

INDEPENDENTLY PUBLISHED BY THE COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS SINCE 1989



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STREET SHEET IS SOLD BY HOMELESS AND LOW-INCOME VENDORS WHO KEEP 100% OF THE PROCEEDS.

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STREET SHEET IS READER SUPPORTED, ADVERTISING FREE, AND AIMS TO LIFT UP THE VOICES OF THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY IN SAN FRANCISCO.

STREET

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MAY DAY 2019



SHELTER WAITLIST UPDATE:

As of May 1st there are 1,212 people on the waitlist for shelter in SF.

NEWSFLASH

HOMELESSNESS HEADLINES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

PORT COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES PROPOSAL TO BUILD NAVIGATION CENTER AT EMBARCADERO

After a widely publicized fight between upscale condo residents opposing the construction of a 200-bed Navigation Center and homeless advocates pushing for an expansion of basic services the Port Commission voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

MAYOR BREED PROPOSES \$500 MILLION BOND MEASURE FOR NOVEMBER BALLOT

Breed announced plans for a \$500 million affordable housing bond for the November ballot that would require 40% of units go to very low income people. This would be the biggest bond measure San Franciscans have ever voted on.

CITY WILL ALLOW COMPANIES TO DONATE MONEY THAT WOULD BE HELD IN PROP C FUND IN EXCHANGE FOR A REBATE

While funds from Proposition C are held up in a lawsuit, City Hall is offering a small rebate to companies that donate the funds so they can be used immediately to fund homeless housing.

Hey Kids! It's an INTERACTIVE COMIC! Fill in the blank panels to finish the story!



completed by Kai Lyons / IG: kailynsadventurechannel

ASK US ANYTHING

HAVE A QUESTION YOU WANT US TO ANSWER ABOUT HOMELESSNESS OR HOUSING IN THE BAY AREA? ASK US AT STREETSHEET@COHSF.ORG OR (415) 346-3740 AND IT COULD BE ANSWERED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

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

AT 468 TURK STREET

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. Unfortunately our space is not wheelchair accessible, but we will move our meeting location to accomodate people who cannot make it up the stairs. For access needs contact development@cohsf.org

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

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

PHOTOGRAPHERS
VIDEOGRAPHERS
TRANSLATORS
COMIC ARTISTS
WEBSITE MAINTENANCE
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS
WRITERS & COPYEDITORS

DONATE!

LAPTOPS
DIGITAL CAMERAS
AUDIO RECORDERS
SOUND EQUIPMENT

CONTACT:

STREETSHEET@COHSF.ORG

STREET SHEET STAFF

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.

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SUBMIT YOUR WRITING

STREET SHEET publishes news and perspective stories about poverty and homelessness. We prioritize submissions from currently or formerly homeless writers but gratefully accept all submissions.

send submission to qwatts@cohsf.org

SOLIDARITY FOREVER

San Francisco Labor Struggles in 2019

Homelessness and wages are closely linked, and organized labor prevent people from losing their homes and livelihoods. Here is a look at the many labor struggles that have defined our city this year...

ANCHOR STEAM UNIONIZES

For a year Anchor Steam employees had been building momentum toward unionizing, one of the first such efforts in the craft brewing industry. With the help of the local DSA, they waited to file their intent to form a union until enough steam (no pun intended) had gathered to to do so. Once they were above board they had to avoid retaliation from management, who tried to ban employees from wearing pro-unions buttons at work in an attempt to stymie support and intimidate workers.

But they were not going to give up so easily. Working in one of the most expensive cities in the world, Anchor Steam employees found themselves consistently short on rent, and without the income they needed for basic necessities like diapers (corroborate). Employees reported that when they had started working for the company they had felt taken care of and respected, that security had eroded overtime for a number of reasons. Not the least of these was that the company was bought out by the Tokyo-based Sapporo Holdings Ltd. in 2017.

Workers demands were simple: they wanted to be paid enough to live in the city, and, in the words of their hashtag, to be #anchoredinSF. On March 13, Anchor Steam employees voted overwhelmingly to join the International Longshore and

Warehouse Union, become the first craft brewing employees to unionize.

OAKLAND TEACHERS STRIKE

At the end of February Oakland teachers followed the examples set by educators in Denver, Los Angeles and the state of West Virginia, started a weeklong strike, demanding higher pay, more school counselors and nurses, smaller classrooms, and a promise not to close dozens of schools slated to close to make way for charter schools. Teachers, students, families, and neighbors demonstrated all week outside of their schools and saw broad support from Oakland residents as well as from teachers in neighboring communities, who demonstrated their solidarity through walkouts and sick-ins.

