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**Register at  
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## LETTERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

### Another diss from TV

Action News ran a hit piece last week intended to raise fear within our community by conjuring dangers to local schools with having a low-barrier shelter near downtown. Meanwhile, every location mentioned to alarm residents is located in the midst of low-barrier frat houses, dormitories and residential housing.

This was a thinly guised mob attack on community members based on economic status and the disabilities many of them endure. Plain and simple. You see, when a mob sends its people, it is not sending its best. It's sending people with lots of xenophobia and rhetoric, and they're bringing those callous, unclean and unsafe, views with them. They're bringing lies, they're bringing innuendos. They're pawns. And some, I assume, thought they were do-gooders.

I'm reminded of *The Poseidon Adventure*, where well-intended people angrily dismissed the heroes who had calmly and accurately figured a way to safety. The way forward and off the sinking post-Camp Fire ship is the Orange Street Shelter. Thank you, Safe Space, the Jesus Center and the city of Chico, for leading the way.

**Bill Mash**  
Chico

### Speaking of the Camp Fire

Understandably, survivors of the Camp Fire want to rebuild fast, those with money that is. However, if we are to learn from our past mistakes of the previous fire footprints where building standards were always lowered to rebuild faster, we really need to slow down and get it right this time: fireproof concrete, steel frames, six-lane evacuation routes are what's needed. Paradise could be the model Green New Deal city.

Instead, Assembly Bill 430 (aka Camp Fire Housing Assistance Act of 2019), introduced by climate denier Assemblyman James Gallagher, is another one of those hurry-up-and-lower-building-standards mistakes. It is an end-run attempt around CEQA, which puts environmental screening standards on all proposed projects.

"Since 1999, 13 large wildfires burned within the footprint of the Camp Fire," said Chris Folkman, a disaster analyst. "I think there needs

to be a frank conversation about rebuilding and fire resilience. The good news is there are measures to be taken to make a house less susceptible to a wildfire. In the end, we have to face the fact that the climate is changing and a lot of houses are built in dangerous areas."

**Mary Kay Benson**  
Chico

*Editor's note: For more on AB 430, see Ashiah Scharaga's report on page 9.*

### Beware of mail snatchers

If your mail is delivered to a multi-address mailbox in Chico (typical for an apartment complex or newer subdivision), beware of mail thieves. Someone either has a USPS key or a tool that can pop open those boxes. Although all mailboxes of that type are equally vulnerable, the USPS doesn't stop delivering mail to your box until it's actually broken into. Then, besides possibly losing something valuable, deliveries cease, and you must start picking up your mail at the Vallombrosa post office.

Our box was hit early, and we've been doing that for the past six weeks. If your box hasn't been hit yet, some recommendations: pick up your mail every day to minimize your loss when it does happen; don't use the box for your outgoing mail; be careful ordering valuable merchandise that might be delivered by the USPS; and keep an eye out for any strange activity at your mailbox.

The USPS doesn't seem to have the capability or the will to solve this problem, or even inform other patrons that a problem exists.

**Steve Kennedy**  
Chico

### Correction

Last week's Second & Flume (see "Debunked," by Melissa Daugherty) conflated Robert F. Kennedy's conspiracy theory about vaccines causing autism with that of Andrew Wakefield, a British man who falsified research on the subject and was stripped of his ability to practice medicine. The column has been corrected online. —ed.

#### More letters online:

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