MINIMUM SUGGESTED DONATION TWO DOLLARS.
STREET SHEET IS SOLD BY HOMELESS AND LOW-INCOME VENDORS WHO KEEP 100% OF THE PROCEEDS.
VENDORS RECEIVE UP TO 75 PAPERS PER DAY FOR FREE.
STREET SHEET IS READER SUPPORTED, ADVERTISING FREE, AND AIMS TO LIFT UP THE VOICES OF THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY IN SAN FRANCISCO.

APRIL FOOLS 2018

Pest Revenge by Dave Loewenstein of Just Seeds

SHelter WAITLIST UPDATE: As of March 30th there are 1,048 people on the shelter waitlist in San Francisco.
HAVE A QUESTION YOU WANT US TO ANSWER ABOUT HOMELESSNESS OR HOUSING IN THE BAY AREA? ASK US AT STREETSEAT@COHSF.ORG OR (415) 346-3740 AND IT COULD BE ANSWERED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

To learn more about COH workgroup meetings, contact us at: 415-346-3740, or go at: www.cohsf.org

COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS

The STREET SHEET is a project of the Coalition on Homelessness. The Coalition on Homelessness organizes poor and homeless people to create permanent solutions to poverty while protecting the civil and human rights of those forced to remain on the streets.

Our organizing is based on extensive peer outreach, and the information gathered directly drives the Coalition’s work. We do not bring our agenda to poor and homeless people: They bring their agenda to us.

WORKGROUP MEETINGS

The Street Sheet is a publication of the Coalition on Homelessness. Some stories are collectively written, and some stories have individual authors. But whoever sets fingers to keyboard, all stories are formed by the collective work of dozens of volunteers, and our outreach to hundreds of homeless people.

Photo, Quiver Watts
Assistant Editor, TJ Johnston
Vendor Coordinator, Emmett House

Our contributors include:
Jennifer Friedenbach, Sam Lew, Jason Law, Jesus Perez, Miguel Carrera, Vlad R., Mike Russo, Scott Nelson, Julia D’Antonio, Chance Martin, Nicholas Kimura, Jim Beller, Robert Gumpert, Art Hazelwood, the Ghostlines Collective, Leo Schwartz, Dayton Andrews, Kelley Cutler, Raul Fernandez-Berriozabel, Jacquelyn Evans, Kon Diamant, Wilson, Julia Barzizza

Everyone is invited to our work group meetings.

At 468 Turk Street

Photographers
Videoographers
Translators
Comic artists
Newspaper layout
Website
Maintenance
Graphic designers
Interns
Writers

Donate equipment!

Laptops
Digital cameras
Audio recorders
Sound equipment

Contact: STREETSEAT@COHSF.ORG

Volunteer with us!

Comics by Jon Solo of San Francisco

Housing Justice Work Group
Every Tuesday at noon
The Housing Justice Workgroup is working toward a San Francisco in which every human being can have and maintain decent, habitable, safe, and secure housing. This meeting is in English and Spanish and open to everyone!

Human Rights Work Group
Every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.
The Human Rights Workgroup has been doing some serious heavy lifting on these issues: conducting direct research, outreach to people on the streets, running multiple campaigns, developing policy, staging direct actions, capturing media attention, and so much more. All those down for the cause are welcome to join!

Everyone is invited to our work group meetings.

We learn more about COH workgroup meetings.
contact us at: 415-346-3740, or go at: www.cohsf.org
Dear Supervisor Sheehy,

First of all, a first response to homelessness should never be the Dept. of Public Works or the police. Neither of those agencies are equipped to provide the services or care to homeless people. Instead, they often place people in further crisis: DPW has repeatedly cleared homeless encampments and displaced homeless people, while also destroying people’s personal property, including important medical items (like walkers!) and sentimental belongings (like the last existing photograph of someone’s child). SFPD harasses homeless people on a daily basis. They have slashed people’s tents, given people citations for simply existing in public space, and been verbally/physically abusive. With the violence that homeless people face from both of these agencies, why would we ask them to allocate shelter to people? Social workers, not the police, should be the first responders to homelessness.