After a fierce week of negotiations and hostility from the Oakland Unified School District, the city eventually agreed to increase Oakland teacher salaries by 11% and to hire on more counselors, as well as to offer more generous salaries to schools nurses. The district refused however to cave on their planned site closures or to the large class size reductions the teachers had pushed for.

MARRIOTT WORKERS STRIKE

As 2018 came to a close, 2,500 workers at Marriott Hotels across the city went on strike to demand higher wages, less demanding workloads, and continued access to healthcare. The strike lasted for months and involved high profile actions, including a demonstration in Union Square on

Labor Day that resulted in the arrests of 75 workers.

During the strike, scabs were bused in from neighboring areas to cover the hotel duties, and some reported being fired for communicating with union leaders and strikers while others allege they weren't paid on time for their work. The demonstrations lasted for months and many organizations cancelled events they had planned to hold in Marriott hotels in solidarity with striking workers.

Finally, in December, the hotel management settled with the union, agreeing to the strikers demands. The settlement was nearly unanimously approved by the workers and included a raise of \$4 per hour over the next four years.

AFSCME STRIKES AGAINST UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Despite organizing four strikes in less than a year, two of the largest unions are still working without a contract at the University of California. Thousands of workers — including researchers, social workers, psychologists, bus drivers, security guards and many others — are striking to demand a fair contract and a reversal of outsourcing. UC workers have filed an Unfair Labor Practice charge against the university system, alleging that it has illegally intimidated and violated the rights of workers who've gone on strike, saying workers have faced retaliation and threats of police citation.

Workers claim the reliance on contract labor has created a serious problem with income, racial, and gender inequality in the workplace

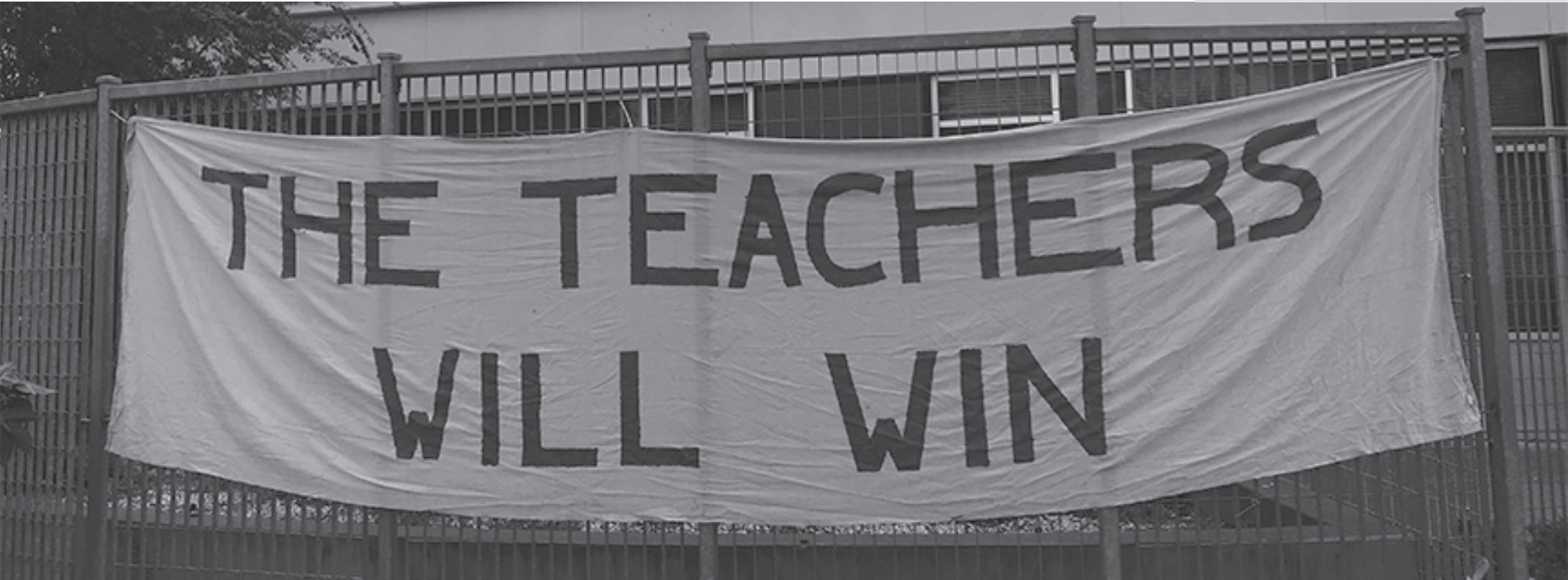
and bypasses the rights union workers have fought for. On April 10, thousands of medical workers went on strike at five UC hospitals protesting the ongoing intimidation and the effort on the part of the unions to discourage union participation.

