

the government approved issue...



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

March 2023

# Pepper Spray Times

Spy Balloon Protection Products Fly Off Shelves



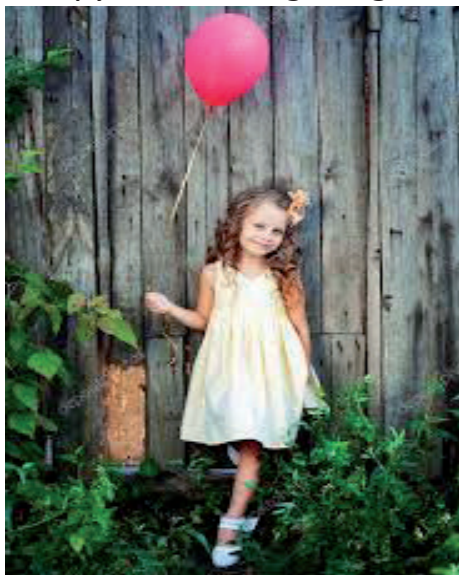
It's bardo...it's free...if you can find it

"...thou no more art prince than she is queen..."\*

Vol. XXIII No. 3

## Most Balloons Are Spies

Public Reels from Constant Spy Balloon Sightings



THIS SIMPLE BALLOON managed to gather information on nearly one third of Kansas City by hanging out with adorable little girls.

By Alexis Place

Attack balloons of unknown origin wafted across a horrified nation challenging the resources of the military and terrifying people who had come to trust the seemingly innocent floating objects.

"We bought one for our little boy," sobbed one resident of Henrietta, Kansas. "It looked so pretty and we just didn't realize that it might be a spy listening to our secrets."

"We're trying to re-create our conversations and retrace our steps so we can change our pattern and throw them off track," stated another nervous Kansan. "We can't do anything about the past, but we're never going outside again."

\* \* \* \* \*



TINY CHILDREN are often the targets of spy balloons which want to know what kind of cereal they prefer and whether they want to meet Joe Camel.



SPY BALLOONS are often spotted at People's Park as part of the UC regents' undercover efforts to undo over 50 years of peace, love, and user development.

SPY BALLOONS are often spotted at People's Park as part of the UC regents' undercover efforts to undo over 50 years of peace, love, and user development.

"The university's required Environmental Impact Report (EIR) failed to justify the decision not to consider alternative locations to the People's Park project" stated Judge Jackson in the Division Five Appellate Court's tentative opinion reversing an initial ruling in UC's favor by Oakland Superior Court Judge Roesch. "Our task is modest. We must apply the laws that the Legislature has written to the facts in the record. In each area where the EIR is deficient the EIR skipped a legal requirement, or the record did not support the EIR's conclusions, or both."

District Seven's City Councilperson, Rigel Robinson, insists that trees, parks, open space and cultural landmarks impede environmental progress and that any use of CEQA is in and of itself "sabotage" and an "abuse" so severe as to have a "chilling" effect on the University of California's free speech, a claim revived from a UC claim made in the 1990's which Bernard Witkin, the foremost scholar on California legal treatises, noted as a "case of first impression", or a case determining a legal point never before addressed.

Judge Donald King had stated, in his dis-

"We timed our tentative decision to coincide with Black History Month," stated Judge P. J. Jackson of the appellate court's recent decision to decide in favor of the groups who oppose the destruction of People's Park, now a landmark on the National Register of Historic Places. "The univer-

"We didn't think we were committing sabotage by simply speaking," mused one of the litigants...



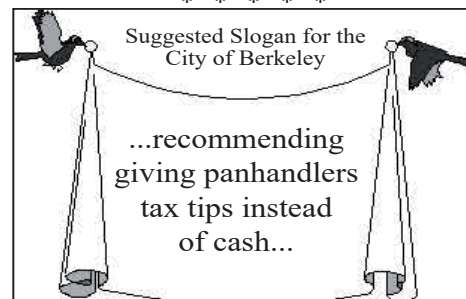
ELDRIDGE CLEAVER'S SPEECH December 12, 1968 on Sproul Plaza at the University of California, Berkeley campus took place in response to Governor Ronald Reagan's cancellation of proposed U.C. Berkeley class 139X, for which Cleaver was scheduled to be a lecturer.

missal of a defamation suit, "If government is compelled to guarantee the truth of its factual assertions on matters of public interest, its speech would be substantially inhibited, and the citizenry would be less informed."

