San Diego Homeless News

September 26, 2016 • San Diego's Underground Newspaper • Our Seventh Year A POLITICAL VOICE OF THE HOMELESS RIGHTS MOVEMENT



In This Issue: Electoral Fraud Update; Editorials on Homeless Myths; (2-5) Think-Tank Meetings; (5) Homeless 2016; (6) Other News; (7) Snide Comments.

Feedback:

Bob McElroy, CEO of the Alpha Project, said, "I knew I recognized you. You publish the San Diego Homeless News. I use your paper to stay informed as to what's going on." He added, "It is important to get many editorial perspectives, but I do not always agree."

Electoral Fraud Update:

From Ray Lutz: "Vu did his dirty deed in CLEVELAND, not in Cincinnati, and then was rewarded with a higher position here in SD within 4 months without any review or approval by the Board of Supervisors."

The latest news is that the DHS, Dept. of Homeland Security, wants to take over the elections nationwide. Top comments on that were: "Goodbye Democracy" and "Hello, Third World". So, is anyone filing criminal charges because of our rigged election in San Diego? Not:

CA Secretary of State Argues for Sham Audits

by Ray Lutz and Citizens Oversight Projects

Based on bad logic and inaccuracies leaving huge holes in the audit process, the Secretary is green-lighting rigging in the November election. Ray Lutz explains, "The letter by the Chief Counsel representing Alex Padilla, the California Secretary of State (SOS) is a disgusting example of continued rigging of our elections process in California. This letter directs the county officials to continue to violate the state election code, particularly with regard to the audits which can catch election fraud. The SOS letter should not be viewed as a getout-of-jail monopoly card that will allow them to flout their responsibility to conduct meaningful audits that will indeed accomplish the purpose of verifying the automated count." Both the SOS and Ray Lutz letters can be found at this URL: http://copswiki.org/Common/M1701

The trial in the case is scheduled for Oct. 4-6, and continuing Oct. 11 in San Diego Superior Court, Dept. 73. "If you exclude 37% of the ballots from the audit -- as San Diego Registrar Michael Vu did in the June election -- it is easy for compromised employees or hackers to "fix" the election. The spread between Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders was less than 4%," said Lutz. "Padilla is continuing the pattern of blatant partisanship in an office that is supposed to be nonpartisan and fair. Our lawsuit is all about getting a clean audit from the San Diego Registrar of Voters. Without a complete audit, it opens the door for election fraud. The Registrar, Michael Vu, decided to leave out about 285,000 ballots from the audit procedure." Full information about the be found lawsuit can at this link: http://www.copswiki.org/Common/ElectionAuditLawsuit

Citizens Oversight is seeking volunteers in other election districts in California, most particularly the big three: LA, SD, and OC, which account for about 50% of voters in the state. Volunteers can sign up at: http://CitizensOversight.org/signup Donations are accepted at http://CitizensOversight.org/donate

ATTENTION VOTERS IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY: We are looking for anyone who personally experienced difficulty in getting a crossover ballot in this election OR poll workers who were improperly trained or experienced any anomalies in this election. We want you to testify in the TRIAL in San Diego from Oct 3 to Oct 5. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IMMEDIATELY. Private message me (Ray Lutz on Facebook) and send email to raylutz@citizensoversight.org

EDITORIAL:

A Return to Ronald Reagan?

In the early 1980's or so, President Reagan wanted people to not feel sorry for the homeless. He closed the nation's mental hospitals, releasing the mentally ill onto the streets, and then suggested that the homeless are all mentally unstable. This was a very false myth, to cover up the fact that his Economic Recession had caused a lot of homelessness. Unfortunately, there are people who believe this to this day. While it is true that being homeless and on the street does cause mental illness, it is NOT true that being mentally ill, usually, causes homelessness. It can happen, but is far less common than people hitting the street from economic causes, only to become mentally ill eventually as a result of their being homeless.

The reason the news media are key to solving the homeless crisis is that people in the public both need and deserve to know how homelessness really works. Returning to the Reagan Era helps no one.

Another common myth is that our San Diego homeless come from someplace else. Well, to a large extent, nearly everyone in San Diego comes from someplace else, so are the homeless to be considered different in this respect? We ask people where they are from, as opposed to how long they have lived in San Diego, for example, and that becomes very misleading. A New York City resident, age 20, moves to San Diego, and lives and works here for 20 years. Now, age 40, he becomes homeless because his employer went out of business. So, we consider him a New York City homeless who moved here, ignoring the fact that he was a San Diegan for 20 years. For years, I actually believed the "data" on this one, which is part of City propaganda (Public Relations). This is another thing that the news media needs to educate people on.

There were also myths created about the homeless being lazy, dope addicts, alcoholics, or anything else that could be used to blame them for the nation's lack of jobs, and for real estate greed. Once again, homelessness does cause substance abuse, usually just before it causes mental illness, so the two do

go together, but most homeless do not become that way because of substance abuse. They learn it while homeless.

So why the sharp upturn in the number living on the sidewalk? A poor economy, except for wealthy people, and the closing of San Diego's major homeless shelters, in a shell game that added no new beds in reality, just shifted the classifications of existing beds. And, of course, we need to expect homeless numbers to triple, too. Verified homeless are up 2,000 since last year, plus combined numbers of shelter beds available are down by 600 in 18 months.

So what now? We are halfway there, because we are finally starting (I hope!) to dispel some of the myths, plus we know what DOES NOT work, namely all of those things which were done the past 50 years. Good. Progress.

