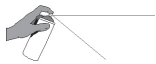


All hail the...

...the well-tuned issue ...



Hepper Spray Times

June 2011



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

"...hath stuffed the hollow vessels with their power..."*

Vol. XIII No. 6

World's First Chairapillar Creams Anti-Sitting Proposal



THESE SITTERS outside the Cheeseboard are sitting right next to a sign saying they can't sit there, but have never been hassled by a cop, unlike the perfectly legal sitters on Telegraph Avenue, which just goes to show you that Telegraph Avenue is a very, very special place.

by Etta Molly Gee

The World's First Chairapillar tried to find some opposition to its stand against the creation of another anti-poor law, but failed. No one walking by the inventive chair-based street protest on Shattuck Avenue on Sunday, May 22nd, 2011, was in favor of the proposed anti-sitting ordinance which Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates continues to deny even exists.

Mayor Tom Bates dismissed critics who argued that an anti-sitting ordinance targets the poor, doesn't solve homelessness, and that according to the City of Berkeley's own financial report, has the most economically successful commercial districts precisely

in those places where the most homeless people, transient youth, and street life tend to congregate.

"All of that may be true," stated Bates. "But the voters in this town are asleep. They won't even know their right to sit down is gone because most of them don't look homeless and will never get hassled by cops anyway. We count on that. That's what got me elected. Well, that and stealing all the copies of the Daily Cal."

Sidewalk sitters nearby the chairapillar agreed.

"It doesn't matter what you do to us. The people of Berkeley kissed us off a long time ago. They may have come to town with \$45 bucks and a copy of Kerouac in their pocket, but they'd rather die as yuppie scum than let anybody else in."

"There's a good reason Jack's jacket is over there in the Beat Museum," agreed another sidewalk sitter. "If they let it out here with us someone might, heaven forbid, actually put it on."

* * * * *

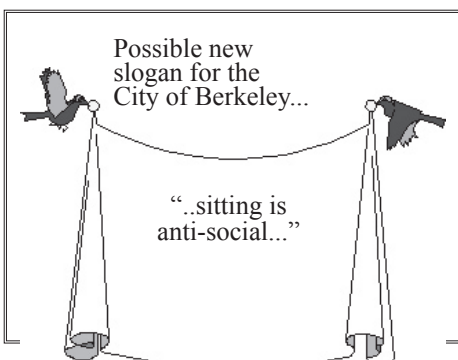
See the chairapillar at:
(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1K1O7vLxcIE>)

Possible Exotic Names for Proposed Anti-sitting Law

Editor's note: Among Berkeley's many talents is the creative naming of oppressive legislation, such as the "Public Commons for Everyone Initiative." Look sharp for the upcoming feel-good name for the proposed anti-sitting law...

- The Pro-Standing Law
- The Stretch Your Legs Law
- The Take a Stand for Business Law
- The Stand Up for Profits Law
- The Take a Stand Against Visible Poverty Law
- The Pro-Posture Law
- The Workout for Everyone Law
- The Butt-Free Sidewalks Law
- The Streamlined Sidewalks Law (and our favorite)
- The Elevate Homeless People Law

* * * * *



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Grace,
My husband and I are thrilled to be receiving the Pepper Spray Times and want to thank all your wonderful artists and writers for the great work they are doing to undermine the Bay Area's patented brand of capitalism with a smiley face--with a smiley face!

We just have one concern: why is Nathan Undergod embarrassed by his Latino heritage?? Shouldn't he be signing his comics Juan Nathan Undergod???

Signed Christy and Marcus, The Buena Vista Socialist Club (owners and sole proprietors)

Dear readers, thanks a lot, you two. Now he wants a raise and he wants Cinco de Mayo off even though all we do that day is make salsa and eat chips. We had the same trouble last year with Juana Dance. Will you two quit making trouble.

Dear Lena, I think I figured out what happened to the Rapture. Harold Camping was off by about three years. Want to go in with me on an RV with a big balloon payment in about four years? We could travel around and stuff before it all blows.

Dear reader, thanks for the offer, but you're wrong. The Rapture happened right on schedule. It just pretty much left everybody in the Bay Area behind. But you ought to come on down and take a look around Georgia, which is almost empty. It's kind of cool how there are no lines at the movies.

Dear Lena, I've really looked and I can't find the free speech zone which is supposed to be around here somewhere. Where is it?

Dear reader, I can't find it either.

Ask Lena about setting fire to passing parades at cddenney@jgc.org.



Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Interested in Property Right Near You for Another Nifty Campus

By Lois Price

Following an extensive evaluation where there were maps all over the furniture and lots and lots of lunches all over town, the University of California (UC) at Berkeley, which is broke, of course, but not so broke that they can't do stuff like this, released a list of six potential sites for the Lab's proposed second campus which just happens to include the recently re-zoned part of West Berkeley that was just shoved through various commissions and council so quickly over broad community objections that you might have thought it was radioactive.