On a recent visit to UC, Bernie Sanders publicly blasted the UC for acting like a corporate employers and dismissing the needs of its workers. The struggle continues as AFSCME has called for a Speakers Strike, asking public figures to cancel their speaking engagements at the University until its workers have a contract. Stacey Abrams cancelled an engagement and tweeted her support for the strike last week.

GIG DRIVERS PUSH BACK AS UBER AND LYFT GO PUBLIC

Uber and Lyft are both going public this years, and drivers are outraged. While the ride-hail companies are set to rake in millions from new investors the workers are barely getting by, and the company is cutting wages even further. That's because, as contract workers, Lyft and Uber drivers are contract workers, not employees, and so are denied benefits generally associated with employment, likesuch as health insurance, disability, and unemployment benefits. Workers across the country, including here in San Francisco, have protested the move to go public, demanding that they be offered employment status, be allowed to organize as workers, and increase to a living wage.

Image description: a banner hung on a fence reads "the Teachers Will Win"
Photo by Rick Paulas

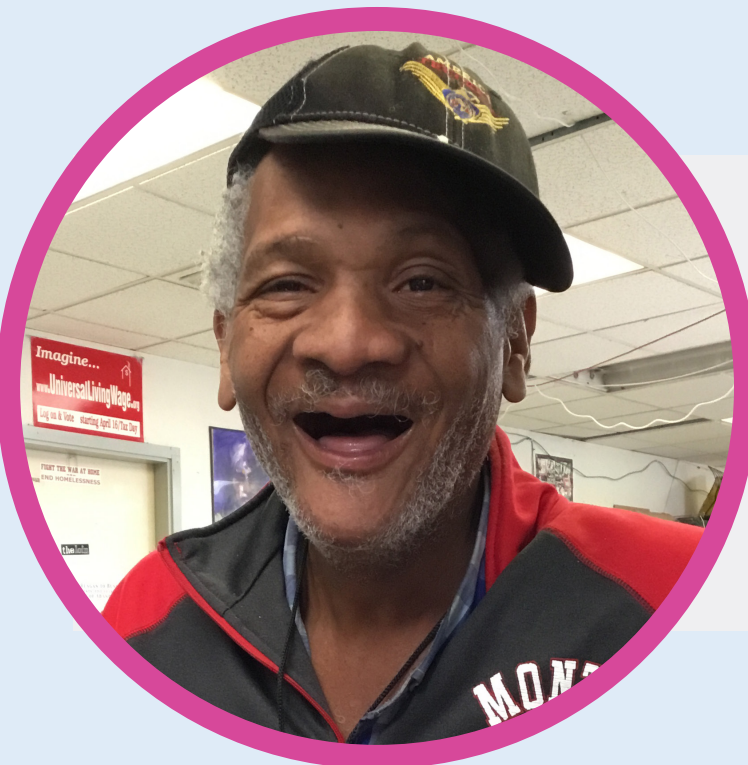


STREET VENDORS AT WORK



Selling the Street Sheet is hard work. You have to pay attention, you have to always adapt to the momentum, the sway of traffic. It's not always an easy thing to do, but the citizen is always the one that wins. We're just trying to slide into their day, get them to stop and make eye contact with you. It's helped me really become a salesman. I can walk up to someone and make a sale, especially when I really need it, need something to eat or something like that. It helps me to connect spiritually. Selling the Street Sheet just makes me wish I had started a savings, cuz at the end of the year if you really look at it you'll notice that it really is a lifesaver. - Manuel

