Friend or Foe?

Food Trucks on Abbot Kinney Blvd.

By C.J. Gronner

So ... we all need to have a little chat. How do you feel about the Mobile Food Vendor trucks that swarm into Venice each First Friday (and lots of other days too, just not as many)? In talking to store owners, neighbors, FF revelers, and friends, there appears to be many mixed feelings about them. It’s an issue that’s getting pretty heated, so we need to address it and come up with positive solutions, instead of just freaking out about it.

First Fridays started as a way to drum up business when the economy started its downturn. It worked. Gone are the free wine and loud music for the locals days, but that jump start did the trick, and now you can barely move at the beginning of each month, as crowded as it is.

With the increased popularity of that night each month, word got out among food truck operators (beginning with the Kogi one, that currently has 61,729 Followers on Twitter!) and where there’s the “stick,” there’s the “carrot.”

Rosendahl’s “Carrot and Stick” means a knock on the door at 5 am

By Rune Girschfeld

In his April 14th letter, L.A. City Councilman Bill Rosendahl laid out his “carrot and stick” approach to people who are unlawfully sleeping in their vehicles on Venice city streets. He stated his goal is to “rid the streets of unsightly cars and campers that impact our quality of life.” He proposes a “measured, balanced, and humane” approach which would balance services and a Safe Parking Program, the “carrot,” with “aggressive” police enforcement, pursuing “whichever restricted parking measures are legally permissible,” the “stick.”

Rosendahl’s approach is far from “measured, balanced, and humane.” As someone who is a mobile-homed Venice resident, I have felt the stick. I have experienced first-hand the practice behind the presence. I wonder whether the “Residents” know what “aggressive enforcement” looks like? Aggressive enforcement is targeting the mobile-homed through the use of “sweeps.” It typically happens late at night, with no witnesses, just the police and their victims. I have personally experienced these sweeps, involving intimidation and outright threats of arrest, vehicle confiscation and other “legal” measures.

–continued on page 10

Settlement Reached in Overnight Parking Lawsuit

Negotiators for the Coastal Commission, the city of Los Angeles and Mark Ryavec’s “Venice Stakeholders Association” have reached a tentative agreement on a lawsuit concerning the Coastal Commission’s right to regulate overnight parking in Venice, according to Beachhead sources. Details of the closed-door negotiations have not been released. However, the Beachhead has learned that they most likely include housed residents being able to petition to ban “over-height” vehicles from their blocks from 2am - 6am. The height and length restrictions would likely be 22 feet long or 84 inches high, which would effectively prohibit RVs from parking. Housed residents could purchase a permit. Another element of the settlement would be taking three parking lots away from general overnight parking and reserving them for RVs. The three lots would be at Rose and Main, Windward and Pacific and in the center divider on Venice Blvd. at Pacific. The three lots would accommodate 52 vehicles. They would most likely be fee parking. North Beach residents protested against losing the Rose Avenue lot when overnight parking districts (OPDs) were being considered a year ago. Parking is difficult to find in this area which is mostly walk streets.

There may also be a fall-back agreement to allow OPDs (or one parking district for all of Venice) if the over-height restrictions do not work to the parties’ satisfaction.

In anticipation of the settlement, Assembly member Ted Lieu’s bill, AB2228 (see last month’s Beachhead), has been dropped. A Lieu representative, Jennifer Zivkovic, said that because of the settlement, the bill “was no longer needed.”

Councilmember Bill Rosendahl told the Beachhead he hasn’t seen the settlement yet, since he is not personally a party to the suit.

Venetians would have ample time to protest such a tentative settlement. It would have to be ratified by the Los Angeles City Council and be the subject of a hearing before the Coastal Commission. In addition, opponents of the settlement would be free to sue.

–continued on page 10

CASUALTIES IN AFGHANISTAN:
1,050 U.S. Dead
15 this month

IRAQ:
4,394 U.S. Dead - 9 this month
31,790 U.S. Wounded

Cost of wars: $988+ billion

You were expecting something larger?

New Myrna Loy statue unveiled April 10 at Venice High School. –see page 7

By Rune Girschfeld

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–continued on page 10
Beachhead Collective Staff: Karl Abrams, Greta Cobar, Don Geagan, C.J. Gronner, Roger Linnett, Lydia Ponce, Krista Schwimmer, Jim Smith, Erica Snowlake, Alice Stek

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 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 considered but your name will be withheld on request. No payment is made for material used.

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Council Member Rosendahl’s Letter on OPDs and the Venice Surplus Property Fund

Dear Friends,

I am writing to update you on one of the most contentious issues in Venice — the proliferation of homeless people living in cars and campers. For the last couple of years, I have been working on a two-pronged, “carrot and stick” strategy. My goal has been simple: through both enforcement and social services, rid our streets of the non-resident cars and campers that impact our quality of life. To be successful, we will need an approach that is measured, balanced, and humane.

In pursuit of this goal, I have fought for increased enforcement against vehicular living, and pursued establishment of Overnight Parking Districts (OPDs) that would ban non-residents from certain streets from 2 a.m. to 7 a.m. At the same time, I have been working to create a Safe Parking program, which would create designated areas where people living in vehicles could sleep lawfully, obtain counseling and social services, and begin the transition to permanent housing.

Last week, I introduced a council motion that would help fund the Safe Parking program — just as I identified funding two years ago to start the creation of OPDs. In the past, I have been working to create a Safe Parking program, which would create designated areas where people living in vehicles could sleep lawfully, obtain counseling and social services, and begin the transition to permanent housing.

The first motion allocates money exclusively from the Venice Area Surplus Real Property Trust Fund for: improvements to the LAPD Substation at Venice Beach, after-school programs at Penmar Park and the Oakwood Recreation Center, recycling bins at Venice Beach, additional staffing for Recreation & Parks at Venice Beach, facility improvements at Venice Beach, maintenance and steam cleaning of bathrooms at Venice Beach, and design and construction of a new park at Driftwood Avenue on the Marina Peninsula.

The second motion allocates money from the Venice Area Surplus Real Property Trust Fund and other sources for a Safe Parking program for Venice and Council District 13.

What is the Safe Parking program?

When we implement the OPDs, it is imperative that we also find a place for people to go, to give them an opportunity to move into housing or social services.

To do that, we need a Safe Parking program. It will be similar to successful programs in the beach communities of Santa Barbara and Eugene, Oregon. And it will be similar to the Safe Parking program that we have now in Harbor Area and Council District 11.

I am writing to ask you to join me in helping to pass this motion, which will fund the Safe Parking program. Thank you for your support.

How tall will I grow?

Often, I see folks asking this question about the OPD program, as if I have been watching the program from above. I have not.

The OPD program is a community program, and the community must be engaged in both its creation and its ongoing support. The OPD program is a community program, and the community must be engaged in both its creation and its ongoing support.

I am writing to ask you to join me in helping to pass this motion, which will fund the Safe Parking program. Thank you for your support.

Gardens of Gratitude

Dig It in Venice
By Joey Marie Soto

Last weekend 170 volunteers installed 66 edible gardens at neighbor’s homes, schools, businesses, churches and one rehab center. Gardens of Gratitude just had it’s second annual event. This group, founded by Sean Jennings, consists of committed community leaders with members who planned for two months leading up to the weekend. All over the West Side with many sites in Venice there were people helping people getting vegetables into the ground.

