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photos by Margaret Molloy, collage by Eric Ahlberg

YOU MATTER!

Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings a van pulls up in the beach parking lot in Venice filled with food and essential goods for the poor and homeless. You Matter L.A. run by Michael Ashman gives out free burgers, hot dogs, fruit, snack bars and drinks. There is shampoo, soap, sunscreen and even a new pair of socks for the homeless. The poor and needy walk away with a bag of desperately needed goods thanks to the blessings of Michael and his friends.

Michael says, “I am the feet and hands for God’s work.” Michael does most of the work shopping and getting the things ready. Much of the money comes from his own pocket. His logo has a message to those down on their luck, “ You Matter! You’re not forgotten. You’re of great worth!”

The food and goods are a great help to the homeless and hungry. To many it is their only meal of the day. Michael also has a Bible session on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a. m. by the Venice Beach basketball courts near Windward. You Matter L.A is busy helping the poor and homeless in any way they can. He says on his website, “I have met some of the Most Beautiful and Wonderful people that happen to be Homeless!”

The free burgers and hot dogs and stuff are given out every Tuesday and Thursday at around 11 a. m. on the Ocean Front Walk near the north border of Venice by Santa Monica, between Navy St. and Ozone Ave. They have another free food day on Saturday mornings at 8:30 a. m. near the basketball courts and weight lifting area just south of Windward Ave. You can contact Michael if you want to help or donate at YouMatterLa on Facebook, or at (310) 498-4505. Or come by and meet him and get a burger or hot dog on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings.

-marty-

VICTORY AT THE VENICE LIVES CELEBRATION

By Jon Wolff

The Venice Equity Alliance held its first Venice Lives Celebration on Saturday, August 3, 2019. The Venice Equity Alliance (VEA) is a grassroots collective organization dedicated to bettering the lives of the most excluded and oppressed people in Venice. This event served as the group’s introduction to the greater Venice community, as well as a statement to the world that the true Spirit of Venice lives today.

The event took place on Westminster Avenue between 7th Avenue and 6th Avenue, and concentrated at E.L. Holmes Square. E.L. Holmes Square is the intersection that was named in 2000 after the late Bishop E.L. Holmes who pastored the historic Black church, the First Baptist Church of Venice for forty-four years.

This area in front of the First Baptist Church of Venice was chosen as the location for the festivities because of the church’s spiritual and cultural significance in Venice, and because the church has been the subject of much controversy for two years now. The church property was purchased in 2017, under questionable circumstances, by the wealthy heir Jay Penske and his wife, former underwear model Elaine Irwin. They seek to gut this historic church and turn it into their own private mega-mansion. The Venice Lives Celebration was an act of reclaiming sacred space in Venice. It was a symbolic event that unified diverse Venice Locals in one significant place, and in one Spirit.

Present on this day were representatives of various Venice organizations. Each organization had a table with information and items for distribution. Venice Community Housing, Venice Family Clinic, and United Teachers of Los Angeles with Venice High School students from the Black Student Union and MEChA were prominent at the celebration. The Venice-headquartered Westside Local of the Los Angeles Tenants Union did outreach efforts for Venice renters. The Venice Justice Committee and the Services Not continued on page 2

THE ABOMINATION ON ABBOT KINNEY

By Jon Wolff

Presentations were made at the Zoning Administrator’s hearing on August 1, 2019 for a proposal to build a new hotel on Abbot Kinney Boulevard in Venice, across the street from Westminster Avenue Elementary School. Associate Zoning Administrator Theodore Irving heard testimonies from lobbyists for the project, as well as from Venice residents opposed to the project. Mr. Irving said that he would evaluate all the information and make his decision six weeks after this hearing.

The lobbyists claimed to have the support of the Venice Neighborhood Council and the Venice Chamber of Commerce. They said that a three-story hotel overlooking an elementary school would be good for the community. They brushed aside the residents’ concerns about increased traffic in the area, assuring them that more people are using electric scooters now. One supporter declared that this hotel would “energize” a part of Abbot Kinney Boulevard that is “under-utilized” and needs “revitalizing”. Of course, the part of Abbot Kinney Boulevard that he was referring to is the part with an elementary school on it.

Some supporters said that there weren’t enough hotels in Venice. They didn’t feel that the hotels in Santa Monica or Marina del Rey were convenient enough. They didn’t mention that Marina del Rey is less than a mile from Venice.

Members of the Venice Neighborhood Council spoke in favor of the hotel project. John Reed said that Venice needs hotels, and Jim Murez believed that Venice Founder Abbot Kinney would have agreed. They both disregarded the intervening century since Mr. Kinney when Venice was a residential community. And they forgot that the residents might want to send their kids to Westminster Avenue Elementary School across the street.

The rest of the supporters of the project repeated the usual points: tax revenue, jobs, and the architecture of the thing.

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Dear Beachhead

My wife and I are senior citizens and long time residents of Venice. We are in our 80s..my wife is struggling with cancer, Parkinsons disease and a severely compressed fracture of a vertebra in her lower spinal column.

The term Nimby has become the official title for those of us who oppose Mike Bonins homeless housing project. I find this term totally offensive. It is just another example of how those who seemingly approve of Mike Bonins project have created a degree of divisiveness that is totally unnecessary, and to a large degree adds to what has become a national disgrace originating with President Trump.

There are substantial number of Venice residents who do not approve of Mike Bonins project, and have very legitimate and reasonable concerns regarding it. The Nimby Boy cartoon also includes text which specifically targets Christian Wrede. The cartoon text is also offensive because the term Nimby has already been associated with anyone opposed to the project. Defender of the Rich, Hero of the Haters, Enemy of the Unhoused. This is the kind of rhetoric that is divisive. Its school yard bullying. Mike Bonin is a classic, politico who really doesnt care about Venice, he only cares about his career.

Jim Starrett/ Pat Stiles

Jim, thank you for your critique and sorry to hear about your wifes health predicament. We send you blessings for good help and health. NIMBY is a term that is directed at newcomers with entitled attitudes and who push policies that amplify displacement of local residents and also destabilize the cultural spirit of Venice. Trump is a man who constantly lies and has affinity for building walls which seeks to incite physical, political, and economic violence and displacement toward people of color mostly and also lower income people. You seem like upstanding people but these Trump signature characteristics are more akin to the bulk of the opposition to Bonins project Most namely the Fight Back Venice group (of Christian Wrede leadership) and the Venice United group. We are not sure how often you frequent Venice forums on the internet but these groups are well known for their gross misinformation and inciting vitriol toward unhoused people. Sure there are reasonable people who are not in favor of the project but they are not the vocal majority. We truly hope that you may find leaders that have more integrity in representing your voices in the respectable way that you elders deserve. Contentious topics like this can take a toll on ones health and hope you and your wife dont get too invested in the dramatic energy it can stir up. Blessing to you and your family.

- the Beachhead



Update on the Planter Boxes

By Matt Fisher

Since the recent removals of planter boxes, numerous sections have been added to pre-existing boxes at the Post Office, and a couple of new boxes were thrown in to prevent anyone from sleeping in between the old ones. The Post Office, Venice Stakeholders Association, and Neighbors of Grand have added booby traps, using the Post Office’s federal property and water supply to hose down anyone sleeping on the sidewalk.

Two unhoused vendors who sleep there were attacked on multiple nights by flooding water from the Post Office booby traps, and they were arrested for defending themselves and dismantling the booby traps. The Post Office and crew said that the boxes were not new, and that the booby traps were supposed to be sprinklers and must have broken, according to the 311 report I received. Unfortunately for them, I took before-and-after pictures of the boxes and had Bureau of Street Services inspect and measure every single one. I also reported the booby trap sprinklers days before the incidents to multiple sources and took photographic evidence as well.

Not only are the Stakeholders Association, Friends of Grand and federal Post Office displacing unhoused people and breaking multiple laws and ordinances in the process, they are now assaulting people for being on public property legally.



Venice Lives continued from page 1
Sweeps Coalition worked the event, as well as HELPER Foundation and Ghost Town. Free T-shirts were provided by BornxRaised. And of course, the Beachhead had its own table with ample copies of the latest issue.

Some tables were staffed by notable activists and artists. David Busch, the advocate for Venice’s unhoused community was there. Jorge Ochoa, professor at Long Beach City College was there with his survey of every species of tree in Venice. Eleu Navarro from the Venice High School Learning Garden brought free vegetables for all. Mazen Khawaja demonstrated linoleum printing techniques to the attendees. Ines Garcia and Alfonsina Gonzales created handmade jewelry. And Lance the Bicycle Whisperer was there to service bicycles.

