

Letters to the editor

Flower for the fallen not environmentally damaging

Captioned "Flowers for fallen," Times-Standard's recent photo of Korean War veterans honoring those lost in combat by tossing a memorial wreath from aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Barracuda (July 28, Page A1) was much appreciated.

But before the day was out, Patti D. Thomas of Arcata had penned an emotionally opinionated letter, "Damaging the environment no way to honor any one" (Times-Standard, July 29, Page A4) accusing us of assaulting our environment, and claiming "any knowledgeable horticulturists could suggest a safe alternative to honor our loved ones."

In response, I called to tell her the wreath had been made by Eureka Florist to be completely biodegradable, including the small red, white and blue cotton ribbon. I also suggested a letter of apology citing her error, and left the conversation hoping that a letter to the editor would be forthcoming.

Obviously wishful thinking on my part, but the reason for the my delay in writing. With her failure to publicly acknowledge her false allegations, the task of setting the record straight has fallen to me.

— Leo Sears, Eureka

Boys & Girls Club kids heading to S.F.

When I was 9 years old I took one of the most exciting trips of my life. About 45 children from Humboldt County, including me, boarded a bus early in the early morning heading to my first San Francisco Giants game. I remember Juan Marichal, Willie McCovey and Willie Mays (hitting a homer).

We returned late that night, with memories of a lifetime and one of my first glimpses of

life outside of my hometown of Eureka.

That experience is still happening for children today. The Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods offers this same chance to participants in the Junior Giants summer baseball program. On Aug. 12th, approximately 125 children will board buses bound for AT&T Park in San Francisco. They will watch today's stars, Buster Posey, Hunter Pence and Madison Bumgarner. There is a pre-game parade for all participants and our local winner of the Willie Mac Award, will be specially honored on the field before the game.

This is just one of the many positive life enhancing activities offered by our local Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods. If you haven't had a chance to check out our local club, simply call 707-441-1030. Our kids deserve your support.

— Dave Wells, board member,
Boys & Girls Club of the
Redwoods, Bayside

Wealthy Americans no longer giving fair share

The recent letter from Tim Milton ("It's time to stop the free ride in Humboldt County," Times-Standard, Aug. 1, Page A4) demonstrates the effectiveness of the billionaire class and their corporate media in persuading people to act against their own interests. I presume Mr. Milton is not a billionaire.

He says that budgets must be cut because there are more lazy poor people — people with disabilities, welfare recipients — demanding more handouts like food stamps, free stuff, and, of all things, discount housing. He says these handouts are causing loss of "basic services" — water supplies, sewer systems, streets and highways, fire protection, and law enforcement.

Mr. Milton ignores the fact that since the Reagan admin-