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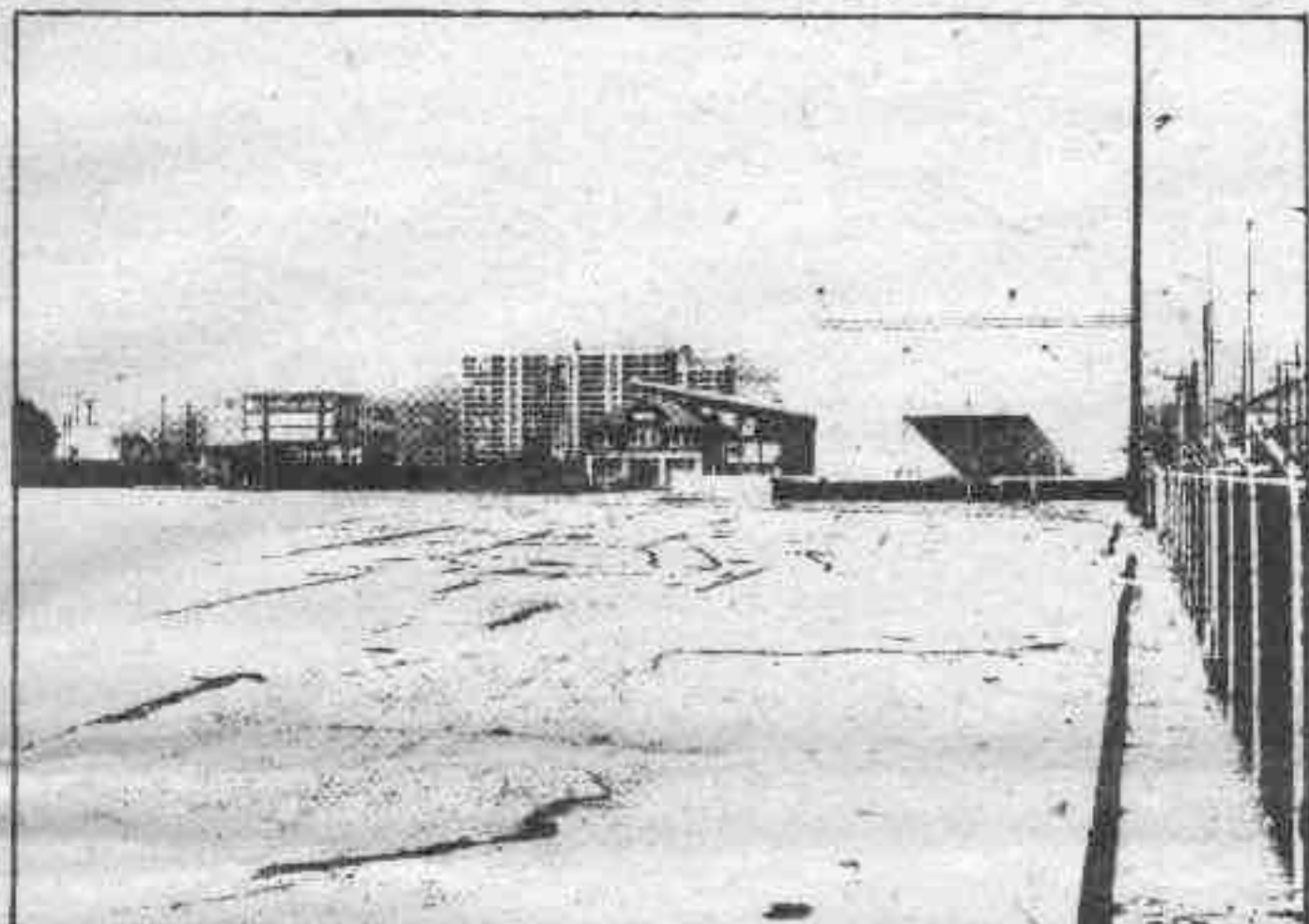
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MAY 1978 ISSUE 101 P. O. BOX 504 VENICE, CA 90291 392-5975 399-3843 823-5092

COMMUNITY WINS!

ROSE-MAIN PROJECT DENIED



site of defeated project

by Moe Stavnezer

On April 19th the State Coastal Commission followed the recommendation of the Venice Town Council by denying the Main & Rose commercial/office development. Because of all the circumstances involved, that decision must be viewed as a tremendous victory for the Venice Community. About 60-70 people from Venice -- including about 40 from the Israel Levin Center, a strong contingent from Oakwood, and other residents -- went to the hearing and expressed in no uncertain terms the community's strong opposition to the development. Speakers included Morrie Rosen, Larry Abrams, Carol Berman, and Fay Miles. To the surprise of all of us, (especially since the staff had recommended approval) the commissioners heard us -- heard especially our feeling that this development didn't fit in this community and that it would only lead to the displacement of many of the people who were sitting in the audience (and of course many others as well). In a combination of surprise and jubilation we cheered, applauded and hugged after the vote was taken (5 for to 6

against). It was a moment that none of us present will forget. It was also a kind of new beginning for working together as a united community of people.

But the victory at Main & Rose was not achieved smoothly or easily. There has been a great deal of controversy surrounding this project. As someone involved in that controversy I feel it important to set down, as objectively as possible, a chronology of events that took place. I do this in the hope that community debate will be as lively and informed as possible.

Because I had lost my copy of the Coastal Commission agenda, I learned about the project four days before the Feb. 27th hearing at the Regional Commission. Among a number of people I contacted (many who wrote letters of opposition) was Cheryl Rhoden of Ocean Park. Both of us felt that this permit had great potential for a cooperative effort between the two communities. Because of the late notice only Cheryl and I appeared at the Regional Commission hearing where the permit was approved. We, of course decided to appeal and were joined by Legal Aid representing Jack Moss. At the March 1st Venice Town Council meeting I gave a report on the project and a committee was formed to determine our future course of action (members were Ed Pearl, Naomi Glauberman, Shirley Fiske, Carol Berman, Olga Palo and me). Our first meeting was the following Monday. We discussed a number of things including; making and distributing a flyer, contacting others in the community, a possible settlement with the developers (along the lines of the Santa Monica shopping center settlement) and the possibility of my attending a meeting with Frank Gehry and Legal Aid (at that time I did not know if anyone but Legal Aid was invited). I stated that my goals for such a settlement were low income housing and space for a cooperative food store both as part of the development. No other suggestions were made but it was suggested that other people might have other demands.

I did attend a meeting on the following Thursday night with Frank Gehry (architect/developer) Sherman Stacy (then representing Richlar) and Legal Aid (Bob Myers, Allan Emkin, Leslie Berke) at Gehry's studio. The meeting was mainly an emotional outpouring by Gehry except toward the end, when I brought up the coop, and he said that no matter what Richlar decided, he would put the coop on his part of the development. We were anything but optimistic when we left. But lots of other things happened during that and the previous week -- I had put out a typewritten flyer (which found its way into the Ocean Park Perspective), written the appeal and an article for the Beachhead (which was topped by Olga and Danielle Greco's "grosser than Washington Square" graphic) while Ed Shirley et al were putting together a real flyer and arranging for thousands to be printed free.

Either on Friday or the weekend Legal Aid told me that Richlar had asked to meet with us on Monday night. We met at Legal Aid with Richard Weiss and Lawrence Field (Richlar)

(cont. on page 14)

↓ LOOK OUT BELOW! ↓

RENTS, PROPERTY TAXES TO SOAR AS OF JULY

VENICE ASSESSMENT INCREASES MAY REACH 400%
MASS PROTEST MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 18th

by Arnold Springer

Venice rents and property taxes will skyrocket come July, according to information reaching the Beachhead. Sources familiar with procedures in the County Assessors Office have warned two well known and respected members of the North Beach Community, Morrie Rosen and Julie Mulvaney, that property taxes throughout Venice will increase between 200% and 400% as of July 1, that is just after the June election.

The consequences of this increase will be disastrous for the community and something must be done to stop them before they hit. In response to the threat a meeting of all concerned property owners and renters has been called for Thursday, May 18, 7:30 pm, at the Israel Levin Center, Ocean Front Walk near Navy St. County Assessor Pope has been invited, as have Alan Serioty, Mel Levine, and Pat Russell. Either these officials or their representatives will attend.

The meeting on May 18 is designed to accomplish the following: 1) get as clear a picture of what will happen to taxes and rents as of July as possible, and 2) discuss appropriate responses, that is how to resist or counter this new attack on the Venice Community.

How Venice Will Be Affected

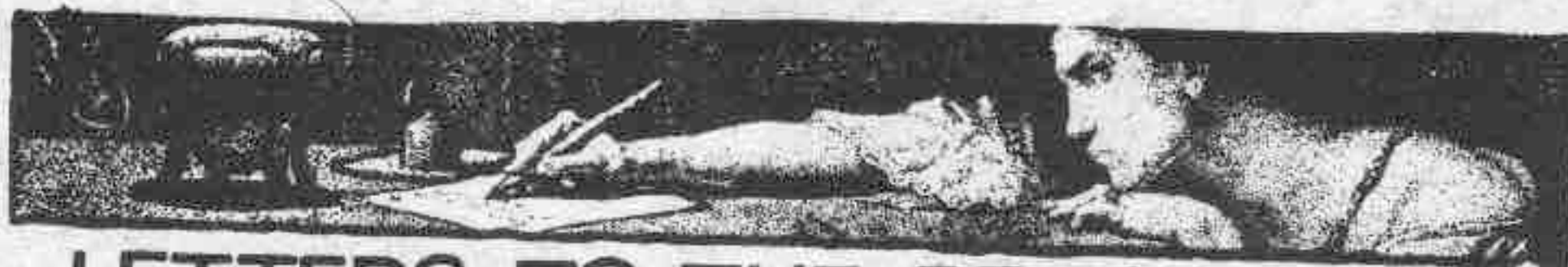
As of July 1 homeowners and speculators will be looking at property tax increases of between 200% and 400%. When and where possible these increases will be passed on to renters. How much of an increase you receive will depend on two factors: 1) the percentage increase in the tax on each individual piece of property, and 2) the number of units which must absorb this increase. In other words, the fewer the number of units in each building, the higher the potential rent increase. Renters of single family homes, or those living in one or two unit buildings, can expect to be hardest hit. Maximum increases for renters should be between 30-40%, with a minimum at about 15%. The average rental increases should amount to 20-25%.

Taxes on the Owner-Occupied Home

The following table represents a rough approximation of the increases in property taxes and monthly payments of same on a property with a current Assessors market value of \$53,000. The Assessors market value is considerably lower (between 1/4 and 1/3 lower) than the street or real market value. During re-assessment, the Assessor attempts to bring the assessed market value into line with the street or real market value. The sample house used here is two storied, frame, approx. 60 years old, in good condition, on a 35 x 90 ft lot. Conservative projections of 100% and 300% have been used to calculate probable increases. Proposition 8 (the Behr Bill) would give

(continued on page 7)

SEE CENTER SPREAD FOR
PRO & CON ON THIS ISSUE



LETTERS TO THE BEACHHEAD

Dear Beachhead People

I've been trying to think of the right way to say "Thank You" for issue No. 100 - "Good Work" or "Great Issue" really isn't enough.

Issue No. 100 was Venice taking a look at itself after ten years of battle. And there's a lot to look at. But No. 100 was more than just another issue of the paper - it was itself an important event in the struggle.

Beachhead 100 played an important part in the fight that flared up just after it was printed, to stop the block-square development proposed for Rose & Main. People were going into that fight discouraged, thinking we had lost, thinking the community was done for, that there was no spirit of resistance, that nobody was behind us, etc., etc.

Issue 100 showed that the Venice resistance had spread more widely than any of us had known. The beautiful expressions of fighting spirit from Venetians we had never heard of - and the show of strength by the Beachhead itself, printing 28 pages - encouraged us to go in and fight even against the odds. And damned if we didn't win!

The new Ocean Front Throwaway, which seems to be nothing more than commercial puffery, shows what Venice would have to do for a newspaper if it weren't for the Beachhead. Thanks to everyone on the staff for what you're doing.

Bob Wells

Dear Beachhead:

I am deeply moved by the 100th issue.

The Beachhead is the record of the Venice struggle, and all of the old memories have come flooding back of what was at stake, and what was done.

The crunch is fast approaching on the north coast. It is good to realize that some of the Venice energy has flowed to other places, and that experienced and knowledgeable people are watching, and waiting.

My very best to Venice, and to the Beachhead.

Ron Guenther
Fort Bragg

City of Venice

VENICE TOWN COUNCIL

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

This year marks the fifth anniversary of the Venice Town Council. It meets the third Wednesday of each month in the old Venice City Hall at 681 Venice Blvd at 7:30 pm.

Membership in the Venice Town Council is open to every resident of Venice. The VTC has organized the community in many of its battles against the greed of speculators and the apathy of big government. From tax protest to free-ways through Venice, from high rise high price condos to the latest attempt to turn Venice into Plastic City (the development on Rose and Main) the Venice Town Council has been on the PEOPLE's side of every fight.

If too many people you know and care about have been evicted...if you are struggling yourself with the ever increasing rents...if you think that working class people have a right to live near the ocean instead of the inner city...if you have a lot of energy or a little...or even if you just want to feel part of things by listening to the debate and plans made in the Venice community, come to the next meeting.

The lifestyle you save may be your own.

Venice Beachhead:

Your publication has just come to our attention, (the 100th issue) and we wish to congratulate you on its content and its good looks (we especially liked, from a convenience point of view, your easily identifiable page numbers, which even some glossy publications do sloppily.)

For what its worth, we sympathize with your efforts to maintain the unique quality of Venice against the monied encroachments of the Marina and Santa Monica.

Sincerely,

Elaine Stansfield
Secretary, LA Chapter
ZERO POPULATION GROWTH

To the Beachhead:

I enjoyed your 100th edition alot. It was an important issue and you lived up to it admirably. It taught me alot about Venice and made me proud to live in a community committed to sharing, helping, and caring for people; to equality, justice and tolerance. Many Thanks.

Brett Bogeaus
Venice

THE OAKWOOD TATTLER

VENICE: KEEPING IT TOGETHER

The more I hear about the inevitable triumph of the power of money and the market-place over our community - the encroaching Marina on every lip - the less I am convinced by recent events. Twice this year already, combined efforts of Oakwood residents with other neighborhoods in Venice have withstood the greedy onslaught of real estate speculators in, frankly, major bids to begin a wholesale takeover in Oakwood.

