

the pussy hat issue...



Pepper Spray Times



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

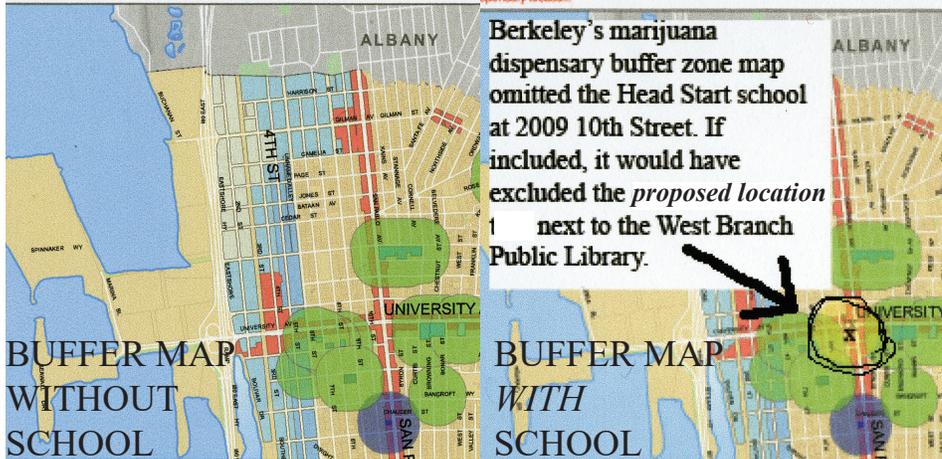
"...I do not like the office..."

Vol. XXI No. 2

School Magically Disappears from Marijuana Dispensary Buffer Zone Map

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BERKELEY'S MARIJUANA DISPENSARY BUFFER ZONE MAP magically left off a school or two or three.

By Elsie Ewencourt

Berkeley City Hall officials insisted that the disclaimer at the bottom of their marijuana dispensary buffer zone map protects them from any liability for leaving out certain schools.

"We're proud of the elasticity of our disclaimer," stated a spokesperson for the City Manager's office. "We say, 'the City of Berkeley does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information.'"

"And it goes on," offered another Berkeley City Hall staff member. "It continues by saying, 'the City of Berkeley provides this information on an "as is" basis without warranty of any kind, including but not limited to warranties of merchantability of fitness for a particular purpose, and assumes no responsibility for anyone's use of the information.'"

The teachers at the Head Start school that was left off the map were baffled by the "merchantability" language, which is generally used in car sales as a promise that the vehicle will do what it is supposed to do by referring to the basic functions of the car, such as running.

The Planning Department, which uses the marijuana dispensary buffer zone map to

fast-track new locations or relocations of existing marijuana dispensaries, defended itself by pointing out that marijuana dispensaries generally make the city much more money than schools.

"Boilerplate legal language has a more general function," stated one spokesperson for the Planning Department who insisted on anonymity while pulling on a fattie. "It tends to keep inconvenient community input out of the mix."

* * * *

Trump Finally Gets Big Crowd Size Soleimani Funeral Exceeds All Predictions

By Patience Waitingroom

"It was really, really big," enthused White House advisors of the parade that filled the streets of the Iranian capital Tehran for the funeral of military commander Qasem Soleimani, assassinated in a US drone strike.

"The president just sees it as a big success," noted one White House advisor. "Now and then that famously short attention span has an upside."

* * * *



IT'S HARD NOT TO HUM along with "Death to America", the hit song being sung in almost every language and popular with schoolchildren.

