



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF ELECTIONS

REC'D & FILED

BALLOT QUESTION COMMITTEE
COVER PAGE

09 APR 20 PM 1:03

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Report must be legible, typed or printed in ink and signed by the
treasurer or designated record keeper.

COUNTY CLERK
MONROE, MICH.

This statement covers From: _____ To: _____
Mo Day Year Mo Day Year

1. Committee I.D. Number

78150

2. Committee Name

Citizens to Preserve Bedford

4. Committee's Mailing Address

Citizens to Preserve Bedford
c/o [REDACTED] Tracy Rd. Temperance, MI 48182
Area Code and Phone (734) 847- [REDACTED] 48182
If the address in this box is different from the committee mailing address on
the Statement of Organization, mail may be sent to this address by the filing
official.

5. Treasurer's Name and Residential Address

[REDACTED] Rabb
Indian Rd., Temperance, MI 48182-1515

Area Code and Phone (734) 847- [REDACTED]

6. Treasurer's Business Address

same as above

Area Code and Phone ()

7. Designated Record Keeper's Name and Mailing Address
(if the committee has a Designated Record Keeper)

Area Code and Phone ()

8. TYPE OF STATEMENT:

8a. ☒ PRE-ELECTION

OR

8b. ☐ POST-ELECTION

Pre-Election or Post-Election Statement relates to:

☐ PRIMARY

☐ GENERAL

☒ SCHOOL

☐ SPECIAL

Date of Election:

May 05, 2009
Month Day Year

8c. ☐ ANNUAL STATEMENT
(____ Coverage Year)

8d. ☐ QUALIFICATION
OR

☐ NON-QUALIFICATION
STATEMENT (Required of
State-wide Ballot Question
Committees Only)

Date of Qualification or Non-
Qualification:

Month Day Year

8e. ☐ AMENDMENT TO CAMPAIGN
STATEMENT

(Complete Item 8a, 8b, 8c 8d, or 8f to
indicate which Statement is being amended)

8f. ☐ DISSOLUTION OF COMMITTEE

Effective Date of Dissolution

Month Day Year

By checking this item, I certify that the
committee has no assets or outstanding debts,
including late filing fees. Note: The disposition
of residual funds must be reported on Schedule
4B and the Summary Page.

A committee that does not have a Reporting Waiver must file all required Campaign Statements. The Campaign Statements must include all applicable
Schedules. Direct contributions, in-kind contributions, loans, expenditures and outstanding debts count against the \$1,000 Reporting Waiver threshold.

If any of the information listed in items 4, 5, 6, or 7 has changed since the information was shown on the committee's Statement of Organization, an
amendment to the Statement of Organization should accompany this Campaign Statement. If a request for a Reporting Waiver is not received on
or before the filing deadline of a required campaign statement, that campaign statement can not be waived.

9. Verification: I certify that all reasonable diligence was used in the preparation of this statement and attached schedules (if any) and to the best of
my knowledge and belief the contents are true, accurate and complete.

Current Treasurer or
Designated Record Keeper

Type or Print Name

Rabb

Signature

Rabb

Date 04 18 2009
Month Day Year



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Bureau of Elections

SUMMARY PAGE
BALLOT QUESTION COMMITTEE

1. Committee I.D. Number 78150
2. Committee Name Citizens to Preserve Bedford

RECEIPTS

3. Contributions
a. Itemized Contributions (Schedule 4A, Column 6)

Column I
This Period
(3a.) \$ 1780.00

b. Unitemized Contributions
(less than \$20.01 - no Schedule)

(3b.) \$ NOT APPLICABLE

c. Subtotal of Contributions

(3c.) \$ 1780.00

4. Other Receipts (Schedule 4A-1, Column 6)

(4.) \$ 0.00

5. TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER RECEIPTS
(Add Line 3 c + Line 4)

(5.) \$ 1780.00

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

6. In-Kind Contributions
a. Itemized In-Kind Contributions
(Schedule 4-1K, Column 7)

(6a.) \$ 140.00

b. Unitemized (less than \$20.01 each - no Schedule)

