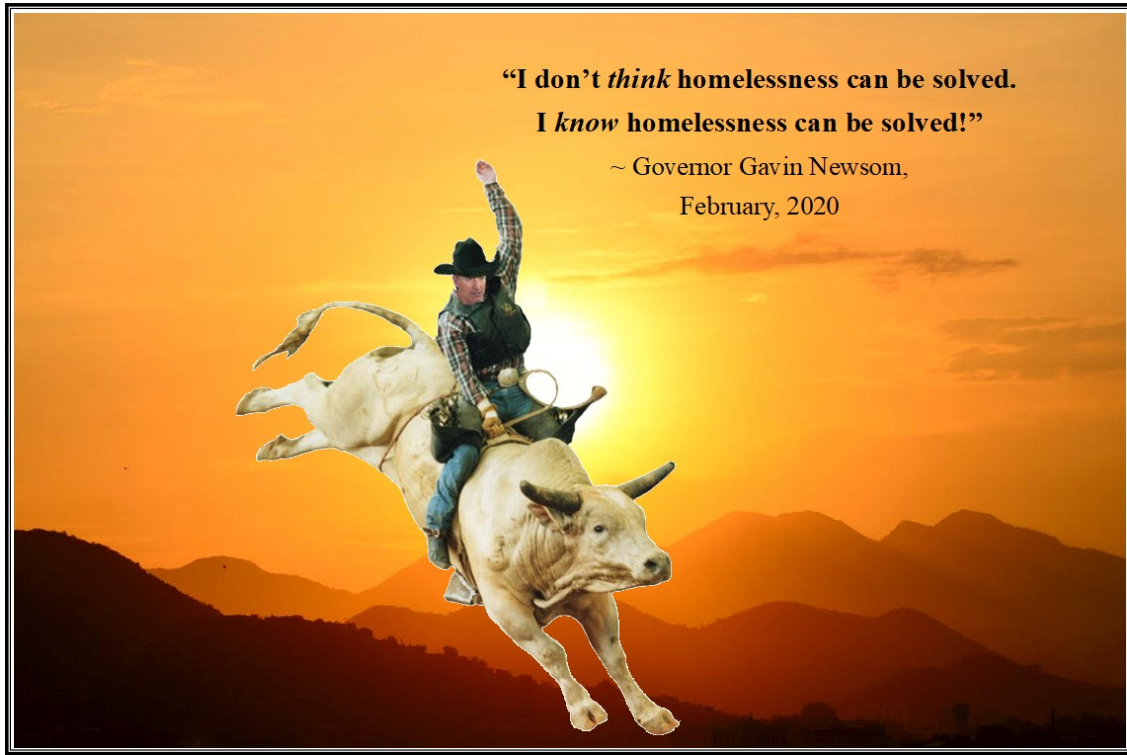


HOMELESS IN PARADISE

July 23-29, 2021

LET THE BOONDOGGLE-BUSTING BEGIN! – Part 10



WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY ABOUT HOMELESSNESS TODAY?

By Wanda Sue Parrott

WINNING is the name of all boondoggle-busting games, but what are the stakes in this one: The state’s highest political office or the race against homelessness? If Governor Gavin Newsom isn’t unseated in the special recall election on September 14, he can win them both!

However, if one of the other semi-ubiquitous candidates unseats Newsom, he’ll still retain his champion Boondoggle Buster Award because of features in his \$100 billion California Comeback package already operating or getting set to go. Whether he fulfills his promises might not be proven until after the election.

So, despite the fact one person who filed his Intent to Run for Governor with the California Secretary of State has one of the most-famous names of all time, Newsom will still be a winner.

Who’s that declarant?

Jesus Christo.

No campaign headquarters are given, but he’s listed as a Democrat, according to the Gubernatorial Candidate List issued by Candidate Contact.

Who Else Entered The Race?

Second best-known candidate is Caitlyn Jenner, 72, the former Olympian gold-medal decathlete Bruce Jenner, whose public transgender figure’s final surgery transitioned him to her in 2017. She is running as a

Republican, along with 35 other GOP gubernatorial intenders on file July 13, as of which date there were 83 filers; filing deadline was July 16.

Candidate Contact, a non-partisan community grassroots advocacy organization ensuring a well-informed electorate of all our California Gubernatorial Candidates, advised that only half those who filed their Intents to Run were certified by July 21 to appear on the ballot.

The colorful California concatenation of filers included publicity seekers whose professions include porn star, poet, pastor, shaman, and famed actor Randy Quaid.

As of July 13, Republican intenders led with 36 candidates hoping to wrest the race from Governor Newsom. Others were 19 Independents, 1 Libertarian, 1 American Solidarity Party, 4 Green Party, and 4 undeclared party affiliations.

Confusing? You bet!

How Did They Become Candidates?

To qualify as a candidate for California Governor, an individual must be a United States citizen, resident of California, 18 or older, and a non-felon. At least 65 signatures are required, along with a filing fee of \$3,916.12, unless a potential candidate receives a minimum of 7,000 signatures, in which case the filing fee is waived.

At the time this column went to press, well-known conservative GOP commentator Larry Elder was suing to be included on the ballot. “Democratic shenanigans” were cited as the reason he was excluded on the presumable grounds Elder is the only candidate who can actually unseat Newsom.

