

# Opinion: Don't forget lessons from Angora Fire

By Ted Gaines

This Sunday marks the 11th anniversary of the devastating Angora Fire.



Ted Gaines

I will never forget the severity of what I saw 11 years ago when I toured the wreckage left behind from this destructive fire. The community has done a remarkable job of picking up the pieces and rebuilding their homes and the Tahoe regional economy. But residents and visitors can never be too vigilant. Tahoe is still at extreme risk for catastrophic wildfire and we need to take every reasonable measure to keep this area safe.

The Angora Fire scorched about 3,100 acres and destroyed 254 homes, costing many tens of millions in damages and in emergency response costs. Tahoe's conditions in June 2007 – steep canyons, ample fuel, dry years when the area received only 29 percent of normal precipitation, high winds – were a recipe for forest fire disaster. While this year's conditions are different in that the area has received more precipitation, the new vegetation growth in combination with hot summer days can lead to a dangerous fire season.

We must continue to implement the recommendations made by the

bi-state Blue Ribbon Fire Commission, which was formed in the wake of the fire by the governors of California and Nevada, aimed at strengthening the region's ability to prevent and respond to fire catastrophes. I will continue to do everything in my power to help make the region safer.

I encourage residents to do their part for fire safety by exercising extreme caution with cigarettes, campfires, tools, engines or anything else that could possibly spark or otherwise cause a fire – which is how the Angora Fire began.

*State Sen. Ted Gaines represents the 1st Senate District, which includes all or parts of Alpine, El Dorado, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, Shasta, Sierra and Siskiyou counties.*

---

# **Opinion: Trump's tent city for children is a concentration camp**

**By Andrea Pitzer**

What does it mean that the United States of America is taking children from their parents and detaining them in camps?

News of a tent city dedicated to holding children in harsh conditions should evoke alarm, not least because child detention has a long and nasty history. For centuries, children have been used as pawns by governments seeking to control their parents or their leaders. And children have been forcibly relocated in the United States before. Under slavery they were separated from their parents to extort labor and

build wealth, while Native American children were taken from their families for re-schooling and to foster the expropriation of land.

But the idea of holding whole groups of children in detention on a widespread basis—not as labor in a rapacious economic system or to steal land, but with detention itself as the point—is part of a newer phenomenon. And this more recent form of detention, the version that the Trump administration has embraced for now, sits cleanly within the tradition of concentration camps.

While writing a book on camp history, I defined concentration camps as the mass detention of civilians without trial, usually on the basis of race, religion, national origin, citizenship, or political party, rather than anything a given individual has done. By this definition, the new child camp established in Tornillo, Texas, is a concentration camp. While tragic, this is hardly surprising, since the innovation of concentration camps rose in part out of the willingness to detain children.

Women and children, together, constituted the overwhelming majority of the populations in the first detention sites publicly referred to as “concentration camps,” which appeared near the turn of the 20th century in Cuba and southern Africa. During a rebellion in Cuba, hundreds of thousands of women and children were driven off their land by Spanish soldiers, who destroyed their homes and crops, forcing them into miserable conditions behind barbed wire beginning in 1896.

American reporter Richard Harding Davis visited camps in three Cuban cities, finding detainees—known as reconcentrados—infected with smallpox and yellow fever in squalid temporary housing. He met babies whose “bones showed through as plainly as the rings under a glove.” Well over 100,000 Cuban civilians died as a result of conditions in these camps, a significant percentage of them children.

Concentration camps appeared again when the British forced families of rebel Boer fighters into tent cities in brutal conditions in southern Africa. It was understood at the time that the noncombatants were effectively hostages meant to get the men to surrender. A November 1901 letter to the *New York Times* about the British camps laid out the dynamic: "England, unable to conquer the Boer men, is striking at the women and children." From the beginning, concentration camps targeted the most vulnerable.

Historian Peter Warwick records that in all, more than 27,000 Boer internees died, in the range of double the total number of combat casualties on both sides. Nearly 80 percent of the deaths in the camps were children. Segregated camps for black Africans had even worse conditions and less food, and ended up killing more than 14,000 detainees. In camps in both Cuba and southern Africa, atrocious death rates came not from massacres or gas chambers but from disease and starvation. Yet in these early camps, lethal as they were, most children remained with siblings and their mothers.