First there was the open auction of 14 low-income apartment buildings in January, forestalled at the federal level until other arrangements could be made to preserve their low-income availability. Recently, the State Coastal Commission, in an important and far-reaching decision, voted to deny a permit for an exclusive, high-rent project planned for the Rose and Main street intersection. The strongest argument against granting the permit was the preservation of Oakwood, the North Beach area, and Ocean Park in Santa Monica as low-to-moderate income neighborhoods close to the ocean. These neighborhoods were recognized as a public resource, deserving of preservation and protection from real estate developers who seek to exploit their closeness to the sea, without any compensation or support for residents. In other words, we in Oakwood can now join hands with the rest of Venice folks and develop some plans of our own. We don't have to move.

Now. What do we do with all of that? It means, for one thing, a lot more grant money coming into the neighborhood, like CETA funds that at the federal level are supposed to be used to develop jobs for "poor, disadvantaged teenagers," the very people we were all so concerned about at the Task Force meeting on violent crime. But more on that later. Right now, the CETA thing is happening and only waiting for a growing concern to invest in. Along with funds, we might also raise our consciousness out of that suicide mode where, doomed to hopelessness, we just sort of give up and let the madmen pull the trigger. In more ways than we've tried we can dismantle that trigger. We can fight the madness, too.

OAKWOOD TASK FORCE

The Task Force meeting, called at the Oakwood Recreation Center by Councilwoman Pat Russell, featured two top cops who didn't say a word the whole time they were there except to mumble a formal statement about "working with the community." They acted like they were on

FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD
SINCE 1968

PO Box 504, Venice, California 90291

Collective Staff: Arnold Springer, Olga Palo, Mike Wells, Wendy Reeves, Chuck Bloomquist, Joan Friedberg, Nancy Kless, Dave Tappan. Special thanks to Gerry Goldstien.

THE FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a community information service. It is distributed free but if you wish to be placed on the mailing list for a year, please make a contribution of \$5.00 or more. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make decisions collectively on material published and is independent of all political and community organizations. The printing is financed by ad donations. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, art work, short fiction, or other contributions of interest to the Venice community. Please sign your name or a pseudonym. Anonymous material will not be printed but your name will be withheld on request. If return of material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany it. No payment is made for material used. The Beachhead subscribes to Liberation News Service (LNS) and is a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate.

assignment. But the community was ready for the meeting, and ready to get down to some serious work.

Olga Ramirez, Bob Castile, Para Gaston, Lorenzo Clark, Mike Spaulding, Mike Angel, Marie Watts, Rick Davidson, Tony Pacheco, Doris Oliver, Vernon Works, and Richard Cortez all signed up to serve on the Task Force. At last report, however, Russell had postponed the first meeting of the Task Force by 2 or 3 weeks! A rather discouraging beginning, and God knows there's a lot to be done. If the Task Force can just stay together it will serve as a beacon of hope to people who see beyond the narrow, if tragic, vision of lawlessness and crime in Oakwood to the wider context of it: chronic unemployment, general economic depression, racism, and the brutal hand of gangster politics, most notable in the recent rash of gang-style killings and the resulting police "protection" of the community. One of a number of scenes described for the Captain and his Lieutenant was of a gang of cops, busting in on a church service, heavy metal punks with their car pulled up on the sidewalk out in front and their hands on their guns.

These, too, must be made to observe the law. Just like the gangsters and real estate developers. We can make them. When a community pulls together, it has power. Oakwood has too long viewed itself in a defeatist, second-rate way. We have the law on our side. Do we have the will to use it?

And the way to gain release from this poverty on the beach is not to die in the streets but to organize!

Audience at Street Performers Festival



WOMONSPACE

by Ruth Richman

As a newcomer to Los Angeles, I have had the fortune of learning about a woman's support center called Womonspace, at 237 Hill St. in Santa Monica. It has been of value to me as a source of referral to people and places that offered me assistance in both personal and practical problems, as well as in giving me an overview of the feminist community's activities and resources.

I have been especially impressed by the warmth and overall friendly and informal atmosphere where women support and assist each other within a broad range of problems. There is an informed generosity demonstrated by this community of women in the particular methods of assisting each other - emotional support is readily available, as is the type of assistance that is effective in helping women develop their own problem-solving skills.

The policy against permitting men into the center did not at first feel right to me. I am bi-sexual and not a separatist, and what makes most sense to me is an attempt to bridge the societal divisions that exist. However, I've realized the strong need felt by women to have their own space in which to discover and to develop themselves and to be in full control of directing the atmosphere conducive to this purpose. In this environment, it's encouraging to see cooperation between a group of women with so many statistical differences - e.g., race, religion, age, education, etcetera. The problem of resolving the division between gay and straight women is one which Womonspace is challenging. This center encourages women of either sexual commitment to join in all the facets of its operations and activities, and offers a mixed contact radical therapy group where there is the opportunity to understand and respect that essential difference, and to focus on the essential feminist ties.

I've attended several staff meetings, which are open to everyone interested in contributing energy and ideas to the maintenance and continuing development of the center. There is no apparent hierarchical structure, except of course, some members are more committed to the center and are recognized for that. Nancy Levine, Womonspace's single employee, takes on most of the demanding daily responsibilities. She manages the general operation of the center, in addition to being a liaison to neighboring community organizations, attending after-hour meetings, lecture work, and coordinating fund-raising events. It's apparent that the center's functioning is presently very much dependent upon her super energy level, and upon the willingness of women to volunteer their time and energy - and there are never enough volunteers.

I've just learned that Womonspace is in danger of closing because of lack of funds. The only regular income is gained from renting space to women for courses that include skill-sharing, radical therapy problem-solving groups, and discussion and consciousness-raising groups including the Fat Underground. I know that rental space is available, and that the cost is very minimal in the interest of keeping the center available to all women.

Hopefully the fundraising events of March 17th will have brought in the needed money to extend Womonspace's existence. The interest of the women's community would be helpful here if it materialized into bringing in courses to share, and in contributions.

SMOKERS ON THE PILL SHOULD SWITCH METHOD

(CPS)--Birth control pill users will receive a strongly worded caution with their prescription as a result of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations effective in April.

A brochure warns women who smoke that they risk "serious adverse effects on the heart and blood vessels," and advises smokers to use another type of contraception.

The leaflet will be dispensed each time a prescription for the pill is filled, and also warns of potential hazards of liver tumors, heart attacks in women over 40, and damage to the fetus if the pill is taken during pregnancy.

FDA Commissioner Donald Kennedy said recently that women who both smoke and use the pill are 10 times more likely to die of a heart attack or other circulatory disorder than women who neither smoke nor take the pill.

FDA regulations also require manufacturers of the pill to incorporate the new warnings in information given to physicians.

POT a la PARAQUAT

3

On March 13, 1978, NORML filed suit in federal court to halt U.S. involvement in the spraying of highly toxic herbicides on Mexican marijuana fields.

More than 20% of marijuana samples seized near the U.S.-Mexican border are contaminated with the highly toxic herbicide paraquat (left over from the Vietnam war and manufactured by Chevron Company).

Preliminary results of research on laboratory animals by the National Institute on Drug Abuse establish that smoking paraquat-contaminated marijuana can cause permanent lung damage, a disorder known as fibrosis. Cases of fibrosis are beginning to surface at several medical facilities.

NORML issued an urgent warning to consumers to avoid Mexican Marijuana altogether until these herbicide spraying programs are stopped, and all the health and safety assessments have been satisfactorily concluded. Any marijuana

suspected of herbicide contamination should be analyzed before it's consumed. An anonymous test can be made by sending a one-half gram sample (about one joint) in a plastic bag to: PharmChem Research Foundation, 1844 Bay Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303 (415) 322-9941.

Make up any 5 digit number and enclose it in the envelope. Be sure to include \$5 to cover the cost of testing. Wait one week and call PharmChem for results, using the 5 digit number to identify your sample.

Since good quality marijuana is in color and seized samples of contaminated marijuana are the same, consumers should not try to make the distinction themselves. The risk to health is far to great.

NORML urges consumers and other outraged citizens to contact President Carter and urge him to stop all U.S. aid to the herbicide spraying programs. His address is: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, DC 90500. For more local information call 272-1443.

RENTERS' RIGHTS

Legislation expanding the rights of renters was introduced in the Legislature on April 20 by Senator Alan Sieroty.

SB 2193 protects tenants from arbitrary evictions by limiting the right of landlords to evict tenants to a limited number of grounds defined in the bill. These include failure to pay rent, disturbing the peace and quiet of other tenants, damage to the premises, and violation of reasonable rules governing the premises.

SB2193 also protects tenants from rent increases for one year by requiring landlords to offer tenants a lease for twelve months at a fixed rent if requested by the tenant.

"Tenants who go to the expense of moving into a new dwelling should be given security from rent increases for a reasonable period of time," Sieroty commented.

"Tenants should also be protected from evictions by landlords without just cause," according to Sieroty.

The bill also gives tenants who are evicted from apartments being converted into condominiums "the right of first refusal" to purchase the condominium.

Many Venice residents have suffered past abuses due to a lack of legal protection in these areas. If you would like to voice your support of this legislation, you may write to:

Senator Alan Sieroty
Room 4047, State Capitol
Sacramento, CA

RENT CONTROL

AN EVENING OF DISCUSSION AND DEBATE ON PROP. 'P', THE SANTA MONICA RENT CONTROL INITIATIVE, PRO AND ANTI RENT CONTROL GROUPS WILL ADDRESS THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE, WED, MAY 24TH, 8:00P.M., SPONSORED BY BAY CITIES JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER 2601 SANTA MONICA BLVD, S.M. CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED.

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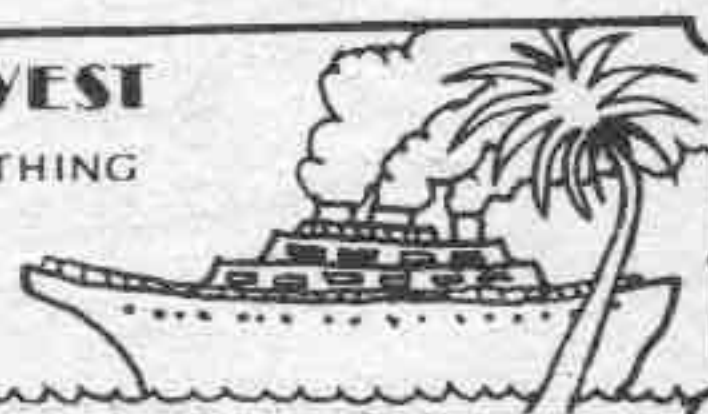
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THE SEVEN DIRTY WORDS

Age Discrimination In Movies

By MIKE WELLS

Lately I have been hearing complaints from friends about how unfair it is that if a person is between the ages of twelve and seventeen they have to fork over adult prices, even though they are prohibited from seeing adult films.

I got to thinking about how unfair this really is, and decided to make other people aware of this issue. It is really too bad that this is true because going to the movies is often a teenagers only form of entertainment. Me and many other people feel that something should be done to make movies more fair for teenagers.

One solution we have come up with is that since you have to be over 17 to see X rated movies, the price difference should change at the age of 17.

My friends and I have decided to pursue this issue further, so what we need right now is some kind of support. If anybody has any suggestions or just wants to show support, send a postcard or letter to Josh and Mike Wells at:

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Thank you.

at lunch

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The following article is reprinted from *Folio*, a publication of KPFK radio, which is a non-profit, listener-sponsored station and a member of the Pacifica Foundation.

by Bill Sokol

In April, for the first time in our history, Pacifica stood before the U.S. Supreme Court, defending ourselves and you against government censorship. It definitely was not a role we chose--we've been dragged there by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), a regulatory agency committed to the principle that they can censor all electronic media despite the First Amendment, using Pacifica to prove the point.

It all started in 1973, when a listener was driving around New York City, with his ten-year-old child in the car, listening to *The Lunch Pail*, a noon-hour program on our sister station, WBAI. The program that day was about societal attitudes toward language, and to end it, the programmer chose a short recorded piece by comedian George Carlin, all about "Seven words you can't say on TV." Carlin spoofed the peculiar societal reaction to the use of words like "shit" and "fuck" on broadcast media. Supposedly, this listener wrote a letter of complaint to the FCC. The FCC could have written back saying that if you don't like what you hear you should just turn off the radio or change stations. But it did not. Nor did it file this letter with thousands of complaints it receives all year long.

Instead, the FCC held a hearing and published a decision saying that Pacifica had violated FCC rules and regulations and the Federal Communications Act by airing "indecent" language. The decision stated that such language must be censored during hours children might be listening to radio or watching TV. In other words, the FCC trampled all over the First Amendment and decided that a government agency can tell radio and TV stations what they can or cannot broadcast.

The decision established the legal principle that even though the First Amendment protects my right to tell you right here, in print, what words Carlin used, I cannot tell you those words on the radio or TV during morning, daylight, or early evening hours, because somehow, First Amendment freedom of speech and press means one thing for print media and another for electronic media. As far as the FCC is concerned, you

can read Edward Albee, D.H. Lawrence, and Norman Mailer, but you cannot hear me read them over the air.

Obviously, Pacifica, the first and only wide-open, free expression First Amendment radio network, could not submit to government censors, so we appealed the decision to the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals. That court paid more attention to the First Amendment than the FCC did, and reversed the decision, finding that the FCC had ventured into "the forbidden realm of censorship." In a majority decision Judge Tamm wrote that the FCC "must be in favor of preserving values of free expression and freedom from governmental interference in matters of taste." (It's frightening to note that the Court's liberal judge, H. Leventhal, voted against Pacifica, saying that the FCC could censor the media in order to protect children and "the quality of community life.")

But the FCC was not ready to give up its self-proclaimed role of child-protecting government censors, so it appealed that decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. On January 9, the U.S. Supremes, the Chief Justice Burger Nixon-appointed Court, announced they would reconsider the lower court's decision and give the FCC another chance to argue for government censorship. The court has scheduled oral argument of the case for April.

Scuttlebutt in Washington has it that the "liberals" on the Court never vote in favor of reconsidering pro-First Amendment decisions of the lower courts, so it seems reasonable to conclude that it is the more conservative Nixon appointees who want another shot at considering imposing government censorship of broadcast media. Whether or not this is true, we do know that the Burger Court is no friend of full free expression in speech and press, and that its decision to hear this case may herald a new age of government censorship, under the guise of "cleaning up the airwaves."