Still, we do have some persistent Reagan myths, such as 80% of our sidewalk homeless being mentally ill. Is that so? I hope not, because I don't think mental illness caused by homelessness can be cured nor treated at all, and that would require a huge number of people being given housing and food (etc.) for life. Better to catch those who have developed alcohol or drug problems, but not yet become mentally ill, and treat them. Or, better still, what about getting people off the sidewalk and into housing (not into institutions) before they become drug and alcohol addicts? That would be the least expensive solution.

They don't want to leave the sidewalk? Of course not, because the plans offered are worse than they have now. You need to understand that your perspective, or what life has taught you, is different from what life has taught them. Sometimes we equate thinking that is not the same as our own as being "mental illness", and until we acknowledge that the homeless perspective is a valid one for those affected by that situation, we cannot begin to even understand the problem, much less how to solve it

We need to help them? Help them with what? Housing, no problem. Becoming institutionalized in a shelter, no thanks. Try not to violate the homeless sense of "home neighborhoods", beliefs, all that. Their thinking is mentally ill? No it isn't, but rather what they have learned to be true, based upon their experiences. Following your line of reasoning, they need to consider you mentally ill, because you believe some or most of the complete bullshit that the propagandists and wealthy folks want you to believe. You have never been exposed to the realities that they have. Be thankful, or you would know what they know, and that would not be good for your perceptions about life and humanity.

EDITORIAL:

Our San Diego Homeless Are From Someplace Else?

Well, nearly everyone in San Diego is from somewhere else, so there may be some truth to that. Typically, homeless are asked where they are from, and other San Diegans are asked that, too, but what does where you were born have to do with now? A better question is to ask how long someone lived in San Diego. At some point, living here and working here, you become a San Diegan.

Do other cities send their homeless here? Don't make me laugh. A few cities in the South have tried sending their poor folks elsewhere, but that never works. San Diego has such a reputation for treating poor people very awful that few would be interested in moving here. I know of no homeless person who moved to San Diego while homeless, unless they were offered a good job here, and, even so, how can they afford to move here?

I was offered a job at over \$50 an hour (inflated to today's value of money) to move to San Diego and provide hands-on engineering for pipefitting, steamfitting, and mechanical ship repair skills in the Barrio Logan shipyards. I liked it, but the politics involved in my being from elsewhere caused the employers to need to get rid of me. In San Diego, we only hire relatives and close friends. So, I became stuck in San Diego, and moved my heating, air conditioning, and engineering business here. A downturn in the 2006 economy had me broke by the end of 2007, so my house got foreclosed on. Hello sidewalk! San Diego Homeless News, 9-26-2016, Page 2

So the official statistics say I'm from Milwaukee, but I have lived over 30 years in San Diego. As far as homeless moving here, San Diego is dead-last, #1600 of the 1600 counties in the United States, in resources given to poor people, provided that you take the population (per capita) into account. San Diego is an awful place for anyone to live, unless they are wealthy, due to very low wages, few jobs, very high prices (especially rent and real estate), and the government is extremely corrupt. Add to that, most San Diegans are assholes, especially when it comes to dealing with poor or average-income people.

San Diego employs powerful Public Relations firms to make it look like a great place, and also sponsors tourism to sucker people into living here. That is how real estate can be sold for 30 or 40 times what it is worth, and this has been going on for hundreds (or even thousands) of years in that business. If you include Hollywood, billions of dollars is spent annually to continue overpopulating the state, driving up real estate and food prices. The Gold Rush was the same nonsense, basically a scam. Welcome to California, and let me chain you up to our french-fry machine. I worked as a taxi driver when engineering business was slow, so I have done menial work here, too.

Homeless Without a Country

I censored out photos of the Haitian Refugees assembled in Tijuana and looking for political asylum in the United States, but at one point they were clogging the access points by camping where people needed to walk in order to enter the US. These folks are not only homeless, but also lack a nation to call home. Deporting them could cause their execution back in Haiti, and, unfortunately, that nation's government emptied out its prisons and mental hospitals, mixing those persons in with the refugees. Most speak French, which is unfortunately only the language of Southern Louisiana in the United States, plus Quebec in Canada. A handful have established street gangs in Tijuana, although most are fine hard-working people. Processing the refugees is currently tying up a lot of the border DHS officers, causing longer wait times at the border. (There were only 5 lanes open at PedWest Friday, 3 Public, 2 Ready Lane, 0 Linea Sentri, and 0 Handicapped.) It goes without saying, but like most homeless, they had no say in their becoming same, plus an increase in our numbers of homeless is not welcome news.

Meetings:

Basic Dignity Coalition of Think Dignity

The Basic Dignity Coalition (BDC) met 6 PM Thursday, Sept 1, as guests of the nonprofit organization Think Dignity (formerly the Girls Think Tank) at the Monicker Warehouse, 705 16th St. (between F and G St.) with 18 present, including Water Man David Ross. The group included 4 community leaders, 3 attorneys, 7 homeless, and a minister. Think Dignity and also this group have both done much to try to get new toilets installed downtown, cleanup trash left behind by the removal of most of the East Village trash receptacles, provide storage lockers for the possessions of the homeless (so that they are not all over everywhere), and they have even sponsored morale events such as parties. Full Disclosure: I am one of the founders of BDC, this group, but not Think Dignity, its sponsor. • Albuquerque, New Mexico, has a project called "Better Way", which outreaches to panhandlers, giving them a job and lunch, plus a bed in an overnight shelter. It was pointed out that San Diego has had programs of this nature in past years, such as HomeQuest. Before Clean and Safe, some homeless were hired to perform those sorts of functions in San Diego. The Alpha Project (Bob McElroy) currently operates 17 contracts to do this, including in San Diego County. • Problems with this sort of approach include legal liability, and, of course, many homeless do not want to make known their personal information, for fear of retribution. • KPBS had a story on the lack of restrooms downtown, and we are now seeking photos of how bad the toilets are at Father Joe's. • One of the topics was Homeless Criminalization, where 133 tickets per month are issued to the homeless for being on the sidewalks and in parks. Not all are in downtown San Diego, some being in the Beaches and Point Loma. SDSU did a study which indicated that the homeless would only accept a shelter if it were in the Beaches, Midway, or Northern Downtown areas. • It was pointed out that most tickets are not filed by the police who

