

the
priva-
tized
issue...



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

January 2021

Pepper Spray Times



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

"...come we to full points here? and are etceteras nothings?..."

Vol. XXII No. 1

Local Turkeys Teaching Poorly Distanced Civil Disobedience



IF YOU FIND TURKEYS ALL OVER your front sidewalk you should probably just be patient and wait your turn.

By Lotta Gall

Local turkeys objected to high-profile criticism of their movements through the East Bay being described as blocking traffic or disrupting soccer games.

"These are civil disobedience exercises," explained one turkey. "We're gearing up for serious action in 2021."

But another turkey disagreed.

"That's what Frank always says," sighed Edith Turkey shepherding others through a crowded intersection. "He loves saying that. But we're just taking a walk and it's really difficult to get everybody across the street with all this noise and flashing lights. We have no training for this."

Parents nationwide agreed.

"Most city planners aren't really thinking about small children and parents with strollers and diaper bags," stated Mindy Thickovitt wrestling with her yoga equipment in a local park while her children played nearby. "If the lights were honestly geared for pedestrian use the traffic would



THESE TURKEYS ARE NOT TRYING to block anybody's car; if you speak turkey you'd know they're having an extended albeit ill-informed conversation about which way it is to the nearest cornfield.



TURKEYS CLAIM HUMANS' TENDENCY to view them as obstructions is inversely proportional to the lack of parks and open space in one's town.

be backed up past Fresno."

Others claimed that the rafter presence was a useful tool to create awareness of the dearth of open space in Berkeley.

"Imbalance makes its statements in just such ways," commented Osgood Allyear waiting patiently in his truck for a rafter to pass. "If we had honored the city's plan-



THIS RAFTER IS NOT BLOCKING the road. They're just enjoying the spectacular view.

ning documents' ratio of people to parks we could honor the necessary pandemic distance and turkey rafter distance with no problem. I try, but I just don't understand what the local city governments' hostility to parks is all about."

"I think I can help with that," offered a turkey passing by. "Parks are tough to monetize."

"He's got something there," added another member of the rafter. "If it doesn't make money it's considered to have no value."

"Kind of like us," added yet another turkey. "Unless you lay a side bet on how long it'll take for us to clear the intersection."

* * * * *



BAD PRESIDENTS ABOUND in American history and their rankings fluctuate wildly.

Trump Achieves Designation "Worst President in History"

"Bar is actually pretty high," claim historians

By Ty Deribbon

"He had some competition," agreed one of a wandering rafter of historians giving their best estimation of which presidents were in



FORMER PRESIDENTS have to worry about their rankings even after they die.

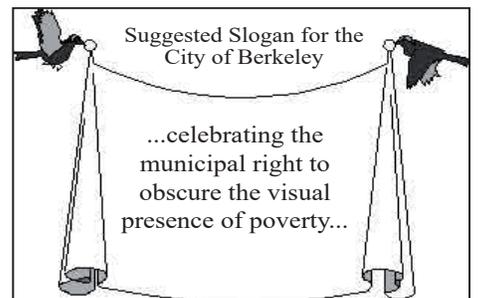
fact the worst American presidents in history but agreeing on President Trump's topping the list.

"Trump's ratings were off the charts, but

Andrew Johnson, James Buchanan, and Warren G. Harding usually top the rankings."

"These rankings vary wildly from administration to administration," noted historian Thalia Goagain ushering several confused historians through the intersection of San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan while furious cars honked their horns. "The present has its own power, and often takes decades to fold comfortably into the past."

* * * * *



Suggested Slogan for the City of Berkeley

...celebrating the municipal right to obscure the visual presence of poverty...

ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, I criticized Ken Burns' documentary on country music and now none of the friends I thought I had will talk to me. It seemed a little white supremacist to me. Am I the only one?

Dear reader, yes. Most people rhapsodize over all his documentaries including that one, and have no idea what you mean when you try to talk about cultural origins. I bet you never got invited back to the parties because you are so tedious.

Dear Lena, will I survive?

Dear reader, no. I feel for your children. You could self-flagellate for years, but you will always be known as the one who disparaged Ken Burns and made, understandably, to rue the day.

Dear Lena, is this weird year in sports really going to count? It just doesn't seem right.

Dear reader, we agree, here in the Pepper Spray Times newsroom, but it is difficult, given the circumstances, to care. Nothing illustrates the irrelevance of this year's games so well as the homerun ball that sits untouched on the bleacher steps.

Dear Lena, are we turning the corner or are we seeing the light at the end of the tunnel? I can't figure out how we can do both unless we straighten out the tunnel if it turns a corner. I keep hearing one thing and then the other thing. This is driving me insane.

Dear reader, you make an excellent point. We could simply light the entire length of the tunnel and be done with it. Or avoid the tunnel entirely.

Dear Lena, are you wearing a mask? I can't figure out which mask to wear and I don't want to send the wrong message.

Dear reader, my entire face has always been a mask.

