
Crossgates

1 message

Michelle Straight <MStraight@vchcny.org>
To: "kovalchikk@togny.org" <kovalchikk@togny.org>

Thu, Feb 27, 2020 at 3:47 PM

Good day, my name is Michelle Viola Straight... I live at 1385 Berne Altamont Road, Altamont New York.

I have been a Guilderland resident for over 20 years. I raised my three children in this town, they all went to Guilderland schools. They all went on to be very successful adults two sons are currently serving in our military, and my daughter graduated SUNY Oneonta and has a wonderful job.

I have been a very active member of the town for all these years. I am the immediate previous president of the Guilderland Chamber of Commerce, Owned a business on Western Avenue(Route 20 Cafe /west mere news) for many years. I have served on the Guilerland library committee, Guilderland cares committee, the YMCA board, the Altamont PTA... Just to name a few.

Pyramid mall has been a large part of my family's life for over 20 years. Before I moved up here, our family used to drive halfway from New York City up on the halfway point Palisades Mall. We would meet there on a Saturday and have lunch... That was our family time since we live so far apart. When the time came for us to move, I wanted rural living, shopping, a mall entertainment. I wanted a place I could raise my kids, and give them the opportunities to grow and stay in the area. I want to shopping, hospitals, educational opportunities and history.

My family and I chose to live in Altamont, we love the rural living... within 15 minutes I could be at a large mall... Go out to dinner, go to a movie, do some shopping.

The main reason why I moved here was because of the accessibility that I can get to Crossgates... And that is important to us.

Pyramid mall has been a huge supporter of our community. They have hosted hundreds of fundraising events for local non-for profits. They are always kind and welcoming... Like no other mall around.

My oldest son who is in the Marines... Was transferred out to Syracuse And needed a part-time job... while attending Syracuse University and going to drill every other weekend... The staff of Crossgates put me in touch with carousel mall. They are so kind and thoughtful and are very accommodating with his schedule going to the Marines drill every 2 to 3 weeks.

Pyramid is not your typical corporation. If you look at their history... They have been extremely supportive of our community. The expansion of Crossgates is much needed!

We need to keep up with the times. Crossgates is looking to expand with apartments... Yes! Much needed. My daughter would've chose to stay in the area if we had living situations that were more appealing to a younger professional. As for Costco... The parcel that they are looking to develop... Is on a main road... Is in a developed area. The answer is yes. We would love to see Costco. And did I mention that they use all local contractors to do these jobs! They are putting food on these families' tables. As well as the long-term goal of employment within these facilities... Again putting food on our families table.

Pyramid has been nothing but accommodating to the Towne. Very mindful of traffic patterns and how they can help the town and it's residents.

What Crossgates is asking to develop... Is a complete workable plan... To incorporate new... To entice new residence... To enhance the lives of the residents that live in the town.

Growth and change is something that is very important to a town and it's economy.

We are the voice of support for Crossgates Mall and its expansion. I have complete faith in their planning. They have done nothing but jump hurdles, be supportive... And connect with our community.

Warmest Regards,
Michelle Viola Straight
Director of Community Relations
Veterans & Community Housing Coalition