What a concept? Let’s get together to take back our health and community. It was such a fun way to work the event on Saturday and Sunday one can devote the whole weekend to the transition or simply an hour. I found it was nice to garden on Saturday, do a little on Sunday and then simply row around from one site to another. In a matter of hours we were able to visit five in one day. One of my favorite stops was the United Methodist Church with its skate ramp in the back and veggie garden along the sidewalk. This church and its Pastor’s garden!

Stroller White delivered seven loads of compost. “I loved hanging out with the people, their enthusiasm, their gratitude. It felt good being a part of this whole thing,” White said. He helped Aaron Nichols get his raised beds started by planting lettuces, tomatoes, strawberries, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, pepper, plant and squash. Aaron “felt super grateful for the free labor but really dug the connection of meeting like-minded people and watching the community coming together for a common goal, in service to one another. A dream come true!”

Sonia Pritzer, a Venice resident mentioned she was “overwhelmed by the volunteer turn out. I posted it on my Facebook, told my family, everyone supported the idea, but when it came down to the work this amazing group of volunteers showed up.” Sonia and her husband Jeffrey are happy their beautiful newborn was born in Venice and that their baby was wrapped in Venice’s most popular baby wrap, Venice Beach towels. Last year 14 people showed up to my home in Venice, with tools, ready to work. I kept it going and now I have been eating veggies all year long. This year last year’s event was installed. That is why I decided to get involved again this year! It has been an easy sell getting folks interested in the event. I have gotten support for all the support and interest. From the five sites to the after party, there was an overall feeling of pride and love. Together we made a difference, but we need to do it again! Please join us.

Arpoo Kaal organized a fundraising party that was held in Venice at the home of two lovely young female artists several weeks before the event. Having a large garden of their own, they decided to put a community garden on the sidewalk on Cabrillo. This gave many of us the idea to plan a series of garden parties in the future. There is talk about doing the main event twice a year. Imagine planting a nutritious garden on a Sunday afternoon instead of the usual barbecue and enjoying a pizza. We need to find other ways to sign up to volunteer and get your garden going today!!!

For more information please visit: www.gardensofgratitude.com
**A Labyrinth Grows in Oakwood**

By Krista Schwimmer

On a small lot next to the Bethel Tabernacle Church, corner of San Juan Avenue and 6th Street, there is now an ancient symbol marked on the earth itself. Found in a multitude of cultures as early as 4,000 years ago, this circular design invites you to pause, to look and to walk. With a symbolism that incorporates themes of life and death, inner revelations and communal gatherings, you could call it a thumbprint of the gods. Most people, however, call it a labyrinth.

Sometimes confused with a maze, a labyrinth is usually circular, with a unidirectional path to the center. There is one way in and one way out, with no tricks or dead ends like a maze. In the 1990s, labyrinths became popular once more. Suddenly, people wanted to build them, walk them and talk about them. As a result, you can find them in churches, parks, hospitals and private homes either as permanent fixtures or portable art.

Why build behind the Oakwood labyrinth? The trail begins with Venice Public Art and its project called “The Venice Corner Ball Park Projects.” The goal of this project, according to VPA’s website, is to transform underutilized or blighted street corners in Venice into unique landscaped parks with sculptural seating. Lead artist to the Corner Ball Park Projects is Robin Murez, a Venice artist whose studio is right on Abbot Kinney Boulevard. The Oakwood Labyrinth Park is one of the parks in Venice that Robin is working on.

The labyrinth brings community together. So, how has Venice responded so far? Robin says that the project has met with tremendous support, both from Venice at large and the immediate community. The Reverend Harold Smith, Pastor for the neighboring Bethel Tabernacle Church, agrees. He says he is overwhelmed with enthusiasm already with the kind of attention and attraction that this has brought his church. There were a few congregation members who were uneasy about it at first, wondering if the labyrinth was a sort of cultural thing inviting idolatry. “What we don’t understand, we don’t always make room for,” the Pastor said. Once his people understood how the community wanted not only to put in the labyrinth, but help them with repairs the church has not been able to afford, the few uncertain members were also convinced of its benefit.

Some cultures believe it is possible to reconnect with those who have died by walking a labyrinth. Maybe that’s why Robin moves out loud about the Irving Tabor home right down the street. Once the home of Abbot Kinney himself, he bequeathed it to Irving Tabor, his art director, chauffeur and close friend. Located on 1 Grand Canal (currently the Postal Annex), Tabor had to move the home to Abbot Kinney Boulevard.  The Oakwood Labyrinth Park is one of the parks in Venice that Robin is working on.

The Oakwood Labyrinth Park. By Krista Schwimmer

The group reaches the center of the labyrinth. This 2nd stage is often referred to “Illumination.” Here, you reflect and stay open to any inner guidance you may receive. Labyrinth photos by Krista Schwimmer

The past and present of the outside of the Bethel Tabernacle church. The building dates from 1927. One member of this aging congregation recalls it was first a dance hall. It has been used as a church now for over 50 years. Fitting with the time period and the structure, the church has been painted in traditional, craftsman style colors. Past and present, the outside of the Bethel Tabernacle church. The church has been used as a place for a visitor to rest.

The group reaches the center of the labyrinth. This 2nd stage is often referred to “Illumination.” Here, you reflect and stay open to any inner guidance you may receive. Labyrinth photos by Krista Schwimmer

Whatever the future holds for the Oakwood Labyrinth, there is little doubt that its creation and its birth already have brought this community together. C’mon out May 1, from 10 am to 5 pm, and join the community in celebrating the birth of the Oakwood Labyrinth Park.

**Neighborhood Council Final Election Results**

By Jim Smith

Venice voters elected two women April 11 - Linda Lewis and Carolyn Rios - to lead its neighborhood council for the next two years. Both are long-time activists in Venice and have held office in the VNC. On the other hand, a relatively unknown candidate for Land Use Committee Chair, Jacob Kaufman, eked out a victory of 19 votes over Adam Glick. The big question leading up to the election was whether Mark Ryavec, a candidate for vice president and Jim Hubbard, who was running for president, could parlay their support for Venice overnight permit parking districts (OPDs) into success in the election. In spite of a flyer from Ryavec that was distributable all over Venice, with only a coupe of days before the election, their hoped-for-borides did not turn out at the Oakwood Recreation Center’s polling place. Both Hubbard and Ryavec ran as write-in candidates (what were they thinking?). In the end, efforts by some of their supporters to portray Lucks and Rios as irresponsible and inexperienced failed as even some OPD supporters told the Beachhead that they were voting for the two women.

The hotly contested at-large community officer positions, with 29 candidates battling for 13 slots, resulted in a mostly new crew who will take their seats at the June 1 meeting. Only three of the 13, Ira Koslow, Cynthia Rogers and Kris Valentine are incumbents. Mariana Aguilar, the top vote getter, and write-in Scott Kramich were recommended by Ryavec. Another write-in, Peter Thottam, who is also running for state Assembly, was elected to an at-large position. Ivonne Guzmán, a former supporter of humane treatment of homeless people, had the second largest number of votes after Aguilar, who is her ideological opposite. Whether the write-in provision of opinion on OPDs will carry over to other issues remains to be seen.

Amanda Seward, who was strongly recommended by the Beachhead, won with 72 percent, the most decisive victory of any candidate who had ballot opposition. Except for three close calls, all other candidates recommended in last month’s paper won.

Other victors who had little or no opposition included: Marc Saltzberg, outreach officer; LA County Har- rison, treasurer; Joe Murphy, secretary; and Brennan Linder, communications officer. All are incumbents except for Lindner. Former president Mike Newhouse will now become the non-voting president emeritus.

