

the  
horse  
driven  
issue..



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

September 2022

# Pepper Spray Times



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

"...suffer us to famish and their storehouses crammed with grain..."

Vol. XXIII No. 9

## "Guns Are People, Too" Policymakers Defend Weapons Between Bursts of Gunfire

By Wanda Whatnow

"Guns are as handy as hammers," noted one lawmaker hiding under her congressional desk during a recent interview while bullets from extremist groups flew overhead, "but they also have deep souls that will listen to you when you need to talk about how you were mistreated at the potluck by that guy who doesn't like mustard and just has to let everybody know about it so nobody gets to cook with it."

Experts agree that guns are really sympathetic listeners and need to know that people will support them forever and ever..

\* \* \* \* \*

## Kansas to Supreme Court: "Eat our shorts"

By Hedda Gitterdun

The bright red state of Kansas had a swift response to the Supreme Court's embrace of "potential life" controlling pregnancy which was somewhere between "go fish" and a teetering pile of profanity which polite Kansans traditionally eschew.



KANSANS AGREED that the Supreme Court needed to sit in a corner for awhile and think seriously about the consequences of its behavior.

But we generally agree that profane expression is a secure sign of intellectual bankruptcy."

\* \* \* \* \*



TEACHERS SHOULD NOT ONLY BE armed, they should introduce assault weapons into the curriculum at an early age so that young children can begin to develop meaningful relationships with their assault weapon of choice and get used to treating it as a fashion accessory.

## Big Sale on Back to School Kevlar

By Hubert R. Stopthat

Consumers still reeling from inflated prices raced to stock up on back-to-school Kevlar children's fashions creating long lines at both discount and high-end clothing outlets.

"The color selection is somewhat limited, but we're told that next year they will have an expanded line with teal, magenta, and of course standard safety orange," stated one parent nervously watching her three kids



FASHION-FORWARD flare is now available for those adventurous parents willing to risk sending their kids to school.



A SHAMELESS promotion for the Pepper Spray Times Anthologies... makes a perfect gift.

## 5% of Everything is Fake Unless It's A Handout from Arreguin's Desk

Arreguin's Fake Facts  
Ratio Much, Much  
Higher, Experts Say

By Hilda Kleim

"It took breathtaking liberties, but you can't top it for creativity," stammered one local editor regarding Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin's rewrite of the story of the big switch from twelve stories to a seven story housing project ceiling at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations. "Normally you can count on 5% of everything you read being fake, but if it's coming out of the mayor's office the gloves are off."

"The people's revolt was entirely written out of the story," noted another local editor. "Sometimes a legislative aide exaggerates for political cover, but Arreguin's office can't afford to have official documents reflect anything that implies that planning changed in response to a grassroots uproar or the public might have unrealistic expectations of having an actual say in civic matters. The inconvenience would be tragic."

A similar issue is brewing over the effort to convert Cesar Chavez Park from a peaceful nature preserve into a money-making amusement and entertainment center.

"We'll spend another \$100,000 heading off the grassroots opposition which has difficulty appreciating the necessity of monetizing nature," stated a spokesperson from Mayor Arreguin's office. "Otherwise the initial consultants' fee of \$100,000 won't look like the robust precedent for projects down the road."

\* \* \* \* \*  
Suggested Slogan for the  
City of Berkeley



## ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, my reproductive rights are just somehow gone. What did I do? They were right here somewhere.**

Dear reader, I know! Mine, too. They were apparently a big academic inconvenience to a bunch of old white guys.

**Dear Lena, do we get them back? I kind of needed mine.**

Dear reader, yes. We get them back when men get pregnant, too.

**Dear Lena, if you take the fifth when someone asks you if you believe in the peaceful transference of power, can we infer that they don't believe in that, or that their answer implicates some aspect of their behavior?**

Dear reader, the Supreme Court is hoping for a quick case to come their way which would allow them to outlaw the mental burp of "Fifth" implicating anyone for anything kind of like eliminating Roe and Casey, just to make sure old white men don't trip on their own bathrobe belts.

**Dear Lena, is that legaleze? I am not following anything anymore. I think my rights are in the dryer lint trap.**

Dear reader, I believe it is safe to assume that Kavanaugh would advise you to simply have another beer.

**Dear Lena, so if Denny Abrams can clear the 4th Street area of "IKE" electronic data collection monoliths and Sophie Hahn gets to do it for her area, can the rest of us get rid of them? Arreguin just forced these sidewalk-blocking data-suckers on the whole town with little recourse unless somebody gets creative with a bulldozer.**

Dear reader, by now most people have noticed that their cell phones offer more accurate information than "IKE" monoliths with their dazzling constant electronic readouts. Arreguin is looking to monetize anything.

Ask Lena about fresh CS at [cdenney@jgc.org](mailto:cdenney@jgc.org).

