

HOMELESS IN PARADISE

January 6, 2017

Column #117

Part 1 – Hasta la Vista!



PUNDITS, PISSANTS, AND PEOPLE PONDER THE MEANING OF TRUMP’S BIG P

By Wanda Sue Parrott

SAYING farewell to one American president and welcoming the next has never been quite like this before!

If former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s Jan. 2 Premiere Performance as star of NBC’s “New Celebrity Apprentice” is any indication, we’re facing a “Hasta la vista” transition, whatever that means.

Even the black pissants invading my sink are kicking up their heels as they stream forth in quantum leaps, reminiscent of expanding national homeless ranks since Bill Clinton took office Jan. 20, 1991. Then, according to the 1990 Nationwide Census Bureau Statistics, 49,783 people were homeless on the street and another 178,828 were in emergency shelters.

Things have changed.

In 2017, Washington, D. C., where the President is expected to reside, has the highest rate of homelessness of 32 cities. There are 124 homeless persons estimated for every 10,000 residents, or approximately 8,350 homeless people.

President-elect Donald J. Trump is executive producer of “New Celebrity Apprentice,” which gives generous donations to winners’ charities. Are homeless agencies included? Unknown at this time. Trump’s presidential campaign did not address “homelessness” verbatim in speeches, literature or online.

David Brooks predicted in the Nov. 4, 2016, New York Times, “A Trump impeachment or resignation is probably in the cards within the next year.” So, while pundits prophesy the downfall of the United States or its resurrection, depending on which side of the aisle they’re on, I looked into local grassroots democracy. Good news!

Pantries

These food Pantries are open to all people, unless otherwise indicated:

Marina residents only: St. Jude’s Catholic Church, 303 Hillcrest, 1st, 2nd & 5th Wed., 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Monterey: The Gathering for Women’s “Pantry for All” is open on Sun., Tues. and Fri., 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., at 580 Fremont St., Monterey (next to El Estero Car Wash).

Shoreline Community Church, 2500 Garden Rd., Tues., Thurs, 12:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

New Monterey & Pacific Grove residents only: St. Angela Merici Church, 362 Lighthouse Ave., PG, Tues. & Thurs., 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Pacific Grove: St. Mary's by the Sea Episcopal Church, 146 12th St., Mon., Wed., Fri., 1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Housing And Homeless Programs In Monterey

As of Jan. 2, 2017, I sent New Year's greetings to all city councils on the Monterey Peninsula, suggesting they participate in the 2017 Matching Funds Challenge Grant Program to help homeless service providers. The project is currently managed by the City of Monterey, which provides yearly funds for many homeless service organizations, including the Veterans' Transition Center for housing.

According to Mayor Clyde Roberson, "Monterey has built low-income housing in the past, and currently has a project on city land for 19 very low income units.

"Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program (I-HELP) for Men currently provides homeless shelter for up to 25 homeless guests every day of the month at different participating churches, one of which is my own, First Presbyterian Monterey, of which I have been a member almost 40 years. Our Pastor Jay started the program almost 25 years ago."

Presbyterians And Politics

President-elect Donald J. Trump's religious background is Presbyterian. Will he or won't he become active in the National Presbyterian Church, the third-largest religious center in Washington, D.C.?

NPC started in 1795 when a group of Scottish stonemasons, who were employed to work on the White House, met to worship. President Dwight D. Eisenhower laid the cornerstone on Oct. 14, 1967, for the present church complex which covers 12 acres.

In CNN Politics online, Oct. 24, 2016, Religion Editor Daniel Barke writes in "The guilt-free gospel of Donald Trump" that the president-elect "claims to be a Presbyterian who attends church occasionally—on Christmas, Easter and special occasions" but is too busy on most Sundays.

Here in Monterey, the First Presbyterian Church has been instrumental in helping One Starfish Safe Parking and I-HELP for Women to get up and running.

Mayor Roberson says, "The City of Monterey has allocated funds for these shelter programs. Organizations are now receiving City funding to provide diverse overnight shelter assistance, and people are now being sheltered overnight."

More Monterey news will appear next week. Now, here's some insider information into just what we can expect by analyzing the incoming president's signature:

According to Michelle Dresbold, graduate of the United States Secret Service's Advanced Document Training Program, and author of "Sex, Lies and Handwriting" (Simon and Schuster, 2008): "... The oversized P in Trump is a large phallic symbol that shouts: 'Me—big hunk of man.'"

Which leaves us pondering his TV replacement Arnold Schwarzenegger's innuendo to Jimmy Fallon on the Tonight Show a week before Christmas:

"I'm the new boss. I plan to be tough but fair. . . and another change: we're now in California."

###

Photos provided by author; used for educational/illustrative purposes only; no copyright infringement intended.

Contact Wanda Sue Parrott at amykitchenerfdn@hotmail.com or leave a message with

The Yodel Poet at 831-899-5887.