Food was provided at the celebration by local vendors, such as the Valentino’s taco truck. Venice Activist Patricia Sanchez and Venice Neighborhood Councilmember Matt Fisher cooked for everyone.

There was music and poetry at the celebration. DJ Eric kept the tunes going throughout the day, with DJ Bahar filling in. Kid Caviar from local band Horny Toad played a set. The Black Student Union thrilled the crowd with their Hip Hop performance. Matt Sedillo’s poetry was enjoyed by all.

Youth awards were given to students from Venice High School. Community awards and portrait photos were presented to Venice Activists Jataun Valentine and Patricia Sanchez. Dr. Naomi Nightingale spoke of the history of Venice and reminded us that diversity is our strength and unity is our power. The VEA collective read aloud the principles of the Venice Equity Alliance. And the Butler Initiative was on hand to interview participants.

The Venice Lives Celebration was the first action of the VEA in the battle to restore equity in Venice. It brought out Venice Locals to demonstrate to those seeking to capitalize on Venice that the original Venice, working class Venice, still lives and is organized. This event at E.L. Holmes Square made clear that the fight for the First Baptist Church of Venice is at the center of the battle. And the fight is ongoing, but it can and will be won.

For information go to:www.savevenice.me

What if...? Reimagining Development
by Mark Lipman
August 30, 2019

Last night, I, along with hundreds of Culver City residents, attended a developers’ outreach meeting – (a “listening session” where all their lawyer did was talk) – about a proposed development at 11111 Jefferson Blvd., known as the Jefferson Triangle, the first of what will undoubtedly be many new developments along the Sepulveda corridor in Culver City ... a planning process that they say will take approximately 15 months. Oddly, that timing just so happens to coincide with the completion of the major development projects currently taking place in Culver City’s downtown and arts districts, in preparation for the arrival of “The Big Three,” Apple, Amazon and HBO, and the influx of 5,000 new high paid employees, into a community of roughly 40,000 people.

Please note the difference between the words “employees” and “jobs.” Because while there will be a handful of “jobs” for local hires, which they will repeatedly point to in order to deflect criticism away from the actual low levels of their true community investment, the vast majority of the positions being “created” will be filled by new people moving to the area from somewhere else.

While Culver City prides itself on being a welcoming community, there are certain responsibilities that also come with having that much of a collective impact on an existing community that must be addressed ... it can’t just all be “take,” which brings us back to the meeting last night...

It’s important to set the tone right, it must look and sound professional and always, though “we are here to ‘listen’ to you,” it must always be emphasized that we are asking for “a respectful dialogue.”

Respect is very important in any dialogue, for without respect dialogue breaks down. So going into this conversation, speaking quite bluntly, honesty and transparency are the signs of respect that the community is looking for. What we heard instead was practiced talking points in response to legitimate concerns raised about the “vision” of this 5-story, 279 unit massive complex with retail and offices and 800+ parking spots, and designer parks to be the next big thing ... “The Oasis.”

While “nothing was set in stone,” their lawyer didn’t really seem to budge from the number 25, as to how many “affordable” units they would be building, as if it were some kind of heart-bleeding gift to be throwing us the crumb of fewer affordable units than what they would be legally required to build for a project this size in the first place, and that a repeated refrain throughout the evening as multiple people spoke of the need to house people, who are currently homeless in our community as the priority.

The development group, a mix of billionaire financiers, developers and lawyers with their eyes on this site, said they were problem solvers, but it was obvious that they couldn’t see it to their financial interest to help solve that particular problem. At one point though, when someone from the community spoke on the height restrictions voted into law by referendum in 1988, the conversation got very legal as they tried to loophole their way to saying, “We could build it 20 stories high if we wanted ... but we wouldn’t do that.” The implicit threat of them being able to do whatever they want to our community was presented very respectfully.

As mentioned earlier, it’s important to set the right tone... and this, this is the very beginning. It’s the first meeting, not just for this project, but for all the development that we know is coming down the pike along Sepulveda in the next five to ten years ... it’s going to be massive. The cash register is ringing and it’s ringing loud. This moment right now is going to set the standard for everything that is yet to come. Every developer is watching, and this is what they throw at us as the opening salvo. One resident summed it up nicely when she said, “I’ve been to plenty of meetings like this over the years and it’s always the same. They pretend to listen and just do whatever they want.”

Why is that... because they “own” and that supersedes the entire community?

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Abomination continued from page 1

This hearing was held in the middle of the day, which made it difficult for most Venice residents to attend. Many did though, and they spoke earnestly in opposition to the project. In conversation with them, and others not present at the hearing, a number of issues were raised.

Symone Fairchild-Garner’s son goes to Ecole Claire Fontaine School. This trilingual preschool and early elementary school currently has a facility on the site where the proposed hotel would be built. The developers mean to demolish the school. Ms. Fairchild-Garner praised Ecole Claire Fontaine and its director, Joelle Dumas for their dedication to the lives of the children. She expressed her gratitude to the school for the quality of education that her son receives there. She’s not fooled by the lobbyists’ claims that they want to put a hotel in Venice to serve the community. Rather, she says, they want to serve their own pockets. She sees the traffic and parking on Abbot Kinney Boulevard as crazy enough already. The Uber and Lyft drivers, bikes, scooters, jaywalkers, and delivery vehicles that come with a hotel would only add to the nightmare.

Alex Thevenot has a son in kindergarten at Ecole Claire Fontaine. He believes that the demolition of the school and the construction of a hotel would only dismantle the community of Venice, much the same as Airbnb has done. He says that Venice doesn’t need more hotels. Venice needs more community spaces and schools. His wife will deliver their next child in about a month. This child will go to Ecole Claire Fontaine. But not if the hotel gets built.

Maria Boulín’s children have attended Ecole Claire Fontaine since 2013. She says that the school nurtures students to be good citizens, and that the thought of it being torn down is heartbreaking. She describes the students thriving among the murals, butterflies, and hummingbirds at the school. She feels that a hotel would not add to the community, and that a company that is not community-rooted would only take away the security and safety of the neighborhood.

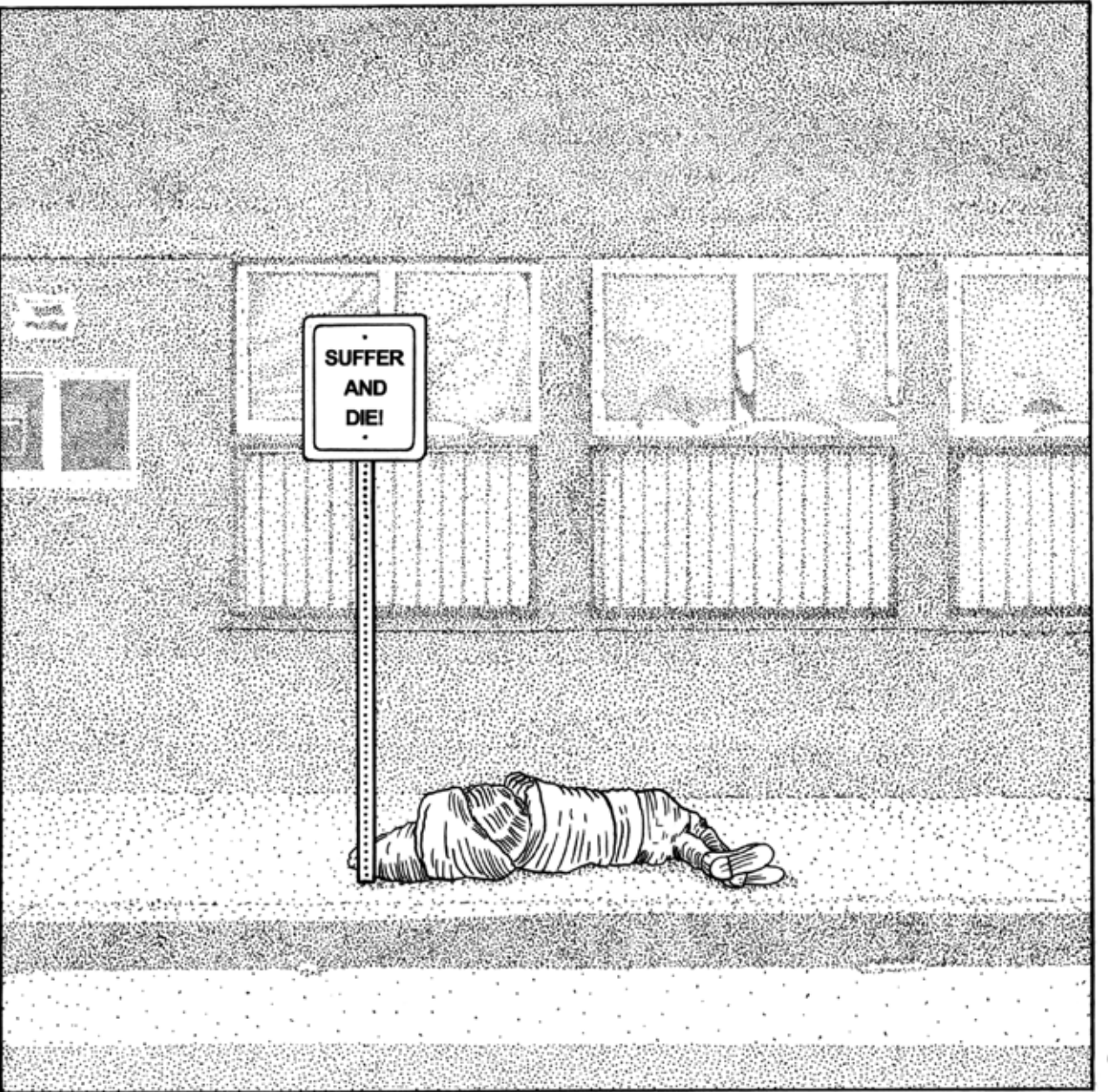
James Wolfe has kids in Ecole Claire Fontaine and Westminster Avenue Elementary School. He and his wife also have a new baby on the way that will go to Ecole Claire Fontaine. He says that the traffic, noise, dust, and pollution from the construction of a hotel shouldn’t be in such close proximity to schoolchildren. He says that having hotel patrons, individuals without any connection to the community, so close to kids is unsettling. If something were to happen, these individuals could just leave town and never be seen again. He says that the owner of a hotel should be mindful of that

