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An Indictment on Homelessness

By Mark Lipman

It is so, so easy to blame the victims. It is so easy to be self-righteous when you have a roof over your head and think that it can never happen to you. However, the fact we can't escape from is that 13,000 people fall into homelessness every month in Los Angeles County, which completely undermines the narrative and sweeping generalizations that homeless people are just drug addicts and criminals, blurring the lines between status and behavior.

Yes, it is true that living on the streets can and very often does lead to many of the unsavory consequences which so many fearful, angry people point to when demonizing an entire population, detracting from the real causes of, and solutions to homelessness, pitting one group of struggling poor people against another group of even poorer people and serves only to protract the problems indefinitely as it gives our elected officials the cover to do nothing, while relying on the police to enforce a vicious circle of harassment and criminalization that gets us nowhere and only makes the problems worse.

We must always remember that the greatest crime there is, is the Crime of Poverty, which is being perpetrated on all of us, particularly by those entrusted the most to protect us.

What we need to look at – what no one at City Hall wants to see – is that homelessness is not only a social issue, but an economic issue created by decades of laws and policies designed to cater to the whims of Big Developers, Big Banks and the Wealthy Elite.

In the words of our current Poet Laureate, Luis J. Rodriguez, “It cost billions of dollars to keep us poor.”

Politicians wring their hands over where they're going to come up with the paltry sum of \$100 million, when all the money we need can be found in our city budget, which brings into question, “What exactly are our budget priorities?”

60% of our annual budget flows directly to the Los Angeles Police Department, to the tune of \$2.9 Billion. It costs our city \$65,000 per year for every person we put in jail – which is packed over-capacity – while 80% of our police time here in Venice (according to their own numbers) is spent dealing with issues of homelessness. Add to that the millions of dollars the city loses every year to pay out lawsuits that stem from civil rights abuses by these very same officers, who face no accountability for their actions when they beat up or kill someone, which is becoming a nearly daily occurrence. That is what I call a huge waste of tax-payer money, and makes me think that it's about time to audit the LAPD.

If we want to end homelessness, it's easy and it starts with how we spend our money. By simply allocating the proper funding into the needed public services first, we can eliminate all sorts of ills facing our society.

Our Mayor and City Council Members are all too

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photos above by Anthony Castillo



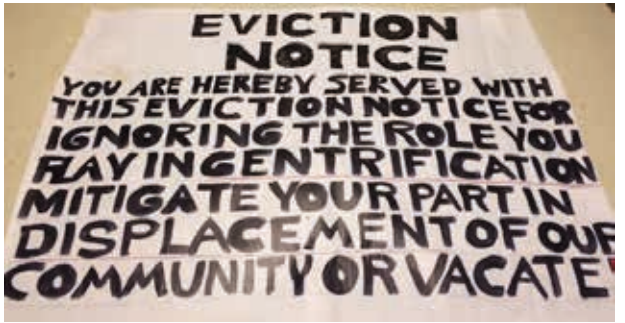
Demolitions East of Lincoln Continue

by Anthony Castillo

While most of the attention given to gentrification here at the Beachhead is given to what's happening west of Lincoln Blvd., we should not ignore Venice east of Lincoln. Gentrification continues seemingly unabated there as well. This despite the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance, which was supposed to stop Mansionization east of Lincoln. One hot spot for continued demolitions is the area between Lincoln and Walgrove on Palms. With the densest concentration of demolitions and new construction on Palms being between Penmar and Walgrove. In only a three block area this narrow little street is changing on an almost monthly basis with this seemingly nonstop "development."

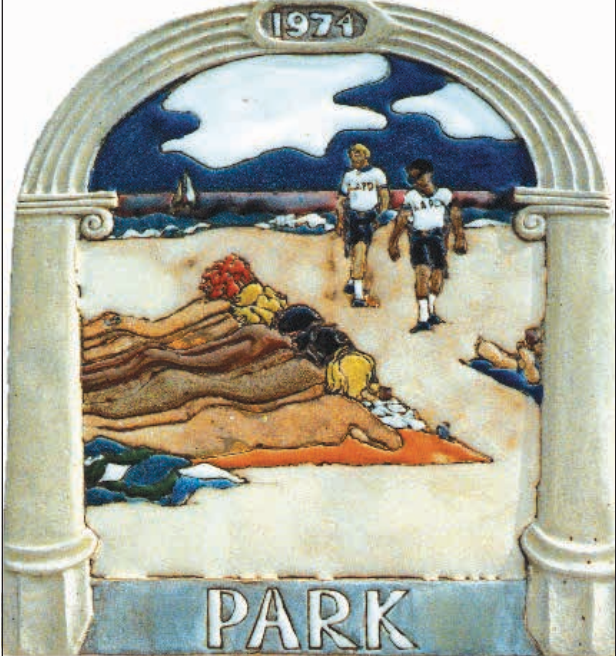
The photos of the four latest over sized dwellings under construction and empty lot (awaiting who knows what), do not include the recently completed over sized homes/B.U.B.s that have been completed earlier this year and the previous year. With each new box home there is less yard space, less sun light for the older Venice properties that choose to remain as is, and more congestion. Not to mention the elimination of the community that once made Venice, Venice.

Most of the folks that read the Beachhead are aware of the chronic gentrification going unchecked here in Ven-



PARTY PARTY PARTY
It's the Free Venice Beachhead's Annual Party
Come one, come all,
well, make that about 100 of you should come on down
Sunday December 13 6pm
at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Bl.
Get your Christmahanuramakadonakwanza
on with our finest poets,
many lovely singers and musicians,
the cheapest wine,
the cheapest door charge (\$0, PassThe Hat),
and all these generous friends.

THE NUDE BEACH



Above from Art Tiles at Venice Beach, published by the Venice Arts Council, available at Bookstores in Venice.

By Jon Wolff

In an L.A. Times article dated August 15, 2010, writer Steve Harvey recalls for us the Summer of 1974 in Venice, California. That was the summer when Venice Beach went nude! Harvey writes about a related phenomenon of the time called "streaking": that practice of running nude across a sports field or a live T.V. awards show. He writes of the politics of that period in history as a possible reason why Venice became a nude beach. But he concedes that no one knows when it started. Although I can't pinpoint the exact date and time, I can say where and how the nude beach started. I was there at the beginning. And I saw it with my own eyes.

I was a ten year old Venice kid that summer. I was at the beach with my friends one day just swimming in the ocean and lying on the sand. We always hung out on the North side of the rocks that were around the storm tunnel in line with Brooks Avenue. That day, there were two young women laughing and frolicking there in the surf. They were both wearing bathing suits but one of them decided to take off her top. Soon, other people shed some or all of their beach clothes.

By the next day, the nude trend had caught on and Venice Beach had become a nude beach. Women and men walked on the sand, by the sea, under the sun wearing no more than maybe a wrist watch. I saw a nude guy with a cigarette asking other nude people for a light. Nobody had one. No clothes meant no pockets; no pockets meant no matches. The cops couldn't do anything about the nudity because the nude people had no I.D. on them.

The media told everybody in L.A. about all the nude hippies on Venice Beach. Spectators showed up to watch real nude bodies lying on the sand in broad daylight. I saw men in white shirts, black slacks, and leather dress shoes walking along the shore with geeky grins on their faces. But really, it was they who stood out and looked silly. Eventually, the city government put a stop to the nude beach.

Being ten years old at the time, I don't remember it as all that big a deal to me then. For one thing, my friends and I weren't nude. We always wore our cutoffs to go in the ocean. We saw the nude beach as just another adult thing that adults did. As hard as it is for people to understand today, the sight of grownups walking nude on the beach didn't traumatize us kids back then. I wasn't shocked or emotionally scarred by any of it. It was just adults having a good time and being free.

Now fast forward to 2015. It's the April 21 meeting of the Officers of the Board of the Venice Neighborhood

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Beachhead Collective Staff:
Eric Ahlberg, Anthony Castillo, Don Geagan, Mary Getlein, Ronald McKinley, Krista Schwimmer, Alice Stek.

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry or graphics of interest to the Venice community.

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To submit material, include your name and telephone number. Anonymous material will not be printed, but your name will be withheld on request. No payment is made for material used.

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Kudos to Greta Cobar! There are those of us who love Monae and Petr Hromadko who were unable to attend Monae's services in Venice. Yet Greta took us there with her fabulous story and allowed us to share the experience. Rarely have we seen a description of an emotional and touching event conveyed in print in such a remarkable way. Love and Thanks to you Greta for being there for us when we could not. -Randonius & Christine Von Thayer, Venice

Monae, Monae

(A LOVE SONG for Petr)

Monae, Monae
Has – Had her Day
Has – Had her Stay
With – Her Earth Angles...