You know what, real work to me means something you have to get up and do day in and day out, like a 40/hr a week job. So this isn't like real work to me, Street Sheet is my passion. God gave me a gift of sales, since I was knee high. So I don't see it as work I see it as an opportunity to get out and meet people and to be able to exercise my gift, my craft. I don't meet to pat my own shoulder, but I'm just being real. Street Sheet has been good to me, and I think it's good to the people who read it to, because it is real talk, it's what you won't find in any other publication. It has given me a second chance, another opportunity, a chance to be self employed. I mean really, I'm my own boss. And the beautiful thing is I can decide today how much money I want to make, and usually it happens. And sometimes it's even better than what I think. It has made a monumental impact on my life. If it wasn't for SS I really don't know where I would be. I might be locked up or doing something I shouldn't, so really it's a diamond for me, I can't say enough. - Sterling Valentine



Selling Street Sheet is real hard work. You have to get people to stop and listen, and they need to give a damn. When times are bad, Street Sheets have sometimes made it better. Because I get donations, I get to meet a lot of people, and it's fun. -Stanley Action Jackson



"Selling Street Sheets is work. It's a friendly job. You meet people, be friendly, get a couple extra dollars in your pocket so you can think about what you want to do in the day. I'm trying to become independent. I don't want to be dependent on other people so I'm getting a chance to build my skills. I'm on disability so I have other income but it just helps. I have gotten customer service skills. Some days I just grab a paper and go to beautiful areas. Experiencing different neighborhoods, and learning how to be cool with other people. Don't be yelling at people, you just gotta handle it, and you gotta learn how to adjust when you're doing the Street Sheet program and its an interesting experience, I've learned a lot." - Mary Feeley



SAVE THE REDSTONE LABOR TEMPLE

100 years of working-class Mission community in a historic landmark building that we will not allow to succumb to the forces of speculation and displacement!

ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN:

The San Francisco Labor Council built the Labor Temple in 1914. The building was a hub of union organizing and work activities and a primary center for the city's historic labor community for over half a century. It was the epicenter of organizing for the San Francisco General Strike of 1934, which many historians believe established San Francisco as a "union town." For the past fifty years the Redstone has been home to community-serving non-profit organizations and artists at affordable rents they would not be able to find elsewhere in the city.

Currently, there is a bidding war going on between predatory developers who seek to profit by clearing the building of its low-budget advocacy organizations and artists, and the Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA) which is seeking to purchase the building to protect current tenants from eviction and keep it as a community center for community and labor organizing and cultural activism.

The San Francisco Labor Council, Democratic Socialists of America San Francisco, United to Save the Mission, the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee and many, many more have all passed resolutions calling on the City and County of San Francisco to do everything in its power to preserve the building as a community center. We have been meeting with our elected representatives and potential funders and we will keep fighting until we win.

The dozens of nonprofits, small businesses, artists, and community advocates housed in the Redstone contribute hundreds of thousands of dollars to the city's social services infrastructure. Collectively, we serve over 50,000 San Franciscans annually, the majority of whom are from marginalized communities. The displacement of the Redstone tenants would place the burden of providing those services back on the city, and in the case of El/La – a nonprofit that provides healthcare to San Francisco's

transgender community – could prove life threatening.

The Redstone Labor Temple delivers measurable benefits to the City and, in the face of an unprecedented displacement crisis, has held strong as a community destination and a source of civic pride. The small but mighty organizations of the Redstone Labor Temple have an extraordinary impact on the lives of workers, artists, Latinx, LGBTQ, and the displaced. For over a century it has been a gathering place for diverse communities to workshop strategies that benefit the City, as well as a key site for celebrating our culture through exhibits and events.

We will need city officials, city departments, foundations, private funders and community leaders to step up to save this building. It will take a community effort. We cannot do it alone.

We are working on getting the building at a reasonable price to maintain the current tenants at affordable rents while having the ability to make the necessary upgrades needed in the building.

"In our eyes The City says it saves nonprofits and artists but they haven't done anything," said Gary Gregerson, president of the Redstone Labor Temple Association and a current tenant in the building, to the SF Examiner in February 2019. He added that the sale of buildings housing nonprofits and artists often end in the displacement of community-serving organizations. "There is nowhere to go. Some have found their way into our building and we are one of the last spaces left," he said.

ABOUT US, THE REDSTONE LABOR TENANTS ASSOCIATION:

The Redstone Labor Tenants Association was formed to explore the feasibility of tenant ownership of the Redstone Building. As gentrification continues in the Mission District of San Francisco, the number of places that support its historic working class and immigrant culture are dwindling. If the RLTA can buy this building in a collective manner as a community resource,

diversity can be in at least one place preserved.