3 • September 2019 • FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD and should be accountable for the security in the hotel. There are too many unknowns involved. The location isn’t appropriate. He questions the idea of travelers coming from other countries staying in eye-shot of an elementary school. He asks, “What is the accountability there?”

Pam Presley’s son has gone to Westminster Elementary since he started there in kindergarten in 2013. She says that the traffic on Abbot Kinney Boulevard is bad already. With drivers speeding through the crosswalk at Broadway and Abbot Kinney, it’s dangerous enough. Electric Avenue, which runs parallel to Abbot Kinney, is thin and hard to get through. She says that the Hotel Irwin, an existing hotel in Venice, gets noise complaints from residents when they have rooftop events. She sees problems with a hotel that sells alcohol being located across the street from an elementary school. And she finds it “kind of creepy” to have a rooftop bar overlooking the grassy area where the children play.

Diedre Samuels is a volunteer at Westminster Avenue Elementary School. She has a petition of 320 signatures opposing the hotel with its traffic, parking problems, and unsafe loading areas. She feels that the City of L.A. is doing more for the tourists and their money than for the residents of Venice. She says that the owners and supporters of this hotel don’t live within 500 feet of the project. They won’t have to breathe the toxic air from the idling delivery trucks, cars, and tour buses. The 30 foot wall on the back of the hotel will block out the sunlight that shines on the bungalows of the residents along Electric Avenue. She says that a parent expressed concerns to her that any kind of hotel attracts prostitution and elicit drug use. And she wonders how the City can approve a liquor license and permit to sell alcohol from a hotel bar, restaurant bar, store, and pool bar between the hours of 7:00 AM and 1:00 AM across the street from an elementary school. She warns of a 3rd-floor pool with a bar looking directly into the schoolyard, and a lot of individuals milling around that area. The kids walk to school in the morning. Some leave at 2:30. Others, staying for the after-school programs, leave at 6:00. To this she says, “We’re not going to stop fighting for what we think is right.”

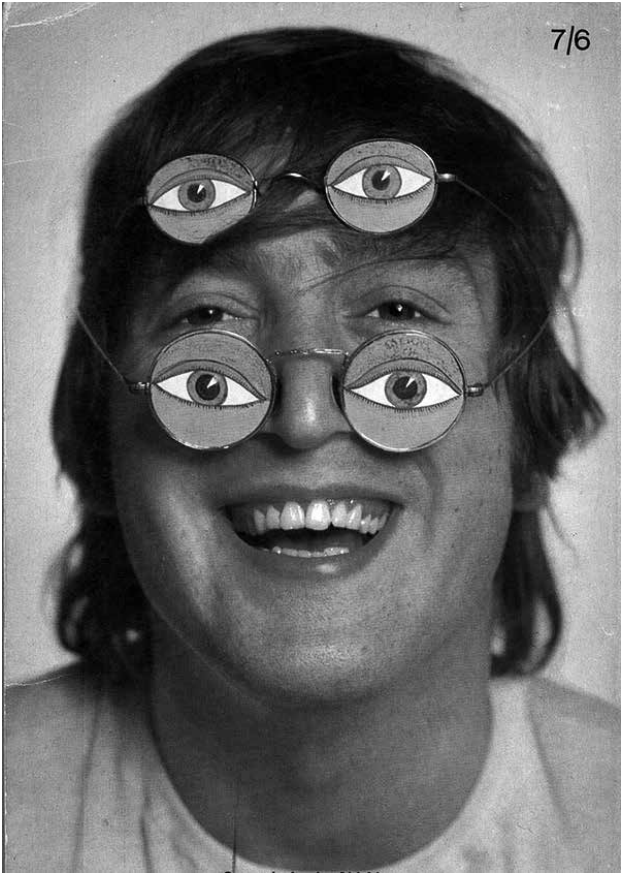
Indeed, the fight is right. Any Venice resident with a conscience agrees. It seems problematic, to say the least, that someone would want to build a hotel that caters to a wealthy international clientele so close to elementary-age schoolchildren from working families. But if the parents and people of the Venice community find it unacceptable, then it will be stopped.



by Hank Rosenfeld and Ron Birnbach

We’re both Beatlemaniacs. So, of course, we loved Yesterday, the summer flick where a fellow wakes up in a world without the Beatles. On our way out of the theater, we asked random moviegoers: “What’s your favorite Beatle song?” Fans self-identifying as “hipsters” gave us this listicle of their top Fab Four influencers:

- Hey Juul
- All You Need Is Wi-Fi
- Baby You Can Drive My Lyft
- I Wanna Hold Your Brand
- With A Little Help From My Loyalty Rewards
- Got to Get You Into My Life Coach Webinar
- It’s Getting Hotter All the Time
- I’ve Just Seen A Food Truck
- Strawberry Smoothies Forever
- Long Tall Unicorn
- Here Comes The Grubhub
- She Came in Through the Algorithm
- Something In The Way She Spins
- She’s Got a Ticket to Coachella
- I Say Hello, You Say Fuck Off
- I Should’ve Hooked Up Better
- It’s Not Within You, It’s Within Me
- Norwegian Tinder
- Screenplay Writer
- Everybody’s Got Something To Hide Except For Me & My College Debt
- A Hard Day’s Rock Wall Climbing
- Weekend Ayahuasca Tripper
- Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-[ADD YOUR OWN JOKE HERE]
- Things We Texted Today
- While My Emoji Gently Weeps
- If I Fell In Love With My Man Bun
- I’m Only Ghosting
- She Said, She Said #MeToo
- Blackbirds Matter
- Mother Nature’s Organic Natural Silkworm Exfoliators
- Blue Jay Way Airbnb
- Can’t Buy Me A House
- I Am The Walmart
- P.S. I Love YouTube
- (Help! No really, somebody help us.)



Robert Havis Brings Music To Venice Beach
By Cheryl Eckford

People of all ethnic and economic backgrounds come to Venice Beach sometimes on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday to make music for tourists and others enjoying the beach. Robert Havis of Los Angeles (AKA Slim) brings congas, djembes, tambourines, bells, and maracas. People who are homeless, low-income, or middle class come together to make all types of music on the beach. The band plays freestyle music with a hint of African music or sometimes pop. Sometimes, they may play a cover song like Black Magic Woman, which was originally recorded by Santana.

Havis is 72. He is originally from Los Angeles. Slim had to overcome a lot of personal issues in his life to be able to share his love of music with others. Havis (Slim) got Post Traumatic Stress Disorder after serving in the Vietnam War. Slim is an only child. He was not supposed to serve in the war, because he is an only child. Despite this fact, he was given orders to go to Vietnam. He served from 1968 to 1970. “There were explosions going off every night, and quite a few of my friends died,” said Slim about his experience in the war. “It was very confusing adjusting to another world, then coming back to my country and my country turned their back on me. I thought the world had changed, but I had changed,” he added.

