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## Nationwide Day of Action

Feb. 4, 2016

[bit.ly/F4NoTPP](http://bit.ly/F4NoTPP)



## Mobilize to Stop the TPP While There's Still Time

by Anthony Castillo

On February 3rd and 4th of this new year begins a nation wide mobilization to stop the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and associated deals. The mobilization will be held in over 20 cities nation wide including LA. The actions begin on the 3rd here in LA and Washington DC and on the 4th in other US cities. I wrote about the TPP in the Beachhead regarding the fight to stop Congress from passing Fast Track authority that would tie the hands of Congress to debate or amend the TPP, and then only be able to pass the TPP with a simple up or down vote. We just narrowly lost that battle so now we must stop the TPP head on. Why is this so important?

If you care about climate change, food safety, net neutrality, earning a living wage, work place safety, protecting the environment, American sovereignty or the ability of any government anywhere to protect itself from trans-national corporations, and a lot more, you must join the fight to stop the TPP. Don't believe me? Here are some thoughts about the TPP that I hope will convince you that the sky may indeed be falling if we lose this battle. Ralph Nader says, "The TPP is the most brazen corporate power grab in American history." A study by the Global Development and Environment Institute at Tufts University concluded that the TPP will lead to more inequality, job losses and lower wages for workers, especially here in the US. Nobel economist Joseph Stiglitz writing in the Guardian stated, "In 2016 we should hope for the TPP's defeat and the beginning of a new era of trade agreements that don't reward the powerful and punish the weak." On the Buycott the TPP's statement of purpose reads the following:

If they become law, international treaties like the TransPacific Partnership (TPP), TransAtlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and the Trade-in-Services Agreement (TISA) will fundamentally alter the global economy and global governance in a way that further empowers transnational corporations while decreasing the power of nation-states and people.

These treaties will create a permanent path that makes corporate profit more important than the needs of people and protection of the planet.

They will drive a global race to the bottom in wages and worker rights, food safety, internet freedom, access to health care, protection of the environment and more.

Treaties such as TPP, TTIP and TISA exemplify the fundamental struggle of our era – people power versus corporate power.

The TPP was said to be President Obama's number one legislative priority of 2016. Yet he only gave it a passing mention near the end of his last State of the Union address. Was that due to him feeling some heat from the streets, or the Bernie Sanders campaign, or the rank and file of his own political party? Or was he just trying to keep the TPP on the low down, the same way it was negotiated in secret? Either way all of us locally and globally must work to stop any more of these so called "free trade deals" from becoming law. All you have to do is object-

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## Building the Bridges of Community

To paraphrase, Walt Whitman once said that whether made of mud huts or skyscrapers, the greatest city in the world is the one where the greatest minds reside. It is the people, the community that we build and bring together which gives a place its value.

As poets, we have a very important role to play in this, for it is through poetry which we strive for that greatness in ourselves – the best possible version of who we can be. Poetry lifts our imaginations and unites us on both higher and deeper levels of understanding.

The importance of poetry cannot be over-estimated in our lives. It's on the wings of poetry which empires have risen and crumbled. It's from poetry, our longest standing form of communication, dating back to the very inception of mankind, that our greatest and most influential ideas have sprung forth and taken root.

It can rightfully be said that poetry is the voice of our very existence. For poetry is the common link between all peoples and nations. It dissolves borders and connects us all together.

So, as poets, we have a special opportunity to connect the greatest minds in our communities together and build the relationships and bridges between all our communities around the world ... through poetry ... so that as one humanity, we can rise to our best and fullest potential.

On January 19th, the Venice Neighborhood Council took the first step towards realizing that goal of reaching our greatest potential by launching the Community Bridges Initiative Task Force, to be headed up by Venice poet, Mark Lipman, who will be coordinating with the rest of our Venice community to build bridges with communities across the country and around the world to Venice – through poetry and the arts, making those cultural connections which strengthen relationships and brings people together.

The Task Force will look to create groups of Poet Ambassadors from Venice to travel to other cities to represent our community, while also bringing groups of poets from other communities here to Venice for a series of cultural exchanges. In the longer term, the Task Force will also work to build support and the infrastructure for a Venice International Poetry Festival, to host major events throughout our Venice community to welcome poets and artists from around the world.

The first meeting of the Community Bridges Initiative will take place on Monday, February 8th, 7pm at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd. Venice, CA 90291. All are welcome to attend and participate.

## Gjusta Continuance Venice Arts Crawl Vandalism, and more

By Roxanne Brown – Member Concerned Neighbors of 320 Sunset

### GJUSTA CONTINUANCE

Concerned Neighbors of 320 Sunset (CNS) appealed the City's approval of Fran Camaj's request for "change of use" from Gjusta as "bakery/take out" (which it has never been) at 320 Sunset to restaurant with full alcohol. The City approved this despite objections from residents within 500 feet, despite the fact that Gjusta's owner, Camaj, has a Certificate of Occupancy for bakery/take out and built a restaurant with counter/bar and patio.

January 20, 2016 was the date for this Appeal Hearing in front of the West LA Area Planning Commission. CNS requested a continuance in order to be given the legally required amount of time to review Gjusta's revised MND (Mitigated Negative Declaration). It is being circulated until February 8th, and is available for public comment.

The new Appeal date is now March 2, 2016. Mark your calendar now:

MARCH 2, 2016 – WEDNESDAY – 4:30 P.M.

WEST LA PLANNING COMMISSION

HENRY MEDINA WEST LA PARKING ENFORCEMENT FACILITY  
11214 EXPOSITION BLVD. 2nd FLOOR - ROLL CALL ROOM  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90062

Ben Reznik, the attorney representing Gjusta, asserts that Fran Camaj's Gjelina, GTA, 1305 Abbott Kinney (Black Beast), and Gjusta have a stellar record and that Camaj is an upstanding member of the community.

### VENICE ART CRAWL

The Venice Art Crawl (VAC) received emails from members of several Venice neighborhood groups protesting VAC's using Gjusta as venue for the January 2016 Venice Art Crawl. Gjusta is a restaurant operating without proper permit and in violation of numerous building and safety codes.

The City is not enforcing permits and codes, so Venice citizens need to do what they can. One thing they can do as tax paying, voting citizens is not give their business to what many Venetians call "property gangsters" – property owners who do what they will regardless of laws.

The Venice Art Crawl moved its January Venice Art Crawl from Gjusta to James Beach.

### STOP PROPERTY GANGSTERS

You may say, "I don't want to get involved in politics. I like the food, I like the architecture." But, when you patronize places that operate without the right permit and without regard to building and safety codes, you are perpetuating the problem. You are part of the problem.

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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.

The staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor on the Beachhead. The printing is financed by ads, sustainers and donations. The articles, poetry and art work express the opinions of the individual contributors and are not necessarily the views of the Beachhead Collective.

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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**THE NEW WORLD AGREEMENT WILL MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY!!**

We the People of planet earth are gathered here on the Internet, to Agree to give every Human on the Planet full choice on how to live in harmony as diverse communities and cultures, and live in autonomy as individuals.

This is Not an Agreement for communism, socialism, or structured democracy. This Agreement is for freedom, security, dignity, and abundance for all life.

We agree that Nature has the same rights as human beings. We agree to afford our planet full recovery from mans ravaging. We agree that intense, intimate cooperation across all continents is essential to reviving our planet's life systems, interior, surface, atmosphere, space, and waters.

We agree to afford, and give every human dignity, security, and abundance from birth till passing. We agree that all of life is free upon request; health care, education, shelter, clothing, food, water, transportation, communication, recreation, and everything not mentioned ... always free. We agree that no medium of exchange like money, minerals, or profiteering will be used, or recognized as value, or used to prejudice each other's value. Every human is given what they need, require, and desire. We agree that equality is the source of all wisdom. We agree where conflict or poverty occurs of any kind the immediate community will realize its resolve. We agree to no policing or penalties. In severe or perverse situations humane detainment respectfully brings the matter to correction.

We agree to never torture life. We agree to no laws, and no representative governing of any kind. We agree to not organize. No heads of state or bureaucrats of any kind. No politics. No borders. No courts. No military of any kind. We agree to stop all aggression and dismantle all offensive weapons and war machines. We agree to no passports. No personal identification. No licenses.

We the people task the experts in all fields of life around the world, to cooperate across all continents, to inform and educate the people without prejudice, so that everyone can choose from self empowering truth filled knowledge, in hopes of benevolent and wise intent for all matters, and considerations.

We agree to implement solutions that maintain harmony with nature while providing dignity for all life! In cooperation, present infrastructures will be maintained until we create natural systems to replace hydro-carbon/ fossil fuels, nuclear fission, coal, fracking, all non bio-degradable materials, elements, and chemicals. We agree to use hemp, hydrogen, cold fusion, the torus, solar, and other natural technologies as fast as we realize our ability to implement them. In global cooperation, we agree to convert military personnel, engineering, technology, and equipment, to recover the infrastructures, revive ecosystems, and create plumbing, water, energy, and food production systems for those without. In cooperation, we work and serve locally. We agree to re-purpose all waste, use minimal packaging, and naturalize ways of production, distribution, and transportation.

Thanks for your generous donations!

**Karl Lisovsky**  
**Mark Lipman**  
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This Agreement signifies willingness to forgive all transgressions, and cooperate; to live and let live. By clicking ( I Agree ) we choose to be responsible for all matters local and Global for the well being of all life on Earth. The people most able as peacekeepers protect individual's FREEWILL choice to walk out of enslavement into a new world of global peace, and coherence, as billions of people transition into individual freedom, and abundance for all life.

We in-vision a GLOBAL MIND AND HEART SHIFT recognized by a critical mass' of I Agree's to be DECLARATION DAY ... and on that DAY ... every man, woman, child DECLARES their sovereignty! On that DAY, humanity reclaims this Earth Garden as our birth right and together we bring our planet back to mental, emotional, and physical health by naturalizing our world!

— Tevin Chidester's Comment on the Beachhead Facebook Page



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TPP - from page 1

tively look at the record of the past deals like NAFTA, CAFTA and the WTO. All have been disasters for the environment, workers rights and the ability of governments to protect their citizens from corporate greed and exploitation. Remember dolphin safe tuna? Because of the World Trade Origination (WTO) there is no such thing any more. A large fishing company filed suit in the WTO saying dolphin safe tuna cut into its profits. And they won! Think about that the next time you open a can of tuna that also caught and killed Flipper at the same time.

To get involved visit <http://www.flushthetpp.org/> for all the tools and information you will need. The Flush the TPP web site is full of articles and facts that will educate you on just how important it is we stop this pending corporate coup from taking over the world once and for all. They can also be found on Face Book if you're one of those who do that thing. I hope to see all of you out on the streets starting February 3rd and continuing until the TPP is finally flushed.