Diversity took another beating in the final results. Only nine of the 21 who were elected are women. Two of the 21 are Latinos, and only one is African American. It may not be entirely the fault of the voters that the new board is so white and male. When voters were allowed to vote for more at-large candidates, the board was much more diverse. When the by-laws were changed to prevent voters from voting for more than one of the 14 (now 13) at-large candidates, the result was disastrous for women, African-Americans and Latinos.

Here are the final results:

Total voters: 1225

**PRESIDENT:** Linda Lucks - 719 66% - Jim Hubbard - 378 (write in)  VICE PRESIDENT: Carolyn Rios - 649 61% - Mark Parade - 421 (write in)

**LAND USE COMMITTEE CHAIR:** Jacob Kaufman - 367 55% - Adam Glick - 348

**OUTREACH OFFICER:** Marc Saltzberg - 634 92% - Anthony Perez - 53 (write in)


**FACTUAL BASIS COMMUNITY OFFICER:** Amanda Seward - 555 72% - Therese Dietlin - 110 - David Brash - 102

UNOPPOSED: Treasurer - Hugh Harrison - 646; Secretary - Joe Murphy - 666; Communications Officer - Brennan Lindner - 587

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**State Assembly Candidates Respond to the Beachhead’s Questions**

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<tr>
<th>Beachhead’s Questions</th>
<th>LISA ANN GREEN <em>Green Party</em> Venice Organic Product Creator</th>
<th>NICK KARNO <em>Democrat</em> Venice Prosecutor/Environ mental Advocate</th>
<th>JAMES LAU <em>Democrat</em> Venice Environmental Education/Nonprofit Administrator</th>
<th>EDGAR SANEZ <em>Democrat</em> El Segundo Congressional Deputy/Attorney</th>
<th>DIANE WALLACE <em>Democrat</em> Manhattan Beach Educator</th>
<th>MITCH WARD <em>Democrat</em> Manhattan Beach Educator</th>
<th>NATHAN MINTZ <em>Republican</em> Hermosa Beach Systems Engineer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Why should voters in Venice, specifically, support your candi dacy?</strong></td>
<td>We must change our behavior and recognize that the same old “business as usual” approach isn’t going to position us for the future. I represent a path to building a green economic strength in balance with our natural resources.</td>
<td>As a long-time resident of Venice, a member of Venice Neighborhood Council, and co-chair of the Environmental Committee, and knowing that without support, Venice is truly home to a lot of a clean environment.</td>
<td>I have lived in the 33rd for nearly all of my adult life. I support this Chamber of Commerce. As Director of the California League of Conservation Voters and someone whose fam ily has had a well-known local business (Groundwork Cof fee), I have always been committed to improving our com munity.</td>
<td>I have lived in the 33rd for nearly all of my adult life. I sup port this Chamber of Commerce. As Director of the California League of Conservation Voters and someone whose family has had a well-known local business (Groundwork Coffee), I have always been committed to improving our community.</td>
<td>As Mayor of Manhattan Beach I view my job as focusing on solving local problems. Many of the Venice area share with me the feeling of a disconnect from downtown Los Angeles’ government. I will work very hard to immediately establish an open and accessible form of communication.</td>
<td>As a long-time resident of Venice, a member of the Chamber of Commerce. As Director of the California League of Conservation Voters and someone whose family has had a well-known local business (Groundwork Coffee), I have always been committed to improving our community.</td>
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<td><strong>2. Ted Lieu has introduced AB 2228 in the As sembly. It would ban overnight parking by RVs, regardless of the Coastal Com mission’s position on it. If you were voting, would it be yes or no?</strong></td>
<td>No, I will not support AB 2228 or any at tempt to make the Coastal Commission less effective under the people’s requests to protect, preserve and retain coast ac cess for all.</td>
<td>I support other means to achieve the RV’s. We need to make it easier for police offi cers to enforce our existing law that makes lodging in a vehicle on residential streets illegal, rather than create an oppor tunity for developers to dismantle Envi ronmental laws.</td>
<td>As currently written, I would oppose AB 2228 primarily be cause it circumvents our authority to address local issues.</td>
<td>This is an issue that is more complex by legis lation. The solution is to first talk to the residents to clearly identify local communities with no legal issues. No legislation is needed yet.</td>
<td>I would vote NO. As a matter of fact I have already acted locally with the city of Los Angeles’ Beach City Council regarding the over sized vehicles. I intro duced the local meas ures to ban discus sion to ban boats and large RVs in the city several months ago.</td>
<td>I would vote no. I believe that local communities should have the right to choose what’s appro priate for them, not the state, particularly on matters that are most relevant locally.</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>3. Do you support or oppose the “Tax Can na bis 2010” initia tive on the N ovember ballot for Assembly Bill 2254? Both would ease pro hibition of mari juana.</strong></td>
<td>Tax Cannabis 2010 is a step in the right direction. The current system is arguably the safest medically therapeutic regula tive substance (not with out one death in 5,000 years on record).</td>
<td>Climate change is the most serious threat our planet has ever faced. I will use my time to make clear the only possible solution to the climate crisis and water shortage.</td>
<td>According to recent polls, it is highly likely the Tax Cannabis 2010 initiative will be approved by voters before I take office. Once adopted by the voters, I will support implementa tion of the legislation.</td>
<td>Support. This is a step towards de criminizing marijuana. However, I also would support additional measures should address “driv ing stoned.”</td>
<td>I would support these measures. I believe the tax revenues generated from the sale of mari juana market are part of the solution to the state’s budget woes.</td>
<td>I feel that drug abuse is a problem, not a government issue. So I support efforts to toughen our laws and redirect funding coming to the state from the federal govern ment.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4. What are your top proenvironmental priorities, if elected?</strong></td>
<td>Shift to organic farming/ecologically sustainable agriculture that conserve water, soil and energy with a minimum of pollution. Fully de regulat ing the growth and use of industrial hemp.</td>
<td>Jumpstart green technolo gies and provide incentives for all businesses to jump start the manufacturing of green technology. Designate the Ballona Wetlands as a state park to ensure the preservation of this valuable ecosys tem.</td>
<td>According to recent polls, it is highly likely the Tax Cannabis 2010 initiative will be approved by voters before I take office. Once adopted by the voters, I will support implementa tion of the legislation.</td>
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<td><strong>5. With the recession, depression more people are being homeless. What would you do as a member of the Assembly to provide housing services and jobs for this popula tion?</strong></td>
<td>We could build affordable housing and remove nonviolent homeless and mentally ill indi viduals out of our current public health system and into housing our communi ties.</td>
<td>Climate change is the most serious threat our planet has ever faced. I will use my time to make clear the only possible solution to the climate crisis and water shortage.</td>
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<td><strong>6. The state of California is nearly bankrupt. Do you believe in raising more revenue or cut ting services? If the former, would you increase taxes on corporations and the wealthy?</strong></td>
<td>Let’s get immediate needs addressed first. Remove all laws criminalizing homelessness. Get re sources, increase access to public bath rooms, provide storage facilities for personal belongings, and allocating public funds to the grass-roots organizations.</td>
<td>We can only cut our way out of our budget mess.</td>
<td>My first priority is to stabilize the Budget. Many pro grams need financial support.</td>
<td>If appropriate, declare the homeless should be considered as a public health issue.</td>
<td>I would support these measures. I believe the tax revenues generated from the sale of mari juana market are part of the solution to the state’s budget woes.</td>
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<td><strong>7. If elected, will you establish an office in the Venice/Mar Vista area? Will you hold regular town halls to gather input from your constituents?</strong></td>
<td>My office will be located in Venice. I will always be part of and available within my community and throughout the dis trict. I hold one of the people, never once, always equal to all life, including my loving and caring Green planet Earth.</td>
<td>We simply cannot cut our way out of our budget mess.</td>
<td>The State loses be tween $50 and $100 billion every year because of the underground economies. It is imperati ve for us to rein in. I will vote for measures that will generate revenue for necessary services.</td>
<td>I support responsible local management. There are ways to reduce expenditures without cutting services.</td>
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**Cast My Vote on June 8th**
## Congressional Candidates Respond to the Beachhead's Questions