CURRENT TENANTS:

Chile Lindo Café; The Lab; Collision Course; Pacific Petition; Circuit Network; La Pocha Nostra; Outsider Enterprises; Western Regional Advocacy Project (WRAP); Comprehensive Communication; The World Can't Wait; Smartmeme Project; Mission Agenda; Worker's World; The Organizer Newspaper; Sisters Of Perpetual Indulgence, Inc.; El Teatro De La Esperanza; Whispered Media; Poor Magazine; SF Living Wage Coalition; International Indian Treaty Council; Abalone Alliance Clearinghouse; Artist Studios; Musician Rehearsal Space; Redstone Tenant's Association; Green Cab Company; United Taxicab Workers

(UTW); Taxicab Institute; Fil-Am Family Support Project; EL/LA Para Translatinas.

GET INVOLVED:

We need all hands on deck, all members of the community spreading the word. We must stand together in solidarity to say "No!" to speculation, "No!" to displacement, and "Yes!" to preserving this historic resource and keeping working-class Mission culture alive and thriving!

You may contact redstoneevents@yahoo.com to sign up for our mailing list, or to find appropriate ways to engage in the struggle. We have a fundraiser for organizing costs, which you can find at: gofundme.com/save-redstone-labor-temple. We are on Facebook: search for "SAVE THE REDSTONE LABOR TEMPLE".

Image by Redstone tenant Cliff Hengst

SPECULATORS OUT

THE LABOR TEMPLE IS
SANGUINARY SPACE FOR
WORKERS, ARTISTS,
LATINX, LGBTQ,
TRANSGENDER AND
PEOPLE OF ALL COLORS

bit.ly/savethelabortemple



Legislation Passes to Give First Right of Purchase to Nonprofits

Jarred Quarles “When tenant rights are under attack, what do we do? STAND UP AND FIGHT BACK!”

This was the heartfelt call and response headed by South of Market Community Action Network activist Abigail. The moving chant was perfectly positioned at the end of the press conference for the Community Opportunity to Purchase (COPA) legislation on April 16, 2019. This press conference was based on the fight for basic human housing rights which continues to be under attack here, but San Franciscans can be ensured that beyond nonprofits, we have the Board of Supervisors vigorously assisting in the fight. Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer from District 1 is the mastermind behind the creation of the COPA legislation and, being a landlord herself, she knows how important it is to ensure that low-income and poor families maintain housing security.

During the press conference, we learned that all 11 members of the Board of Supervisors support COPA. So, what does the legislation do? COPA is an innovative policy designed to prevent displacement and stabilize diverse communities in San Francisco by granting affordable housing nonprofits the first right to purchase multi-family apartment buildings. Put simply, COPA grants nonprofits focused on housing, the ability to bid first on multi-family buildings on the market from landlords seeking to sale.

“We can not afford to take two steps forward and one step back, the market will not solve this problem,” Fewer said. “The city has to step in and protect our existing affordable housing to prevent displacement.” The legislation also ensures that when nonprofits buy the buildings, tenants will feel secure knowing the buildings will remain or become permanently affordable housing in the city. Landlords, like tenants, are guaranteed incentives from

COPA, which include being able to sell their property at market rate, while stopping the displacement of families and stabilizing San Francisco’s diverse communities.

According to the latest Housing Balance Report from the City’s Planning Department, less than 18% of net new units built in San Francisco in the past 10 years have been affordable; that is, within financial reach of people making up to 120% area median income, or \$142,080 annually for a family of four. Last year, the federal Housing and Urban Development Department defined “low income” in the city as \$117,400.

Last year’s net result still falls short of Proposition K’s recommendation from 2014 that 33% of units built be affordable.

This has been the trend to make sure that the low-income and poor residents of San Francisco be pushed outside of the city limits, which goes against the idea of this being the Golden City. “We aspire to create the beloved community, but we can’t do that if we’re punishing people for being low-income or poor,” said Mayor London Breed at the press conference for Financial Justice Project earlier. “The only way to guarantee that housing becomes and remains affordable with the idea of the beloved community for San Francisco residents is by nonprofits and city officials working together to combat the issue.”

“Acquisition of properties across the City is tried-and-true approach to keeping in place San Franciscans vulnerable to no-fault evictions,” said Karoleen Feng, director of community real estate for the Mission Economic Development Agency. COPA is a major step in the right direction and should become the standard for other cities in California to follow.

