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BEACHHEAD

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MAY, 1975 NO. 65

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FLUORIDATION FRAUD

VOTE NO MAY 27

By Terry Donahue

On the 27th of May, the citizens of Los Angeles will have to vote on the most important issue in the history of this city. I'm talking about the fluoride issue on the ballot.

What is fluoridation? Fluoridation is the addition of sodium fluoride to the public water system, usually at the rate of one part fluoride for every million parts of water (1ppm) by weight.

What is Fluoride? Most notably, fluoride is a poison. According to the National Academy of Sciences (1971), "...fluoride has been used as an insecticide for the control of cockroaches, lice, grasshoppers, cutworms, silverfish, and other chewing insects." Fluoride has also been used as a pesticide for the control of mice, rats, and other small pests. For humans, one tenth of one ounce is fatal.

Now 1ppm is very little when compared to one tenth of one ounce. However, fluoride is a cumulative poison. It stays on your body, and consumption of more fluoride increases the amount of fluoride in your body.

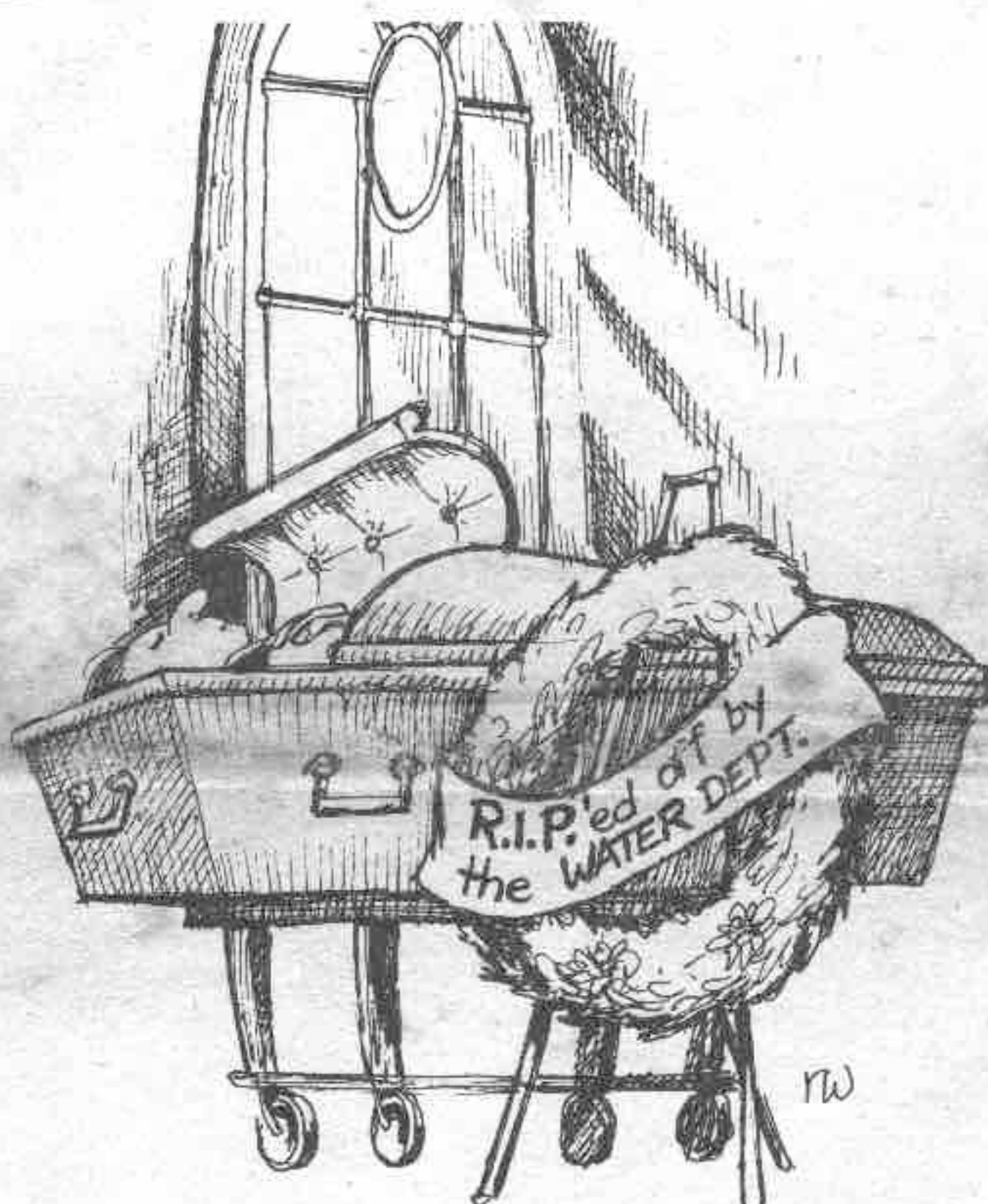
The following is an excerpt from California Law: Business and Professional Code, Chapter 9, Division 2, Pharmacy Law (Sections 4160 and 4161), Article 7: Poisons. Section 4160: "Poison means and includes the compositions of the following schedules: Schedule 'A': a) Arsenic compounds and preparations; b) Cyanides and preparations, including hydrocyanic acid; c) Fluoride soluble in water, and preparations. Section 4161: Fluoride cannot be sold or given away unless it is labeled POISON.

Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, drugs containing sodium fluoride are classified as dangerous poisons and cannot be sold without bearing the legend: CAUTION: FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITS DISPENSING WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION.

According to the Journal of the American Dental Association of October, 1944, "...fluoride causes developmental disturbances in bones such as osteosclerosis (hardening of the bones), and goiter (the enlargement of the thyroid gland)."

Fluoride has drastic effect on the kidney. Once in the kidney, fluoride creates a condition that WILL lead to ulceration of the kidney and acute nephritis (the kidney becomes soft and enlarged).

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CANCER DEATH RATE HIGHEST IN FLUORIDATED CITIES

(Survey of cities with population over 1,000,000)

CITY	WATER ¹	CANCER DEATH RATE ²
1. Baltimore	FLUORIDATED	34% higher
2. Philadelphia	FLUORIDATED	27% higher
3. New York	FLUORIDATED	24% higher
4. Cleveland	FLUORIDATED	22% higher
5. Detroit	FLUORIDATED	20% higher
6. Chicago	FLUORIDATED	18% higher
7. Los Angeles	NON-FLUORIDATED	0% AVERAGE
8. Houston	NON-FLUORIDATED	27% lower

BY Art Lassner

The following statistics were compiled from Government Reports and released by the National Health Federation (Monrovia, Calif.) Twenty five large U.S. Cities that have been fluoridated have the highest cancer death rate. For an example, Baltimore, Maryland (fluoridated since 1952) has a 34% higher (than national average) cancer death rate, plus one of the highest tooth decay rates. About 90% of their cancer deaths were due to cancer of the gastro/intestinal tract, these are the organs that are initially exposed to the fluoridated drinking water. Mouth and tongue showed 44% increase, esophagus 72%, stomach 45%, large intestine 40%, rectum 80%, gastrointestinal tract 51%, kidney 17%, bladder and urinary 38%, female breast 21% and ovary 19%. Also, the Cities that have been fluoridated the longest have the highest heart mortality rate, such as Antioch, Wisconsin, who reported a higher increase in heart deaths beginning shortly after the fluoridation of their water system when autopsying the corpses in the above mentioned cities, they found terrifically high fluoride content in their bones and tissues, up to 5500 ppm (fifty five hundred parts per million). Conclusion: Fluoride causes cancer and increases cancer cells, and when the proponents tell you of the "Health Benefits" it is strictly on the theory that the "Big Lie" told often enough begins to be believed. And believe it Venetians they've proved it in almost half of the U.S. already.

The worst of all is the fact that the undernourished, underprivileged and those in poor health will be hurt most by water fluoridation.

MINING THE SILVER STRAND

By Moe Stawnezer

About 70 years ago the part of the Venice Peninsula known as the Silver Strand was subdivided, on paper, into over 300 lots. This land lies on the east side of Ballona Lagoon -- also known as the Grand Canal -- between about Jib St. and the Marina Channel.

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was made public regarding this piece of land last August and ultimately approved by the City Council in mid-April. It had to do with the installation of a network of roads and sewers for the subdivisions of the Silver Strand. The EIR concluded that there would be no bad environmental impact on the Lagoon or the surrounding land if the roads and sewers were installed. That's probably true. But people don't just put in roads and sewers for the fun of it and this innocent-sounding project is no exception.

What they really want -- and they are called the "Isthmus Land Owners Assoc. Inc." and Howard Hughes, who owns about 20 lots in the area -- is to build 361 luxury homes on the Silver (maybe it should be Golden) Strand. What's luxury, you ask?

Well, the lots, without a thing on them, are now selling for \$40,000 each. Imagine what they'll cost when there's a house -- or anything for that matter -- on them! Imagine what these "simple" single family homes will do to already inflated property taxes in the Venice community. It should come as no surprise that the Marina Peninsula Property Owners Assoc. -- most of whom oppose the completion of the bikepath along the peninsula beach, favored the Anchorage St. Assessment District, and the old, now discarded, Canals Project -- are very much in favor of the Silver Strand project.