Later camps would break with that precedent in shocking ways. In the last years of the World War II, Germans took children from non-Jewish foreign parents upon arrival in the regular concentration camp system, the Konzentrationslager, sending them for denationalization and integration into German society. The children of Jewish parents were more often sent to the subset of Nazi death camps dedicated to extermination of Jews as a people; typically, they were murdered on arrival.

In the wake of the death of millions and the abomination that Auschwitz and other death camps represent, classifying any other type of detention facility as a concentration camp can now seem obscene. But it is a mistake to avoid the term. The phrase "concentration camp" was used for sites of mass detention of civilians for nearly four decades before the Nazis came to power. Even their gentler incarnations, such as the internment of military-age males during World War I,

harmed internees, and helped to rehabilitate and institutionalize the idea of camps, setting the stage for more lethal models.

Even after World War II's end exposed concentration camps' horrors, the mass detention of children continued and evolved. Between 1976 and 1983, officials of Argentina's military dictatorship detained thousands of adults and stole their children. Some detainees gave birth in a room of the torture center in the officers' residence at the Escuela Superior de Mecánica de la Armada in Buenos Aires, where detainees were interrogated and most of them executed, with hundreds of their children raised by pro-dictatorship families.

In Cambodia during the same era, the Khmer Rouge put children into forced labor camps, creating dedicated children's work brigades. Elizabeth Becker, reporting from Phnom Penh, noted the shuttered schools and suspected some clandestine horror was underway when she caught a lone glimpse of "thin children, barefoot and in rags" carrying firewood near the highway. As a nine-year-old, Sopheline Cheam Shapiro had to dig in rice fields from dawn to dusk after losing her father, two brothers, and a grandmother, along with uncles and cousins. "I am no different," she later wrote, "from most of my generation."

Camps have often emerged at moments of crisis or in response to a social challenge, when societies are vulnerable to fear or division. Just as detention of children was meant to wear down Boer guerrillas resisting imperial rule a century ago, the detention of children today is meant to deter parents from seeking asylum at the U.S.-Mexico border.

These shelters may seem like a temporary solution, but irregular detention tends to persist and warp over time. The torture and extrajudicial detention that began at Guantanamo, Cuba, during America's 21st-century "War on Terror" had roots in the treatment of Haitian asylum-seekers who were

intercepted at sea and imprisoned on the base in the 1990s. HIV-positive detainees were segregated and held in such grotesque conditions (without access to adequate medical or legal assistance) that U.S. courts intervened.

Concentration camps rose out of aggressive strategies intended for use in fighting guerrilla insurgencies. Today neither a war on the border nor even a civil conflict can serve as an excuse for this policy. Though there is plenty of military rhetoric, what we really have is a concentration camp policy wielded against refugees, which has devolved into a war on children. The American Academy of Pediatrics has already announced that the policy of separation alone is enough to do significant harm to children. This shift in policy has been sprung on a complex, already overburdened asylum and immigration system with a history of abuse. Under the best of leadership, the surge in children detained would mean overcrowding, sanitation problems, and physical and mental health issues. We do not yet know how many children will be unable to reunite with family members as a result of bureaucratic mix-ups, language barriers, and other issues. And things are unlikely to get better without intervention that ends the policy of separation. History shows that problematic detention practices become normal, and then they get worse.

We can already see the background demonization of refugee children in the pamphlet titled "Unaccompanied Alien Frequently Asked Questions" available through the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement. It reveals both how strongly fears of foreigners have taken root in the United States today, and how the process of locking up children is turning them into targets. The first three questions cover what impact shelters will have on the community, whether kids are carriers of infectious diseases, and whether they are involved with violent gangs.

What is likely to come next? The historical parallels are already evident. As in the era of the Boer War, politicians

are saying that detainees locked up by the government against their will are burdening American taxpayers. Asylum seekers are blamed for bringing detention upon themselves, and more reprehensibly, on their children.

During the two-year existence of the Boer camps, mothers were blamed by British military officials and unsympathetic members of the public alike for the deaths of their children, said to be largely due to the ignorance and unsanitary habits of the mothers themselves. There was little acknowledgment of their involuntary confinement in dangerous conditions without enough food. And yet, it was obvious to early observers that this would not end well. In November 1901, an editorial in the *New York Times* cited the rising death toll in the camps, explaining that at current levels, “the Boer reconcentrados would be exterminated in less than four years.”

