





# **Pepper Spray Times**

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

".Or rather, call my thought a certain knowledge.."\*

Vol. XVII No. 12

## Facebook, Google Defend Fake News as "much more popular"



STANFORD UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE between real and fake news according to a recent Stanford University study which proves that we love shallow, provocative headlines and are sitting around eating chips in the middle of a post-truth society.

By Dora Bull

Silicon Valley programmers are racing to tweak their algorithms in the light of the discovery that much more fake news than accurate news was shared and re-tweeted during the recent presidential election.

"We're not accepting any responsibility for the election results," Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg

"If the real news wants any real attention, it needs to get serious and wear stated LED-lit pasties like everybody else."

as he presented a seven-point plan which included putting warning labels on suspect information. "Historically, we have relied on our community to help us understand what is fake and what is not."

"We can't tell," responded readers, who readily acknowledged that they thought the



other primary purveyors of fake news have no intention of dismantling the lucrative advertising incentives playing the largest role in likely to change.

were just a joke.

shiny thing in the room," sighed one

researcher. "If the real news wants any real attention, it needs to get serious and wear LED-lit pasties like everybody else."

most recent headlines saying that Donald

Trump was going to be the next president

"And a tasteless one at that," commented

who

seriously.

one newspaper reader. "You never know

the fake news indus- MOST READERS adtry very little was mitted that they thought headlines stating Don-"Everybody runs ald Trump had won toward the blinking, the election were just a very bad joke.

will

something like that

mitted that since

Facebook, Google,

Twitter, and the

Researchers ad-

# Melania Apologizes for Trump Presidency: "I just wanted him out of the house"



AN EXHAUSTED MELANIA TRUMP apologized publically for Trump's win, explaining that the whole election thing was a ruse to get Trump off the couch and out of the house.

#### By Brianna Baygel

First Lady-elect Melania Trump apologized to reporters saying that encouraging her husband to run was just an effort to try to get him to turn off the tv and get out of the house.

"I never thought he would win," she said sheepishly. "Nobody did."

# Jesus May Not Come Back for the **Holiday Season**

**Customary Holiday Visit in** Jeopardy Because of Election

By Farrah Smettle

Jesus clarified at a recent press conference that suspending his usual holiday visit was not a protest against the recent presidential election.

"Im just kind of concerned about crossing the border," he explained. "I get profiled all

Critics responded that Jesus could still enjoy the lights on 4th Street under the last remnants of Obama's administration, but were dismissed.

"Nobody knows what's happening right now," stated Jesus. "I hear the country's being run out of some golf resort."

### ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, I am so tired of all this fake news. I thought it was at least safe to read the newspaper, but my newspaper says of all things that Donald Trump won the election. Čan you imagine. How stupid do they think we are.

Dear reader, yes, they must think we are complete fools. Consider getting your news from reliable sources, like the back of cereal boxes.

Dear Lena, there will be a new majority on the Berkeley City Council they're calling "progressive." Is that for real?

Dear reader, "progressive" has come to mean skyscrapers and homeless tent sweeps. Keep your Who's Next album handy.

Dear Lena, so is it true that we all get the government we deserve?

Dear reader, you get the government you deserve. And then I get the government you deserve, too.

Dear Lena, I would like to move out of the country to show my dismay, but I'm really fond of the local bakery. Should I follow my conscience or my stomach?

Dear reader, it's a tough call. But follow your stomach. No self-respecting country would have us after this.

Dear Lena, my relatives in Texas are elated over the recent election results and it really annoys me. I try to recommend books for them to read, but they just respond by sending books to me that I wouldn't read in a million years. What should I do?

Dear reader, your Texas relatives are having their Occupy moment. Their message has yet to stop echoing throughout the universe, and you can't compete right now. Quit with the books, already.

Ask Lena about swimming with water poloplaying dolphins who can predict the future at least on a par with your average pollster at cdenney@igc.org.

# Mea Culpa Smackdown **Pundits Wrestle Over Election Blame**

Election Explanations of **Grandiose Proportions** Considered for Next Olympic Games

By Yehudi Hellaryoo

"It started with a simple talking heads concept," stated one media expert over the excitement sweeping the nation about the new political 'mea culpa' television show.

"We thought it was odd that they wanted to take the blame," observed one media producer. "But look at Jill Stein's demand for a recount and imagine the publicity she'll get

for her next challenge to the Democratic Party and suddenly it all adds up."

"It isn't about what you do or what you say," added another television pundit shak-POLITICAL losers ing his head. "If you're on tv your chances of electoral victory skyrocket simply because you're there.'

The groups wishing to don exotic wrestling gear and compete for

electoral blame include Russian hackers, racists, voters, non-voters, Melania, Access Hollywood, the FBI, Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, Bernie Sanders supporters, misogynists, alt-media sites, the New York Times, pollsters, the Green Party, and the Libertarians.

are eager to apolo-

gize to upset vot-

ers in a new show

which may rate

higher than Danc-

ing with the Stars.

"We thought it was odd that Access Hollywood wanted to compete," stated one tv executive. "But it turns out they think that by releasing that tape they accidently made Trump more popular than ever."



LIBERTARIAN AND GREEN PARTY NOMI-NEES WRESTLE for the championship mea culpa trophy along with a raft of enthusiastic contenders in eye-catching costumes.



DELTA SMELT ARE CAGEY creatures organized along the lines of the mafia.

# **Delta Fish Admit** They Bribed Water **Resources Board**

- PayPal Claims They Had No Idea

By Noah Peelatahl

"We shouldn't have done it," admitted a smelt outside a recent hearing in Sacramento. "It's just that after all this time we began to feel desperate.

"And we had the money," added another smelt adjusting his cuffs. "We do really well down at the Oaks Club."