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<th>JANE HARMAN Democrat Torrance Congresswoman</th>
<th>MARCY WINOGRAD Democrat Marina del Rey Educator</th>
<th>HERBS PETERS Libertarian Carson Retired Aerospace Engineer</th>
<th>ANDREW SHARP Republican Long Beach Consultant</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Do you favor a</td>
<td>I favor immediate steps to withdraw our</td>
<td>I agree with Ron Paul on this question - we</td>
<td>NO - we must reduce spending. Today the</td>
<td>I will work to reduce Federal taxes.</td>
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<td>withdrawal of U.S.</td>
<td>forces from both Iraq and Afghanistan,</td>
<td>should establish an amendment.org of both</td>
<td>government is spending about $5 billion</td>
<td>Spending on schools, health care &amp; other</td>
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<td>troops from Iraq</td>
<td>as well as end the air wars on Iraq,</td>
<td>Iraq and Afghanistan as soon as possible.</td>
<td>per year MORE than it takes in. Government</td>
<td>needed services should be at the State</td>
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<td>and Afghanistan?</td>
<td>Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Yemen. We</td>
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<td>funding of schools is similar to ineptitude.</td>
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<td>If so, when?</td>
<td>should engage in diplomatic efforts,</td>
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<td>Housing, health care and jobs creation are</td>
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<td></td>
<td>rather than multiply</td>
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<td>private sector functions.</td>
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<td>our enemies with perennial wars and</td>
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<td>occupations.</td>
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<td>2. Will you work to</td>
<td>Cut our bloated military budget to</td>
<td>It's the wrong thing to do. Climate change,</td>
<td>The global climate has been changing</td>
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<td>shift funding from</td>
<td>transition to a war economy to a new green</td>
<td>including global warming or cooling, are</td>
<td>throughout its history. We see natural</td>
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<td>the military to schools</td>
<td>economy to a new green economy. Put</td>
<td>natural phenomena brought about by the sun.</td>
<td>environmental change with the Ice-</td>
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<td>and health care,</td>
<td>America back to work in productive</td>
<td>Cap and trade is yet another effort to</td>
<td>land volcanos. We need a clean &amp; safe</td>
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<td>job creation, and</td>
<td>we must invest in new transportation for</td>
<td>create more government.</td>
<td>environment.</td>
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<td>other needed services</td>
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<td>1) Roll back the Bush tax cuts for the</td>
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<td>rich 2) Cut the bloated military budget</td>
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<td>and end the squandering of our</td>
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<td>resources on perpetuation 3) Impose fees</td>
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<td>on Wall Street stock trades 4) Invest in</td>
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<td>a New Green Deal.</td>
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<td>3. How important do</td>
<td>It is imperative that we take dramatic</td>
<td>Government attempts to solve these significant</td>
<td>The recession/depression is largely a result</td>
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<td>you believe it is the</td>
<td>steps to stop global warming before our</td>
<td>problems is counterproductive and wrong. The</td>
<td>of bad government actions over the last</td>
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<td>to end global climate</td>
<td>coastline erosion and famine sweeps to</td>
<td>recession/depression is largely a result of</td>
<td>112 years; such as needless wars, excessive</td>
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<td>change? What do you</td>
<td>across Africa. We must invest massive</td>
<td>bad government actions over the last</td>
<td>taxation and regulation.</td>
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<td>propose?</td>
<td>resources for wind and solar energy,</td>
<td>112 years; such as needless wars, excessive</td>
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<td>building mass transit, and conserve</td>
<td>taxation and regulation.</td>
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<td>energy while building local communities.</td>
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<td>4. With the recession</td>
<td>Repeal the 2005 bankruptcy bill, which</td>
<td>Government attempts to solve these significant</td>
<td>The Federal government should set the</td>
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<td>depression more people</td>
<td>my opponent Jane Harman support-</td>
<td>problems is counterproductive and wrong. The</td>
<td>economic environment for a thriving economy.</td>
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<td>are becoming homeless.</td>
<td>helped home-</td>
<td>recession/depression is largely a result of</td>
<td>This would create jobs and people could</td>
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<td>What would do as a</td>
<td>owners facing foreclosure. Expand</td>
<td>bad government actions over the last</td>
<td>provide their own housing, not the government.</td>
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<td>member of the Congress</td>
<td>affordable housing, apprenticeship</td>
<td>112 years; such as needless wars, excessive</td>
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<td>to provide housing,</td>
<td>programs and job training for those</td>
<td>taxation and regulation.</td>
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<td>services and jobs for</td>
<td>laid-off.</td>
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<td>this populatio?</td>
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<td>5. What is your</td>
<td>I would have voted for the health</td>
<td>The Federal government should set the economic</td>
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<td>position on the new</td>
<td>insurance reform legislation. I would</td>
<td>environment for a thriving economy. This would</td>
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<td>Health Care Act? Do</td>
<td>continue to push for provisions for states</td>
<td>create jobs and people could provide their</td>
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<td>you favor government</td>
<td>wishing to enact single-payer health care</td>
<td>own housing, not the government.</td>
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<td>programs such as</td>
<td>. Allow anyone to opt to in Medicare for a</td>
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<td>the public option,</td>
<td>reasonable fee.</td>
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<td>extending MediCare</td>
<td>I have signed the “repeal it” Pledge. As</td>
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<td>and/or single payer?</td>
<td>already claimed, anytime we ask the</td>
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<td>government to do for us, costs go up! I</td>
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<td>believe that the Churches and Private</td>
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<td>Charities will be there to help the poor.</td>
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<td>I would vote to repeal it. Health care</td>
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<td>should be managed at the state level.</td>
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<td>That way each state can make the best</td>
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<td>choices for its needs.</td>
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<td>6. How would you</td>
<td>Your Street, not Wall Street. Preserve</td>
<td>Who are the rich? One group, the government</td>
<td>The Propositions on the June Ballot</td>
<td></td>
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<td>reverse the ongoing</td>
<td>our neighborhoods and enrich our</td>
<td>employees are paid double the private sector</td>
<td>Prop. 13 – Seismic Retrofitting – YES</td>
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<td>income shift from the</td>
<td>communities: 1) Roll back the Bush tax</td>
<td>salaries and tor and produce little or nothing</td>
<td>Prop. 14 – Top Two Primaries – NO</td>
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<td>poor to the rich that</td>
<td>cuts for the rich 2) Cut the bloated</td>
<td>for this poor community 3) Impose fees on Wall</td>
<td>Prop. 15 – Public Funding of Elections – Yes</td>
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<td>has caused widespread</td>
<td>military budget and end the squandering</td>
<td>Street stock trades 4) Invest in a New Green</td>
<td>Prop. 16 – Thirds-vote requirement for local</td>
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<td>spread poverty and</td>
<td>of our resources on perpetuation 3)</td>
<td>Deal.</td>
<td>public electricity providers - NO</td>
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<td>excessive salaries</td>
<td>Impose fees on Wall Street stock trades</td>
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<td>Prop. 17 – Car Insurance - NO</td>
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<td>and bonuses?</td>
<td>4) Invest in a New Green Deal.</td>
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<td>Recommended by Americans for Democratic Action,</td>
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<td>Who are the rich? One group, the</td>
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<td>Southern California Chapter</td>
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<td>government employees are paid double the</td>
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<td>private sector salaries 2) The bankers</td>
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<td>group are the bankers behind the Federal</td>
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<td>Reserve System. Both are supported by</td>
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<td>Federal taxes.</td>
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<td>To shift funding from military to</td>
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<td>schools, housing, jet exhaust pollution,</td>
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<td>7. If elected, will</td>
<td>and excessive military spending</td>
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<td>you establish an</td>
<td>of Angelenos.</td>
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<td>office in the Venice/</td>
<td>Your Street, not Wall Street. Preserve</td>
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<td>Mar Vista area? Will</td>
<td>our neighborhoods and enrich our</td>
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<td>you hold regular town</td>
<td>communities: 1) Roll back the Bush tax</td>
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<td>halls to get input on</td>
<td>cuts for the rich 2) Cut the bloated</td>
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<td>your constituents?</td>
<td>military budget and end the squandering</td>
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<td>of our resources on perpetuation 3)</td>
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<td>Impose fees on Wall Street stock trades</td>
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<td>4) Invest in a New Green Deal.</td>
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<td>I plan to email all who wish to receive</td>
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<td>emails; I would share what is going on</td>
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<td>in Washington.</td>
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<td>I would also have at least an annual –</td>
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<td>Venice hosted – town hall meeting.</td>
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<td>I would offer the same for the other</td>
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<td>cities in the district.</td>
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<td>I will have a minimum of 6 town hall</td>
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<td>meetings a year! I would have an office</td>
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<td>that would work to serve the whole</td>
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<td>district.</td>
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**Free Venice Beachhead • May 2010 • 5**

