



by Jon Wolff and Mairym Llorens

The landlord's name is Athanasios Gountoumas. He and his brother, Thomas Gountoumas own properties in Venice. One such property is an apartment building on the west end of Venice.

A woman, whom we'll call Tenant A, has lived in a unit in the building for the past 14 years. In January of this year, her rent was \$1,200 per month. In February, Mr. Gountoumas raised her rent to \$1,600 per month. For those unfamiliar with the Rent Stabilization Ordinance in the City of Los Angeles, let it be known that the maximum allowable monthly rent increase is set at 3-5%. Mr. Gountoumas based his justification for the increase on the presence of tenant A's two youngest children. He effectively demanded a surcharge for each child. Tenant A filed a complaint with the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID). HCID checked her rental receipts and determined that the rent increase was illegal. Mr. Gountoumas took Tenant A to court and brought a witness who lied under oath that he had never seen her children. The children are 8 years old and 5 years old. Any rent increase would have had to be set within 3 to 6 months of the addition of the children. Mr. Gountoumas' claim wasn't honored by the court and he had to pay back the amount of the illegal increases.

Tenant B has lived in the building for 20 years. Her father had lived there before her and neither had ever been given a contract for the unit. When she finally obtained one, it was missing pages. In 2016, Mr. Gountoumas wanted her to sign a lease but he only provided the last page. He frantically rushed her to sign it and she later found out that the lease only allowed for one child. Tenant B's sister and son, who is a special needs child, had lived with her in the unit for years, but now Mr. Gountoumas attempted to raise her rent for additional occupants. Tenant B complained to HCID and Mr. Gountoumas' increase was determined to be illegal. He paid back the overcharge. Having failed in his attempt, he got Tenant B to fill out a rental application for "just a record" and "for safety". Later, she received a notice that her application had been rejected. Subsequently, she received a 3 day notice to evict her own sister. She now intends to wait for him to take her to court.

Tenant C, in this same building in Venice, had habitability issues in her apartment. The presence of rats, roaches, and mold in the unit posed a serious health risk for her during her pregnancy in 2015. She tried to give Mr. Gountoumas a letter from her doctor but he waved her off as being "too problematic". Mr. Gountoumas found out that inspectors from the Department of Building and Safety were coming and he, along with the onsite manager, entered Tenant C's apartment when she wasn't home in order to cover the rat holes and paint over the mold. The DBS inspectors were fooled and saw no evidence of the problems.

In 2016, Tenant C and her family went out of town on vacation. When they returned, they found that Mr. Gountoumas had filed a case in court against them for "debris" in the common area of the building. The debris consisted of a few bicycles, but the posted notice for the case had given them 3 days to leave if it were not cleaned up. She went to court with a lawyer and a social worker witness who had seen the rats. The judge considered Mr. Gountoumas' case to be petty and Tenant C prevailed.

Tenant D was sued by Mr. Gountoumas for sending her rent late even though she had notified him in advance. She had made a complaint to the Health Department about a broken faucet and roaches. Mr. Gountoumas had always been lax in making necessary repairs. In fact, he had once cut corners by replacing a used ceiling fan with another used ceiling fan.

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Venice stepping up and stepping out to oppose fascists.

People came from all over to oppose the (cancelled) right wing demonstration against Google in Venice. The neo-fascist demonstration not happening was not enough for the counter demonstrators. The racist Neo-Nazis and KKK must be opposed where ever they campaign in public. Venice High School Teachers have issued a letter condemning the Neo-Nazis, Ku Klux Klansmen, and violent white separatists, which you can read on Page 5. — *Photo below composited from video by Margaret Molloy*



Por Mairym Llorens y Jon Wolff

El nombre del propietario es Athanasios Gountoumas. El y su hermano Thomas Gountoumas son dueños de bienes raíces en Venice. Una de sus propiedades consiste de dos edificios de apartamentos en el lado oeste de Venice.

Una mujer lleva viviendo en su apartamento en el edificio por los últimos 14 años. Llamemosla 'Inquilina A'. En enero de este año, Inquilina A pagaba \$1,200 mensuales de renta. En febrero, los señores Gountoumas le subieron la renta a \$1,600 al mes. Para aquellos lectores que no conozcan la ley de Estabilización de Rentas de la ciudad de Los Ángeles, la renta mensual de un apartamento protegido bajo la ley puede aumentarse un máximo de 3-5% cada año. La justificación que ofrecían los señores Gountoumas para explicar este aumento mayor al permitido por ley: la presencia de dos hijos pequeños en el apartamento. En otras palabras, pedían que la familia pagara una sobrecarga por cada niño. Inquilina A se queja en la oficina del Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID) de Los Ángeles. HCID investigó y verificaron que el aumento que pedían los dueños era ilegal. Los señores Gountoumas entonces demandaron a Inquilina A, llevando a corte como testigo un vecino del edificio quien mintió bajo juramento al decir que nunca había visto las niñas pequeñas de Inquilina A. Las niñas tienen 8 y 5 años. Cualquier sobrecargo por niño se tendría que haber pedido antes que pasaran tres meses de su nacimiento. Los reclamos de los señores Gountoumas no fueron honrados por la corte y tuvieron que devolverle a Inquilina A el dinero que correspondía al aumento ilegal en su renta.

La Inquilina B ha vivido en el edificio por 20 años. Antes de vivir allí con su esposo e hijas, vivía en la unidad con su padre, esposo y hermana. Los dueños nunca les pidieron que firmaran un contrato de arrendamiento. En el 2016 el Sr. Gountoumas quería que Inquilina B firmara un contrato que consistía de una sola página. Faltaban las páginas con el texto del contrato. El Sr. Gountoumas presionó a Inquilina B para que firmara con prisa. Luego Inquilina B se percató que en las páginas que faltaban del contrato se nombraban a los y las inquilinas de la unidad sin incluir a su hermana y sobrino quienes llevaban viviendo con ella por años. Luego los señores Gountoumas usan este dato para pedir un sobrecargo por cada inquilino que no aparecen en el contrato de arrendamiento. Inquilina B pone una queja con HCID y estos determinan que el aumento es ilegal. Obligan a los dueños a devolver el dinero correspondiente. Habiendo fallado en su primer intento, los dueños obligan a Inquilina B a llenar unos documentos referente a su hermana y sobrino para sus "records" y "por la seguridad de todos". Los documentos, como siempre, están escritos en inglés. Días después de obedecer estas órdenes, Inquilina B recibe comunicación de los dueños que su "aplicación" para añadir a su hermana y sobrino al contrato ha sido negado. Según los hermanos Gountoumas, la familia actualmente esta violando su contrato de arrendamiento por no desalojar a la hermana de Inquilina B, una madre sobreviviente de violencia doméstica y su hijo de necesidades especiales. Ambos han vivido en el apartamento por años.

La Inquilina C del mismo edificio en Venice tenía problemas de habitabilidad en su apartamento. Las ratas, cucarachas y los hongos en la unidad presentaban riesgos serios de salud para Inquilina C durante su embarazo en el 2015. Intentó comunicarle sus preocupaciones a los dueños y les llevó una carta de parte de la trabajadora social explicando el peligro pero ellos solo dijeron que Inquilina C estaba siendo "problemática". Al enterarse el Sr. Gountoumas que el departamento de edificios y salud de la ciudad (Department of Building and Safety, DBS) iba a inspeccionar la unidad, fue con el manejador *Continúa en la página 3*



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

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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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SNAP OUT OF IT!
After delivering copies of the August Beachhead I sat on a bench to relax. A Venice regular came up to me very angry and ranted that, “The Beachhead has gone too far this time! That article about doing violence to Snapchat has crossed the line! (‘Would Violence Push Snap Out of Venice?’) I’m not going to read your damn newspaper anymore! What the fuck is wrong with you idiots? I’m not going to support the Beachheadless anymore!” I tried to calm him down by explaining that I also don’t agree with this article and that the paper says that these articles are the opinions of the contributors and not necessarily the views of the staff. I have since been confronted at the beach by others who know I write for the paper and are also outraged by this article advocating violence.

There is an old saying that violence begets violence. If we support violence we will get violence back. The Snapshit billionaires may sic their goons on us. The Beachhead may also be liable and held responsible for any violence or damage done to Snap for advocating violence. I am shocked that this article even made it in print?!