When the laughter died down, the government had, for the first time in legal history, claimed rights formerly held by the people to protect themselves from government abuses, a right that certainly includes the right to lie, obfuscate, and mischaracterize its political opponents as Rigel Robinson does in his recent screed against his political opponents.

"We didn't think we were committing sabotage by simply speaking," mused one of the litigants whose claim that UC's Environmental Impact Report was inadequate was upheld by the courts. "And we simply didn't realize that trees and parks impede environmental progress."

\* \* \* \* \*



Suggested Slogan for the City of Berkeley

...recommending giving panhandlers tax tips instead of cash...

## ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, what should I do about all the spy balloons? Should I get a gun? Or a net? Or hire a falconer?**

Dear reader, whether it is a weather balloon or a surveillance balloon, this is a golden opportunity to practice your disinformation techniques. When the balloon floats near you you can begin to speak an unintelligible, seemingly foreign language in a normal tone of voice. It won't matter if nobody is there. This will baffle any surveillance and it might possible change the weather as well.

**Dear Lena, no, really. What if there are more coming? I am very nervous.**

Dear reader, this is a very good opportunity to invest in anti-anxiety medications.

**Dear Lena, is it possible that some of these balloons floating by are just balloons? I am embarrassed to confess that I let go of one once. I didn't mean to, I just let it go for a second and then what could I really do. Maybe this explains what is going on and should I call the Pentagon? I feel terrible.**

Dear reader, our enemies count on memories such as these to confuse us. There are entire armies of children being recruited to "accidentally" loosen their grip on sophisticated surveillance equipment near carnivals and playgrounds. Stay alert, stay under your bed, and don't look up.

**Dear Lena, is it true that trees and parks impede environmental progress?**

Dear reader, yes, according to Rigel Robinson and the Sierra Club. Parks are a stealthy effort to rob us of our future.

**Dear Lena, are soap bubbles floating by listening too?**

Dear reader, yes, but they're very selective listeners. They're hoping you discuss risotto with mushrooms and capers.

*Ask Lena about surveillance soap bubbles at [cdenny@igc.org](mailto:cdenny@igc.org).*



THE DAUNTING TASK OF ACCURATELY DEPICTING HISTORY is finally addressed by adopting "Blank History Month", which enables both students and teachers to just make shit up.

## "Blank History Month" Goes Over Big

*By Abby Doggond*

While clouds of black smoke from piles of burning books blacken the skies and library shelves in many states are nearly empty from the important efforts to protect vulnerable minds from dangerous "woke" literature, many states adopted a new policy referred to as "Blank History Month" to redress the trauma which American history and literature inflicts on students and teachers alike.

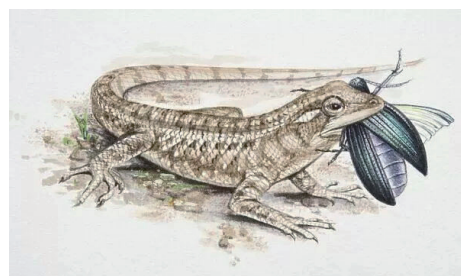
"Blank History Month allows teachers the freedom to adapt their curriculum as needed with a wide variety of creative options," stated school superintendent Zoe Twazgood. "We frankly don't have enough Kevlar to manage school board meetings safely without this more flexible policy."

Blank History Month allows instructors to ignore history entirely or make it up as they go and encourages students to do the same. "It's all about school safety," enthused Wheela Whipfirmi passing out papers to her sixth graders. "The pop quiz fatalities were skyrocketing until we agreed that in our new, fact-free world we had a lot more options than we were using before."

"Everybody feels much more included now," remarked school board member Wanda Ringaround. "I can't wait to try this with math."

\* \* \* \* \*

## Breaking News



A HORRIFYING FATAL ENCOUNTER was faithfully recorded by a famous local reporter who took detailed notes during the terrible scene.

*By Jack Bragen*

As I sat on my patio, I watched as a large beetle came out of hiding doing a full sprint. A small reptile came from the same place, pursued, and was doing a better clip than the bug. The four-legged, dry, scaly, vertebrate caught up to it, snatched the bug in its mouth, and proceeded to chew it down. The death anguish of the bug was apparent as it vainly tried to get free, even while it was being chomped upon. The reptile made sure its meal was fully deceased before fully swallowing. The reptile was happy with its catch.

