

The political and corporate elites in the industrialized world continue, in spite of overwhelming scientific data, to place short-term corporate profit and expedi-





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Dear Beachhead,

Sending this letter in response to let you and your staff know that I very much highly appreciate the fact that you were able to send me the newspaper. Thanks to you.

Also at the same time thank you for taking the time and patience and giving me the opportunity to know and read on what's happening in the neighborhood.

With all due respect,

Daniel Carrillo  
Weott State Prison

Dear Beachhead:

Thank you so much for printing my article last month regarding the plight of stray cats at the Lincoln Place Apartments (LP). I believe it was helpful to get the word out and raise awareness so we can work together finding permanent placement for these beautiful animals.

I wanted to take the opportunity to remind everyone that the Stray Cat Alliance (SCA) is still working to find homes for the cats collected from LP. Also, in the process of "rounding up" cats, SCA knows that cats from the neighborhood go wandering at LP too. AIMCO is beginning major construction activities at LP, some of which involve fumigation. All neighbors in the area are asked to please keep your cats inside, as LP is a potentially dangerous environment for your little ones. The Lincoln Place rental office is reached at (310)396-3117 for dates and times on construction activity.

If you are unable to adopt an LP cat, please consider providing foster care. Fostering would be helpful to SCA, as SCA is paying boarding expenses for some cats taken in. There are several ways to help and SCA can be contacted at the website - www.straycatalliance.org.

FELIZ NAVIDAD!  
Charles Thomas

Dear Beachhead:

Letter writers and pundits and soothsayers who support the Republican anti-tax scam have another problem on their hands besides the re-election of President Obama. California now has a Democratic majority in the state Senate and Assembly.

No longer will the Republican anti-tax jihad be able to hold the California state budget hostage every year as the Democratic majority can now bring in additional revenue and make the state solvent (the ability to pay debts). The super rich will share more in the state's tax burden.

This is what Republicans have been clamoring about, right? Balancing the state's budget and getting a handle on the deficit. Republicans got their wish. With Democrats in control and the Republican anti-tax corpse sidelined the state may function as it is suppose to.

And, this is a warning to the fanciers of the Republican anti-tax conundrum in states around the country and in the U.S. government. Your days are numbered as fiscal balance and sanity is highlighted in California.

Sincerely,  
Ron Lowe

## Santa Monica Should Give Its Los Angeles Neighbors a Fair Voice on the SM Airport Commission

By Martin Rubin

The City of Santa Monica has basically ignored the complaints of Venice residents for more than two decades. They moved takeoffs from over Santa Monica to over Venice.

Los Angeles residents in Venice and Mar Vista want to be heard. They want an opportunity to discuss the issues that affect their health and well-being. They want a place on the Santa Monica Airport Commission as a non-voting liaison; a fair voice at the table.

On July 1, 2015, the agreement between the City of Santa Monica and the Federal Aviation Administration will expire. What then? Will only Santa Monica decide?

The Mar Vista Community Council unanimously passed a Policy Motion requesting for a liaison position on the Santa Monica Airport Commission. The Venice Neighborhood Council will probably follow suit.

Los Angeles City Council District 11's Transportation Advisory Committee (CD11 TAC) will consider a motion in December to establish liaison positions for Venice and Mar Vista.

Where will this effort lead? The Santa Monica Airport Commission will discuss this item at their January 28, 2013 meeting.

Stay tuned for follow-up reports.  
For more information contact me, Martin Rubin, at 310-479-2529 or email jetairpollution@earthlink.net. Visit www.jetairpollution.com

Here is a draft of what CD11 TAC will consider.

**Whereas Los Angeles City Council District 11 (CD 11) borders Santa Monica Airport (SMO) to the south and to the east; and**

**Whereas a significant portion of the east end of SMO lies within the City of Los Angeles; and**


**Whereas the CD 11 neighborhoods of Mar Vista, Venice, and West Los Angeles are uniquely impacted by nuisances, serious safety, and serious public health concerns created by SMO ; and**

**Whereas, given that CD 11 borders half of SMO and the significant and unique impacts on CD 11 residents, CD 11 residents are uniquely qualified to bring to the Santa Monica Airport Commission an important and meaningful perspective not currently on the Commission which is comprised solely of Santa Monica residents, and**

**Whereas meaningful discussions and full vetting of all the issues related to the future of SMO after the July 01, 2015 expiration of the 1984 "Santa Monica Airport Agreement" would be essential to the health and well-being of CD 11 residents,**

**Therefore be it resolved that the CD 11 Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) recommends the creation by the City of Santa Monica of two non-voting advisory liaison positions on the Commission; and**

**Be it further resolved that the CD 11 TAC recommends that one position be filled by a Venice Neighborhood Council stakeholder and one position be filled by a Mar Vista Community Council stakeholder.**



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# California Coastal Commission Silences Pacific Gas & Electric's Airguns

By Krista Schwimmer

On Wednesday, November 14, 2012, the California Coastal Commission unanimously and vehemently denied Pacific Gas & Electric Company a permit that would have allowed them to conduct a high energy seismic survey off shore of the Diablo Canyon Power Plant, along the Central Coast of California. To accomplish this goal, the Research Vessel, Marcus Langseth, would have towed numerous airguns, sending out high level sound impulses, in excess of 240 decibels, every few minutes, 24 hours a day, for a minimum of 12 days. No one in the room disagreed that such a barrage of sound would have some kind of a harmful effect. The question before the Commission then was whether or not P G & E could prove the survey's benefit outweighed its inevitable harm.

The hearing, which took place in the Santa Monica Auditorium, lasted the entire day, reflecting both the enormity of the issue and the passion it stirred in a diverse set of people unified by this one issue. The California Coastal Commission received between 150 and 170 speaker cards to testify. As the day progressed, it became evident that all but P G & E were there in protest.

The California Coastal Commission opened the hearing with background history and then, their staff findings. The lengthy and complex backstory included the passage of Assembly Bill 1632 requiring an assessment of the potential vulnerability of the state's two nuclear plants; the Energy Commission's report

requesting P G & E to update their plant's seismic hazard assessment; and the California Public Utilities Commission directives to P G & E for their 2014 licensing renewal. Although the California Commission's own staff recommended the denial of P G & E's request, the company was granted the hearing under a "special approval" clause called the Coastal Dependent Industrial Facility Override Policy.

Making the case for P G & E was Mark Krausse. Krausse claimed that 3D high-energy offshore studies were needed to evaluate geometry and potential intersection of offshore faults. As for the use of such powerful airguns, he cited bridge piling, with its 250 decibel sound source, as a precedent. In his closing statement, Krausse argued that the "essential issue" was "one of public safety pitted against environmental protection." Krausse's hopeless position before the Commission was reminiscent of the song, "Alice's Restaurant", when Officer Obie, with his 8x10 color glossy pictures as evidence, watches in dismay as the judge walks in with a seeing eye dog. (Though, in this case, Krausse was up against a Commission and coastal community with hawk eyes for vision!)

At this point, a group of 9 environmental notorieties – including Surfriders, Sierra Club, and NRDC – led the seismic attack. The day-long testimony consisted of intelligent, passionate, and spiritual arguments against such a form of surveying that one grandmother said, would create "an acoustic prison" for the more than 2,000, friendly, Morro Bay porpoises who reside there. There was the organized

presentation of environmentalists that showed the potential injury to the marine life there, as well as the ripple effect of it on the whole Marine Protected Area network. There was the fishermen and City of Morro Bay itself that spoke of the negative economic effect in that area. There were grandmothers, physicians, lawyers, and the 12 year old Aaron from San Luis Obispo who told the Commission that "the choices that you make now define integrity for our children." Whether it was the fact that the harbor porpoise can suffer injuries at merely 164 decibels of sound or the dismissal of the ridiculous notion that it was ok for the endangered otters there as they hold their head above water, the crowd came well-prepared. Such levels of sound, too, could actually harm swimmers and surfers, unaware of the testing.

