



Pepper Spray Times



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

"...turning your books to graves, your ink to blood..."*

Vol. XVI No. 2

Public Sex Protest for Affordable Housing Takes Off

By Terrence Mashitt

City officials and reporters in San Francisco confirmed that poor people, homeless people, and advocates for poor and homeless people were having sex in public. They called reporters and quickly put the news on the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle to make sure especially sensitive people were warned in time to avert their eyes.

"At least two of them were," insisted a Chronicle staff member who was questioned regarding the epidemic portrayed recently on the paper's front page. "Mayor Ed Lee is deeply concerned that having sex in public will catch on like Batkid."

"It's not a bad idea," mused a local advocate for affordable housing. "Hundreds of affordable units were kicked off the rolls last year, evictions are skyrocketing, and the city just unveiled another building full



SAN FRANCISCO'S EFFORT to clear mid-Market of poor and homeless people for tech companies has resulted in a completely surprising and utterly unexpected relocation of poor and homeless people to the Civic Center area, where they run the risk of having sex in public and ending up on the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle, always at the ready.

of \$8,000 a month units."

"If having sex in public will get us front page coverage on the housing crisis, then we have an obligation to get involved," agreed another affordable housing advocate. "We're ready to make the sacrifice."

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UC Irvine Admits "Duck Dynasty" Star Was Mastermind of Initial Tobacco Policy

By Hank Eapanqui



DUCK DYNASTY star Phil Robertson thought the pro-chaw Irvine policy was perfectly reasonable.

It took just two weeks for UC Irvine to reverse its brand new campus tobacco policy which exempted both e-cigarettes

and chewing tobacco from a system-wide campus tobacco prohibition which took effect on January 1, 2014.

"We thought we had autonomy to come up with our own policy," explained Irvine's university spokeswoman Cathy Lawhon. "We didn't think that wuss Janet Napolitano could push us around."

"Their policy would have allowed e-cigarettes in classes," noted one staff member at the UC office in Oakland. "They didn't just come up with their own policy. They came up with their own unique perspective on acknowledged science, too."

"The science on chewing tobacco is just not definitive," stated David Timberlake, a UC Irvine associate professor of public health and epidemiology who was part of the Irvine task force. "I'm concerned that this policy change is being revised for political rather than public health reasons."

Timberlake was a member of the task force that developed the unique Irvine campus policy most of whom are in hiding now to avoid questions about the brave, albeit brief stance they took on behalf of e-cigarettes and chewing tobacco.

Others echoed Timberlake's displeasure. "It's about our freedom," stated Duck Dynasty star Phil Robertson. "Our freedom to expose others to clouds of nicotine-laced...whatever that stuff is in there."

The Office of the President declined to comment on the task force's unique take on tobacco-free policies and denied saying that the Irvine task force was a bunch of stoners who would smoke their mother's geraniums if they thought it would get them high.

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Tasers a Must for Valentine's Day, Say Police Experts

By S. Tosserado



SHE WILL LOVE this passionate expression of concern for her personal safety or sex toy, your choice.

The Berkeley Police held a "Valentine's Day

taser can be," she stated while standing by a table full of the devices, which deliver a high-voltage shock. "These hot pink ones are the perfect way to say 'I love you'."

**"This is about love."
- Officer Jennifer Coats**

Suggestions" event recently featuring the "loving" side of self-defense weaponry, according to department spokesperson officer Jennifer Coats.

"People think of chocolate and lingerie, but they don't realize how sexy a personal

currently are not part of the Berkeley police arsenal, but Coats dismissed the claim.

"This is not about our City Council's shameless inability to muster the political will to give us this important public safety tool," she said. "This is about love."

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ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, is it true that the backlash against tech workers is unfair and wrong? I was kind of getting into hating them. It's so fun. I finally feel like I am better than somebody.

Dear reader, go ahead and hate them if you want to. They're a bunch of rich, entitled, spoiled geeks with about as much political backbone as sheep. Just keep in mind that they're in charge now. Oh, you didn't know? Google it.

Dear Lena, does it make me a bad person that I want a raise?

Dear reader, yes, it makes you a bad person. All good people work for free.

Dear Lena, I thought the Buddhists were supposed to be the good guys. What are they doing bidding on our Post Office?

Dear reader, somewhere amid all the chanting and the incense and the transcendental new age music everybody forgot about the big theocracy gobbling up real estate. You'd think living all these years with the University of California would have taught this town something, but no. The next time you want to commit an obvious theft of the public commons, wear a saffron robe.

