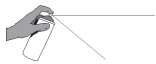


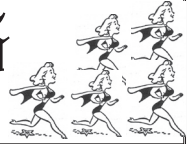
All hail the...

...the switch-hitting issue ...



# Pepper Spray Times

June 2010



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

"...one may smell, in such, a will most rank..."\*

Vol. XII No. 6

## Big Tobacco and FDA Try the Buddy System



Cigarette manufacturers have a provocative design suggestion for the newly renovated Food and Drug Administration building.

By Phyllis A. Cup

Lorillard Tobacco, the third manufacturer of cigarettes in the United States, announced that Dr. J. Daniel Heck will serve as a non-voting representative of the tobacco manufacturing industry on the Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee (TPSAC) of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

"We look forward to contributing our scientific point of view," stated Dr. Heck, "and making sure ashtrays are appropriately and tastefully placed throughout the facility."

Dr. Heck expressed confidence that broadening the perspective on the FDA Committee will result in better understanding that "a serious examination of menthol does not support an assertion that menthol impacts public health" and other issues of interest.

Dr. Heck's most recent manuscript, a glowing review of the use of menthol as a cigarette flavoring, was published in the January 2010 issue of Food and Chemical Toxicology.

Critics argued that seating a tobacco industry representative on the advisory committee was a conflict of interest,

but were dismissed.

"It's just like the University of California accepting corporate money," explained one FDA spokesperson. "It has no effect on the research, of course, plus I really don't know where else they'd get that kind of dough."

"This is just part of doing business," explained another FDA staff member. "Dr. Heck wears a nice white coat like any other doctor."

Studies have shown that menthol may facilitate absorption of harmful cigarette smoke constituents at greater rates, partly due to deeper inhalations, and that tobacco companies particularly target African Americans with menthol tobacco products.

"We can't help it if people like that cool, refreshing taste of menthol," stated Dr. Heck regarding Newport, Lorillard's flagship menthol-flavored premium cigarette brand, the top selling menthol and second largest selling cigarette in the U.S. "Menthol is extremely useful in helping us disguise the taste of the rat poison."

\* \* \* \* \*

## Gulf Oil Gusher - BP Suggests Draining the Ocean

By Hal Wedoing

BP continues to weather stinging criticism of its selfless efforts to stop the oil spilling into the ocean in the Gulf of Mexico while coming up with creative solutions to the problem, such as draining the ocean.



THIS THING was supposed to stop the oil gushing out into the Gulf of Mexico and destroying everything but it just somehow didn't work out that way.

Homeowners along the Florida, Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana coast objected to losing their beachfront property, but agreed that draining the ocean is probably the best course for plugging up the oil still gushing into the ocean.

"It'll be the next land boom," offered one homeowner. "It'll be the cheapest land deals next to tornado alley."

"This stuff is hard to swim in anyway," observed another homeowner. "Ask any duck."

"Ask any duck."

"Ask any duck."

\* \* \* \* \*



# ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, which is the right religion? I get so mixed up. Which one is the right one?**

Dear reader, the one with the shiniest objects is the right one. Any religion that gives you something that sparkles is your best bet.

**Dear Lena, will my new smart meter tell me the weather? I never know what to wear.**

Dear reader, yes, your smart meter will tell you the weather, but only for that exact moment, which may or may not be useful information a half an hour later. Always bring an umbrella, some sunscreen, and a kevlar vest.

**Dear Lena, I got my hours cut in half but my rent stayed the same, and I am running out of money. What should I do?**

Dear reader, nothing whatsoever. Your rent will be automatically reduced to reflect your new, abbreviated wage because, after all, the world is a fine and fair place to live and there is no room left under the bridges.

**Dear Lena, I want to stay well-informed, but I don't want to read the paper or attend city council meetings or have to watch it online or anything. Can you help me?**

Dear reader, yes, there is an app for that through the Pepper Spray Times. We will run a feed straight to your brain so that you can make cogent comments on affairs of the day, local, national, and even extraterrestrial, without having to pay attention. Just send us a check for \$799.99 made out to me.

Ask Lena about fashionable noodles at [cdenney@jgc.org](mailto:cdenney@jgc.org).

