

INSIDE

Vexit Promo Video Fails – 1	
Remember Our Happy Days – 1	
Vision of Oakwood Church – 1	
Letters – 2	
Corporation Moves In – 3	
Third Protest against Erwin – 3	
Latest on BID – 3	
Letter: Support for Bridge Home – 5	
Amendment 2 – 5	
Remembering Brendon Glenn – 6	
Top Ten - My School vs GenX – 7	
Letter: David Busch, anti-Bridge Home – 8	
Poetry – 9	
Calendan and Commuinity – 10 – 11	

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Vexit Promo Video Fail

by Mike Bravo

Naming a project after a failed European social movement that amplified racism is a sure way to align yourself with failure. Speaking of fails, an entertaining incident happened on social media a few weeks ago. A promotional video about Vexit was made by a talented young videographer who’s been chronicling his daily creative adventures. In excited spirit he made a video titled “They Are Changing Venice” (vog.news/day86) which highlighted the recent Vexit hype. However, the very next day in a disappointed, perhaps even upset tone, he made a follow up video titled “I Screwed Up” (vog.news/day87) which amended the misinformation he had shared (by no fault of his own) in the Vexit video the day before.

Apparently he saw the VNC secretary speaking about Vexit on one of the many desperate news installments about the topic. He admitted he was not fully aware of the dynamics involving Vexit but was impressed by what he thought was a “new” and cool idea. From there he contacted VNC Secretary Melissa Diner which in turn connected him with Venice Cityhood Committee to make the video.

The video touched on the Vexit “Town Hall Meeting” from a couple months ago and reiterated all the usual surface impressive bullet points. The video also noted the proponents of Vexit are not looking to change the culture of Venice and “are working hard to ensure that the community has better, friendlier, and a lot more access to its community” Which is hard to believe since I have yet to notice any of them supporting causes heartfelt by the Black & Brown community in Venice and look to be close to people who consistently subvert our voices and social equity efforts. Admittedly though, it was an initially compelling video and if I was devoid of critical thinking skills and lacked a social justice radar I would have drank the kool-aid too.

Of course, that same day the video got immediate community feedback challenging some of the misleading statements in the video. The main critiques being that the “Town Hall” was more akin to an infomercial than a community discussion and that, in fact, the community did not get to communicate their thoughts and concerns.. all of which is true.

The very next day, in impeccable character, the videographer made a new video retracting the misinformation in the Vexit video. When you watch it you will note the music is more dramatic and the tone of his video more upset and declarative, a definite contrast from the video before. His new video was titled “I Screwed Up” but really, he wasn’t the one who screwed up. The onus is on the

REMEMBER OUR HAPPY DAYS

Once upon a time the Rolling Stones sang, “What a drag it is getting old...” What they should have sang was, what a drag it is **BEING OLD!**

The Israel Levin Senior Center at 201 Ocean Front Walk in Venice closed on May 22nd. It will be demolished and in its place Jewish Family Services plans on building a new three story center. The new center will have programs not just for elderly people anymore but for young people also. There will be offices for the Jewish Family Service and their groups like Nu Roots on the second floor. The third, top floor will have housing for young adults along with a deck for things like barbeques for young people. They also want to rename the new center the Bar Center on the Beach. It is estimated it will take about 15 months to build the new building. In the interim seniors from the center are being asked to go to the Oakwood Recreation Center in Venice.

There is already a senior program at the Oakwood Center and members of the Levin Center are being told to join them. The kosher food will be brought to the Oakwood Center along with some of the services. Some transportation may be arranged.

The Oakwood Recreation Center in Venice is at 767 California Ave. The park offers a wide variety of activities with an indoor gym, outdoor basketball courts and picnic tables. In years past it had dangerous gang problems but now is much safer. However, there have been some gang shootings again recently in the Oakwood area.

The Israel Levin Center was purchased in the early 1960s by Mr. Israel Levin to be a senior center. Mr. Levin was a local, successful property investor. He wanted a place for older Jewish people to meet. Later it became part of Jewish Family Services, a partner of the Jewish Federation of L.A.

The historic 100 year old building on the Ocean Front was originally the New Denver Hotel with various fast food shops around the front. Later it became a bingo parlor with dancing and the 2nd story was reputed to be a bordello. It became cheap apartments until Mr. Levin bought it to make a senior center.

Most people know the building because of its beautiful Marc Chagall style mural that surrounds the Levin Center. The famous mural designed by Christina Schlesinger may be recreated somewhere inside the new building.

In 1972 anthropologist Barbara Myerhoff began a study of the old Jews at the center. She made a documentary film about it that got an Academy Award in 1976 for best documentary film called, “Remember Our Days”.

Remember Happy Days – continued on page 4

THE VISION OF THE OAKWOOD CHURCH

By Jon Wolff

The following is from a recent conversation with the Reverend George B. Ellis, Jr. of Zion's Hope Ministries about the First Baptist Church on Westminster Avenue and 7th Avenue in Oakwood in the heart of Venice.

Reverend Ellis: Twelve months before Pastor Allen [Horace Allen] was called, I submitted a resume to be considered as a pastor. I was living in Minneapolis at the time and I received a letter back. It said that they wanted me to come to preach. The flight that I signed up for to get me there two hours ahead of time ended up getting me there a half-an-hour after church started. When I finally realized this, I called the coordinating secretary. She said that they could not wait for me to come. I said that I'd be coming into town a few months later and that I would at least like to meet with her if that was okay. She said that I could come to church but that she couldn't guarantee anything. I said, "Okay." Because, normally, when a church is interested in you as a candidate, they'll consider that. So, it is what it is.

I eventually preached there and I saw that the church congregation was going through a transition from predominantly African-American to a mixed congregation of African-Americans and Anglos. The Anglos that were there probably lived in Venice and were unemployed or under-employed. Some of the ones who lived around the Community had been there for awhile. The rest of the people that were there... The majority of them were African-Americans. There was a harmony but you could tell the church needed to be healed. It was not what we call a healthy church. What I mean by that is: A healthy church is a church that celebrates Jesus Christ in the worship. It's a church that will do some evangelism. It's a church that will financially support. I wasn't seeing all that. So I knew we had to do some work. And I'm a church planner, so it's not a big deal for me to go there. I know what to do. Just get in there and start preaching the Word and loving people. And that's what runs a church; consistently loving people.

The man behind the pulpit has to be a man of integrity. Especially if you're going to have a multi-cultural church. You can't play around with anything that's on the borderline, like you're a charlatan. The other piece is, in order for a church to grow, whoever the leadership is, they have to buy into your trust as their pastor. Just because a man is called by the pastor doesn't mean the people accept him right away. Every once in awhile that happens, but not usually. You have to earn the right to be their pastor. That usually takes between five to seven years. And then you'll find out what happens.

Oakwood Church – continued on page 5

Vexit – continued on page 2



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hi!

i got your great paper from gerry fialka and am adding you to my solartopia mailing list.

i host the CALIFORNIA SOLARTOPIA show thursdays 6:30-7pm.

you are welcome to publish anything i write.

keep the faith!!!

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The Life & Death Spiral of US History

From Deganawidah to the Donald

Hello Beachhead. Old time Venice businesses are being targeted by big business. I have heard you are actually for small local businesses. Are you ?

Bird Scooters Lime bikes-

While they may be fun for kids to zip around, going the wrong way in and out of traffic and on the sidewalk (unfortunately at 15 mph with cars and no helmets many will die), they are hurting every bike and skate rental shop in town, especially in Venice. That does hurt your “Venice!” If you have to pay rent at \$6,000 a month and they can use the sidewalk in front of your business for free, (and they are doing just that) you’ll have to close. Think about it, that’s super messed up! They are literally threatening business owners when you ask them not to place their product for free in front of your business. Or the next day instead of two you’ll have ten. Thats Strong arming ! Help please !

Venice in now corporate:

Google
Snap chat
Lime bikes
Bird scooters

Thanks Dave

RE: May 2018 Edition The Great Western Steak And Hoagie Company

Thank you to Carol Gronner for the very interesting and informative story about The Great Western Steak and Hoagie Company and how it came to be under the guidance and hard work of Sergio Perez, Senior and Junior.

It was nice to get the history of the business after so many years.

I remember when Richard Sohn took over the building in 1973, and chopped off and plastered over the original shapes of the hotdog ends sticking out of the “bun” of the building which had been Bezo’s Hotdogs.

Sigh, I still miss the that big crazy hotdog on Lincoln and Superba.

Barbara Eisenberg

Long Live the City of Venice!

Dear Beachhead,

Your article by Mike Bravo (May 2018) confirmed what other people had told me: that the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) meeting on cityhood was a complete fiasco. Bravo, a long-time Venetian, hit the important points, that there was no diversity, outsiders were brought in to tell us what to think and that some dicey people have gotten on the bandwagon.

It’s ironic that Mark Ryavec repeated my suggestion that we do an end run around L.A. by going to the state legislature to remove the provision that all of Los Angeles must vote on Venice’s right to secede. L.A. didn’t vote when we were annexed. Why should it vote when we deannex? I’ve written about this possibility in several Beachhead articles (doesn’t anyone read this rag anymore?) and spoken about it on numerous occasions, including when Ryavec was present.

It’s not surprising that the Neighborhood Council didn’t invite any women, people of color or other working-class Venetians to this dog-and-pony show. Instead of inviting a current Beachhead Collectivist, they picked someone from the Marina paper. I was not invited even though I’ve written more on cityhood in the past 20 years than anyone. They didn’t invite Mike Bravo, Laddie Williams or Jataun Valentine, and others who know the history of our community.

The real issue, in my opinion is not who-said-what-first, or who now supports cityhood, but rather how do we get out of the most corrupt city in the country. L.A. has always been run by greedy developers. The city council members and the other lackeys in city government work at the behest of big-time developers, many of whom have now set their sights on Venice. If we don’t declare our independence soon, we’ll end up homogenized along with the other starbuckian neighborhoods of this chain-store megalopolis.

