

the
happy
holiday
issue...



Pepper Spray Times



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

"...twas never my desire yet to trouble the poor with begging.."*

Vol. XVI No. 12

Non-voters Win By Landslide

By Gladys Overnow



BETTY BOOP voted because she is such a rebel.

Non-voters declared victory in the recent election, popping champagne and dancing into the wee hours as precinct after precinct reported that a majority of eligible voters elected to forget about the election and watch tv.

"I find the results really interesting to watch," observed one non-voter after the election results were declared. "I especially like the pounding music and the intensity they put into the coverage."

"It's like a sports match," agreed another non-voter. "You almost start to care who wins."

Political observers acknowledged that non-voters continue to hold a commanding lead nationwide with the lowest voter turnout since 1942.

"They're by far the biggest group in the



NON-VOTERS WERE WILDLY successful on a coordinated campaign of non-turnout which ensured a Republican majority for years to come.

political landscape," stated one political scientist. "We need to study these people and understand them. If they started their own party they'd win every election there is nationwide."

The non-voters celebrating their electoral landslide agreed, but expressed concern that their message might run the risk of being misinterpreted if they actually voted.

"We feel we send our best message with our non-message," stated one non-voter. "This way everybody can find something in it to relate to and none of us have to actually agree."

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BERKELEY CENTRAL can't figure out why nobody wants to live there.

admitted one of the sales-people for the units. "It's hard to get them excited about

living in a super-expensive little box near BART with a view of Chase Bank."

A homeless guy living in a box near BART with a view of Chase Bank disagreed, but understood that his cardboard situation was a lot less costly and portable to boot.

"Jesus might deal with it better than some people," he mused. "At least he thinks he's one of us."

* * * * *

Vandals Have No Choice But to Break Windows

By Anton A. Doughnut

The vandals who smashed store windows and set street fires in Oakland after the Ferguson grand jury's controversial decision justified their destruction by explaining to their horrified neighbors that they really had no other way to express themselves.

"I have no choice," clarified one vandal kicking out the glass in a local coffee shop. "I hate the idea of voting, I can't be bothered to write letters, and I really need some premium coffee."

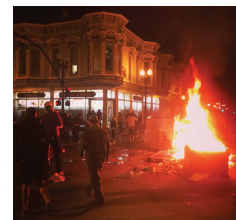
Another masked vandal echoed a similar personal frustration.

"I ignore jury summons, I get bored at commission meetings, and I personally need a new phone cord," she said. "Attacking this neighborhood business is really the only option I have left."

Other vandals agreed that they had completely forgotten how to sing, paint, write poems, do investigative journalism, organize their communities, and start newspapers and radio stations.

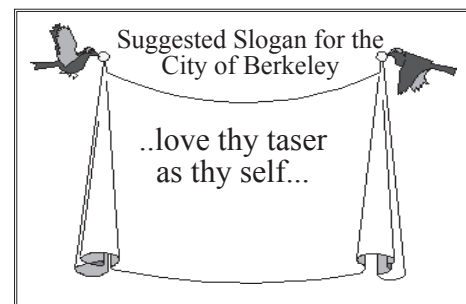
"Burning down the yarn store is the only way I have to express myself," agreed another masked vandal. "I also tried knitting once and it was really frustrating."

* * * * *



PROTESTERS WHO vandalize local businesses really wish there was some other way to express themselves but there just isn't.

Carol Denney and Jimmy Bruno at the Freight and Salvage 8:00 pm, Dec. 30, 2014, 2020 Addison, Berkeley, CA.



Jesus Returns, Buys High End Mini-Condo

Traditional Holiday Trip to Bay Area Results in Property Sale

By Mercy N. Usall

Jesus affirmed he bought one of the eensy beensy condos in the Berkeley Central development which has had trouble attracting buyers, adding that like many of his new neighbors, he only plans to use it for temporary purposes.

"Eye of the needle and all that aside, it's difficult to to even turn around in my unit," stated Jesus. "Even if all you want is a pied-a-terre after a night of partying in San Francisco, where do you hang your crown of thorns?"

"The units are really small and really, really expensive," confided one local developer. "We knew there would be an endpoint to this nonsense."

"People generally come with baggage,"

"...Where do you hang your crown of thorns?..."

ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, I am appalled at the decision in Ferguson not to indict the officer who shot an unarmed teenager, but I can't figure out how it relates to smashing up the local yarn store. I kind of liked the yarn store. What's the connection?

Dear reader, many readers misinterpret yarn store destruction as pointless, but the defenders of this practice argue that yarn's long continuous length of interlocked fibres stands as a metaphor for the community's complicity in all injustice, in addition to the fact that knitting itself is an essentially frustrating experience. The media generally leaves this connection out of its coverage, confusing everyone.

Dear Lena, is there anyplace left that hasn't been ruined by humans?

Dear reader, the bottom drawer of my desk is probably the last of it. It is a wilderness organized by gravity alone.

Dear Lena, I think one of those suspicious activity reports was about me. What should I do?

Dear reader, I would advise relocation. If you are patient you can sign up for a Mars colony in only a few short years.

