

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

February 2018

the love-soaked issue...



Pepper Spray Times



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

"Is not my teeming date drunk up with time?*"

Vol. XIX No. 2

Berkeley's Top Priority: Threatening, Out-of Control Sidewalks

By Colleen Mehome



TERRIFYING SIDEWALKS CAUSE CHAOS for downtown pedestrians who tearfully beg for more sidewalk regulations.

"This can't go on," cried tear-stricken pedestrians fleeing hulking expanses of sidewalks lurking throughout commercial districts just waiting to trip and possibly rob helpless local citizens as they try to get to work or school. "We need more sidewalk rules, and we need them now!"

Sidewalk experts acknowledge that the

crying need for more regulations is not well understood by the ill informed.

"People assume that sidewalks are passive," explained one sidewalk expert. "But they can harbor evil intent, and only those with special expertise are capable of addressing the latent danger to the public."

Preservationists warned to the Berkeley City Council's near unity on the issue, pointing out that decades of preceding city councils have always been traditionally very territorial about who can and who can't use public sidewalks.

"It's kind of our thing as a city," stated one traditionalist proudly. "Some of us worried the new faces on the council wouldn't understand our traditional customs."

"Terrorist sidewalks are a top priority," acknowl-

edged Chief of Police Andrew Greenwood. "Terrorist sidewalks and of course those who someday might threaten 4th Street's Lululemon leggings."

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"We need more sidewalk rules, and we need them now!"

Feinstein Pulls An Ellsberg; Releases Complete Fusion GPS Transcripts

By Dora Jar

While key Republicans worked feverishly to launch an investigation into Christopher Steele, the FBI, secret societies with secret meetings, and of course more yards and yards of missing emails, Senator Diane Feinstein unilaterally released a key transcript of the Judiciary Committee's interview with Glenn R. Simpson of Fusion GPS, the firm which originally hired Steele, to "set the record straight."

Feinstein's move deeply annoyed Republicans, but even more deeply disappointed local Democratic Party operatives who had been bent on describing her as too old and over the hill to be useful hoping she would retire and make room for somebody else.

"We're really stumped now," acknowledged one local Democratic Party insider. "She even has her own Trump nickname."

Insiders agreed that the president had secured Feinstein's lock on the senate by giving her what was intended to be an insulting nickname, "Sneaky Diane", thus reducing local Democrats' criticism of her as



SENATOR DIANE FEINSTEIN BOOTS protocol and releases Fusion GPS transcripts because it was important and because she's stayed in the game a long time *so she can*. That's how the game is played and *be sure to tell Bernie Sanders so he doesn't screw up 2018*.

"too soft on Trump" to ribbons.

"It takes being in the game a long time to recognize the opportunity in a moment like this and simply have the political courage to take it," observed one local political insider. "This is just not the best year to underestimate women."

* * * * *

Police Beg People to Please Commit More Crimes

Inflated Budget Hard to Justify

By Ben N. Gone

Berkeley police admitted that it didn't make sense to demand staffing and budget levels similar to those the city had when crime was twice as it is now.

"Everybody's staring at their phones," explained one officer. "They're forgetting they even have the option of assaulting and robbing each other."

Other officers consoled the force, advising them that waiting all day outside Lululemon on 4th Street was a wise use of resources.

"The vulnerability of leggings is legendary," stated one concerned officer. "All they can really do is flex. They need us."

* * * * *



BERKELEY cops are still waiting on 4th Street to protect leggings from the terrifying upcoming Lululemon crime spree.

Obnoxious Marching Women Refuse to Just Shut Up

By Pat X. Sample

"We can't figure it out," shrugged an Antifa representative disappointed over the completely peaceful nature of the January Women's March. "Surely they know they won't be taken seriously without some broken glass."

Critics agreed that women's tendency to cooperate is a terrible disadvantage.

"Next time we'll bring crowbars and help them out," they promised.

* * * * *



WOMEN AND men demonstrated peacefully worldwide, clearly not realizing the value of smashing local store windows.



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, last month you referred to “workout leggings’ obvious and extreme vulnerability” without even trying to find a euphemism for “vulnerability” as recommended by the Department of Health and Human Services. You really should try harder. We rely upon you to set an example.

Dear reader, excellent catch. Our vast editorial staff will try to work harder for your semantic benefit. We spend our weekends reading thesauri for fun.

