

the highly marketed issue..



"You can kick the ass of the rich. It's just such a big ass that it takes a long time."

August 2022

Pepper Spray Times



It's acrocarpous....it's free....if you can find it

"...confess yourselves wondrous malicious, or be accused of folly..." Vol. XXIII No. 8

Amazon Provides Special Language Classes for Employees "Associates"

By Hattie Ben-Serten

Amazon's leaked memos about banning words like "union", "grievance", "injustice" and dozens of additional phrases commonly used to organize such as "coalition" and "slave labor" has inspired it to take another tack since their memo inspired so much late night and front page comedy that it had trouble finding the appropriate words to address the matter.

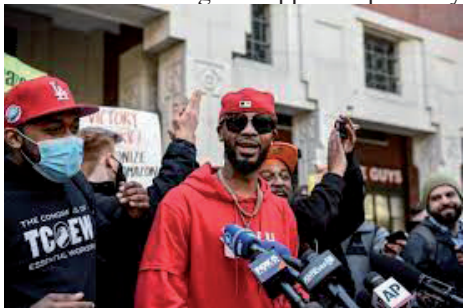
"We realized we all needed a language upgrade," stated Amazon spokesperson Barbara M. Agrait. "Our teams are always thinking about new ways to help employees engage with each other. This particular program has not been approved yet and may change significantly or even never launch at all."

The program Agrait claims may never launch at all would govern the company's internal messaging system, an app the company is "developing for workers" according to the leaked memo.

"We love their idea of banning the word 'restroom'," stated Amazon warehouse employee Helen Bach. "We adopted that one right away, widely preferring 'crapper', 'shitter', and 'potty' although 'outhouse' has a wonderful ring as well."

"I've always loved 'water closet', but I'm also fond of 'the euphemism'," stated fellow warehouse picker Honore Fallenchum. "Then there's the elegance of 'the facilities' or the innocence of 'the john'."

The embarrassing leak appeared perfectly



CHRISTIAN SMALLS FOUNDED the Amazon Labor Union (ALU) and is shown here speaking during a news conference outside the National Labor Relations Board offices in the Brooklyn borough of New York where they can't fire him because they already did.



AMAZON WORKERS GET REALLY CRABBY when you ask them where the pool table is or where the dart boards and scooters are.

timed with the debut of the Amazon Labor Union organized by Christian Smalls at an Amazon warehouse in New York City which Smalls claimed fired him for union organizing.

Amazon, which spent \$4 million on labor consultants last year, had no comment when

Amazon, which spent \$4 million on labor consultants last year, had no comment when S m a l l s suggested that Bezos obsession with making a short trip into space had benefitted union organizing because, well, after all, what?

THESE ARE NOT EMPLOYEES or workers, these are "associates", and don't you forget it.

"We have lots of options," stated Amazon spokesperson Agrait with authority. "First, we typically spend more than a year in negotiations during which we're free to put all kinds of pressure on the employees. The penalty for not bargaining in good faith is some letter that encourages us to bargain in good faith. We put those right up on the wall by the space photos."

The internal messaging app pilot program is set to launch but may not launch at all but may launch, according to another Amazon spokesperson.

"We want to lean towards being restrictive on the content that can be posted to prevent a negative associate experience."

"Oh, that's right," laughed Bach. "We're not employees or warehouse workers; we're 'associates'. It's so hard to remember."

* * * * *

UC Insists Over-Enrollment is Excellent Life Training



INSTRUCTORS MAKE SURE that UC students know reading, writing, arithmetic, and how to live in a car.

By Athena Coming

"We still have a few kids who are technically poor," stated Abby Doggond, UC admissions official, of the nearly 10,000 students the university has enrolled beyond the limits it agreed to. "But most of these students either have private wealth or are willing to go wildly into debt for an education, which has similarities."

Doggond pointed out that the life lessons learned from mixing it up with people who live under the overpass or manage to work while living in their cars, as a ratio of students currently need to do, is at least as valuable as what they learn in school, "if not more valuable."

"It's like the old adventure programs that throw kids into the wilderness," commented one instructor. "It's an urban set of trials, but no less challenging."

Long-term street inhabitants say the university newcomers are quick learners.

"Some of them have experience," noted one tent-dweller near the railroad tracks. "But most of them have no choice but to get with UC's program the way all of the rest of us have. And bring their best study habits with them."

* * * * *



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, are banjos musical instruments or weapons?

Dear reader, used correctly, they are both.

Dear Lena, are there more shootings around here than there used to be? What is up with that?

Dear reader, yes. Gunfire is trending locally. Experts suggest that gunfire is replacing fingerpainting as a form of self-expression.

Dear Lena, how does it help address a housing crisis to build housing too expensive for anybody except people who don't live here? I'm not getting this.

Dear reader, it doesn't address the housing crisis. It builds a lucrative pipeline straight into the pockets of developers who can then fund electoral campaigns of politicians amenable to developer-friendly policies.