(6b.) \$ NOT APPLICABLE

7. TOTAL IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS
(Add Line 6a + Line 6b)

(7.) \$ 140.00

EXPENDITURES

8. Expenditures

a. Itemized Direct Expenditures (Schedule 4B, Column 7)

(8a.) \$ 0.00

b. Itemized Get-Out-The Vote (Schedule 4B-G, Column 6)

(8b.) \$ 0.00

c. In-Kind Expenditures - Purchase of Goods or Services
(Schedule 4B-2, Column 7)

(8c.) \$ 140.00

d. Unitemized Expenditures (\$50.00 or less-no Schedule)

(8d.) \$ 0.00

e. Subtotal of Expenditures

(8e.) \$ 0.00

9. Independent Expenditures (Schedule 4B-1, Column 7)

(9.) \$ 1513.53

10. TOTAL EXPENDITURES (Add Line 8e + Line 9)

(10.) \$ 1653.53

IN-KIND EXPENDITURES

11. Total In-Kind Expenditures-Endorsements, Donations or
Loans of Goods or Services (Schedule 4B-2, Column 8)

(11.) \$ 0.00

DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS

12. Debts and Obligations

a. Owed by the Committee (Schedule 4E)

(12a.) \$ 0.00

b. Owed to the Committee (Schedule 4E)

(12b.) \$ 0.00

Column II
Cumulative for Election Cycle

(18.) \$ _____

(19.) \$ _____

(20.) \$ _____

(21.) \$ _____

(22.) \$ _____

(23.) \$ _____

(24.) \$ _____

(25.) \$ _____

BALANCE STATEMENT

13. Ending Balance of last report filed
(Enter zero if no previous reports have been filed.)

(13.) \$ 0.00

14. Amount received during reporting period
(Line 5, Column I, Total Contributions & Other Receipts)

(14.) + 1920.00

15. SUBTOTAL Add lines 13 and 14

(15.) = 1920.00

16. Amount expended during reporting period
(Line 10, Column I, Total Expenditures)

(16.) - 1653.53

17. ENDING BALANCE
(Subtract line 16 from line 15)

(17.) \$ 266.47

Doig Donnelly, city editor

242-1100, news1@monroenews.com

Wal-Mart not only target for citizens group

By PAULA WETHINGTON
Evening News staff writer

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP — If any developer plans to bring a large-scale commercial retail store to Bedford Township, he should be prepared for a fight.

The leaders of a new citizens' committee, Bedford Watch, hope to get that message out to area property owners, local businesses and residents as they organize against a proposed Wal-Mart development.

"I moved to Bedford to live here, not to shop," said Steve Rowland, one of the leaders in Bedford Watch. "We don't want a 'little Toledo.'"

Formerly known as the Stop Wal-Mart on Sterns Rd. committee, the Bedford Watch group has started an informal petition drive, posted an Internet site and soon will start a yard-sign campaign.

About 100 people attended Thursday's meeting at Bedford Township Hall — the second for the group.

"Our focus initially has to remain stopping the Wal-Mart on Sterns," Douglas Bermick said. He led most of the discussion Thursday.

The core membership of Bedford Watch is residents of the area near Lewis Ave. and Sterns Rd. Their interest is based on private discussions with owners of Whitman Ford on Lewis Ave. about development plans for land behind the car dealership.

Neighbors are convinced that Wal-Mart wants to locate behind Whitman Ford. No public announcement has been made, and no application is on file with township officials, regarding a Wal-Mart development anywhere in the township. But

WAL-MART STATUS

No application is on file with Bedford Township officials regarding a Wal-Mart development, and nobody has issued a public announcement of plans for Wal-Mart to come into the area.

The Bedford Watch group is basing its campaign on private discussions that the owners of Whitman Ford on Lewis Ave. had with their neighbors Dec. 6, regarding development possibilities for the property behind the car dealership.

Only some of that land is zoned for commercial. To allow enough room for a Wal-Mart, a developer or the property owner would have to file a request for a zoning change or planned unit development with township officials.

Bedford Watch members said another site, which is owned by other people, already has a large enough area with commercial zoning.

Bedford Watch wants to be prepared for what might happen.

"We're a couple steps ahead of what other people do," Mr. Bermick said.