"Death to America" Tops Pop Charts

By Alicia Dog

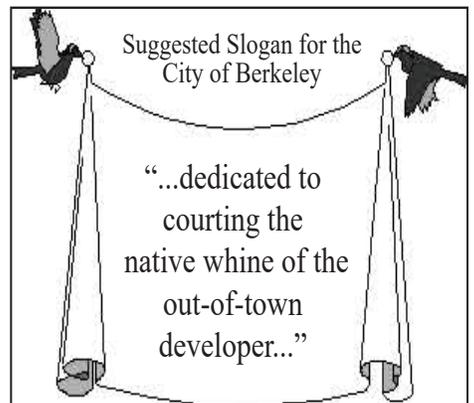
"It's catchy, it's punchy, it's short. It's got everything and it's so the moment," stated one internet influencer on the song rocking the charts ever since the Pentagon offered President Trump the extreme military option of assassinating Iranian military leader Qassem Soleimani and he picked what many of his advisors considered the most unlikely and extreme military option.

"We had bunches of stuff listed," whispered one advisor who wished to remain anonymous. "We had 'send an offensive twitter message.' We had 'insult his wife.' We had fake stories where he loses at checkers. We never thought he would pick that one, the one where he kills somebody."

Other advisors agreed that they needed to revise their military options list in light of the president's moodiness.

"We're going to try a pie chart next time," stated another advisor. "With bright colors. And maybe some real pie."

* * * * *



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, today, all over again, I heard about the end of the day when my radio alarm went off at 6:00 am. Isn't that a little early for the end of the day? I'm so tired of hearing about the end of the day all day long. What happened to "when all is said and done," or "to sum it all up," or "ultimately" or "in the long run" or anything else. It's apparently the end of the day all day long these days.

Dear reader, I believe you've nailed it. The end of the day, and perhaps the planet, is now all day long. For some this is a matter of no small alarm. But for others it comes as a great, and strange, relief.

Dear Lena, I am so embarrassed. I apparently missed the whole impeachment thing by binge-watching my box set of Game of Thrones. Did I miss anything? Was it good? Who won?

Dear reader, we're still throwing the i ching over here at the Pepper Spray Times offices. You might want to consult your own coins or bones as well. Just be sure to read from the bottom up.

Dear Lena, I smoked lots of dope outside my hometown library and I turned out fine. What is the deal about dispensaries everywhere who cares.

Dear reader, the Berkeley City Council entirely agrees.

Dear Lena, I just have one question. Why wouldn't the Berkeley City Council care about the Head Start school? That just doesn't seem right.

Dear reader, the Head Start school, despite qualifying for inclusion in the buffer zone, apparently needed to be kept off the Dispensary Buffer Zone map so that Berkeley Patients Group could move into 1101 University and abandon the whole concept of discretion and neighborhood compatibility. Those kids will just have to learn to love the seductive iconography of cannabis, tobacco, and vaping marketing because *the money is just so good.*
Ask Lena about breathing at cdenney@igc.org.

Berkeley Patients Group Defends Proposal for Dispensaries by Libraries

By Ross Q. Mission

Spokespersons for the marijuana dispensary Berkeley Patients Group (BPG) argued that public libraries right next to marijuana dispensaries and smoking "lounges" are a perfectly fine idea and might even help children have a better understanding of certain kinds of literature.

"Coleridge, for example," maintained one Berkeley Patients Group marijuana consumer who insists he is in favor of all Berkeley libraries having a handy marijuana dispensary nearby. "Samuel Taylor Coleridge's contribution of the phrase 'suspension of disbelief' might be of great help to those tempted to think the omission of the Head Start schools from Berkeley's Dispensary Buffer Zone maps was deliberate or perhaps influenced by the generous donations BPG made to various officials' pet charities."

"Robert Louis Stevenson, Aldous Hux-

Proposed Marijuana Dispensary and Smoking Lounge West Branch Public Library



CANNABIS COMMISSIONERS think libraries are a great place to get really stoned.

ley, Jean-Paul Sartre, Philip K. Dick, Tennessee Williams, William S. Burroughs, why they were a bunch of sots and junkies. Finnegan's Wake and Gravity's Rainbow made a lot more sense after I got stoned out of my gourd," stated a Cannabis Commissioner after showering applicants with fresh dispensary permits. "At least I began to think it did."

