

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

LETTERS.....	P. 2
ELDERLY JEWS OF VENICE	p. 3
VENICE DOMINO THEORY	p. 4
RENTERS RIGHTS.....	P. 5
COMMUNITY SERVICES...	p. 7
BEACHHEAD BENEFIT -	p. 8

\* NOV. 27.\*

## FREE VENICE SINCE 1968

# BEACHHEAD

CHEE  
WAN-WAH  
WE SURVIVE  
ON YOUR  
DONATIONS

## MAIL SERVICE GOING TO HELL

By Jim Stehn

Letter carrier, Venice Post Office

Venice residents and businesses have been receiving their mail later and later in the day over the past few months. Where once most businesses were accustomed to mail delivery by about 11:30 a.m., at the latest, now business delivery as late as 2 p.m. is common. And many residential patrons who were used to morning or at least early afternoon delivery are now getting their mail as late as 5:30 p.m.

Postal delivery has deteriorated lately (on top of earlier delays) because of the implementation of MIP/SOP (Methods Improvement Program/Standard Operating Procedures) guidelines by Venice postal management. These guidelines have also gone into effect in Santa Monica, Culver City and other Bay area cities, usually with equally disastrous results.

The MIP/SOP guidelines basically involve an attempt to speed up the performance of postal jobs. In regards to letter carriers, MIP/SOP directs management not to allow time for many necessary and natural job functions during the annual route evaluations. For instance, time was deducted for "excessive travel time" even though route examiners followed right behind the carriers and made no such notations. By this method management came up with falsely deflated route times. Then they broke up some routes and assigned portions to other carriers whose routes were supposedly under eight hours.

A couple of examples of what occurred:

In the Oakwood area one out of the five routes was eliminated and its territory was split up among the other four carriers. Since their routes were already long they are now hopelessly overburdened.

My route, which covers West Washington Blvd. from Main Street to Venice Blvd., formerly had six adjoining residential

blocks. Four of these were taken away and then I was assigned nine blocks off a beach front route which had been broken up.

Most of the Venice routes have been overloaded to some extent.

The MIP/SOP delays came in addition to the later delivery times caused by the EPM (Expedited Preferential Mail) program which I explained in an earlier Beachhead article. The Venice letter carriers' union did a survey on the delaying effects of EPM and found an average delay of 45 minutes, despite management's directive that EPM was only to be instituted if it would result in benefits to the patrons.

Why then would management implement these programs to the detriment of everyone involved? The obvious implication is that postal management is no longer concerned about the level of service they provide. In fact, B.F. Bailar, the Postmaster General, recently termed the postal service 'an expensive luxury whose future is open to question' in an interview printed in a magazine aimed at industrial management.

As far as Venice is concerned, these programs are being forced upon us by regional USPS management. But that doesn't mean our local management has done anything to oppose them. In a response to a union grievance against EPM, Mr. Ed West, Manager of Customer Services in the Venice PO, stated, "EPM is working fine." Numerous Venice Postal patrons who sent in complaint forms protesting late delivery were told, "Things will be bad for about a week. Then they will get better." This was two months ago. And Venice management is continually putting off and trying to ignore the demands of carriers for new route inspections which would show conclusively that the routes are overburdened and impossible to deliver within the established times.



The letter carriers in Venice, as well as neighboring communities, will continue to fight for earlier delivery times and properly adjusted routes. In the meantime many of us are being ordered to work ten to twelve hours per day and come in on our days off. (All you unemployed out there... think how many jobs the Venice PO could provide if management weren't so committed to forced overtime.)

So have pity on the poor carrier you see trudging up your street at 5 p.m. We don't like it any more than you. And keep those complaints rolling in to postal officials. For maximum effect address letters to Wallace Kido, Manager, Inglewood Sectional Center, 428 Ballona, Inglewood, California 90301 or phone 536-6757 and ask for Mr. Harry Apple. It would be a good idea to send copies of letters to one of our US Senators.

## A NEIGHBORHOOD GUIDE TO THE COASTAL COMMISSION, or:

HOW I FOUGHT PERMIT # p-7414 AND LIVED TO  
TELL THE TALE.

By Linda Lucka

Recently, the residents of Wavecrest Avenue successfully resisted an attempt to construct a 78' wide, 35' high, 5 unit condominium complex on 3 adjoining lots on our block. It took time, energy, adrenalin and some money, but we were successful!

We opposed this project because it was out of scale with the neighborhood and would dominate it; it would have substantially intensified the neighborhood; it would have been precedent setting, in that it would be inviting ruinous "Peninsula" type development here in North Beach, which would be disastrous; and it would add to an already impossible parking situation by displacing 15 cars which permanently park there.

In short, it was insensitive to the character of this neighborhood. We insisted that it be broken up and we would have accepted compromises in terms of low income provisions. The builders were not willing to change their plans, except to remove the third story "lofts" on two of the units.

This project was approved by the South Coast Regional Conservation Commission. We appealed that decision to the State Commission and we won!

