

## Letter: Eliminating two projects would reduce proposed impact fees

By TCPalm Staff

Friday, November 30, 2007

The residents of Martin County are very fortunate to have a school system with all "A" ratings. We are blessed to have a first-rate School Board, a first-rate school administration headed by Superintendent Sara Wilcox, and last, but certainly not least, our wonderful and caring teachers.

The basic foundation for our youth starts in two places: the "home house" and the "school house." When either of these fail, we, as parents and school advocates, have not done the jobs we must do.

I sat in the Martin County Commission meeting several weeks ago when the School District's interlocal agreement was discussed. I was appalled at the county commissioners' attitudes toward our school system. They sat there and let the hired hands of their developer friends and developer sympathizers berate our school system without saying one word in support of our all "A" schools. So a special workshop was scheduled to pacify these developer sympathizers.

The Nov. 11 edition of the News carried a letter from Allon Fish, who is with the Indiantown Chamber of Commerce. He failed to announce his affiliation with the chamber in his letter. He is crying about the proposed impact-fee increase.

The proposed fee increase is not a proposal by the commission but by Dr. Jim Nicholas, impact-fee consultant, who has suggested the fee increase in order for the county, including our schools, to maintain its high standards. Dr. Nicholas also has mentioned there are two proposed projects that could be eliminated, which would lower the proposed impact fee:

- The Indian Street bridge (\$250 million).
- The widening of State Road 710 through Indiantown (\$400 million).

In light of the current economic situation, these two projects should be eliminated. •

**Bill Summers**

**Palm City**



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