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### My Thoughts Exactly by Annette Kniola

By Annette Kniola  
Posted June 16, 2012 at 6:48 a.m.

Discuss Print A A A

There has been alot of crazy stuff going on lately in the Estates and I can no longer sit here at my desk without expressing how I feel about some of the issues. As much as I would rather sit and write a family story, I am compelled to do the opposite.

I will begin with the latest venture I have been working on for many weeks now. And that's the distribution of park impact fees from District #5, my community. It took some time to get the numbers from the Parks and Rec. division but they came through thankfully. Now I have plenty of work to do ahead of me, trying to understand where all of the money went from all the impact fees.

If you do not know, when you decide to ever build a house, you pay impact fees to build it. In those impact fees are regional and community park fees, along with library, fire, schools, roads, jails, EMS, government buildings, and lastly, law enforcement. The regional park impact fees are basically thrown into a pool and spread evenly throughout Collier County. (Obviously not here, right?) The community park impact fees are those that must stay in that district. With that said, my requests have been many. I am looking into how much impact fee money has been collected, distributed, and saved from both regional and community park fees. This week, I have received a power point presentation of the County's park impact fees going back from 1998-2011. I studied it for hours upon hours yesterday and have many questions to submit.

I have no intention at this point to submit my findings to you, but from what I see now, I would say I am a bit confused and agitated. Frustrated to say the least. Nothing against you Barry of course, you are the best!

Then this morning, a little article in the paper by Katherine Albers (whom I finally just met) reads: Productivity panel had a key role in Collier. It reads about how this panel can go line by line through budgets with a private sector eye, along with a taxpayer eye. Including impact fees. How cool is that!

You can read that here;  
<http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2012/jun/15/countys-productivity-committee-aims-to-tackle/>

After reading it, a light bulb went off! Why not have more set of eyes look at this impact fee report and hopefully come up with the same numbers as I? What I seek is how much money is owed to us here in District #5 and when can we start building our park! Though anyone from any district can do the same for their own interests. Have at it! I just want to focus on ours right now.

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I could go on and on with my findings but I must be fully prepared before I start throwing out numbers. What would really be fun is to actually post the numbers to all of you, or even send you the power-point for you to work on like I did. More eyes the better!

But in reality, more than likely there is no money for our park and we have to think of an alternative. And we did! And that is to open a non-profit to take in donations for this park. When this is up and running, with of course yours truly to run it, maybe then we will get our park in a decade or so. (Kidding!) Okay, maybe before my last one graduates. (Wait, that's longer than a decade) Okay, sooner.

There are other issues, the shipping container ordeal and Immokalee Master plan, but those are going to have to wait another day. Must be off and running now.

Happy Fathers Day!

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June 16, 2012  
8:29 a.m.

**chickenfry writes:**

I get what you are saying. Anyone paying attention should notice Coletta, Fiala, and Coyle encouraging the highest impact fees in FL while district 5 still has a big "NO" on all the promises. No parks! No paved roads! No ATV park! No safety bridges! No anything except a higher milage rate and a big rediculous debt that is 45% of our annual budget! Regulations that prohibit jobs! I could write a book. Why anyone would re-elect any of those three is either simple ignorance or cronyism.

[Suggest removal](#)

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June 16, 2012  
8:55 a.m.

**Just1 writes:**

It is all spelled out right here. Now it is time to go to the polls and put an end to this "good old boy" system.

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June 16, 2012  
9:26 a.m.

**Porkchopper writes:**

Just figured out why Coletta is so disliked in his district, its his record.

[Suggest removal](#)

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June 16, 2012  
9:28 a.m.

**BillyBob1 writes:**

If you want to know where the district 5 money gets spent just take a drive out Oil Well Road.

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

June 16, 2012  
9:33 a.m.

**Dbess writes:**

Well, I'm thinking we probably won't see any parks, ATV or otherwise, until the people force the issue through electing different representation. I mean, 12 years to get this done is a long time. Who in their right mind would believe we'll get something in the future? Same + Same = Same. We voters need to change the equation! [www.timnance2012.com!](http://www.timnance2012.com)

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

June 16, 2012  
9:36 a.m.

**Dbess writes:**

in response to **Porkchopper:**

Just figured out why Coletta is so disliked in his district, its his record.