"We're just so tired of being spread all over the place," stated Berkeley Lab Director Paul Alivisatos. "We want that sense of connection one gets from owning the land, and especially land closer to UC than the stuff we've already got. And boy oh boy, does the city want to give it to us. That town and gown thing is really working for us under Bates. We'd be fools not to take advantage of it."

Critics objected that the Lab's potential relocation in West Berkeley would destroy the diversity of industrial and arts uses that the West Berkeley Plan, in its original form, was designed to try to protect, but were dismissed by Alivisatos.

"Those woodcrafty people can stick around," stated Alivisatos. "And so can the

potters and stuff. There'll be a little space left here and there, and they really dress up the atmosphere."

West Berkeley residents who object to the plan pointed out that the reasoning for the proposed campus, that LBNL staff could "interact more directly with each other and with faculty and students from throughout the UC system" was the same nonsense used to create the Brower Center, a façade of interaction mostly fulfilled in the underground parking lot when everybody heads home.

"That's okay," stated Alivisatos. "Couple of generations and they won't remember how loopy the rationale was or how it happened. We've got this down to, well, a science."

* * * * *



WHO IS THIS lab guy and what is he doing? Well, you're just not smart enough to know and besides he needs your Waterfront Park for his important work.

Ask the People: What's Your Best Shopping Experience?

By Les Oversight



My best shopping experience was when my lace broke near the Bart escalator and the lady that sells Street Spirit papers saw my face and pulled twine out of her bag and gave it to me along with a magnet of Elvis. That

was a good day.

I loved it when Ross went out of business, so there's a place now we can play guitar. It's a really nice spot with a little overhang so you're out of the rain, and it's nice seeing people walk by.



I'm not sure it was technically shopping, but there was this very cool gathering in People's Park for Gina, and someone gave me a button and we sang songs and ate together. It reminded me of the old days. I hope some-



day there are stores like that where people are just real.

I went to the Goodwill and got two pairs of pants and a new hat for less than five dollars, and it's a cool hat, too. The people putting out new clothes and ringing you up are really cool and they're always singing to the radio. Now I look good. I love shopping there. A dollar goes a long way.



I found a cool cafe and then wandered into the East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse and got all this cool stuff that I'm using to decorate my bicycle, which I got used from Urban Ore. The music in there is excellent in Urban Ore, too. I always end up learning something about music, or books, or finding a good picture frame.

* * * * *



THE SON OF GOD has been known to really party down, so some were not surprised that he slept through the big Day of Judgement and blamed his mom.

Jesus a No-show at Second Coming

By Lee Vinsoon

"I overslept," explained embarrassed savior regarding his absence on the day thousands anticipated the Rapture would take place and thousands, well, hundreds of Christian believers would disappear into the clouds leaving behind their non-Christian neighbors with all their belongings and pets.

Julie Baker tried not to show her annoyance when she heard the news that Jesus Christ had slept through his own well-publicized second coming.

"We were ready," she sighed, folding up literature from Oakland preacher Harold Camping's Family Radio campaign alerting the public that Judgement Day would be Saturday, May 21st, 2011 according to elaborate, Bible-based calculations. "I was ready. Now I have to go water the damn lawn."

Camping's predictions were treated with suspicion by most of the public, who pointed out that despite earthquakes, tornados, locusts, and other signals predicted by biblical tracts, global warming had normalized such events.

"If Jesus can sleep through it, so can we," stated one commuter waiting for a bus.

Shourd Says She Has PTSD and, Like, Just Doesn't Feel Like Returning to Iran



SARAH SHOURD INSISTS that she still really loves her fiance' and wishes him the very best of luck.

by Evan Tobetsy

Sarah Shourd's exciting year in an Iranian prison after hiking too close to the border was enough, she says, even though her decision not to return as promised possibly jeopardizes her fiance and another fellow hiker's chances of release.

"It was, like, really a bummer being there," she stated. "And we were hiking around and noticing that the borders weren't marked. You would think they would have

"I'm Jewish," stated another bus rider. "Apparently they don't get to take their pets, so I figure if it ever happens I'll help out with the dog and cat-sitting."

Camping has miscalculated the end of the world before, but his followers' enthusiasm seems undeterred.

"We had a little practice for this moment back in 1994," stated one Camping follower. "These days we don't put the date on our product. We still have a lot of those old T-shirts to unload."

a restaurant or a souvenir stand or something so tourists like us would know where we were."

Critics pointed out that it was naïve to think all international borders come with colorful pinatas and souvenir stands and that Shourd's decision seals the fate of her friends, Shane Bauer, and Josh Fattal, whose likelihood of being released is now somewhere short of zero despite Shourd's former plan to marry one of them, or the other one, and she can't remember which.

"It wasn't real love," offered a friend of Shourd's in defense of her willingness to abandon her fiance to Iranian authorities' eccentric system of justice. "It was summer love. It was hiking aimlessly through Afghanistan in summer kind of love."