The fight doesn’t stop here — remember to continue your support of the most vulnerable citizens here in San Francisco.

Winter’s Journey Project Discusses Homelessness Through Music

Anisha Tammana Music has a long history of being used to raise awareness about social issues. From opera to hip-hop, the legacy of social commentary in the performing arts is rich with examples of creative approaches to portraying injustice.

Mezzo soprano Gwendolyn Kuhlmann doesn’t consider herself an activist. Her upcoming show, The Winter’s Journey Project, is an artistic and unconventional rendering of composer Franz Schubert’s song cycle Winterreise, featuring stories of homeless mothers in Oakland.

Kuhlmann spent 10 years in Germany and in 2015, she stumbled into a church in Munich that worked with refugee mothers. There, she became part of a group called Everyone’s Song, a support system for refugees. It was a cultural and musical exchange started by an Iraqi women who herself was a refugee. Kuhlmann remembers sharing American Christmas songs and the refugees sharing Iraqi songs. She describes the exchange as “eye level sharing” - telling stories through music, as equals. Through music, she formed relationships. “I was a friend to refugees,” she says.

Years later, living in Oakland, Kuhlmann was volunteering with a utility advocacy group. It was there that she fell in love with grassroots activism. For a project, she ended

When Money Becomes a Weapon

Darnell Boyd Who would possibly use money as a weapon against poor, homeless people? The wealthy would, and they are doing it now. They are raising money to stop a navigation center from being in their neighborhood.

Why would they do that? Why would they be so cruel to people that don’t have anything and they have more than enough?

These are some of their reasons. They said that their property value would go down. They said that needles and trash would be all over the streets. They said people would be camping out.

But I think the reason is this: They are afraid of doing something good. They are afraid of helping someone because it’s contagious. They are afraid of getting into the habit of giving. They are afraid of showing compassion and empathy and kindness.

Don’t worry, NIMBY. One day you are going to need someone to show you kindness, empathy and love, and it won’t be there because you forgot to make a deposit in the Karma Bank.

up interviewing a woman living in a U-haul with her four children and husband. By hearing stories of homeless mothers through her volunteer work, Kuhlmann began to associate the lives of homeless women to the song cycle Winterreise. The music of this song cycle, as Kuhlmann describes it, is poetic and intensely emotional. As she interacted with homeless mothers, the idea of incorporating their stories into the music began to develop.

The challenge of ethically representing social issues is always interesting; how do we discuss homelessness without using it simply as an entertaining factor? Someone suggested to Kuhlmann that recording the stories would be a good idea. She says it’s “exactly how people become human to you...hearing their stories.”

“They’ve been very vulnerable with me,” she says of the women she interviewed for the project. It was her pregnancy that had led to the theme of motherhood.

She hopes to reach her peers through the show, educating people who are perhaps alienated from homelessness about the issue.

The first article of the German constitution says, “The dignity of a human shall remain untouchable.” Kuhlmann hopes to convey that through the music and words of The Winter’s Journey Project.

SOCIAL JUSTICE CALENDAR

MAY
1

CITY BUDGET HEARING
ON MENTAL HEALTH &
SUBSTANCE USE

WHERE: SF CITY HALL ROOM TBA @1-4PM
Join us to advocate for services and housing for the most vulnerable communities of SF at the budget hearing with the Homeless Emergency Service Providers Association (HESPA), a coalition of 27 homeless service providers.

ACCESS: City Hall is wheelchair/ADA accessible.

MAY
8

SB50: WHO GETS
TO LIVE IN THE NEW
CALIFORNIA?

WHERE: IMPACT HUB SAN FRANCISCO
1885 MISSION ST @6-7:30PM
Lawmakers have proposed SB50, a supposedly revised bill to upzone cities to build market rate housing. At this panel discussion, we will take a critical look at this bill and the ideology behind it, what impacts it will have in San Francisco and the greater Bay Area, and whether it truly will live up to its new promises.

ACCESS:

MAY
13

SPEAK OUT: SB 1045
CONSERVATORSHIP VOTE AT
RULES COMMITTEE

WHERE: 10AM AT CITY HALL RM. 263
Join us to urge Supervisors to vote “NO” on the implementation of SB 1045, which would allow the city to expand conservatorship, a legal process through which an individual loses the right to make decisions about their housing, finances, and medical care. The bill targets homeless people with severe mental illness and substance addictions.

