

Contra Costa Times Aug. 9 Letters from our readers

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Longmire praised

I would like to comment on recent articles featuring Sgt. Derwin Longmire, Oakland Police Department, in particular, the ridiculous item that states Longmire did "sloppy" work regarding several of his homicide cases.

I work in the Oakland Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division, which includes homicide, and I can truthfully attest to the fact that during his years as a homicide investigator, Longmire's work was professional and of the finest quality, meticulously accurate, finely detailed, thorough and always neatly organized.

Whenever an investigator leaves homicide, that investigator is given the opportunity to come back and review all of his or her files in case they need to tie up and finalize any loose ends or leave any additional information for the investigator inheriting the cases. Longmire was never given that opportunity.

Good always triumphs in the end. Longmire is and always has been an outstanding police officer, but more than that, he is a good man with a good heart and innocent of all he's been accused of these past couple of years. In the end, victory will be his!

Dee LaFountain

Pinole

Orwellian twists

The Bay Area News Group's semantic inversions sometimes reach Orwellian depths, as when endorsing gender bending -- e.g. "she was

biologically

male."

Abortion generates similarly twisted, politically correct insanity. In "Anti-abortion billboards are racist, critics charge" (July 12), an accompanying photo of the allegedly "racist" billboard shows a "BLACK & BEAUTIFUL" baby, and directs viewers to toomanyaborted.com/ca.

As the article recognizes, black women abort their babies at five times the rate of white women. And pro-life pastor Walter Hoyer, black himself (a fact unmentioned in the article), identifies abortion as "the No. 1 killer in the African-American community."

Exposing that tragedy is supposedly somehow "racist." Calling the billboards "reprehensible and disrespectful," Planned Parenthood and "other local health organizations" initiated "outreach programs to counter Hoyer's message."

Planned Parenthood's promoters are likely pleased the article didn't mention their founder Margaret Sanger's "Negro Project," outlined in her letter to a collaborator: "We do not want word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population, and the minister ... can straighten out that idea if it ever occurs to any of their more rebellious members."

So hurrah for Walter Hoyer, a rebellious minister, working to straighten out public understanding of abortion's destructive effects.

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Sharon Arata

Danville

Buffalo solution

Sunday's Times carried an AP article describing the release of thousands of water hyacinth plant hoppers from South America to "establish self-sustaining colonies and begin chomping down on water hyacinth" in the Delta because the plant clogs waterways, intake systems and impedes boat access.

As long as we're importing non-natives to deal with this problem, why not bring in some water buffalo? Domesticated water buffalo are known here for their milk, often used for making buffalo mozzarella.

Water buffalo feast on water hyacinth and given their size, will undoubtedly outdo the insects in consuming this weed. Adding a small herd of these animals to the hyacinth-choked Delta would likely increase Delta tourism, too. Once they've eaten up all the hyacinth, they can be butchered for their meat. It's a win-win for everyone but the buffalo.

David Ogden

Walnut Creek

False solution

The debt ceiling has been raised, which certainly will make our financial status all better, we're supposed to believe. Using the same logic, I believe we could cut back considerably on DUI arrests by raising the allowable blood/alcohol limit from .08 to .16

Dave Newbry

Martinez

Debt question

The current national debt is \$14.5 trillion, or about \$48,000 for every person in the country. Raising it another \$2.4 trillion as the president asked to "get us to 2013" is only another \$8,000 for each of us (about \$20,000 per family).

The question the president should answer is will spending cuts be enough so that he won't be asking us for another \$2.4 trillion in 2013 to get us

through the next couple of years? That is the answer the bond-rating agencies and the bond markets want to hear.

Francis Dodd

Lafayette

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