Shourd stated that even though her earlier claims of having cancer were not true, she really does have PTSD and it's just really so annoying.

"It was all the peace and quiet," she said. "It just really shook me up."

* * * * *

How to Tell If Your Fish Is Too Radioactive

You can use it like a flashlight.

Your hair falls out mid-fillet.

It makes a really nice cord-free Christmas decoration.

Crime goes down in your neighborhood if you hang them from the trees.

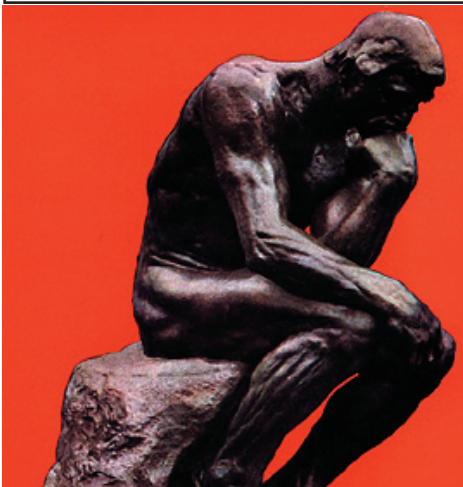
If you tie a bunch to the front of your car at night you don't need headlights.

It makes really seductive mood lighting.

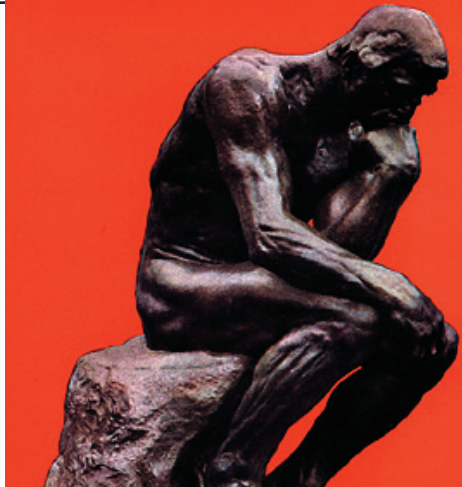
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We Can't Draw Comics

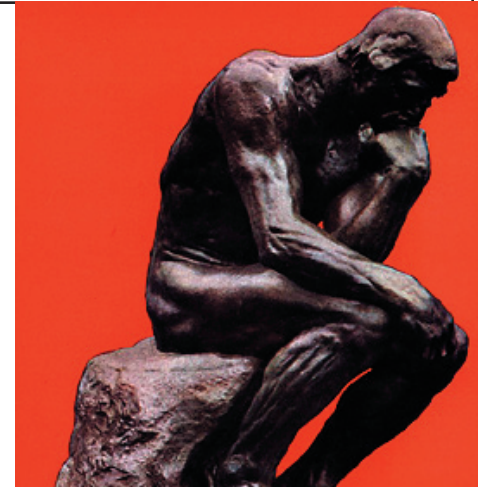
by Franz Toast



If you watch closely, this guy is bringing down the tax base.



Keep watching. It will happen any minute now.



You blinked and you missed it. But it really did happen.

California Fails in Bid to Imprison Everyone

Berkeley Offers Empty Condos

by Bob Frapples



THERE'S NO ROOM left anywhere behind prison walls so this guard drove to the Capitol in Sacramento where it is said there is an empty tent somewhere.

This guard walked this prisoner all over the place and couldn't find room for him anywhere, inspiring the City of Berkeley to offer its scores of empty storefronts and condos to help with the crunch.

The U.S. Supreme Court reluctantly agreed

with critics of California's prison system that there just wasn't room for the entire population of California.

"Not that they don't all deserve it," stated the judges in a 5-4 decision. "If not for what they've done, then for what they would have done if given half the chance."

The decision, which stated that life in California's prisons falls below the standard of

decency in the Eighth Amendment, which bans cruel and unusual punishment, baffled lawmakers who thought that was the whole point.

"They're not supposed to have any fun in there," mused one prison official. "But it's true that they can scarcely all lie down without having a foot in somebody's face."

The City of Berkeley offered to rent out the hundreds of empty storefronts and condos to the Department of Corrections.

"God knows we're never going to get this stuff leased," acknowledged Michael Caplan of the Department of Economic Development. "We might as well be making some money."

* * * * *

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The Wall: Remove, Recycle, Replant

Next Issue: Chasing Bison with Celebrities!

THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOCY

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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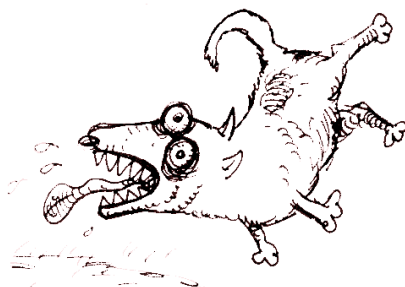


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Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by...



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We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.