Dear Lena, I was kind of glad the government shut down. I kind of wanted it to stay that way because I think we would all be better off. Don’t you think so?

Dear reader, I’ve tried, but I just can’t get there. I love those libraries.

Dear Lena, but come on, nobody reads anymore, do they.

Dear reader, a rarified few of us. The thesaurus crowd is never very popular.

Dear Lena, why is the City Council freaking out about sidewalks again? What is the big deal?

Dear reader, try to show more compassion. They committed to the dangerous sidewalks narrative long ago so they wouldn’t have to find a new euphemism for “homeless” or “problematic street behavior.”

Dear Lena, aren’t sidewalks actually a threat? I really got clobbered by one on my way home from a bar.

Dear reader, you forget that our police force is sadly deprived of at least some of the tools they need to keep sidewalks in line, including drones capable of deploying pepper spray and tasers. We’re not safe until our police force can protect 4th Street Lululemon leggings with the proper military and security equipment.

Ask Lena about addressing human needs with humanitarian sidewalk restrictions at cdeney@igc.org.

Shoebox Living Is Latest Twist on Tiny Homes

Developers Insist No Matter How Small Their Hearts Are They Can Get Even Smaller

By Claudia Furniture

“We can’t get everybody inside,” admitted one homeless family who was the lucky recipient of one of the new “shoebox” homes. “But we can still compete for magazine coverage of the colorful interior.”



Other families who acknowledged that they needed to take turns to get even one family member all the way inside agreed that that doesn’t ever embarrass the extraordinarily positive coverage of ever more tiny abodes for the poor.

Architectural experts agreed that without human willingness to accommodate developers’ needs the nation might have to adjust to impossibly difficult building codes and habitability standards.

“We’re just trying to work within the framework of lucratibility,” stated one developer. “And we know people are willing to really, really try to make it work.”



THIS LOVELY INTERIOR may be too small to fit full-sized people, but you have to admit that it has a really nice paint job.

“We probably just need to eat less,” stated one young mother while her kids played outside using the tiny home as home plate in a pickup game. “I put on some weight with my last pregnancy. And we’re trying to convince ourselves that we really only need one pair of shoes.”

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Hawaiian Ballistic Missile Warning Bewilders, Annoys Tourists



HAWAIIAN TOURISTS ALMOST got a really good view of the next ballistic missile confrontation but were kind of relieved to just take home a tan, a t-shirt, and the flu.

By Della Cutmatter

“I missed this part in the brochure,” said one puzzled Hawaiian tourist trying to figure out how to respond to his iPhone alert about incoming ballistic missiles.

“If I were a kid I would just crawl under my desk, but now that I’m fifty



FOR SOME REASON most people forget to bring their gas masks with them to Hawaii.

I’m not entirely sure what I should do.”

“We’ll sure have a nice view of it,” suggested his wife, gesturing to her vacation condo’s large picture window of a sandy island beach. “If we survive a nuclear war we’ll have some eye-opening vacation home movies.”



Other tourists expressed appreciation that the alert had taken place at such a convenient moment in the morning.

“Imagine if we’d missed our beach luau,” commented a relieved traveler from Iowa. “At least this way we didn’t miss the fireworks and the native dancers.”

Hawaiian state officials apologized for any inconvenience regarding sending what turned out to be a false alert complete with “this is not a test” plainly stated in the alert message itself.

“Apparently somebody just hit the wrong button,” stated the official. “I just got a new toaster and I do that all the time.”

* * * * *



PERSONNEL TASKED WITH flying the President around were really hoping he could be declared insane and tucked away somewhere where he couldn't mess stuff up anymore.

Bad News: President Apparently Perfectly Sane

By Donatella Soul

President Trump's January 2018 doctor's visit confirms the unnerving suspicion held by many that while his erratic, unpredictable behavior makes him resemble a broken rhumba filled with fireworks, he is apparently medically speaking perfectly sane.

"We were banking on the psychiatric community giving us some rational options," whispered one political observer. "And so, frankly, was the rest of the world."

"I feel so lost," confided one of the many psychiatrists who had provided an estimated evaluation of the President. "I had forgotten that a perfectly sane man can court nuclear disaster, assault women, reverse policy on a daily basis and embarrass the nation for sport."

Insiders conceded that while the President's workup was minimal, sheer stupidity and arrogance could certainly explain the almost daily shock of the President's unexpected and ill-considered behavior.

