

Beyond the Fringefan ^[#523]

BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN has been watching the hearings of the United States House Select Committee on the January 6 Attack and wondering if they'll accomplish anything to stop the coup they're chronicling in such vivid detail. (He's not placing any large bets on it.) Perhaps he ought to exit the confines of the N.Y. Cadre (1088 East 40th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11210 (☎(718) NY-CADRE; ☒↔☒ nycadre [at] acedsl [dot] com; 🌐http://www [dot] nycadre [dot] org)) and play outside for a while. That'll give him more opportunities to procrastinate on writing **Beyond the Fringefan** #523 (a Discordian issue if ever there was one), for readers of **APA-NYU** Volume 20, #6 (e-APA-NYU #199) and other lords (and ladies) of chaos, published June 2022 as a combined production of Quick Brown Fox Press and Syscrash Consulting, both subsidiaries of **THIGAMAJIG**. Cartoon above from *Non Sequitur* by Wile Miller, 7 December 2020. All uncredited material copyright ©2022 by Marc S. Glasser. Member fwa.

The hearings of the Committee, as various commentators have noted, aren't presenting much that we all didn't know already, though they're getting it all organized in a format that seems to me to tell the story quite compellingly. Nonetheless, I despair of anything constructive resulting from it, or even of it changing anyone's mind concerning the man at the center of it all. The supporters of the man behind the atrocity will continue to call the evidence "fake news" and ignore anything that doesn't put a halo around him. Schoolyard bullies have their toadies; this one just has them by the millions on a national scale.

TESTING, ONE, TWO, TWENTY: The office of my state senator, Kevin Parker, had a table set up outside the Target at Flatbush Junction last week where staffers were handing out free COVID test kits. I asked for a couple for me and a couple for my wife; they handed me ten boxes, each containing two tests. We used one test on Donna a day or two later when she was feeling under the weather (results were negative). We noted that the fine print on the boxes said the tests expire next month; maybe that's why they were so generous handing them out. Meanwhile, I'm looking forward to the rollout in the fall of a new vaccine version designed to handle omicron variants.

Hey, how about those Mets? (Don't ask about the Brooklyn Cyclones.)

FERRY INTERESTING (where's Arte Johnson when we need him?): Only a week to go until we meet once again on the Staten Island Ferry, and I eagerly await finding out who exactly "we" are. Only one or two folk have told me they'll be there. Well, I'll bring a couple of pizzas and hope for the best.

Fringe Reception: Comments on APA-NYU, Volume 20, #5 (e-APA-NYU #198)

JAMISON, TAKE e-LETTER (Mark L. Blackman):

I'd never heard of [Sheepshead] Bayfest. How many years has it been held? I assume it was suspended for the pandemic; maybe it'll be back bigger and better next year. /*/ I was surprised to see that Stephen Wright, a standup comic I like a lot, was also a novelist; pity it turns out the novelist (Stephen) and the comedian (Steven) are two different guys. /*/ (¢me) "I missed some of the action in THE BATMAN because it was so dark." I'm having that problem with some TV shows as well. More and more, I'm finding myself looking up films and even TV shows on the Web after I watch them, to find recaps at the fan sites that clarify the muddy points and tell me all the stuff I missed (there seem to be inside jokes and Easter eggs in all of them these days).

a gun?). If you include cowboy songs, though, I think the cats may get left in the dust. /*/ During Balticon last month I got a text from JPMChase about what I thought was a fraudulent credit card transaction, but realized—fortunately, *before* I'd told them it was fraudulent—that it wasn't, not exactly. The hotel had charged me for a day's stay even after I'd canceled the reservation in time (having gotten an offer of crash space). I went to the desk, and they insisted that this was standard procedure and that they would have canceled the charge the next day. I'm not so sure. But it was a relief not to have to learn to recognize another card number and reestablish a bunch of automated payments. /*/ (¢Blackman) Brooklyn doesn't have a Cowhead Bay or Cathead Bay, but it does have Owl's Head Park.