The Beachhead was started by people from the Peace and Freedom Party and their number one goal was PEACE! Yes, there are times we must fight. The Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and the Nazis declared war on us. They were trying to enslave the world and murder the rest of us and we needed to battle these monsters. We also fought a bloody Civil War to end the horrors of slavery. However, there is no evidence that Snap has been bombing or murdering anyone. Instead of guns they are shoving their big checkbook up our ass and legally buying up our beloved Venice. Old timers have been kicked out and shops like Danny’s Deli and the Venice Freak Show are gone. I feel real bad that the two headed turtle and six legged dog from the Freak Show were evicted but I’m not sure if that quite equates to the murder of over 100 million people in WW2?

Many years ago in the early 1970s when the Venice canals were still run down and cheap they began building the new hotels and developments south of Washington Blvd. There were some protests and vandalism against the new construction. There were even some gun shots at the buildings going up by some disgruntled low income denizens of the canals. This still didn’t stop the new development. Changes always happen whether we like them or not. We used to sing, “the times they are a changing...” Now I see that what we really meant was that the times are ALWAYS changing.

Many of us are dismayed at the rapid changes to our community with the influx of big bucks from Snapshit, Google, China, Arab oil tycoons and the Israeli Mafia. However, the problem isn’t Snap or these other moneybags but human nature and greed. The property owners and some businesses have bowed down to the Almighty Dollar. The second word in Peace and Freedom Party is FREEDOM. Unfortunately in our society ‘money talks and bullshit walks.’ Snap is free to spend their billions buying up Venice. You are also free to buy it back and give it to the poor if you want. I don’t blame Snap for wanting to be located here. If you owned a multi billion

dollar company would you want to put your offices in hot, smoggy downtown L.A. or by our beautiful beach?

The article also says that Snap promised to move out of Venice. I may be wrong but all I heard was that they may not buy any more property in Venice because of the protests? So we may be stuck with them and these other companies.

I understood that some Snapshit security goons have harassed people on public streets near their buildings. Whenever this happens our first recourse can be peaceful and lawful. Call the police. Make a police report against them. Have them arrested. Have the owners of Snap arrested since their security guards work for them. Sue them. Protest in any way short of violence.

Most of us old Venice people don’t like the changes happening to our town. We are free to protest, complain, write, and speak against these changes and I encourage this. But unless these big buck fucks resort to violence then I believe we must limit ourselves to peaceful protests. There is an old saying, ‘Heaven help us from what men do in the name of good.’

I also wish we could stop many of these changes. If I could I would turn the clock back before 1947 when the Venice and Ocean Park piers were both going and you could rent an old house here for fifty dollars. Or go back to the happy hippy days in the 1960s when I could go to see the old bands like the Doors and Jefferson Airplane at the Cheetah Club at Venice Beach for a couple bucks. But these are only idle dreams of long ago.

No matter what we can’t stop all the changes in our crazy world whether good or bad. In ten years Snap may no longer even exist. Things go in cycles. What goes around comes around. Maybe in another fifty years Venice will again become an inexpensive place to live where the poor and aspiring musicians, poets and artisans flocked to live by the wonderful Pacific Ocean.

– marty liboff

Just read Megan Cox’s piece in issue #428. I believe in free speech, but she is not so subtly inciting people to do physical harm to other people. Where’s the love in that? The Beachhead may not have an editor, but the staff decided to publish it, so you are responsible.

- Ian McIlvane

To the Beachhead Collective Staff

I am a 40 year resident of Venice and have been a Beachhead Sustainer (Anonamously) for the last several years. I am writing you to inform you that because of the article by Megan Cox that you placed on your front page, an article that clearly advocated violence against Snapchat employees, I will never send you another ppenny. And I don’t plan on ever reading your paper again.

– Yours, B. Meade

Re: “Fish and Wildlife Vs. Coastal Commission,” John Davis, August, 2017, p. 4

Restoration of the Ballona Wetlands to a freshwater marsh is a very bad idea. Still recovering last year from a near fatal attack of West Nile virus (WNV), I discovered there were a record number of mosquitos recorded in the Wetlands last summer. We do not have adequate mosquito control (I understand Vector Control, the agency responsible for local mosquito abatement, has ceded the Wetlands to a local group).

Letters – continued on page 9

Mr. Venice sez...

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WHOLE TRUTH

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Venice, CA 90294

Tenants – continued from page 1

Tenant D brought photos of the needed repairs to court and she was allowed to just pay the rent she owed. One week later, she received letters demanding a rent increase for her children who had always lived there. Fortunately, the Housing Department disallowed the increase.

Likewise, Tenant E received a notice of rent increase for an additional tenant, even though the “additional tenant” was her 14-year-old son who has lived in the apartment all his life. Again, HCID found the increase to be illegal.

There’s more. These women have stated that Mr. Gountoumas has entered their apartments without the required 24 hour notice. On one occasion, he entered a tenant’s home while a 13-year-old boy was alone inside. He ceased to do this to one tenant after she complained but continued to do it to others.

Mr. Gountoumas orders construction work in empty units during unapproved hours. The tenants endure excessive noise levels at 8:00 AM on Saturdays and 10:00 PM on Sundays. His construction crew frequently hangs around on the jobsite, after work hours, drinking and gambling. They are known to bring their friends onto the property and intimidate the tenants. Mr. Gountoumas pretends to be ignorant of the offenses but his construction goons brag that he will protect them. This no surprise; Mr. Gountoumas has brought his own employees to court to testify against the tenants.

All the while, Mr. Gountoumas makes a practice of photographing the tenants and their children. If the tenants bring guests over, he takes pictures of them and asks who they are.

And so on.

The above testimonies represent a vile sickness in Venice today. They are clear personal pictures of the human experience of Gentrification. That is: Tenants facing relentless lies, harassment, and manipulation by a landlord to drive them from their homes in order to inflate the rent. A lot has been written of Gentrification. It’s usually treated as though it’s some physical phenomenon like gravity or magnetism. It’s assumed to be unstoppable and unavoidable. But really, it’s just something that someone does. There’s nothing super-human about it. Much like the way we dress or talk, it can be changed by human decision. It can be stopped by organized human action.

Many now are taking action. The five women interviewed for this article are active members of the Westside Local of the Los Angeles Tenants Union. The Union meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the Oakwood Recreation Center in the heart of Venice. Attendance is growing and the Union is gaining strength. The meetings are always conducted with bilingual translation. These women, and others in the Union, speak Spanish as their primary language. They sit next to other Union members whose primary language is English. There are NOT two separate meetings because there are NOT two separate communities. There is one Community of Tenants.

And Venice is a Community. Many things in this world that people prize have started in Venice. Will the beginning of the end of Gentrification start in Venice? Come and make it happen.

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.



The California Women’s law Center and Venice Community Housing FREE LEGAL HOUSING CLINIC

• For All Beach Cities Residents
Landlords in Venice, Santa Monica and other coastal neighborhoods continue to try and force tenants to vacate their affordable apartments, most of them regulated under Rent Stabilization or Rent Control laws. Profit is often the motive, and tenants are losing out. You can do something -but you must seek assistancel. Receive free legal assistance if you have been evicted or harassed by your landlord!

JOIN US on the 3rd Saturday, (Sept 16) 10:00am to 12:00pm at Venice Community Housing, 720 Rose Ave., Venice CA 90291

If you or a loved one is living in an apartment built before 1979 and have received a notice to vacate, or have already vacated an apartment, for any of the following reasons:

- 1)The Landlord is moving into the apartment, or
- 2) The landlord’s family member is moving into the apartment, or
- 3) A resident manager is moving into the apartment, or
- 4) The Landlord is going out of the rental business (an “Ellis Act Eviction”), or
- 5) The Landlord wants to convert the building to condominiums

Then this **FREE legal clinic is for you!**
You should also attend this FREE legal clinic if a landlord is offering you cash to vacate your apartment, if a landlord is harassing you to try and make you voluntarily vacate your apartment, if you suspect that your landlord has committed fraud in evicting you, *you are a VETERAN who has been unable to find housing or denied accommodations in your housing facility
RSVP: Amy Poyer at: amy.poyer@cwlc.org



NO DEJES QUE ESTO TE PASE A TI



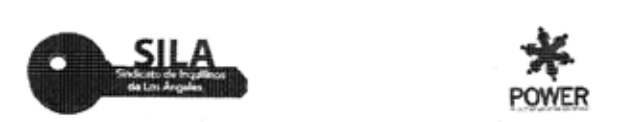
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Sindicato de Inquilinos de Los Ángeles
Reuniones de la Sección Oeste
1er y 3er miércoles; 7-8:30pm
Center de Recreación Oakwood
767 California Ave, Venice, CA 90291

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Conozca a sus vecinos!
Conozca sus derechos!