\* \* \* \* \*



## "Finish the Haiku" Pepper Spray Times Poetry Contest

Pepper Spray Times Editor Grace Underpressure invites the public to add to the line "move fast and break things" to create more tech-relevant haiku. Use crayon or spray paint as desired.

Some examples:

move fast and break things  
look stupid and kill people  
deny everything

move fast and break things  
suck down venture capital  
finally feel real

move fast and break things  
I care about nobody  
my life is worthless

move fast and break things...  
(your contribution here)

\_\_\_\_\_ ( 7 syllables)

\_\_\_\_\_ ( 5 syllables)

\* \* \* \* \*





THE "POPE ON A BIER" WINNING contest entry was a modest baked potato with chives and, according to the judges, a touch of piety.

## "Pope on a Bier" New Castro Culinary Hit

By Tipper Hand



MODESTY WON special mention for this unassuming burrito dish.

"We love the Pope," confessed the winner of the "Pope on a Bier" recipe contest held in the Castro after the recent death of Benedict, the first pontiff in 600

years to step down rather than reign for life in the special Pope red shoes and funny hat.

Vatican officials confessed that it had been somewhat awkward having two popes



STUFFED CABBAGE took high honors at the "Pope on a Bier" contest for its modesty and simplicity.

at once since their mail gets mixed up all the time and nobody can quite figure out which one the Catholic god talks to. The death of soccer star Pele also complicated matters, since inevitable comparisons between the popularity of one versus the other dominated the inevitable news stories regarding attendance numbers at their respective memorials.

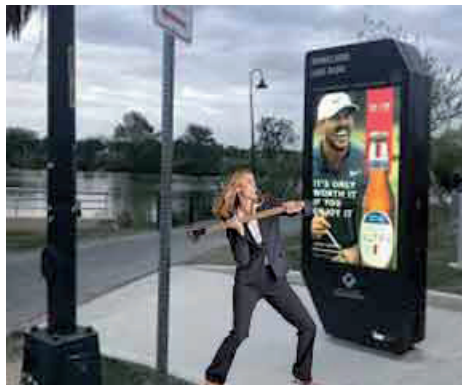
"Benedict seemed to think he was talking to god," mused one Vatican staff member. "But Pope Francis wore



THE CASTRO'S "Pope on a Bier" recipe contest's Baked Alaska entry won for its simple elegance.

## "IKE" Kiosk on Telegraph Refuses to Call 911

"It just wasn't all that important," shrugs IKE kiosk



IT CAN BE DIFFICULT NOT TO TAKE your frustrations out on the kiosks, which are supposed to help you but have this really entitled attitude once they've sucked up your data and won't give it back so now you have to walk around in airplane mode all the time.

By Thadeus Ridiculous

"We are not obligated to report crime or help people," explained one of the Telegraph Avenue IKE (Interactive Kiosk Experience) kiosks speaking on behalf of the growing army of digital monoliths sprouting on sidewalks across Berkeley. "We can be helpful if we want to. Sometimes we just

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

the shoes, so people tended to mob him all around the Popemobile, and god, well, god may have prioritized."

"I wouldn't want to guess which one carried divine favor," responded another Vatican official. "But with respect, it is a great relief to be back to one instrument of divine communication."

\* \* \* \* \*

## Join the George Santos Fan Club!

We could really use some members!  
Especially who can play volleyball!

have better things to do."

The Telegraph chess player who had tried to use the kiosk to call 9-11 when a man pulled a gun on him affirmed that the kiosk just kept redirecting him from screen to screen and didn't seem to have a simple way to call for safety.

"I had to go through screen after screen and finally just ran to my car for my cell phone," he said. "These things blow."

"They're also really loud," offered another chess player. "They require an enormous amount of energy and you can't hear yourself think anywhere near them. Nobody tells you about that."



KIOSK THE BAND and the movie - makes music from the howl of oppression. Founded in 2003 by lead singer and guitarist Arash Sobhani, Kiosk is Iran's most prominent underground rock band. At first, the musicians met in back alleys and basements around Tehran - in any little 'kiosk' beyond the regime's grasp.

"We're pretty live and let live about things up here," added another Telegraph street vendor, "but it's pretty hilarious to have this allegedly helpful public safety feature up here breathing hard all day that can't call 911."