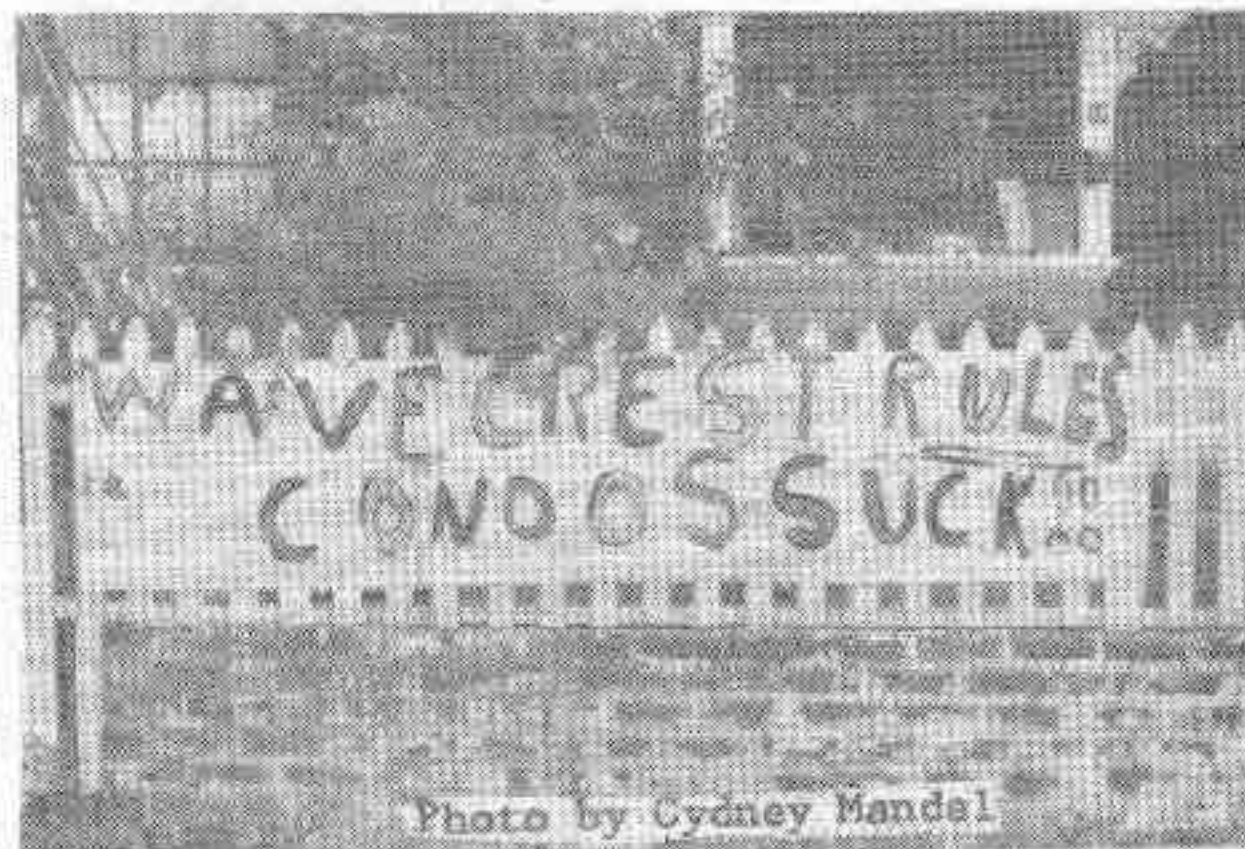


Photo by Cydney Mandel

As one of the people involved in the struggle from its onset, I'm writing this guide in an effort to demystify the bureaucratic maze and help you see that it is possible to successfully resist an unwanted development in your neighborhood.

Here is a sequential guide for your use if you are faced with a "Notice of Intent" sign posted on an empty lot near you and you're not sure what to do:

1) A "NOTICE OF INTENT" TO BUILD sign appears. This notice must be posted on the subject property. Usually, only the homeowners adjacent to the property will be notified by mail, so if you rent, be sure

to call the Coastal Commission offices at 590-5071 to find out when the Public Hearing about that lot is to be held. (The offices are in Long Beach and the call is expensive, so ask them to return your call to save some money).

2) Go to the Coastal Commission offices in Long Beach at 666 E. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 3107, Long Beach 90801. Ask to see the file on Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ which can be found on the "Notice of Intent" sign. This is Public Information and looking at the file is your only way to find out exactly what is planned. A Coastal Commission staff person is assigned to each permit application, so you will want that person to explain the plans to you as they are usually somewhat technical. The staff will recommend approval, approval with conditions or denial on each project. Your input is important! The Commissioners may accept or overrule the staff recommendations.

3) Contact the builder whose name(s) and number are in the file. Call a neighborhood meeting and invite them to come and bring their plans for all to see. With luck you will be able to work with them and easily reach mutual agreements and compromises.

(continued on page 4)



# THE ELDERLY JEWS OF VENICE

BY JOANNE ALTSCHULER

(Excerpted from a thesis for masters degrees in Social Work and Jewish Communal Studies at Hebrew Union College/USC. First of 2 parts)

The Israel Levin Senior Adult Center occupies a corner along the Pacific Ocean front in Venice, California. The faded, pastel-colored, stucco building needs several coats of paint. Handmade posters describing programs peer through the front window; yet, there don't seem to be any people in the building. The only signs of life are the fifty or sixty charcoal-colored pigeons that stare and sway along the edges of the roof. Old, abandoned, inactive, and dilapidated--these were my initial impressions of the Israel Levin Senior Adult Center.

I first saw the Center in July 1973, with Dr. Barbara Myerhoff, an anthropologist at USC. We walked along the beach and sat on a wooden bench in front of the seemingly inactive building; this was the site of my summer field work placement and Dr. Myerhoff was my field instructor.

Over the course of two months, I became well acquainted with several of the Center's members, with its Director, Mr. Morris Rosen, and with the community of Venice. I was privileged to learn about the unique life experiences of this exotic, dying group of elderly Jewish people who actively participated in programs within what I had thought was an abandoned center. My awareness of the building's external decay gradually faded and was replaced by my knowledge about and deep respect and concern for the members of the Center.

