

HOMELESS IN PARADISE

July 27 - August 2, 2018

HUMPTY DUMPTY HOUSING - Part 23



INTRODUCING THE NEW IMMIGRATION & HOUSING SUMMIT SERIES

by Wanda Sue Parrott

WONDERING becomes me, so I asked a Mexican folk hero, “If possible, Cuauhtémoc, name the Universal Declaration of Human Rights articles most relevant to today’s illegal immigration issues.”

“Immigration means incoming migrants? Like Cortez, the Spaniard who invaded Tenochtitlan when I ruled from 1520 to 1521?”

“Right.”

“So what?”

“Where did they sleep?”

“In the palace, on the ground, everywhere. . .”

“Monterey County has 12 to 30 people sleeping in one house,” I said. “Or in vehicles and bushes.”

“Their invisible weapons were deadlier than our swords.”

“Smallpox is fatal.”

“My warriors fell like rain. Cortez suspected I planned to assassinate him, so he hanged me first. What happened afterward?”

“Tenochtitlan became Mexico City. In 1948 Mexico was a founder of the United Nations, an international body of governance that preserves member nations’ autonomy.”

“During my life, all cities’s rulers held councils. What do you call such meetings?”

“Summits,” I said. “A summit is a meeting of two or more heads of state. The term started in 1950 when British Prime Minister Winston Churchill used it during the Cold War. A summit can be any kind of meeting of

minds. So, which of the 30 articles in the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights best reflect today's illegal immigration and broken housing crises?"

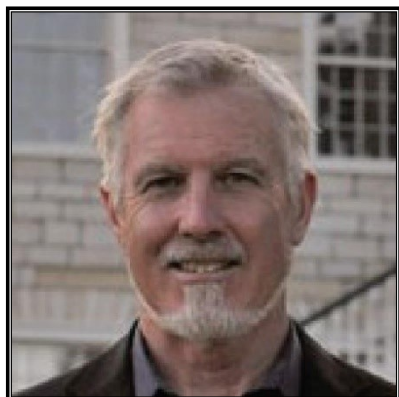
Descending Eagle chose two articles.

The Universal Declaration Of Human Rights

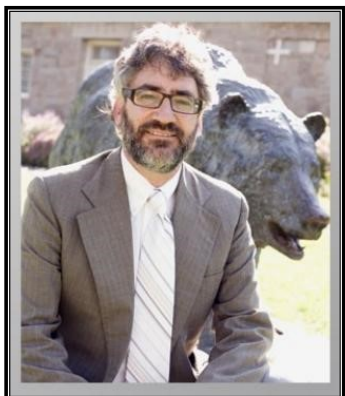
- **Article 13:** (1) Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state; (2) Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.
- **Article 14:** (1) Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution; (2) This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from or for acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

The notion of a readers' summit rose like rain-drying sun, and so this column merges the old Humpty Dumpty Housing series with our new "Immigration & Housing Summit" Series.

Meet The First Summiteers



Timothy Barrett: Monterey City Councilman since 2014, he chaired the "Hungry and Homeless in Paradise" Symposium at Monterey Peninsula College on May 18, 2013, during which a 10-year plan to end homelessness was presented. Where does Monterey stand halfway through the decade? Timothy's campaign flyer says: "We need more livable wage-paying jobs, more affordable housing, and senior residents should be able to remain in their homes if they so choose."



Alan Haffa: Monterey City Councilman. A professor at Monterey Peninsula College and social justice activist, Alan says: "We are making some progress with the Gathering Place, Safe Place expanding soon to 12 beds from 6, Manzanita Place at Interim to help mentally ill, Van Buren Project for Senior affordable housing, and One Starfish for car homeless. "We need to keep working on affordable housing but we have filled in some of the service gaps we identified back at the Homeless and Hungry in Paradise symposium."



CeliaSue Hecht: Local homeless freelance journalist, blogger and pet-sweater designer who lives in her van, says, "Finding a permanent roof over your head is increasingly an unattainable dream. The rent is higher than what I get in retirement, and staying at a motel is a luxury I cannot afford," writes Hecht in an open-minded article on Vox.com. "I am sleeping in the space of half a twin bed, barely able to stretch out my legs. Somehow did sleep this night (7/23/18) for five hours. Got to find a better way."



Rick Hadlock: Absentee Pacific Grove homeowner whose interest in the local homeless issues started with this column, e-mailed, “I kill time when I wake up at 4 am. . . . It is my thinking time, email writing time.”



Nick Weyland: Retired from the U. S. Department of Justice and Homeland Security, he is author of two novels based on his experiences as an immigration enforcement officer. He says, “I believe the laws should be fully enforced, but I do favor the laws to be changed to a merit system immigration system.”



Cuauhtémoc: Mexico’s heroic last king, Descending Eagle, alleged to define illegal as “a very sick bird.”

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Read more next week! What do you think?

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Photos: Timothy Barrett, Monterey City Councilman running for re-election

Alan Haffa, Monterey City Councilman

CeliaSue Hecht, Homeless local writer/editor and pet-sweater designer

Rick Hadlock, Extra in “17 Miracles,” film about 19th century Mormons trekking through snow to Utah.

Nick Weyland, Retired Section Chief for Immigration Enforcement in Southern California.

Cuauhtémoc - Last Aztec ruler in Mexico (photo from Wikipedia)

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