After the war, Slim worked at the post office for twenty-five years. Later, he became homeless for three years and often slept under the freeway bridge near the VA Hospital in West Los Angeles. He checked himself into a VA program for alcoholism. Slim found, when he returned home after the program was over, that his family had moved on and his house was foreclosed, leaving him homeless. The VA helped him get a condo three years later.

In 2009, Slim watched a video on how to play the congas, and he began to play the congas to relieve his PTSD. “Coming out to Venice is my therapy. I was never treated for my PTSD because the VA wanted me to deal with my alcoholism first,” said Slim. In 2011, Slim began to play in a band under the leadership of Abraham Butler. When Abraham relocated to Virginia, Slim brought his instruments for individuals to play music on the beach. The group plays near the Rose parking lot at the Boardwalk. The group doesn’t have an official name.

One player, a woman named Des Verney from Venice Beach, plays the flute and the congas. “I taught myself to play the flute as a youth and then learned to play the drums. I love coming down to Venice. I get to keep up my music skills and it helps me financially as we make a few tips. I started coming during the ‘70s when Abraham led the group,” said Des Verney. “Originally, in the ‘70s, it was African music under Abraham. We were called the Venice Beach Drum Orchestra. The players who used to come were from Nigeria, Senegal, and Ghana,” she added. “Before Abraham, there was a drum circle on the Boardwalk near Brooks. That would draw large crowds,” Des Verney said. She added that she was ten years old when she saw that group of drummers.

Michael, 68, of Los Angeles, took guitar lessons thirty years ago. In 2013, Michael was riding his bike at the beach when he first heard Slim and the group playing. Eventually, Michael started playing with the group. “People need to have live experiences, not just music they hear online. I usually come to play the guitar on Sunday when there is a full band: a flutist, a saxophonist, and another guitar player. If it wasn’t for Slim, none of this would be happening,” said Michael. “People want to play music. There are not a lot of opportunities for people to play in a band, and Slim offers a chance for people to play with other people,” Michael said.

The audience sometimes participates by shaking maracas or dancing along to the music. This particular Sunday, one audience member, Charles Smith of Hollywood said, “I enjoy the band because of their freestyle music and their joyful sound and the beat the drums make.”

“If anyone plays well and can be in harmony with the band, they are welcome to come play. However, one must know their instrument well,” Slim said. Slim states that he will keep coming to the beach as long as he is physically able. The band can be found on Venice Beach Boardwalk near the Rose parking lot after 1 PM on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, but are not there every weekend.

Development – continued from page 3
These huge companies, these multi-millionaires and billionaires, waltz on in here and just take and tell us what it’s going to be ... and you know what, they think they can just do it because they hold all the cards.

But ... what if I told you the people of Culver City (and really anywhere in this state when it comes down to it) have some pretty strong cards to play too ... they just don’t want you to know about it?

What if we decide to say, “No” and reset the way our communities are developed so that what we get matches to what we really need, instead of just being the lining of their pockets?

Impossible you say? Not so, this is precisely how we change the rules of the game. First, we take back the land. Culver City has already floated talk of land banking to get public land back for community based projects and it would appear that 11111 Jefferson Blvd. is now primed and ready to be at the top of the list. Why not? Let’s send a clear message to the developers that the community will be doing the deciding about what is going to get built and when we build what the rent will be – based on our need and not on their greed. And if we have to ... if we really, really have to, there’s always eminent domain (<https://eminentdomain.uslegal.com/state-laws-on-eminent-.../.../>). If we want it, the developers can’t stop us.

Yes! I can already hear, “But where are you going to get the money to pay for it?” playing in chorus. Thank you so much for this incredibly easy question, and there are three ways I would like to suggest.

Did you know that on this very day AB857 just cleared a key CA State Senate committee? It now goes for a floor vote in the Senate and then back to the House for a final vote. What I’m saying is that California is 2 votes and 1 signature away from having its own public bank ... a bank run by and for California! That’s right. What we do is directly invest into our own community through our own bank. Step one – we take back control of our money – check.

Step number two... we reinforce that borrowing power, with a housing bond, backed up with a restructured business tax, which will put a fair tax burden on these very same major corporations that are moving here in ... 16 months.

This has already been in the works for some time now and at the last City Council meeting on August 26th direction was given by Council to city staff to have the Finance Advisory Committee make this a priority in this year’s work plan ... “in case we need to put it on the 2020 ballot.” Yes, you would have to actually vote to tax the billionaires ... but if you can bring yourself to do that then we can have a stable source of funding to create and sustain the housing we need for our community.

Third, and this one’s new, as Culver City has just approved a rent freeze for one year, there is some tension over what is to come (and a longer dedicated conversation is needed for that) one comment from this debate did ring a bell though ... that of not being able to freeze rents on buildings built after 1995. Basically, all these Wall Street developers can still charge what they want ... “it’s all these new constructions that are driving rents up.” I hear that, and as a community we need to find a way to address that problem – the higher the rents go the greater that force will drive homelessness.

So, perhaps what we could do is after determining what a fair median rent is – numbers which our Housing Dept. already has, we set a tax on those landlords charging well above that rate, specifically designed to find the sweet spot where it hits these newer large investor properties (not the older properties that have been in the community prior to Costa Hawkins). If we can’t cap the rent, then at the very least we can tax the ones who are gauging renters, making it more difficult for all of us to afford housing?

Now, take all of this, and we have the foundation to shift the narrative away from trying to stop developer led projects that we don’t want and don’t need, and re-imagine how development is done, where the community leads the discussion and decides its own future and what that’s going to look like.

PAUL IS...NOT DEAD by Gerry Fialka

The “I” stands for “Investigative” and the “S” stands for “Satirist.” Paul Krassner merged witty humor with investigative journalism. On July 21, 2019, he changed comedy clubs . . . from the earthly one to the heavenly one. His contagious ability to get people to laugh lives on.

Over the years, I taped interviews with Paul four times. His insights still impact me. Hear them at Archive.org and search “Paul Krassner” and Fialka. Here’s a sampling:

Gerry (GF): Do you more pursue meaning or more pursue happiness?

Paul (PK): I think that happiness and meaning are two sides of the same coin. From early on, when I saw unhappy people I would seek to understand what caused unhappiness. I strive for happiness. Groucho Marx once told me that his favorite guest on You Bet Your Life was an elderly gentleman, who was quite chipper. Groucho asked him about this positive attitude. He said, “I wake up every morning and I choose to be happy that day.” I was intrigued because I had never thought of happiness as a choice.

GF: Please tell me a childhood memory.

PK: My father used to beat us with a leather belt. Each generation cherry picks the virtues and vices. I didn’t learn until after he died what my father really appreciated. I was a child prodigy, but I wanted to make people laugh. My parents eventually changed their expectations and accepted what I did.

GF: What would you want God to say to you after you die?

PK: I’d want her to say, “Thank you for questioning authority.”

GF: Can satire be destructive?

PK: Satire is similar to what Picasso said: “Art is a lie to reveal the truth.” I read something in the news that makes my ego suddenly pop up. Like alchemy, I want to turn horror into humor. I am not negligible about horror. In the context of infinite time and space, it can then put horror in perspective.

GF: Discuss enemies of The Realist.

PK: When I was 9 years old, I had a crazy aunt who tried to murder me. Even though she treated me like an enemy, I knew that it was her problem, not mine. I mean, it was my job to do something about it. I didn’t take it personally. Publishing The Realist I got many threats, but I realized that it had nothing to do with me. They were revealing things about themselves. Subscriptions kept growing because of word of mouth and, “Okay here’s somebody that’s not afraid to attack these authority figures.” So I look upon enemies as if I’m just the vehicle for their Rorschach test.

GF: What books had an impact of you in early life?

PK: J.D. Salinger’s Catcher in the Rye, and Dalton Trumbo’s Johnny Got His Gun, which really became my bible.

GF: Is perception reality?

PK: Perception isn’t reality, the concept itself. But it is reality for people. If they have a prejudice toward somebody of another race, it’s a perception. Yet it’s their reality. But in reality, they’re their fellow humans. In 1950 they still had “colored only, white only” signs. Racism was really in action, and lynchings were going on. My first girlfriend had gone out what they called “a negro.” I asked her, “Did he kiss you on the lips?” And as I heard myself say that, I was astounded that I would utter such a thing. You think you’re relatively enlightened. You peel off that layer. The layers are endless. I felt awful about even saying it, but it was good that I did it because it caused me to apologize. I realized that I had internalized the racism of the culture.

GF: How do movies shape our behavior?