To prepare for this legal confrontation, Pacifica launched a nationwide publicity campaign, to help alert everyone to a battle we have so far fought alone. Several broadcast organizations (NBC, etc.) have agreed to submit "amicus" briefs on our behalf; and we are now looking for donations to pay our own legal bills. In addition to the publicity campaign and fund-raising, we have aired special programming about the case and all the issues it raises. Keep tuned for further information on Pacifica's battle to keep the First Amendment first, in the face of government censorship.

(Editor's Note: At press time, we were uncertain of the outcome of the hearings, which began on April 18.)

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Activities of Your Local Representatives

STATE SENATOR ALAN SIEROTY

- 1) California League of Conservation Voters has rated his record on conservation issues as the best in the State Senate. On 22 key environmental bills he and Senator John Dunlap received the highest rating of 93% on conservation issues.
- 2) Received the A Milton Miller Memorial Award from the Calif Coordinating Council of the National Rehabilitation Association for his work on behalf of the handicapped, and for leading a legislative effort to remove architectural barriers for the physically handicapped.
- 3) Named by the Senate as its representative to the state Consumer Affairs Council. It is responsible for recommending legislation to protect the interests of consumers. He is also the sponsor of the California Consumer Assistance Act which would provide matching state funds to local governments for the creation or expansion of local consumer protection depts and consumer fraud units within district attorneys offices.
- 4) publically announced support for a drive to provide community assistance to TUUM Est, the Venice based program to treat ex drug abusers.
- 5) authored legislation which passed the Senate which would provide more effective consumer protection services at the local level. The bill, the Calif Consumer Assistance Act (SB 774) allocates \$1.7 million over a three year period. See above.
- 6) Introduced legislation to prohibit the free distribution of promotional packages of cigarettes. "I agree with Secretary Califano that cigarette smoking is a public health enemy. The passage of this bill would be a small but significant victory in the effort to reduce cigarette addiction in our country" he said.
- 7) Co-authored the Senate Bill (#1) authored by Peter Behr's, which appears to be the legislature's last chance to prove to the electorate that government will react to the mounting tax protest. According to Sieroty SB 1 will cut property taxes by 40% over and above the \$1,750 homeowners exemption already available. "The bill", he said, "helps to assure homeowners that they will not be forced out of their homes by increased assessments." The bill is also supposed to control increases in government spending through a strict revenue limitation on the budgets of cities and counties, restricting local government expenditure to no more than the annual increase in the cost of living index. This tax relief would be financed in part thru a \$1.2 billion annual fund created by a 5% tax on the profit from the sale of a home. In effect the state will begin picking up most health and welfare costs now paid by the counties. Senate Bill 1 also contains approximately \$300 million in renter relief programs. The present \$37,000 tax credit for renters would go to \$87,000. The Senior Citizens Rent assistance program would also be expanded with the maximum income limit for participation increased from \$5 to \$12,000.00, and the amount of assistance increased at each income level. It would also allow disabled persons and surviving spouses of senior citizens to participate in the Senior Citizens Rent Assistance Program and the Senior Citizens Property Tax Assistance Program. "This Bill", said Sieroty, "is a bold and innovative approach to reducing reliance on the property tax." "It's net effect is that homeowners will enjoy substantially lower taxes." "It is a welcome and much-needed reform of our outmoded tax system".
- 8) Introduced a bill which would increase state supervision of thrift and loan associations so that consumer-savers would be assured additional protection.
- 9) Introduced a bill which would prohibit discrimination against the physically handicapped who are now barred from serving on juries. He referred to this prohibition as demeaning and unacceptable. Sieroty is also the author of a 1975 law establishing "blue-curb" parking spaces exclusively for use by the physically handicapped.
- 10) Will moderate a panel focusing on Major Consumer Problems of Health, the Handicapped, Senior Citizens, and Limited Income Community Groups, at the General Convention of the Consumer Federation of California on March 4. The panel, scheduled for 2 pm, will take place at the Airport Marina Hotel.
- 11) announced that basic information about wills is available from his district office (479-4244). "Who Needs a Will", published by the State Bar of Calif, contains information describing why a will is necessary, what property it covers, and other useful information.

ASSEMBLYMAN MEL LEVINE

- 1) Introduced legislation to prohibit the practice of ticket scalping. Violators of the proposed legislation would be subject to \$500 fine or 6 months in jail or both.

COUNCILWOMAN PAT RUSSELL

- 1) Requested that the City Council allocate \$393,700 for services and facilities that will aid battered women and their families. The two projects slated to receive the aid are Rosasharon, an outpatient family crisis counseling center for abused women and their children, and the Good Shepherd Center for Independent Living, which provides counseling and aids the handicapped in finding accessible housing.
- 2) announced that the CETA Symphony Orchestra is now available for performances in the 6th Council District. Recently organized by the City's Bureau of Music, it is composed of unemployed musicians who were hired under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). Any bona fide community organization may request the orchestra or any combination of its musicians, for a performance. Contact Larry Kaplan at the Councilwoman's office for further info (485-3357).
- 3) Announced that funds have been allocated for the Venice Canals Restoration Project. The project, which will begin after the completion of an EIR, includes the removal of debris from canal

bottoms, stabilization of banks, reconstruction of bridges, and laying of sidewalks. The project is budgeted for \$786,000, of which \$77,300 has already been spent on preliminary planning.

A public hearing on the EIR will determine the actual design of the project, which is scheduled to begin in April of 1979.

- 4) Will hold a fact finding hearing on her motion to prohibit discrimination against children in rental housing. The hearing, open to the public, will be held on Wednesday, March 15, at 7 pm at the LA City Hall, rm 340. The proposed ordinance would not apply to senior citizen housing, retirement hotels, or housing for handicapped

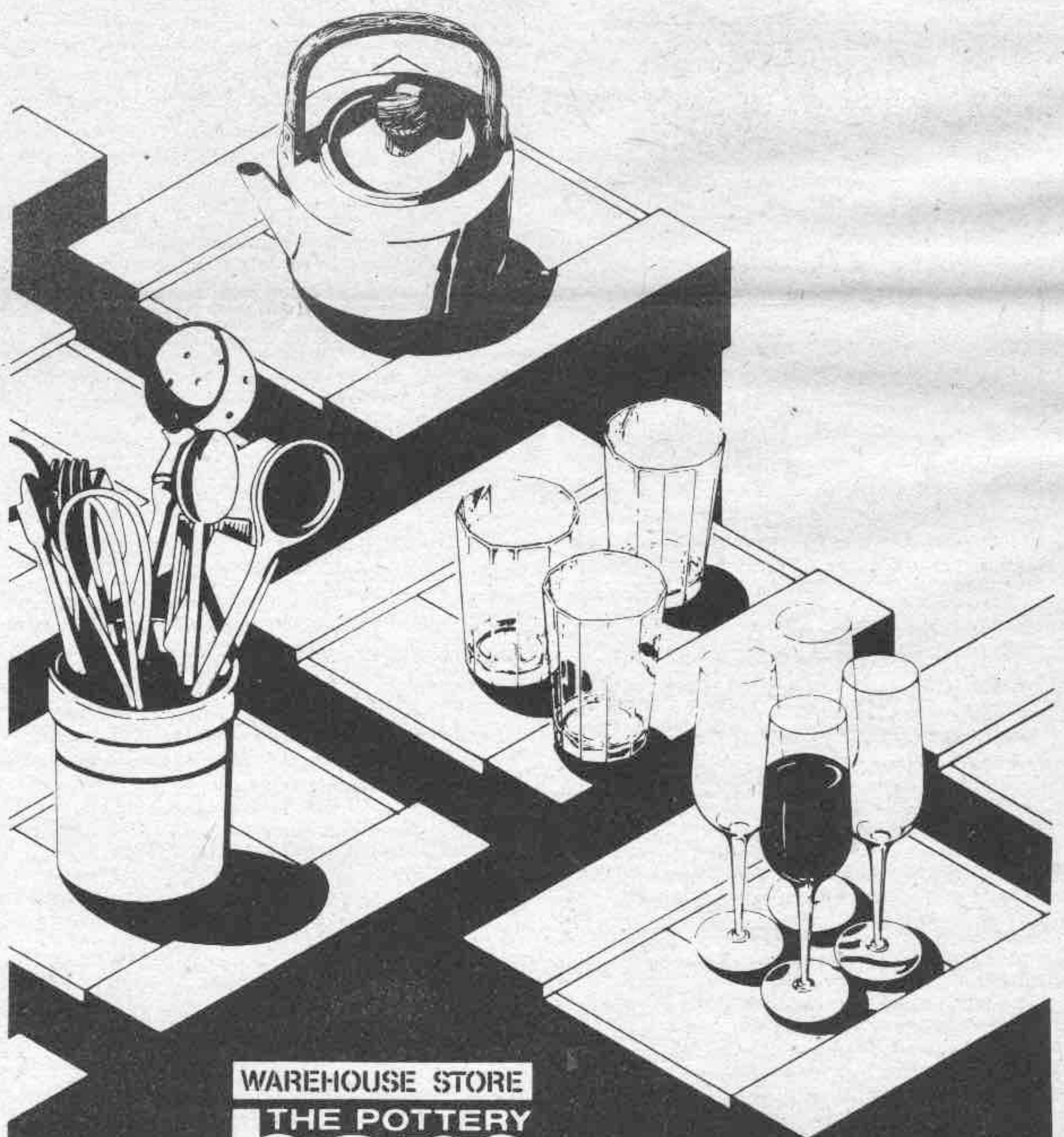
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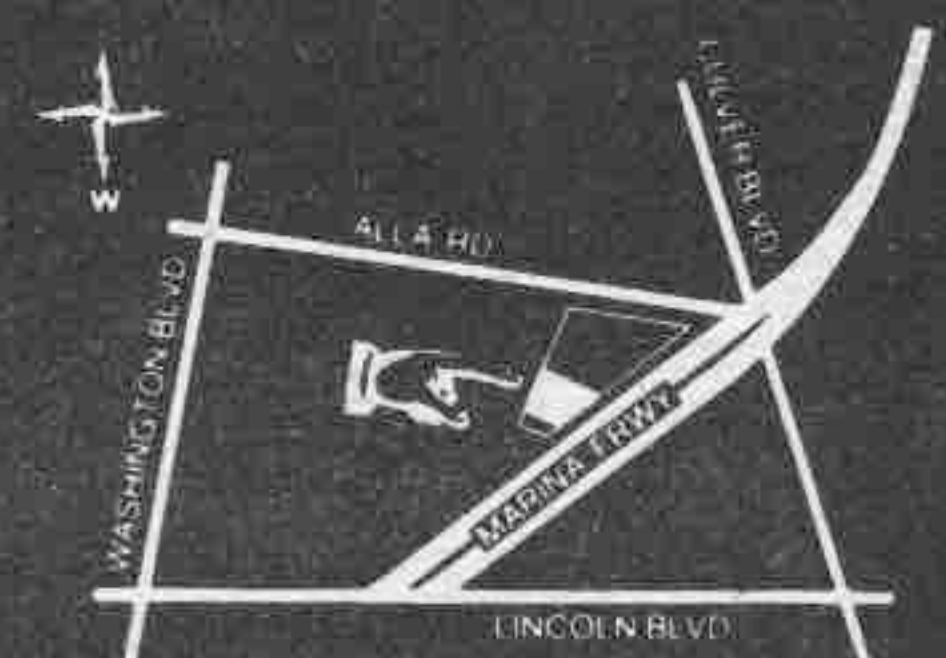
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Here Comes The Sun

by Dave Tappan

The West Los Angeles and South Bay Campaign for Economic Democracy held an emergency meeting on SolarCal Legislation that is currently before committee in the State Assembly and Senate.

The meeting was held at the Retail Clerks Union Hall on 2nd Street in Santa Monica and was attended by approximately 70 dedicated folks. Of note to this observer-participant, was an absence of that uptight, shady political look. In contrast, most of those in attendance projected an aura of free and easy, knowledgeable and concerned.

A television viewing of a solar energy program with narration by CED member Jane Fonda was shown. Afterwards, there was a discussion conducted by SolarCal coordinator Peggy Curran-Gardels and CED member Ralph Brave concerning the SolarCal legislation that comes up for a vote in early May. Of critical importance is the passage of Assembly Bill 2984 (Assemblyman Bates, Oakland) which requires the Public Utilities Commission to regulate any utility entry into the solar market, so that it will not hinder competition. CED members in particular and the public in general, were urged to write their Assembly representatives in support of Bill 2984.

Assembly Members Mel Levine, whose West Los Angeles district includes Venice, and Marilyn Ryan of Redondo Beach sit on the key Assembly Energy Committee which will be considering the bill. You can make contact by writing them in care of the State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA 95814.

A California Public Policy Center study (Fred Branfman, Project Manager) titled "Jobs From The Sun" indicates that a program implementing feasible uses of solar energy for space and water heating between 1981 and 1990 could generate:

- o 375,000 new jobs annually
- o \$40 billion added personal income
- o \$50 billion in Gross State Product
- o \$20 billion in tax savings
- o \$10 billion less exported capital

And as Peggy Curran-Gardels and Ralph

Brave intimated: Action now can foster a new age of democratic, decentralized solar industry in California and help free our economy from the grip of giant energy monopolies. Solar Energy: The Force Is With Us!



SUN DAY
1028 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20036

SOLAR ACTION - a coalition of consumer activists, environmentalists, small businesspeople, unionists, farmers and public officials - has announced that on SUN DAY May 3, 1978 the Solar Age will begin. SUN DAY events will include teach-ins, demonstrations, energy conferences and fairs at schools, colleges and communities across the nation.

The day will be inaugurated by a sunrise celebration on Cadillac Mountain in Maine, the spot where the sun first hits the United States. In New York, SUN DAY will begin with a sunrise concert at the United Nations. In Washington there will be a solar fair on the Mall, a public concert and an energy conference at George Washington University. Other participating cities include Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Iowa City, Denver, Albuquerque and Seattle. In Los Angeles, the Southern California Solar Energy Association and the mayor's office are cooperating in

N.J.C. OPENS FOR BUSINESS

by Nancy Kless

The Venice - Mar Vista Neighborhood Justice Center announced its opening by inviting the community to an afternoon block party on Sunday, April 2. A number of visiting dignitaries and officials attended including Supreme Court Chief Justice Rose Elizabeth Bird and District Attorney John Van de Kamp.

The block party also attracted over 200 people who were literally dancing in the streets to the music of three local bands. Many came by to have a good time on a sunny Sunday afternoon, but most people left with some knowledge of how this latest alternative to the court system might work for them.

