

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

November 2021

the

issue...



Pepper Spray Times



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

"...T" will be naught: But let it be...*

Vol. XXII No. 11



STATELY ARCHITECTURAL RENDERING OF UC Berkeley Chancellor Christ's initial take on her People's Park Removal Project.

UC Chancellor Christ Reveals Plan for Missing Five Stories

By Keith Meeyoofool

The five stories UC Berkeley Chancellor Christ allegedly plans to remove from the monolith towering above the other buildings proposed for People's Park will be relocated under the iconic UC Berkeley Campanile so that people can still see the clock tower through all the new highrises she's planning to build in a tight circle around the campus.



THIS FAR MORE appropriate symbol of the University of California will soon replace the campanile.

"There's no other way people can read the clock," acknowledged one spokesperson for Capital Strategies, widely understood as the driver behind the complete remake of Berkeley's skyline. "We can keep adding stories underneath to mitigate the impact we admit our highrises will make on this relatively low-rise town."

Critics object that repositioning the campanile on top of luxury student housing runs the risk of jeopardizing the 107-year-old Sather Tower designed by John Galen Howard and widely recognized as a symbol of the flagship Berkeley campus.

"We're in the process of adopting a new symbol more accurately reflecting the university's priorities," stated Chancellor Christ. "Our nuclear weapons stewardship deserves more of the spotlight."

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TULE ELK GATHERED TO EMPHASIZE THAT IN FACT many metrics of the planet's health declined significantly last year, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's new "State of the Climate in 2020" report so humans should get it together already.

Tule Elks Rally, Promote Restoration

Pro-ranch Decision for Point Reyes National Seashore Ignores Lease Violations

Inge Hoots

While ranchers operating within Point Reyes National Seashore blame their problems on the activists that have criticized their ranching plan in the national park, activists documented new lease violations including Home Ranch's bulldozing a cattle path by cutting trees, destroying a creek bank, and imperiling the Drakes Estero with sediment, sensitive riparian habitat which supports two federally listed species—Central California Coast steelhead and California red-legged frogs.

Ranchers dismissed the frogs as hotheads who clutter up the public meetings with ir-

relevant noise and are in fact in conspiracy with the birders who discovered the vandalism, which ranchers consider to be simple improvements to their leased property.

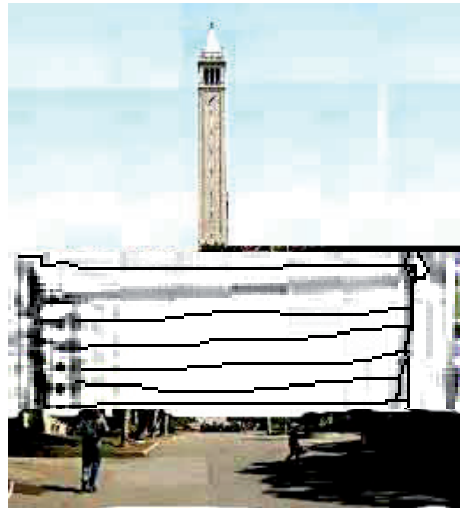
The park service admits the work was done without the park's permission and in violation of the ranch's lease, but called it merely a beloved ranching tradition which goes along with a kind of wild west theme.

"That dump at William Nunes' E Ranch falls in the wild west category," stated one park service official. "We get along better out here if we look the other way."

Critics grumble that Nunes supplies milk to the Straus Family Creamery whose sustainable land stewardship claims don't hold up well coming from a potential toxic waste dump with water pollution issues, but were dismissed.

"This new, business-oriented plan may seem hostile to wildlife, but people who like our yoghurt need to see our point," stated Nunes. "Like most businesses, we've learned to interpret 'sustainability' in our own special way."

* * * * *



THE FIVE STORIES LOPPED OFF the originally proposed 17 story tower in People's Park will now be used by Chancellor Christ to help keep UC's campanile visible through the thicket of high-end high-rise luxury student housing planned in a tight ring around the campus.



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, if the Supreme Court thinks money is speech, is the absence of money speech, too?

Dear reader, ha ha, I like where you're going with this, and no.

Dear Lena, but that's not fair. Seeing someone in need, someone in distress, communicates a lot. Every city around here wants to hide poverty and homelessness away or ship it to the next county, their "regional approach" thing.