## My World Race in America

By Ronald K. Mc Kinley

I recently had a conversation, discussion, with someone I held in some regard. What we discussed is not important. We did not agree. This someone said to me “In your world,” when we did not concur. I could not respond. It was strange. We were not alone; others were listening, and watching our exchange. I could have debated the point more, but chose not to. It did not feel right. Why? This person is white I am not. The air left the room.

My world is filled with moments like this; my schooling continues after six decades in my world.

I am part of, not separated from this. Have I helped maintain this separate reality? It always felt out worldly to me. Was this based on my race? As a person of color, this is always in the background.

The machinations of racism are subtle. Some people practice and are not aware. It is a manmade disease; we all know the symptoms. No one wants to talk about it really, the land of the free and the home of the brave. Only one percent, during slavery, owned slaves, does this sound familiar.

When I got out of high school, 1968, it was still illegal to marry outside your race, in most of America.

Now in twenty-first century America, we have a racist, seeking the GOP nomination for president. Only America could have produced a Donald Trump. The new nigger is the Muslim; oops, the new thug.

Merriam-Webster's 1933 definition of racism “a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities and those racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race.” This manifests itself covertly and overtly.

America has morphed into this, I hate anything not American, thing, or has it? Some people born here are still not considered citizens.

Native-Americans, I used this title to make a point. Indian is worst. Who is America named after? The only good Indian is a dead Indian; lest we forget. Now everyone can sell Dream Catchers.

I grew up in American apartheid, Jim Crow Louisiana. I can still see the white's only water fountain, in my mind's eye. When I was younger, I did not see movies until the white theaters stop showing them. My mother did not allow me to go to segregated theaters. At the time I did not understand. I was angered by this. I just wanted to see a movie. It was one of the few times I remember my mother really getting angry with me. “You pay your money and sit where you want or you stay home.” I stayed home.

I love America, America does not love me. In all relationships I've been in this usually means I'm out the door. But America and I seem to have this love, hate thing going on. I don't think I'm alone.

In the end all lives do matter. But of course first you have to give me back my humanity. Include not exclude me.



## Ending Police Brutality

by Michael Wamback

From Ferguson to Venice, police abuse of power has been a hot topic. We get upset about it, and rightly so. But where does it come from, and what can we do about it?

The history of police abuse of power goes back to the beginning of time. To me, it's a fanatical fundamental manifestation of the ideal of good intent. Most Police don't necessarily abuse their power for pleasure or because they are “bad people”. Rather many are “good people” who have convinced themselves that the ends of protecting their community justifies the means of abusing citizens. This is a philosophical and moral weakness that is a part of who many of us are. America, at the end of the day, is an egocentric society. And intolerant leadership like Donald Trump exhibits can only make it worse.

Other human emotions enter into the equation as well. Police, at the end of the day, are human beings not robots. As such, they are subject to the same emotional weaknesses that we all share. The only difference is that when most of us are experiencing the powerful emotions of fear or anger, we thankfully are not holding a baton or gun. In confrontational situations, adrenalin magnifies these emotions substantially.

And, of course, there is concern about the effects of drug abuse, particularly steroids.

So, to me, the first step in solving the problem of police brutality is recognizing these truths, and attacking them with leadership.

First, it comes down to making sure your are screening your candidates to weed out those who are weak. Having gone through military training, the purpose of it was to identify individuals who were likely to break under the pressure of battle. Better to have them fail the training before you handed them a loaded gun. It was all about how you would react under intense pressure – keeping your cool.

Any perspective candidate for law enforcement should go through a rigorous process of examination to make sure only those with the very best composure and self-discipline get to wear a badge.

Following this, there has to be leadership at the top. Police chiefs have to make it clear that abuse of power won't be tolerated. Unfortunately, this seems to be where our current system is breaking down.

What we tend to witness when an officer violates his training is police circling the wagons. This not only protects officers who commit abuse, but it also sends a message that the brass agrees with their tactics. Furthermore, when police protect their own for the same acts they prosecute civilians for, it's understandable that it sows the seeds of scorn and mistrust. None of us like double standards.

Added to this is peer pressure, where cops are expected to always have each others backs, no matter what. This can create an environment where those who tend to abuse power feel protected and even endorsed. That puts all of us at risk.

All of these conditions demand leadership.

The police brass must make it clear, in no uncertain terms, that abuse of power will not be tolerated. They must create an atmosphere where officers who witness their fellow cops abusing their power feel compelled to speak up, rather than defend them. The good men and women of a healthy police department should feel proud of their uniform, and have nothing but contempt for their colleagues who would disgrace it by abusing their powers.

The Democratic candidates have spoken about the need to demilitarize the police, and I agree. When I was a kid, I remember the Vancouver Canucks (hockey team) wearing horrible yellow uniforms with a big V. At the time, the team was near the bottom of the league. During intermission, the host asked Don Cherry (the colorful ex-coach of the Bruins) why they were playing so bad? “What do you expect, you dress them like clowns and they play like clowns.”

I believe this holds true for police. You dress them like an invading army and they start to act like an invading army. So a good step would be to rethink uniforms to emphasis non-aggression rather than intimidation.

Police training also needs to be rethought. Emphasis must be placed on deescalation rather than the deployment of weapons, even if that means taking a lot of time and patience to wait someone out.

Cops need help too.

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Meaning, when someone builds a McMansion next door, you may find yourself in Kathryn Conway's situation. She wrote a letter to the editor of the Argonaut in their December 18, 2014 issue.

Conway wrote, “In my case, no public notice was posted and our side yard setback was reduced. (After my refusal to give a side yard variance, the builder just took it!) LADBS [Los Angeles Building and Safety] was made aware of each of these violations, and all of it was ignored.”

When you, your friends, your family get evicted and aren't told of your rights or given relocation monies due, it may be because “property gangsters” don't feel they need to follow laws. CNS was recently at a hearing where evidence was presented that the landlord appeared to have changed documents to make it look as though there had been no affordable housing on premises. West LA Area Planning commissioners asked, “Isn't this fraud?” CNS is not aware of any penalties or consequences in that case.

Some air B&B investors are grabbing up available rentals and offering/paying even more money than asking rent to landlords. These investors are overbidding on properties (apartments and homes) for sale, because they plan to also rent them as Air B&Bs. These investors then manage several apartments and/or homes spread throughout Venice as Air B&B rentals. Many people can't afford to rent or to buy in Venice, because “property gangsters” aren't following the rules.

To quote Sarah Palin – and who thought the Beachhead would quote Sarah Palin – “Well, look, we are mad, and we've been had.”

#### MONEY AND LAWYERS WIN

It appears that Mayor Eric Garcetti, his administration, and his City Council, including our Councilman Mike Bonin, continue to support special interests.

The City uses citizens' tax monies to fight against residents, while favoring special interests. Citizens use their own monies to sue the City. The City then defends itself, often outsourcing and using developers' lawyers to fight citizens. Those lawyers are paid with citizens' tax monies.

The City of Los Angeles fights its own constituents with lawyers and money. Citizens need to use the same means to fight back. CNS has launched a go fund me campaign to do just that. Please consider making a small \$5 contribution now. You can make a donation in your name or anonymously. Spread the word.

<https://www.gofundme.com/helpsavevenice>  
Venetians are rising up. Feel the Bern.

To be sure, police work is stressful, and all police need emotional support. They spend years dealing with violence and the kinds of things none of us should ever have to witness. The stress from this adds up over time. In some cases, it may make an officer more callous in their attitude toward society. In extreme cases, an officer may be suffering from Post Traumatic Stress.

Police should undergo regular mandatory screening for mental health, including regular counseling sessions. It's not weakness to receive support, and it will allow departments to have a better chance to detect officers who are in need of help before they pull a trigger out of anger or frustration. Making counseling mandatory would take away some of the stigma of “being weak.” by asking for help. Early identification of mental issues with treatment might save a career of an officer, not to mention a citizen's life, rather than having both end tragically.

These are all cultural shifts that can easily be implemented within departments, and which I believe would make a difference.

Of course, mandatory drug screening can eliminate the risk of steroids. It concerns me that Police Unions have chosen to fight this initiative when departments have considered it. Makes me wonder how big the steroid problem is in law enforcement? Clearly, with such strenuous objections to random drug testing, many police officers must have something to hide. After all, this is the presumption they make on a daily basis about individuals who refuse to answer questions or give consent to search.

But even then, things will go wrong. Then what happens?

Jerry Brown has taken some good first steps, the biggest of which is to make it clear that it is lawful to videotape police, provided that you are in a public space and not interfering with them. Mandatory body cameras are also effective (abuse complaints drop considerably when they are employed). And officers should face sever discipline whenever they turn off a camera and force is used. It's the best way to protect citizens from police abuse, as well as police officers themselves from false allegations.

His second bill removes the option of a Grand Jury inquisition in police misconduct cases. This is important for creating transparency. Any aura of secrecy can only heighten mistrust of police, and ensuring open public trials is a good step.

Unlike California, some States have opted to go in the opposite direction. They have passed laws to make it a felony to video police performing their duties. This is

*continues on page 4*

# Violence

— by Jon Wolff

Somewhere in an office building in Downtown L.A., a hand on a computer clicks on a contract and a family is evicted from their home. Or maybe there's an office in Beverly Hills or Dallas or even an investment firm in China. Maybe ten families get evicted from the same apartment complex. And then the hand lifts a coffee cup, pauses, scrolls down, and clicks again to transfer millions of dollars at the expense of human beings, far away, that the hand will never touch. But this is an act of Violence.

Every day, someone is assaulting, crippling, and killing people without even knowing their names. It's happening all over the world. It's happening calmly and without emotion. The idea of detached, bureaucratic, impersonal murder was defined long ago by Hannah Arendt as the "Banality of Evil". But does it matter to the person on the receiving end of the Violence? For him or her, the actual effects are very personal and astoundingly physical.

Is Hunger a form of Violence? Hunger is worse than anything. Hunger attacks your body on a cellular level. Each cell in your body immediately starts to die when it's deprived of nourishment. Your whole system goes into a state of emergency. Then, an economy of energy expenditure takes over. In other words, the only action you can do is search for food. All other thoughts and desires shut down. Your sense of smell becomes acute and you know no other purpose but to find food. Soon, your body starts to eat itself. That is, it relies on fat cells. Any poisons that are stored in your fat get into your system and a sickly, toxic buzz comes on. A strange delirium sets in and only gets worse. It's impossible to focus on anything else. And anyone who's fasted for health or ritual purposes has absolutely no idea what this feels like. Because a fast is intentional. A fast has an end point. A fast has food waiting at the finish line. Hunger is uncertain. Hunger is panic. Hunger is slow death. Hunger is Violence.

