

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

April 2026

the unreductable issue...



Pepper Spray Times



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

"...Here pitch our tent..."

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TRUMP SAYS WAR IS HELL But Goes For It Anyway

Goals of Conflict Unclear But Ballroom May Result

By Lotta Bigbombs

Pentagon officials agreed that the sudden war on Iran took most of them by surprise.

"We were hearing all of this rhetoric about Trump being a peace candidate and a peacemaker, claiming to end wars and all that," noted one official ruefully. "But I guess it wasn't working for him."

"We're not sure it was the look he wanted," agreed another Pentagon official. "The memes he puts out show him as Superman and action figures and stuff. But we can't explain the sudden reversal in the middle of the Iranian negotiations. We barely got our own people out before it all blew up so there's a lot of confused tourists on the phone to the embassy right now."

Leftie saysayers insist that the sudden military attack by Israel and American aerial forces has no comprehensible plan and interrupted peace negotiations now completely in ruins.



THIS IRANIAN BALLROOM IN DUBAI obviously has much too low of a ceiling and should be bombed.

"It's hard not to see this as a handy distraction from the new Epstein files revelations, the tanking economy, and the unpopularity of Trump's mass deportation nightmare sweeping up even American citizens and wrecking local economies," stated one protester with a "NO ICE" sign in a parade of thousands. "Unless those 150 Iranian schoolgirls were some kind of a threat."

Pentagon advisors responded that schoolgirls can be very serious threats, and should have carried papers with them.

* * * * *

Nobody Can Tell What Language Hegseth Speaks

By B. Mishboy

No fat soldiers. --



HEGSETH'S OBSESSION with physical fitness usually correlates to a pudgy childhood.

diers which he characterized as "trying to make President Trump look bad."

"It starts off sounding like English, but then it takes a turn," stated Colonel Armand Allegg, one of several uneasy Pentagon staff members after Secretary of Defense Hegseth's latest press conference.

The Secretary insisted, "We didn't start the war but we're finishing it," to the assembly of press reporters he continued to scold for noting the deaths of six American soldiers

"He keeps using odd, pumped-up phrases like 'ironclad' and describing diplomatic efforts as 'woke'" stated reporter Alma Hoapsendreams of the Henrietta, Kansas Star. "I keep thinking I missed memorizing the dialogue in some action film."

Linguists have conferred since Hegseth's recent ascent to the head of the Pentagon and concluded that his unusual phrasing, such as describing the purpose of the military as "killing people and breaking things", is being cooked up in the same back rooms where President Trump's strange internet action figure memes are born.

"We're calling it 'action figure speak' for now. We know it's based in English, but soaked in the peculiar ways of video games," stated forensic linguist Dr. Boris A. Stiffwan. "We're clear there's some kind of compensation going on, but translating this stuff is taking a lot of time."

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Big Ballroom Boomed



TRUMP'S HAND HOVERS OVER the weird big ballroom he's proposing to leave permanently behind him if he ever does leaves office.

By Ben Had

The most common adjectives in the public comment describing Trump's White House ballroom plans for replacing the demolished East Wing are gaudy, garish, ostentacious, grotesque, obscene, vulgar, monstrous, monstrosity, corrupt, soulless, and vainglorious according to analysis.

David Scott Parker of the American Institute of Architects affirmed 97% of the public comments were negative.

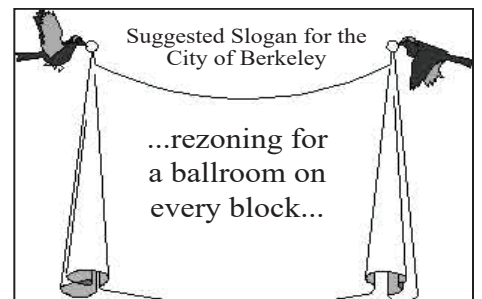
"The net effect of this is to adversely impact what is the most important...identifiably historic house in the entire United States," stated Parker, noting that the plan could shrink by nearly half and still match industry standards for the proposed 1,000 capacity Trump seeks.

The Capital Planning Commission and the National Trust for Historic Preservation also raised concerns about the ahistoric, asymmetric effect of the monstrous addition to what was "the people's house" rather than the president's personal property.

But supporters point out that doing favors for the President may be a way out of the complete wreck Trump is making of democratic norms, the Republican party, the Supreme Court, and the Middle East.

"If we let him have the ballroom maybe he'll calm down," suggested one preservationist nervously. "If we don't, who knows what he'll bomb next."

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ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, Republicans are fixated on the possibility of voter fraud, yet Trump insists that he has the right to kill foreign leaders and insert whomever he likes in Venezuela and now Iran. Doesn't this seem...selfish? At least undemocratic?

Dear reader, yes. On the other hand, here in the states he's plopping plutocrats into seats of power, so the matter has symmetry. One could predict the next iteration of his Board of Peace will sport some high-end golf equipment in the trunks of their Lexuses. Or should we all begin to say Lexi.