Dear Lena, why do they keep building luxury condos? There are people living in the bushes around City Hall, for heaven's sake. Can't the politicians see them? Should I give them a tour?

Dear reader, this is one of the greatest mysteries of the known universe. It has confounded the greatest thinkers and is on NASA's to-do list as soon as they are done with all the Mars rovers and landing on comets and stuff.



YARN MIGHT seem benign to the uninitiated, but serves as a profound metaphor for injustice.

Ask Lena about how to make your chocolate milk bubble at cdeneaney@igc.org.



Community organizing

We excel at grassroots community organizing projects that give neighborhoods a voice.

Barnes Mosher Whitehurst Lauter & Partners, better known as BMWL of the slick website pictured above, are not used to losing their electoral objectives in the humiliating fashion they just did in Richmond's 2014 city council election. Apparently some people in Richmond just didn't get the memo about not voting which usually works out really well for rich people.

All the tools you need to win - usually

BMWL and Partners is a full service advocacy, strategic communications and public affairs consultancy that worked with Chevron in the recent election. We don't really know what went wrong. Our disciplined research, message, organizing and government relations programs usually help our clients to effectively influence decision-makers and win in the halls of government, at the ballot box and in the marketplace of ideas. In other words, for the right amount

of dough, we get you what you want.

We'd like to know what's going on. We thought Citizens United was all we needed to run the show from here on out. It's the Supreme Court for heaven's sake. What more could we need. If Chevron doesn't have enough money to buy an election we're starting to worry about who does. You should worry, too; if we can't control things imagine your chance. Sincerely,

Barnes Mosher Whitehurst Lauter & Partners, better known as BMWL.

Suspicious Activity Reports Focus On Terrorist Ground Squirrels, Say Police

By Claudio Verhead

The Berkeley police acknowledged recently that they had sent five reports of suspicious activities in Berkeley to the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center since October of last year, but that the majority of the reports were about suspicious ground squirrel behavior connected to the Sovereign Citizens movement's strong anti-government beliefs.



THE POLICE REALLY appreciate it when you report on your neighbors' suspicious activities because now and then they need a doughnut.

pointing out that suspicious activity reports are typically stacked up even higher than rape kits.

"Nobody vets this stuff at the other end so it gets kind of like the garage does once you move out the car," acknowledged an anonymous Homeland Security agent. "We're so afraid of missing something that almost everybody is in our database. Especially if

"Who doesn't have strong anti-government beliefs?" scoffed one critic of the Homeland Security initiative,



TERRORIST GROUND SQUIRRELS continue to occupy Cesar Chavez Park frightening joggers and bird watchers. they're from Berkeley."

Another Homeland Security agent affirmed that they'd all gotten a good laugh out of Berkeley's measly five reports.

"That's nothing compared to what other agencies and other people turn in about Berkeley. We got half the City Council reporting on the other half," she laughed. "We got most of the college kids and a lot of the street people in our database so we're only missing a few professors and that's just a matter of time."

"Don't forget the poets," added another agent. "We had to build an additional wing for reports on them."

"We want to be thorough," affirmed another agent. "We're hoping to be a model for other communities. Our ground squirrel database is state of the art."

* * * * *

Lazy Children Refuse to Find Housing

State Places 48th Among 50 States for Dealing with Children's Homelessness

By Noel D. Answers

State officials acknowledged that California's homeless children are exceedingly reluctant to buy the multitude of available



NEWLY ELECTED REPUBLICANS head for their congressional orientation meeting.

Republican World Disorienting - Counseling Available

By Judith Agree

Democrats and traditionally democratic voting groups peered anxiously out their front doors or sleeping bags at an all-Republican world on November 5th after the election polls closed.

"I'll say it's different," responded one local LGBT voter gingerly adjusting her flag lapel pin. "Apparently I'm going to hell."

"I've cleaned out my closet just in case," stated another LGBT resident. "I've been there before, but it's been awhile."

Republicans rushed to reassure the nation that their new majorities in both the House and the Senate will not mean they exclusively represent the wealthy.

"The poor are an important part of this victory," stated new Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. "Somebody's got to keep up the lawn."

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REPUBLICANS hope to beef up their numbers by offering free pool toys to people concerned about climate change.

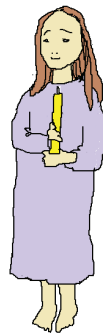
empty luxury condominiums sitting empty on the market.

"It's isn't like we don't have available housing," stated one frustrated city planner. "It's that these children are absurdly picky about their surroundings."

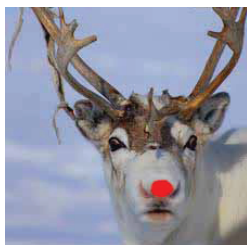
California has 526,708 homeless children who insist on sleeping in cars, shelters, local parks and simply refuse to bid on the many high-end condo units being built to address housing needs.

"They need education," stated one developer sadly shaking his head. "And a good credit rating."

* * * * *



DON'T feel sorry for this stubborn little girl who refuses to buy a condo.