The courts, whose authority rests upon constitutional and legislative mandate, depend in large part on their apparent power, moral authority, and their ability to enforce judgments. By contrast, the Neighborhood Justice Center (NJC) will be tapping the good will of the parties and their mutual desire to see a satisfactory and lasting solution to an interpersonal dispute. The incentive is less from fear of prosecution, but more out of enlightened self-interest --- to resolve the dispute and get on with their lives.

The NJC, sponsored by the Los Angeles County Bar Association, is one of three innovative pilot programs funded throughout the country by the U.S. Department of Justice. The purpose of NJC is to help members of the community resolve disputes for which existing court procedures are too costly, too slow, too impersonal, or otherwise inappropriate (such as those between neighbors, merchants and consumers, landlords and tenants, and within families) through a voluntary process of mediation.

The mediator is a neutral and objective person who facilitates the resolution of conflicts by hearing both sides, clarifying the issues, and helping the disputants to explore alternative solutions. The goal is to reach an agreement (which is written up and signed by both parties) through compromise. The mediator never imposes any decisions but attempts to assist the contending parties to find their own solutions.

Cont. on Next Page



Joel Edelman, Director of NJC
(photo by Al Hurwit)

a series of events. The City has proclaimed May 3 as Sun Day and the period of April 30 to May 3 as Solar Week in a ***PROCLAMATION*** containing suitable "whereases" and signed by the mayor and all 15 city council members. An LA/SUN DAY dinner is being held at the Biltmore Hotel. The official sunset ceremony for the country will be at the Santa Monica Pier.

The objectives of Solar Action are stated by its chairman Denis Hayes: "We want solar energy to be put on an equal financial footing with competing energy sources. We want to give it an equal chance. We want to clear away institutional obstacles that deter solar energy. We would like to see a strong, well-informed labor force built that is capable of handling solar technologies. Finally, we would like to see a strong degree of consumer protection, with laws to stop fast-buck exploitation as the solar industry grows"

More information on SUN DAY or on SolarCal can be obtained from the West Los Angeles Campaign for Economic Democracy at 395-8418, or from Solar Jobs 304 S. Broadway #224, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

A RALLY FOR DISARMAMENT:

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Helen Caldecott
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The VENICE ALLIANCE FOR SURVIVAL is participating in the Festival For A Future. We are working to bring these important issues to light in our community -- by educating the public about the dangers of nuclear energy -- by working for an end to nuclear weapons and the arms race, and converting our economy to one emphasizing peace and human needs. We are associated with the general Los Angeles Alliance for Survival. The L.A. area effort was born out of the San Onofre demonstration of August 6, 1977, and has grown steadily since. We need your help. We meet approximately every two weeks, to plan community work and to educate ourselves further on the issues. For transportation and further information, call us at: 829-2450, 473-9732, 392-4784

An afternoon of entertainment and speakers for the cause of disarmament will happen May 21 at the Hollywood Bowl. It is one of the events which will be taking place around the country and the world coinciding with the U.N. Special Session on Disarmament. Representatives of the economically underdeveloped world called for this session, in the realization that the over \$350 billion per year spent on armaments worldwide is killing them even if the weapons are not used.

Entertainers for the afternoon will be singer Minnie Riperton, Richie Havens, Holly Near, Tom Paxton, the Starland Vocal Band, and a reunion of Peter, Paul, and Mary. Speakers will include Daniel Berrigan, Cesar Chavez, Eugene McCarthy, Daniel Ellsberg, Allard Lowenstein (a U.S. representative to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights), and Dr. Helen Caldecott (cancer researcher and pediatrician).

Some of the other activities for the week will be demonstrations at the U.N. in New York, for which a people's delegation from Japan numbering 400 will present petitions bearing 35 MILLION names!!

Tickets for the Hollywood Bowl event will cost \$3 and may be had from Ticketron and Mutual agencies or from I.C.C./Festival For A Future 652-4190, and at the door (but the organizers would like as many of us as possible to buy in advance). The event will begin at 2 P.M.

Let's add our push on May 21 to the worldwide movement for disarmament and redirection of resources to peaceful and constructive use. If you can offer or if you will need transportation, call Venice Alliance for Survival at 473-9732 or 397-4481.

Continued from page 1
each homeowner a 30% reduction in his property tax, but only after re-assessment.

	Amount of Tax	Change in Month Paym.
present tax as of 1977	\$2,200	base period
projected tax increase (100 %)	\$4,400	plus \$183
projected tax increase (300%)	\$6,600	" \$366
projected tax increase under Prop. 8 (Behr)		
100% minus 30%	\$2,930	" \$60
300% minus 30%	\$4,400	" \$183
projected tax under Prop 13 (Jarvis).....	\$1,600	minus \$50
roll-back to 1975 assessed value		

Survey of Rent Increases After July Re-Assessment

The following table records the approximate increase in rents on the same property, non owner occupied. This property will not receive any reduction in property taxes even if Behr (Prop 8) passes, but it will if Jarvis wins. The building contains 4 units in good condition. Rent increases result from owners attempt to cover increased property tax by passing it on in the form of proportional rent increases.

Non Owner Occupied Buildings Average Renters Table

	3 bdr.	% change	2 bdr	2 bdr.	sngr.	total rent incr.	total tax incr.
Current rent	\$400	----	\$290	\$270	\$150	-----	-----
After 100% re-assmt. \$475	20%	\$340	\$310	\$170	\$185	\$183	
After 300% re-assmt. \$570	40%	\$380	\$345	\$180	\$365	\$366	
Under Behr Bill	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Under Jarvis, possible. \$375	-15%	\$280	\$260	\$145	-\$50	- \$50	
reductions							

Venice Renters and Prop 8 (Behr)

If an owner actually lives in his building and occupies one of the mythical 4 units, and if either Prop 8 (Behr) or Prop 13 (Jarvis) passes, each rental unit should, in principle, share in the tax break. Under Behr this amounts to a 30% reduction; under Jarvis a reduction to the 1975 assessed valuation. But neither proposition compels landlords to share these reductions with their tenants. Behr mandates a \$6 per month tenant credit which can be claimed as a deduction on next years tax forms. Whoop! Jarvis contains no such provision.

Sample Rents of Owner Occupied Apartment Buildings Adjusted to Conform to Mandated Behr and Jarvis Levels

rents	3 bdr.	2 bdr.	2 bdr.	single
current	\$400	\$290	\$270	\$150
100% minus Behr 30% plus \$35		plus \$10	plus \$10	plus \$5
300% minus Behr 30% " \$75		" \$50	" \$40	" \$20
Jarvis rollback to 1975 minus \$25		minus \$10	minus \$10	minus \$5
level				

(proportional increases are spread unevenly since it is assumed that already high priced larger apartments cannot sustain huge increases as easily as low or medium cost units)
The bottom Line

As the above table show, Prop 8 (Behr) cannot reduce rents in Venice. Property taxes and rents will go up even if Behr passes, because Venice is being re-assessed. But even if we were not being re-assessed, Behr would have little impact on Venice rents because it applies only to owner occupied units, and we have very few of those in this community.

The unmistakable conclusion that cannot be ignored is that only two things can stop a rent increase disaster in Venice, and those are --- an act of god, or positive action by the community. Although many here would like to deny it, Jarvis, not Behr speaks to the issue of rising rents and property taxes in this community. Are there other options open to us? Is there some way to stop the crushing burden of these new taxes before they are dumped on us in July? The Meeting on May 18 at the Levin Center should provide some answers, and also give an indication of just how much fight is left in this community.



Photo by Allan Hurwit

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The NJC is staffed by men and women who live and work in the community and includes a director, a deputy director, an associate director, two mediation coordinators, a research analyst and a secretary as well as 21 parttime mediators. All have been intensively trained and have had diverse experience within the community and offer a wide range of knowledge in the fields of law, psychology, social work, and community organization. The staff is, as much as possible, representative of the diversity of people who live in the Venice-Mar Vista Community.

If you have a dispute, you can call the NJC and come in to talk with a mediation coordinator. The other party will be contacted, and if he or she agrees, a mediation session will be scheduled within a week after you bring in your original complaint.

The service provided by the NJC offers the possibility of speedy resolutions, is FREE, conveniently located and CONFIDENTIAL. So, call or stop by to see how they can help you. You may save yourself time, money, and further aggravation....

The Venice - Mar Vista Neighborhood Justice Center is located at 1527 Venice Blvd. in Venice, and the phone number is 390-7666.

FROM THE OTHER SHORE - VENICE CIVIC UNION SPEAKS

(Reprinted from their Newsletter, April, 78)

Venice Civic Union members were polled about their attendance at meetings. They were telephoned and asked, "Why is it that you don't attend meetings anymore?" 50% of those called said that they were not in good health, and did not go out at night. 30% said that they had been 'very busy' but would try to make the next meeting. 10% said that it was a 'hopeless' situation in Venice; that City Hall doesn't respond. The remaining 10% said that they would be glad to come to meetings if somebody would pick them up.

One member says she has two lots on Ocean Front Walk and wants to donate them for senior citizen housing. She says she hasn't done so because current zoning won't permit more than two units per lot. The Union considers this an important issue. If you do as well, it asks you to attend the next meeting (call 399-0031).

note: The Proposed Specific Plan for North Beach does indeed provide density incentives for senior citizen and low income housing. If the Civic Union is really into senior citizen housing incentives, we suggest you contact Richard Gervais at Community Planning in L.A. City Hall and ask him to keep that provision in the Specific Plan. This may well be the very first time that the Venice Civic Union and the North Beach Planning Task Force have agreed on anything more critical than the time of day.

On Realizing The People's Will

by ROBT. WELLS

These notes were written by Bob Wells for private discussion prior to the mid-April meeting of the Venice Town Council Coordinating Committee.

The Committee meeting dealt with the question of the shopping center development planned for Rose and Main St. Originally the Town Council, the Venice Legal Aid office, and two people from Ocean Park, Cheryl Rhoden and Michael Tarbet, had opposed the development before the Regional Coastal Commission. The permit was granted and the parties filed appeals with the State Commission, but before the appeals were heard negotiations started with the developers.

Legal Aid dropped their appeal in exchange for various promises from the developers and a commitment of 50 hours of free time to the community by the developers' architect.

Cheryl Rhoden and Michael Tarbet dropped their appeal in exchange for \$3000, to be given by the developers to the Church in Ocean Park, to be used for low-cost housing. (Before the Commission voted Cheryl and Michael and the Church decided not to take the money after all, and gave it back to the developers.)

After debating the question at an open public meeting the Town Council decided not to deal with the developers, and went ahead with the appeal.

The Town Council mid-April Coordinating Committee meeting, held after the appeal but before the Commission voted, was a discussion between the Town Council and the Ocean Park parties around the possibility of the Ocean Park people reversing their positions, and renewing their opposition to the project (though it was too late to renew their appeal with the Commission).

These notes were written in preparation for that meeting.



A.

WHY WE SHOULDN'T TAKE THE MONEY OR MAKE ANY OTHER DEAL:

The proposition of the community movement so far has been that we (working people, the poor, the minorities) have a prior right to be here that is incompatible with and inconsistent with the "rights" of any developers to change the community at their own choosing for their own profit. (Our right doesn't depend on the fact that we were here first, because we weren't, but on reasons of class, national oppression -- another discussion.)

Although we have always been blessed with good advocates (in court, at the Coastal Commission, etc.) the movement has succeeded thus far because the people in the community as a whole have been kept conscious (or have kept themselves conscious) of the character of the struggle, and have involved themselves (and have been able to involve themselves) at key moments. To resolve any doubts about the general level of community consciousness see the 100th BEACHHEAD.

Everyone said from the beginning (middle sixties) that considering the odds against us this was a losing fight (and that feeling was much more stark at the beginning than it is now). There are three points about this, however:

1. We have found to our surprise, and more often than we've expected, that it isn't necessarily a losing fight after all;

2. Even in a losing fight, if you take ten years to lose that's qualitatively different from losing in two years;
3. Venice is part of a much larger fight, both geographically and in other contexts -- class, national liberation, etc. (this is something the Left in Venice has been remiss in drawing out, and now is the time for us to be very analytically self-critical about this -- but this is also another discussion). The point is, in these other contexts even if we are in a losing fight it makes all the difference in the world -- literally -- how we lose.

(Just one aside at this point -- the first Canal Festival was a going-away party by the people, who thought they had lost everything. It turned out, of course -- again, to their surprise -- that they hadn't lost after all. We could just as well still be having those Festivals: the Funeral wasn't a funeral for the canals, it was a funeral for the spirit of resistance of the people in there -- as long as that spirit was there anything was possible regardless of any hopeless "analysis" of the situation; once the spirit is gone, nothing is possible.)

THE POINT OF ALL THIS -- If we start making deals in the face of a losing situation -- if we accept low-cost housing, or cash, or jobs, or relocation, or whatever, in exchange for giving up this or that piece of Venice -- then we have changed the fundamental proposition of our movement: we have shifted our struggle completely out of one category and into another, completely different category.

Venice is no longer defending itself, it is selling itself: the only question that remains is to fix the price. This is a mistake in terms of (1) and (2) and (3) above, and for other reasons as well:

- That policy would effectively destroy any reason for a mass movement of the people of Venice and any ability we might have to generate one: it is a policy most effectively carried out by brokers, bargainers, deal-makers, in private easily-controlled meetings. It changes our politics from one of "The power of the people" to one of "Concessions for you, the people, that we, the deal-makers, will obtain in your behalf." It changes the people from active makers of history into passive clients -- the exact role that imperialist society in general constantly tries to school us for, and that we constantly struggle against. To see where that policy leads, just look at the present trade-union movement.

There is no way that our deal-makers can bargain successfully because they are trading in chips that are of a categorically different value than the chips used by the other side. Venice is a unique, irreplaceable, one-time human life-support system (as is any poor, working-class, or minority community anywhere). For example -- one of the favorite "victories" of our self-appointed

business agents has always been subsidized low-cost housing for the elderly in exchange for this or that piece of Venice: well, to picture this in its essence (aside from any one specific deal), imagine oldtimers from the Israel Levin Center living in subsidized low-cost apartments in the Marina City Club or Santa Monica Shores. Picture them coming home at night past the Mercedeses, the young swingers, the security doors; picture them coming out in the morning after making tea on the hot-plate. Where do they go? To the tennis court? To have a three-dollar martini by the swimming pool? Where are their markets, their benches, their friends, the young people, the fabric of Venice community culture that keeps them alive? Venice is more than just a subsidized place to live. Every one of our populations -- hippies, Blacks, Latins, surfers, all the rest of us -- have cultures of survival and resistance, and this is what our self-appointed deal-makers are offering in exchange for a few bucks or a subsidized apartment or relocation for Christ sake! Fuck relocation -- we're already located!

