

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

February 2025

the field-tested, versatile issue...



Pepper Spray Times



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

"...be as a planetary plague..."

Vol. XXV No. 2

Americans Excited to Annex Canada



THIS CANADIAN MOOSE IS AMENABLE to becoming an American or the next Prime Minister of Canada or hey why not both.

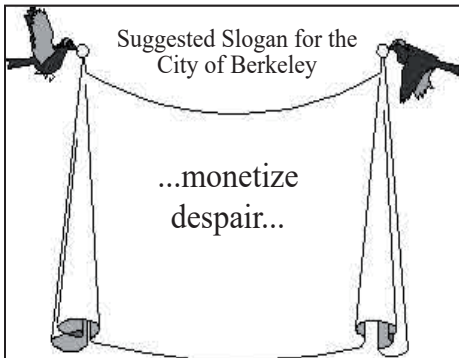
By Adam Boyes

Returning president Donald Trump is eager to find a 51st state, suggesting Greenland, the Panama Canal, Mexico and our neighbor to the north, Canada, whose Prime Minister just stepped down and whose



FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA JUSTIN TRUDEAU delivered "transformational progress" for Canadians, such as \$10-a-day child care, dental care and a national climate plan which apparently has annoyed the shit out of just about everybody.

hockey teams acknowledge that Americans are finally getting the hang of the game.



Co-president or perhaps general chief of staff Elon Musk recently chimed in that "America should liberate the people of Britain from their tyrannical government," adding to the confusion about an otherwise nationalist, isolationist administration under Trump.

"On January 20th, as one of my many first Executive Orders, I will sign all necessary documents to charge Mexico and Canada a 25% Tariff on ALL products coming into the United States and its ridiculous Open Borders," Trump stated. "This Tariff will remain in effect until such time as Drugs, in particular Fentanyl, and all Illegal Aliens stop this Invasion of our Country!"

Trump stated further that if Mexico, Canada, Panama and Greenland failed to comply with annexation he would be forced



ESCAPING TRUMP BY RUNNING off to Mexico or Canada might just have gotten a little complicated.

eracy is left.

"We had hoped to escape to Canada or Mexico," whispered high school instructor Wanda Ringaround. "Now we're not sure what to do."

Elementary school teacher Winona Spree admitted she'd spent holiday nights trying to catch the attention of the overhead drones zooming by, hoping to hitch a ride to a spare planet since Trump's reach appears to be global.

"It's time to think big," she nodded vigorously. "It's what I tell my students."

All three main Canadian opposition parties have said they plan to knock out former Prime Minister Trudeau's Liberal Party in a no-confidence vote when Parliament resumes, so a spring election after the Liberals pick a new leader was almost assured.

Incoming president Donald Trump has not ruled out simply becoming prime minister of Canada or King of England, according to insiders, but is weighing the matter seriously considering the potential impacts predicted on his golf schedule.

* * * * *

New Jersey Discovers Sky Is Full of Shit



DRONES! PLANES! BIRDS! UNEXPLAINED FLOATING OBJECTS DELIGHTED and terrified first New Jersey and then the nation in a welcome distraction from the election.

By Annette A. Sweater

"It had to be from another planet," stated the Picatinny Arsenal contractor whose report started a national panic. "It was a bright light rising up from the treeline."

"It was his duty to report it," affirmed the contractor's Arsenal supervisor, Dr. Artie Fishel, who confirmed the first sighting. "The public should be vigilant but don't panic but take photographs but don't pay attention to rumors but report everything."

The skies of New Jersey were suddenly reported as full of hovering, blinking, skulking aerial objects. The FBI reported over 5,000 tips, the internet suddenly bubbled with millions of views of mysterious objects, and the story finally knocked election mea culpas off the front page.

Experts pooh-poothed the idea that extraterrestrials or foreign governments were invading New Jersey, pointing out that home-grown American nutcases were generally at the foot of national mischief and well represented in congress.

"We have examined a representative ratio of these sightings," stated Dr. Toby Continued of the Institute for Unidentified Stuff in the Sky, "and we've concluded that a lot of these people hadn't actually looked up at night sky in years."

"Foreshortening and aerial flight patterns explain a lot of these allegedly strange light movements," agreed Dr. Fishel. "But it's also true that screen addicts find the actual night sky pretty bewildering."