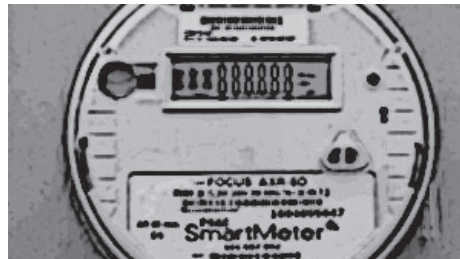
# PG&E Insists Most of its Meters Are Smarter Than a Fifth Grader

By Karen N. Sharen

PG&E's new "smart" meters are not popular with consumers, who claim that their energy bills skyrocket after "smart" meter installation, that the meters don't accurately reflect energy use, and that even a ten year-old can beat them at chess.

"I tried to get my smart meter to talk to me about Proposition 16," said one local resident in an annoyed tone, "and all it would say is that PG&E wouldn't spend \$44 million on something if it wasn't good for me."

PG&E spokespersons objected that smart meters really are smart, maybe even too smart, and that people just



**YOU CAN TELL** if your meter is smart not only because it will say so right on its extremely intelligent face, but also because it knows its time tables up to twelve and ties its own shoes.

needed to give them a chance.

"Start slowly," advised one PG&E consumer advisor. "Don't begin by challenging your energy bill's accuracy. Chat about the weather. Offer to share a recipe. Your smart meter will begin to respond, and soon you'll be sharing stock tips."

"It's hard for most people to accept that their smart meters are smarter than they are," stated another PG&E consumer energy advisor. "But if they can learn to stop being defensive and trust their smart meters, then these little discrepancies over their bills will begin to stay in perspective."

"Be proud of your smart meter," advised another PG&E spokesperson. "If your meter prepares a nice breakfast for your family in the morning, be sure to thank it, and compliment the nicely browned toast and hand-squeezed orange juice. Your smart meter is capable of helping your twelve year old with his or her trigonometry homework later in the day, as long as it is in the mood."

\* \* \* \* \*



**SMART METERS**, given half a chance, could figure out the BP gulf oil gusher problem in no time at all.

## Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Response



What we're doing.  
How to get more information.

Since the tragic accident on the Transocean Deepwater Horizon rig first occurred, we have been committed to doing all kinds of things to stop the flow of oil at the seabed.

We hate this kind of thing, we really do. It makes us look like fools for spending so much money trying to distance ourselves from our previous name, British Petroleum, to improve our image. We are considering another switch to something like, "Sweetness and Light Oil Company."

We will honor all legitimate claims. Just bring in the dead fish or manatees or whatever and we'll talk.

As stupid as this makes us look, we are really smart. We are used old golf balls and stuff to plug the well - after trying every which way to tap it, of course. And don't expect anybody to quit off-shore drilling. Or driving. It's the American way. --BP





# How to Tell Who Is and Who Isn't An Illegal Alien

Ten Practical Suggestions and Useful Tips for Employers, Law Enforcement Professionals, and Arizona Governor Jan Brewer...

By Fiona Yew

Arizona Governor Jan Brewer acknowledged, when asked whether or not she knew what an illegal alien looked like, that she didn't know, setting the stage for a lot of confusion as people try to enforce SB1070, Arizona's new crack-down on undocumented workers.

**Spotting illegal aliens is easy!** Here are some helpful hints for those trying to navigate the new law.

· *Illegal aliens tend to know the U.S. Constitution by heart and can recite all the amendments in order.* -- Most American citizens don't know this stuff unless they've been trying to get on Jeopardy.

· *They can tell you the name of the specific elected representative for their state and region.* -- A typical American citizen thinks their elected representative is either Sarah Palin, Brittany Spears, or Martha Stewart, and gets the three mixed up.

· *They can pick the American flag out of a lineup of flags from other countries.* -- American citizens think the American

flag is just part of the big box of decorations for the 4th of July and stores it with the firecrackers, the Betsy Ross costume and the big, stripey Uncle Sam pants.

· *They have no particular disrespect for the government.* -- Most Americans think the government is out to get them and that's why they need their large, shiny collection of guns.