The project also envisions the possibility of "finger canals" instead of walk streets to accommodate boats. It seems obvious that these boats won't be the canoes and rafts we now see going up and down the canals. The City of Los Angeles reacted to this entire proposal with its usual sensitivity. It told hardly anybody! A few people heard about the EIR and even fewer got to see copies of it. A number of people from Venice responded to the EIR, mostly telling the City that for one reason or another, it was both inadequate and inaccurate in finding that the proposed project would have no environmental impact on the area.

The EIR went so far as to suggest that the project would have a positive economic effect on the Venice Community but spoke mainly of the Washington Square shopping center (remember Alan Radford and his heli-port) instead of property taxes and increased rents.

In typical fashion the Public Works Committee of the L.A. City Council, chaired by one of Venice's biggest fans, Louis Nowell, held a public hearing on this project but did not notify those people who had responded to the original EIR. Of course, the respondents found out about the proceedings and demanded another hearing before the Public Works Committee. And equally of course, it wasn't granted. Instead, on April 8th a hearing was held before the L.A. City Council. The Council (including Councilperson Russell, who said that "We can't stop the world to make new plans", an obvious reference to the City-sponsored Venice plan restudy which is now going on and to which Ms. Russell has appointed all the committee members. Wonder what Ms. Russell really thinks of citizen participation in the planning process?) delayed final action for a week because of some legal

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by Steve Clare and Elizabeth Elder

Dear Beachhead:

The Venice Educational Opportunity Center needs textbooks dealing with Basic English Grammar, Compositions, Reading, Vocabulary, Basic Math, Algebra and Geometry, which are on a High School Senior level, or a College Freshman level. If anyone in the community has such books around gathering dust, please donate them to:

Venice E.O.C.

611 5th Avenue Bungalow 1

Venice, California 90291

This is the location of the Venice Skills Center. We especially need English 3200 and Basic Arithmetic.

Many thanks,
Patrick J. Smith
E.O.C. Counselor

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(continued from page 1)

No woman who is pregnant should drink fluoridated water because the kidneys are taxed enough from pregnancy without the addition of fluoride poisoning. Eight percent of pregnant women show a change in the kidneys consisting of anemia (a deviation in the blood cells to carry oxygen) and urinary symptoms of albuminuria (a protein deviation which feeds cancer cells).

The adrenal glands are found just above the kidney. They control the functions of the thyroid gland, pituitary gland, and the pancreas. Fluoride has a damaging effect on the adrenal gland by inhibiting the production of their hormonal factors.

Research has clearly shown that fluoride is a major factor in the formation of cholesterol, which causes hardening of the arteries and arthritis.

Sodium fluoride and water form hydrofluoric acid, which in any concentration of continued use, could cause ulceration of the mucous lining of both the stomach and intestine. This drastically decreases the amount of calcium the body absorbs.

Calcium is needed to combat the formation of cancer cells. ALL cases of cancer show a marked decrease in the calcium level.

In 1974, the American Cancer Institute revealed some extremely horrifying facts. Of the major cities in this country, with a population of over one million, six had fluoridated their public water systems as early as 1952. Of these six cities, the rate of cancer cases was anywhere from 18% to 34% higher than the average for the rest of the cities which had a population of over one million.

Why is there a drive to fluoridate our water? Because fluoride is BIG BUSINESS. It is the waste fluoride from fertilizer plants that is used as the fluoridating agent in most of America's fluoridated water, including the cities of Chicago, Detroit, Long Beach, and New York.

Initially it was the aluminum companies that advertised in medical trade journals that they had "pure" sodium fluoride for fluoridation. This fluoride was also a waste by-product of the aluminum factories. When the fertilizer companies could sell their waste hydrofluosilicic acid cheaply to the cities for fluoridation, the aluminum companies were priced out of the market.

Sodium fluoride sells at between 20 and 30 cents a pound. At this time, there are 200 MILLION pounds of fluoride stored throughout the country.

Fluoride is a Madison Avenue dream. It has not been proven to prevent cavities. It has been proven to harden bones. The question you must ask when you vote on May 27th is, is cancer or another bodily deviation worth experimenting with a known poison? Is the POSSIBILITY that your teeth will stay free from cavities worth your death?

We have been duped by BIG BUSINESS into believing that our social and sexual lives will be nil unless we have pretty, clean teeth. The time has come for consumers to stand up for our rights. Tell BIG BUSINESS to stay away from our health by voting NO, NO, NO, to fluoride, a poison.

Most of Europe has already banned fluoride, in any compound. Countries where fluoride is banned are; Austria, Denmark, Holland, France, Greece, Italy, Sweden, and nine other countries.

We must make the same stand in Los Angeles, and then join to inform our brothers and sisters in the rest of the country as to the illness and death causing effects of fluoride.

P.2

In the January 1975 article titled "The Speedy Kid's Diet," points were made exposing, to some extent, the seemingly endless contamination of food with artificial sweeteners, flavorings and preservatives. The harm that these foreign ingredients may cause had certainly not been more than barely elucidated. As a pediatrician who cares for hyperkinetic children, it is my strong feeling that hyperkinesis is not caused by these substances and is not significantly influenced by these ingredients. Although it is possible that a small percentage of children present like hyperactive children, while in reality only manifesting a similar symptom complex because of the food or additive allergy, the vast majority still have inexplicable etiology for their problem.

Until the cause is clarified, treatment should rest mainly in providing a school classroom structure and special education to accommodate these children's special needs. Family counseling is also essential in minimizing the input to which these children seem to overreact to. Judicial use when necessary of medication as an agent to therapy is essential and is still one of the most important tools the physician has to care for and provide the optimum learning potential for these children. Lastly, decreasing, not because of hyperkinesis but rather as a good general health measure, the intake of artificial flavoring ingredients or preservatives in the diets of not only hyperkinetic children but in all our children.

Kenneth Keer, M.D.

community plan

PROVISIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE VENICE COMMUNITY PLAN

1. To coordinate the planning of Venice with that of other parts of the City of Los Angeles, as proposed under the Los Angeles City General Plan, and with adjacent portions of the Metropolitan Area, including Santa Monica and Marina Del Rey. The Plan must be responsive to the needs of all the citizens of the City of Los Angeles, but nothing should be planned which is to the clear disadvantage of the Venice Community.
2. To Preserve and enhance the existing "low density" residential character of Venice and maintain the variety and distinctiveness of its life styles, small businesses and artisan activities.
3. To maintain and restore the available housing stock where possible and appropriate.
4. To actively seek out and encourage adequate resources and methods, public as well as private, for increasing the supply of standard housing for low income persons residing in Venice.
5. To eliminate and prevent the spread of blight and deterioration and to conserve, rehabilitate and restore the various parts of the Venice Community as needed.
6. To provide a guide to an orderly and balanced development of Venice, designating and generally locating adequate lands for each of the land uses and public facilities comprising the development of the area, in the quantities and densities required to accommodate future population and activities projected to the year 1995.
7. To acquire and preserve open space, giving due consideration to private property rights, and develop recreational areas for the enjoyment of both local residents and persons throughout the Los Angeles region.
8. To utilize public and private programs at all levels to assist in solving the physical, social and economic problems of the Community.
9. To provide an integrated, balanced transportation system, which through all available public and private modes meets the service needs of the community and recreational needs of the surrounding area without the undue widening and realigning of streets.
10. To improve the public transportation.
11. To promote the economic health, convenience and general welfare of the Venice Community by:
 - A. Encouraging adequate and appropriate development of the full range of needed retail, service, office and industrial facilities without detriment to adjacent land uses of other types.
 - B. Making provisions, to the extent possible, for places of employment for Venice residents within their own community.
12. To make provision for the location and programming of public services and utilities adequate to supply the future needs of the community.

Humor revolving around exploitation, sexual objectification and violence is nothing new - better to find it in the Free Press than the Beachhead. Whizzy Lumpy is offensive to many women and men in Venice. A lot of shit we're struggling to work out of our heads is the subject matter of the strip. But rather than facilitating our growth, we find it a painful reminder of where we're really at.

Whizzy's loneliness is better understood as alienation. Men particularly grow to become genuinely crippled. We're incapable of identifying, let alone expressing, the full human range of emotion which, somewhere buried beneath the shit, we feel. We're cut off, unable to love, and when we do reach out, how perverse and twisted is its common expression. Whizzy is no cartoon. It's hard for men to be tender. Our touching is sexual. Our loving is romanticized. Our lovers are love objects, projections of our own fantasies, not real people worth loving as they are. And when the romance fades? Whizzy no doubt will feel bitter and cheated, just as men and women feel bitter when we are left with relationships, often marriages rooted only in domination and need, lacking mutual respect and genuine appreciation of our partner's human value.