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**87°**  
Partly Cloudy  
Wind: E 14mph

Today  
**90°**  
69°

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Calendar

JUN	JUN	JUN	BROWSE
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	MORE

**SonRise National Park Vacation Bible School** 8:45 a.m.

Covenant Church of Naples

**"PRAISE" Vacation Bible School** 9 a.m.

North Naples United Methodist Church

**Yoga Classes** 9 a.m.

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church

**Mangrove Estuary Kayak Tour with Up A Creek Kayak Tours** 9 a.m.

Waters of Rookery Bay Reserve

**Free zoo admission for Dad** 9 a.m.

Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens

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I have to add "feared" too. People support Tim Nance in their hearts but are afraid to post yard signs for fear Coletta will send code enforcement to harass them. What a shame voters FEAR their own representatives!

June 16, 2012  
10:10 a.m.

**miamia writes:**

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Though I'm not in District 5, I sympathize with them. It's not fair that they get ignored as they are. There's probably more families there with children that need the parks than in my district 2 where most are senior retirees.

I'm very happy with living in my district and the amenities afforded us here. I wouldn't live in Golden Gate if you paid my rent but different strokes for different folks. Even though I like to be five minutes away from everything I require, I still recognize that fair is fair and those in District 5 are entitled to the amenities that they pay for in taxes.

I am proud to back Tim Nance for Commissioner from District 5 and I certainly believe they're entitled to the representation they deserve.

In the theme of being positive rather than negative, I'm certain Tim Nance will consider what is best and fair for ALL the districts in Collier County when he is elected to the Commission!

I also believe in term limits and resent having career politicians instead of honest and fair representation!

Features

June 16, 2012  
10:16 a.m.

**Notahiredblogger writes:**

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Well well well Annette, are you finally leaving the dark side?

Have you realized that Coletta is no friend of the people of district 5? As long as he's in office, expect MORE of the SAME!

Many people who ask the questions that you ask, have been asking the same questions for years. I hope now that you can see Coletta for what he really is and make a sound sane decision in August of who should take over his corrupt little kingdom!

And I hope people in Fiala's district will follow suit when Coyle is up for reelection. This has got to stop. Please vote Tim Nance for Collier County Commissioner District 5.

June 16, 2012  
10:48 a.m.

**swfl\_ff writes:**

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

Annette you wonder where all the impact fees went? It's pretty simple, they were all spent on things like water parks, median landscaping and government buildings.

Actually those impact fees are being used to help pay off the mountain of debt that our fearless leaders got us into trying to keep up with the Jones. And now that the impact fee collections have pretty well dried up what ever little is left will have to be spent paying down the for mentioned debt.

I am afraid that your district has not had proper representation for some time now which has added to your problems out there. It appears that many people living in that district are coming to understand that and hopefully a change will be made come August.

Although I do not live in District 5 I am backing Tim Nance all the way. I have talked to him a couple of times now and I believe that he is the best choice to change the way things have been handled in District 5.

June 16, 2012  
10:52 a.m.

**FlanMan writes:**

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

At the April 2011 Parks Master Plan Meeting, I specifically asked for an accounting of all the impact fees collected and where impact fees were spent - That request was directly to Marla Ramsey, and as well, directly to Jim Coletta as he sat on the "panel". Marla Ramsey is now gone, not having provided info requested. The facts still take an overwhelming effort and attention to get to the truth and to real facts. I am looking forward to seeing what data was recently released.

I have always looked for truth, transparency and accountability - basic common sense says we should know where our money goes. Why dont we have the amenities in the Estates that other districts have?(My guess is "other districts" is where the Estates Money was spent).

One question: Who does Jim Coletta represent, and who has he sold out?

These actions are on tape or on transcripts in the County BCC Meeting Archives. See 4-6-11 and 4-7-11 Parks Master Plan Transcripts

This scheme of spending goes beyond Parks and Recreation - it goes to roads and other "impact fees" as well.

It appears that District 5 was last in line at the spending window, and promised Safety Bridges, Parks, Paving of Limerock Roads, widening of Golden Gate Blvd from Wilson to DeSoto(among others) were left behind when the money ran out. Much of the money was also diverted to overplanned, over capacity, overspent, now obsolete infrastructure like Vanderbilt Beach Road Extension and others.

Accounting of all this should be transparent and accountable in the simplest of terms. Our leaders should be held accountable for their actions as well.

I for one am ready for new District 5 Commissioner who will represent our interests and stand up for our community's best interest and a brighter future for our families here in the Estates.

Jim Flanagan

June 16, 2012  
11:03 a.m.