It wasn’t the rich who thought up the idea of Venicexit, or Vexit. From the time when L.A. annexed Venice to get our oil and our beach, there has been resistance that continues until today. Back in the 1960s when L.A. wanted to turn the canals into a yacht harbor like the Marina, a Free Venice movement was started – which meant get Venice out of L.A. – and free yourself from the dominant culture. Free Venice was a real movement which created many of the attributes of a city, without getting permission from L.A. There was a Free Venice Theater Group, a Free Venice Survival Committee, in fact, Free Venice committees everywhere you turned. And, let’s not forget the Free Venice Beachhead, which like its name has been strongly pro-cityhood for 50 years.

If we are going to get our city back, we have to be fearless. There are thousands of us living in rent-controlled apartments and homes that we bought many years ago. If we come together in a free city of Venice we will not be defeated. We have a right to make our own decisions. The right to self-determination is even in the UN Declaration of Human Rights and the U.S. Declaration of Independence. These are our rights, not Mike Bonin’s, and not the L.A. City bureaucracy.

In 2003, we came together as Venice Progressives to challenge the right-wingers who were running the Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council. (GRVNC). We overwhelmed the opposition, winning 21 out of 22 seats. The sore losers secretly asked city officials to save them. The City moved in like the U.S. army invading a third-world country. We were all removed from office and the GRVNC was abolished in favor of a sedate VNC. Had we not been part of Los Angeles, our decisions, made with transparency and approval by giant town hall meetings, would not have been overturned.

If we are to win cityhood, we’ll have to form an all-Venice coalition and work with people we don’t like, but who also support cityhood. I am confident that after we win cityhood, we will be able to out think, out talk and out vote any assholes we may encounter.

Let’s start talking about all the great things we could do if we had our own city!

-See the Venice Progressives platform at www.freevenice.org/Beachhead-21st/VeniceProgressives-platform.pdf

-See the emails of the L.A. cabal against Venice at www.freevenice.org/Secrets/andemails.html

- Jim Smith

Vexit – continued from page 1

organizers promoting it to be more skillful and/or honest in what that event was, it was a business presentation promoting Venice’s secession from the City of Los Angeles.

I must admit it was very amusing to watch it all go down. The first video with the misinformation was being shared all over social media by Vexit promoters and garnered lots of praise from their mostly non-native Venetian peers. They were flying high when the first video came out but when the second video dropped the next day it was like the social media version of the vinyl record screech stopping the music at a party. Safe to say I don’t think they shared that second video with their audience.

CORPORATION MOVES IN NEXT DOOR TO SMALL BUSINESS

By Jon Wolff

The following is from a recent conversation with Helmut Elmann, the proprietor of Charly Temmel, the local ice cream shop on 1313 Ocean Front Walk in Venice.

Jon Wolff: Tell me your name.

Helmut Elmann: My name is Helmut Elmann. I came to America in 1988 and, since then, I’m here.

JW: How long have you been operating Charly Temmel here in Venice?

HE: We’re operating now since 25 years. We opened up in 1994 and to today.

JW: And you’ve had a good relationship with the Venice Community for all that time.

HE: Yes, all the time. We started it. The people loved us. We have wonderful ice cream. We have the best ice cream. You know, it’s all natural ingredients. We never have any problem with the Community here.

JW: You have a lot of loyal customers probably. All of them come back?

HE: All of them, very very loyal. I remember people. I’m now 62 years old, you know. And I started it when I see these little kids... they were 5 years old, 6 years old. Now they come back, they’re 20 years old.

JW: Are they people from Venice or people from around the world?

HE: Venice and all over the world.

JW: And so, how did this happen next door? How did this catastrophe happen next door?

HE: Honestly, it just came over night, I guess. I heard it once that somebody wants to move in there. I didn’t know who. A week later, I got the information from the local people; they’re helping me. They said, “There is, I think, Ben & Jerry coming in.” So I say, “Okay, let me call the owner of the building.” I know the owner of the building. He owns also the Sidewalk Café. And I ask him, “Is this correct? I heard that Ben & Jerry is coming in.” First of all, he didn’t want to say it. He said, “It’s confidential. I cannot say it.” I said, “What? We know each other for many years. What’s wrong with you?” Then, ten minutes later, he calls me back and says, “Yeah, you’re right. Ben & Jerry is coming in.” I said, “Why’d you put the knife in the back? Why’d you stab me with the knife in the back?” He didn’t say anything. He couldn’t say anything.

JW: An ice cream store next door to an ice cream store. Well, you’re a local business. This Ben & Jerry’s is just a franchise of some corporation... some nationwide corporation.

HE: We don’t have any corporation. We are a local business here. We have one business here.

JW: Venice, traditionally, doesn’t have franchise corporate storefronts here on the Boardwalk.

HE: Never never. And we always say we never want to let them come in. When we start with Ben & Jerry... who’s next? The next is maybe McDonald’s or the Starbucks coffee. Or Coffee Bean... whatever.

JW: Venice has always been against this sort of thing. For this to happen now is an affront to the whole Spirit of Venice.

HE: I think the Spirit dies when they do that.

JW: It would if we let it happen.

HE: We cannot let it happen.

JW: The Venice Dogz have come out in support of you. And most locals are aware of what’s going on here.

HE: Please put this in the paper: I have to thank all the local people right now. They’re really behind me. They’re coming here. They’re supporting me. They’re telling me that they’re supporting me. And I absolutely appreciate that.

JW: You got it. And what would you like to see happen to Ben & Jerry’s? Just go set up in Santa Monica maybe? Or Marina del Rey?

HE: Yeah. Set up somewhere else. But not 10 feet next to an ice cream store. It’s something... what do you call it?... it’s disrespect. And why 10 feet next to me? Why couldn’t they go 200 feet down? We don’t want a corporation here. That should not be. They should get something else.

JW: It looks like Venice is on your side.

HE: And we’ll stay with Venice together. We should fight against this.

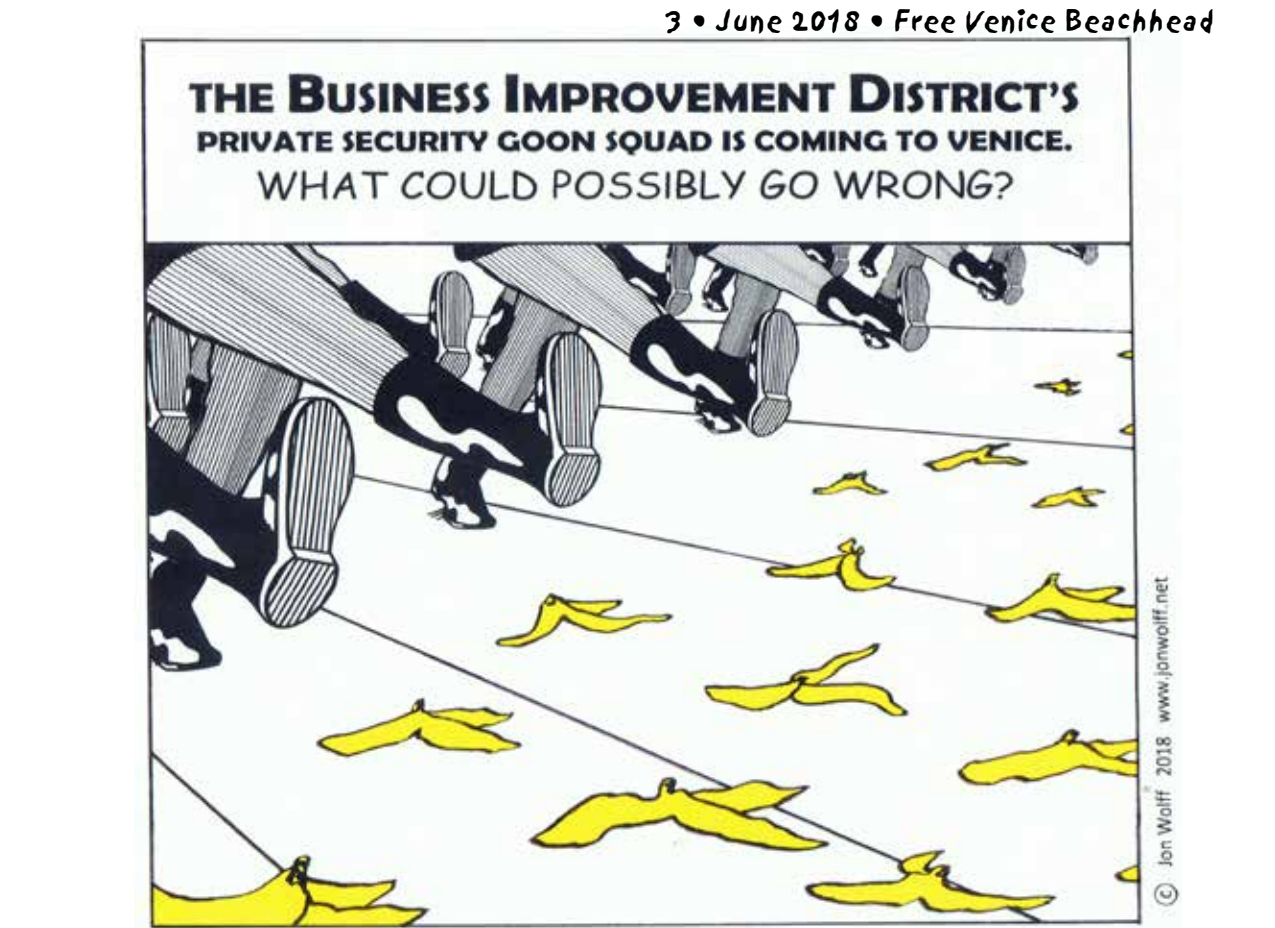
JW: You expect to be here a good number of years then.

HE: Yes.

JW: When Ben & Jerry’s has gone someplace else, maybe we can have something nice next door like a candle store or something.

HE: Or maybe a candy store. Who knows?

