Wed., November 11,, 2010

"The avoidance of taxes is the only intellectual pursuit that carries any reward." John Mavnard Kevnes

## Big City Observations: Wildlife

Brought to you by Nathan "Invincible" Miller

To summarize, if a city doesn't have a zoo, it has no wildlife. Albany does not have a zoo and is therefore devoid of actual wildlife.

However, it was not long ago that one of my friends here posts on their facebook claiming to have seen a wild turkey on one of the main roads in the middle of town. Now, being a country lad, I was immediately skeptical. Turkeys? In my city? Balderdash.

For starters, where is a wild turkey going to hide from hungry hobos? All the parks in town are neatly groomed and constantly full of people. And I'm talking neat - there isn't an inch of grass that isn't mowed. Since turkeys usually live in woodlands and fields, it seems unlikely that a wild turkey would be calling inner city Albany home. A Unless it's been living in the

Per Se

By Bill Melcher ~ Daily Bull

Often we use words or figures of speech when we aren't sure of their meaning. This phrase in particular bothered me for years, per se. Every time I heard it I twitched a little in discomfort and avoided using it myself, but I never bothered to look it up until a few weeks

ago. I found it extranetors" and to its innature"

tation here: GOOGLE).

means "without consideration of ous fac-"intrinsically, with respect herent (insert ci-

One could say "Iron was a great technological advancement", and you'd reply "Bitch please; we have steel, carbon fiber and ceramics nao." BUT if that person says "Iron was a great technological advancement ... per se", that renders the statement innocent. This new, modified statement is that iron was a great technological advancement when considered individually, without other factors such as the progression of time or the use of new and improved materials. Presto, they're now free from danger. Sorry: there isn't actually danger, just the

> ence decisions).

Unfortunately, research shows that only 1 in 3,000 people on this planet understand the definition of "per se".

The remaining 99% use it to sloppily class up their sentences and vocabulary, counting on the fact that no-one listening knows what it means either, per se. This was my long-time theory, but I couldn't prove it until today. Side note: "irregardless" is not a word. An individual who would say "irregardless" is likely to throw a reckless "per se" in. Be careful with the English language, because irregardless of

...see not at all, per se on back



implication of danger (which could influ-

The CS major The epic mage Neck beard The Jack Sparrow The crumb catcher Full body beard The ZZ Top The Sunshine The tarantula The face phallus The bearded lady Hair pi The David Olson The dwarf

The Steaming Pile

Straight From You-Know-Where! No-Shave November beard styles

Fumanchu The chin strap Nether-Beard The chin strap-on Anti-beard Mutton Chops The windmill Slap Chops Landing strip The Billy Mays Bird cage The wolverine Tiny person The Tech Student The fuzzy navel Hairy nipple Half beard The gun rack The Charmander (it's on FIRE) Tangela Douchebag Soul patch The gentle cuddle fish Porno 'Stache The conspicuous pedophile The Hitler The Inverse Hitler Ol' patchy Banana Hammock The Poe The moldy peach The Shoeshiner Bucky balls

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Mmmm.... Banana.

...see Lol'd Life on back

### ... Lol'd Life from front

which trees. equally unlikely.

I also couldn't help but wonder why the poor turkey had not been hit by a car or devoured by wolves. Or how it even found its way into Albany in the first place. There are

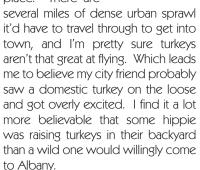




FIGURE 1: ALBANY-AREA TURKEY ACCOSTS GAGA: WANTS SHIRT BACK

Aside from the lone turkey sighting, there are lots of squirrels, which is fairly typical of anywhere on Earth with oak trees. Despite their alarmingly high numbers. I have yet to see one pancaked on the road, leading me to believe they have car radar built into their brains. If only people evolved the ability to avoid being hit by cars!

Then there are the usual little chirping birds, the usual mice in the walls, and the usual vagrants who might as well be animals. But aside from that, the only other wildlife here are cats and dogs. And not even interesting dogs - most people, namely stereotypical blonde chicks, have those annoving rats that are affectionately known as Chihuahuas. A few people have labs and retrievers, but where are they gonna romp and go nuts like real dogs should? Leash laws might as well be torture for these city pooches.

I find it especially hilarious when city slickers go exploring around the countryside and come back with tales of visiting goats, cows, and other "wildlife." What, no bears? hear they're really friendly this time of year! 😩

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# Sunshine's Searcher: Tropical Storm Names 2010-12

Brought to you by Jeremy 'Mr. Sunshine' Loucks

EAGOMFITSSJUEMILYIKOHE V R T D N E R S E N E A R O I M E S R A P E FTIYNOTAAROCNKVTACDERL OWHITNEYNABDEAPUPINXNL EGDEBBYFKKCKSTRXHMLIHE RAFAELLAYMLCTIRJIEPLVI NROPAOIDCRGIOAUCLIYLIZ ELGLRLNICOLENLHKINSYVW TVREEIBMXJSKIAIRPNARPV MHNHCMWEJIUAERANPOMEXR OCPEAOAARNRLKEGREBOBEC EOSRSNSHLTYMMATIROTWLL TOICOHCGETOYTTAPWDJZAJ JAATRWPLDFEIGORUOROEHZ YRSROILBMVIRGINIEAYQFA UAFEHENWEIRELAVAFHCNMH GEZGITBAEDYFOONRICEVAE YRNNALUAPHIRVFYLOILRLI SDAENIMREHTLAFNENRVOIL X D N N L C R T H B F T G H X N A E B V S S V C T A C E C G V O V Y A H S E Y V M W A E NATESXHBWVASVMNODROGDL

ALEX LFF **ARLENE LESLIE** BERYL LISA BONNIE MARIA **BRET** MATTHEW **CHRIS** MICHAEL CINDY NADINE COLIN NATE DANIFITE NICOLE **DEBBY OPHELIA** DON **OSCAR** FARI OTTO **EMILY** PATTY **ERNESTO** PAULA **PHILIPPF** FIONA **FLORENCE** RAFAEL FRANKLIN **RICHARD GASTON** RINA GERT SANDY **GORDON SFAN HARVEY** SHARY HELENE TAMMY **HFRMINE** TOMAS **IGOR** TONY **IRENE** VALERIE **ISAAC** VINCE JOSE VIRGINIF **JOYCE** WALTER JUHA WHITNEY KARI WILLIAM KATIA 9

ALBERTO

KIRK

### ... not at all, per se from front.

books, we hold its future in our hands per se, mmkay?

On to another bothersome figure of speech: "I could care less". What this says is an individual has the potential to care a smaller amount. If the domain of caring "C" is C≥0 and amount of caring could be decreased within the domain, that means we are beginning at a positive nonzero quantity of caring. The correct phrase is "I couldn't care less", indicating the quantity of caring could not possibly decrease within the domain; therefore it is already zero per se. If goal of the statement is to convey an utter lack of caring, which phrase is more accurate? If someone said "Jesus was born in 1453", and you

replied "I could care less", that would open the door for conversation. "... and then he invented iron!" Before you knew it you'd be 2 hours deep in a one-way conversation about the finer points in life. If only you'd used proper English, the message would have gotten through and you would have had 2 free hours to spend... joining a broomball team, eating dinner, going for a walk, math homework, watching TV, any-damn-thing but class! 🎨

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