Monae, Monae
Has – Gone to Play
Has – Gone to Stay
With – Heaven’s Angels...

Monae, Monae
Has – Passed Away
Has – Cast Away
Her TINY BODY

Her Light Shines Bright
Both Day & Night
With Every Single
Heavenly Body...

Monae, Monae
Has – Had Her Say
Has – Had Us Pray
For – EVERY Angel...

Monae, Monae
Has – Gone Away
But – Not Forgotten
“Little Angel”...

With Deepest Love,
Tina Catalina Corcoran
10/04/15

Here’s a comment from the Internet about Delores Hanney’s Story: On the OldMotor.com website we can find another story with additional pictures and other details. This riding stunt would be best known later as Wall of Death mainly with motorcycles. Fantastic article here.

Hi Beachhead People:

I just wanted to make sure you were aware about this "live-aboard RV" that erupted into flames reportedly on Sunday. This happened in front of the Vera Davis Center. What is left of the vehicle is still parked in front of Vera Davis today (Tuesday on California Avenue). I have tried to attach some photos of the disaster. At this point it doesn't seem to be known if this was an accident or arson (according to what info I could get from the front desk at Vera Davis). I am familiar with one of the guys (by face) who was "hanging out" in this RV but I don't know if he was the actual owner of the RV. I don't know if there's a story here, but thought I would pass this along. Thank you for your attention to this info. I ENJOY YOUR NEWSPAPER!!!

... much love ... c

pictures are below and to the right, by c



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Joan Del Monte and Linda Albertano.

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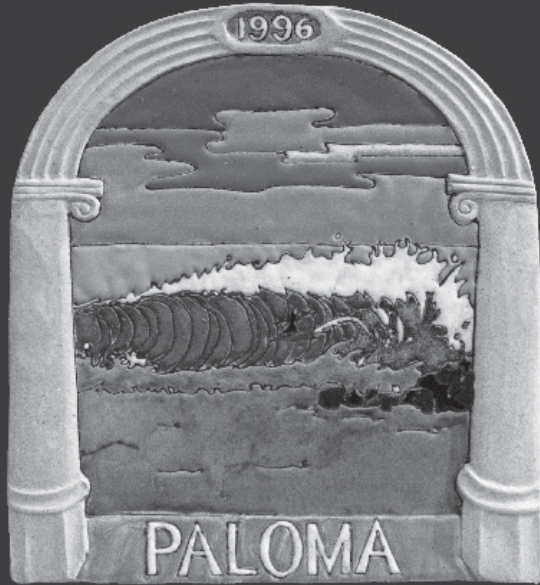
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Volunteer with bicycle needed for Beachhead Distribution on Ocean Front Walk.

SOLUTION!
above, Critical Mass Flyer by hughillustration

ART TILES AT VENICE BEACH A GRAPHIC HISTORY: 1904 - 2001



NOEL OSHEROFF, TAMIE SMITH, AND THE VENICE ARTS COUNCIL

PARTY PARTY PARTY

It's the Free Venice Beachhead's Annual Party

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well, make that about 100 of you should come on down

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on with our finest poets,
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the cheapest door charge (\$0, PassThe Hat),
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Confirmed at Press Time:

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Krista Schwimmer, Linda Albertano, Jim Smith, Steve
Goldman, Mark Lipman, Lisa Marguerite Mora,
Antioneta Villamil

Musicians: Brad Kay, Suzy Williams, Sam Clay, Eric
Ahlberg, Freddy Ginns

“Art Tiles at Venice Beach: A Graphic History: 1904 - 2001”

Noel Osheroff, Tami Smith and the Venice Arts Council
(Helicon Nine Edition)

The reproduction of these handmade art tiles, designed by
local artists in book form is meant to retain the concept
and creative ideas of Venice in perpetuity.

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Venice Vintage, Skylight Books or www.veniceartscouncil.org
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\$20

A perfect gift

All proceeds support the preservation of these
tiles and the benches that house them

Nude Beach, from Page 1

Council. Item 12-D on the meeting's agenda concerns
a proposal to propose a provision wherein women can
go topless on Venice Beach. There is formal discussion.
Various speakers present arguments for and against
permitting women to not wear their tops in public. The
Council puts forward a Plan to form a Committee to
write a Letter to make a Recommendation to begin a
Study to draft an Amendment to put forward a Plan to
form a Committee... And so on.

What happened?

How did Venice change from being the place where
everything starts to the place where nothing goes? You
used to be able to do whatever you wanted here as long
as you didn't hurt anybody.

You did everything spontaneously. And you didn't
have to ask permission. Venice got its reputation back
then because people did stuff like take off their clothes
on the public beach or dance on the Boardwalk for no
reason. Now you need a license and a permit just to sit
down.

It doesn't have to be this way. Maybe it won't be
a nude beach this time, but it can be anything you want.
Anything that stirs things up can start us on the road
to freedom and independence. Maybe a spontaneous
parade down Lincoln Boulevard would be fun. Or how
about artists paint beautiful paintings on billboards and
bus benches without permission? Give away free food
to hungry people in Venice before somebody reports
you. Put up posters that don't advertise anything. Form
a Gospel choir. On the water's edge. At 3:00 in the
morning. Go with ten people to the Venice Neighbor-
hood Council meeting and sing "John Sinclair". Dance
on the Boardwalk for no reason. But do something and
don't ask permission. And what starts in Venice, spreads
to the rest of the world.



Suzy Davis getting arrested at Venice Beach in 1986.
Photo from youngnaturistsamerica.com

Peace in Venice Good Will to All



© Jon Wolff 2015 www.jonwolff.net

Homelessness - continued from page 1
eager to tell us what we can’t do, yet I say it is they who lack the proper imagination to handle the problems we face.

For a decade now, I’ve watched our elected officials talk around the problem of homelessness – even to the point where they usurp our language, making eloquent speeches, using the very same words we speak, yet when it comes to implementing the solutions our people and community organizations bring to the table they’re all deaf ears and excuses.

Why is that? Because fixing the problem would upset the status quo and the moneyed interests, to which they – as an indentured political class – are chained, putting the business plan of their campaign contributors over the well-being of our society-at-large.

For example, the 80% tax break – our city – championed by both Bill Rosendahl and Mike Bonin – gives to the Tech Industry to move into and take over our neighborhoods. That’s right, we give Welfare Subsidies to Google and Snapchat – millions of dollars taken directly out of our City Budget, which could go into a much needed housing fund. Instead, we pay these corporations to gentrify our communities and drive up our rents, so that our existing tenants get squeezed out of the affordable housing they once had and into homelessness.

That ain’t right, and we need to put a stop to that. Maybe that’s why I keep hearing our City Council Members say, “We’re not in the housing business – that’s for the developers.” And I ask myself, “Why not?”

Why can we not, as a city and a government simply build and manage the required housing the people of our society need? It’s not like we’ve never done this before – all the infrastructure we need to do this is in place – and it’d create thousands of jobs in the process. It’s simply a matter of political will.

Why is it that our politicians just throw up their hands and surrender to the market our housing – the single most urgent need of our society today – giving developers, whose only motive is profit, the power over our lives and death?

Talking about developers like Tami Pardee*, whose business model is to make money off of evicting existing renters and throwing them onto the streets – directly adding to homelessness, while making hundreds of millions of dollars in the process.

Not only is our city government not doing anything to stop them from ruining thousands of people’s lives – truly a criminal act – they, our elected officials, are aiding and abetting the Big Money interests, clearing the processes and procedural hurdles for these developers, with one rubber stamp after another, so that the business of creating homelessness can go on as usual. Not only is this unconscionable, it’s a complete dereliction of duty and a betrayal to every single one of us.

These politicians can talk all the nice words and platitudes they want, but what we need, what we demand, is concrete meaningful action to directly address the problem of homelessness with solutions – that being housing – permanent, stable, affordable housing – NOW!

* examples of cases: 414-426 Grand Ave. – 6 families evicted. Tami Pardee (property manager overseeing the evictions) - 2505 Oakwood Ave. – elderly disabled lady evicted.

Tami Pardee (property manager overseeing Ellis Act eviction) - 35 Clubhouse Ave. – several tenants in 8-unit building evicted

Tami Pardee (Realtor in charge of the “estopples” which were used to base the evictions by the new property owner.)

