

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Rights of residents near Whitman are in jeopardy

A number of people here in Bedford seem to be in a hurry to give in to rezoning the Whitman, Lewis and Sterns property so a big box store can be built there.

They seem to have forgotten the vote against this, maybe because they don't live near it. Maybe they're not concerned with the rights of the few destined to lose a great deal in property value and serenity. Maybe they'd be more concerned if such a store were going up near their home, bringing myriad problems their way.

Some seem to have forgotten the importance of ensuring everyone's rights. Most of those living near Whitman ground zero purchased their home years ago. They paid dearly for their beautiful pastoral locations when there was absolutely no reason to believe that anyone would permit rezoning to allow a big box store to be built by them. Would it really be right to take away property value and quality of living from those people and pass the financial gain on to Mr. Whitman? Protecting the rights of property owners is the very reason we have zoning laws.

Letters welcome

Letters on matters of public interest are welcome. Full name, address and telephone number are required. Letters are limited to 400 words and may be edited for brevity. Send letters to e-mail: info@bedfordnow.com; fax: (734) 850-2023, or mail: Olde Schoolhouse Commons, 8336 Monroe Rd., Room 119, Lambertville, MI 48144.

Furthermore, who's going to pay for the necessary changes to handle the unpleasant increase in traffic? How about the increase in crime often associated with big store parking lots? Some have mentioned the benefit of new jobs. But retail store jobs are seldom viable, with income far short of that needed to support a family, even in the most modest of life styles.

The board has a responsibility to ensure the rights of all living here in Bedford. The vote against changing the zoning is mandated to further ensure our rights. Standing united to support the rights of everyone is the foundation of democracy.

David Warner
Temperance