Three candidates for Congress responded to the Beachhead’s questions. Unfortunately, incumbent Jane Harman was not among them. Even so, we have provided her with our version of the empty chair. These are excerpts from the candidate’s sometimes wordy answers. To read the full responses, go to www.freevenice.org/candidates.html

### The Propositions on the June Ballot

**Prop. 13 – Seismic Retrofitting – YES**

**Prop. 14 – Top Two Primaries – NO**

**Prop. 15 – Public Funding of Elections – Yes**

**Prop. 16 – Thirds-vote requirement for local public electricity providers - NO**

**Prop. 17 – Car Insurance - NO**

Recommended by Americans for Democratic Action, Southern California Chapter
Nearly half of Venice homeless have serious health problems

St. Joseph’s Center has released a one-year update on its health vulnerability report on Venice homeless people. The study has been expanded to include those living in vehicles. Interviews show that 31 percent had been housed in Venice before becoming homeless.

Last year, St. Joseph’s surveyed 222 people living on Venice streets and determined that 44 percent of them were medically vulnerable. Medical problems included frostbite/hypothermia from exposure (20 individuals), cirrhosis/end stage liver disease (15), end stage renal disease or dialysis (10), HIV/AIDS (2), more than three emergency room visits in last three months (66), and the dreaded tri-morbid, that is, simultaneous psychiatric, substance abuse and chronic medical conditions (75).

This year’s report included those living in vehicles, and surprisingly showed a greater proportion, 46 percent, were medically vulnerable, that is, had a high mortality risk. The sample size was smaller, just 48 individuals. The new report found that only 2 percent of veterans living in vehicles receive Veterans Administration benefits. But 40 percent of those interviewed reported being the victim of a violent attack since becoming homeless. Slightly more than 30 percent received some income from social security programs, while nearly 15 percent earned payments for recycling cans and bottles.

Jack Herer, a former Venice resident, who is credited by many with starting the Hemp movement, died from heart failure on April 15 in Eugene, Oregon. He had suffered a serious heart attack the previous September only moments after treatment, died from heart failure on April 15 in Eugene, Oregon. He had suffered a serious heart attack.

St. Joseph’s survey contradicts those who have the image of homeless people as outsiders who are a threat to the better off population. In addition to the exposure to the elements that comes with homelessness, they are also coping with serious medical and mental conditions, while fending off harassment from police and irate homeowners.

In light of this report, those who advocate a “carrot and stick” approach to men, women and children, including the seriously ill, should think twice about their hostility and change their policy to a “carrot and care” approach.

You can view the St. Joseph’s report at: http://tinyurl.com/29zan7

--Jim Smith

Poetry Bomb Goes Off in Venice

A real bomb filled with explosive poetry began a nationwide tour at Beyond Baroque, April 25. The bomb, now named Elsie, is a brainchild of poet S.A. Griffith.

It began life as a 100-pound Vietnam era weapon. Griffith obtained it about two years ago and enlisted help to begin extensive remodeling of the interior and painting and stripping of the exterior. As word of the bomb leaked out, letters with poems began arriving from around the world. The kickoff event in Venice ensured that poems by Venetians would be well represented. Among those attending were well-known poets including Frank T. Rios (who set fire to a poem in honor of The Lady), Ellyn Maybe, Michael C. Ford, Lynne Bronstein, Richard Modiano, Susan Hayden, Linda Albertano and Yvonne de la Vega.

Griffith says more than 400 poems are now in the bomb and that he anticipates another 400 being added at stops around the country. Submissions by email are now closed.

The first poem he received was from a veteran in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. It is a haiku: Ex Marine/contemplates Nagasaki/atop Mt. Fuji.

Griffith says he has been looking for a bomb to remodel for five or six years. His dream of a Poetry Bomb Tour became a reality April 28, when he climbed into an old Ford Econoline Van and set off with the bomb for a 55 day trek to coffee houses around the country. Learn more about the Poetry Bomb on Facebook.

Even with only preliminary findings, the St. Joseph’s survey contradicts those who have the image of homeless people as outsiders who are a threat to the better off population. Instead, an image emerges of a physically ill group who are often the victims of violence in the community.

In addition to the exposure to the elements that comes with homelessness, they are also coping with serious medical and mental conditions, while fending off harassment from police and irate homeowners.

--Jim Smith

Jack Herer, Emperor of Hemp, dies

“He was the king who put hemp on the map,” says Boardwalk vendor Jingles. “We would set up our booths next to each other back in the 80s.” Jingles, who still has a “meat is murder” booth on Ocean Front Walk on weekends, and Herer’s hemp booth were both colorful and bigger than is allowed under the current regulations. Jingles recalls that Herer had an apartment right off the Boardwalk. One day, undercover police did a sting operation on him at his apartment. They asked to buy some pot and when Herer agreed, he was arrested. In spite of their friendship, Jingles was critical of Herer’s eating habits. “He would eat anything. Herer’s eating habits. “He would eat anything.

“Emperor of Hemp, dies

“Emperor of Hemp, dies

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--Jim Smith

Herer became widely known with the publication of his book about hemp, “The Emperor Wears No Clothes.” Sub-titled “Hemp and the Mariuana Conspiracy,” it ultimately sold more than 600,000 copies and earned Herer the appellation “Emperor of Hemp.” For more information, visit www.jackherer.com, which is being maintained by his wife, Jeannie.
Chains Be Gone

Three years after a boycott was begun by Venice Unchained as part of a campaign to keep chain stores off Abbot Kinney Blvd., Pinkberry, at 1410 AKB, has thrown in the towel.

