

## **Measure U takes property rights away from PUC** September 22, 2012

In a recent letter to the Napa Valley Register (“No lawsuit if Measure U is passed,” Sept. 15), Duane Cronk picks and chooses what he wants Napa County citizens to believe is “the issue” in the upcoming, ill-conceived, November ballot Measure U.

The letter states that ag preservation is the issue. However, the real issue is property rights — the property rights of Pacific Union College.

Measure U, if passed, would wrest control of its land from the college, a clear violation of property rights as we know them in America.

The American way is: If you want to do something (anything) with someone else’s land, you buy it — then you have the right to make decisions about what to do with the land.

I wonder how other property owners would feel if their property would be subject to these kinds of ballot measures.

Measure U is simply the attempt by a few Angwin citizens to prevent their ever having new neighbors.

These people have acquired their property and homes in Angwin, but they don’t want others to have that same right.

Ironically, some of those wishing to diminish Pacific Union College’s property rights have homes on former Pacific Union College land.

Napa County’s engaged legal counselors have pointed out to the Board of Supervisors that there is a “significant likelihood” that parts of Measure U may be invalid.

That being so, is it any wonder that if it were passed, the matter might well wind up in the courts, costing taxpayers a significant amount of money?

The bottom line is that Measure U is a flawed, and possibly very costly, property rights land grab that deserves a resounding “no” vote by Napa County voters.

**Maria Vance / Angwin**