"It does demonstrate the necessity of new tactics," commented a Democratic strategist. "We think it might help to have a twenty-four hour Trump channel so he can enjoy watching himself at all times."

"It might help keep him out of trouble," acknowledged one media expert. "Especially if you can provide some kind of integrated positive twitter feedback loop. It might be the best we can do."

* * * * *

iPhones Won't Charge in Extreme Cold

Apple Says Turn the Damn Thing Off



By Derek Lee Observed

In response to complaints from thousands of customers stranded in freezing weather whose iPhones quit working, Apple suggested that they should only use their iPhones "in environments between 32° and 95° F", since "low- or high-temperature conditions might temporarily shorten battery life or cause the device to alter its behavior to regulate its temperature" or in other words just quit working after years of getting you to depend on the damn thing for, well, *everything*.

"If the temperature drops below 32°, your best bet is keeping your phone turned off and stored somewhere warmer" suggested Apple with a straight face.

"We are not saying you were all fools to trust us," stated one Apple spokesperson. "We're just saying that a robust, resilient personal communications system might do well to include a bullhorn and an elaborate system of drones equipped with flares."

The other public suggestion Apple made was to "put it away", which caused at least



YOUR IPHONE PROBABLY WON'T WORK in the event that you are stranded on a snowy road, but this will give you lots of opportunity to think about life and sing while you try to get yourself out of a ditch.



YOU CAN DEPEND ON YOUR iPhone to be there when you need it unless the weather decides to be unruly.

a few customers to put their phones away in the nearest snow-bank.

"You can use it like a brick to stabilize your wheels in the snow," pointed out one tech expert. "You can also hit yourself in the head with it."

"I got this thing for emergencies," stated one shivering driver by his snow-bound vehicle stuck in a ditch on an interstate. "It might as

well be a brick."



SNOWMEN HAVE KNOWN for years that iPhones are unreliable in cold weather but nobody would listen.

Experts agreed that a brick might be more useful than a phone at -8°.

"You can use it like a brick to stabilize your wheels in the snow," pointed out one tech expert. "You can also hit yourself in the head with it."

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We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



Facebook Promises to Become Meaningful

By Pauline Behavior

Facebook, embarrassed by the way Russian hackers and almost everybody else was able to manipulate its platform for nefarious purposes in the last election, has changed its newsfeed algorithms in favor of allowing their users to make their own personal decisions about which news organizations are trustworthy.

"It's true our users are not editors," admitted a Facebook spokesperson, "nor are they able to research news items which come their way very well since we of course filter everything that comes their way. But they really enjoy guessing and we feel it sparks conversation."

Facebook insiders conceded their new approach enabled them to avoid actually hiring editors whom they've heard are really cranky about stuff like grammar and spelling and accuracy.

"Editors are a fussy bunch," stated a Facebook strategist. "Just imagine. They would probably want to get paid."

Critics objected that most Facebook users' news items get forwarded from their connections to family and friends without any vetting whatsoever, creating echo chambers of agreement without necessarily any sourcing, but Facebook staff defended the practise on the grounds that this will give the Facebook user more "trusted" sources of information, to the dismay of tech-savvy experts.

"This just makes matters worse," stated one Facebook user. "I have no idea what news source to trust."

"No kidding," agreed another Facebook user. "I think I'm going to give up. My uncle Ralph means well, but he has this thing



MARK ZUCKERBERG'S SEARCH FOR MEANING COULD really screw up the next election assuming we even last that long proving that really rich people have trouble getting anybody to tell them the truth.

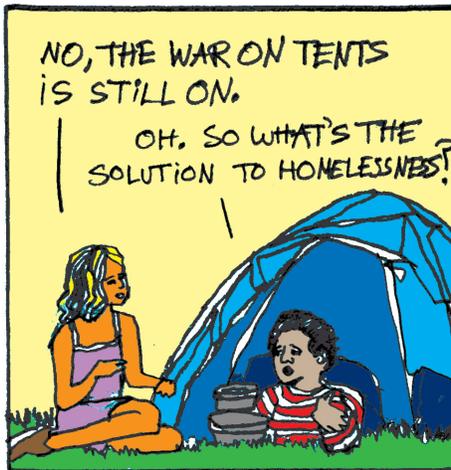
about fake moon landings, aliens, the 'deep state', and grassy knolls."

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Next Issue: Smashing snowmen with celebrities!

I WANT MY PRESENT NOW

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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*King Richard II

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