

# Field house plans worry area residents

**By Pamela Newkirk**  
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**GUILDERLAND** — While Supervisor Kevin Moss says he is convinced plans for the State University at Albany's 3,000-to-6,000-seat field house will not have a significant impact on the town, some residents disagree.

Moss made his statement about plans for the field house Thursday, one day after he had met with SUNYA President Vincent O'Leary.

The structure would be constructed in 1989 off Western Avenue.

The McKownville Neighborhood Association asked Moss to meet with SUNYA officials to relay their concerns about traffic, noise and the overall effect the proposed field house would have on their neighborhood.

"Based on what he told me, I don't think there will be an impact, any measurable impact, on the life of McKownville," Moss said.

"It doesn't look like there would be hordes of people brought in," he said. "It will be mainly geared to campus

life. This would be the most logical place to put it."

Moss delivered that message to the McKownville Neighborhood Association on Thursday night, but many in the group were not swayed.

"No matter what they say, it will have an impact," said James Cameron, association president, after the meeting attended by about 40 persons.

"Six thousand people in a field house is a good number of people," Cameron said. "Practical considerations outweigh what we believe will be an intrusion. We're disappointed."

Moss said SUNYA planned to build the new field house in the parking area near the campus gymnasium.

"They have no intention of disturbing the hill which buffers the campus from Route 20," he said.

Moss said the exact size of the field house would not be known until funding for the project was committed. The maximum seating would be 6,000, he said.

"The traffic and noise — it seems to be the least desirable (location) for McKownville," Cameron said.