LA REUNIÓN SERÁ BILINGÜE EN ESPAÑOL-INGLÉS.



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del edificio, entró sin permiso de los y las inquilinas al apartamento y tapó todos los hoyos de ratas y todo el hongo con pintura, así logrando engañar a los inspectores del DBS.

En el 2016 la Inquilina C y su familia se fueron de vacaciones. Al regresar a su apartamento, se enteraron que el Sr. Gountoumas los había demandado en corte por supuestos “escombros” que ellos habían dejado en las áreas comunes del edificio. Los escombros consistían de unas bicicletas. La notificación informaba a los y las inquilinas que si no removían las bicicletas dentro de tres días tendrían que irse. Inquilina C contrató un abogado y llevó como testigo a corte su terapeuta que había visto las ratas, cucarachas y hongo. La corte encontró los reclamos del Sr. Gountoumas como insignificantes y le dio la razón a Inquilina C.

La Inquilina D fue demandada por el Sr. Gountoumas por enviar su renta tarde a pesar de que esta les había notificado con tiempo que esto iba a ocurrir. Ella había hecho una queja con el departamento de salud sobre una llave rota y las cucarachas. El Sr. Gountoumas siempre había sido descuidado con el mantenimiento. De hecho, una vez su deseo de ahorrar lo llevó a reemplazar un abanico de techo roto con otro abanico de techo usado.

La Inquilina D llevó fotos de las partes del apartamento que necesitaban mantenimiento a corte y se le permitió seguir pagando su renta como lo usual. Una semana después, recibió cartas de los dueños pidiendo un aumento en su renta mensual a causa de la presencia de sus hijos. Afortunadamente, HCID no permitió el aumento.

La Inquilina E tambien recibió notificación de los dueños que le iban a aumentar su renta a causa de inquilinos no aprobados, a pesar de que el inquilino en cuestión era su hijo adolescente quien ha vivido en el apartamento toda su vida. Nuevamente HCID determinó que el aumento era ilegal.

Aún hay mas. Estas mujeres cuentan que el Sr. Gountoumas ha entrado a sus apartamentos sin su permiso y sin el aviso de 24 horas requerido por ley. En una ocasión, entró a un apartamento donde había un niño de 13 años que se había quedado solo en la casa. Aunque el Sr. Gountoumas dejó de hacerle esto a una de las inquilinas cuando ella protestó, sigue haciéndolo con otras unidades.

El Sr. Gountoumas manda a sus trabajadores a hacer proyectos de construcción en el edificio fuera de las horas aprobadas. Los y las inquilinas tienen que soportar ruido excesivo a las 8:00am los sábados y a las 10:00pm los domingos. Las personas que trabajan para los dueños, incluyendo los y las inquilinas de una de las unidades y sus amistades, usan las áreas comunes de los edificios como les da la gana. Se quejan del ruido que hacen los y las niñas al jugar pero hacen fiestas hasta tarde en la noche, bebiendo y jugando juegos al azar. Cuando las familias los confrontan ellos se jactan de intocables, sabiendo que el Sr. Gountoumas no les dirá nada. A estos vecinos se les permite tener mascota, algo que se le niega a las familias de las inquilinas aquí mencionadas. En nada sorprende, pues ya los hermanos Gountoumas han llevado a varias de estas personas a mentir por parte de ellos en corte.

Durante todo esto, el Sr. Gountoumas tiene la práctica de sacarle fotos a las inquilinas y sus niñas. Si alguien trae visita al edificio, el Sr. Gountoumas le saca fotos a la visita y se les acerca a preguntar quienes son.

Y la historia sigue.

Estos testimonios representan una enfermedad aca-parando a Venice hoy en día. Son estampas de la experiencia humana delburguesamiento. Es decir: un grupo de inquilinas confrontando mentiras despiadadas, hostigamiento y manipulación por parte del dueño quien intenta sacarlas de sus apartamentos para poder aumentar la renta. Se ha escrito mucho sobre el Aburguesamiento. Se suele tratar como un fenómeno físico, como la gravedad o el magnetismo. Se asume que el aburguesamiento es imparable o inevitable. Pero realmente, el aburguesamiento es algo que unas personas hacen, no es algo sobrehumano. Como la forma que hablamos o vestimos, podemos decidir pararlo. Lo podemos frenar con acción colectiva.

Hoy día muchos estan tomando acción. Las cinco mujeres entrevistadas para este artículo son miembros de la Sección Oeste del Sindicato de Inquilinos de Los Ángeles. El sindicato se reúne cada primer y tercer miércoles del mes en el Oakwood Recreation Center en el corazón de Venice. Cada mes el Sindicato crece y se fortalece. Las reuniones son bilingües en español y inglés. Las inquilinas mencionadas en este artículo hablan español y se sientan al lado de inquilinos que hablan solo inglés. NO hay dos reuniones separadas porque NO hay dos comunidades separadas: hay una sola Comunidad de Inquilinos.

Y Venice es una Comunidad. Muchas cosas que amamos en este mundo comenzaron en Venice. El fin del aburguesamiento ¿comenzará en Venice? Ven a hacerlo una realidad.

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Abbot Kinney’s ghost meets the Snapchat Ghost on Abbot Kinney and Main.

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

HEEEY!!! How are you? Thanks for building this great town – we love it here!! It’s a bit seedy and there’s lots of smelly homeless but there’s been so much opportunity for progress and to make it better!

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Um. thanks.

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

I bet you love what we’ve done here the last five years, huh? We’re SO great! We’re SO awesome. Things are getting much cleaner plus property values are skyrocketing! No need to thank me - you’re welcome!! I still have no idea why the community had all of those protests but whatever - most of them people will be gone soon anyways I’m sure.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Are you kidding me right now?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Umm no – hang on, I need to look at something on my laptop... Okay, so what are you doing here? Are you into tech?

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Why am I here? This is my street for one. Why the fuck are YOU here?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Umm. What do you mean? All the tech companies are here? And why are you so angry?

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

There are thousands of tech companies all over Los Angeles. They’re not ALL here. And the other tech companies are not spreading their employees all over a small residential community and occupying over 40 properties with security guards in front of them with a bunch of shuttles moving around all of their employees. Exactly how many properties do you have anyway?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Uhh well I can’t really disclose that information. You see our whole business model is built on secrecy so...

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Wow and you wonder why I’m angry? You know I built Venice to be a place for people to come to have fun and be active. A giant amusement park by the beach for people to see foreign exhibits, freak shows and things they’ve never seen before. The City of LA and the acts of Mother Nature changed things over the years but Venice was never EVER intended to be an employee campus for any corporation of any kind. You’re not helping the community – you’re killing it just for yourselves. This was not my vision! Do you know how many residents and businesses you’ve pushed out the last few years? Hundreds! Don’t you see anything wrong with that?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Yeah but those businesses were a dying breed. They never tightened their belts to save costs.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Are you serious right now? So you’re saying they were asking for it? Kind of like a rapist justifies his actions?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Yeah exactly! Oh no wait. I mean NO. umm..

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

And those businesses didn’t want to leave! You made backroom deals with the landlords and you’re overpaying for all of these properties!

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Hey Abbot don’t blame us for gentrification. That’s happening everywhere nowadays and that was happening long before we got here.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Gentrification has nothing to do with your company utilizing over 25 properties between the beach and Pacific Avenue. The beach here is only a mile long! People used to live and work in those buildings! WHY WHY WHY?? Is it solely greed and ego? What’s your deal??

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Hey hey calm down now. No one could have anticipated how fast we’ve grown. And besides that’s the American way – just ask Donald Trump.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Okay, look around? Does this look like a corporate campus to you?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Hey don’t be afraid of change Abbot. ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

I’m not afraid of change you yellow piece of shit, Venice has always had changes that I’ve embraced, and going



to change your face and shove those Adidas sneakers down your throat if you try to throw me any more stupid erroneous phrases!

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Hey now, violence is not the answer!

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

What did I just say about the stupid untruthful phrases?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

What do you mean? I don’t know why you’re so upset – everybody LOVES us! We’re SO great! We’re SO talented! Just ask that Tony Bill guy or Brad Neal – they’ll tell you!

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

So you’re just going to keep on taking more and more properties & pushing out more and more businesses because some greedy property owners and developers think you’re so great because you overpay them? When does it end? Seriously, is your goal to have the entire beach in 10 to 15 years?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Well you know I can’t really say – our whole business model of secrecy and all, you know... I’m sorry you don’t like us Abbot but isn’t there bigger issues than us for you to focus on – like the homeless or something?