What’s At Stake For The Homeless?

As of July 19, Newsom signed AB 140, a \$12 billion investment for tackling homelessness that focuses on solutions offering everything from alternate lifestyles to tent encampments to solutions for housing for those with behavioral/mental health issues.

Newsom's package includes \$5.8 billion for the creation of more than 42,000 new homeless-housing units. Units for those with severe mental health challenges are included in this package.

Highlights include aid for large cities, Continuums of Care and counties with new, strict accountability measures include \$10.3 billion in affordable housing funding to spur residential construction.

Project Homekey

Homekey is a national “housing first” model. Under the \$5.8 billion in homelessness funding is \$3 billion dedicated to housing people with the most acute behavioral and physical health needs. Forty-two thousand units of housing like converted motels are on the immediate drawing board.

Since last year, a pilot Project Homekey experiment has been successfully operated in Monterey County. Governor Newsom's investment is the biggest expansion in decades in terms of clinically enhanced behavioral health housing in California. It can be viewed as a form of reversal of the actions that closed state mental facilities following passage of the Lanterman Act a half century ago, following which homeless women, then families with children, started living on the streets.

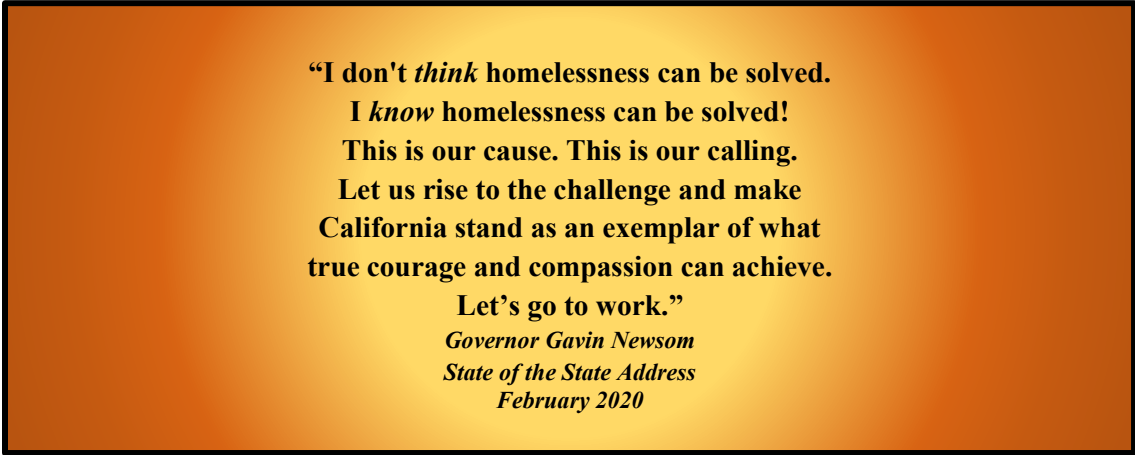
The California Comeback Plan’s package includes \$10.3 billion for affordable housing and \$12 billion over two years towards tackling the homelessness crisis head-on, thus helping tens of thousands of people off the streets while also demanding greater accountability and more urgency from local governments.

In his State of the State address in February 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom said, “I don’t *think* homelessness can be solved. I *know* homelessness can be solved. We are going all-in with innovative solutions

that we know work—with a focus on creating housing to support people with severe mental health challenges, and with more money than ever to move people out of encampments and into safer situations...”

The legislation (AB 140) also includes \$2 billion in aid... through the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Grant Program (HHAP). See Governor Newsom’s California Comeback Plan at: [Click here to view an infographic.*](#)

Stay updated about the forthcoming election with Candidate Contact, whose motto is: **Ask questions, demand answers, and vote!** contact@candidate.email or text 1-805-NOW-VOTE.



**“I don't *think* homelessness can be solved.
I *know* homelessness can be solved!
This is our cause. This is our calling.
Let us rise to the challenge and make
California stand as an exemplar of what
true courage and compassion can achieve.
Let's go to work.”**
*Governor Gavin Newsom
State of the State Address
February 2020*

Can The Governor Be Trusted?

HC, 76, resided in a local Project Homekey motel since July 2020. Prior to sheltering in place, she and her dog slept in her van as a One Starfish Safe Parking Program guest. She says Homekey delivered bottled water and daily meals, but the Shelter-In-Place funding expired. On July 29, HC will return to living in her van while waiting for an apartment.

HC asks, “Last February, Governor Newsom promised we’d get \$600 stimulus checks. I filed with the California Franchise Tax Board on May 17, but never got my check. Can he be trusted?”

Since I’m also still waiting for my \$600, I wondered, “If Jesus were governor, what would he say?”

An instant answer popped into my mind: **“Pick up your bed and walk.”**

More on the gubernatorial recall election next week.)

(continued)

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The Boondogger's Bible - How to Fight Like City Hall to Win!! (\$17 from Wanda Sue Parrott, P. O. Box 1821, Monterey, CA 93942-1821) or from amazon.com.

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*Full text version of infographic referenced above; copy and paste into web browser address bar to view if link does not work.

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/CA-Comeback-Homelessness-Plan.pdf>