Ask Lena about hot muffins with marmalade at cdenney@igc.org.



SANTA COOPERATED WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN THE TENT SWEEPS which were the highlight of the city's festive celebrations of the season of giving.

Holiday Park Evictions in Santa Cruz

Festive Event Interrupted by U.S. District Court

By Thomas Wasting

Santa Cruz city manager Martin Bernal and Director of Parks and Recreation Tony Elliot agreed that their attempted Christmas tent sweep interrupted by a one-week restraining order issued by U.S. District Court of Northern California Judge Susan van Keulen was their very best sweep in a difficult year of sweeps.

"It really helped us all come together," stated Santa Cruz Chief of Police Andy Mills. "The camaraderie is extraordinary among city staff and the police force."

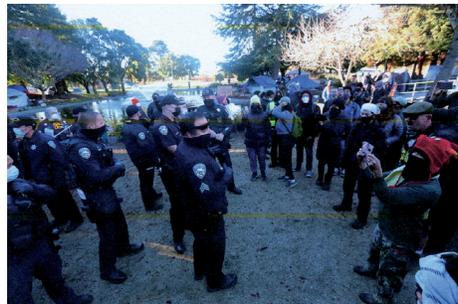
"We do have that in common," commented Alicia Kuhl, president of the Santa Cruz Homeless Union and part of the large protest. "The community concerned about the

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommended "to not clear encampments unless individual housing units are available" during the pandemic, placing an undue burden on suffering cities like Santa Cruz and Berkeley whose citizens are struggling to find places to wear their new high-end holiday finery and clink a new year's glass of expensive Hennessy Paradis.

"It's an extreme crisis for the well-off," acknowledged Director Elliot. "They know that dispersing the tent cities increases the risk of spreading COVID exposure within the wider community. But come on. So does getting together to drink cognac. There are some risks you're just willing to take to toast the holidays with people who recognize and appreciate the worth of sable, mink, and chinchilla."

"What would the holidays be without camaraderie," affirmed Santa Cruz spokesperson Elizabeth Smith. "Not to mention which this traditional exercise really gets your blood going."

* * * * *



HUNDREDS OF PROTESTERS blocked the festive Santa Cruz Christmas sweeps and clearly just hate these traditional holiday celebrations.

arbitrary displacement of people without housing during a pandemic are fired up."

"Doing these sweeps with an executive order was genius," pointed out Bernal. "It shielded the politicians who are trying their darndest to duck responsibility, and enabled the police chief who just loves this stuff."

"I do love being on the news," acknowledged Chief Mills, who responded, when asked where people in tents were supposed to go, by saying "I'm not sure. They're going to have to figure it out."



Trump Advisor Finds New Job



WHAT IS THE PROBLEM since this looks pretty comfortable.

By Don Tread

With the end of the Trump Administration, current staffers will also move on. Are they employable? Recent main stream media reporting perseverates about the difficulty the Trump staffers may have in gaining employment after serving in the Trump Administration. It usually involves some reference to the lingering effect of the "Trump stench", the odor emanating from the willing participants, in what historians are already calling the worst presidency in recent memory.

As another proof of just how wrong this main stream media "fake news" reporting is, anonymous sources are saying that Trump Senior Advisor Stephen Miller has already landed a new job.

Miller is best known for his leadership



MOST PARENT AGREE THAT while harsh, putting kids in cages can really cut down on skyrocketing babysitting costs.

role in anti-immigrant policies, e.g. Muslim ban, child separation and children-in-cages policies. Many people define these actions as potentially criminal and/or to be likely human rights abuses.

Mr. Miller's new role is reported to be Geschäftsführer (CEO) of the Joseph Goebbels Foundation, based in Asuncion, Paraguay. Foundation spokeswoman, Eyma Phascist comments that they considered themselves very fortunate to have found a candidate with the qualifications of Mr. Miller, who while working in the Trump administration was able to put in practice many of the ideals of Dr. Goebbels. The



THEY LOOK LIKE TWINS BUT Trump advisor Stephen Miller insists that he is no relation to Dr. Goebbels and that in fact he came naturally by his anti-immigrant philosophy despite being descended from immigrants.

fact that he also bears a striking physical resemblance is an added bonus.

It is reported that Mr. Miller is pleased to be able to continue working in his specialized areas of authoritarian bigotry and xenophobia.

Many like-minded individuals in Republican Party leadership and right-wing media have sent congratulatory messages to Mr. Miller in landing such a prestigious job, where he can continue his important work.

Other Washington insiders have commented that they were surprised Miller accepted the position, given that Paraguay has an extradition agreement with the USA. The International Criminal Court (ICC) in Den Haag has refused to make any direct comment, but did say that Paraguay, unlike the USA, has agreed to ICC jurisdiction.

* * * * *



THE ZOMBIE VOTE ALONE probably made all the difference in the 2020 election.

