

Unhoused Mentally Ill - 1
 VOTE and Don't Not Vote - 1
 Venice Congregation - 1
 Free Food - 1
 Hunger and Violence - 2
 I Will Vote - 3
 Streets Make The Canvas - 4
 Chains on OFW - 5
 Venice Place Groundhog's Day - 5
 VENAISSANCE - 5
 VCH Youth Build maintains VJAMM - 6
 Support Reese Davidson Project
 Got - Fatigue? & Nothing Works On Him - 8
 Poetry - 8+9 Calendar - 10

FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

SINCE 1968

November 2020 #460

Ballot Recommendations on
 Page 11

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Unhoused and Mentally Ill in Venice



by Peggy Lee Kennedy, Venice Justice Committee
 Saturday, Sep. 26, 2020 at 1:04 AM

The way City of Los Angeles deals with unhoused people suffering with mental illness should be dismantled and defunded.

These pictures, taken by Matt Fisher in Venice, explicitly show how our City dealt with a woman who suffers with mental illness. According to Matt, she was regularly handcuffed by LAPD while Sanitation threw away her stuff.

I do not have much more information other than these pictures, but in my opinion these pictures tell a story; they should be used as a glaring example of how the City of Los Angeles should NOT be dealing with our unhoused population who are suffering with mental illness.

I do not know this woman. I just feel some things are so awful that they need to be shared.

The ways City of Los Angeles, LAPD, LAHSA, and Sanitation deals with unhoused people suffering with mental illness should be dismantled and defunded.

It is shameful.

LAHSA regularly works with LAPD and LAPD is still the City's main agent dealing with unhoused people who suffer with mental illness, which is outrageous.

LAPD is an armed force trained in violent methods of control. This should not be the main City agent dealing with disabled people our society has basically abandoned.

Wasted and useless LAHSA outreach funding should be defunded and reallocated to buying motels or other property that can be converted into permanent community based, socially run board & care facilities.

LAPD should be replaced -not trained- with a treatment based system that moves unhoused people suffering with mental illness into permanent community based, socially run board & care facilities.

In some cases it may require interim placements in crisis programs similar to Exodus or safe camping sites next to services.

There are humane solutions. It is not impossible.

And we need to pay attention with love, not fear, even if we don't want to. These are our sisters, brothers, daughters, sons, or mothers.

Everybody else is voting, aren't you??



Venice Still Has The Congregation

By Jon Wolff

The following is from a recent conversation with Etta Moore-Bray, a longstanding member of the congregation of the First Baptist Church of Venice. The First Baptist Church of Venice is an historical African-American church located in the heart of Venice. The building was sold in 2017 by the pastor of the church, Horace Allen to a wealthy White couple, Jay Penske and Elaine Irwin. The Penskes plan to gut the church building and turn it into a mega-mansion for themselves. The activist group, Save Venice has been fighting to reclaim this space for three years now.

Jon Wolff: You were a member of the First Baptist Church of Venice.

Etta Moore-Bray: Yes. That's correct.

JW: What are your memories of being with the church?

EMB: The First Baptist Church was the beacon light for the entire community... the Oakwood community. We joined the church in 1957. It was a small church across the street from the big church. The pastor [E.L. Holmes] bought the land and he had the church built on that land. And they paid off the mortgage within five years. The church used to be packed every Sunday. Then the young man who later became the pastor didn't do anything until the old pastor's wife passed away.

continued on page 3

Don't Boycott Election 2020, Venice Rallies for Greater Political Participation

by Soni Lloyd

In the election of 2016 100 million Americans did not vote. That is the silent boycott that so few speak about. Why does this every four years despite all the get out the vote campaigns? Many people in this country don't see the point of participating in politics. They experience elections where the 1% compete for power every four years while the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. The elections happen and nothing changes. People are beginning to understand that a conquest of power by one of the two political

continued on page 3

Hunger makes a thief of any man.

ARE YOU HUNGRY?

FREE FOOD AT VENICE BEACH
 (times and places occasionally change)

*Hope for the Hearts of the Homeless- Pam & Joel and friends. Thur. & Sun. around 9am. Coffee, pastries, sandwiches. north Ocean Front Walk near Ozone Ave.

*Hare Krishna vegetarian food- Mon. Wed. Fri. around 11am. Ocean Front Walk by the Dudley Ave pagoda.


*You Matter with Michael and friends- Tue. & Thur. Around 11am. Hotdogs, burgers, fruit, snacks. north Ocean Front Walk near Ozone Ave. also Sat. around 8:30am near Windward Ave.

*Oasis Network Inc. with Dan & friends- various groceries, bread, fruit, vegetables. Sat. & Sun. around 9am. Ocean Front Walk by Dudley Ave.

*Venice Equity Alliance- fruit & vegetables. Wed. 12:45pm. 132 Brooks Ave.

*St. Joseph Center- their clients, To-Go Meals. M-F 9:30am-12pm. 663 Rose Ave. Also weekly food if you register at (310)396-6468 ext.313


:(These organizations all need your donations and help): THANKS




FREE

Fresh Food & Veggies

every Wednesday at 12:45pm
 at
 132 Brooks Ave in Venice




from the
Venice Equity Alliance



GRATIS

Comida y Verdura Fresca

todos los miércoles a las 12:45pm
 en
 132 Brooks Ave en Venice



de la
Alianza de Equidad de Venice



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

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Dear Beachhead,

Since nothing seems to work against this horrible terrible monster, here's a suggestion: In the late '60s, Ken Kesey and his Merry Pranksters were living in La Honda CA, south of San Francisco. But gosh, the gang was so depressed. About police brutality, civil incivility, the millions of Americans in poverty. Mainly, they were angry about the war in Vietnam. About President Lyndon Baines Johnson and how many kids he'd killed that day. (To paraphrase a popular protest chant back then.)

The Pranksters came to realize that directing so much of their negative energy at LBJ -- all that bad juju -- that it was coming out of him as endless bombings of the Vietnamese people. What good was the righteous anger? They decided, the next time the President held a press conference, to try a different tactic. To support him. So one night in March, 1968, they all sat in front of their one TV, passing the hash pipe around, and when LBJ appeared on screen, they dropped all judgment. Just supported him as another human being, sending good vibes only. "Suddenly," Kesey said, "we began to see a crack...and this media wrapper peeled away...until he crawled out and simply said: Fellow Americans, I cannot be your President anymore. I got a scar from Cambodia clear to my goddam asshole. I can't make it."

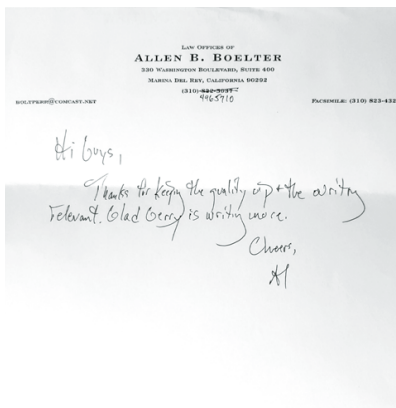
"Which was hard for big old Texan sheriff to say," added Kesey. Lyndon Johnson quit his run for reelection. "And that's the way the revolution is won," Kesey said. "With affection."

(Yeah, yeah, you say, Nixon came in, etc etc etc. I'm just saying it might be fun trying. Just because Nothing Else Seems to be Working)

xo,

Hank Rosenfeld

your neighbor from Ocean Park



Dear Editor,

Many thanks for publishing the obituary I wrote for my wife, Annie Flaum. Her children and countless friends are delighted that you printed it in its entirety, with the photos also.

I am sure that Annie would be happy to be acknowledged in the newspaper of the beach that she loved so much. Anyone who knew her or me, in that Summer of Love 1967 is welcome to contact me: mick-flaum@aol.com. I would love to reminisce.

Peace and love,

Mick Flaum

You know
you're
from Venice
if/when..

...you remember Keith & Bills..



Hunger and Violence.

by Eric Ahlberg

"Hunger makes a thief of any man." - Pearl S. Buck

You know you're from Venice if you have always seen tramps, bums, drunks, thieves and houseless camping somewhere in Venice. Garages, campers, vans. couches were all perfectly acceptable domestic solutions and places for your bike to be stolen from. There has been, over the years, a lot of aggression and stupidity by Police and houseless people, including fires.

The evidence appears mixed as to whether these are caused by enmity among some houseless persons, or that of vigilantes who felt driven to attack poor people camping on the street, or failed attempts at street pharmaceutical chemistry.

Are the current programs realizing the goals that Mr. Bonin set? Can we blame him for having an overly optimistic outlook in selling humanistic solution to homelessness, in the face of a depression. Do you think the programs can be improved, or are they failure of the corrupt liberal state? That is about as far as the political debate goes today on Venice (California) Community on Facebook.