* * * * *

Trump Lights International Dumpster Fire

Middle East Unexpectedly Unites

By Pilar O. Strength

Troops freshly deployed to the Middle East were philosophical when asked how they were faring in the light of heightened international tensions.

"We've got a job to do," offered one soldier. "We're just glad if somebody somewhere has got the teins."

"There's a lot of talk in the barracks about who exactly is in charge," commenting one soldier squaring away his field kit. "My money was on Kushner, but I got a buddy saying Ivanka. You can make a good case for Ivanka."

* * * * *



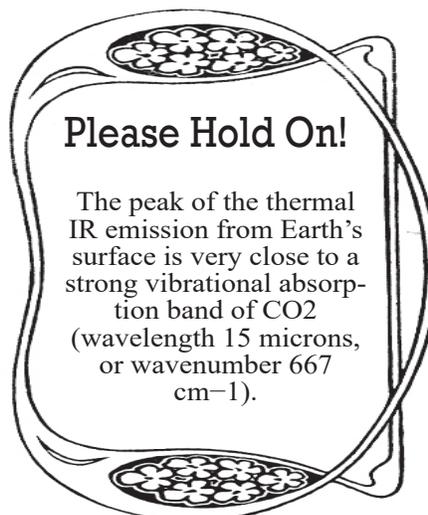
THE LARGEST TROOP DEPLOYMENT IN DECADES departed from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, as 3,500 soldiers scrambled to protect American assets overseas.

Inspiration Corner by Lynn Riordan



Detail from our local Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system safety poster.

DON'T LET FRENCH Protesters Stop You From Exiting the Train.



Please Hold On!

The peak of the thermal IR emission from Earth's surface is very close to a strong vibrational absorption band of CO2 (wavelength 15 microns, or wavenumber 667 cm-1).

Breaking News: the Earth Is Flat

City of Berkeley to Host "Medieval Science Fair"

By Erin Judgement

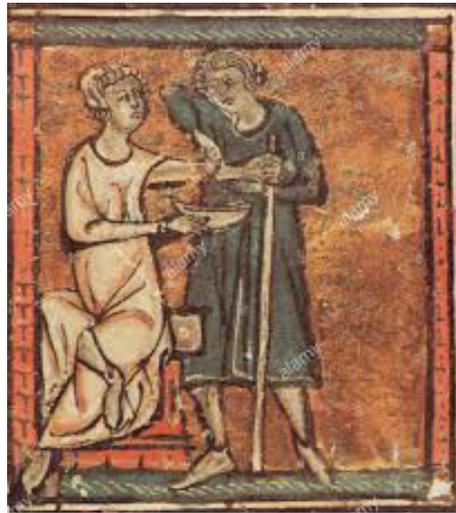


BERKELEY'S CITY COUNCIL appreciates that science is interesting and even replicable but involves a lot of tedious repetition and the sometimes deadening constraints of actual facts.

Berkeley's City Council announced that their abandonment of science and public health-based policy will culminate with a citywide "Medieval Science Fair" where residents can compete for prizes by contributing inventive theories on health, healing, transportation, housing, and anything creative they can come up.

"We want some real creativity," stated a Berkeley City Hall staff member tasked with organizing the unusual event. "It's based on ordinary science fairs, but we're hoping that enabling people to disassociate from the constraints of science will unleash a wild fountain of innovation."

Critics argued that science itself is full of wild innovation, creativity, and intertwines with art, music and technological challenge but were dismissed by those who pointed out that abandoning sound health policy



BLOODLETTING IS COMING BACK in style assisted by the City of Berkeley's edgy new approach to science, which includes healing by riding scooters on the sidewalk.

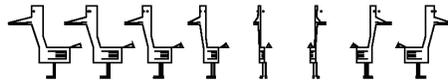
principles had really worked well in situating a cannabis dispensary and smoking lounge next to a school and public library.