Second of all, “finding someone a place to stay” is near impossible under the current restraints of the system. Yes, there are Navigation Center beds (which are wildly expensive at $95 per night per person), but there are an insufficient number of beds and the length of stay at the Navigation Center is only 30 to 60 days—and most folks are right back out onto the street! The adult shelters have a waitlist of over 1,000 people long.

End the police response to homelessness.

End the DPW response to homelessness.

Yours truly,

Don’t Deploy DPW

Dear Supervisor Sheehy, in a March 26, 2018 SF Examiner article, “City officials take firsthand look at Castro District public safety issues.”

“Since I’ve been in office, one of the things that has been hardest for me to deal with is what is going on in the Castro,” Sheehy said, referencing the issues of homelessness in the area. “Our response is always to call the police or the DPW (Department of Public Works) to find them a place to stay. We cannot solve the problem until we find places.”

— Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, in a March 26, 2018 SF Examiner article, “City officials take firsthand look at Castro District public safety issues.”

art credit: PG TV
Chad Mitchell, a young tech transplant from Boise, Iowa was cruelly forced to spend Saturday night wandering the streets of San Francisco with no way home, and suddenly understood what it is likely to experience chronic homelessness in the city.

Chad had one too many Manhattans at the cocktail bar on Valencia Street and stumbled out at closing, ready to head home to his condo and his girlfriend Rebecca. As he bent at the waist to hurl he noticed a sticker on the pavement that read “Queers Hate Techies” and, outraged, reached for his phone to post a thoughtful and well-informed response on Twitter, only to realize that his iPhone X was dead. He checked his iPad, his Google Glass, and his Apple Watch – all dead – and with horror realized he had no way to get home. He sat down on the curb to collect himself but was rudely interrupted by a security guard, threatening to call the police if he didn’t move along.

Stumbling off he suddenly noticed he desperately needed to take a piss, and tried several public port-a-potties only to find they were locked. Horrified by the city’s lack of public restrooms, Chad stepped over to a discreet wall and unzipped his fly. At that moment a red and blue light flashed behind him and a cop approached, sternly admonishing him for public indecency. The cop began to write a citation, but Chad smoothly reassured the cop that he was not actually homeless, and the cop suddenly became very friendly and crumpled the citation, flinging it into some nearby bushes.

“For a moment I almost lost faith in the integrity of our police force,” Chad Mitchell opined. “But fortunately once he realized I wasn’t one of them the cop gave me the preferential treatment I deserve.”

After the harrowing experience of nearly being mistaken as genuinely homeless, Chad realized he needed to sleep, and proceeded to the only park he had ever been to in San Francisco, a parklet outside of Whole Foods. When he arrived he tried to make himself comfy by stretching out on one of the benches, but found himself squirming as the spikes poked into his back. Chad wondered why there were spikes in the benches.

It was at that moment that Chad had an epiphany that could be the sole solution to homelessness in San Francisco. Chad realized that more than 20,000 San Franciscans were in literal
After the harrowing experience of nearly being mistaken as genuinely homeless, Chad realized he needed to sleep, and proceeded to the only park he had ever been to in San Francisco, a parklet outside of Whole Foods. When he arrived he tried to make himself comfy by stretching out on one of the benches, but found himself squirming as the spikes poked into his back. Chad wondered why there were spikes in the benches. It was at that moment that Chad had an epiphany that could be the sole solution to homelessness in San Francisco. Chad realized that more than 20,000 San Franciscans were in literally the exact same situation he was currently in, and he felt the crushing weight of empathy, an emotion he had never before experienced.

“What I realized was that, if we could install device charging stations all over San Francisco, then no one would be stranded without a way to call their Uber ride!” Chad recounted excitedly. “So as soon as I got back to my condo I quickly started a crowdfunding campaign promising to end homelessness forever, which now has $300 million to launch our project, which is more than the city’s budget for addressing homelessness.”

Chad was very disappointed to note that community groups that had spent decades pushing progressive policies to create low-income housing, prevent evictions, pass rent control policies, and stop criminalizing poor people did not understand the genius of his new campaign. He says he thinks it’s because the advocates don’t understand what it’s like to be homeless in San Francisco, seemingly genuinely unaware of the fact that these community groups are led by people who, unlike him, have experienced genuine homelessness.
Since 1989, the STREET SHEET has been an independent media organization that provides a powerful platform to homeless people to reclaim and shift narratives about homelessness in San Francisco. Visit www.cohsf.org and click "Donate Now" to help keep it that way!

