
** Come to the Wednesday December 2, 1981 meeting at 8:00 PM in the Town Hall for the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on the proposed Pyramid/Crossgates shopping center.

The Wednesday night meeting is vital to our interests. At the November 18, 1981 Zoning Board meeting it was implied that we are again in the "public statement" phase of the hearing. If so, we need "public statements" again -- people who are once again willing to stand-up and say that they do not want the traffic, the noise, the filth, the crime, the loss in residential property values and all the other 'illnesses' which will be brought by Pyramid/Crossgates to our community. In these hard economic times, we need developers which bring benefits to our community, not new costs to our taxpayers.

** Guilderland's Town engineer, Warren Jones, wrote a very critical report concerning Pyramid/Crossgates. He said that Western Avenue can not carry the traffic to be generated by Pyramid/Crossgates. Copies of the report are available from officers of the McKownville Improvement Association, courtesy of the Knick News-Times Union who brought suit to have it released.

** The recent Town election was a great success for the foes of Pyramid/Crossgates, and a great defeat for Pyramid/Crossgates. The three(3) Town Board candidates who made the strongest statements against Pyramid/Crossgates were elected: Kevin Moss, Jim Cleary, and Don Cropsey (over Bill Aylward, John Ryan, and Jim Gardiner). Two of the elected are Republicans, and one a Democrat. This kind of split balloting has to be impressive to the leaders of both parties. The Cleary election is still somewhat in doubt; if it holds, the Town Board will have three Republicans and two Democrats. Two party government may have finally arrived in Guilderland; this has to help us defeat Pyramid/Crossgates--competition always helps the underdog.

** Your opposition to Pyramid/Crossgates is paying off. Pyramid recognised at the end of the November 18th Zoning Board meeting that

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it could not hope to get the over-sized variances that it had requested; the opposition from the community (that means nearly everyone in McKownville and the majority of those in the Town of Guilderland and in the Capital District) has been strongly against Pyramid/Crossgates for three years and 8 months now. So -- Pyramid offered to reduce the size of the building by some 24 percent. With the smaller floor area, there would be more land area available for parking-- and so the parking variances would be reduced. BUT this is not enough --it only reduces the need for variances. This manuver doesnot eliminate any of the negative impacts from Pyramid/Crossgates on the community--the crime, the loss in residential property values, the filth, the cost of adding more policemen, or the run-off into the Krumkill and into our reservoir. (Did you know that we are still paying-off debt for the Water district and Pyramid/Crossgates wants to destroy the reservoir by its pollution?) Make no mistake-- we did not ask for a reduction of 300,000 square feet in building area-- we ask that the Town STOP CROSSGATES.

** There are at least three court suits trying to STOP CROSSGATES: (1) the suit attempting to override the permit to pollute the reservoir issued by Flacke--we believe that he lacks the authority to issue the permit and that if a permit is to be issued it must be done by the State Health Department. The McKownville Improvement Association is a party to that suit, thanks to your contributions to the McK. I.A. Lawyers Fund. (2) Suit against Flacke on mis-conducting the Hearing (brought by Concerned Citizens Against Crossgates, which is also a party in the first suit). (3) Suit against the Town on mis-conducting the re-zoning hearing (brought by Virginia Horan, Democrat Town Board member. Maybe a Republican suit is forthcoming?)

** Crime is increasing in McKownville. There have been several burglaries in the last few weeks. One was very bold--one person pretended to be a new neighbor while another went through the house stealing the silver, etc. The best protection is neighborliness--keep a watch out for each other-- talk to your neighbors -- make sure you stay informed about what is happening--if you see something suspicious, call the State Police and the Town Police. Help each other and thereby help yourself.

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