Dear Lena, is anybody betting on whether the Department of Defense will shoot down any more U.S. Customs and Border Protection drones? I want in.

Dear reader, its likelihood will lower the payout, but since the level of mistaken identity issues for both parties is high, it may be the only predictable behavior in our current landscape. Hegseth has tossed out ordinary rules of engagement such as proper notification so another Fort Hancock (TX) incident is not out of the question. The Pepper Spray Times newsroom staff crosses the street to avoid a Valentine's Day balloon.

Dear Lena, what was with the pygmy long-fingered possum and the ring-tailed glider not wanting to be found? I mean, we have the internet now.

Dear reader, I know, I know. The porn alone is just dazzling.

Dear Lena, why in the world would the San Francisco Folk Music Club's Board of Directors blacklist a local folksinger based on a myth they admit they invented all by themselves?

Dear reader, we'll quote Eleanor Roosevelt's succinct observation, which plainly states the matter: "Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people".

Ask Lena about the SF Folk Club's blacklisting at cdeney@igc.org.

Homeland Security ICE Queen Rides into the Sunset

News Bettors Lose on Patel But Rate Him Next

By Cecelia Lippschut

President Trump announced he is replacing Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem with Markwayne Mullin and promoting her to a newly minted position called "Special Envoy for the Shield of the Americas", apparently a new security initiative for the Western Hemisphere.

"It sounds like a promotion," commented one hesitant White House staff member. "Of course we won't really be able to tell until we see her new costume."

"The old Homeland Security costumes will be hard to beat," added another cabinet staff member. "But her image consultants



A \$220 MILLION DOLLAR AD CAMPAIGN APPEARS FEATURING HERSELF appears to have played a bigger role in Noem's firing than shooting two American citizens to death in her relentless search for undocumented workers.



THE FORMER HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY KRISTI NOEM'S IMAGE CONSULTANTS chose her special personalized exit music, written by wife of Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, around 1951 and used for the closing theme of The Roy Rogers Show.

will probably generate some nifty costumes for this stage of her career."

Democrats who referred to former DHS Secretary Noem as "getting fired" were scolded by those who pointed out that time and her new salary will tell the story.

"There's no effort to change the mass deportation policy," noted cabinet staffer Arnie Sarnocken. "We're still going to knock down doors and detain people whether they have papers or not. We're just doing it with another guy without any appropriate background or experience. We have a deep bench of those guys."

Wagerers on the Polymarket site are betting that FBI Director Kash Patel and Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard will depart the administration with personalized exit songs by the year's end.

* * * * *

Pope Poops On Peace Board



IN THE POLITICS OF ACTION FIGURES the "Pope versus Trump" show is a show-stopper.

By C. D. Boidie

Pope Leo XIV politely declined to join President Donald Trump's "Board of Peace" which was described as a US-led group supervising Gaza's post-war reconstruction and perhaps several ballrooms.

The decision was announced by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, a top diplomat and secretary of state of the Vatican's Holy See, who noted that "at the international level it should above all be the U.N. that manages these crisis situations."

Vatican insiders reported that nobody trusted any US-led group not to just side with Russia in matters of world conflict, and that Trump's peace-promotions appeared to have ended anyway since the saturation bombing of Iran.

"We're so glad that Trump at the very least used to claim to be interested in peace,"



whispered one of the colorful costumed guards to a Pepper Spray Times reporter. "But it struck the Pope as a bit insincere in the light of the recent bombing of an Iranian girl's school. It's hard to imagine that that's an appropriate way to address the humanitarian crisis in Gaza."

* * * * *

Wealthy Neighborhoods Get Break on Big-Ass High-End Buildings - Again

San Pablo Avenue Neighbors Set the Table but Wealthy Neighborhoods Eat the Pie

By Gustav Wind

“Berkeley loves its traditions,” sighed a dedicated but small group of letter-writers from an historic San Pablo Avenue neighborhood sharing stamps and envelopes while writing letters and postcards of protest about the most recent City Council zoning decision that concentrates building extreme high-rises without any low-income or open space requirements on San Pablo Avenue’s original and most historic neighborhood alone.

“This is how it’s traditionally done,” added another San Pablo Avenue neighbor. “We don’t mind when they notice that we’re a ‘transit corridor’ and that we’re an



THE ONE THEATER LEFT IN BERKELEY is along sunny, tree-strewn College Avenue where there’s enough political pull to send their horri-fying high-end highrises to San Pablo Avenue.

bus. But we’re a real neighborhood, too.”

“They came close to putting a public bathroom right in front of our apartment building,” stated one tenant at the corner of University and San Pablo Avenue. “All we could do was write, speak, and watch in horror as yet again our wealthier neighbors carted off the prize and left these older, more historic but poorer neighborhoods to fend for themselves against developers.”

“Our job is harder,” sighed a neighbor who has been working for decades to get the city’s attention. “We provide more of the tax base than downtown and north Berkeley combined, but we’re traditionally the black community, and get treated in a very traditional way.”