Thank you to ABO Comix for this submission.

Gabriel Wyatt

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO GET INVOLVED, CONTACT QUIVER WATTS AT QWATTS@COHSF.ORG
COUNTERPULSE COMMUNITY CHECK-IN
WHERE: 80 TURK ST @ 4:30-5:30PM

At this CounterPulse Community Check-in we’ll be talking about the Turk & Taylor Project, a multiyear public art project CounterPulse is managing on Turk Street.

TOWARD REAL SANCTUARY CITIES/ HACIA UNA VERDADERA CIUDADSANCTORIO
WHERE: 518 VALENCIA ST @ 5:30-7:30PM
A Conversation With: Corrina Gould, Gerald Lenoir, Bilal Mafundi Ali and Maria Zamudio, facilitated by Leslie Dreyer, with artwork by Melanie Cervantes

UNDOCUMENTED: IMMIGRATION IN AMERICA
WHERE: ROXIE THEATER
3117 16TH ST @ 7-9PM
Join us for a special benefit screening and conversation about immigration reform moderated by the Dreamer Fund featuring three powerful short films which provide a powerful glimpse into the lives of people affected by DACA.

LIFE AFTER LIFE OAKLAND FILM FESTIVAL
WHERE: REGAL CINEMAS JACK LONDON 9
100 WASHINGTON ST OAKLAND @ 5:30
After decades behind bars, three men set out to prove success can lie on the other side of tragedy.

SATURDAY SOCIAL WITH PROJECT OPEN HAND
WHERE: CLEOPHUS QUEALY BEER COMPANY
448 HESTER ST, SAN LEANDRO @ 12PM-6PM
A day of great beer for a great cause. A portion of the day’s proceeds will go to Project Open Hand’s ongoing efforts to keep senior and chronically ill members of our communities healthy by providing meals with love.

BEN CORT: SURPRISING TRUTHS ABOUT LEGALIZING CANNABIS
WHERE: CHRISTOPHER B. SMITH RAFAEL FILM CENTER 1118 4TH ST, SAN RAFAEL @ 6-8PM
He has recently written Weed, INC: The Truth About the Pot Lobby, THC, and the Commercial Marijuana Industry. Tickets $7

COLOMBIA: THE STRUGGLE FOR LASTING PEACE
WHERE: 2969 MISSION ST @ 7PM
A tour featuring Nidia Quintero, General Secretary of FENSUAGRO, Colombia’s largest federation of agricultural workers unions. $5 to $20 donation requested. No one turned away for lack of funds.

BOCCE BALL
WHERE: AQUATIC PARK BOCCE COURTS, SAN FRANCISCO
Annual COH fundraiser. Stay tuned for more information

The content of this document is a list of events and activities happening in San Francisco and the surrounding areas. The events include community check-ins, film festivals, social gatherings, and discussions on various topics such as immigration, sanctuary cities, and cannabis legalization. Each event is detailed with specific dates, locations, and times, along with brief descriptions of the activities and themes.
Oka lived in some place in NYC, he was telling me: it could have been a space in a squat, or an alleyway hidden behind a building or a shack on a rooftop, but a place where he could keep a mouse friend in an aquarium, who kept him company, and who he could talk to, as they both kept the same nocturnal hours.

Oka was a writer, probably still is, and I am sure that his mouse heard many phrases of his writing and muttering and also got talked to, almost certainly hearing his old man laugh coming from that not old man, man. He had named the mouse ‘Mrs. Frisky’ after the male heroine of the book ‘The Cat in the Hat’ and perhaps naming her that, set the stage for what would up happening.

One night, very late, he spoke to Mrs. Frisky screaming. A large and gleaming eyed rat had Mrs. Frisky in its mouth in the aquarium and as Oka yelled, the rat looked defiantly at him and leapt, unbeknownst by its struggling package, and was too fast for Oka, for it ran into the night, never to be seen again.

by Natania Nunubiznez