* * * * *

ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, President Trump is messing with our water supply and environmental protections. What should we do now.

Dear reader, become a farmer. Fry up some Delta smelt for dinner. And put on some Kid Rock.

Dear Lena, wasn't it an accident that the Zoom-only public meeting announcement postcard to promote the placement of an unsupervised, stand-alone restroom facility at the corner of University and San Pablo stated that the meeting was on a Thursday instead of the correct day? I mean, everybody is kind of mixed up right now.

Dear reader, yes.of course. And pigs fly.

Dear Lena, the Freight and Salvage fired a bunch of people and a whole bunch more walked out. What's it all about?

Dear reader, I call it fun with folk music. The new Freight leadership is a crafty bunch of innovators trying to put some pop in the game. Nothing wakes up a noodling guitar player wandering off into another reprise of an old hat bridge like getting fired. The leadership knows that there's another 5, 639 folk singers lined up behind that guy.

Dear Lena, I don't get why they're going after women and transgender people in the military. I thought it was old news that the military can't make recruitment quotas without them and that their inclusion improved efficiency and morale.

Dear reader, all true. But hey, check out the headlines. The headline-grabbing factor is highly prized in this administration. And the media, old and new, is all too willing to do its part.

Dear Lena, are we going to make it?

Dear reader, no. So get your guitar out and hit that bridge again.

Ask Lena about fun with folk music at cdenny@igc.org.



Important Information for Americans About Foreign Canadian Stuff

Next month: the Secret of Boutine

By Christine DeWave

1. CAPITALIZATION

Canadians put the letter "u" in a lot of words for no discernable reason just to see if anyone is paying attention. If you see a pointless "u" in a word remove it right away before you are deported.

2. THE METRIC SYSTEM

This system is familiar to most Americans as one of the methods used by schoolteachers to fighten the bad kids in elementary school. The terror of having to learn an entirely new system of measurement based on multiples and divisions of ten seems really fun to one person in a thousand in the average population because they love puzzles and games and are never bored because they love countin the leaves on a tree, etc.

3. THE CELCIUS SYSTEM

The Canadian system for measuring temperature is called Celcius, as opposed to the traditional American system called Fahrenheit. To convert Fahrenheit to Celsius, subtract 32 from the Fahrenheit temperature, then multiply by 5 and divide by 9; the formula is: $^{\circ}\text{C} = (^{\circ}\text{F} - 32) \times (5/9)$ for those of you who have read this far. For the rest of you, admit it; you don't care that much how hot or cold it is. The method we use is to look at the dog. If the dog is panting, it is hot. If the dog is shivering, it is cold.

Breaking News: Nothing Matters

By Arnie Sarnocken

One of the several dozens of President Trump's recent executive orders states plainly that there is no particular need to prioritize anymore since by executive order nothing matters.

"Relieved, I suppose," whispered one shell-shocked Independent voter. "I've been alternating between watching the news and watching the waves."

"It's hit me as kind of a comfort," stated a Republican voter. "I had no idea what he would do once he was back in office, but as long as nothing matters I guess I'm good."

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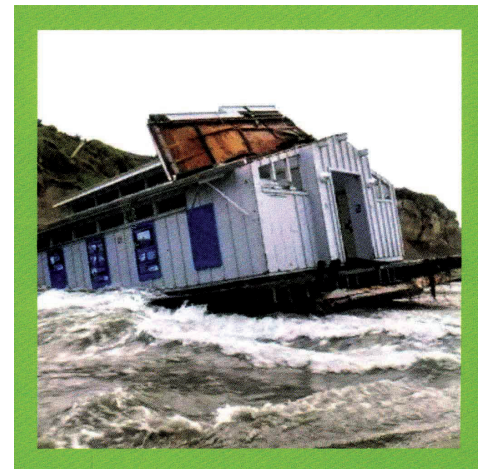
4. CD PRICING

CDs pricing is different in Canada; new releases are much less expensive than in the United States, and get more valuable over time. The opposite is true in the United States. It has something to do with hockey.

5. HEALTH CARE

While most Americans are losing the battle with insurance reimbursement forms and hidden fees for health care services, Canadians just make an appointment and get health care services without getting a bill. This, along with the use of sugar instead of corn syrup in soda, explains the much lower rate of mass shootings in Canada.

