

Commentary comeback

Re "Chico's man-made, post-Camp Fire disaster" (Guest comment, by Clancy Callahan, April 25):

You can't slight anyone for needing a home and moving into a less-than-desirable rental. But to pay an average of \$935 a month for eight years? That says more about the renter than the rental.

She blames the 60-day notice to vacate, due to the sale of the rental, on "rapacious greed." What if it was ordinary greed? Or need? Or one of the "D's"—divorce, death, disease or drugs? FYI, rapacious landlords can sell the rental, enter escrow, and give just 30 days' notice.

If good luck is being prepared when opportunity knocks, perhaps bad luck is being unprepared when misfortunes arise. They do arise. Expecting the nanny state to protect you from every misfortune is sacrificing freedom for security. She doesn't just want cheese with her whine, she wants force-fed government cheese.

People make decisions based

on incentives. Require a 120-day notice with payment to the renter to relocate and I'll guarantee two things. Owners will raise rents to cover the expenses or sell. You'll have fewer rentals with higher rents.

I'd have given her moving expenses, because I think it's the right thing to do. Make it mandatory and all tenants will realize the Law of Unintended Consequences.

Peter Bridge
Ord Bend

Editor's note: In the state of California, landlords are required by law to give 60 days' notice to tenants who've lived in a rental for at least a year.

Where's the will?

Re "Chico State wary of shelter," Downstroke, April 18:

Homelessness is a symptom of many health conditions that require a health approach versus a criminal one. Concurrent and accessible services are necessary, and yet each proposed location is met with

resistance. Fear from victimization and stereotypes understandably motivates their actions, but the crimes of few do not justify the overgeneralization of the entire homeless population and denial of services.

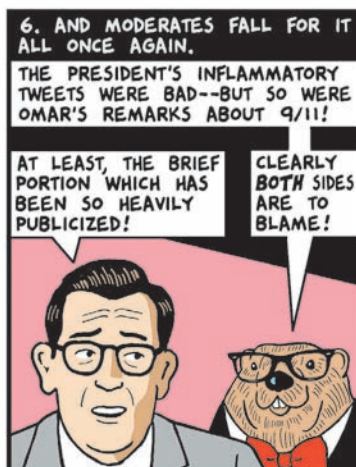
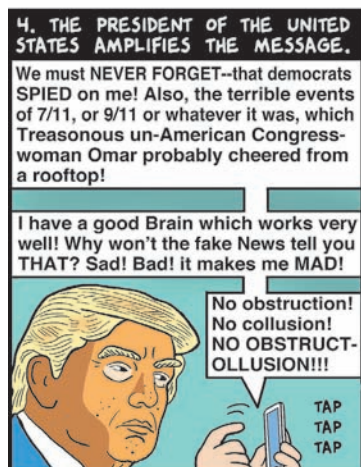
There is a direct health connection between the complications of mental illness (depression, drug abuse, anxiety, social disorders, etc.), socioeconomic status (money, employment and shelter), the struggles and barriers (transportation, belongings, pets, history and ability) and their ability to regain healthy living.

Missing in our community is the willingness to support low-barrier shelters that can help heal. Needle-exchange programs are a health resource that is there to reduce the transmission of disease, like hepatitis and HIV, and keep areas safe. Helping them helps everyone.

Jessica Giannola
Chico

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Thursday, May 9th 6:30pm
Chico Elks Lodge - 1705 Manzanita Ave, Chico
Free Community Forum