Is Cold a kind of Violence? Cold, like Hunger, also attacks your cells. But whereas Hunger kills you from the inside, Cold kills you from the outside. Cold is like liquid. It soaks through your outer layer of clothing, then through your inner layers. It soaks into your skin and down into your bones. Cold is thousands of tiny knives stabbing every cell in your body. Cold uses up your body's caloric energy. You're tired and you can't think straight. And don't assume that this Cold is anything like the feeling of playing in the snow. Cold that you can't get away from has a similar psychological effect as unstoppable Hunger. It's knowing that there is no heat, no

relief, no comfort waiting for you anywhere. This is what drives you crazy. Sleep becomes a project. You develop a science for trapping and sealing in warmth. You'll find that you wake up in the same position that you fell asleep in. Because, to turn over is to break the seal and lose warmth. Cold is the enemy. Cold equals death. Cold is Violence.

What about Fear? Is Fear Violence? Fear is hopelessness. It's all-consuming hopelessness. No time for thinking about anything else. No memory of anything else you ever thought or did. Most people have had, at some time, the feeling of hot adrenalin bursting through their heart when they experience a sudden shock. Now imagine what it's like to feel that way all the time. That's Fear. Fear is Violence.

People live in Fear everywhere. In Downtown L.A., the people sleeping on the sidewalk slept with their heads and upper torsos inside their shopping carts. It was a sort of "shark cage" that served as protection against getting stabbed at night. A girl who wasn't protected got stabbed around her neck and shoulders. She was frantic. She didn't speak English. Paramedics took her away.

Then there's Humiliation. Can Humiliation be Violence? An African-American man and woman in their late fifties got shaken down by the police. They hadn't done anything wrong but two cops held them against a fence and searched them. The woman cried out in pain and the cop just shook her more. Her husband could do nothing but plead with his wife to not resist and to submit to the search. Think about that. How should a woman feel when she is handled roughly by a cop who has the power to kill her? How should her man feel when all he can do to spare her from harm is to call her name? Humiliation is Violence?

Right now, a deal is being made somewhere. Maybe it's not being made in a high rise office at all. Maybe someone is sitting at the table next to yours at the coffee place just tapping on their laptop. They might be entering figures and account numbers that change other people's lives for the worse. A refusal of an application here, a credit denial there, and human beings are condemned to another day of Hunger, Cold, Fear, and Humiliation. And Violence. Lethal Violence.

There were other times of Violence. There was a time in this country, America, when human trafficking was legal. Back then, they called it Slavery: a government sanctioned system of kidnapping, forced labor, torture, rape, and murder committed by polite, courtly gentlemen and fashionably dressed ladies. How did it eventually get outlawed? Well, the Civil War happened and that was very complicated and messy.

Later, there was Hitler and it took World War II to put the brakes on him.

Who knows, maybe it won't get that bad.

*Police Brutality — continued from page 3*  
unwise, unfortunate and can only result in more tragedy. There is also a history of officers with disciplinary problems being fired from one department and hired the next town over. This can easily be corrected by a federal licensing requirement. An officer who is dismissed for abuse of force would necessarily lose their federal license, and not be eligible to be hired in a similar capacity by any other department in the nation.

There are legitimate concerns about police policing themselves. It's a classic example of conflict of interest. The same holds true for Mayors and District Attorneys. They have to work with their police departments, so many Mayors and DA's feel a lot of pressure to not take a position contrary to police.

Police Commissions also offer little relief. These are commissions established from members of the public to oversee police activities. History has proven that they lose effectiveness over time. By working closely with police in an ongoing basis, they develop relationships with the officers and intend to lose objectivity to the point of being ineffective in administering justice.

The best way to investigate police misconduct is with a State or Federal special prosecutor. Operating under the Department of Justice, they should have no other interaction with police other than the investigation and prosecution of police misconduct. Every use of force complaint should be reviewed by them, and they should automatically take over any investigation where police use deadly force. By having no other relationship to the departments, they will be able to maintain greater objectivity. They need to be trained to understand the importance of their mission, both ethically and morally. Being removed from local civil politics, they wouldn't face the same pressure that police chiefs and mayors do.

No system will ever be perfect, and things will tragically go wrong from time to time. But I believe there are some basic common sense steps that can make a big difference.

In the end, our society needs its police. Law of the jungle, in the times I have experienced it, leads inevitably to anarchy and misery. It would be great if, as a society, we were evolved enough that we could self-police, but we are not there yet. So sensible laws and professional law enforcement is necessary and desirable to maintain civil peace. We owe it to our officers to make sure that they have systems in place that will not place them at odds with society. Solving the problem of police abuse of force requires intelligent systems, quality leadership, understanding, humility and compassion on the part of police, as well as ourselves. Otherwise, we are setting our police up to fail, which is unfair to them, and tragic for us.

Resentment and animosity of citizens toward police, combined with an attitude of police who see themselves as above the law while enforcing it will only further drive a wedge between both. More of us will suffer as a consequence. It doesn't have to be this way. Ending police brutality starts with not seeing each-other as the enemy, acknowledging the problem and working together to find meaningful solutions.

## Mining the States of City Minds: 2

John O'Kane

In “Mining the States of City Minds,” a recent blog, I introduced my approach to experiencing the texture of city life in Venice, California and writing up the resulting stories with a type of literary journalism. This kind of writing, with roots in the New Journalism of the 1960s, captures these stories as they happen in the streets and other sites of everyday life through scenes that are faithful to the action and events they emerged from. It lets characters speak for themselves, which gives the writing the feel of a fictional short story but also a more truthful approximation of the surfacing event through their differing perspectives or points of view. Like a Surrealist flaneur I amble through the city trolling for stories and find their potential elements in various clusters of activity, sometimes homeless camps, where these voices dramatize their challenging existences. They present the evidence that might lead to a larger story waiting to be told. This is the second in my series. In the first I captured the chaos ensuing from a crime in the streets, and especially the actions and impressions of one person suspected of committing it as he escapes into the bowels of the city. Here I capture another scene in a park at night where a few residents from the previous one are present along with others, including the suspect.

\*\*\*\*\*

### The Dog Park

The Dog Park at night is devoid of canines. No Italian Greyhounds, Great Danes, Labradors, Airedales, Pekingeses, Pomeranians or French Poodles escorted by well-bred couples or their bronzed shadows; no pitbulls, mutts, mongrels or prairie dogs husbanded by the unemployed or Frisbee-levitating freaks. No echoes of the discordant barking symphonies that overflow the park during the day, or the blood-curdling howls, growls and yelps that erupt when the sublimation wears off and pet begets the wolf it momentarily supersedes, even sometimes giving way to a full-blown breeding struggle. Wyatt often found himself in the middle of these outbreaks, forced from his fitful slumber to play peacemaker to lords and serfs.

The night was primitive communism. The degrees of victimization were more or less the same, the telltale scars and frayed threads were equal sartorial justice, the plots of land were squattable by all, no matter what the racial or gender preference.

But the dog-eat-dog of the jungle knaws away at the fabric.

“We gotta get otta here pretty soon, somethin’s goin on out there...what we gonna do,” says a male curled around a tree on the north end of the park, speaking to no one in particular. He could be anywhere between thirty and sixty, depending on the results from sifting through the street fallout in the light of day. Several others who are scattered down the mound from him look around, curious about who might be the object of his words. No one takes credit.

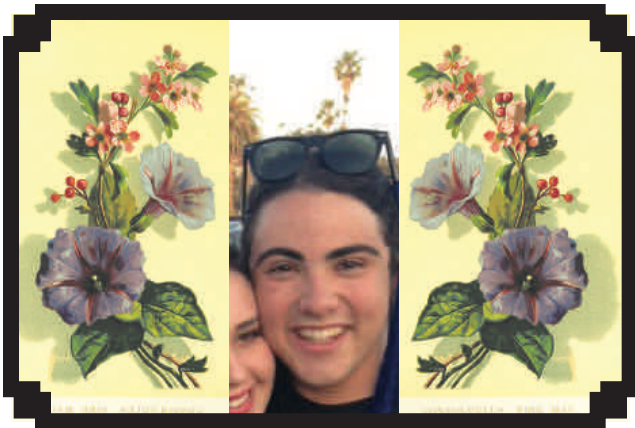
“Can’t go back over there fer a while, that’s fer sure!” he continues.

He’s new to the area and hasn’t been initiated. So most keep their distance, especially since he refuses to give his name. There’s always the fear of outsiders spying on them, especially those with accents that are unfamiliar or apparently not true. And many on the street have minor warrants, failure to appear violations from when their lives above ground were starting to slide and they ignored too many petty citations, or more serious, ready-to-cuff ones. Life on the street can weaken moral restraints; even

*Continued on page 7*



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## Passings: Carter Riley Irwin, June 21, 1997 – January 9, 2016

by Krista Schwimmer

On Sunday, January 17th, over one hundred family members, friends, and neighbors gathered at the Venice Pier for a paddle out to celebrate Carter Riley Irwin, and show support for his mother, Mikal Sky, both well-known and well-loved local Venetians. Carter tragically took his own life the previous weekend. He was 18.

Many of Carter's friends first assembled at the skate park, some wearing t-shirts made for the occasion, with Carter's image and the words 'Forever Loved'. Dan St. Pierre, a close family friend who helped organize the memorial, passed out pens and notepads for people to write down memories and thoughts, to later release those notes to the ocean. The group skated and biked to the pier to join together with family and neighbors for the paddle-out.

As Brian Zarate, Josh Klassman, Jeff Gallegos, and Dan Schechter prepared to fight the heavy swell, the community shared their stories and impressions of Carter. Julie Faherty, who had known Carter since birth, spoke of having watched him grow up, and being the love of his life. Jake Sarfaty recalled Carter's playfulness, when as a boy, Carter wrapped himself in toilet paper and charged out of the bathroom posing as a sumo wrestler. Many of Carter's teachers talked about his interest in art and photography, his interest in and sensitivity to the people in his life, and the maturity he exhibited from a young age. Paul Steinvurzel shared a story about teaching Carter to drive, after which Carter insisted on taking him out to dinner to thank him, and would not take no for an answer.

The last person to speak was Jake, one of Carter's friends. Overcome with emotion, Jake described how he had been looking forward to attending Santa Monica College with Carter in the coming semester. Whenever he sees an empty seat on the bus to SMC, he will know that Carter is there in spirit.