In attempts to test out my impressions, I discovered that the history and present circumstances of these people in Venice were not publicly known. I organized a weekly discussion group at the Center that I still conduct, and became better acquainted with the Levin Center's members. From them and from Mr. Morris Rosen, I learned that a substantial portion of the present Jewish population had begun settling in Venice approximately thirty years ago. What had begun as a thriving Eastern European ghetto transplanted on the sunny shores of Southern California began disappearing in the late 1950's due to the gradual, steady influx of land developers and wealthy residents. I learned from concerned professionals, Center members, and their relatives about attempts to develop low-cost housing for this aging population that met with no action from the Jewish community.

Significantly, I also found that relatively little published information is available about Venice; I began reading the local newspaper (the Beachhead) and became acquainted with some local residents. I found that the transformation of Venice was a process and struggle that dated back to its idealistic beginnings: its changing complexion from a socially, politically, and economically diverse community to one more largely comprised of wealthy "jet-setters" was considered by residents to be a more imminent threat than ever before.

For the most part, the elderly Jews of Venice are not new to the area. Thus, they have been involved in and affected by the struggles between Venice and impinging land developers. Many Jews began settling in the area twenty and thirty ago. According to Morris Rosen, Director of the Levin Center, approximately 15,000 Jews lived in the Venice/Ocean Park area in the 1940's and 1950's. A good portion of them lived in beach cottages in the area of Speedway between Ocean Park Boulevard and Navy Street. At the community's height there were Yiddish reading circles, discussion groups, and informal organizations of Socialists, Communists and Zionists. In addition, there were seven active synagogues. However, the somewhat idyllic beginnings gave way to grave concerns.

Within the period of one year, the City of Santa Monica declared eminent domain over the aforementioned area along Speedway and subsequently bought the property. The residents were uprooted without even attempting to fight, having learned from their past experiences in Eastern Europe that "you can't fight city hall." Neither the Jewish nor the general community attempted to help this group of people. Many left the area as the trend of buying up and developing land expanded. Some people died, and others relocated to other sections of Venice, often with the help of friends. The beach cottages and bungalows in which these Jewish residents lived were torn down. In turn, the City sold several acres to various builders--Kern County Land Corporation and Tenneco--and later, another area was sold to the Hollywood Turf Club for Pacific Ocean Park development. In place of the old, intimate bungalows and cottages, two seventeen-story tower apartments were



built with a golf course, and an addition to Pacific Ocean Park that went bankrupt five or six years later. Similarly, within the same period of time, the City of Santa Monica declared eminent domain over some property on Peir Avenue. On this property was a warehouse that had been donated as a center for Mr. Israel Levin. However, with great foresight some of the Jewish members had set up a relationship between the Levin Center and the Jewish Centers Association and the Bay Cities Jewish Community Council. They went to court, contesting the \$18,000 that the City of Santa Monica had offered them for the property. They won and were awarded twice as much money with which the present Israel Levin Senior Adult Center was purchased. The immigrant, revolutionary and union-organizing backgrounds were undoubtedly reflected in this act of strength, defiance and victory; however, they were fighting alone, caught in a community in transition, themselves caught in transition from middle-age to aged.

Today the Jewish elderly of Venice live mainly in older apartments where rents have largely increased within ten years. Those who can afford to, live in newer buildings with higher rentals. A small percentage own rented property such as duplexes that helps supplement their incomes. Finally, there are many who receive SSI and live in various old buildings that are in substandard condition. These apartments include 21 Ozone, Four Floors West (formerly the Kemper Apartments), the Cadillac Hotel, and Fenmar Apartments.

Again, the historical struggle had been recently re-enacted, this time with a minor victory by the Venice community. At Kemper Apartments where rents were arbitrarily raised by the landlord in August 1974, the elderly Jewish tenants, with the help of Morris Rosen and several Venice community leaders, organized a rent strike. The ensuing negotiations that also involved the efforts of a local Rabbi and the Jewish Community Relations Council, resulted in a compromise increase of \$10 a month for the tenants in their 70's and 80's, and a promise by the landlord (Joey Baker) to improve substandard conditions. Compared with the original demands of \$30 and \$40 a month increments, the resulting compromise was somewhat of a victory. More typically, the substandard conditions persist and rents are raised.

A more recent example of housing problems facing elderly Jews were the haphazard rent increases announced to the elderly tenants at 21 Ozone in February 1975. This drama, as of this writing, has not played itself out. The tenants at 21 Ozone will not organize and participate in a rent strike: they are afraid of further rent increases that may result from a strike, and they fear that participation in an organized protest will result in their eviction and being left without a place to live. There is another factor that may well affect the outcome of this drama. Senator David Roberti's introduction of a rent control bill to the State Senate generated renewed interest and activity on the part of various groups such as the Coalition for Economic Survival, the Venice Jewish Consciousness-Raising Group and the Venice Town Council. Furthermore, these groups and others successfully joined forces on March 23, 1975 in a public rally and walk to support and publicize the Roberti bill, and make known the concern over the severe housing problems and needs in Venice. The banners carried the slogan "Let Our People Stay." Although the Roberti bill "died in committee," it has resulted in renewed activity by Venice residents in the area of housing, such as the formation of a tenants' union (although it has since become inactive).

