

Opinion

Green Valley News

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Letters to the Editor

Great care

Over the past two years, I have had three medical events, each of which required a call to the Green Valley Fire District medical squad and a transport to an emergency room. The squad responded promptly and were very competent and caring.

Since I had to be transported to a hospital, I chose to go to Santa Cruz Valley Regional Hospital emergency room. The care at the hospital was excellent. The providers were professional and attentive and I felt very safe and comfortable. I received top-notch care.

Audrey Berry
Green Valley

Out of the water!

When we were kids, we knew that there were cross currents in the Pocomoke River, and that if you dove into that river at the wrong turn of the tides, it would be hard to get to the surface. Maybe a political party can be the same way. Maybe the voices coming from that party are heading in different, confusing directions.

Heading in one direction is a newly elected spokesperson who wants just about everything to be free. When asked how she would pay for all the free stuff, she replies, "You just do. You just pay for it."

That kind of thinking is gallant, but doesn't seem to realize federal money is

tax money and that it isn't infinite.

The present administration isn't much in agreement with her. So it takes me by surprise when a millionaire speaks out, saying he is working to impeach the president. One would have thought the millionaire would have been more of a conservative mind, saying hip hip hooray for an invigorated economy. Certainly, one would not have him in the same political corner as the person who wants a tax rate of 70 to 90 percent for his kind of folks.

Yet, there they are, two voices coming from the same political river. I don't want to go swimming with either of them. What I sense are two people wanting attention because they're hoping for a shot at higher office in 2020.

Ingrid Lynch
Green Valley

Pray it won't happen

The word "invocation" in Webster's Dictionary is defined as: Calling upon "a God" for help; for blessing, etc.

Would we really invite or invoke Satan into our city?

Would you really invite or invoke Satan into your own home and family?

Would you really invite or invoke Satan into the wedding of your daughter or son?

Would you really invite or invoke Satan into your church?

Would you really invite or invoke Satan into your God-blessed nation?

Can you name one Satanic leader who has ever been a blessing to any nation, home or city? The USA is a Christian nation and always has been a Christian nation. Biblical Christianity has always recognized Satan as the angelic enemy of our loving creator and only true God.

I am greatly fearful for the fate of any person or group who has dared to invite or invoke a Satanic presence into their realm of responsibility.

To spit in the face of God, who has declared:

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me," Exodus 20:3.

"Thou shalt make no covenant with them nor with their gods," Exodus 23:32.

This requires a person to be either very brave or very foolish.

W.D. "Pete" Petersen
Green Valley

Seating chart

In March 1913, Winston Churchill discussing the British Conservative and Liberal parties stated: "In both parties there are fools at one end and crackpots at the other, but the great body in the middle is sound and wise."

Unfortunately, the current U.S. Congress does not meet Churchill's description of "the great body in the middle." We continue to receive reports that members of the House and Senate refuse to cooperate, do not speak to one another, and because of

limited contact with the opposition have forgotten how to compromise. Congress has failed to solve many issues involving immigration and the borders, health care, exorbitant prescription drug prices, the opiate crisis and the unnecessary government shutdown.

A possible partial solution to this serious situation would be a requirement that Senate and House members be seated in their respective chambers alphabetically. This arrangement would result in greater contact and might create new friendships and more cooperation. Of course, a few seats should be reserved in the front row for the members who violate established standards of civility. That seating arrangement worked well when we were students in elementary school.

Cal and Katy Danhof
Green Valley

Skin in the game?

As a GVR and GVR Woodshop Club, member, I have access to the finest equipment available, which I (and others) paid for with our club dues.

GVR provided the space, we equipped it. Nowhere do I see pickleballers offering or contributing anything to pay their (or any) share of the big cost of GVR pickleball.

Am I wrong? I'm really getting tired of this.

Fred Keller
Green Valley

Governor's 'rainy day fund' is a good idea

You can tell a lot about the priorities of a governor by his spending plan.

Last week, our state legislators began the process of debating the 2019-20 budget, outlined by Gov. Ducey during his State of the State address earlier this month.

His spending plan calls for building up the "rainy day" fund, paying most state workers more money and sticking with past promises to pay teachers more.

We like the idea that he's boosting the size of the state's surplus to adequately prepare for the next economic recession. As experience has taught us, Arizona tends to suffer more than other states

when the national economy slows down. We are a "boom or bust" state, governed by factors that affect the housing market, tourism, the military and, to a lesser degree, agriculture.

In 2008, when the housing market collapsed, Arizona was close to bankruptcy. The decisions made by our Legislature and Gov. Jan Brewer at that time had a lasting impact, several of which are only now being resolved.

For example, to make up for a dramatic drop in state revenue, lawmakers reallocated money from the education fund and the Highway Users Revenue Fund (HURF) to keep the state govern-

ment solvent. That resulted in school boards across the state filing a lawsuit seeking to get that money back, which was ultimately settled with the approval of a statewide referendum in 2016 that authorized taking more money from the state land trust.

Cities and counties felt the impact of lost highway funding. The decision of the Legislature to "rob" HURF to pay the cost of public safety pensions drastically reduced the financial resources of local government to accomplish road maintenance projects. Lawmakers continued reallocating money from the HURF until last year, when most of the mon-

ey was returned to communities to begin working on long-overdue road and street repairs.

Ducey's budget effectively raises taxes by not conforming with the new federal tax law, which cut income tax rates but also eliminated many of the standard deductions. Even though 75 percent of Arizonans are expected to receive some kind of tax return this year, the governor's decision to keep the state's tax rate where it is and not "conform" to the lower federal tax rate, will generate a windfall for his budget.

That's a good idea. Arizona raises most of its revenue through the sales tax

and has embedded into its Constitution strict regulations that govern how much the property tax can be increased.

The result is that state revenues tend to be a "roller coaster," with lots of money available to run state government during the good times, and desperate revenue concerns when the economy turns sour.

Keeping a healthy "rainy day" fund of about 10 percent of the \$11.9 billion budget provides enough cushion for state officials to prepare for the next bad economy.

This originally appeared in the **Sierra Vista Herald**.