

the pumpkin-pocked issue...



# Pepper Spray Times



It's roseate...it's free...if you can find it "with words more sweet, and yet more dangerous..."\*

Vol. XVII No. 10

## Newsflash: *Nobody* Liked the Chief of Police

### Chief Meehan Offered to Spend More Time With Officers Before Resignation - Officers Said We'll Get Back to You

By Art Throb

A survey of over half the Berkeley Police Department (BPD) produced nearly 80 pages of scathing criticism of Chief of Police Michael Meehan's "weak leadership" and "inconsistent communication" among other issues, according to anonymous BPD staff member before Meehan's resignation.

"It's extensive," sighed another BPD staff member sadly regarding the list of serious issues associated with Chief Meehan's tenure. "It ranged from 'not my cup of tea' to 'this guy is a clown' to a lot of stuff that's unprintable."

Department morale had sunk to an all-time low, according to both the survey results and staff members who worry about the relatively new local and national respect for police accountability.

"Black Lives Matter has changed the game," acknowledged one anonymous officer. "All this second-guessing and public video really puts a cramp in the good old 'gas'em, arrest 'em, and sort them out later'



CHIEF OF POLICE MICHAEL MEEHAN apparently couldn't buy a friend at the Police Department even though he was fully armed.

approach we're used to."

The Police Review Commission doesn't have the votes to deprive the Berkeley Police Department of using CS gas, at least not yet, observers note. But its use on Black Lives Matter protesters in Berkeley

has increased focus on chemical weapons, baton strikes, and additional police tactics.

"We're going to be so self-conscious next time," lamented one officer. "It's just no fun anymore."

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## Berkeley Police Admit Dispersal Orders Counterproductive

### "This is Berkeley, so..."

By Ayn Tappenin

"Caution-Giving prolonged dispersal orders on Telegraph Ave. during the school year using the LRAD was disadvantageous as it caused crowd size to grow dramatically." -

"It brought us all outside," affirmed University of California (UC) student Saul E. Wrote about the December 2014 garbled dispersal orders used by the Berkeley Police Department on the southside of campus during three days of protest.

"We sure couldn't study," stated another UC student, "and we had no idea what was being said. We had to go outside to find out what was going on."

"It was awesome," added another student. "We heard about this kind of thing at Berkeley, but we never thought we'd have our own stories to tell."

"Or our own lawsuits to launch," contributed another student. "The combination of blinding CS gas and incomprehensible dispersal orders is guaranteed bank."

Critics argued that the Berkeley Police Department (BPD) created difficulties by immediately assuming all protesters were violent and intended to attack their headquarters, which proved false.

"We're a little sensitive on the point," conceded one officer. "It's our clubhouse."

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TELLING BERKELEY PROTESTERS to disperse is about as useful as telling police officers to use de-escalation and restraint.

## Agnos: "Amphibious Assault Ship Perfect for Poor"

By Tim R. S. N. Tenuous

Former San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos has called for the use of the USS Peleliu, an amphibious assault ship named for one of the bloodiest battles in World War II, to house the poor.

"Tourists line up for boat rides," Agnos stated. "It can't be that bad."

Critics argued that the use of battle ships to house the thousands of people now vying for non-existent affordable housing would not be well-served by military quarters and that the plan would preserve the current plan to build only expensive housing displacing more and more people."

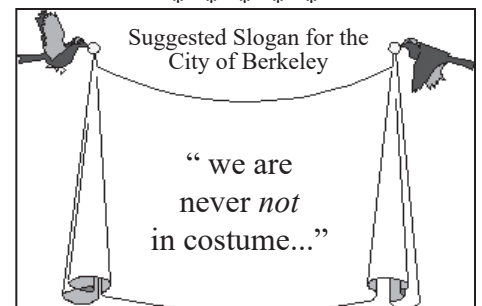
"Well, exactly," said Agnos. "This situa-



WHO WOULDN'T FEEL proud and excited to live on a nice big boat like this one which just needs a few throw pillows to feel like home.

tion here is a success story for people who can afford it or who are invested in it. Everybody else needs to check out new digs in Henrietta, Kansas."

