



Donald Reeb <donreeb@gmail.com>

Fw: Holt Harris Property

1 message

Mary Smith <mfs1943@yahoo.com>

Reply-To: Mary Smith <mfs1943@yahoo.com>

To: Donald Reeb <donreeb@gmail.com>

Fri, Aug 12, 2011 at 7:09 AM

As requested. Thanks for all you are doing. Mary

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Mary Smith <mfs1943@yahoo.com>

To: "presmail@uamail.albany.edu" <presmail@uamail.albany.edu>

Sent: Friday, August 12, 2011 7:07 AM

Subject: Holt Harris Property

Dear President Phillip,

I am certain you are receiving many emails regarding this topic of UA buying McKownville property and using it for reasons other than residential or forever wild reasons. I am another life long resident of McKownville (68 years) as well as a UA Ph.D. graduate of '90 from the School of Social Welfare so I feel a commitment to my community as well as to yours. I am concerned that UA is expanding at rates that are staggering and is doing so without regard to the community that borders you. The Holt-Harris property is a small piece for a large institution like yours but for McKownville, it is a significant piece of land that impacts what we wish to maintain here, which is a small but solid hamlet where families can live safely, quietly, and harmoniously in a setting that is conducive to raising a family, setting down roots, and growing old here. Residential property is getting more and more scarce here due to institutions and businesses spreading out and taking over.

I implore you to reconsider your ideas of purchasing this property and using it for something other than residential and forever wild use. There are so many other ideal locations for UA to expand into which would help that community to become revitalized. McKownville does not need revitalization. We need to stay focused with our mission of providing a safe and healthy community for families.

On a personal note, growing up, Judge Holt Harris was a friend of my parents and I would often go across the street to share in parties at their home and play in the area. Very fond memories of those times. I cannot imagine that his family would have wanted to see his property become a parking lot, or a dorm or an athletic center or anything other than a place for families to live and play.

Please take seriously the requests and pleas you are hearing from McKownville residents. We want to be good neighbors with you and we hope you will be a good neighbor to us. Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,
Mary Plager Smith, Ph.D.
3 Westlyn Court
Albany, NY 12203