Once the surfers were in position by the end of the pier, Zarate and Klassman held canisters above their heads and released Carter's ashes, and those of his grandmother, Cheree Mascarenas, who passed away in 2013. As the ashes were scattered, the mourners on the pier threw rose petals into the Pacific. Afterwards, the community moved to the Terrace Cafe to share more memories over food and drink.

Tragedy can bring us together, pull us apart, or simply numb us out. The outpouring of love and support in the wake of Carter's passing shows that the community is seeking to come together. In his remarks at the beginning of the memorial, Dan St. Pierre reminded us to take the time to really find out what is going on with each other, as well as to love one another. The depth of grief and dismay expressed by those who knew Carter at every stage of his life is a measure of how much he was loved. The love he inspired is also a reflection on Mikal Sky, who bore and raised him.

Throughout the ceremony on the pier, a single, white egret stood on the rail, just east of the crowd. Birds are messengers from the gods in many cultures; some birds are thought to carry a soul to the afterlife. In Eastern and Egyptian lore, the snowy egret is connected to the sun, a symbol of healing and resurrection. A herald connected to

the sun is especially apt for Carter's memorial, as he was born on the summer solstice. For the Greeks the egret is a messenger from Aphrodite, goddess of love. As each of us who knew Carter in life wrestles with his death, may the symbol of the egret, the symbol of love, healing, and resurrection, be a light to guide us through our journeys. And may we always remember that we are also part of a larger community that navigates the winds of our lives when we fly together.

Dan St. Pierre organized a Go Fund Me campaign (<https://www.gofundme.com/hwyng69k>) to raise money for the memorial and related expenses. To date, over \$17,000 has been donated.

Lauren Mentzel has organized a fundraiser to help Mikal Sky, Carter's mother, who is a freelance make-up artist. To support this fundraiser, please go to: [www.youcaring.com/mikal-sky-502084](http://www.youcaring.com/mikal-sky-502084).

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-8255, [www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

Didi Hirsch Suicide Prevention Hotline: 877-727-4747, [www.didihirsch.org](http://www.didihirsch.org)



Photos upper left -Jake Sarfaty, others -Krista Schwimmer

## SILICON BEACH RESTRICTIONS ARE FINALLY IN COURT

by John Davis

The City of LA, with Mike Bonin, Councilmember for CD 11, and City Attorney Mike Feuer, have fully supported violations of Article X of the California Constitution, and the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, and the implementing California Coastal Act of 1976 at Venice Beach.

The clear target has been people of low or no income and of color. Thousands have been unjustly arrested, placed in jail, saddled with records, and divested of their possessions as a result. Mike's message is clear, they are not welcome at Silicon Beach at night and they will be punished.

Two brave Venice residents recently decided to take the City to court, Jataun Valentine and Francesca De La Rosa. Case No. BC 603647 was filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court on December 9, 2015. The highly respected law firm of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP represents the plaintiffs.

Bonin and his predecessors have made every excuse to attack the freedoms of persons attempting to access the beach at night, all eleven miles of it, particularly in Venice. Their apparent motive has been an ongoing attempt to privatize Venice Beach and drive real estate prices sky high.

The specter of a nighttime boogieman is the only argument the City can offer to support its position. Though Venice hauls in millions of dollars in revenue for the City annually, the claim is made there is no money to patrol the beach at night. City records do not support denial of access to Public Trust Lands, as the Coastal Act requires.

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Snowy Egret – Photo by Krista Schwimmer

Public Trust Doctrine has existed since the times of Roman Emperor Justinian who proclaimed that the beach, ocean, rivers, and waterways were a resource belonging to everyone.

Only after citizens from Venice brought the matter to the Coastal Commission meeting at Marina del Rey in 2010 was the topic broached at a hearing to privatize public beach parking, only for local property owners. Peter Douglas, the former Executive Director agreed with the overwhelming majority of public speakers that the City curfew was illegal. The parking measured was denied by the Commission. Douglas then penned a letter to the City Attorney at the time, Carmen Trutanich, spelling it out how the City was violating the law.

Trutanich's office replied in claiming the California Coastal Commission was "harassing" and "intimidating" the City. He further claimed no Coastal Development Permit was required to limit access to the beach, contrary to the State Constitution and the California Coastal Act of 1976.

When the Commission met one year ago in Santa Monica, Commissioner Dayna Bochco inquired about the illegal curfew, Ainsworth replied that the City was not responding anymore and that we need to do something.

Commissioner Bochco asked for action. A year later, Executive Director, there has been no enforcement action.

The Coastal Commission should join this lawsuit.

The Commission recently joined a non-profit in legal action at Martins Beach near Half Moon Bay in San Mateo County. Silicon Valley Millionaire Vinod Khosla decided he had the right to deny beach access to everyone.

It is the City that is the real criminal in the matter, not those innocent folks being swept up by authorities in a dragnet.

The matter will now be considered in a Court of Law.

The Constitution of the United States guarantees the right to exercise religion on the beach, to assemble, to freely associate, and to exercise free speech, 24/7. Both the State and Federal Coastal Act reflect these freedoms.

Everyone in this Country has the right to enjoy a nighttime beach stroll under the full moon and starry sky, even those of lesser means. But don't try it in Los Angeles, or you may be arrested as thousands already have been.





Danny Brookman

Fighting to Make a Difference

Defense lawyer, Daniel (Danny) Brookman, has been a surfer and a Venice resident since the early 1960’s. That’s a lot of waves and lots of days as a “Venetian.” You could also say he’s a renaissance man and maybe even a superhero.

You see Danny’s law practice specializes in rescuing those with drug addiction from getting trapped in the prison system but it’s always been an uphill battle. However, after forty years, the pendulum finally seems to be swinging in the direction of rehabilitation over incarceration. Some prominent Democrats and Republicans are working together toward substantial prison reform, which has been long overdue.

Danny even has a superhero history in his private life. A few years ago, while surfing in Venice, he single handedly rescued two swimmers caught in a dangerous riptide. The EMTs didn’t arrive until after he had gotten them both on shore. But no, after the heroic event, Danny did not go into a phone booth and change into his Clark Kent outfit. (For starters, there aren’t any phone booths anymore.)

As for the “renaissance man” reference, it’s even reflected in his exercise. Part of his regimen includes boxing, a sport he loves. In fact, for the public’s use, he donated speed bag equipment at Venice’s Muscle Beach. It also includes surfing, which provides Danny with balance. After long, frustrating days in court, surfing ties him to nature and fosters his concern for the environment.

As for family life, Danny and his wife, Linda, a USC professor, have three sons and a wonderful home in Venice. With an office on Main Street in Santa Monica, Danny has been practicing law since 1972. He has represented thousands of clients, including the late drug guru, Dr. Timothy Leary, and actor Robert Downey, Jr.

But Danny’s primary focus is as an acknowledged expert in alcohol and drug related crimes, rehabilitation and intervention therapies. In helping those in legal trouble with these issues, his goal is to keep them out of the already overcrowded Prison Industrial Complex and, hopefully, get them treatment to facilitate getting their lives back on track.

Personally, Danny has traveled extensively through Europe, Asia, Central and South American. Professionally, he’s appeared in national magazines such as GQ, People and U.S. Weekly and on TV, including the Today Show. (He also “appears” for coffee every morning at Starbucks, which is how we met.)

It long ago became obvious to Danny that at the root of much crime (i.e. drunk driving, domestic violence, etc.) are issues of substance abuse. Addiction and abuse affects an entire universe of the individual. Family members, friends, jobs – are all impacted. In fact, sad as it is, it’s rare to find a family that has not been harmed by substance abuse. Everybody it seems has a parent, child, sibling or friend who’s experienced addiction.

Danny is gratified that our court system has finally begun to recognize drug usage as a social and medical issue rather than strictly a legal one. In many areas of criminal law, rehabilitation, intervention and counseling have begun to replace simply locking people up.

Sentencing reform is coming with good reason. While the U.S. accounts for 5% of the world’s population, it ac-

# MUNCHIMONSTER’S TREEHOUSE

**ACROSS**

3 MUNCHI LOVES  
4 HEAR MY HEART  
5 THE HEART LOVES  
8 \_\_\_ A CAN & RECYCLE IT  
10 V IS FOR  
11 YOUR SECRET

**DOWN**

1 GARDENS GROW WITH  
2 TO LOVE IS  
4 BUILT FOR TWO  
6 MORE HUGS LESS  
7 YOU DRIVE ME  
9 TWO IN A POD

**MUNCHI - POWER!**

counts for 25% of the world’s prisoners. We have more people in penitentiaries than China.

We also have more prisons than universities and, in some states, more prisoners than college students. We spend \$80 billion a year on mass incarceration and yet a substantial percentage of inmates in prison are in for non-violent, drug-related crimes connected to addiction.

Senators Rand Paul (R-Ky) and Cory Booker (D-NJ), at opposite ends on the political spectrum, are teaming up to reform sentencing guidelines. Even Texas senator and presidential candidate, Ted Cruz, (when not trashing Donald Trump and vice-versa ) is on board.

To his credit, Bill Clinton candidly criticized his own 1994 Crime Bill. “We wound up putting so many people in prison that there wasn’t enough money left to educate them.”

As Danny notes somberly, substance abuse is epidemic in America. It reaches across all strata of society, rich and poor, privileged and under-privileged. But, always fighting to make a difference, he’s continually inspired by the adage, “That to save a life is to save the universe.”

Danny’s email is: [danny@danielbrookmanlaw.com](mailto:danny@danielbrookmanlaw.com). His office is at 2665 Main Street, Suite 210, phone: (310) 396-5900. Jack Neworth, a freelance writer in Santa Monica, is at [jnsmdp@aol.com](mailto:jnsmdp@aol.com).