write them, and they have one year to do that, too. So the tickets are mostly a scare tactic, requiring a trip up to Clairemont Mesa to plead Not Guilty. Get a receipt that you appeared, of course, in case that ticket gets filed at some point. You can then prove you complied with the original summons. • San Diego's riverbed is the latest spot to camp, with police contact only a few times a year. • There is a new art program starting which will sell homeless art and give the artists the money from those sales. It is sponsored by HEAL, Homeless **Empowerment thru Art and Leadership**, and will involve meetings at the first-floor Mary Hollis Clark Meeting Room of the downtown library (330 Park Blvd.) on Sept. 27 (tomorrow), Oct. 25, and Nov. 22. See heal-sd.org. There will also be performances by the homeless at Grassroots Oasis, with their art on display. • **Showers** are now operating in Chula Vista, El Cajon, and Vista. The El Cajon homeless are somewhat claustrophobic about being indoors. El Cajon has been a dangerous place for the homeless, as they can even get attacked by the police. • Problems with **MTS** were mentioned, and they have a new series of citizen comments solicited, with a survey at www.sdmts.com/TOP. • Racial profiling and similar is being discussed by ACLU advocates. • Water Man David Ross is going to Washington, DC, to meet with Vice President Biden. • This was a very fun, interesting, and productive meeting. I had to sign for the pizza, which was \$70 for 3 pizzas from Pizza Hut. Is that a normal cost these days? • Some telephone numbers: Heal San Diego, 619-485-0607. Think **Dignity**, 619-537-8736. **ACLU** San Diego, 619-398-4490. *****

Governing Board of the RCCC

The Governing Board of the Regional Continuum of Care Council (RCCC or CoC) met Thursday, Sept. 15 at 3 PM, 3851 Rosecrans St., in the Coronado Room of the County Medical Services Complex, with 52 present, about half of them Board members and the other half public. This group deals with HUD funding, contract awarding, evaluation of nonprofit agency performance, and services related to nonprofit service providers, emergency shelters, homeless programs, poverty food programs, and similar resources, such as "211".

Full Disclosure: I was critical of this group in the last issue (Aug. 30) and called for the elimination of Conflicts of Interest. In the same issue under "Meetings", I covered the regular membership of RCCC being unhappy with the Board regarding what it does and how it does it. One of the reasons that San Diego has so many homeless and yet receives so little money to help is things like this Conflict of Interests.

http://nz9f.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/8-30-2016 SDHN.243115459.pdf, Page 2, "Conflicts of Interest" and also "Meetings". •

Richard Gentry, Chairman of the San Diego Housing Commission, replaces Todd Gloria as Chairman. He stated that in the San Diego Union Tribune newspaper today (Sept. 15) there was a story by reporter Jeff McDonald that he says was sloppy journalism. (I read the story and think it may be correct, but a different perspective than the City's.) Barbara Bree was introduced as running for City Council Dist. 1, who said she wants to help the City solve this important (homeless) problem.

• There was no Non-Agenda Public Comment, but there came to be one later in the meeting. • The new Board Members were introduced. • The RTFH, Regional Task Force on the Homeless is now hiring, and also running the Coordinated Assessment System. The Churchill Hotel will open with 72 new apartments on Monday, except that half of them are already taken. •

Nick Marchione of County Health and Human Services spoke about \$2 billion in bonds for Supportive Housing, and said that our Behavioral Health Programs in San Diego County are among the best. (I strongly disagree, and wrote an article about same on my website. See www.NZ9F.com/MH. The article referred to is "PEAS" and more importantly "Strike 3", about 2/3 way down the page, detailing firsthand with some of the abuses in San Diego County.) The County's new program is called Project One For All, and targets those who are substance abusers and/or mentally ill. •

There are updates to the **Brown Act**, which mandates that government agencies be open to the public as far as their meetings, and those dissenting be allowed to speak. **John Lemmo**, of Procopio, Hargreaves, and Savitch, LLP, a

prominent law firm, gave both a handout and descriptions of how to comply. •

Richard Gentry said that there are vouchers in the hands of the City Housing Commission, with supportive services from the County. He said that the 1000 Veterans Program was "lost" 6 months ago. He said that there are now program structure changes regarding HUD agencies, with a coordinated effort to comply. •

Karen Braham, Secretary, and representing Interfaith Community Services, Escondido, said that there are new vets programs, and her agency raised \$8 thousand the first day.