Anyway, that's why we shouldn't take the \$3,000. It's not a matter of tactics, it's a question of a fundamental change in the direction and character of the Venice movement -- and even on the tactical level it's a direction that's bound to lose more for us, and faster, than just about any other direction we could take. It would permanently alienate people from the community struggle in the process, and "confirm" all their suspicions about the Left and the movement being a sellout "just like all the rest." Altogether much too high a price to pay.

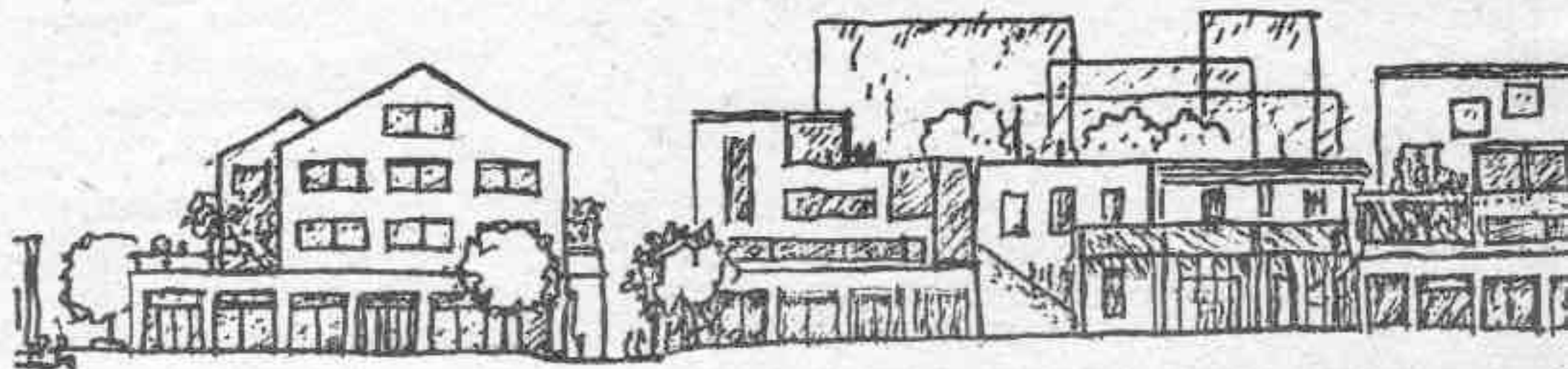
B.

WHY, IF WE DO WIND UP WITH THE \$3,000, WE SHOULDN'T SPEND IT ON LEGAL FEES FOR A SUIT AGAINST THE PROJECT:

The answer to this is much shorter because basically most of it's been said under (A). It's using the best of all possible reasons for taking the worst of all possible kinds of money. It would be a little more confusing (at first) than a straight sellout, but it would work all the bad changes in our movement that I described above. (Of course this doesn't happen all at once around one project or encounter with the enemy. But it accumulates, and this is a very big project and an important encounter with the enemy.)

But to take the money and then use it like this would also cost us an important loss of credibility with our own people. At best it would make the Town Council and the Left look like too-too-clever naives; but more than that it would give the impression (and have the substance) of deceitfulness, double-dealing, sneakiness, quick and easy opportunism. We have to remember that to people generally we of the Left movement are also "them" -- they are constantly and suspiciously sizing us up, knowing that even though we claim to be (and hopefully are) "of them" and representing their interests, they will still have to be dealing with us. And they're right. It's very necessary for them to gauge our credibility, our hon-

cont. in box on opposite page



WAY VENICE? VIEWS

An Arts Center Will Keep Venice Unique

by Ken Jewett

The Venice Arts Center as planned by Frank Gehry and the Richlar Partnership and including the Weisman Museum of Contemporary California Artists could be the turning point for Venice. The three plus acre project on Main Street and Rose Avenue has the potential to stop the trend that will shortly turn Venice into an upper middle income bedroom community. It's too late to save the Silver Strand, but it's not too late to stop it's spread north along the beaches and then east to Lincoln Boulevard.

The Coastal Act has declared Venice a unique area because of its low and moderate income housing. The Venice Town Council with the aid of the Coastal Commission has been able to retain this uniqueness for several years and they should be congratulated. However, there's more that is unique in Venice than the rapidly disappearing low cost housing. It's the mix of ethnic groups incomes, and ages -- and the visual, performing, and literary artists. It's the people of Venice that must be retained.

Artists are the spirit of Venice. They are educated, traveled, and care about their environment -- both the physical and the sociological. And, the professional artists of Venice outnumber the members of the Venice Town Council by at least 5 to 1, and they outnumber the Venice-Marina Realtors and their combined sales staffs by at least 3 to 1. Unfortunately, artists are not organization prone or vocal. They prefer to do their art with as little distraction as is possible. But, they need low cost studio-living space so they can stay near the beach with its diffused light and creative environment.

However, the artists and the senior citizens and the minorities -- the low and moderate income groups -- are being forced out by the rapidly rising property values -- 400% to 900% in the past 3 years. Mr. Gehry offered the beginning of a solution for the artists when he added low cost studio space to the Venice Arts Center in exchange for third story construction over the height limit, and reduced parking spaces for studios -- both guidelines set by the Coastal Commission. His solution could also be applied to the housing problem, and hopefully soon, for there's not much time left.

Venice today has reached a critical point in its development. It can still be directed into a different direction, but the present trend toward upper income housing is rapidly becoming established and soon will be unchangeable. This was easily predictable back in '75 and easily observed in '77.

There's a simple explanation for this trend. Venice has an ideal climate and location. It's on the ocean and close to business and commerce. The whole westside area is in disproportionate demand as a place to live, and has been since the days of Janz and the development of UCLA. However, during the past decade, and particularly the past two years, the demand has been greatly increased and the supply slowly decreased. New industrial, commercial, and office parks and areas have been added during those two years -- bringing thousands of professional and executives into the area. During the same period, residential zoning has been downgraded to guard against congestion. There are now more upper income people than ever who want and can afford to live close to work and the ocean -- and far fewer dwelling units for them to buy.

The Venice Town Council and the Coastal Commission can no longer stop the influx of higher income families into Venice with their present attitudes and actions. Instead, both are aiding the influx -- one is issuing permits for single and duplex family dwellings, and both are assuring the buyers that the area will not become congested so that it will not become commercial or recreational (except for the beaches) and that it will be an ideal place for a bedroom community.

However, there is a workable solution. The Venice Arts Center without the artists studio space conforms to the Coastal Commission's guidelines -- both in height and parking spaces. To add the additional studios over the height limit would require low additional construction costs and make low rent space feasible. In other words, the cost of adding one more floor to the two approved floors is low enough to allow low cost rent and still provide normal return on investment.

This principal can also be applied to housing. If an application is made for a two-story, 20 unit apartment -- a third story, above the height limit could be added and 10 or more low cost rental unit made available. The determination of the additional units positive or negative impact on the surrounding area would be made by the Regional Coastal Commission's staff working with the Planning Department responsible for the area.

The mechanism for enforcement of the low cost units is already established in the City of Los Angeles. The Senior Citizens Housing Authority out of the Mayor's Office, The L.A. Housing Authority, and other recognized agencies could select the tenants. City Ordinance No. 145927 (effective June 3, 1974) could be amended to provide enforcement of the low cost rents for both commercial and housing space without use of Sec. 8 funds.

The result of completing the Venice Arts Center as presently proposed could eventually set the pattern for low cost studio-living space for artists of all disciplines -- allowing them to remain one of the great resources of Venice. The application of this principal to housing could really make Venice a unique area declared by the Coastal Act. Low and moderate income housing would be a physical part of upper income housing and result in a mixture of people living together. This approach was suggested by George Romney when he was head of HUD. He did not have the mechanism or support to implement this plan. Fortunately, most of the necessary ingredients to succeed where Mr. Romney failed presently exist in Venice.

The final step that is indicated by the Frank Gehry-Richlar Partnership project is to establish a direction for Venice. Studio space for visual artists, theater, and dance groups, and musicians would be available as would low cost housing for the artists, performers, and moderate income groups. However, space to perform and rehearse or gather together and enjoy would not. The Venice Arts Center is a start, but there must be much more. Not only must the beaches be available to the weekend and vacationing sunbathers, facilities must also be available for those who want to enjoy the cultural renaissance in Venice: more restaurants, clubs, theatres, and galleries. This means more commercial development and less residential development.

The Venice Arts Center and its Museum of Calif. Contemporary Artists is the key. It will link the shops, theatres, galleries, and restaurants of Main Street in Ocean Park with the shops, theatres, galleries, and restaurants on West Washington Blvd in Venice. It will house artists and provide them with a gathering place. Its existence can be the start of the real spirit and uniqueness that is Venice.

But, the Center is only the start. A long range plan for the Coastal Commission's designated area must be completed. Since this involves Ocean Park, Venice, Marina Del Rey, and Lincoln Blvd. (Hwy 1) -- the City of Santa Monica, the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, and the State of California are involved. It is doubtful that these four entities can develop a plan in time to save Venice. So, once again the Coastal Commission will have to guide the destiny of Venice and help it achieve its long range plan and special uniqueness.

The many residents of Venice who know, love, and understand its spirit will have to have faith that the Commissioners share their knowledge and feelings.

THE BEACHHEAD COLLECTIVE IS INTERESTED IN CREATING A DIALOGUE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES THAT ARE RAISED IN THESE TWO ARTICLES, AND RELATED ISSUES PERHAPS NOT TOUCHED UPON HERE. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE "WHICH WAY VENICE?" OPEN UP IMPUT BETWEEN PEOPLE HERE IN VENICE WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THEIR HOMES AND NEIGHBORS. HELP US SPEAK TO EACH OTHER BY CONTRIBUTING YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS TO THE BEACHHEAD.



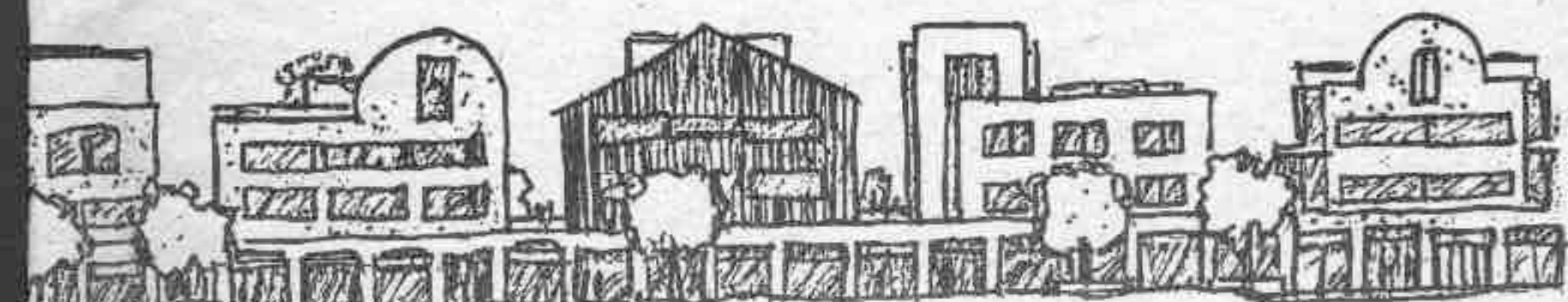
cont. from People's Will by Robt. Wells

esty, our dependability, and it is absolutely necessary for us to protect not only the image but the actuality of being credible, honest, dependable, and straightforward. If they see us playing kiddie-games like this with the enemy they may say "Right on," but they will definitely remember it any time they find themselves dealing with us, or deciding whether to depend on something we've told them. It's as delicate a process as brain surgery, and it takes years to develop that kind of trust. The whole thing can be smashed by one slip-up.

It would be a damn shame to have all these bad things happen when there would be so much to be gained by giving the money back.

FOOTNOTE

Shortly before the State Coastal Commission meeting at the Sheraton Airport Hotel the Ocean Park appellants and the Church in Ocean Park did give the money back. And on April 19th at the hotel, after a dramatic demand from Morrie Rosen and fifty oldtimers from the Israel Levin Center, from the Venice Town Council, and from Larry Abrams of the Black community of Oakwood, the Commission denied the permit for the Rose & Main St. shopping center.



MAIN STREET ELEVATION
-CONCEPTUAL SKETCH-



NEW CHIPS OFF OLD BLOCKS

(On using and re-using wood)

by Michael Wildgoose

I've often thought that a Wood Dump would be useful in Venice. A place to which builders, woodworkers, yard-cleaners, and tence-takers could haul the wood they don't want, rather than have to drive ten miles up the freeway, risk the CHP jumping on an over-loaded pick-up, and pay \$3 to help fill up a canyon with useable building materials. Quite a savings in personal and social energy, gas, wear-and-tear, and \$'s if one only had to drive a mile.

After all, there's no such thing - to my mind - as unuseable wood. If such a dump existed (I fantasize on these chilly nights) I could go over and pick out a box of scrap for my wood stove. And I bet there's lots of fireplace users around who are in the same position all winter long, wondering where to find more wood.

Then there's the times I need some old lath for a trellis, or a fence siding, or some 2x4 blocks and can't seem to find any in the alleyways. I could drive to the local dump (if it existed) and sort some out. Inflow: Outflow. Often I have to dump stuff that I'd save if I had space, that I know somebody wants. People could use my leftovers, I'd use theirs.

Objections? They'll have some for sure. Unsanitary. Dangerous for kids. An eyesore. A firehazard. The City won't allow it. People would steal! (To Sell?? Boxes of wood - 50¢, delivered to your door by 10 year old histlers? 'Far Out' cry the people with fireplaces but no saw). OBJECTIONS OVERRULED.

Why do we need it? Here's a few moralistic, ecological, political "shoulds" for those who want to argue, reflect, try to ignore or ascribe such a project to bleeding heart liberals who prefer trees to houses. After all, we do have far more woodworkers and builders here than lawyers, financiers, or doctors. But, we can't expect the lumber industry to switch from profits to preservation if we aren't responsible at our level in our approach to wood and its use.

1) If we want real forests for our grandchildren, (and not tree parks, open Sat. & Sun., 10-3), we have to cut back on our use of wood. It's as simple as that.