The elderly Jews in Venice are a segment of the population in triple jeopardy. As elderly people in the United States they have

traditionally been avoided and considered to be unproductive; as elderly Jews in Los Angeles they have not enjoyed a priority in social planning; and as residents of the Venice community they have been victims of the bulldozers that pave the way for expensive condominiums, making sure that the poor shall not inherit the shoreline.

Their triple jeopardy position is reflected in the paucity of services designed for the elderly in Venice. Three programs exist in Venice that were created by the general community in response to the needs of the elderly:

1. A hot meals program at the Venice Pavilion is provided five days a week, Monday through Friday afternoons, by Protestant Community services.
2. The Westminster Senior Citizen Center, located on Westminster Avenue and Pacific, has been created in order to provide a center other than the inadequate Venice Pavilion where seniors had met for many years as members of friendship clubs designed to meet their cultural, recreational, social and emotional needs.
3. The Neighborhood Adult Participation Project (NAPP) provides information and counseling for elderly regarding social security, food stamps and housing.

Similarly, there is a paucity of services designed specifically for the elderly Jews by the Jewish community. The Israel Levin Senior Adult Center is a multi-service center for the Jews in Venice. Originally established by a senior citizen, Mr. Israel Levin, the Center has not received high priority consideration by the Jewish Centers Association: its limited budget allocation, its shabby physical condition, and its lack of funding for an outreach program reflect its unimportance to the Jewish community.

In October 1974, a hot meals program was implemented at the Levin Center. Made possible by an \$11,000 grant from the Jewish Community Foundation, it provides a kosher hot meal for sixty-five cents, three days a week. Recently, with money from Protestant Community Services, the program has expanded to five days a week, and serves seventy-five, instead of fifty people a day. Fruit is also available on Friday afternoons. The program provides adequate nutrition, cultural and social stimulation, and opportunities to form new friendships. Its one shortcoming, according to Morris Rosen, Levin Center Director, and Ms. Judy Schultz, program supervisor, is that it is too small to accommodate all who want and need to participate.

A second service operates through the Israel Levin Center. The West Los Angeles branch of Jewish Family Service provides a worker for one-half day each week. This is a very valuable service, and it too could easily benefit more elderly Jews if it were expanded.

The Senior Outreach Service, located upstairs from the Levin Center, has proven to be a valuable resource for seniors in Venice, providing information and referrals, help with transportation, and services to shut-ins.

Probably one of the most successful programs at the Israel Levin Senior Adult Center is Ha-Kesher (The Connection). The brainstorm of two Hebrew Union College rabbinical students, Bruce Abrams and Don Peterman, Ha-Kesher is an experiment in multi-generational programming that was started two and a half years ago. Young volunteers were carefully trained to work with elderly people, and the two age groups began meeting together in several groups. Eventually, the young volunteers attended programs at the Center; friendships have been formed, some stereotypes and myths about the old and the young have been broken by participants, and feelings of warm, mutual exchange have been experienced, enriching the lives of those involved. Although this is considered to be one of the most successful programs in the Center's history, it may not continue as it too needs funding.

Clearly, the most imminent and threatening kinds of problems for the elderly--such as inadequate housing, poor medical care, crime, and poverty level incomes--are as yet unaddressed by services in the Venice area. As long as these problems remain ignored by social planners, they will continue to exacerbate, forcing the elderly Jewish population to live and die with unnecessary indignities and suffering.

NEXT MONTH: What now for the elderly Jews of Venice?



To the editor:

For months now I've been reading your poetry and articles, lamentations really, about the passage of your way of life here. And there is an alternate tale I would like to tell.

We went home this summer, surely on a new Beach Boys vacation, to a community that also did not have its annual Spring Festival. That festival had been birthed by the Civil Rights Movement and circumscribed by the National Guard in the riots about the Viet Nam War. I am presuming that these same issues helped forge your community.

They decided not to put on the festival because of the police harassment and bureaucratic red tape and paper work and migrant crafts makers and downed out adolescents who were all you could see and they hadn't been there in the beginning so what did they know anyway. What right could they have to celebrate our community?

Weren't they the ones who had turned our food co-op into a mini-mart complete with three brands of peanut butter? And they certainly weren't volunteering at the Tenants Union like we all had. The Union was down to a burned out Winter Soldier and two god-freaks nee acid heads. These new ones could never find the stone cold brass it took to face a shotgun armed landlord hell bent on illegal eviction.

And even the day care center was now a haven only for the children of the attorneys and professors who could afford the joy of knocking off early two days a week to play with his kids. I mean, if both parents can't participate equally in raising children then they were not sufficiently greened to influence all the other new-awareness children they would monitor.

We were going to save the world too, and if we couldn't then we would at least protect our community and keep it a good place to live. And we tried like hell.

We had our small circle of friends whose constant reinforcement convinced us we could do it. And for added protection and insulation, we could spread out and affect the surrounding communities if we organized well enough. So we moved into those bureaucraticacies that most most threatened us. The wrong folks are being prosecuted, okay, we need three heads in the District Attorneys office. Send somebody over to apply as a research assistant.

Wait, the Governors Office is preparing a new Drug Bill. Got any hot-shot law students who want to spend three years writing? Our Housing Bill is finally in front of City Council and the State Senate simultaneously, send over your most articulate and convincing lobbyist.

Say, have you noticed how thin we've spread ourselves? Who's going to organize this year's Spring Festival?

Well, nobody organized it. Instead the remnants of what used to be drank and smoked themselves into a frenzie and faded to opaque before dawn.

