
Times Facts

John Hill began writing for the *Times* as a college correspondent in 1986 covering north Tampa and general assignment news. A decade later, he joined the *Times* as a staff writer, covering the police beat in Pasco County, and later that year joined the editorial board, overseeing Tampa editorials.

Talking Points

• Editorial Writing • Tampa Politics • Computer-Assisted Reporting

John has spoken to civic and professional groups about Tampa politics, the role editorial boards play in newspapers and their communities and the *Times'* process for recommending candidates.

Education

John attended local Catholic schools and studied international relations at the University of South Florida.

Background

John was born near Chicago and raised in Tampa. His great-grandparents homesteaded a portion of what is now Lutz in northern Hillsborough County. He spent time during the 1980's in Britain following the coal miners' strike and changes within the Labor Party and trades union movement. He joined *The (Lakeland) Ledger* in 1988 as a staff writer covering local government and was assigned to the paper's Tallahassee bureau to cover the 1990 legislative session. From 1991 to 1996 he was the computer-assisted reporting specialist for the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*. He is writing a nonfiction biography of former Lake County (FL) Sheriff Willis V. McCall. He lives in Tampa with his wife, Sue Carlton, a metro columnist for the *Times*.

Awards

John's work has been honored by the Florida Press Club, the Florida Society of Newspaper Editors and others.

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