

the fringed issue...



# Pepper Spray Times



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

"..For goodness' sake consider what you do..."

Vol. XXIV No. 4

## Shipping Container "Area 51" Secrets Finally Revealed

"What's really in there?" asked one neighbor, and was handed an eye-opening schedule of university events taking place inside the exciting, secretive shipping containers at People's Park.

By Isaac Umming



**Chancellor Carol Christ Tea Parties...** nobody has signed up yet, but Chancellor Christ is eager to read the entirety of her annotated review of *Mill on the Floss* and answer questions about its obscure references and allusions as well as letters from the 1859-69 period, a lovely era which helps her shake both the 1969 and contemporary tie-dye troubles out of her day and off of her mind.

CAROL CHRIST OFFERS hot tea and Victorian sensibilities from 1869, thankfully a far cry from 1969.

temporary tie-dye troubles out of her day and off of her mind.



**Boxcar Train Hopping Seminar...** this somewhat athletic seminar pays off down the road when you've realized your years of studying *Mill on the Floss* isn't panning out and need to save a few bucks on travel costs. Join others who love fresh air and meeting new people while seeing unusual landscapes off the usual tourist track.

HOPPING ON BOXCARS can be dangerous if not done right, and the university is all about boxcar safety, so this class will practice hard.

**Buck Naked Regent Meetings...** also not a popular choice, but perhaps just waiting for the right weather. Meetings of the California regents are not known for their entertainment value, but nudity often lends unexpected subtext to even innocuous subject matter.



YOUR PET might not be college material but face it, neither were your kids.

**Animal Graduation Ceremonies...** truly inspired, this option has caught on so thoroughly that the wait-

ing list is several years in length since Fluffy may not actually have attended UC Berkeley but neither did Biff Mollenhall across the street who spent more time in the Bear's Lair than at the library and his whole family considers this traditional, as soon they will consider Fluffy's diploma in butt-licking as only a regent can show you.



SOME CATS are pretty smart but some need the self-esteem boost that comes with a diploma.

**Shipping Container Handball...** this game is just like regular handball but played on the corrugated metallic exterior of a shipping container it becomes a lot less predictable and much more like life itself, where skill and diploma acquisition is at least secondary to the lay of the territory and the ability of your parents, relatives, or friends in high places to influence the staff at the admissions office.

**Movie Night...** it's a little harder to see films against a corrugated shipping container surface, but some films take on an enhanced dimension with a bit of boxcar distortion which adds to their flavor, or that's the theory of movie nights inside the circle of boxcars so far, events which are frequented by those who adore a little something extra in their films.

### Boxcar Song Circle Round-up...

the favorite songs of hoboes, drifters, and cowboys sung by the UC regents who spent all of last year practicing together and working on their costumes. It's kind of casual but it goes well with the right box of wine.



COWBOYS RARELY sound any good but most people are just there to enjoy the burnt beans.



BARBIE LOVES A BONFIRE and couldn't help joining in the Waymo marshmallow fun.

## Barbie Admits Setting Waymo Car on Fire

"It was the perfect day," states doll star and presidential candidate

By Tad Bittmoore

San Francisco's Lunar New Year bonfire of a Waymo driverless car caused a stir in the rest of the nation, but it considered just part of Superbowl pre-game fun for people who celebrate for any handy holiday or for no reason at all.

"It's kind of like the era of Google Glass," explained one participant thrilled to learn that Barbie was part of the unapologetic crowd tossing fireworks into the vehicle. "Google Glass was a bad idea to start with and it became really popular to destroy them whenever they showed up at your local bar."



BARBIE SAYS she likes cars better when people drive them.

Barbie just flashed her famous smile when asked about the Waymo conflagration, affirming that she didn't intend to single out Waymo.

"They all suck equally," stated Barbie who affirmed that she is running for president and looking forward to the debates with the boys. "Silicon Valley is famous for inventing pointless things. Setting them on fire just seems right to me."

\* \* \* \* \*



Suggested Slogan for the City of Berkeley

...take a developer to lunch...then take another developer to lunch...

# ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, is there any universe where trading policy favors to developers isn't the only way into political office?**

Dear reader, yes. Far, far away. Once you've taken even a small town like Berkeley and destroyed its newspapers, moved all public discussion into the hands of the computer-savy, and allowed money to be considered the equivalent of public discussion, very little is translatable anymore. It resembles communication, but semantics' best description of what's happening now is simply the word theater.

**Dear Lena, are people in leadership positions aware that most people don't have computers?**

Dear reader, heavens, no. Lonely voices used to bring this up a few decades ago, but the world of the one percent is unaware. According to a 2021 report by Statista, the worldwide penetration rate of personal computers (including desktops and laptops) is approximately 36.3%.

**Dear Lena, where is the best place to live to avoid the effects of climate change?**

Dear reader, it used to be Mars before NASA ruined the neighborhood. Now we would advise exploring neighborhoods near or in GNz 11 in the constellation of Ursa major.

