



Brevard County District 3

NEWSLETTER

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Our county is comprised of different municipalities, and as a county commissioner, I have devoted myself to improving the quality of life for residents and visitors alike and improving services in all departments, from our parks to our Fire Departments, all the while working hard at trying to save the taxpayer, from ever increasing property tax rates. In my first term in office, I have worked to effect dramatic improvements in the county's fiscal outlook, I serve with passion and strive for excellence.

Your Tax Dollars Concern Me

Did you know the North Brevard Economic Zone, which was voted on and approved by three of your five Commissioners that encompasses just the Titusville area, will provide property tax dollars, diverted from the County general fund, to subsidize private businesses in that area alone, for the next 30 years. It is projected to divert over 150 million property tax dollars to individual business owners.

We have seen our tax rates increase 30% over the last two years. This revenue diversion will continue to force tax rates upwards to pay for your government services being provided to the very business that do not contribute tax dollars.

There is NO PLAN (approved by the commissioners) for how this money is to be spent.

I urge you to contact your local representative to voice your opinion. I am open to discuss this complex issue with you in detail.

Did you know in 2011 it was reported about 65% of Brevard County residents had a lower property tax bill than in the prior year due to the decrease in your property value. Brevard County Commissioners took credit for these tax bill decreases when in fact they raised the tax rate 17% higher than last year's rate. Therefore, 100% of the property owners actually paid more than they would have if the Commissioners had not raised the rate. I voted against this.

Do you know why they raised the rate? One reason for the increase was the county spent \$75 million more last year than they did the prior year, all the while claiming they made cuts.

I am looking for ways to save.

Please contact me at:

Trudie.Infantini@brevardcounty.us.



I currently have opening's on several citizen's advisory boards. If interested, please contact my office for information. 321-952-6300

A Citizen's Letter to the Editor responding to an earlier column in the Florida Today newspaper:

N. Brevard resident wrongly blasts Infantini

The writer from Titusville and many others apparently do not understand the impact of the North Brevard Economic Development Zone (or any of the other CRA "giveaways") on the rest of us. It is not just free money from heaven. The rest of us have to make up what is granted in higher taxes . The County Commissioners just don't care and use it as an excuse to raise taxes as was recently done.

CRA's are a devious system to divert (ripoff) funds that should go to the General Fund to benefit all residents of the county, and instead retain it for some suspicious use in their own district without accountability. (reference Merritt Island). The result of this is that with rising costs and increasing demand for services, the County must cut back services and/or raise taxes. This is irresponsible and unfair. CRA's should be abolished as Infantini is proposing. She is the only one that has the intelligence to see this and the backbone to propose it. If an area wants to provide special improvements for their area they can contribute extra to a separate fund to accomplish this. Don't depend on the rest of us in this poor economy to subsidize you by having our taxes raised yet again. Why do you deserve it more than the rest of us? We are all hurting.

Note to County Commissioners: DO NOT EVEN SUGGEST RAISING TAXES AGAIN WHEN YOU CONTINUE TO APPROVE THESE "GIVEAWAY" PROGRAMS. DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT! We, the citizens of Brevard County do not approve of this use/abuse of the general funds.

Gary Johnson, Cocoa Beach

Brevard Zoo is bringing back robotic dinosaurs in 2012 with a brand new exhibit and experience for families. The exhibit runs February 18 to May 28, 2012 and will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost to experience Dinosaurs: Dead or Alive? is \$5 per person and members receive \$1 off.