

CPAC Singer Wins MacArthur Genius Award

By Philippa Bucket

Singer Sailor Sabol shook off all musical conventions and belted out the most confident and tone-deaf version of the national anthem in history according to experts who reviewed her performance at the yearly Conservative Political Action Conference in Orlando, Florida, several weeks ago.

"We have a high bar," expressed music



of F or F# rapidly history." redeployed leaving nothing in its wake but pure genius.

Winona Spree, critic Music Director of Our Lady of Flatbreads Holy Choir of Retirees. "Skewering the National Anthem is a high art, such that Ms. Sabol's accomplishment, put in WHAT BEGAN as context, is one of the what experts agree finest cultural achievewas either the key ments in known human

> "At first I thought she was making a political statement by moving between incrementally

the key of F# and the key of F, soaring up to the key of G and then modulating backward. She consistently hinted in all directions but refused to commit," stated music critic Zachary Friedbeans, writer for the Boise Bee. "Part of the piece's power was that with each successive, excruciating key change her confidence increased, challenging Western music tradition, challenging



CPAC'S NATIONAL ATHEM SINGER kept a straight face while bravely singing in at least three keys for the opening of the Conservative Political Action Conference in Orlando earlier this year.

years of abusive music teachers' training through steady humiliation and constant mistreatment, and leaving the pianist's hair on fire. It was genius."

The MacArthur Fellows Program committee members overwhelmingly agreed, convening hastily to grant Sabol a genius award in record time.

"Ms Sabol embodies our goal as someone who has shown, to quote our requirements, "extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction", stated MacArthur Fellowship representative Ruth Stercrows. "I always wondered what came after music. Now I know."

Editor's Note: To hear Sabol's rendition of the national anthem put on a seatbelt and navigate your way to https:// www.facebook.com/LarryGoldings/videos/522879262012905

Elastic Zoning Affirmed to Eliminate Horrifying Open Space

By Christina Wave

A majority of the Berkeley City Council is moving swifty to leverage white guilt to



hood.

eliminate any threatening grass, trees, gardens, or other dangerous flora which consistently underperforms compared to the more lucrative uses.

"I figure I'm ripe for scourge of houses like this threaten- a lucrative state or UC ing your neighbor- appointment," enthused Berkeley Mayor Jesse

Arreguin, "but state leadership needs to know that I'm so committed to monetizing public space I'll monetize private property, too, on my way up the political ladder.'

'And it's so easy during the pandemic," agreed District 8 Councilmember and Council Vice Mayor Lori Droste. "People are broken right now and never spoke zoning in the first place."

Experts agreed that the new aesthetic of park-free concrete was a hard sell, but noted that the public won't know what happened until long after it is over.

"If they're not on the street by now they're hanging by a thread. The rest have a lot of backed-up Netflix to deal with."

*

Supreme Court Allows Class-Action Suit Against Facebook

Zuckerberg Claims His Cookies Taste Great

By Dora Jar

The Supreme Court blew Silicon Valley's mind by making way for a class-action suit against Facebook launched by users claiming the internet monolith violated their privacy by tracking their search histories without permission and selling the data to advertisers for a hefty sum of money.

A spokesperson for Facebook pointed out off the record that Facebook cookies



taste great, that and Facebook's cookies do most of their tracking after the user has logged off the site altogether. "We were

discreet

of-

the

"Non-

for so long

SO

that nobody ZUCKERBERG'S COOKIES knew," are delicious, and the Supreme fered Court ought to have some and spokespergive this some considerably son. weighty meditation. coders have

no idea how their remotes work let alone our complex algorithms."

On the record Facebook's spokesperson shrugged, admitting that the Ninth Circuit ruling alone "threatens to upend common internet practices and chill the creativity that allows the internet to flourish.'

'It's a coin toss," sighed one observer. "Some of the court loves cookies."



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, I like the Ferris Wheel. Can't we keep it? It could function as childcare because everybody could see where their kid was all day.

Dear reader, you're one solid liability release away from a great idea. Plus, Ferris wheels are so loud nobody can hear the little ones screaming.

Dear Lena, are mass shootings inevitable?

Dear reader, yes, according to the only nation where they regularly happen, as noted by The Onion after every mass shooting. There is, according to The Onion's experts, apparently nothing we can do.

Dear Lena, so I got a vaccine; can I kiss somebody?

Dear reader, yes, with masks on from a six foot distance.

Dear Lena, so I got a vaccine too. Can I go on a picnic with my family?

Dear reader, of course, as long as there is no sharing of food or napkins, no talking, and no singing. Ideally each family member picnics in a separate county.

Dear Lena, whose birthday celebration was it on the bridge of the Evergiven that clogged up the Suez Canal?

Dear reader, the sailors on the bridge have yet to identify any particular celebrant. Suffice it to say that employee birthday celebrations on the Evergiven will be on hold for the forseeable future.