Some of the most moving testimony was given after lunch by speakers for the Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation. Fred Collins, Tribal Administrator for the Northern Chumash, began by reflecting on the very close connection his people have always had for the animal and plant nations. His own family, he said, comes from the village where Diablo Canyon is built. He called this issue, "the biggest issue that ever has been along our coastline." The second Chumash speaker, Mati Waiya, went more deeply into the Chumash tribe's longtime connection to this land – 30,000 years, according to his elders. He called his tribe, "the dolphin people", who teach their children the relationship to the dolphins and the memory that "our whales carry. As families, (the whales) travel in pods and they mourn the death of their loved ones. Just like you do." He told the Commission that "you carry the tear of the whales in your hand," advising them to see truth through the smoke and mirrors before them." He ended by asking them not to "wake up this land by this testing. Because you'll regret it. This is what our ancestors say." He also indicated, like the speaker before him, his trust in the Coastal Commission. "No one has the permit to take lives," he concluded.

At the end of the hearing, when it came time to vote, the audience soon learned how seriously the California Coastal Commission took this request. Not only did each Commissioner vote against it, many shared stories of his or her unique connection to the ocean and its inhabitants. Dr. William Burke spoke of how he had once wanted to be an ichthyologist; but now has 9 salt water tanks at his home, filled with what he deems are "his children." Commissioner Connie Stewart mentioned how she, too, once touched a whale and found it powerful.

For many compelling reasons – ranging from the scientific to the spiritual – the California Coastal Commission denied P G & E that day. In doing so, they showed that they can be powerful allies to the coastal inhabitants – whether they live in or along the water. It was, indeed, a marvelous victory for marine life and lovers.

And yet, in the shadow of this victory, lies another, pressing concern, brought up throughout the day by commissioner and citizen alike. Should Diablo Canyon Power Plant even be there anymore? Rather than renewing their license in 2014, should we instead be scurrying to find solar and other energy solutions?

Answering this question could indeed be California's next seismic matter.

This year Venetians celebrated the first Venice Sign Holiday Lighting with music, food, drinks and shopping. Here's a picture from a past Holiday celebration with lights and all.



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# Venice - Where Art Meets (White Collar) Crime

- Continued from page 1

said they could get \$47, 000 a month for the little cottage with the charming patio SHE created, that they are now using as a selling point. She'd have to sell a whole lot of her perfect chocolates and pastries to meet that rape of a rent, so is looking for a new space, and hoping she'll get to stay on through the holidays. The buyers use the GQ article claiming Abbot Kinney as "the coolest street in America" as a bargaining chip, again failing to realize that as soon as the chains and big money take over (if we LET them!), it ceases to be any kind of cool - immediately. Like I always say, "If it's in *In Style*, it's out of style." Please let Choo know if you know of anything REASONABLE, because it would be a damn shame not to have Choo and her flawlessly delicious wares here anymore ... booted out of the happening boulevard that she helped to create.

Likewise for Jeanie Reynolds of the charming and unique Venice Vintage Paradise. The owner of the building that houses both the super OG Glen Crest BBQ and Venice Vintage Paradise died and the kids want their money, apparently. It's up for sale now, so it's only a matter of time before these stalwart landmarks of the street are gone too. "I understand wanting their money, but they don't have to fuck people over too," Reynolds said, and I completely agree with. It's pretty hard to run a business and plan ahead when you have no idea how long you have your space, but that's what these people are forced to do while the money vultures swarm over their heads. Reynolds is looking for space too - please let her know that you have a perfect place for her nearby for up to \$3,500 a month. That's even pretty damn high for a tiny shop, but at least in the wheelhouse of sane, unlike Choo's laughable landlord.

Laughable. If only it all wasn't such a sad commentary on the role of greed in our community these days. Greed that simply can't be sustained. Not in this economy, when people still need JOBS. I could tell you stories for days about artists that can't afford it here anymore - the very ones that settled here because it was the only place they COULD afford. My own rent has gone up already and I've just lived in this place since May. Building sold, new owners wanted even more money. So less money to spend locally. Again, a failure to understand the bigger, longer-term picture.

There are success stories on the block, of unique, family-owned businesses like Hal's, Principessa, Abbot's Habit, Abbot's Pizza, Firefly, The Green House, The Rooster Fish, Tumbleweed and Dandelion, Zingara, Joe's, Primitivo, Just Tantau, Trim, Urban Escape, Strange, Invisible Perfume, Huset, The Beauty Bungalows, Ananda, the Shoe Repair Guy and a few more, that I encourage you to shop and eat at every chance you get, because they DO know and care about their community. But they are increasingly rare, and on the endangered list too, if their leases come up

and dollar signs are still blinding people to what is truly cool, and what set Venice apart from the rest of the Universe.

Venice is not just Abbot Kinney remember ... You could also get your holiday gifts - something original and handmade (ART!) - at the Boardwalk, still the most Venice place around. Or I know! You could make something your damn self! Yes.

I also encourage the folks who like to ride naked down the street on their bikes, or roller skate down the middle of AKB in a chicken suit just for fun, or leave art installation treasures, or wear a sign that's funny, or let your kid wear their Halloween costume again, just because it's Tuesday, or .... you get what I mean. Be Individuals! Be Fun! Smile and say Good Morning, like we always have done, none of this cold hipster biz I've seen. Be decent, at the very least. Be Venice, for goodness sakes!

Remember Mobay? Venus of Venice? The Korean liquor store where Wabi Sabi is that had like three items in stock? The Hydrant Cafe? Slave? Stroh's? Van Gogh's Ear? Ten Women? I do, and fondly. Wouldn't it be sad to be having this talk in a few years saying, "Remember when Starbuck's was Abbot's Habit? Remember when Domino's was Abbot's Pizza? Remember when The Gap and Gap Kids was Firefly and Kid Firefly? Remember when some b.s. like Chili's was Hal's? Remember when Joel Silver's office was the Post Office? (wait, that DID happen!) Remember when Venice was cool?!" It could happen. It IS happening.

(And by the way, not even big corporate stores are fine, as the still-new Quicksilver store right around the corner on Venice Boulevard (former Samy's Camera) is already gone. I never even went in, and I think it's because it felt too mall store chain same, which holds no appeal for me. Bye. Exclamation pointing on this entire discussion. )

A couple of days before Thanksgiving, I walked by a massive line outside of the Vera Davis Center, where they were distributing food to those who really needed it for the holiday. The line (of mostly elderly people, so you can save your "Get a job" comments, if that's your argument) stretched down way around the corner, past the Electric Lodge, made up of our residents and neighbors who need help. It wrecked me all day to think that one block over from Electric, on Abbot Kinney, there are those who could take one month's proposed (filthy with greed) rent and feed everyone in line for a year, at least. Who do we want to BE, as a People? Geez ... It's just sick.

I recently saw a bumper sticker that read, "You Ruined Venice". Please don't let that be you, and please don't let that happen. You can't take any money with you, but you will always have the golden memories of your time in OUR Venice. The preservation of those sweet times is in OUR hands. Don't. Ruin. Venice! BE cool.

# The Venice Drum Circle (Free Expression)

By Ronald McKinley

The police routinely stop the Venice Drum Circle. The time is never the same, sometimes sunset, sometimes not. Sunday, November 25, at 5:10 P.M. the circle was stopped. The sunset was beautiful.