(Brewster Rockit, Space Guy! by Tim Rickard, 5 May 2019)

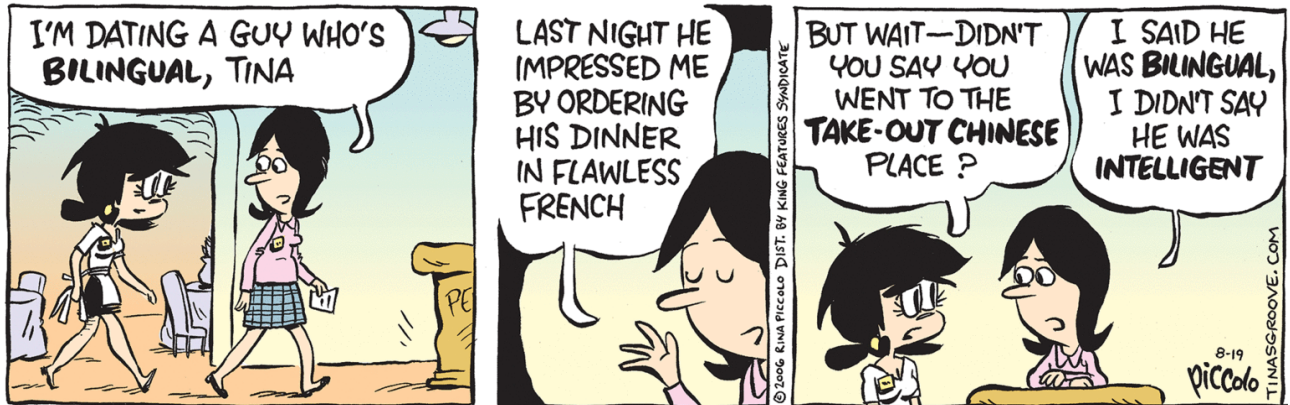
/*/ (¢Belov) "My grandmother...helped destroy the NRA (the Blue Eagle one) by shopping at Schechter Poultry." Would that the present NRA could be crippled that easily.

CAT vs. COW (Chas Belov): The title reminded me of the late lamented HeiferCat aka MooFace. I'm pretty sure there are a lot more cat songs than cow songs, though the cows do have a few good ones in circulation ("Cows with Guns" being a strong contender—say, has Wayne LaPierre expressed any opinions about a good *bovine* with

There's also Dead Horse Bay; once upon a time there was an island there with a rendering plant where all the horses that died in Brooklyn were sent to be turned into glue and fertilizer. Most of the bay was landfilled about a century ago and became Floyd Bennett Field, the City's first municipal airport. /*/ By the way, Sheepshead Bay is not named for actual sheep's heads but for a species of fish called sheepshead. As a kid I once wondered if it was named for a barn where rams and ewes were kept—a sheep shed. /*/ Odd;

I think I've been to three of the seven Uzbek restaurants you found in the Sheepshead Bay area, including the Dungan one, but only one since COVID. (Nargis comes up when I search

for Uzbek, but I thought it was just Russian.) Did your list include Café Lily, or was that shown as being in Bensonhurst?



(Tina's Groove by Rina Piccolo, circa 2006)

After hearing of the abuse that poll workers suffered in November 2020 just for doing their jobs, and the subsequent and consequent departure of many of them, I was thinking of volunteering for next fall, to maybe help fill the gap. But if I've read the rules correctly, I may not be eligible; in New York, the poll workers are divided between "major" political parties—and I'm registered as an independent. It wouldn't have occurred to me that you have to choose a side to be a poll worker.

I remember that back in the 1970s, Henry Kissinger used to say, "The illegal we do immediately; the unconstitutional takes a little longer." I wonder if anyone on the 2020 reelection campaign tried to call on him...

Here's hoping that the summer will be warm, but the people will stay cool. See you all soon!

>Portions of the preceding remember when *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*
 was the scariest thing Kevin McCarthy was involved in.<