"We're working on scooter next," confided another city hall staff member. "We're going to tell people they do your laundry."

* * * *



THE SNOW SOFA keeps you wide awake while you wait for the bus.



Bob began to reconsider his shortcut idea.

Best Parody at the Open Mike



(Sung to the tune of "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road")

is it a fire sale now
now that they've
locked the door
now that the
morning mix is gone
and summer's not
here any more
is local

SOME GUY sang this at a local open mike and we caught some of the words. We think his name was Luis Change and the PST would love to meet him.

programming history
is it better to
sell out now
consolidate all
the assets
and milk KPFA
just like a
CO - O - OW,
aaaaahh, ah, ah, ah,
so goodbye moral high road
let the others try to read Howl
is it about the election
I want out of it now
back to the days when we all stood up
for people's radio...
is it true radio's future lies
beyond the moral high road, ah...

who will they censor now
is there a list to check
who stepped out of line and who is
going to get it in the neck

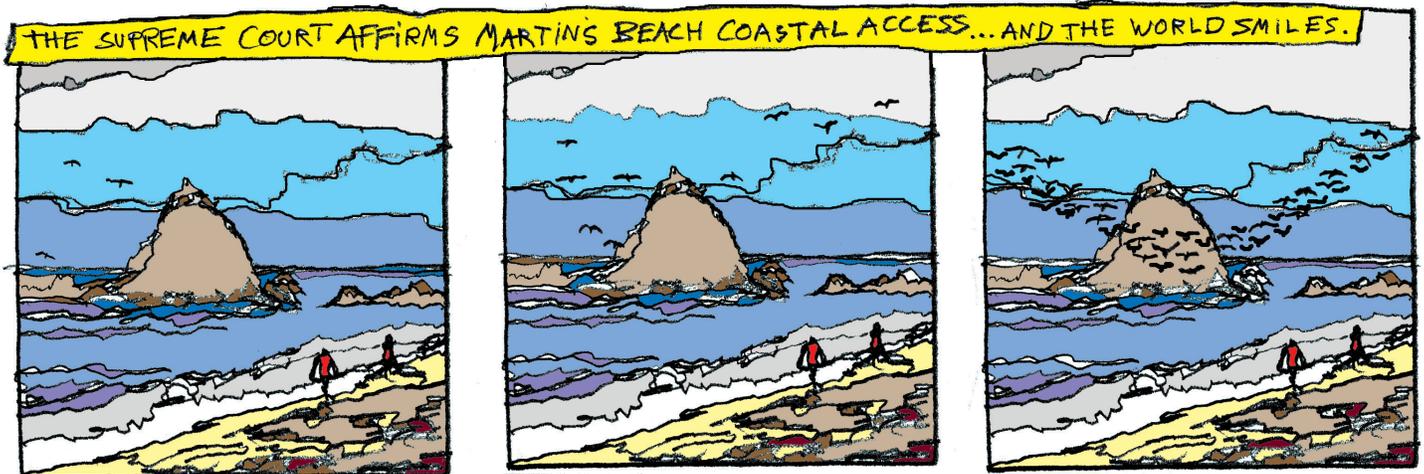
maybe they'll get a replacement
or maybe a national feed
who's going to get that letter that says
thanks but your service is no longer
NEED - ED... ah...ah...

so goodbye moral high road
let the others try to read Howl
is this about the election
I want out of it now
back to the days when we stood up
for homegrown radio...
is it true radio's future lies
beyond the moral high road, ah...

* * * *

We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



"Big People" Sculpture Demands Move to Empty BART Plaza

By Jack DeGame



THE BIG PEOPLE have offered to live up the dead new BART plaza which nobody goes near.

at attracting attention, and boy do they need something up there."

One city hall staffer admitted that without expensive "programed events" people do seem to avoid the plaza entirely.

