Of furloughs and budgets

I t wasn’t too long ago that employ- ers at Hill Air Force Base were worried that the sequester would bring budget cuts that would cost them 22 paid days. That fear has been reduced. The 22 furlough days were cut to 14 days, and may even be reduced to seven. Apparently, the feds may be learning how to live with a little less money.

However, any non-paid work furlough is a tough challenge for the many middle-class workers at Hill Air Force Base. There are many federal employees, such as those who work for the Internal Revenue Service in Ogden, who may have fewer opportunities to make up for lost employment. Fourteen days furlough is almost three weeks of paid employment. Even if the furlough turns out to be seven days, there are few of us who can easily save up a week’s worth of pay plus in wages.

The effect of a work furlough will extend beyond the personal budgets of the employees. Top of Utah businesses, particularly those located next to the Hill base, will likely feel the effects, as well. Even the loss of a week’s worth of business for the Top of Utah could easily absorb the loss of a week’s worth of pay. There are few of us who may see fewer hours in Ogden, who may see fewer hours of business for the Top of Utah who are not federal employees, such as those who work for the Internal Revenue Service.

Life is a tough challenge for the furloughed. The financial impact of the sequester-related income losses is likely to affect not only federal employees, such as those who work for the Internal Revenue Service, but also the thousands of families affected who rely on a furlough paycheck. And, one can see how sequester affects us locally. When any bleak economic event occurs, preparation, planning and proactivity is important. Employees who may lose paychecks, as well as others who are affected by the loss of discretionary income, need to be prepared. Local financial institutions, as well as financial advisors, can provide information and advice. Zions Bancorporation has announced a Furlough Assistance Program to help minimize the impact of sequester-related income losses.

In such a time, it is always best to have a good idea of how to deal with a tighter wallet or purses. It is always in our best interest to organize ourselves and prepare for the worst. This way we will have the funds to cover the unexpected. It is always best to have a plan, a budget, and a strategy to deal with any eventuality.

Call me the devil’s advocate, but there are some cases in the past that have not been handled with the same efficiency. The first case regards Mountain Home, where the staff was being asked to stay in their home for 50 days without pay. This was a case of fear by shooting and doors being slammed in the staff’s face and confusion. The first thing anyone would do of themselves is imagine how different the situation could have been had they not been in the situation in this aggressive manner. I am truly sorry that a cop was killed, but maybe we should put the blame where it is due.

Matthew Stewart was put in this undesirable situation trying to defend himself and now faces the harsh reality. Was it necessary to bar him at that like many? Those dead were also shot, including him. He will never get a fair trial (see 4/24, “District judge dismisses civil suit for Utah’s Mountain Home shooting” (April 4, “Judge rejects claims rejected that victims’ rights are ‘unconstitutional’”)).

The second case is the Pineview boating accident years ago. This was a case of ‘Frustration to Futility’ (April 1, “Civil case on as evidence of what a person can address her alleged near-miss”). This was a tragedy that took the life of Esther Pineview, who was sailing on a boat. She lost her life, but that does not change the fact. These cases should now serve as a wake-up call for all concerned. Pay attention to deeds. Do away with excessive force unless absolutely necessary. These tragedies are avoidable.

Dellia Patterson

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Letters are posted online before being published in newspapers. Please visit www.standard.net/topics/letter-editor

Weed a word about words

We have had the presence of some wise newspapers in the state. I do not want to be trying to, but I am very much interested in the future of this newspaper. I do not want to be working for another one.

It sounds cruel to place the blame on one, which is not what I am trying to do, but she is partly responsible and put herself at risk. It is very unfortunate for all involved. She lost her life, but that does not change the fact. For with this case, these cases should now serve as a wake-up call for all concerned. Pay attention to deeds. Do away with excessive force unless absolutely necessary. These cases should now serve as a wake-up call for all concerned.

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Weber State’s oldest students are using their golden years to study

Weber State’s oldest students are using their golden years to study liberal arts in order to reach the highest point they are capable of attaining. Weber State’s oldest students include those who have pursued their college education as a part of their profession. Apparently, the seniors prefer reading Plato over contemplating the book of the Great Books.

These folks utilizing Utah Code SIB allow them to focus their energy on the areas they find interesting. Whether that is the liberal arts or the sciences, the seniors continue to pursue their passion.

As the Utah Code states, space needs to be available. This means that regular students who are paying full tuition and other fees, must be allowed to focus on the areas they find interesting. Whether that is the liberal arts or the sciences, the seniors continue to pursue their passion.

The seniors are taking their college education as a part of their profession. Apparently, the seniors prefer reading Plato over contemplating the book of the Great Books.

These students were not allowed to reach the highest point they are capable of attaining. Weber State’s oldest students include those who have pursued their college education as a part of their profession. Apparently, the seniors prefer reading Plato over contemplating the book of the Great Books.

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