

Pepper Spray Times



It's vulpine...it's free...if you can find it "...will whisper music to my weary spirit..."*

Vol. XVIII No. 4

Trump Demo Smackdown Proves Lucrative for Local Businesses



MISGUIDED BERKELEY CITIZENS TRIED IN VAIN to stop fights between pro-Trump and anti-Trump demonstrators not realizing how much money they could have made off the t-shirt and tchotchkes-oriented crowds on either side.

By Hugh Vrunamuk

"We sold a lot of milk," acknowledged one Berkeley Farmers Market vendor after the dust settled on the hours-long brawl between pro and anti-Trump demonstrators in Berkeley on a recent Saturday. "I'll check, but I think we also saw a bump in Treviso radicchio."

Milk, an anodyne home remedy against pepper spray and CS gas, did sell quickly during the fracas, acknowledged the police, who were criticized unfairly for watching the violence without much interruption.

"We knew we'd get criticized for taking

our time," stated a spokesperson for the police, "but let's face it; a small ratio on both pro and anti-Trump sides wanted to engage in mutual combat."

"This is as American as it gets," insisted one black-clad protester.

ues," stated one bystander nursing a painful purple bruise. "But that would include protecting people who just want to wear a 'Make America Great Again' hat without getting the crap knocked out of them."



APPLE PIE AND Treviso Tardivo radicchio sold out at the Farmers Market after the Trump smackdown.

of race and religion-based violence and vandalism taking place nationwide.

"This is as American as it gets," insisted one black-clad protester. "This is as American as apple pie."

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What to Do If Your TV is Watching You



KEEP IN MIND if your family makes boring conversation during shows that you might be annoying the people who have to watch you.

By Boris A. Stiffwon

Revelations that the Central Intelligence Agency can use ordinary objects like televisions and phones to listen in to other people's conversation has inspired some common-sense guidelines from experts.

"Dress well," advised one media expert knowledgeable about the capabilities of modern espionage techniques. "I can't guarantee that you're being photographed at all times, but when you are it is advisable to make sure you and your family are well turned out."

"Be sure you've dusted," added another expert. "Nothing turns off a surveillance crew like dusty slipcovers on the sofa or a plate full of peanut butter sandwich crusts."



IF YOU PLAY YOUR CARDS right you can ask your surveillance crew to watch your children while you run to the market.

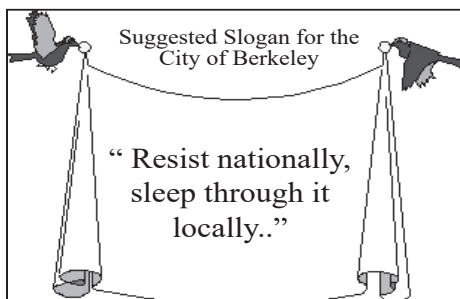
Critics crabbled that the surveillance loopholes left by tech experts put people's privacy at risk, but were dismissed as cranks trying to stop progress.

"We envision advantages when we install interactive software," stated another expert.

"There will al-

ways be someone behind a screen who knows where your glasses are."

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ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, why don't political opponents who wish to engage in mutually agreeable physical contact just square off and fight frankly with each other instead of wrecking all of the rest of our opportunities to protest? They could smash glass or each other to their hearts' content after signing waivers and agreeing to clean up afterwards. That way I could still go to marches with my kids without getting dosed with toxic aerosols.

Dear reader, this is an excellent suggestion, not to mention a probable moneymaker in a cash-strapped town. Speak to your local Berkeley College Republicans club, which ran out of fresh ideas long ago and really wants to rumble.

Dear Lena, I keep wondering about this - do you think we are alone in the universe?

Dear reader, not really. Some of us just wish we were.

Dear Lena, does the university really want another prolonged battle over development at People's Park? I thought both the city and the university were about to get federal budget cuts under Trump that were going to keep their hands full. That volleyball court thing was over six million dollars of publicly funded nonsense, not to mention Rosebud's death. Can't we all just, well, you know.

Dear reader, yes, they do. The same way Trump wants to spar with Kim Jong-un, the new chancellor Carol Christ wants to wring the tie-dye out of Berkeley once and for all. The over six million dollars of public money didn't include the costs of the SLAPP-suit or the removal of the volleyball courts only three years later due to continuous public protest. Will the university kill for volleyball? Don't kid yourself. They already did.

Ask Lena about handy home remedies for CS gas exposure and nifty tricks for getting out of plastic handcuffs at cdenney@jgc.org.

Readers Love Reading Crap

By Carol Lesslove



MEDIA EXPERTS insist that reading fake news is perfectly acceptable, although most people do it in the closet.

"A sizeable ratio of fake news readers is defending the right to read crap that people just make up, according to bewildered experts.

"Reality bites," observed one reader stocking up on supermarket tabloids. "I enjoy reading about alien abductions, celebrity drug busts, and whatever Donald Trump just said even if it isn't true."

