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**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 Gutbezahl. 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 Harausz 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.

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