

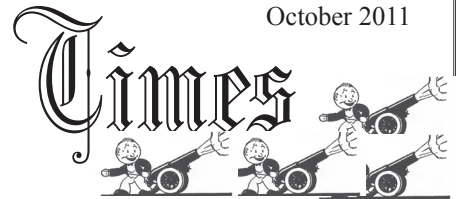
...the wild, wonderful issue ...



All hail the powerful...

# Pepper Spray Times

October 2011



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

...is as a whisper in the ears of death...”\*

Vol. XIII No. 10



**BART SPOKESPERSON** Linton Johnson hired two sport utility vehicles to bring “loyal” BART riders to a press conference and gave them planned scripts to use to criticize protesters, which just shows that he is a generous man who thinks ahead.

## BART Spokesperson Stages Fake Support at BART Press Conference

by Justin Atleaven

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) spokesperson Linton Johnson provided carefully written scripts for carefully chosen “loyal riders” at a recent BART press conference hoping the media would run with the concept that those protesting the gratuitous shooting of BART riders were “putting riders’ safety at risk.”

“You gotta love Linton,” stated one observer. “He just created a perfectly circular absurdity and shredded his own credibility as a spokesperson in one deft move.”

Even the head of BART’s Board of Directors winced at Johnson’s effort to deceive the media, which included renting two sports utility vehicles at the public’s expense to bring riders to the news conference at the Powell Street Station in San Francisco to read canned, pro-BART scripts.

Bright red-faced BART officials mumbled that few of the scripted “loyal” riders showed up, none of them used the proffered sports utility vehicles rented to ferry them to the press conference, and it was silly to try to script shills to try to create protester opponents when most of the mainstream

media had already achieved consensus that anyone who objected to BART riders being summarily shot from time to time were just a bunch of whiners who didn’t know how to be good sports about anything.

“We look bad enough without this,” acknowledged board President Bob Franklin. “We don’t need to put any effort into discrediting the people protesting the deaths of Oscar Grant or Jerrold Hall or Charles Blair Hill. The media takes care of that kind of thing with its own natural bias against anyone carrying a picket sign. But when Linton gets over-eager and tries to script public opinion at a press conference we just look like idiots. We look like a pile of clowns.”

Clowns worldwide objected instantly to the comparison.

“We are a dedicated, reliable, honest, and talented group of artists and performers,” stated their spokesperson. “We resent the comparison.”

\* \* \* \* \*

## Nude Moon Pictures Shock Science Community



**LAWYERS FOR THE MOON** argue that this and additional shots violated the moon’s privacy and natural sense of modesty.

by B. Levi Doo

NASA admitted recently that nude photographs taken of the moon and posted on the internet were the responsibility of NASA’s Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, which dipped as low as 15 miles from the moon’s surface recently, snapped some photographs, and then ran off laughing.

“We had no intention of catching the moon naked,” stated Arizona State University geology professor Mark Robinson. “It was an accident.”

Accident or not, critics claim that NASA owes the moon and the public an apology for not considering the sensibilities of either when publishing the embarrassing photographs and needs to redact them for privacy considerations.

The moon acknowledged that she was considering legal action. “I have trouble getting up anymore,” she stated. “When people look up at me I just want to run away.”

The photographs also show an immense amount of discarded backpacks and other trash left behind by Apollo missions 12, 14, and 17, the last moon mission.

Apollo 17 Commander Eugene Cernan expressed disappointment that NASA’s current plans do not include another manned space mission to the moon.

“I had a good pen in that backpack,” he stated. “And some Hershey bars.”

\* \* \* \* \*

# ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, is children's art really dangerous? Should it really be suppressed in museums and stuff? It seems a little overboard to me.**

Dear reader, children's art is very dangerous because it seems so innocent and naive. Even a flower or a color can carry a political message which systematically undermines one political group or another. The children in war-torn Gaza are actually sophisticated political operatives who are shamelessly using their wounds and burned-down houses to foment anti-war sentiment in people who just want to go to museums and get a jump on their Christmas shopping in the gift shop.