Dear Lena, but isn't it better to have the Buddhists own the Post Office than somebody else?

Dear reader, I see that you have swallowed the Kool-Aid. Here, take mine, too.

Dear Lena, I have failed at all my new year's resolutions. I really tried. What do I do now?

Dear reader, jump on the nearest Google bus and start panhandling. You'll probably make enough for a sandwich before they throw you off the bus, and you'll have a good story which is more than you have right now.

Feeling dizzy and out of sorts? Ask Lena about your mortgage and your love life at cdenny@igc.org.



THESE SILLY PEOPLE JUST CAN'T SEEM TO get with the program of rolling back workers' protections and benefits to make the world safe for corporations where the fatcats enjoy life and the rest of us get the chance to watch.

Transit Strike Ban Panned

By Lauren DeBar

A bill that would have spared suffering commuters from ever being inconvenienced again by stupid and pointless BART and bus strikes was killed in a state Senate committee by a bunch of people who just seem to think that workers can just strike whenever they want to even if they mess up somebody's whole plans for the whole day.

"They are just crazy," fumed one commuter about the bill's demise. "A couple of workers died, I know, but worker safety stuff is just so over --kind of like privacy."

"BART workers' expectations are just too high," agreed another commuter. "They want living wages and benefits and a safe workplace, for heaven's sake instead of putting up with whatever crap comes down the way the rest of us do."

California Senate Republican Bob Huff echoed their disappointment, saying that the committee that killed the bill was dominated by democrats who love traffic jams anyway so they can take their time getting to work and listen to liberal radio.

Democratic committee members commented that Senator Huff lives in southern California and as a resident of one of the most affluent communities in Los Angeles County wasn't inconvenienced in the least by the BART strike.

"Well at least they got that part right," laughed Senator Huff. "The day I take a bus somebody just shoot me."

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Dear Target Guests,

As you have probably heard, Target learned in mid-December that criminals forced their way into our systems, gaining access to guest credit and debit card information. It was probably those same guys on the Google bus you hate so much.

As a part of the ongoing forensic investigation, it was determined last week that certain guest information, including names, mailing addresses, phone numbers or email addresses, PIN numbers, passwords and treasured family recipies, was also taken.

Our top priority is making sure you just keep shopping away as usual and don't worry too much about our having leaked enough information about you, inadvertently, of course, to allow almost anybody to siphon off your bank account whenever they want to.

We moved as swiftly as we could to address the problem and we are actively taking steps like this ad to make sure that we look responsible. Well, not responsible, but like we care and like somebody else was responsible which they kind of were anyway.

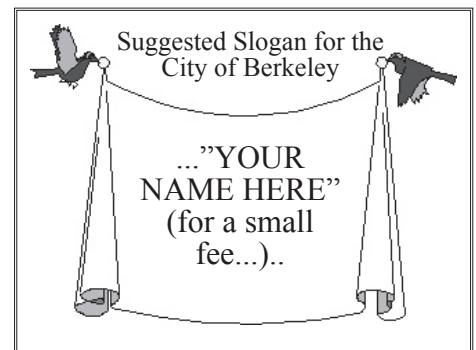
So come back and shop! We are eager to have you come back, so we're offering one year of free credit monitoring and identity theft protection so if somebody siphons away your bank accounts we will let you know.

If you lost all your money because of us, I bet you're frustrated and we are, too, since we look dumb right now. But come and shop anyway! We have a sale on bed sheets.

Cheers,

Gregg Steinhafel, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Target

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Google Gives Talking Points to Google Bus Riders

By Tom A. Hawk

Google employees were given company “talking points” according to a leaked memo which encouraged employees to attend a SFMTA meeting about the Google bus pilot plan which uses municipal facilities and might have to pay an actual dollar per stop.

The indignity of this plan is apparently not enough for the crabby anti-Google bus crowd which demonstrated in front of the hearing calling for tech companies to quit displacing San Francisco residents as if people wouldn’t prefer to live near hipster techies anyway since as long as they have their gadgets they’re so happy and happy people are fun.

The leaked memo encouraged employees to attend the meeting, gave them permission to identify themselves, and made sensible suggestions for what to say, such as:
 — I am so proud to live in San Francisco and be a part of this community that probably wishes they were just like me or at least had the cool gadgets I have.
 — I support local and small businesses in



WHEN WE CAN FINALLY FLUSH these confused people out of our cities we’ll have a utopia run by tech companies and the politicians who love them.