Danny Brookman

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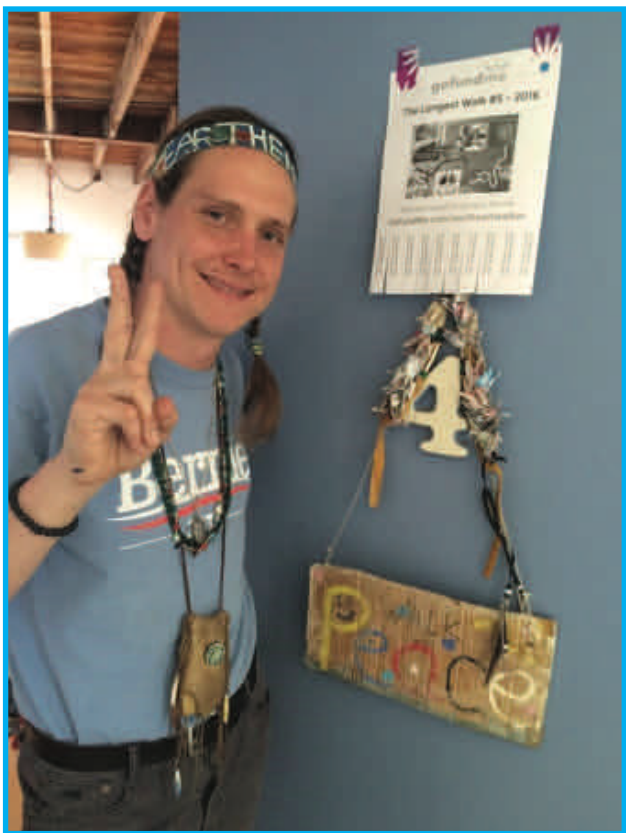
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Entertaining & Insightful Readings



Logan Mote

## Peace Walker

Takes to the Heart of the Road in Upcoming Longest Walk #5

By Logan Mote

My name is Logan Mote. I am also known as Eart-heart Walker, a 30 year old activist and artist, living in Venice Beach, CA. A Peace walker is someone who takes a gentle journey of prayer and example. My walking is first of all a prayer for peace. My free spirit has led me on five pilgrimages over the past three years. I begin my sixth peace walk on February 13, 2016 with the American Indian Movement.

I have a personal motivation to participate in this Walk. In 2000, at the age of 15, I left Texas to find my mentally ill mother. I found her in downtown Los Angeles, homeless and on drugs. I decided to move to California to care for her. I helped my mother overcome her addiction to crack cocaine. Life was good for a few years, however in Feb of 2013, my mother relapsed and died from a drug overdose. Valentine's Day I buried her my best friend, my mother.

I am participating in this walk to share, to heal and be a light to others that have lost their loved ones to addiction. The Longest walk #5 is a prayer for peace on earth and in our hearts.

My first solo walk, I walked a 144 miles from Venice Beach, CA to Gaviota Beach, CA. This walk was in honor of my mother.

My second and third pilgrimage was with a non-profit organization called Nevada Desert Experience. This 70 mile pilgrimage started in downtown Las Vegas and ended at the Nevada Nuclear Testing Site. We walked in the footsteps of a long legacy of peace walkers and spiritual leaders to draw attention to nuclear dangers that continue to threaten our planet.

My fourth pilgrimage was a 50 mile walk along the Pacific Coast Highway, "A Walk for the Water".

The fifth and most recent peace walk was in the state of Washington, with Veterans for Peace. I traveled 100 miles. I ended the walk at the state capitol with "Twenty-Two-Many" organization. We organized a rally that raised the public's awareness to the 22 men and women in the military committing suicide everyday.

The February 13th walk with the American Indian Movement will conduct the "Longest Walk #5", War on Drugs. A 3,600 mile journey across the American heartland, passing through 15 states and ending in Washington D.C. on July 15, 2016. The purpose of this walk is to bring healing to people from the effects of drug addictions, violence, suicide, and self-harm and harm to our mother earth.

I believe the path to healing trauma is finding safety and support. Accepting what has happened, and reconnecting with the community. Spiritually and community values are critical elements to recovery.

This is a big undertaking. A national event that will connect thousands of people, and deliver hopeful solutions to the world.

My overall "Walk-For-Peace" goal is to walk 100 "Peace Miles" in all 50 states in support of the creation of the Department of Peace here in the United States. This would be a cabinet-level department of the executive branch of the U.S government.

For more information or to support this pilgrimage visit [Gofundme.com/Earthheartwalker](http://Gofundme.com/Earthheartwalker).

Sincerely,  
Walk-For-Peace  
Logan aka Earthheart Walker

## Ayotzinapa: A Roar of Silence

An international exhibition supported by Los Angeles-based arts organizations, bridging local and international responses to the 43 missing students from Mexico.

Thursday, February 18, 2016 5:00pm - 8:00pm  
(January 25 Venice, CA) On Thursday, February 18, 2016 from 5pm8pm, at 685 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291 (Old Venice Police Station - SPARC's historic headquarters), the Durón Gallery at SPARC will host an opening reception to present: Ayotzinapa: A Roar of Silence.

On September 26, 2014, students from the Escuela Normal Rural de Ayotzinapa in the Mexican state of Guerrero boarded buses towards the town of Iguala, where they planned to protest a political event hosted by a political leader and his supporters. As the students arrived in Iguala, local police intercepted the buses. While details of the violent confrontation remain unclear, the police eventually opened fire, killing 6 and wounding 25. Another 43 student were herded into police vehicles and never seen again.

Just eight weeks after the disappearances, internationally renowned artist and activist Francisco Toledo, in conjunction with the Instituto de Artes Gráficas de Oaxaca (IAGO), received over 700 designs from international artists after launching an open call for artworks addressing the 43 missing students for an exhibition titled Carteles de Ayotzinapa.

Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC), the Center for the Study of Political Graphics (CSPG), Art-Division, and Self-Help Graphics & Art all Los Angeles-based organizations committed to using art for social change are working together to bring Toledo's important, international exhibition to the United States for the first time. Ayotzinapa: A Roar of Silence will travel throughout Los Angeles, beginning at SPARC, later physically transported by 43 University students to Art Division, and finally, Self-Help Graphics & Art as a form of protest in response to this tragedy.

As the exhibition travels throughout the city, each or-

*City Minds, continued from page 4*

catapult some in directions they never intended. So as a result many assume cop until proven otherwise. The gossip is still rife about how a couple of the LAPD's finest actors could keep at it long enough to get Arnie who hung with the "art" crowd in the alley behind Beyond Baroque. He'd violated parole for hangin with Alf who was finishing his parole from a stint in the County for refusing to pay his bill for the breakfast special at the Café 50s.

A few begin to move away from him. Some continue chatting about who the person might be who killed the guy in the alley the previous day. Others go on about their business.

"Doubt if he coulda had anything at all to do with it... it just doesn't make any sense!" says a fifties-something male dressed in frayed and soiled military fatigues, referring to Wyatt, the main suspect.

"Yeah, but there was somethin funny about the way he was always leavin when we just got...member when we was havin that meetin over near the Free Clinic and he just stared at everyone and ran off?" a young woman responds.

A squad car dopplers past, briefly illuminating the Main Street side of the park, quashing the interchange. Angela and an unnamed male with a gray-streaked afro are making dinner plans. He'd just visited the dumpster behind Westminster, exhibiting his discoveries along the edge of the grass: a still-wrapped Big Mac, an unopened mini-bag of Chili Cheese Fritos, a clump of what appears to be chocolate cheese cake, a mound of crushed munchies on a large dinner plate, and several yet-to-be-clarified items he's in the process of preparing.

"Hey Angela," he blurts, "ready for a real goormay dinner? Found a dead possum down the alley. If we can get us a fire goin...Mal over at Mao's scored me some sauce, though not sure what kind...could make us a mess a possum grinder sandwiches if we get everything together. Was a chef back in Tupelo for a few weeks and usta make some kickass grinders...possum's a delicacy in the south!"

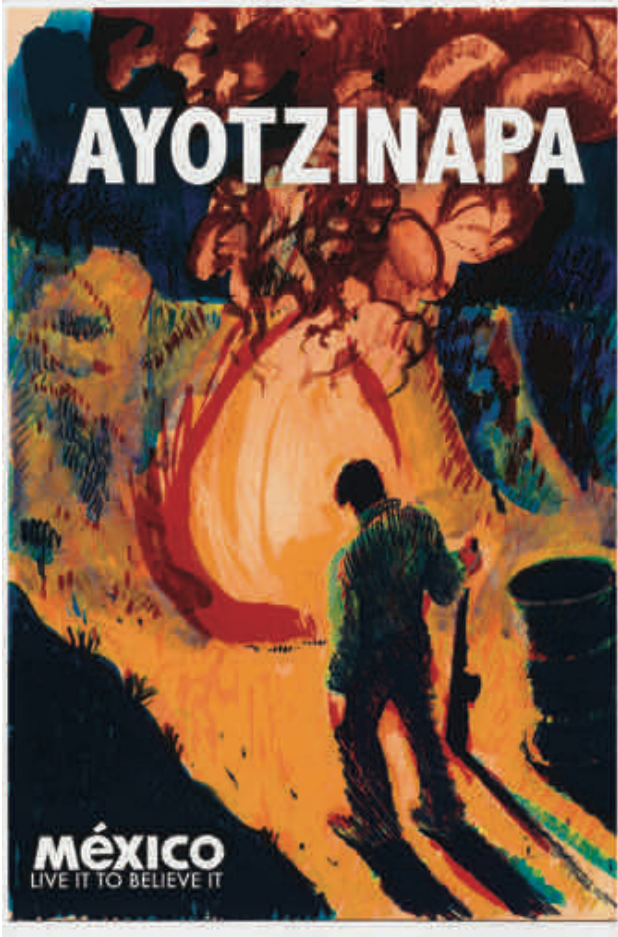
"I got it," he screeches, flailing his arms like he's gesturing with amens at a revival meeting. "These folks round here gots more than they need have...gonna grab me a fire maker!"

He hustles to Pacific and crosses a couple hundred feet or so in front of a black and white speeding north, continuing to Clubhouse and then past to the alley and left toward the beach. He begins to scout the backyards. Angela caresses her companion's items and places them next to an adjacent tree, while seeing a male figure enter the park from the south. She notices that several park residents begin stirring in their roosts. Some start crawling toward the street. Lionel recognizes Wyatt coming toward him.

"Hey, you guys seen Willow?"

Wyatt's question gets no response. He watches as most everyone scampers out of the park, all except Lionel and the unnamed stranger, who's now nervously staring at

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ganization has added artists creating works around this theme. The community is invited to view, support, and amplify the roar for justice heard from Ayotzinapa and throughout the world.

About SPARC: SPARC is a community-based non-profit arts organization founded in 1976 by Distinguished UCLA professor and artist Judy Baca, filmmaker Donna Deitch, and artist Christina Schlesinger. SPARC is rooted in Art, Community, Education and Social Justice. For more info visit: <http://www.SPARCinLA.org>.

Wyatt.

"Anyone seen Willow?" Wyatt repeats, wondering why no one responds. "Where's everyone going?"

"Where ya been?" Lionel fires back. "Seems like just about everyone's looking for you since..."

"...why, what you mean? Who?"

"When's the last time ya saw Medic? Why ya wanna see Willow anyway?"

"Don't remember anything... Why isn't she round? Something happen to her?"