"We feel kind of stupid programming events that the public has no interest in," the staffer confessed. "But that's the plan. Anything to avoid any public spontaneity."

* * * * *

"It's just so dead up there," stated one of the Big People in the sculpture over the pedestrian crossing bridge at the foot of University Avenue in Berkeley. "We are really good

Berkeley City Council Goes Back in Time: Brings Smoking Back Indoors

By Neil N. Pray

"We put the public health voice on the back burner a long time ago," acknowledged Mayor Jesse Arreguin after the council voted to allow smoking indoors at marijuana dispensaries. "Smoking is now. Smoking is the new black."

"We ditched the "no smoking" signage and put out ashtrays in our smokefree commercial zones," acknowledged the Berkeley City Manager. "Dispensaries have more money than God and we love how they take some of the burden off us from whining nonprofits."

"Smoking indoors has always been more convenient for smokers," agreed Dr. Frank Lucido, who testified for indoor smoking at the council meeting. "I know Berkeley Patients Group's new location is too close to the public library and the school, but the school and the library can just move."

The neighbors who watched three shootings deaths occur within half a block of the previous dispensary were bewildered.

"We would have loved a shoe store, or

another hardware store after losing our last one. The previous dispensary's "culture" has made it hard on our neighborhood."

"We're going to clean that corner up," stated a spokesperson for Berkeley Patients Group who admitted the idea only came to them *after* securing a quick, quiet permit without notifying the neighbors. "Berkeley's smokefree commercial zones will now have a whole new flavor."

* * * * *

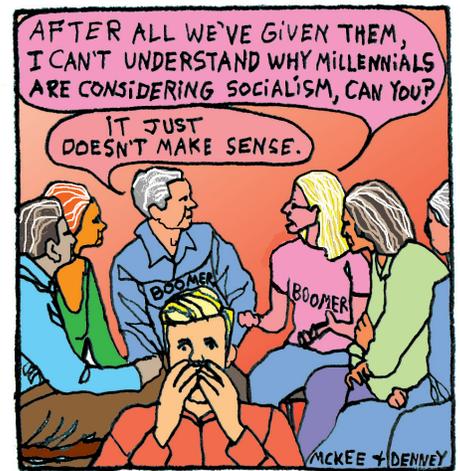
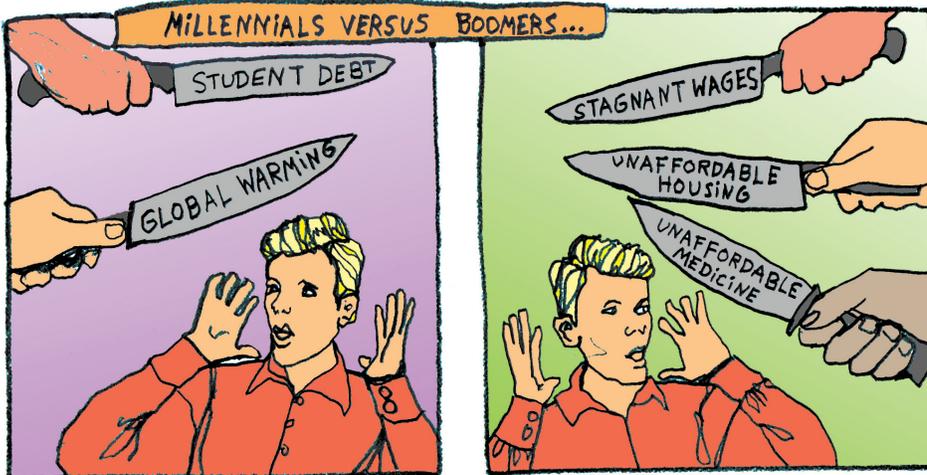
In Our Next PST Issue:
Exotic Drunken Needlepoint
with Celebrities!



THE BERKELEY PATIENTS GROUP DISPENSARY will be having great parties in their new smoking lounge like this cool contest.

I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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*Othello

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.