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

There are many problems all the time and right now we are discussing the problem of YOU! YOU ARE A HUGE PROBLEM!

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Wait Abbot you see that skateboarder over there? Yesterday I was walking down Speedway and he came really close to the laptop I was holding. I think he did it on purpose. I’m glad I didn’t drop it – it costs over \$5,000!

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

First off why are you walking on Speedway when there’s a beautiful beach you can walk next to that’s only steps away! Isn’t that part of the reason you’re here in the first place? And Second, why are you walking around out in the open ANYWHERE with a \$5,000 laptop?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Well I was walking to another department for a meeting.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

It’s NOT a campus! It’s a community and a tourist attraction and you’re killing both of them!

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Hey speaking of phrases – me and my fellow co-workers are getting pretty tired of hearing the locals yelling at us “It’s a community, not a campus” all the time. Can you tell people to stop saying that? And can you tell everyone to take down their signs on their patios and windows. People love us! We’re so talented! Everyone love us!! We’re SO great! Just ask your own Venice Neighborhood Council – they like us more than artists! And people LOVE art. We’re amazing! We’re so great!

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Well your stock’s not so great now is it? How’d it do today? I heard it went down another 4%. Let me ask you, how can you lose 2.2 billion dollars your first quarter and then another \$550 million the next 3 months? Seriously, how is that possible?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Well you obviously don’t know anything about today’s business world Abbot.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Apparently I don’t but what I do know is no one comes to Venice to see a bunch of offices. Absolutely no one. Nobody. Not a living soul.

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Oh sure they do - People love us! We’re so talented! Everyone love us!! We’re SO great!

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

No. No, they don’t.

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Yes, yes they do. Just ask Michael Bonin and Mark Ryavec. They both love us – they’ll tell you. We’re SO awesome! I guess we agree to disagree.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Again with the stupid phrases! It’s like talking to a child. So how many more buildings are you going to grab? What’s your end goal here?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Oh haven’t you heard? We’re moving to Santa Monica. That’s what we’re telling everybody. I’m surprised you haven’t heard.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

WHEN?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Umm. Soon! yeah, soon.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Are you sure you’re not EXPANDING to Santa Monica?

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Ummm well... ummm no yeah.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

What...???

SNAPCHAT GHOST:

Well you know given our whole business model is built on secrecy and all of that... And we have so many buildings who can keep track of all the leases? I mean really.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

A business model of secrecy – how convenient for you. Unbelievable. You know let me tell you something. All you have to do is have your company be cool to the residents. Be respectful and be cool and all is good. But so far you have been far from respectful – displacing hundreds of residents and businesses – many of which were like family to the rest of the community. And the security guards hassling the locals was the stupidest thing your company ever did... JUST BE COOL. IT’S NOT THAT HARD. Be cool. Be respectful. And stop pushing out more and more businesses just for yourselves.

SNAPCHAT SECURITY GUARD:

Excuse me sir, you can’t be talking to our employees raising your voice like that.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

I didn’t raise my voice!?! And he talked to me first!

SNAPCHAT SECURITY GUARD:

You better leave before I notify the police.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

What are you talking about? It’s a public street. MY street! Abbot Kinney Boulevard!

SNAPCHAT SECURITY GUARD:

Sir I’m calling them right now. You better keep on walking.

ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

Where? Where am I supposed to walk? You assholes are everywhere??? You know what, screw you guys - I’m going to the skate park.

SNAPCHAT SECURITY GUARD:

Have a nice day, sir!


ABBOT KINNEY’S GHOST:

(Yelling from a distance) IT’S A COMMUNITY, NOT A CAMPUS!!!!!!!!!!

This is Gregory Kloiber and he is a dumpster diver. Just not for the reason you probably think.

His uses what he finds to build small shelters for the homeless.

Gregory is an artist, but instead of building sculptures that he would sell for profit, he decided to focus his efforts on helping house the homeless population in California.



LAEMMLE'S MONICA FILM CENTER
310 478-3836 1332 2nd St, Santa Monica, CA 90401
Premiering Friday, Sept. 8th through Thursday the 14th
Show times: 1:50pm | 4:30pm | 7:10pm | 9:40pm
www.embargofilm.com

below – Taylor Barnes, Todd Sali, Jeri Rice, and Suzanne Thompson



By Janet Phelan - August 2, 2017

When US President Franklin Roosevelt drafted the initial Declaration of the United Nations in 1941, he penned a document that was a rallying cry for the Allies, in the face of what he termed “savage and brutal forces seeking to subjugate the world.” The document boldly stated that “complete victory over their enemies is essential to defend life, liberty, independence and religious freedom, and to preserve human rights and justice in their own lands as well as in other lands...”

However, the primary vision of the UN has been subverted by the actions of the leader of the free world. For the US is now actively misleading the UN as to the true nature of her activities.

In an earlier article, the attempts by the US to create a false perception to the world human rights community were discussed relevant to specific official statements made by US authorities during the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Record (UPR) of the United States, a cyclical review process held at the UN in Geneva. At the convening of the most recent review in 2015, US officials were found to repeatedly and substantially weaken pivotal statistics and reports in order to cast a false (and benevolent) light upon activities which were uncomfortably redolent of human rights deprivations rather than successes.

The 1540 Committee was established as part of the UN Security Council's 1540 Resolution, which attempts to address proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The 1540 Resolution, which was unanimously adopted on April 28, 2004, calls upon state parties to take several levels of action in order to halt proliferation of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons. In this article, we will primarily be looking at the US's compliance with non-proliferation of chemical and biological weapons.

Much has already been written about the efforts by the US State Department to lead the Biological Weapons Convention around by its nose. In 2001, just months before the anthrax attacks of September, the US delegation boycotted the efforts by an ad hoc committee to develop a verification protocol for the BWC. Due to this, the BWC remains with no way to verify compliance by its member parties and no real way to assure that violations can be reported and dealt with.

Rather than any externally verifiable reporting mechanisms, the BWC now relies on “Confidence Building Measures,” wherein each state must faithfully self-report to the Convention at large its activities surrounding bioweapons, including any changes in legislation or any stockpiles. It was confirmed by US Department of State delegate Chris Park in 2011 that the US simply “forgot” to inform the Convention that the Expansion of the Biological Weapons Statute, passed into law as part of the USA PATRIOT Act, gave the US government immunity from violating its own bioweapons laws.

In looking at the US's reports to the 1540 Committee, we find a similar pattern of omissions and outright falsehoods. Nowhere in the US's 1540 National Reports is any mention of the aforementioned legislation, passed in the wake of September 11, giving the US government immunity from violation its own bioweapons laws. Rather, the US's initial 1540 Report, filed in 2004, claims:

In accordance with its obligations under several international agreements, the United States has enacted national implementing statutes, which prohibit the illegal possession or transfer of such weapons. In addition, conspiracies, attempts, or threats to use such weapons are also proscribed.

Since the above cited report was filed in 2004, the US has made no attempts to correct the misperception engendered by these statements. In fact, in the National Report filed in 2013, the US baldly stated that:

Pursuant to terms agreed upon under the Convention, the United States continues to file reports of confidence-building measures with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. (Emphasis added)

Biological Weapons Labs — Leaks or?

The National Reports filed with the UN 1540 Committee detail some of the other efforts made by the US to advance the mandates of the 1540 Resolution. One of these efforts involves the establishment of labs, worldwide, in concert with the DTRA (Defense Threat Reduction Agency). Over 40 such labs, scattered across the globe, have connections with the DTRA. The National Report states:

The DTRA Cooperative Biological Engagement Program (CBEP) works with HHS, CDC and the NIH to counter threats of State and non-State actors acquiring biological materials and expertise that could be used to develop or deploy a biological weapon. The programme destroys or secures especially dangerous pathogens at their source and builds partner capacity to sustain a safe, secure disease surveillance system to detect, diagnose and report outbreaks and to work collaboratively with partner country scientists in engagements that support the ethical application of biotechnology to a better understanding of endemic especially dangerous pathogens and their control/prevention.