· *They would be willing to see a foreign film.* -- Most Americans will not see a film that doesn't have recognizable celebrities, is in English, has at least one car chase and is the sequel to something they've already seen.

· *They vote.*

· *They are willing to learn a new language.* -- Americans would rather die than learn to pronounce whatever they're trying to order in a restaurant.

· *They respect the Constitution.* -- Americans tend to see the Constitution as an elastic document conferring upon them



**WHICH ONE is the illegal alien? If you find it hard to tell, be sure to study hard, because it could be you.**

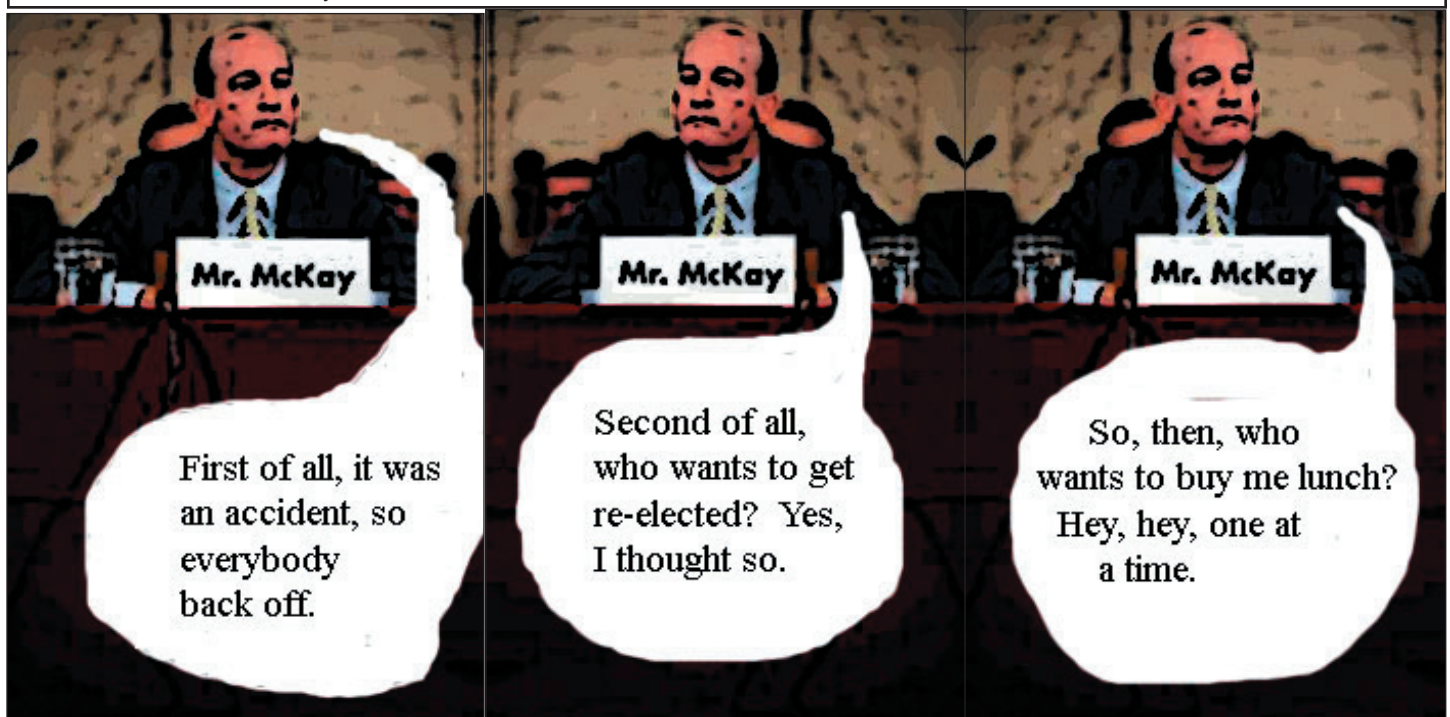
non-existent rights, such as the right to smoke, fart, and especially to violate any particular rule they don't like.