There is no need to see how much history is willing to repeat itself before stopping the current experiment.

*Andrea Pitzer is an editor-at-large with Zócalo Public Square and the author of “One Long Night: A Global History of Concentration Camps.”*

---

## **Opinion: Equip students to navigate fake news websites**

**By Jennifer Rich, The Conversation**

More than 60 percent of America’s middle and high school students rely on alt-right internet sites as credible sources for their research papers. The students are using alt-right sites to write papers on topics that range from free speech

and the Second Amendment to citizenship, immigration and the Holocaust.

These were among the key findings of a preliminary survey of 200 teachers I conducted recently to develop a snapshot of how common it was for middle and high school students to turn to alt-right websites.

As a researcher who specializes in teaching what is known as “hard histories,” including slavery, the Holocaust and other genocides, this finding is of concern, particularly as the nation approaches the one-year anniversary of the tragedy in Charlottesville, Va.

### **Who they are**

The alt-right is a connected set of far-right groups, beliefs and individual people. They believe in white supremacy, and that it is under attack by multiculturalism, political correctness and social justice. It was the alt-right that marched in Charlottesville, shouting Nazi slogans and invoking the KKK. One way the alt-right recruits new members is through social media and other online platforms.

Despite the link between the alt-right and the Charlottesville tragedy, students are still using alt-right websites for their research papers in school, according to teachers I surveyed in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York. The teachers reported that the students cite these websites in their bibliographies but often struggle to make sense of the information they obtained from the sites.

These sites are increasingly prominent. In fact, it is interesting to note that the alt-right websites teachers list as being used most often by their students have all been started since 2005, with the exception of one, and many have come into existence in just the past five years.

### **Examining alt-right websites**



The question becomes, then, what should teachers do regarding these sites? Is it the responsibility of teachers to actually do anything?

Instead of ignoring these sites, I'd suggest teachers might do best to teach students how to critically examine the sites. In order to do that, however, teachers must know what is out there. While this is not an exhaustive list, the following six alt-right websites were most commonly cited by teachers as those that students use for their papers.

They are: National Policy Institute, Radix Journal, American Renaissance, Taki's Magazine and Voat.

In open-ended follow-up questions, teachers added that students find the information on these sites appealing but are unable to differentiate between fact and fiction.

In classroom spaces, teachers will inevitably teach students who come from a variety of backgrounds and who hold different beliefs, ideas and opinions. Still, it is a teacher's job to encourage objective, fact-based thinking to the students in their care. Awareness of pseudo-scientific "White identity" sites like Radix and American Renaissance allows teachers to deconstruct those sites with students, encourage critical reading, and debate the validity and value of the content.

### **Uncomfortable subject matter**

Teachers responding to my survey report that they are uncomfortable teaching about these websites because they are certain they have "at least some" students who agree with the alt-right sites in question. The teachers also believe that teaching about these websites in class would lead to uncomfortable conversations.

As teachers, it is not our job to indoctrinate students to think as we do. However, it is our job to teach facts. Creating a safe classroom climate will allow for these

uncomfortable conversations where close examinations of the opinions presented on these websites can be examined in a dispassionate way. For example, Radix Journal recently featured an article that “Martin Luther King Jr., a fraud and degenerate in his life, has become the symbol and cynosure of White Dispossession and the deconstruction of European civilization.” It is reasonable to expect heated student disagreement around an article like this one. This, then, opens up space to teach students how to engage in respectful and difficult conversations with one another.

Lessons of this sort would certainly involve countering misinformation that is put forward on these sites. For example, after looking at the Radix Journal article that attacks Martin Luther King Jr., it would be appropriate to have students consider “Three Visions for Achieving Equal Rights,” a lesson with primary sources from the organization Facing History and Ourselves. Beyond this point-counterpoint, students need to be given tools to evaluate the validity of the information they encounter while doing research. One excellent tool to do this, “Evaluating Online Resources,” comes from the project Teaching Tolerance, and helps students evaluate online sources. Regardless of the resource used, students need to be pushed to consider who the author is, his or her bias, and the purpose of the article.

What I am suggesting here might engender pushback but so did other proposals to introduce controversial subjects to students. Consider sex education in the 1960s or the DARE program in the 1980s. Today, both are commonplace in schools, despite the idea that they expose students to controversial information they might not know, including information about safe sex and different drugs.