"You gotta get yerself together!"

The black and white returns and slips into the alley behind Clubhouse, its multi-colored light show illuminating the west side of the park and causing lights in several adjacent buildings to be turned on. The officers exit their car and proceed toward the beach, their flashlights exposing every nook and cranny en route. As they near the middle of the block Clara hails the officers from the top floor of her condo on the south side of the alley.

"There he is, over in that yard in the bushes!"

"Close your window and stay inside," one of the officers spouts, while the other removes his weapon and moves slowly in the direction of the sighting.

"Come otta there with your hands up right now," this officer exclaims.

"Don't shoot, don't shoot, I'm comin!" He inches toward the officer with both hands in the air clasped around a small hibachi.

Wyatt dashes from the park in the opposite direction from the activity up Main to Brooks, hiding in the shadows behind the Church of Scientology for several minutes before heading to Pacific and sprinting all the way to Rhiannon's place...

John O'Kane has published over a hundred stories, essays and poems in a variety of venues, blogs regularly on Huffingtonpost, and edits and publishes AMASS Magazine. His most recent book is, A People's Manifesto (2015).



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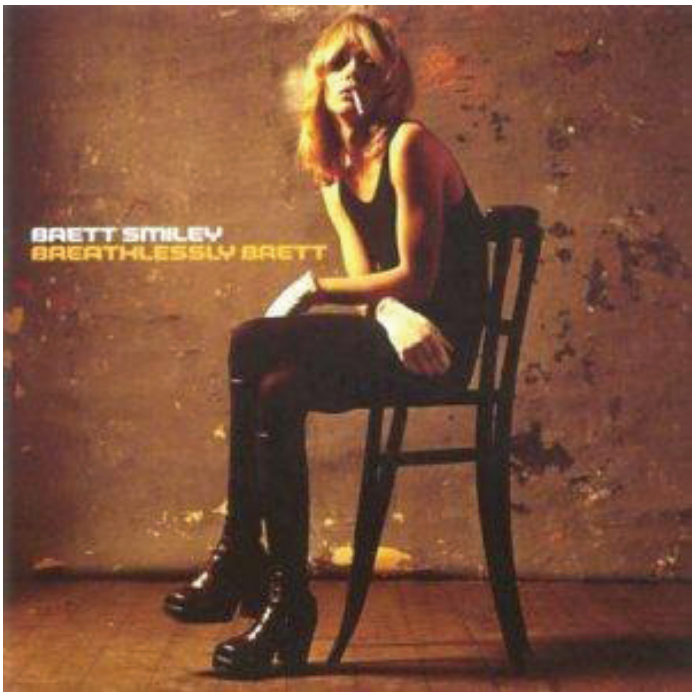
# WHERE ARE THE NEW YOUNG DUDES/GLITTER KIDS?

by Anthony Castillo

By now you have all heard of David Bowie's recent passing at age 69 due to liver cancer. And unless you are under the age of two or have been living in the middle of what's left of the rain forest, you know who David Bowie was and why he is an icon of music. As tempting as it is for me to dive into all the reasons why David Bowie is a superstar, and always will be, there really is no need for me to do so. So much has already been written about him I would only be rehashing what you readers have already heard many times by now. And if you're a Boomer like me and grew up with Mr Bowie there really is no need to go there. the same reaction as I Reed's passing. Not energy in them. They much more music in

But I do have a few said about David pointed out. First most mainstream obits when reflecting on Bowie came from the to obtain fame, fortune, Bowie/Ziggy was not a safe, Mod David Jones (Bowie's real name) music was a mix of pretty pop and quirky lyrics. Once Jones became Bowie he continued doing pop songs with a mix of hippy folk. But that all changed after he met the cast and crew of the Andy Warhol produced play, Pork when it came to London for a run in the summer of 1971. Bowie went to see the play and met the cast afterwards. The New York City cast of Pork was chock full of important future underground rock n' roll, artist luminaries, such as the beautiful Cherry Vanilla, the

Photo above is Dale Griffin, to the right is David Bowie and Mick Ronson



charming Lee Black Childers and the outrageous Wayne County to name but a few. The bios of just these three people alone could fill the pages of the Beachhead. Get yourself a copy of Cherry Vanilla's book "Lick Me" or the Legs McNeil, Gillian McCain book "Please Kill Me" to read Cherry, Lee and Wayne's recollections of the first time they met Bowie, went to see him perform, and what they thought of him. Cherry Vanilla would go on to hold a special place in Bowie's career as his publicist during his time with the Mainman management company.

Bowie asked the Pork cast about the NYC underground scene, Warhol, Lou Reed & the Velvet Underground and Iggy Pop. Impressed by his awareness of the underground art and music scene in the US they went to see him play his music. Bowie and guitar hero Mick Ronson were not yet The Spiders From Mars. In fact some of the Pork cast members were rather let down by what they saw. While the songs were good, David came on stage with long hippy hair wearing a long floor length frock playing a mostly acoustic folk based set. But in less than a year or so Ziggy Stardust was born and the rest as they say is history. Remember folks all of this is before the internet. Bowie had his finger on the pulse of the underground and drew his inspiration from it, then made his own mark upon it. The Ziggy era was cutting edge and is the Bowie music I will always love best. After that period Bowie would swing from being the leader to being the follower and visa versa.

But what I personally love David Bowie most for are for giving a platform for the brilliant guitar playing of Mick Ronson, writing the hit "All The Young Dudes" for Mott The Hoople (which saved them from breaking up) and for producing Lou Reed's Transformer record with Mick Ronson. Ronson is my favorite guitarist of all time, Mott The Hoople is my favorite band of all time and Transformer is one of my favorite Records

of all time. Thank you Mr Bowie. How strange it is that both Bowie and Ronson died of liver cancer, with Ronson dying in 1993 at the young age of only 46. Trevor Bolder The Spiders bassist died back in 2013 at the age of just 61. Only drummer Mick Woodmansey is left from Bowie's Ziggy lineup. Sad indeed.

This leads me to yet more sad news, Bowie wasn't the only 70's Glitter rock n' roller to pass away in this new year. On January 8th singer/song writer Brett Smiley passed at the age of 60. On January 17th Mott The Hoople drummer Dale Griffin aka Buffin passed on at the age of 67. The death of the first member of Mott The Hoople hit this writer as hard as Bowie's death did to most of the world. All of this makes me wonder where are the new breed of young dudes (and dudettes) going to come from? Or will there ever be any glitter kids ever again? I'm not talking bad 80's glam rock hair metal, I'm talking decadent, gender bending, dolled up, 70's inspired, clean shaven hip kids with great haircuts, not hipsters or Motley Crue numb skulls. There is a huge divide between 70's Glitter and 80's Glam. But I digress. While Smiley and Griffin may be obscure names to most of you, for those of us that got plugged into the underground at an early age they mean a lot. While other kids were listening to Bachman Turner Overdrive or Jethro Tull, the kids I ran with were spinning T.Rex, Roxy Music, New York Dolls, Mott & Bowie. And then came Punk Rock when we all started our first bands! I know nothing will ever be the same in rock n' roll ever again. Am I approaching that time in life that my mother and father's generation went through when the heroes they grew up with all started to fall. Probably so. So I'm left to ponder, is there life on Mars and can we really be heroes someday? I guess only time will tell. Here's to all the dudes, young or old.



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Winter in Venice, 2016  
Go home and write a poem, Mary  
it's not that easy  
it looks easy: compared to writing a novel  
or some long memoir  
that used to be more interesting  
but now is just old  
old memories of long ago  
when you could live your dreams of living  
when things were free  
which freed up your life  
to chase the day-time dream  
to do art, or music  
and still have a place to go at night  
to feel like a dharma bum  
to live on "not much"  
when people were willing to share  
now people of that generation are leaving:  
one by one  
by evictions, or old age, or death  
our flower child days are long behind us  
what would have happened if Janis Joplin  
had survived?  
would she be a voice for the people, still?  
would she still be drinking whiskey?  
or would she join A.A., shop at Cosco  
and bitch and moan  
about the good ol' days.  
I'm still here, singing her songs.  
her boozy voice sings with me.  
— Mary Getlein

TWO POEMS BY DAVID FEWSTER  
THE ROTTENNESS OF THE POETRY BUSINESS

The only time I ever paid a reading fee  
was for the Beyond Baroque contest in 2013  
and that was only because Nick Flynn was the judge  
and I loved "Another Bullshit Night in Suck City"  
and it amused me, as the author of  
"Diary of a Homeless Alcoholic Suicidal Maniac & Other Picture Postcards"  
to think of him perusing my poems.  
So I send my \$20 postal money order  
Because I don't have a goddam checking account –  
I'm a POET.

Flash forward a couple months,  
when the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and  
sundry runners-up are announced.  
Of course, I'm not among them,  
but the entrants are all from California,  
with a preponderance of LA poets–  
except the GRAND PRIZE WINNER OF  
TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS CASH . . .  
She's a poetry professor from BOSTON  
Nick Flynn's HOMETOWN . . .

I mean,  
what are the chances?

SNAGGLETEOTH AT ABBOT'S HABIT  
(For FrancEyE)

A crone will always write in rhyme  
A hag will tell you there's no time  
Proud women wear these names like medals  
Their bicycles have lost their pedals  
Some days they'll hit you with their cane  
Their children say they've gone insane  
Hair thins and sprouts in foreign places  
Thoughts can no longer be read on faces  
The days too long, or else too short  
At 70, you learn to snort  
Old loves invariably vain or fickle  
There's nothing to be bought for a nickel  
The coin-operated psychic says you never die  
And who can say it's not a lie?

I am just a simple man  
They call me Vanderlei Gitane  
I hustle cause I must, not because I can

I'm a wandering gypsy, a highwayman.

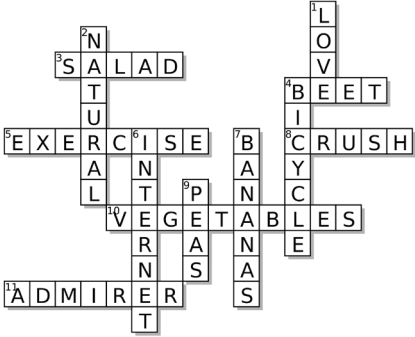
Salut Venizie! qu'est-ce qu'on sait?  
I'm a highwayman, I'm a boulevardier  
You want me outta your town – I know  
Your knuckleheads rob and threaten incessantly  
And the property pimps the B.I.D.s  
Are calling on your very own LAPD  
To harass, arrest, tow my car, ticket me  
Just for sleeping on the street  
Or on the beach, and trying to be  
Righteous in the midst of the insanity  
of your market of vanities of vanity.