Below by Eric Drooker



A Question of Mental Health

by Mark Lipman

Tonight I was listening to one of those corporate-progressive-news broadcasts and heard the moderator shift the conversation on gun control from loophole exemptions for former police officers in any forthcoming legislation (which strikes me as perplexingly ironic, considering that many people in this country are of the opinion that the police are specifically the ones having the most trouble, ... difficulty, controlling their guns), to framing the entire conversation to a question of “mental health”... and hearing them bandy this term back and forth between themselves, I found myself asking the radio – and those given access to our airwaves – to define what they meant by “Mental Health”?

How does “Mental Health” get classified? And by this do they mean people who don’t “think right” (and according to whom?)?

For if you were to believe all the mind-numbing corporate-government propaganda that is fed and programmed into us, from the very moment we are born, through every possible medium imaginable, to create the truly insane society we live in today, there could be justification (found or created) to have every last person locked up in a padded room ... though of course they will start with the ones who dissent and disagree with the government first – or more precisely the corporate-government agenda --- anyone questioning it (in other words, the most sane among us) as crazy, while war mongers, trigger happy flag drapers, racists and God are all armed to the teeth and no one questions their mental stability.

If you’re poor, intelligent or black, those are the first ones the system of the bullet uses for target practice. So yes, let’s have a full and honest conversation on “Mental Health” and “Gun Violence” ... and let’s start by looking at the top of the economic food chain.

We’ve all heard that it’s a dangerous world – and yes, our society is fraught with hazards – but it is one that we – our very government has created. We as a nation spend more than the rest of the world combined on building the largest military ever seen – bigger than any empire has ever dreamed, and we still say with a straight face – on the very day that our president committed armed foot soldiers to the Syrian bloodbath – that we are in our right minds – bombing other nations and hating people we never met all for the sake of political expediency.

... ah yeah, uh huh ... so God made you do it ... ? Sounds like one day you’ll be president. You see, it’s all about the precedent we set ... of the example that we make ... in how we spend the money, where 60% of the budget goes to war – 60% of the budget to LAPD, so that tanks and armored battalions can line the streets - \$100

below, Ad Agency Issue Ad.



Billion for the next generation bomber, when the same money could end world poverty - and you dare to call this sanity?

Where’s the accountability from the White House to City Hall, for the atrocities you’ve committed? How much blood is on your hands, when you actions speak louder than the propaganda?

Yes, there are many who should be committed and never have guns, and I think the first place we should look is within the ranks of our own government, for, you know what, some “nut” who wants artillery is only following your lead. So yes, we need to reduce the number and types of guns on the streets of our society and a good place to start is with disarming the police.

If we do not like the world we see, consider that this is what the corporate-sponsored-military-industrial-Wall-Street-political-insider produced and spat back out, so excuse this world for its reflection, that’s simply what happens when the richest country on this planet leads the world in child poverty. That is the true insanity and only those who are crazy are incapable of seeing the connection.

So perhaps ... just perhaps, we should take the boots off the ground, and put the bombers back in their hangers? Maybe it’s time to stop bombing the shit out of everybody? Maybe, in the state of proper “mental health” we can end all these covert ops and the military aid and stop overthrowing other governments ... and stop killing ... just stop killing ... stop killing by example? If you have to kill in order to get what you want, then what you want is not worth having ... we’re all innocent civilians no matter where we’re from, not matter our accent or the color of our skin – stop killing us – we’re tired of being the collateral damage on which you politicians build your careers.



Memory Lane of 1984 Olympics

By Regina Barton

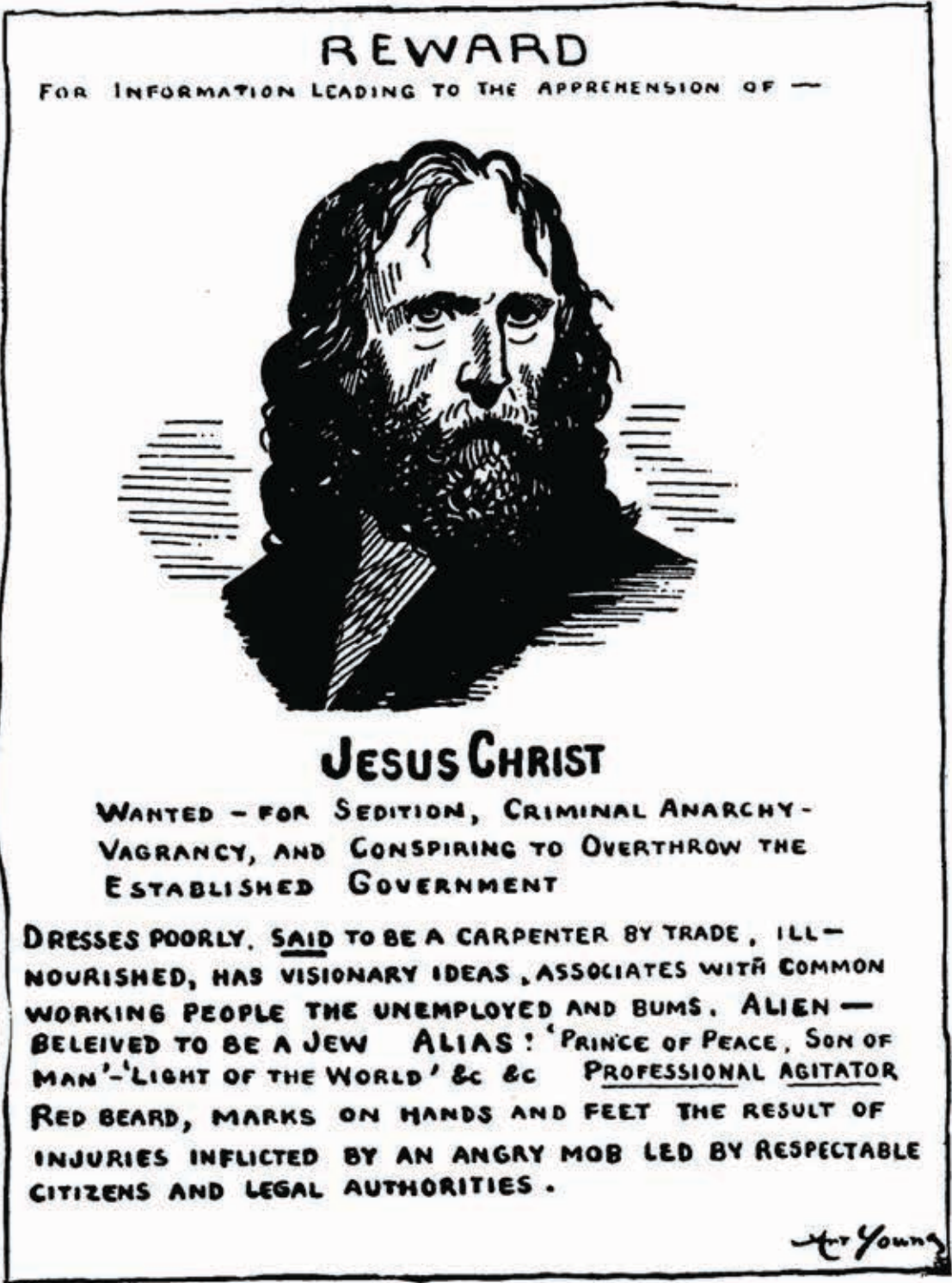
Did you hear that the 2016 Olympic Committee is considering Los Angeles for the 2024 Olympics? I did and it made me reflect on the good times we enjoyed in Venice Beach in 1984, that long, hot summer. I shared a two bedroom apartment on Third Street at Rose Avenue. My local hangout was the Rose Cafe, where I met the local artists for long conversations over their strong brew. Their early morning breakfast special was coffee, croissant with a slice of Brie cheese. Yummy.

