemeteries will be further damaged, and it will add to noise/storm water/air pollution and the danger to pedestrians and bikers.

School and Library Vote On May 17, voters approved the school budget (1493 to 584) and elected three School Board members (Barbara Fraterrigo, Gloria Towle-Hilt and Teresa Gitto). The library budget (1429 to 639) was approved also and two Library Board members (Bryan Best and Jason Wright) were chosen.

The construction design for a **BurgerFi**, 1229 Western (a Getty station had been on that site) was approved by the Zoning Board at its June 1 meeting. The Planning Board on May 25th approved the commercial building site plan to replace the “**palm reader house**” at 1206-1210 Western. **Guilderland Highway Department** removed on June 6 the fire-damaged home at **7 Ayre Drive**. The tragedy of the fire for the Morrissey family, the generous donations to the family by McKownville neighbors and the bravery of the **McKownville Fire Department** members will not be forgotten. If you have not received McKownville email news items recently you might wish to send your email address to donreeb@gmail.com

Nominations for Association officers for 2016-2017 are Don Reeb (president), Doug Smith (vice president), Martha Haraus (treasurer) and Ellen Manning (secretary) for one year terms—and Laura Barry, Angie Parsons, and David Shub as Board members for three years terms. Additional nominations can be made at the meeting or by contacting Alice Torda—489-3613.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Ellen Manning, Secretary, 3 Norwood St. 482-3779
Martha Haraus, Treasurer, 1445 Western 489-3855

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Leslie John Crague
214 Woodscape
446-9344

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
860-3768

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday, September 15, 2016—7 pm-9 pm
Hampton Inn, 1442 Western Avenue

Loughlin Street---(Sandidge Way is its new name)—is the major current problem. The Albany County Planning Board disagreed with the rezoning of Loughlin Street that is requested by the investors. The rezoning (if approved by the City's Common Council) will permit the construction of 173 apartment units on the 5-acre site. The County Planning Board noted that its density is extreme in comparison to the single-family homes on Loughlin and on nearby streets in McKownville. The County also noted that more coverage of the 5 acres adds to the groundwater and storm water problems in the McKownville area while the apartment occupants will cause increased traffic congestion on Fuller. The expected build out of SUNYPoly and SUNYAlbany will add to both problems.

Originally, the Loughlin Street site was purchased by Columbia for \$3.5 million with the intention to sell the property to SUNY Poly. That did not happen when an investigation of possible collusion between Columbia and SUNY Poly was launched. Massry recently bought the site for \$4.5 million; Dawn Homes is to be the owner of the apartments. The investors need to over-build the 5-acre site to recoup the excessive price paid for Loughlin Street homes.

The City is revising its zoning law and the County again will review the Loughlin Street zoning proposal. The investor's request for 173 apartments on Loughlin Street has not changed.

Moreover, since the investors intend to apply for a tax abatement, the City taxpayers may suffer a loss with development---increased tax receipts possibly will not offset the increased demand for services (fire, police, ambulance, school, library, parks, storm sewers etc) from the 173 apartments. In addition, McKownville will suffer from increased traffic and storm water problems.

Our guest speaker, Chris Spencer, is the Director of Planning for the City. It should be interesting to hear his viewpoint on the new zoning for Sandidge/Loughlin and the proposed construction of 173 apartments. (Spencer Jones, Dawn Homes Management, will be at the meeting).

Please email Mayor Kathy Sheehan (mayor@albanyny.gov) indicating opposition to the proposed 173 apartments on Loughlin—and ask friends who live in the City to do likewise.

Other News. (1) Gates were erected at the Holt-Harris property entrances. (2) A metal plaque honoring Sue Brown will be installed in McKownville Park (with the help of our Parks Department). (3) The Town Safety Committee is petitioning the State to lower the speed limit on Western, as residents have suggested. And (4) ice cream sundaes will be served before, during and after the meeting.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Ellen Manning, Secretary, 3 Norwood St. 482-3779
Martha Haraus, Treasurer, 1445 Western 489-3855

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

Leslie John Craigue
214 Woodscape
446-9344

David Shub
3 Parkwood
860-3768

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2016—7 pm-9 pm

Hampton Inn, 1442 Western Avenue

This is a: MEET THE CANDIDATES MEETING

November 8, 2016 is Election Day for the Presidency of the United States. It is also election day for other offices including that of State Senator and State Assembly. We invited the candidates for these two offices to make a presentation at this meeting. At the time of this notice's printing some of the candidates have agreed to join us. For State Senator, 46th District, George Amedore, the incumbent, is running against Sara Niccoli. Sara Niccoli will be with us. George Amedore spoke at our May meeting and has confirmed that he will not attend on the 20th. For State Assembly, 109th District, Patricia Fahy, the incumbent, will join us as will Jesse Calhoun, her opponent. **Each candidate will present a 10-15 minute description of their platform, followed by 10-15 minutes of question and answers from the audience.**

Other News **Fire House Vote**----A special election will be held Tuesday, October 18th, 6-9pm at the firehouse for the purpose of voting upon the proposition to fund the Fire House renovation. The Neighborhood Halloween Party at the firehouse will be Monday October 31, 6:00-8:00pm—prizes, games, candy, and a fantastic clown will again make this a great night for our neighborhood.

