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Animals provide unconditional love and act as a buffer against the disdain and outright abuse suffered by people living on the street. When shelters refuse to allow pets, people find themselves faced with the heartbreaking choice between losing a best friend or continuing to live on the street.

I encourage anyone interested in this issue to read *My Dog Always Eats First: Homeless People and Their Animals*, by Leslie Irvine. More information can also be found on our website and Facebook pages, as well as from the national nonprofit mentioned in your article, *Pets of the Homeless*.

Robin Tripp
Chico

Editor's note: The author is the founder of Chico Homeless Animal Outreach.

Brown and Newsom redux

Re "She listened, responded" (Letters, by Denise Minor, March 7):

I would like to thank Denise Minor for the response to my letter and thank CN&R for printing it.

Denise stated that I was wrong on all accounts, yet made no mention of Assembly Bill 109. Research will show how this elevated the crime rate.

As for punishing taxpayers, then-Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law the gas-DMV hike long before we got to vote on it. I voted in this election and noticed that before the votes were even in, he was on TV praising voters for taxing themselves. I think the election was rigged. This tax not only hurts us at the pump; food and other goods are now more costly because of it.

Open-border mentality is the phrase I should have used. Brown and Gov. Gavin Newsom both have a vision for California and that is to give health insurance to all illegals.

I mentioned Kate Steinle because I believe there is a border emergency. Again, that is a topic liberals simply will not talk about.

Mick Watkins
Gridley

Destruction at the park

In the heart of Chico's lifeline, Bidwell Park, a stand of oaks has been massacred—adjacent to the Nature Center no less! As Robin McCollum, an urban forester and 37-year firefighting veteran said, "The Camp Fire was a manifestation of evil like I've never seen before,

In the heart of Chico's lifeline, Bidwell Park, a stand of oaks has been massacred—adjacent to the Nature Center no less!

—Martin LeFevre

but this clear-cutting of healthy valley oaks to thin out some catalpa is a manifestation of hysteria."

Is this egregious act the shape of things to come instead of addressing the underlying causes, both local and global, of the fire that destroyed Paradise? At minimum, there was a negligent lack of planning and oversight by Public Works, and an egregious absence of crew supervision by park staff. As Richie Bamlet, urban forest manager for the city of Chico, emotionally said to me on Friday, March 8, as we viewed the destruction, "I've spent two years saving 20 damaged oak trees; they destroyed 28 healthy oaks in two days."

Martin LeFevre
Chico

Editor's note: For more on this, see Newslines on page 9.

PG&E, Dems and wildfire

Re "Substance over image"

(Letters, by Lucy Cooke, Feb. 28):

My Feb. 28 letter criticized Sen. Kamala Harris as nothing more than political expediency wrapped in the demographic allure that certain Democrats think is the ticket to electoral success.

I had not yet read the Feb. 23 New York Times article, "The Political Playbook of a Bankrupt California Utility." It details the incestuous ties of top-tier California Democrats with PG&E and its oversight agency, the California Public Utilities Commission.

Kamala Harris got her start in politics with appointments and backing by her longtime friend Willie Brown, a Democratic power broker, former San Francisco mayor, speaker of the California Assembly and longtime lobbyist for PG&E.

You can thank Kamala Harris, when she was California attorney general—along with Willie Brown and Gov. Jerry Brown—for the very lax regulatory oversight of PG&E that contributed in the Camp Fire.

Since the NYT article, no California paper has commented on the facts of the article. That may be simply a demonstration of the

power of California Democrats to keep the story quiet.

Lucy Cooke
Butte Valley

Condemn interference

Alfred de Zayas, former secretary of the U.N. Human Rights Council and an expert in international law, was appointed as the first special rapporteur to visit Venezuela in 21 years. According to the ACLU: "SRs spend 2-3 weeks in country, talking with both governmental and nongovernmental actors, such as civil liberties organizations, victims of human rights violations as well as concerned government officials."

This January, de Zayas told The Independent that an overdependence on oil, poor governance, and corruption were significant factors in their crisis, but that the sanctions by the U.S., EU and Canada are "economic warfare." Since 2015, nearly 2 million people fled the country and inflation reached 60,324 percent.

President Obama began the sanctions, but Donald Trump increased them and also threatened military invasion. In 1973, Venezuelans voted to nationalize their oil, gold, bauxite and coltan resources, barring access to U.S. and transnational corporations.

De Zayas concludes, "There is nothing more undemocratic than a coup d'état ... We do not want a repetition of the Pinochet putsch in 1973."

De Zayas joined Noam Chomsky and over 70 other academics and experts in condemning U.S. interference.

Lauren Ayers
Chico

More on Venezuela

Forget his basket of deplorables, Trump's digging through a trash can of war criminals for his appointees.

Choosing Elliott Abrams as envoy to Venezuela is like choosing El Chapo to head up the DEA.

Or choosing your Jewish son-in-law to fashion a peace deal excluding a two-state solution between the

Jewish state of Israel and Israeli-occupied state of Palestine.

Maybe 535 Americans like those choices.

But back to Elliott Abrams. He covered up massacres of thousands in El Salvador while calling the support of Contra killings in Nicaragua part of America's human rights policy. Convicted during the Iran/Contra charade hearings on TV, Abrams was fined \$50.

I protested against this in the 1980s, so when Abrams pops up, I know the fix is in. Again.

Venezuela is beset upon by this secret government's recycled old windbags.

Team Abrams with [National Security Adviser] John Bolton, who should be jailed for tricking America into bogus wars for oil/greater Israel, is a dynamically destructive destabilizing duo dreamed up in hell. Their secret mission is overthrowing democratically elected leaders.

Watch "Maduro's" plea to America on Youtube. Hit the like button if you want America to *not* swap him for a corporate stooge that will exploit Venezuela's people like never before.

David Kiefer
Chico

Bust the light-runners

Traffic, potholes and solutions. I'm sure we have all experienced the extra traffic in town and noticed the toll it's taking on the roads. That being said, we all experienced two, three or four people running red lights pretty regularly, especially the main intersection at the Chico Mall and the Park Avenue/Notre Dame traffic light, to name a few.

Why don't we set up red light enforcement cameras at some of these hotspots? The city can get some much-needed revenue it can use for pothole repairs and other traffic-related improvements. Possibly \$5,000 per day in fines. If eventually people learn their lesson and the enforcement is no longer profitable, then it has done its job of making the intersections safer.

Daniel Lassotta
Chico

More letters online:

We've got too many letters for this space. Please go to www.newsreview.com/chico for additional readers' comments on past CN&R articles.