Not everyone is so sure that these labs are a good idea, or that the labs are even involved in defensive rather than offensive research. And a number of these labs have been at ground zero in recent outbreaks. The recent Ebola outbreak began in the region of the DTRA-connected Sierra Leone lab. A 2015 measles outbreak in Georgia radiated from the area surrounding the Central Reference Lab, a DTRA facility in Tbilisi. A 2016 outbreak of swine flu in Kharkiv, Ukraine, which reportedly killed 20 and sickened hundreds, was uncomfortably close to the location of a lab which had received DTRA project funding.

In 2013 in Ukraine alone.... the US created laboratories in Vinnytsia, Ternopil, Uzhhorod, Kiev, Dnepropetrovsk, Simferopol, Kherson, Lviv and Lugansk.

The Russian government has expressed unease about the location of some of these labs. Secretary of Russia's Security Council Nikolai Patrushev has repeatedly pointed out that many of these labs are snuggled up against Russia's borders. In a recent speech to the elite academic institution, Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov's concerns about the US's biological weapons activities were laid out clearly.

As reported in Strategic Culture,

In his remarks Lavrov said Russia is concerned over the US refusal to negotiate monitoring of biological weapons. According to him, the refusal leads to the conclusion that the US may be involved in biological research for military purposes. This is not the first time Russia expressed its concern over the US covert activities conducted in violation of international law.

Chemical Weapons Lies

The US's official admissions relevant to her compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention follow a similar path of studied legalistic omissions. Unlike the BWC, however, the CWC requires that the member states destroy their chemical weapons. According to the mandates of the treaty, which went into force in April of 1997, countries possessing chemical weapons were given a deadline of 2007 to destroy their weapons.

The US did not meet the deadline. An extension was then given until 2012, and again the US had not destroyed her stockpile of CW. Also declaring non-destruction of all stockpiles were Libya and Russia. As now

Questions are now being raised as to the nature of the US's domestic chemical weapons legislation and the implications thereof. Akin to the cited concerns about her biological weapons legislation, it appears that the US has given herself a giant sized loophole through which the US or her agents do not need to comply with her own prohibitions against chemical weapons.

Title 18 Section 229—Prohibited Activities—reads thus

(a)Unlawful Conduct.—Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall be unlawful for any person knowingly—

(1) to develop, produce, otherwise acquire, transfer directly or indirectly, receive, stockpile, retain, own, possess, or use, or threaten to use, any chemical weapon; or

(2) to assist or induce, in any way, any person to violate paragraph (1), or to attempt or conspire to violate paragraph (1)

All well and good. However, as we have seen in Title 18 Section 175 (wherein the 817 PATRIOT Act is codified), the devil is usually in the exemptions; that is, who is permitted to violate these laws. And as in the biological weapons prohibitions, we find that the exemptions have left enormous latitude for the US and her agents to violate:

(2) Exempted persons.—A person referred to in paragraph (1) is—

(A) any person, including a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, who is authorized by law or by an appropriate officer of the United States to retain, own, possess, transfer, or receive the chemical weapon; or

(B) in an emergency situation, any otherwise nonculpable person if the person is attempting to destroy or seize the weapon.

In other words, not only may the US military possess and transfer these weapons of mass destruction, but so can anyone who is attempting to “destroy or seize” the weapon. If this subsection had been written as “destroy AND seize,” it might have had a few teeth. But by using the conjunction “OR,” the verbiage in this supposedly protective piece of legislation permits ANYONE trying to get their hands on the weapon to do so! As “nonculpable” is not defined in the legislation, this word remains void of meaning.

It should also be noted that law enforcement is also exempt from the prohibitions, as stated in 229 F.

To sum up, we have no domestic legal protections from these weapons should our government use them against us. In fact, a Syrian chemical weapons victim would have more possibility of redress than one in the USA.

In the process of researching this article, this reporter made email contact with the US National Contact for the 1540 Committee, Craig Finkelstein. When no reply was received, I followed up with a phone call. Upon learning that it was I who called him, Mr. Finkelstein immediately disconnected the call. The fact that Mr. Finkelstein is the “Transparency and Media Outreach” Coordinator for the 1540 Committee only ramps up further questions about what the US is up to here.

This article has focused on the BW and CW aspects of US compliance with UN Resolution 1540, which covers CBRN weapons. It is worth noting that, over seventy years since Hiroshima, the world still does not have a nuclear weapons ban. In July of this year, such a ban—the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons—was passed at the United Nations and will come into effect when signed by at least fifty nations. Of disturbing note is that all the nuclear states and all NATO nations (excluding the Netherlands) withheld their vote on the text of the ban.

(*) Author: Janet Phelan is an investigative journalist and author of the groundbreaking exposé, *EXILE*. Her articles previously appeared in such mainstream venues as the Los Angeles Times, Orange Coast Magazine, Long Beach Press Telegram, etc. In 2004, Janet “jumped ship” and now exclusively writes for independent media. She is also the author of two collections of poetry—*The Hitler Poems* and *Held Captive*. She resides abroad.

Nutritional Warehouse (310) 392-3636
2118 Lincoln Boulevard Venice, California, 90291
Whey Protein 2 LBS \$15.99
 Pre-Workout Gaspari Superdrive \$9.98/oz only \$4.23/oz with this ad.
Virgin Organic Coconut Oil 14oz \$7.99
Kombucha Mix Case of 12 \$36.00
Real Water Case of 12 one liter bottles \$16.99

THE PAPER IS A POEM.

Letters – continued from page 2

I live in Venice adjacent to the beach and know of three deaths within a mile of my home in October, 2015, alone as well as other cases that have survived but have not been counted in the Public Health statistics. I have spoken face to face to Councilman Mike Bonin, County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl and State Senator Ben Allen and to the health advisor for Congressman Ted Lieu in Washington, DC, about the problem and been told there are no funds for mosquito abatement in spite of LA City and County leading the country in cases and deaths from WNV. San Joaquin County north of us had two deaths last year and had aerial spraying. Yes, there are safe sprays (10 cleared by the FDA). LA County has had aerial spraying with malathion twice in recent years when the Mediterranean fruit fly threatened local agriculture.

Fresh and brackish water marshes are a public health hazard, while saltwater marshes offer safety. I do not support the Grassroots Coalition plan to restore Ballona Creek to a freshwater wetlands. Zika, chikungunya, yellow fever or malaria are not local problems yet unless we encourage the mosquito population to flourish. As a physician dedicated to health maintenance and disease prevention, I oppose restoration of certain natural habitats, such as the Ballona Wetlands.

Jerome P. Helman, M.D.

– John Davis Responds:

Hello Dr. Helman,

Of course mosquito control is necessary to prevent disease. And, I do not enjoy being bitten by even a healthy mosquito. There is no disagreement with the need to control air-born pests. They are constantly evolving to carry more deadly diseases. The mosquito outbreak was not caused by a freshwater or brackish wetland.

It was caused by the failure to manage a man made flood control system for pests. Los Angeles West Vector Control created a Mosquito Abatement Plan for the Playa Vista Project Freshwater Wetland System in 1995.

The flood control project manager, according to Vector Control, failed to properly implement the plan, and that is what lead to the mosquito outbreak, not the freshwater wetland complex.

Vector said it was the worse mosquito outbreak to hit LA in years.

The outbreak occurred at a public wetland reserve and near a public school.

Prior to this project, Centennial creek was very narrow flowing unimpeded and at a much lower volume.

Now, the Playa Vista Project discharges valuable State groundwater into the system from dewatering activities East of Lincoln, creating a larger flow of surface water.

As a result of the flood control project dense stands of reeds inhibited water flow, encouraging the mosquito population to flourish.

If the project manager had followed the strict plan set forth by the authority in the matter, Vector Control, this problem would never have arisen. But the project manager failed, abjectly, to comply with the law, until it threatened with legal action by Vector Control.

The notion that replacing a valuable coastal freshwater wetland by flooding it with salt water to control mosquitos, is at best, an uneducated approach to pest control.

It is the project manager that caused the problem, not nature.

– John Davis



Once Upon a Time
by- marty liboff

Once upon a Time
on the Westside of our Town
there was a little Jewish neighborhood
where Life was happy and Good
and everyone treated each other
like a sister and brother-
There used to be a Jewish bakery
with bagels and challah
There were delis and synagogues
and benches where the old farts
sat and talked...
Once upon a Time
on the Westside of our Town
there was a little Black neighborhood
where Life was happy and Good
and everyone treated each other
like a sister and brother-
There used to be a Black barbecue
with ribs and chicken
There were hairdressers and Black churches
where people sang, danced and talked...
But now that is all Gone-
There are no more pickled pig knuckles
or rye bread
The old Blacks and Jews moved or are Dead
The City tore down the old neighborhood
They didn’t want no poor Jews or a Black Hood-
Real Estate investors didn’t want the Poor
no more, no more
They didn’t want the Poor
and kicked them out the door-
Rich White Yuppies
In expensive condos and shops
are where the Old Jewish neighborhood
and the Old Black Hood
once stood-
Once upon a Time
on the Westside of our Town
There used to be a happy little Jewish
and Black neighborhood
where Life was happy and Good
and everyone treated each other
like a sister and brother-
Once upon a Time...

