

# Pepper Spray Times



It's tumid...it's free...if you can find it "....to the wet sea-boy in an hour so rude..."\* Vol. XVI No. 11

## Nation Swept by Massive Epidemic of Potentially Fatal Stupidity

### Outbreak May Never End, Say Experts

by Diana Meecha



**THE STUPIDITY EPIDEMIC'S effects are widespread, and have affected both people and wildlife.**

people speaking through layers of hazmat suit plastic. "People are terrified of shaking hands and drinking a soda. And yes, we do advise avoiding both."

The White House insisted that the massive outbreak of stupidity, although potentially fatal, would not affect the holiday shopping season.

"We have national priorities," stated a White House spokesperson. "Otherwise the terrorists win."

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## Thousands of Pumpkins Found Beheaded in Compost

### Authorities Affirm Acts Are Terrorism

By Lourde D. Lord

Authorities confirmed that dozens of savagely beheaded pumpkins were recently discovered in local compost bins.

"Is there no end to this barbarity?" asked one police officer guarding the scene. "I would bomb everything left standing if only we could stop these atrocities."

The crimes, which started last month, appear to be random according to local investigators, but reflect a growing pattern nationwide which officials affirm are acts of brutal terrorism.

"There is no question that a terrorist group is responsible," stated one investi-

## Panic Response to Ebola Perfectly Sensible

by Clara Zabell

"Panic is an appropriate response," chided health officials in the wake of criticism over the frenzied national hysteria over the Ebola virus. "Nigeria may be ahead of us in isolating and treating Ebola patients, but that doesn't mean panic and substandard equipment doesn't have its place in the American health care system."

Experts acknowledged that Americans' understanding of how the Ebola virus is transferred from one person to another is on a par with their skill at hand washing.

"We're not sure why they have such a deep distrust of soap and water," stated one health expert soberly. "It's kind

"...People are terrified of shaking hands and drinking a soda..."

of like that vaccine thing."

"We think they're waiting for an app," commented another health professional. "Preferably one they can download that has a killer sound track."

Other health professionals pointed out that running around in circles in a state of utter panic is good exercise, and is not new for most Americans who are deeply influenced by celebrities on television shouting at each other.

"The state of crisis is as permanent as the state of endless war," observed another health professional. "Nigeria can only wish for that kind of stability."

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**GRUESOME BODY PARTS document the phenomenon of pumpkin beheadings sweeping through the Bay Area.**

gator. "The one with the name that keeps changing that wears masks and stuff."

\* \* \* \* \*

## One In Four Californians Insist on Living in Poverty

by Kurt Tens-Foryou

"They're just not trying hard enough," stated a local economist about the quarter of California's population living in poverty. "Have they sold their grandmother's china on EBay yet? Have they given up shoes?"

"Part of our image as an innovative economy comes from inventing creative measures to make ends meet," agreed a second expert on economic trends. "Most tech companies are heavily subsidized by venture capitalists. If local mom-and-pop businesses haven't learned how to kiss up to capital they're bound to have trouble."

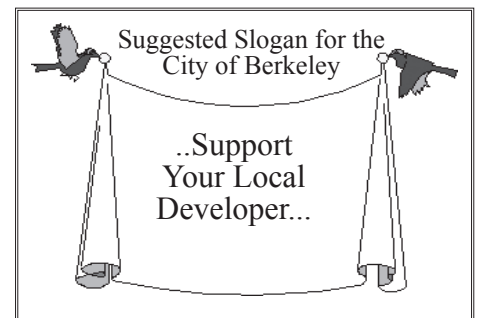
Silicon Valley's tech startups lean so heavily on subsidies, both venture capital and city write-offs and discounts, that they would resemble a welfare state if they didn't work overtime convincing critics and the media that their angry bird apps were somehow "sustainable."