And how does this all fit together? What could possibly be the purpose of all this shit that Whizzy so aptly exemplifies? It maintains and helps perpetuate this whole rotten, alienating system. The authoritarian nuclear family structure, the oppression of women and children, repressed and distorted sexuality are necessary to keep the whole show going. Capitalists couldn't make a profit if they had to pay women to reproduce and care for the work force Capitalists exploit. People not raised to accept authority would resist such exploitation. Genuinely loving, life-oriented people would not tolerate Imperialism's death trip.

Nothing we say or do is unimportant. Everything we are and experience matters. Whizzy is not an innocuous cartoon. In its own small way Whizzy works against our liberation.

FREE VENICE. FREE WHIZZY. FREE THE "FREE" WORLD.
FREE OURSELVES.

Elizabeth Elder, Tita Caldwell, Barbara Avedon, Moe Stavner, Marge Buckley, Rick Davidson, Marvina Kennedy, Pat Pope, Keith Kroeger, Judy Graybill, Sandy Clemente, Bob Wells, Steve Clare, Ed Pearl, Patrick Greenfield.

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issues. In other words they had to decide whether or not the public had been adequately notified and whether the EIR had really addressed the major environmental issues like increased population density, traffic problems, air and water pollution -- let alone social and economic impact -- as is required. The Council had little trouble dispensing with those considerations when the time came for a vote.

The whole thing must come before the Coastal Commission before a road can be put down or a sewer dug. The So. Coast Commission has recommended that the land east of the Ballona Lagoon (the Silver Strand) be preserved as open space in the form of an aquatic park about 40 feet wide. The City has collected from 1/2 to 1 million dollars, depending on which meeting of the Venice Town Council you heard Sharon Kaplan speak at, for the purchase of park lands in the Marina Peninsula area. By the usual route of condemnation and acquisition the City could easily purchase this land for the benefit and enjoyment of the public. It will be indeed interesting to see if the City elects to follow this course or if it opts to back the monied interests on the Peninsula leading us to another battle with our elected representatives at the Coastal Commission and, possibly, in the courts. You'll be kept informed as it all happens.

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urban farms & gardens

3.

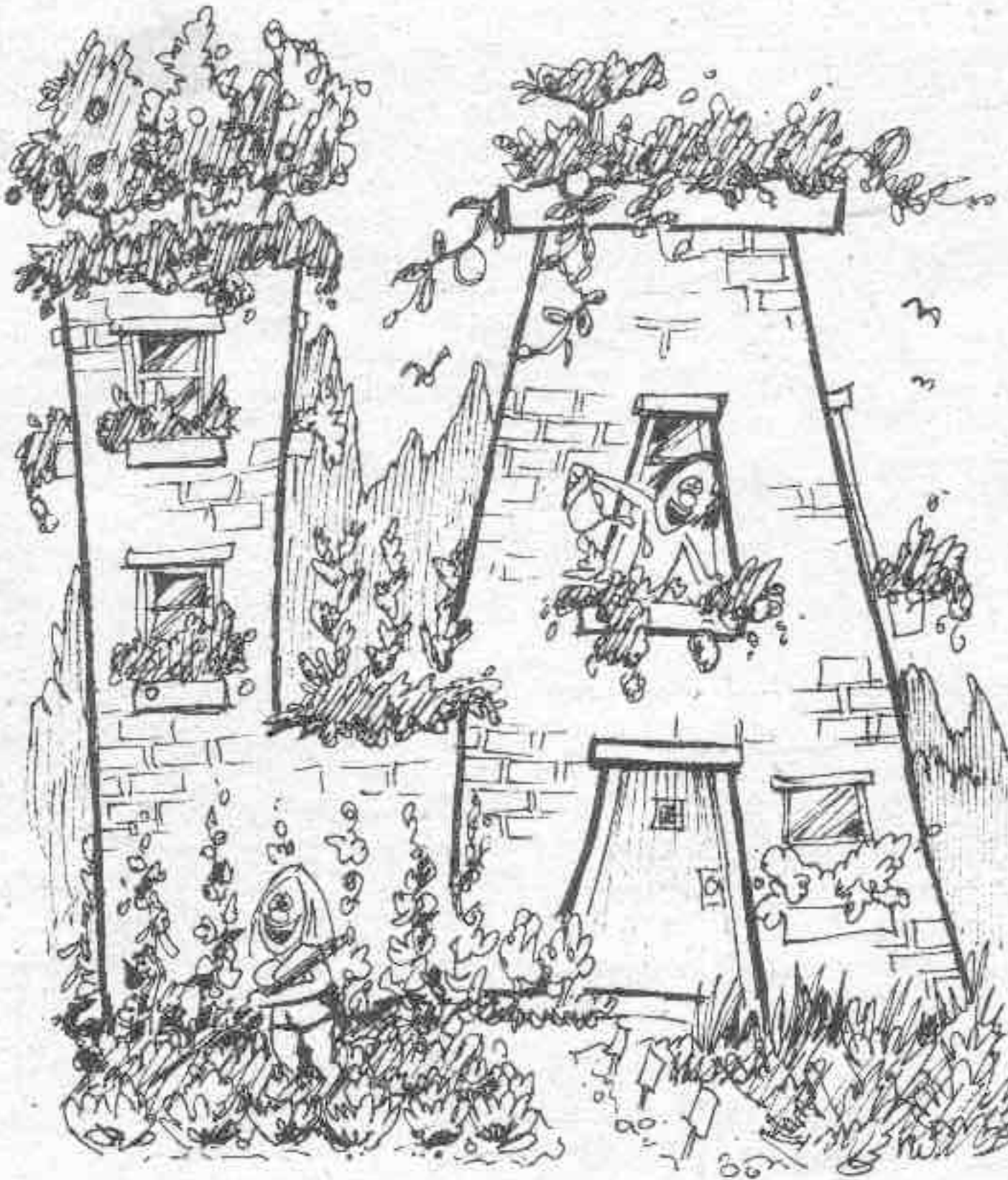
By the North Beach Planning Task Force

The City of Los Angeles, always looking for new ways to spend money, has stumbled upon a giveaway program in which Venetians might be more than tokenly interested. Mayor Bradley recently determined that it would be nice if the City encouraged, indeed helped, citizens start their own farms and gardens. They could grow some of their own food, pretty up the neighborhoods, clean up vacant lots, keep off the streets. Whatever excuses could be found for it would do just fine.

Certainly any excuse is just fine for Venice. There's plenty of vacant land sitting around waiting for speculators to build on it, gathering up trash, running up property tax bills for its owners. And there are plenty of Venetians into growing things in the earth. The formula is there, and the weather's getting better.

What the Los Angeles Urban Farms and Gardens Project proposes to do is provide local garden clubs, community groups, cooperatives and whomever with all the assistance they need to get small backyard gardens, medium sized vegetable ranches, several-acre farms, orchards, multi-national agri-corporations and what-have-you into operation.

The City is willing to provide assistance in finding a plot of land, preparing it, making sure water is available, supplying nutrients and seeds, technical assistance, fences, tools, combines, silos, plows and whatever else is necessary for you to show a major income deficit from farming on your 1975 income tax forms.



"bi-cans" are very inefficient because the two metals must be separated which is expensive. Plastic, as it is understood by us, should be "forgotten about." Because there are over 300 different kinds of plastic, each must have its barrel. Do you have a place for 300 barrels? Of course this is not good enough for us, so we'll not forget about 'em. For right now, no plastics. Dealers will take Styrene and Propylene. Do you have any ideas on what to do with plastics? Still over all, the best container is a returnable glass jar or bottle.

To have a clean environment we cannot rely upon the workings of bureaucracy, but must do it ourselves. Therefore, to stop the destruction of the environment that supports us, we will have to take a new look at our day-to-day living habits -- and then change them. Recycling our present "garbage" is just a step towards seeking new ways of life that keep us in harmony with nature. Most of the materials that we are recycling need not and should not have been produced in the first place! The more we run out and buy those tasty, exciting, costly snacks, candies & convenience foods, the higher the ultimate pile of trash to be disposed of in a sanitary land-fill.

To get going in the right direction, Ron, Jo Ann & Roger (the writers of this here article) are endeavoring to provide a neighborhood recycling center/service. Right now limited to Area 6 (the Central area), we are just starting so the quantities of materials are only enough to fill a pick-up and a van. We have arranged to have Bob Harris (who lives in the canals and takes care of all recycling in that area and possibly a larger area) take all the stuff we collect. If Bob is too busy we take the recyclables to the Ecolo-Haul bins located on Stewart & Olympic in Santa Monica. The idea is to RECYCLE. A local center for Venice would be perfect. We need a place to put it. (A recycling center is opposed to be in a M-2 zone.) Have any ideas??? The closest thing to a recycling center in the Venice area is the "token" recycling center run by L.A. It's located at 3237 Thatcher in Marina del Rey. Open only on Sat. 9-5. Until a place can be found, we would like to start a neighborhood collection route. Once or twice a month a truck will go around and pick up the recyclables. It'll be slow at first ... but the idea will grow fertile, healthy soil, pure air, and clean water.