2) We are running out of first-growth lumber. The companies are in business to make dollars and they do not replace 2000 year old Sequoia nor 500 year old Douglas Fir, (contrary to their claims that wood is our "renewable resource".) They don't think that far ahead; instead they plant fast-growing, chemically-fed, soft wood trees with huge knots and wide grain. (Try comparing fir from the old POP Fir with construction fir from a lumber yard.) We have to think more carefully about whether we should be using wood at all on each project.

3) And what kind of wood. To bring up the obvious example, we are using redwood for interior trim, tables, siding, panelling and all those traditional California applications for which it is attractive but not necessary. It is even used for toys - and the resins it contains are poisonous enough to make kids sick if they chew it! Redwood is almost an endangered species, so let's use it more judiciously. Even when its rot and termite-resistant qualities are required, cedar or treated fir can often be substituted, especially if the construction is only expected to last a few years.

4) Wood prices are rising and supplies dwindling. Right? Is this the result of market manipulation? Redwood prices rose and availability was erratic during the battle for the extension of the Redwood National Park. Are the shortages real? Yes. And "good" wood, that is fine-grained and well-dried, is going the way of "good" steel that holds an edge and doesn't bend. Or are the shortages caused by waste? Don't waste time fitting those pieces, use a full sheet, or "You don't have time to pick up every nail you drop, dummy!" The waste in the building industry is appalling and all of us carpenters are guilty of it when economics are involved. Yet labour is more and more abundant and resources get scarcer. I think we have to take a stand on this and explain it to the people who are paying us, often far more than the value of what we actually produce.

5) Recycled wood can and should be used wherever possible. And Traditional Venice Woodworkers have invented some amazing new applications. But the cry goes out: The Code doesn't allow it; the lumber yards don't like it; it takes

too much time; is it worth the effort? So What? Let's learn to use it now before we have to.

6) L. A. County seems to be a hardliner in its Dump policy. My first visit to the Sepulveda Canyon landfill left me in tears: enough materials to build several houses are bulldozed every day, and the workers aggressively enforce the ban on taking stuff away. Berkeley (are we so far behind?) apparently sells permits for the salvaging of materials from its dumps. The LA recycling industry needs that kind of support instead of the endless hassles laid on pioneers like Robert Harris.

7) There are 70 million households in America. Maybe half of them bought a dead tree in December, had fun around it for two weeks, then threw it out with the garbage. An incredible 35 million dead trees, natural and farmed. How about getting a live tree next Xmas. If you can't plant it New Year, there are plenty of gardeners who'd love to. (Could be a nice seasonal business for some group.)

8) Every piece of wood and every sheet of paper started life as a tree - your copy of the Sunday Times needed almost a whole tree to produce it. The apparently endless forests of the West will go the same way as the Eastern hardwood forests which fuelled the cities and the railroads, unless we start cutting back our use of new wood and use, re-use, and then re-use again all the wood we've got.

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IN MEMORY

malvina reynolds 1900
1978

by May Michel

I received a letter several days ago. When I opened it, a newspaper clipping fell out. It was a picture of Malvina Reynolds. I was so pleased to see the picture that I didn't notice the caption "In Memoriam: 1900 - 1978". My mind flashed back to Malvina 48 years ago when I first met her. It was in Marin County. She was sitting on the grass surrounded by a group of young people. We had come to hear Malvina sing and play her guitar. It was warm, the sun was shining, we were going through a great economic depression. She sang of children, of farm workers, of the great army of unemployed. She just sat there and sang, and sometimes we sang with her. She gave us warmth and hope. We loved her. My love for her started on that day and has lasted all these years.

I left San Francisco, came to live in Venice and didn't see Malvina for about 30 years. About a year ago she came to the Fox Venice Theater and sang and played her guitar at a benefit for the farm workers. She hadn't changed. She radiated the same warmth and love that I remembered from that sunny day in Marin County.

For me, Malvina Reynolds will go on because she instilled in us an optimism and confidence in the outcome of this bloody mess we're in.



A PEOPLE'S CONSTRUCTION CO-OP

by Rick Davidson

The Humanist Construction Co-Op is a group of people who have been working together for the past two years, coming from various trades in the construction field. It was initially brought together by a "drop-out" from one of the largest construction firms in Los Angeles, who found working for 'the company' dehumanizing. Thus the origin of the name - Humanist Construction Co-Op.

The humanist approach was politicized by some members of the old Venice Carpentry Collective who joined the group. A co-op was created as an alternative to the traditionally competitive and alienating process prevailing in the industry. Its members hoped to demystify the relationship between client and contractor and to overcome the lack of trust that contractors as a group have projected.

The Co-Op is registered as a legal corporation with the State of California. Its official by-laws begin as follows:

"Through this group we have in mind to satisfy not merely our material needs, but also our needs for support and fellowship in our work, for a work environment in which we can develop our full potentials, in which we can express ourselves naturally and easily and work out our problems. We hope to be able to express our political and social convictions in the way we conduct the work and the group; to create a milieu free from the sexist and racist attitudes and conduct which permeate the industry and society as a whole; to employ materials and techniques in our work which are sound and sensible ecologically; to do work we consider worthwhile, and to do it well; to work together co-operatively rather than competitively, taking into account each other's financial and personal needs, and in general caring for each other."

Although Co-Op members intend to make a living at their work, "company profit" is not the primary reason for the group's existence. It holds to a different set of values.

The Co-Op does sub-contract with the regular industry as the need arises, but it tries to contact and work with subcontractors and tradespeople interested in alternative approaches to the work process and the worker-client process. Through the Co-Op its members try to involve more women and third-world people in the industry.

The types of work presently being done include decks, skylights, cabinets, furniture, and room additions, including baths and kitchens. Part of the group is looking into solar energy and the group hopes, in the future, to offer special services in this line. For more information write to the Co-Op at 733 Palms Blvd, Venice, Ca., 90291, or call 828-5490.

WE ARE THE NEW CONSCIOUSNESS

HELLO TO EACH OF YOU BRILLIANT, GLORIOUS, FANTASTIC & FINE FOLKS!



LEARNING TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER!!!!

I HASTEN TO EXPLAIN THAT EVERY PERSON WITH A HUMAN BRAIN -- ALL 4 BILLION 83 MILLION OF US ARE BRILLIANT, GLORIOUS, FANTASTIC & FINE FOLKS!!!!!! My name is Sammy Israel and I started waving, smiling & greeting every person passing by on the street in the early days of 1973. I was working as a pharmacist - had a contract to manage a pharmacy in a clinic with a fine & marvelous & beautiful man who was as good a surgeon as you'd find anywhere, very likely. If I'd had good sense I'd probably have stayed but I had this dream-fantasy need to get out on the street and relate to people!!! I carried a big sign done by these fantastic sign painters that said, "EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY AT _____ *S!!!"

Somehow being invisible out on the street bothered me. It was like a celebration of life for me! I was celebrating the fact that I could at last look people right in the eye and smile --- I could CHOOSE & BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHOOSING TO RELATE DIRECTLY AND TO BE FRIENDLY TO PEOPLE - OPENLY - IN PUBLIC FOR ALL TO SEE!!!!!! I WAS TIRED OF BEING HURT & LONELY & AFRAID OF EVERYONE. My Father broke down with TB when I was about 5 and went to a TB hospital and I was put into a sort of orphanage and it's as if from that very day my Father left me in that home I was one great big painful HURT!!!!!! I've been walking around hurting and lonely and feeling like nothing and nobody for so damned many years!!! I went from the home to the Navy a few weeks after graduating from high school. In the Navy I was mistreated rather regularly -- I was so intimidated that sadistically inclined folks would readily pounce on me with delight with their favorite put-down gags and tricks and I was pretty much on the bottom from early morn to late at night much of the time. There were bright spots. I was lucky. But I think it's taken me all these years (I'm 52) to get over those discounts and put-downs and image-deflating experiences. When I found that I was actually able to look anyone in the eye and smile and be alive whether that person acted like I was or should be alive or not (!)--THAT CALLED FOR REAL CELEBRATION!!!!!!

I WAS LIKE THE GUY WHO WROTE "THE INVISIBLE MAN" -- I WAS INVISIBLE TO MOST PEOPLE MOST OF THE TIME. BUT IN THE "HOME" WE WERE LIKE BROTHERS & SISTERS -- WE WERE "THERE" FOR EACH OTHER TO RELATE TO MOST OF THE TIME. WE HAD A COMMUNITY OF FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS!!! OUT ON THE STREETS OF MOST CITIES IN THE WORLD -- MOST AMERICAN CITIES TOO -- THE NATIVES AND THE STRANGERS MAY BE LIKELY TO HAVE NO FEELING OF COMMUNITY OR VERY LITTLE FEELING OF COMMUNITY. BUT WE ARE CAPABLE OF BEING FRIENDLY TO ONE ANOTHER AND DEVELOPING MORE COMMUNITY FEELING! Perhaps we may decide to take personal responsibility for passing some of the good vibrations around -- maybe saying "hello" or setting a welcoming atmosphere somehow??? It's our community and we are ENTIRELY CAPABLE OF SPREADING THAT FEELING OF FRIENDLINESS AND COMMUNITY THAT WE ALL PROBABLY HAVE GREAT NEED OF!!!!!! WE NEED MOAN & GROAN NO MORE ABOUT ALIENATION & LONELINESS -- WE'LL BE TOO BUSY RELATING TO ONE ANOTHER, CREATING CARING COMMUNITIES OF FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS!!!!!! AS I WRITE THE WORDS I BEGIN TO DOUBT THEM! TREATING ONE ANOTHER LIKE WE'RE NOT THERE AND WE DON'T CARE HAS BECOME A WELL-INGRAINED HABIT AND IT'S HARD TO EVEN THINK OF CHANGING TO A FRIENDLY PATTERN.

IT MAY BE THAT THE ATOMIC BOMBS DROPPED ON HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI HAD AN IMPACT ON MY CONSCIOUSNESS: THE POSSIBILITY OF ENDING THE EXISTENCE OF HUMAN LIFE ON THIS PLANET IS AN EXTREME RESULT THE THOUGHT OF WHICH PRODUCED EXTREME RESPONSES.

To pin down the time of change to a particular event, it probably started with that parade in Altadena. Mostly black people, very few whites showed up to represent "Altadena Neighbors," a group of families living in mixed areas of Altadena. We paraded down Lake Street with signs and singing "Let it Begin With Me." walking and waving and smiling at everyone. Parades offer an "appropriate" time and place to wave and smile at everyone -- even "strangers"!!! We're told not to be friendly to strangers - but how will we make new friends? I carried on about how the parade was so much fun so my sweet lovin* lover Betty Jane said, "Well why don't you just make your own parade"? And it sounded like such a great idea!

Maybe I've had an over-load of being ignored and treated like nobody! Too many put-downs and sneers and humiliation. I remember that giant of a woman who beat my bare ass with a whisk-broom!!! I was screaming and crying and I wasn't so little any more either. It may not have been as bad as whoppin* slaves cown on the levee but it sure hurt like hell!!! And there were lots of kinda dull all-too-regular hurts day in and day out!!! And I've gotten so good at accepting the hurt and blame and closing myself down and putting up the walls that I'm not even sure I can feel the pain! -- I'm not entirely certain I felt it at its worst!!!!!! But I've gotten to the point of owning up to it and bitching about it, all right! So maybe that had something to do with my own doubts!!! I'M NOT ALTOGETHER SURE I'M HERE!!!!!! Descartes put it this way: "I THINK, THEREFORE I AM!" But if I can actually be writing these words and you can really be reading them and registering them on your absorbing and understanding BRAIN and they make any kind of difference -- hopefully for the good somehow --- THEN I'LL BE MORE AND MORE ABLE TO FEEL LIKE I'M REALLY HERE, REALLY THINKIN*, REALLY BREATHIN*, REALLY FEELIN* AND REALLY BEIN*!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

love & joy & happiness forever to all, sammy.

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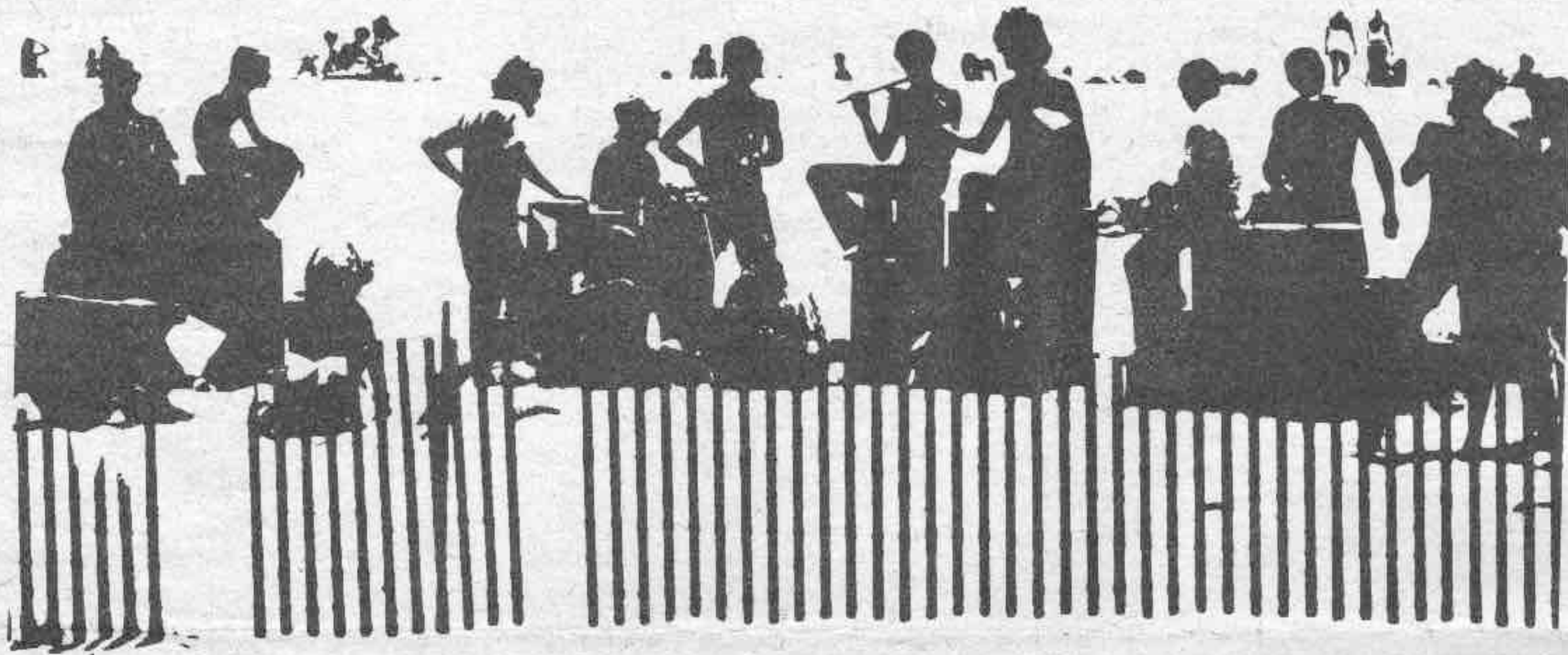
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VENICE ARTS



POLITICIANS AND OPTIONS

© Chad Slattery

Great Men Never Asked Me What I Did For A Living

oh
Don't be like the others.
You know--banal!
Not like the Guru with chicken soup in his beard.
Not like the Executive who exposed himself
to me when I auditioned for a job.
And definitely not like the tattooed
Musician with his reflections
on the complexions of Jewish girls.
You see I have
walked among Gods and Heroes
every day of my life.
So you'd better watch out.