At the other, more clean locations around the city, there appears to be nowhere to go hang out on the street, with the exception of skid row and downtown. Parks all over LA have pop-up homeless camps. Venice has the world famous hangout at the beach, and just about any free-willed tramp would like to hang there, and so should be their right.

We have a long glorious history of tramps, poets and thieves in Venice, where art meets crime. We also have a long history of social service organizations and civil libertarians who believe that the poor should not be imprisoned for being poor.

We can thank the landlords and realtors for their no-brainer pursuit of driving up home and rental prices and so the number of wealthy entitled people who feel they deserve cleaner streets. We are in a depression however, and joblessness and homelessness are arguably worse than the "Great Depression".

What would you do about this? Crime and fires on the street. Iron fist or velvet glove? Bonin is taking the heat for the failure of our economy to provide suitable employment, or even a handout.

"History is written by the rich, and so the poor get blamed for everything."

— Jeffrey D. Sachs, economist

I Will Vote

by Alan Rodman November 2016

The wonderful old TV looked to me like a front loading washing machine with its round screen, some black and white porthole into the big outside world. I think maybe it was a Philco, and anyway we saw everything as if it were in color in those days. My little three year old sister and I were only allowed to watch TV that once, because something big had happened. My elderly babysitter, from my father's meditation group, never had the thing on for us, in her quiet little home lined with shelves of delicate Hummel figurines where everything seemed to always stand still. But that day in 1963 was different because the porthole was lit up with images of a horse-drawn hearse carrying the slain President Kennedy's body in state. I was just six then, but I begin to gather the hugeness of this loss, and the vast lament of a whole nation, fellow people that I could only try to envision. In my mind's eye I saw them all mourning and standing in respect. I never imagined there were any people who did not count that assassination a great loss to this whole country. That was all just a year or two after I had really begun to wonder about the lyrics to Woody Guthrie's song, This Land Is Your Land. "This land was made for you and me," he sang...

"As I went walking, I saw a sign there,

And on the sign, it said 'No Trespassing.'

But on the other side, it didn't say nothin'.

That side was made for you and me!"

And in great big letters, Woody had scrawled across his guitar, "This machine kills fascists."

I discovered a kinship with Americans I hadn't ever yet met, in my growing patriotic feeling, building on Woody's reverence for our land and freedom. I knew then, over half a century ago, in that November of disappointment, that surely we were all at both an ending and the start of something based on dreams. Our possibilities could not be restrained by cynicism. Just a very few years later, I'd be standing there along with everyone, one cool evening out on the Janss Steps at UCLA, gazing across a countless sea of lit candles held high by 50,000 student demonstrators who came for the moratorium against the Vietnam war. As I grew up, terrible scenes from the foolish war continued to be shown on TV, while the whole time, all kinds of peoples' conscientious dissent was ever more loudly voiced, trying to counter deep currents of injustice.

Freedom leads us to getting along together in greater truth, and seems to come from learning to most fully participate in our responsible humane guidance of the experiment of living. So to this day, I still tend to vote for hope, and intend to always support the democratic perspective which calls for local self-determination, sustainable practices and peaceable means.

A modern world can no longer be simplified to a tragic black and white image seen through that blurry Philco porthole, because all these years later through our limitless web of ideas, each citizen's vision and voice has gradually been magnified as we become a more informed, reflective community that can support each other as we come to realize our power to successfully challenge grievous old wrongs.

Out, damned spot. I am going to my polling place drop box in early October, to personally deliver my permanent absentee ballot, with a spring in my step.

I trust we will prevail. The stakes are everything now. Readers take heed -and get that democratic vote in the box, once and for all. Fear none.

I believe our imperfect system can work, through the innate goodwill and intelligence of people who are all my neighbors - these many kind strangers that I haven't yet met, who are voting beside me with all their awareness, making better choices and creating greater happiness for ourselves, the voiceless, and those yet too young to vote.

Venice Congregation - continued from page 1

JW: Horace Allen waited for Mrs. Holmes to pass away?

EMB: Yes. That's when he sold the church. I was really shocked about what happened to the church. They took everything out of the church. It just didn't seem right. It was such a landmark in Venice. My father and my mother were there. My father was an usher and a gardener and a janitor. First Baptist meant so much to the community because First Baptist did a lot of things for the community. To see it built into a mansion... It just doesn't seem fair.

JW: What are your thoughts about the effort to reclaim the church for the community?

EMB: I am very proud of them fighting for the church to remain as a historical site. Instead of just tearing it down and putting up another one of those giant mansions. The people who are still in the neighborhood... It's a symbol to them as well. You remember all the things that happened at First Baptist. To see it torn down like it never existed would be just not right.

JW: That would be desecration.

EMB: It means so much to the Black community.

JW: Do you think there's hope that the community will be able to have it again?

EMB: Yes. I really believe that. It has true meaning to the community.

JW: A good number of people from the congregation are still in the neighborhood.

EMB: Yes. They are still in the community.

JW: The congregation really didn't go anywhere.

EMB: The church used to be filled to capacity with members. We were in the church every single Sunday and every Wednesday night. The whole Venice community would be at the services. I pray that they don't just tear it down like it never happened.

To find out more about the fight to save the First Baptist Church of Venice go to: savevenice.ca

3 • November 2020 • FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Election 2020 - continued from page 1

parties will never result in true empowerment of the people and progressive change. It really is an uphill struggle to activate voters in this context. However in true Venice form, local Venetians gathered to speak their minds on election 2020 and encourage greater political participation.

Laddie Williams organized the event which brought together local activists and one politician who educated one another and the crowd about topics on the ballot. Voter registration forms were also available. About a third of adults in the U.S. are not even registered to vote.

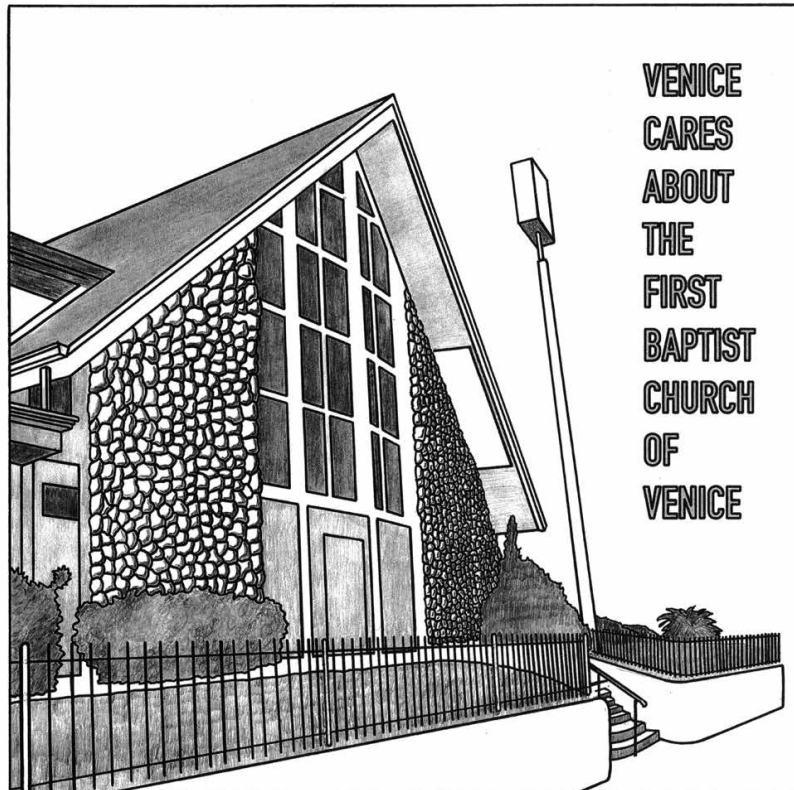
Aztec Dancers (Danza Azteca Group) who normally do not perform at political events, shared the spirit of collective action through beautiful costumes and dance routines. Their "Friendship Dance" included the whole crowd in coordinated movement across the north end of Oakwood Park. Their spokesperson, Elena Vasquez inspired the crowd with words of wisdom about working together as a society and voting for justice.

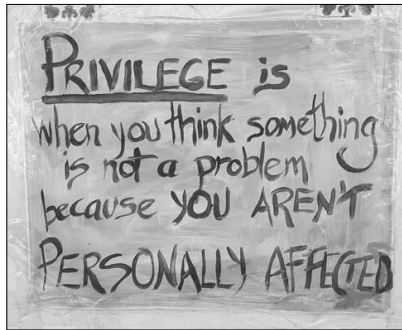
Teacher Soni Lloyd spoke about the long freedom struggle for Black people in the United States and how most of the biggest achievements toward racial justice came from movements other than electoral politics. He also talked about the problems with the two party system that does not give people a real choice to move the country in a more progressive direction. He called on people to continue to organize for justice after the 2020 election, because the election will change very little for the masses of Americans no matter which regime comes to power.

