

Reality Disconnect? Once-A-Year “Project Connect” is no substitute for the Right to Shelter & Sleep

Homeless Elder Robert “Blindbear” Facer Died Sunday

...of a heart failure at the age of 62 after repeated harassment by Santa Cruz judges & cops—for sleeping on the beach, for protesting the Sleeping Ban, for protesting the deaths of homeless people in front of Councilmember Coonerty's **Bookshop Santa Cruz**. Like other homeless deaths, it was many years premature.

...Blindbear created the **22' high teepee** at **OSC** that was torn down and destroyed by police December 8th when 100-200 homeless people in San Lorenzo Park were made refugees, their survival gear hauled away, & the encampment area fenced off from public use. **Police Chief Vogel** has given neither apology nor restitution.

...Meanwhile shelter boss **Monica Martinez** continues to lie about shelter availability, creates ever more repressive policies at the *Homeless (Lack of) Services Center*, and ignores harsh bans against clients.

“Progressive” Mayor Don Lane in the “laid back” “liberal” Surf City

...talks nice, but supports MC 6.36.010a which makes sleep illegal for 1500-2000 homeless people.

...has no emergency **walk-in shelter** & “programs” that cover less than 10% of those outside.

...has long waiting lists for the 10% & deny documentation to deter police & judicial harassment

...prescribes a **\$150 fine for those who sleep or cover up with blankets at night outside**, and a larger fine for those set up tents against the rain. Those under bridges or the eaves of buildings are driven into the rain.

...makes three “unattended” citations a misdemeanor punishable by up to **\$1000 fine & 6 months in jail**.

...makes the fourth “unattended” infraction an **automatic misdemeanor** punishable as above.

Linda Lemaster, *Occupy Santa Cruz [OSC]*, Gary Johnson & Ed Frey

...face 6 months in jail and \$1000 fines for peaceful protest at Peace Camp 2010 in front of the Courthouse and City Hall; **OSC** activists face the same fines for their peaceful protest.

...Last month, **Johnson was sentenced to 2 ½ years in jail** for sleeping on a bench outside the courthouse with a sign reading “Sleep is Not a Crime”. Info: <http://peacecamp2010insider.blogspot.com/>

...**Attorney Ed Frey**, who slept out with homeless protesters in PeaceCamp2010, defended Occupy Santa Cruz in 2011, and is appealing a 6 months sleepcrime conviction himself, now faces “contempt of court” charges for declining to wear a tie in court. Info: <http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2012/03/27/18710213.php>

Vindictive Authorities Now Threaten Prison for the *Santa Cruz Eleven*

...Hundreds of people visited or supported the 75 River St. Occupation of last year that protested Wells Fargo Bank's fraudulent profiteering, called for a Community Center, and sought winter shelter for the homeless community; eleven whistle-blowers each now face a possible 7 years in prison for supporting peaceful protest.

...D.A. Bob Lee is targeting reporters and whistle-blowers who covered the event as well as mediators who successfully brought the Occupation to a peaceful conclusion. Establishment media like Sentinel photographer **Shmuel Thaler** and City Council members (such as **Don Lane** and **Katherine Beiers**) who committed the same “trespass” face no charges. Lee now has a “snitch out your neighbor” website.

Trouble with Police or the HSC Around Camping Tickets?

Meet Sub Rosa Cafe 10 AM-noon Each Wednesday

More Info: www.beckyjohnsononewomantalking.blogspot.com

www.indybay.org/santacruz <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SantaCruzEleven/>

www.santacruzeleven.org