* * * * *



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Government by Sharpie; a Canadian Neighbor's Message

By Bob Bossin

A note from renowned Canadian folksinger, Bob Bossin, with a ray of hope. Editor, Grace Underpressure

Friends,

I am reluctant to send this message. It is, God help me, on behalf of the Liberals. I know, I know. But there is the briefest of windows to do something both positive and effective. Please hear me out.

I am joining the Liberal Party of Canada. I promise, the marriage will be quickly annulled. But I want to vote for Mark Carney. I urge you to consider doing this too, but you have to consider fast! We only have until 5 PM EST Monday.

Lest you think this is drug-induced, I assure you that I join knowing that the Liberals will go on governing for the rich; that their efforts to fight climate change will remain tepid; that they will continue to silently condone genocide in Gaza. And I do it knowing that Carney's benign instincts will undoubtedly be dulled by "political reality."

But for all that, I believe supporting Mark Carney's bid to lead the Libs is worth it. Why?

* He understands that climate change is real, he doesn't just pretend to. He knows it means more towns burning down, more killer storms and floods. Within his "free market" bias, he does urge effective actions. (I've been reading his book "Values".)

* Who knows what white economic waters

Canada and the world are entering? Carney is far and away the most knowledgeable and experienced helmsman on offer.

* Christia Freeland, the other leading candidate, has been a serious obstacle to action on climate change, insisting that LNG is a transitional energy source. Nonsense, CF, it's a carbon-emitting fossil fuel.

* Lastly, Canadians' critical faculties might not yet be so diminished that we are unable to distinguish between Pierre Poilievre's three-word solutions, and Carney's genuine experience and knowledge. OK, I admit it's a long shot.

But what the hell, a long shot is still a shot. So I am relinquishing my Green Party membership - you can only belong to one federal party at a time. Sorry, Elizabeth May, but I hope you understand. It is only for now.

Please consider joining me. You can register here <https://liberal.ca/register/> but it must be before 5 pm Eastern on Monday, January 27.

My old friend Peter Lebensold likes to say, "If you wrestle with pigs, you might win, you might lose, but you are going to get dirty." Fair enough, but here is a chance to actually do something that could have a positive effect, even if it means, however briefly, standing shoulder-to-shoulder with Jonathan Wilkinson.

Bob Bossin

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Olympic Sweeping Roars Through Town

Lively Winter Games Spark Interest in Competition



OLYMPIC PEOPLE SWEEPING is being proposed as a new Olympic sport with San Francisco and Berkeley in steep competition.

By Luciu Place

"It's all about staying ahead of the timing," stated one young man huddled under a blanket with his dog curled up around his feet for warmth. "Thirty degrees doesn't change the city's unwillingness to unlock the door of any of these empty new buildings with bathrooms, showers, plenty of space to roll out. But they'll usually only sweep one area at once."

The residential and commercial districts nearby Berkeley's energetic winter sweeps are now saturated with an overflow of bewildered, freezing Berkeley unhoused citizens watching the awesome show of force by Public Works as they fulfill the Supreme Court's permitted sweeps without any requirement to provide shelter.

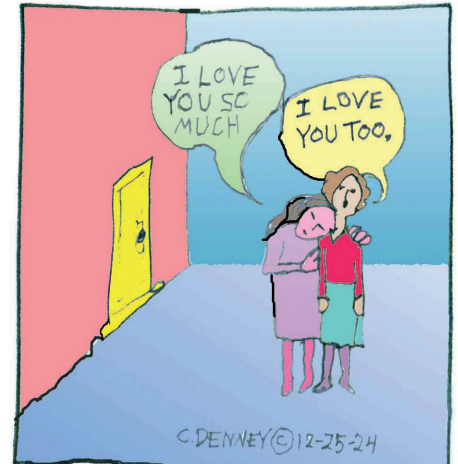
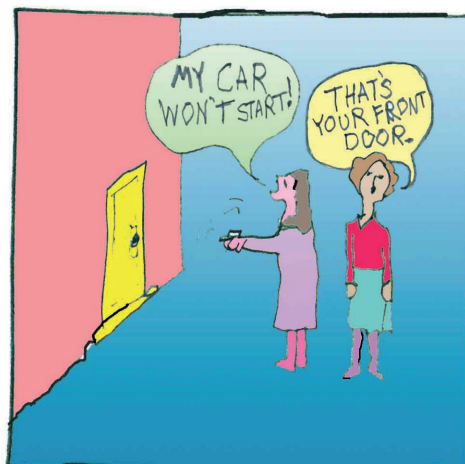
"61% had no advance warning, 68% had their belongings thrown away, 82% were offered no services, and of those who were offered services 77% were unsuccessful (e.g., to a shelter bed that didn't exist)," stated one advocacy group worker. "Berkeley, in the meantime, just patted itself on the back for its sanctuary city policy."