DIARRHEA from TRUMP and NORTH KOREA
a song by Marty Liboff

Boom! Boom! Boom!
Nuclear War bringin gloom and doom.
One H- bomb can ruin your day
turn your sunny day to grey.
Atomic missiles flyin our way
ya better get down and pray.
Hiroshima, Nagasaki, L.A.
H- bombs away! H- bombs away!
You can try and run and hide
but radiation will still fry your hide.
Big mouth politicians with nuthin to say
are bringin on Judgment Day.
Foolish leaders cause the world to end
the Four Horsemen they send.
Big egos and lots of lies
nuclear missile flies
and everyone dies.
War and rumors of war
with only death in store.
Everyone slaving for the Almighty Dollar
the world ending and everyone will holler.
All our money for the military, police and jails
but for the poor and sick society fails.
We haven’t figured out how to Love
and get along...
Angels above
sing a song-
sing a song and smoke a bong
and sing so long, so long...
Boom! Boom! Boom!
Nuclear War bringin gloom and doom-
Boom! Boom! Boom!

WOMEN’S LIB = MEN’S PEEVE
By: B.B. Shapiro

Ever since Adam and Eve
The original first couple many believe.
It has become very clear
that men objected to Women’s Lib.

Men invented a self-serving theory
to justify their very male superiority.
Contending repeatedly that first lady Eve
was created by God from Adam’s Rib.

The Bible tells us of God’s irreversible decision
by making a harsh and severe revision.
Ordering both Adam and Eve
from the Garden of Eden to take leave.

While all Eve wanted is to improve her mind
By taking a bite from the forbidden Apple.
Innocently seeking knowledge and wisdom
Soon to discovere the price of Freedom.

Hence men were worried and somewhat peeved
out of fear of loosing control they believed.
Unable to find a way to forgive
putting all the blame on who else, but Eve.

Therefore men came up with an elaborate scheme
saying Eve has committed an immoral thing.
Creating a fable with their own grandiose theme
calling it the most heinous, first original SIN!

unappetizer

by a rod man

wheel of meat
hard to beat
fifteen feet of shredded wheat
chocolate cake
tweeting fake
trump can go
jump in a lake

snacking on mackerel

by alan p rodman

snacking on mackerel
seems so unnatural
while sipping on cider still
feels like a simple thrill

plump heffalump
gallumphing along
sneak up quiet
and ring a gong!

ineffable jackalope
banging a song
snake up quite
when I wear a thong

now is the place
no more time to bitch
here is the hour
Eat the Fracking Rich

OCEAN AVENUE, FALL 1977
Any star
that can shine in Santa Monica
is lucky.
Or stupid.
When I wish,
I wish on
the first Greyhound Bus of the night,
saying,
“Buses gray,
Passengers green,
Are your restrooms
Nice and clean?
“How many feet are fast asleep
Underneath the matchbox seats
While, cramped and screaming,
A hand still holds
A jelly sandwich
Four days old?”

-- David Fewster

CALENDAR

BEYONDBAROQUE.ORG

September 3 Sunday 2:00 PM – THE BAGGAGE REVIEW - \$5.00 donation requested but no one turned away for lack of funds.

September 3 Sunday 5:00 PM – FIRST SUNDAY OPEN READING – Our popular monthly open reading. Features this month, TBA. Hosted by Steve Goldman. Sign ups begin at 4:45 PM. Five-minute limit. Free, but donations always appreciated. In the Scott Wannberg Bookstore.

September 3 Sunday 5:00 PM – LA POESIA FESTIVAL Open mic and featured readers hosted by Antonieta Villamil. Potluck party in the lobby. FREE but donations appreciated.

September 9 Saturday 8:00 PM – L.A. WOMAN: ENCORE PRESENTATION – See August 12 for details. Regular admission. Members FREE

September 10 Sunday – SOAP BOX POETS OPEN READING – Sign-ups begin at 1:45 PM. There is a 5 minute limit. Hosted by Jessica Wilson Cardenas. FREE, but donations are always welcome.

September 10 Sunday 7:00 PM – SUBVERSIVE CINEMA – MUSIC and POLITICAL FILMS with fiery discussion. Free admission, donations appreciated. Laughtears.com

September 14 Thursday 8:00 PM – JULIE ROGERS & SUSAN HELDFOND-SAUNDERS – Susan Heldfond-Saunders and Julie Rogers, heart friends & vintage Zen & Tibetan Buddhist practitioners, perform their poetry inthe spirit of jazz, opening, revealing, and uplifting “presence” in the world. Julie will also read “Who’s Holy” with S.A. Griffin, an unpublished duet she wrote with the late David Meltzer. Regular admission. Members FREE

September 15 Friday 8:00 PM – PHOEBE OZUNA & HOLADAY MASON – Phoebe Ozuna reads from her chapbook Every Bird Helps: A Cancer Journal published by Beyond Baroque Books. Holaday Mason reads from new work. Regular admission. Members FREE

September 16 Saturday 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM – TRANSITIONAL STATE FORUM WITH JULIE ROGERS – Buddhist end of life training utilizing a contemporary Vajrayana manual, including final arrangements, bedside assistance, preparing the body, practices, cremation, advice from Masters, secular concerns. email: atjulmind@mtashland.net \$50-\$75 sliding scale

September 16 Saturday 8:00 PM – MARK IRWIN AND DOUGLAS MANUEL – Mark Irwin’s nine collections of poetry include A Passion According to Green (2017), American Urn: New & Selected Poems (1987- 2014), Tall If (2009), Bright Hunger (2004), and White City (2000). Douglas Manuel’s first full length collection of poems, Testify, was released – by Red Hen Press in the spring of 2017. Regular admission. Members FREE

September 17 Sunday 2:00 PM – ALEX DIMITROV & MELISSA BRODER – Alex Dimitrov, New York author of Begging for It, will be reading from his newest collection, Together and by Ourselves, available from Copper Canyon Press. Additionally, Poet/essayist Melissa Broder, Last Text (Tin House 2016), will be reading. Regular admission. Members FREE

September 17 Sunday 4:30 PM – BEYOND WORDS: BEAUTY AND RESISTANCE – BEYOND WORDS is a reading series that presents work by innovative and highly influential writers of fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction with a theme of Beauty and Resistance. Produced by Jon Hess. Hosted by Richard Modiano. Regular admission. Members FREE.

September 23 Saturday 8:00 PM – DAVID ZASLOFF: A MUSICAL COMEDY – Regular admission. Members FREE

September 24 Sunday 6:00 PM – BEYOND BAROQUE GEORGE DRURY SMITH AWARDS – Beyond Baroque’s annual awards dinner to honor the poets and people who keep the Los Angeles Poetry community thriving. Held at the Church in Ocean Park. Check the website for details.