Deacon Jim Vargas, CEO of Father Joe's Villages, and Treasurer of this group said that there are 225 new permanent units added at Joe's, and rentals are hard to find. He said they are converting transitional beds. •

Chief Vasquez of the La Mesa Police Dept. was introduced as a guest. •

The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program is seeking \$33 million for one of 10 projects, and RTFH is an applicant. San Diego is one of the few that has a Youth Task Force, and conducts periodic Youth Homeless Counts, so we are expected to be selected as an area receiving money for this. Special Needs programs exist for LGBTQ youth, pregnancy and parenting, justice involved youth, and sexually exploited youth. Youth are under-counted and not usually visible on the street. Formal action will be taken next month as to application for YHDP funding. •

The RTFH currently has a General Dashboard for determining homeless demographics, numbers, needs, and trends, developed by SDSU, administered by Dr. Lindsay and her Ph.D. candidate students. It shows \$18.7 million in HUD funding, \$15 million of which is renewals, and 45 beds increase, with \$1.2 million placed into Tier 2 Funding. There are currently in the data 46 agencies, 214 projects, and 427 HMIS users, enabling with one click to tell all the homeless trends, demographic trends, neighborhood changes, and hundreds of things more, using this dashboard. In one quarter, they report 12,667 unique (non-duplicated) clients, and this is up, and has been steadily increasing. In 7 quarters, or one year and nine months, the total homeless served were 30,000 unique and **non-duplicated,** which includes 3,000 emergency shelter clients. New types of data that can be accessed include locations or cities that homeless clients were in before, as well as where they went after contact. Average stay regarding overnight services was 42 days emergency housing, 150 days transitional housing. The dashboard can filter by client type and also by project type. The value of dashboards is that you can look at data that applies to YOUR organization regarding geographic area, type of service provided, success rates, etc. Homeless are up 2,000 versus last year. There are also fewer males, more females, and more families. 1,361 have been permanently placed in housing, and another 1,731 have been placed but not permanently. •

Action Items: The second action item was to change the dates and times of the regular meetings. I did not have time to report on that, because I would be late for another meeting. The First Action Item, however, the merger plans, is presented here: The reason for the RTFH merger is for transparency, and to dispel misunderstandings, and for better planning, infrastructure, and trust. The analogy was that of a marriage, with the steps being Dating, Moving In, Engagement, Marriage, and Happiness. I didn't comment on it, but the next steps after that are Children, Economic Hardship, and Divorce. I have never been stupid enough to marry, but that does not mean those who do marry are stupid, either. Many are.

Details of the Transition Plan: A Merger Task Force drafts an "Intent to Merge" agreement. A long-term strategic plan, with a fund development plan is arrived at, and the Board undergoes training and development. The staff structure is determined, with agreement on necessary skills for program management. Job descriptions and centralized personnel files with integrated pay scales and benefits, performance evaluations, and plans for new office space are all decided. Transfer of assets is determined, with integration of financial, operations, and accounting policies, as well as insurance and licensing. New statements of purpose, value, and culture, a joint operational San Diego Homeless News, 9-26-2016, Page 3 budget, new

individual program budgets, new internal evaluation processes, and an internal structure for integration of operations. The **Transition Plan was approved unanimously** with one person (Sgt. Schnell) abstaining because he is on the RTFH Board.

There was one person with **comments on this plan, Katheryn Rhodes,** an Independent Civil Engineer who donates her time on local Think Tanks and in meetings which regard the well-being of the homeless. She has personally helped me. She suggested becoming a **Joint Powers Agency, like MTS and SANDAG,** dealing with poverty housing instead of transportation. This would also make this agency the logical successor to receive the \$155 million in Redevelopment money currently held in the bank by the Redevelopment Successor Agency, Civic San Diego.

EDITORIAL: This is the best idea in years. As a Government Joint Powers Agency, the problem of having no County Laws that cities must obey in California, unlike the other 49 states, is resolved. Everywhere outside of California, for example, cities are forced to comply by law for things like transportation needs, such as the trolley, by the County they are in passing laws dealing with that. In California, there must instead be Joint Powers Agencies, such as SANDAG. This would overcome the problem that federal money is given to counties, but not cities, yet in California (unlike the other 49 states) it is the cities, and not the counties, charged with giving housing to the poor. Such an agency can pass laws, and would be powerful enough to have a Homeless Czar. The present reason that no such thing as a Czar would work is that they could not be powerful enough. Such an agency trumps cities and counties, issuing such laws as the MTS Ordinances. This would be a good beginning for how to handle homelessness in California. I've written it before, but California has more homeless than the other 49 states combined, and these are some of the reasons right here. The San Diego Union Tribune had a great editorial on this in its Sept. 15 edition (same day as this meeting), saying "Expect more homeless...This is California, the capital of poverty - and political callousness." I nearly fell out of my chair reading something so true in the new UT. They were critical of how the State Legislature is handling low income housing. In the same paper, Jeff McDonald had a UT Watchdog article, Developers Owe S.D. Millions", which is what Richard Gentry, Chairman of RCCC, called "Sloppy journalism". McDonald cited a mere 21% collection rate on nearly \$15 million due to the city by real estate developers. My take? Both parties are stating this with a different spin. The City Housing Commission held a press conference on it, but I was neither invited nor have I seen what they had to say. ◆◆◆◆◆◆

East Village Residents Group

One hour later than the end of the above meeting, 6 PM Sept. 15, 2016, the East Village Residents Group, EVRG, met at East Village Community Church, 1374 Island Ave., with 60 persons present. This meeting is important, because **Bob** McElroy, CEO of the Alpha Project, is due to speak on the concept of **Drop-In Shelters.** McElroy has been cited as one of the most humane of the homeless advocates, and was commissioned by the City of Long Beach to design their system of dealing with the homeless. He is native to San Diego, and like myself, has at least 30 years as a Homeless Advocate. His trademark is that he does not do marketing in the news media and in government, like most nonprofits. In plain language, most of the orgs scream about their accomplishments, even taking out advertising, soliciting donations, browning-up to editors and television producers, making it look like they do a whole lot more than they actually do. In the case of McElroy, he avoids all that, and groups and governments come to him. He is in the services business, not public relations. It is a change of perspective, and it has a ring of honesty to it. • In his speech to the group, McElroy said he is proud of the new Alpha Square, which is Permanent Supportive Housing for 203 current residents in downtown San Diego. He operates 14 different programs in 7 cities, including Oakland. He said that there have been many plans for the homeless the past 20 years, but none have been implemented. (See my editorial on the Concept of Permanent Delay, in the 30 edition, Aug. http://nz9f.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/8-30-2016 SDHN.243115459.pdf.

