

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Whitman family doesn't deserve public excoriation

► Additional letters about the Whitman letter and responses appear on **Pages 10 and 12.**

After reading Ernest Ryan's letter to the editor (Oct. 22 Bedford Now), I can not refrain from correcting you on one huge point.

I personally don't know the Whitman family, however I have lived in this community long enough to know that the Whitman family are givers and not takers. They have given much to this community, but I don't expect you to know that if you haven't lived here long. For those of us that have lived here for at least 30 years, know that the Whitman family have been very generous with their resources.

The Whitman Center that you believe shouldn't bear the Whitman name, wouldn't have been if it weren't for the generosity of the Whitman Family. It is common knowledge and public record that without the substantial amount of money put up by the Whitman family, there wouldn't

be a Whitman Center today. When they were handing the community money for that campus, no one disliked them then. But let them want to do something for themselves, and all hell breaks loose. What a two-faced community!

I have never known the Whitman family to do anything to hurt this community. It is of my opinion that, those that dislike the Whitman family are just jealous of them for what they have.

Shame on you, before you go spouting off at the mouth, you should at least know what you are talking about. Next time do a little research on your own, instead of listening to a few people that dislike the Whitman family and the reason being is that they listen to a bunch of gossip.

This whole thing started a few years ago when the Whitman family wanted to sell a piece of their property. Be-

cause a few busybodies that want to run the community thought that maybe Wal-Mart would be the possible buyer, they decided to form this little group that has been pushing this community around for far too long and in my opinion will keep Temperance a small place to live with no resources of its own.

People in Temperance complain about the condition of the roads but aren't willing to expand the tax base to gener-

ate more income to maintain those roads. By not allowing new, larger businesses into the community, they are keeping this a small place in more ways than one. The little strip malls that have shot up as the answer to our shopping problems can't even keep all the stores occupied. We need a place to shop so we don't have to go to Toledo or Monroe to buy what we need.

Sue Bomyea, Temperance

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Whitman family has done a lot of good for community over years

Regarding Ernest Ryan's comments in a recent issue of Bedford Now, I sense he has not been a resident of Bedford more than a year or two, or he would be aware of the most recent Whitman family contribution to the Bedford community.

A great deal of money was contributed by Jon Whitman, his father, Paul, and their families when the Francis Family Y was opened about six years ago. Prior to the donation of

land many years ago to construct the Whitman Center of Monroe County Community College, Jon was very active in Bedford High School athletic events and fundraisers.

He actually closed his service department on a Saturday in January for 10 straight years to host an Athletic Booster pancake breakfast fundraiser. Over those 10 years, Jon donated more than \$15,000 to help keep Bedford athletics afloat during ex-

tremely tough times.

I would suggest that writer Ryan address Jon Whitman with a little more respect when calling him by his last name only when he has historically done so much for the Bedford community over the years. I would only hope that reader Ryan gets his facts right before opening his mouth and maybe even tell us what he has personally done for his new community.

Keith Holmes, Temperance