Every Thursday night my roommate, Chiara, from Italy, and I hosted a Soirée for our friends and visitors. One artist, Adrienne Prober was commissioned a Greek Mural by the Olympic Committee. Another, Robert Graham was commissioned the male/female headless statues at the entrance to the USC Coliseum. Some residents left town and rented out their homes for guests of the Olympic Committee. I even had to move out for two weeks so my Italian roommate could house her Doctor cousin, who was a sponsor of the Italian Karate Competitor. By the way, he WON the Silver Medal in Karate. Yeah. If you remember, the Ocean Park Beach Area was redesigned and just completed two days before the 1984 Olympics began. The Women's and Men's Track Team used that route for their competitions. I joined my neighbors along the roadway to cheer the Olympic Runners onward. Fun in the Sun. The Waterfront Cafe, Carousel Pizza Cafe, Fig Tree, New York Pizza and Sidewalk Cafe were our local hangouts. Peter Demian and his local musicians would keep us entertained for hours. Alfred Johnson played his piano on wheels. Jingles educated us on benefits of giving up meat and becoming a Vegetarian in front of the vegetarian food store next to the Figtree Restaurant. Gail and Sunny would paint the locals. Ray Packard set up his large canvases to do his colorful watercolors. Gunther left the Boardwalk and opened up Gunther's Cheesecake Cafe on West Washington Blvd. (now Abbot Kinney Blvd.). The Front Porch Gallery, Carol Tantau Jewelry Store, Hal's Bar & Grill, Come Back Inn, Midnight Special Bookstore and the Taurus Tavern were also local hangout spots on WWB. The Sculpture Garden and Susan Weinberg Designs were alternative gatherings. Harry Drinkwater hosted a 36 Slide Projector Photography Show of his 1960-1970's black & white images. Mr. Drinkwater just passed a year ago at 90 yrs. young. Swami X recently passed at 90. He stood up on a Boardwalk Bench and educated passersby on National Political Issues of the day. He was our West Coast Lenny Bruce. Our West Coast Jerry Rubin would debate him and set up a Peace Table next to Jingle's anti-meat table and the Massage Chairs and benches. That Pagoda area was called the Healing Pagoda. Mr. Greek, Ms. Rainglow, Mr. Sullivan and the Bubble Man. Miriam Moore would engage in many thought provoking conversations along with Anthea, the plastic shower curtain designer, Jaynee, the hat maker, Patty, the potter, Sponto, the Dudley Street Gallerist. Abraham and Diane did their poetry, songs & paintings in front of the Land's End Restaurant (now the Venice Beach Bistro). Old Bill would sing his Louisiana Blues with other versatile musicians. The Gingerbread bungalows had a variety of local artists doing their tie-dye t-shirts, painted white t-shirts, razor torn cuttings for design purposes. Clothing designers from New York, Chicago, Florida would sell their specialty designs on the weekends, after selling all week at the LA Downtown Mart. Susan Sarner painted portraits near the Sidewalk Cafe. Along with Gil Borges with his Bench, Umbrella and unique banter entertaining the locals. Jeffrey Stanton sold his Venice Beach Old Postcards. Cosmos had his Roller Skating Rental Booth. The Venice Pavilion had local Bands, Mexican Folkloric Dancers and new Hip Hop Poets and Muralists paint, and overpaint the large walls. Judy Baca of SPARC assisted high school students during their paint outs. Your local Free Venice Beachhead was publishing monthly. The Venice West Cafe became Sponto Gallery on Dudley Avenue. Henry's Market served the locals with Regina's management skills. The Cadillac Hotel took over the Senior Center. Tina Catalina Corcoran was our local waitress at the Lafayette Cafe. Ralph and his Seaweed costume caused many a head to turn. Peter the Mime followed anyone and mimicked their walk and mannerisms. Comedians, Fire-walkers, Jugglers, Acrobats, Dancers, Musicians, Tarot Readers. Rock Painters, Jewellery Designers, Mimes, Glass-walkers. Your local Venice Boardwalk Neighbors. Tibor Jankay, our Hungarian Painter, who passed at 99 loved Venice. Mr. Frank, who owned the Gingerbread Complex took his daily afternoon stroll to enjoy the people parade. This was 1984. The Parade has never stopped. See you at Danny's Deli for the Mardi Gras Parade. More to come next month. Send in your E-Mails with your memories.

Regina Barton = Alternative Tours



Surfer Girl, by Alisha Sophia



Gerry Fialka with PXL camera, and Solomon with snakes

We hear that Solomon was released from jail just before Thanksgiving. He allegedly said something to a cop that the cop didn't like, so he was thrown in Jail for weeks.



above: Adbusters, below, scrounged from my FB friends.



GENTRIFICATION				
B	I	N	G	O
YOGA STUDIO	FREELANCE NOMADS	GROWN UPS ON SKATE BOARDS	JUICE BAR	ARTISNAL ANYTHING
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Entertaining & Insightful Readings





Images above from Adbusters,
below from Anonymous Art of Revolution



MUNCHIMONSTER'S TREEHOUSE

ACROSS

- 3 - Hangs on fireplace
- 6 - On sugar cookie
- 7 - Blinking
- 9 - Tree topper
- 10 - Santa's helpers
- 11 ___ for tots

DOWN

- 1 - Snowman
- 2 - A ___ Christmas
- 4 - 'Tis the season for
- 5 - The Kruddys get
- 8 - Deck the halls with

MUNCHIMONSTER.ORG

The Raving Raven

Recommending Books for the Conscious Revolutionary
by Krista Schwimmer

The birth of any revolution begins with a change in consciousness. Knowledge is one path to such a change. So, in search of knowledge, it is quite natural for the revolutionary to turn to books from many genres for information and inspiration. History is one of the playgrounds for the revolutionary mind. The revolutionary should not seek out just any history books; but should study those works written by authors who dig as carefully and meticulously as an archaeologist.

With this in mind, I'd like to recommend a book I discovered at Small World Books: "At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance -- A New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power," by Danielle L. McGuire. What a title! Before I go into the book itself, I would like to share my own, unique reasons for picking the book up in the first place.

Although I am not an African-American woman, when I was a teenager, I was placed in a gifted and talented English class, taught by a southern, African-American teacher, Muriel Allison -- or, Mrs. Allison, as I always called her. Mrs. Allison was an extraordinary, award winning English teacher who taught and inspired many kinds of students. When segregation in schools ended, she was one of the first African-American teachers to teach in a formally white school.

I met her at Needham Broughton High School in Raleigh, North Carolina; but, I knew about her first through my brother, David, who was in her classes before me. David, who I have written about in my previous "A Tree Grows In Venice" Beachhead articles, adored her as well. When he died, Mrs. Allison wrote and read one of the most poetic eulogies for him.

In the back of her classroom, Mrs. Allison had an amazing collage, with the words, "What a Piece of Work is Man." She would stand in front of us, her tiny waist circled by a thick, gold belt, and quote from memory T. S. Eliot, Chaucer, and other great writers. I particularly recall when she would look at a student through her cat glasses and say, "Understand what I'm trying to say, honey child?"

There is no doubt that Mrs. Allison gave me the tools and the courage to write. She was not only a mentor for me, however, but a dear friend for life. She once told me she had the ability to see the future for many of her students. For me, she said emphatically that I had a mission, a purpose. What this mission was, she did not say; but, it planted the seed for me to seek and to live a purposeful life.

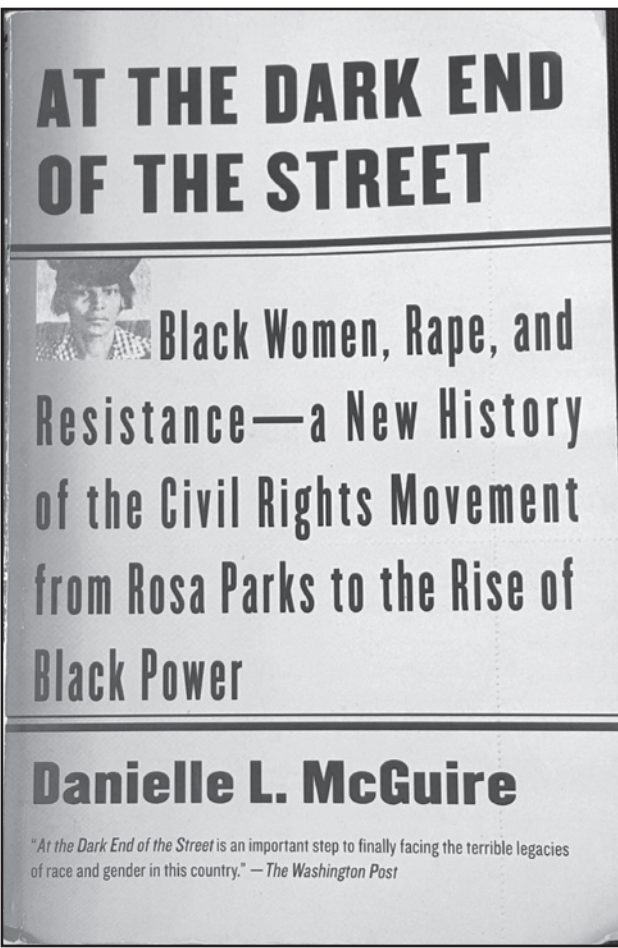
Simply put: out of my deep love and respect for Mrs. Allison, I chose this book.

