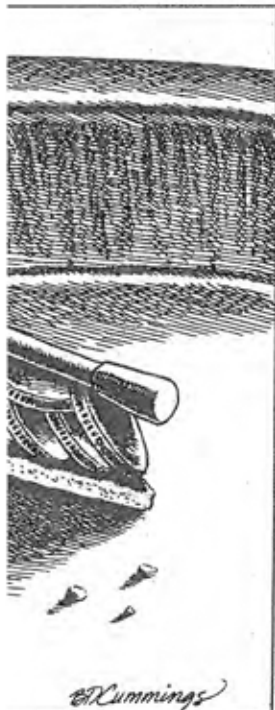


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L.A. Times Syndicate

ed in my recent address y Legislature's Ways & ittee, we are forecasting a r-end deficit for 2005 in 7 million to \$13.8 million. social service spending, ily by increased caseload, ponsible for this deficit

lid last year, with a pro- hat was much higher, we is challenge head-on. We to work with our Depart- an Services to manage more efficiently and ef-

ercise tight control over res and will continue to -saving solutions that ces.

o continue to work with Civic Entrepreneurship ommendations from our ry Team's report.

rack and moving in the .. Working together, I am will reach our ultimate term fiscal stability in v. □

## not for ailing elderly

I am a patient at a nursing home. My wife and I pay roughly \$300 a day for my care (doesn't include medications). Our life savings are quickly being depleted.

I am deeply distressed, angered and saddened that my government continues to spend the greatest share of our taxes on military spending while attempting to reduce funding for hospitals, nursing homes and Medicaid patients.

Our government lacks compassion. It increases tax breaks for the wealthy and corporate America while more than 40 million citizens have no health insurance. In addition, we have chosen to attack a sovereign nation on false premises. The Iraq war is a quagmire and has nothing to do with bringing democracy to Iraq. It is a war for control of oil. It represents our greed and arrogance and the theft of resources and lives we need for health care, education, social services, protecting the environment, and a living wage for all.

My work for a compassionate democracy is coming to an end. For those who love justice, please continue to carry the torch.

**EDWIN BADURA**  
BRIGHTON

## State broke promise on Thruway tolls

I agree with the April 26 letter writer about the false necessity of our ongoing Thruway tolls ("Demand an audit on Thruway toll funds").

My fellow taxpayers and I must follow the letter of the law when it comes time to filing our taxes or we get creamed with fines, penalties, levies, etc. If taxpayers have to toe the line, why shouldn't our elected leaders be held accountable for promises not kept?

I believe the government should be made to keep its promise to the taxpayers that those tolls would disappear once the road was paid for.

Regular hardworking people are giving up more and more of their livelihoods to support governmental offices and services we know absolutely nothing about and, for the most part, do not benefit from.

I feel that this toll increase only fuels pork spending that our elected leaders push through.

I'm tired of trying to live on less

We welcome your comments. All submissions must include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Limit letters to fewer than 175 words. Letters to the editor, opinion and editorial columns, and articles submitted to the *Democrat and Chronicle* may be distributed in print, electronic and other forms.

Because of the volume of submissions, we cannot acknowledge receipt of every letter and essay. If a submission is accepted for publication, we will notify the writer.

**Address:** Letters to the Editor, *Democrat and Chronicle*, 55 Exchange Blvd., Rochester, NY 14614.

**Letters:** For questions about letters, call letters editor Richard Orioli, (585) 258-2641.

**Speaking Out:** To submit a longer essay, call Speaking Out editor M. Kathleen Wagner, (585) 258-2414.

**Fax:** (585) 258-2356.

**TTY line:** (585) 258-2510.

**E-mail:** dcreditpage@DemocratandChronicle.com

## Pat on the back Colorful, provocative show at art gallery

I recently visited the Memorial Art Gallery to see the new show titled "The View From Here," with prints by American and Russian artists.

I found the works to be thoughtfully conceived and beautifully rendered. I spent nearly two hours there and plan to go back again before the show is taken down in June. From voodoo to Russian czars to imaginary creatures, there's plenty to keep you thinking and wanting to go back.

There is a piece that might be considered for adults only, but the idea of expressing what Hitler and Stalin did to the Russian people with lewd images in a tarot card format is too fascinating to be missed.

I highly recommend an extended visit to this colorful and provocative exhibit. The Memorial Art Gallery, with its many temporary exhibits and a fine permanent collection, truly enhances the cultural and educational life of our city.

**KITTY CORCORAN**  
GATES

Would you like to say thank you to an individual, a group or an organization? Send your suggestion as a letter to