California's struggle over water resources has long been linked to corruption, but this is the first time fish have been implicated in a bribery scandal, according to historians.

"They don't have pockets," said one bewildered Water Resources Board staff member. "Nobody thought they had money. We knew they were affected, of course, and would have an interest in water policy, but we never really considered the possibility that they might, uh, play an active role."

Critics argue that the smelt are only doing what everybody else does who needs to have their voices heard in public policy matters, and are merely being practical, even traditional.

"I'm not admitting anything myself," responded one Delta smelt. "But the salmon turned us on to Paypal. We do most of our work online these days."

# Trump's first moves as

- 2. Sue the media.
- 3. Sue my hairdresser.
- 4. Sue Saturday Night Live.
- 5. Sue that lady on the plane.
- 6. Sue the Access Hollywood camera guy.
- 7. Sue the microphone guy, too.
- 8. Sue all the windmill makers.
- 9. Sue all the competing golf courses.

10. Sue Rosie O'Donnell.



### Californians Too Stoned to **Worry About National Election**

"Way" - California Voters

By Maybelline Y. Cantchabetrue

Some of the polling prediction discrepancies noticed nationwide by political observers can be explained easily in the handful of states which began loosening tight controls, first on "medical" and then on 'recreational" marijuana.

"We finally realized we were talking to people who were really baked," stated one poll taker. "It isn't just that they've forgotten how to do anything but play games on their phones. If you finally get somebody to answer one and actually get through you're in for a really weird ride.

Why dod I think my candodate head to be my best friend?

**Berkeley Election Losers Petition** Registrar to Overturn Results

By Burr Stanartery

Hurt and sorrowed by the way local election day anger turned against them, the well-financed less-progressive losers in Berkeley's recent city council races led by retiring Mayor Tom Bates are seeking speedy redress from a surprised Alameda County Registrar of Voters.

"We appeal, not to the heavens, but to the secret county delegates city voters actually elected," said a shaken Bates outside the registrar's office. "We were robbed, or was it our contributors? Now, we'll need to

build more marketrate housing than

ever in order to pay the m

November 30 the affirmation of the final

preceded DEVELOPERS WEEP afby one thin day ter losing their majority on the swearing-in the Berkeley City Council. of the four more Political insiders reassure progressive them that traditional presnewbies, but the 'rigged out' facting intends to 'material traditional pressures will create another safe harbor for their concerns in no time at all.

"take this abridgement of our liberties all

the way to the next Supreme Court."

Local political observers missed the out-

rage as designed to placate the large, outof-town donors which normally control Berkeley's political decisions.

"Just give it time," one political observer stated. "It's amazing what a little political moonlight can do."

"Just give it time," one political observer stated. "It's amazing what a little political moonlight can do."

to all but a few, so no one will know who to blame later on unless they compete on the Mea Culpa Smackdown show.

These delegates' identities and whereabouts are unknown

# **Who Says You Can't Eat Plastic?**

By Balazar Ringing

Emmy DeSalt likes to push parameters, especially around holiday time.

"I began to get much more creative once I got a food processor one holiday year," she confided. "I started to pulverize styrofoam peanuts and use them in baking, and things just took off from there."

DeSalt's recipe book boasts hundreds of ways to stretch a grocery dollar, including using holiday wrapping and packaging in meatloaf and pies.

"My kids wonder where their old socks go," she winked. "What they don't know won't hurt them."

"It's out of the box thinking," admitted one local food critic. "It might be the only EMMY way our local minimum wage workers can afford to do any holiday baking."



DESALT says plastic is quite good for the colon.

We Can't Draw Comics

SHE WASN'T

POLICYMAKERS TEND TO BE BORING AT

PARTIES AND

NOW THE COUNTRY

HAS TO SUFFER.

DULL ONTV.

THINKING.

by Franz Toast







### **Techsters Riot Over Lack of Trump App**

By Ensign Nada

Silicon Valley tech workers upset over the lack of apps to handle the Trump presidency trashed a Radio Shack store in Menlo Park recently, behavior seen as unusual for the normally docile group.
"We would have trashed the Apple Store,

but we need that," stated one of the group.

"They're normally pretty apolitical," stated one Silicon Valley insider. "They



APPLE STORES are a Sanders if they favorite holiday target voted at all," stated but rioting tech workers another avoid them so they can "And most of them get replacement ear buds. didn't vote."

don't usually have any idea who the president of anything is."

'Most of them voted for Bernie insider.

"We figured that if anything really important happened it would show up in Pokemon Go," confided one tech worker.

"It's true," confessed another Silicon Valley programmer. "I thought when it came to Donald Trump we could just swipe left."

When asked if the group had any demands they looked puzzled.

"We didn't know we could make any demands," confessed one of the rioters ad-



### **Pipelines Leak**

In Solidarity With the Water Protectors

justing his pocket protector. "We thought what you do is just kind of randomly smash things. That seems to be what other groups do around here."

"We didn't want to block the freeway," stated another tech rioter. "Pissing off the authorities is one thing. But pissing off a soccer mom with three screaming kids who need to pee in the back seat is something else again.'

Bewildered reporters asked if their con-

cern about the new Trump administration had anything to do with £1 visas, but the tech rioters said no.

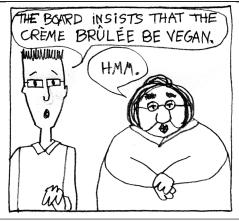
'This is Silicon Valley," they noted. "We appreciate that Washington, D.C., takes itself kind of seriously. But this is where the real rules come from."

Next Issue: Gardening with Glitter with Celebrities!

#### THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOCY

### by Juan Nathan Undergod







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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.



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We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.