

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

January, 2025

the  
boozy  
butter-  
scotch  
issue...



# Pepper Spray Times



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

"...every region apes of idleness..."

Vol. XXV No. 1

## Last Remaining City Employee Coaxed Out of Foxhole

## "Erase the Border" Movement Takes Shape Border Erasure Touted as Cost-saving Measure



HUGE HERDS OF DUSTY CITY EMPLOYEES HAVE FORMED CARAVANS exiting together to search for meaningful work in other towns, carrying little but disappointment from their daunting experiences working for the City of Berkeley.

THE UNITED STATES' BORDER has always changed to accommodate manifest destiny and stuff like that thanks to sturdy washerwomen.

*Quenten S. Blessings*

*By Anna Partridginapeertree*

The vigorous back-slapping at the last city council meeting did nothing to dispell the sense of a ship well below its waterline for observers watching the long caravan of former city employees wandering across the landscape searching for work.

Berkeley employees who have either been downsized or have elected to try to find employment elsewhere in recent months and years. "They're shell-shocked. They're much too frightened to speak freely about their experiences here after surviving the catastrophic administrative shipwreck."

"It's the toxicity," commented former city employee Petra Fied, hoisting her belongings over her shoulder, while another former employee disagreed.

"I would be glad to talk," stated Raphael D. Feathers. "But that epic show of back-slapping knocked it right out of me. I'll be speechless for a couple of years."

"It's not the work or even the toxic workplace stuff. It's that these nut-cases keep combining and collapsing departments as if all work was interchangeable. I'm doing what five other employees used to do, and they think that's a good thing."

One former Berkeley councilmember stated she'd been speechless about the dissolution of departments and bizarre job combinations out of respect for the difficulties of being in office, but the self-congratulation of December 2, 2024's council display was too much for her.



THE LAST CITY EMPLOYEE promises to make a podcast someday but right now is having difficulty speaking at all.



THE JOB SEARCH is tough for former Berkeley city employees who are universally suspected of being too woke.

"It has an emperor with no clothes quality," she sighed. "The people who do the real work are headed anywhere but here."

"Before the 1920s people didn't see people crossing the border from Mexico as a problem, especially considering the enormous proportion of the United States that was formerly Mexico," mused Preston Creasy, sociologist with Dukem University. "We have white supremacist Coleman Livingston Blease to thank for legislation criminalizing people who didn't cross through an official entry point."

"The current difficulty is extreme," stated Professor Creasy. "Not enough of the population look American. And jailing everybody, as we learned in the 1960's is so darn expensive. Border erasure just makes sense."

The post-national landscape will be a lot more natural, crafted by rivers and obvious geological rather than political divisions.

"Women are uniquely suited to erasing these artificial borders," assured Professor Creasy. "You should see my shirt collars."

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Suggested Slogan for the City of Berkeley

...having trouble opening the fresh new jar of %&\*\$#...

\* \* \* \* \*

# ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, can we really just erase the border?**

Dear reader, of course. There are towns literally bisected by the border where people cross it just by walking to their mailbox.

**Dear Lena, will it be expensive?**

Dear reader, not at all. And we can help people who get anxious about it disappearing by putting down a temporary masking tape border and patting them on the back reassuringly and offering them lemonade.

**Dear Lena, why did they fence in the tule elk in the first place?**

Dear reader, the idea was “to isolate the re-introduced elk from nearby dairy ranches” so that dairy cattle wouldn’t begin to pick up bad habits from the locals. You see this phenomenon often in college towns where the administration tries to protect their students from the rough, rowdy “townies”.

**Dear Lena, you mean tule elk are kind of rough trade?**

Dear reader, oh, yes. They’ll drink right out of the carton and throw their empties all over the landscape. They have sex in public. They speak English, but they prefer to kind of grunt and whinny to annoy people. It’s a huge source of National Park Service embarrassment. These people are buttoned down.

**Dear Lena, why do they keep building stuff we don’t need that just sits around empty? Especially if they keep tearing down parks and theaters to do it?**

Dear reader, the cows asked me this just this morning. They want more pasture land, the selfish things. And you. You probably want to go to the movies, don’t you. Why can’t you think about the needs of others, like developers.

*Ask Lena about fencing off everything from everything else and everyone from everybody else at [cdenney@igc.org](mailto:cdenney@igc.org). Oh, and have yourself some happy holidays.*

# 35,000 Public Comment Letters Finally Free Tule Elk



TULE ELK ADMIT THEY RELIED ON OTHER PEOPLE TO WRITE LETTERS since they have such trouble licking the envelopes.