The First Amendment to the American Constitution, part of the Bill of Rights, gives us the Freedoms. The freedom to worship in your own church if you so choose, not one created by government. The freedoms of speech, press, assembly and the right to petition the Government for a redress of grievances, is what makes the First Amendment the most important.

The First Amendment protects the people's freedom to associate with others in groups that express messages of love, peace, brotherhood and sisterhood. The traditional public forums are hard to find, regulated to death.

The VDC is not a Rave, it is not a party. It is about an alternative way of expression. It is not about getting drunk or high. That is not why I go. I go to bond with my fellow earthlings.

I go despite the fact that some are altered. When I play, I transcend. Time and space are no more. The very molecules around me are energized.

At a meeting I went to recently, a man remarked that the police don't protect and serve us, but protect and serve the law. All laws flow from the Constitution. When the police are sworn in, they take an oath to uphold the Constitution.

One police officer said, "My sergeant will be upset if he sees you on the sand." My First Amendment rights denied because some sergeant would be upset. I just want to play my drum. I am not asking for special treatment, just my rights as an American. "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."

If you do not exercise your rights, you lose them. I am amazed that people don't know their rights. I am amazed how people don't question what the police tell them. Don't take what the police say as gospel; they are just humans with guns.

This has been a long time coming, shutting down the VDC incrementally. First the VDC is criminalized, then it can be stopped.

The VDC is free, it don't cost a cent. There are not many things you can do that don't require money. Free Expression means free. You don't have to have a pedigree to join in. Love of music is all you need. Enjoy it while you can. Some person with a lot of money and the ear of some government official will be its death.

A man visiting from Germany asked me why the police stopped the Drum Circle. I told him, "Because they have guns." Welcome to America.

Below: two businesses on Abbot Kinney Blvd. set to close. Glen Crest BBQ has been open in this location for over 30 years, making it one of the oldest businesses on the boulevard. Home-style cooking and atmosphere might be a thing of the past in the near future.

Photo: CJ Gronner





# Commissioner Burke Speaks to Beach Curfew

By John Davis

The most fundamental resource the California Coastal Act protects is access to the beach, day or night, by anyone, of any color, or of any income bracket. The beach is our public trust. Over twenty years ago the Los Angeles City Council passed an ordinance locking the public out at night. In 2010 former Executive Director Peter Douglas declared that the City beach curfew violated the Coastal Act, and our State Constitution. He further stated the local curfew ordinance was not legally enforceable.

At the November 15th Coastal Commission meeting Commissioner William Burke indicated the Commission might be preparing for legal action against the City. He told the CCC Chief Legal Council and the Deputy Attorney General that they “better get out the letter machine and the lawyer machine and start it rolling... because the people are being penalized.”, to the sound of applause. He also said the City was “fit to be tied” referring to the Commission’s refusal to privatize parking at the beach.

Burke is a Los Angeles resident and perhaps he did not like the idea that he too could end up behind bars if he decided to visit the beach in the evening hours. The Commissioner is known for not taking things sitting down. He wants the City to know it is the State that is in charge, not the municipal corporation residing within it.

Jack Ainsworth, Deputy Director, said that he had held several meetings with the City, and one was held between 12 and 2am at the beach. He further indicated that one issue was driving the City, the homeless issue. He said it is really complex and difficult to deal with.

The Deputy made that statement while trying to explain why the City violation had not been placed on the agenda on behalf of Charles Lester, the new Executive Director. Lester’s failure to bring the violation before the Commission for judgment has led to the arrest of ordinary people who wish to use the beach, and it has festered for over twenty years. The homeless appear to be the City’s primary target. Fortunately, the Coastal Act does not discriminate against citizens as homed or homeless. It guarantees access for everyone, discriminating against none.

Thirty-Five year Venice resident David Ewing delivered this elegant message:

*“This Commission communicated to the City the curfew is illegal. I just want to ask you Commissioners, how is this protecting the Citizens of California? How is this defending the Coastal Act if the delay in enforcement allows the city to accomplish its ends despite the coastal act?”*

Other public comments pointed to violations of the U.S. Constitution for prohibiting the rights of assembly, free speech, and the right to exercise religion. All are prevented by the City curfew at night. Complaints against selective enforcement, (discrimination), and unwarranted arrests abounded. One speaker pointed out that staff was suppressing evidence of over 1000 “open cases” from the Commission. That term is used by staff to disguise violations. Another concern was that the Executive Director was engaging in misconduct by refusing to place the known violation on the agenda.

Lester stated it would be impossible to enforce the Coastal Act by bringing all cases to the Commission for action, which includes the curfew violation. Contradicting his boss, Deputy Director Ainsworth

described an exchange of letters “back and forth which were quite acrimonious and nasty.” He finally declared to the satisfaction of the Commissioners and people that if progress towards a Coastal Development is not made that, “**we will move forward with enforcement action.**”

Currently, the City may arrest, fine, and jail anyone who goes to their beach after 10pm.

Burke characterized the City’s resistance to the Coastal Act as being caused by a war between Councilman Rosendahl and the Coastal Commission because the Commission denied the parking regulation that was enforced by the City.

He indicated that Ainsworth should be talking to the decision maker, the full City Council, rather than only speaking to Councilman Rosendahl, the City Attorney, and the Parks Department. Only the full Council could make the decision to apply for the necessary Coastal Development Permit, Ainsworth responded.

Commission Staff have kept this violation away from the public and Coastal Commission since 2008. Finally, after relentless pressure by Venice residents, the Agency may soon stop the City from enforcing the archaic curfew. By passing the ordinance, the City Council believed it could override the California Coastal Act, the State, and Federal Constitutions in order to appease a handful of people who have beach-front homes. The ordinance clearly favors those few individuals at the expense of everyone else. On behalf of those homeowners, Rosendahl and the City are clearly putting the cross-hairs on impoverished persons who are exercising their right to beach access 24/7.

For its 44th Birthday, the Beachhead got a New Website!  
Check it out at [www.venicebeachhead.org](http://www.venicebeachhead.org)  
Make a note of our new email address: [free@venicebeachhead.org](mailto:free@venicebeachhead.org)

Political cartoon by Khalil Bendib





# Swami SPEAKs

On December 21<sup>st</sup>, according to the Mayan calendar, we will see a subtle change as the world is transformed into a higher level of consciousness, not the doom and gloom everyone has predicted. We have no record or knowledge that the Mayans would think the world would come to an end. To the Mayans, it was a celebration to make it to the end of a whole cycle. People won't recognize this for what it is, but it will affect us physically as well as spiritually as the deepening of consciousness of individuals - some can feel it, some can't. The world as we know it is ending - negativity is leaving. It's hard to say what will happen physically. Art, science, and religion will be transformed to a higher level of consciousness.

Why do we recognize the Mayan calendar that was the enfoldment of mankind 2500 years ago? The Mayans were sensitive to the future - they were mystics, similar to the current mystics and physics. The 2012 phenomenon is a complete fabrication and a chance for people to cash in.

I don't know if you've noticed it - however, the truth is we've been using the wrong calendar for some time now. This has had a serious effect on our relationships, attitude towards in-laws and the ability to wake up in the morning and collect our unemployment check. We should do something about this. The Mayan calendar is the answer, if you are aware enough to ask the question.

It's true that we do create our own reality on top of the one expressed by that Effulgent Reality: nature and so-called civilization. We obviously have a lot to learn. I think and feel we're going to do it, soon. 2013 will be interesting, exciting and enlightening, to say the least. So we must stay positive, progressive and poised for anything. We are creative light, life and love; and have a divine destiny in unfolding our essential spiritual nature to its ultimate perfection.