"Me, too," stated another reader showing off a pile of shiny magazines. "I love taking quizzes about my love



RECIPES FOR AMERICAN CARNAGE are easy to find these days, but our favorite is this vintage recipe with ingredients easy to find at your local hardware store.

American Carnage Recipe

Melt in a heavy pot:

1/4 cup butter

Sear on all sides in the hot butter:

A rolled should of lamb

Remove it from the pot. Saute' slowly in the butter 10 minutes:

1/2 cup chopped onions

1/4 cup nails

1/4 cup gravel

1/2 cup motor oil

Return the meat to the pot. Add:

1/2 cup broken glass

4 whole grenades

1 teaspoon beach sand

4 cups boiling isopropyl alcohol

1 cup tomato pulp

Cover the pot and simmer meat until tender, about 2 hours. When the meat is done, thicken stock slightly with:

kneaded silly putty

Serves 6.

* * * * *



IF YOU START READING CRAP it is so much fun that you run the risk of getting hooked and being mistaken for a hoarder.

life. These magazines seem to know a lot more about it than I do."

Experts agree that facts are at an extreme disadvantage in the Trump era, and that people have difficulty balancing their need for information with their need for comfort and the refreshment of a good story.

"We'd like to see facts bulk up," admitted one media expert. "Even if facts enter the room, they tend to sidle in with their heads down and fool around with their napkins at the snack table."

BOOKS ARE OFTEN treated with great respect even though they are loaded with what is now known as "alternate facts."

"Nobody notices they were even in the room," agreed another media expert. "We'd like them to take a self-defense class and spend some time in a drumming circle."

Fans of fake news referred people fussy about accurate content to the ruling by Judge Donald King in the People's Park SLAPP, or Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation, which clarified the *necessity* of fake news in public affairs.* (See King quotation below.)

"Judge King saw the Trump administration coming," affirmed the media expert. "Accuracy annoys most people and is wildly overrated."

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*** "If government is compelled to guarantee the truth of its factual assertions on matters of public interest, its speech would be substantially inhibited, and the citizenry would be less informed."**

-- San Francisco Appellate Court Judge Donald King, rejecting the appeal of the summary dismissal of the SLAPP-suit defendants' cross-complaint for defamation.





THE LEAGUE counsels people on the dangerous side effects of improving one's ability to tolerate political discussion.

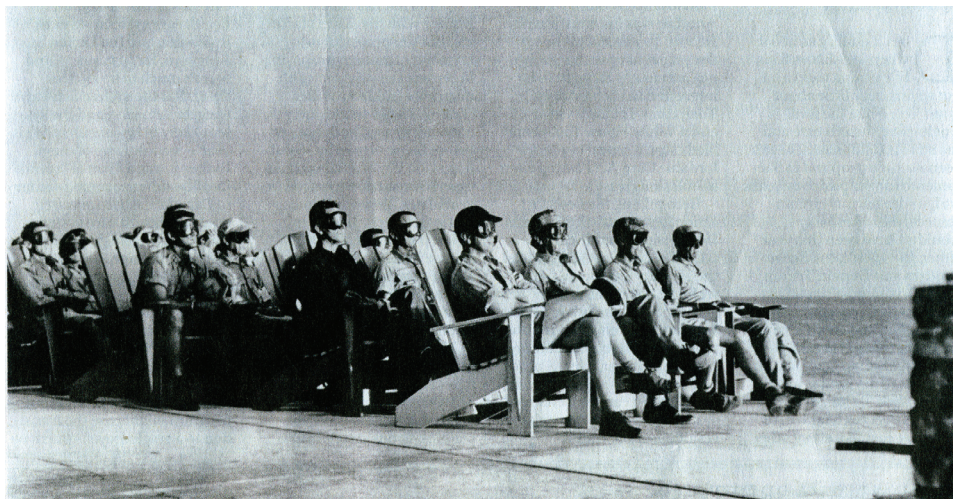
There Will Never Be Another Me

- For immediate release:

By League of Fake Persons,
Who Inc.

One ugly head raised on the shoulders of fake news has been the new face of fake persons: numbers reported at 95% favoring Clinton in pre-election polls never appeared in real time at the voting booths; 3 million souls confirmed on paper, claimed to be strictly fraudulent voters without proof of body by the electoral college big winner, weighed in on Clinton's popular tally of balloteers to put her squarely on top.

Meanwhile, invisible backers continue to bankroll candidates, defective products for unsuspecting consumers according to harmful policies for bankster profits, to control the airwaves for nefarious purposes--we interrupt this broadcast to declare --all water is certified safe for consumption by an establishment of lunatic fringe rich



MOST OF THE PRESS ATTENDING THE "PATHWAYS PROJECT" PRESS CONFERENCE at City Hall survived thanks to military-grade protective goggles.

Berkeley Streamlines "Housing First" Policy by Removing Pesky, Expensive Housing

By Polly Juana Cracker



Councilmember Sophie Hahn and Mayor Jesse Arreguin presented a breakthrough in innovative housing to an awestruck press revealing the Pathways Project, a way to embrace "Housing First" principles without the inconvenience of actual housing.

