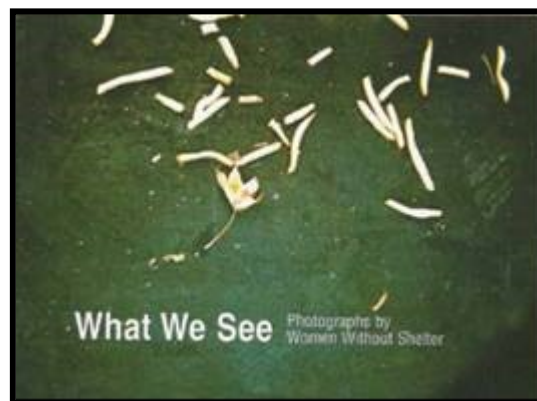


HOMELESS IN PARADISE

March 10, 2017

Column #126

Hear Our Voice - Part 6



IS THE POSTCARD PARTY THE NEW POLITICAL LEFT?

By Wanda Sue Parrott

SENDING postcards is now the rage.

If Dad were here, he'd ask, "Is the Postcard Party the new political left?"

"Well, it is a women's world," Mother would answer.

Dad, a non-argumentative right-winger, might have conceded, "You're durn tootin' . . ."

Which leads to the Pink Pussyhat Women's March that stood in solidarity with the International Women's Strike organizers, feminists of color, and grassroots groups in planning global actions for equity, justice, and human rights to give the world "A Day Without Woman" last Wednesday.

On March 8, homeless and sheltered "sisters" wore red and kept their pocketbooks closed to show international solidarity through spending power. Contact info@actionnetwork.org.

Closer to home, the Fund for Homeless Women, a field fund of the Community Foundation for Monterey County, will celebrate its fifth anniversary with a special event at the Monterey Museum of Art.

"What We See"—Photographs By Women Without Shelter

Eleven of the more than 500 unsheltered women on the Monterey Peninsula are photographic artists. Their images are bold, gritty, captivating and uplifting, with powerful voices and unique vision that go unnoticed and ignored.

For instance, in her 2016 poetic photo "400 Calories," Kelly F. reveals a golden maple leaf reaching metaphorically like a homeless woman for life light among cold, limp French fries around her.

The exhibit includes poignant testimonials with reflective and interactive activities.

This Community Gallery exhibition is in collaboration with the Monterey Museum of Art, Fund for Homeless Women, guests of Gathering for Women, and freelance curator Deborah Silguero, working with students from the CSUMB Fall 2016 Visual Arts Museum Studies class.

The exhibit opens on Thurs., March 16, the 54th day of the new administration's first 100 days, and runs through Sept. 4, at Monterey Museum of Art, 559 Pacific St., Monterey.

The First 45 Days Recap

When Trump was inaugurated on Jan. 21, 2017, I dedicated this column to his “first 100 days” as they affect homelessness.

This meant sharing Ten Actions the Women’s March recommends, one every 10-day period.

Well, guess what? Mushrooming reactivity to the new administration’s tactics (being called everything from anti-American to Storm Trooperism) has produced too many reactions to keep track of Actions by number.

So, what’s next?

All intelligent bipeds with or without Neanderthal ancestry and/or party preference are welcome to participate in this next postcard gala slated for Wed., March 15, 2017.

Why? Alec Baldwin, brilliant actor who impersonated Trump on Saturday Night Live, says it well.

In a recent interview with *Extra*’s Mario Lopez, Baldwin said he is going to quit playing Trump on SNL because, “His policies aside, which you can hate, I thought he would have just relaxed.

“The maliciousness of this White House has people worried, which is why I’m not going to do it much longer, the impersonation.

“I don’t know how much more people can take it.”

The forthcoming #Ides of Trump postcard party will be a chance for the public to let the president know how much more of his bully pulpit strong-arm threats they can tolerate.

Those so inclined can fire him in essence on the Ides (15th) of March 2017 without a single stab wound or other violence.

Trump’s Pink Slip Postcard Party

Inspired by Shakespeare’s line “Beware the Ides of March” from his play “Julius Caesar,” the next big postcard party is identified as #Ides of Trump and you’re invited.

On Wed., March 15, millions of people will all mail postcards like the one shown in this picture, or originally created by their own imaginations.

Purpose is to bombard the White House with messages that dispel the administration’s claims that Americans want what they’re serving. Rules are quite simple:

- Address your postcard (without return address) to:
Donald J. Trump, President (as of now)
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20050
- On the reverse side use this message or write your own:
#Trump Ides of March
Pink Slip Postcard
March 15, 2017
You’re fired!
Reason: (optional)
Signature: (optional)
- Affix one 34-cent stamp and mail it on 3/15/17

Say It In Spanish

Needed: mensajes en español (messages in Spanish) by the “hermanas” (sisters) of local Latina women who fear becoming homeless if spouses are deported.

To fire Trump in Spanish está muy facil. Replace “You’re Fired” with “Estás despedido!”

Next week, we’ll investigate Hispanic homelessness; Monterey’s emergency shelter and Seaside’s sanctuary city issues; SB54 (March 6, 2017) declaring California a safe haven in defiance of Trump’s threats to withhold federal funds from sanctuary cities and states; and at least four cities’ lawsuits claiming the president’s actions are unconstitutional.

As to local action, it’s party time! The All Women’s Ball benefitting Community Human Services’ Safe Place Program for Runaways and Homeless Youth, is tonight at the Elks Club, Monterey, 8 p.m., \$25 donation. Hope you love Zumba! Contact lsanchez@chservices.org.

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