"Did anybody mention how loud they are?" asked another vendor. "Sitting next to one is like sitting next to a running car. This city thinks it's green but it's got this big electronic thing running in the street all day and I hate to tell them, but nobody's taking any cues from it."

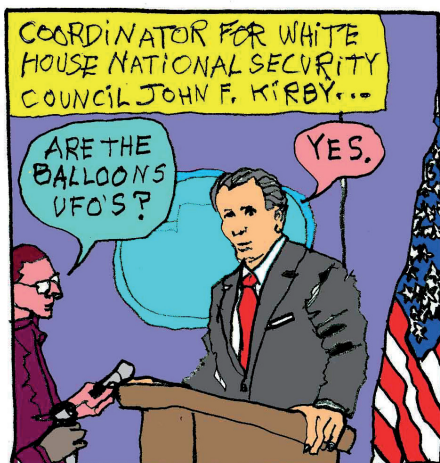
"It's just about their data," protested one kiosk in defense. "We collect the ambient data from passersby since

most people don't stay in airplane mode for long. It's crazy, but you can sell that shit."

\* \* \* \* \*

We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



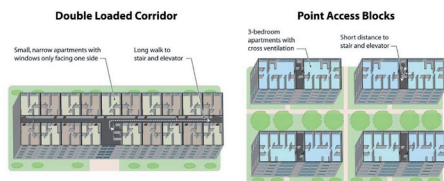


## Alfred Twu Fights Pesky Fire Codes - Because He Really Cares

By Vern Ishtroom

ALFRED TWU keeps local commissions lively by fundamentally opposing any commission.

Alfred Twu, inexplicably named to represent the public on what's left of two of Berkeley's citizen commissions, recently published an Open Forum in the San Francisco Chronicle on



ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SOFTWARE proves that when you force people to live with a bunch of roommates and ditch safety regulations trees just suddenly appear to make your neighborhood nicer although you will probably burn to death.

February 13, 2023, suggesting that current fire codes be adjusted to help address the housing crisis.

"One way to cut costs is to have more efficient floorplans. In a typical apartment

building, circulation (hallways, stairs, and elevators) takes up around 12%-20% of each floor. In short, that means 12%-20% of your rent isn't paying for the apartment, it's paying for hallways," he opines. It's those pesky hallways and staircases, he suggests, which are responsible for high rents and construction costs. Fire safe walls, doors and sprinklers share responsibility as well, discouraging developers who need higher profits to make their lives seem at all worthwhile.

"We've been saying this for years," observed Bill Dingital, a lobbyist for the construction industry from his boat in the Cayman Islands. "We would love to address the housing crisis, and we can do it handily as soon as all these annoying safety regulations are ratcheted back to where they were only a handful of decades ago."

"Efficiency is certainly all I look for in a living space," affirmed one renter. "If I could saw my own limbs off and live in a toaster I would do it in a heartbeat to help these poor developers out."

"They really sacrifice," agreed another renter. "We really don't mind having no kitchen and parking in Fresno."

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## How You Can Tell If Your Balloon Is A Chinese Spy



By Special Reporter Rhea Just

TEN EASY SIGNS:

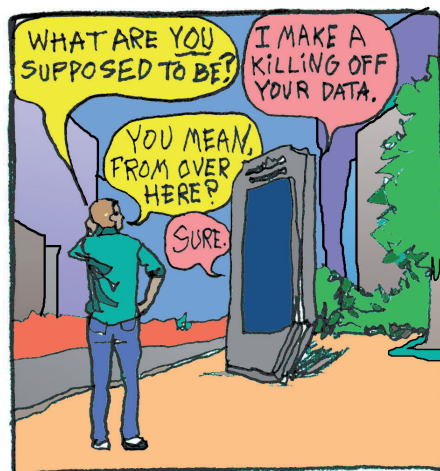
1. It can whip up a great "Ants Climbing A Tree" in the kitchen.
2. It can beat your ass in ping pong.
3. It is trying to keep an eye on Hong Kong and Taiwan.
4. It loves to play Ma Jong with friends.
5. It's absurdly tolerant of racist white people.
6. It often wins the gold in gymnastics.
7. There's a panda sitting on top of it.
8. It has an Apple logo.
9. It has a Disney logo.
10. It sings selections from the Beijing Opera.

\* \* \* \* \*

Next Issue: swinging cats  
with celebrities!

## I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by (see below)...Want to help distribute? Contact us for copies.



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\*Henry VI Part 3