Yeah, I talk back, indeed I do  
Its constitutionally protected, and who are you?  
And I'm sick of the things you put me through.  
So get ready for a war of words  
That may well someday come to swords  
And does constantly for us, if you only knew.

Salut Venizie! qu'est-ce qu'on fait?  
I'm a gypsy man, indeed I am  
And I may go, or I may stay  
I'm a highwayman, a boulevardier  
—Jared Essig



MUNCHIMONSTER'S  
TREEHOUSE



9 • February 2016 • Free Venice Beachhead

J D

Good tidings for 2016

Love in Venice

In Venice we learned love,  
Understanding,  
Creativity,  
Acceptance,  
Peace,  
We will absorb hate,  
Locked minds,  
Xenophobia,  
Greed,  
Disappearing it all, in a golden,  
Lavender aura,  
On which, Venice is suspended,  
As a lotus floating on a tranquil, azure turquoise, sea...

*The Eyes of Fate  
Shadows chased away as the sun grows brighter*

*Dimmed eyes gaze at the reflection of a painful reminder of  
a narcissistic soul that could have acted kinder*

*The body she bruised is now the one that binds her*

*Deep inside sunken skin the fear of ugly truth knots  
tighter  
Flames play, flickering past stories upon his  
face*

*Dimmed eyes smoulder in the mirror above the fireplace*

*Once glowing embers, now extinguished without a trace of the  
fire he fed with cheap wine and fake lace*

*Now suffocating in the smoke of skin he'd burned to  
taste  
Silent ripples through sprinkled stars in the  
river I found*

*Dimmed eyes meet mine and mars the sky as I stare down*

*Dark bottomless pools left by crushing waves of self doubt*

*Reflect the moment I wavered then sank down*

*The only shimmer of life I have intentionally drowned  
What rays of light will find your eyes when  
that moment of truth arrives?*

*Be careful of any regrets you have carried in your minds*

*It's for fate to write, dim, and condemn us to the very  
end of our lives.*

- Rachael Robinson

[morning melody]

You might have stayed up  
All night, clicking at every link  
To your daydream, searching  
For a soulmate in the cyberspace

You might have enjoyed an early dose  
Of original sin between sleep and wake  
Before packing up all your seasonal greetings  
With your luggage to catch the first plane

Or sitting up in meditation  
With every sensory cell  
Widely open to receive  
Blue dew's from nirvana

But you did not. Rather, you have just  
Had another long fit of insomnia and  
Now in this antlike moment, you are  
Imagining a lucky morning glow

That is darting along the horizon

- Yuan Changming

10 • February 2016 • Free Venice Beachhead  
**Venice LOVE Report:**

Gentrifuckation, An Overview: the last beachside community of color in the State of California. Yeah, whom are we going to charge for their crimes? It is a well known fact in town, the Venice Wrecking Ball Gang, who demo people's dreams and enjoyment of our neighborhood would be so quick to utilize their privilege to take whatever the fuck they want and do as they will. They work around the loopholes that exist, laws written to amuse a few with the audacity to say they love Venice. They love Venice all the way to the bank while waiting for the original families to fold under pressure of necessity, to send children to college or university. Depressed and suffering from ptsd of the violence that demolition brings. Public trust is broken and we have the City Planning Department to the developers, architects and realtors to blame. Here is the 90291 news in review:

\* Venice Love Group: Depending on who you ask there are variations of who did what, down to high school drama amongst women who were attempting to work together, but could not find middle ground. It was more like, 'do as I say and not as I do.' The few women who did not check their privilege but did have the time and money to generate some great organizing. That came at a price of dividing the group with a decision to support Bruce Horowitz, who charmed a few with his new 425 Rose project; he charmed them with drinks and perhaps some appetizers.

\*La Fiesta Brava – moving to their new location, the former Sauce Hampton \*\*\*\* after the family removed the knives from their backs. The continued attempts to redeem herself, the former child actress, as flail, faint and weak of spirit to the letter of the law of truth. Self described herself as the ‘great manipulator...’ She represents the fakery business of overpriced organic food eateries. Her namas-take for the millisecond millennials, they will be quick to snatch, snatch, and grab the opportunity to rob this faux organizer’s promise of a bright future in Venice. Karma is a bitch and much younger than the great manipulator.

\*Ice Skating Rink – we're in a freaking drought! This permit should have been titled, "Permanent Lighting with two months of Ice Skating at Ocean Front Walk, Windward Circle." This application was approved last month at the California Coastal Commission. What's that? Wasn't it twice denied by the Venice Neighborhood Council and twice at California Coastal Commission( CCC)? The CCC read letters of support that CD11 employees collected from big name government representatives, heck, who knew they all wanted the Ice Rink, too? This is all about the permanent lights on the Ocean Front Walk and anyone telling you any different is part of the problem. They are looking to displace unhoused even further from their community. The best indicator of the inhumane treatment of the unhoused is reading how the city will, 'combat the homelessness' Combat?

Check out this website from the previous plan for an Ice Rink by CD 11 in 2014-2015, could there be private use of the public beach? <http://www.laparks.org/partnerships/pdf/veniceBeachIce.pdf>

Let's continue:  
 \*Gang Injunction: Laws written to make it a crime to be our beautiful black and brown selves. Power to the People! Do you think you can be an accomplice to support justice, just us? In response to these bullshit papers, we recommend these two articles:

<https://medium.com/@YawoBrown/the-subtle-linguistics-of-polite-white-supremacy-3f83c907ffff#.vpg8a9o0c>  
<http://www.indigenoussaction.org/wp-content/uploads/accomplices-not-allies-print-friendly.pdf>

\*Tickets for Youth: The continued harassment of the youth, yes, amazingly the descendants of their ancestors, both black and brown minor youth are being ticketed for not having helmets while riding bikes and skateboards. These tickets are distributed as the POC watch others bi-

*Drawing by Alisha Sofia - Title: "Drowning"*

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Tuesday, February 2**  
 • 6pm McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading Club MDR  
 library 4533 admiralty way MDRey

**Wednesday, February 3**  
 • 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm – Live Jazz with Miss Jessica and The Sugar Shack Attack at Danny's

**Thursday, February 4**  
 • 9:00-11:00 PM – Electric Comedy at the Electric Lodge, \$5

**Friday, February 5**  
 • 8:00 PM – **Mason's Noise Parlour** – Mason Summit curates an evening of Los Angeles' most talented young writers and musicians. singer-songwriter Lexie Rose, poet Luna Garcia, Regular Admission.

**Saturday, February 6**

- 12:00 p.m. Miss Jessica and the The Gumbo Brothers to host the 15th Annual Venice Beach **Mardi Gras Parade** on the Venice Beach Boardwalk. at the North City Parking lot (Rose Ave and The Venice Boardwalk)
- 2:00 - 6:00 PM – 6th annual **Poetry Of Venice Photography** 2-4pm: panel discussion 4-6pm: Opening in the Mike Kelley Gallery. Gerry Fialka hosts a panel discussion of award-winning Venice photographers Free, donations appreciated.

- 12:00 - 6:00 PM – Reception for "BONES" - solo exhibition by Ralph Ziman at Cave Gallery 1108 Abbot Kinney
- 5:00PM (changed from 4pm) – In Discussion With **Robert Scheer**: Orwell And The State Of The Nation. Regular admission.
- 8:00 PM – **Poetry In Motion: La Lit Chicks** Since 1988, Eve Brandstein presents writers from the literary and Hollywood communities. La Lit Chicks features Vicki Abelson, Wendy Hammers, Susan Hayden, Beth Lapidès, Maggie Rowe, Elena Secota, and more. Special admission. Advance general admission tickets available at Eventbrite. Beyond Baroque

**Sunday, February 7**  
 • 5:00 PM – **Open Reading** – Hosted by Steve Goldman. Sign-ups begin at 4:45 PM. Five-minute limit. Suggested donation \$5. Beyond Baroque

cyclists and kooks, the Dogtown wannabes, fail to come to a complete stop at a stop sign. Proving that the laws are only enforced for those with dark melanin.

\*Bus line – expect the closure on 2/21/16, part of the route is being cut. A few environmentally conscious friends and community ride the bus by necessity. This year's Venice Green Ride Award goes to Mike Chamness. This dude is a stand up guy as he rides from one side of town to DTLA, City of Angels to work- five days a week. However the Number 1 Bus Route is being cut back and reduced. Go figure, the gajillionaires who paid millions for their homes do not want their windows shaking with the BIGBlue Bus driving by. Call 310-451-5444 or here's their website, BigBlubus.com. Let the BIGBlue Meanies – tell the admin and let the board know that our students ride this bus to Mark Twain and Venice High School. We have elders who ride to Venice Family Clinic for their appointments and some tourists enjoy ride public transit and not Uber. What are these BIG Blue Meanies thinking?

\*The Chancla Award – Who can't deliver Venice Beach quick enough to the SiliCON Tech Investors? How is that SnapChat purchases entire blocks in Venice and operate illegal offices? Snippet Snap converts the residential units to commercial and yes, it's true. Who is telling them, with a wink, they can do whatever the fuck they want? 'Tis the season to re-elect or unseat our CD11 Rep; this month's Chancla Award goes to #onetermBonin.

- 7pm - **7 Dudley Cinema** - Sneak preview of new activist documentary with special guests for discussion  
Free at Beyond Baroque

**Monday, February 8**  
 • 6pm Documental **Henry Schipper Films** - Co-executive producer Henry Schipper will be present for discussion and screening. 6pm=classic comedy films. 7pm=**Sammy Davis Jr** (42minutes, 2015) 8pm= **Dick Gregory** (42m, 2014) at unurban 3301 pico blvd free -

**Wednesday, February 10**  
 • 7pm: SUZY WILLIAMS jazz-blues at Dannys 23  
 windward

**Thursday, February 11**  
 • 9:00-11:00 PM – Electric Comedy at the Electric Lodge, \$5

**Friday, February 12**  
 • 8:00 PM – **Deborah Bogen & Maurya Simon** read poems from their books. Regular Admission. Beyond Baroque  
 • 8:00-9:30 PM – **Iphigenia: Book of Change**. Hybrid performance filmstories of contemporary women who have survived captivity. Electric Lodge, \$15/\$20.. Runs 8:00 PM Saturday and 3PM Sunday too.