**Dear Lena, so you support the Museum of Children's Art shutting down the Palenstinian children's art exhibit? I thought some of them were pretty good, although somewhat derivative.**

Dear reader, yes, the Museum of Children's Art Board of Directors really had no choice but to make sure those manipulative kids learned that they should just draw their Barbie dolls and GI Joes. If we were smart, we would make sure no kid was given any paint or crayons until much later in life when they had figured out how powerful simple symbols can be and learned how to avoid distressing others.

Ask Lena about matters of deep concern at [cdenny@igc.org](mailto:cdenny@igc.org).



**THIS CUNNING DESIGN FOR A COMBINATION COAT AND SLEEPING BAG is only the beginning of a whole line of clothing designed specifically for communities who have completely given up on providing actual housing for the poor.**

## Homeless Sleeping Bag Coat Combo Spurs Ideas

By B. Vera A. Fraid

A combination coat and sleeping bag designed by student Veronika Scott is getting rave reviews by a society resigned to accepting that a sizeable ratio of any city will probably be roof-free since what can anybody do about it anyway.

Scott created the coat-bag for a Creative Studies class project in Detroit, but wants to go national with it, pointing out that making some money off homeless-specific wardrobe items is at least as likely as having cities wake up to the need for affordable housing.

"It could happen," she stated. Critics objected that the project is cynical, and affords cover for cities which leave the most vulnerable citizens on the streets to fend for themselves, but were waived off by project supporters who pointed out the exciting prospect of enabling cities to skip having to have affordable housing at all, which nobody really wants anyway.

"Poor people are just not big spenders," stated one city planner. "To really revitalize a city center, we need the crowd that has nannies pushing strollers and employs personal shoppers."

Scott's supporters enthused that the coat-bag was just the beginning.

"Imagine special homeless shoes where you could keep your valuables in a special compartment," stated one coat-bag supporter. "Wouldn't that be useful?"

One homeless man responded that he al-

ready uses his shoes to keep his valuables safe.

"I have a special compartment already," he noted. "It's called a sock."

\* \* \* \* \*

## US: "We're Number Five"

By Nicola Pack

The World Economic Forum recently pulled the United States down to a fifth rate economic ranking well behind Switzerland, Singapore, Sweden, and Finland as a competitive economy.

The rankings, based on economic data and a survey of 15,000 business executives in 142 nations, cited "a number of escalating weaknesses" in the United States as playing a role in the dismal ranking, such as ballooning government debt, volume of laughter in response to phrases such as "corporate ethics", and the nasty little stickers all over fruit these days.

The forum reassured dismayed US officials that the United States continues to have the number one ranking in underwater mortgages, amount of time people spend on internet dating sites, and creation of pornographic movies.

"Number five is not so bad," expressed one White House official. "But Finland? That's really embarrassing. Their flag looks like a health insurance logo."

\* \* \* \* \*



# Palestinian Children's Art About War Gets the Boot Thanks to Jewish Community Pressure



CHILDREN'S ART can really get out of line, so it is probably more appropriate for an adults-only setting.

September 12, 2011

Open letter to the MOCHA community:

The Museum of Children's Art (MOCHA) was founded as a place where children from all backgrounds could come together to make and celebrate art as long as it doesn't offend our Jewish donors.

Our gallery is a multiuse space. Every week, hundreds of children utilize the space for drop-in art, school field trips, birthday parties, camps, and other events. What if depictions of real life for children in Gaza makes some of them or some of their parents uncomfortable? Just try to imagine what might happen to our donor base.

Recognizing this, the MOCHA Board of Directors decided to cancel this exhibit. It is important to note this was not a judgment of the art itself or related to any political opinions. *Really, really important.* Because oh, my the letters we might get.

The Board decided to just say that MOCHA simply did not have the space or staffing to accommodate the exhibit in a way that both respected the gravity of the mate-

rial and our mission to serve all children, including the children of that part of the community who feels as though their political position might be weakened by inappropriately graphic children's art.

We regret that we did not make this determination earlier. Our next step will be to thoroughly evaluate our exhibit policy so that we can ensure that all exhibits don't get us into trouble politically. Believe me, we know how insensitive children can be.