And I was depressed by it all. As depressed as I am now about you. They could not see their successes for their failures either. They could accurately survey the National Scene and proclaim a different age of non-activity and yet not correlate that to themselves. But more discouragingly, they weren't looking at the new people as anything but that.

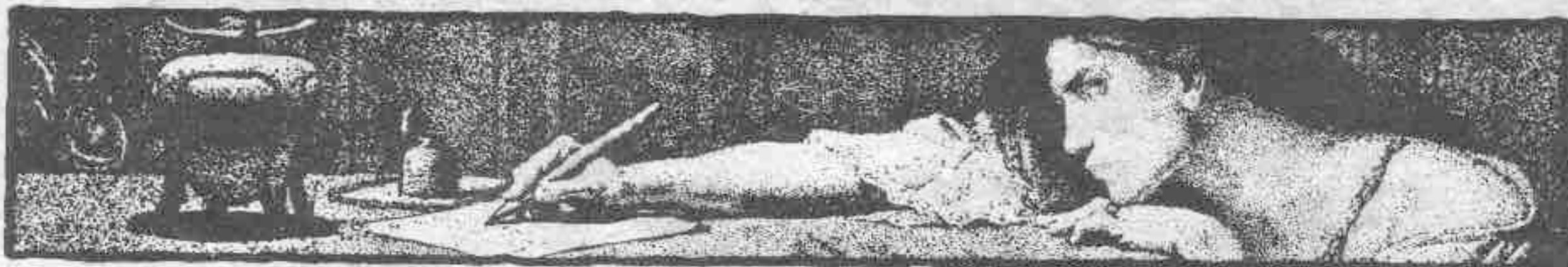
Having experienced both places, it is obvious that because of the work and pain and struggle that preceded today, these places certainly attract the nuevo-hip and art-deco chic, but they also attract the rock hard organizers and community workers.

Both places are still the most excitingly alive neighborhoods around. What once had been cannot now, but what of the might yet?

Surely the Marina encroaches daily, and I apologize if my ability and readiness to pay \$300 a month to share in the spirit that still permeates Venice changes that same Venice, but yesterday is but a halcyon memory and tomorrow still a fearful prospect.

You judge to quickly that all newcomers will abuse you. Change is never easy but is inevitable. You/we can't stop what certainly may come, but can we control it? Can we compromise the piss out of them until, while it's not the way you wanted it to stay, it won't be the plastic ugly either?

Go and have your funeral. It may exorcise the daemons that haunt your late afternoons. I won't intrude. But when it's all over and you are still breathing and sighing and not ready for an unnatural interment, look around you. Mixed in with the new are people of great sensitivity, talent and strength. People who just might share your dream of preserving that which is good about your work and community, but who can't wallow in counter-productive self-pity.



## LETTERS TO THE BEACHHEAD

If the leadership was offered and the invitation issued, perhaps you would find those who are willing to lift part of that overwhelming burden you have been lugging with very tired shoulders, and eager to participate in a healthy regeneration.

Jeannie Adams  
2804 Grand Canal  
Venice

Dear Beachhead Collective,

Wherever Mary Jane Kwan, John Heller, Nancy McCullough and Jo Hyacinthe have blown to like dandelion seeds most likely they will be unwelcome. Wherever they try and settle into a groovy community existence, some one will be writing articles about how they are ruining the previously groovy scene.

Venice isn't going to be spared the fate of every other groovy place to live. My entire life, and my parents, and grandparents etc. was spent in the futile search for a place on this earth to hang our hats (as Marlon Brando put it). Either the freeway came through the house or the condos sprouted like mushrooms. I suggest if any of you are luckier or wiser than I have been in my search and find a community where you can be a failure and poor and still have friends that you keep it to yourself because by now so many dandelion seeds are floating around having been blown out of all the other groovy places to love (Aspen, Boulder, Marthas Vineyard, Eugene, Marin County) before you can unpack your wok & hash-pipe it will be ruined.

I am haunted by visions of certain old ladies from my past stumbling confused and crazy through what grew up around them. The last genuine old lady in Aspen after being evicted from the room she'd occupied since 45, used to wander around the streets with a look of terror, peering in windows looking for something, or some one familiar, and asking in a loud voice in restaurants and other public places "What are they going to do about all the people! She asked that question over and over until they carted her off somewhere. An old lady in Houston Texas having grown bored with all the conversations one hears over the course of 80 years, calls up her son in the middle of the night and asks "When am I going home?" after 80 years that's the only thing worth asking.

Maybe Venetians would be wise to contemplate the esoteric wisdom in Brer Rabbit's "Please don't fling me in the briar patch" trick.

I have also noticed the frequency and malice your paper associates with owning a "Mercedes Benz". Hinting this a badge of trust fund babies second string jet-setters etc. Usually your standard dope dealer is more likely to fall under the spell of driving around like a Nazi Colonel. Real rich people know a secret about that also and are more likely to drive economy cars.

Yours, Allan Armstrong  
A newcomer to Venice and a stranger to this planet.

To Jeannie Adams and Stranger to this Planet,

I never wanted to live in Aspen, Marthas Vineyard, etc.

I was and am a misfit in Woodland Hills and Aspen. Venice is the only place where I feel hated for my self alone, not for what I look like or what I wear. And would you believe sometimes hours go by when I don't think of my hash pipe or hash, and that I like frozen vegetables and steak?

You need Venice for what society calls failures. The failures need Venice to find out they aren't.

I love Venice because the strays, the cast-offs, the misfits, the useless ones, the uglies have found they are useful, and in some cases loved.