The people of California have risen up outside of the two party duopoly to put some really progressive measures on the ballot via the initiative system. Most notably prop 15 would end the corporate loophole on property taxes that has existed for over 40 years in California. If successful, commercial property valued at over \$3 million will be reassessed for the first time since 1978! Corporations like Disney and Chevron will finally have to pay the same tax rates as the average homeowner. The democratic party would have nothing to do with this initiative proving once again that ALL DEMOCRATS ARE CORPORATE. Blue state or red, money is green and the billionaire dictators have firm control.

So go vote. It's free and there is a chance to win

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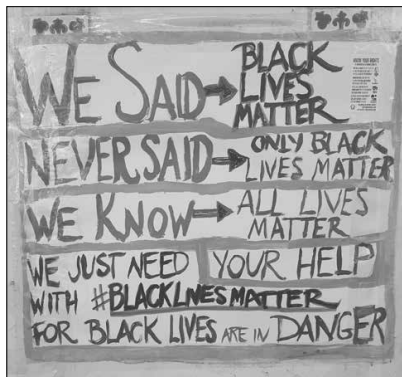
The Streets Make the Canvas

by Gerry Fialka

"The world makes the market." - Marshall McLuhan

How can we reimagine McLuhan's probe? I ride around Venice everyday on a bicycle built for fools. I have noticed lately that our neighborhoods have become canvases for my eager eyes. The pavement and sidewalks are used to spread art and political statements. Murals and lawn signs create wallscapes as cave paintings of our times. They seem to shout to all passers-by our mutual concerns.

The streets are not the only canvases. The cardboard signs, poster boards, and billboards also transform the very idea of galleries and museums into the real forum for people's art. The possibilities are endless. I saw an empty refrigerator box artistically painted over with the words "Your comfort zone will kill you." There's a t-shirt hanging on a clothesline at the Boardwalk and Dudley that reads "November 3 Matters." The words "This is a 24 hour protest" are painted on the pavement of the Venice Boardwalk.



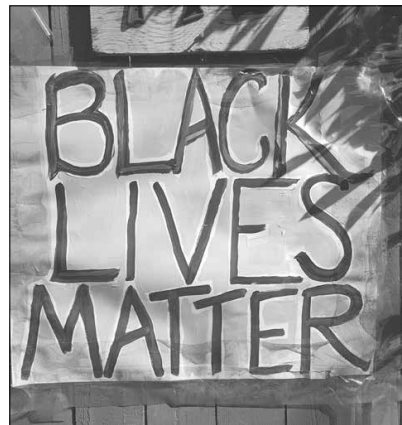
Kudos to Carol A. Wells, who has archived and displayed protest posters (many of them local ones) with the Center for the Study of Political Graphics. Currently, Venice's own SPARC has billboards showcasing the The Patchwork Healing Blanket: Piece-by-Piece and Country-by-Country, an international textile art project that unites generations of women in a global movement against gender-based violence and the destruction of Mother Earth. Bravo to their mission statement: "SPARC espouses public art as an organizing tool for addressing contemporary issues, fostering cross-cultural understanding and promoting civic dialogue."

Street artist & political activist Banksy declares, "Bus stops are far more interesting and useful places to have art than in museums. Graffiti has more chance of meaning something or changing stuff than anything indoors. Graffiti has been used to start revolutions, stop wars, and generally is the voice of people who aren't listened to. Graffiti is one of those few tools you

have if you have almost nothing. And even if you don't come up with a picture to cure world poverty you can make somebody smile while they're having a piss."

How does one distinguish between graffiti, art, and vandalism? I remember the billboards for the 2002 film Resident Evil, which was easily culture jammed by simply spray painting a letter "P" in front of the word "resident," resulting in a big sign "President Evil." Some may call this "improving ad copy," and others may deem this action as "defacement." How and why are the streets a showplace for people to express their bias?

The title of this essay could be "The paint makes the protest." I was baffled by a particular portrait stencil of George Floyd on the sidewalk where someone had painted the words "worship criminals" under his face. It seems the intention was to diss the Black Lives Matter movement, or it could be interpreted to imply that the cops who killed him are criminals. Then a week later, the "worship criminals" was covered completely and not readable. Another week later, the George Floyd was covered with a white "X" over his face. This battle of the paint brushes reveals a lot about our community.



Take a walk. Stroll with new eyes. What can you learn?

In the 1977 book, *City as Classroom: Understanding Language & Media*, McLuhan wrote, "Most learning happens casually, and even most intentional learning is not the result of programmed instruction."

Poets like Robert Browning express my confusion over vandalism and art. He wrote: "Our interest is on the dangerous edge of things. The honest thief, the tender murderer, the superstitious atheist."

The writer, Arundhati Roy wrote: "The trouble is that once you see it, you can't unsee it. And once you've seen it, keeping quiet, saying nothing, becomes as political an act as speaking out. There's no innocence. Either way you're accountable."

What are the hidden psychic effects of the scribbles on the streets? Stanley Kubrick, who started as a street photographer, said: "Governments, politicians and generals are leading the world with their eyes wide shut."

I encourage you to go out into the community and observe, listen, interview, research, and think about the way in which the streets of Venice influence what you think and feel. Open your eyes to what the Venice cityscape is saying!

Newport Beach just increased speeding on Boardwalk ticket from \$50 to \$200.

Should Venice do the same?

National Chains on OFW?

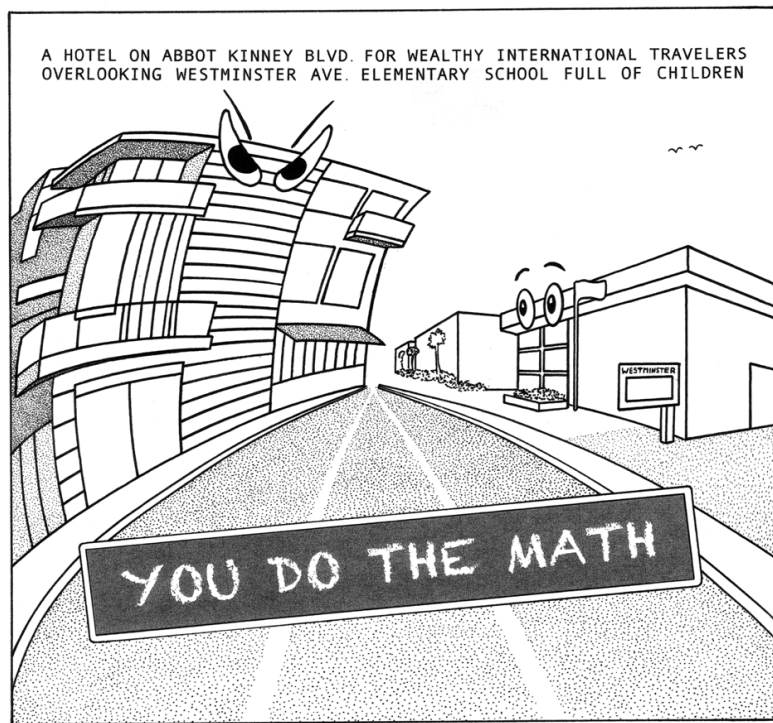
Hello Venice – It's been awhile since there's been an update on the proposed ordinance to prohibit national chains on Ocean Front Walk, so here's what's going on. Please read this entire message as I tried to keep it as short as possible. We really need the help of all of the Dogz supporters (and more) this time and it will literally only take a minute of your time.

To put it bluntly – this issue has trickled down the priority list recently for the City and I don't think Covid-19 is a valid excuse given the timeline. This movement started with our petition on Change.org and our 2 protests in front of Starbucks in early 2019. We got the attention of our City Councilman Mike Bonin who then on April 19, 2019 publicly praised the idea and motioned for the Department of City Planning to do a study on the effects of similar ordinances in other cities and how it could affect Ocean Front Walk and Venice. City Planning then held a town hall on August 26, 2019 to show what they discovered and to get feedback from the community. After that town hall, they were supposed to use the feedback and do more research to figure out the best way to implement the ordinance. After over a year of patience and prodding from us, we finally had a meeting 2 weeks ago with the City to which the City told us a lot of things we weren't happy about.

They said they are still in favor of putting in an ordinance to preserve the uniqueness of our famous walkway, however they feel the best way to accomplish this is by doing it with the Venice Community Plan Update which could take at least 2 years, maybe more. We knew this couldn't be accomplished overnight, but we obviously find this unacceptable. It's been almost 2 years already and the rumors are still circulating about Chipotle, McDonalds, 7-11 and more. We told them we'll be ready to protest if any such business arrives before this ordinance is implemented, and we are currently trying to find alternative ways to get faster results – such as an ICO (Interim Control Ordinance) and more.

