

Price

Continued from B1

So the protests continued and, over a year-and-a-half, the issue was debated constantly — because the protests forced the issue on the agenda. And in the end, we won. The University finally agreed, and joined hundreds of other institutions in voting with their dollars against supporting institutional racism.

In his landmark history of the U.S. and South Africa during the apartheid years, "Loosing the Bonds," Robert Massie notes divestment, along with trade/financial sanctions and cultural restrictions, broke the back of the racist regime's ability to operate. It collapsed, Nelson Mandela went free and apartheid ended. We had added our grains of sand to the avalanche that overwhelmed the defenders of oppression and tyranny.

But it doesn't and shouldn't matter that we were right in our protests, that history ultimately vindicated our occupation of part of campus as a part of the global struggle to end the institutionalized racism in South Africa.

The value of protest isn't in being correct, it is a thing unto itself. Democracy is a participatory sport. The fights over who gets to hold power and decide what rules we all live by are the very heart of what makes this country exceptional, in spite of all its many shortcomings.

What really mattered was that we all got to participate, to put our shoulders to the wheel and push along on this great journey of perfecting the American experiment.

It's been that way from the very beginning. Fights over ideas are literally written into the source code of America, a constant tension between individuality and social responsibility, between freedom and slave, between native and immigrant. Fights in word and deed. Recall, one of our founding acts that won our freedom had nothing to do with speech at all — it was dumping tea in Boston Harbor.

Protest is supposed to make us uncomfortable, and it has a rich history at the U. stretching back decades. Protests force us to stop our daily mundanities and look and reckon and reflect. It's also a pressure valve — it allows us to fight out ideas without guns and violence. Stopping traffic, camping on the lawn, they all have their place. And they are legally protected rights that must not be infringed.

So the shutting down of protests at the U. isn't some defense of public order, it's an attack on the very idea of what being an American is, and it's part of a deeply worrisome trend. The concept of "fake news," of demonizing science and facts we don't agree with like that vaccines work or that climate change is real, are acid on the foundation of



Photos courtesy of Special Collections, Marriott Library, University of Utah



At left and above » University of Utah students erect structures to advocate the university's divestment of South Africa in 1985. The group, Students Against Apartheid, joined protests around the world to end segregation.

our society.

I grew up Mormon in Utah, and have always bragged to anyone who'll listen about how curious Utahns are about other people and ideas. But that can't be just trying their foods and dances at the Living Traditions

festival. It has to embrace their history, culture and conflicts, too.

We should be proud of those students, regardless of opinion, standing up and shouting out for what they believe. They represent the best of us, because they still believe that

voices matter, that opinion matters, that ideas matter. If we lose that, we are truly lost.

Tom Price grew up in Provo and attended the University of Utah. He is now a climate entrepreneur in California.

AUDIOLOGY AND HEARING AIDS HEARING ZONE

TRUSTED FOR
20+ YEARS!

Best Value and Benefit:

- Doctor of Audiology
- Experienced Staff
- Walk-In Today: Service, Repair, Molds, Batteries
- Latest Technology
- No Charge Trial

801-713-0101
5642 S 900 E SLC
Life...Sounding
Its Best!

Alan Young Au. D

No Interest!

Remote appointments may be available

Inherit a property and must sell?

I am a real estate Broker with 40 years of experience in helping heirs and attorneys sell homes, condos, land and commercial properties of those who have passed in Salt Lake, Davis, Utah, Summit, Wasatch and Washington County. I have a great team of vendors to help clean out the property and get it ready to sell. Call or text anytime for a consult and appraisal...urbanutah.com



Babs De Lay, Broker



Drywall -
Painting - Tile -
Trim - Doors -
Decks - Fence -
Bath Remodel -
Much More...

Call Today for a
Free Estimate
801-662-0073

AFFORDABLE Complete Spring Clean-Up

Flower Beds,
Pruning, Trimming,
Shrubs, Weeding,
Raking, Tree Service
and Hauling.

Free Estimate

801-595-1012

EUROPE

15-day HEART OF EUROPE® Circle Tour
of Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy,
France, Belgium & Holland by Image Tours

\$5590 Sept. 26 & Oct. 1
departures
Air taxes included
INCLUDES AIR FROM SLC

Visit the Munich
OKTOBERFEST on these departures.

Price reflects \$400 savings per couple.
Includes 21 meals, 13 nights hotels, transportation
and escort in Europe, p.p. double occupancy.
Book by 6/5/24. Call for a free brochure.

CRUISE & TRAVEL MASTERS
Salt Lake City ... CALL TODAY!
Ph: 801-904-1100

A&A Landscape Construction

- Complete Landscape & Irrigation
- Pavers
- Outdoor Kitchens
- Pergolas
- Trampolines
- Custom Concrete & Masonry
- Water Features

Contact For a Quote Today!
(435) 640-0167

AALandscapeConstruction@gmail.com

— LICENCED & INSURED —

Grab Bar Specialist

801-610-7024

These are
too important
to keep
putting off!

Call Today!

Celebrations

Book yours today!

Weddings
Engagements
Birthdays
Graduations
Anniversaries
Retirements

Email:
celebrations@sltrib.com

HIRING? WE'VE GOT YOU.



Email legals@sltrib.com
to place your recruitment ad today!