Dear Lena, so where are people supposed to live?

Dear reader, the University of California's answer is hot beds, where one or two people sleep in shifts by day and the other six people sharing the one-bedroom sleep by night. This was popular in World War II when the working population exploded past capacity.

Dear Lena, don't they have some PhD people up there who can solve this?

Dear reader, they have more than that; they have housing. It's unaffordable, and only for students, but it's technically housing students can go into debt to live in or sign up to live in by becoming indentured servants to rich kids. It's a system which UC feels prepares them for the world to come.

Dear Lena, right. But where are the rest of us supposed to live.

Dear reader, welcome to the overpass. And bring your boltcutters.

Ask Lena about the horoscopes they don't mention at cdenney@igc.org.



WEST VIRGINIANS ORGANIZED TO HIGHLIGHT SENATOR JOE MANCHIN'S ties to the coal industry at the facility owned by Manchin's son, Joe Manchin IV, which pumps millions into the family pocket while Senator Manchin blocks climate change legislation. This group, West Virginia Rising, was rumored to be carrying concealed banjos.

West Virginians Protest Coal Owner Joe Manchin's Obstruction on Climate

By Pilar O. Strength

FAIRMONT — Sixteen people were arrested for trespassing at a rally of hundreds of protesters at the Grant Town Power Plant near Fairmont, West Virginia, a facility which is owned by Senator Joe Manchin's son, Joe Manchin IV.



SENATOR MANCHIN doesn't own all the coal in West Virginia because Governor Jim Justice owns a lot of it, too.

Senator Manchin's press handlers object to the implication of close ties to coal.

"That's nothing compared to pharmaceuticals," scoffed one press officer. "His daughter owns that one."

Protesters from all over West Virginia and neighboring states argued that Manchin should recuse himself from participating in votes affecting Manchin's family coal business instead of using his role as a Democratic swing vote in a 50-50 Senate to dictate Biden's policies.

"His blind trust only covers about \$1 million," stated protester David Scott, a Fairmont resident and teacher. "But this coal plant alone produces around five million

per year, and Manchin's latest financial disclosure shows him stating awareness of this family income. If that's a blind trust then one eye appears to be wide open."

"He's profiting from climate change by burning slag, but that's not all. He opposed child tax credits and voting rights legislation. He's single-handedly making West Virginians look stupid."

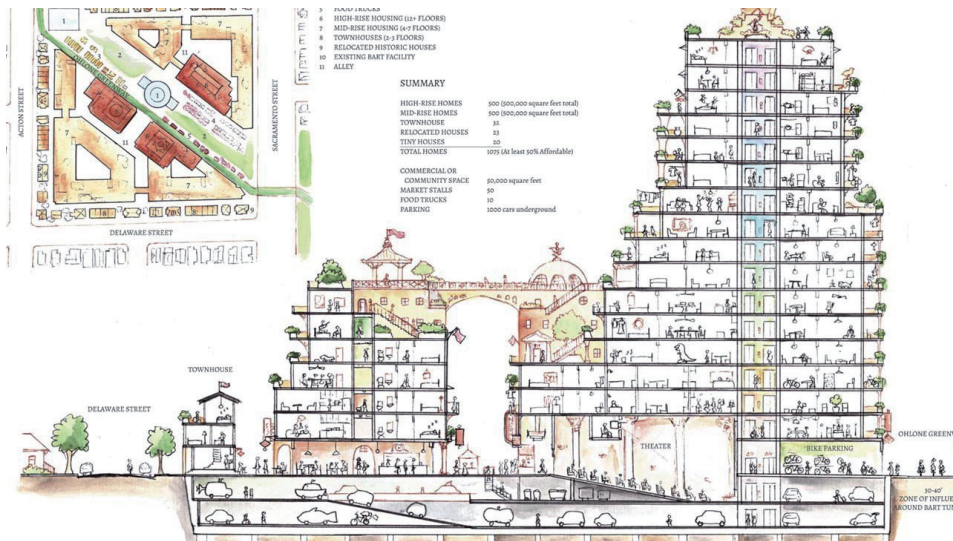
"We just want the rest of the world to know we know," stated protester Rylee Haught. "West Virginians want to transition to clean energy and its past time for Manchin to get on board."

Other protesters note that Manchin's campaign received contributions from companies such as Facebook (now known as Meta), CVS Health, Lowe's, Anthem, Cigna, Boston Scientific, Cheniere Energy and Emergent BioSolutions as soon as he scuttled President Biden's Build Back Better legislation, leaving lots of room for a wider group to boycott specific businesses.

"West Virginians do not deserve to be held in an old paradigm because of one man's greed. Our people deserve the right to move forward with the rest of the country. We are hardworking, community driven and we are not waiting for Senator Manchin to save us. We will move forward together with or without his support," said Holly Bradley, a mother of two and ninth generation West Virginian.

"That's right," added another protester. "Also, we have banjos and we know how to use them."