JW: Have any of the local politicians talked about any



Third Protest Against Hotel Erwin for Racist Practices

By Mike Bravo

On Tuesday May 29th a diverse crowd of about 20 people protested Hotel Erwin for the third time regarding the hotel’s racist practices and their refusal to rectify their racist behavior. The protests were sparked by an incident early February of this year where Hotel Erwin staff called LAPD on a group of non-white paying guests they accused of trespassing when they came from their rooms at midnight inquiring about a place to eat. Some of those paying guests were later arrested and spent the night in jail. Testimony of that incident can be found here: vog.news/erwintest

The protest was organized by Stop LAPD Spying Coalition, Los Angeles Community Action Network (LACan,) Black Lives Matter L.A., and White People 4 Black Lives. It started at Noon and lasted until 1:30 pm. The protesters carried an array of signs with sentiments like “Erwin= Jim Crow Hotel” and “Hotel Erwin Racist Arrest of Paying Guests.” The prominent chant that stood out and resonated with me the most was “White Silence Equals Violence!” A great and blunt mantra denoting how the silence of White folks in the fight against racism and white supremacy is a co-sign to those violent systems. One of the protesters was also humorously quipping that “Hotel Erwin is Roseanne Barr’s favorite hotel.” Pretty hilarious if you ask me.

Enter Mark Sokol’s Venice BID Goons

In addition to the Black and Brown security puppets the Hotel Erwin management uses to buffer themselves, they brought in the Venice BID goons. They rolled in on their bikes shortly after 1pm in distinct LAPD style and inserted themselves in to the center of the protest scene. The BID officers came off rookie-ish but still asserted body language and positioned themselves with intent to subtly intimidate the protesters exercising their First Amendment rights. This was an interesting scene because for the previous two protests at Hotel Erwin, it was the LAPD

of this?

HE: Ruth Galanter. She’s in the Venice Community. She’s a supporter of mine. She’s a regular customer. She always says, “My God. What is going on here? Who let this happen?” I’ll tell you who let this happen; the people who own the buildings. They’re greedy. Because they think they don’t have enough already. They’re making already enough money. How much money can you make? Stop this greediness. We have to tell this to all the owners of the buildings. Because they want, every year, more and more and more. It’s crazy.

JW: The Spirit of Venice has outlasted things just like this. I’ll expect to see your business thriving here. And none of this corporatization of the Boardwalk is going to happen because Venice always stands up and always wins in the end.

HE: Because we have a strong Spirit.

JW: You’ve probably seen what’s going on with Snapchat. They’re falling apart right now because Venice fought back. A billion dollar corporation is getting kicked out of Venice right now.

HE: The Venice Spirit has to stay. The Venice Spirit is too strong.

JW: You’ll be here. I’ll be here.

HE: We’ll stay together.

who played the role of security for the hotel. If you are still confused about exactly who the LAPD serves just watch this video clip of the first protest: vog.news/erwin-protest1 . This scene also reaffirms the understanding of many who assert that the Venice Beach BID is merely a proxy for the LAPD.

In the midst of the Venice BID officers’ imposing presence at the protest scene, some of the protestors vocally announced that the hotel had brought out their paid security. The BID officers kept replying that they were not the hotel’s private security— but in fact they are. Mark Sokol who owns the Hotel Erwin is also the President of the Venice Beach BID. If his failure to acknowledge, let alone address, the numerous racist incidents at his hotel and the racist tirade by his alleged nephew (vog.news/sokolnephew) is any indicator of his integrity and diligence, what are we to expect from his dishonestly formed and operated Venice Beach BID?

The Latest on the BID

By John Okulick

For the last 17 months there have been no services from the BID. Tara Devine, the manager of the BID, has spent \$470,000.00 in 2017 alone, of taxpayer money, on who knows what, since she will not reveal her expenses. Not even to the city clerk’s office as required by contract has the city received timely management reports. As a result of mismanagement partial refunds are being prepared by the city to property owners but only for the 12 months of 2017!

The city pays \$500,000.00 a year of citywide property taxes to promote business interests for a small group of Bonin supporters on Ocean Front Walk. This money was taken from public properties, your tax money, from an elementary public school, several public parks, senior center, and vacant land and funneled to a handful of business owners. Bonin has lied to and discriminated against residential properties zoned industrial and commercial with live/work uses. He stated zoning and not use are the only criteria for higher assessments to our properties in a gerrymandered and arbitrary boundary. Many are artists who have been here for decades. A judge in our lawsuit against the BID has stated there are no benefits to residential properties yet apartments are considered commercial and must pay these fees raising rents. Even vacant lots, according to Judge Calafant receive benefits. So vacant land is considered by the judge benefiting tourism, increased traffic from people and cars, boosterism, increased sales, etc. The judge had no backbone to challenge the city or state in this matter!

At the last meeting of the Venice BID Property Owners meeting, the safety component of the BID stated they would only carry handcuffs and mace. If they saw a crime they would contact the police but not follow the criminal outside of the BID boundaries. So much for safety for stolen goods. Also these safety people have no more authority than any other ordinary citizen creating a huge liability issue detaining people with no training in law enforcement. The cost per year is around \$630,000.00!

The clean services amount to \$600,000.00 a year for clean sidewalks. If you haven’t noticed most sidewalks are beyond decay. Along with the extravagant \$8,000.00 a month office the BID is renting, Ms. Devine is on a shopping spree with our money. The daily cost of these so-called “services” is over \$3,000.00 a day. There are 436 properties in the BID, most on Ocean Front Walk. So residential properties including apartments pay more and get nothing. If you are not in the BID area such as the walk streets they will not respond!

4 • June 2018 • Free Venice Beachhead
Remember Happy Days – continued from page 1

Sherri, who was the recent director at the Israel Levin Senior Center has been a great bonus for us during her stay there and so has the present food director Scott. Both have done much to add new programs and make it fun for us. Sherri was terrific and was the best director the Levin Center had in many years. Scott may be the best food service person ever. He also taught a couple fantastic writing classes to us. However, most of the decisions on moving have been up to their bosses at Jewish Family Services. Most of the time when asked they said, “We don’t know yet. We need to wait to hear from the JFS and as soon as we know we will tell all of you.” I kept asking Sherri to help me write this article but she kept saying, “Let’s wait until we find out more.” Sherri unfortunately will not be the director in Oakwood since they already have a director there. She said she will go by and check on us once or twice a week. She is also a senior and said she may retire in awhile. One old duffer commented, “She works for them and has to do what they tell her.”

Most senior members I’ve talked to would like the old building saved. I have left out their names so they wouldn’t be chastised or banned. They are very sad and feel like they are losing an old friend. Most think that instead of spending the estimated 7-8 million dollars on a new structure that the old place could just be remodeled for far, far less money. One 90 year old lady said, “No one asked us? We old members should have a vote if we want our place torn down!”

To be fair, there are a couple people who would like a new place. The air conditioning and heater broke some time ago and they were not fixed because they planned to tear the building down and didn’t want to put money into it to keep it up. So we have had to endure the cold and heat with a couple cheap fans and space heaters. Could it be that some of the serious colds and infections and even death were attributed to the lack of heating? Is this elder abuse? Also, the toilets often backed up and the bathrooms needed an upgrade. The kitchen needed to be modernized. The outside and inside needed some repairs.

They have been in a hurry to get us ‘alta cockers’ (old shits) out and get rid of everything inside. There has been a sudden rush and they are still trying to figure out what to do with us. They originally were going to close on May 25th but moved it back to the 22nd. I think they may be afraid there could be a backlash from the Venice community as there has been for saving the Oakwood Church and the Kinney-Tabor house? This is a historic old building going back to about 1915 with a famous mural and it is the location of an Academy Award movie. There is a LOT of money involved in their plans and I’m sure they don’t want any protests.

However, most of us old people have health problems and have no strength to do anything but kvetch (complain). One older woman sadly said, “I have to be concerned about my illnesses and try not to think about the center closing or it will make me get sick.” Me too. Actually things in my life are clicking much more for me now than ever, my knees, my neck, my back...Oy! The other day I went to see my doctor. I told him, “Doctor Swartz, every morning I wake up at 8 a.m. and have a good pee. It flows like a river. Then I have a enormous poop and then I feel great!” So my doctor asks, “You sound fine, so what’s the problem?” And I said, “But doctor, I don’t get out of bed until 9.”

Some members have complained that, “They had promised us our own place while the new building is being constructed but instead we are supposed to go to the Oakwood Center to join another group.” Another older woman asked, “If they can afford 8 million bucks for a new place for themselves then why couldn’t they spend a few thousand a month to rent our own place nearby?” One fat, older man there said, “They had a couple of years to find us another place and figure things out and now they are trying to figure things out in the last minute. They kept telling us they were going to find us another place nearby and they lied to us. They were just blowing smoke up our ass!”

They have made up a silly name for the program of sending us and the kosher food to the Oakwood Recreation Center, ILC on the Move (Israel Levin Center on the Move). Instead it should be called ILC is Removed! One old geezer in a walker said, “It’s stupid for them to send our kosher food to the Oakwood Center. Most of the people there are Mexican or Black and they love their pork!” So maybe we can convince the goyim (non Jews) in Oakwood to convert? The 88 year old Mexican and Black men can be circumcised and have bar mitzvahs and the women can have bat mitzvahs and they all can give up their shrimp and pork carnitas for matzo ball soup and borscht? Sometimes almost half the guests at the Levin Center were not Jewish. Some came there because it was close to where they live or they liked to be by the beach.

I have heard that some of the old members at the Oakwood Center have objected to our kosher food. One old, Black lady screamed that, “We don’t want this kosher food! We want our old food back!” One of the old members from the Levin said, “They don’t want us there. They were yelling and arguing about them getting our food.” Just like us nobody asked the Oakwood oldsters if they wanted us or our kosher food. This was not only unfair to

us but also to the seniors who were going to Oakwood. Nobody seems to care about asking us old timers our opinion or care.

The new, modern design for the new building has strange rectangular and diamond shapes around it. They say it will more than double the height of the present building. One oldster member looking at the artist’s different renditions of the new building in their brochure commented that, “I think it looks ugly! It is totally out of place with the surrounding community.”

A few people including a couple JFS workers thought that the old building could be reinforced and saved. There once was a 2nd story and it could be retrofitted and rebuilt again to be used as their offices as they plan. The top of the old building is already flat and it could be strengthened and turned into a top deck. But today young people want out with the old and in with the new. There is no reverence for old buildings or old people.