PK: I remember as a kid when I went to the movies, and saw Marlon Brando. I would walk out of the theater as if I were Brando. Guy Madison wore this jacket with the collar up. I would imitate his style. They were role models. It was interesting in the 60s when men were letting their hair grow. Then the same lawyers and news anchors who made fun

of us would start doing the same, longer sideburns with hair covering part of their ears and going down their neck. It is why artists always seem to be ahead of politicians. They don’t have to worry about being elected.

GF: How do you find peace of mind?

PK: I try to keep my perspective of mystery and infinity. I have fun with it. In the 40’s, ventriloquist Charlie McCarthy played a city slicker with a top hat and monocle. His side kick dummy was Mortimer Snerd, a farm boy in overalls with freckles and buck teeth. Edgar said to Charlie, “What are you doing?” and Charlie said, “Nothing.” And Mortimer said; “Well how do you know when you’ve finished?” The answer is the absurdity of existence. The beauty of it can overpower the ugliness and the injustice.

GF: What’s the healthiest cultural shift developing today?

PK: The legalization of marijuana. That affects other things that can change. Putting people in prison for smoking a little weed is the cornerstone of a police state. People can look the other way and say: “Well, it’s not good for him to smoke.” But cigarettes are legal. So there’s a linear connection between putting someone behind bars for having pleasure that doesn’t harm anybody else. The other ones that are legal, like alcohol, tobacco, and prescription drugs, can have quite negative results. Even though they try to make lovely art out of the side effects with the voice-overs in prescription commercials, with beautiful visuals that take your mind away from the warnings. Putting people in prison for having pleasure or medicine is INSANE. That insanity, and lack of compassion ultimately extends to dropping bombs on strangers from drones on the other side of the world. That’s the same lack of compassion and same looking the other way, and accepting the totally unfair and unjust.

GF: Utah Phillips said “Anarchy is making rules for yourself, not others.”

PK: That’s a good one. I’ve known anarchists who live by the Golden Rule, not because they’re following it but because they feel it. And I’ve known anarchists who are ego-maniacal. Utah, he passed away, instead of dying. (Laughs.)

GF: How do you explain your longevity with your wife Nancy Cain ? (40 years plus)

PK: We trust each other. We have each other’s interest in mind. With that awareness, arguments aren’t necessarily fights. We have an argument once every year just to look human!

GF: Is ambition based more on fear or more on joy?

PK: Ambition is fear you might not make it, but joy is when you do! But I try to do things for their own merit. Let them have a life of their own. I like Nancy’s slogan: “process is product.” When I was a kid, my best friend was the radio. Lionel Barrymore, as Dr. Kildare, was in a wheelchair in the movies. He had this radio show where he spoke in this kind of quivering voice with these little maxims like “When you stop growing old you’re dead.” Another really struck me: “Happiness is not a state you arrive at, it’s a train you are riding on.” That became my philosophy and summed it up. I didn’t need to go through that thick book by Sartre, Being and Nothingness. I wrote a little fable called Tales of Tongue Fu. The character had a little Jack-in-the-box. It sprung up holding a little sign saying: “IT IS NOW.” And the other side of it said “AND THAT’S ALREADY GONE.”

GF: What gives you the most optimism?

PK: That I took too much acid!

GF: If a statue was made in your honor, where would you want it displayed and what would it be it would of?

PK: It would be made of titanium, and would be sitting on Abraham Lincoln’s lap.

GF: Please tell me a weakness you’ve turned into a strength.

PK: I’m essentially a cripple, which is literally a weakness. Through the process, I’m trying to accept it, because I know I can’t change it. A friend of mine wants me to go to some kind of bodyworker, who

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has performed magic. I keep resisting it because I can’t imagine that my problem can be cured because it is incurable. A doctor told me: “Next you’ll have a little scooter with a motor. Your insurance will cover it partly. And then you’ll have a wheelchair!” He was giving me his view of evolution in a nutshell!

Here’s some of my favorite KRASSNER JOKES:

JOKE: The little league batter looks up to the sky and says, “Please god let me hit a homer.” The pitcher looks up the to sky and says, “Please god let me strike him out.” The clouds part and god’s voice declared, “You superstitious fools!”

JOKE: I only believe in reincarnation in one of my past lives.”

JOKE: I was living in Venice California. Everyone is happy there with a sunny disposition. I visited my birthplace New York, and was buying some groceries. At the checkout line, the cashier rings me out, and I ask her, “Aren’t you going to tell me to have a nice day?” And the clerk says, “It’s on the fucking receipt.”

Paul opened his autobiography “Confessions of a Raving, Unconfined Nut: Misadventures in the Counterculture” with the Don Marquis quote: “It is quite true that I have invented for myself a good many experiences which I never really had. But they were all experiences which belonged to me by right of temperament and character. I should have had them, if I had but had my rights. I was despoiled of them by the rough tyranny of Circumstance. On the other hand, I have suppressed a number of incidents which actually happened, because I did not, upon mature reflection, find them in consonance with my nature as I like to think it is—they were lies that were told about me by the slinking facts of life. Evangelists of various descriptions assure us that we can make the future what we will, if we can but attain a sufficient degree of spirituality. It has been my endeavor to attain such a degree of spirituality that I may be able to influence the past as well as the future.”

Paul published his last story in Variety in July: “A few years later, without my permission, Jules Siegel, the editor of a short-lived magazine, Cheetah, published a fake obituary of me. I thought it was funny. A reporter called, and I explained that it was a hoax.

‘Are you sure?’ he asked. ‘Of course. I would tell you if I was dead.’”

Paul and his wife Nancy Cain lived in Venice for awhile. His performance at a Boardwalk venue is funny and informative. Go to YouTube and type in Venice History Tapes - Free Venice Beachhead 20th Anniversary Part 2, and cue it to the 1:22:09 point. Watch Paul flap his wings and fly for 18 hilarious minutes.

Paul asked me to write an essay on McLuhan. That request really got me jump-started on writing. He constantly nurtured me with humor and shared knowledge. When I bought his autobiography in 1993, I was elated when he wrote in my copy: “To Gerry Fialka who is actually the Wizard of Oz spreading communication like butter across the toast of civilization. Enjoy your ass off! Paul Krassner”

Thanks PAUL KRASSNER. Let us all take his joyous lead and enjoy our asses off.

+++++

LINKS:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJHdO2fz5bI> Paul in Venice 1:22:09 for 18 minutes

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=%22paul%20krassner%22%20fialka>

Here’s 4 interviews of Paul Krassner by Gerry Fialka on Archive.org

One of Paul’s favorite questions: Q. Why is there evil in the world? A. To thicken the plot. - Krishnamurti

Special Thanks: Hank Rosenfeld, Suzy Williams, John Humphrey, and everybody spawned by Krassner.

Solomon Said - Quotes from Beachhead

“If a humanitarian world organization was to see the treatment of inmates or the racial make-up, they would say that this is a form of genocide based on race and economic status.” – June 2012

“Thanks to my family, friends and supporters. I wish a Happy 2013 Year of the Snake to you all. The crown of my hope was the fact that I knew I didn’t do it. I didn’t even worry about proving my innocence, I just let them worry about how they would prove me guilty.” – September 2012