Call these people for more information:
Jo Ann -- 392-5806
Ron -- 392-1811
Roger -- 821-1427
Bob -- 822-8525
Ecolo-Haul -- 454- 3845
L.A.'s recycling center -- 391-0503 (Venice Chamber of Commerce)

The basic procedure involves first contacting a City to ask for aid. Someone from the Mayor's office involved with the Farms and Gardens Project will help you get things organized and teach you a Navaho seed dance you must perform in Mayor Bradley's office before your request can be approved. Then you can let everything go to seed.

A few people have jumped off to head starts through the Farms and Gardens program. Out in Seda, on Victory Blvd., a couple of acres are being readied by some local indigents, and a similar project is underway in Hollywood's Wattles Park. A small, mystical garden has been started just off of Ocean Front Walk near Washington Street, and a large project is nearing the starting point over in Mar Vista. People in the Venice Canals are looking about rice paddies, while visionaries took the day that most of the Mid-Wilshire District plowed under for conversion to the world's largest rutabaga crop.

It should be mentioned that these projects can be carried out on your own property, someone else's property (if you can convince them to let you do it) or on City-owned vacant land. If you call 455-4437 or 485-4436, and ask for Mark Cassidy, he or someone else might be foolish enough to answer all your questions about becoming an agricultural entrepreneur. Remember, that's the Los Angeles Urban Farms and Gardens Project, not to be confused with Guns and Butter or Chutes and Ladders. Mayor Bradley is looking forward to seeing you strut your stuff!!

HARPY DROPPINGS

by Carol Fondiller



Venice is so poor that even the Venice Chamber of Commerce is on the County. Los Angeles County is giving the Venice Chamber of Commerce \$2500 to pay for the printing of sightseeing maps and color brochures to help publicize the V.C.C.'s Father's Day Bike Parade because no one notice the parade last year.

the Venice Town Council is planning its second annual Venice 4th of July Independence Day Parade. No County of federal money is involved. No themes are imposed. All Venice groups and/or individuals are invited to join the real thing.

Meanwhile, back to the Venice Chamber of Commerce. It seems that the VCC was disturbed that "that element" the Venice Town Council, was actually going to go through with the parade. Mr. Prell, owner of all of the Park Lane Cleaning establishments, and Mr. Baker (if you haven't seen his for sale/for rent signs-have your eyes checked) and probably Ms. Wilson, tried to pressure the powers that be to revoke the parade permit. This was impossible. The VCC tried other plays; such as trying to hold a simultaneous parade on the Bike path. Our Councilperson whose initials are Pat Russell, tried to help them divert attention from the 4th of July parade sponsored by "those elements" (Yup! The Venice Town Council) by getting one of the local daily papers to puff up the Bicycle Parade and ignore the 4th of July Parade. The Venice Chamber had to hold theirs on Father's Day. Ain't that a Muthuh? Wonder if the Chamber of Commerce will try and get the Venice Town Council to re-route the Parade through Wilmeton; if you can't beat 'em, coopt em!

The next time you grumble about your taxes going to someone on welfare, or accuse someone who uses food stamps of cheating, think of this: The Marina Del Rey has been designated as a Bi-Centennial area. This means that the underprivileged business people in Marina Del Rey, the Marina Chamber of Commerce, and other groups are eligible for Federal funds to help them celebrate the Bi-Centennial. Wonder what they'll do with the money? Paint everyone's deck shoes red, white and blue? Do a re-enactment of George Washington crossing the Delaware with Miss Marney riding a Bulldozer and Howard Hughes playing the part of George? The Harpy recommends joining up with this 2nd annual Venice 4th of July Independence Day Parade.

LOCAL RECYCLING

by Jo Ann Casy, Ron Dubin and Roger Pillsbury

Among the many problems facing humanity is that of waste material. It is estimated by Jacques Cousteau that if the sea is polluted at its present rate, in 30 years it will begin to die. As the oceans go so does man go. Many people throw things away and think, "Well that's that; the junk has disappeared." In reality the junk doesn't disappear but finds its way to huge dumps which pollute underground water sources, or the sea or the rivers, ... et cetera. There are governmental agencies whose purpose is to protect the environment but obviously they aren't doing much. However, every individual has the power to do something about this problem. One way is to recycle.

Newspaper can be de-inked and used again as newsprint, or pulped into egg cartons and other things. The paper you save should be kept clean & dry, with no magazines, rubber bands or string mixed in. A stack of papers as high as your knee-cap saves one tree! Cardboard and brown paper bags? Yes. Keep them separate from newsprint, because they have their own bin. Plastic-coated cardboard, egg cartons, cereal boxes and gray cardboard aren't recyclable. Magazines don't seem to be wanted by recycling dealers. The next best thing instead of recycling is giving your old magazines to schools and churches and barber shops. Some places say that green, brown and clear glass must remain segregated, but more and more places accept mixed glass. All glass jars and bottles should be rinsed out and the aluminum rings that come around the necks removed. Please no jar lids, bottle caps, in with the glass. It's usually OK if the paper labels are left on. Crushed, this glass is called cullet, and it is melted and substituted for sand in the making of new glass. Tin cans are the most popular food container. The "tin" can is really tin plated steel. All tin category things such as Band-aid boxes, metal tape dispensers, jar lids, should be smashed & paper free with all plastic and rubber removed before putting it out to be recycled. Unless there is a "rolling mill" around town, which turns old "tin" cans into new ones, the metal gets re-used only once -- in steel or copper making -- and the ferrous sulfate left from this process is --MUCK -- which corrodes birds, rivers and scenery ...US! Some of the tin is used for stannous fluoride toothpaste. All soft aluminum things can be melted down and made into: the ever-popular TV dinner tray, numerous beer and soft drink cans, easy twist off caps, and the pop-top pull tabs. Aluminum takes about 200 years to decay. There is a can which is a combination of aluminum (for the top) and tin (for the sides and bottom). These

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Babylift Another Word For Kidnap

(Reprinted from the Berkely Barb)

"I left it up to God. If he wanted us to have an orphan I knew we would get him."
--Mother of adopted Vietnamese child,
Birmingham Alabama, April 7, 1975.

At precisely 4:15 p.m. Friday, April 4, 1975, Major Dennis Traynor, United States Air Force, pressed forward the throttle controls of the biggest airplane on earth. The C-5A Galaxy lunged down the runway of Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Airport with its cargo of 243 children, 46 adults and 18 crewman strapped inside.

A half hour later the plane which had come into Saigon with a load of howitzers and trucks lay broken in four peices in a rice paddy. The right wing tanks, fully loaded with fuel, had exploded and a column of smoke was rising from the site. Half the people inside were dead. Those that hadn't been sucked out when the rear cargo doors blew out at 23,000 feet died on impact. Bodies were wrapped in ponchos and helicopters came to remove them to the morgue.

It was the supreme moment of America's last hurrah in Vietnam. And a "saddened" President Gerald Ford pledged to the world that the "mercy flights would continue, despite the tragedy" -- the bloodiest in U.S. aviation history. There were others, though, who saw the irony of a plane bringing in the materials of war and carrying out its human victims. If the U.S. had not brought in the guns in the first place, no airlift would have been necessary.

For them, the 178 dead children represented the final American savagery, the result of 20 years of intervention in Indochina -- the final heaving gasp of blood of a nation so bent on giving aid, so guilty for its record of horror that it would take even the children to atone for its sins.

Yet, under the astonishing outpour of self-congratulatory emotions, the realities of what the Americans were doing was not so much covered up as swallowed up in the frenzied attempt to do something good after so much bad.

So far, some 1,700 children have been airlifted from South Vietnam, and 1,000 of them have arrived in San Francisco. It is expected that another 200 to 300 children will be given exit visas by the Saigon government. According to adoption agencies responsible for the children, all have been assigned to American parents. However, Daniel Parker, Agency for International Development (AID) head, announced this week that plans are underway to bring an additional 3,000 to 4,00 children.

"Many of these children are simply not orphans," Tran Tuong Nu of the International Children's Fund said this week. "They have been called orphans because they have been taken from orphanages."

In Vietnam, according to Ms. Nu, there are some 18,000 to 25,000 children living in Catholic, Protestant and Buddhist orphanages. But these children are not necessarily without families. In fact, many have been temporarily placed in the orphanages by parents or other relatives financially unable to support them. Most families Ms. Nu said, hope to return after the war to reclaim their children.

Orphanages are a western imposition on an Asian culture, according to Ms. Nu. "They are thought of in Vietnam more like boarding schools than homes for children without parents." She went on, "in a sense these children have been kidnapped."

"In Vietnam," Ms. Nu explained, "the family structure is extended. Uncles, aunts and grandparents may well be able to care for children. And in the last few weeks, with the rush to get them out, the adoption agencies have not checked to make sure there is no family to support them."

"It would be far better," she added, "if the children remained in Vietnam to be absorbed into whatever society emerges from the war."

The adoption agencies have evolved from the supposedly apolitical, humanitarian aid programs. According to David Marr, the Co-Director of the Indochina Resource Center in Berkeley, the humanitarian, voluntary agencies or "Volags" have worked cozily with the U.S. Government in Vietnam for years.



