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pyro
cumulus
issue...



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

September 2021

Pepper Spray Times



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

"...receive what cheer you may..."

Vol. XXII No. 9

Senator Nancy Skinner Jumps in the Tank for Predatory Housing



MOST PEOPLE ESPECIALLY POLITICIANS HAVE FORGOTTEN when housing was something besides a luxury for the well-connected and historically enabled.

By Adeline O. Poetry

"It's an art," agreed Robert Gammon, assistant to California Senator Nancy Skinner regarding the political tightrope walk it is for politicians to imitate concern about the housing crisis and its devastating effects on California lives while protecting the lucrative opportunity it presents for landlords to rent and developers to build at unchecked, wildly inflated rates for the relatively miniscule population of extremely wealthy people whose housing needs are much more easily addressed than those of the poor.

"We think we've perfected it with AB 832," enthused Gammon. "We've found a way to frame money going directly into landlords' pockets as generosity toward tenants."

"It's best if the route is direct," agreed another assistant in a whisper. "Tenants tend to waste the money on shoes for the kids."

"The previous rental assistance program didn't provide 100% of what landlords ask their tenants to pony up," stated another of Skinner's staffers, acknowledging that if the state hadn't gutted rent control in cities that have it the previous 80% cap would have resembled more reasonable rental rates. "We're throwing in some of the tenants' utility bills, too, because the PG&E lobbyists have such a tough job."

"California renters are drowning in sky-high rents charged by corporate landlords, major real estate companies, and predatory landlords can't be blamed for just going along for the ride," explained another Skinner staff member. "Happy corporate landlords and major real estate companies make for generous campaign donations."

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US Awkwardly Ends Pointless War

By Bridget Highwater

"The buck stops with previous administrations," stated President Biden as the decades-old military effort in Afghanistan crumbled to a finish. "Anywhere but here."

War vets watched numbly as the baffling military operation transformed into pointlessness overnight, complete with helicopters hurriedly evacuating American personnel, Afghani forces, and translators connected to the failed American effort.

American military experts admitted they were unprepared for the exit, caught short

without any palliative narratives, slogans, songs, or celebrity spokesmodels able to clarify matters.

"Were lives wasted?" asked annoying reporters who were told that an administration response would be forthcoming as soon as blame was securely assigned.



HELICOPTERS are the best choice for safe Afghani travel.

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Governor Newsom Tries to Sweep Homeless People Out of Berkeley



CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S photo opportunity proved somewhat uncomfortable when his Operation Roomkey rubber hit Berkeley's oppositional road and left dozens of homeless people stranded with nowhere to go.

By Gustav Wind

Gov. Gavin Newsom's recent personal appearance with Caltrans officials to clear out a longstanding tent group near the Berkeley's Marina combined both traditional and unusual elements; the unlucky lost belongings, the "lucky" carted away what they could up the road, and people who had otherwise thought of Newsom as a somewhat benign political entity began to think affectionately about the impending gubernatorial recall.

"We got this," stated one exhausted member of the "Where Do We Go" group famous for its lighted tent installation near the freeway and its consistent supply of legal and medical help to residents in need. "CalTrans doesn't always have the governor in tow, but we've been through this literally hundreds of times."

"We even know where we go," noted another resident of the nearby "Downstairs"

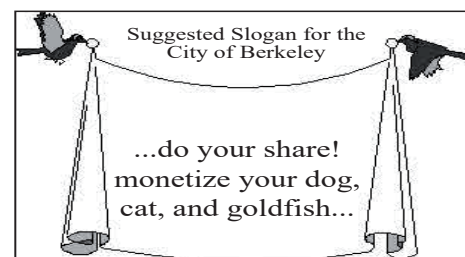


NATIONAL REGISTER #89002462, 1950 LIGHTSHIP RELIEF in the Oakland Estuary in Brooklyn Basin, Oakland, sits empty along with all the other thousands of empty hotel and dorm sites in Berkeley while homeless people are swept from one place to another in the name of the gubernatorial recall.

tent group wryly. "We go up to Here There for a bit, People's Park for a bit, and then we come back."

Due to a class action suit, Caltrans is required to give at least 48-hour notice for an impending sweep, but actual housing appears to be beyond the imagination of the sweep organizers, who honestly thought photographs of Newsom with burned-out garbage left behind by poor and disabled people would boost his campaign.

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ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, so the governor comes to Berkeley to personally sweep the tent community out from under the overpass? Am I supposed to vote for him now?

Dear reader, yes. This photo op was designed to delight you. Enjoy.

Dear Lena, are you sure? Because it kind of makes him look like an asshole.

Dear reader, yes it does. Although who knows, maybe he took the whole gang to the French Laundry afterward.

Dear Lena, so Judge Seligman shut down UC Berkeley's upper Hearst project and froze its enrollment at previous numbers. Why didn't our mayor take a stand over something the judge saw so clearly?

Dear reader, it is a matter of great mystery. We have to assume at this point that Berkeley's Mayor Jesse Arreguin is getting his political guidance from throwing bones and shells on his mayoral office rug.

Dear Lena, shouldn't he get some competent political and legal guidance right about now?

