

September 25, 2015

Hello to All Concerned

I waited in anticipation, and watched in dismay, Brian Heap's segment about the SDC closure. It wasn't a documentary at all. Truthfully, I am sorry I sent out so many messages to so many of you to watch Mr. Heap's "fair and balanced" conclusion as pertains to SDC's closure. He focused on two residents who were dressed, able to walk, and enjoy some semblance of contented life experiences.

Why didn't he have a look at others we are fighting for also. I called Mr. Heap to relay my input into his research re the SDC closure. I did not receive a call-back from him so he really is unaware of what he obviously missed in terms of the residents at SDC. I would have him look at my son's home, Emparan, and those who live there. If allowed into Emparan he would have heard something like the following, which could have been included in his narrative. He would have seen why so many of us are heartsick over the closing of SDC.

At Emparan there are those who cannot speak or hear, and others who are profoundly mentally and physically deficient. There is one who lays on a board fixed to a wheelchair because his body is so twisted he cannot sit up. There are others who have minimal thinking brains who sit in wheelchairs and drool. There is a little "girl" who sits in her wheelchair and bobs her head over and over back and forth uncontrollably. It makes anyone with the slightest bit of compassion feel their heart break watching them enjoy what little they can. They don't know what the outside world is, and they don't need a million dollar building with strangers looking after them. They are the ones who are being shuttled off to a home which makes no difference to them but all the difference to those that love them in spite of their afflictions. They just need their home, which is part of SDC.

That's what Brian Heap should have reported on. That would be "fair and balanced." He left out the human protection issue we are all fighting for, nothing more and nothing less. No, I am not grateful for his reporting on the SDC closure problem, just sorry he made it less than it deserved.

If he had exposed the "dirty little secret" the Brown Administration doesn't want to be out there for all to see, it would have made a difference. It would have truly shown how devastating the closure will be, and how many will not survive because of their health issues. Someone has to put the truth out there as obviously Mr. Heap didn't see the truth, nor looked into the real issue at hand. We had so much riding on the matter and now I don't know if there is any hope left. In trying to understand why the closure is coming - I have to understand this also. The government is willing to take care of millions of illegals coming into California while at the same time not wanting to take care of less than 400 of their own, those who need their continued support in maintaining their home so they can live!

Janice Pruett, Mother
Christian Grant Eby, Son and
Resident of Emparan, SDC