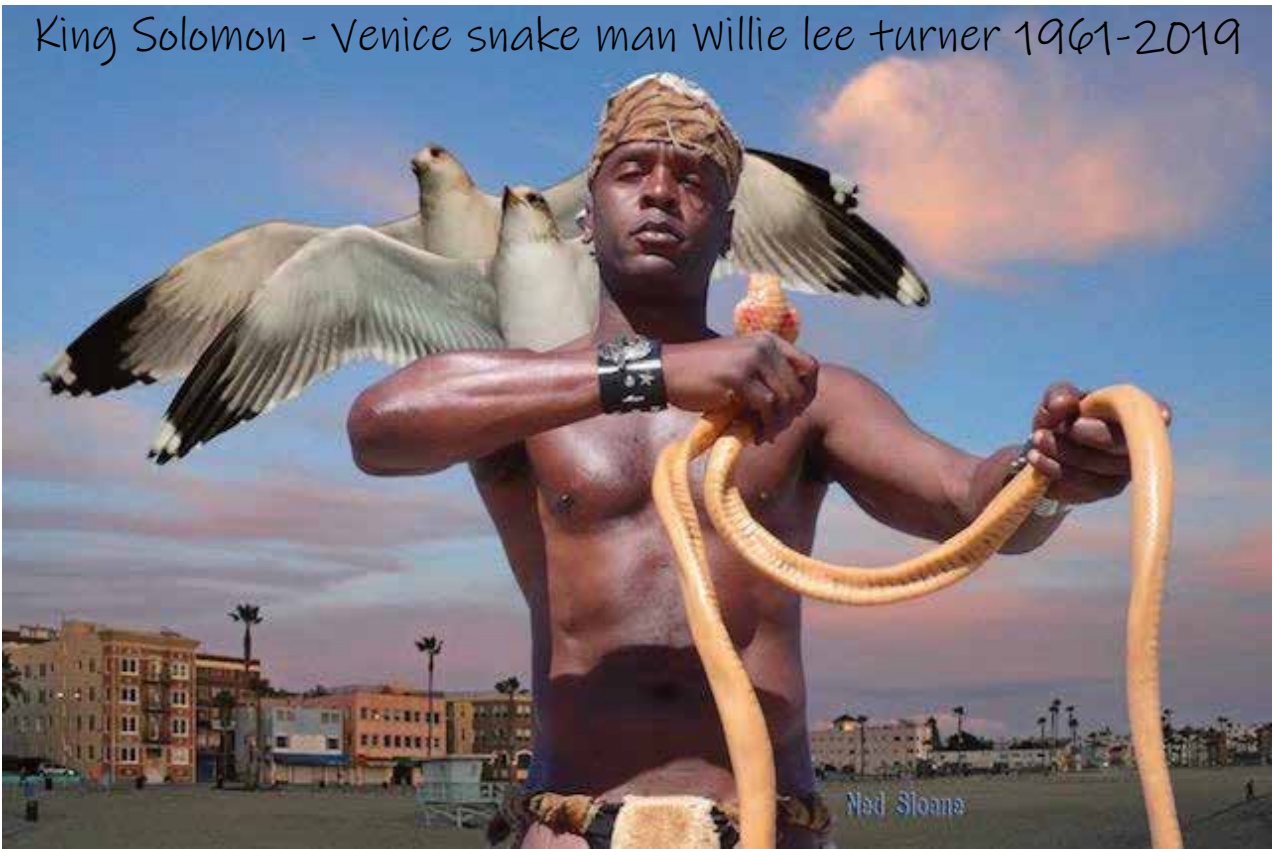
“I want to thank the Divine force for always bringing truth to the light.” – September 2012

“They want to keep me in the box. When I asked the policeman where to sign the ticket, he said ‘In the box.’ But I am one of those that thinks out-side of the box, and I think that self-expression should not be limited to the spaces currently marked on the boardwalk.” – September 2012

“The snakes are symbols of miracles and justice. Healing. Cobras are especially sacred to the Hindu Lord Shiva. I like the powerful surrealism of statues as triggering a hieroglyphic response in the human psyche.” – December 2006

“Since the Lottery went into effect nearly two years ago, the suppression of local artists and vendors has become epidemic. The general idea is to keep us mired in fines and court appearances to the extent that we are incapacitated to work or even feed ourselves. It has been my Destiny to overcome limiting social and poverty issues all my Life. My family descended from Oklahoma and Louisiana plantations, Baptists who believed God is Love. My mother and aunts died from heart and kidney failures, my own daughter contacted spinal meningitis at one month old. I am dedicated to finding the healing solutions we all need to become one people.” – December 2006

“Here is a folder containing ten incidents where I’ve been ticketed or received warrants. I am particularly singled out by Officers Putnam and Curtis.



They are attempting to traumatize me and break my Life Spirit. They stake me out, constantly citing me tickets for riding my unicycle, stop me in mid-show in front of big crowds to do so. They follow me to my van, which I’ve been parking in the same spot for 13 years, wait til I go inside, then proceed to arrest me on the charge of sleeping in my van. I’ve paid over \$1,000 in impound fees in the past year. Putnam once even deliberately pushed my van over into the red line just to get it impounded. They show up with no warning, trump up a charge, and send me to jail. The other day I am riding bicycles on the bike path with my girl-friend Greta when we pulled off to chat with Ibrahim. Within minutes Putnam and Curtis ticket me for riding on the boardwalk, which i didn’t do, (and tons of people do all the time). Greta asked why she didn’t receive a ticket and they promptly wrote her one. Then in the process of handing over my license, Putnam threatens me with a charge of assault for supposedly cutting

his finger with my license. Putnam is ex-military desert storm. I’m convinced he’s racially and sexually harassing me. The other day him and Curtis followed me three times around Windward Circle. The other night I passed the Coffee Bean, Officers Putnam and Curtis were there with two others. Putnam called out that he can ticket me for riding my unicycle. I decided to walk to La Fiesta for a bite. Out of the corner of my eye I saw three cop cars circling like sharks around me. As I passed the post office, they convened, cars lights flashing, shouting to put my hands up, citing outstanding warrants – misdemeanor junk I can’t currently afford to pay. They pointed a laser scope beam at my heart, cuffed me hissing Don’t Resist. As they twisted my arms, I was stumbling. It took everything I had to remain calm, another trauma, another bogus charge, my freedom and my night taken away.” – December 2006

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Beyond Baroque September 27 Friday 8pm
Prince Diabate and Linda J Albertano
A night of kora and poetry.

Prince Diabate is a direct descendant of the Mandingo griots who are the oral historians, storytellers, and living encyclopedias of West African culture. Prince Diabate has been recognized as one of the greatest living virtuosos of the kora (West African harp), with a dynamic, high-energy performance style. He is currently building a school in Guinea for the study of traditional instruments.

Linda J. Albertano is a musician and spoken-word artist who has studied kora, bolon and gongoman (calabash instruments) in Guinea-Conakry with Prince Diabate and other masters of ancient musical traditions. She has accompanied him at the Sacred Music Festival, the Getty, Royce Hall, Grand Performances, and other venues up and down the West Coast and in Hawaii for nearly two decades.

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Admission: \$10 general / seniors & students \$6

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10AM – 12PM: Interfaith Service
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- Presentations
- Panel
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Peace Sunday is an annual event sponsored by UDC and affiliated organizations







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BOOK NUMBER TWO:

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tion, Special Collections, Main Research Library,
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All funds for the design, production and printing
of Book Number Two donated to the Ulan Bator
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ity) by Arnold Springer who will seek no profit or
repayment for his donations or efforts.



Solomon's memorial - family photo
by Margaret Molloy

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE
A MEMORIAL TO THE LIFE
OF MARY GETLEIN

A memorial for Mary Getlein will be held on 2
P.M., Saturday, Sept. 21 at the United Methodist
Church (the Church in Ocean Park) at 235 Hill
St., Santa Monica. There will be a gathering and
pot luck afterward. Please come and celebrate the
beautiful life of our Beachhead poet and staff mem-
ber, member of the Israel Levin Center, Member of
the Church in O.P and choir singer, social activist,
speaker and one of the funniest people ever...

-marty-



MARY GETLEIN -marty-
Mary
Our Wild Irish Rose
Angels sing with you
God wanted you to sing to him
The angels needed you
to make them laugh
Your great wit made us laugh
Even when you were in pain
Walking through storms
You still joked, danced and sang
At church you sang
At the senior center
you joked and sang
We read your poems
in the local paper
and they transformed us
You spoke out for the poor
You spoke out for the Rights
of Women and Minorities
Even when you had little
You gave food to the homeless
You gave us so much
Mary, our Wild Irish Hippie
You gave us great Light and Joy
I would say, Rest in Peace
but knowing you, even in Heaven
You will speak your mind
and tell God what you think!
We will never forget you...

Once Again

I go to the beach and once again
I'm treated to the spectacle of eight cops
busting one tired old homeless guy –
who had too many tickets –
he's politely trying to explain to the cops why he
didn't pay his tickets –
They pack him and all his possessions up –
He asks –
can't you put my food out on the bench so
homeless people could eat it?
The cop threw it away.

He told them earlier he had a nice mango for dinner when
he was still begging for an O.R. –
How many cops does it take to arrest one homeless guy?
Eight, apparently.

After they left, my friend and I liberated the mango from the
trash can.

I'm a "formerly homeless" and have no fear of trash cans.
Especially the ones on the beach,
with fresh new liners for the weekend crowds.

We scored a mango, two apples, a container of cheese. It's
the first and the guy bought some good stuff.

I used to be mad, and rant at the cops.
Now we're just tired and used to it.

We watch how someone's tax money is misspent. "Clean-
ing up the beach" means locking poor people away.
God forbid someone should see a poor man eating a
mango.

-Mary Getlein

Invisible Thoughts (Clowns on the Beach)

By Jeffrey Moss Charles / August 2019

The last time I went to the beach,
I got sucked out by the undertow,
Before I even went into the water.

The last drum circle I played at,
My riddims were stolen out of my hands,
And my feet were locked in the sand.

The final sunset of the year fell out of the sky,
Winter became fall became summer became rain,
However, sunshine ran into first place from behind.

Skating the bowl and shreddin' the waves,
Cruising down Main Street with the wind in my hair,
No worries, no cares, no invisible thoughts.