*A gathering of Swami's friends will take place during the evening of December 21 at Swami's residence. If you are his friend, you are invited!*

*A special Thank You goes out to Daryl Barnett, who has been visiting Swami on a monthly basis to collect and type the wisdom of his spoken word, and submit it to the Beachhead for publication.*

*Photo: Swami on Ocean Front Walk, circa 1975  
Photographer unknown*



## Being Thankful on Thanksgiving, and Always

By Anne Alvarez

Venice's spirit shone upon Thanksgiving. It was a beautiful day for our less fortunate, and often invisible, Venice residents, many of whom started their day off with a holiday feast and warm welcoming smiles from the volunteers at the dinner held at the Venice Basketball Courts.

Spearheaded by Anthony Perez from the "Send Me a Penny Foundation", in conjunction with Pastor Eric Tietze's "Heart of Compassion". Both men are equally dedicated to ending hunger city wide.

Dozens of local volunteers, eager to give back any way they could, baked fresh goods. Others donated clothing, and all donated their warm and generous spirits to make this a special day for those that are so often forgotten. Ashley Adams and her girlfriend, Rebekah Soto, heard about the event online and happily donated their time. As did Santa Monica resident, Teresa Russell, who has been doing this for the past few years, donating clothes and helping out at the food line.

About 10 tables comprised one very large buffet table, filled with turkey, ham and all the side dishes and desserts one can imagine. Over 300 people were fed, with many taking large plates and bags of food to go. The smiles on everyone's faces were priceless, such as Gregory Crumby, a Venice musician who has fallen on hard times for the past 6 years, and didn't imagine he would be celebrating Thanksgiving this year. Gregory, accompanied by Tommy Mingo, heard about the feast being provided near the basketball courts from 7-9AM, and cheerfully showed up and ate all the holiday favorites that we so often take for granted.

Many thanks went out to "New Community Jewish High School" whose students began a campaign to donate 20 turkeys to the event, and were so successful, they wound up surpassing that number and donating 32.

If you would like to share in the laughter and fill your hearts and spirits with joy, you are encouraged to join the next holiday event taking place Christmas day at OFW Basketball Courts from 7-9AM.

If you are unable to make it to this event but would like to contribute:

Heart Of Compassion (323) 727-7997  
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Thanksgiving in Venice, 2012  
Photo: Anne Alvarez



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# Happy 44th Birthday, Beachhead! And Here's to 4 More Decades!



## A Beach Head Writes About the Beachhead

By Carol Fondiller

Frankly, I feel as if I'm viewing the decades of the Free Venice Beachhead's existence on old celluloid film. Jumping and bumping with splats, cracks and flashes. Cutting through images that have been spliced together with cellophane tape being fed through the old moviola of my brain.

Who was that guy with the Jesus-length hair who was a master of lay-out? Can't remember his name. And John Haag - "this paper is a poem" and through the four decades of its publication, there were poems in every issue of the Beachhead.

The remaining Beats watched with tolerant condescension as the collectives struggled to put this together.

The margins were never even, mis-prints, mistakes were always in abundance. Somehow, no matter how hard we tried to eradicate those cussed little errors, they'd pop up to be forever immortalized in print. Some contributors were really deeply hurt by what they considered negligence and disrespect for their articles. My thought was we gave voice to the voiceless. There were and are many voices in Venice who speak and are ignored. The Beachhead enabled those voices to be heard by a larger group than just their allies.

The Beachhead grew from a bothersome little rag to an influential voice in the community. Truly, the Beachhead worked locally and thought globally. The Beachhead was founded by the Peace and Freedom Party, but except for a few years, welcomed even political contributors to its pages. From polemics and theory to explanations of various laws and regulations and, of course, poems and stories to pro-renter and women's movements, and anti-war activities, if it was happening locally, it was reported in the Beachhead.

The Beachhead ALWAYS had points of view. It reported events from a distinct populist, what is called leftist point of view. The Beachhead tried to be accurate in its reporting of facts. But it has always been pro majority of the people who inhabit this little blue planet, i.e., the low income folks who are struggling to stay housed, the people who are unhoused and the people who've lived in the area for years, but are being displaced because they don't have \$\$\$ to stay in their community because they have been told by landlords, the city, the state, etc., that they don't count. (There are still renters who believe that they don't have a right to voice their opinion, if any, about the direction of their community. The Beachhead still has a lot of work to do regarding consciousness raising about this).

Speak of consciousness raising, the Beachhead raised awareness about stalking and the vulnerability of the people to the dangers of this highly romanticized dangerous activity in a series of articles about the terror and disruption inflicted on a respected member of Venice and a collectivite on the Beachhead.

We used to lay out the Beachhead on the floor using glue, scissors, Xacto Blades and press tape. Oh, who could forget presstype - my nightmare. I don't know who still uses it, if it exists anymore - it consisted of a sheet of plastic with letters that are pressed down individually onto the paper, rubbed in, and a headline was created. That is, unless parts of the letter fell off, and then the handy dandy black pen would come into play. My headlines were almost always crooked - sort of like a humpback whale swimming through the print.

When the Beachhead first came into being there were no computers. In the mid 70s the holy grail of print technology was an IBM Selectric Composer. I believe Moe Stravnezer and Linda Lucks were the proud owners. I never advanced to more than pen and pencil, having been intimidated at an early age with the typewriter ribbon and indentation. I am forever grateful to the people who slaved over my chicken tracks and transcribed them into print.

Now it is zipped through the computer straight to the printer, who mates with the disk and births many thousands of Beachheads.

The Beachhead has gone through many collectives and many changes, but the message remains the same: PEACE AND FREEDOM.

4 More Decades!

The New York Times and the L.A. Times try to be objective; however, in the face of injustice and greed there is no room for objectivity, but there is fairness. Thank Goodness the Beachhead hasn't "balanced" discrimination with points of view from the KKK to balance out the view of racial equality.

There, I hope I've been clear.

*This article is re-printed from the 40th Birthday Anniversary of the Beachhead in the December 2008 issue.*

*Carol Fondiller (June 22, 1936 - January 9, 2010), pictured above, was the one and only Queen of Venice. She was one of the founders of the Free Venice Beachhead in 1968 and continued to be one of its wittiest, most prominent writers for the next 41 years.*

## this paper is a poem...

By Delores Hanney

Singing with the promise of passion, these five simple words composed the opening sentence of the *Free Venice Beachhead's* inaugural issue, of which 10,000 copies were let loose upon the realm on December 1, 1968. It was the golden age of the "underground" press, those years of love-ins, groovy music, psychedelics and flower power, of peace marches, draft dodgers, student uprisings and Democratic National Convention snarling; when fevered activists so raucously made their anti-establishment sentiments public.

And doing so changed everything!

The *Berkeley Barb* (1965-1980) may have been the earliest, the loudest and indubitably the most prominent, but no other counterculture rag - mainstream press either, come to that - could brag of such a strong poet's contingent as the *Beachhead*; not to imply that a vigorous dissident factor wasn't fully engaged. Nor was any other alternative press cooked up on a completely volunteer basis as the *Beachhead* was and is, governed by a fluid "collective" staff of equalitarians.

The first four-page issue commenced pretty gently: defining its purpose, "to create community;" inviting participation, "the next poem you read may be your own;" recounting, briefly, the beginning of Venice-of-America. Thus warmed up, it made good on its claim of an establishment-challenging persuasion with articles about police harassment, opposition to a Master Plan that took no account of whom the planning was for and cheerleading for secession from Los Angeles. Binding it together - like duct tape - was a scattering of local ads with downscale, wild-child panache.

Steve Clare climbed aboard the *Beachhead* brigade with the second issue. Additional high profile concerns, during his three-year tenure, were (of course) the Vietnam War and rallying support for the objectives of the Peace and Freedom Party.