"It's a puzzle," shrugged one freezing camper. "But it sure explains Fox News."

* * * * *

We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



UNCENSORED

Zuckerberg Embraces the Overwhelming Popularity of Hate

UNCENSORED

"Fact You!"

By Mark Mayawerds

Fact-checking is out at the company formerly known as Facebook while highly paid international consultants convene for yet another name change.

"We'd like to move from "Meta" to something with more pop," stated one consultant in a stately suit. "Maybe like Poop. Our focus groups say Poop has pop."

Facebook, sometimes known as Meta, defended its new mission to abstain from any fact-checking on its website.

"People may be terrible at figuring out what the facts are," stated Silicon Valley observer for the San Jose venture capital group Hoosier Daddy, "but it's pretty clear that Facebook is even worse."

"We're moving from content moderation to content maximization," explained CEO Mark Zuckerberg, whose internet success with Facebook is now far behind platforms which casually embrace hate and bigotry."

"Hate and bigotry are the new black,"

Zuckerberg pointed out flanked by focus groups nodding vigorously. "Racism is the new name of the the game."

Zuckerberg's original motto was "move fast and break things" and he acknowledges that his initial "Facebook" creation was dedicated to rating women's looks.

In addition, Zuckerberg admits that his company is ideologically confused. "Meta", the interim holding pattern he thought his brand could hide behind until he could find something else catchy enough to coattail into another decade of profitability, just isn't moving the needle.

"I'm thinking now that taking a brave stand for profits might be enough if I can talk enough hospitals into putting my name up there," he stated as he kept picking at the logos on his shoes. "But, I wouldn't put my name on a steak. At least not yet."

"It's altogether different," stated highly paid consultants on how his brand could

eventually evolve into something palatable and non-Trumplike with enough passage of time and focus groups. "We can re-create his image for the following generation if we can just distract or confuse enough of the current generation until the next generation is born and sees it all the way we see those big records we don't have time to listen to. With this hate factor this thing could work."



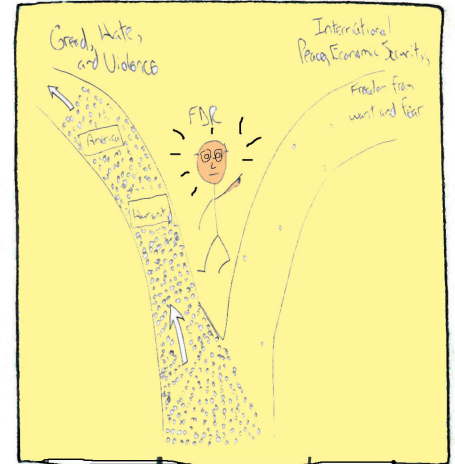
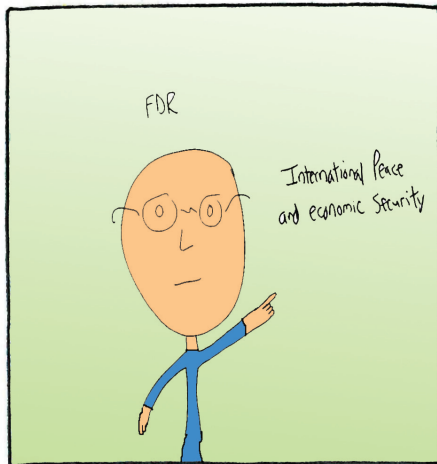
TRUTH IS NOT ONLY OVERRATED, it just doesn't rake in the change that hate, misogyny and bigotry does.

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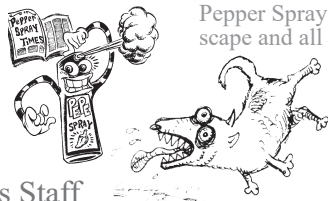
Next Issue: laughing at fact-checkers with celebrities!

I Want My Present Now

by Erent McKee



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* Timon of Athens