### **Why it's necessary**

Fewer than 10 percent of teachers report doing any whole class teaching about, or discussion of, these alt-right websites,

despite the fact that more than half of their students utilize these sites, according to responses to my survey. Instead, they speak to students individually and request that they find other sources, according to my survey.

Teachers need to help students learn to recognize credible sources and not fall victim to alt-right sites that put forth propaganda. In order to combat the darkness in the world and on the web, teachers must have the knowledge and courage to teach about it directly.

*Jennifer Rich is an assistant professor, Rowan University.*

---

## **Opinion: Don't separate families at the border**

**By Laura Bush**

On Sunday, a day we as a nation set aside to honor fathers and the bonds of family, I was among the millions of Americans who watched images of children who have been torn from their parents.

In the six weeks between April 19 and May 31, the Department of Homeland Security has sent nearly 2,000 children to mass detention centers or foster care. More than 100 of these children are younger than 4 years old. The reason for these separations is a zero-tolerance policy for their parents, who are accused of illegally crossing our borders.

I live in a border state. I appreciate the need to enforce and protect our international boundaries, but this zero-tolerance policy is cruel. It is immoral. And it breaks my heart.

Read the whole story

---

# Opinion: Alessi's resignation a welcome surprise

By Kathryn Reed

Quitting won't get Suzie Alessi what she wants.

What South Lake Tahoe's city clerk wants is for potentially damaging or embarrassing texts and emails about her and written by her to not see the light of day. The multiple entities that have sought the documents, including *Lake Tahoe News*, will continue to pursue the records whether she is in office or not.



Suzie Alessi

Alessi on June 19 announced at the City Council meeting she would be resigning in July. She did not give an exact date.

The City Council was shocked, according to Mayor Wendy David. "We had no idea," she told *Lake Tahoe News*. They knew she did not intend to seek re-election in November.

Alessi has come under fire of late because she doesn't do her job. She has it cushy because as an elected official she is

only held accountable to the public – not the City Council, not the city manager, not the city attorney. She can work when she wants, take off whenever she wants.

Her latest shenanigans regarding the delay of public records is to threaten to sue to stop them from being made public. A lawsuit may delay things, but it won't change the law. It is what it is.

There are very few instances where public records cannot be released. State law dictates what can be redacted. If she thinks the information won't be relevant after the taxpayers are no longer paying her to barely work, she is sorely mistaken. After all, we'll be the ones footing her six-figure retirement. After 32 years on the public dole she will continue to be on it. She will collect about 90 percent of her salary and that goes up about 2 percent a year. Her current salary is more than \$100,000.

It is only the city attorney and an elected city clerk who may redact anything from a public record. Most cities don't have elected clerks, and therefore it would only be legal counsel with the big black marker.

On June 1, Alessi emailed *LTN* saying, "Retrieval of the voluminous records subject to your public records request is nearly completed. If not all records are retrieved/received by early next week, the city will provide the records it has in its possession and the remainder will be provided to you as soon as received."

No records have been provided. None. Zero. Zip.

They have all been retrieved, so to speak, according to multiple sources at the city.

It is the city clerk, though, whose job it is to be in charge of Public Records Act requests – even when she is the subject of the request.

State law requires the city have a clerk, though it does not have to be elected. About 100 of the 478 incorporated cities in California have elected clerks.

There is nothing in the city's code that dictates how to replace a city clerk who does not fulfill her term.

Clearly, the system is flawed.

Alessi can't leave soon enough. She has brought such disgrace to the office.

She couldn't get along with the deputy clerk and ran her off earlier this spring. Speculation is Ellen Palazzo will run for the position in November. The filing period opens July 16.

There is an assistant clerk, Sue Blankenship, who would be left with the immediate duties.

Alessi told *LTN*, "It's time – a changing of the guard."

That's an understatement.

Interim City Attorney Nira Doherty told *LTN* she expects to make a recommendation this week to interim City Manager Dirk Brazil about how to proceed.

Brazil told *LTN* he is leaning toward filling the post from July to November with a retired city clerk. "I don't see this position being 40 hours," Brazil said.

Still, it is up to the City Council to decide what to do. And those five would be the ones to make an appointment.