The Pinkberry franchise owner, Patrick Cheh, will not be going broke. He owns ten other Pinkberry stores, more than anyone else.

Venice Unchained’s boycott was helped by the opening of a locally owned store, Nice Cream, next door. The store often has a line of customers while Pinkberry has been lonely except on weekends when more tourists are in the area.

In addition to the Pinkberry boycott, Venice Unchained has promoted an ordinance, with Councilmember Bill Rosendahl’s support, that would prohibit “formula retail” stores in the central Venice area. Except for one hearing on Feb. 20, 2008 at the Westminster Auditorium, it has been languishing in the L.A. Planning Dept. Planning staff say this is due to a lack of funding and staffing in the department. Perhaps the Pinkberry victory will create pressure on city government to get moving.

“I’m delighted the owner finally understood the boycott was not going away,” said Dawn Hollier, who with Melissa Bechtel founded Venice Unchained. “I think other chain stores should see this as a cautionary lesson if they are thinking about coming to Abbot Kinney,” she added.

About a year ago, another chain store, The Coffee Bean, gave up its Venice roost in mid-lease at the corner of Windward and Pacific, just across the street from a popular local hangout, Cafe Collage.

In its July, 2004, issue the Beachhead ran a front-page photoshopped picture by Eric Ahlberg of Abbot Kinney Blvd. with chain stores, including Taco Bell, Starbuckcs and Dominos replacing local stores.

See VeniceUnchained.org for more information and see Ahlberg’s nightmare vision of Abbot Kinney Blvd. at http://tinyurl.com/2v98guw

–Jim Smith

The Return of Myrna Loy

Nearly 1,800 Venetians and former Venetians turned out at Venice High School, April 10, to see the new statue, Inspiration, better known as the Myrna Loy statue, unveiled. Most were alumni of the school who had spent their years of study near the old cement statue which suffered from 70 years of vandalism and the elements, and ultimately fell apart. The new bronze statue was the fruit of years of fundraising by the alumni association. It will not be white like the previous statue - in fact, it is already turning green - but should last much longer.

A short program moderated by Laura Ferre, alumni president, included cheerleaders and band members and featured a parade of principals and ex-principals (no teachers or students), actor Beau Bridges (class of ’59), top donor Peter Schwab, and an introduction of the sculptor Ernest Shelton. Oddly, no representatives of Venice organizations or institutions were invited to speak. For more information, visit the alumni website: www.venicehighalumni.com.

Ferre says she doesn’t expect the new statue to suffer the vandalism that befell the old one. “We do not intend on any kind of cage or railing around the base of the statue. We have built the pedestal hopefully high enough, and narrow enough so that it will not be accessible to stand on,” said Ferre. “We have layered the plants around her to keep everyone as far away as possible. The lights at night on the buildings light her up fully. And...we have 24 hour video surveillance on her,” she added.

Myrna would have enjoyed the attention!

–Jim Smith

Photos this page by Jim Smith
THOUSANDS OF CALIFORNIANS MISSING

—From the News

By Margot Pepper

Sacramento, Calif. — César Chávez Day came and went without acknowledgment from most mainstream print media of a Chávez-inspired 365-mile March that lasted 48 days and culminated in thousands of Californians converging upon the State Capitol April 21. Wave after wave of union workers, educators, students and parents demanded funding for basic public services that citizens in developed nations expect for their tax dollars, such as functioning schools, roads and parks.

The route was twenty-five miles longer than the one originally led by César Chávez in 1966 from Delano to Sacramento to protest growers’ deliberate spraying of striking farm workers with lethal pesticides. “Most of the farmworkers’ energy was focused on the grape boycott. At its height, more than 14 million American workers helped by not buying grapes. The pressure was irresistible, and the Delano growers signed historic contracts with UFWOC in 1966,” observed PBS film-maker Rick Tejada-Flores in the Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas.

The recent March for California’s Future began in Bakersfield on March 5 with the aim of safeguarding the future of California’s students, the infirm and elderly, and to protest the severely deteriorated quality of life of the majority of Californians. The core group of marchers that reached the finish line included a San Diego college professor, a Los Angeles probation officer and a Bay Area community organizer. They endured rain and heat, slept in churches, schools and RV parks, according to Lori Abbott (FNS) in the San Jose Mercury News.

While mention of the march can be found on the web at the Huffington Post and KPBS, the San Jose Mercury News was the only established print media outlet that followed the story in any depth.

Before Governor Schwarzenegger’s latest cuts, California ranked 47th in the nation per pupil spending. Now critics predict it will be closer to 49th. Adult schools, the last safety net for those who “have been left behind” are being closed throughout the state, increasing the likelihood of more costly incarceration, noted Berkeley Adult School Educator Lynn Kalmar at Wednesday’s rally. Among other cuts to parks and public services affecting children, the poor and elderly, the governor has threatened to eliminate the state’s in-home Supportive Services Program employing 65,000 of the state’s in-home care workers and jeopardizing the lives of the disabled they care for. Yet this is “the richest state in the richest country in the world,” says the Berkeley Federation of Teachers. The math doesn’t add up.

According to AlterNet’s David DeGrave, “The poorest one-fifth of the population pay more than 11 percent of their income in taxes, whereas the top 1 percent earning an average of more than two million dollars a year, are paying about seven percent.”

Over the last sixty years, the federal income tax level levied on those earning more than $400,000 has dropped nearly 20 percent from 91 percent to 70 percent, according to a recent report by the Institute for Policy Studies.

Apparently, not everyone in our nation is suffering from the recession. DeGrave points out that the United States has the highest inequality in the industrialized world. According to Forbes, the first full year of the economic crisis, the wealth of the 400 richest U.S. men increased by $320 billion, bringing their total combined wealth to $1.56 trillion, which is more than the combined net worth of 30% of the U.S. population. “We are all members of a divine play. The Hindus call it Maya. They should know something, they’ve been around for a long time.”

And so, the only problem we really have is the challenge we face in getting to know and realize our essential, spiritual nature. Subjective meditation is the way. AUM is the Word and mantra.

Peace.

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LESS THAN 80K RUNS
70 DODGE/CS

by Rich Mann

Swami X photo

Swami X Speaks

just trying to make a little clever conversation to entertain you, ‘cause I love you.

Everyone loves everyone, however, many are confused inside with unadaptable belief systems, which results in anti-social behavior and murder in all the degrees. The truth is, if we may, that murder and everything is essentially spirit, and inevitably returns to that Absolute Supreme Spirit, called by any name you wish. We are co-creators with the Supreme Creator, until we become One with the Absolute Supreme Creator. We are all members of a divine play. The Hindus call it Maya. They should know something, they’ve been around for a long time.

And so, the only problem we really have is the challenge we face in getting to know and realize our essential, spiritual nature. Subjective meditation is the way. AUM is the Word and mantra.

Peace.
Moon Sphinx

the moon sphinx
devours its shadow
at dawn
as it sets under the heavens.
it does not declare its intentions
beforehand.

no one is at a loss
regardless
as it rejuvenates itself endlessly.

—— erica snowlake

Ode to My Soul

My soul is
a farmer dressed in
muddy overalls.
He is standing
leaning over his hoe
pointing at a row
of perfect, delicate
bib lettuce:

“Look,” he calls to me,
“look at the seeds
you once planted.
And I, I have tended
faithfully. Don’t
turn away
from your past.
It is growing, growing
into a divine and
sumptuous feast.”

—krista schwimmer

Conspiracies Debunked

By Jim Smith

I don’t believe in UFOs
except the ones on the moon.