Community organizing under the banner of "Free Venice" - an aim not necessarily synonymous with advocating succession - the *Beachhead* successfully promoted into existence the Free Venice Food Co-op, and the Venice Survival Committee, to provide people with information about their rights. Backing "Save the Canals" activities brought about a restoration on East canal that became a community center, embellished with a terraced bank of cheery flowers, housing a community switchboard and a communal vegetable garden.

During this era, Clare recollects, the *Beachhead* partnered with Echo Park's, *Common Ground*, to have their separate publications printed as one - since it was cheaper that way - taking bimonthly turns to de-mingle the amalgamation for distribution. For this task or to review submissions - with a bias towards showcasing the community's creativity and diversity - or to lay out the next issue, collective members gathered at the Peace and Freedom office in front of artist Earl Neuman's studio. In 1970, the legal aid office became their meeting spot, thanks to a new connection with its director, Marge Buckley. After duties were dispatched, they repaired to the Saucy Dog on Pacific for a bit of collective bonding.

With a stint at The Great Speckled Bird - the alternative newspaper out of Atlanta - already a mark of merit upon his curriculum vitae, Larry Sullivan moseyed into town to join up with the *Beachhead*, an affiliation running through the 1980s. Development was a major concern during this period, especially the threatened development of the Ballona Wetlands, the critical rest stop for migrating birds that may have traveled hundreds of miles before dropping in for a snack and a snooze.

*Continued on page 10*

## The Beachhead Needs Your Birthday Present Donations (and it Thanks You in advance)





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# The Other Venice Wildlife



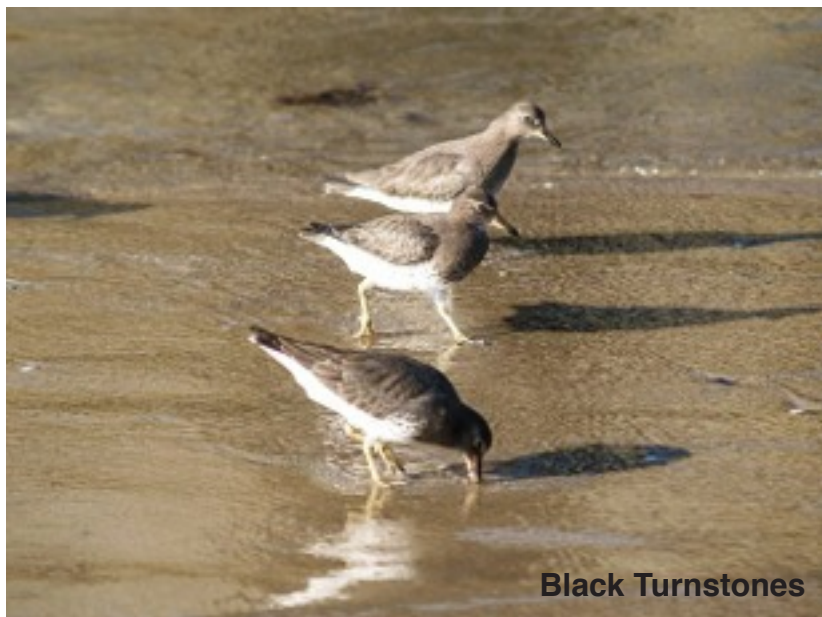
Willets



Marbled Godwits



Young Sea Lion



Black Turnstones



Sanderlings



Brown Pelican



Curlew

Joe Stanford with the Venice Oceanarium took all pictures on this page in Venice and also identified all animals



come see me. please

come find me, please  
I will be  
in the grass  
in the trees  
in the sky  
I'll be waiting

waiting for the world  
for a breath  
for a moment  
I will be  
you will see  
right there

don't take too long, please  
I'm not impatience  
nor a thought of indolence  
but I am here  
in this spot  
still

I fear the ivy will grow  
the moss will collect  
I will be covered  
you won't see me  
you'll walk past  
I'll be encased in vivacity

you'll walk right by

come find me, please  
I will be  
in my car  
on the street  
driving by  
don't blink

If you blink  
I may pass by  
you won't see me  
smiling  
laughing  
contagiously

I will try to honk  
and catch your eye  
with the sun just right  
and a full smile  
hair blowing gently  
in the breeze of the window

You'll see  
I'll be living  
zealously

but still...  
come see me, please

Aryn Youngless

00:01 Saturday, November 3rd,  
2012, Adullam ..... About No-  
vember third, not much  
I've heard. Eleventh is for veter-  
ans. A word For the third Thurs-  
day; an ill-fated bird Gets sacri-  
ficed, for giving thanks. Absurd,  
our rituals. Ridiculous. I'm cured  
Of holidays, forever. Don't be  
scared. A massive table, sure to  
be prepared. Mountains of  
mashed potatoes to be fared,  
With vast oceans of gravy. I'm  
assured An invitation. Cranber-  
ries are scored, With landings of  
great pumpkin pies, reward For  
all those who show up. Not very  
hard, accepting such a feast, Not  
yet endured. Prefer my quiet  
roommates, crust be shared .....  
Roger Houston, to Henrietta  
Ford and CJWhitefang, Esquire

To Forget For The Moment  
(A Little Way Further)

All around me  
Ants and men  
lay struggling  
with their crushed abdomens and dreams  
stuck to the concrete  
though their strong lets  
work frantically at first  
and then less so  
as futility settles in  
they cannot go on  
their plans are cancelled  
their lives are cancelled  
collateral damage  
taken from the foot  
of a careless giant passing by  
their legs can no longer lift them  
at least not on their own  
should God look down  
should I kneel down  
to blow the ants along  
a little way further  
with breath like a southern wind  
to give them wings before they die  
like a runaway bee  
free of direction  
to forget for the moment  
all they've left behind

- Gabriel Johnson  
Herlong Federal Prison

Hi Beachhead Collective,

I created a poem out of tidbits from the re-  
port on effects of fracking that was solicited  
by PXP in order to "excuse" their fracking  
the earth. I did reporting on this for the Cul-  
ver City Observer and had to be objective.  
But for a poem I don't have to be objective.  
The poem is a found poem, made from  
words from the  
actual report. It was the report, not me, that  
included the words "completely wrong re-  
sults," LOL.  
Lynne Bronstein

Oily Verbiage  
a found poem from the PXP  
Hydraulic Fracturing Study

Sentous Surface  
Moynier Surface  
Rubel Surface  
Rindge Surface  
Sentous Surface with Faults  
Moynier Surface with Faults  
Rubel Surface with Faults  
Rindge Surface with Faults  
Vickers Surface with Faults  
PICO Surface with Faults  
Newport Inglewood Fault  
Looking North  
Discontinuous Water Bodies  
Bodies and Faults  
Nodular Shale  
Perforating the Case  
Less Viscous Flows More Readily  
Commonly Known as Slurry  
Conventional  
High Rate  
Wellbore  
Cross Linking  
Ceramic Beads  
Pumped into the well as slurry  
Flowback  
Most conventional hydraulic fracturing jobs  
Were completed in the Sentous  
Conventional  
Deepest  
Study Well in the Sentous  
Zone Together  
When the rock develops cracks.  
Gross Alpha Activity  
Arsenic  
Hardness  
Mistaken assumptions  
Complex Underground System  
Completely wrong results

Lynn Bronstein

A Good Mother (for my friend, Kitty)

it makes me want to cry  
when she tells me the story of visiting  
her son in prison  
how he has to stand in line with other  
mothers and fathers  
and wait  
how when she finally sees him  
she feels so much better  
to see that he's alright,  
he's not beaten down by the system  
to see his face and hug him  
once a month  
and her voice softens and is warm,  
talking about "her boy"  
and she isn't bitter or angry  
she has this amazing acceptance of the deal  
it's been two years now  
and they are appealing it  
but thy have to drive 250 miles, each way  
so they can stand in line and wait  
for that one moment of grace  
when she can see him again  
hold him again  
and reassure both of them that the bond  
is still there  
and the one person who loves him the most  
is there, one more time

- Mary Getlein

A Haiku Concerning the Concerning Silence of  
an American Hurricane  
by TravelinMaam

The waves were high and  
The wind blew fire across Queens  
What Death in Haiti?

