

# Your views: Letters to the editor (April 12)

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Readers express a variety of opinions in their letters to FLORIDA TODAY.

### Editorial disparages substitute teachers

I was extremely dismayed at the recent editorial about substitute teachers. I have been a substitute teacher in Brevard Public Schools for more than 12 years and do not have a teaching degree.

Although I agree with much of the editorial regarding having higher standards for substitutes, it was degrading to school administrators, teachers and substitute teachers.

Brevard school administrators know what is happening in the classrooms at their schools. The editorial's suggestions for administrators are not new concepts; they are what administrators are already doing under a difficult financial situation.

It implied administrators allow substitute teachers to just "baby-sit" and "show movies" because the administrator does not monitor the lesson plans left for substitutes. Then these same administrators hire substitutes who are incompetent to continue the educational

process while a teacher is out. How untrue!

The editorial also left the impression that teachers do not leave adequate lesson plans. This is offensive and false.

Finally, substitutes who do not possess a teaching degree are not part of a pack that n eeds to be culled, as the editorial stated. They are underpaid individuals who love children, enjoy working with students and desire to support our school system achieve the very best education for Brevard students.

A good journalist could have made the same point without using derogatory remarks and disparaging inferences.

Judith A. Doelfel

#### **Titusville**

## County wrong to close park for big concert

Wow! Bringing top country and western music stars to Brevard County is nothing



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new. It is new to have them perform at Wickham Park in Melbourne.

I like country music as well as the next guy, but I don't like the fact they have decided to close the park for several days to anybody who has not paid for the concert.

In essence, if you want to use the park this Friday Saturday or Sunday, say to push your baby in her stroller, put your kids on the playground equipment or grill some hotdogs and hamburgers with some friends, forget it, it's not going to happen.

You see the park will be closed from Thursday night until Monday morning.

Something doesn't seem right here. Since when do we have to start paying for admission to a public park? Seems some of our taxes must pay for the park, right?

Bruce Mochwart

#### Melbourne

## Scott voters shouldn't be surprised at result

Since Rick Scott bought his governorship of Florida, I've heard many people on the right who voted for him lament their choice.

I've never been able to get my head around why some people continually vote against their own best interest and then are surprised at the outcome.

Time after time, during the campaigns,

these candidates were asked where the cuts in the state budget would be and they refused to articulate any details. They were criticized over and over again for refusing to state where they would make their cuts, but people still voted them into office, and are now surprised?

Think tanks like the Cato Institute determine the right wing's strategies, billionaires like the Koch brothers provide the funding for their "grass-roots" tea party movement and Fox News exploits their ignorance, anxieties, bigotries and jingoism to the advantage of the wealthy.

To all the people who voted Rick Scott into office, welcome to the nightmare.

#### **Ernest Copenhaver**

#### Deltona

## Blame radical, far left for Beck's exit

I am saddened that Fox News talk-show host Glenn Beck is being forced out by the



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America-

hating, radical far left that threatened advertisers on his popular show with boycotts if they didn't pull their ads.

All Beck did was tell the truth and used the very words of the socialists and communists in this corrupt administration. They couldn't challenge him on facts so they resorted to threatening boycotts and other dirty tricks to force advertisers to pull their ads from a very successful show in a poor time slot.

I believe these actions will backfire on those on the far left, including their president.

By backing up his words with quotes by the far left and president, Beck couldn't be accused of lying.

How sad to see where these people have taken this country. What they have done is an attack on our free speech.

Americans, be sure and remember this in November 2012.

**Patrick Kent** 

**Merritt Island** 

## Pill-mill bill bad for small drugstores

How can a Republican legislator, supposedly pro-business, sponsor a law that will destroy and prohibit small businesses? State Rep. Robert Schenck's bill aims to get rid of shady pill mills that dispense narcotic drugs to addicts and pushers. But like a prescription drug ad on TV, it takes longer to describe the harmful side effects than the benefits.

Unless a store belongs to a publicly traded corporation or has at least \$100 million in assets, it cannot be licensed to dispense narcotic drugs under this bill; in effect, it cannot function as a prescription pharmacy.

Stores that have been in business for 10 years are grandfathered in; others will be put out of business immediately. No one will be allowed to start a new, small pharmacy business. If this bill becomes law, independent drugstores will disappear completely over time.

Please call, write or e-mail your legislator to oppose this bill. It's bad medicine.

Robert Wise

#### **Merritt Island**



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#### **Quran-burning reaction** shows mission fruitless

Excoriation or gratitude, what is pastor Terry Jones due for recently burning a copy of the Quran?

He has spawned violence in Afghanistan and provided extremists with a propaganda tool with which to inspire hatred toward this country. Yet has he finally forced realization that our presence in that country, given the mentality exhibited there recently, can ever be anything but fruitless?

Allowing the inmates to run the asylum, hopefully to their own self-destruction, may be a poor choice, but Jones has certainly provided food for thought.

**George Cannon** 

Melbourne Beach



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