McElroy operated Neil Good Center for the homeless many years, and mentioned that things got bad when the City tore down about 4,000 SRO's (cheap hotels). He mentioned the ten

who died at Alpha Square, saying that they died with dignity, among friends. He said that 65% are over 65, and that everyone, including himself, has mental illness. He says that 87% of his staff was recruited from among clients. He has 17 contracts regarding "Take Back The Streets", which is a program that uses homeless to work for minimum wage to do street cleaning, freeway brush removal, and similar things, in return for food, housing, and a salary. He said that 3 County Landfill supervisors came from Alpha Projects. McElroy operates the only Hospice program in California that is for the homeless. He seeks a Central Intake Facility. (Salt Lake County used this system, but eventually found out that they needed one intake center and shelter in each and every neighborhood.) He calls VI-SPDAT merely VI, the Vulnerability Index (something I suggested some time ago.) He said that no one on the sidewalk admits being crazy. He said that most do not want to live in an institution, and would rather live and die out on the streets. He said that his rubber tent winter shelters involved no trash, no filth, and we are not helping anybody by their living on the street. He spoke of frustration because of the increases in violence.

He compared San Diego's homeless problem to Bangladesh. He asked for the help of residents and business owners. He has the perspective that feeding the homeless only helps them live on the street, and that is enabling them to die. So, he is in agreement with some of the EVRG principles, such as no toilets, no tents, no food, etc. He has a Rapid Rehousing program with 220 clients, the largest in the state. He got the comment from one woman that the homeless situation in San Diego reminded her of visiting India. A real estate agent said that homeless are moving in here from other cities (we disagree) and that it is mental illness that causes homelessness (we strongly disagree). End of speech by Bob McElroy. •

Next, Brian Elliott spoke on behalf of Congressman Scott **Peters.** Elliott is a resident of East Village. He provided an update on the new RCCC plan to propose new HUD rules that no longer favor the East and Midwest over the West in funding. He said that San Diego is 4th in the number of homeless, but 28th in funding. He said that "HUD now recognizes what the root causes of homelessness are." I am not so sure, because technology eliminating jobs and a poor economy, combined with real estate greed are what causes homelessness. • Joyce Temporal (spelling approximate) spoke for Senator Marty **Block**, regarding legislation to allow military parents to no longer have to wait to get their children into a school, and about a new law which would require schools to provide information on textbook costs. Senator Block has now been replaced (as of the new legislature in January) by Toni Atkins. • John Ly, Outreach Director for the Mayor's Office, said he works thru problems in Districts 1, 3, and 5, and that the Innovation Economy was now 25% of our GDP. San Diego has 400 new startups. Housing Our Heroes has 541 housing units committed, plus 317 currently in use. 189 veterans have vouchers as of Sept. 1. • Brad Richter, Vice-President of **Civic San Diego,** spoke of a budget of \$18.9 million next year, and that East Village Park would be built on 14th and G, with a community center, playground, and lots of lawn. He said that Children's Park would also get renovated, and new traffic signals installed at 15th and Broadway, Market, and F St. Asked what would prevent homeless encampments at the new park, he said that there would be a downtown ranger based at the new community center on 14th and G. •

Next, Police Liason Officers Lt. Adam Sharki and Marlo Woods spoke about their priorities being drugs, alcohol, weapons, encroachment, and mental illness. Lt. Sharki said that everyone has a right to be on the sidewalk, but not to block it. Thursday signs are put up for Monday cleanup. In August, 29 tons of trash was removed. There are a lot of narcotics sales, currently policed by undercover officers, with 13 recent arrests. Alcohol is an issue, with repeat offenders offered either jail or enrollment in SIP, the Serial Inebriate Program. He said that mental health is policed by two persons, (a clinician and a paramedic) in a fire-emblem vehicle who partner with PERT, the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team. He said that violent crime and weapons offenses were serious problems over the summer, and aggressively addressed. Mario Woods continued, saying he was in Central Division 8.5 years, and came from a bad neighborhood in Memphis, where his parents used dope. He is concerned that East Village homeless went from a count of 400 to now 900. • Chris Ward, who is a new City Council member, said he worked for Marty Block in the San Diego Homeless News, 9-26-2016, Page 4 past, and is a

Planning and Development Specialist, regarding urban planning and public policy. He said it is a growing challenge. He spoke about a program he called "No Place Like Home", with \$2 billion in housing for the mentally ill. He will be inaugurated Dec. 12. • Alonzo Vivas also spoke, and he is Director of Clean and Safe. Clean and Safe is a program operated by Civic San Diego that sponsors block monitor security guards and also persons to clean up trash, water flowers, clean sidewalks, and similar. I asked him if the sidewalk feces and urine was related to the City closing or removing 22 toilets in the past 10 years, and whether the accumulation of trash had anything to do with the city removing over 30 trash receptacles in that time. He denied that any of that happened, and I told him that I usually commented about same, and could probably provide him with the dates, times, and locations of those facility removals. One woman said, "We'd be sunk without Clean and Safe". Vivas said that needs can be phoned in a 619-234-8900, or texted to 619-414-2698. • We then heard from Mary Baum of SAY San Diego about a proposed alcohol ordinance to ban the sale of **off-premise** (to go) beer, wine, and liquor in the East Village. There is also a plan to report liquor store owners to ABC (Alcoholic Beverage Control) for failure to comply with having proper signage, cleanup of their store area, and similar. She said that her group was trying to mitigate alcohol harm. • This concluded the meeting. **Next meeting** of this group is Nov. 17, 6 PM, East Village Community Church, 1374 Island Ave., downtown San Diego, www.evrgsd.org. ♦♦♦♦♦♦