Although the book's title prepares you somewhat for the contents, I found myself needing to read the book in doses. McGuire's meticulous research from primary sources (she has 58 and 1/2 pages of footnotes) brings the particulars to life. From the first page where she dives right into the 1944 heart wrenching kidnapping and rape of Recy Taylor to the final chapter about the 1975 sensational trial of Joan Little -- a young, black female inmate who killed her white jailer after he sexually assaulted her --

McGuire tells it like it really was. The prologue alone is worth reading. Here, McGuire lays out boldly one of the main purposes of her book: to show how "analysis of rape and sexualized violence play little or no role in most histories of the civil rights movement, which present it as struggle between black and white men . . . The real story -- that the civil rights movement is also rooted in African-American women's long struggle against sexual violence -- has never before been written." (pg xx)

In the prologue, McGuire also credits African-American women with publically testifying about rape decades before radical feminists in the women's movement encouraged rape survivors to 'speak out'. It was African-American women's public protests that "galvanized local, national, and even international outrage and sparked larger campaigns for racial justice and human dignity." (pg xx)

The book takes the reader through both well-known and lesser known, important events, looking at them through the perspective of the women involved in these events. One example is the Montgomery Bus protest. Many people know of the leadership of Martin Luther King, Jr. in this civil right's marker; but, they may not know about Jo Ann Robinson. McGuire writes that: "It was Jo Ann Robinson, not Martin Luther King, Jr., who served as the chief strategist for the Montgomery Improvement Association. She negotiated with city leaders and bus company officials, edited the MIA newsletter, and ferried African-Americans to and from work for nearly 381 days, all while holding down a full-time teaching job at Alabama State." (pg 110) Robinson and Parks were the two leaders behind the boycott in the first place. They were not, however, invited to the meeting where the Montgomery Improvement Association was born and Martin Luther King Jr. was elected president. The men took over then, one of the biggest surprises for me



was that Rosa Parks was not simply a tired, middle-aged woman who just wanted to sit down one day on a bus. McGuire shows us that Parks "was a militant race woman, a sharp detective, and an antirape activist long before she became the patron saint of the bus boycott." (pg. xvii) In fact, Parks was the investigator sent by the NAACP branch office in Montgomery, Alabama in response to the rape of Recy Taylor.

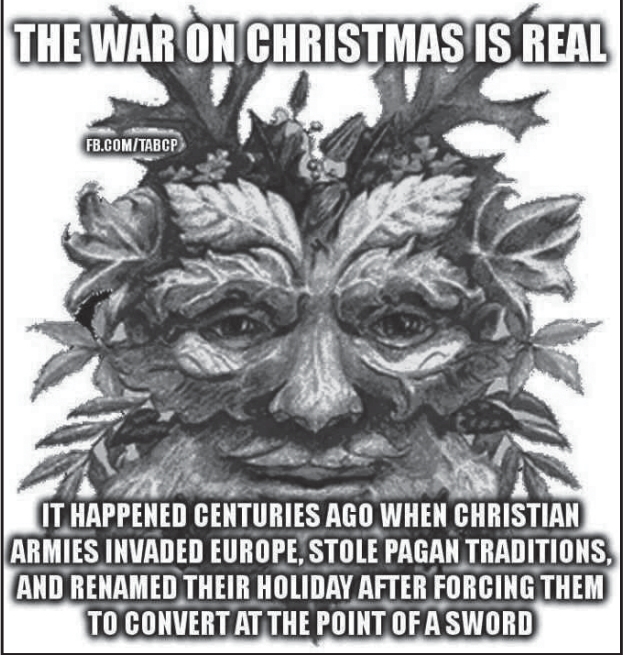
In her book, McGuire also points out the double standard African-American men, accused of rape (often completely unfounded), received in comparison to white men.

Throughout the book are over 60 black and white images, largely photos, but also newspaper clippings and a few political cartoons. I particularly liked her selection of photos of Rosa Parks and Joan Little. I was also touched by both the sweet photo and tragic story of Viola Liuzzo.

Viola Liuzzo was a white, Detroit housewife who, on the night of March 25th, 1965, was shuttling tired marchers back and forth from Montgomery to Selma. Sitting beside her was 19 year old, African- American, Leroy Moton. Although they were not a couple, four Klansmen decided they were, driving up to them and shooting both of them. Viola died; but, Moton survived. The trial that followed smeared Liuzzo's character and resulted in a mistrial.

McGuire's book appeals to the scholar, the activist, the historian, and the humanist. With a poet's eye and a journalist's punch, McGuire delivers a narrative that will make you weep and fall down, then rise up again, inspired by the incredible courage and tenacity of the women (and some men) that she highlights.

In a time when racial injustices and violence are once more commanding headlines, this is an important and necessary book to read. It is also a reminder to us all to look at the complexities beneath the surface, as well as to the real leaders behind movements. So, if you seek to be or even already are, a revolutionary fighting for change in the arenas of civil rights, feminism, humanism, and sexuality, go buy this book now! And even if you're not, go buy it! It's that damn good.



Everyday is Christmas
– In Venice!

Everyday is Christmas – In Venice!
Everyday is the 4th of July!
Everyday’s a play day,
A May Day, hey day, GAY Day,
“Ole!”, Shout hooray day! – We’re alive!

Everyday’s YOUR birthday – In Venice!
Celebrate your worth day everyday.
“Local Color’s real here,
“Magic fingers heal here
“Vegetables” can feel here – so they say!

Everyone is someone – In Venice!
Every “bum” is some Dear Mother’s Child!
Poets, punks, and preachers,
Health nuts, drunks and teachers,
Hippies, yippies, weirdoes, winos – WILD!

Venice is for Valentines and Lovers!
Saint Patrick’s Days – That never seem to end.
Stars play in the sunshine,
Blonds share all the fun time,
War wounds, of the worst kind, come to mend.

Commemorate the “Dream Town” – we call Venice!
Here, the University of Venice LIVES!
Addicts mix with purists,
Natives mix with tourists,
The rich mix with the poorest – Hey, what gives?

Venice, an oasis, to the traveler.
Yet, “Family Town”- This Kingdom-by-the-Sea.
“Roller Skating Cuties,”
(Barely) bathing beauties,
Music, mermaids, muscles – ALL for Free!

Treasure your “Vacation Days” – In Venice!
Participate – In all the ambiance!
Weight-lift, (if you’re able)
Share your cafe table,
Support “the local artists” – needs and wants!

Yes, Everyday’s a Holiday – In Venice!
Everyday’s an Easter Parade!
Halloween’s “hang” here
(The V-13’s a gang here),
STREETSMART sings our “Sunset Serenade”!

When you think you’ve seen it all – In Venice!
SPECIAL guests drop in to “blow your mind”!
See friendly porpoise play here!
Spot Great Pacific Grays here!
Catch Krishna’s BIG Parade here – What a find!

Celebrate “The Spirit” – That is Venice!
“Live and Let” – “If you snooze you lose” –
“Don’t hit up the residents” –
“Cheers – to Independence!”
HAPPY BIRTHDAY VENICE – I LOVE YOU!

–Tina Catalina Corcoran

reprinted from the July 2010 Beachhead.

Fall (Official) 11/4/15 - by Steve Goldman

Fall has always been my season
somehow consecrant to me
not frivolous spring,
but when New England’s sacred leaves
as muted rainbow
stained glass
widow shards
astride episodes of cold breath
whirl helicoptering to ground,
senescent now
but at the apex of their beauty,
when in barren season
Mother Demeter i said to walk the browning lands I
come again, darkly alive.

The Christmas Axis
By Ronald K. Mc Kinley

A motion towards peace
Intone for slow clarity
The masses are changed
For Christ’s mass
A red suited illegal gaijin
Waits after a Negro Friday
Consumer zombies raid the stores
The shopdead crawl from sale
To sale
Batteries not included
What notion of good will
No sale
You are not what you buy

Sand Castles

They wash away quickly

Flat sand is all you see!

Conch shells rest along the sea

Emitting memories of sand castles

Like the roaring sea

The children play and then they’re gone!

– Paul Beethovan

Program Note by Steve Goldman.

Today's mass killings will now be shown live at 9:00 PM. 10:00 PM Central and Mountain. Note that this network takes no position on nor endorses the motives or ideologies of the shooters and or bombers, be they an alienated and rejected college or high school student, a Jihadist group such as ISIL or drone attack killing innocent civilians. The ideas expressed are solely those of the murderers. Those wishing to leave a memento at one of the impromptu shrines sprouting up around the city may send for our starter kit: four balloons, 3 candles, some flowers, ribbons and a small teddy bear for the children. \$9.95 plus tax. Credit card payment only, S & H included. The day after the horrific Paris massacres, Minneapolis cops shot an unarmed black guy. Whew! What a relief! Back to business as usual.