I've been disconcerted
to have been ignored at jam sessions
where I came to watch genius at work.
And I was annoyed to read one man's book
where he said:
I've known love from many women
but Lynne was the one I never understood.
And I cried
when a saint lied
and an angel wrote words
that stuck like cactus prickles in my eyes.

So you now
don't speak or write pretensions.
No more of your vanity.
And though I'm already
turning down the bedspread
to pull you in,
I must ask:
You wouldn't dare
call me a broad
would you?

Lynne Bronstein

Sick of Politicians and options
Sorry they found that word
Ennued by the reiteration
Of choices - you may at times
Make the wrong one - dichotomy
Is what it is, but are the halves
Equal or is there a greater part
And who gets the larger share
And who the smaller as if you
didn't know
Sick of ambiguities and recondite
Implications and all the diaphaneity
Hurrah for Eddie Campos for torching
His car - Poor Lamar Fountain hope
Next time he makes it - maybe -

Sick of postponed ecology and HERE smog
Rebirth of Boeotia - Four and a half
Billion souls sharing a tired World
Tiny Crete besieged by Greek or Janizary
Need a variform God to be everywhere
Varuna died so long ago - poor Diety -
Only you and I left to vaticinate and
Both too tired to posit a priori
Tired of seeking points in the pointless
Seeking knowledge and truth in the
Steaming dunghoops of falsehood.
Lament Oh Ninevah the smouldering pyre
The dead music.

-- Randy Rexford



photo by Gerry Goldstein

hot summer day

hot summer day, black tar
sticks to bare feet of children
crossing lazy suburban streets
young boys use baseball bats
to poke holes in caterpillar nests
the neighborhood stinks of fresh cut
grass, chlorine, and caterpillars
dogs and cats sleep side by side
in the bushes and swimming pools
overflow with kids and snot

two little girls and myself
steal behind a neighbor's garage
to explore our newly discovered genitals
(we asked teresa if she would like
to join us but she refused)
I was sort of disappointed- there
wasn't much to see- my two playmates
were fascinated- we giggled
and danced shamelessly

my mother's ominous call
made our small bodies shudder
pants up- zipper zipped- quickly
I run home- my mother's icy
stare suggested her intentions
my stinging face confirmed them
"I know what you were doing
behind Colucci's garage"
"how" I shrieked
"an angel told me" she replied

seventeen years later
stretched out on a
California beach traveling
peacefully through pot
induced reveries my mind
pauses for one moment on that
hot summer day
"damn teresa" I sigh

Steve Effingham



Street Punk #1-Nice piece ya got there.
Street Punk #2-Yea, just bought it. Bet
this thing can shoot through
a car, man.



Street Punk #1-Speaking of cars, here come
the man.
Street Punk #2-Fuck, can't get caught with this.



Cop #1-All right, you two on the ground.
Cop #2-Damn, thought I saw one of these punks
with a gun-check around
Cop #1-Nothing



Cop #1- Hey where's my gun?
Cop #2- Wha? Where's mine?
Cop #1-AAGH! No gun. I feel naked.
Cop #2-Let's get out of here.



Street Punk#1-Whew! That was close
Street Punk #2-That damn dog of yours
eats anything
Street Punk #1-Fast too!

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Biggest Firms Pay No Taxes

(LNS)--This is the season that Americans get out their paycheck stubs, receipts, and begin filling out their income tax forms. And while we are laboring at home, the tax attorneys and accountants on corporate payrolls are busy compiling the taxes of the nation's largest corporations.

There is one difference, however. We pay taxes and they don't.

Seventeen of the largest U. S. corporations paid no net federal income tax in 1976, according to a study published in mid-January by Congressional Representative Charles Vanik. The 17 corporations include five steel companies, three airlines, Pentagon-subsidized General Dynamics, the Rockefeller-owned Chase Manhattan Corp., and California's Pacific & Electric.

Although the top rate on taxable corporate income is 48 percent, the study found that the average effective tax rate for 150 of the largest companies was only 13 percent. This rate is equivalent to that paid by a family of four earning \$20,000.

Any reform on the horizon? Probably not. According to Vanik, the tax package President Carter recently sent to Congress includes corporate reductions that "could possibly result in exempting almost one-third of America's major corporations from federal income tax."

(Editors' note: The above article was submitted to Liberation News Service by Jeff Cohen, a Venice resident and Beachhead contributor.)

NEW COFFEE HOUSE OPENS

Venice residents Bill and Toni Feigenbaum (not recent arrivals but seasoned veterans of the community) have opened a new coffee house on the Ocean Front Walk near Paloma. Its called the Figtree, and it features freshly ground, imported coffees (sold by the pound), espresso, home-made bakery, cakes, muffins, sandwiches, vegetable quiche, ice cream, and frozen yogurt.

The new place will be open from 8 am to 7 pm and everyone is welcome, say the owners. They hope it turns out to be a comfortable spot along the beach where Venice people can meet to discuss politics, philosophy, or just hang out, and maybe feel at home, as opposed to feeling over-run. We hope the Figtree becomes a Venice place and not a gourmet strategic hamlet like some of the other places springing up in Venice and Ocean Park

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The Beachhead thanks...

Jerry Ridgeway

Jane Roden

for financial assistance in the
preparation of our 100th issue.

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SWB 1407 ocean front walk 399-2360

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VENICE
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and Carol Berman, Mike Tarbet (of Ocean Park) Allan, Bob and me. Weiss & Field were genial and blunt--there would be no housing in the project (not for artists or anyone else), they didn't want the coop but Gehry could do what he wanted. So why were we here I asked. Out of that meeting came a possible agreement concerning their involvement in constructing low income housing at other locations in Venice and Ocean Park but nothing was at all final, and what we would do for them was not discussed. Two things were decided; first, Myers would attempt to put our discussion on paper for distribution and approval of all parties involved and second, Field would meet with Allan and Pat Russell to discuss using city owned land in Venice for housing. That was the last time I met with Richlar (though I spoke with Field on the phone 4 days later).

The next day I spoke to a couple people about the meeting and they expressed misgivings. That evening I called Ed Pearl to let him know what had happened, and we got into a screaming argument, which I now believe stemmed from my lack of communicating the tentative nature of the agreement. I then called Shirley and Naomi both of whom felt a community meeting was necessary, and it was agreed that one should be called. On Wednesday or Thursday Gehry called to tell me that he had spoken to his "money people" and that they had said no to the coop. On Friday I called Richlar, related Gehry's message and said that we'd see them in court. That was the last contact I had with any of the developers until the April 19th Commission hearing. Later that day I got a message from Legal Aid that Field had called and said that Richlar would arrange for the coop. On Sunday I saw Morrie Rosen and said that we had to have a meeting; he volunteered the Israel Levin Center, and we agreed to tell people.

The meeting was held the following Thursday night with about 35 - 40 people present. After a fairly extensive debate, we voted to oppose the project at the Coastal Commission and to go to court if necessary (and we all believed it would be necessary). I should mention that Mike Tarbet was at this meeting, because it has some bearing on future events. Another committee was established and met the following Sunday. At that meeting we discussed: meeting with Legal Aid to convince them to cease negotiating; putting together a petition and petition drive; possible legal action if the permit was approved; speakers and subjects for the first Commission hearing on April 4th in San Francisco. The meeting with Legal Aid took place on the following Wednesday. The upshot was that Legal Aid would not stop negotiating and intended to sign an agreement shortly. As part of the agreement, Legal Aid was to drop its appeal to the State Commission which they did. Later that week we found out the people from Ocean Park also intended to reach an agreement and drop their appeal--they did both. That agreement entailed a cash contribution (\$3,000) to the Church in Ocean Park to be used for low income housing and a certain number of hours from Frank Gehry as a consultant architect. This settlement left the Venice Town Council as the only appellant and created, to put it mildly, a furor in Venice.

The public hearing at the State Commission took place on April 4th with Larry Abrams and Rick Davidson speaking for the Town Council. Their report of that meeting was not very encouraging--the Commission did not seem very interested and the staff seemed already to have made up its mind for approval, if they could get more parking. The next Wednesday, April 11th, there was an expanded meeting of the Town Council coordinating committee mainly to discuss the Ocean Park settlement. At the meeting a very heated discussion took place and the Ocean Park people did not change their position. During the following week there were many other meetings and discussions both to plan strategy for the April 19th Coastal Commission hearing and to convince people in Ocean Park to change their minds. On Sunday, April 16th, at a large community meeting Cheryl and Mike came and announced that the church had decided to give back the \$3,000 to Richlar. That night a smaller group met to talk specifically about the Coastal Commission hearing (we met the following night to continue planning). The idea was, in a short period of time, to get as many people as possible to the hearing as well as to arrange a press conference (which meant writing and distributing a press release) and arrange for speakers and type of presentation. As the opening paragraph makes obvious, all of that was accomplished AND WE WON...

There are other articles about Rose & Main in this Beachhead. I hope after reading all of them you will be encouraged to either contribute one of your own or to attend the next Venice Town Council meeting on May 17th at Venice City Hall to participate in further discussion.

Advertising Rates and Procedures

Printing the Beachhead is financed by ad donations. Rates are \$5 per column inch for camera-ready ads. Since our layout pages are reduced by the printer, a camera-ready ad is four inches wide (for a one-column ad) and 1.25 times as deep as the ad is to appear in the paper. For example, if a 3-inch ad is desired, the copy submitted should be four inches wide and 3 3/4 inches high. For specific production size requirements, see our rate card or call The Beachhead.

Reduced rates apply for single runs of quarter page or larger ads and for ads in excess of six column inches that are run for three issues or more, if arranged in advance. These rates are:

Quarter Page	\$50
Half Page	\$90
Full Page	\$150

Large ads (in excess of six column inches) run three consecutive months or more: 1/8 off; six months or more: 1/4 off; 12 months or more: 3/8 off. Specific rates are listed on our rate card.

If an ad is to be run several times, it is best to make a photo-copy at a one-time cost of \$2.30; a photo is mandatory if the submitted material is to be reduced or enlarged.

Assistance with ad layout is available at The Beachhead at pre-inflationary rates: \$2 for a minimum layout; artwork to be negotiated with the staff artist.

Ad agencies: our rates are noncommissionable. In order to receive your 15% fee, you should quote the ad rates by adding 15%. We do not give discounts for prompt submission of camera-ready art.

For more information or assistance, please call The Beachhead Collective, or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a copy of our rate card.

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Why not take a few steps around the corner to check out our high fashions at low prices...



Sacks Fifth Off

8 Horizon, Venice (2 blocks N. of Windward, at the beach)
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Our organization - Zero Population Growth - has a few condom vending machines which we will place free of charge in exchange for a good location. Call (213) 474-2154.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

15

WEST COAST COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE PLANNED

Since the cultural revolution of the 60's, intentional communities (planned communal settlements centered around ideology or values of one type or another) have been springing up. Some of these are religious in orientation. Others are centered around B.F. Skinner's behavioral science ideas as outlined in Walden Two. Others are thinking in even larger terms: that they are social laboratories for testing out lifestyles for the future of civilization.

On Tues, August 22, through Sunday, Aug 27, there will be a West Coast Communities Conference. The conference will bring together individuals in various intentional communities, and people interested in the subject through not necessarily living in community. It will take place in San Francisco and at nearby Harbin Hot Springs. It is being sponsored by Kerista Village, a democratic, intentional community established in 1971. For further info write: Communities Conference, c/o Kerista Village, POB 1174, San Francisco, Ca 94101. The conference sponsors encourage conference participants to give workshops on their areas of interest. Phone 415-566-5640

FINDHORN: WORKSHOP ON INDIVIDUAL AND PLANETARY TRANSFORMATION.

Findhorn is a new age community in northern Scotland where over 250 people from all over the world are demonstrating a life based on the presence of God within each person and within all life. Findhorn's vision is the creation of a new planetary culture through the transformation of human consciousness. May 13 and 14 9 am-5 pm. Call Spiritual Lifeline for details 6-10 pm 6529505

BEYOND BAROQUE LIBRARY BECOMES LENDING LIBRARY

Beyond Baroque Foundation's Library of Small Press Publications announced that the community is free to borrow books and magazines. In the past the Library has functioned only as a reading room. The Library has over 13,000 small press publications and is the largest such special collection open to the public in the US. It is of particular interest to writers, poets, and teachers. Refundable deposit is required. Hours are Tues-Sat, 1-4pm. 392-5763

#####

SINGING SINGLES 391-4184 2950 Overland in Palms

Meets each Tuesday at Palms Rec Center, 7:45-9:30. info 391-4184. 2950 Overland Blvd.

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SANTA MONICA SYMPHONY CONCERT - FREE -

May 21 8 pm - S.M. Civic Auditorium
An evening of Russian Music. Overture "May-Night" by Rimsky-Korsakov, Violin Concerto by Jules Conus, Dorothy Wade, Woloist, and Symphony #5 in E minor by P. Tchaikovsky.

HAPPENINGS AT THE WOMAN'S BUILDING 221-6161

May 7, 8 pm. Margaret Atwood who wrote The Edible Woman, Surfacing, and Lady Oracle. Will share her most recent work.

May 21, 4-6 pm. Women writers on Written Space will provide another dimension to the month long Women in American Architecture exhibit, examining the creation and definition of space. Judith Rascoe, Gael Greene, Clare Rabe, and Carolyn See will present their written work.