RUDOLPH'S ANGRY texts caused a stir at Santa's workshop which has no union.

Santa's best-known reindeer refused comment after apparently texting a message of discontent to co-workers and twitter fans about difficult working conditions required for pulling Santa's sleigh.

"He's really distracting people from the spirit of the season," commented Santa. "We have our problems as a working group, but we keep them in-house."

Rudolph apparently had some issue with

Man Looks Up From Cell Phone

By Maude Lynn Overstatement



DON'T MAKE THE MISTAKE this man did of looking up from your cell phone or risk the dangerous consequences.

A local Oakland man recently looked away from his iPhone and nearly lost track of his Twitter thread when he accidentally noticed a lovely sunset, according to witnesses.

"It was really pretty," stated Horace Voice, still shaken from the unexpected experience. "It was very distracting."

Experts agree that exotic weather patterns and conditions run the risk of arresting the attention of pedestrians and drivers deep in communication with others and could have potentially devastating impacts on technological advances.

"We're wondering if walking blinders might help," stated one scientists. "These sunsets are simply relentless."

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Rudolph's Texted Comments Spark Unrest

Unrealistic Attitude About Wages and Working Conditions Upsets Season of Good Cheer

By Abe Itchonwheels

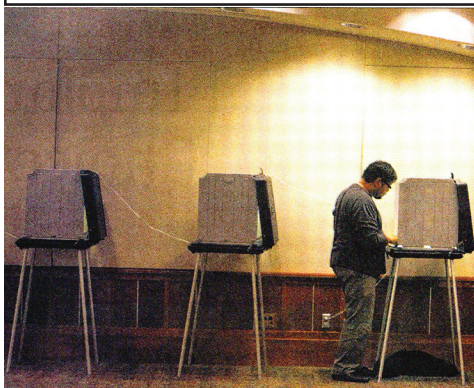
the famously non-union Santa's Workshop and the requirement to work all night on Christmas Eve traveling around the entire world in inclement weather, but wouldn't add any additional observations.

"There's nothing to add, really," stated Rudolph. "When the others sign their union cards we can move forward. Until then you'll be hearing a lot of this 'spirit of the season' crap."

* * * * *

We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



Nuclear Plant Quake Standards Adjusted to Help Address Perceptions of Seismic Safety Issues



DON'T THESE PRETTY PIPES look tidy and safe? Learn to trust PG&E and your regulatory experts to know what's safe for you and your family.

By Gordon B. Headed

Federal regulators who secretly revised a key element in the PG&E Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant's license defended their actions by saying that the cozy relationship between PG&E and the regulatory agency is just "positivity" about the upcoming nuclear spring which will rescue the nation from frivolous concerns about fossil fuels and climate change.

"We also got caught up in the play-offs," stated PG&E's spokesperson Blair Jones.

"Besides that we just are a kind of friendly, cooperative group of people."



TRY NOT TO let your personal paranoia affect your aesthetic appreciation of your local nuclear power plant.

"Unilaterally altering the methodology for measuring seismic safety is just good business," stated Lara Uselding, spokesperson for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. "When you try to talk to the public about

this stuff they just go haywire."

Friends of the Earth is only one of the environmental groups expressing concern about PG&E and the commission blowing off their own seismic safety rules and has



PEDESTRIANS ACTUALLY WALKED THROUGH a newly designed plaza on Annie Street in San Francisco sending planners into ecstasy over the future potential of plant-free parks.

Plant/People-free Public Spaces A Cautious Success, Say Planners

By Apollo G. Zardooya

Planners cautiously celebrated the new "flexible" plant and people-free "park" space on San Francisco's Annie Street while crossing their fingers that it won't meet the same fate as a nearby plaza which is now fenced-off.

~~~~~  
filed suit, according to senior strategic adviser Damon Moglen.

"They're using old Geiger counters in there," stated Moglen, a concern which was dismissed by Uselding.

"Last year, Commissioner Michael Peck recommended shutting us down, too," responded Uselding with a chuckle. "We ignored him, of course. What we really need is a public, a press, and certainly regulatory commissioners who have more faith in our considerable expertise in levies and colorful pool toys."

\* \* \* \* \*

"The problems start when people actually use the space," stated urban designer Robin Abad. "We're counting on nearby businesses to activate and maintain the space in an appropriate way."

Critics argue that privatizing public space is unfair, especially since only the rich can afford to live indoors anymore, but were dismissed by Abad.

"Living outside isn't cheap, either," noted Abad, while members of the Yerba Buena Community Benefit District which spent \$118,000 on the project nodded. "But our main concern is that nobody actually use the space unless it's a planned activity."

"Social programming, like a movie night," added another planner. "With the right fee you get the right people."

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**Next Issue: Chasing police cars with celebrities!**

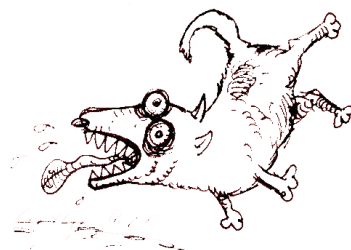
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\*Coriolanus

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