**FlanMan writes:**

On another quality of life/recreation issue:

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

Most people might not be aware that Jim Coletta, during a BCC Meeting in tried to "sell" the public an ATV Park proposal. He stepped off the Dais as County Commissioner and went to the podium to present a proposal for the County to purchase 375 acres in Hendrie County - property owned by Bill McDaniels and others - for an ATV Park. The 375 acres incorporated a 200 acre lake. Coletta proposed a \$15 Million price to the BCC for the McDaniels property. (McDaniels was Coletta's Campaign Manager in a past election). Fortunately for the taxpayers, that proposal failed (I also question the appearance of conflict of interest in presenting such a scheme given such past and present relationships.) Coletta later voted to settle with South Water Management District for \$3 Million saying "thats the best we could do."

The best we could do?? Still no ATV park, and little prospect of a real solution. What happened to the \$12.9 Million land value that was bantered around with the Water Management District when the South Blocks were turned over to the Everglades Restoration by the County? Ten years and nothing still.

One question: Who does Jim Coletta represent, and who has he sold out? These actions are on tape or on transcripts in the County BCC Meeting Archives. See the June 22 2010 BCC meeting and 6-22-10 Naples Daily News article "New settlement proposal could net ATV park in Hendry County" for Jim Coletta's McDaniels Property ATV Park sales pitch.

Our County Commissioners should all be transparent and accountable in the simplest of terms and held accountable for their actions. I am ready for new District 5 Commissioner who will represent the peoples' interests and not their own. We need someone to stand up for our community's best interest and provide for a brighter future for our families here in the Estates.

Jim Flanagan

June 16, 2012  
1:15 p.m.

**AnnetteKniola writes:**

Wow, I leave to go out and do some shopping and have 11 comments already! All I can say is, "Holy Smokes!" I guess I really stirred the pot. Thanks everyone.

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

Swfl\_ff, you are more than likely correct, especially the regional impact fees for the water park. That I know. The community park impact fees are my most interest. I really want those numbers but unfortunately they do not show up on the power point presentation. It's all combined. That won't allow me to do the numbers correctly until I get that division amongst the two.

For the rest of you that think I was on the dark side? Never been, always been sunny side up! And hey, plus I'm a Democrat! :)

Email me at [annetekniola@aol.com](mailto:annetekniola@aol.com) if you would like the presentation sent via email.

June 16, 2012  
3:37 p.m.

**swfl\_ff writes:**

in response to **AnnetteKniola**:

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

Wow, I leave to go out and do some shopping and have 11 comments already! All I can say is, "Holy Smokes!" I guess I really stirred the pot. Thanks everyone.

Swfl\_ff, you are more than likely correct, especially the regional impact fees for the water park. That I know. The community park impact fees are my most interest. I really want those numbers but unfortunately they do not show up on the power point presentation. It's all combined. That won't allow me to do the numbers correctly until I get that division amongst the two.

For the rest of you that think I was on the dark side? Never been, always been sunny side up! And hey, plus I'm a Democrat! :)

Email me at [annetekniola@aol.com](mailto:annetekniola@aol.com) if you would like the presentation sent via email.

Hey Annette, you better be careful admitting that you are a Democrat in this town. That could be down right dangerous.

It is a shame that the community park impact fees are not spelled out clearly for you. But that is typical of Collier County. They like to bury things so it's not too easy to figure out. Let us know how you make out on that.

June 16, 2012  
3:55 p.m.

**AnnetteKniola writes:**

swfl\_ff, don't you worry. I know I'm not. What, someone going to knock me off? :)

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

I have actually considered going Independent because I tend to agree on both sides on many issues but I also have no intention of going Republican. Just could not bring myself to do it. So Democrat I will be!