“The wealthier neighborhoods get what we consider to be traditional forgiveness for having difficulty finding the manuals and following the rules,” stated Vandy Twaincomes, Vice-President of the Society for Berkeley’s Understated Conventions. “We always enjoy watching our low-income neighbors show us the way.”

* * * * *

People’s Park Folksinger Banned from People’s Park Panel

UC Regents’ Dream Comes True



THE LAST LIVING SLAPP-SUIT DEFENDANT was inexplicably banned from participating in a People’s Park panel discussion by Hali Hammer, who couldn’t explain why but will be glad to get back to you.*

* Another absolutely true story from the PST.

By Kent Tell

“It happened so fast,” noted a local People’s Park historian after a Zoom meeting where he was told that the last living People’s Park SLAPP-suit defendant couldn’t participate in the 2026’s yearly People’s Park Anniversary celebration.

“We know she’s the last living voice of those whom the regents sued,” said the decision-maker Hali Hammer, one of three Zoom participants. “But those from years of the Park’s history shouldn’t necessarily be included so we can make room for underinformed but potentially interesting voices which can either contribute or maybe just make some good shit up, especially if it helps avoid the mention of anything politically inconvenient.”

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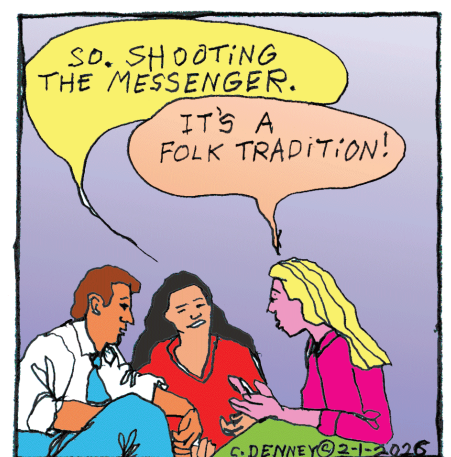


THE HISTORIC ARCHWAY which once distinguished the intersection of San Pablo Avenue and University Avenue in Berkeley seemed like a great place to put a public toilet to the wise minds currently unable to find the phone numbers of the neighborhood that lives there today and tried to recommend alternatives.

easy neighborhood to bike through. We’re proud to be a mixed-use neighborhood where life is walkable and you can hop on a

We Can’t Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



G. DENNEY © 21-2026

New Trump Coin in Jeopardy

Alternative Coin with Melania's Face Has Popular Support If Lap Dances Are Part of the Package

By Lotta Crappola



THE CONTROVERSIAL TRUMP COIN PROPOSAL is just not selling well.

nearby bathrooms," acknowledged White House staff members requesting anonymity. "They straightened up, wiped their mouths, and were absolutely deadpan in commenting that they, too, were "helping to celebrate America's 250th birthday on July 4, 2026 under the current Trump administration."

"It's historic," commented U.S. Treasurer Brandon Beach of the bathroom upheaval. "There is no profile more emblematic for the front of such coins than that of our serving President, Donald J. Trump."

"It's true the after Federal Arts Commission approved the final design for a 24-karat gold commemorative coin bearing President Trump's image several reporters in attendance were violently ill in

Observers suggested that the backside of the coin, at least, should commemorate the brave custodians who cleaned up after the vomiting reporters.

"That took guts," noted one White House staff member who wished to remain anonymous. "Especially in the wartime tension we're experiencing now, these custodians addressed the necessity of keeping clean, safe facilities with no apparent concern



MELANIA TRUMP'S PROPOSED COIN has much more popular interest than Donald Trump's coin, as do proposals for commemorative coins of any of his other wives, all of whom are pretty dang hot.



TRUMP'S WIVES APPROVE of having their own commemorative coins and suggest including coins for each of the many Trump children.

about their own safety."

The vote by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, whose members were appointed by Trump earlier this year, was without objection, clearing the way for the U.S. Mint to begin production.

Conventional past presidential practices and law prevent sitting presidents from putting their own faces on United States' currency, but Trump's face placement is part and parcel of his political approach.

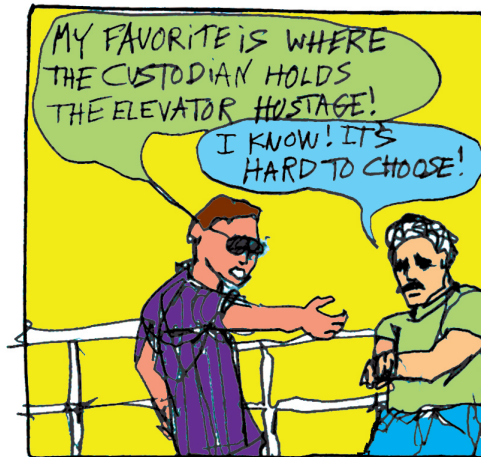
"We used the Treasury secretary's authority to authorize the minting and issuance of the coins," stated Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent. "Our great system offers endless elasticity with respect to US authority."

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Next Issue: roasting roadkill with celebrities!

I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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* Richard III