ACCESS: City Hall is wheelchair/ADA accessible.


MAY
18

COALITION ON
HOMELESSNESS: BOCCE
BALL FUNDRAISER

WHERE: AQUATIC PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
890 BEACH ST @11AM-3PM
Food, drink, raffle, prizes, and a kid-friendly environment!

ACCESS: For info call (415)571-1696


HOMELESS MOTHERS UNITE!





Join us at The Coalition on Homelessness for our annual Mother’s Day brunch followed by a rally at City Hall and budget lobbying! We want to show out and ask the supervisors & Mayor Breed:


“WHY WAIT? HOUSING NOW!”

Thursday May 9

 Brunch: 10:30 am

Rally: 12 noon 

 Prep: 12:30-1

Advocacy: 1-2pm 

10:30 am at 468 Turk Street (@Hyde & Larkin) for brunch

12 noon at City Hall steps for rally

1 pm Advocacy 2nd floor of City Hall

Homeless Woman Offered Shelter by Police, Then Arrested

Nuala Sawyer, originally published by SF Weekly

Homeless advocates are crying foul over an arrest that occurred on Turk Street Thursday morning, after a 28-year-old unhoused woman was offered a bed in a Navigation Center by police. When she gave her name to them, she was arrested.

Quiver Watts was standing outside their job at the Coalition on Homelessness on Turk street when they spotted three cops rolling up.

“They got out of the car, and there was just one tent on the block, so I knew they were going to her,” Watts tells SF Weekly. “They woke her up, and said they were there to offer resources, like a seven-day bed in a Navigation Center.”

According to Watts, the woman told police she already had a bed in a Navigation Center; a worker from the Homeless Outreach Team had met with her the day before and had arranged for one to be set up for her on Thursday. Police then said they’d check on the status of it for her, and asked for her ID. When she handed it over, they secretly ran her name in their warrant database, found a missed court appear-

ance for petty theft, and arrested her.

Once the handcuffs came out a crowd gathered, and backup was called. All told, around eight police officers ended up at the scene and one sheriff.

SF Weekly obtained evidence of the arrest through a private Facebook video. In it, the woman, whose street name is Diamond, was being held in handcuffs against the side of a building on the north side of Turk Street. As a crowd gathers and more police show up, a cop can be seen saying “By the orders of London Breed,” no doubt referencing the mayor’s support of encampment resolutions.

Watts tells SF Weekly they told the crowd “Just vote for the right people if you want things to change.”

A woman named Charie, who says she is Diamond’s aunt, witnessed the incident go down. She was confused by the behavior of police, and their timing.

“She’s been on the streets forever, literally,” Charie tells SF Weekly. “She’s been over here on the streets with this