Children in a South Vietnamese orphanage

VIETNAM "BABYLIFT" DENOUNCED AS KIDNAPPING

The so-called "humanitarian babylift" of children from Indochina has not been the propaganda success that U.S. authorities hoped it would be. Even the corrupt Saigon dictatorship called it "kidnapping," and released a letter from the American ambassador, Graham Martin, suggesting the babylift mainly as a way of influencing U.S. public opinion. A south Vietnamese army officer called the children "American souvenirs."

On Saturday, April 19, about 75 people, including Vietnamese students and a number of anti-war activists from Venice, picketed the national offices of World Vision International in Monrovia. World Vision, a very well funded Christian missionary organization, is one of the main groups involved in "Operation Babylift." World Vision is collecting supplies and money at hundreds of South land markets to help refugees in Indochina. But World Vision can operate only in the narrow territory still controlled by Saigon--one of the demand was that World Vision channel all the aid it collects through UNICEF (a United Nations agency) or other organizations that can help people in all zones of Indochina.

World Vision was chosen for the demonstration because it's an unofficial arm of U.S. government policy. Carl Harris of World Vision has said publicly that their missionaries "can go into areas where others can't go, and get information for the U.S. government." One of the functions of World Vision, besides helping orphans, is building "socio-metric computer models" of Southeast Asian societies. World Vision did not accede to the picketers' demands, though they did agree that Indochinese children should be left to be cared for in their own countries and cultures.

These agencies include such "Volags" as Catholic Relief Services and World Vision, both of which are not in the adoption business. They have never provided assistance in any areas except those occupied by the Saigon government and worked with the U.S. military in refugee operations. Funded on a large scale by AID, their employees have lived in comfortable, isolated compounds taking full advantage of U.S. Government PX's and Air America.

In fact, some "Volags" have become contractors for United States AID programs. So partisan are these agencies that the Thieu regime has used them as an example of supposedly popular non-government support of the United States for South Vietnam.

According to Marr, the history of overseas adoption of South Vietnamese children is bleak. "Children," he says, "like almost everything else in South Vietnam, have become commodities in an intricate network of corrupt practices."

In 1972, only one American agency, Traveler's Aid International, was licensed by the Saigon government to take children from South Vietnam. Adoption was hampered by complex bureaucratic procedures and a stiff law that made it difficult to get children out. Few children received exit visas.

In 1973, under pressure from the United States Congress, the Saigon Government licensed six more agencies as adoption services. In 1973, AID statistics showed 682 adoptions in all. By comparison, in just the first six months of 1974, 793 children had been brought to the United States. Besides their own and AID funds, the adoption agencies reportedly receive up to \$2,000 per child from adopting American parents.

The reason why so many children are being taken out now, in spite of the long standing Vietnamese resistance to overseas adoption, is that the Thieu government is collapsing. As Saigon Social Welfare Minister Phan Quang Dan wrote to opposition ministers this week, quoting U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin, "The airlifts will create a shift in American public opinion in favor of South Vietnam."

A major problem with adoption is the expense. While actual cost figures are not available, opponents of the airlifts say the same money could be used to aid the 850,000 to 1,000,000 children living in poor conditions throughout Vietnam.

Backers of the airlift program have said that offspring of American soldiers in South Vietnam have a right to live in the United States. Opponents dispute the reported figure that 50 percent of the arriving children are of mixed parentage. According to Tran Tuong Nu, the number of mixed children is closer to 20 percent. In any event, she said, "They should remain in Vietnam because there is more chance that they will be treated as Vietnamese in Vietnam, than as Americans in the United States."

Most agree that in areas occupied by the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG), children receive much better care than in the Saigon controlled areas, despite massive American aid.

According to Ms. Nu, children left homeless by the war are taken by the PRG to so-called "Green orphanages," temporary shelters away from the fighting. Soon afterwards, they are placed with Vietnamese families under a system administered by the northern government's Institute for Mothers and Children. There are no orphanages, in the Western sense, in the North.

The PRG issued an urgent request for food and medical supplies and flights left Paris this week with aid for the refugees. And the International Red Cross has reportedly sent \$200,000 to PRG areas.

Additional aid to Saigon is now under consideration by the Ford Administration. "Humanitarian aid, including aid to orphans, is high on my list of priorities," President Ford said this week.

The Union of Vietnamese in the United States has said that any direct aid to the Thieu government does not reach those who most need it. They oppose any aid to South Vietnam, including humanitarian aid. "The only way to help the people in South Vietnam is to end the fighting. Any assistance that will prolong the Thieu government and will not help the people," a Union spokesperson said.

Opponents of the airlift hope that any humanitarian aid will not be funnelled through the "Volags" in South Vietnam, but rather through organizations not compromised by the U.S. government.

As a group of professors of ethics and religion said this week, "The war in Vietnam was a moral issue, and the ending of the war is a moral issue. The attitude that 'we know best how to help them' is the same attitude that sustained our immoral involvement in Vietnam for so many years. The Vietnamese children should be allowed to stay in Vietnam where they belong."

The following groups provide humanitarian aid to Vietnamese children in Vietnam. Contributions and inquiries may be addressed to these groups directly:

American Friends Service Committee, 160 N. 15th Street., Philadelphia, PA. 19102.

Committee for Aid to the Orphans of Vietnam, Vietnam Unified Buddhist Church, Account No. 2151-95, B.N.P., ag. Foch-Maillot, 147 avenue Malakoff, 75116, Paris France.

International Children's Fund, Inc., Box 4432, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Medical Aid for Indochina, Inc., 65a Winthrop St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

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ALIVE at the FOX

5.

BY LORRIE KAZAN



Alive at the Fox; alive and inspired by the extraordinary Great American Music Band and the incomparable Mose Allison.

The GAM was led by virtuoso violinist, Richard Greene, who seemed to set both the musical and emotional pace. Greene was supported by David Grisman on mandolin and Joe Carol on bass. Together they merged every kind of music from jazz, to rag to bluegrass. Their timing was perfection. Every time I thought they were beyond great they managed to do even better. Their pace was easy. They appeared to be listening, deriving immense pleasure from their music. They performed such numbers as "Dawgology" and "Dawg's Rag" written by Grisman and dedicated to Richard's dog Godfrey who sat placidly on the stage. The music was controlled, refined. The musicians brought a new dimension to music, proving themselves versatile and talented musicians.

I thought no one could follow them. Then Mose was on stage, accompanied by Jerry Ginelli on electric bass and Mitch Gerard on drums. The mood shifted from the laid-back ease of GAM to the intensity of Mose Allison; to that crazy, near-

death, all-encompassing sound; smack into that insane edge-city, the reality that Lenny Bruce tried to approximate with words. I was sucked into this strange world, Mose, spotlighted in blue, manically manipulating the keys, his hands moving so fast, almost a blur. It's as if the song had an inner life, as if it emerged, demanded to be played, to be sung, to be heard. All the while this crazy riff comes through. As if he's up there on a dare and I trust him, I know he'll win; he'll balance. I had the feeling that if I talked with Mose he would really hear me and if what I said or did was to be phrased into a song, it would happen later, after the experience, because Mose impressed me as a man motivated by experience. A "Wild Man" maintaining a weird calm that comes from having seen, having lived. Some people have to take drugs to see beyond themselves; others just open their eyes. It's all there and that crazy off-beat, so very much there, Mose Allison, exorcises the fear from edge-city. If he knows the bottom of existence, he also knows the top and he infuses the atmosphere with this inner life, with this emotional intensity, with this absolute insane, one beat, one half beat, strange way of being, just musically doing it.

canal fest mess

by Carol Fondiller

Even now, Dear reader as you decide whether or not to read these words, forces are at work to coopt yet another community originated event. Efforts are being made by private interest profit-motivated groups to pressure certain city agencies to act in complete disregard of the wishes of the Venice canals community.

Even as I look over that last paragraph, I say to myself, "What else is new?" Ah, but the methods are different. "No, no," said Myrtle Wilton, president of the Venice Womens Chamber of Commerce. We don't want to stop the Canal Festival, we just don't think it's suitable for the canals. We just want it moved to the Venice Pavilion.

On previous occasions they used to have the banners torn down, and sometimes they would drive around taking down posters announcing the Canal Festival.

Why should the Chamber of Commerce and the Venice Civic Union behave with such animosity towards the Canal Festival?

In 1968, the Canal Assessment District was in full swing. Canals were to be widened and deepened so that motorboats would have access to them. Three million dollars of the taxpayers' money was to be used by the City to turn the single family cheap rent canal dwellings into condominiums -- luxury townhouses with no public access. No sidewalks were included in the original plan -- just boat slips for yachts.

At the first public hearing in City Council chambers, 300 renters were prohibited from speaking. They were prevented from entering the City Council chambers by marshalls. Only property owners were allowed to speak. Finally, when it was declared unconstitutional to prohibit tenants from entering and speaking in City Hall, most of the media described the tenants as "dissidents," "outside agitators," long "haired" "barefoot" "hippie freaks." Councilman Arthur Snyder accused the Beachhead (which had just begun) of being paid for by "Moscow Gold." The Marina-ization of Venice seemed inevitable.

