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To the editor,

Futurists – including those who work for consumer products companies – know that WATER will increasingly be THE scarce resource worldwide. Those who control (own) water rights, therefore, will be in a great position to benefit. After all, everyone must have quarts/liters of it each day to survive.

I hope the people and leaders of McCloud will recognize what they own and will RETAIN OWNERSHIP OF THE PEOPLE'S WATER.

World-wide most water is currently "public" – owned by municipalities, states and national governments. But there is a movement underway to turn this key public resource into private property. One aspect of this movement is being pushed by irrigation interests. They want to convert a right to use water for agriculture - defined by states as property – into a right to control all use of water they have historically used to irrigate crops.

Big corporations use different methods. Possessing cash and banking leverage - and knowing the future value of water – they are buying water rights as quickly and cheaply as possible.

The prospect of world-wide privatization of water is scary. But only at the local level can the public's interest in water – derived from Roman and English Common Law - be preserved.
A term contract to sell metered water to Nestle should be carefully considered by McCloud's leaders and citizens. But SELLING a water right to Nestle should be off the table.

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