



## Letters to the editor for Jan. 19. 2011

Written by [Union Democrat staff](#) January 19, 2011 06:24 am

### ADHC Clarifications

To the Editor:

I am writing to clarify a couple of misquotes in an otherwise excellent article by Walt Cook, which ran Jan. 14 regarding the governor's budget proposal.

He refers to the Adult Day Health Care program as a "place for the elderly and disabled to socialize and receive minor care." The medical monitoring they receive at the ADHC is by no means minor. It is done by a registered nurse and all monitoring is approved by medical professionals. Thorough physical therapy and occupational therapy evaluations are done on each participant and reviewed by all the professional staff.

The other issue is the statement that "I'm not too worried about the threatened Medi-cal cuts." The truth is I'm scared to death that one of these days, in a bizarre loss of realistic thinking, these cuts may stick.

Ira Uslander  
Sonora

Free Speech or  
Hate Speech?

To The Editor:

Always telling are misinterpretations of free speech in America, such as Bob Wetzel wrote in his letter that ran Jan. 13.

Admirably, Mr. Wetzel calls us to "boycott hateful and violent speech", yet appears to define speech from a perspective tainted by wrath. This days after President Obama delivered an exemplary call for healing. Within hours of the Arizona shootings, YouTube, Twitter, Facebook and the blogosphere exploded with left-wing vitriol, purporting various speculations against the right before all fact were known. Yet fury from the left continues after Obama's plea, demonstrating misplaced rage. But why are liberals furious over words and symbols?

The American electorate holds a possible answer. A CBS poll reveals almost 60 percent of Americans aren't buying the liberal pitch, and a Gallup report shows similar results. Likewise Quinnipiac's poll finds only 15 percent believe the Arizona tragedy was caused by heated political rhetoric. And we learn from a 2009 Oak Hill survey that 70 percent of participants achieved correct answers to U.S. Constitutional questions, mirroring a trend for interest in the document.

But is what some call "hate speech" truly that? Wisdom from the late Supreme Court Associate Justice Potter Stewart, addresses the question: "free speech ... may indeed best serve its high purpose when it indices a condition of unrest, creates dissatisfaction with things as they are, or even stirs people to anger." Overwhelmingly Americans appear to agree with Justice Stewart, and that, not words and symbols from the right, may be what inflames the left most.

Mark Villasenor  
Sonora

Jimblyled Concert

To the Editor:

On Saturday, Jan. 8, as we (the Jimblyled Band) were preparing to play to an excited crowd, we heard buzzing through the masses that the people working the door were turning people away. Sorry all those who wanted to come but were not allowed in. We had no idea that we would sell the place out.

Thanks to The Union Democrat and Stage 3 Theater for doing an excellent job promoting our show, and thanks to the wonderful crowd who came (and tried to come) to dance, clap, and whoop. Let's do it again sometime. the Jimblyled Band, Sonora.

Jason Westfall  
Sonora



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