In a gesture of farewell and love, the people in the Canals organized the first annual Venice Canal Festival. No money was asked or received from the city, county or state. There was a defiant Custer's last stand attitude about that first small festival. There was music, political skits and sign-up sheets for people to get involved in saving Venice from the Bulldozers and Land Developers.

The fact that there was a second Canal Festival was a delightful surprise to all, including the somewhat dazed people who were still in Venice. The atmosphere was a reunion of battle-scarred veterans of the war between the Developers, City and the police.

With each festival the cooperation between the organizers of the festival and the agencies of the City was more and more amicable. The Median Strip was used for parking on that one day. The police were courteous and helpful (no arrests were made on the day of the festival. Many people felt that the police who were there were really there to "protect and serve" the 10,000 people who came last year. In a community where Police-Civilian relationships are sometimes tenuous, this is saying a lot. Yes, there was drinking in public. After every football game in Westwood, when the Bruins win, there is drinking in public, but very few arrests are made. Drinking in public

happens at baseball games and regattas -- and no one has suggested that the annual regattas and yacht races be closed down because of public drinking, or moved from the Marina to the Los Angeles Dam because of it.

Yet on March 3 in the mayor's conference room, this is what in essence was suggested by otherwise sane men from various city agencies.

It turned out that Myrtle Wilton and others, Mrs. Narvid, did not, in fact, refused to name the other people who were complaining about the Festival, did not object to the Canal Festival, just to the location of it, why not have the festival in

the picnic area in the Pavilion...

Right. And hold the Calabasas Pumpkin Festival in the City of Commerce.

Officer Klaghorn of the Venice division said, "It's not a festival, it's a drinking party."

When asked why there were no arrests at the last festival, Klaghorn stated he didn't have enough men.

Nancy McCulloch, organizer of the last festival, questioned Klaghorn, brining out the fact that police did deal with people who were drunk in a very positive manner -- they took them home. There were other access for emergency vehicles, fire and ambulances. Chief Brown of the Fire Dept. felt that there would be no significant problems there. The influx of people happened only one day a year, and people cooperated by getting out of the way of emergency vehicles. 14 community people listened and talked to the agency representatives. Lt. Klaghorn agreed to talk with future organizers of the festival to see if problems couldn't be worked out after it was pointed out to him that 32 people from the Venice Town Council, from all areas of Venice, had monitored the Canal Festival -- cooling down potentially dangerous situations, and in some cases helping the police in traffic control and acting as mediators between police and people who do not care to deal directly with the L.A.P.D.

"You guys are breaking every law in the books," said Ernest Webber, commissioner on the board of public works. We want to hold it where it won't be so hazardous."

Then Nitty came to Gritty. Forget the complaints about excessive drinking, illegal parking, vending. Forget the three people who live on the canals who don't like the festival, and the 80 other canal folk who said that their yards could be used for the festival. Forget all the accusations and disclaimers. Forget the permits that weren't given.

"You can't use this site for political reasons," said Mr. Webber. "If you'd just leave politics out of the festival it would be alright. That's what gets these people (The Venice Chamber of Commerce, real estate developers, the Venice Civic Union) mad." He read from the pamphlet that announced the Canal Festival. It talked of preserving the unique lifestyle of Venice, an invitation for people to come and share and help preserve the endangered species from the interests who want to turn the present residents out of Venice in order to turn the canals and, yes, the Ocean Front Walk into a private club for the very rich. Hands shot up like Nike missiles.

David Johnson, Editor of the Argonaut, asked, "What about the Bicentennial? I'm getting blitzed by Bicentennial material. That's going to be held on public property."

"The Bicentennial is not political," said Mr. Webber. "It's ... historical."

Right. Nice, dead, safe history. Those long-haired jerks in knee breeches destroying private property.

The tree of liberty must be watered with the blood of patriots. That's just costume time. Hostess is putting out red, white and blue cupcakes. Silver companies are making reproductions of Paul Revere's silver pattern. I'll bet there's 2,000 exploited Chinese in Hong Kong making "colonial style powdered wigs in assorted colors including Williamsberg white in genuine Kanekulon in honor of the 200th Birthday of the U.S.A."

Reproductions of the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights on finest vellum to be hung in library or den, but not to be taken seriously -- certainly not to read! Nice abstract conceptions like mothers best china -- to be looked at, admired, to be used only on special occasions. Not to be used every day! (You wanna wear it out? You know how tattered freedom becomes if everyone uses it!)

Mr. Webber was stern as he reiterated that it was in violation of using public places for political purposes. "Councilwoman Russell would not be allowed to hold a political rally."

The community residents stated that they could not separate the politics of people from the Canal Festival. That's what the festival was all about. A joyous affirmation of people who are fighting against the moneyed powers that be to stay where they choose to live. To pursue (if I might borrow a phrase) the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. In this case, happiness means being allowed to stay where you choose, whether or not Ms. Wilton and the Venice Chamber of Commerce like it (that wonderful organization that serves the community by recommending offshore oil drilling. What the hell, I bet Joey Baker doesn't live in Venice. He just makes his money here.)

As the meeting neared the end, there was the feeling that the "relocation" of the Venice Canal Festival was not in the immediate future, and that indeed Ms. Narvid verified this writer's feeling by stating that the Canal Festival would be held in the Canals depending on the outcome of

the public hearing, which is obligatory, and certainly community people would be notified of those hearings.

The outcome of this meeting seemed to be that the agencies would work closely and cooperatively with the festival organizers, and would be flexible and responsive.

The most positive thing that happened, in my opinion, was the Dept. of Sanitation, represented by Mr. Lee, who expressed sincere concern about botulism in homemade food, and the need for more chemical toilets, which came from the Parks and Rec. Dept.

Ms. Narvid smiled as she stated, "I don't think there's a need for another meeting."

Talk about a small group of outside agitators! Mrs. Wilton and the developers that had deluded Mrs. Wilton to think she's in the same league with them had all them city folk in an uproar.

Luckily, the organizers of the festival and community people were there to reassure them that politics is still legal in Los Angeles, even if you do it without the city's help and have fun doing it.

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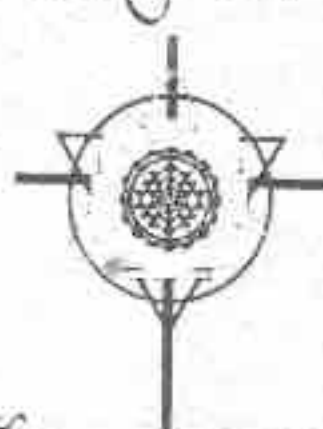
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VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

Area I: South Beach - west of Pacific, South of Venice Bl. Meets every last Wednesday, Anchorage School, 7:30 - 392-2113 or 392-1594 (May 28th)

Area II: North Beach - west of Main, Venice Bl. to Santa Monica, Meets every 1st Monday at Levin Center 201 Ocean Front Wk, 7:30 396-0167 or 392-7956 (May 5th)

Area III: Canals - South of Venice Bl, east of Pacific, west of Washington Bl. Meets every 1st & 3rd Tuesday at Anchorage school, 8:00 821-5931 or 923-1753 (May 6th & 20th)

Area IV: Oakwood - No. of California, west of Lincoln, to Washington Bl. Meets every 3rd Wed. at Broadway school bungalow 7:00 396-2801 (May 21st)

Area V: East Venice - So. of California, W. of Lincoln to Washington Bl. meets every 4th Wed. at Couer D'Alene School, 7:30. 821-1430 (May. 28th)

Area VI: Central - No. of Venice Bl, east of Main, west of Washington Bl. Meets every 2nd Thursday 328 Market St. 7:30, 821-1774 or 821-5438 (May 8th)

Area VII: Penmar - east of Lincoln Bl, No. of Venice Bl. Meets every 4th Wed. at Penmar Recreation Center, 1341 Lake St., 7:30 396-6303 or 396-8160 (May 28th)

VENICE TOWN COUNCIL includes all areas and meets the 1st Wed. at Venice City Hall, 681 N. Venice Bl. 7:30 - May 7th

HERSELF HEALTH CLINIC

The Gay Community Services Center has moved to:
1213 N. Highland Avenue, Holly Wood

BEYOND BAROQUE

Exhibition of soft sculpture by Barbara Marfori, opening reception Friday, May 2nd, 8 - 10 p.m. continuing through May 30th at Beyond Baroque Gallery, 1639 W. Washington Bl. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Monday thru Saturday except Wednesday when closing is 8 p.m.