"Sustainable' is the word, alright," laughed one tech worker ruefully. "We know we're selling our souls and destroying the city to make a quick buck, but we also know the alternative is that burger joint job in Henrietta, Kansas. At least this way we get to say we saw San Francisco before it was completely destroyed."

Economic experts insisted that living in the Bay Area is still possible if residents keep an eye toward traditional as well as innovative income enhancing techniques, such as renting out the hallway to AirB&B customers and eating gravel.

"Monetize everything," advised another economic expert. "If psychiatrists can charge \$150 an hour to say nothing for an hour, the rest of us can do it, too."

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# ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, so the Pope says evolution is true? What is going on? Does he hate his job or something?**

Dear reader, it seems so. The Pope loves to make trouble. He's more of a softie than the old Pope, and evolution is definitely the underdog right now. He wants to get fired and teach school in Texas.

**Dear Lena, is there a dog division for the new fence jumping craze? My dog is getting really good at it.**

Dear reader, not yet, but there is a cute cat division, so be patient.

**Dear Lena, I never realized I was breaking the law by bringing an umbrella to the Berkeley Public Library. Should I worry about this? What should I do?**

Dear reader, it astonishes me that people walk around with such dangerous weaponry casually in hand. Please make sure your umbrella has a safety switch, and try to keep it out of the hands of children.

**Dear Lena, I have a fever. Do I have Ebola? I really want to go get a new bath mat and I need shampoo.**

Dear reader, lock yourself in a closet and don't come out for 21 days. If you are not dead after that, go get some shampoo.

**Dear Lena, is it really necessary anymore to read books and learn things? I can just look stuff up on my iPad, right? And there are calculators now, so somebody else does the math. I'm sick of school. Shouldn't I just quit?**

Dear reader, yes, you can just quit, but you would miss the cruelty of the teachers, the hazing by other students, and the socialization that leaves your self-esteem in shreds. School is important so you don't walk around with lots of self-confidence.

*Ask Lena about how to fry up some fine catfish at [cdenny@igc.org](mailto:cdenny@igc.org).*

# White House Fence Jumping Accepted by IOC As New Olympic Sport

By Seton Pretty



The International Olympic Committee (IOC) added White House fence jumping to its roster of Olympic sports competition in what cynics consider a rush to capitalize on the increasing albeit inexplicable popularity of leaping the White House fence.

"We have had to acknowledge that this is not terrorism," stated a White House security official who wished to remain anonymous. "These are sometimes deranged and usually extremely politically disoriented thrill-seekers who know they'll end up getting 'liked' on YouTube."

"My whole fraternity wants to do it," confided one Washington, DC college student who also wished to remain anonymous. "It's the new panty raid."

The IOC responded to critics by pointing out that other ridiculous and long derided sports such as water ballet and ribbon



**YOU MIGHT END UP with a court date for jumping the White House fence but you can count on getting on tv.**

dancing were now included in the Olympic Games, if not necessarily universally respected, in an effort to widen opportunities for athletes of all shapes and kinds.

"It's an American sport at this point," pointed out one IOC official, "but we think it's here to stay."

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# Umbrellas Identified As Potentially Deadly Weapons

## Berkeley City Council Considers Timely Anti-umbrella Measures



By Cora Napple

The South China Morning Post quotes Chinese politician Leung Che-cheung as acknowledging the widely-known fact that umbrellas can be deadly weapons.

"The City of Berkeley, California has known this for years," stated Leung. "Their library board took steps to ban them a few years ago."

City of Berkeley officials rushed to distance the city from the violent crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Hong Kong whose symbol is the umbrella, which is useful in fending off pepper spray.

"The 'nothing bigger than eighteen inches' rule in the library wasn't really meant for umbrellas," explained one city official hastily. "Umbrellas just happened to be one of the things banned by the rule that we weren't thinking about very much."

"Like tennis rackets and guitars," added one library board trustee. "We were just trying to create a rule that would make it easier to get rid of the people we don't want in the library."