Having said that, one of the City officials said we need to comment on the Community Plan Update website so they can get more feedback from the community. THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN. They want feedback AND A LOT OF IT so they can say without a doubt that this is what the community and residents want. PLEASE click on the link below, scroll to the bottom of the page, and leave a quick comment about prohibiting national chains on Ocean Front Walk, and preserving the uniqueness of Venice, and saving the small businesses out there that are also like family to so many of us. Our petition, our Facebook group and our email list combined would be over 3,000 comments of feedback from the community that they won't be able to ignore, and hopefully it will speed up this whole process. The deadline to submit a comment is October 15th, but you might as well do it right now as it literally only takes seconds. It's simple actions like this for why you're a part of this mailing list. Please forward to any friends or family also. THANK YOU!





Venice Place Groundhog's Day.

by David Ewing of Citizens Preserving Venice.

The Venice Place project, which would cover almost an entire block with a 78-room & 4-apartment hotel, two restaurants, a liquor store, and a spa, is headed back to the West Area Planning Commission again, if only for a rubber stamp.

During eight years of fighting over several versions of this project, support has come largely from the business community and friends, while the opposition has been much broader and deeper in surrounding neighborhoods and particularly in Oakwood, the historically Black and Latino community that's been decimated by gentrification over recent years. The City Clerk has received 1151 letters opposing the project as well as 655 signatures on petitions (+1072 names on a 2016 Change.org petition).

The commission originally heard the project last July with only three commissioners present. Pres. Mike Newhouse dispensed with concerns raised by V.P. Lisa Walz Morocco and pushed it through, 3-0. Since the decision was not appealable, the project seemed unstoppable.

Then Councilmember Mike Bonin stepped in, expressing a number of the issues raised by community groups fighting the project, including Citizens Preserving Venice, Keep Neighborhoods First, POWER, and Unite Here, Local 11. In his words:

"...this is an unprecedented project in North Venice that may pose significant impacts on the community. This project raises substantial concerns related to traffic and pedestrian safety, historic-cultural preservation, affordable housing, neighborhood compatibility in a coastal zone, and potential precedent for the Venice Specific Plan..." (his bold)

Invoking City Charter Section 245, Bonin asked City Council to remove the case from the Commission's jurisdiction and send it to the Council's Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUM). His motion was seconded by the new (Post-Huizar) PLUM Chair, Marquee Harris-Dawson, who described the hotel as:

"...a very sensitive project in one of the most impacted neighborhoods in the United States, frankly, the Venice Beach community, the historic Oakwood neighborhood, certainly Abbot Kinney, anybody who's been on that thoroughfare in the last ten of fifteen years recognizes the aggressive nature of the change there."

Off it went to PLUM, which duly held a call-in hearing and sent the thing back to Council with no

recommendation, perhaps in deference to the local Councilmember, or perhaps because the Council was out of time under Charter Section 245.

And there, things got interesting again. What Bonin presented the Council was a handful of conditions that didn't change the project nor substantially address any of the issues in his motion. Instead, they put the developer in charge of monitoring and reporting on his own compliance with a number of already-approved conditions covering parking, loading, alcohol sales, trash pickup, noise, public events and so on, and added the possibility of future Zoning Administrator (ZA) hearings to enforce these.

He also required the developer to file an application two or three years after opening the hotel to show that the conditions were effective and he'd lived up to them. A ZA hearing would then be empowered to alter them if necessary.

Bonin also wanted the developer to:

- Pay \$75K into a pedestrian safety fund for "Safe Routes to School" (reality check: a 4-way traffic signal costs over \$400K)
- Foster jobs for locals on the construction and in the hotel, in partnership with the Council Office
- Contribute \$750K to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund under the Council Office's control (reality check: would pay for less than two apartments in Venice)
- talk to the Oakwood neighborhood about putting "appropriate art or aesthetic features" on the side of the hotel facing Electric Ave.

But there was nothing at all addressing "historic-cultural preservation...neighborhood compatibility in a coastal zone, and potential precedent for the Venice Specific Plan."

In any case, Bonin's demands got sidetracked, due to a legal problem he apparently hadn't anticipated. The City Council was hearing this case on its "Last Day to Act," under that Charter Section 245. But the Deputy City Attorney assigned to the Council opined that Bonin's motion introduced substantial new issues that would require additional public notice under the Brown Act. They'd have to reschedule the hearing for another day. However, due to the Last Day situation, they couldn't do that, so they punted it back to the West Area Planning Commission for a sort of Planning Commission Groundhog Day.

(4:30PM on Oct. 21st at the Henry Medina WLA Parking Enforcement Facility, 2nd Floor, Roll Call Room, 11214 W. Exposition Blvd.)

VENAISSANCE

by - marty-

There is a new Renaissance in Venice called Venaissance. A group dedicated to beautifying Venice. One of their aims is to promote gardens for the houseless and around businesses and homes. Their logo is, 'Planting gardens to promote: cleanliness, peace and tranquility.' They meet every Friday at 1pm on the Ocean Front Walk just north of Rose Ave. Both housed and unhoused members are welcome.

I've attended their last five meetings. The group is still forming various ideas about ways to keep our community clean and get people to plant and take care of their gardens. One of their immediate goals is to build planter boxes and give out plants and flowers for houseless people around Venice to beautify their areas. Houseless people will volunteer to take care of their planter boxes. The planter boxes can be built to different sizes to accommodate the houseless individual's needs and wishes. Several local well know houseless people in Venice are taking part as well as several housed people. Part of their hope is to work with local businesses and housed people in the community to show that even without a fixed home, houseless people can keep their places clean and pretty with gardens and flowers. They also would like to encourage businesses and property owners to beautify their places and plant gardens.

"Venaissance is a community connection project, collaboratively creating solutions for the people of Venice. With a focus on group healing, social justice, and personal transformation, we bring housed and unhoused individuals together through gardening, mentorship, and artistic performances. Currently, Venaissance is building mobile gardening boxes throughout the neighborhood, providing a sustainable food source and healing activity for the community. Each box is equipped with a secure storage cabinet underneath, giving housed and unhoused individuals a safe place to keep their belongings."

With the pandemic and millions out of work there may soon be many more people without homes. LA has tens of thousands of people already without homes. The city has no plans for any way to house so many people.

Because of this they have allowed houseless people to camp out around the city. Some people with homes and businesses near houseless encampments are angry about this. Part of the anger is that some camps are dirty and ugly. Venaissance wants to make them prettier and cleaner for both the houseless and housed. The hope also is that with their places clean and nicer with flowers and plants the houseless will feel better about themselves and have a happier and healthier environment for all. Along with decorative flowers we can also grow edible plants to help feed the poor and hungry. They also want the entire community to make our city more beautiful by planting pretty gardens and keeping it clean.

Come by on Friday with some flowers to plant and also plant some ideas to grow. With a little LOVE we can solve all problems...



Election 2020 - continued from page 3
some minor reforms. Long term however it is most important to organize for real power. GET OUT AND ORGANIZE has to replace get out and vote in between elections so the people become producers of their own power instead of pawns of the 1%.

VCH YouthBuild cleans and maintains Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument



by Phyllis Hayashibara

The Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument Committee thanks the volunteers of YouthBuild of Venice Community Housing, for resuming its regular, monthly maintenance of the VJAMM obelisk on the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards. YouthBuild had temporarily suspended all activities in the spring and early summer of 2020 due to social distancing restrictions of the corona virus pandemic. In January, VCH YouthBuild staffers Orlando Nava and Tyquanique Jackson met YB volunteers Alexandria, Carmen, Kaylyn, Roberto, Steven, Aaron, Jorge, Sergio, and Keven. In June, VCH YouthBuild staffer Marisol Perez met YB volunteers Luis Rose, Nehemiah, and Coral. In July, VCH YouthBuild staffer Brandy Alonzo met YB volunteers Robert, Nehemiah, Luis Rose, Destiny Dex, Devin, Montavious, and Coral. In September, VCH YouthBuild staffer Orlando



Nava met YB volunteers Kaylyn, Jose, Alexandria, Joseph, Geo, and Joey. The VJAMM Committee deeply appreciates the volunteers, who Windex the solid black granite VJAMM obelisk, and sweep up the accumulated debris from the sidewalks and curbs around the VJAMM.

VJAMM Committee member Phyllis Hayashibara asks the volunteers to read aloud to each other the VJAMM text on the front, the quotes on the west side, about Manzanar on the back, map side; and to acknowledge the many major donors who have made the VJAMM possible on the east side. She hopes this gives to the volunteers a sense of the VJAMM's historical context and current relevancy. In a moment of bittersweet poignancy, Phyllis noted that the inspiring and outspoken Arnold Maeda had recently passed away on September 10, 2020. His quote laments having to leave behind his beloved dog, Boy, as he readied for his forced removal from Santa Monica and incarceration in Manzanar at the age of fifteen. Of the five former Manzanar



internees who provided quotes for the VJAMM, only Brian Maeda and Mae Kakehashi remain alive. Amy Ioki passed away on June 4, 2020; and Yosh Tomita passed away on January 19, 2017.