---

# Letter: EDC auditor candidate concedes

To the community,

As candidate for El Dorado County Auditor-Controller, I conceded the race to incumbent Joe Harn as the latest vote counts were released as of June 15.

I have to admit I am kind of surprised by the results. I had a great deal of community, grass-roots support and enthusiasm from both volunteers and donors along with some great endorsements.

The most recent results are reported as total votes 48,970, Joe Harn 25,454 51.98 percent, Mike Owen 23,415 47.81 percent. Harn, who has held the post for 24 years, held an advantage of about 2,000 votes of the nearly 50,000 votes cast. I estimate that there a few ballots left to be counted, but the remaining votes are unlikely to change the overall result.

With just a few ballots left to count it appears that if 1,000 votes for Harn had gone to Owen, EDC would have a new auditor/controller.

It's an unfortunate fact that political incumbents are re-elected about 92 percent of the time. -In my case, my opponent's reelection campaigns have been financed by out-of-the-area donors. That appears to explain finance disclosures showing Harn spending almost \$90,000 just before voting started according to Harn's latest campaign disclosure statement.

I will support the voter's decision and respect the election results.

My 2018 campaign earned the endorsements of many including El

Dorado County Sheriff John D'Agositini and Placerville Mayor Wendy Thomas as well many winery owners and the El Dorado County Association of Realtors.

**Mike Owen, auditor candidate**

---

# **Opinion: Explaining the solstices**

**By Stephen Schneider, The Conversation**

The summer solstice marks the official start of summer. It brings the longest day and shortest night of the year for the 88 percent of Earth's people who live in the Northern Hemisphere. People around the world observe the change of seasons with bonfires and festivals and *Fête de la Musique* celebrations.

Astronomers can calculate an exact moment for the solstice, when Earth reaches the point in its orbit where the North Pole is angled closest to the sun. That moment will be at 9:07am Pacific Time on June 21 this year. From Earth, the sun will appear farthest north relative to the stars. People living on the Tropic of Cancer, 23.5 degrees north of the Equator, will see the sun pass straight overhead at noon. Six months from now the sun will reach its southern extreme and pass overhead for people on the Tropic of Capricorn, and northerners will experience their shortest days of the year, at the winter solstice.

The sun's angle relative to Earth's equator changes so gradually close to the solstices that, without instruments, the shift is difficult to perceive for about 10 days. This is



the origin of the word solstice, which means “solar standstill.”

This slow shift means that June 21 is only about 1 second longer than June 20 at mid-northern latitudes. It will be about a week before there’s more than a minute change to the calculated amount of daylight. Even that’s an approximation – Earth’s atmosphere bends light over the horizon by different amounts depending on weather, which can introduce changes of more than a minute to sunrise and sunset times.

Monuments at Stonehenge in England, Karnak in Egypt, and Chankillo in Peru reveal that people around the world have taken note of the sun’s northern and southern travels for more than 5,000 years. From Stonehenge’s circle of standing stones, the sun will rise directly over an ancient avenue leading away to the northeast on the solstice. We know little about the people who built Stonehenge, or why they went to such great effort to construct it – moving multi-ton stones from rock outcrops as far as 140 miles away. All this to mark the spot on the horizon where the sun returns each year to rest for a while before moving south again. Perhaps they, like us, celebrated this signal of the coming change of seasons.

*Stephen Schneider is a professor of astronomy, University of Massachusetts Amherst.*

---

## **Editorial: Nevada voters and renewable energy**

**Publisher’s note: *This editorial is from the June 17, 2018, Las Vegas Sun.***

In 1997, Nevada became one of the first states in the U.S. to adopt a minimum requirement for green energy production.

Today, however, other states have zoomed past us in setting such standards. In fact, Nevada's requirement for 25 percent of our energy to come from renewable sources no longer ranks us in the top 10. We're trailing New Jersey, of all places. New Jersey!

So it's commendable that a group known as Nevadans for Clean Future Energy has been working on an initiative to boost Nevada's minimum to 50 percent by 2030.

**Read the whole story**

---

## **Editorial: Brown makes a good deal on budget**

**Publisher's note: *This editorial is from the June 12, 2018, Sacramento Bee.***

All budget deals are compromises in which not everyone gets everything they want. The agreement last week by Gov. Jerry Brown and legislative leaders strikes a good balance, given the state's budget surplus, its pent-up needs and the prospect of the next recession.