**Saturday, February 13**

- 4-6pm MESS - Food activist **Erica Wohldmann** interview at unurban
- 4:00 PM – **Bob Branaman & Raphael Cohen-Bacry**: The Merical Of Art. Two painters combine their work and their vision of the transcendence of art. Free to all. Beyond Baroque
- 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM - El Niño Town Hall at Oakwood Recreation Center
- 8:00 PM – **The History Of Black Poetry In Los Angeles** — We celebrate the great Black poets of Los Angeles. Co-curated by Pam Ward. Regular Admission. Beyond Baroque
- 8:00 PM – Party like it's 1969 to celebrate Michael Novick's 69th birthday his second half-century of anti-racist action. Support "**Turning The Tide**" and its free distribution to 1700+ prisoners. Dance to the sound track of the 60s. \$10 donation to benefit TTT. Peace Center, 3916 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City CA 90230

**Sunday, February 14**

- LA Marathon - Traffic May Suck.
- 2:00 PM – Soap Box Poets Open Reading – Sign ups begin at 1:45 PM. There is a five-minute limit. Hosted by Jessica Wilson. Suggested donation \$5. Beyond Baroque
- 3:00 PM – Come out and show your **Love for Bernie Sanders** with Poetry and Open Mic. Mark Lipman Hosting, at 212 Pier Cafe.

**Monday, February 15**  
 • 7:00 PM – Peace and Coexistence' to be Interfaith  
 Theme of Activist Support Circle Free Open Public Fo-  
 rum at UnUrban Coffee House in Santa Monica

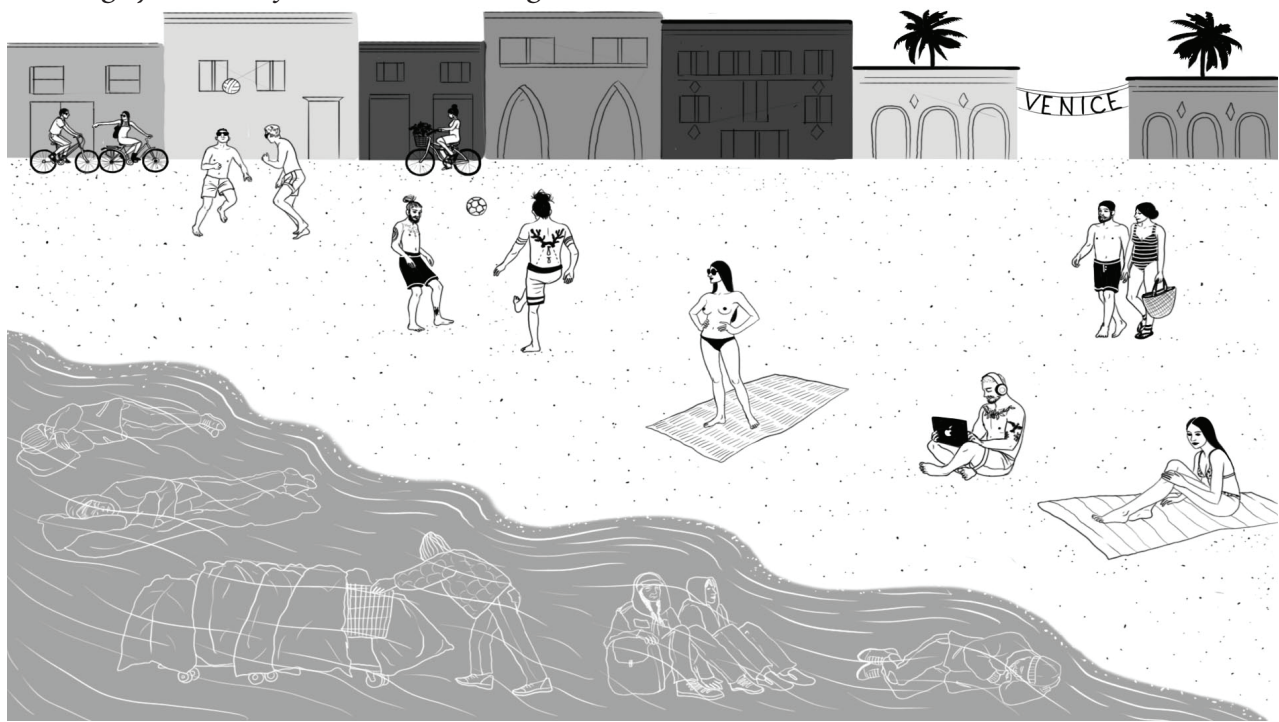
**Tuesday, February 16**  
 • 7:00 PM – Venice Neighborhood Council Meeting, at Westminster Elementary School.

**Wednesday, February 17**  
 • 7-10pm: Mom- Media Discussion at beyond baroque

**Thursday, February 18**

- 5:00 - 8:00 PM – **Ayotzinapa: A Roar of Silence** | 43 Missing Students from Mexico at SPARC (see Page 7)
- 7:30 PM – Poetry In The Loft Offsite At The Hotel Erwin. Join us at our favorite boutique hotel for a night of poetry. This month: Love Is A Dog From Hell Featuring Brenda Petrakos, Sean Hill, Daniel McGinn, And Steve Ramirez. Curated and hosted by Dave McIntire.

Suggested donation \$5-\$10.



## Ready to fight for your rights?

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[www.facebook.com/WestsideTenantsUnion](http://www.facebook.com/WestsideTenantsUnion)

- 9:00-11:00 PM – Electric Comedy at the Electric Lodge, \$5
- Friday, February 19**
  - 8:00 PM – Voices From The Margins: **American History X Screening** Co-producer Jon Hess talks about the themes of the film American History X and takes your questions. Q&A follows the screening. Regular Admission. Beyond Baroque
- Saturday, February 20**
  - 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM – **Mini Master Class With Pam Ward** – Creativity And Chaos: Write Like You’re Gonna Die! \$35 members, \$50 non-members, \$20 Audit – Beyond Baroque
  - 5:00 PM – **Voices From The Margins: Panel On The Prison System** – Inmates who found their lives changed by language and survived incarceration and recidivism describe their experiences, joined by poets and writers who brought them the word behind bars. With Rafael Alvarado, Ramiro Rodriguez, and Steve Goldman. Regular Admission. Beyond Baroque
- Sunday, February 21**
  - 5:00 PM – **Voices In The Well: Love Is In The Air** Please join us as we explore love in all its dimensions through storytelling, poetry, comedy & music. Hosted by Eric Vollmer. Regular Admission.
- Monday, February 22**
  - 2pm- 9pm. celebrate **Black History Month** with a pop-up exhibit that focuses on the history of our local community in VENICE. Exhibit at Vera Davis Center on Monday February 22nd, & Friday, February 26th, 2pm-5pm
  - 6-9pm **Laughtears Salon** - Gerry Fialka hosts discussion on philosophies, politics and the arts. Free admission. Fourth Mondays- 212 Pier Coffeehouse
- Wednesday, February 24**
  - 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm – Live Jazz with **Rachel Sorsa Band** at Danny's
- Friday, February 26**
  - 2pm-5pm – celebrate **Black History Month** with a pop-up exhibit that focuses on the history of our local community in VENICE. Exhibit at Vera Davis Center
- Saturday, February 27**
  - 7-10pm **Jazz Funk Fest** at unurban
  - 8:00 PM – Beyond Baroque Fiction Showcase: **Innovative Fiction**, Join Julia Shiffrin, Tome Page, John O’kane and Rip Rense for an evening of innovative fiction. Hosted by Richard Modiano. Regular Admission.
- Sunday, February 28**
  - 2:00 PM The Nebraska Girl **Open Reading** Our fourth Sunday reading hosted by Wyatt Underwood
  - 6:00 PM – **La Poesia Festival** – Our monthly bilingual poetry salon, hosted by Antonieta Villamil. Free, donations appreciated. Beyond Baroque
  - 7:00 PM – **7 Dudley Cinema**: Residue Steve De-groodt’s (in person) mediation on the presence of Western consumerism confronting the tribes on the island of Papua New Guinea. Free, donations appreciated. Beyond Baroque.
  - The Academy Awards
- Monday, February 29 - Leap Day**
  - 6-9pm **Laughtears Salon** - Gerry Fialka hosts discussion on philosophies, politics and the arts. Free admission. Fourth Mondays 212 Pier Coffeehouse,



Venice Publicity Photo, 1930’s. Three of the original hotels are along Ocean Front Walk. *From Venice Historical Society Website – source, Security Pacific Bank Collection, LA PublicLibrary.*



Caption reads: “L. to R: Grace Williams, Albert Williams, Mary Mingleton, Willie Williams (no relation) in the segregated section of Santa Monica beach known as the Ink Well,” ca. 1926 | Shades of L.A. Collection, Los Angeles Public Library

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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) 310-606-2016
- **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. Friday, Saturday, Sunday 8PM 8pm. \$25

LA Louver Gallery

KIENHOLZ TELEVISIONS

24 February - 2 April 2016

A MARCEL DUCHAMP COLLECTION

24 February - 14 May 2016

G2 Gallery

Nature and Environmental Photography Supportinmg Art and The Environment.

100 Years of National Parks: Ansel Adams Portfolio Two, The National Parks & Monuments

Monday – Saturday, 10 am – 5:00 pm, Sunday, 10 am – 6 pm

C.A.V.E. Gallery

“Crossing The Streams”

New Works by MAX NEUTRA

Opening Jan 9

1108 Abbot Kinney Boulevard.

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday 12:00-6:00 PM Sunda 12:00-4:00 PM

11 • February 2016 • Free Venice Beachhead

Ongoing Events

OCCUPY VENICE BEACH

- 8pm Sundays People’s Potluck at 3rd & Rose. Feed the People. Volunteer or donate - 424-209-2777. General Meeting After.

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
- 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.
- 1:00-4:00 PM 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.

There is a move to Oust the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission from within the commission:  
<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/mtgcurr.html/#ED>

Dr. Charles Lester has requested a public hearing regarding his possible Dismissal as Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission.

If you can't make it to Morro Bay on Wednesday, February 10, please consider writing an email, letter or a phone call expressing your concerns. Our voices matter! Please ask that your letter be shared with all commissioners and staff.

Re: Public Hearing on Possible Dismissal of Executive Director  
The California Coastal Commission will hold a public hearing on February 10th, 2016 at 10:00AM in Morro Bay to consider the con-

tinued employment of its Executive Director, E-mail correspondence concerning the status of the Executive Director may be sent to:

[StatusOfExecutiveDirector@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:StatusOfExecutiveDirector@coastal.ca.gov)

Subject line: Agenda Item 8, CCC meeting February 10, 2016

PLEASE sign this petition:  
<https://www.change.org/p/california-coastal-commission-tell-the-california-coastal-commission-to-retain-dr-charles-lester>

40 environmental & social justice organizations have written a letter supporting Dr Lester.