May 28, 8 pm. Eloise Klein-Healy and Martha Lifson will read. Healy received Beyond Baroque Nat. Book Award in '76 for her volume of poetry Building Some Changes. Lifson is both poet and critic. Currently working on a series of poems called - because of clarity. Evening will begin with dinner at Val's Cafe, by reservation.

+++++

HARMONY CENTER OF HOLISTIC HEALTH EDUCATION 33 Thornton Ave., Venice 399-5828

Purpose Statement: To share the concept of Natural Health Ed., using the underlying principles of Polarity Balancing in order to assist in changing our negative habit patterns into positive, growth producing ones. These negative thoughts and emotions register as tension and manifest in our bodies as disease. Weekend workshops concentrate on Polar Awareness, Body Manipulations, Polar Energetics, Nutrition. Each Monday 7:30 pm, a free introductory class. On We. eve, 7:30 a free awareness class.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION CONFERENCE' 487-1720

How to Use State and Federal Laws to Obtain Government Intelligence Files. Organized by Citizens Commission on Police Repression. Sat. May 6, 9am-5 pm. LACC Student Center 850 N. Vermont Ave. "Our panels of experts, many of them victims of past government spying, will give incisive instructions on the best way to use the existing laws and to seek their expansion to local and international agencies."

V O P CO-OP

Sat., May 13. The Venice Peoples Booksale. Fabulous Finds 10¢-25¢. 40 Sunset Ave 11am-4 pm Books donations gratefully accepted at 312½ Market St., or 1036 Superba, Venice.

May 7 Potluck at Carol Webber's, 700 Victoria in Venice, 2-6 pm. Old members and new friends welcome

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COMPLETE LISTING FOR LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Referral Center: Referrals about consumer complaints, food co-ops, counseling center free clinics, ethnic concerns, housing, amusement, senior citizen info, youth, women, volunteers needed, vocational guidance, veterans, speakers bureau parks, arts, mental health, legal aid, hotlines, day care facilities, etc.
626-LINK (LA Public Library service)

OAKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER

Every Tuesday, 9-12. Career Planning Center and the Reach Out Program. Job Search Ideas, Info on Training Programs, Current Job Openings. FREE Funded by City of LA For info 273-6636 x22

LOS ANGELES WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CHORUS

Music Inside/Our. An Outside support group bringing non-sexist anti-racist music to women in prison. Benefit Concert, Sat, May 20, at 7:30 & 10 pm. Santa Monica Bay Women's Club, 1210 4th St, Santa Monica Tickets \$350 at Page, One, Sisterhood Bookstore, Sojourner Bkstore, Feminist Wicca et al. for info 478-8308. No woman turned away for lack of funds.

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CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK NEWSLETTER

Heritage Square Project Killed: Through a series of events the City's Heritage Square plan has floundered. Those who read the Outlook ed page know that several OP residents have been blamed for its failure because of their concern that the City cared more about an expensive restaurant than it did for either the museum or the open space on Main St. Again, community people have demonstrated that they will fight for what they feel is right. (sic).

As of May 1, the Liberty Hill Foundation will make its home in the office adjacent to the Church. Liberty Hill intends to funnel money into grass roots organizations across Southern Calif that are attempting to provide alternatives for residents of local communities. Modeled after the Vanguard Foundation in SF, they expect to be making small grants where no one else is interested. Liberty Hill is funding the Ocean Park Perspective.

Women's Clinic severs relationship with Church and Women's Center. In an unexpected move last month, the Westside Women's Clinic terminated its relationship with its founding organizations. Details of the break must be worked out, although the Church and Women's Center have been so notified by the Clinic. Now financially and organizationally stable, the Clinic's Board felt it no longer needed the support and input of other organizations

MODERN DANCE

Technique and Improvisation. On going for 2 years. Graham and Limon techniques. Lix Oberstein at Church in OP Fri 10-11:30 am 399-8513

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS
Tell them you saw their ad in
THE BEACHHEAD

SOCIAL AND PUBLIC ARTS RESOURCE CENTER

The following weekly workshops are open to public:
at Old Venice City Hall 822-9560
Tues, 10 am-12:30 Photography for senior citizens
Thur. 3:30-5:30 Etching workshop for children
Thur. 6-8 pm. Etching workshop for adults
Thur. 7-10 pm. Sculpture for adults
Thur. 3-5:30 pm Silkscreening for children
Thur 1:30-3:30. Basic skills tool wrkshp, artists
Thur 7-9:30 pm Cartooning for children
Sat. 10-12:30 Cartooning for adults
Fri 8-1 pm Weaving for children
Thurs 7:30-9:30 Weaving for adults
Mon. 6:30-7:30 Begin tap dance, adults
Mon 7:30-10 pm Actor's adult workshop
Tues. 6-9 pm Costume Design and Fabric. for dance.

VENCEREMOS BRIGADE FILM SERIES

Bookshop in OP 2915 Main St.
Sat. May 20. Viva la Republica
Venceremos
Golpe por Golpe
Que Bueno Canta Usted
Nicolas Guillen

VENICE BEACH RECREATION CENTER

May 13, 14 9am LA City paddle Ten. tourn (doubl)
20, 21 9 am " " " " (mxted dbl)
May 29 2 pm Physique Competition
Mr. Venice Beach, Mr America over Forty.
Classes offered at no charge:
Junior Boxing Club Improvisational Theater
Pre School Class Film Buffs
Belly Dancing Beginning Yoga
Acting Creative movement

BEYOND BAROQUE

Fri, May 5 8 pm Clifton Snider reads poetry
Fri, May 12 8 pm Sasha Newbor reads prose
Fri May 19 Rosella Pace reads poetry
Fri June 2 Kate Ellen Braverman reads poetry
Venice Poetry Workshop every Wed. 8 pm FREE
1639 W. Washington Blvd. 392-5763

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LESSONS OF THE THIRTIES: A FILM SERIES

Sat., May 6, 8 pm Our Daily Bread
Sat., May 13, 8 pm The Informer
Sat., May 20, 8 pm Tobacco Road
Sat., May 27, 8 pm Long Days Journey into Night
Presented by National Lawyers Guild of Southern Calif. Founders Hall, Rm 133, USC campus. For info call 380-3180

WESTSIDE WOMEN'S CLINIC: HEALTH CLASSES FOR WOMEN

May 1, Mon 7 pm Keeping Healthy and Self Healing with Herbs.
May 8, Mon 7 pm Nutritional Needs for Women, Food Combinations and How to Make Good Eating Simple and Fun
May 15, Mon 7 pm Women in Relationships
May 22, Mon 7 pm Self Defense: Physical and Mental
May 29-----no class---Memorial Day
ALL CLASSES FREE
1711 Ocean Park Blvd. Santa Monica 450-2191

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DIDI HIRSCH COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

Continuing Community Lecture Series:
May 4, 11, 18, 25. Crisis of Separation and Divorce. June 1, 8, 15, 22: Children Leaving: The "Empty Nest. FREE 4760 So. Sepulveda Blvd. Culver City. For info call 390-6612, ext 282.

COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTER

Ecolo-Haul has established a number of recycling centers in our area. They handle newspaper, glass, aluminum, and steel cans. For info call: 454-3845

COMMUNITY ENERGY SEMINAR SERIES

Mon, May 1, 7:30 Energy Effectiveness: Pulling the Plug on Energy Waste.
Mon., May 8, 7:30 Solar Energy and How You Can Put it to Work in Your Home
Mon., May 15, 7:30. Garbology. Practical recycling or refuse.
Mon., May 23 7:30 Practical Techniques and Devices for Saving Water. FREE
Main Branch - Santa Monica Public Lib. 394-1961

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COMMUNITY

SERVICES

health/therapy

Family Rehabilitation.....	399-9228
Venice - Project coordination Mary Lou Johnson. Innovative approach in recovery process of alcoholic mothers and their families.	
Venice Family Clinic.....	392-2488
free basic medical care, pediatrics 322 Lincoln Blvd.	
Benjamin Rush Center.....	392-4150
individual therapy, family and child counseling, in spanish.	
New Start.....	392-9261
outpatient drug counsel ctr, detox referral, diversion, court liason, drug edu. bilingual services 1222 7th, SM	
Gay Alcoholic's Anonymous.....	392-6551
Los Angeles Free Clinic.....	653-1990
Psychological and legal counseling, dental work, job placement, v.d. treat. 8405 Beverly Blvd., L.A.	
Didi Hirsch Comm. Mental Health Ctr. (Ven)	390-6612
Radical Therapy Contact Rap.....	399-7823
Fri, 8 pm, Unitarian CommChurch 1260 18th St. Santa Monica donation	
Radical Therapy Change Collective.	393-3779
contact raps, workshops, classes. comm. enemy of lib. struggles is unwillingness to change.	
Pet Spaying and Neutering.....	937-5204
fee according to ability to pay.	



CITY SERVICES

Street Cleaning.....	392-9931
Large Parcel Trash Pick-Up.....	272-6376
call 1 day in advance. ext. 392	
Lot Cleaning.....	485-3465
fire hazard, health or building and safety hazard. Owner gets billed for clearance.	
Emergency Clearance of Streets.....	485-3702
Street Lights.....	485-5922
Beach Weather Report.....	451-8761
Air Pollution Count.....	629-4711
Calif. Coastal Commission.....	590-5071
Bureau of Consumer Affairs....	974-7861

EMERGENCY!

Helicopter Complaints.....	485-3585
Police.....	392-9911
Fire.....	473-1155
Ambulance.....	473-1155
S.M. Med. Emergency Hospital.....	451-1511
Poison Center.....	451-1511
Highway Patrol (dial Operator).....	2E-12000
Suicide Prevention Center.....	381-5111
Rape Crisis Hotline.....	677-8116
FBI.....	272-6161
Los Angeles County Lifeguards.....	394-3261

Neighborhood

Venice Town Council.....	396-6876
399-1925	
Westside Tenants Action Ctr. (Venice).....	399-9255
1301 Main St. free legal advice concerning housing problems for renters	
Councilwomen Pat Russell.....	822-2582
Neighborhood Justice Center.....	390-7666
voluntary mediation to help settle intra-family, neighbor, tenant-landlord and consumer-merchant disputes.	
Barrios Unidos, Westside.....	399-9194
gang related issues, prevention and education. 826 Hampton, Venice.	
Venice Drug Coalition.....	399-9374
NAAP	399-7737
neighborhood adult participation project. education, soc. welf; neighbor. improvt., consum. ed. 8-5 M-F 641 Westminster, Venice.	
Venice Civic Union.....	399-0031
CLARE Foundation.....	396-5940
alcoholism problem solving	
Casa de Hermandad.....	477-8272
work exper. programs, classes, job searh. techniques for low income folk, unemployed of Venice and WLA areas.	
Ocean Park Community Center.....	399-9228
Information referral 245 Hill St., Ocean Park.	
St. Joseph's Center.....	392-5101
community alt. bi-lingual educat. food stamps, counseling. 16 and over. 533 Rose Av. Venice 9:30 - 4:30.	
Neighborhood Youth Association.....	392-2873
Drug counseling, child, family coun.	
Coalition for Economic Survival.....	396-4720
housing, consumer issues, human rights. Meets 3rd Thurs of each month at 641 Westminster, 7:30	
Fair housing for Childrea.....	829-2484
Welfare - Family Aid only.....	478-5511
11390 Olympic Blvd. WLA	
Beyond Baroque.....	392-5763
Venice community cultural events. poetry, arts, print crafts.	

hot and help lines

Crisis intervention hot line.....	390-8896
Maple Center 24 hr. drug hot line.....	274-5387
L.A. Sex Info. Help Line.....	653-1123
M-Th 3-9 pm.	
Santa Monica Westside Hotline.....	394-3577
24 hr. general hot line. Crisis listening, counseling, referral Suicide, battered women, child abuse.	
Spiritual Life Line.....	652-9505
spiritual health and wellbeing. problems or questions- psychic, mystical, spiritual, karma, re-birth. M-F 6-10 pm.	
L.A. Mens Collective.....	473-4229
anti-sexist, potluck supper 1st & 3rd Sats of each month. Church in O.P.	

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Send to: P.O. Box 504, VENICE Ca., 90291

Women's Services

Womospace.....	399-9813
237 Hill St. Ocean Park.	
Woman's Building.....	225-1724
Women's Substance Abuse Resource Ct.....	399-3295
Feminist Women's Health Ctr.....	936-6293
self-help clinics, birth control, pregnancy screening, abortion serv.	
Los Angeles Childbirth Ctr. (Venice)....	396-2455
home birth, midwifery, pre natal care...	
Women's Community Service Ctr.....	826-0818
11914 S.M. Blvd., WLA	
Westside Women's Health Care.....	450-2191
1711 Ocean Park Blvd. Ocean Park.	
Fat Underground.....	821-6557
support for fat women not into dieting but political action.	

LEGAL

Venice Legal Aid.....	392-4177
Centro Legal de Santa Monica.....	392-4188
235 Hill St., S.M. Free legal and paralegal services to any low income family or individual. UCLA Chicano Law students group.	
Free Legal Counseling for Women.....	450-2191
Each Tues evening, 7:30-9:30 at Westside Women's Clinic. Conducted by feminist attorney Marge Buckley.	

employment help

Career Planning Ctr. WLA.....	273-6633
on job training for low or eco. disadvantaged women over 45.	
Man Power Employment Ctr.....	477-8272
work exper. programs and classes in job search techniques for low income, unemployed of SM, Venice.	

CO-OPS

Venice-Ocean Park Co-Op	396-2132
393-5194	
Penmar Co-Op.....	399-2072
1st Mon of each month, 7:30, S.M. Alternative school, 1447 Euclid, S.M.	
Co-Opportunity.....	395-5692
1530 Bdway, Santa Monica	
CO-OP West.....	477-9949
11556 Santa Monica Blvd. W.L.A.	

Senior Services

Israel Levin Senior Adult.....	399-9584
Center. 201 Ocean Front Walk.	
Retired Senior Program.....	394-0251
Westminster Senior Citizen Centr.....	392-5566
Jewish Home for the Aged.....	881-4411
Senior Outreach Service.....	396-5964
Bay Cities Jewish Community Center provides medical escort to seniors residing in Westside region, Mon, Wed, Fri, from 10 AM to 3 PM. Two days prior notification is requested.	
Hot Meals for Seniors.....	399-2775
Mon-Fri 1:30-3:00. 65¢.	
Santa Monica Bay Area Health Screening for the Elderly.....	451-1727
1250 16th St., Santa Monica.	
City of Los Angeles.....	397-1977
Senior Services and Information	