My Editorial Comments: The three things that bothered me are as follows: These people do not know that 80% of our homeless are from San Diego. They think the huge increase is from elsewhere, and that is generally wrong. Also, they think that mental illness causes homelessness, which is downright laughable if it were not so tragic. Homelessness causes mental illness and drug abuse, not the other way around. If people get re-housed quickly, neither of those expensive problems occur. Above all, denial of the City's removal of toilets and trash receptacles is the biggest falsehood perpetrated today. If I had enough time (I don't) I would research the whole story on toilets and publish it.

Homeless 2016 • Non-Solutions: Part Two in a Series of How Homelessness Works in San Diego.

By Dr. John Kitchin, Ph.D. Public Domain

Part One can be had in the San Diego Homeless News for July 25: http://nz9f.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/7-25-2016_SDHN.206143356.pdf

I divide the Non-solutions into two categories based upon effectiveness. Things that have failed repeatedly in the past, or been of only some help, but not much, are the first category, **Failed Non-solutions.** The other category is things that have worked somewhat or sometimes, **Promising Non-solutions.** Modification of that category's programs may produce some desired results. Or, not.

You could say that everything done so far regarding homelessness has been a Non-solution, because there has never been any permanent solution. What we do have is lots of people screaming, "New and Improved!", as if whatever we are beginning to do "now" (in 1960, 1972, 1980, etc.) is somehow better than all those things done before. It's spin and propaganda. Philanthropists and governments like to believe that we "now" (whenever that is) have the "magic bullet" which makes things so much better. Like all beliefs, it makes you feel better, but does not really make things better. Everything involves a wait, deferring action into the future. We first need discussions, and permits, and union agreements, and funding, and (continue forever). By the time things do not work, different politicians are in office. This has been a continuous Non-solution for many years.

Some specific elements of the Non-solutions: **Homeless shelters** are not a solution, because they are designed to be a temporary fix and require those who use them becoming institutionalized, made to obey rules, living with lots of other people (no privacy), having limited access (certain hours only), and they spread disease and the learning of undesirable traits from others (such as burglary or drug abuse). They go a long way towards making the substance abuse and mental health problems of the homeless worse. **Substance Abuse shelters**

consider these places an inhumane form of jail. They have no choice? Yes they do, the sidewalk. **Prisons and jails** are often better than the sidewalk, so arresting homeless does improve their lives, at a cost to the taxpayers of \$200 a day per person or more. Compare that cost with a cheap hotel room paid for by those who live in it. That was a previous solution, but the cheap hotel options are gone. The City tore them down. Work Programs have had some successes, including Rapid Rehousing, but their use in a city where rent costs more than wages pay, can that succeed? Without institutionalized housing? Faith, religion, spirituality, and churches can make people feel better, but they also result in a lot of hypnotized robots, screaming lunatics, Bipolar Disease, and even Schizophrenia, as well as making employment more difficult, by how they administer Spirituality. Jesus and God are fake answers for stupid people, but if hypnosis is the only "drug" or "intervention" available, they may have purpose. All Spirituality-based Non-solutions do more harm than good, often resulting in suicide. Suicide definitely ends homelessness, permanently, but it is a Non-solution because of the harm it does to others, such as friends and parents. It also permanently loses whatever that person could have accomplished. Poor choice. Outreach, Police HOT (Homeless Outreach Team), PERT Mental Health (Psychiatric Emergency Response Team), and similar all have uses, but only because we wait so long before attempting to help, and by that time, people have become severely damaged. All this does is to spin the rotation, and all will be back on the sidewalk a different day. HOT and PERT help business owners, residents, and the public, not homeless persons. They are an aspirin so that the cancer does not feel as bad. HOT should be part of the Fire Dept., as homeless consider the police to be a threat. Both HOT and PERT have programs that seem to be of very little value to the homeless themselves, or they would be welcomed. I would love to help with a re-think, too. Consider using Fire Dept. uniforms on those police who work HOT, even though they are really police officers. Other cops would know that, but not the homeless. It becomes not a threat, because there is no fear of fire fighters. All of this is psychological, and if you do it right, it is much less of a problem. Sweeps are a Nonsolution, because playing "Whack-A-Mole" with the homeless only moves them around and around, plus there are always others coming in from the Rotation. Nasty media articles or video doesn't help, because it only breeds more insults, more contempt, and, like sweeps, increases homelessness anger and aggressiveness. Does that help anything? Education is a Non-solution for many reasons: First, many schools are more interested in making money than teaching either truth or useful skills. Second, few who get specific educations get long-term jobs in those fields. Third, needed updates occur too quickly for most to keep up with them. For example, a friend of mine got an MBA degree with high honors, from a top-shelf university, and upon leaving school got an excellent good-paying job. Three years later, however, the corporation said his knowlege was now obsolete. and they needed somebody "fresher". He went back to school and got a second MBA degree with the latest updates, again got a great job, and this time it was 4 years before his knowledge was obsolete. He retired at age 55, rather than going back to school for a third MBA degree. If he had not made great investments with that money he earned in his 7 years working, he would have been on the sidewalk. There are many homeless professionals. I have done engineering, small business administration, have a Ph.D. in psychology, and have always done some publishing. When it came time for another of the newspapers to interview me, a fellow Ph.D. who is homeless and also does some publishing was hired for that job. Definitely a peer. So, as stated, schools don't work, because very few actually get employment from that training that lasts long-term. Closing down the downtown toilets is a Non-solution, only resulting in a lot more sidewalk pee, poop, and stink. Great for tourism? Ditto for closing the showers (causing bodily odors) and removing the trash receptacles (causing sidewalk trash). Having insufficient storage facilities for the homeless results in a lot of street-stored possessions, too. Unsightly. Insults, dog bites, arson, and other plans to make homeless life more miserable only adds to aggressiveness, plus drug and alcohol abuse. Food deprivation, such as the City threatening food providers, only results in more hardship, more aggression, different providers, and is a violation of Human Rights than can be prosecuted. Welfare money (General Relief) is no answer, because it isn't enough money to buy those resources necessary to seek employment, nor is it enough to buy any housing, and it could be used to buy drugs or alcohol. Given that it is only enough for one use, San Diego Homeless News, 9-26-2016, Page 5 what will it be

