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LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

and Alex Brown, giving Democrats a 5-2 margin.

We are now 23 years since Prop. 215 was passed and Chico has not repealed the Republican ordinance that denies wounded veterans their medicine. Message to elected officials—the city staff work for you. Repeal the ordinance ASAP.

Bob Mulholland
Chico

Help for Trump?

Re "Bernie's folly" (Letters, by Ray Estes, Jan. 31):

Ray Estes' letter denouncing Bernie Sanders is a complete distortion of the 2016 presidential campaign.

Sanders ran as a Democrat because he didn't want to hurt the Democratic chances like Nader did as a third-party candidate in 2000. When Hillary Clinton became the Democratic candidate following the primaries, Sanders gave her his full support.

After the 2016 primaries, I went to Butte College to represent the Democratic Party for registration purposes. Also present were tables for Republicans and the Green Party. No students came to my table and none to the Republicans. All students present went to the Green table to support Jill Stein. Clinton had lost the support of these young voters.

Estes' advice for the DNC to tell Sanders to run as an independent would be a blueprint for a Democratic defeat. A popular third-party candidate would sink Democratic chances in 2020. I suspect Estes' letter is a Machiavellian effort to enhance Trump's re-election prospects.

Robert Woods
Forest Ranch

'Beadle-Mania'

I'm puzzled by the weekly inclusion of letters by one Roger Beadle. He must have achieved some milestone for submissions and printing of his anti-Trump opinions. While his opinions are certainly welcome, it's apparent that "Beadle-Mania" occupies a weekly slot in your paper. I will wait to hear his take on Trump's SOTU speech.

A CBS poll shows that 76 percent of listeners approved (liked) what Trump said. That leaves an acute minority not approving. I expect Mr. Beadle's next submission to be another rancor-filled and

juvenile spearing of the president. Perhaps, you could limit his letters and, instead, open the vacancy to sell ads.

Bill Collins
Paradise

Support this legislation

Last year was the hottest year on record. Last year, carbon emissions increased to an unprecedented high. Last year, the Camp Fire, the deadliest and most destructive fire in California's history, destroyed the town of Paradise.

These are not coincidences. Climate change is real, and it is here. We need to act quickly to prevent climate catastrophe in the form of increasingly common mega-fires like the Camp and Carr fires, and increasingly destructive droughts, hurricanes, floods and famine that will destroy countless species and ecosystems and displace millions of people.

Fortunately, there is something we can do. The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, supported by Democrats and Republicans, by climate scientists and economists, will help to reduce carbon emissions and stimulate investment in clean energy by placing a fee on carbon pollution. All revenue will be returned directly to citizens' pockets.

This act was just introduced to Congress. We owe it to ourselves, our families, our children and our planet to work together, regardless of political affiliation, to preserve the one world that we have for future generations. Please contact our representative, Doug LaMalfa, and ask him to support the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.

Dory Schachner
Chico

Shameful shutdown

The possibility of another shutdown looms over the heads of federal employees and contractors who have entered into good-faith contracts to provide services. But it affects all of us—it is estimated that the economy lost \$30 billion in the last debacle.

Federal employees have no right to strike per a 1971 Supreme Court decision. The president and Congress are not held to any standard like this. If federal employees are considered intrinsic to government operations, then forcing them

to work unpaid is unfathomable.

I proposed to Rep. Doug LaMalfa that, in the event a formal budget cannot be timely passed for all agencies (last done in 1991), there be an automatic imposing of a continuing resolution that funds all agencies at the level they were operating on Sept. 30. This would prevent employees from being pawns in political shenanigans. I have not heard back from him.

During my 43-year career in federal civil service, I endured at least four shutdown actions. It is not right for employees, contractors and the general populace to be treated so disrespectfully by our elected officials. When a member of Congress is introduced, oftentimes the word "honorable" is added before his or her name, yet there is nothing honorable when they fail us.

Ed Wrona
Chico

Applaud the Fourth Estate

Further investigation is obviously necessary. We have only to remember President Nixon's denial that he was "a crook" to know that unscrupulous presidents lie. Without knowing the truths of what President Trump and subordinates have done, we will not know what is broken, fix it, and impose just sanctions.

We do know that his probable violations have been extensive (Holtzman, Impeaching Trump, 2018; Case for Impeachment, Lichtman & Woren, 2017). We need, however, to flesh out these accusations. That will be done in large part by Trump's favorite red herring, the FairAccurateKnowledgeable Efficacious (FAKE) media. Just as Woodward and Bernstein's dogged investigative reporting unearthed Nixon's malfeasances, so will the media of today document as no other entity can the extent of Trump's misdeeds—poetic justice, that.

Our free press is again proving to be democracy's indispensable fourth branch of government (Fourth Estate, Edmund Burke, parliament speech, 1787).

William Todd-Mancillas
Chico

More letters online:
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