Thanks to a generous donation from Dr. Thomas Yoshikawa, the VJAMM Committee provided BBQ chicken bowl lunches from Rutt's Hawaiian Café for the volunteers in September, who arrived at the VJAMM at noon.

The VJAMM Committee dedicated the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument on April 27, 2017. The VJAMM commemorates the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards, where some 1,000 persons of Japanese ancestry forcibly removed from Venice, Santa Monica, and



Malibu reported in April, 1942. They lined up with only what they could carry, and boarded buses to take them to what would become the War Relocation Camp at Manzanar, where they would be incarcerated in violation of their Constitutional rights to the writ of habeas corpus and due process, most for the duration of World War II.

Venice YouthBuild, a program of Venice Community Housing, provides education, job training and leadership development services to out-of-school and out-of-work youth, ages 18-24.

Community service comprises an important part of the YouthBuild program.

Venice Community Housing, a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, celebrates thirty years of affordable housing and community development, and serves as the fiscal sponsor for the Venice Arts Council and the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument Committee.

For more information about the VJAMM, please visit www.venicejamm.org


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Compelling interviews with
Notables in avant-garde cinema offer insights into moving image art—its creative processes, formative influences, and hidden psychic effects. *Strange Questions* links powerful personal stories with the contemporary media-scape.

STRANGE QUESTIONS
EXPERIMENTAL FILM AS CONVERSATION

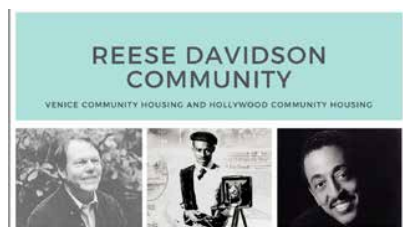
Accolades from award-winning experimental filmmakers:
"Fialka is a damn good interviewer. His questions are sometimes so precise it tickles and sometimes so grand that one feels on the edge of a new spiritual awareness." —Lynne Sachs
"My interview with him taught me something about myself: it was a gift." —David Gatten
"Fialka was the funniest interview I ever had. He has developed a very wise way of triggering thoughts." —Leighton Pierce
"Super stimulating." —Larry Gottheim
"His endless pursuit of knowledge is sparked by social curiosity." —Paul Solomon
"Gerry Fialka is a master interviewer. Working out of his natural inquisitiveness and his erudition, Gerry calmly and thoughtfully guides his interviewees along a path of Socratic inquiry that goes far deeper than the average Q & A and possibly deeper than the interviewee's thought itself—though capable of going both ways at the time, the journey really is about the destination and not just the journeying." —Fred Worden
"Fialka is a master shaver in the contemporary media arts discourse. He's blowing my mind." —Craig Baldwin

Chick Strand
Lynne Sachs
George Manupelli
Jay Rosenblatt
Tom Gunning
Martha Colburn
Robert Nelson
Nina Menkes
Larry Gottheim
Gene Youngblood
Evan Meany
Mike Hoolboom
Theo Anthony

Gerry Fialka, artist, writer, and para-media ecologist, lectures on experimental film, avant-garde art, and subversive social media at NYU, MIT, USC, UCLA and Cal Arts. He has been called "the media-media revolutionary man" by the Los Angeles Times and a "cultural revolutionary" by the LA Weekly.

LAUGHTEARS PRESS

STRANGE QUESTIONS
EXPERIMENTAL FILM AS CONVERSATION
GERRY FIALKA
EDITED BY RACHAEL KERR • FOREWORD BY DAVID JAMES



Support Venice Community Housing's

Reese-Davidson Community(RDC)!

You are very important to Venice Community Housing's efforts to build RDC as a home for artists, low wage earners and others experiencing homelessness, a development that also includes the Gregory Hines [Linda Community Art Center, our venue for performances, art shows, classes, work space, and more.

We need you NOW as the City moves forward to the public hearing phase and help us generate 300 support letters (see attached).

1. Will you cut out, sign and return the letter via email, snail mail or drop off at:

VCH, 200 Lincoln Blvd., Venice, CA 90291

2) Will you invite friends to a Zoom meeting to find out about Reese Davidson Community

3) Will you speak at one of the coming public meetings via Zoom?

If so, email: Llucks@vchcorp.org

As recently announced, Reese Davidson Community is moving into the City approval process this fall. Since in-person meetings aren't possible at this time, Venice Community Housing will be holding a virtual Community Update meeting on Wednesday, October 14th at 4:30 pm. This meeting will include an updated presentation of the development, an overview of the City decision-making process, and Q & A.

To RSVP for the meeting and receive the Zoom link please contact Myrna Bohan by clicking here or mbohan@vchcorp.org

Following the Community Update meeting, the first City public hearing to consider Reese Davidson Community will be on Thursday, October 22nd at 10am via Zoom. Please review the City's announcement below with all of the details. There will be a general public hearing about the entire proposal, as well as a decision on the requested Tract Map changes.

For more information on the Reese Davidson Community Project open <https://www.vchcorp.org/reese-davidson-community-2/>

City Planning Commission Notification is below
Notice of Public Hearing

Thursday, October 22, 2020

10AM

Reese Davidson Community

CASE #:VTT-82288

CPC-2018-7344-GPAJ-VZCJ-HD-SP-SPP-CDP-MEL-WDI-SPR-PHP

Zoom Link: Meeting ID: 991 4860 1188 Passcode: 412246

Participants may also dial by phone: (669) 900-9128 or (213) 338-8477 When prompted, enter the Meeting ID of: 991 4860 1188#

Agenda will be provided no later than 72 hours before the meeting at: LA City Planning



VENICE COMMUNITY HOUSING



THE REESE-DAVIDSON COMMUNITY (RDC) will include 140 affordable apartments for low-income artists, lower wage households, and formerly homeless individuals and families. This beautifully designed property, co-developed by Venice Community Housing and Hollywood Community Housing Corporation, will not only serve Venice residents with retail, green space, and community arts, but will alleviate the visible homelessness by implementing a housing and service model that has a proven track record of saving public funds and changing lives for the better.



Residents of supportive housing:

- Are people of different ages, backgrounds, cultures and education levels who have struggled in the past to find stable housing.
- Have experienced homelessness due to traumatic life events such as domestic violence, a debilitating injury or illness or a sudden loss of income.
- Have a strong desire to receive help and improve their lives, and undergo a thorough assessment to determine the services most needed to live and thrive in a supportive housing community.



In addition to safe, clean and stable homes, residents receive:

- Job training and life skills
- Physical and mental health services
- Addiction treatment
- One-on-one case management
- And many other resources

Check it out!

- THE REESE-DAVIDSON COMMUNITY WAS DESIGNED TO REFLECT THE HISTORY, FUTURE, AND PRESSING NEEDS OF VENICE.
- THE APARTMENTS WILL HAVE 8 FULL-TIME STAFF, 4 OF WHOM WILL LIVE ON-SITE, ENSURING 24-HOUR STAFFING, PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT, AND SERVICES.
- PUBLIC PARKING WILL BE TRANSFORMED FROM A SURFACE LOT TO A MODERNIZED PARKING FACILITY.

(Date)

(Please Print First Name, Last Name)

(Residential Address)

and/or

(Business/Work Street Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

(City, State, Zip Code)

Dear City of Los Angeles Officials:

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of support for Reese Davidson Community, Venice Community Housing and Hollywood Community Housing's proposal to build 140 apartments for low-income and formerly homeless households on the current City-owned parking lot at 116-302 E. North Venice Boulevard, 2102 - 2120 S. Pacific Avenue, 116 - 302 E. North Venice Boulevard, 2106 - 2116 S. Canal Street, and 319 E. South Venice Boulevard in Venice, California. **The City Planning Case Application number is CPC-2018-7344-GPAJ-VZCJ-HD-SP-SPP-CDP-MEL-WDI-SPR and has related environmental (ENV-2018-6667-EIR) and tract map (No. 82288) review.**

With the new construction of 68 supportive housing apartments for those experiencing homelessness, 34 apartments for low-income artists, 34 apartments for other low-income households, and 4 apartments for staff living on site, Reese Davidson Community will help continue to address the overwhelming need for supportive housing for people who are homeless and chronically homeless, especially in Venice and throughout the Westside of Los Angeles, one of the regions most underserved by affordable and supportive housing development. With supportive services within the building, community rooms for tenants and the community, art spaces and public art, community-serving retail space, and the complete replacement of public parking, Reese Davidson will provide much-needed housing in a unique and inviting environment for residents and the public to enjoy.

I strongly support this project because it will house low-income and unhoused people in great need, including low-income artists, who play an integral role in the diverse culture of Venice. Los Angeles needs to focus more attention on this critical problem and developments like the Reese Davidson Community are part of the solution. By investing in supportive and affordable housing, we make our communities safer, healthier, and more inclusive.