Bedford Watch members also hope to attract the interest of residents in Lambertville and Samaria, along with those in Temperance. The long-range goal is to campaign against large-scale commercial development anywhere in Bedford Township.

Ideas mentioned Thursday include using voter-led initiatives and referendums to set size limits on commercial projects, or overturn existing zoning for potential sites. The petition now circulating, however, will not force an election or zoning decision. The intent is to show township officials that a significant number of residents are opposed to Wal-Mart building a store in the area.

Bedford Watch also is sending representatives to the township's small businesses to explain the campaign

and ask for assistance on public relations or with the organization's expenses.

So far, the business reaction is mixed.

"The business support is likely to depend on whether they will be hurt by a Wal-Mart coming into the township," said Bill Miller, a Bedford Watch supporter and leader of the former Let's Talk About Meijer group.

Ray Johnson, a member of the Alexis Road Coalition in Toledo, also voiced his support for the Bedford Watch group. He urged residents to push large commercial projects to north Toledo, where there are several vacant buildings. "We want them," he said. On the other hand, his group is encouraging smaller scale strip mall projects to go to Bedford Township.

Bedford Watch members also are attending planning commission

CAMPAIGN UPDATES

The Stop Wal-Mart on Sterns Rd. citizens committee has changed its name to Bedford Watch. Committee members wanted a name that would reflect the community as a whole, in case they start campaigns against large-scale commercial development at other locations.

The committee's Web site is now at www.bedfordwatch.com. Yard signs also will be available in a week or two.

MEIJER SITUATION

Bedford Watch is basing its campaign on previous battles against a Meijer store and of the residents involved in the Bedford campaign — Let's Talk About Meijer — have joined this new committee.

Meijer tried three times in the past 10 years to place one of its stores in Bedford Township. The most recent proposal was in June, 2000, for property zoned residential at Secor and Smith Rds.

Before a review process started with township officials, the developer and Meijer officials gave up. The letter given to township officials cited "unforeseen circumstances" as the reason for withdrawal of the project.

meetings to stay informed about any development proposals that come up.

The question they ask other residents is: "How would you feel if Wal-Mart came to your back yard?"

Carol Stephens, who lives near the new Kroger store at Sterns and Secor Rds., understands that question. The Kroger property was long zoned commercial, but the grocery store and new retail strip mall were built last year.

"You don't know how important this is to your quality of life," she said, listing complaints such as bright outdoor lights spilling into her windows and overnight noise from delivery trucks.

A shouting match developed when one woman, who refused to give her name, said she has long wanted her Sterns Rd. property to be developed and hoped a nearby Wal-Mart would contribute to that effort.

"If you want to form a committee that says 'I love Wal-Mart on Sterns Rd.," go ahead," Mr. Bermick told her.

The woman left the meeting. Although some in the audience said she had a right to her opinion, they agreed that those who support Wal-Mart can do so through other means.

Bedford Watch members said the most common reason cited by area residents who want a Wal-Mart is that the nearest stores in that chain are in Franklin Township just north of Monroe and in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Other people are hoping that a major commercial development would provide additional tax revenue for the township. But because of how Michigan property taxes are allocated, Bedford Watch leaders said the income from a new Wal-Mart store would not be enough to pay for the additional expenses needed for roads, police protection and fire protection.

Fair changes
ticket sales
procedure

Carved in ice

Wal-Mart deal opponents organize in anticipation of meeting

BY BRIDGET MEADE

Bedford Now

Members of Bedfordwatch.com are encouraging the Bedford Township Board to say no to Wal-Mart at the board's Nov. 14 board meeting.

"This is not a done deal before the board members vote on this," Bedfordwatch.com member Doug Bermick said.

Bedfordwatch.com was begun in 2001 when residents first learned that a Wal-Mart could be coming to Bedford. Today, its board members are doing all they can to prevent the store from being built on the Whitman Ford property.

"We're seeking counsel from a land-use lawyer to see what options we have," Mr. Bermick said.

Many Bedford residents are contacting the organization to voice their concerns. Mr. Bermick said board members received over 200 e-mails on Sunday alone.

