



Shining example

Posted: 11/14/2010 06:51:39 PM PST

Re: "New look: Senior housing," Nov. 4.

We were hooting it up on Wednesday, Nov. 3 at Highland Avenue and Medical Center Drive for the groundbreaking ceremony. Seniors 62 and older who will be in the market for affordable housing in 2012 will find quality apartments at The Magnolia.

The Magnolia will be the premier example of what seniors expect in later life.

Now just dirt, we are going to see it build into 80 one- and two-bedroom units with balconies and open areas - not just "hotel room-type" places that make older persons feel society is just putting them away.

We are going to watch the area develop with appropriate services for our aging population and celebrate at the historic The Mug, which is kitty-cornered on Highland, too.

The groundbreaking ceremony under the tent was welcoming and one felt that our Westside is on a roll to be the shining example in San Bernardino's vision for elder living.

SHIRLEY HARLAN
Older Women's League member, San Bernardino

WILLIE BRUE

Chairperson, Senior Affairs Commission, San Bernardino

To raise our GDP

Re: "Jury Finds Man Guilty" and "Woman Enters Guilty Plea," page A1 on Oct. 30.

If "we" could bring our incarceration rates in line with the other First World nations maybe we could raise our GDP. This is said in light of the reality that putting and keeping people in jail is an expensive undertaking. By this reasoning

the lower the number of people in jail the higher the GDP.

ROBERT WILKINS
Apple Valley

Desjardins disappoints

It was discouraging to see Councilman Desjardins's support for Measure C in the Nov. 2 election.

There is little comfort in knowing that his endorsement for a measure that took away people's right to vote, was based on the fact that he is sick of the "fighting" in City Hall. I know many who voted for Jason because of his promise to "fight" for what was best for the constituents of the 2nd Ward. This, coupled with his strong support for public safety, made him an easy choice.

I hope the results of this election were a wake-

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up call to him. We don't need another puppet of the mayor, because it's the easier thing to do.

J. LOPEZ
San Bernardino

Private schools better

In response to John Weeks' column in late October about how much it cost the taxpayers to send kids to public schools compared to private schools.

After doing some research through CATO Institute of Private Schools and using Mr. Weeks information, I found out that to send a child to a private school where the student would get more one-on-one attention, become more educated, learn more responsibility, and could be disciplined more effectively would cost between \$2,500 to \$3,500 a year for a family.

The cost to send a child to a public school through our taxpayers money is said to be at \$10,000 per child, per year - to learn less, get less attention, and so on.

So, with those numbers and figuring out there are about 100 million kids in school in America from grades 1-12 that calculates out to a waste of \$650 billion a year - that's right \$650 billion!

Why are we not having all kids go to private schools and save that much money or reduce taxes for families to afford the cost of the private school, plus not have to worry about fighting with teachers' unions and all that

baggage that brings along.

Sure, union jobs will be lost, but think of how many millions of teachers' jobs will open up in the private sector. It's a win-win for taxpayers and the quality teaching of our kids.

STEVE PORTIAS
San Bernardino

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