Dear reader, most people would agree, but perhaps this is some new form of political theater for those of us stuck in an endless Zoom meeting in front of a beach background hoping nobody figures out our coffee cup is spiked with Kahlua.

Dear Lena, so since Judge Seligman froze UC's enrollment, how do they justify all this land acquisition and building?

Dear reader, it will be tough, but most of the land acquisition in the past took place without a specific project in mind, or something general enough that nobody asked questions. The original proposal for building on what became People's Park was office space, sports courts, uh, office space, and it kept being a moving target depending on who was asking. At UC, it's an art.

Ask Lena about cartoons' and balloons' effect on the world at cddenney@jgc.org.

Governor Newsom to Restrict Travel from Florida

By Don Tread

Rumors from Sacramento indicate Governor Gavin Newsom will soon announce COVID based restrictions on visitors from Florida. This action is purported to be in response to the severe spike in new COVID infections in that state.

The basis for this action seems to be related to the recent CNN coverage where Jim Acosta interviewed Dr. Jonathan Reiner, a professor at the George Washington School of Medicine & Health Sciences.

"The viral load in Florida is so high right now, there are only really two places on the planet where it's even higher," stated Dr. Reiner. "One is Louisiana, and the other is Botswana."

Dr. Reiner continued, "It's so high in Florida that I think that if Florida were another country, we would have to consider banning travel from Florida to the United States."

All Floridians visiting California will need to sign a formal document committing to wearing masks and socially distancing as required by all state, county and local public/private guidelines. A humanitarian exemption will be granted to those Floridians requiring an ICU bed that are too weak to sign. Random polling of Floridians indicates that they have never before experienced this type of government action, are not used to wearing masks, and that many

KPFA Station Manager Restores Live Comedy to KPFA at Radio Democracy Rally

By Doña Wannanoe

KPFA Business Manager, Maria Negret responded immediately to the concerns of demonstrators who staged a recent protest in front of the station over unwillingness to broadcast the debates between candidates for the local station board and the lack of political comedy now that TwitWit, a live comedy show, was removed from the air.

A spokesperson for KPFA insisted that TwitWit's live comedy was not, in fact,

removed from the airwaves, that rather it was simply re-scheduled for a moment in time to be determined never. "In other words,

**To view the KPFA
Local Station Board
Candidate Statements
and Debates:
Go to the Pacifica
Elections YouTube Channel**

THE INTERNET IS THE BEST PLACE to hear candidates' speeches so people don't get all riled up and unruly.



CALIFORNIANS ARE PRETTY WEIRD but even we have our standards.

have difficulty telling the difference between a mask and a jock strap. Experts at COVID19.CA.GOV unofficially comment that the well known reputation and arguably entertaining stories of "Florida Man/Woman" necessitates these restrictions.

Local public health experts have commented that it would be normal for people in Florida to try to escape from an out-of-control pandemic where Governor DeSantis's state government is doing almost nothing. Most of the southern states have a COVID situation similar to that of Florida, so it's logical that Floridians would visit California seeking a safer environment combined with sun and the sandy beaches. The fact that ocean water temperature is 15-20 degrees colder kind of sucks, but people can always use the pool.

Larry Elder, the leading Republican candidate in September's 14th, 2021 upcoming recall election to potentially replace Newsom commented that this action is just another outrageous example of the government overreach and attacks on freedom so typical of the Newsom administration. The Governor's office commented that their administration will continue his outrageous radical course of following the COVID advice of public health experts to protect both tourists and Californians.

* * * * *



ANNOYING PROTESTERS gathered in front of KPFA actually wanting to hear station board candidate speeches on the air which is so crazy.

we're working on it," stated the spokesperson, who rushed out to comfort and control KPFA's Business Manager Maria Negret who was theatrically inspired by the non-violent protest consisting of speeches and signs. She handed out a flier encouraging everybody to go home and get online, saying there would be lots of candidate speeches there which the protesters agreed was at least a comedic beginning.

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Republicans Are Really Hungary

Tucker Carlson Finds Inspiration in Viktor Orban Because After All Doesn't Everybody



CONSERVATIVE TALK SHOW HOST TUCKER CARLSON broadcast his show from Hungary for a week learning about dialing back democracy on the ten-year plan from fellow celebrity and Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban.

By Don Tread

Fox News patriot Tucker Carlson spent a week broadcasting from Hungary helping interpret the conservative government put in place by Viktor Orban since he assumed office in 2010 with a predictable focus on family, Christianity, nationalism, LGBTQ bashing and anti-immigration policies. Conservative media loves the Hungarian version of conservative democracy while main stream media keeps tediously asking



KIM JONG-UN AND an admirer shake hands in a show of friendship and celebration of maybe some conservative policy or other.

After President Reagan forced the collapse of the Soviet Union's "evil empire" in the 1980's, a democratic Hungary emerged in 1989 and was admitted to the EU in 2004. Orban

narrowly won re-election in 2010 and converted his party into an ultra-conservative autocracy.