Dear reader, I know, but at some point we're going to have to get back to speech being speech. I don't know how except by overtuning Citizens United through Congress, which I believe is an event presently scheduled for never.

Dear Lena, so now they can build apartment buildings in the leafy, spacious hills neighborhoods, can I move in?

Dear reader, not hardly, as the say in Boston. Those units will be the going rate for the financially well-nourished, so look forward to a really wealthy group getting situated after the developers have eaten their seemingly endless fill.

Dear Lena, why did Nancy Skinner vote for this without the necessary affordability requirements?

Dear reader, she apparently likes her job.

Dear Lena, what's with the war on city landmarks? I thought everybody thought they were kind of cool, a nod to history in your own neighborhood so you don't have to drive to a museum.

Dear reader, it's a developer-driven race to erase anything standing in the way of the surest way to monetize anything, even a chicken coop, at this point in Berkeley. You're clearly not on the gravy train if you're worried that history can't hold its own in a land of disappearing libraries and book-free history represented by plaques on a wall.

Ask Lena about peppers at cdenny@igc.org.

Y Chromosome Disappearing into Comfy Man Cave

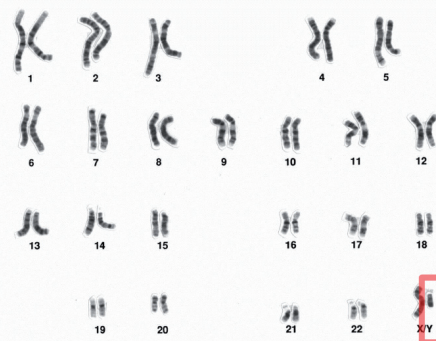


MEN ARE IN FACT MORE FRAGILE these days as the Y chromosome shrivels, so these safe "man caves" are a great comfort especially if they are well-stocked with chips and beer.

By Colleen D. Cows

The Y chromosome, prized by most cultures as the key to power and status, is becoming weaker in humans and disappearing entirely in other species, leading researchers to speculate about the future of the human being and invest in the accoutrement of man caves.

"We're not really very concerned," offered one mole vole when questioned about the complete disappearance of his species' Y chromosome. "It's the only chromosome



THE Y CHROMOSOME AT THE BOTTOM far right is a spindly shadow of its former masculine self, but points out in its defense that the pandemic has made it hard to stay in shape.

not necessary for life, for one thing, and my personal man cave makes having to go out on dates comparatively unattractive."

Spiny rats, when polled, agreed that the dating scene has changed radically, and having an entertainment center with a spiny rat-sized couch with reclining seats and cup holders in a smart home with remote controls and a beer fridge and gun cabinets

tends to cover the male status base even without having a girlfriend.

"It's like, five guns equals one girlfriend," stated one spiny rat who wished to remain anonymous. "Guns don't care if you don't buy them flowers or forget their birthday, and the guys treat you with respect, so it's all good."

La Trobe University's Jenny Graves argues that the Y chromosome is "inevitably doomed" but could lead to the creation of an entirely new species which might remember to put the toilet seat down.

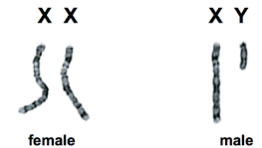
"There might be an upside here," she concludes. "Women might acquire the capabilities some species have of switching genders, which would be a great relief to women tired of having to explain how the washing machine works."

Men argue in their defense that their degeneration is perfectly natural and has taken millions of years to manifest, although they admit reality tv has taken its toll.

Scientists agree that it won't be known whether the Y chromosome will disappear entirely for another 4.6 million years.

"Even if it does," states Graves, "we will most likely continue to need men to get down that stuff on the high shelf."

* * * * *



FEMALE CHROMOSOMES ARE DOING GREAT but male chromosomes are breaking down in heaving sobs at having to figure out whether to open a door for somebody.

UC Fences Off Feisty Landmark

“Adorability factor” inspires UC to hide local treasure built by Berkeley’s first and only city architect



WALTER H. RATCLIFF’S 1930-31 PUBLIC GARAGE looks like a hobbit house but was in fact a public garage with Spanish Colonial mini-windows, tile roofs, castle-like turrets, obelisk-shaped pilasters with pyramidal capitals, and additional unexpected shapes and fanciful elements which although incorporated into an earlier proposal for adding additional stories are now somehow unthinkable to the same University of California responsible for the initial architectural rendering. Photo by Harvey Smith.