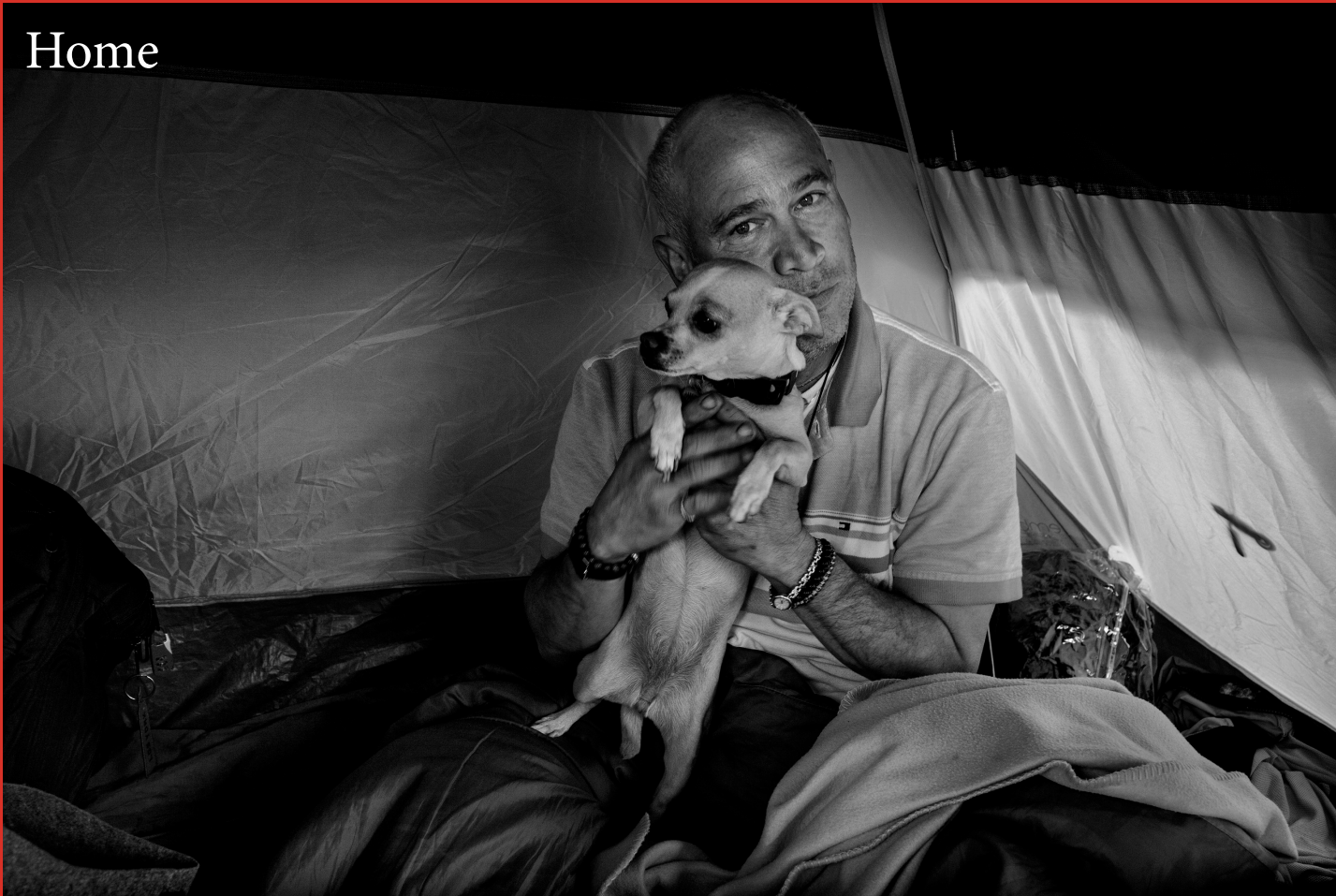
tent, just one tent. Cops have never arrested her, and always asking her to take down her tent. She could have been arrested a long time ago.

“They set her up, acted like they were going to give her a seven-day bed, then turned her around and roughed her up,” she added.

Thursday’s incident sits in sharp contrast to many of the claims made by SFPD during recent hearings on homeless encampment sweeps, where advocates have called for more outreach from social workers, and less response from police. It’s believed that more than 30 percent of residents in San Francisco’s jail are people who were homeless before their arrest.



Home



“Home for me is practically everything. It’s your base, it’s your sanctuary, it’s a place to relax, spiritual. Home is for me everything.”

“For nine months I was with a tent, I did not have no place to go and I finally went to a shelter, Navigation, cause it was Christmas and we had to go in because it was cold, you know and I stayed there. And it’s a big difference having a warm roof over your head, a big difference. Have hot water, shower and get clean, you know. Put a pair of fresh underwear on, for heaven’s sakes and not to through the other ones away.”

“There are way too many people, 110 people at the last one I stayed at. So 110 people, a hundred and ten lives with different needs. They shout, they scream every time you start getting to sleep, boom something else happens. It’s just too many people in one place. It’s an OK environment for just temporarily, for 30 days, maybe max 90 days but then after that you can’t handle it. It drives you crazy, a little bit.”

“I miss cooking. My stove, my oven. I like to cook. I like to eat so those are the things I miss the most, having my espresso in the morning.”

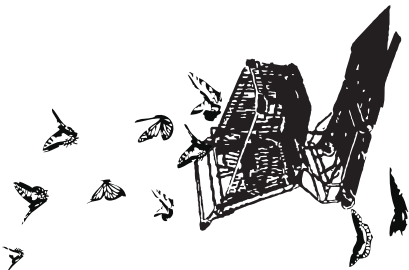
Name: Miguel E. Rodriguez, 53 Date: 10 February 2019 Place: San Bruno Ave, between 15th and Alameda Homeless: 11 months

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Coalition on
Homelessness
San Francisco

NOW ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS
FROM CURRENT AND FORMER

SEX WORKERS

FOR OUR JUNE 1ST
STREET SHEET ISSUE



submit to streetsheetsf@gmail.com

DEADLINE: MAY 27TH