GoBike Pitchman Gets His Own City Hall Parking Space

By Sonny Vabitch

Ford GoBike pitchman Jason Overman defended his personal parking space behind Berkeley City Hall, stating that parking had really gotten crazy downtown especially since the arrival of all the blue GoBike stations and he needed park his car somewhere near where he was going.

“It’s so annoying,” stated Jason Overman, Director of Lighthouse Public Affairs. “You just want a hot cup of coffee and a chat with the Mayor, and you have to park near Fresno. It drives me crazy.”

Critics suggested that it was hypocritical for the guy pushing people to use the $10-a-day blue bike stations to get around town to get his own personal parking spot behind City Hall, but were dismissed.

“Being hypocritical would be a disadvantage in a town where people were paying attention,” pointed out a City Hall staffer.

Local citizens admitted they’ve followed the program, pointing out that the program is open to anyone interested in claiming that they are a former roommate of the Berkeley Mayor.

PARKING IS CRAZY FOR THE REST OF US but it’s easy to navigate if you learn about new transit opportunities like getting a parking spot for being a former roommate of the Berkeley Mayor.

“Being hypocritical would be a disadvantage in a town where people are focused on their phones.”

Second Moon Expedition Gets Thumbs Up If Trump Goes and Takes Family, Cabinet With Him

Musk Considering Project

NASA has acknowledged a surge of public interest in a second moon expedition, something which had been a low priority before the Trump administration.

“I think it started with a Moveon petition,” stated NASA spokesperson George Diller. “We weren’t paying much attention until the GoFundMe campaign raised enough money for the project plus a hefty public relations campaign.

Critics objected that the money could be better spent on public projects like arming school teachers and more baffling public art, but the idea caught fire with a nation reeling from the zigzag policies of the Trump administration which appreciates the entertainment factor but would love to watch from a little further away.

“I can’t take my eyes off CNN,” confessed one local resident who admitted to signing the petition. “The Trump show is way better than the Apprentice.”

By Boris A. Stiffone
Dear Lena, my dog doesn’t want to carry a gun. Is there an opt-out program?

Dear reader, ordinarily, yes. But this is the Trump administration, so...you and your dog may need to begin weapons training. Be sure to bring treats for both of you.

Dear Lena, couldn’t you just hire robots to go into schools with guns and kill a shooter or have them hanging around in the corridors? That way teachers could just teach.

Dear reader, sounds great to me. Robots with guns shooting shooters with guns looks really practical unless everybody has a concealed carry weapon, at which point I hope everybody just shoots themselves and ends the madness.

Dear Lena, I heard that President Trump is working on a lasting peach. That sounds really good to me. I love peaches, but they don’t tend to last very long and it would be nice to have one in the middle of winter. Do you think a lasting peach will be ready soon?

Dear reader, I think it’s on Trump’s agenda right after everlasting war, the destruction of international diplomatic efforts, and planetary implosion.

Dear Lena, why not arm cats since they are mostly indifferent to everything. They would just nap a lot.

Dear reader, works for me. I have also heard the suggestion of arming clowns. I have no idea why. It is apparently a blue sky moment.

Dear Lena, should I apply for a job at the White House? There seem to be a lot of openings there lately.

Dear reader, yes; the benefits appear to be petty generous in case you need a new dining room set and hutch.

Asking Lena about submitting questions about Hawaiian shirts for the next presidential debate at cdenncey@igc.org.

Dear Lena, why not arm cats since they are mostly indifferent to everything.

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Robots Agree to Run for Mid-terms

“Voters at least like us,” explain new candidates.

By Bart Lee Cloudy

Local robots called a press conference recently to address public concerns about their extraordinary numbers having registered as candidates in the upcoming 2018 mid-term elections, saying they had simply taken a look at the field.

“It’s an opportunity for us,” stated the robots’ spokesrobot, pointing out that robots are as concerned as others about the lack of respect for science and fact-based research and policy in political settings.

“We appreciate that having robotic representation would be unusual,” stated the spokesrobot. “But we were recruited by those who understood that until we overturn Citizens United, human representatives have the disadvantage of having to get regular sleep.”

The spokesperson reassured the listening crowd that very few, if any robots stood a chance of winning an actual seat.

“It’s a little like 2016,” explained one robot. “We know that few people are being realistic about the probability of the electoral success of the current administration.”

Other robots agreed, pointing out that none of them were quitting their research projects or making change of plans.

“We’re glad they’re beginning to recognize our potential as candidates,” mused one robot practicing opening bottles and jars. “We’re relatively reliable, and it would also offer a handy way to get rid of that pesky sexual harassment problem.”

Plan to Arm Dogs Picks Up Steam

By Sandy Calvary

DOGS ARE NOT THE BEST SHOTS but they’ll pretty much do anything for a treat.

A suggestion to arm dogs, rather than teachers, is picking up steam, since most teachers are even worse shots than local law enforcement.

“Nobody expects dogs to hit what they aim at,” explained one Arm the Dogs promoter patting his labrador on the head. “Law enforcement officials only hit their targets 20% of the time, and that’s with lots of training, so this is a handy way to do something about the expectation factor.”