· *They don't mind meeting people from other cultures.* -- Americans tend to think people who speak foreign languages are doing so deliberately to be annoying, and will understand English if shouted at loudly and repeatedly.

· *They love America.* -- Americans tend to think the country is so far off track that they're ready to join a militia, destroy it, and start over with a pile of guns, some microwave popcorn, and a pile of DVDs.

\* \* \* \* \*

We Can't Draw Comics by Franz Toast



# Football Games Booted

By Saul Delight

"We are thrilled to be playing our 2011 home games at AT&T Park," stated University of California (UC) Berkeley's football coach Jeff Tedford after the university reached an agreement with the San Francisco Giants to squeeze games into their schedule.

"We are even more thrilled than Jeff Tedford is," chimed in Berkeley's Memorial Stadium neighbors, who often wear dark glasses at night when the stadium lights are on, and are adept at sidewalk vomit-removing skills.

Tedford's enthusiasm for AT&T Park has re-ignited discussion about relocating the Memorial Stadium entirely from the foot of Strawberry Canyon, where it blocks the natural stream and is located on top of the Hayward earthquake fault on unstable soil underneath a natural caldera moving several inches downward every year.

"We'd like it relocated to El Cerrito," offered one neighbor to the stadium,

**Next Issue: Getting Abducted with Celebrities**

"or maybe Hayward."

UC officials gushed over AT&T Park's proximity to public transportation, a sharp contrast from Memorial Stadium, which has no public transportation, no parking, and causes so much congestion that nearby residents park somewhere east of Nevada on game days.

"It's pretty bad," acknowledged one Bears fan about the transportation issue. "We have to walk through a town filled with mile after mile of empty storefronts, and you can't sit down or they'll take you for a panhandler."

"That's why we wear so much blue and gold," added his wife. "We're just trying to avoid a ticket."

\* \* \* \* \*

## BOYCOTT • DIVESTMENT • SANCTIONS

"Non-cooperation with evil is as much a responsibility as co-operation with good."

Mohandas Gandhi 1869 - 1948



In response to continuing violations of human rights and international law, the United States' counterpart, Israel, is justifiably being boycotted by much of the international community. Individuals, churches, unions, institutions and municipalities are divesting from and boycotting Israeli products. The empty chairs in my poster represent the absent artists, academics and entertainers who are honoring the Palestinian civil society's call for a boycott.

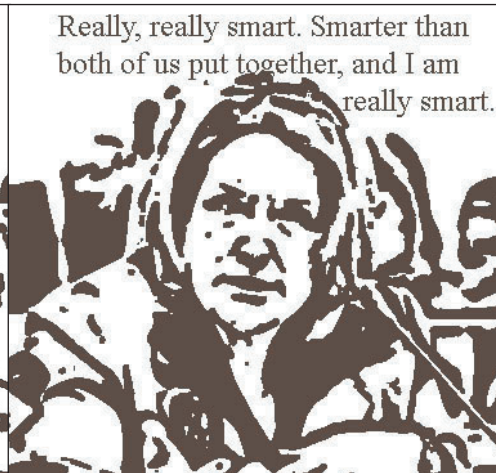
For more information contact: The U.S. Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation  
www.endtheoccupation.org/ or phone (202) 332-0994

## THE ADVENTURES OF PG&E

by Nathan Undergod



So, Ms. Burt, how smart are these smart meters you're talking about?



Really, really smart. Smarter than both of us put together, and I am really smart.



Really? Except for the dumb ones? Exactly.

The Pepper Spray Times gratefully accepts donations, death threats, mailing list additions, etc. at:

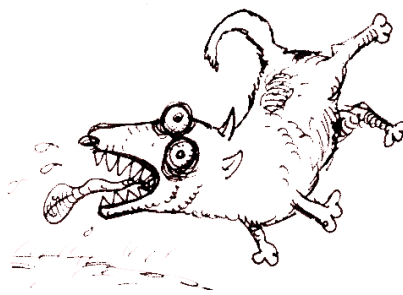


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Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by...



Hardly available anywhere; mailed or emailed to your door for a modest bribe of \$12 - \$20/yr. Plagiarize wildly; donations gladly accepted.

\* Othello

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.