Officials for the city insisted that the rule was not aimed at targeting homeless people who tend to have all their possessions with them and defended the rule.

"The Hong Kong protesters may not have used the umbrellas in an aggressive manner



**WONG FEI-HUNG's umbrella skill is legend world-wide in films like "Iron Monkey" which may or may not have led to the Berkeley Public Library's eighteen inch rule.**

as yet," stated one city official, "but they could start wielding umbrellas as weapons any moment."

"That's right," stated another library trustee who preferred to remain anonymous. "This is no different that the University of California suing some folksinger for a quarter million dollars and spending over half a million dollars of scarce public money in the process over the creation of a folk song and a bunch of cardboard saws used at a rally. We have to draw the line somewhere, no matter how ridiculous it often looks."

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# Maker of Camel Cigarettes Restricts Smoking in Its Offices

*Plans to Build Glassed-in "Smoking Rooms" for Employees Who Still Smoke to Show People What It Looked Like*

By Buzz Hough

The maker of Camel cigarettes banned indoor smoking in its North Carolina offices, joining the growing national norm in smokefree air in an apparent surrender to "common sense."

"I feel betrayed," commented one North Carolina smoker. "If you can't count on J. R. Reynolds to hold the fort, who can you count on?"

"Their slogan used to be 'I'd walk a mile for a Camel,'" noted one interested researcher. "This will give us a chance to really study desperate smokers' willingness to go the distance."

"If they just cluster around the front door we'll have to retire references to the slogan," acknowledged one American Reynolds researcher. "We're considering partnering with some tech company for an app to created some kind of incentive for compliance, since having a healthy body and saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in tobacco costs over the course of a lifetime doesn't seem to be doing the trick."

"We'll still have smoking rooms," hastily added David Howard, a spokesper-

son for Reynolds American. "We'll still be allowing those ridiculous e-cigarettes."

Smokefree advocates did not get back to the Pepper Spray Times for com-



**Reynolds American finally conceded that tobacco-soaked carpets outgassing carcinogens are not all that glamorous.**

"We'll still have smoking rooms," hastily added David Howard, spokesman for Reynolds American. "We'll still allow those ridiculous e-cigarettes."

ment in time for this story. \*

Critics noted that "smoking rooms" inevitably affect the air quality inside a building and that there is "no safe dose" of ciga-

rette smoke, but most people acknowledged that the Camel cigarette maker's new policy, which goes into affect in January, was proof of the company's failure to get a new generation of smokers to embrace cardiovascular disease and cancer.

"We haven't completely given up our hope to enlist the next generation in destroying their own health and that of their neighbors," stated Howard. "We're just taking it overseas."

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*\* Every time we called one of the non-profits working on smokefree issues to ask about the Camel cigarette maker banning smoking in its offices whoever answered the phone started laughing and couldn't stop, so we finally gave up. - Grace Underpressure, Pepper Spray Times.*

# "Save the Endangered Developer" Campaign Netted Over \$249,000 From Tear-stained Developer Lovers

By Farrah Interesting

"We're so thankful people understand," stated one local developer upon hearing about the National Association of Realtors' \$95,000 contribution to the "No on R" campaign.

"We know that we're not as warm and fuzzy as polar bears," smiled another developer dabbing at his eyes with a handkerchief. "It's nice to know that we're loved just the same."

Measure R, an effort to unfairly burden developers by holding them to a higher standard of environmental and community standards, is widely discredited by political insiders as insulting to developers who can of course be counted on to respect community and environmental values without needing burdensome regulations which just take all the excitement out of building new buildings and cutting ribbons and stuff.

"We love Berkeley," stated one developer simply. "We have a different take on 'green' from time to time, but that doesn't mean we can't all get along."

Critics grumbled that it was cynical to suggest that there is anything green about highrises with ridiculous patches of "open space" on the roof, but were dismissed by the broad majority of Berkeley residents who are watching sports and can't figure out the ballot measures anyway.