The new center is to be re-named the Bar Center because the Bar family donated a lot of gelt, shekels and mazuma. Another elderly gentleman joked, “We already have the Venice Beach Bar down the block. If they rename the Israel Levin Center to the Bar Center On the Beach then everyone will think it is a bar and come in for a beer!” I’ll have a Scotch on the rocks. Maybe they could serve Manischewitz kosher grape wine with challah?

THE ISRAEL LEVIN CENTER 2017

The senior center Israel Levin

lots of fun for older men and women.

Members have come from every place

joining people from every culture, religion and race.

Kosher food for lunch

a good kibbitz with the bunch.

Chicken soup, kugel and kasha to eat

lots of nice people to meet.

Fun classes like tai chi, Pilates and art

exercises for the back and heart.

Klezmer and other music to swing

we love to dance and sing.

Homeless sometimes howl outside the door

the Israel Levin Center is never a bore...

Several have complained that they talk down to us older folks like we are little children even though some seniors there are much better educated than they are. An older worker there said, “They’re kickin us old folks to the ground!” The old guy in the walker replied, “The Chinese honor their old and their ancestors, but in America they don’t care. They forget us or throw us away in some rotten old aged home to kill us!” Another ancient fossil told me, “They just want to get rid of us old people so they can have a nice place at the beach for themselves.” Their brochure says they will be, “...uniting toddlers, teens, and young adults with baby boomers and seniors.”

I think that if the ghost of Mr. Levin could come back today and see what they are doing to his Jewish senior center he would take his property back! Actually, some of us thought the original bargain with Mr. Levin’s estate and JFS was to keep it as a senior center? One gray, old cocker said, “They already have plenty of places for young people to go and now they want to take over our little place for us old people!” Another moaned that, “The new place will have a new image and new people running it. It will be mostly for young Jewish hipsters that think all of a sudden Judaism is so cool! It will be mostly 25-35 year old’s with big fake smiles. We might not mind the changes in age and attitudes, but we will miss the genuine smiles that are to be found there now.”

Many have told me that they don’t plan on going to the Oakwood Center. Some I’ve talked to are already going to other senior centers around town. I’ve heard from friends at other senior centers that they’ve been seeing our members there. There has only been a small handful of our old members going to the Oakwood Center and only a couple of them are even Jewish. Some of us with our age and health issues won’t even be alive when the new project is finally finished. A year and a half to two years to complete the project is FOREVER to a lot of us seniors.

A couple friends asked me, “Why write this article? It is already a done deal. They’ve already paid off everyone and it is going to happen.” They even warned that they may sic some Israeli commandos on me for writing this story. Well, I may be a fool but some of us old farts have to at least speak our minds and speak out for our rights even if nobody is listening to us because we are old or

poor. The song from the musical the Man of La Mancha goes, “To dream the impossible dream, to fight the unbeatable foe...to right the unrightable wrong...no matter how hopeless, no matter how far... to be willing to march into hell for that heavenly cause...” Believe me, this was one of the hardest things for me to ever write. Most of us loved Sherri and most of the people from the JFS have been great. It is just that most of us old people thought that if they are willing to spend so many millions then why couldn’t they find some other place and leave our little piece of heaven alone?

Our culture and our TV shows like to portray old people as silly, worthless, absent minded and still living in the past. What young people can’t seem to understand is that senility is not a matter of years but attitudes and mental health. I know 19 year old’s who to me are senile and act like 100. There was a 102 year young gal going to the Levin Center who is more aware and alert than most 20 something mentally constipated Republicans. Maybe we need to once again call out for GRAY POWER! Or if you are in England, GREY POWER! The song ‘Young at Heart’ goes, “Fairy tales can come true, it can happen to you if you’re young at heart... And if you should survive to 105 look at all you’ll derive out of being alive. Then here is the best part, you have a head start if you are among the young at heart.” Yes, what counts is not your age but if you stay young at heart.

All of you young people out there will one day be old too you know. Open your eyes! As George Carlin once joked, “None of us have a choice about getting elderly, we just do.” We oldsters used to be wild rock and rollers like you youngsters are. Now we just rock in our rocking chairs. We used to be hippies and smoked pot. Now we just sit on the pot and poop all day. They call old age the Golden Years. I think what they mean by the Golden Years is that we can’t hold our pee. Well it all ‘Depends’.

The last couple weeks at the Levin Center reminded me of that song “Anatevka” from the musical “Fiddler on the Roof” where the poor Jews are being kicked out of their beloved old town. In the last days before the Levin closed a few of us elderly folk shed some tears. One 80 year old man sobbed, “Goodbye Levin Center! This is the last time we will see the inside of you.”

To many of us it was more than just a senior center, it was a holy Jewish temple where we celebrated Friday Shabbot, Passover, other holidays and birthdays. We prayed, sang, danced and had exercise classes there. We will begin holding our Friday Shabbot at the Shul on the Beach. One old timer philosophized, “We had a lot of good times there and wonderful memories but nothing lasts forever and everything changes...” Change can be hard for everyone, but especially for us old folks. After it closed the fat, old dude said, “We had a great thing while it lasted, but all good things must come to an end.”

Buddhism teaches that to be free we must give up all attachments to both people and things. After all is said and done the new center could still be good. The young adults I’ve met who are part of the organizations who will be there have been very nice. Toddlers, children and young people can be a lot fun. The future belongs to the youth. They have lots of energy and new, innovative ideas. My mother used to say, “We old people have had our day and we should move over and give the young people their chance.” Maybe it is time for us old farts to move on.

Let us hope the new center will bring as much love, joy, and happy times as the old building has over its many years. Please stop by to say goodbye to the old Venice Beach landmark with its beautiful, iconic mural before it is only a memory. Mazel tov and zei gezunt to all. Shalom.

– MOISHE KAPOYER



– Sam Sawyer

Letter in support of The Bridge Home project.

Dear friends,

I ask you to do something very hard — give the benefit of the doubt to our city on this one:

Will you please come to our next Homeless Committee (of Venice Neighborhood Council) meeting for which I am a member?

I’m looking for support for the Bridge Home project. Even if you are just open and curious and not yet convinced, I’d love to have you there to provide some balance in the room!

The most passionately angry are receiving false information from a “certain individual” and as a result, we are getting a barrage of negative energy that is really difficult for me to manage (emotionally)!

This Bridge Home program fulfills all the requirements for a sane response to our homeless crisis. It won’t end homelessness in Venice, but it will definitely help. And it should be given a chance.

From going to one meeting about it with our city representatives, I believe the following to be true.

Fact: The metro owns the yard and won’t be able to build on it for another 3 years (what exactly they are building is not known to me - I think multi-use housing but I truly don’t know).

FACT: In the meantime, 100 or so folks who are 100% FROM VENICE and who WANT HELP will be carefully selected and housed in trailers, and/or tents and will receive all kinds of services and security until they are transitioned into permanent housing.

Fact: Some unhoused folks don’t want to go into shelters. For some it is because (among many other reasons) they have to move out each morning and come back each evening; they can’t bring pets or family members; they don’t feel safe, and they can’t store their stuff. They also can’t stay very long. This program can allow all of this because it doesn’t fall under “transitional housing” or temporary shelter. At least something viable will be attempted, and I support all solutions that have promise.

FACT:

Rather than fearing the worst, let’s focus on those folks who will really benefit from this. Newly homeless, vets, women, children, formerly foster youth, the elderly, non-violent people just down on their luck, and yes, some with disabilities including mental illness, who won’t deteriorate further by living on the streets. The city wants this to work so they will choose those most likely to benefit from it - those who have already requested housing (on the CES master list) and yet — since we don’t have the housing stock needed for them to get off the streets — they remain there.

Please advise.

Love,

Deborah Groening



Oakwood Church – continued from page 1

you trust a man to be a man of integrity... When you're trusting him to feed you spiritually, you would assume you would be able to trust him with finances. And that's not always the case.

Jon Wolff: If you had become the pastor of this congregation and the steward of this church, how do you think things would have turned out, as far as where we are today?

RE: Oh man, it wouldn't even be... Because I'm connected too well. And I have a passion. I gave up a career in marine biology to be a minister. My passion is evangelism. So I'm going to do everything in my power to win as many different people as we can to Jesus Christ. When I say evangelism, I mean this: I believe evangelism is where you share your faith with those individuals who are seeking the truth of God's love. And then you disciple them, you train them like little babies on how to grow up to be self-fulfilling, stable adults. Christians need to be mature in that way. And you have all different kinds of people. You can go through a period of maybe twelve years... People go through a lot of changes that reflect their situation. But I'll tell you this: It [the church] wouldn't be in the situation it's in right now...

JW: You wouldn't then have turned from the Community that's the origin of this church.

RE: Absolutely not. See, God put that Community there. Whether it was changed or not, that's where God wants that place.

JW: With the Community now undergoing assault from those who want to disrupt the Community and split up the Community, what role do you think the church should have?

RE: Let me just tell you my history. I have not had the luxury of pastoring wealthy people. Most of my ministry has been with people who need a leader, someone who is an advocate for justice.

JW: What do you think will happen if the spiritual heart goes out of the Community in Venice?

RE: Just like all the other communities up and down the West Coast, it'll turn into a drug-infested, criminalized place where people are cold and they'll see crime go up. If the people don't speak out, the whole area will turn commercial.

JW: All this at the expense of a Community that's been there for five or six generations. What would you like to say to the ones who bought the church building, now that they want to turn it into a single-family dwelling with rooftop parking?

RE: Look, I'd tell that guy, "You've got a lot of nerve." I don't think he's going to live there all the time.

JW: Some people believe he'll eventually sell it. And it'll be torn down completely and turned into condominiums or something.

RE: Sure. That's a great place for a condominium, if that's what your goal is. But God didn't plan that church to be a condominium. And this is what happens when preachers stop preaching the truth. I don't care who you are. When a preacher's preaching the truth and the love of Almighty God... You've got to preach about sin. You've got to preach about heaven. You've got to preach about God and the Trinity. You've got to preach about hope and how God can make us better and give us strength. When you stop doing that, everything dies.