ATTENTION TENANTS

Non-refundable cleaning deposits are illegal! for info send a post card to:
TENANTS REFUND
BOX 31042
SAN FRANCISCO CA. 94131

Rainbow Pages

The Venice People's Rainbow Pages is an alternative directory, listing services, organizations, cooperative ventures, anything that seems relevant to the people of Venice. We plan to list artists, musicians, crafts-people; if you are one, please mail us a description of what you do and how you can be reached. The deadline for information is May 15, 1975. We still need help gathering information, collating, printing, ads, money, moral support. We encourage artists to submit their work since we have not decided upon a cover. Send submissions to the Venice Rainbow Pages P.O. Box 363 Venice, Ca. 90291 or call 392-3264.

telepoem

at 396-8978

It has been reported that TELEPOEM, Los Angeles's official Dial-A-Poem phone service has caused a series of nearly violent reactions to many of its callers. "We want to blow apart the complacency of your just curious caller, as well as satisfy the aesthetics of the true poetry aficionado," said Loren-Paul Caplin, the editor and the man responsible for creating Telepoem. "We only know of one woman who actually threw up from listening to a particular poem, but people are telling me all the time about strange occurrences and reactions from the callers." Send submissions, not exceeding 25 lines, to TELEPOEM, 230 San Juan, Venice, Cal. 90291.

Venice Beach Parks & Recreation Department, the Venice Children's Community Group invites you to take a giant step into a New Dawn, into a New Day, into a New Age.

PRESENTING ON MOTHER'S DAY:

THE 1st ANNUAL VENICE FESTIVAL - MAY 11, 1975
11 A.M. - 7 P.M.

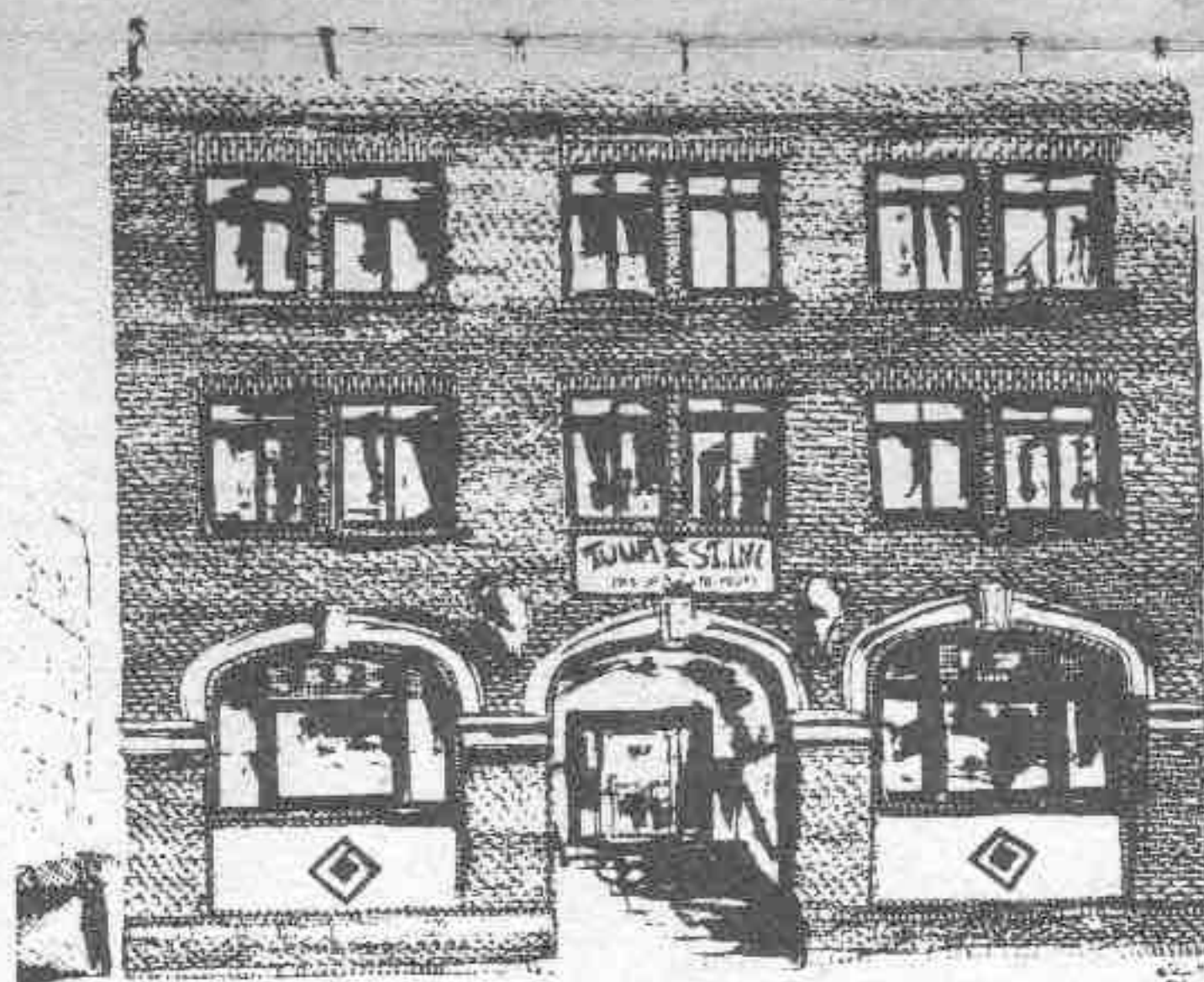
AT THE VENICE PAVILLION OUTDOORS

We are proud of the organized programs that exist in this community and we are cordially inviting you and all public services and resource centers to participate in this Mother's Day 1st Annual Venice Festival. There will be a great show and arts, crafts and food. There will be games and activities for kids. To have an arts and crafts booth call Marilyn at 392-0105.

FREE SEMINARS by teachers from More Institute. Weekend seminars in sensuality, communication, man/woman, etc., and weeknight Mark group (3 hour communication group) call Jim and Judi Corey - 392-4755 dates to be arranged, enrollment limited

Canis Gallery, 207 Ocean Front Walk - 396-1272 announces a Feminist Group Showing May 3 - June 1 'The Women's Movement in L.A.' Black & White Photography and Slide Show by A. Deubl and B. Alexander 'Indonesia' general life color photos by Anita Daniel

ALSO - Feminist Poster Contest - deadline May 23rd call for information Opening for the showing: Saturday, May 3rd Reception 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

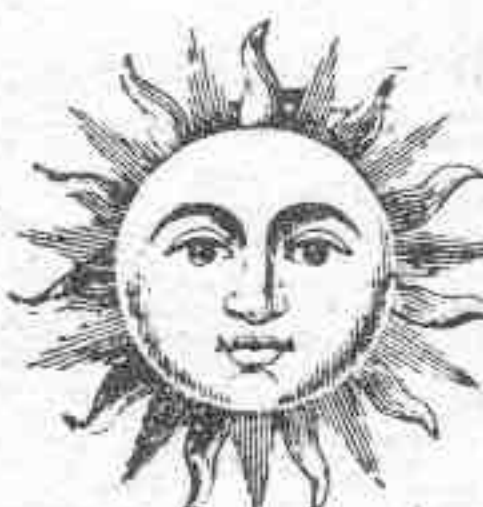


Drawing By Gil Borges

Tuum Est means "It's up to you", and the drug users and alcoholics who live there participate in a positive growth program based on this philosophy of self-reliance. All except two people who operate and reside at this facility are ex-addicts. About 400 people have lived at Tuum Est during its 4 years of operation in Venice. In that time Tuum Est has had a recovery rate of 56%, a remarkable record when compared with the national average of less than 5%...but the people at Tuum Est hardly consider this an accomplishment in the light of their goals. Tuum Est subsists partly on grants and private donations but they also rely on their own efforts to keep their doors open. Announcements of fund raising projects to be held by Tuum Est will be carried in The Beachhead, or for further information contact Tuum Est.

CLARE FOUNDATION INC. is a service in the community to help people with alcohol and drug problems. They will provide 24 hour service - and they want to help... for information or emergency call 396-8001

FILMS about Venice: any length, from any era, are being sought for a Venice Film Festival. If you know of any or would like to help, call John Haag - 396-0267



Rent Raises bringing you down? Broken windows make you frown? When the landlord fixes up a mite does your rent soar out of sight? Don't Agonize--Organize! You cannot get evicted for joining a tenants union and it just so happens that a Venice Renters Union is forming. It will only be effective if you and you and you get involved. Remember there are more tenants than property owners; the renters must make the legislators and property-wners realize this. For meeting information, call 392-3155.

Oops, I Blew It

A Salt Lake City Grand Jury announced indictments of 15 people for securities-law violations but withheld their names pending arrest. Almost immediately, nine persons surrendered to the U.S. Attorney; only one of those nine was among the indicted.

FAMILY PORTRAITS

by Lorrie Kazan

On Family Portraits
Our smiles are sweet
How cunning the facade.
Our faces are pretty,
glossed with dyes,
but grey behind the canvas.
We play each other as pawns;
we have mastered deceit.
Our lives are no thicker than canvas
Our souls are not as deep

1971

TO THE VIETNAMESE

BY Gordon Quinlan

We're scared of your winning
at last.
Perhaps you should let the forces of darkness
keep power
over Vietnam.
Perhaps you should not bleed
so carefully,
so perfectly.
Because we live like this, our shoulders
are curved;
It's hard to feel proud
of anything.
If you no longer eat lies
or money as we do here
instead of bread,
If your children are rainbows,
if the lovers are not afraid,
we'll be afraid.
We've been scared a long time
of your sky-blue dream,
of grass roofs,
of peaceful farms.
We have seen the fiery gates.