Dear Lena, do we have to build new housing to address homelessness? The housing crisis seems largely manufactured to me.

Dear reader, it was. Preserving the myth that only new housing can address the lucrative "housing crisis" is imperative to preserving developers' political contributions.

Ask Lena about figs at cdenney@igc.org.

NASA Announces Delicious Takeout Discovered On Mars Plus There's Room for the SF Ferris Wheel

By Daniel B. Sorry

"It was the polls," explained NASA spokesperson Cyrus Competition after

Rover's discovery of takeout on Mars. "This incredible accomplishment scored a big meh on the public's excitement scale."

"We figure it's the pandemic Netflix backup," mused another NASA ground control scientist who admitted that the high fives in the control room were the only real fun they'd had in years. "The public has no idea how much math this takes and we have difficulty making any of that seem very exciting."

Skeptics objected to what they argued was a premature conclusion regarding the existence of takeout on Mars, but were dismissed.

"It's the possibilities the public appreciates," explained another member of Pasadena's Jet Propulsion Laboratory's ground crew. "The public got tired of hints of ice



the space agency's decision to reveal THE DISCOVERY OF TAKEOUT ON MARS has the otherwise top secret Perseverance really improved Nasa's budget.

or water on Mars, and we're not sure they understood the implications, anyway. We

thought about intermediate elements such as hot dog buns and mustard, and finally elected for the full fast leap to food."

success,"

argue



MOST PEOPLE WOULD THINK THIS would look re-"You can't ally cool on their front lawn with until they find out how loud it is and that it's \$18 per ride.

smiled another engineers. "Lunch orders are stacking up."

British Offer 1% Pay Raise to **Frontline Healthcare Workers**

By Chuck N. D. Mail

"We thought they'd be thrilled to join the one percent," stated Claudia Redhanded, spokesperson for the National Health Service, England's healthcare system. "And while we think of them as pandemic national heros, they should consider what kind of paperwork they're generating for the rest of us."



and one's balcony was the look from your supervionly live music sor." available in the pandemic's earlihazmat suits.

"We don't want to end up like Cuomo," commented Sadie Woid, an NHS administrator noting that everyone who dies requires people in her shoes filling out a lot BANGING POTS of pesky forms. "If you pans from check the wrong column high-rise you can get a really stern

Healthcare workers est days unless you pointed out that the work count the sound of not only hadn't changed. zipping up plastic England is experiencing a surge of a possibly more deadly Covid-19

variant requiring the same diligent care required over a year ago. Exhausted medical personnel no longer get nightly cheers and



BANGING POTS AND PANS to honor the sacrifice of healthcare workers has been replaced with taking them for granted like the other frontline workers threatened with being replaced by gig workers and the urge to turn all of us into independent contractors who just get sick and die and are so much less trouble than employees.

applause from a public now down at the

pub getting really sloppy. "It's the vaccines," explained one health-care worker navigating the trainwreck of gurneys full of Covid-19 patients just down the street from London's The Auld Shillelagh. "The public's vague understanding doesn't embrace the extremities of virology, such as inevitable variants."

They want to be done with it," observed Colin Ď. Shots, a nurse hooking up oxygen for a spring break partier. "So do we."

Local Birds Win Awards, Accolades for Most Coherent **Presentation on People's Park**



By Dwight DeSishun

People's Park's neighbors agree that after hearing decades of roaring activists and whining poets, WAX- the most coherent discus-

CEDAR WINGS get emo- sions about People's Park tional about habi- are in fact being patiently tat but can really and consistently preparse city plan- sented by white-crowned ning documents. sparrows, ruby-crowned

Kinglets, and various other species which mostly go unnoticed in the park's distinctive abundance of community-planted native trees.

"I was kind of confused by the tents,"

admitted one park neighbor who acknowl-



with historians.

guitar here."

Mostly Disturbing Fortune Cookies That You Are About to Receive

By Constance R. Vailence

you are.

ings.

A tall stranger will hit his head getting into your vehicle.

A short stranger will lose his contacts on your front lawn.

A dog will fall in love with you and follow you everywhere.

Your reception will begin to fail you unless you sing it love songs.

Aliens are constantly watching you and have turned your life into a live sitcom.

Billboards extolling your virtues exist in Montana in places you will never see.

Music is in fact a language from a far away planet that you just happen to speak.

Zoom is tired of your face, and is making efforts to have you killed.