\* \* \* \* \*



Suggested Slogan for the City of Berkeley

"we are never not in costume..."

# ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, shouldn't Hillary Clinton smile more? Wouldn't that make more people like her? I don't understand why everybody is upset when people tell her to smile more because it can't hurt unless you're looking at a wild dog.**

Dear reader, uncommitted voters have a lot in common with wild dogs. But the real problem with Secretary Clinton according to most voters is that she doesn't show enough cleavage. Thousands of high-kicking Vegas dancers cannot be wrong.

**Dear Lena, there were a lot of people signed up to ride on the rocket that blew up. Do they get their money back if they're having second thoughts?**

Dear reader, yes. There are hundreds more right behind them ready to go out in Elon Musk's blaze of glory.

**Dear Lena, I'm so sad they are taking away the exploding phones, especially right before Christmas. There were some people I really wanted to give one to.**

Dear reader, I know exactly what you mean. It's the perfect gift for that certain someone.

**Dear Lena, almost everybody at City Hall is brand new these days. Is that why nobody can find the bathrooms?**

Dear reader, no, the bathrooms themselves have been playing hide and seek for years. It is merely a rumor, but it is possible that the lack of bathrooms played a role in the Chief of Police's exit. There is only so long you can hop on one foot.

**Dear Lena, another historic building bursts into flames right before being "developed" - should we be suspicious?**

Dear reader, don't be silly. Nobody loves our precious historical buildings and works harder to preserve them than developers.

*Ask Lena about applying for the position of Chief of Police at [cdenny@jgc.org](mailto:cdenny@jgc.org).*

# High Cost of Housing Makes People Sick and Crazy

By Wendy Cockcrows

The Public Health Department in Alameda County concluded after a study that the high cost of housing is linked to hypertension, asthma, depression, anxiety, and even schizophrenia.

"Hundreds of our clients are falling ill



IF YOU DO ENOUGH YOGA you can find corners of your car which nicely accommodate a good night's sleep so you can be at work bright and early in the morning if you're not in jail.

due to the instability of their housing, struggling with evictions, or trying to keep their families together while living in their cars," stated one Alameda County Public Health worker.

"He's right," stated one of his tenants whose rent was suddenly raised from \$800 to \$1,400 a month. "I clearly did not plan far enough ahead and darn it neither did my wife and kids."

"The housing crisis is a matter of life and death."

Landlords dismissed the claim, saying that their health has never been better and that poor people are taking the wrong approach to housing.

"It isn't that difficult," stated Michael Marr, who owns hundreds of Bay Area



LIVING IN YOUR CAR doesn't have to be stressful if you do stretching exercises with your family and tape your glasses to the ceiling.

properties. "I had the foresight to buy foreclosed homes when they all hit the market at once. It's not my fault other people weren't thinking ahead."

"He's right," stated one of his tenants whose rent was suddenly raised from \$800 to \$1,400 a month. "I clearly did not plan far enough ahead and darn it neither did

my wife and kids."

Critics observed that Marr was indicted by a federal grand jury

along with eleven other East Bay real estate investors in 2014, alleging they made a pact not to compete with one another at foreclosure auctions.

"That's just planning ahead," responded Marr with a smile. "A wink and a nod is what built this country."

\* \* \* \* \*

# Falcon 9 Explodes, Russians, Zika Blamed

By Tony Doff

A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket exploded during a test on a launch pad at Cape Canaveral, and company owner Elon Musk is asking for help on Twitter in figuring out why.

Twitter responded immediately with suggestions as to why the \$300 million dollar project exploded.

"Aliens," pronounced one Twitter contributor, to the affirmation of most followers. "It is well known that aliens have been behind most of the disasters we experience here on earth, including large stage shows and out-of-control children's birthday parties."

Others insisted that presidential candidate Hillary Clinton was behind the explosion, followed by Russians and the Zika virus.