September 24 Sunday 7:00 PM – 7 DUDLEY CINEMA Experimental films. Free admission, donations appreciated. see laughtears.com on this page

September 29 Friday 8:00 PM – PETER CHERCHES & SPECIAL GUEST – Publishers Weekly called Peter Cherches “one of the innovators of the short short story.” Former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins said, “To Gödel, Escher, and Bach we might consider adding Peter Cherches.” Regular admission. Members FREE

September 30 Saturday 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM – 100 THOUSAND POETS FOR CHANGE – Beyond Baroque is proud to host “100 Thousand Poets for Change” for the 7th straight year! FREE

September 30 Sunday 8:00 PM – DAVID ZASLOFF: A MUSICAL COMEDY –Regular admmiss. Members FREE

www.unurban.com

Weekly Events at UnUrban
(The Unurban is remodeling, call first)

Tuesday: Go Club @7pm, Open Mic Komedy @9pm (sign up at 8:45)

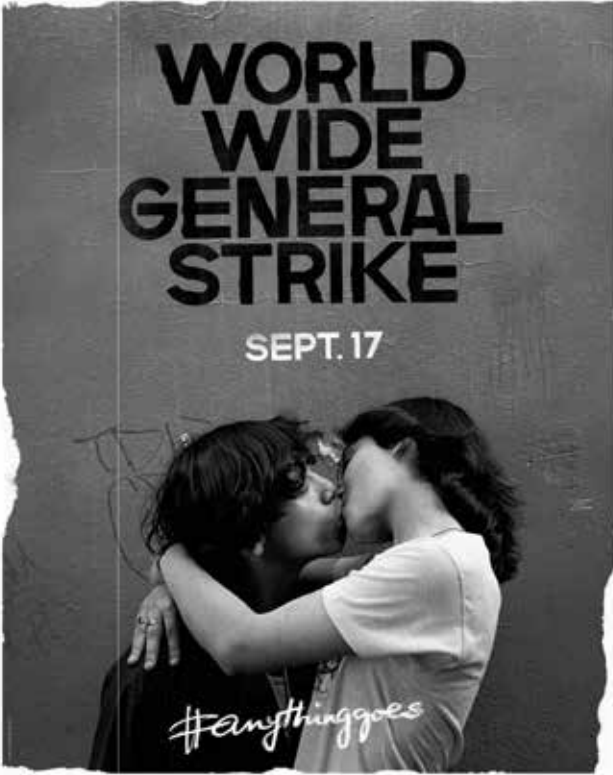
Wednesday: Velvet Guerilla Cabaret (Open Mic Poetry) @9pm, sign up 5min prior.

Thursday: Live Music Showcase* @7pm

Friday: Open Mic Music @7pm, sign up in person at 6:30pm

Saturday: Live Music Showcase* @7pm
September 9 – Folk Rock and Blues
September 1 – Peter Quentin’s Variety Night
September 23 – The Painkillers
September 30 – Indie Music Nite #9

Sunday: Almost Vaudeville w/Brad Kay @2pm, Mews Small and Company @5pm, “Funny Feminist” Comedy Show @6:30



– adbusters

Venice Music Jam -Free-

Every Thursday
at 2:15 P.M.

at the Levin Center:

201 Ocean Front Walk, Venice.

* Bring your guitar, drum and kazoo and join us!
More info; (310)396-0205

VENICE ART FORUM GROUP SHOW

September 9th – 17 th , 2017

An Opening Party will be held
in the presence of the Artists on
Saturday Sept. 9 th , 6:30-9:30pm

Closing Champagne Reception and Artists’ Art Talk
Sunday Sept. 17 th , 2-4pm

An Evening of Chamber Music, Wine & Art
Friday, September 15, 2017, 7:30 pm

@FAB – gallery, 2001 Main St, Santa Monica

ECO-ACTIVIST – Art-Poetry-Music MULTI Cult/Genre/Era – GARDEN

OPEN MIC WITH DJ

COSMIC EXPERIENTIAL & INTERACTIVE
Join us (\$free) in celebrating, motivating, cre8ively
inspire, strengthen organize & mobilize
(SEED) SATYAGRAHA (Truth/Soul Force)

AGAINST the elements of
FASCIST TYRANNY and OPPRESSIONS TOWARD
RIGHTS OF THE LIFE, OF THE
PEOPLE AND THE PLANET/UNIVERSE.

Includes craft your own DIY Dream
Catcher & Eco-spiritual prayer ceremonies...
September 9th (12-5pm) - September 11th ...

PLEASE TEXT FOR RSVP
MORE INFO at 424-297-6458....

LAUGHTEARS

Established 1953

Sept 5 Tues 6pm McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading
Club at MDR library 4533 admirality way

Sept 9, Sat, 4pm MESS Author –playwright Steve Fife
interview at Unurban 3301 pico FREE

Sept 10, Sunday 7pm Subversive Cinema at beyond
baroque 681 venice blvd free Political-Music films

Sept 11 Mon 4pm Documental Films & Live Music
at Unurban 3301 pico FREE with live music at 430
<http://www.laughtears.com/freeJazzJubilee.html> then
at 5pm avant garde films till 730pm

Sept 20 Wed 6-9pm MOM - MEDIA DISCUSSION at
beyond baroque 681 venice blvd venice ca FREE

24 Sept, Sunday, 7pm - An Evening of Music Films
with MARK CANTOR at beyond baroque 681 venice
blvd venice ca FREE - Exemplary cinema historian
Cantor screens jazz, blues, folk music, Western Swing
and just plain “pop” films drawn from his extensive
Celluloid Improvisations Music Film Archive. These
ULTRA RARE clips cannot seen on YouTube, or
found on commercial DVDs. Featured on screen,
in a full two hours of music on film, are such art-
ists as Ella Fitzgerald, Dakota Staton, Merle Travis,
The Robins, Art Pepper, Roy Milton, Josh White,
Spade Cooley, T-Bone Walker, Ornette Coleman and
many others. Facebook =[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/events/137645130129113/)
[events/137645130129113/](https://www.facebook.com/events/137645130129113/)

Sept 25 Mon 6-9pm Laughtears Salon at 212 Pier San-
ta Monica free - politics, art, culture discussion, free

Party and Final Fundraising Kick-Off for Judy Branfman’s documentary

The Land of Orange Groves & Jails

Saturday, September 23, 2017 – 6:30-9:30 pm

@ The Lantern House in Venice – 745 Milwood, 90291

The film: Free speech history unfolds as Judy’s great-
aunt Yetta finally tells her “David & Goliath” tale of
teenage activism in 1920s Los Angeles. Her prece-
dent-setting Supreme Court case helped lay the ground-
work for our right to protest and dissent.

TICKETS AND DONATE HERE - Buy them now so
you don’t have to wait in line at The Lantern House:

<https://goo.gl/J1n4Fy>

View clips from the film - Hosted bar – Music by
Dwight Tribble - Food by Fairmont Miramar Hotel &
Bungalows, Co+opportunity Market & Deli, Back On
Broadway, Trader Joes, and others – LA history photo
booths - Great company

Limited parking in the neighborhood - come with a
friend, bus down Lincoln, or walk a few blocks

Website: www.orangegrovesandjailsfilm.com



Public Works Improv
Actress **Anna Broome** is
ready to go Reelin’ thru the
years with us as

Public Works Improv

Presents

“Reelin’ In The Years”

Sunday, September 10, 2017
at 5pm

Beyond Baroque

681 Venice Bl, Venice, CA 90291

(323) 762-6073

For this show, we’ll celebrate rising above the
bumps and grinds of outrageous fortune!!

Featuring: Lee Boek, Antonieta Villamil, Mark Lip-
man, Richard McDowell, Vinnie Caggiano, Shadi
Mahfoud & Anna Broome

Hosted by Eric Vollmer

DOOR \$10 / (Students & Srs \$6) Mbrs FREE

Location Guide

- **Abbot Kinney Public Library**, 501 S. Venice Blvd. 310-821-1769, fovl.org
- **Beyond Baroque**, 681 Venice Blvd. Poetry Bookstore, Literary Events. 310-822-3006, www.beyondbaroque.org
- **Electric Lodge**, Dance, Theater, and Exercise Classes 1416 Electric Ave. 310-306-1854, electriclodge.org
- **G2 Gallery**, 1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd. 310-452-2842, theg2gallery.com
- **Pacific Resident Theatre**, 703 Venice Blvd, 310-822-8392, pacificresidenttheatre.com
- **SPARC - Social and Public Art Resource Center**, Mural Workshop, Print Making, Exhibits and Programs. 685 Venice Blvd. sparcmurals.org
- **Townhouse**. 52 Windward.
- **Venice Arts** 1702 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, California 90291
- **Venice High School** 13000 Venice Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90066 (310) 577-4200
- **Vera Davis Center**, 610 California Ave. 310-305-1865
- **Westminster Elementary School**, 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd. (enter auditorium from Westminster Ave) 310-606-2016
- **Unurban Coffee Shop** Open Mics, Showcases, Featured Performers, Meetings. 3301 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, 310-315-0056

Ongoing Events

RADIO VENICE

4:20-6:30pm Sundays (not in September) Live Music
Webcast from Breakwater Studios, : **www.radiovenice.tv/live/**

OCCUPY VENICE BEACH

• 8:30 pm Sundays People’s Potluck at 3rd & Rose.
Feed the People. Volunteer or donate - 424-209-2777.
General Meeting After.

