

# The Mercury News

MercuryNews.com

## April 14 Readers letters

From Mercury News readers

Posted: 04/13/2010 03:31:11 PM PDT

Updated: 04/13/2010 06:42:11 PM PDT  
Whitman's money drowns out others

Pat Stubbs' defense of Meg Whitman's push to buy the governorship is stunningly naive (Letters, April 11). He would have us believe that the rich always act in the best interest of the common folk. We should blissfully put our fate in their hands because if they can make lots of money and spend some of it to buy their way into politics, they must have no ulterior motive but serving the public good. The fact that she has never run any government agency where conflicting needs must be balanced, not just the bottom-line needs of a business, and that she can't even be bothered to vote reliably are all ignored. All concerns are easily silenced via relentless media carpet bombing by a very rich person making sure the electorate only hears her message and all others are drowned out.

Rob Lofland

Sunnyvale

Floods a part of Searsville fight

The proponents of Searsville Dam (Page B1, April 12) are ignoring the threat of flooding to those who live downstream. The most immediate effect of its removal would be a reclassification by FEMA of the flood zones with a large number of homeowners now obliged to buy flood insurance. The eventual effect will be a flood. Palo Alto should remember

that San Francisquito Creek did flood a few years back and damaged a large number of homes. It will surely happen again. Our daughter and her family were flooded out that time.

Allan J. MacLaren

San Jose

Unemployment pay can't be endless

I couldn't agree more with Ruben Navarrette Jr. (Opinion, April 11) about the proposal to extend unemployment benefits from 79 weeks to 99 weeks. California is broke. How long can we continue to pay unemployment benefits? I know there are individuals desperately trying to find work, who really want to work. At the same time, I personally know many people who don't even look for work because unemployment pays more than a minimum-wage job. So they give up and stay home, happy to collect their unemployment checks. How long can we keep this up? I agree that providing a hand is the right thing to do, for a period of time. But an endless hand-out is not the answer.

Jill Johnson

Sunnyvale

Catholics must speak out on abuse

I am a lifelong Catholic who appreciates your (Editorial, April 13) suggesting that Catholics need to raise their voices and confront the Vatican on its defense of its hierarchy, including the pope, and its policies that previously served to protect child-molesting priests and enabled the ongoing abuse and betrayal of children around the world. Many of the involved hierarchy remain in positions of power,

Advertisement



IF YOU'RE NOT PRINTING ON A KODAK ESP ALL-IN-ONE PRINTER, CHANCES ARE  
**YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR INK.**

FIND OUT HOW MUCH YOU'RE OVERPAYING FOR INK AT [PRINTANDPROSPER.COM](http://PRINTANDPROSPER.COM)

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

# The Mercury News

MercuryNews.com

privilege and authority while continuing to arrogantly defend one another and their own historical complicity. Catholics everywhere should loudly call for their resignations and dismissals and, where laws permit, accountability by the justice system, while demanding they be replaced by priests and nuns with genuine moral and spiritual integrity who have consistently demanded that children be protected and offenders held accountable.

Steve Baron

Cupertino

Many think tanks question stadiums

As a city of Santa Clara voter, I am adamantly opposed to Measure J. Various studies have been done over the years by various think tanks: the Brookings Institute ("Sports, Jobs, & Taxes: Are New Stadiums Worth the Cost?") a center-left think tank; the Cato Institute ("The Stadium Gambit and Local Economic Development"), a libertarian think tank; and the American Enterprise Institute ("Economic Analysis of the Baseball Agreement between the District of Columbia and the Expos"), a center-right think tank. Each concluded that subsidizing a sports stadium is economically foolish. So I will vote "no" on Measure J and so should the rest of my fellow Santa Clara voters.

Shahram Miri

Santa Clara

Only parents can prevent bullying

Schools can implement any anti-bullying program they want (Page B1, April 13), but it will never be

enough until parents teach those same principles at home. And I am not referring to any sort of physical behavior.

Children learn from their parents how to criticize another kid for being "wimpy" or that a woman's hair style/color is ugly, that a guy is fat and uncoordinated on the basketball court. Children hear every parent's conversation, whether they are in the car or in the home. When parents model proper behavior, kids learn it, too. If you gossip about other people in an unkind way, your kids will learn that it is OK and do the same in their own social circles.

Nancy Grant

San Jose

Advertisement

The advertisement consists of a dark grey background on the left with the word "USE" in large, white, serif font. To the left of the "U" is a white cross icon. On the right, there is a white rectangular area containing the text "End-to-End Tr" in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this, on a dark grey background, is the text "Earn Your Ma" in a white, sans-serif font.

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™