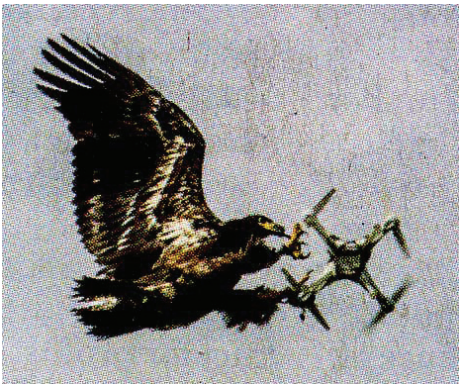
\$300,000 MILLION might seem like a lot of money to some of us but not to Elon Musk, who can buy another rocket and the whole state of Florida if he wants to.

CEO Musk defended his use of Twitter as an investigative tool.

"I have to start somewhere," he stated. "I personally have no clue."

\* \* \* \* \*





EAGLES ARE BEGINNING A NEW START-UP clearing the skies of pesky drones that whine around over your picnic.

## FAA Thinks Drones' Popularity Will Block Out the Sun



By Seton N. D. Dark

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is anticipating that its new rules authorizing "small", or under 55 pound, drones to fly without a special license will flood the skies with hobbyists and commercial users and actually change the weather.

"We have thousands of applications for permits just sitting on a desk somewhere," stated one FAA official. "We figure by Christmastime the skies will look like green flies at a picnic."

"It will be the end of some businesses," nodded another FAA official. "There's no need to hire a small plane pilot to drag your banner around over a football game when 1,000 drones will all be zooming around doing the same thing."

"Critics grumbled that the remnants of dozens of drone collisions will be all over the football field endangering players and spectators, but were dismissed.

"Lots of things are changing the climate," pointed out one drone enthusiast. "Keep in mind when you have a cup of coffee in one hand and a cell phone in the other you could have a drone hold your umbrella."

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# Global Warming Opening Up Arctic Cruise

Alaska Warms to New Business Opportunity

By Sarah Moaney



THE ENVIRONMENTAL damage caused by cruise ships is more than offset by the cool selfies.

The Crystal Serenity thirteen-story tall luxury cruise liner's historic visit to Alaska marks the upside of global warming to a tourism industry hoping disappearing ice will bring more tourists to the Bering Strait to party.

The dangerous journey between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans was once thought impossible and claimed the lives of countless seafarers trying to find the Northwest Passage. But polar ice melting at a rapid rate is changing the game.

"Crystal Serenity is equipped with state-of-the-art forward-looking sonar and ice-detecting high-resolution radar," stated Nome Mayor Richard Beneville. "Also some very high-quality artisanal cocktails."

The voyage which took Roald Amundsen three years 110 years ago in 1906 should

take eight days and will arrive in New York any day now.

Critics argue that the Crystal Serenity's carbon footprint is huge and compromises Alaska's fragile ecology, but were dismissed as probably just jealous of the passengers like Charlie and Joan Davis of San Francisco who signed up to go within the first hour the \$20,000 tickets were offered.

"This is someplace we've never been to," stated Davis. "After this we really want to do the moon."

\* \* \* \* \*



THIS POLAR BEAR might be losing habitat aggravated by the cruise line excursions but will love taking selfies with tourists.

## Ten Things Clinton Should Do to Improve Popularity Besides Show More Cleavage

1. Fake eyelashes.
2. Fishnet stockings.
3. Really, really high heels.
4. A modest apron and a plate of cookies.
5. Occasionally wear a nurse's uniform.
6. Make her voice go up at the end of a sentence as though she's asking a question?
7. Longer hair, and maybe go red.
8. Smile all the time.
9. Compliment her opponent's creativity.
10. Blow kisses.



ACCESSORIES can make the outfit as all committed Hello Kitty fans know.

\* \* \* \* \*



## We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast





# Wells Fargo CEO Promises to Stop Stealing from the Poor

By Lois Common Denominator

Wells Fargo CEO John Stumpf, who made \$19.3 million in compensation in 2015 and was named CEO of the year, has no plans to step down after revelations that the bank had opened more than two million checking, savings, credit or debit card accounts without bothering to get permission from their customers, costing them on average \$25 per account.

