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'Chaotic circus'

The insecure demeanor that epitomizes Donald J. Trump's anxiety-driven presidency simply can't be ignored, or worse yet, condoned. We shouldn't fool ourselves into thinking any good will come from this chaotic circus masquerading as a functioning government; the very foundation of the principles of America is being undermined, discounted or marginalized.

Leadership with clarity of purpose defines effective governing. A Trump quote conveys the opposite: "The biggest problem with Mueller ... he didn't mention Strzok and McCabe and Comey and the lies and the leaks and overthrow and the whole thing with the Hillary Clinton got a win 100 million to one, two lovers, two sick lovers, especially the one. I mean, these were like children." Mental impairment laid bare.

We don't have the luxury of complacency. Choosing to support a corrupt and damaged individual who cares not for you, or your country's welfare—well, that's your burden, not mine.

Will enough people who care about the well-being of future generations reject a president whose policies are wreaking havoc on the environment, denounce tax policies that favor the haves over the have-nots, and condemn divisive rhetoric and thoughtless behavior that divides a country in need of healing? Our choice.

Roger S. Beadle
Chico

PG&E's outrageous plan

Very recently, PG&E announced plans to shut down the power to 5 million people in Northern California for up to five days as a way to prevent fires. This is something that is utterly outrageous that will also cause severe harm to many people! This will also be very costly to businesses and devastating to our economy.

It is the PG&E CEOs, through neglect at best, who caused the Camp Fire. It is certainly not the fault of the employees who worked so hard to fix lines and restore power.

PG&E's job is to provide power to the people in a safe manner. It must not be the company's job to shut people's power down. PG&E needs to install better insulation devices, like ones that don't break

and cause fires. Better yet, PG&E must be taken over by the state. Nothing makes the case for expropriation better than PG&E's outrageous announcement. California's governors have been much too favorable to PG&E by appointing CPUC commissioners who are too friendly to the utility. This has to change now!

Walter Ballin
Chico

Students slam smoking

Alondra Pompa, Jack Lazzaretto and myself are members of the Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) youth coalition at Orland High School. Our coalition focuses on highlighting the injustice tobacco causes in our community and worldwide. We have learned how to bring awareness and shed light on the negative impacts of tobacco within our community.

As veteran members of SWAT, we are proud to be a part of the advocacy work we do that helps make the city of Orland a better place. We are making changes in our community by advocating against tobacco, and educating younger students and community members about the destruction tobacco causes. Our time in SWAT has been rewarding and it has helped us in developing and refining important skills, such as leadership, public speaking and advocacy.

The people of the city of Orland do not deserve to be continuously exposed to tobacco products and tobacco product advertisement at all the local retail stores. The city of Orland could be a much healthier place if tobacco product advertising and tobacco product usage were reduced to a minimum. We hope the work we do and have done in SWAT can help the people of Orland live healthier and happier lives.

Rogelio Martinez
Orland

The Marsh Junior High KLEAN team is working on raising awareness about the dangers of nicotine and enforcing laws about smoking in parks. Our KLEAN team recently participated in cigarette litter cleanups in Bidwell and 20th Street parks. What we found was horrible. We collected 680 butts in three days. We found them in parking lots, near picnic tables and even by the playgrounds where children play every day. Our entire team was

disappointed.

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable deaths—480,000 people die from nicotine use every year, and 41,000 of those deaths are from second-hand smoke.

Tobacco laws have often been ignored. This is very concerning due to the fact that we are finding so many cigarette butts at the parks. We would like to see a change in these numbers. Putting up more "no smoking" signs in the park would be useful. We already found one sign in Bidwell Park, and it was not very visible. Another suggestion is to have more park security to help enforce the law. There could also be clear consequences or a fine for people who get caught smoking in the parks. KLEAN team wants to help protect people and animals from these dangers.

J.T. James
Chico

No more double-parking

In the past week or so, I've been shocked by inconsiderate, unsafe and illegal "parking"—actually, simply stopping in the traffic lane—in front of Aca Taco on Broadway. (This is one of my favorite restaurants downtown, by the way.)

Cars have double-parked in the left lane while the driver waited inside Aca Taco for a to-go order. I have witnessed at least one near-miss due to this behavior. I didn't understand this until I visited Aca Taco for lunch recently. Apparently, Aca Taco is supporting some food pick-up and delivery apps, according to the signs inside.

Now, there's nothing I can do to punish the Silicon Valley companies that are dangerously disrupting traffic here in Chico, and I doubt I can convince users to not order food from Aca Taco via [delivery apps], so my only recourse is to boycott Aca Taco until they quit encouraging this grossly inappropriate behavior.

So, I've had my last Aca Taco burrito for now, but I'll be back when the "pick up here" [drivers] are gone and this absurd behavior stops.

Martin Wallace
Chico

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