## Ground Squirrels Riot, Block Traffic Over "BMA SP"

Mayor Arreguin's Plan for Cesar Chavez Park Opposed by Vicious Gang of Violent Ground Squirrels

By Fanny DeFlames

An unhinged gang of ground squirrels upset over the city's "Berkeley Marina Area Specific Plan", or BMA SP, lay down across the road near the Seabreeze Market to protest the monetization of a public park

## Pregnant Women Demand Two Votes

Extremists Demand Votes for all Eggs and Sperm as "Potential Life"

By Lourde A. Mighty

Extremist women and their male allies held large rallies across the nation demanding voting privileges for all their eggs and/or sperm based on the Supreme Court's recent ruling which claims rights for "potential life" in its reversal of Roe v. Wade.

"If my eggs get to make the final call regarding my medical decisions then they should have an opportunity to weigh in on political decisions as well," explained one protester, adding "I just worry that we'll end up creating a split ticket because I am personally very conservative."



WOMEN CAN'T seem to appreciate that the government is just looking out for them and all their potentially Republican-voting eggs.

"We're figuring the sperm vote will always outnumber the egg vote," mused one voting official in North Carolina. "But the count itself might be tricky. And we're not sure how to jail all the medical personnel, let alone the Uber drivers."

Supreme Court Judge Samuel Alito brushed off the inconvenience for women, Uber drivers, and medical personnel, saying it never hurt to stir things up a bit.

"They'll figure something out," he mused. "I hear they can do abortions over Zoom these days. Women are very resourceful."

\* \* \* \* \*

**Lost Rights Haiku, 7-25-22**

lost abortion rights  
just getting out of bed - I  
won't do that again

and were promptly run over.

"We're just getting started," muttered the ground squirrels' spokesperson lining up another group of squirrels ready to make the ultimate sacrifice. "We oppose the monetization of public parks unless we get the primary cut."

\* \* \* \* \*



LOOK OUT FOR THIS UNRULY GANG of ground squirrels which have vowed to defend Cesar Chavez Park 'by any means necessary' and are willing to get run over and eat stale garbage while still looking cute.

Lynn Riordan's Thoughts on Leaked Supreme Court Draft Rulings

DEAR PST,  
How are you doing after the leaked Supreme Court draft ruling that would force women to give birth? Ugh. Am so ANGRY.

OTHER LEAKED DRAFT COURT RULINGS:

- FREE BEER REQUIRED IN COURTROOMS
- ALL Books NOW BANNED.
- PUTIN allowed tenth vote ON COURT
- GINNY Thomas declared QUEEN
- DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKED SINGER COSTUMES TO ALL DEBATES





## California High Speed Rail to Rebrand as Bullet Train

By Don Tread

When looking through a long-range scope at the halls of power in Sacramento, a rumor has been discovered that Governor Newsom will soon be renaming the California High Speed Rail project as the Bullet Train. To understand what might trigger this change, let's review the project details.

The proposed project would connect San Francisco to Los Angeles with a 380 mile rail system that would operate at 200+mph (almost as fast as a speeding bullet). The project was approved by voters in 2008 which automatically allowed \$9B of public funding. Public recoil was mild to the initial total expected cost of \$33B. Current construction is on the Central Valley 119 mile segment that shoots between Merced and Bakersfield and has led to project critics calling it the Train to Nowhere. (The name is not malicious and was probably offered by folks that have actually been to Bakersfield.) Many observers would say the first Central Valley section is off-target in the scope of the 380 mile total project.

As the project timing has been delayed due to various misfires, the expected total cost has shot up to the \$100B range. It is believed that this funding shortfall is igniting the project rebranding idea. Anonymous sources explain that the Bullet Train name is expected to make future project funding approval from state, Federal and private sources almost a fully automatic process. An additional benefit of removing the California name from the project is

judged to be on target, by eliminating any name connection to one of the most liberal states in the USA.

Future Federal funding from Congress is expected to be bullet-proof given that Republicans seem to be willing to support anything related to guns and bullets. Psychology experts would say that their reptilian brain pre-occupation with the 2nd Amendment causes this strange behavior or it could be from spending too much time listening to the straight-shooters over at Fox News or it could be over compensation for having small hands. Republican Congressional leaders are already reported to be working to prohibit Federal funding for analysis of Bullet Train related fatalities, as they did some years ago with firearms. Publicly available information says that the Bullet Train has not yet killed anyone, but Republicans are still expected to broadly support it. Based upon recent gun law decisions, this support will also likely be found at the Supreme Court, but only on a 6-3 decision basis.

Since the NRA funding from Russia continues to misfire, the NRA is even considering a double-barreled support effort for the Bullet Train as a way to prime a new surge of donations from their members. Of course we all know how discerning NRA members can be. They are probably already preparing for this new opportunity or as they have been known to say "loaded and loaded."