**Dear Lena, are you sure that's far enough away?**

Dear reader, no.

**Dear Lena, are self-driving cars banned anywhere in the world.**

Dear reader, yes. India and Belgium have prohibited self-driving cars.

**Dear Lena, why did they do that?**

Dear reader, common sense.

*Ask Lena about just the right shoes at [cdeney@jgc.org](mailto:cdeney@jgc.org).*



# Fired UCSF Administrator Jailed for Extremely Creative Albeit Illegal Tuition Scheme

By Opal Eeze



A former UCSF administrator will spend to 20 months in prison for stealing \$1.5 million in tuition payments from the university, prosecutors said Thursday, apparently without any appropriate appreciation for the creativity reflected by her clear and systematic methodology.

San Francisco resident Sandra Le, 55, was ordered to surrender without any fanfare on or before May 10 to serve her prison term and will be required to pay at least \$1.5 million in restitution for what most white-collar observers agree is a completely victimless crime which people who can still afford tuition anymore would agree is just a bunch of chump change.

Prosecutors said the exact amount Le owes will be determined at a further hearing after some conferences over expensive lunches at Stars, etc., where people who can be vetted as appropriately described as "concerned" have a chance to buy the drinks. U.S. Northern District Judge William Orrick also ordered that Le be under supervised release for three years after she's out of prison and limited to only basic cable.

Le pleaded guilty in November to three counts of wire fraud for diverting tuition payments totaling more than \$1.5 million into her personal accounts while she was the academic program officer for the UCSF School of Nursing's PostMaster's and Special Studies Certificate Programs which most people agree would barely renovate the kitchen and the basement if you really want to do it right.


Le "abused her position by directing students in those programs to have their tuition checks made out to her, or to a merchandiser she purchased from, or to leave the checks' payee line blank so she could then make out the checks to herself or her associates," prosecutors stated without realizing that this is a simple mistake most people make when writing checks for their college-bound children because they are bursting with pride and well, why not.

"She then deposited the checks into her personal bank accounts, including joint bank accounts that she shared with associates, and used the funds to pay for luxury items such as extremely discrete

Botox injections and the very best footwear from that merchandiser just down the road who cut us quite a deal to leave out the business' name."

Prosecutors said that Le also used the payments for gambling, home improvement and other expenses which is ludicrous because just look at the place. She allegedly disguised her actions by falsifying payment records and student enrollment which observant people know that the University of California has been doing for years precisely because nobody noticed who wasn't making hella money off of it.. In total, between November 2013 and March 2019, Le took nearly 300 checks, prosecutors said, because well, they just don't seem able to recognize that everybody does it.

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*The Intriguing Saga of P. I. McNutt, presented by Intrepid Reporter Lynn Riordan*

## The Adventures of Susan McNutt, Private Eye



It was just before 5 p.m. and already the sun had set. As P.I. McNutt settled in for an after work cola, her thoughts were of the new client she had met that day. While Esther Walnut had come across as bright eyed and bushy tailed, the story of the Maltese Acorn was a tough nut to swallow. Was it real? Did it have magical properties? And where did this ice come from?

# \$\$\$ Trump Grifting Goes Into High Gear \$\$\$

By Don Tread



GET IN ON the ground floor of Trump's next business opportunity.

This is not normal Trump grifting where he cons the misinformed and/or "deplorables" (say what you like, but Hillary pretty much nailed it). Trump raised over \$240 million from his "stop the steal" grift, where about two thirds of his 74 million voters bought into his stolen election con and many donated. Moreover, he was found guilty of fraud for Trump University's deceptive Trump Foundation charity and filed for business bankruptcy six times. Trump makes notorious grifters like Jim and Tammy Faye Baker, Bernie Madoff, and



he is paying Judge Cannon in Florida). So much winning, it is almost exhausting, but gleeful for any opponents still left.

Trump, being the strategic visionary or expert conman that he is, has already taken numerous steps to raise the additional funding of approximately \$600 million

**Trump Sneakers** - For \$399 you can own a pair of these golden beauties. Pay now, receive them sometime later this year, maybe.

**RNC Co-Chair Lara Trump** - With his daughter-in-law running the Republican Party, the money will be flowing to Trump. Lara Trump already tipped her hand in a recent Newsmax interview where she said, "every single penny will go to the number one job of the RNC, that is electing Donald J. Trump as president."



JARED KUSHNER ENJOYED an amazing windfall of two billion dollars for what used to be referred to as marrying well.

**Truth Social Financial Scam** - For the first 9 months of 2023 Truth Social has reported revenue

of \$3.4 million and losses of \$49 million. The SEC has approved a merger between Truth Social and Digital World Acquisition Corp. (DWAC), a special purpose acquisition company. DWAC is valuing the deal at \$10 billion, which seems a bit pricey when your primary business is money losing. As the stock goes public, retail investors will get scammed and those investors seeking political influence will get their opportunity.