One day, maybe soon, when it all goes down,
I'll be around, making some sound, acting the clown,
'Til then be well and get some rest.



THE GREAT DANCE -marty liboff-
The Great Dance of Life-
An old friend checks out
A newborn baby checks in
A flower explodes with Life
Erupting from a tiny seed
Grows, blooms, flowers
Makes new seeds
Then wilts and dies
The Tide rises and falls
Our new love burns
Paradise in our eyes
Then Paradise lost
As they say,
Here today, gone tomorrow
We never know what will Be
And what will Be will Be
All we have is Now
All we have is the Moment
All we have is Love
So Sing, Sing, Sing
Dance, Dance, Dance
Because the End of our Song
The end of our Dance
Comes so soon
Treasure each moment
With those you Love
They will live on
Forever singing to our souls...

Some people haven't grown up at the beach
Some people have never seen the ocean
They can not relate to the connection between
The moon and the tides
They have their own connections to
The surroundings they were raised in
Seasons , colors of fall , snow.
All things we have no relationship with
On the west coast.
So is it us that are missing out on the changing of the
seasons
Or they who have no connection to the shoreline and the sea.
One can travel to another's place of origin
Even become acclimated to ones surroundings
But the connection you have to mother earth
Can not be taught. It is inherent, and won't be taught.
It can only be lived.

SHINING SEA by Kid Caviar

Talked to you guys in front of the church at Venice Lives. I
performed on the guitar that day.

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Dirty Stairs

Whose work is this
And who has put it
In our way?
Did a neighbor conspire
Or a dog-owner neglect?
These are the questions that today
Stair-climbers ask themselves.

Cursing these shitty times
Some walk back home
And some go to the next staircase.
But I descend to the last step.

Filth has spread everywhere
And I know if
I step on it
I will become dirty
And its smell will not let go of me
Even in my dreams.

Majid Naficy
August 18, 2019

I Hold Her Hand
For Azar

The night-blooming vines grow again
And my dreams cling to my waking.
On the Pacific shore
I hear only the sobbing of the sand.
I close my eyes
And hold her hand.

It was twenty-five years ago.
We were at the Caspian Sea.
From a nightclub
Came the sound of a waltz,
And along with it our fingertips
Spread over the night.
Ah, how good it was
To pluck stars and smiles,
And to hear one's name
In the whisper between two waves.

I open my eyes.
Her gaze is still childlike
And only her hair shows the wisdom of years.
We are both silent
But my fingers talk with hers:
The first finger says: "Be my star"
And hers says: "Then I need a sky."
The second says: "Be my fish"
And hers says: "Then I need a sea."
The third says: "Be my gazelle"
And hers says: "Then I need a meadow."
The fourth says: "Be my blossom"
And hers says: "Then I need a garden."
The fifth says: "Be my sweetheart"
And hers remains silent.

I let go of her hand,
Get up, and cry out:
"Oh, my childhood sea!
Let me embrace you again
Like a sandy shore."

Majid Naficy
December 30, 1990

CALENDAR

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SEPTEMBER 5 THURSDAY 8:00 PM
HISTORY OF VENICE: A NIGHT OF STORY-TELLING – Celebrate the first evening of live programming during the month-long “A History of Venice” exhibition. Enjoy storytelling presentations by locals, historians, and artists representing the Tongva ancestors, the historic Oakwood community, the founding era featuring Abbot Kinney himself(!) and an overview of the many generations of artists who have made their mark in Venice, including the present-day youth storytellers of Venice Arts. Regular admission. Members FREE. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 6 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
FOUR L.A. WRITERS
Beyond Baroque warmly welcomes four L.A. writers: Deirdre Gainor, Tom Laichas, Susan Suntree, Zoey Zimmerman. Regular admission. Members FREE. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 7 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
LYNNE THOMPSON & SUSAN TERRIS
Two of Southern California’s finest poets read from their new books. Lynne Thompson is the author of three books of poetry, most recently Beg No Pardon. Susan Terris is the author of six books of poetry, most recently Familiar Tense. Regular admission. Members FREE. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 8 SUNDAY 2:00 PM
SOAPBOX POETS OPEN READING
This is your home. Bring your words. The mic is yours. Sign ups begin at 1:45 PM. There is a five minute limit. Hosted by Jessica Wilson Cardenas. FREE, but donations are gratefully accepted.

SEPTEMBER 8 SUNDAY 7:30 PM
VOICE IN THE WELL – 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.

SEPTEMBER 12 THURSDAY 6:00 PM
WIDE AWAKE ON ABBOT KINNEY – A special off-site party and reading celebrating the poets of Beyond Baroque’s anthology Wide Awake: The Poets of Los Angeles and Beyond. At the Miansai boutique on Abbot Kinney. Twenty percent of Miansai’s sales will go to support Beyond Baroque. FREE.

SEPTEMBER 13 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
MIHAELA MOSCALIUC & MICHAEL WATERS
Mihaela Moscaliuc is the author of the poetry collections Immigrant Model and Father Dirt. Michael Waters’ recent books include The Dean of Discipline and Celestial Joyride, and a coedited anthology, Reel Verse: Poems About the Movies. Regular admission. Members FREE. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 14 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
HISTORY OF VENICE: A NIGHT OF LITERATURE & ART
A reading and discussion with Tosh Berman, former director of Beyond Baroque and author of the memoir Tosh, Growing Up In Wallace Berman’s World. Regular admission. Members FREE.

SEPTEMBER 15 SUNDAY 5:00 PM
SALIENT SUNDAY OPEN READING
Hosted by Radomir Luza & Patricia Murphy. FREE but donations are gratefully accepted.

SEPTEMBER 19 THURSDAY 8:00 PM
HISTORY OF VENICE: A NIGHT OF FILM
Join us for the third evening of live programming during the month-long “A History of Venice” exhibition. Discover rare films shot in Venice, about Venice. Check out never-before-seen surf and skate footage from the gritty second generation of Dogtown in the 1980s as well as films showcasing the evolution of artistic expression in Venice through the eyes of both longtime archivists, such as Tom Sewell and Juri Koll, and the young auteurs of the Venice Arts nonprofit film workshop. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 20 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
FUNNY WOMEN OF A CERTAIN AGE
Creator/host Carole Montgomery brings some of the funniest, mature female comics in the business to Beyond Baroque. Special admission. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 21 SATURDAY 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM
SMALL PRESS BOOK FESTIVAL
Join Beyond Baroque, The Culver City Arts Foundation, and Vagabond Press at the first annual Small Press Book Festival! Offsite at The Wende Museum of the Cold War in Culver City. Featuring workshops, performances and presentations throughout the day. FREE.

SEPTEMBER 21 SATURDAY 3:00 - 5:00 PM
LAMBDA LIT FEST: WHEN I WAS A YOUNG LESBO
Beyond Baroque, Lambda Lit Festival and The Los Angeles Press are proud to present - “when I was a young lezbo.” Performers include Linda Ravenswood, Lauren White, Terry Wolverton, Gina Young, Bernadette McComish, Kamala Puligandla, Amanda – Faye Jimenez, and Carla Sameth. Regular admission. Members FREE. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 22 SUNDAY 2:00 PM
THE NEBRASKA GIRL OPEN READING
Sign-ups at 1:30 PM. Hosted by Wyatt Underwood. FREE but donations are gratefully accepted.

SEPTEMBER 22 SUNDAY 3:00 PM
SPILLWAY 22
Celebrate Spillway, Issue 27, featuring some of So-Cal’s most accomplished and iconic poets including Elena Karina Byrne, James Ragan, David St. John, and many others. Spillway is published by Mifanwy Kaiser through Tebot Bach and edited by Marsha de la O , Phil Taggart, Lynne Thompson and Candace Pearson. Regular admission. Members FREE. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 22 SUNDAY 7:00 PM
7 DUDLEY CINEMA
Experimental films with fiery discussion & live music. FREE, but donations are gratefully accepted. Laughtears.com. Gerry Fialka host.

SEPTEMBER 26 THURSDAY 8:00 PM
MY GOTHIC ROMANCE
Mehnaz Sahibzada was born in Pakistan and raised in Los Angeles. My Gothic Romance is her first full length poetry collection. www.poetmehnaz.com . Think Charlotte Bronte meets Jason Vorhees or Mary Shelley meets Wes Craven. My Gothic Romance is a collection of poems, which represents a literary and cinematic exploration of the beauty within the dark. It’s also a study of primal fear and what attracts us to the morally ambiguous. This collection is divided into two tones or sections: “Dark” & “Light.” The poems range it tone from the creepy and tender--to the thrilling and romantic. Regular admission. Members FREE.