\* \* \* \* \*



DEADLY BUNTING begins to collect slowly, then spreads across the landscape menacing innocent partiers celebrating monarchy apparently without embarrassment.

## Bunting Beware

Serious Risk of Strangulation  
Minimized by Celebrants

By Imelda Snowman

The Queen of England's Platinum Jubilee has sent guidelines warning the huge segment of Americans wishing to celebrate 70 years of undemocratic rule that affixing bunting comes with serious risks if, for instance, "street lights are not designed to withstand the extra weight."

The over 1,600 events celebrating the Queen's birthday require permits including the "correct Hampshire Highways permissions", a "signed Enverveo Consent Form and Third Party Attachment Agreement", including the yellow section of the form, a map showing the column location and numbers, the weight, dimensions, proposed mounting height and fixing method for the bunting, an image or diagram of the proposed attachment, a copy of your £10M public liability insurance, and an unmettered supply agreement or a metered supply agreement. And please do wear colorful attire for the Queen's festivities.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Zoom Abortions Now Available

We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



## Berkeley Mayor Backs Down After Overwhelming Protest of City Manager's Call to Use Military Grade Chemical Weapons at People's Park

By Todd ReAffair

"I was for it before I was against it," explained Mayor Jesse Arreguin addressing his sudden reversal of support for allowing chemical weapons on People's Park protesters after previously affirming their prohibition.

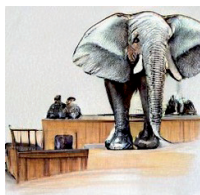
The Berkeley City Manager and the Mayor had requested the meeting after discovering that the Alameda County Sheriff was dubious about assisting with the long-anticipated protests at the park without military-grade chemical weapons considered potentially lethal.

A deluge of phone calls and emails ensued pointing out that a "People's Park exemption" would look like content-based hypocrisy. Mayor Arreguin quickly cancelled the meeting entirely while protesters removed the new fences and re-took the park in celebration and song.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Steven Bannon Found Guilty Despite Wealth of Witnesses on His Behalf

By Toby Continwood

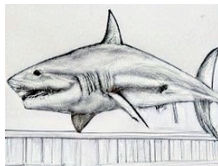


AN ELEPHANT earnestly testified on Bannon's behalf during his trial.

in his defense against charges of contempt of congress, but offered little to the proceedings other than bubbles coming inexplicably from both Godzilla and a shark which, with the assistance of Craiyon, floated ominously in the witness stand opening and closing his -

Former top advisor to former President Trump Steve Bannon was found guilty after mounting a peculiar defense consisting of bluster and a parade of various animals all of which were difficult to understand.

Bannon had promised to go "medieval"



THE SHARK KEPT opening and closing its mouth but was otherwise inarticulate.

or her - large and threatening mouth.

After Mr. Trump's defeat in the 2020 election, Mr. Bannon worked with Peter Navarro, a White House adviser, to devise a strategy they than convinced the jury.

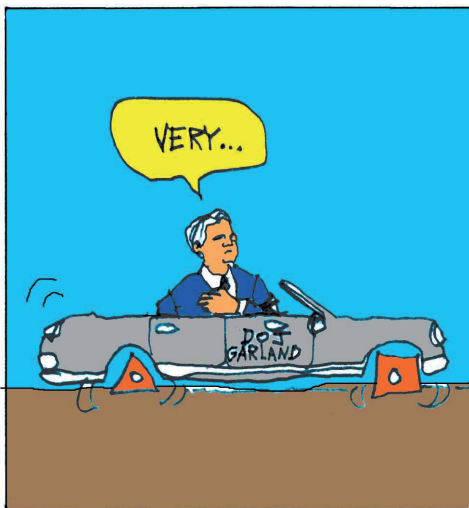
"Sweep" to keep Trump in office by blocking the counting of Electoral College votes on Jan. 6, 2021, so that lawmakers in key swing states could decertify the vote results in their states and hand Mr. Trump a victory, a strategy accidentally outlined by a zebra, the only convincing witness on the stand.

\* \* \* \* \*

Next Issue: Making homemade condoms 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



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.

Pepper Spray Times Staff

Editor.....Grace Underpressure  
Art Director.....Egon Schiele  
Comics.....Don D. Ferrera  
Distribution.....Rhoda Boat  
Staff.....Wanda Whatnow, Hedda Gitterdun, Hubert R. Stopthat, Lena Deeter, Hilda Kleim, Fanny DeFlames, Lourde A. Mighty, Lynn Riordan, Don Tread, Imelda Snowman, Franz Toast, Todd ReAffair, Toby Continwood, Juan Nathan Undergod, Brent McKee, Craiyon

# To:

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