**Jared Kushner and the Saudis** - Six months after leaving the White House

staff, Kushner received a two billion dollar investment in his private equity company from the Saudi sovereign wealth fund. Given Kushner's relationship with Saudi ruler Mohammed bin Salman, he could easily solicit funds for Trump and/or provide a list of journalists he doesn't like.

**Tucker Carlson and Vladimir Putin** -

For those of you that watched the recent spectacle where Carlson interviewed Putin in the Kremlin, it is pretty clear that his objective was



not journalism, but to normalise Putin's authoritarian fascist behaviour and pave the way for the MAGA Republican party. What type of Trump donation is Putin planning for this support? Will Putin make the same mistakes he did in his funding of the NRA? Will Russian oligarchs develop a sudden interest in real estate in Nes York City?

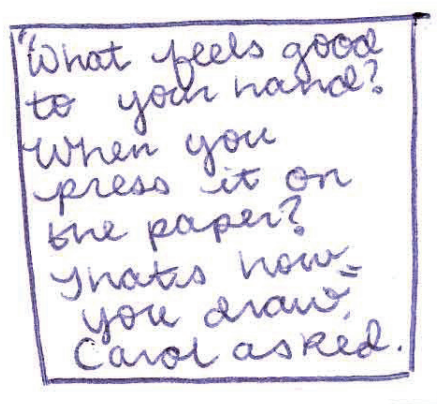
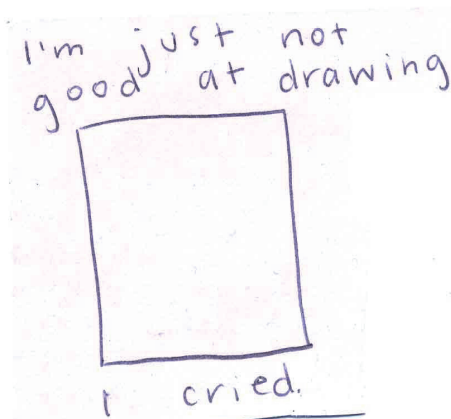
Stay tuned! It is going to be interesting.

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by Franz Toast & Meghan Grover

We Can't Draw Comics



# Cesar Chavez Park Ground Squirrels Celebrate 5% Reading

Park May Be Running Out of Gas; Arreguin Celebrates Potential Fracking Opportunity



SQUIRRELS DON'T NEED much excuse to party and see the 5% oxygen ratio in the containment system as a good sign and say it sure smells better in the basement.

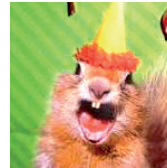
By Micha Zomuch

The City of Berkeley might consider appealing the recent Bay Area Air Quality Monitoring District hearing in San Francisco on February 6, 2024 regarding the buried landfill gas collection system in Cesar Chavez Park, sending an organized group of ground squirrels into celebratory mode.

"We just wish there was a Waymo nearby to set on fire," shouted one ground squirrel over the party hubbub. "Most of the odor is by the hotel after over forty years, and we've been trying to let somebody know."

The decision as it stands could require extensive, costly reconstruction of a system which evidence suggests is possibly misinterpreted as broken, instead of simply reflecting the natural reduction in gas emissions in a decades-old landfill.

A "five percent" rule, where a system pulls more than 5 percent oxygen, can certainly mean that a system is broken. But a landfill of over forty years doesn't generate as much gas as it does initially, and this fact appears not to have been considered in the hearings, which leaned heavily on upsetting smells, anecdotal incidents, and



THIS GAS SHORTAGE might just be good news for either people who would love to see the flare stack dismantled or would love to frack the hell out of the park.

isolated cases rather than science-based analysis and representative assessments.

"Berkeley's record of maintenance is abysmal," noted one ground squirrel opening up a bottle of sparkling wine. "There's no question that the current administration has never shown any interest in sensible stewardship of the waterfront. But if they had anybody smart on the council they could negotiate their way out of this and fix the pier, too."

"It's classic," commented another squirrel watching the windsurfers on the bay. "They're all out looking for their next job."



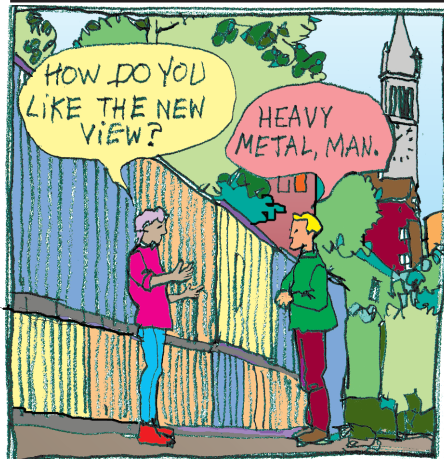
NOTHING SMELLS SWEETER than monetization of the waterfront to your local representatives.

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Next Issue: sniffing glue with fifth floor celebrities!

## I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



From:  
Pepper Spray Times  
1970 San Pablo Ave. #4  
Berkeley, CA 94702  
cdenny@igc.org  
www.caroldenney.com



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\* Henry VIII