"I usually vote with the last flier I get," explained one Berkeley voter. "Otherwise I miss the game."

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**AVOID GIVING umbrellas to people this holiday season, as they are considered dangerous weapons and might get them killed.**



**20,679 Physicians say "LUCKIES are less irritating"**  
That's Threat Protection against irritation against cough

**IT'S GETTING harder and harder to find doctors to recommend smoking for your health.**

## We Can't Draw Comics by Franz Toast



# Second White House Fence A Joke

## White House Fence-jumping More Popular Than Baseball According to Security Experts



By Anne Noneemuss

The Secret Service, embarrassed by thrill-seekers jumping over the White House fence and running around the portico, has conceded that social media has made a mockery of their second fence, too.

"We're open to suggestions," stated one Secret Service officer. "We know most of these people are nut jobs or just want to get on tv. If we shoot them all we'll have bodies all over the White House lawn."

Security experts agreed that just shooting all the jumpers or letting the canine patrol dogs rip them apart would be an unpleasant sight for tourists and unnecessarily risk the lives of countless fraternity pledges being pressured to participate.

"We need to find some creative way to distract these people," acknowledged another security expert. "People keep 'liking' the jumpers on Facebook, and it's out of control."

"We're getting several dozen a day," conceded another security expert. "It's getting to be a thing, like cute cat videos."

"...thrill-seekers jumping over the White House fence and running around the portico have ... made a mockery of the second fence, too...."



THE BEST WHITE HOUSE FENCE jumpers train in cold climates at high altitudes wearing heavy packs on their backs.



SECURITY OFFICIALS at the White House check for fence jumpers hourly since the new fence-jumping craze caught fire.

White House officials are asking the public for suggestions for stopping or even just distracting the jumpers long enough to get them to sign video releases.

### Suggestions for Distracting White House Fence Jumpers

1. Have a "Jump the Fence" game nearby with a miniature White House where the fasted runners get a prize.
2. Grease the fence poles with Vaseline.
3. Give paintball guns to the tourists and tell them to blast the fence jumpers at will.
4. Give away jello shots at the fence, so everybody is too drunk to climb anything.
5. Barbed wire on top of the fence – *come on, you know it's coming.*
6. Electrify the fence; we'll lose a few tourists but only the stupid ones.
7. Build a moat.
8. Build a moat and stock it with hungry alligators.
9. Have the fence-jumpers fill out a long form before they start climbing that always has one additional page.
10. Offer the fence-jumpers a tv interview before they jump instead of after.

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NOBODY CAN TELL if Pope Francis is seriously embracing evolution or if he just loves to scare the crap out of his cardinals.

## Pope Francis Says Evolution is For Real

by Rhoda Hoe

"He's such a troublemaker," snorted one Catholic bishop. "He won't wear the red shoes and he likes the Big Bang. Give me a %\$#@ing break."

Pope Francis stated recently that evolution was true, that God is not a magician with a magic wand, and politicians who embrace creationism are a bunch of idiots.

The entire state of Texas reacted angrily, having just spent a lot of money on new textbooks denouncing evolution and the Big Bang theory and affirming the efficacy of magic wands.

"Jeepers, he could have mentioned this earlier," grouched one Texas school board member. "It's like he thinks he's infallible or something."

God responded in a press release that Pope Francis does not exist.

"He's kind of like Santa," stated God. "People enjoy the concept of him, but don't sit around expecting a reply to your letter."

Pope Francis was surprised by God's reaction, but advised caution.

"He'll get over it," he said. "He always gets stressed around the holidays."

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Next Issue: Torturing pumpkins with celebrities!

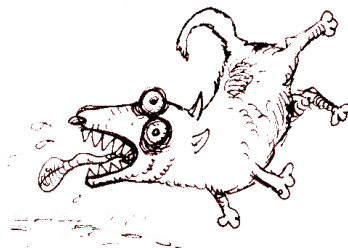
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\*Henry IV Part 2

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.