JW: The people who've been fighting to keep this hope live... keep this church alive for all these months, believe that this fight can be won.

RE: I think it can if God wants it. I mean... Here's what I'm saying to you, man... 100+ years; I think God's not that. Do you know how many churches die who are not even close to being that old? When a place has been around for 100+ years... Somebody needs to archive all that and save it. There needs to be a wing in that church just as a museum where the public can go in and out and just see what's going on. Because there's going to be more than just the church. There's going to be a little bit about history. We're talking about the art, what kind of people were there, how they got there, what they went through. That's something we need to know. People don't know what's going on with Venice. They don't know about the Canals. They don't know about the whole journey there.

JW: Do you think there are many, new to Venice, who would like to erase that history?

RE: I don't know. I think, when people really understand history, they don't want to change it, they want to add to it.

JW: But they're doing everything they can to erase the history of that church by changing the church itself.

RE: That's because the person who went there didn't understand the history. Here's what some other deacons in all the areas told me: Whenever a man sits down, everything falls over. Whenever the men of the church don't stand up and be the men that God called them to be, everything falls down. Where there's no vision, the people perish.

5 • June 2018 • Free Venice Beachhead

Amendment II

“A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

All this blah, blah from the NRA, gun makers and gun dealers about 2nd Amendment rights is a bunch of bullshit! Anyone who can read can see that the right to bear arms was tied to gun owners being part of, “A well regulated Militia.”

Before our Revolution in 1776 we had no army. Most places had no sheriff or lawmen except in our few larger towns. A militia was needed in case the Indians attacked or bandits were around. Unfortunately militias were also used in slave states to round up escaping slaves and to keep them in place.

Back in those days most guns only fired one shot. They were very inaccurate and armies had to march up close and fire so they could hit anything. It was also very slow to load your one shot.

Guns were rare except in rural areas where people hunted game. They were also somewhat expensive. It wasn’t until after the Civil War that guns became numerous, inexpensive, accurate and fired multiple rounds.

Today the gun lobbies all yell about this 2nd Amendment Right like it was written in stone on Moses’s tablets. There have been many changes and Amendments to our Constitution over time. This Amendment is antiquated since we have large armies, National Guards, Coast Guards, police, Navies and things our Founding Fathers never dreamed of things like jets, missiles and H bombs. If we follow the reasoning of this imaginary, “right to bear arms” then each of us should have the right to have our own private bazookas, tanks, atomic missiles, and H bombs! So I guess we all need to be ready for the Zombie Apocalypse, Godzilla, or the Martians from outer space. Or I guess the Chinese may still be digging their tunnel under the sea to invade us! The Ape armies from Planet of the Apes or Terminator robots could also attack us at any minute!

Much of this paranoia and imaginary need for weapons comes from our movies,TV and video games. Hollywood thinks that the more shooting, car crashes and explosions in their shows the more money they will make. To some degree they are right because who wants to go to a movie where the invading army hands out lollypops and ice cream and recites poetry and sings show tunes? Most of the biggest box office hits were filled with war and violence. Today the movies are more graphic than ever with computer generated realism. The violence in so many movies and TV shows and especially the video games makes everyone believe that there are murderers and robbers hiding inside your toilet and refrigerator who are going to burst in at any minute to steal your TV, money or valuable collection of old Beachheads. So you better have your AK 47 ready! Annie, get your gun!

Yes, our Supreme Court decided on letting you keep guns around because everyone could someday be in some imaginary militia. However, the Republicans had stacked the Court with gun kooks in the pocket of the NRA. Justice Stevens in his dissenting opinion called their findings a “strained and unpersuasive reading.” Even if you believe you need a gun to protect your home, do you need an arsenal of automatic weapons sitting around, unlocked, waiting for your 14 year old son to take them to school and begin shooting? Many of the guns used in crimes were stolen from those same homes where you had your arsenal there to protect yourselves from those same criminals!

The other problem is that we are still products of our ancient evolution where mammalian testosterone in men drive men mad with the urge to fight. We can see this even with two unfixed dogs barking at each other. We are still animals with our hormones raging inside us. We would like to believe we have risen above the apes but in most cases we are far more violent than they could ever be. All the time we see little four year old boys acting out in their play fighting, shooting, and stabbing each other. Our violent culture and mass media full of extreme violence only fuels this violent nature. Our movies and video games doesn’t show children how to calmly and peacefully work out their problems. No, shoot, kick, punch, cut and blow them to bits! Then we wonder why there is so many insane murders all the time.

MOISHE

JW: If we retain that vision, then we can...

RE: ...bring the church back. We're fighting the fight. The bottom line is this, brother: Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus is Lord. Whether it's Penske or whether it's Pablo. God created everybody. Whether you believe it now... Just like the oil filter commercial. You can pay me now or you can pay me later. But you're gonna pay.

JW: Yes sir.



REMEMBERING BRENDON GLENN



Brendon Glenn is Not Forgotten

by Mike Bravo

On Cinco de Mayo, myself, Save Venice, and some of our friends held a memorial and awareness event on Windward Ave. for Brendon Glenn who was shot and killed by LAPD three years ago that day. The video of his was finally made public March of this year, nearly three years after he was killed. Despite Chief Charlie Beck condemning the shooting and the video clearly showing that Brendon Glenn was not going for the gun, District Attorney Jackie Lacey still has refused to prosecute the officer. In fact, since taking office in 2012, Lacey has not brought charges against any police officer involved in an on-duty shooting.

Our goal with the event was to shine some dignity on Brendon Glenn's life and letting the world know that accountability for his death and the plight of our relatives being marginalized by gentrification and police violence will not be swept under the rug. In a time of great scrutiny over racism and police violence across the country surely you would wonder how our neighborhood, whose political leadership loves to boast about their dedication to diversity and culture in Venice could let such a blatant travesty go unchallenged and fall off the radar. Their actions, or inaction rather, speaks louder than their campaign buzzwords.

We set up a ceremonial altar with a bowl of incense smoke, flowers, candles, and poster images of Brendon



as well as some posters with pictures of our other Unhoused relatives in Venice who were killed by LAPD and security goons. As Save Venice likes to do, we always start and center ourselves with a community prayer or setting of intention as some may view it. A few of us took turns on the megaphone explaining the situation and passing out informational flyers to people passing by with at least 30 of them stopping to engage us in conversation.

James DeSimone, the lawyer for the family of Brendon Glenn, joined us and spoke eloquently about the continued efforts to pursue justice for Brendon's case. Channel 34 (Spanish,) Channel 4, and the Argonaut Newspaper were also on hand to cover the event. We are very appreciative of all our neighbors and friends who came to support and speak at this event for our fallen brother. You can stay informed on the justice efforts for Brendon Glenn at our website SaveVenice.me



BID
drives up
Beach
Parking
Fees.

SHOW UP for
The First Baptist
Church of Venice
APPEAL HEARING

Wed, June 20th, 2018 | After 4:30pm
Henry Medina Facility | 2nd Floor | Roll Call Room
11214 West Exposition Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90064

Come for Public Comment
and/or Write a Letter

Challenge its Church to single family residence change-of-use permit.

Find Out How to Support: SaveVenice.Me
Venice Event Page: vog.news/tbcv-appeal
City Planning Link: vog.news/tbcv-lacp

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well baby center®
A NON-PROFIT PARENTING & COUNSELING CENTER

Parenting Groups

Well Baby Center
12316 Venice Blvd.
Mar Vista, CA 90066
310.402.2229 ext 105
www.wellbabycenter.org

**TOP
TEN
CHART**

My School vs Generation Z School
By Henry Rosebuds

THEN: Fear of Soviets (attack by Reds)
NOW: Fear of Shooters (at school off meds)

THEN: Hate Them Commies!
NOW: Hate Them Haters!

THEN: Air Raid Drills
NOW: Lockdown Drills

THEN: Duck & Cover
NOW: Duck & Run for Cover

THEN: Play along (this is just propaganda)
NOW: Play dead (this is really real)

THEN: Place bomb shelter in backyard
NOW: Shelter in place

THEN: Joint in shelter
NOW: Vape in parking lot

THEN: Empty shelter's back room munch-ies
NOW: Empty backpacks in front of state police

THEN: "Bend over and kiss your ass good-bye"
NOW: Text "I love you"

THEN: Fear of other
NOW: Fear of us



This is David Busch’s editorial about the “A Bridge Home” project and his opinions are his own. The Beachhead Collective has not taken a position on this. The “Bridge Home” project is endorsed by many of our friends. We sincerely hope this does not play out like David suggests it will, but he has an informed perspective on this. Also see Deborah Groening’s Letter on page 5

A BRIDGE TO CAMPS

A Historic Showdown In Venice:June 13th

By David Busch

Hi all,

I was asked recently in an email survey to support Los Angeles’ “A Bridge Home”; and attend a support rally and photo-op for it proponents --on Saturday, June 13, in Venice.

This will be under the historic “Venice” sign:

At Windward and Pacific.

I’ve copied here my response below in the comments section of the “A Bridge Home” Community Survey.

And it looks like many of us will also be there, on the 20th, instead --to massively protest it.

In fact, hopefully including from around the world. Everyone, everywhere, who’s visited Venice: appreciated it as a community of resistance, and human culture; and resisted magnificently, all attempts to “Siliconize” it --and or Gentrafaconsumerize it.”

You should all show up now.

For as it stands, “A Bridge Home” is about as much about Venice --as Snapchat --that failure that we’ve already pushed back against, and is now being forced out --in one of the biggest anti-gentrification victories in any community in America. And as we next move to force this failing tech giant to return all of our illegally converted, siezed, and commercialized beachfront property, this coming summer in Venice.

Many of us will be sending out the invitations for the launching day of these, and other upcoming actions, in the coming weeks.

So here’s what I wrote about “Bridge to Home” as currently proposed for Venice:

Today, “shelters” throughout Los Angeles --offer no privacy; have daily kick-out hours; do not allow for cohabitation of informal couples; or even married ones: prison diets, no pets; large numbers of unstable, untreated, and misunderstood mentally ill; sexual harassment --no access to higher education --only coercion to work. No room for artists; contagious diseases; inadequate laundry and showers -miniscule personal storage, or even room for personal amenities.