THE GOOGLE BUS is really a good thing, because it gives people like you something to shoot for in life.

my neighborhood on a regular basis with the obscene money I make off of your addiction to games and gadgets.

— My shuttle empowers my colleagues and me to reduce our carbon emissions by removing cars from the road and yes, I really use words like “empower” when I talk out loud and my own car doesn’t count.

— If the shuttle program didn’t exist, I would continue to live in San Francisco and drive to work on the Peninsula even though studies show what I just said was a complete crock.

— I am a shuttle rider, S.F. resident, and I volunteered at fill in the blank, whoops, I was supposed to think up something...

— Because of the above, I urge the board to adopt this pilot plan as a reasonable step in the right direction just like my employers wants me to so they only pay a dollar can I go home now.

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Big Buddhism Bids on Post Office

By Barbara Seville



Mangalam Centers and Dharma College bid on the Berkeley Main Post Office shocking thousands of Buddhists who have hummed and chanted stuff about right livelihood thinking it might have actually meant something.

“It’s a fire sale,” pointed out a spokesperson for Tarthang Tulku, one of the spiritual leaders for the group whose enlightenment is not in any way burdened by the millions of dollars in real estate the Tibetan Buddhist groups own both in Berkeley and throughout northern California.

Observers noted that the current Postal Service leadership is eager to destroy the unions and sell off the most valuable properties, making acquiring the distinctive Berkeley Main Post Office building tempting for the otherwise spiritually inclined.

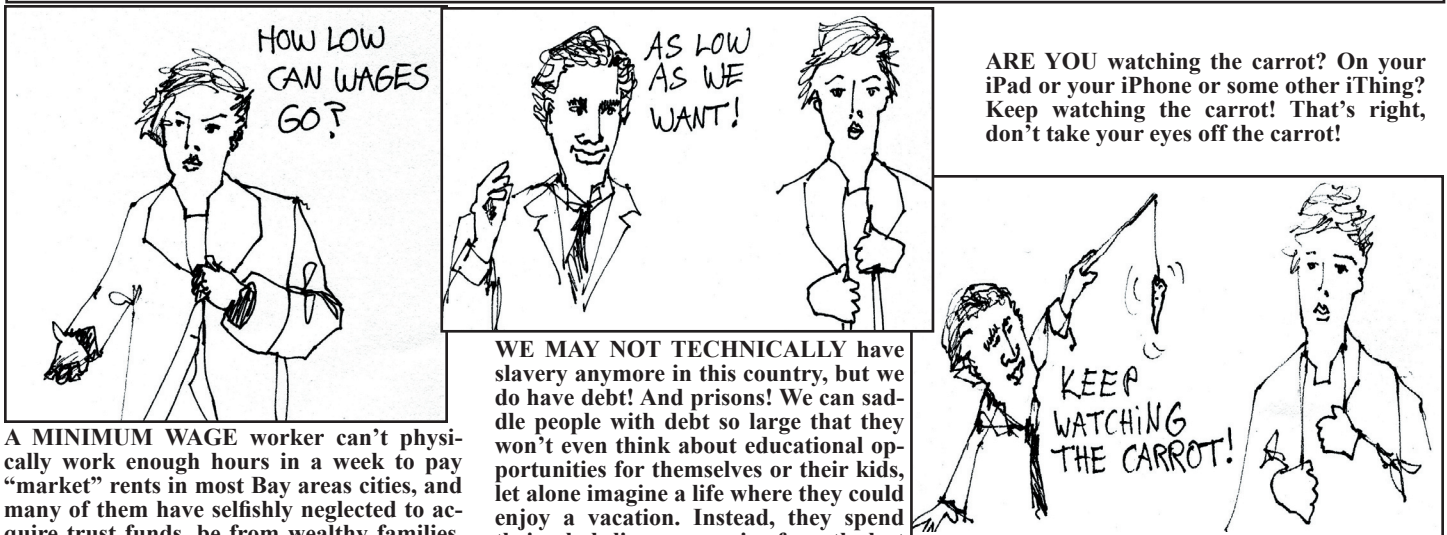
“What we would prefer is that no one bid on the property during this vulnerable period,” explained one of the Save Our Post Office protesters in front of Staples, which has opened a postal service center with non-union employees over public objections. “Our community has an opportunity to show solidarity with the workers being squeezed out of jobs and potential loss of a public building full of WPA art that we’ve already paid for and that our community needs at its center.”

The Buddhist organizations that own the rest of the block dismissed the public’s unenlightened concerns.