and Mental Health shelters do cover not making those things worse,

but are very expensive and in very limited supply, and when people

leave them, they go back to their old habits. Plus, most homeless

used for? Yes, GR could also be used for a bus pass. Tickets and fines do not do any good, as it is unlikely the money will ever be paid, plus there are legal costs and costs of incarceration that the taxpayers must pay. At \$200 a day per person, versus \$40 for a cheap hotel, what makes more sense with your tax money? And, if we could convince the homeless to pay \$50 a week for their own cheap hotel rooms downtown, wouldn't that be better? That's the way it used to be, before the City tore down the cheap hotels. New anti-homeless laws don't work, because they violate the State and Federal Constitutions, and thus get thrown out. There are also huge legal costs involved in paying damages to those arrested or ticketed. Free transportation to another city doesn't really help, because now we are playing whack-a-mole on a national basis instead of locally, and those cities will send their homeless here. Section 8 Housing doesn't work, because there is a 10-year wait for it, plus there are too few landlords who accept it.

The next category of Non-solutions is the things that sometimes work, at least somewhat. I know "sometimes" and "somewhat" are not good enough, but modification of one or more of these may make it into a solution, or at least a temporary one, and there have never been any permanent ones. Nothing has ever been successful, but some things worked better than others. In the 1930's, President Roosevelt established the Civilian Conservation Corps, dealing with two problems at the same time, housing and employment. Employment was in rural forests, and housing was living in tents, which is entirely acceptable in locations like rural forests. During the earlier parts of the Vietnam War, veterans who became disabled received huge disability payments, permitting them to easily buy housing. By the time we started to lose that war, payments were a lot less, and many homeless resulted. In the end, all of these were not solutions, just things that worked as a temporary fix. Selfemployment has worked for some homeless, be that recycling, odd jobs, car washing, window washing, cleaning or janitorial services, or even gardening. Sleeping in cars has also made life more tolerable for some. Hawaii ceded some park lands to use by its homeless, plus there are religious retreat lands that can be camped on, free. I personally checked that out and lived on some of these lands, writing a published book. Rural camps, using recreational vehicles, such as the Bard-Winterhaven-Yuma LTVA lands or even Slab City are certainly the top-shelf partial solution, since some have hot springs, hot tubs, swimming in lakes, hunting and fishing, convenience stores, and more. I featured some of these in my book, written in my earlier years as a homeless advocate. Campgrounds in general, such as the one at Lake Morena, usually have such things as toilets, showers, and drinking water. Hidden rural homeless camps (of the not-legal variety) exist in many places, too. A few have bus access. Been there and done that. Conferences, help groups, and think tanks are a partial solution among the Non-solutions, too, because they can assemble a number of minds together to solve a problem. Ideas certainly rule when all previous has failed. The City of Portland gave a derelict shopping mall to its homeless, with the proviso that they must organize and provide for their own security force, their own cleanup patrols, and their own management. Madison, Wisconsin, has a successful "tiny houses" community. Hotel vouchers are sometimes effective at helping the homeless situation, but so few hotels accept them. The hotels of Tijuana have been a partial solution for some, as their rates can be as low as \$1 per night, although \$10 is more typical. Still, that is \$70 a week. Special agencies such as Goodwill, East County Transitional Living Center, and many more, can be a partial solution because they provide OJT, Onthe-Job Training, as opposed to classroom instruction, paying people from day one. Being an apprentice or an intern is the same thing. The alien in my joke in the first installment of this series said that homeless get adopted by those more wealthy, and are then expected to live within reasonable rules. In other words, an artificial family is created. That is what happens in the rural camps, and even urban camps in Tijuana. The future of the Non-solutions? We give earthquake victims who become homeless help, so why not economic victims? Technology causes far more homeless than earthquakes do. An emergency is declared, and the homeless are given economic disaster relief in FEMA camps, but why all the barbed wire and razor wire? You need to see photos of some of these camps, and compare them to photos of Hitler's Auschwitz. They look like Guantanamo Bay Prison. Next, Solutions, or at least what they might look like. This is planned for 2 editions from now, perhaps about Thanksgiving. (The photos are, supposedly, a FEMA camp, followed by Guantanamo Bay. The reason the Cuban base was used, is to prevent those detained of course.) speaking with the US news media, San Diego Homeless News, 9-26-2016, Page 6



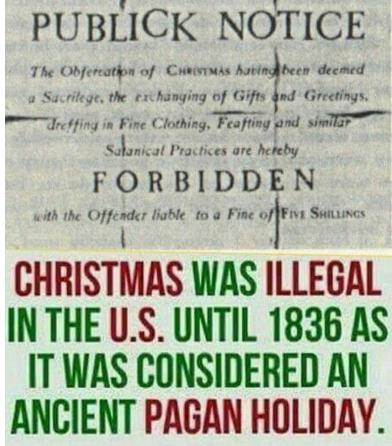


Other News:

Microsoft came under cyber-attack Sept. 11, and many passwords were compromised, according to a e-mail from Amazon.Com, which suggests changing all present passwords at this time, no matter what same are associated with. MSN (Microsoft) went to a backup system of security, and no data is reported lost.