9 • December 2015 • Free Venice Beachhead

Where I’m From

I’m from trees and water
big waves that broke over the S.M. Pier
and took it away,
I’m from years of sun baking my face
I’m from feeding the homeless
and if I have nothing left, I can share a smile
I’m from ocean waves and big blue skies
I’m from sunsets that last forever
until your brain is vibrating from the colors
There ain’t no religion that feels like that:
a direct connection with the sun and your soul
The people I have met here --
artists and musicians, poets galore
everybody hooked on colors and the sound of the drums
pulling you back to the boardwalk
to sing and dance and just be “part of”
part of the blessing poured down by the sun and moon
I have so many memories I don’t know where to start
blessings of friendship, of crazy, gifted people
sharing their gifts with me and everyone
very little money but great amount of respect
the spirit of Venice will always be
the warmth of love
supersedes the gothic greediness of new arrivals
They want to control something they will never under-
stand
Their favorite word is: eviction
Ours is: love
-- Mary Getlein

Murder by CO2

By Jim Smith

She's dying, Jim
There’s nothing we can do.

I can't believe it.
She’s so young and beautiful.

I know,
but she took in too much
carbon dioxide.
It's suffocating her.

Isn't there something we can do,
I asked.

Nothing. Her body is shutting down
system by system.

But why? I cried.
We thought she’d live forever.

These past years have been
hard on her.
She's been mugged, raped, robbed
and brutalized.
Not just once, but over and over.

But if she dies, what about us?

Should have thought of that a whole lot sooner.

I know, I know. But we can’t live without her.

True enough. But maybe it's for the best.
Do we really deserve to live
if we treat Gaia this way.
Trust me. The Universe will be better off.



Banksy

THIS
PAPER
IS
A
POEM

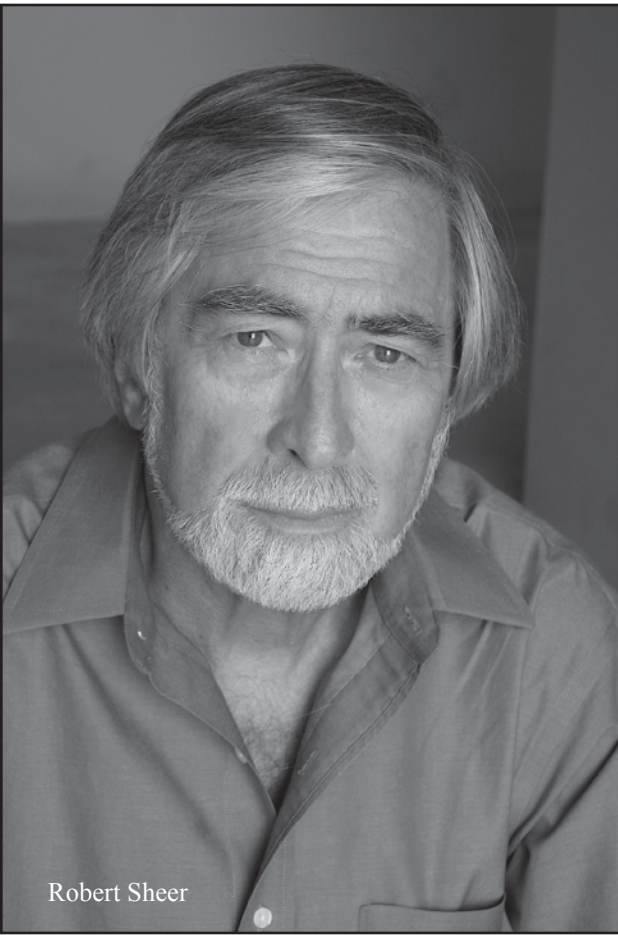
COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDAR

Friday, December 4

- 4:30 PM – The 4th Annual Venice Sign Holiday Lighting! Open viewing of poster contest:
- 6:15 PM – Festivities start at on Windward Ave.
- 8:00 PM – Holiday Lighting of the Venice Sign
- 7:00 PM – Luminous family, at the LifeYoga Garden at the beautiful outdoor patio of the vegan restaurant LifeFood Organic in Santa Monica. On this special night, we’re celebrating the culmination of our “When The People Lead” crowd funding project. to take part in supporting this project’s completion. This is an all ages party, and there will be an array of food, smoothies, elixirs, and vegan deserts availabl! 306 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica

Saturday, December 5

- 4:00 PM – In Discussion With **Robert Scheer** – He is editor of the Webby Award–winning political website, TruthDig.com. He has built a reputation for strong social and political writing over his 30 years as a journalist. His columns appear in newspapers across the country, and his in-depth interviews have made headlines. Scheer can be heard on the political radio program Left, Right and Center on KCRW. His latest book is titled They Know Everything About You: How Data-Collecting Corporations and Snooping Government Agencies Are Destroying Democracy. General Admission \$10, Students & Seniors \$6, Members Free. Beyond Baroque



Robert Sheer

- 8:00 PM – **Amy Gerstler**’s ten previous poetry collections include Bitter Angel, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, and Dearest Creature, a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. She was also editor of The Best American Poetry (2010). Join us as Amy reads from her recently published Penguin Poets volume, Scattered at Sea, which is a finalist for this year’s National Book Award. General Admission \$10, Students & Seniors \$6, Members Free. Beyond Baroque

Sunday, December 6

- 7:00 PM – **Subversive Cinema** and LIVE funky ass MUSIC - Laughtears.com at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd. Venice CA, FREE
- Noon-3:00 PM – **CSPG Open House & Holiday Sale** CSPG’s unique activist, educational, and research archive contains 85,000 protest posters from the 19th century to the present. free & open to the public! Tours, demonstrations, and refreshments will be provided. All merchandise, including posters, books, and catalogs, will be discounted up to 30% off! CSPG is located inside the Peace Center. Free parking in the lot behind the building. politicalgraphics.org, Instagram @politicalgraphics!
- 12:00-7:00 PM – **SPARC Holiday Sale**, 685 Venice Blvd, Venice, California 90291 SPARC Store joined with vendor booths by Pola Lopez, Victoria Plata, Rosanna Esparza Ahrens, Pavel Acevedo, Venice Historical Society, Vianney Mendez, Los de Abajo Printmaking Collective, Art Division Artists, Lexx Valdez, Alice Patrick, Luis Fileto, AMARTE, Surca Earth Design, ChaCha Covers and Daniel Gonzalez. One of a kind prints and posters from SPARC’s collection, plus unique historical items, Oaxaca gems, jewelry, prints, women’s collective hand-made items, t-shirts, stickets, ornaments. Food and music offered.
- 1:30 PM – Gorgeous Stories with **Terrie Silverman** - You’re invited to witness embarrassing, absurd and painfully comic moments become Gorgeous Stories. Be inspired by hilarious true stories and solo-show excerpts developed in Terrie Silverman’s Creative Rites Fall workshop at Beyond Baroque. Special Admission: \$8 for all.

- 5:00 PM – First Sunday Open Reading - Our popular monthly open reading. Features this month, **Jennifer Macciarella**. Hosted by **Steve Goldman**. Sign ups begin at 4:45 PM. Five-minute limit. Free, but donations always appreciated. Beyond Baroque
- 7:00 PM – **Subversive Cinema With Gerry Fialka** In the Scott Wannberg Bookstore Experimental films to political activist cinema to lit, art, music flix to avant garde documentaries. With fiery discussion. Free, donations appreciated. Beyond Baroque
- 5:00 PM VOC Bridge lighting party on 12/6.

