

## **Letters to the Editor for Dec. 9, 2013**

### **Display of courage**

Since the 1980s, the war on drugs resulted in stiff minimum mandatory sentences for drug traffickers caught with boatloads of drugs. Somehow the minimum mandatory sentences were amended to include as little as seven prescription pain pills. Somehow someone addicted to pain medication after an injury was included in this web meant for big-time drug traffickers.

This has to stop. We cannot economically handle the drain on our society to prosecute and warehouse individuals who simply need some drug treatment. These people suffer addictions that can more economically be counseled and treated as opposed to being warehoused in our prisons and labeled convicted felons.

State Sen. Rob Bradley, R-Fleming Island, and others have introduced legislation that raises the quantity of oxycodone and hydrocodone levels of various minimum mandatory sentences. These legislators should be applauded by the people of Florida for this display of courage and leadership.

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