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TWELVE STORIES WILL BE LOTS OF FUN for that little guy on the very top of the building who will probably have his own elevator anyway.

Semantics Wins Local Density Battle

Gentrification by Any Other Name Would Smell As Suspicious

By Raphael D. Feathers

One twenty-five year old lobbyist for twelve-story buildings broke it down for bewildered reporters by saying she's never actually been in a twelve-story building, but they were rumored to give birth to open space and natural habitat somewhere far, far away.



IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY at the little guy on top of the building you'll recognize someone from the developer's inner circle having a wild party to raise funds for your local council representative.

"We don't think you could see it, even from twelve stories high," stated Rosa Buffett. "But you're supposed to stare at your potted plants and just imagine park space for someone else somewhere."

The Planning Commission, with little embarrassment, voted 5-4 to re-zone an area around two Berkeley BART Stations in an area being referred to online as "develop-

er's delight."

"It's just gentrification," sighed Commissioner Christina Oatfield, who voted against the recommendation. "Without affordable housing requirements it just becomes another dot-com short-term rental ghetto where the only culture left is recommending a moving company to the next sucker tenant."

"These buildings are already here, and make no effort at integrating into the landscape, the culture, or the most innocent of human needs, like somewhere to put your winter coat," scoffed a nearby homeowner. "This isn't housing for people here in need. This is a windfall for the already well-connected developers who bought these politicians for scrap and have a monopoly on keeping them on the council."

"What a cynical view," stated vice chair of the planning commission Savlan Houser. "As opposed to the view from twelve stories up, which I highly recommend."

* * * * *



Disturbing Horoscope Predictions

Aries (March 21 – April 19) - A psychic will lead the police to your body.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) - You will be injured by a chocolate bunny.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) - You look terrible in the green shirt.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) - Nobody likes your potato salad.

Leo (July 23 – August 22) - You will find happiness with boring books.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22) - Your previous life was better.

Libra (September 23 – October 22) - Ducks are a conspiracy.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21) - Your favorite charity is a scam.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21) - Your neighbors have a nickname for you.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19) - Your serve is embarrassing.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18) - Chipmunks think you are a god.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20) - You need more buttons in your life.

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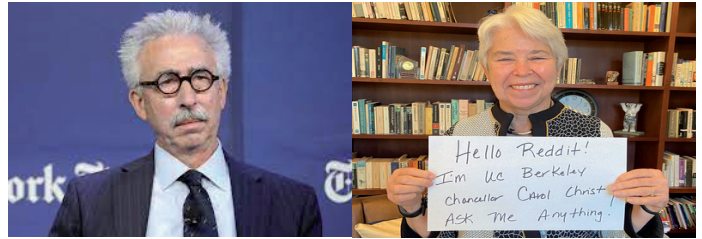
We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



Search for Dignified Chancellor Continues Without Success

By Renata Luck



FORMER BERKELEY CHANCELLOR NICHOLAS DIRKS had a comical appearance, made unfortunate decisions, and was forced to resign such that his replacement, Carol Christ, was encouraged to smile a lot and stick strictly to cue cards.



UC Berkeley's quest for dignified representation remains unrequited as UC Berkeley chancellor Carol

Christ's contract comes to an end with no abatement in embarrassments which drove her predecessor to resign in disgrace.

"We thought there was no place to go but up after Dirks," stated one consultant with Williamsworks, a Seattle firm, which was



paid \$15,000 a month to burnish former chancellor Dirks scandal-soaked image. "But Christ has three left feet when it comes to getting along with people. We're

trying to get her to use cue cards, Anthologies... but it's dicey ev-makes a perfect gift.

ery time she opens her mouth."

Former chancellor Dirks also had a year-long contract with Rosshirt for \$8,250 a month to "increase exposure and awareness" of "Dirk's vision for higher education" until he spent \$699,000 on a fence around the chancellor's empty mansion on campus, ignored sexual assault allegations, was connected to the "pay to play" enrollment scandal and spent public money on a personal trainer, among other university embarrassments.

"I would trade all of that back for what we're facing now," sighed one neighbor in the light of current chancellor Carol Christ's kamikaze crash into Berkeley politics and planning. "We just didn't realize how stupid our mayor was until she offered him peanuts to sell out the whole town and he gave her that millennial thumb's up."

"And we're still stuck with tuition hikes,

housing costs, budget deficits, and this looney idea that all increases in enrollment for some reason have to study here, specifically here, on Berkeley's campus."

Critics disagreed, pointing out that as soon as the most valuable historic monuments, parks, and landmarks are destroyed enrollment will bubble predictably over to Merced, San Diego, and the other campuses with plenty of room and housing.

"It's the long-term thinking," stated another neighbor. "They can't afford to be distracted by one chancellor or another if they want to make their for-profit partners happy. And they really know how."

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Next Issue: Dynamiting freeways with celebrities!

I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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*Richard III