

**HOMELESS IN PARADISE**  
**October 26 - November 1, 2018**

**CEDAR STREET SUMMIT - Part 13**



**BOONDOGGLER'S GUIDE TO PICKING THE RIGHT CANDIDATES!**

**By Wanda Sue Parrott**

**BOONDOGGLING** tips can help deconfuse voters!

If you're like me, two weeks before elections are so tense your vision is clouded and mood is so begrouched you risk not voting at all.

You're on your own with issues. Let's talk candidates.

Politicians boondoggle; not all boondogglers are equal.

A Boonbaby is inexperienced at stalling, delaying and avoiding completion of projects; a Boondaddy is a blusterer who promises to do something, like build a wall to keep out immigrants, even if the idea bogs down.

Incumbents are more experienced at boondoggling than newbies seeking office for the first time, so keep that in mind when voting for candidates running for city council, mayor, county supervisor and various public boards.

A glance at these guidelines for aspiring boondogglers, from my paperback *The Boondogglers' Bible*, will shed light on boondoggery for everyone.

If a candidate fits these guidelines, vote for someone else.

**The Boondogglers' Bible (Rules):**

I. *Thou shouldst defer until the future that which could have been accomplished today or yesterday.*

Translation: Procrastinate. When questioned about what's taking so long, do not give a direct answer. In fact, if thou can possibly avoid being held responsible, do not answer at all.

Procedure under fire:

1. Say the matter is being looked into and the finding/decision/solution will be forthcoming soon.

2. Pass the proverbial buck by referring the inquirer to another person, place, department or agency.

3. Ignore the inquiry.

II. *Thou shouldst believe in thy self above all others, for Thy way is the one and only way, the truth and the life—even if thou knowest this ain't true.*

Translation: Prevaricate. Do not let thy conscience be thy guide!

Procedure under fire: If thou livest long enough with Procrastination and Prevarication, thou will live a life of ease because thou'll no longer have a conscience that tries to whisper as thy still small Voice Within.

III. *Thou shalt preach first to thyself and it shall follow--as the night follows the day—thou shalt become an Adept at preaching to all others.*

Translation: Pontificate. When ignored, step up thy empty-talk pace until thou resemblest a filibusterer still arguing after both houses of Congress have left for summer break.

Procedure under Fire: Pat thyself on the back for a job well done, because there might not be anyone else willing to do it for thee.

If someone should be so willing, welcome him/her to the Unofficial Fraternity of Boondogglers, because it taketh one to know one.

OK, there's the boonie bible stuff in a nutshell.

If you want to do yourself and the nation a favor, cast your votes for the least-likely boondogglers on your local ballot. In so doing, by taking back the country at grass roots level, you will be by *de facto* taking back America.

### **How Do You Start?**

Consider the political times in which you live, beginning with the current issues in the news that are crucial from a humanitarian viewpoint and, since this column is about homelessness, deal with the housing crises and intolerable living conditions, such as the caravan currently moving through Mexico toward our southern border.

Last year, this column featured a series about the forthcoming waves of migrants moving from place to place in bodies.

Like Bedouin tribes renowned for travel on foot and by camel, the New Bedou travel by wheels.

We honed in on campers along Lapis Road north of Marina, whose presence along the mile-long stretch of roadway constituted a virtual garbage-dump of unsanitary conditions among people living in cars, trucks and vans.

Last Sundat at 3 p.m. , Lapis Road was devoid of vehicles when I checked it out. Only two blonde couches and a few trash bags by the roadside indicated someone had been there.

Not so in Mexico.

### **Article 15, UN's "Declaration Of Human Rights":**

Refugees fleeing El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras are flocking toward our border, hoping to find asylum in the United States.

If they make it, unknown numbers of homeless persons will be added to the swelling ranks of unsheltered men, women and children already here.

Are they welcome? No, according to #45, but they have the right to so attempt entry, according to Article 15 of the United Nations' "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" which states:

1. Everyone has the right to a nationality.

2. No one should be arbitrarily deprived of his/her nationality nor denied the right to change his/her nationality.

Let your conscience be your political guide.

### **Vote For Non-Boondogglers**

Review your candidates' records on homelessness.

If they pass the buck or ignore the housing crisis and homelessness, don't vote for them.

If they've taken action and gotten something done, vote for them.

These candidate-activists are on Facebook. Good luck in finding your own such info.

On October 22, Seaside councilwoman/mayoral candidate Kayla Jones posted:

"Good news! I asked the City to stock all City-owned buildings with free menstrual items for anyone that needs them. We started at City Hall and are expanding to the Oldemeyer Center, Public Works buildings, and other City-owned properties. This is an important step forward to increase access for those that need these products and help close the 'pink tax.'

"Here is the link to a documentary about how a lack of menstrual items affects our homeless: <https://youtu.be/ABch4VYOJZ0>

"Here is a link to information about the 'pink tax': <https://www.listenmoneymatters.com/the-pink-tax/>"

And on October 19, Monterey city councilmember Timothy Barrett, who is running for reelection, posted: "The Vets Stand Down this year was amazing. I spent the afternoon both Friday and Saturday the last week of September helping out and speaking with Vets.

"It's a beautiful thing when community converges around need."

Indeed it is. Keep it so by voting on November 8!

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Caption: Basic boondogglers know how to manipulate situations to get as much as possible, by doing as little as possible, for as long as it takes to get the desired results, as haikuist Marsha J. Becco learned from this ground squirrel near a "Do not feed wildlife" sign at Lovers Point in Pacific Grove, CA. Photo by Wanda Sue Parrott

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Proceeds from the sale of "The Boondogglers' Bible" support production of this column. Send \$20 to Wanda Sue Parrott, P. O. Box 1821, Monterey, CA 93942-1821.

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