Wednesday, December 9

- 7:00 PM – **Suzy Williams** jazz-blues at Danny’s 23 Windward Ave, Venice, CA, 90291 310-566-5610 FREE

Thursday, December 10

- 8:00 - 10:00 PM – **ViCA** presents a Benefit Silent Auction at NextSpace in Venice Beach, featuring 15 artists. All proceeds from this Auction will benefit the artists first and foremost. ViCA will donate a portion of the proceeds to the PLACE project. The PLACE project seeks to build sustainable low income housing/studio space for artists in Venice. These artists define the significant role Venice plays in the global art world and highlight the efforts ViCA makes to sustain the creatives of our community despite gentrification and displacement of artists. Curator: Juri Koll Artists: Javier De Aubeyzon, Sandy Bleifer, Mb Boissonnault, Fatemeh Burnes, Dani Dodge, Janet Gervers, Gloriane Harris, Amy Kaps, KuBO, Mei Xian Qiu, Sonja Schenk, Lisa Rosel, May Sun, Edmund Teske, Jennifer Verge Presented by Venice Institute of Contemporary Art (ViCA) & NextSpace Venice Beach, 1600 Main St, Venice.
- 8:30 PM – **Girls ‘n Guitars Toys for Tots Toy Drive** at Cinema Bar 3967 Sepulveda Blvd, Culver City, California 90230

Friday, December 11

- 8:00 PM – What Books Reading Literary sci-fi from **Annette Leddy** (Earth Still) and **Katharine Haake** (The Time of Quarantine); noir flash fiction from **Chuck Rosenthal** and **Gail Wronsky** (The Shortest Farewells are the Best). General Admission \$10, Students & Seniors \$6, Members Free. Beyond Baroque

Saturday, December 12

- 4:00-6:00 PM: – MESS - Interview with **April Hava Shenkman, aka HAVA** - Los Angeles Performance Artist and Comedian at Unurban 3301 Pico Blvd free
- 4:00 PM – **Writing Healing Poetry - Chanel Brenner**, author of Vanilla Milk, **Madeline Sharples**, author of Leaving the Hall Light On and **Alexis Rhone Fancher**, author of State of Grace: The Joshua Elegies will discuss and read their poems about the loss of their sons. Community Event: Suggested Donation \$5-\$10, no one turned away for lack of funds. Beyond Baroque
- 8:00 PM – **Exit 10 Presented By Michael Altman** Playwright **Daniel Dean Darst** (AKA Danny Darst) has been brewing the music, lyrics and script for his semi-autobiographical play, EXIT 10, for at least twenty-five years, more likely his whole life. With a guitar slung over his shoulder and a history of freight trains, truck stops, and logging camps, he has always been able to weave a story and a song. Michael Altman first read EXIT 10 in about 1995. He was working on location on his father’s film, Kansas City, in the director’s hometown, when Danny came to visit. “Danny was this elusive, enigmatic character that would kind of blow into town. Early on, I was enamored of his music,” said Michael. “My dad loved him. They would talk philosophy and drink together and carry on.” General Admission \$10, Students & Seniors \$6, Members Free. Beyond Baroque

Sunday, December 13

- 10:00-12:00 PM – **Finding Humor In The Holidays:** A Writing/Storytelling Workshop. Mine The Comedy, Joy & Absurdity Of The Season! They’re coming, charging towards you. Welcome to the holiday season. A time of hope, expectations, nostalgia and memories. The holidays become a yearly marker for who we are and who we want to be, along with the drama and joy of family and traditions. Explore and express your experience of the season while mining the comic absurdities. In this workshop we’ll be using guided imagery, spontaneous writing and oral storytelling. You will create stories filled with irony, pathos and humor from holiday memories, images and even gifts. Registration required: General \$45, General Early Bird registration before 11/30/15 \$35, Members \$30. Beyond Baroque
- 2:00 PM – **Soap Box Open Reading** This is your home. Bring your words. The mic is yours. Sign ups begin at 1:45 PM. There is a five minute limit. Hosted by **Jessica Wilson**. FREE, but donations are always welcome. Beyond Baroque
- 6:00 PM – **Free Venice Beachhead Christmas Party**, Beyond Baroque

Monday, December 14

- 6:00 PM – **PXL THIS 25 Toy Camera** Film Festival <http://laughtears.com/PXL-THIS-25.html> at Unurban 3301 Pico Blvd FREE

Tuesday December 15

- 7:00-10:00 PM – VNC Board Meeting, Westminster Elementary School Auditorium

Wednesday, December 16

- 7:00 PM: – **MOM** discussion group at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd, Venice, CA, FREE

Thursday, December 17

- 6:30 PM – **Venice Art Crawl Night At Beyond Baroque** 6:30PM LightFall Lighting Exhibit - Watch the light change through this unique and magical lighting exhibit where the walls are the canvas and the paint is composed of light in various forms, colors and shapes. This show is made to be seen at Dusk. 6:30 PM Reception, 7:30 PM LightFall Exhibit/Show, Beyond Baroque
- 8:00 PM – **Public Works Presents: Under Milk Wood** Voices in the Well presents another amazing show, this time focusing on Dylan Thomas’s Under Milk Wood where an omniscient narrator invites the audience to listen to the dreams and innermost thoughts of the inhabitants of a fictional small Welsh fishing village Llareggub. General Admission \$10, Students & Seniors \$6, Members Free. Beyond Baroque
- **Friday, December 18**
- 8:00 PM – **Beyond Baroque Fiction Showcase: Tim Kirk:** Burnt, A Multi-Generational Western Noir Writer and filmmaker, (Room 237, The Nightmare, and Director’s Commentary: Terror of Frankenstein) reads from his new book, which follows three interwoven stories for nearly a century. John Darnielle calls it “a dark and brooding meditation about fatherhood: its burdens, its depths, its permanence.” It is imaginative and entertaining and full of twists and turns. General Admission \$10, Students & Seniors \$6, Members Free. Beyond Baroque

Saturday, December 19

- 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM – “The Great Venice Toy Drive and Holiday Festival,” Oakwood Recreation Center
- 8:00 PM – **Exit 10** Presented By Michael Altman (*see Saturday, December 12 for description*) Beyond Baroque
- 9:30 PM – **Doctor Wu** playing Steely Dan music at Rusty’s Surf Ranch, 256 Santa Monica Pier Santa Monica, CA 90401

Sunday, December 20

- 2:30 PM – **Suzy Williams At Jazz Forum** <https://www.facebook.com/events/873476506071291/> FREE 1308 2nd St Santa Monica CA
- 3:30-6:00 PM – Claudia Lennear and Special Guest Jackson Browne - The Ash Grove at The Improv: Gospel Sunday. Hollywood Improv Comedy Club, 8162 Melrose Ave, Los Angeles, California 90046
- 7:00 PM – **Ross Altman’s Salute To Phil Ochs** A Small Circle of Friends Celebrate Phil Ochs’ 75th Birthday With guest artists singing & reading, and a visual display of Broadside Magazine and the Phil Ochs Documentary, There But For Fortune. General Admission \$10, Students & Seniors \$6, Members Free. Beyond Baroque

Saturday, December 26

- 7-10 PM: – **Jazz Funk Fest** at Unurban, 3301 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA FREE

Sunday, December 27

- 2:00 PM – Nebraska Girl Open In the Mike Kelley Gallery Hosted by **Wyatt Underwood**. Feature this month: TBA. Five-minute limit, sign -ups at 1:45 PM. Suggested donation \$5. Beyond Baroque
- 6:00 PM – **La Poesia Festival** Hosted by Antonieta Villamil. Community Event: Suggested donation \$5-\$10. No one turned away for lack of funds. Beyond Baroque
- 7:00 PM – **Koszulinski Films** - Experimental non-fiction filmmaker Georg Koszulinski (in person) screens films that meditate on the radical possibilities of the cinema as a hallucinatory space where a critical engagement with the past can inform alternative visions of the future. Free, donations appreciated. Beyond Baroque

Monday, December 28

- 6:00-9:00 PM – **Laughtears Salon** - Gerry Fialka hosts discussion on philosophies, politics and the arts. Free admission. Fourth Mondays at 212 PIER Coffeehouse, 212 Pier Ave, Santa Monica CA 90405 (between Main & 2nd St), 310-314-5275

Errata: Last Month’s Crossword solution. 8 down should be sun instead of solar.

MUNCHIMONSTER'S TREEHOUSE



Ongoing Events

OCCUPY VENICE BEACH

- 8pm Mondays General Assembly upstairs at Beyond Baroque
- 8pm Sundays People’s Potluck at 3rd & Rose. Feed the People. Volunteer or donate - 424-209-2777.

COMPUTERS

- 2:30pm, Mon-Fri. Student/Homework Zone. Computers, iPads, homework resources and a trained computer aide to assist students grade 4-12. Free Printing. Abbot Kinney Public Library.
- Tues/Weds 8:30-6pm, Thurs/Friday 8:30-5pm. Free Computer Use. Vera Davis Center.

FOOD

- 10am Tuesdays, 12:30pm Thursdays, 1pm Fridays. Free Food Distribution. Vera Davis Center.
- Sign up for Food Stamps (EBT Cards). Vera Davis Center. 310-305-1865.
- 4pm Saturdays through Wednesdays. Free Vegetarian Food. OFW & Dudley.
- 1:30pm, Thursdays. Free Vegetarian Food. OFW & Sunset.
- Mar Vista Farmers Market. 9:00AM - 2:00PM 3826 Grand View Boulevard.

KIDS

- 11:30am-noon Wednesdays. Toddler Storytime. Abbot Kinney Public Library. Free.