Wells Fargo refunded \$5 million in fraudulent fees but argued that \$5 billion per quarter cannot be wrong, a determination with which the Wells Fargo Board of Directors agreed wholeheartedly.

"We fired 5,300 lower level employees," pointed out Wells Fargo spokesman Richele Messick. "We absolutely regret that this happened and these employees do, too."

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer blew the whistle on Wells Fargo's exotic practices in 2013, building a case against the bank based on thousands of responses from customers suddenly getting fined for not having money in accounts they never knew they had.

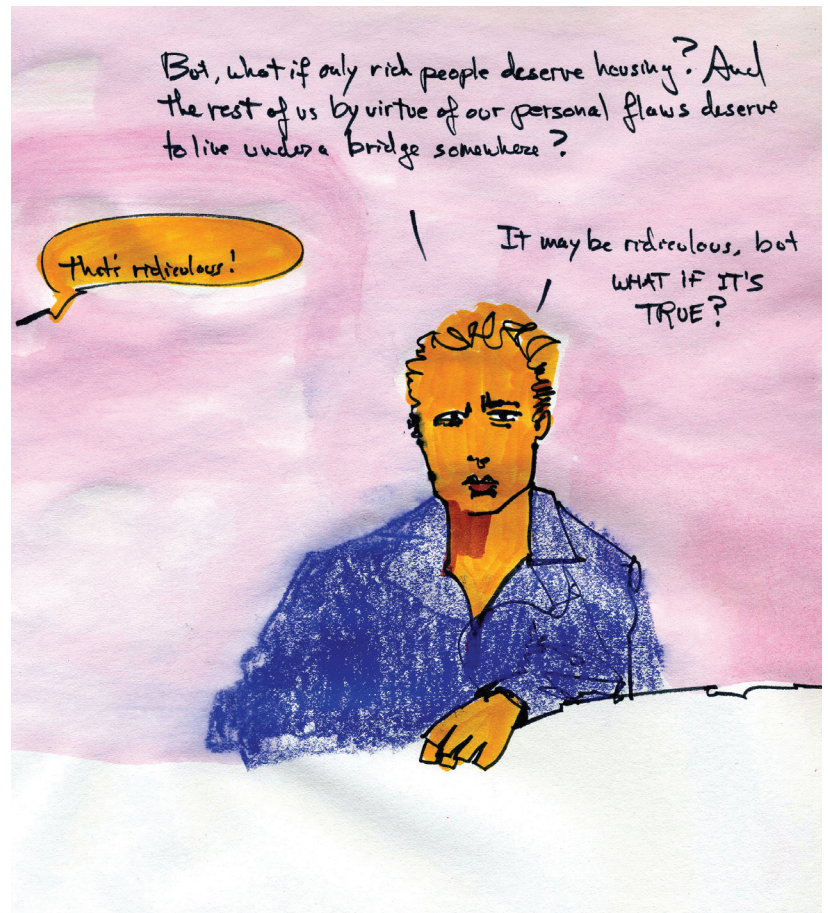
The employees were being pressured to make sales quotas according to Greg McBride, chief financial analyst with Bankrate.com.

"They have run out of growth from acceptable methods," he stated, and Wells Fargo agreed.

"We're just getting creative," stated Messick. "Buckle your seat belts."

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*Next Issue: Applying for loans and mortgages with celebrities!*



5-2-2015. C. Denney

## THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOCY by Juan Nathan Undergod



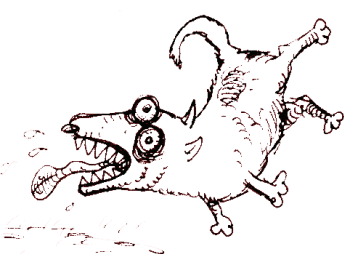
C. DENNEY OCT 2016

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\*Titus Andronicus

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.