“These buildings will still be open to the public,” stated the organizations’ spokesperson. “At least from time to time if you can sit still for long periods and hum.”

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We Can’t Draw Comics by Franz Toast



A MINIMUM WAGE worker can’t physically work enough hours in a week to pay “market” rents in most Bay areas cities, and many of them have selfishly neglected to acquire trust funds, be from wealthy families, or have the foresight to marry someone who is rich.

WE MAY NOT TECHNICALLY have slavery anymore in this country, but we do have debt! And prisons! We can saddle people with debt so large that they won’t even think about educational opportunities for themselves or their kids, let alone imagine a life where they could enjoy a vacation. Instead, they spend their whole lives recovering from the last eviction! That is, if they’re not in jail!

We made that carrot just for you!

Drought Threatens Fracking's Future in California

By Holloway Joe

California's drought is a serious threat to the future of the water-intensive practice of fracking in California, experts agree.

Fracking, or hydraulic fracturing, requires shooting water and toxic chemicals deep underground to release fossil fuel deposits so that automobiles can still sit bumper from one end of the bridge to the other.

"Our rich traditions of sitting in traffic are at risk, of course," stated a spokesperson for Governor Jerry Brown. "But the critical future of fracking in the Golden State is at risk as well."

The oil and gas companies interested in exploiting Monterey's shale deposits are encouraging consumers to conserve water.

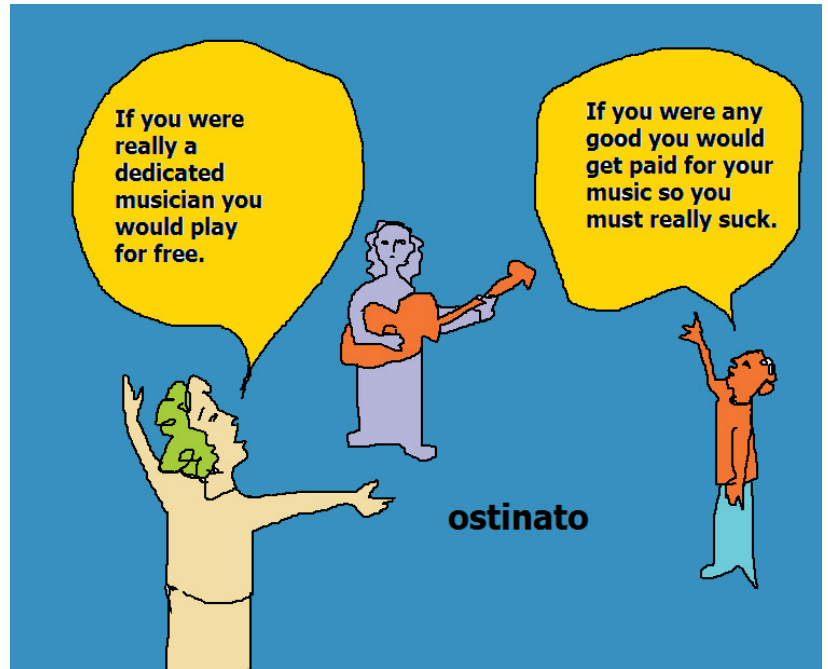
"Keep driving, but switch to Gatorade," stated one oil company spokesperson. "And try a milk bath."

Fracking supporters insisted that the economic benefits of water-intensive hydraulic fracking outweigh the environmental risks to the water table, adding that if water proved difficult to find then perhaps local artisanal wine or beer could be a handy substitute.

"Wineries and breweries are everywhere these days," stated one oil company official. "We've always thought of this as Plan B, using beer instead of water, which is organic and might affect the watershed in a positive way."

Environmentalists were dubious about the use of beer in hydraulic fracking operations.

"It might be less toxic," conceded David Turnbull of



Oil Change International, "but I'm not sure I'm ready to take a shower in beer."

Authorities acknowledged that laundering with wine might have its downside, but pointed out that climate change is going to require

some sacrifice.

"Think pink," stated one authority. "And imagine the lemonade."

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Next Issue: Watching toasters with celebrities!

THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOTCY

by Juan Nathan Undergod

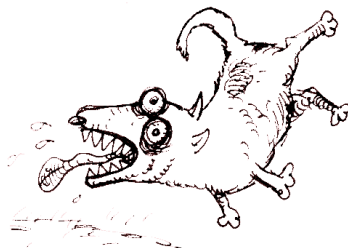


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*Henry IV Part 2

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