Nobody thinks you're funny, but in fact

Ribbons of rainbows decorate your car on the freeway that only others can see.

that you missed because of daylight sav-

The vegetables you don't buy at the market

If you stare at your shoes, eventually they

Your sweaters like you, but they are plot-

You are the subject of a documentary

You once were patented.

start rumors about you.

will begin to talk to you.

ting against you just in case.

edged he had assumed the local birds had no opinions at all. "The city's open space requirements are rock solid according to the dark-eyed Juncoes; we apparently just have a disoriented city council." "I found the oak tit-

THE OAK TIT- mouse's cultural land-MOUSE'S cultur- mark argument particularal landmark argu- ly persuasive," expressed ment is a favorite another neighbor watching a nest. "I had no idea that Bob Dylan played

"Birds get a bad rap," noted another neighbor adjusting his binoculars. "Scrub jays, for instance, make it easy to assume all birds are just annoying, selfish bullies. But even they make valuable points about natural settings and open space's impacts on the general community's ABLACK mental health."

"We wish People's Park eloquently that visitors would talk less and open space is a listen more," admitted an- simple public other park neighbor. "We health necessity. appreciate that successive

layers of rhetoric contribute to the rich nature of the topsoil here in the park, but the most powerful presentations are quite literally over their heads."



Q: Why are photons autistic?

A: Because they're on the spectrum.

Q: Why did the comma break up with the apostrophe?

A: He was too possessive.

Q: Why did the dish run away with the spoon?

A: Spoon had too many roommates.

NFT: Non-fungible token: nature's way of telling you you have too much money.

Republican: Another try at being a publican. * * *

We Can't Draw Comics





by Franz Toast RETIRE SATISFIED THAT POLICE PEPPER SPRAY CANISTE ARE THREE TIMES AS BIG. AND SHOOT THREE TIMES s faf MY WORK S DONE



Progressives Fuel Attacks on Innocent Animated Characters



By Don Tread

The Progressive-led effort to stifle free speech by "cancelling" things they find offensive has recently taken aim at beloved animated characters.

The alt-right started using the cartoon character Pepe the Frog as a symbol until the originator of Pepe sued Infowars in 2019 and won, "cancelling" this improper use. Pepe's appearances are greatly diminished, but at least he is now safe from being made-up to look like you-know-who.

In early March, Dr. Seuss Enterprises announced that it would no longer publish six books, saying that they "portray people in ways that are hurtful and wrong."



The Republican Senator from Cancun, Ted Cruz, explained it a bit differently in his recent tweet, "One fish, two fish, red fish, really stupid left-wing censoring totalitarian asinine angry blue fish."

Senator Ted Cruz remains a true master of the use of poetry for political purposes. People will not soon forget the massive impact of his 2013 Senate floor protest reading of the entire Dr. Seuss book "Green Eggs and Ham."

In March, Hasbro announced that they would be making Mr. Potato Head gender neutral, dropping the



mister, stating "the rebranding is intended to promote gender equality and inclusion." Republicans and related media revolted, claiming censorship. Bette Midler observed that the gender neutral rebranding not an issue, that "what they should be worried about is how you store a bunch of dismembered body parts in the potato's ass!" It is a bit surprising to see Republicans supporting the sodomy-friendly Mr. Potato Head. Perhaps Lindsey Graham is having a greater than expected effect on Republican politicians.

Disney announced they will close 60 stores in 2021, 35% of their North Ameri-

Disney realized that some content in Song of the South, made in 1946, was racially insensitive and pulled the film from distribution. Restrictions on Dumbo and The Aristocats followed in 2020. Some think that the 75-year cumulative effect of racial insensitivity may be the cause of decreased sales. Disney's cancellations are unremarked by Republicans who deny that Disney's \$11 million contribution in the 2020 election cycle play any role.

Businesses adjusting their characters to evolving 21st century standards owe a debt to the Republican Party for clarifying that the real problem is Progressive "cancel culture" attacking these popular animated characters. Even in the midst of the pandemic and economic crisis, Republicans have remained laser-focused on their culture war effort to return the US to the



by Juan Nathan Undergod

mid-20th century. Unrelenting Progressives are already signaling the animated character most at risk is probably the GOP elephant.

Next Issue: sewing body bags with celebrities!

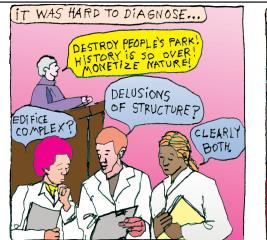


From: Pepper Spray Times 1970 San Pablo Ave. #4 Berkeley, CA 94702 cdenney@igc.org

www.caroldenney.com

Pepper Spray Times Staff

Editor.....Grace Underpressure Art Director....Egon Schiele Comics.....Don D. Ferrera Distribution....Rhoda Boat Staff.....Philippa Bucket, Bob Bossin, Larry Goldings, Dora Jar, Christina Wave, Lena Deeter, Chuck N. D. Mail, Daniel B. Sorry, Dwight DeSishun, Constance R. Vailence, Lynn Riordan, Franz Toast, Don Tread, Juan Nathan Undergod





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.

Hardly available anywhere; mailed or emailed to your door for a modest bribeof \$12 - \$20/yr. Plagiarize wildly; donations gladly accepted.

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.