SEPTEMBER 28 SATURDAY 4:00 PM
T.S. ELIOT PROGRAM
Details coming soon.

SEPTEMBER 28 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
HOSPITAL STORIES
Poet, playwright, and performer Elisabeth Houston presents her new work of performance art. In Hospital Stories, a young woman wants to die. Her father decides to appear on CNN while she is hospitalized from an overdose. After her next suicide attempt, he arrives with a tray of delicious treats to her hospital room, where she lies comatose. She awakens, eats a sweet, then promptly throws up. This is a story of love and psychosis, politics and neglect. 10 advance, \$15 at the door, no one turned away for lack of funds. Advance Tickets

SEPTEMBER 29 SUNDAY 2:00 PM
HISTORY OF VENICE: CLOSING CEREMONY & VARIETY SHOW
Join us for the fourth and final afternoon of live programming during the month-long “A History of Venice” exhibition. The program opens at 2 pm with a ceremony that acknowledges the historical roots of this indigenous Tongva territory, and which includes a blessing that the region might unite and move forward in a natural, inclusive spirit. From 3 pm onwards, enjoy a revue of special performances by beloved local artists, comedians, and performers in celebration of the city we love and the people who have contributed to Venice’s legacy of cultural and artistic impact. Advance Tickets

LAUGHTEARS

Established 1953

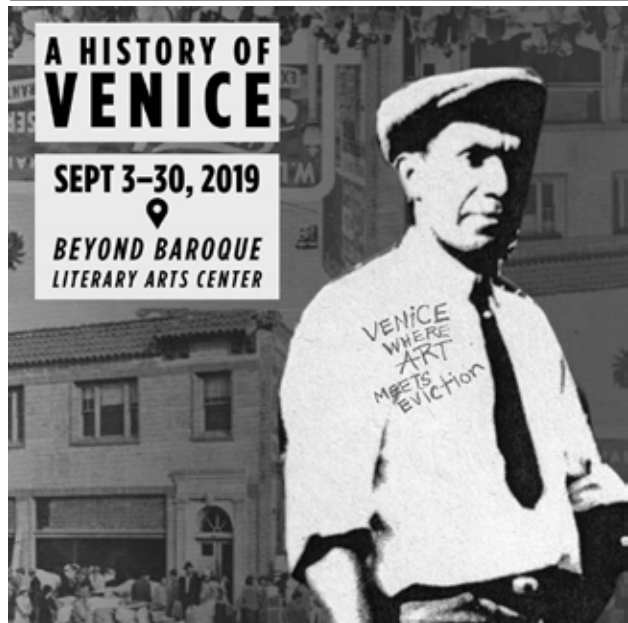
Sept 11 Wed Laughtears Salon (rsvp 310 306 7330 for location & time) free - politics, art, culture discussion “How about technologies as the collective unconscious and art as the collective unconsciousness?”

Sept 18 Wed 6-9pm MOM - MEDIA DISCUSSION
free at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd Venice
<http://venicewake.org/Events/current.html>

Oct 1 Tues 6pm McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading
Club at Marina Del Rey Library 4533 Admiralty Way, Marina Del Rey, CA free <http://laughtears.com/McLuhanWake.html> & <http://laughtears.com/playground-article.html>

Oct 9 Wed Laughtears Salon (rsvp 310 306 7330 for location & time) free - politics, art, culture discussion “How about technologies as the collective unconscious and art as the collective unconsciousness?”

Oct 16 Wed 6-9pm MOM - MEDIA DISCUSSION
free at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd Venice
<http://venicewake.org/Events/current.html>



Other Venice Film Festival Opening Night Scheduled For October 4th-5th 2019

Other Venice Film Festival (OVFF) proudly returns for its 16th season this October 4th to 5th at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd Venice Ca, 90291

The OVFF is a nonprofit community event dedicated to screening full-length features, short and animated films that embody the spirit, energy and diversity of Venice, California.

Filmmakers descended on Venice for two days of film screenings, premieres, sell out crowds, spirited Q&A sessions, panel discussions, local art on display and parties with live music.

OVFF 16th season doors open at 6pm, starts with red carpet, cocktail party 7:pm “Chad Carrier Acoustic Album Debut” 8pm short film “Surfing with Sugar” directed by Kelly Noecker , feature documentary film “The Tony Alva Story” directed by Christian White,Buddy Coan Nichols, Rick Charnoski & closing 9:30pm-11:30pm after party performance by MrVampire.

Tickets are available online <http://othervenicefilmfestival.com> & evenbrite.com or at the door.

Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd Venice Ca,90291

Tickets for Opening Night \$35.00

MrVampire Performance (Only) \$10.00

Screening simultaneously in theatre & outdoor in Garden sponsored by Surfside Venice & Venice Duck Beer.

Other Venice Film Festival

P.O. Box 689

Venice Ca,90294 <http://othervenicefilmfestival.com>
info@othervenicefilmfestival.com 310.806.2181

Ongoing Events

COMPUTERS

- Abbot Kinney Public Library. Free Printing of homework for K-12 students.

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.
- 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

Events are subject to change, please check with the sponsor and let us know if changes have been made.

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
- **Vera Davis Center**, 610 California Ave. under remodeling.
- **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

Beyond Baroque, The Culver City Arts Foundation and Vagabond present:

SMALL PRESS BOOK FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 21, 2019

at The Wende Museum of the Cold War
10808 Culver Blvd. Culver City, CA 90230

11am to 4:30 pm

Participants include:

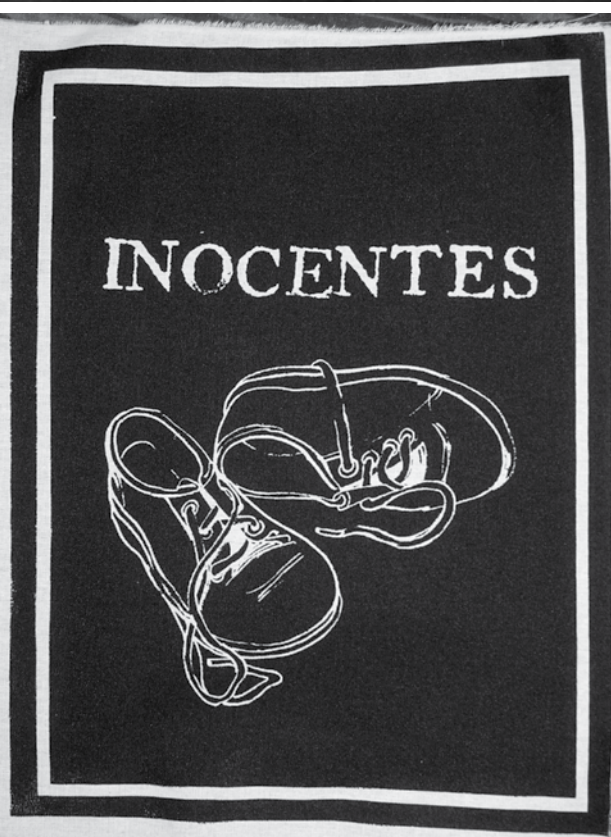
Beyond Baroque, The World Stage Press, Tia Chucha Press, Spectrum Publishing, Lummo Press, What Books Press, Green Tara Press, Magra Books, Rose of Sharon Press, Bleifer InPrint, Prospect Park Books, LITAS-HART Publishing, Community Literature Initiative, Los Angeles Poetry Society, Angel City Press, Doppler Books, Addicted to War Press, Poets&Writers, Los Angeles Review of Books, Caza de Poesia, Culver City Historical Society, Mayme Clayton Library and Museum, Fleur de Boom Editions, Culver City Crossroads, AVEditor, Vagabond ... and more.

www.vagabondbooks.net editor@vagabondbooks.net

Join small presses from Culver City and around the region for a day of literature, workshops, presentations, poetry and much more at this family and community event for all.

Sponsored by:

Culver CITY



above - Fabric Prints for marchers, by Kay Brown



above - Speakers at Venice Lives Celebration - photo by Margaret Molloy

**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.



**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.



WWW.ABBOTKINNEY.ORG
THE 35TH ANNUAL

SEPT 29TH
2019
10AM-6PM

ABBOT KINNEY

FESTIVAL

LAST SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

DAY
OF
FUN

4 LIVE MUSIC STAGES
KIDS' RIDES AND GAMES
350 QUALITY VENDORS

FREE FESTIVAL ADMISSION
TOP FOOD TRUCKS AND BOOTHS



3

BEER



GARDENS



KIDSQUAD!
GAMES & RIDES

VENICE



CELEBRATING &
SUPPORTING VENICE

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