The Association has a new Board member—Richard Goldstein of Warren Street. In addition, Tom Robert of East Highland Dr. will distribute flyers on East Highland and Valley Dr. For many years, Nancy Van Buren had distributed the flyers on these streets and we are very appreciative of her years of service.

McKown Road—Wolanin Corporation has a number of trailers parked illegally on land near Pinnacle Place. The Town Zoning Board denied permission for this usage. They are oversized and the land is zoned residential. Hopefully they will soon be removed.

Sandidge Way (Loughlin Street) — the future of the 11 homes on the former Loughlin St is still not obvious. They remain vacant. Indictments of persons involved in the purchase of the homes have made the future of Sandidge Way complicated. It remains the hope that these homes will again be on a street of single-family occupied homes. **The Association is continuing its efforts to protect our residential neighborhood.**

University----As absurd as anything else, there are again reports of persons (students?) using the woods at the end of Glenwood and Norwood streets as a bathroom. The University has provided porta-potties near the basketball courts but is now looking to build toilets at the site. Should you observe anyone urinating, or worse, please contact the SUNY Police at 442-3130.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Ellen Manning, Secretary, 3 Norwood St. 482-3779
Martha Haraus, Treasurer, 1445 Western 489-3855

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Members of the Board

Richard Goldstein
24 Warren St
482-3142

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Leslie John Craigie
214 Woodscape
446-9344

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
860-3768

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday, November 17, 2016—7 pm-9 pm
Hampton Inn, 1442 Western Avenue

There will be two guest speakers talking about changes that might influence McKownville's future----- John Giarrusso from the University at Albany and Peter Barber, Guilderland Town Supervisor.

McKownville residents have many concerns about McKownville's future that the Association has been working to address.

What is going to happen on Loughlin Street/Sandidge Way? Many neighbors wrote letters, sent emails, attended Albany City Council meetings, and testified at those Common Council meetings. The City is in the process of a citywide rezoning process; however, it is generally supporting the pleas of Massry to rezone this area as a separate issue. The current request is the same as the one proposed by Columbia Developing and Dawn Homes. Confusion surrounding the indictments and confusion surrounding the "not yet complete" new zoning ordinance makes the future of Sandidge Way very unclear. Opposition to the 173 apartments by McKownville residents is however quite clear.

What about our storm sewer problems? \$3.25 million in grants—from Senator Breslin (\$500,000), Senator George Amedore (\$1.5 million) and Assemblymember Patricia Fahy (\$1.25 million) are helping Guilderland begin the repair, reconstruction and addition of storm sewers in McKownville. Additional grants are needed but some of the work will begin when the State finishes processing applicable paperwork--which is being pushed as hard as possible.

Holt-Harris--what is going to happen to that vacant land? It is about to be transferred from UAlbany Foundation ownership to UAlbany ownership. After that nothing has been announced, though it is rumored that the University Chapel House located on the original Holt-Harris plot is about to be demolished.

Other News. The community by a vote of 90 to 46 approved the firehouse referendum on enlarging (putting a second floor, and other changes) the McKownville Fire House. Expected cost is \$3 million

The Halloween party at the McKownville Fire House was a wonderful event. Next year please come and watch how much joy the children get from playing the games and getting a tattoo and having a special balloon-hat made. It shows McKownville as its very best.

#1. Noise from the Thruway/Northway traffic - protests have been filed with the State. #2. Western Avenue speed limit reduction - is being worked on. #3. Wolanin's illegal placement of oversized trailers on the Pinnacle Place property - is being worked on. #4. The former Getty station on Western and the former "palm reader" house across the street from it-- neither developer has been active recently. #5. Foreclosed and zombie houses in McKownville--progress has occurred - a home on Parkwood, another in Woodscape are occupied or in process.

Please come—enjoy the ice cream sundaes and the conversation.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
Ellen Manning, Secretary, 3 Norwood St. 482-3779
Martha Haraus, Treasurer, 1445 Western 489-3855

Members of the Board

Debra Trees
8 Ayre Drive
489-1519

Bill Meehan
7 Country Rd.
456-4564

Alice Torda
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Janet Reilly
18 Norwood
446-1766

Jim White
8 Brookwood
459-9176

Leslie John Craigue
214 Woodscape
446-9344

Laura Barry
3 Waverly
813-9694

Angie Parsons
136 Arcadia
944-7311

David Shub
3 Parkwood
860-3768