

GUEST COLUMN

Lambertville group should be created to oppose Jennings' project

The recent letter to Ford Motor Company by Ms. Joyce Hagen is the best example to date of how some members of the Bedford Township Board need to take a hike.

An elected official blatantly attacking the livelihood of a respected local businessman, by threatening a multi-billion dollar corporation that she'll buy a Honda if he's not reprimanded, is beyond belief. At the very least, the tactic is juvenile.

It's also amazing that she apparently has no clue that "Whitman Ford" with the Ford logo is a legal trademark that Whitman's corporate officers can use any way they choose because of their franchise agreement with Ford.

Hagen has proven beyond any doubt that she has a complete and total disre-

gard for Whitman's business, family and personal rights. I hope Whitman can successfully sue over her attempt at undermining his relationship with Ford Motor Company to harm him financially.

I would also encourage Jon Whitman to withdraw his family's contribution to the Bedford YMCA project. If their business operation in Bedford is loathed as much as Ms. Hagen claims, then the profits from it shouldn't benefit Bedford either.

To put the frosting on this politically charged cake, board member Arnold Jennings recently announced a new strip mall at Consear and Secor Rds.

He'll have nice ordinance-compliant landscaping, but who says I want yet another bar in my neighborhood? Whose idea of a master plan allows a strip mall at Consear and Secor anyway? This is residential, farm, church and horse stable country up here.

I believe I'd prefer a new park with picnic areas, walking trails and play-

grounds where Jennings wants to put the strip mall with a bar/restaurant. Drunks sleeping in their cars and motor homes over night in his parking lot would detrimentally affect my property value.

There would be increased crime in surrounding neighborhoods because of the increased traffic from Toledo. Traffic accidents caused by intoxicated alcohol consumers swerving and speeding on Secor would cause danger and possibly death. Certainly Secor and Consear can't handle increased congestion caused by these commercial establishments.

The parking lot lighting would cause light pollution at my nearby farm, so I won't be able to sleep. My way of life will be destroyed. The bar could have dancers at night, which would draw prostitutes and their clientele from Toledo. The waiters, waitresses and retail clerks would be paid minimum wage and have little or no health insurance benefits. For every job created at this strip mall, two or more "good pay-

ing" jobs would certainly be lost elsewhere in the township.

Let's create a www.Lambertville-Watch.com non-profit organization opposing the strip center that Jennings proposes so we can save the way of life we moved here to experience and protect our property values.

He should be more than willing to halt his project, lose the enormous commercial value of his property and create a recreational park that our new special interest group will be pleased with, shouldn't he?

That's the way it works in Bedford Township nowadays, doesn't it?



Mark Bilger
guest columnist

Letters are 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 250 words and may be edited for brevity.