COMPUTERS

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

FOOD

- Free Food Distribution. Tuesdays Noon, Thursdays 12:30pm, Fridays 1pm. Vera Davis Center.
- Sign up for Food Stamps (EBT Cards).
Vera Davis Center. 310-305-1865.
- Free Vegetarian Food Saturdays through Wednesdays 4:00 PM. OFW & Dudley.
- Mar Vista Farmers Market. Sunday 9:00AM - 2:00PM 3826 Grand View Boulevard.
- Venice Farmers Market. Fridays 7-11am, 500 North Venice Blvd.

KIDS

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

MUSIC

- 9pm Wednesdays, Venice Underground Comedy, Townhouse, No Cover
- 11pm Wednesday - Burlesque, Townhouse, No Cover
- 8pm Saturdays, Brad Kay Regressive Jazz Quartet, Townhouse. No Cover
- 2pm Sundays, Almost Vaudeville W/ Brad Kay at the Unurban
- O’Brien’s Irish Pub Live music most nights.
- 1:00-4:00 PM Every Saturday and Sunday Free Live Music, Fisherman’s Village, 13755 Fiji Way, MDR 90292

MISCELLANEOUS

- 6:30-9:00 PM Sundays - Venice Electric Light Parade, meet at Windward Plaza.
- 9-4pm, 2nd and 4th Saturday, every month. Venice High School Flea Market. 13000 Venice Blvd.
- 4:15pm, every Thursday – Chess Club. Ages 6-15. All levels welcome. Abbot Kinney Library.
- 11:30am-2:30pm, every Sunday, weather permitting. The Venice Oceanarium (a museum without walls). Venice Pier. Free.
- 8:30am, 2nd Fridays. Bus Token Distribution. First 40 people in line will receive a free bus token. Vera Davis Center.
- 5:30pm, Sundays. Open Mic Night. Twentieth Church of Christ, Scientist. 132 Brooks Ave. Free.
- 7-10pm, 3rd Wednesdays. MOM: Meditations on Media. Beyond Baroque. Free.
- 10am Sunday Morning Gatherings of Creative Community. <http://goo.gl/BbsDV2>

YOGA AND DANCE

- Mondays 8-9am Heal One World: Community Yoga, The Electric Lodge - Free
- Mondays, 1:30-2:30pm Dancing Through Parkinson’s, Electric Lodge, Donation.
- Thursdays 11:15 AM-ish Yoga in the park at 4th and Strand, Ocean Park, 310-306-7330 - Gerry and Suzy.

AA

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

Affordable Housing & Rents is America’s only true economical problem.

Please read as I expound on comments I made towards a facebook page post by: Fight for 15.org

Posted a page that reads: If you are more concerned about fast food workers making \$15 an hour than you are about CEO’s making \$5,859 an hour, then you are part of the problem.

Do you really know the value of money?

This is something I have been sharing. If you spent a thousand dollars a day, every day, since the crucifixion of Christ, until now; YOU STILL WOULD NOT HAVE SPENT A BILLION DOLLARS. It would take roughly 2739 years to do so, spending at that rate.

We the masses use terms all the time with no real grasp of their real meaning or significance. Suppose the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and Washington Post (or as better choices, since they speak more specifically to the masses, The New York Post, New York Amsterdam News and USA Today) were on a slow news day print as their main headline the information I just provided ? That would wake people up, talk about your (much needed) real economic revolution.

Now in terms of wealth distribution worldwide, I use to be satisfied with the slogan popularized by the “Occupy Movement(s) the wealth is distributed in the sense of the 1% (controlling wealth entities) vs. the 99 %, the rest of us miserable slob. However my views on that changed once I read the OxFram 2013 study of worldwide wealth distribution. Based on that report, I did my own computations and figuring and came to the conclusion that the full truth of the matter is still being obscured. In view of this new information the scenario is more likely that the 0.1% have the controlling wealth while the left-over 99.9 % of us scramble for the table scraps from their tables.

Housing and Rent was never meant or designed to be a commodity

Now while raising the minimum wage seems a worthwhile endeavor by the more caring of us, it is a greatly flawed remedy, a badly applied bandage, a makeshift patching of rotted timbers in a sinking ship, and in the long run, no remedy at all. The ship ultimately sinks.

The major fallacy of raising the minimum wage is that doing such would set the economic ship aright. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Once and if the minimum were to arise to any significant level, the (predatory – greed based) cost of everything else would surely follow with the most notable being that of Housing and Rent. I daresay that in terms of economic problems in America this is the one and only true problem, rectify it and the rest would be resolved in less time than can be imagined. Allow me to elaborate. Unless Housing cost and rents were to be aggressively corrected, stabilized and capped in increments with only reasonable price hikes, then we do more than to place ourselves from one spinning wheel to another.

Without the aforementioned Housing and Rent controls than raising the minimum wage may ultimately be more disastrous than beneficial. Doing such may hasten the creation of the Super-Underclass, a formidable mass of people now falling through the economic cracks. The over-educated and over-qualified folks, lured by this new economic stimulus, would rush in and ultimately displace the workforce that traditionally gravitated towards these positions. While at the same time due to the predatory rate hikes everywhere else but, primarily Housing and rents; this now displaced work force of traditional minimum wage workers would more than likely be siphoned off into the swelling ranks of social program dependency, criminality, despair and/or homelessness.

Now that the Wolf is no longer nipping at your heels

Why do I say Housing and Rent cost is the only economical problem? Because it is the only one that is artificial manipulated to such a degree that it even goes against the grain of nature. Over complication of America’s present economic and financial woes is just a smoke screen. It serves to render to us the illusion that our problems are so complex and intricately diverse that any solution, not to mention a simple one, is practically impossible and insane to suggest.

Once again Housing and rent was never intended to be the monster of a commodity it is today. In fact it bloomed and boomed out of the greed decade of the 80’s and has grown ever since into today’s Leviathan.

Minds imprisoned, not by the Matrix but by the Duplex

Still, why do I believe if Housing and rent subdued and had a controlling ring placed through its nose that all other economic woes would fall into order? Imagine if you will the release of potential, of creativity, of innovation and ingenuity which would be afforded even the least educated amongst us if only that daily, weekly, year in and year out stress of how will I pay the rent or make the mortgage payment was alieved and put into proper perspective. Man! We would really be living in a country of no limitations. Image the wealth and contributions made possible by the rendering of many millions of freed minds. Not only would all the much lesser economic problems would be solved but, environmental, societal as

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future explorations be but mere homework assignments for folks who do live practically their entire lives consumed by their quest and maintaining of a home.

– Phil Ghee 7/20/2017

It’s the middle of August. I am alive. I am more or less well and complaining as always, but also thanking the creator for yet another day of being alive.

Maybe I am not able to walk, but I can use my voice to speak up and I can use my brain to learn a new word or write this article.

So many things to be grateful for and yet, so many things that could be improved.

There was the call button issue last night, when I called for a diabetic snack and found there was no one responding. After some time, I tried again and I heard a click, the microphone was turned off. I kept pushing the button to no avail. Finally a new voice answered and I asked “What the F--- is going on?!”

Again, the microphone was turned off. Someone came on the line and told me not to use the word “F---”. I don’t want to use such words but it seems it is the only word they respond to. I try to be extra careful about what I say or they will withhold my very necessary medicine. I was never brought a snack.

Snacks seem to be in short supply lately. I understand some residents abuse the snacks and eat more than their share. I however, have diabetes, which is a medical condition requiring sugar at times when my blood sugar gets low.

This sometimes occurs at 3 or 4am.

There was the night the worker left the dirty diapers in the room.

The smell was horrible. I called and called to have them removed but no answer. Maybe 2-3 hours later it was finally removed.

It is difficult to communicate with the staff here and as I have mentioned before there are always new staff coming and going. Probably once a month, it seems we have a turnover of staff. The holidays are particularly difficult with much fewer people available as well. Everyone speaks a different language making communication a challenge. Also, I cannot speak very loudly and this makes for a very frustrating experience every time I have to speak to someone who speaks English as a second language.

I cannot figure out why the staff is not continually walking the halls, looking to make sure everyone is ok, asking if they need assistance. Why sit at a desk far away and wait for someone to call you? Why are the complaint forms not readily available?

My roommate was screaming for help the other day and I rode in my wheelchair over the her room, to try to help her with my one good arm, but she fell over. I rode down the hall looking for help and I found a staff member and told them what was happening, but surely everyone on the floor could hear her screaming?!

As a veteran I feel mistreated. When I was young and able to serve my country, people were grateful, but now, when I need care, I feel people just want to forget about me.

– Sara Omari

Graphic by Gilda Posada



September 24th 2017
Venice California

ABBOT KINNEY

Festival

abbotkinney.org