*By Sasha Deal*

“Our proposed management plan got a lot of response,” stuttered a shell-shocked Park Service representative waiving weakly at hundreds of bags of letters. “It turns out that watching tule elk die of thirst was a

tall fence to benefit dairy farms took about ten years and cost the lives of hundreds of elk trapped without water dying publicly of thirst in obvious agony.

“I know it doesn’t seem to make sense,” stated one defensive park service worker. “But I’ll tell you, these dairy cattle are very persuasive. I admit I’ve been the beneficiary of some really fresh butter and milk from time to time, and the tule elk weren’t really ponying up.”

“We didn’t bribe anybody,” huffed a nearby milk cow. “We have lobbyists for that.”

“And we get along with the tule elk,” insisted another cow. “We play some serious darts together at a little place in Bolinas.”

Activists rubbing their sore wrists expressed relief that the National Park Service finally



THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE might donate the two to three mile long eight foot fence to the City of Berkeley which still has some embarrassing open space left.

an extremely unpopular outdoor activity.”

Park advocates’ victory over the imposition of a two to three mile-long eight-foot

herd whose numbers were reduced



THIS TOMALES POINT DAIRY COW insists that their deaths after 283 tule elk died of thirst in their enclosure. and that fresh butter makes its own case.

The future of the fence is uncertain.

“We thought we would donate it to the City of Berkeley,” stated another local dairy cow. “Those shipping containers are just so brutal. Wood is more natural.”

“We’re hoping this might inspire the Berkeley City Council to reconsider fencing off all the open space in the city,” nodded another cow. “But of course, we stand around in the sun an awful lot.”

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**His dick fell off because a woman wrote words on the internet**

# Berkeley Sweeps Homeless Camp Without Offering Shelter Right Next to Brand New Big-Ass Empty Building



BEFORE: Berkeley's Aquatic Park once had a beautiful, walkable, boatable shoreline worthy of a watercolor.



AFTER: The Berkeley City Council with its usual wisdom fucked it all up for nothing, as this building sits empty next to homeless tents.

By Rudy Wakening

The once pastoral view of the east side of Aquatic Park now looks like somebody didn't put their blocks away. Two completely empty city blocks of a development project intended for a research complex fi-



"WHERE DO WE GO" is either an art project or political theater or a very slow drill team or a sculpture or a mirage.

nally met the reality that building space in Berkeley wildly exceeds demand.

"The vacancy rate for research building space in Berkeley is 43.2%," whispered one sheepish planner. "And they're planning to build even more."

This leaves Berkeley residents to contemplate the curious juxtaposition of thousands of dollars of public funds being spent to disperse ten people in tents, who said they were offered no housing or shelter.

"You mean there's bathrooms in there?" asked one of the bewildered participants in

the "Where Do We Go" group whose belongings were swept into trash trucks right next to the gigantic new empty life sciences campus. "This is a little crazy."

"I know it doesn't appear to make any sense," stated a city planner viewing the enormous empty building. "It's true that this looks like a contradiction: millions spent on an obviously unneeded science and development project while people are living in tents. But hey, it looked great on paper."



CITY PLANNERS GET ANNOYED WITH tents because nothing they build seems to address real people's housing needs like tents.

The developers insist that the project, although empty for the foreseeable future, will "raise the profile" of West Berkeley.

"I don't know about 'raising the profile'" snorted one bystander helping some of people dispersed from the area sort through what's left of their belongings. "But they've sure highlighted the lunacy of planning in this town."

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GHOST SHIPS SAIL ON WITH NO CREW just like the Solano Avenue BID which has no operative administration and no legal ability to function as a group, a talent honed under the former Berkeley City Council.

## Ghost Ship BID Sails On

Solano Avenue BID's Non-existent Group Okayed to Suck Your Money

Laffayette D. World

"They spent almost two hours back-slapping each other and giving schmaltzy eulogies to the exiting councilmembers. I thought I had walked into a memorial service. A friend of mine came to the council meeting late and asked me if somebody had died," commented one of the December 2, 2024, city council meeting attendees. "We came with pressing business that the council couldn't be bothered to hear."

One dissatisfied attendee noted that Berkeley's Solano Avenue Business Improvement District (BID) board currently has five vacancies, only four members, and only three of them appear to have businesses or property on Solano.

"What better way to affirm to wealthy property owners that rules don't matter because they're an elite which can do whatever they want," noted one bewildered observer. "I wish I could gather up a couple friends and get the benefit of \$38,000 of mandated fees from my neighbors to do with whatever I wanted."

"That's how BIDs roll," shrugged one planning commissioner. "It's 'streamlined' for sure. It's the new model of public-free public business."

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### We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