_____(Signature)

_____(Email and/or Phone, Optional)

PLEASE FILL OUT IN ITS ENTIRETY, SIGN AND RETURN TO SUPPORTLETTERS@VCHCORP.ORG

Are You Suffering From ____ Fatigue? [Fill in current fave]

by Henry Rosebuds

I think the Earth's immune system is trying to get rid of us, as well it should. Kurt Vonnegut

Friends, neighbors: Are you suffering from everything fatigue? Tired of the run-of-the-mill daily routine and other clichés? Like me, weary, afraid of pushups? Because if it seems every time you turn around it's 2:30 on a Thursday, you're not alone. Philosopher Kurt Vonnegut explained it all for us in Slaughterhouse-Five: we're "unstuck in time." Blame it on the chrono-synplastic-infundibulum.

We're never going back, are we? But we fly forward into the past on YouTube. The other afternoon I was in James Taylor's Montana mansion singing along as he strummed by the fire (BYO Indica). Feel up to a mountain hike with a North Macedonian beekeeper? The doc, "Honeyland" takes you there. It is unreal! Not that you're any judge of that.

Additional idears for sheltering in a space one may find succor within:

Nature is good. Revel in discoveries like, "That's one freakin' huge butterfly!" "What happened to the hummingbird from last month?" And, "Do I smell smoke?"

"How are you holding up?" Ugh. Better is asking, "How are you hole-ing up?" Friends have slipped into their own personal rabbit holes. "Step away from the MSNBC," I tell them. Meditate. Until a nap arrives, and in that nap, dream of napping. Heard of TCM? Old movies without commercials — doesn't get any better than that. Poet Robert Bly says

Today, like every other day, we wake up empty and frightened. Don't open the door to the study and begin reading. Take down a musical instrument. Let the beauty we love be what we do.

There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground.

After half a year of self-reflection, discover you're less antisocial than you thought (Or way more antisocial). The old new age saw, in six months everything will be different is like: we need a new saw, people. Humans are such horrible people #me too. Or something more positive: "It's bath night!"

Going back to childhood can be a gas. Those times back then when the adults wouldn't let you "go out." Remember how fun it was, exclaiming to your eight-year-old campaneros who couldn't help spritzing through their braces: "Hey, I want the news, not the weather," and, "Say it don't spray it!" (Compare and Contrast)

Did you know there are "48-thousand different kinds of spiders"? Learn facts like this from a newspaper. The New York Times takes an entire day to get through. And the next day, another paper arrives, which can also help you know what day it is. Mediatrix © Marshall McLuhan wanted his daily fish wrap to be more like the Los Angeles Times: a warm bath, twenty minutes in-and-out.

Miss poetry readings? Check out Billy Collins' daily narrowcast. For live theater, listen to L.A. Theater Works—Venice's own!—every Sunday night on KPFF. (LATW.org) For storytelling, read Raymond Chandler novels aloud under the covers. Thrilling! And when you get to "I climbed back into my car and drove to Bay City," you dig that Detective Marlowe is heading to Santa Monica.

Still working on those projects you never found time to work on before the thing? If it's working on a bucket list, not to worry. Your bucket runneth over — pretty much everything in life itself is in there. All things must pass, sang George. Except Paul and Ringo, which is a good thing, a rather relaxing, floating upstream (see: "I'm Only Sleeping")

Are people in your dreams wearing masks? Wake up someone back east at 4 AM and ask. A New Yorker named Nancy calls me after jogging in Cen-

Since Nothing Else Seems To Work On Him

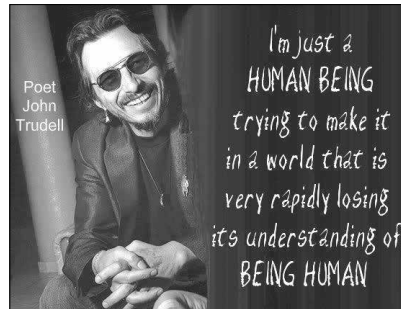
by Henry Rosebuds

Since nothing seems to work against this horrible terrible monster, herewith, a suggestion: In the late '60s, Ken Kesey and his Merry Pranksters were living in La Honda CA, south of San Francisco. But gosh, the gang was so depressed. About police brutality, civil incivility, the millions of Americans in poverty. Mainly, they were angry about the war in Vietnam. About President Lyndon Baines Johnson and how many kids he'd killed that day. (To paraphrase a popular protest chant back then.)

The Pranksters came to realize that directing so much of their negative energy at LBJ -- all that bad juju -- that it was coming out of him as endless bombings of the Vietnamese people. What good was the righteous anger? They decided, the next time the President held a press conference, to try a different tactic. To support him. So one night in March, 1968, they all sat in front of their one TV, passing the hash pipe around, and when LBJ appeared on screen, they dropped all judgment. Just supported him as another human being, sending good vibes only. "Suddenly," Kesey said, "we began to see a crack...and this media wrapper peeled away...until he crawled out and simply said: Fellow Americans, I cannot be your President anymore. I got a scar from Cambodia clear to my goddam asshole. I can't make it."

"Which was hard for big old Texan sheriff to say," added Kesey. Lyndon Johnson quit his run for re-election. "And that's the way the revolution is won," Kesey said. "With affection."

(Yeah, yeah, you say, Nixon came in, etc etc etc. I'm just saying it might be fun trying.)



tral Park. Recently she told me, "All the names are forgetting."

I rarely risk going anywhere. You won't find me at a sidewalk cafe sitting in traffic. Ever seen a bicyclist crash into a concrete K-rail? Upsets the stomach. But I did hit the CVS Pharmacy after running low on Propofol. Interaction with another human being was a trip. This is the CVS on Main Street, the one with the twenty-nine foot high clown sculpture outside. The store was looted after George Floyd died.

"Did they steal any pharmaceuticals?" I asked assistant pharmacist, Marybeth.

"All of them." She passed my prescription(s) under the plexiglass.

"Not my drugs, I trust," I said.

"Maybe if they were depressed," she said.

Ha-ha, big laugh. When I got back outside, I looked up at the colossal clown that Jonathan Borofsky created more than thirty years ago. That non-binary ballerina still dances away in its tutu. That takes endurance.

"Meanwhile, the sirens were sounding again, and very close to the house, which was unusual, since as far as he knew there'd been no more than three or four cases in..." Philip Roth in NEMESIS, a novel about a polio outbreak in the '40s.

Henry Rosebuds is a folk journalist from Ocean Park.

AmeriTerror

By Jim Smith

America

where the poor come to survive,
a Death's Head has gripped our land.
Immigrants raise their eyes and ask
why they must suffer
such a criminal's fate.

Concentration camps
filled with dark-skinned folk.
Babies and children torn away
from loving mothers and fathers
who journeyed thousands of miles
to escape dictators and death squads.

They, the Salt of the Earth,
are repelled by European ICE men
whose fathers stole this land
from Mexico.

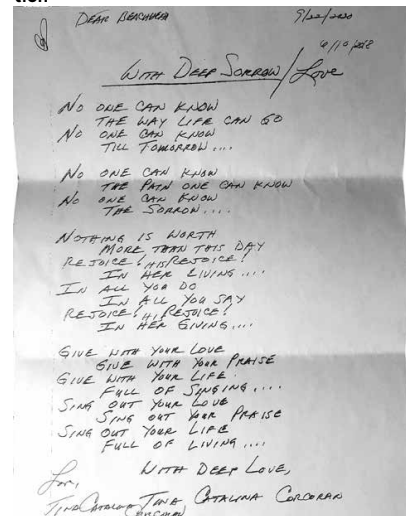
There is no border,
only stolen land.

There is no border,
for the rich and powerful.

There is no border,
for their wealth.

But the poor, the poor,
lift their eyes
and ask
why their search
for a better life
is met only with suffering,
exile and jail.

From "The Dinner Party Before the Revolution"



Home of the Homeless - a Waltz

by Tina Catalina

Home of the Homeless! Home of the Rich!
Some Sleep in Satin! Some sleep in The Ditch
Joggers with Beepers! Drivers with Phones!
Poor Huddled Masses, Call "Door-ways" Their Homes
Home of The Hungry! Home of the Brave!
This ain't The Way, Americans Behave!
Families With Shopping Carts, Sleep in the Park!
Good Folks Afraid, To Come Out After Dark!
Children Go Hungry! Mothers Go Mad!
Brothers Go Begging, For Good Jobs Gone BAD!
Home of the Homeless! Home of the Free!
Dear Lord Please Don't Let It Happen To Me
Home-Sweet Home, Apple Pie, Baseball, and MOM
How Could The Good Life Go So Wrong?
Home of The Hungry! Home of the Brave!
This ain't The Way, Americans Behave!
Home of The Panhandlers, Psychos and Sick...
Boozers and Drug Users needing a fix
Home-Sweet Home, Apple Pie, Baseball, and MOM
How Could The Good Life Go So Wrong?
How Could The Good Life Go So Wrong?
How Could The Good Life Go So Wrong?