Mr. Bermick stressed that the organization is not against the store itself, but the location.

"We're not bashing John Whitman," he said. "We have nothing against John Whitman or Whitman Ford. We have nothing against Wal-Mart."

"There's a need for a Wal-

Mart in the northern Toledo area. That's fine with us as long as they put it in a commercially zoned area."

What the organization is against is having a Wal-Mart built so close to residential property.

"We're trying to protect our neighborhood and our property values," Mr. Bermick said. "We are trying to save over \$50 million in property values."

"It's really personal for me because it's in my backyard," said Judy Frankowski, another Bedfordwatch.com board member. "We don't want it in Bedford Township."

"We're seeking counsel from a land-use lawyer to see what options we have."

—Doug Bermick
member, Bedfordwatch.com

Since the issue heated up, bedfordwatch.com has received thousands of dollars in contributions. Mr. Bermick said the organization plans to use the contributions to purchase signs and a land-use lawyer.

chase signs and a land-use lawyer.

"It's not up to me; it's not up to the township," Mr. Bermick said. "We have to do it with seven members of the board."

"We're sending out a letter to the township, just doing everything we can to have people be there," Ms. Fra-

"Why would we do hours if we didn't want the township?" Mr. Bermick said. "We're here to protect the township."

BRIEFLY

BHS play to serve as fundraiser as well

Bedford High School Theatre program will raise funds and awareness for children with AIDS during their fall production of "The Yellow Boat."

The award-winning show was written by David Saar whose son, Benjamin, died from complications of the AIDS virus. A hemophilic, Benjamin contracted the virus during a routine transfusion in the 1980s.

Although the show deals with the death of 8-year-old Benjamin, the show is much

more about the legacy he has left behind. A talented visual artist, Benjamin dealt with his illness through his drawings. The set for the show will recreate giant versions of his drawings.

"For the most part, the show is funny," states director Sue Smith. "You see the world through Benjamin's eyes. Remembering days of playing tag and drawing imaginary worlds."

The show does pull at your heartstrings, though, which is why Smith asked the cast about raising funds for a cause. "By the end of the show you really feel like you want to do something. Help


someone. So the cast agreed that the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation would be a great organization for which to raise money."

The show is at 8 p.m. Nov. 17 and 18 and at 2 p.m. Nov. 19 in the high school auditorium. Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased at the door. All seats are general admission. For more information, call 850-6131.

Legion to be site of UM-OSU game party

The American Legion Post 192 will host a party for the Michigan-Ohio State game, starting at 3:30 p.m. Nov. 18.

The event, which is sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion will have a 50-50 raffle, door prizes, a turkey raffle and complimentary food. The event is open to the public.



BEDFORD ALLIANCE CHURCH
will host a seminar on
The Oppressive

BUY IT! SELL IT! SELL IT! SELL IT!

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No Class

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GOOD

Big-box battle brewing in Bedford

By VINCE PISCOPO

BLADE STAFF WRITER

TEMPERANCE — Bedford Township residents are gearing up for another battle against what they say are plans to bring a big-box retailer to the municipality.

They say Jon and Paul Whitman are planning to sell 30 acres near Lewis Avenue, just north of Sterns, to developers who want to build a Wal-Mart store on the land. It is a proposal that residents say they will fight

vigorously.

"I can predict that there will be strong public sentiment against that," said Dennis Rabb, an Indian Road resident. "It really isn't good for anybody."

Less than two years after another group of township residents successfully fended off plans to build a Meijer store at Sterns and Secor Road, Mr. Rabb and others say they plan to wage a similar battle.

Mr. Rabb and others say the

Whitmans told them about the plans at a dinner meeting Thursday. The Whitmans invited about 30 to 35 neighbors of the property to the meeting to outline plans for the property, which is a portion of a 40-acre tract next to the family's car dealership, Whitman Ford, on Lewis.

Those who attended the meeting said that Jon Whitman and his father, Paul, told them that the family wants to sell the parcel so Wal-Mart, the Bentonville, Ark.-based retail giant, can

build a store.

Jon Whitman, owner of Whitman Ford, yesterday confirmed that he is looking to sell 30 acres of the parcel, which is bordered to the south by Sterns and to the west by Indian Road.