The rank-and-file in the Legislature should sign off this week on the \$200 billion budget. In total, the deal adds about \$1 billion in spending to the budget that Brown proposed in May and addresses some key priorities.

**Read the whole story**

---

# Opinion: \$120,000 for California preschool

By Joe Mathews

Since the 1990s, California's leaders have promised to make preschool universal for every child.

Maybe they'll do it by the time I have grandchildren.



Joe Mathews

It's already too late for my own kids. The youngest of my three sons graduated from preschool last week. I celebrated by writing my final preschool check, for monthly tuition of \$1,165. With that payment, my total spending on preschool tuition for all three boys surpassed \$120,000.

All that tuition has wiped away most of my family's savings. And yet, my kids are extremely lucky—because they got to go to preschool at all.

Today, only half of California's 4-year-olds and 21 percent of our 3-year-olds are enrolled in either a public preschool or federally funded Head Start, according to the National Institute for Early Education Research. By comparison, 90 percent of 5-year-old Californians attend a public kindergarten.

Left on their own, California families, especially in the middle class, struggle to find anything affordable (many preschool tuitions are greater than the University of California's) and full-day (to accommodate their working lives). Most existing pre-school programs are targeted at low-income kids, though an estimated 170,000 eligible children can't go because there simply aren't enough spots. Only 13 percent of low-income kids are in high-quality programs, advocates say. In a state with the high poverty and inequality, those numbers are unconscionable.

Preschool makes liars of California adults, demonstrating the canyon between progressive rhetoric ("children are the future") and reactionary reality ("kids don't vote so who cares?"). Investments in early childhood education are of enormous social value: Kids who get high-quality preschool are less likely to fall behind in school, be victims of crime, and drop out of high school.

But California hasn't managed to match Oklahoma, which adopted universal preschool in 1998. California voters turned down a ballot initiative for universal preschool in 2006. Even part-way measures get blocked. In 2015, Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed a bill guaranteeing one year of part-day preschool to every low-income 4-year-old. This year, instead of making preschool universal, the new state budget throws \$16 billion into rainy-day reserves.

Since experiencing big cuts in the recession, preschool programs have seen progress: an increase in the number of subsidized slots, the establishment of transitional kindergarten for 4-year-olds, some local taxes to support early childhood education. But all this falls short of a universal system in which preschool is guaranteed like another grade in school; instead, early childhood education is provided through a complicated patchwork of nine programs with different settings, standards, hours and fees. And transitional kindergarten is limited to students born between

Sept. 2 and Dec. 2.

This lack of commitment to preschool undermines quality and staffing. It's hard to get talented people to devote their careers to early childhood, and the training necessary for such careers, given the uncertainty. And California relies far more than most states on unlicensed providers.

Despite these challenges, I do have hope. That hope is grounded in four Marin County children—the four kids, all under the age of 9, of Gavin Newsom.

Our likely next governor proposes to create a robust system of public early childhood services that starts in the womb (with greater prenatal care), emphasizes coaching for parents, and includes universal preschool that is integrated with K-12 schools and even universities.

This could be one more of a generation's worth of unfulfilled promises, but there are reasons to take him seriously: As mayor of San Francisco, he implemented a "Preschool for All" program, funded by a voter-approved tax. And Newsom's cannabis legalization ballot initiative directed marijuana money to early childhood.

Newsom will have to negotiate with change-wary preschool providers and education and health interests who see universal preschool as unwelcome competition for public funds. He should build a broader constituency for preschool by making sure that his expansion reaches middle-class families. Middle-class support is why Social Security and Medicare more popular than targeted programs for the poor.

And he shouldn't wait. Those early years fly by. In the fall, my youngest will start kindergarten at our local public school. And while I no longer will be paying preschool tuition, I still will be writing checks.

California guarantees only half-day kindergarten, which means

that he'll be in the classroom for just three hours and 25 minutes a day, 8:10 to 11:35am. Since my wife and I work, we're very relieved that we can keep him at school for the rest of the day, by enrolling him in a "kindercafe" program for the 11:35am-3pm stretch, and then an after-school program to cover 3 to 6pm.

Those two extra programs will allow us to keep our jobs. They also will cost us \$750 a month.

*Joe Mathews writes the Connecting California column for Zócalo Public Square.*