The young people, the bubble gum see who run away from Mom'n'Dad roll down to tacky town. The old people who are too bright and articulate to be nursed to death meet each other in Venice. Occasionally the two groups, the young and the old (you never see old people in some communities in Southern California and that's a fact, not a generalization. But you see them in Venice. They are visible and audible) interact. Children who never saw their grandparents get

grandparenting from the older people. I don't think anything equals being told by someone who looks so wise, that you're a genius, or you're beautiful or how well you roller skate. It does a lot for my ego, but then I'm only three years old.

In Venice, I found out that A) all Blacks are not Sidney Poitier, and I could hate them for their own sweet selves and not love them patronizingly as a group. B) Chicanos are not Delores Huerta. C) All drug addicts are not dear sensitive souls looking for a good woman/man to give them love and affection and they'll clean up. Most likely, they'll clean you out. D) Vegetarians with long hair can be just as judgemental and aggressive as meat eaters. E) Women and men who do "politically correct" things can sell you down the river emotionally as well as any of the running dog lackeys.

No, Venice is not Middle Earth where happy Hobbits dance letting it all hang out. It's tough, threatening and filled with very real people.

And like them or not, these people are my neighbors. Venice is rich and poor. An economically mixed community. And that is one of the major factors of the oh-mie god I've used this phrase ad nauseum - quaintunique - lifestyle. And that is what is in danger of being destroyed by hipisie. Oh, the funky cute buildings will stay and be improved and the neighborhoods will be changed from rich and poor and all patchwork colors of the human rainbow will fade to blond and bland.

It must be unpleasant to be classed with the Lumpen Rich when one is so obviously hip to be gracing our shabby dog shit ridden community.

Goodness, the sensitive rich must cringe every time they see a manifestation of hostility. Hate? Betch your Frye Boots!

I hate it when you are willing to pay \$300 for an apartment that rented for \$150 last year. I hate you when you want to build a fortress that excludes the very community you want to live in. Mlikotin of Solar Systems is building two story One-family houses - the same square feet could adequately provide for two story two or three family mixed income living space. The Ocean Front Walk is where a lot of socializing goes on. The people who are now living here don't need the large living rooms that are needed by the shy and sensitive hipisie.

I guess that's it. You need more than I want. You're forcing people who are living in small rooms to double up and live in smaller ones. No, you wouldn't have liked the Canal Festival Funeral, so it's just as well you didn't come.

It wasn't negative and self pitying at all. It was as all funerals and wakes should be, a loving good-bye to a good ol' friend. The self pity you write of, seems to be a bit misplaced - I don't sense any self pity in the community except from people who write in, "We tried! We tried with our bright little lawyers, our superior wit,

our sensitivity training and look-all-for-naught! They still built freeways through our town. What makes you think you can succeed where we failed? Give up! Compromise!" O.K. Will you compromise? Will you build smaller houses and maybe work for the possibility of say 2,1 low income persons for every 4 new condos? Some of the shy and sensitive rich that drive around in whatever they think of as economy cars might try walking in Venice, at least. I know that's a subversive thought in L.A. County, but Venice is subversive.

People who own so much and need so much space might make do with less.

People who are fighting to stay here don't have much left to compromise. I for one would compromise for plastic tacky if it allowed mixed income to stay. Notice, I said mixed income. I don't want a ghetto.

But, the Hipisie seem to feel the exterior trappings of funk count more than the content or meaning.

So the quaint houses will stay and the people who made the Venice quaint let us see, the au courant word is "ambiance" will be moved out.



# DOMINO THEORY

By Carol Fondiller

The Coastal Commission on October 6 didn't make anyone very happy but the resident homeowners on the canals are probably the least unhappy.

The Coastal Commission on October 6 set guidelines for the future building in the canal area. These standards include a 25 foot height limit and a floor area structure to about 1,980 square feet on the average canal lot.

The builders of these houses seem very unhappy about this. The Commission held public hearings and voted on two of the 21 houses, approving them with the guidelines attached as conditions. Builder Sherman Grinberg charged that any house with under 2,000 feet of living space in the canals "is building the blight of tomorrow today". Actually about 1,500 square feet is allotted to living space. The remainder of the 1,980 square feet is used for garage, etc. The Coastal Commission staff says that the 1,500 foot living space is adequate for a small three bedroom house.

The Coastal Commission decided not to take into account the economic consequences of the large scale speculative building on the present residents of the canals.

What is the economic effect on the canals? On the rest of Venice? The canals have been bellweathers for any changes in Venice. The canal residents have also been most effective in fighting changes. Aside from increased traffic flow and lower water quality, as the canals go so goes the rest of Venice. The 21 lots that are being built on represent 20% of the canals.

The Coastal Commission cannot prohibit building on land, or tell the builders what to build. This would result in what is called inverse condemnation.

Since there seems to be no condition or proposal in the Coastal Commission set up to acquire land that is set, to prohibit development would render the land valueless and would result in what is called reverse condemnation. Of the 80 lots remaining on the canals, the city owns 13.

It seems doubtful that the city would use these lots for low-mixed income housing, since multiple housing is not allowed on the canals, and because of the city's non-response in this area. Because of rising taxes which result in rising rents, people who are in the low-moderate income group will be forced to leave the canals.