Dead People Admit They Voted

By Yolanda DeWash

Dead people admitted they voted in droves in the November 2020 election, providing much-needed foundation for suspicions that the contest needed to be re-done some time in the spring when people are past their new year's hangovers, have found the cat in the wrapping paper, and have finally taken down their Christmas lights.

"I would love to vote again," stated Wyatt Curtis E. Telephone eagerly. "There were a couple of judgeships I wasn't too sure about so I just picked the best name."

"I did it on a dare," stated recently deceased Zbignew Thang. "Heaven is okay, but it's not very exciting, and some of us guys got drunk and well, we just decided to vote."



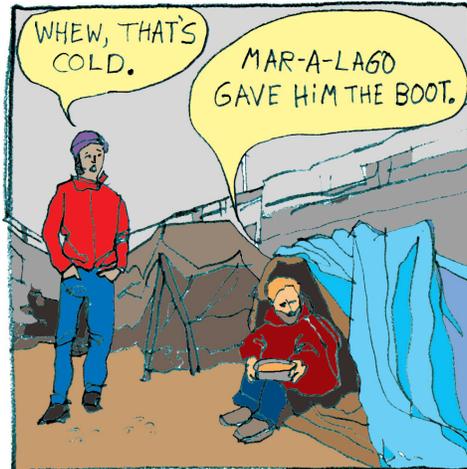
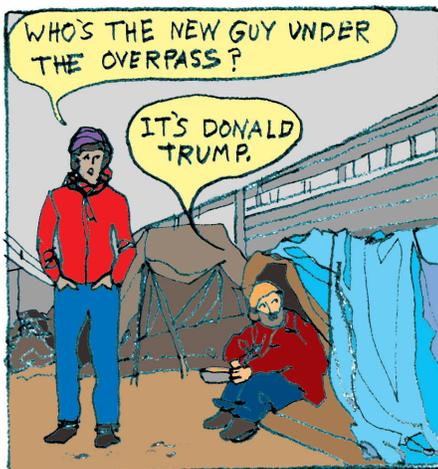
THIS ENTIRE DEAD family managed to vote together during their own funeral.

"It wasn't that hard," stated Winona Spree who voted shortly after her fatal accident on a ski lift. "Thanks to the pandemic there was a lot of confusion at the polls. Come to think of it, I'm not sure whether I voted or bought a lottery ticket."

* * * * *

We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



Argentina Legalizes Abortion - Pope, Fetuses Take It Personally, Plan Revenge in Hell



HUGE CROWDS MARCHED on the Congress building in Buenos Aires demanding successfully the decriminalisation of abortion and pissing off the pope.

By Werther Waitingold

“You don’t want this guy mad at you,” whispered one parishioner after watching Pope Francis slap away the clinging hand of an adoring fan during a rally. “He’s a moody kind of fellow.”

Religious and political experts agreed that he would be moodier still after realizing that the recent vote to decriminalize abortion in his home country, Argentina, had implications for all the other countries

struggling with the issue pitting the rights of fetuses against the rights of women who inexplicably wanted full control of their own bodies and complete privacy regarding their personal medical conditions and decision making.



THIS LADY just wouldn’t let the pope go and what a mistake.

“It’s going to be neck and neck,” commented one religious studies expert who noted



THIS SLAP is, in point of fact, that fetuses considered infallible. tended not to vote at all, unlike women, whose votes are renowned to be among the most reliable. “Fetuses are terribly unreliable at



POPE FRANCIS MAY BE super religious but it’s pretty weird that he reacted to the legalization of abortion by saying that pregnant women should “learn to accept their weaknesses.”

messaging, and tend to be on such specific personal schedules that they deliberately ignore sudden, unique media opportunities to drive a narrative.”

Experts agreed that the Pope was particularly crabby that the legalization of abortion took place in Argentina, his home country.

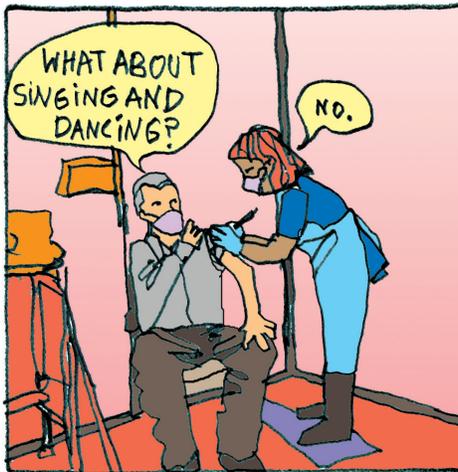
“He takes it personally,” confessed a Vatican insider. “He feel betrayed, and he doesn’t know who to slap this time.”

“Watch your step around him,” agreed another insider. “He walks softly, but carries a big papal ferula.”

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Next Issue: refusing vaccines with celebrities!

I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



From:
Pepper Spray Times
1970 San Pablo Ave. #4
Berkeley, CA 94702
cdenny@igc.org
www.caroldenney.com



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