

Saturday, March 19, 2011

## Let's envision a hometown 'upgrade'

Drive through the parking lots of The Andersons, Costco or Westfield Mall and see the slew of cars with Michigan license plates. Michigan residents shopping for their families spending their sales tax dollars in Ohio and supporting Ohio businesses.

Drive through the parking lots of Kroger, Dollar King Poker Room and White Park to see the slew of cars with Ohio license plates. Ohio residents dragging garbage bags of bottles and cans to gather the deposits and coming to use facilities that do not collect sales tax nor benefit our businesses.

The difference? We are spending our sales tax dollars to go towards Ohio and Toledo. Our Ohio friends come up here to use our facilities that we gain nothing for our township or state.

With the debates on Walmart, AutoZone and an expanding Kroger, I think as a community we need to be proactive on our vision of the future of our township. What kind of towns do we want? Where Lambertville seems to be increasing in traffic and business (although it might not be what people want), Temperance is lacking in basic consumer needs. If we seek out businesses that we would like to see in Bedford to provide services for our 30-some thousand residents, wouldn't that make for a better, more visually pleasing township?

Right now, Temperance needs an upgrade of some sorts. Whether it be an anchor store to stimulate the growth of our town, or a redevelopment of our downtown area, we need something. We are one of the largest suburbs in the Toledo area with the least amount to offer our residents.

Quality of roads, reputation of our schools, visually appealing downtown areas, convenience to shopping as well as the feeling of being safe will only increase our value of our homes. Being known as a negative, non-business friendly, disorganized, unsafe and stagnant community does not make any new home buyer want to move to Bedford, therefore, decreasing our values.

**Michelle Bork**  
Temperance

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Letters welcome

Letters on matters of public interest are welcome. Full name, address and telephone number are required. Anonymous letters and those without verifiable names and addresses will not be published. Letters are limited to 400 words and may be edited for brevity. Send letters to e-mail: info@bedford-now.com; fax: (734) 850-2023, or mail: Olde Schoolhouse Commons, 8336 Monroe Rd., Room 119, Lambertville, MI 48144.

### More threats to community

Instead of the Bedford Watch few worrying about the Whitman property, which would have brought many jobs to the community, if they would have sold to Wal-Mart, they should have been worrying about AutoZone moving across the street from the new O'Reilly's Auto Parts store in Lambertville.

One will run the other out of business and then another big empty box store.

Don't make sense to me.

**Ken Konoff**  
Temperance