In short, they are Guantanamos.

And that is now --what the city of Los Angeles, and it’s Mayor, Gil Garcetti --expects people to go to willingly?

And even more importantly for the historic community of Venice:

They CANNOT now be used, here, to deny the additional numbers of thriving traveling artists and counterculture street community here --where we have long homed --the right to continue to camp on the beach; and also to live in affordable vans and RV’s in Venice in this coastal zone.

And even already won court victories to do so.

RIGHT VISION: SEE VENICE AS IT IS:

One to 3% of America is homeless on any given day. And Venice, without a single shelterbed, has about 42,,000 residents. So 420 to 1260 people, right now, must additionally have the right to sleep on the streets of Venice unmolested --just to accommodate its current fair share of street-dwelling residents. This --with all their civil and human rights: to food, clothing, showers, and safe storage addressed.

And which, to this moment in Venice, is still being viciously denied.

Clearly, 100 tents in a parking lot does not come close to meeting that need.

And this --is in addition to the other one-percent, to three-percent, of Venice’s weekly tourist visitors:

Of, on average, 100,000 people per-week.

Roughly another 1,000 to 3,000 homeless people who have a right, each week, to equal access to our coastal zone. Including additional proportionate overnight lodging.

Nor will the 100 beds in this shelter come close to meeting that need either.

But it will now be used to deny the right to be here --of not just the 300 to 1,100 remaining unhoused residents:

But, in addition, these thousands of these weekly unhoused tourists.

This is not about NIMBYism. It is about No Criminalization in My Backyardism: NCIMBY. This is not about opposing solutions for the unhoused. It is about using a token camp in your community to cover for homeless hate:

“Oh look --we are not economically-segregating fascists, denying people their right to be in Venice, we have camps for them.”

Citywide, right now --this all about proposing roughly 1,600 shelter beds to criminalize another 39,000. Put them increasing peril of criminalization; and increased violence; and higher morbidity for the next decade. This --as this City’s Mayor launches his Presidential bid. And hoping he’ll be long gone before the reality of this massive bait-and-switch sets in.

Here, we in the historic street-culture of Venice make Venice uniquely free: and the second largest tourist attraction in Southern California.

Meanwhile -- “A Bridge Home” proposed for Venice offers no guarantees that there is any recognition of any of that, anywhere, in the discussion:

The problem of homeless criminalization; gentrification of Venice; and increasing segregation of Venice for the wealthy --will just be made worse by this proposal as it currently stands.

RIGHT INTENTION: FORM A GOOD INTENTION

Most of all:

It is disappointing, that both the Mayor and Bonin’s videos --announcing “A Bridge Home” --begin by emphasizing so angrily that they are going to “get homeless people off ‘our’ streets,” and end “homeless encampments in ‘our’ neighborhoods.” This is especially sad to see in Councilman Bonin’s video. Very alarmingly, this is Trump-style dog-whistle: to further legitimize L.A.’s rampant homeless hate. As a part of “A Bridge Home” they have new websites to encourage Angelenos to specifically target any group of unhoused as soon as they are spotted for property seizure if they do not leave. And behind the scene, new forms of high-tech harassment and criminalizing. This is not leadership ---it is cowardice in the face of neighborhoods in L.A. of increasing hate.

Leaders lead with our vision of bridging our differences as people: Not by “getting them out of our way;” not by ignoring that these are our neighbors, people; and not calling attention to our common humanity --and, instead --dehumanizing them, and characterizing them often, merely as the “encampments” they live in. And then trying to deny and pretend that you are not directing hate and anger at people in preparation for their massive criminalization --those who you’ve viciously dehumanized --as, rather than people, these targeted “encampments.”

Coming from Democrats here, it is even more deeply appalling --and disgusting.

Mayor Garcetti, Councilman Bonin: Is this what you think we should now come to as a City? Is this is how you bring a community of people together and inspire them to see each other as people that need to stop valuing themselves by the price --they pay for their horrific and alarmingly-inflated, real estate? Divide us, over where we poor must live in order to stand --by the thousands --for our own humanity?

Like in this one, the repeated rhetoric of division and dehumanization --and who’s neighborhoods these are --in these videos is vile and alarming.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=DdIiAru2x2g>

Moreover, specifically for Venice, there is no recognition of the unique, free, and counter-culture character of Venice: Or of the extra burdens of wealthy gentrification, that have been brought here by these wealthy new people raking in millions --and while launching their campaigns to now segregate Venice for the rich.

And who are now determined just as viciously destroy it’s historic beach character.

RIGHT SPEECH: SPEAK THE TRUTH; NOT PLATITUDES

Anybody now arguing that we shouldn’t oppose this MTA camp because it is “at least a step in the right direction” -- is about as good an advocate for their own humanity:

Not to mention homeless people’s basic human rights; and their basic safety against criminalization in Venice:

As Trump is.

Trading the safety of 100 unhoused for the criminalization of 100 a week; locking up of 50 a month in jail; and the increased siezing of 400 homeless people’s cars, Rv’s, bicycles; sleeping bags, tents, backpacks --musical instruments; clothing and most needed survival items --in our weekly parking and “Sanitation Sweeps” is what you countenance:

Because you really don’t give a damn. You good German. The city is going to make it all look good with their token camp in your midst; you won’t hear them screaming in jail. Pushed out. Increased attacks on the homeless.

less; denying them storage and then siezing any suitcase they set down; even if it is next to a bird scooter; denying them even food in Venice:

You continue to accept that.

You want to look the other way; as 1,100 of us here are about to be hunted like animals.

The guy with the cross who sleeps on the street, collects sick birds and prays for them; the woman who breaks up fights among the other homeless and tells them to be loving.

The struggling artist on the boardwalk who grew up here and is willing to never be chased away. The homeless woman on the boardwalk who makes flowers --and navigates all the potentially stalking men here with amazing grace and skill. And writes immortal poetry about these times. The former IDF soldier who is finding the only relief from his PTSD after years --here, finally on this beach; and digs through your garbage can --because you won’t feed Venice’s fair share of the homeless here. In fact you stand by as local haters with enough money to move anywhere they want; come out and curse and threaten anyone who now tries to bring meals anywhere to the streets of Venice. The black musician who will never go into this white-ruled system --but will make music for all and die here in tribute to Venice’s street culture --rather than do anything else.

RIGHT LIVELYHOOD: PRESERVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A LIVELYHOOD FOR ALL IN VENICE

Proposals for the use of an empty MTA city bus lot must show it opens only a door to more services for our 1,200 unhoused on the street here first--and to offer the privacy, opportunity, autonomy and respect for fundamental human rights --that current L.A. shelters do not.

Before Councilman Bonin asks for support from this community for this minor proposal --and use it to cover for a massive increase in police attacks here on Venice street artists, traveling youth and the homeless and their property --anybody with any human conscience left here needs to demand that he first couple it with better guarantees against these attacks; property seizures, and attempts to drive out Venice’s historic street culture:

And outline how he will help the preserve it going forward --and finally protect the rest of this community’s unhoused against Venice’s off-the-hook gentrifying greed.

In this, their largest attempt yet to segregate this beach and deny poor people here their equal access, that is protected under State law to this unique and historic coastal zone.

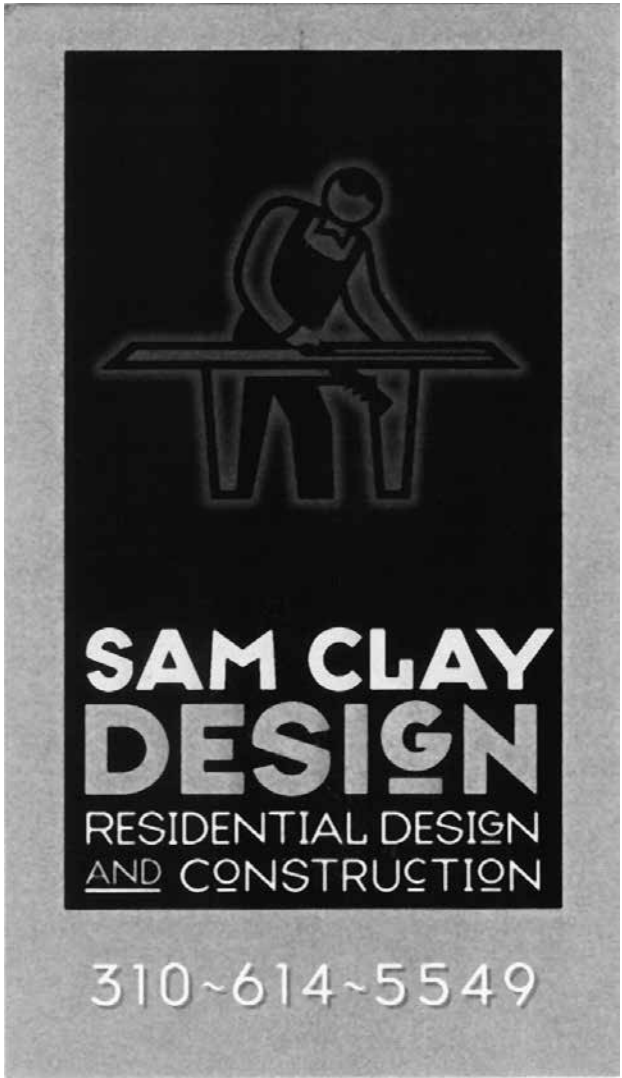
RIGHT MEDITATION:

To turn your eyes away from this is not equanimity --and peace.

It is unacceptably disgusting.

Sincerely,

David Busch



so here

alan rodman

*
so here is the thing
many enjoyment
were had by all

when we were finished
we found we had
just begun. there’s so

much to tell you
best let you find out
for yourself. Life

goes on within
you beyond without you
they say but they were talking

about the space
between us all.
chime to realize a sign

inside your spine
spoke the poet but
behind the mind you’ll find

a fine time to rise
harmonize
and get it done as one

which had no
beginning
has no endings

How Do I Poet

Like the scholars of yore
Winning accolades galore

Sorry guys. I was/am good!