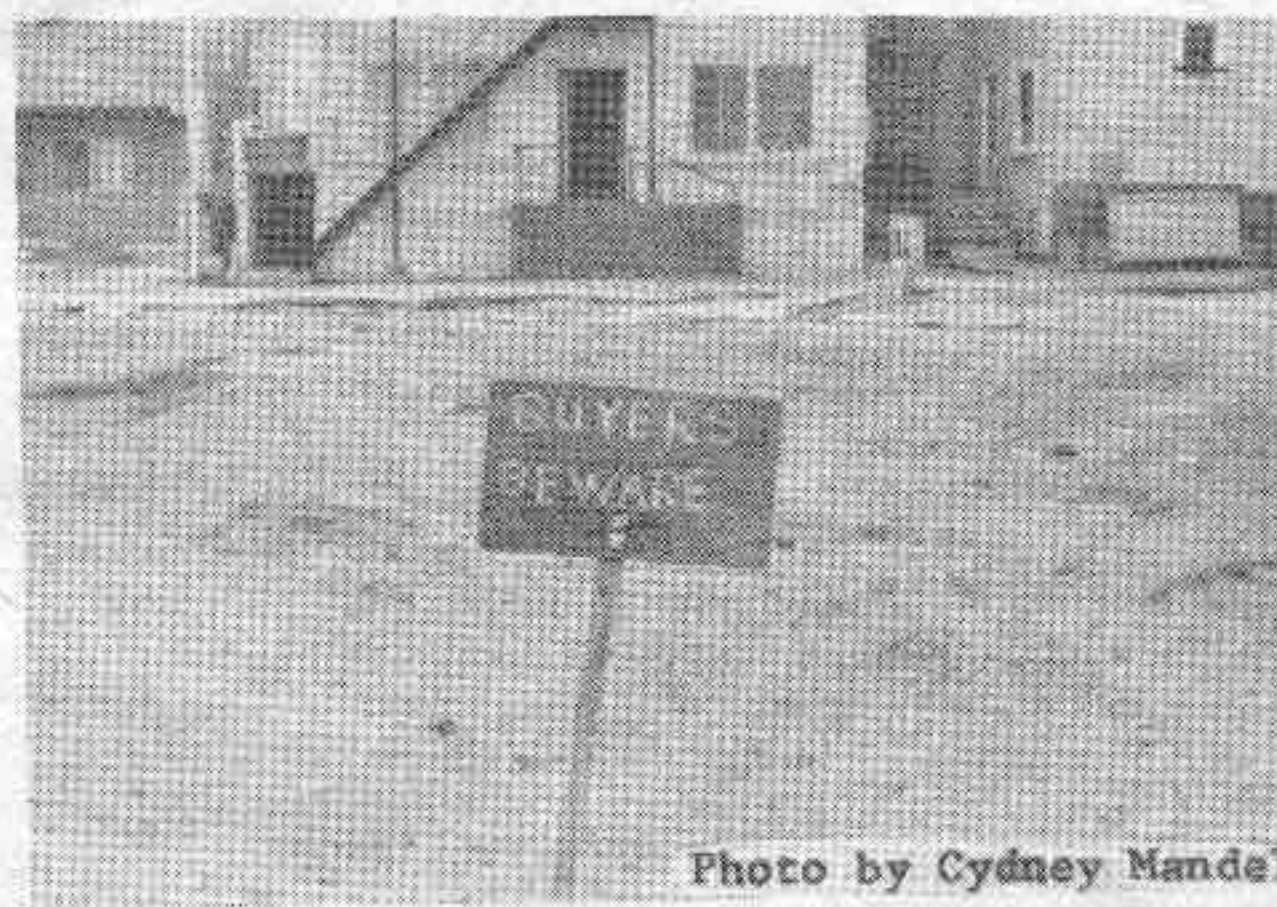


Photo by Cydney Mandel

Where will they go? One can see what happened on the peninsula. The old single family and small apartment houses were swallowed up by the luxury condominiums and apartment houses. The people who were forced out moved to the north, toward Washington Street.

One can see this process going on in the area between Venice Boulevard and Washington Street, where small single family dwellings are being surrounded by newer larger apartment houses and single family houses that are built as if they could be bootlegged into duplexes.

The dispersion of the low middle income people in the canals will have immediate effect on the surrounding neighborhoods of Ocean Avenue, Mildred Avenue and around 28th street.

The incursion of larger newer buildings will raise the speculative value of all the land surrounding these newer structures, forcing more people to move out of the immediate area and into other neighborhoods.

## re: Venice

The people who used to live in the North Beach area are moving farther inland. Moderate income whites (and high income whites with an eye for a good bargain for a big house not near the ocean) are moving into the Oakwood area which has been mostly working class blacks who "own" their homes. As a result, the more affluent whites are forcing out the stable working class black population, and if Oakwood goes we're all through. I put quotes around owning homes, because in the last year, some property tax assessments in the Oakwood area have gone up as much as 200%, resulting in "black flight."

The Coastal Commission set the future ecological and aesthetic guidelines for building in the canals by their decisions on two houses.

According to the reliable Coastal Commission watchers, of which I am not one, I'm still pondering the meaning of the French drain Connection, there will probably be an unprecedented three appeals from three different sources. One appeal will probably come from the builders, who want all conditions removed. Another appeal will probably come from resident homeowners who want stricter building standards enforced. And another appeal will come from the Venice Town Council and renters who want the whole project denied because of the deleterious cumulative effect on low-moderate income renters.

My thanks to Moe Stavnezer who interpreted what happened at the Coastal Commission on October 6. I was there, but I still did not understand it all. The credit for anything that makes sense or is correct in this article goes to him and to staff of the Coastal Commission. The mistakes, inaccuracies and misinterpretations are all mine.