By Jorge Zontal

“It’s adorable,” admitted one Capital Strategies staff member of the landmarked public garage the University of California (UC) wants to demolish and recently fenced off in eager preparation. “We can’t risk allowing visibility that will work against our ultimate goal, which is demolition.”

“We had to work fast,” stated Gordon B. Headed, Project Manager at Capital Strategies in agreement. “A lot of our current population has a fixation on Harry Potter-style charm, and this structure has so many charming elements it presses nostalgic buttons in anyone who enjoys turrets, Moorish arches, and unexpected curves.”

Critics argued that 1952 Oxford’s struc-

ture by Berkeley’s first and only city architect, Walter H. Ratcliff Jr., is not only an inspiration to people who may otherwise assume an ordinary garage has to be ugly, UC’s original design for renovation incorporated the original building in creative ways supporting the idea that re-purposing older buildings doesn’t require destroying historic landmarks, but were dismissed.

“We don’t want people to think we’re capable of creativity,” emphasized Headed. “We put a lot of thought into our ugly-box approach to everything we do. We want students to come, empty their pockets, and get gone as soon as possible from a hideous, park-free landscape. It works.”

* * * * *

FTX Buys Naming Rights to Cal Memorial Stadium



CHOOSING AN UNPRONOUNCEABLE NAME helps avoid nicknames like “sinkhole” and “bucket of bankruptcy.”

By Juan Tobias Endwish

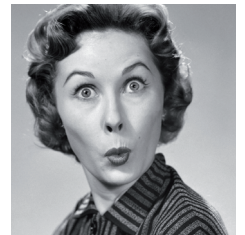
“We just read out the letters,” confessed one UC official after their phones rang off the hook by people wanted advice on how to pronounce the new name for Memorial Stadium in Berkeley, which was named Memorial Stadium in 1917 as a memorial to Californians who lost their lives in World War I.

Critics who noted that the stadium already has a name were scolded that nobody was likely to get any money out of John Galen Howard, the university’s chief architect at the time

of construction, but that FTX really needed some publicity and was willing to pay \$17.5 million over ten years, which could purchase at least a couple of lobbyists.

“FTX is a crypto derivative exchange,” announced the UC official, who was immediately asked what the #\$\$%&@ a crypto derivative exchange was and leafed through a multitude of notebooks before finally agreeing to get back to anyone with inquiries at some future point in time.

* * * * *



PRONOUNCING the new name of the stadium is proving somewhat challenging.

We Can’t Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



Earth Sucks, But Zuckerberg Comes to the Rescue

By L. Hansen Deck

"We considered using the Republican approach with the President throwing rolls of paper towels at a crowd, but it's been done," commented a Biden administration official at the unpleasant discovery that the



THE REAL WORLD MAY SUCK right now but Zuckerberg enthusiastically recommends the virtual conference room where you can look like a superhero or a dog.

Corona 19 virus and its attendant economic depression did not stop climate change as

everybody sheltered in place had hoped.

"We thought all these people cancelling their trips to Hawaii might do the trick," the official added, "but any advantage was obliterated by the two billionaires' space tourism launches, and we have no control over the obscenely wealthy who might well run for office next time they get bored."

2020 saw sea level rise at an unprecedented rate, the highest annual increase in concentrations of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, and a growing bouquet of politicians promoting "clean coal" while drinking out of plastic bottles.

"There was no detectable advantage to the virus," confirmed one climate scientist, who confirmed that locusts were at a healthy peak and that it might be wise to invest in foil to use to wrap one's local forest given the likelihood of catastrophic, unstoppable fires.

Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, on the other hand, offers a virtual world unencumbered, according to him, by any actual rela-

tionship to climate change related difficulties and fun, too, since you can attend your climate change disaster meetings virtually while dressed either in spanking new office attire or come as a superhero or a giraffe.

"One way or another, I think we're going to live in a mixed-reality future," stated Zuckerberg through his Workrooms



FACEBOOK BAKED IN user monitoring to make sure you know how to behave you dog.

product, which he favors these days after having some unpleasant real-world experiences in Congressional hearings.

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Next Issue: songs for the end of the world with celebrities!

I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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*Antony and Cleopatra

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