I don’t believe Bush knew
about 9/11, but Cheney did.

I don’t believe Oswald was a pasty,
the CIA doesn’t kill people.

I don’t believe in mind control,
ever seen it on TV.

I don’t believe in chem trails in the sky,
a Happy Meal is all I need.

I don’t believe in parasites in the brain,
I’m actin’ crazy because it’s fun.

I don’t believe the world will end
in 2012, it’ll be much sooner.

13:33 Thursday, April 15, 2010, inside the Talking Stick....Bi-polar world, two sides to the same coin, I might as well just go ahead and join. What difference does it make? Let us adjourn, just re-attack both halves and be reborn. This hybrid combination of two parts is two-toned, hemispheric, and alerts The separation to the binary T'wun universes, alternate and free. Pygmalion resurfaces, imports Dichtomy of purpose. How it hurts To sense this perforation. Should I mourn? Have I been so affected as to burn purpose. How it hurts To sense this perforation.

Is There No Justice?

“Sure it makes perfect sense. Import the breadfruit from Tahiti To feed slaves in Jamaica. Cheaper than bananas. If slaves must eat at all. Makes sense to import Slaves from Africa. Train them to drive The red nautives from this land. A century later we send the black men. And the red men To kill the yellow men in Asia. We play chess And the world is full of our little dolls. Our motto is: From each According to what we need To each. According to what we choose.

“And it makes sense To those of us who run the machine To keep the best for us And mete out the rest in tiny segments To the ones who bear the weight. Money is earned By those who love money. Those who rule. Desire their pay for ruling. And can our pleasure be denied us? We are exhausted from our struggle To lead the ignorant flecks. Excuse us our foibles in Vegas. Yes we’ve heard our employees Live through evictions And debts and unpaid medical bills. But they are not deserving. Had they been meant to earn money They would be earning it. It makes sense to us. The poor are poor Because it is their destiny.

“There are winners And there are losers. If you are one of the losers Don’t cry to us. What helps us to keep winning Is that we promulgate the notion That you can become as we are. And win. The truth is You never can. We won’t let you And your losing keeps us rich.

“Justice? Why do you ask? What is that word? Is there no justice? Of course there is. Like any commodity It is always paid for. Medieval millionaries Did not burn at the stake. The moneyed ones Never hung from a rope or a cross. It makes perfect sense. At least to us.”

So they said. So they said.

And one being, with an active mind. Stomped upon and almost crushed to the ground. Felt the wind of another world Entering her almost broken frame. Bringing the revival. And from what miracle she could not know She began to grow. She raised her head. Threw up her arms. Like two branches. Her arms grew wide And her hands formed fists That clenched the air, Pulling her clear from the wreckage. Dealt her by the talking pride machines. Up and she threw. That wreckage. The machines Crumpled, pushed back, Cracked, whimpered, as she dealt them Then she said: “It makes perfect sense! Our lives, our creed Make perfect sense! What are you doing? Help us, don’t hurt us. We’ll change! We’ll give you what you want. Only. Let us go. Don’t crush us. How Can you do this to us?”

She pushed them hard. They did not die But they did not shine. Left alone, feeble, unable to move, Unable to touch the millions Left alone, feeble, unable to move, Unable to reach the millions. At last freed from their interminable excuses. The machine: “It makes perfect sense! Our lives, our creed Make perfect sense! What are you doing? Help us, don’t hurt us. We’ll change! We’ll give you what you want. Only. Let us go. Don’t crush us. How Can you do this to us?”

Is A Poem

—Lynne Bronstein

On The Beach

I blew into my bottle, because I wanted to hear the horns of the ships. Then I drank the entire Atlantic Ocean with my straw.

—Virta Vida
**Food Trucks on Abbot Kinney**

The Health Department Inspector I spoke to said that with 14,000 registered vehicles to keep up with (never mind the as many as 28,000 others operating illegally), it’s a near impossible job to enforce it (legally or physically). Eight trucks were shut down for Health violations at the March First Friday, and there is no need for food for food trucks (yet), but the Bathroom Letter is really the only weapon those opposed to them have to brandish. Those new customers throw their trash on the ground (in the city)! They create a Carnival atmosphere – pro AND con.

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They bring new customers to Abbot Kinney – pro. With them came a buck to be made ... they will come. With them came a buck to be made ... they will come. With them came a buck to be made ... they will come. With them came a buck to be made ... they will come. With them came a buck to be made ... they will come.

Those have been a big and important part of the Venice life they want to punch the rude truck worker out. An atmosphere - pro AND con.

Only a few of the residents are involved in running the “gourmet” taco to get inside, and waiting for their “gourmet” taco to get inside, and waiting for their “gourmet” taco to get inside, and waiting for their “gourmet” taco to get inside, and waiting for their “gourmet” taco to get inside.

Some of my friends love the new trucks. Many of them abhor them. I personally feel like I do about Christmas business: I would love to fit in to Venice. I bothered me to see a Pizza slice truck parked a half block away from Abbot’s Pizza Co., who have served up their delicious slices for years and years.

It is the flashy (some corporate) new ones that we’re talking about here. They are put off by the mobile-homed are more concentrated, typically on the near side of the business. It concerns me that with 14,000 registered vehicles to keep up with (never mind the as many as 28,000 others operating illegally), it’s a near impossible job to enforce it (legally or physically). Eight trucks were shut down for Health violations at the March First Friday, and there is no need for food for food trucks (yet), but the Bathroom Letter is really the only weapon those opposed to them have to brandish. Those new customers throw their trash on the ground (in the city)! They create a Carnival atmosphere – pro AND con.

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**Rosendale’s Letter to the Community – continued from page 2**

The program will serve the entire 11th District, and we hope will populate the City to accommo- date we will have lots in other parts of the district, as well as in Venice. Money from other sources will be used to help fund the program in the non-Venice parts of CD11.

The purpose of the Safe Parking Program will be to provide parking in their vehicles, and our residential streets, into a service continuum, and eventually into housing. Our intention is to demonstrably reduce the number of people living in their cars in Venice and in CD11.

**What is the Venice Area Surplus Real Property Trust Fund?**

The trust fund, established in the 1970s, contains monies collected from the sale of surplus city proper- ties in Venice. The money has restricted uses, and can be spent only on those projects that benefit Venice and the entire City. In the past, the fund has been used to renovate Venice Beach, rebuild the pier, rehabilitate the Canals, and fund Balboa Pier, build the LAPD substation, create public art, create additional parking spaces, fund programs for at risk youth, and pay for the initial studies to create OPDs...

Still, the Venice monies can be spent only in Venice. How can you use this money for this purpose?

The money from the Venice fund is only one of many sources that will be used to be pay for the Safe Parking program. There are other accounts that can be used for district wide or citywide pro- grams, and we are also going to aggressively seek money from grants and other levels of government. LAHSA itself will bring resources to bear for the pro- gram. The money from Venice will be commensurate with the services provided in Venice, and the number of vehicles from Venice neighbor- hoods that are involved and into the program. Leftover monies from Venice will revert back to the Venice property fund.

*Does this mean that the Safe Parking Program will be in effect on First Fridays, or?” Won’t this attract people living in their cars to Venice?*

*The program will serve the entire 11th District,* and *we hope will populate the City to accommodate we will have lots in other parts of the district, as well as in Venice. Money from other sources will be used to help fund the program in the non-Venice parts of CD11.*

The purpose of the Safe Parking Program will be to provide parking in their vehicles, and our residential streets, into a service continuum, and eventually into housing. Our intention is to demonstrably reduce the number of people living in their cars in Venice and in CD11.

