

# HILLPRESS

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## Change Places!

This Wednesday will mark the annual celebration of All Your Monies Are Belong To The Government Day. As usual, Americans across the nation are scrambling to find receipts, clean the Dr. Pepper stains off their W-2s, and tally up how many of those escort service charges can be written off as a business expense. This year, however, promises to be both exciting and delicious, as nationwide Tax Day Tea Party Protests have been called for by the Conservative base.

These Tea Parties are set to occur in every state of the union throughout the day of April 15th. The protests are being so-called because they are meant to echo the sentiments of the Boston Tea Party, a staunch rejection of unfair taxes imposed by the British. Also, I think there may have been something about not being able to vote.

Reactions to the planned protests have varied, from wholly supportive to outright disgusted, with a little bit of muddled confusion mixed in the middle.



Those in support of the protests believe that a real statement can be made. "Tax and spend is bad," said Bob the CEO. "We prefer our government to tax and save. If my money goes into the government coffers, I want to know it isn't being spent on anything."

Another citizen admitted to being a little lost. "It just keeps getting curiouser and curiouser," she said. "I thought conservatives and liberals

all said the bailout was supposed to make the economy grow big. Or was that the magic mushroom? Oh, I can't keep it straight. Perhaps my country has been changed for another during the night."

"They're just stealing our tactic!" claimed an outraged Democrat. "We started the whole grassroots thing years ago with Obama's campaign. They just took our signs and painted over 'Change' with 'Dollars'! Literally!"

In response, the hapless Democrat was pelted with rocks. As he ran away, he was heard shouting "We still win, no backsies!"

Earlier this morning, Homer Simpson publicly declared his angry boycott of the Tea Party Protests after reading their websites and discovering, "There was to be no tea and no party."

*Kathleen Cooperstein is down the rabbit hole.*

## Funny Names on the Decline in Britain

As published on NPR.com silly names like Shufflebottom, Smellie, and Cockshott are on the decline according to the most recent British census reports. Since 1881, the amount of silly names has been cut in half. Statistics on silly names such as Papillon, Blackwell, and McIntyre could not be found.

According to a professor at King's College in London, there's a British cabinet member with the last name of "Balls," but he claims that "it's not that uncommon," amongst the Brits. "Bottom really describes a valley floor with level fields surrounded by hillsides," so "there are quite a lot of names, like 'Shufflebottom' that end in 'Bottom.'"

Sadly though these names are dying out. Peo-

ple are seeking to be taken more seriously in their daily lives, business endeavors, and at church. Last names like "Cobbledick" and "Polestag" are just not appreciated in organized religion like they could be.

What's even better about silly names is the marriage combinations of silly names. Did you hear? Sarah Mutton and John Veale just got hitched last week! Oh yeah? Well what about Charles Swine and Jane Ham? Or better yet, (rather dirtier yet) Shufflebottom and Polestag. Too far. Ok, I get it.

Do you see why it's so disappointing that silly names are on the decline? Silly names are the spice of life and the British, well they don't

even cook with spices in their food, they need all the spice they can get. So I'm pretty sure that in our day to day life we can make things more interesting with the infusion of silly names.

I propose a University initiative to hire only professors with silly names. What about Professor Arn Bones for Human Anatomy? Or Dr. Sibyl Bridgewater for some upper level Civil Engineering classes? Finally, who wouldn't hire Fanny Beaglehole to teach human sexuality?

*John Hoffman is seriously considering becoming John Marian Witherspoon Danger Smooth Hoffman.*

# Virginia Tech Dedicates Newly Renovated Cow

Virginia Tech President Charles Steger and other senior university officials attended a brief ceremony Friday to signify the re-opening of one of the leading research institution's numerous beef cattle. The cow, which has been closed to the public for nearly two years, was reintroduced with a series of brief remarks by Steger and Dr. Dan Eversole, founding director of the Center for Beef Cattle and Violence Prevention.

"We look forward to re-opening of the Beef Cattle Center," said Eversole. "Cow #147, equipped with the latest in hardware and software, is designed to enhance collaboration and communication at a distance. It will serve both the center and the Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences, it will further expand the notion of community, foster development of transdisciplinary teams of undergraduate and graduate students, and facilitate transformative learning."



Virginia Tech President Charles Steger speaks at the ceremony commemorating the re-opening of the cow (left)

Following Steger's acceptance in December 2007 of the recommendations put forth by a university task force regarding the future use of the approximately 2,000-pound animal, ground was broken in fall of 2008. Renovations to the cow were completed in March

2009 at a cost of approximately \$1 million, excluding donated equipment and materials from several local herdsmen and building contractors.

After the ceremony, the public was led on a tour of the cow, one of Virginia Tech's 37 Charolais cattle. "The rumen has been equipped with full wireless internet access," said Agricultural Technician Chad Joines as he led the tour group through the omasum towards the abomasum. "This will allow our students to stay connected, even when they're in the middle of the fields."

Unfortunately, due to miscommunication and poor bureaucratic oversight, the cow is scheduled to be made into 583 California Burgers at West End by next Tuesday.

Peter Kauffmann is a university center affiliated with the Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment.

## Do you care about Michelle Obama's biceps?



All of the news sources are clamoring about Michelle Obama's biceps! Have you seen them? For a middle aged woman, I guess they are the best thing to hit the White House since the internet was wired up. How would you like to be followed around everywhere just so that the AP can photograph your outfit? And then comment on it and its appropriateness to the place where you were when the photo was taken?

Did she need to bare her arms or not? Does it matter? Good grief, with the economy tanking and other crap hitting the fan, you would think that the focus would be elsewhere! I think that I know why the news sources are doing this: to stimulate the economy!

But how is this so, you might ask. Well, if women see Michelle Obama working out and in cute clothes, it's only logical that they then go out and buy the same outfits that she is wearing, no matter how expensive they are. Luckily for all of us women on a budget, Michelle has been frequenting J Crew instead of Vera Wang, and for that I'm sure all of our wallets are singing praises.

Maybe she will start wearing outfits that are even more outrageous just to get a few laughs out of it. I think she should start dressing in drag- that might get her in trouble though. Maybe a nun wouldn't go over well either?

So next time you head out shopping, look no further than 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue for your fashion tips from Mrs. Obama!

*Kari Adkins will be living 4.5 miles from the Obamas starting in May.*

Be next week's guest writer! Submit your work to Kathleen:

justme@vt.edu



### Hillpress Staff

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