Political Fire: The headquarters of the PRI in Tijuana, which is the United States Republican Party - Mexico Division, were set on fire Sept. 19, supposedly in honor of Mexican Independence Day, and photography of same was prohibited as a part of a cover-up. The PRI Division was set up by President Abraham Lincoln to be Mexico's only political party, just before our Civil War. The penalty for establishing or belonging to another political party in Mexico was death for treason, and this law persisted over 70 years. In the 1930's, thousands of political candidates from other parties were killed by police without any trials. Other political parties are now permitted, but the vote counts are altered, just like in the United States.

MTS closed another 99 cents store bus stop, this one at the Dollar Tree store in San Ysidro, near the San Ysidro Outlet Mall. This results in making the poor and elderly transport their groceries an extra one or two city blocks, using their canes, crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs.



Sign says: **Publick Notice** The Obfercation of Christmas having been declared a Sacrilege, the exchanging of Gifts and Greetings, drefting in Fine Clothing, Feasting and similar Satanical Practices are hereby FORBIDDEN with the Offender liable to a fine of Five Shillings. (I do not know which States called their money by British words like "Shillings".)

No, the Hitler photo below is NOT a solution, but that sort of thing is currently being tried. The 1938 Time Magazine story which accompanies the "Man of the Year" feature says (quite correctly at that time), "Adolph Hitler has shown himself to be one of the most brilliant, fair, and caring politicians of our time. He helped to end the Great Depression in Europe, successfully." Now do not assume I think he was good, because his evil became obvious, but Time Magazine was correct at that much earlier time in calling him a great man.



Get Current and Ongoing News on our Preview Page

<u>www.NZ9F.com/SDHNpreview</u>, a continuous update of what will become the San Diego Homeless News is available, until about a week before an edition is published.

News Media News did not fit into this edition, but there are articles of merit.

Snide Comments:

Did you ever read a soft drink label from Mexico? Ingredients: Carbonated water, concentrates, flavorings, sweeteners, other substances, additional ingredients. One brand of juice that was to be exported to the US had a sticker on it that said, "Contains 0.01% juice." • If you either outreach or recruit, there is something wrong with your organization. • Gastronomy is that division of astronomy where you point your telescope at your dinner salad to see how much bacteria is in it. Or is Gastronomy the study of what gives you gas? • Armanix? Blend of Armani and Termanix, fashion for pesticide workers. • Tequila "El Stinko" is made from the finest lawn grass clippings. Just 19 cents a litre. • Tupperware was invented by mother Tupper, right? • Governments take advantage of the fact that most folks do not know how evil they are. • How about a new virus that destroys other viruses? •

Published by San Diego County's 11% (330,000) Homeless Rotation, 15,000 to 40,000 (on any given day) Un-housed, and 2 Million+ Nearly-Homeless* *(Official HUD Statistic for what <u>THEY</u> call San Diego's "Cost Burdened". The State of California

calls them "Financially Stressed.") San Diego: At Least Triple the Homeless by Percent of Anywhere Else in the World

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Library of Congress Catalog Number - URL:

www.nz9f.com/sdhnarchives2016/Sept26

Being homeless on the sidewalk is a lot like being at the zoo, except you're the exhibit.

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We represent the world's fastest-growing ethnic group, the homeless, the only group that gets NO protection from discrimination in employment, housing, education, nor hate-crimes. We are those who suffer because the wealthy own everything. No one WANTS to be homeless nor CHOOSES to be homeless. It happens when everything you do to prevent it fails to work. Making anything illegal that cannot be prevented makes no sense. Instead, make it illegal for circumstances to force people to become homeless against their will. Once homeless, people will need to use booze or dope, just to stay sane, and many lose that fight, too, becoming mentally ill and often killing themselves. This ends the problems that society forced upon them. Self-Servatives (Con-Servatives, Con Artists that Serve themselves) cause funerals, but they don't mind, because they don't believe in God.

These are the same people who invented God, so they could control you and make money off you. They fill your head with propaganda from the day you are born. The Bar (Democrats and Republicans of the British and Italian Mafias and the Jewish Cabals) licenses attorneys and runs the court system, religious system, and news media. Welcome to Reality! They make money by expanding the population, with major holdings in both real estate and food production. They hate population reduction, and have forced women to have babies, even though herbs for both birth control and pregnancy termination have been available for thousands of years. That is also why they hate same-sex marriage, as it does not automatically produce biological children, and why they hate suicide and birth control, both of which reduce population. They also hate war, unless they can make money on it. "They" is the Middle Templar Bar of London.

The Bar of London is a franchise of the Swiss Nazi Knights Templar, which is descended from the Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt. They operate the World Bank, Freemasons, and Illuminati, as well as the Italian Mafia. Sometimes called the Pharistocracy, or Pharaoh Aristocracy, this group is responsible for there having been kings and queens, as well as the use of hypnosis to control the public via religion. They control the world's food supply, adding drugs to same in order to control and enslave the public. Many of them are not even from this planet.



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