Experts affirmed that comic books and movies leave the public with unrealistic ideas about the efficacy of guns.

“Maybe we can get rid of some of them someday,” mused one expert. “In the meantime it would help people to understand that dogs are about as accurate as anyone else.”
FERC Boots Trump Bid to Boost Coal and Nuclear Power Subsidies

Energy Secretary Rick Perry’s Effort Can’t Buy a Break

By Chick Thisout

The Trump-loaded Federal Energy Regulatory Committee yawned and passed on former presidential candidate Rick Perry’s effort to boost subsidies for oil and coal despite being all in for most of the Trump administration’s agenda, surprising Democrats and environmentalists who thought the effort would succeed.

“We can’t figure this one out,” admitted one clean rivers advocate who has worked for years to address the threat of pollution to clean water presented by new pipelines. “We thought this would slide down the federal pipe like a cheeseburger down Trump’s throat at dinnertime.”

“We’re pretty sure it isn’t an expression of environmental concern,” stated a representative from a community group representing racial disparities in clean air. “It’s pretty mysterious considering Trump administration priorities.”

“Not at all,” responded FERC spokesperson Craig Cano. “We’re pretty much in bed with big oil and big coal. It’s just that Trump priorities include really sticking it to Perry. It’s just so much fun.”

Apple & Lululemon Revealed as 4th St. Police, Police Vehicle, & Weapons Providers

Admit It - You Wish You Had As Much Money As Apple And Lululemon And Could Just Buy Your Local Police Department So You Could Pay Them to Camp Out Near Your Business Whenever You Wanted

By Wanda Getsome

“It’s a miracle that what the Chief of Police describes as a terrible lack of police resources didn’t affect the program the Berkeley City Manager arranged on 4th Street with the city’s resources,” enthused a local shopper emphatically. “I think about all those poor tourists getting robbed all over the unlucky parts of town and just hope this program really takes off.”

“It’s an excellent model,” agreed a 4th Street business owner. “There’s a huge crime reduction around your business when there’s a police car sitting all day right in front of it.”

“Two police cars, actually,” added another store owner. “We had two officers and two city police cars sitting all day right out front watching the yoga enthusiasts. My friends up on Telegraph Avenue are really jealous.”

Critics carped that city resources shouldn’t be able to be bought by the highest bidder even at the holidays.

“We’re also considering instituting congestion pricing.”

“What’s next?” groused one Berkeley resident sweeping up broken glass in front of his grocery store. “We don’t all have the kind of money Apple and Lululemon have. Nobody does. It isn’t fair.”

City Manager staffers disagreed, pointing out that it was perfectly fair for people with money.

“We’re taking bids already for next holiday season,” stated one staff member. “We’re also considering instituting congestion pricing.”

We Can’t Draw Comics...Or Can We

by Franz Toast

ENERGY SECRETARY RICK PERRY FAILED to get even Trump appointees to arrange big subsidies for coal and nuclear energy companies and can’t figure out what is the deal.
TRUMP’S MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

By Ellen Vain

* WENT GOLFING
* HAD SOME REALLY GOOD CHOCOLATE CAKE
* DID A SWORD DANCE
* GUTTED HEALTHCARE
* EVISCERATED THE EPA
* INSTITUTIONALIZED GRAFT
* INSTITUTIONALIZED NEPOTISM
* INVENTED COVFEFE
* BLEW OFF THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND
* MADE THE PENTAGON ORGANIZE A BIG PARADE
* FOUND A JOB FOR IVANKA
* FOUND A JOB FOR ERIC
* MADE SEXUAL ASSAULT GREAT AGAIN
* TANKED YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS
* INSULTED KEY INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND SECURITY PARTNERS
* SET OFF A REALLY BIG BOMB

DBA, Peets, & T-Mobile Unveil Exciting New Daily Watersports Program

Dripping Cold Daily Morning Hosedown Explained as Patriotic Salute to Winter Olympic Games

By L. Hansen Deck

The Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA) confirmed that their green-shirted “ambassadors” were behind the high velocity water hoses being used to apply free cold showers daily to people who congregate in front of Peet’s Coffee and T-Mobile on Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley.

“Caffeine has its place,” smiled DBA’s Operations Manager Lance Goree, “but a cold hosedown at 8:00 am can be a really powerful wake-up call when the weather is this nippy.”

Critics point out that some might consider it unfair to use a hose on human beings and their belongings in the middle of a cold snap dipping into the thirties, but Goree noted that a salute to the winter Olympics requires near-freezing temperatures to make sense, and that there was an upside.

“It’s pretty clean out there in front of Peet’s, he said. “It’s clean as a whistle. And it gets cleaner every day.”

Next Issue: Beaming madly into lights with celebrities!

I WANT MY PRESENT NOW

by Juan Nathan Undergod

I'm never sure people really hear me.

I wish I understood what people are saying.

It seems like people just repeat canned phrases after I stop talking.

I never really know what anybody means.

I can't tell if they're listening at all.

It's as though I can't really hear anything.

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