MUSIC

- 9pm Wednesdays, Venice Underground Comedy, Townhouse, No Cover
- 11pm Wednesday - Burlesque, Townhouse, No Cover
- 6-10pm, First Fridays. Venice Street Legends. Venice Bistro, OFW & Dudley. No Cover.
- 8pm Saturdays, Brad Kay Regressive Jazz Quartet, Townhouse. No Cover
- 2pm Sundays, Almost Vaudeville W/ Brad Kay at the Unurban
- O’Brien’s Irish Pub Live music most nights.
- 1-3pm Every Saturday and Sunday Free Live Music, Fisherman’s Village, 13755 Fiji Way, MDR 90292

MISCELLANEOUS

- 9-4pm, 2nd and 4th Saturday, every month. Venice High School Flea Market. 13000 Venice Blvd.
- 7-11am, Fridays. Venice Farmers Market. 500 North Venice Blvd.
- 4:15pm, every Thursday – Chess Club. Ages 6-15. All levels welcome. Abbot Kinney Library.
- 11:30am-2:30pm, every Sunday, weather permitting. The Venice Oceanarium (a museum without walls). Venice Pier. Free.
- 8:30am, 2nd Fridays. Bus Token Distribution. First 40 people in line will receive a free bus token. Vera Davis Center.
- 5:30pm, Sundays. Open Mic Night. Twentieth Church of Christ, Scientist. 132 Brooks Ave. Free.
- 7-10pm, 3rd Wednesdays. MOM: Meditations On Media. Beyond Baroque. Free.
- 10am Sunday Morning Gatherings of Creative community. <http://goo.gl/BbsDV2>

YOGA AND DANCE

- Mondays 8-9am Heal One World: Community Yoga, The Electric Lodge - Free
- Mondays, 1:30-2:30pm Dancing Through Parkinson’s, Donation, Electric Lodge

AA

- Saturdays Midnight at Beyond Baroque
- Sundays 9:30am, Beyond Baroque Theatre.
- Thursdays 7:30PM Mike Kelley Gallery, Beyond Baroque.

Social and Public Art Resource Center

December 6, Holiday Sale, see Calendar Entry.

Location Guide

- **Abbot Kinney Public Library**, 501 S. Venice Blvd. 310-821-1769, fovl.org

- **Beyond Baroque**, 681 Venice Blvd. 310-822-3006, www.beyondbaroque.org

- **Dannys** 23 Windward Ave Venice 310-566-5610

- **Electric Lodge**, 1416 Electric Ave. 310-306-1854, electriclodge.org

- **G2 Gallery**, 1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd. 310-452-2842, theg2gallery.com

- **Pacific Resident Theatre**, 703 Venice Blvd, 310-822-8392, pacificresidenttheatre.com

- **SPARC - Social and Public Art Resource Center**, 685 Venice Blvd. sparcmurals.org

- **Townhouse**. 52 Windward.

- **Venice Arts** 1702 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, California 90291

- **Venice High School** 13000 Venice Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90066 (310) 577-4200

- **Vera Davis Center**, 610 California Ave. 310-305-1865

- **Westminster Elementary School**, 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd. (enter auditorium from Westminster Ave) 310-606-2015

- **Unurban Coffee Shop** - 3301 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, 310-315-0056

Pacific Resident Theatre

Ongoing Productions

- **Safe At Home**, An Evening with Orson Bean Directed by Guillermo Cienfuegos. I put together a show about my life and performed it for Marilyn Fox, artistic director of Pacific Resident Theatre. Afterwards, she emailed me the following: “Orson, I was so blown away and deeply moved by your show. I keep thinking about it. I was moved to tears often and laughing the rest of the time. I want to produce it here at PRT. Thursday, Friday, Saturday 8pm. \$25 Until December 13.
- **The Dock Brief. A perfect jewel of a play” – British Sunday Times.** In The Dock Brief, an unsuccessful barrister has been waiting for years go make a grandstand defense. He is overjoyed when he is assigned to defend an innocuous little man accused of murdering his wife. “Comedy is, to my mind, the only thing worth writing in this despairing age, providing it is comedy which is truly on the side of the lonely, the neglected and unsuccessful.” John Mortimer. \$25-\$30 Until December 13
- **8:00 PM Fried Meat Triple Header, Out There on Fried Meat Ridge Rd, A Fried Meat Christmas, The Unfryable Meatness of Being.** Until December 13.

LA Louver Gallery

MATT WEDEL: PEACEABLE FRUIT
18 November 2015 - 30 December 2015

G2 Gallery

Nature and Environmental Photography
Supporting Art and The Environment.
Emerging VIII, Friend or Fo-to, The Great Bear Rainforest, until January 3.
Nature LA: Off the Beaten Path.
Through December 15
Monday – Saturday, 10 am – 5:00 pm,
Sunday, 10 am – 6 pm
Sunday December 13, Holiday Pet Adoption, 1:00 - 3:00 PM.

C.A.V.E. Gallery

December 11 – 30: “Worlds Collide” – New collaborative work by Ralph Ziman and Bisco Smith
Plus Holiday Group Exhibition
1108 Abbot Kinney Boulevard.
Hours: Wednesday - Saturday 12:00-6:00 PM
Sundya 12:00-4:00 PM

11 • December 2015 • Free Venice Beachhead



Chee-wah-wah

NOTES FROM THE BIRDS

“Hey, how about we treat every young man who wants to buy a gun like every woman who wants to get an abortion -- Mandatory 48-hour waiting period, parental permission, a note from his doctor proving he understand what he’s about to do, a video he has to watch about the effects of gun violence, an ultrasound wand up the ass (just because). Let’s close down all but one gun shop in every state and make him travel hundreds of miles, take time off work, and stay overnight in a strange town to get a gun. Make him walk through a gauntlet of people holding photos of loved ones who were shot to death, people who call him a murderer and beg him not to buy a gun. It makes more sense to do this with young men and guns than with women and health care, right? I mean, no woman getting an abortion has killed a room full of people in seconds, right?”

The War Against Thanksgiving (TWAT) is over for this year, and The War Against Christmas TWAC can begin.

TWAT has its origin as a deconstruction of patriotic myth, papering over the slaughter of Native American with a lovely family dinner where everyone is welcome, full of great food and often terrible family bickering. It glories in the slaughter of 45 million factory farmed turkeys, resulting in 1.55 billion pounds of raw turkey, a mercy killing of sorts. This is the scale of the modern industrial consumer life that you lead. All held together with comforting greeting cards.

I attended a nice gathering with my friends, the “Liberal Mafia”, “Leftist NIMBYS”, “Socialists”, and “Naive Humanitarians” who work so hard to keep the love alive in Venice. Later, judging by traffic on Thursday as I drove down Palms to Beethoven at 4:30, everybody was where they were gonna be already, I’ve seen more traffic at 3am.

Now TWAC can begin deconstruction. The vehemence, with which Fox News uses this theme to bash liberals for the entire month of December, demonstrates extreme Religious Brand Opportunism, and a litany of patriotic opportunism.

“The so-called “War on Christmas” (or less sensationally, the Christmas controversy) a primarily American right-wing demagogic neologism referring to secular attempts to keep the December solstice holiday shopping season culturally inclusive. It is famously fought every year by none other than Bill O’Reilly.”

FOX is the Republican voice, faux-defending Christianity’s largest brand, and posturing as poor oppressed Christians, while completely ignoring everything Jesus said about taking care of the poor and indigent.

We are thankful for <http://www.bravenewfilms.org/> outfoxed.

I grew up reading Mad Magazine, and they always gave Christmas Commercialism a good kick. These sort of institutional brands come with their own set of ritual expectations, if one even pays and attention to them at all.

Soon we can get started on the war on Easter. Come on, Peeps are made from marshmallow, which is made from bones and sugar. But we’ll get to that later...

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Whey Protein 2 LBS \$15.99 * Pre-Workout Gaspari Superdrive \$9.98/oz only \$4.23/oz with this ad. * Virgin Organic Coconut Oil 14oz \$7.99 * Kombucha Mix Case of 12 \$36.00 * Real Water Case of 12 one liter bottles \$16.99

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* LIMIT ONE TRAMPLED CUSTOMER
PER STORE.

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Banksy

TAKE THE PLUNGE

PUT UP A POSTER

PLAN AN EVENT
OR JOIN ONE

CREDIT CARD CUT UP

ZOMBIE WALK

WHIRL-MART

WATCH THE TV SPOTS

BUY NOTHING CHRISTMAS

Adbusters

BUY NOTHING DAY

The Gentrification Cycle

**WORKING-CLASS MINORITIES
DISPLACED BY HIPSTERS**

ARTISANAL CUPCAKE and HOOKAH BAR

BODEGA

OUT OF BUSINESS

¡MALDITA SEA!

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DON'T ASK WHO

KEEP OUT

HRUMPH!

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