Balloon

by Majid Naficy

I am Naficy

From the line of Nafis*

Ending with a hissing fis-fis

Like the sound of a dying balloon.

Yet, as long as I live,

In my heart

I hold the hope of soaring high

And joining the playful clouds.

August 9, 2020

* Burhan al-Din Nafis was the court physician of Ulugh Beg, the grandson of Tamerlane. Hence, my last name Nafisi or Naficy.

DEAR FUTURE PEOPLE

by alan rodman 2020

Dear future people,
When you stub your toe
on some protuberance
of archaic woe
or forgotten remnant
of an ancient world
look on these works
rubble hurled
or ruined towers

don't feel sorry
in such hours
ye mighty tykes o tomorrow
use your powers
seize our pearls
and prize our flowers

once Shelley told of such loss
in his Ozymandias:

"Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away."

emptiness leaves
room to play
what else could
we truly say?

I do not know much history
or my descendant's name
yet believe your mystery
just the same

when you give all
love you embrace
surrounds you
through outer space

all you wrote
may come to pass
know first your self
release at last

all you hold
or what you tossed
is luminous
no one is lost

Magic Lantern

By Majid Naficy

This turning wheel in which we are perplexed
I compare to a magic lantern:
The sun: a lamp, the world: a lantern
And we ourselves as rotating forms.
Omar Khayyam

My phantom came from a lamp
Hanging over a shop counter.
It projected shadows of a grocer and my mother
On a wall across the street
In the Friday nights of my childhood.

In the dark cave of our car
We sat waiting for Mother.
Father would point and say: "Look!
The grocer is putting cheese on the scale
Now he is wrapping it in paper
Now he is taking money from your mother."

I watched in amazement
Wishing Mother would not return soon
And Father would not start the car
So that I could gaze longer
At the shadow play on the wall.

Now my father sleeps in shadows
And my mother who lives alone
Goes to visit him every Friday evening
And I ask myself, like Plato:
Was this all real or a phantom?
July 18, 2010

A SONG FOR TOOTS (sung to- Time Tough)
(RIP- Toots Hibbert of Toots & the Maytals) -marty-
"Early in the morning, it's the landlord
he's a knockin, knockin at my door.
Knockin, knockin at my door.
I got 400 to pay, and I can't find a job.
Time tough, everything is getting so hard, so hard.
Time tough, everything is goin higher & higher."
Time tough
Life is gettin so rough.
So much poverty & unemployment
it's a failure of our government.
Cost of food gets so high, high, high
babies starve & die, die, die.
Can't afford to pay the high rent
so I live on Venice Beach in a tent.
Poison & pollution in the water & air
corporations don't care.
Global warming and Mother Earth cries
hurricanes, floods, drought and everything dies.
Evil dictators take over the earth
democracy is dead in the land of our birth.
Pestilence & diseases around the world
into Hell we're hurled.
Hate fueled by religious fanatics
causing wars and panics.
Racism, bigotry and sexism
division and every kind of schism.
You think civil rights will protect you
an illusion of the poor & that's what's true.
Unjust laws to back the rulers will
police shoot, beat & kill.
Peace & freedom is going, going, gone
everything is going wrong.
Animals going extinct everyday
we build more weapons to slay.
Armageddon may soon be here
the angels shed a tear.
Deranged madmen rule everywhere
soon atomic missiles fly in the air.
Still try & keep a smile on your face
with hope & a prayer for the human race.
"Time tough, everything is getting so hard.
Time tough, everything is goin higher & higher..."

9 • November 2020 • FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

..DUMP TRUMP..

That crooked scum Donald Trump
let's dump that evil grump!
Donald is an ass
his words lled with smelly gas.
Trump is full of dirty lies
he is Satan, Lord of the Flies.
Throw the bum in jail
lock him up with no bail!
From laws he thinks he's out of reach
so Democrats tried a Giant Impeach.
Bribery, smears, lies and deceit
he may start a war to stop an election defeat.
Putin sends him girls to pay him off
Melania, Ivanka and porn stars jack him off.
We should call him President Pervert
he eats McDonald burgers for dessert.
The Republicans bow like he's King
racist dictator of the Right Wing.
He thinks scientists are dumb
and covid can be cured with bleach & rum.
He won't wear a mask saying it's bologna
yet there's over 220,000 dead from corona.
No pollution or global warming rants Trump
as our planet becomes a garbage dump.
He's a horrible monster from Hell
he makes America stink and smell.
The gun lobby has him in their pocket
let's pray he doesn't re a nuclear rocket.
He is a fascist boss
for our nation it's a great loss.
Donald is full of dirty tricks
he only hires yes men pricks.
He is the evil Emperor in Star Wars
he screws whores and porn stars.
Our President is full of shit
his crooked pals rob us bit by bit.
He had one bankruptcy after another
now he's bankrupt America, oh brother!
3 million more votes Hillary had
there's no democracy and it's sad and bad.
He constantly Tweets insane rants
he's full of crap with ants in his pants.
Donald is a sexist, White racist louse
he has made it a real WHITE House.
He wants to build the Great Wall
our nation will soon fall.
Now he says if he loses he won't leave
causing a bloody revolution I believe!
He may get us in a nuclear war
so kick the creeps out the Capitol door.
Donald Trump is a stinky fart
protest through music, writing and art.
Let's get together and vote him out
let's pray for a liberal rout.
It's time to march and protest
do what's best and get rid of the pest.
Let's all chant dump Trump
kick the grump in the rump!
Dump Trump! Dump Trump!
DUMP TRUMP!
(Paid for by the Party Hearty Farty Marty
Party-Let's party!)

Montage below by Ned Sloane



THIS PAPER IS A POEM

CALENDAR

BEYONDBAROQUE.ORG

FREE WORKSHOPS

Part of Beyond Baroque's continuing mission is to provide free or low cost workshops to the community. Historically, these workshops have been held in the Scott Wannberg Bookstore & Poetry Lounge at Beyond Baroque. Due to restrictions following the COVID-19 outbreak, these workshops will be held online via Zoom for the foreseeable future. Please RSVP at https://www.beyondbaroque.org/free_workshops.html

All workshops will be held online for the duration of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Monday Night Fiction Workshop 7:30 PM FREE

A community writing workshop in which participants are asked to bring 2-3 pages of fiction to read and receive feedback. Facilitated by Jessica Dolby via Zoom for the duration of the COVID-19 outbreak. Registration required.

Jessica Dolby's personal history has been defined by books. They carried her up and down the east coast and all the way across the country to her current home in Los Angeles. Acting as both a grounding form of self-expression and a chance for liberation, Jess believes sharing stories can save lives. Her work has been published in Lighthouse Writers Workshop's Young Authors Collective and performed at the live storytelling event That's What She Said. She received her M.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Denver and currently teaches Writing & Healing courses in Los Angeles.

Call for Social Distancing Guidelines
before visiting
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
- **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
- **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

Wednesday Night Poetry Workshop 8:00 PM FREE

The West Coast's longest-running free poetry workshop welcomes new and seasoned poets to share new work and provide feedback. Please be prepared to share one poem.

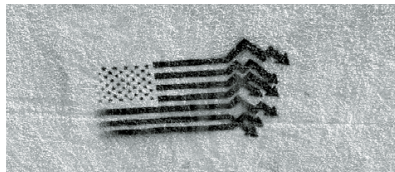
This workshop will be hosted via Zoom. Please sign up for each workshop session at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, and you will be contacted with instructions on how to join the meeting. Each week's new sign up page will be shared via our mailing list and linked below. Sign up on Eventbrite.

Facilitators are rotated quarterly. August - October Facilitator: James Maverick.

The After School a Writing Workshop with Ryka Aoki

Every Third Sunday at 3:00 PM
FREE

Monthly work space and test platform for writers who are self-identified queers and people of color. Our goal is to develop your writing projects that subvert or repurpose how literature is made and read. By doing so, we hope to foster modes of writing that creatively respond to expectations, limitations, and exclusions of the literary machine. Held the third Sunday of every month. Facilitated by Ryka Aoki.



DO YOU NEED LEGAL ASSISTANCE REGARDING YOUR HOUSING?

Receive FREE legal help on the
third Saturday of each month.

Upcoming Dates:
Oct. 20
Nov. 17
Dec. 15

10:00a - 12:00p at Venice Community Housing
720 Rose Avenue, Venice, CA 90291

CALIFORNIA
WOMEN'S
LAW CENTER

If you have any questions, please contact the California Women's Law Center at (323) 951-1041 or info@cwlc.org



WANT TO GET ORGANIZED?

OFFICE HOURS

FOR NEW LATU MEMBERS

¿QUIERES ORGANIZARTÉ?

