I was quite distressed to see an article in Sunday's Lima News in which the head of the Up to the Challenge accused the city of theft. The city of Delphos has graciously supported our challenged community for nine-plus years now. They have provided the ball diamonds for the July 3rd tournament, the pool for the swim events, and lifesaving and support personnel when needed without concern about these costs.

Why would the city "steal" $1,000 worth of life saving equipment and pool toys?

According to the head of Up to the Challenge, the city has stored this equipment without incident for years prior. Why then would she try to take possession of the swim equipment a few days before an event where it was going to be used by many of the same challenged individuals who have used it before?

How can the swim equipment be considered "stolen?" It was used by the Up to the Challenge volunteers for the same individuals it has always been used for. What were the challenged individuals supposed to do when the Up to the Challenge swim event was cancelled? I'm grateful some families stepped up to host the event this year. And thanks to the city for making accessible the safety equipment needed for many participate. The end result was my daughter was able to swim, her peers were able to use the equipment purchased for them and everyone had a good time.

It is my understanding the swim equipment will be available at future events for individuals with challenges. Isn't that the original reason it was purchased?

I encourage someone from the news media to find out the answers to these questions.

Laura Wright