

# OPINION

## Promising solution

### Investors hold key to Victorian Manor future

Hopes are that the group of investors attempting to buy Victorian Manor from its troubled current owner will soon be able to close on the property.

District Judge Michael Hogan last month appointed a receiver to investigate alleged securities fraud by Sunwest Management, which is based in Salem Ore., and owns the Batavia senior housing complex on East Main Street. The judge's ruling allowed the group, Manor House LLC, led by Gordon Davis, to pursue purchase of Victorian Manor. The sale would get Victorian Manor out of a mess of litigation surrounding Sunwest and allow those associated with Victorian Manor to breathe a little easier.

These days of businesses being sold to other businesses, which are then gobbled up by even bigger businesses can be disconcerting. Most of us have had these uncomfortable feelings when a local bank suddenly becomes part of a larger entity and changes its name. Some of the banks

in Batavia have changed hands several times. Most times, the same people are working there, but they report to different bosses. Such is the world of business and finance today.

It has to have been a tough time for the people living in Victorian Manor's 40 units. They have seen construction start on a new wing, and then stop as some of Sunwest's troubles filtered out to Batavia. Fortunately, the Genesee County Economic Development Center has stepped in to help straighten out the mess — at least the part of the mess that affects Batavia. It has created a financial rescue plan for the facility that includes property tax abatement for the planned expansion, in return for Manor House's promises to pay back taxes and money owed to local contractors.

Here's hoping all the legal questions are cleared and the new group fulfills its promises soon.