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Letters to the editor

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National debt math

We need to understand the national debt. Not a party issue since both parties spend "other peoples" money with little or no concern. Google shows the national debt at \$23.3 trillion. Other reports say as much as \$27.9 trillion. If we assume google is correct, if we paid \$100 million per day towards the debt, and there was no interest on the debt (Google shows \$378 billion per year) it would take 638+ years to pay it off. If you add in the current plan of another \$1.9 trillion, you add another 52 years to the payout. This is also assuming that they do not add to the debt with the current budget. In the current bill, less than 1/2 of the \$1.9 trillion is actually for the covid problem. They talk like we are putting this debt on our grandchildren. Unless they live to be over 700, they will not be paying it off. Everyone should tell their politicians, enough is enough.

Wrong the New Deal

Larry Elder's column about how FDR's New Deal hurt Black people used cherry-picked information from the Cato Institute, a Libertarian think tank. It's true that while some New Deal policies hurt some Black people, others actually helped and the proof is that in 1936 the Black population abandoned the Republican Party in droves and voted for FDR. In addition, FDR had to appease enough racist southern Democrats to get bills passed so, like every other politician he compromised.

My concern is that despite recent events, some people don't seem to notice the messes we make when we fail to use our federal government. Witness Trump's refusal to let the national government 'interfere' with state's rights. States were bidding against each other for equipment and as a result, prices were higher and lives were lost. Now, in Texas, we see the disaster that an unregulated utility can create because no one is requiring them to make improvements to their equipment. Libertarians seem to forget that without boundaries, greedy men will take advantage and put profits over people. The government isn't our enemy but people who cry "less government" so they can put profits over people are.