Watch what I do
Perk up to the news

She had a high rise thought
And on she did

It!!!!

- Kristine Gloviak

alan rodman

in silence find
not only echoes
in unanswered inquiries

stillness yet
perfect expression
of a mystery

what is more
a word not spoken
says it all

musing on that quiet sound
ancestors are always
not making

tomorrow
will be clothed
in the colors of your songs



QUESTIONS ANSWERED ONLINE
by era

Q: If you had a time machine that could travel into the past, what era would you visit?

A:Hmmm. +Anywhere? Advance scouting would be helpful, history is notoriously inaccurate, and locals may be thuggish. The honored guest of an ancient “High” Civilization’s great Artist. Nice RPG.

Sent 9:06 AM

Q:If you could wake up tomorrow having gained a new ability, which would it be?

A:Make people chill, open their hearts, and do the right thing for each other.

Sent 9:07 AM

Q:What is your dream getaway vacation?

A:Intergalactic space time cruise.

Sent 9:08 AM

Q:Is there at least one person currently walking the earth that you would like to punch in the face?

A:Physical Violence is not effective except for selling movies to audience told they must repress aggressiveness, while going for it, and fighting off evil aliens with moral conviction and superpowers. i.e.MCU.

Sent 9:12 AM

Q:Do you enjoy alone time?

A:Yes because I don’t have to go anywhere to have fun, i am fun.

Sent 9:14 AM

DOWNTOWN LA
In in this cold heart of a City
Lie men on the ground who could not make it
Many walkers passing by
Gucci, Prada
Thanks a lotta!
For a token
Unspoken
You

- Kristine Gloviak

IT AIN’T SO BAD marty liboff
So what would ya do if you could do it all over again
would ya buy stocks or end up in a state pen?
Would ya go to business school
or take up surfing or pool?
Buy a lottery ticket and win a million
bought real estate and made a billion?
Would ya take up acting and learn to play guitar
join a rock band or become a famous movie star?
Become an astronaut and fly to Mars
or ride motorcycles and racing cars?
Maybe pro basketball and baseball I’d play
instead of obeying do things my own way?
Would ya have kissed that gal in high school
or married that sweet girl in shul?
Maybe run for office and become President
or be a scientist to figure out what Einstein meant?
Would ya work on a cure for cancer
or become a singer and dancer?
Write the great novel and play
write musicals and become gay?
Maybe I’d end world hunger and make peace
take a cruise to the islands of Greece?
Become a great painter and take up art
or just eat lots of pizza and ice cream and fart?
Become a genius and teach
or even play music on Venice Beach?
All these things I’d do I guess
but instead I’d probably make a bigger mess!
So I’m happy with my life as it is
and not be jealous of hers or his.
Maybe you could of been this or that
be happy today cause that’s where it’s at.
I keep feeling that my life is sad
but then I smile because it ain’t so bad...

9 • June 2018 • Free Venice Beachhead

A Diverse and Beautiful Land
Alan Rodman

This is a physically diverse and beautiful land and the people themselves are many kinds, from all kind of places, and once many were filled with kindness.

Their parents or grandparents may have migrated here, some even involuntarily, as struggling newcomers who somehow, through earnest effort and great suffering, surpassing even racism and oppression, found much to rejoice in our new world. Maybe over time we became brittle, forgetful, or perhaps our aspiration changed. Everyone was once expected to get a general education about liberty and responsibility to our community, and the inviolable family unit was presented as the ideal microcosm of the society.

But a strong authoritarian father image has now dominated our political culture destructively. He is a willful arrogant homewrecker.

An immigrant person entering our country today risks having their own children ripped out of their arms to be placed in grim Dickensian detention facilities, hired out for unpaid labor, or in the despicable words of John Kelly, “placed in foster care or whatever.”

The America that included the hopes and dreams of the many has been consigned to serve the interests of a vicious but well funded few, who presently succeed in using every monied advantage of unchecked influence to stir up anti immigrant rhetoric, using the terrifying act of dividing a powerless mother from her frightened child.

The reasons to come here are many. I, and everyone close to me, welcome every person to visit here, make your home here even, please -- but it seems for now someone in power, without a shred of kindness, decency, or any sense of history or American pride, wants to break up your family, so for today I guess you’re supposed to cringe in fear that you better not bring your children.

But remember, many of our populace will always welcome the poor, the disadvantaged, and the refugee. We respect your struggle. Our hearts’ gates are opened wide to you. As our poet Robert Frost said,

“Before I built a wall I’d ask to know
What I was walling in or walling out,
And to whom I was like to give offence.
Something there is that doesn’t love a wall.”

THIS PAPER IS A POEM

my old dog pharoah marty liboff

Everyone wants to tell me my old dog is going to die.

“Wow, he’s 15. That’s like 105 in dog years!”

“He’s getting old!” They say. Like I don’t know!

After all, he’s my best friend...

“What are you going to do when he dies?” They all ask.

“He looks like he’s getting thin and slow and old.” They tell me.

Relatives, friends and perfect strangers find some need to tell me this again and again and again-

For the last 4 years I’ve heard it over and over.

“Big dogs like him usually only last about 12 years.” They say.

“I had a dog like him and he made it to 9.” They moan to me as they pet his wise, old, furry head.

Then I wonder if I should be telling that very old woman with the walker hobbling down the street, “Old lady, you’re gonna DIE soon!”

Somehow people need to tell me my dog is old and will be dead soon.

I usually tell them, “I’m old too and I may beat him to the grave.”

If they persist with their death curses I sometimes say, “We never know when Death comes a knocking. He is always hovering over your shoulder and we never know the moment he will grab us. Even YOU!”

Then they laugh and they tell me and themselves, “Oh no, I’m gonna be around a long, long time!”

Well lets hope so...

CALENDAR

BEYONDBAROQUE.ORG

JUNE 7 THURSDAY 8:00 PM
RYAN BUYNAC – NYC anti-poet Ryan Buynak will be taking over the Beyond Baroque theater to celebrate the release of his latest book, *Writer, Bartender, Skateboarder*. These poems revel in nostalgia, celebrating youth and young manhood. Having written it over a decade ago, it explores how ideals and inspiration at this significant point in life will always stick with you, for good or ill. The evening will comprise of poetry, comedy and maybe a little music. If underground art, raw performance, and sharing of words excite you, you won’t want to miss this literary thrill ride! Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 8 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
ALEXIS RHONE FANCHER, RICK LUPERT & AMBER DECKER
From Eros to Thalia and points between. Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 9 SATURDAY 4:00 PM
SCHUBERTIANA, an homage to Swedish Nobel Prize-winning poet Tomas Tranströmer. Kathryn Roszak’s San Francisco-based Danse Lumière performs a dance noir with dance, films and poetry inspired by Tomas Tranströmer. Films include Kathryn Roszak’s new short film “Secrets” and “Östersjöar,” and James Wine’s film adaptation of Tranströmer’s “Baltics.” “A transatlantic fusion of dance, theater, and the Nobel Prize-winning poetry of Sweden’s Tomas Tranströmer... bends imagination and torques preconceived notions into transportive beauty.” Lous Fancher, San Jose Mercury News. Featuring Marissa Head, Alisha Ragon, Linnea Snyderman, and Earll Kingston. Regular admission. Members FREE. For tickets click here.

JUNE 9 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
MAINTENANT 12 A Journal of Contemporary DADA
A compilation of leading Dada-influenced artists from around the world. The most brilliant issue ever! Check the website for confirmed readers. Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 10 SUNDAY 2:00
SOAP BOX POETS OPRN READING
This is your home. Bring your words. The mic is yours. Sign ups begin at 1:45 PM. There is a five minute limit. Hosted by Jessica Wilson Cardenas. FREE, but donations are always welcome.

JUNE 10 SUNDAY 4:00
LAUREATES READING: KIM DOWER & MILA CUD
West Hollywood Poet Laureate Kim Dower reads with Los Angeles Youth Poet Laureate Mila Cuda. Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 10 SUNDAY 7:00 PM
SUMMER BREEZE
Public Works Improvisational Theatre presents an evening of lively variety arts programming -celebrating talented writers, storytellers, poets, musicians and comics. Every month, we explore topical themes for your pleasure and enjoyment! Hosted by Eric Vollmer. Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 14 THURSDAY 8:00 PM
THE QUICK WITH SPECIAL GUEST MARK HAMILL
The Quick were the crucial link between the glam and punk eras in Los Angeles. Like The Runaways, they were discovered by impresario Kim Fowley. Their 1976 debut album pursued a power pop sound influenced by Sparks (ex-Sparks guitarist Earle Mankey engineered). Never before on CD until this month, this will be a discussion hosted by actor Mark Hamill (Luke Skywalker of Star Wars) who loved this band. Mankey, Lisa Fancher and band members Danny Benair & Steven Hufsteter will be part of the evening. Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 15 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
THE POETS: A CELEBRATION OF THE ONYX CAFE
A celebration of the legendary Onyx Café in Silverlake, home to painters, poets and performing artists. Steve Abee reads, Hassan Jamal screens his film *The Poets* and S.A. Griffin hosts. Hassan is a playwright, poet, theater director, filmmaker and is currently founder and producing director of the web series, *LA Subway Shakespeare Project*. The Poets was screened at the 1995 AFI Film Festival Video Division. Regular Admission. Members FREE

JUNE 16 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
SESSHU FOSTER: CITY OF THE FUTURE
One of the great poets of urban Los Angeles takes on gentrification, modernization, and globalization in this reading and discussion. With special guests. Regular

admission. Members FREE

JUNE 17 SUNDAY FATHERS DAY
JUNE 22 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
KAI WILSON AND JULIA HANNAFIN
Writers Kai Wilson and Julia Hannafin invite you to PLAY, a reading featuring the work of emerging writers. Writers will read from work that takes on play as a subject, or that is playing literally with writing, words, form, and language. Join us in a night of listening to writers at PLAY in the midst of discovering their own voice. FREE but donations gratefully accepted.

JUNE 23 SATURDAY 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
WORKSHOP WITH DOROTHEY BARRESI
This two-part workshop is focused on “aboutness” or, more specifically, Overturning “Aboutness”: Writing and Revising a Self-Disrupting Poem. \$50.00 general, \$35.00 members. \$15.00 auditors. Limited to 15 participants.