"It is so much easier this way," stated one City Hall insider. "No one can complain about the proximity of a campground which is not only purely theoretical, but



regulators overcome by their power, who dare pronounce thirst obsolete, who recommend soft drinks need support (says a source close to the power who is).... And thus legitimizing corporations for personhood has developed a culture of fake persons who have birthed, right here in the U.S.A., this age of fake disinformation.

* * * * *

which is so elegantly illustrated."



NOBODY can argue with a location-free, budget-free, and permanent housing-free policy for the poor.

Critics objected that the city's conceptual tent city only provides temporary shelter, but were dismissed as a bunch of typical whiners.

"We're all just passing through," stated a spokesperson for the mayor. "Some of us just have to do a lot less continuous packing."

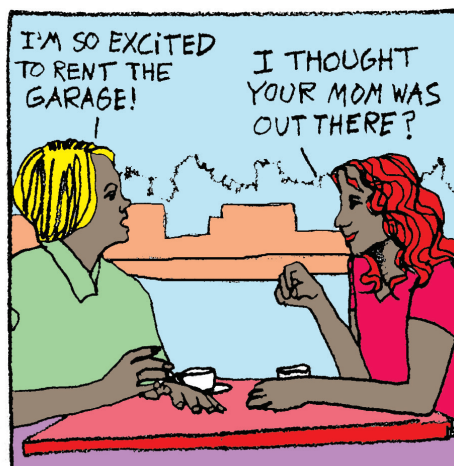
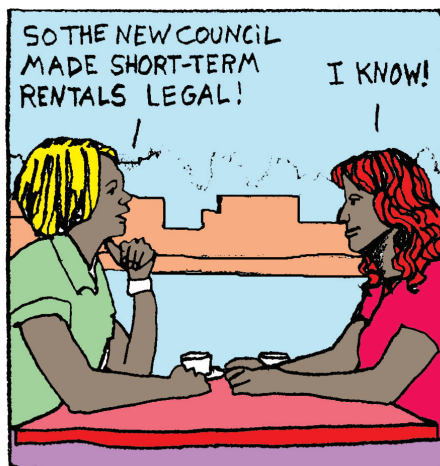
"We may have some detractors, but we have a new, improved Robust Outreach Team at the low low cost of \$300,000 in taxpayer dollars. They

may still be unclear on the concept of civil liberties and best practices for dealing with mental illness, but they have an acronym to die for."

* * * * *

We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



C. Denney 2017

UC Dusts Off Traditional Spring Ritual, Threatens Housing on Peoples Park All Over Again



By Honore Fallenchum

Peoples Park activists expressed delight that their regenerated sense of activism gets to demonstrate its fresh energy in another

JAMES RECTOR 1944 1969



JAMES RECTOR was shot to death by police while watching the battle.

siasm for building on the park and using some extreme vetting on protesters along the way, which is ironic since housing was what UC destroyed in the first place.

prolonged, expensive battle over Peoples Park.

"We've been familiar with chancellor-to-be Carol Christ for years," enthused one Southside resident. "She never fails to express enthusiasm

The university still stings with embarrassment over having bulldozed an entire block of dense student housing during finals in 1967 after which the UC regents denied them funds to build anything, since even they recognized (see the meeting minutes) the administration's use of eminent domain was questionable.

"It was technically fraud," confessed one old-timer who was regent at the time, "but we thought sending a discreet message of zero funding for their plans, variably dorms, office buildings, or sports courts, would be better than a big trial."

"The Alameda County judges didn't want to deal with it," added another former regent. "All those guys play golf together."

"There's an honest housing shortage these days," noted one Southside resident. "But they've also acquired so much California land, let alone Berkeley land, that they ac-



PEOPLE'S PARK ACTIVISTS from the old days prepare to go to jail again.

knowledge they have plenty of other sites for housing. They should just give the park to the city already."

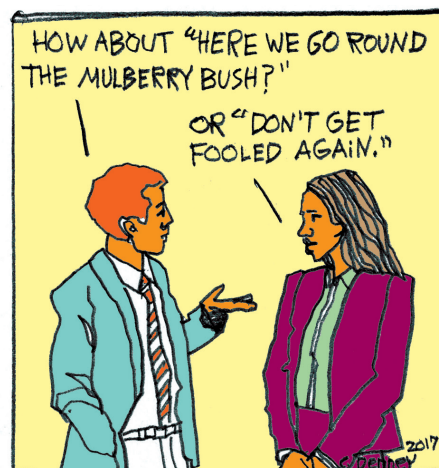
"Of course we should give the park to the city," laughed executive vice chancellor Christ. "But what fun would that be?"

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Next Issue: Fencing with selfie sticks with celebrities!

You Get Your Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



From:
Pepper Spray Times
1970 San Pablo Ave. #4
Berkeley, CA 94702

cdenney@igc.org
www.caroldenney.com



Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by (see below)... Want to help distribute? Contact us for copies.



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*Henry IV Part II

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