*Why don’t you use the money to hire more cops for Venice or for CD11?*

*Venice is getting more police. I am pleased to report that between the end of April and Memorial Day Weekend, the Venice Beach detail will be aug- mented by 36 additional officers.*

We are all in favor of no one who has no need of services.

Rosendale’s “Carrot and Stick” means a knock on the door at 5 am

meant to induce fear, nearly every month, the most recent occurrence on April 13th, the day before Ro- sendahl’s letter. The police target everyone within an area where the mobile-homed are more concentrated, typically streets that are not heavily residential. Sleeping citi- zens are ordered out of their mobile homes. They are put off balance with rapid-fire questions. They are lied to and told they must answer questions; that the police “know” the names of those people who have been sleeping in their cars. First, there is the pending lawsuit with the Coastal Commission over jurisdic- tion so that the Overnight Parking Districts can be used to for enforcement. Second, there is his move to amend the Oversized Vehicle Ordinance to give even more people a chance to live inside a vehicle that can be “cleaned” from the streets of Venice. I don’t under- stand what is happening with parking restrictions to help combat vehicular living? As you may know, I supported the creation of Overnight Parking Permit Districts, and funded our application for those districts before the California Coastal Commission approved it. Rosendale’s goal to rid the streets of certain ve- hicles is riddled with negations of the humanity and dignity of those whose homes are vehicles. Rather than “residents” of Venice, they are “non-residents,” who are not recognized as citizens, nor by the legal, logical, and human repercussions. Even the metaphor of “carrot and stick,” is demeaning and dehumaniz- ing. Rosendale’s goal to rid the streets of certain ve- hicles is riddled with negations of the humanity and dignity of those whose homes are vehicles. Rather than “residents” of Venice, they are “non-residents,” who are not recognized as citizens, nor by the legal, logical, and human repercussions. Even the metaphor of “carrot and stick,” is demeaning and dehumaniz- ing. Rosendale’s goal to rid the streets of certain ve-
**CommUnity Events – day by day**

**Location Guide**

- Abbot Kinney Public Library, 501 S Venice Blvd, 821-1769.
- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd. 822-3006.
- Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way; Marina del Rey. marinadelrey.lacounty.gov
- Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave, 306-1854, max10@electricleodge.org
- Good Hurt, 12249 Venice Blvd. www.goodhurt.com
- Hal’s Bar and Grill, 1349 Abbot Kinney Blvd., 396-3105 - www.halsbarandgrill.com
- Oakwood Recreation Center, 757 California Avenue.
- Pacific Resident Theatre, 703 1/2 Venice Blvd. 822-8392, pacificresidenttheatre.com
- SPARC - Social and Public Art Resource Center, 685 Venice Blvd. 822-9560 x15.
- Talking Stick Coffee Lounge, 1411 Lincoln Blvd. 450-0852 www.thetalkingstick.net
- United Methodist Church and Auditorium, 2210 Lincoln Blvd. (at Victoria).
- Unurban Coffee House, 3301 Pico Blvd Santa Monica.
- Vera Davis Center, 610 California Avenue.(310) 305-1865. Fax 305-0146.

**Ongoing Events**

- 12-2pm - Thursdays - Blues at Uncle Darrow’s featuring “Joe Banks and Friends” 2560 Lincoln Blvd. 310-306-4862. Free.
- 11am to 4pm - December 1 thru May 30. Skateboard Evolution & Art Exhibition. Admission 8, kids under 12 free. California Heritage Museum, 2612 Main St., Santa Monica.
- 6-8pm - McNab-Finnegans Wake Reading Club. Lloyd Tabor-Marina Del Rey Library, 4533 Admiralty Way. First Tuesdays of the month. Free.
- 7:30pm - Los Angeles Monthly Review Discussion Community Room, 2500 Broadway. Meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Free.
- Free Arts programs for middle school youth! Contact Inside Out Community Arts to register. Lauren Deck, 310.397.8807x109. Inside Out Community Arts, Venice Center for Peace with Justice and the Arts, 2210 Lincoln Blvd.
- Venice Library Movie Night. Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm. Each month different theme. Call 310-821-1769 for the upcoming movie.
- Venice Library Children’s Pajama Storytime. Second and fourth Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm.
- Free Food Distribution at Vera Davis Center. Every Friday. 3pm.
- Free Meals. Bring your own plates and utensils. Dudley and Ocean Front Walk. Daily. 4pm. Also fresh vegetables distribution. Fridays. 5pm.

**Support Your Local Nonprofit Newspaper**

The Beachhead Calendar is a public service to the community of Venice. Our goal is to list free events within Venice. If you charge for your event, please consider taking out a $25 or larger advertisement.

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**Saturday, May 1**
- 8am-Noon - Pancake Breakfast at the Venice Fire Dept., Venice and Shell. $5.
- 10am-5pm - Venice Garden and Home Tour of Oakwood, Palms and Milwood starting at 804 Broadway. Benefiting Los Dorados Children’s Center. Advance $60, Day of $70. venicegardentour@ca.com
- 8-10pm - Mike Dorf playing Guthrie/Dylan-esque American Folk; 8:30pm - The music of Scott Weiland. Talking Stick. Free.

**Tuesday, May 4**
- 7-10pm - 7 Dudley Cinema presents The Shoo Flies. Talking Stick. Free.

**Wednesday, May 5**
- 7-10pm - Veronica Lario presents “Talking Stick.” Talking Stick. Free.

**Thursday, May 6**
- 7-10pm - “Mother’s Day Bakesale.” Downtown Los Angeles. Broadway and 9th.
- 7-10pm - “Blue Grass, Folk, etc.” The 805 Blues.

**Friday, May 7**
- 7-10pm - Tango & Swing.” Talking Stick. Free.

**Saturday, May 8**
- 10am-4pm - Machado Day - Venice’s first owner! Tour the Centinela Adobe and learn the Machado family history. 7634 Midfield, L.A.
- 11am-1pm - It’s for the time when you book the Kizmarr Brunch. Talking Stick. Free.
- 1-3pm - Bake a peace pie and donate it to the Code Pink Mother’s Day Bake sale! OFW and Windward.
- 7-10pm - “Drop in for the fantastic Gracias Nostrum.” Talking Stick.

**Sunday, May 9**
- 7-10pm - “The Enzymes” with guests. Talking Stick.

**Monday, May 10**
- 6-10pm - “Documental” shows “The Folk Singer.” Killer blues film at the Unurban Coffeehouse. Free.

**Tuesday, May 11**
- 7pm - Film premiere “Madcap Mabel” about Mabel Normand. Venice Historical Society, Venice Library.
- 7-10pm - “Musical Goodness” hosted by Danny Moynahan. Talking Stick. Free.

**Wednesday, May 12**
- 7:30-10:30pm – Suzy Williams at Danny’s Deli in Venice.

**Thursday, May 13**
- 7-10pm - Sing Along String Night with Tracy Newman and the Reinforcements. Talking Stick. Free.

**Friday, May 14**
- 5-6:30pm - Music by David Dodson. Talking Stick.

**Saturday, May 15**
- 11am-7pm - Blair featuring Tom Gramlich and Mystic Miles. Talking Stick. Free.

**Monday, May 17**
- 6 and 8-10pm – 7 Dudley Cinema presents Amore Ali & Blues Films at the Talking Stick. Free.

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**Get Your Local Event Listed**

Email your time, date and a brief description to Calendar@freevenice.org by the May 20th.
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