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**St. Petersburg Times**  
tampabay.com

October 30, 2010

## Florida's property tax system outdated

Times staff

**Fee cuts haven't fueled growth | Oct. 23, article**

### Property tax system outdated

I see that the impact fee cut did not work in Hernando County. Well, I had eight couples from various states look at my home. All were interested in a winter home. Upon finding the property tax amount, all thought it was an unfair system. All eight couples bought in another state.

You need to overhaul the property tax system where rates are the same for all owners.

Many people who want a second home are not buying or building due to our property tax and high homeowners' insurance rates.

The system is outdated. Wake up! You're cutting the wrong things.

**Sandra Dobson, Spring Hill**

### Money should go to those in need

I read about all the homeless children in our school district, at least 300, what a shame. Then I read about the district possibly receiving \$2.2 million from the federal government.

Who do you think will benefit from this windfall? Can you believe a good chunk will go to merit raises in these hard times for people already earning \$52,500 to \$99,725? Not creating a single job for our unemployed or homeless families.

How greedy can people get? Someone should have trouble sleeping at night, but I doubt it. Government stinks.

**Donald Sebastian, Spring Hill**

### Election Day has inevitable result

As another Election Day approaches, the same old clamoring is heard from each political side fishing for the prize: another term in another office.

Yet no matter who we choose in our voting, it seems the inevitable result is the same: A decline in our quality of life, more debt, weakening of our economy and fear for the future of this great country.

**James Caputo, Spring Hill**

**Re: Trash Pickup**

**Keep workers, ditch the barrels**

The first thought that crossed my mind was "more unemployed men, more families on the bread line." Then the question, "Why would we want these barrel-type monstrosities on our property?"

Last but not least was, "What kind of debt would our county incur to pay for all these unwanted barrels for every family in Spring Hill?"

Right now, as always, the service is excellent with a hard-working, reliable crew. There is no need to replace these men with a mechanism (trucks with robotic arms) that also is an added expense.

Somewhere there is the question of who instigated this idea, and why.

### **Dorothy Lind, *Spring Hill***

#### **Coach or parent? Still bad behavior | Oct. 21, letter**

##### **Parents trust dedicated coach**

Neither the author of the letter nor the *Times* took the time to discuss the incident with the parents of the team. If they had they would have been made aware of the absolute trust we put in this coach concerning our children's safety and well-being.

Cheerleading is a dangerous sport where girls can be severely injured if they are not paying attention to details. Dangerous or negligent behavior will not be tolerated. These actions can be as simple as talking while instructions are being given. Our coach does not tolerate it from the team, which does include two girls of her own. What people might have observed was a coach reprimanding a player, but it was in fact a parent disciplining her own child. The Pasco Police Athletic League board of directors investigated these allegations and determined that no law was broken and cleared the coach of these allegations.

Our coach has dedicated the better part of 15 years volunteering her time to the West Hernando Cougars. It is a very successful program that she and her husband started without any support from our own county. She selflessly gives her time to our girls to teach them not only a sport, but life lessons that will help them make it in a difficult society. She is tough but loving, hard but supportive, firm but caring. It is her ability to be both a coach and mentor who drives the girls to want to be on her team. We have 39 girls on varsity, which outnumbers all of the other teams on PPAL and all of the other teams we compete against. So we ask you, is this the selfish person being portrayed in the letter?

She has now been suspended by PPAL and Pasco Sheriff Bob White. We cheer to support our football team every Saturday and now that it is our girls' time to shine, we are coachless. If our coach is the person described in the letter, then why are so many people putting their faith, trust and time in the Cougars and our head coach?

### **Patricia Malacos, *Spring Hill***

#### **>>Your voice counts**

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If you prefer, you may fax your letter to (352) 754-6133, or mail it to: Letters to the Editor, Hernando Times, 15365 Cortez Blvd., Brooksville, FL 34613.

All letters should be brief and must include the writer's name, city of residence, mailing address and telephone number. When possible, letters should include a handwritten signature. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be printed. The Times does not publish anonymous letters.

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St. Petersburg Times



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