

Years ago, some local MC business owners objected to Walmart relocating to the west side of town; but it happened and since then that area has grown.

Then about 10 years ago with the over whelming support of both MC and CL Clergy and Clear Lake City and Business Leaders, the Casino proposal was defeated in a landslide vote, because it would bring low paying jobs, increased divorces, crime and bankruptcies; but our neighbors to the North thought different.

Next came the Target Distribution due diligence team. Instead of rolling out the Red Carpet to Make It Happen, Target was pretty much told during a tour by local Manufacturing Managers and City Leaders that the Clear Lake & Mason City Area could not provide 900 jobs; thus they went south.

Now after the Horse is out of the Barn, all you Naysayers sheepishly admit it was a huge mistake. If you could do it over, the Casino would be at the junction of I-35 & B-20 and the Target DC where ever they wanted, and then we wouldn't even be talking about today's issues! But remember who the City Leaders were then!!!

Wow, what could have been two Home Runs-with only the smell of money for Cerro Gordo County was a Grand Slam for Worth and Black Hawk counties.

Now comes the Prestige Pork plant proposal and who knows where this Ball will land. Maybe another close community will score a Grand Slam at your expense. Current Mason City leaders know their options are running out, but again thanks to Clear Lakes Leaders, residents and some Mason City residents, there is an abundance of opposition. You Naysayers have had several years to find better development options .....but you only show up when it won't satisfy your taste buds.

It has been stated that Prestige factory wages of \$35,000 annually will not support a family of five- REALLY?? The first question is – why only one family income earner? Why can't both spouses work outside the home, or one work a full time and part time job to make it. The "Pitty Me" phrase, perfected by a former Councilman, who hasn't worked in years, is used now by many and worn out. Instead of getting a job, we apply for free hand-outs at the tax payer's expense and complain about it.

Maybe it's time for all you High Rollers, who think your poop don't stink, to get your head out of the sand and think Positive once. And if you don't like the Prestige Plant in Mason City, use the next best option – LEAVE – because you won't be missed as you already cost the community more than you are worth.