Hope  
by Majid Naficy

Emily Dickinson calls “hope” a bird  
Who has perched in her soul  
And without asking for seeds  
Sings incessantly.

I saw it as a cricket  
Who appeared in my childhood dreams,  
Grew in my adolescent poems  
And disappeared in the hubbub of a revolution.

Today I am left alone in exile  
And yet, when I go to the balcony  
To water the only flower in my house,  
I hear the sound of a cricket  
Who is calling me  
From behind my neighbor’s bamboos.

Grunt

We've become the Grunts  
Grateful for crumbs  
From the tables  
Of bought and sold  
Bureaucrats  
And so called  
Humans.  
I'm not enjoying  
the movie.  
What happened to  
the sense of snowflakes?  
It's just in knowing  
Our cherished dreams  
Ever more reduced  
Are straining through  
Bleak forecasts.  
Even sunny days  
At the beachside  
Don't seem the same.  
As grinning veneers  
Pay senseless homage  
To irreverent rascals.  
It's the numbing  
Effect processing  
As we lie  
Asleep  
And doves are crying  
On this beloved planet.

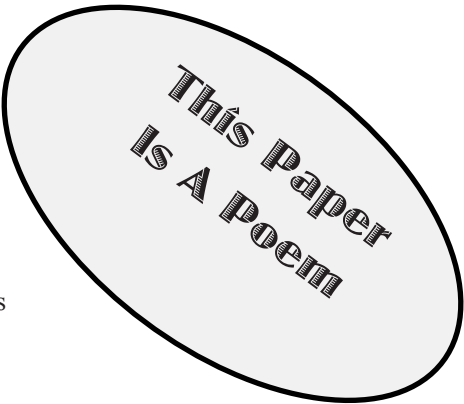
- Suzanne Verdal

Exposed Root  
by Tyler Uhlenhake

exposed root  
flower or weed  
decision to pull  
decision to water  
choose  
flower wills to bloom  
weed wills to stifle  
flower lends you breath  
weed gives yet takes  
which are you  
which do you think to be  
which do you strive to be  
I choose flower  
your choice is to pull  
your choice is to water  
your choice  
then mine

Operation OXX Brigade  
By Mark Breza

Petraeus Betray US  
on Veterans Day  
EXPLAIN the Begazi DELAY  
under the table with a dark sable  
droning away in sexual play  
or was it in an Afghan Stable  
shown all over the internet cable  
her West Point Dossier  
Kyber Pass <All In> Declassifiable  
DISABLE  
an elephant stone not a military sycophant  
encrypted in an NSA jealousy rant  
DECODED  
EXPLODED  
In a Tabloid Display  
Informed citizens want to know  
Was Ambassador Stevens  
Lawrence of Arabia Fey





# Stand Still for the Apocalypse

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ency before the protection of human life and the ecosystem. The fossil fuel industry is permitted to determine our relationship to the natural world, dooming future generations. Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), the main greenhouse gas, increased from its pre-industrial concentration of about 278 parts per million (ppm) to more than 391 ppm in September 2012, with the rate of rise now at 1.8 ppm per year. We have already passed the tipping point of 350 ppm; above that level, life as we have known it cannot be sustained. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration is higher now than at any time in the last 15 million years. The emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>, currently about 35 billion metric tons per year, are projected to climb to 41 billion metric tons per year by 2020.

Because about 90 percent of the excess heat trapped by the greenhouse effect since 1955 is momentarily in the oceans, we have begun a process that, even if we halted all carbon emissions today, will ensure rising sea levels and major climate disruptions, including the continued melting of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets as well as the acidification of the oceans. The report estimates that if warming accelerates toward 4 degrees Celsius, sea levels will rise 0.5 to 1 meter, possibly more, by 2100. Sea levels will increase several meters more in the coming centuries. If warming can be kept to 2 degrees or below, sea levels will still rise, by about 20 centimeters by 2100, and probably will continue to rise between 1.5 and 4 meters above present-day levels by the year 2300. Sea-level rise, the report concludes, is likely to be below 2 meters only if warming is kept to well below 1.5 degrees. The rise in sea levels will not be uniform. Coastal areas in tropical regions will be inundated by sea-level rises that are up to 20 percent higher than those in higher latitudes.

"In particular, the melting of the ice sheets will reduce the gravitational pull on the ocean toward the ice sheets and, as a consequence, ocean water will tend to gravitate toward the Equator," the report reads. "Changes in wind and ocean currents due to global warming and other factors will also affect regional sea-level rise, as will patterns of ocean heat uptake and warming. Sea-level rise impacts are projected to be asymmetrical even within regions and countries. Of the impacts projected for 31 developing countries, only 10 cities account for two-thirds of the total exposure to extreme floods. Highly vulnerable cities are to be found in Mozambique, Madagascar, Mexico, Vene-

zuela, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam. For small island states and river delta regions, rising sea levels are likely to have far ranging adverse consequences, especially when combined with the projected increased intensity of tropical cyclones in many tropical regions, other extreme weather events, and climate change-induced effects on oceanic ecosystems (for example, loss of protective reefs due to temperature increases and ocean acidification)."

"By the time the concentration reaches around 550 ppm (corresponding to a warming of about 2.4°C in the 2060s), it is likely that coral reefs in many areas would start to dissolve," the report reads. "The combination of thermally induced bleaching events, ocean acidification, and sea-level rise threatens large fractions of coral reefs even at 1.5°C global warming. The regional extinction of entire coral reef eco-systems, which could occur well before 4°C is reached, would have profound consequences for their dependent species and for the people who depend on them for food, income, tourism, and shoreline protection." The report projects that the rates of change in ocean acidity over the next century will be "unparalleled in Earth's history."

The global production of maize and wheat has, because of rising temperatures, been in steady decline since the 1980s. But these crop declines will be vastly accelerated in the coming years, with rising temperatures resulting in widespread malnutrition and starvation. It will mean that the poor, and especially children, will endure chronic hunger and malnutrition. There will be an increase in a variety of deadly epidemic diseases. Persistent flooding will contaminate drinking water, spreading diarrheal and respiratory illnesses. The 2012 drought, which affected 80 percent of the agricultural land in the United States, will become the norm. Tropical South America, Central Africa and all tropical islands in the Pacific are, the report says, likely to regularly experience heat waves of unprecedented magnitude, making human life in these areas difficult if not impossible to sustain.

"In this new high-temperature climate regime, the coolest months are likely to be substantially warmer than the warmest months at the end of the 20th century," the report reads. "In regions such as the Mediterranean, North Africa, the Middle East, and the Tibetan plateau, almost all summer months are likely to be warmer than the most extreme heat waves presently experienced. For example, the warmest July in the

Mediterranean region could be 9°C warmer than today's warmest July." It notes that these changes "potentially exceed the adaptive capacities of many societies and natural systems."

The stress and insecurity caused by the breakdown in the climate will, the report says, "have negative effects on psychological and mental health." It will lead to an increase in "levels of conflict and violence." These changes "will have ramifications for national identification and alter the dynamics of traditional cultures."