This experience with "A Child's View from Gaza" has reminded us, yet again, of the power of not just children's voices, but the power of the voices of some of their parents, and the power of the pocketbooks of those parents, and how you can't count on kids to be as careful as, for instance, our Board of Directors knows how to be about sidling between political hot potatoes.

We remain committed to ensuring that art, in its more inoffensive forms, remains a vibrant part of our lives.

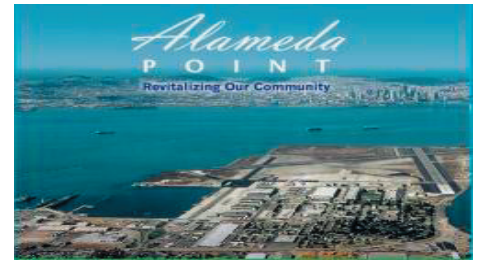
Respectfully,

Hilmon Sorey  
Chair, MOCHA Board of Directors  
board@mocha.org  
538 Ninth Street, Suite 210  
Oakland, CA 94607  
510-465-8770

\* \* \* \* \*



ALAMEDA POINT WILL STILL BE a lot of fun to work at when it looks like this.



ALAMEDA POINT SEEMS LIKE an ideal spot for the second campus for the LBNL until you factor in climate change, which is making things really inconvenient for scientists who wish to focus on other stuff.

## Alameda Officials Offer Swim Lessons for LBNL Workers at Proposed Second Campus

By Ben Thinking

Alameda city leaders campaigning to host the new Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's second campus at Alameda Point were crestfallen to learn that lab officials were dubious about the viability of Alameda Point because the current rate of sea level rise puts the site underwater in a few years' time.

"We love the setting," stated one lab official noting that the sparkling water and the skyline of San Francisco were charming aspects of the proposed site. "We just don't see the point of building somewhere where we can only get around by canoe."

Critics responded that all sites within 25 minutes of the current LBNL campus ran a similar risk, and that canoes were a sturdy, reliable, and green alternative to even emission-free electric vehicles, but lab officials maintained their reservations.

"We really do like the site, and we love the idea of a bayfront campus with little seaside cafe's and the like," stated one lab official. "It's just that we have a few other options and we need to think ahead and consider the effect of climate change and global warming on our site. We think we'll have a waterfront view at our current campus."

\* \* \* \* \*

### We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



"We believe in building a more prosperous America and in the concept of trickle-down economics."

"Corporations are people, and should be given the same rights as anybody else and protected from slander."

"We apologize for looking like identical twins. We both thought the other one was supposed to wear the green tie."

# Doomsday Fashionwear Sails Off the Runway

*"We love it! Who knew global warming could launch a whole clothing line?"*

By Claudio Furniture

Creators of this body-molded Kevlar and breathable neoprene 'Urban Security Suit' apologized recently for the fact that their end-of-the-world fashions are not technically bullet-proof and would not be particularly useful in a toxic cloud of Sarin gas or anything else, really.

"We're fashion designers," explained one designer busily pinning accessories on a model. "We don't work for FEMA. We just think doomsday, however sad it may be, should also be fashionable and fun."

Designers readily agreed that the doomsday line was not tailored for any particular



ONE OF THE ADVANTAGES of doomsday fashion is that if you wake up with a really bad hair day or a faceful of acne or you just can't get your makeup straight that day nobody can really tell.



FOR SOME REASON the models who were eager to demonstrate the new doomsday line of clothing refused to wear the practical sleeping bag coat which ought to go hand and hand with end of the world attire, making it clear that while the world may come to an end, class divisions are potentially eternal.

signer. "With all due respect to our troops in the field, people don't necessarily want to look like they're in uniform."

"Unless it's the uniform of the young and hip," added the second designer.

"The young and the hip with money," clarified the first designer.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Next Issue: Choosing Headstones with Celebrities*

## THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOCY

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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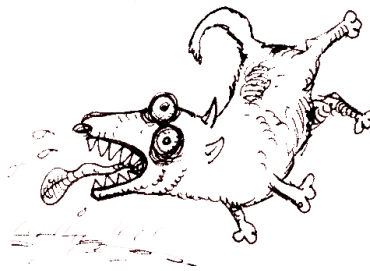


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We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.