HORARIO DE OFICINA

PARA MIEMBROS NUEVOS DEL SILA

APRIL 2020
12:00 PM
outreach@latenantsunion.org

LAUGHTEARS

Established 1953

Oct 24 is the "Book Release Salon" from 2-4pm pacific, rsvp for link.

Strange Questions: Experimental Film as Conversation. Compelling interviews with notables in avant-garde cinema offer insights into moving image art—its creative processes, formative influences, and hidden psychic effects. Through interviews with George Manupelli, Larry Gottheim, Chick Strand, Tom Gunning, Lynne Sachs, Jay Rosenblatt, Martha Colburn, Evan Meaney, Mike Hoolboom, Robert Nelson, and Nina Menkes, *Strange Questions* links powerful personal stories with the contemporary media-scape.

Also, Gerry's essay on Craig Baldwin is due in new book soon - <http://www.incite-online.net/baldwin.html>

JOIN IN UPCOMING Zoom events:

***Oct 24 is the "Book Release Salon" from 2-4pm pacific, rsvp for link.

Strange Questions: Experimental Film as Conversation <http://laughtears.com/strange-questions.html>

***Nov 10 VeniceWake Reading Club - James Joyce page 593 <http://laughtears.com/McLuhanWake.html>

***Sunday, Nov 15, 2020 at 7pm - 10pm (pacific). <https://www.facebook.com/events/3778262985534746/>

PXL THIS 30 Toy Camera Film Festival premieres online Youtube

***Saturday, Jan 23, 2021 - 18th Annual VENICE FILM FEST

***Saturday, Jan 30, 2021 - 11th annual POETRY OF Venice Photography

***GERRY's ZOOM CHATS: Join our online discussions every Monday, Tuesday & Wed at 1:30pm (pacific, for 40 to 60 minutes). LZS (Laughtear Zoomin' Salons) probes the hidden psychic effects of human inventions and how they shape behaviour. Arts, literature, film, activism, new media, poetry, funk, jazz, avant-garde, new media, performance art and more. Flip the pandemic lockdown into infodemic & pundemic look ups!

RSVP for the zoom link (or I can put you on the eblast if you ask)

Every Saturday we go from 2 to 4pm.

Thank you, Gerry Fialka 310 306 7330 pfuzy@aol.com Laughtears.com

Marshall McLuhan's Tetrad: 1) What does it enhance or intensify? 2) What does it render obsolete or replace? 3) What does it bring back that was previously obsolesced? 4) What does it become when pressed to an extreme, what does it flip into?

"Now, suppose that we put questions to that mass [audience] through electronic media concerning the problems of our time.... Out in the mass audience, ever single possible mode of perception exists unawares. But how do we tap that resource? I suggest that one possibility would be to take these highly specialist problems to the mass of untutored, non-specialist people. There is one human in a million for whom any problem is not a problem at all. For a long time mathematicians use to pose an unanswerable problem, "How far can you go into a forest?" One day a child simply said, "Halfway." - Marshall McLuhan - Understanding Me p 292 ("A half truth is still alot of a truth" - McLuhan)

Local Voting Recommendations

President: Biden/Harris
Measure B - (Anti) Rent Control - NO

US Congress:

District 22 - Phil Arballo,
District 23 - Kim Mangone
District 25 - Christy Smith
District 27 - Judy Chu
District 29 - Angelica Dueñas
District 33 - Ted Lieu
District 34 - David Kim
District 37 - Karen Bass
District 40 - Lucille Roybal Allard
District 41 - Mark Takano
District 43 - Maxine Waters
District 44 - Nanette Barragan
District 45 - Katie Porter
District 47 - Alan Lowenthal

Los Angeles School Board:

Patricia Castellanos, Scott Shmerelson

LAUSD Measure RR - Y \$\$ to make schools safer

Los Angeles Community College

Trustee #1 - Andra Hoffman
Trustee #3 - Anthony Danna
Trustee #5 - Michelle Manos
Trustee #7 - Nancy Pearlman

California State Senate:

District 25 - Anthony Portantino
District 27 - Henry Stern
District 29 - Josh Newman
District 33 - Laura Gonzalez
District 35 - Steven Bradford
District 39 - Toni Atkins

California Assembly:

District 39 - Luz Rivas
District 41 - Chris Holden
District 43 - Laura Friedman
District 46 - Adrin Nazarian
District 47 - Eloise Reyes
District 50 - Richard Bloom
District 53 - Miguel Santiago
District 54 - Sydney Kamlager
District 59 - Reggie Jones Sawyer
District 63 - Maria Estrada
District 64 - Fatima Iqbal-Zubair
District 70 - Patrick O'Donnell

STATE BALLOT MEASURES

Prop. 14 - Pub Funding Stem-Cell Research YES
Prop. 15 - Split Roll on Prop. 13 YES
Prop. 16 - A Return to Affirmative Action - YES
Prop. 17 - Would Allow Parolees to Vote -YES
Prop. 18 - Would Allow 17-year-olds to vote YES
Prop. 19 - Property Tax Exemptions NO
Prop. 20 - Tougher Parole - NO
Prop. 21 - Rent Control - YES
Prop. 22 - Special Rules for the Gig Economy NO
Prop. 23 - Kidney Dialysis - Y
Prop. 24 - New Consumer Privacy YES
Prop. 25 - Eliminate Cash Bail - YES

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

LA County Supervisor:
District 2 - Holly Mitchell

LA County District Attorney:
George Gascón

LA County Measure J - YES
reserves 10% of Co. Budget for Social services

LACR - Los Angeles County
Civilian Oversight YES

LA City Council:

District 2 - Paul Kerkorian
District 4 - Nithya Raman
District 10 - Grace Yoo

LAUSD Measure RR - YES • November 2020 • FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD
LAFD - Fire Dept. - Yes

SANTA MONICA

City Council:

4-year seats:

- Glean Davis
- Ana Maria Jara
- Ted Winterer

2-year seat: Kristen McGowan

SMMUSD School Board:

- Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Keith Coleman
- Jen Smith

SMC Board

- Susan Aminoff
- Rob Greenstein Rader
- Margaret Quinones-Perez

SM Rent Control Board:

- Caroline Torosis
- Anastasia Foster

SM BALLOT MEASURES:

- SM - tax on property transfers over \$5M - YES
- AB - Charter changes - expands city hiring opportunities - YES

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, JUDGE OF SUPERIOR COURT

Office 42 Linda L. Sun

Office 72 Myanna Dellinger

Office 76 Emily Cole

Office 80 Jan & Jerry: SCOTT ANDREW YANG; LA Progressive: Clint James McKay

Office 97 Sherry Lynn Powell

Office 129 Kenneth M. Fuller

Office 145 Troy Slaten

Office 150 Tom Parsekian

Office 162 Caree Harper

Culver City Council: Khin Khin Gyi

California will likely give Joe Biden a solid majority of votes, so this becomes an opportunity to cast a vote for a Socialist Candidate who may reflect your politics better than the Democrats. This paper was founded by the same people who founded the Peace and Freedom Party so we recommend you vote for Peace and Freedom Party Candidates to send a message.

Statement by Gloria La Riva,
Peace and Freedom Party 2020
presidential nominee.

27 August 2020

We face unprecedented crises: economic collapse, COVID-19, environmental disaster, militarism and racism. Most deaths were preventable. Bailout funds went first to the rich corporations, leaving millions in desperate straits.

A national plan is urgently needed: Massive free testing, PPE, hazard pay for all workers; an income for every jobless person, through the pandemic. Cancel rents and mortgages for tenants, homeowners, small landlords and small businesses.

The billionaires and their two candidates insist that medical care remain a source of corporate profits. Abolish the parasitic medical insurance companies. Corporations and banks that make obscene trillion-dollar profits should be placed under public ownership. A job or income, housing, healthcare, education should be constitutional rights for all. Discrimination must end, whether based on race, gender, orientation, religion, immigration status, or disability.

Racism and police brutality continue whichever billionaire parties are in power. Freedom from oppression and exploitation can only be won through struggle. Free Leonard Peltier, Mumia Abu-Jamal and all political prisoners!

We need a foreign policy based on friendship and peace, not war. Bring U.S. forces home from 800 foreign bases. End sanctions/blockades against Cuba, Venezuela, Iran and other countries. Ban nuclear weapons.

Every gain for working people came through people organizing mass movements. We need to fight for reforms today, but ultimately we need socialism. Everyone knows who will win California's electoral votes. Use your vote to demonstrate that you support socialist solutions to the problems caused by the billionaires. Vote La Riva/Freeman!

Bravo 1

Save The Date!

Treat =OR= Treat

**CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN
TREAT GIFTING**
Drive-thru w/ Costumes

**OCTOBER 31ST, 2020
5:30PM-7:30PM**

604 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, 90291
Smart & Final Parking Lot
(Former Cemetary)

Mask Up
—
Physical
Distancing

- Firme Car Classics
- Local Organizations Supporting
- Details Announced Soon