JUNE 23 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
DOROTHY BARRESI
Dorothy Barresi is the author of *American Fanatics*; *Rouge Pulp*; *Post-Rapture Diner*, winner of the American Book Award; and *All of the Above*, winner of the Barnard College New Women Poets Prize. She is also the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the North Carolina Arts Council. Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 24 4:00 PM
MORGAN PARKER AND JAKE YOUNG
Morgan Parker is the author of *There Are More Beautiful Things Than Beyoncé* (Tin House Books, 2017), *Other People’s Comfort Keeps Me Up At Night* (Switchback Books, 2015), and the forthcoming *Magical Negro* (Tin House, 2019). Jake Young is the author of *American Oak* (Main Street Rag, 2018). FREE

JUNE 24 SUNDAY 7:00 PM
7 DUDELY CINEMA
Cutting edge films hosted by Gerry Fialka. FREE

JUNE 28 THURSDAY 8:00 PM
CONNECTING CULTURES
POETS & WRITERS presents CONNECTING CULTURES, our 8th annual cross-cultural reading in Los Angeles. Since 1989, P&W’s Readings & Workshops program has sponsored thousands of literary events in California, connecting diverse writers with diverse audiences. To celebrate this ongoing initiative, we ask R&W partner organizations to present some of their favorite local poets, fiction writers, and creative nonfiction writers. Join us! FREE

JUNE 29 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
HISTORY OF L.A. POETRY / POETICS READING
Beyond Baroque’s seminar on the history of Los Angeles poetry & poetics culminates with this special reading. Check the website for more details. Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 30 SATURDAY 4:00 PM
ORPHANED WORDS
RD Armstrong’s new book of poems carries the sub-title *Forgotten Poems from a Haphazard Life*. Come hear what he’s talking about. Brendan Constantine will be on hand to fill you in if you don’t get it. Regular admission. Members FREE

JUNE 30 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
KATHLEEN WINTER AND DEXTER L. BOOTH
Kathleen Winter is the author of two poetry collections, *I will not kick my friends*, which won the Elixir Poetry Prize, and *Nostalgia for the Criminal Past*, winner of the 2013 Texas Institute of Letters Bob Bush Memorial Award. Her poems have appeared in *Tin House*, *The New Statesman*, *Agni*, *New Republic*, *Cincinnati Review*, *Poetry London*, *Yale Review* and several anthologies. Her awards include fellowships at the University of Texas’s Dobie Paisano Ranch, the Dora Maar House, James Merrill House, Cill Rialaig Project and Vermont Studio Center. She won the 2014 Rochelle Ratner Memorial Award judged by Brenda Hillman, and the 2016 Poetry Society of America The Writer Magazine/Emily Dickinson Award. She teaches at Sonoma State. Dexter L. Booth is the author of *Scratching the Ghost*, which won the 2012 Cave Canem Poetry Prize. His poems have been published in *Grist*, *Willow Springs*, and *New Delta Review*. Booth teaches poetry and English composition at Arizona State University. Regular admission. Members FREE

LAUGHTEARS

Established 1953

June 6 WED (not Tues-voting) 6pm McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading Club (moved to Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd for 3 months, instead of the regular Marina Del Rey Library 4533 Admiralty Way Read Article

June 9, Sat at 7:30pm SUZY WILLIAMS & BRAD KAY in Van Nuys Noble House Concert <http://www.jrp-graphics.com/noblehouse/> Facebook= <https://www.facebook.com/events/1568124389970692/>

June14 Thursday 7pm SUZY & BRAD House concert - Venice Canals area -\$15- rsvp for location 310 306 7330

June 16 SAT at 2:30pm MESS Poet & Artist Mike Mollett interview - rsvp for location 310 306 7330

June 17 SUN 6pm to 7pm SUZY & FRIENDS opening for The BoneDaddies (7:15 to 10pm) no cover, 2 drink min, <https://www.thewriteoffroom.com/>

June 20 Wed 6-9pm MOM - MEDIA DISCUSSION at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd Venice CA FREE

June 24, Sun 7pm Seven Dudley Cinema at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd free admission - PULL (2018, 51 minutes) at 8pm - World premiere of Taylor Cox’s (in person) biographical documentary which probes the will to pursue personal dreams through life’s tragedies and triumphs. Venice residents and artists listen to their inner voices and follow that invisible pull towards their desired essence. RIA LIVE CINEMA at 7pm - psychedelic multi-media art party.

June 25 Mon 6-9pm Laughtears Salon 212 Pier Santa Monica free - politics, art, culture discussion, free

July 3 Tues 6pm McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading Club (moved to Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd for temporarily, instead of the regular Marina Del Rey Library 4533 Admiralty Way Read Article

July 14 Sat 3pm MESS - Artist John Mooney interview (rsvp for location 310 306 7330) FREE

The Electric Lodge Presents

Sunday, June 10 at 7pm

Ocean Cities: Exploring Our Connection To The Sea

a new film by Chuck Davis.

Ocean Cities follows host Professor Tim Beatley as he interacts with visionaries in coastal cities in the United States, Rotterdam, Amsterdam and in The Netherlands to explore how we can connect our urban populations the sea around them, and what needs to be done now to meet the challenge of sea level rise.

Kelp farming. Running river rapids. Groundwater. Solutions.

With: Chuck Davis; Filmmaker Ocean Cities, George Wolfe; LA River Expeditions, Brandon Barney; Primary Ocean Producers and our very own Dr. Joel Shapiro; Electric Lodge and Arts:Earth Partnership.

Friday, June 15th 7:15pm

OPEN TEMPLE

Finger Foods at 7:00 pm
(to ensure spiritual attentiveness)
Shabbat Services at 7:15 pm
(spiritual nourishment)
Shabbat After Dark at 9:00 pm
(carnal nosh and nom nom)

RSVP at info@opentemple.org

Saturday, June 30th 8:00pm

Peace For Children

Peace Is Not A Dream, But Our Salvation

Daniel, a pro-war singer songwriter, meets Sara, a peace activist, in a Venice music bar. Their chemistry trumps their differing world views, and after a whirlwind week of dating, they fall in love. After a tragic event, Daniel changes his pro-war stance and commits his life to supporting Sara’s peace initiatives. Together they advocate that world peace must be achieved not only to save children but as the only salvation for our human race.

Ongoing Events

OCCUPY VENICE BEACH

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

COMPUTERS

- 2:30pm, Mon-Fri. Latino Resource Center at Vera Davis Center. 4-12. Free Printing. Abbot Kinney Public Library.

FOOD

- 4pm Saturdays through Wednesdays. Free Vegetarian Food. OFW & Dudley.
- 1:30pm, Thursdays. Free Vegetarian Food. OFW & Sunset.

KIDS

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

MUSIC

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

MISCELLANEOUS

- 9-4pm, 2nd 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, 1:30-2:30pm Dancing Through Parkinson's, Donation, Electric Lodge

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
- **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 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) 310-606-2018
- **Unurban Coffee Shop** - 3301 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, 310-315-0056

11 • June 2018 • Free Venice Beachhead

SAVE THE DATE - June 16th, 7-9pm

90291: VENICE UNZIPPED



A new feature documentary is in the making and we're inviting YOU to be part of the film's core community at our grass roots fundraiser.

Join us on SATURDAY JUNE 16th @ THE LANTERN HOUSE in Venice. The evening will be presented by Scott Mayers and an exciting host / sponsor committee, with DJ, Silent Auction, Venice stakeholders and libations. Official invitation & RSVP details to follow. Mark your calendars!

As a friend of Venice Beach and this eclectic, world renowned community... We Want You! Come be a part of our feature documentary's core community at this grass roots fundraising event.

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday June 16th 2018, 7-9PM

90291: VENICE UNZIPPED

The Lantern House, Venice

The film: 90291: VENICE UNZIPPED is a feature documentary about income inequality and the current state of play in Venice. In the doc, we'll embed with three families living in the same zip code, but at opposite ends of the growing income divide. We'll dig into the impact of gentrification on vanishing working & middle class residents, and see how the affordable housing crisis in the westside of Los Angeles is shared by many other communities and zip codes across America. Is Venice, the last beach city of color, a cautionary tale about a diverse community's demise, or a story of hope fueled by the rise of tech in Silicon Beach?

The team: Brought to you by long time Venice locals - writer / director Colin Keith Gray and producer Megan Raney Aarons (AKA "The Sibs" - Atari: Game Over, Being Canadian, Freedom's Fury); local journalist CJ Gronner; as well as EP Amaechi Uzoigwe (Run The Jewels); and Emmy award winning editor Mohamed El Manasterly (The Square). Project is produced by GRAiNEY PICTURES and EVO Films USA.

Why you? We'd truly value your involvement & support at our fundraiser as we craft, cast & compose this important story. Filming to begin this Summer across Venice.

Please mark your calendars!

The 90291: Venice Unzipped team

**DON'T LET THIS
HAPPEN TO YOU**



JOIN THE UNION!

Los Angeles Tenants Union
West Side Local Meetings
1st and 3rd Wednesday; 7-8:30pm
Oakwood Recreation Center
767 California Ave., Venice, CA 90291

westsidelocal.latu@gmail.com
424-272-1618

Solidarity Casework hotline: 213-986-8266

Get to know your neighbors!
Get to know your rights!

THIS MEETING WILL BE BILINGUAL SPANISH / ENGLISH.



**NO DEJES QUE ESTO
TE PASE A TI**



¡ÚNETE AL SINDICATO!

Sindicato de Inquilinos de Los Angeles
Reuniones de la Sección Oeste
1er y 3er miércoles; 7-8:30pm
Center de Recreación Oakwood
767 California Ave, Venice, CA 90291

westsidelocal.latu@gmail.com
424-272-1618

Línea de apoyo solidario de casos: 213-986-8266

Conozca a sus vecinos!
Conozca sus derechos!

LA REUNIÓN SERÁ BILINGÜE EN ESPAÑOL-INGLÉS.





Fiddler – from the mural on the Israel Levin Center
by Christina Schlesinger