'POT' LUCK

Presently, the bill has been passed by the state senate and sent over to the assembly, where it is in front of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. Observers expect SB 95 to pass in the assembly. If the Ways and Means committee hasn't already finished its action, it would help for people to write the following committee members in support of SB 95: (all at State Capitol, Sacramento, Ca. 95814) Hon. John Foran, Chairman, Ways and Means Committee ... Hon. Frank Lanterman, Vice Chairman, Ways and Means Committee ... Hon. Alan Sieroty.

By the time this story appears in the Beachhead, the Ways and Means committee may have finished with SB 95 and sent it on to the full assembly for passage. If the bill has already gone this far, it's too late for letters to the Ways and Means Committee, but not for letters elsewhere. NORML suggests that people also write Governor Brown and ask him to support SB 95, as well as all legislation that reduces or removes criminal penalties for using marijuana. (Hon. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Governor's Office, State Capitol, Sacramento, Calif. 95814.) SB 95 is the biggest change in California's marijuana law since 1915, when the state made grass illegal.

A far-reaching change in California's marijuana laws is near passage by the state legislature and signing by Governor Brown. Senate Bill 95 (SB 95) ends jail sentences in California for those charged with holding less than one ounce of grass. If

BEER BUBBLE BURST

(CPF) Beer companies spend millions of dollars each year to convince us that beer is brewed the old fashioned way, "or the same way they do it in the old country." But the image is the opposite of reality. They used to brew beer the old way, but trouble started in the 1960's when beer companies, anxious to undercut their competitors, started using chemical means to speed up the brewing process. But the more they reduced the hops and malt content in favor of chemicals, the smaller the head of foam on the beer. Convinced they couldn't sell beer without a lot of foam, the companies began searching for a foam stabilizer.

They finally hit upon cobalt, which got an OK from the government without adequate testing. Fifty people died before it was finally realized that cobalt consumed with alcohol can cause fatal heart damage. The Food and Drug Administration has since outlawed the use of cobalt additives. So today you are likely to find propylene glycol alginate, gum arabic, or "high-molecular weight polysaccharide" in your brew, just to insure a sudsy-looking suds.

Your favorite beer may have more additives than foam stabilizers, however. A protein digesting enzyme, such as papain, is often added to prevent beer from getting cloudy when very cold. To kill unwanted microorganisms, a dollop of helptyl parabens may be added. One preservative used in beer, diethyl pyrocarbonate, was found to lead to the formation of urethan, a cancer causing chemical.



Venice Independence Day Parade

Remember the Amazon' 1st Annual Venice Independence Day Parade last summer, July 4th? It's getting to be that time again. Participate now in our own Second Annual Venice Independence Day Parade. To help create the parade, be in the parade, make the sun shine on the parade, etc., call:

Area I (South Beach) -- 392-2113
Area II (North Beach) 396-0927 or 396-8675
Area III (Canals) -- 821-7118 or 821-2923
Area IV (Oakwood) -- 396-2801 or 396-6025
Area V (East Venice) -- 821-1430
Area VI (Central) -- 821-1427 or 392-3318
Area VII (Penmar) -- 396-4720 or 396-8735

'Z' BURNED

Z. Budapest, witch and high priestess of the Susan B. Anthony Coven, was convicted of "fortune telling" and given what amounts to a nearly maximum sentence. She was given six months in jail, suspended; two years summary probation (during which time she cannot do Tarot readings as she had been doing at the Feminist Wicca) and a fine of \$300. In addition, judge Michael Sauer set bail at \$2,500! Her attorney, Marge Buckley, is appealing the case to a higher court and there is speculation and hope in the Venice community that it might reach the Supreme Court.

you are busted with more than one ounce, SB 95 also ends long felony prison sentences of several years for simple possession. You could still end up in jail for a shorter spell of a few months, however. Another difference with the new law is that your arrest and conviction for personal use of grass would be eliminated from court records after two years. The bill was introduced by State Senator George Moscone and co-authored by Assemblyman Alan Sieroty.

SB 95 has been strongly supported by NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, 2964 Fillmore Street., San Francisco, 94123). Data from NORML show that last year in Los Angeles, several thousand people were arrested with less than one ounce of pot. With the new legislation, they would not have been arrested - instead, they would have gotten a citation like a traffic ticket, with a maximum penalty of a \$100 fine. SB 95 also drops the penalty for giving away less than one ounce of grass to a friend, down to the same citation.

It was finally banned in 1972.

Does this surprise you? The FDA, which has the authority to make all food and beverage companies list the additives they use on the label, has excluded beer companies from the normal labeling law - instead, they are only required to list the alcoholic content. After it was discovered that cobalt was killing people in the 1960's, doctors were among those who complained about the inadequate labeling. They pointed out that if it had been known that cobalt was present in the beer their patients were drinking, the doctors would probably have been able to save some of the patients.

As a result of such cost-cutting operations as chemical brewing, major brewers have been able to squeeze hundreds of smaller brewers out of business. Compared to 750 brewers in 1935, today there are only 146. Five companies control 50% of the market, and 15 companies control 80%. The "big three" brewers, Budweiser, Schlitz, and Pabst, have increased their share of the \$12 billion market from 25% to 40% during the last decade.

With oligopoly coming to the beer business, the public suffers. After a national brand wipes out a local by selective price cutting, the price of beer goes back up, this time without competition to control it. To top it all off, local taste preferences get standardized. The brewers have their own term for the process: it's called "shaking out the market." (From Liberation News Service.)

Bye-Bye Bike Path 8

Moe Stavnezer

On Monday, April 21, the So. Coast Commission sold out the public of L.A. in favor of the selfish interests of property owners on the Marina Peninsula. By a vote of 6 to 5 the Commission denied a permit to extend the bikepath along the little used Peninsula beach.

At this meeting of the Commission, the fight against the bikepath was let by Supervisor James Hayes' alternate, Barna Szabo, with support from Pat Russell (who has long opposed the bikepath extension). Mr. Szabo argued that the bikepath wouldn't increase access to the Peninsula beach - the most underused beach in the Santa Monica-Venice area. He, and Ms. Russell, propose that access to the beach can better be accomplished by providing public facilities, such as Bar-B-Q pits and showers as well as bus service to the beach. He suggests that if this is done then people won't mind walking as far as 1.3 miles from the Washington St. parking lot to the end of the beach. The old arguments that the bikepath doesn't go anywhere and that it doesn't connect with the proposed County bikepath were also raised.

All these arguments are nonsense and simply cloud the real issue involved which is that the wealthy property owners and developers on the Peninsula don't want any of us on what they consider their private beach. Can you imagine these people sitting back and allowing the city to build Bar-B-Q pits on their beach when, at one point, they opposed the installation of toilets on the beach? Can you imagine these people supporting the building of public parking lots anywhere on the Peninsula to increase public access? Well I certainly cannot!

The arguments that the bikepath doesn't go anywhere are simply the result of terrible planning by both the city and the county. The bikepath could easily connect with the County bikepath if, instead of ending at the channel, it swung east along the channel and onto Via Marina and then connected with the county bikepath. Also, the County has constructed a long bikepath on the beach south of Marina del Rey but has not, except for one small stretch of beach, provided the facilities it proposes for the Peninsula beach. The bikepath definitely does go somewhere - it goes to and along a beautiful, mostly unused, beach and provides bike riders with a view of the ocean and fairly easy, non-polluting access to the beach.

What Ms. Russell and the County propose is that the present bikepath - which ends at the Washington St. parking lot - continue along Washington Street and connect with the County bikepath - which will begin at Oxford St. and go through Marina del Rey. They, and the Coastal Commission, ignore the fact that Washington St., between Pacific Ave and the beach, is very heavily trafficked by cars all year long and is made even more hazardous to bicyclists because of the head-in type parking and the cul-de-sac nature of this street. Also ignored is the fact that, during the summer, Wash. St. is clogged with auto traffic and that there are many businesses along the street. The hazard to people on bicycles from heavy traffic and cars entering and exiting from businesses onto the street is potentially horrible.

The decision of the So. Coast Commission will, of course, be appealed to the State Commission but it may be a futile effort because there's a kind of Catch-22 involved. As early as May 1st of this year the County may take over administration of the Venice beach from the City. In that case the County may be in a position to review City plans for the beach - including the bikepath - and will probably, because of Supervisor Hayes' opposition - simply withdraw the entire proposal from consideration. So it's possible that even if the State Commission overturns the So. Coast Decision, the bikepath will never be built and the Peninsula beach will remain the private playground of the wealthy property owners and developers on the Peninsula.

Once again our elected representatives, Councilwoman Russell and Supervisor Hayes, have voted in favor of the rich to the exclusion and detriment of the public.

