

SDC con job; school chief's new year; assorted wisecrackery; and more

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The skeptical among us never bought the idea that the future of the Sonoma Developmental Center would take public opinion into account. Years and years of meetings, 'public input,' citizen committees, surveys... and for what? A plan that ChatGPT could have cranked out on a flip phone: houses, retail, luxury hotel. Generic, high density, maximum profit to the developer. The 'final' number of housing units was to be around 600. That was the figure that emerged from the county's long, expensive **Site Specific Plan** process. But the development team chosen by the state, The Grupe Company and Rogal & Partners, has formally upped that number to 930 units. Permit Sonoma, the county planning agency, said it was 'blindsided' by the increase. Oh really? Clearly the state (the landowner) will do what it wants with the land, which is to make the buyer happy. And have they actually bought it? No sale price has ever been disclosed. Like a creek clogged by plywood and broken concrete, it all smells fishy.