The report calls on the leaders of the industrial world to immediately institute radical steps—including a halt to the dependence on fossil fuels—to keep the global temperature rise below 2 degrees C, although the report concedes that even an increase of less than 2 degrees would result in serious damage to the environment and human populations. Without a massive investment in green infrastructure that can adapt to the heat and other new extreme weather, and in the building of efficient public transportation networks and renewable energy systems to minimize carbon emissions, we will succumb to our own stupidity.

A failure to respond will assure an ecological nightmare that will most probably be accompanied by an economic, social and political breakdown. The human species, the report says, will cross "critical social system thresholds," and "existing institutions that would have supported adaptation actions would likely become much less effective or even collapse." The "stresses on human health, such as heat waves, malnutrition, and decreasing quality of drinking water due to seawater intrusion, have the potential to overburden health-care systems to a point where adaptation is no longer possible, and dislocation is forced."

"There is also no certainty that adaptation to a 4°C world is possible," it goes on. "A 4°C world is likely to be one in which communities, cities and countries would experience severe disruptions, damage, and dislocation, with many of these risks spread unequally. It is likely that the poor will suffer most and the global community could become more fractured, and unequal than today. The projected 4°C warming simply must not be allowed to occur—the heat must be turned down."

*This article was first published on Truthdig  
(www.truthdig.com)*

*Thank you for allowing us to re-print.*

For its 44th Birthday, the Beachhead got a New Website!  
Check it out at [www.venicebeachhead.org](http://www.venicebeachhead.org)

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this paper is a poem...

- Continued from page 7

He remembers many successful *Beachhead* fundraising events, often organized in cahoots with kindred groups like the VOP Food Co-op, or the Venice Community Housing Corporation. But perhaps most memorable, ironically, was the dance party at The Church of Ocean Park, one Valentine's Day, when just four folks showed up due to a rain storm of record-making proportions.

In his self-appointed role as institutional memory keeper, Sullivan has arranged for the archiving of his collection of 20 years worth of the *Beachhead*, along with a bunch of years of *The Great Speckled Bird*, within the non-civil rights portion of the progressive archives at Georgia State University.

Today, idealism leaking from practically every syllable, between 8,000-10,000 copies are printed each month, depending on the budget, to be dispensed by subscription and at approximately 125 pick-up points around Venice. Confronting issues such as the threat to the WPA-built post office or the attempt by the City of Los Angeles to impose a midnight curfew on the beach and Ocean Front Walk, the *Beachhead* still radiates sass and righteous anger. Its tone remains urgent. Poets and poetry and passion retain their positions of eminence.



# Community Events – day by day

Calendar compiled by Charles Dunn

**Saturday, December 1**  
• 9am-All Day - **Good Dog Animal Rescue.** Gold’s Gym. Venice. Free.  
• 7-10pm - **Rock Night Hosted by Eric Charles.** Talking Stick. Free.  
• 5-7:30pm - **Bridge Lighting Party.** 212 Sherman Canal Venice. Contributions for the VCHC.  
• 7:30-9:30pm - **Cahuenga Press Book Fest.** Poetry Readings. Beyond Baroque. Students \$8, Seniors \$5, Members Free.

**Sunday, December 2**  
• 6-9pm - **Rachelle Dowdy “Up North”.** Art Show. Trunk Gallery. 12818 Venice Blvd. Free.  
• 8-11:30pm - **Bacchanal Sundays in Venice.** Jazz/Blues. Townhouse. 52 Windward Ave. Free.

**Monday, December 3**  
• 7-9pm - **Mindful Meditation.** Your Senses and Thoughts. AK Public Library. Free.  
• 7:30-10pm - **Mosaic Open Mic.** Poetry. Talking Stick. Free.

**Tuesday, December 4**  
• 7:30-10pm - **Casual Encounters.** Live Karaoke Band. Witzend. 1717 Lincoln Blvd. Free.  
• 7:30-10:30pm - **Max10 Performance Lab,** you perform. Electric Lodge. \$10.

**Wednesday, December 5**  
• 11:30-1.00pm - **Toddler Storytime.** AK Public Library. Free.  
• 6:30-8pm - **Yoga in Venice.** 122 Lincoln Blvd. Free.

**Thursday, December 6**  
• 8-2am - **Spin Cycle,** Jazz/Funk. Trip. 2101 Lincoln Blvd. \$5.

**Friday, December 7**  
• 6pm - **First Friday.** Abbot Kinney. Food Truck. Crowds.  
• 6-10pm - **Lacie Stiewing “Lucky Bunny”** Art opening. Trunk Gallery. 12818 Venice Blvd. Free.  
• 9-11pm - **“Go West”**, Comedy Show. Talking Stick. Free.

**Saturday, December 8**  
• 8-11am - **Wreck-it Ralph.** Venice Family Clinic 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Children’s Holiday Movie. Laemmle Monica 4-plex in Santa Monica. Free.  
• 10-2pm - **The Great Venice Toy Drive.** Non-violent and Unopened toys. 767 California Ave, Oakwood Recreation Center.



• 5:55-8pm - **Spectacular Fireworks and Boat Parade.** Marina Del Ray 50<sup>th</sup> Parade. 13650 Mindanao Way. Free.  
• 7-10pm - **Holiday Stroll!** Shops Stay open late. Holiday treats with live steel drum band. 1940’s Tram will shuttle revelers up and down the Blvd. Abbot Kinney Blvd. Free.

**Sunday, December 9**  
• 11-5pm - **Festive Family Fun Day!** Real snow hill Sledding in Venice. Santa 11am-2pm. Abbot Kinney Blvd. Free.  
• 8-10:30pm - **Family Values Party.** Arts. Beyond Baroque. \$7, Members \$5.

**Monday, December 10**  
• 12-6pm - **Brand Spanking New Artist Series.** Designers and Artists get your start. Altered Space. 1221 Abbot Kinney Blvd. Free.

**Get Your Local Event Listed**  
Email your time, date and a brief description to [free@venicebeachhead.org](mailto:free@venicebeachhead.org) by the 20th of the month. Please take out an advertisement if you charge admission.

**Tuesday, December 11**  
• 7-10pm - **“Unseen”**, an evening of Music and Theatre. Theatre by Blind. Talking Stick. Free.  
• 7-11pm - **Nerd Night.** Singer/Songwriter. Gathering to discuss alternative energy. Witzend. 1717 Lincoln Blvd. Free.

**Wednesday, December 12**  
• 7-10pm - **Suzy Williams.** Singer/Songwriter. Danny’s Deli. Free.

**Thursday, December 13**  
• 4-5:30pm - **Chess Club.** AK Public Library. Free.  
• 5:30-6:30pm - **Teen Hip Hop Class.** Dance. The Moving Joint. 12813 Venice Blvd. \$5.

**Friday, December 14**  
• 7-10pm - **Nette Radio Night.** Cause an Effect Music. Talking Stick. Donation \$5.

**Saturday, December 15**  
• 7am - **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Venice Surf–A–Thon.** Venice Breakwater. Free.  
• 9-11:30pm - **Ellyn Maybe’s Poetry Rodeo and Potluck Party.** Beyond Baroque. Admission \$8, Students and Seniors \$5, Members Free.

**Sunday, December 16**  
• 4:30pm - **Boat Parade.** Parade starts at Carrol Canal at Eastern Canal Venice. Free.  
• 7-10pm - **Blues Sunday with Tom Gramlich and Mystic Miles.** Talking Stick. Free.  
• 7:30-9pm - **Mira Rosenthal and Blas Falconer.** Book Readings. Beyond Baroque. Students \$8, Seniors \$5, Members Free.