But he would not disclose the details of the meeting with residents at Memories Banquet Hall on Lewis.

"That's between us and these people," Mr. Whitman said. "We don't have a comment about what

happened at a private

But two residents at the meeting told The Blade the message was clear: Wal-Mart wants to come.

At the meeting, township officials gave residents some information about the dealership and Don Ayers of Indian Road told them that the cabinet, stuffed with documents, property, but did not

See BATT

Battle

► Continued from Page 1

the land become a strip mall, doctors' offices, or a mobile home park. Then they told the residents of the plans for a Wal-Mart.

"They said, 'We want somebody that has deep pockets,'" Mr. Rabb said, adding that the Whitmans said a Wal-Mart would be better than having a less successful company build that might not be able to deliver on what it promises.

Mr. Ayers said the Whitmans did not provide many details about their plans.

"Every time we asked a pointed question, they danced around it," Mr. Ayers said.

One potential problem for the Whitmans and Wal-Mart is zoning.

Part of the parcel for the proposed store is zoned commercial, while another part is listed as residential, according to Steve Lennex, a real estate broker for Michael Realty, which represents the Whitmans.

But Mr. Lennex said the potential buyer of the property would try for a "planned unit development" approval, rather than attempting to change the zoning of residential portion of the property to commercial. Under that plan, a Wal-Mart store could be built with the current zoning. Such a move could give the township more control over the project.

Mr. Lennex would not confirm the identity of the buyer, but said a sales contract was pending and the buyer would be trying to get the various governmental approvals in the next 30 to 60 days.

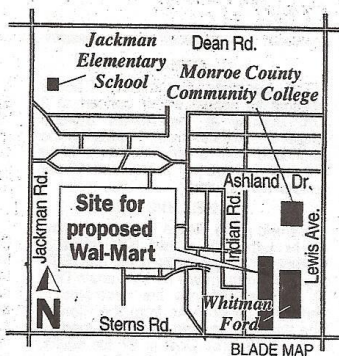
"We're negotiating the final details of the contract right now," Mr. Lennex said, adding that the buyer would set up a meeting with residents to explain its proposal once the sale was complete.

It wasn't clear what kind of store Wal-Mart wants to build at the site.

Wal-Mart discount stores typically are 40,000 to 125,000 square feet, have about 150 employees, and offer a range of items from clothing to health and beauty aids to home furnishings to electronics to hardware. Its superstores are 110,000 to 230,000 square feet, employ about 350, and also have groceries and services such as eye care and auto care.

Regardless of its size, the proposed store already has sparked opposition. Both Mr. Ayers and Mr. Rabb said residents are opposed. Leaflets advising residents of the project and asking for support to block it have been distributed, Mr. Ayers said.

"I don't think anyone would have had any squabbles if they put in a housing development or a doctor's office," Mr.



Among the neighbors' chief objections, Mr. Rabb said, will be traffic congestion, pollution, and noise concerns some say will destroy their quality of life in this Toledo bedroom community.

"This is going to be right in my backyard," said Nina Calmes, an Ashland Drive resident who did not attend Thursday's meeting. "I don't like it. Why would I want a Wal-Mart in my backyard? Traffic is terrible trying to get out on Lewis Avenue as is."

LaMar Frederick, the township supervisor, said he has received about six calls from residents about the property last week and the township planning department received the same number. Bedford Township must approve the final plans. The township does not have a proposal from developers.

Residents wanted to know where entrances would be put, how much impact the added traffic would have, what kind of buffering there would be between the store and the residential area, and about noise and pollution issues, he said.

"Many of them were looking for the same type of information we are," he said. "We'll be working on all of these [issues] when we have an official site plan."

Township residents in 2000 mounted a successful campaign against a proposal to build a Meijer store at the intersection of Secor and Smith Road. The proposal, which included several homes and condominiums, was withdrawn in part when it became clear it would have a difficult time winning the needed rezoning from the township.

Mr. Ayers said residents opposed to the Wal-Mart store would contact those who led the effort against the Meijer store.

Wal-Mart spokesman Tom Williams said he had no information about plans