June 16, 2012

**estateslady11 writes:**

<p>4:03 p.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Suggest removal</a></p> <p><a href="#">Reply to this post</a></p>	<p>Sorry to hear you're still Registered a Democrat Annette, You can't help us in the Primary in making a change in District 5. You still have time to register R, you can always go back.</p> <p>I can tell you right now, Tom Henning has always been there for everyone in every District.</p> <p>I can tell you that Bill McDaniels was put up to run against Tom Henning as PayBack by Coletta. Dirty Politics.</p> <p>Tim Nance will vote for the good of the Collier County Tax Payers, that means all Districts, count on it.</p>	<p>Scripps Interactive Newspapers Group 2012 The E.W. Scripps Co. <a href="#">Privacy Policy</a>   <a href="#">User Agreement</a>   <a href="#">About Our Ads</a></p>
<p>June 16, 2012 4:44 p.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Suggest removal</a></p> <p><a href="#">Reply to this post</a></p>	<p><b>swfl_ff writes:</b></p> <p>in response to <a href="#">estateslady11</a>:</p> <p>Sorry to hear you're still Registered a Democrat Annette, You can't help us in the Primary in making a change in District 5. You still have time to register R, you can always go back.</p> <p>I can tell you right now, Tom Henning has always been there for everyone in every District.</p> <p>I can tell you that Bill McDaniels was put up to run against Tom Henning as PayBack by Coletta. Dirty Politics.</p> <p>Tim Nance will vote for the good of the Collier County Tax Payers, that means all Districts, count on it.</p> <p>You are right. McDaniels was set up to run against Henning by Coletta and Coyle. Just look at who has been contributing to his campaign finances.</p> <p>I know that Henning has his issues but as one of his constituents I can verify that he is always available for the people of his district. That is why he has a lot of support from the various neighborhoods and civic associations within his district.</p> <p>If we can get Nance elected and Henning is re-elected the balance on the county board will change. It won't mater if Fiala wins her district or not. That will also bring to and end of Coyle's never ending run as chairman and dictator of the board.</p>	
<p>June 16, 2012 4:48 p.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Suggest removal</a></p> <p><a href="#">Reply to this post</a></p>	<p><b>swfl_ff writes:</b></p> <p>in response to <a href="#">AnnetteKniola</a>:</p> <p>swfl_ff, don't you worry. I know I'm not. What, someone going to knock me off? :)</p> <p>I have actually considered going Independent because I tend to agree on both sides on many issues but I also have no intention of going Republican. Just could not bring myself to do it. So Democrat I will be!</p> <p>I'm not worried. I know you can handle yourself. I personally don't care how anyone is registered as that is a personal decision. I am registered as a Republican only so I can vote in the local primaries as they usually decide who wins office. In reality I am an Independent voter and vote for who ever I feel the best candidate is not matter what party they belong to. Personally I have use for either party right now as neither side has the best interest of the people in mind. They both are only concerned with protecting their special interests and trying to derail the other side.</p>	
<p>June 16, 2012 5:10 p.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Suggest removal</a></p> <p><a href="#">Reply to this post</a></p>	<p><b>AnnetteKniola writes:</b></p> <p>in response to <a href="#">estateslady11</a>:</p> <p>Sorry to hear you're still Registered a Democrat Annette, You can't help us in the Primary in making a change in District 5. You still have time to register R, you can always go back.</p> <p>I can tell you right now, Tom Henning has always been there for everyone in every District.</p> <p>I can tell you that Bill McDaniels was put up to run against Tom Henning as PayBack by Coletta. Dirty Politics.</p> <p>Tim Nance will vote for the good of the Collier County Tax Payers, that means all Districts, count on it.</p> <p>Yes, I can, have considered it. But at this point, time is running out.</p> <p>I don't know why, I am just not comfortable doing so.</p>	
<p>June 16, 2012 5:18 p.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Suggest removal</a></p> <p><a href="#">Reply to this post</a></p>	<p><b>AnnetteKniola writes:</b></p> <p>in response to <a href="#">swfl_ff</a>:</p> <p>I'm not worried. I know you can handle yourself. I personally don't care how anyone is registered as that is a personal decision. I am registered as a Republican only so I can vote in the local primaries as they usually decide who wins office. In reality I am an Independent voter and vote for who ever I feel the best candidate is not matter what party they belong to. Personally I have use for either party right now as neither</p>	

side has the best interest of the people in mind. They both are only concerned with protecting their special interests and trying to derail the other side.

Yes I can handle myself, thanks, but you also have very good points to consider. I am right there with you on the rest of your comments. That's why I love reading them.

Also, just an FYI for everyone. I just posted the PDF Parks and Rec Impact Fee Report on "My Thoughts Exactly" on Facebook under the "Docs" page. Also, "like" my page too if you wish.

Here is the link:

<http://www.facebook.com/mythoughtsexa...>

June 16, 2012  
5:51 p.m.

**Dbess writes:**

Annette, if you want to vote for Tim Nance in the primary, you have to register as a republican by July 16. Just FYI.

Suggest removal

Reply to this post

June 16, 2012  
6:12 p.m.

**AnnetteKniola writes:**

I know.

Suggest removal

Reply to this post

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