**Tuesday, December 18**  
• 10:15-11am - **Preschool Storytime and Sing Song.** AK Public Library. Free.  
• 7-9:30pm - **VNC Board Meeting.** Always open to the public. Westminster School Auditorium. Free.

**Wednesday, December 19**  
• 9pm - **Wednesday Night Comedy.** Townhouse. 52 Windward Ave. Free.

**Thursday, December 20**  
• 7-9pm - **Venice Art Crawl.** Throughout Venice. [www.veniceartcrawl.com](http://www.veniceartcrawl.com) for map and info. Free.  
• 9-12am - **Nicki Bove.** Singer/Songwriter. Witzend. 1717 Lincoln Blvd. \$10.

**Friday, December 21**  
• 8-1am - **Friday Night Jazz.** Townhouse. 52 Windward Ave. Free.

**Saturday, December 22**  
• 11-3pm - **Drop-in-Craft.** Holiday cards Bookmarks. AK Public Library. Free.  
• 9-11:30pm - **Live Music** at Danny’s Deli. Free.

**Sunday, December 23**  
• 8:50am - **Rambam Class.** Meeting. Jewish Center. 726 Rose Ave. Free.  
• 6-10pm - **Jazz Funk Fest.** Music. Talking Stick. Free.

**Tuesday, December 25**  
• 7-9am - **Christmas Dinner.** Food. Venice Basketball court. Free.

**Happy Christmas from the Free Venice Beachhead.**

**Wednesday, December 26**  
• 7-11pm - **Open Mic with Ellen and Peter.** Open Mic. Talking Stick. Free.  
• 9-1pm - **Comedy at the Townhouse.** Townhouse. 52 Windward Ave. Free.

**Thursday, December 27**  
• 7:30-9:30pm - **Telling True Stories.** Tale Spin. 302 Pico Blvd. \$10.  
• 8-1am - **Comedy at the Canal Club.** Canal Club. 2025 Pacific Ave. Free.

**Saturday, December 29**  
• 1-3:30pm - **Saturday Movie The Hunger Games, PG13.** AK Public Library. Free.

**Sunday, December 30**  
• 7-10pm - **Solange and Jim’s Comedy Show.** Talking Stick. Free.

**Monday, December 31**  
**Happy New Year from the Free Venice Beachhead.**

## Location Guide

- Abbot Kinney Public Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd, 310-821-1769.
- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd. 310-822-3006. [beyondbaroque.org](http://beyondbaroque.org)
- Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way, [marinadelrey.lacounty.gov](http://marinadelrey.lacounty.gov)
- Danny’s Deli, 23 Windward Ave.
- Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave, 310-306-1854 - [electriclodge.org](http://electriclodge.org)
- G2 Gallery, 1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd 310-452-2842.
- Hal’s Bar and Grill, 1349 Abbot Kinney Blvd., 310-396-3105 - [halsbarandgrill.com](http://halsbarandgrill.com)
- Oakwood Recreation Center, 757 California Ave.
- Pacific Resident Theatre, 703½ Venice Blvd. 822-8392 [pacificresidenttheatre.com](http://pacificresidenttheatre.com)
- SPARC - Social and Public Art Resource Center, 685 Venice Blvd. 822-9560 x15.
- Talking Stick Coffee Lounge, 1411c Lincoln Blvd. 450-6052 - [thetalkingstick.net](http://thetalkingstick.net)
- Vera Davis Center, 610 California Ave. 310-305-1865.
- Westminster Elementary School, 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd. (enter auditorium from Westminster Ave.) 310-606-2015.

## Ongoing Events

### COMPUTERS

- Abbot Kinney Public Library offers **Free Computer Classes.** 310-821-1769.
- Vera Davis Center offers **Free Computer Use:** M-Th 10am-12pm and 1-3pm; Friday 1-3pm.

### FOOD

- 12:30pm - **Free Food Distribution:** 2nd and 4th Thursdays. Vera Davis Center.
- **Sign up for Food Stamps (EBT Cards).** Call for date and time. 310-305-1865.
- 5-7pm - Mondays: **Hot Meals and Pre-packs.** 2-3:30pm - Saturdays: **Free Food Distribution.** 1st Baptist Church. Westminster & 7th.
- 8-10am - Sundays - **Food/Meals** at Ocean Front Walk near Rose Ave.

### KIDS

- 6:30pm -Abbot Kinney Public Library **Children’s Pajama Storytime.** 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings.

### FILMS

- 5:30pm - Abbot Kinney Public Library **Thursday Movie Night.** Call 310-821-1769 for title.
- 7-10pm - **7 Dudley Cinema** - First Thursdays at Beyond Baroque. Free.

### MUSIC

- 8pm-12am - **Hal’s Bar and Grill** features **Live Jazz** Sunday and Monday nights. Free.
- 8:30pm - **TKO Comedy’s “Open Mic”** for comics, musicians. 212 Pier. Free. Thursday nights.
- 12-2pm - Saturday & Sunday: **Music at Uncle Darrow’s.** 2560 Lincoln Blvd. Free.
- 5-9pm – **Venice Street Legends.** Venice Bistro, OFW & Dudley. Thursday nights. Free.

### MISCELLANEOUS

- 9-11:30am - Free theater reading series for senior citizens with PRT theater artists. Second tuesday of the month. Pacific Resident Theater.
- 9am-4pm - **Venice High School Flea Market.** Antiques, crafts, collectibles, toys, jewelry, cloths. 2nd Saturday of every month. 13000 Venice Blvd.
- 7-11am - **Venice Farmers Market.** Fruits, vegetables, flowers and coffee. Every friday. 500 North Venice Blvd.
- 7-10pm - MOM: **Meditations On Media.** 3rd Wednesdays. Beyond Baroque. Free.
- 11:30am-2:30pm – **The Venice Oceanarium** (a museum without walls). Venice Pier. Every Sunday, weather permitting. Free.
- 6-8pm - **McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading Club.** Lloyd Taber-Marina Del Rey Library, 4533 Admiralty Way. First Tuesday of the month. Free.
- 6-8:30pm - **Eco-Yoga.** 3rd Sunday of the Month. Church in Ocean Park, Hill & 2nd St. Bring a mat. Donation required.

### POETRY

- 8pm-12am - **Antonieta Villamil’s La Poesía Festival ¡en español!** and **Potluck Party:** Bring original poesia, cuento, música, pintura. First Saturdays. Beyond Baroque Library. Free.

### POLITICAL AWARENESS

- **Occupy Venice General Assembly** meets Mondays/Thursdays at 7pm. 1358 AKB. Free.



The 19th Annual Moby Dick reading on the beach, November 18, 2012. Organized by the Venice Oceanarium.  
Photo: Joe Stanford



*Dear Beachhead Readers,*

We just wanted to reach out as the end of the year is almost here, and if you're looking for things to donate to, please consider The Free Venice Beachhead. So many people came up and told us how much they love the Beachhead at the Abbot Kinney Festival, and so many people around the whole world look to it to keep up with this place that we all love, but not that many of you actively support it. We welcome financial donations (whether we have enough to print this ALL volunteer, ALL donation run, FREE to you paper every month is always up in the air, and as writers and creative types, it's not any member of the Collective's main skill set to be salespeople), ads placed by the businesses in our neighborhoods, volunteering your time to help deliver the papers, help fundraising, and writing articles and poems to submit so we can hear more from YOU, as this paper is about all of us in Venice. It would be a terrible shame to see this free press publication started in 1968 (HAPPY 44th Birthday, Beachhead!) no longer exist, just because of money, like is happening to so many other Venice institutions. Thank you for your support, truly, and a beautiful holiday season to each and every one of you!

All the very best,  
*The Beachhead Collective*



**From the Beachhead Collective**

Photo: Greta Cobar