In addition to Tucker, Hungary seems to attract many conservative Republicans in the US; former President Trump, pardoned money launderer Steve Bannon, far right extremist with a mail order PhD Sebastian Gorka, and others eager to export Hungarian conservative success to the Republican party which wanders forlorn, lacking robust political direction.

As expected, liberal elite "watch dog" organizations are critical of the conservative Orban regime, saying that Orban has systematically gerrymandered the electoral system and packed the courts with his supporters such that with only 49% of the votes he has a 2/3 majority in parliament, sufficient to change laws and the constitu-



HUNGARIAN PRIME MINISTER VIKTOR ORBAN shakes hands with one of his many admirers at a White House visit in 2019.

tion to support his conservative agenda and remain in power. In addition, he controls 90% of media sources in Hungary. He has further attacked liberal NGOs, universities and big domestic companies to enforce political loyalty. From experience we know that tiresome critics of conservatives are everywhere, as we are reminded of the quote from that 20th century Republican hero, former VP Spiro Agnew, who referred to his critics as "those nattering nabobs of negativism" before he resigned from office and pled no contest to felony tax evasion.

Republican politicians and sympathetic media are showing us what can be accomplished by a conservative government over a 10 year period, an inspiration conservatives sorely need. With Hungary as an example, they are promoting an approach which sacrifices democratic rights to establish a minority conservative government with full control of the executive, legislative, judicial branches - and the media to boot. A similar approach in the US seems to have the support of Republican party leadership, aligned conservative institutions and dozens of colorfully costumed voters. What could possible go wrong? I guess we really don't need to worry until Republicans start to praise extremist authoritarian dictators like Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong-un, and even then the coverage in many corners of the internet, with Hungary's clear inspiration and Tucker's experienced media focus, are profoundly supportive.

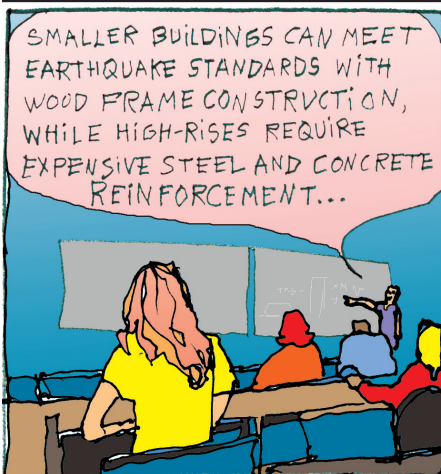


VLADIMIR PUTIN GETS a lot of Republican love and nobody can figure it out.

* * * * *

We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast





NAPOLÉON looks stupid now for trading the Louisiana Purchase for a bunch of boats, but not as bad as Berkeley's Mayor Jesse Arreguin.

Berkeley Mayor Arreguin's Deal with UC Rivals Worst Deals in Human History

By Zane O. Moore

Historians agree the Brown-Act-defying deal Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin and his City Council struck with the University of California rates among the worst deals in human history.

"It rivals the Treaty of Lutatius," stated Professor I. Seymour Daniel Everknow, emeritus professor of history at Weymore University. "The Treaty of Lutatius took place in 241 BC, ending the First Punic War but guaranteeing the second by causing resentment over an indemnity considered so brutal that any peace was too fragile to last. Similarly, no reasonable taxpayer can sit back and watch their storied parks, landmarks, and affordable housing replaced with luxury developments designed for short-term tenants."

Others historians point to the Treaty of

Breda, the deal between the English and the Dutch to swap the Dutch's claim to Manhattan for the island of Run in Indonesia for the sake of its nutmeg, an isolated and inaccessible swamp which still boasts, well, nutmeg, while even pandemic Manhattan real estate remains bankable.

Professor Hulda Mayo of Cerrebellum University suggests that Arreguin's Folly falls right behind the Louisiana Purchase, the 1803 agreement in which Napoleon traded land for warships, doubling the size of the US for about four cents an acre. Arreguin sold out Berkeley for about \$33 per person, less than most people spend on a night out, and most like their historic landmarks and parks intact.

UC Berkeley provides the lowest percentage of beds for its enrollment of any UC campus, and was found to have deceived the city about its actual enrollment numbers, so most Berkeley residents had hoped the mayor would do something besides roll over and beg for more humiliation in negotiations with the chancellor.

"I'm new at this," explained Mayor Ar-

reguin. "There were all these numbers flying around, and it was really exciting."

According to Dean Metzger and David Wilson of the Berkeley Neighborhoods Council Executive Committee, the City "...must support all UC expansion projects now in the works" as well as "poison pill provisions" which "prevent the City from enforcing the limits set by UC's Long Range Development Plan."

Some argued that Arreguin's Folly was not as bad as Dick Rowe rejecting The Beatles back in 1962 and signing Brian Poole and The Tremeloes to Decca records instead, but were dismissed by those who pointed out that the corner of Haight and Ashbury was recently declared a national treasure by the National Trust For Historic Preservation, making People's Park's place in history a shoe-in if it's not destroyed before the application goes through.

"Maybe Ronald Wayne selling his 10% share in Apple in 1976 now worth \$83 billion was worse," mused historian Joel Littlemercy. "But not by much."

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Next Issue: Shooting at stop signs with celebrities!

I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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