Myrtle Wilson, a formidable and sometimes funny adversary against renters and ducks, and pro-bike path through the Peninsula, was struck by a cerebral hemorrhage at a Women's Venice Marina Chamber of Commerce meeting. She died in a coma a few days later on October 18. She is survived by her husband, Benjamin Wilson, and her daughter.

(continued from page 1)

4) Decide with your neighbors whether or not the building is acceptable and why. Remember the issues of bulk, height, and parking will affect the Commission's decisions. Aesthetic and design considerations unfortunately will not. Hopefully you'll be able to negotiate successfully, but if not, it is important to list the reasons you feel are most important and valid in terms of why the project should or shouldn't be built. You don't all have to agree. Bear in mind the Commission's unwillingness to rule simply on aesthetics and their willingness to consider neighborhood characteristics such as density, intensity, height, width and parking.

5) Prepare your "case" to present before the Commission at the public hearing. You will have 10 minutes to make your presentation, so it should be concise. It seems best to me to list the most relevant issues and arguments and then decide who will speak about them. At our first public hearing five people spoke against the project. At the two subsequent hearings (on appeal) two people spoke each time. We prepared a list of conditions if the building was approved as well as reasons for denial which we had xeroxed for each of the 12 commissioners. Three people took neighborhood slides and we invited the commissioners on a photographic "walk" up Wavcrest which was very effective in showing them what our block looked and felt like.

6) Enlist the support of as many neighbors and concerned people as possible to a) write letters of opposition or support b) sign petitions. Wavcrest residents held a "pot luck" dinner where people came to eat and write letters of opposition. We were able to claim the virtually unanimous support of the community when at the hearing we presented 40 letters and a petition bearing the names of 100 people.

7) DO APPEAL the decision of the South Coast Regional Commission to the State Coastal Commission if it is not what you want. This is most important! For the State Commission has the power to overturn decisions made on a regional level, as it

did in our case. The appeal process is simple. It requires that you fill out a two paged mimeographed form which must be received at the State Commission offices in San Francisco within 10 days of the regional decision. That address is: 1540 Market Street, San Francisco 94102.

The appeal process differs from the first process and it may cost you some money in travel expenses as the State Commission meets in both Northern and Southern California, moving to a new locale each week. The Wavcrest building was approved at the South Coast Regional Commission. We appealed to the State Coastal Commission and finally after two public hearings, one postponement by the builders, the project was denied! It was all worth it at that point. But we spent much time and had to take up a neighborhood collection to travel first to San Francisco and finally to San Diego.



Photo by Cydney Mandel

I want to state strongly that ours was a neighborhood action and one in which many people participated actively. Bobbie Kidder Lazaro, Anita Daniel and Cydney Mandel took pictures, Joe Piscitelli, Joel Verillo passed around petitions; Gary Mandel, Carol Berman, Andrew Meyer, Cydney Mandel, and I all spoke to the commission; Jay Jamieson, Bonnie McCassey, Ed Lucks and David Saxe all contributed financially; others attended meetings, wrote letters, cooked food and provided musical entertainment at the pot luck dinner, and others offered us verbal support. It was a true group effort.

The procedures listed above are subject to change after the first of the new year. There is a new Coastal Protection Law that goes into effect then but the exact changes

haven't yet been worked out at the commission. But, hopefully, this guide will offer encouragement to you and help you see that the procedures, though involved, aren't impossible. You can do it.

Gratifying as our victory was, I feel strongly that to really have a voice in what is built in Venice as a whole and North Beach in particular, more than merely piecemeal opposition to each project on an individual basis is crucial. Piecemeal opposition is a purely defensive, stop-gap maneuver at best. Yes, we defeated a particularly gruesome project this time and we are thrilled about it. But there is nothing to prevent this builder, another or still another from trying again with an even more outrageous project. Our

only long term hope it seems to me, is to form an association of concerned residents, tenants and homeowners alike. This association would map concrete priorities for further development in our community and take positive steps to implement them, before the deluge hits (as it surely will!) Suggestions, i.e. What about low income housing on city owned lots, or permanent parking lots designated on some lots where people have parked for years? How about groups of people collectively buying lots and renting out garden sites and parking spaces on them or refurbishing old trailers for low income units? There are numerous possibilities, some of which can be implemented successfully if enough people care enough to try.

So, I would like to invite any and all interested people to come meet with me on Thursday evening, November 18, 8 p.m. at 30 Wavcrest, upstairs. 396-1941. Bring your ideas and your energies. Let's see if we can take some control over our community before we really do lose it.

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Eve-399-4670

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# FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

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Susan Scott  
Carol Fondiller  
Linda Lucks

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## SPROUTS

### HOW TO SPROUT:

1. Select clean, whole, organic, seeds or beans.
2. Use a one pint mason (wide mouth) jar. Place one tablespoon of seeds in the jar. Cover with cheesecloth or nylon netting held in place with a rubber band.
3. Wash seeds by running warm water through the cloth and swirling it in the jar, allowing the water to run out to carry away dirt.
4. Add a cup of clean warm water and place in a warm, dark area overnight. A kitchen cupboard is just fine.
5. The next morning;
  - Drain the soaking water from the jar. This water should be used as soup stock as it contains many vitamins and minerals.
  - Rinse the seeds well, drain and return to cupboard. Lay jar on it's side.
6. Repeat rinsing of seeds 2 or 3 times a day for 3-4 days.
7. On the last day place the sprouts in jar in daylight. At the end of the day they will have formed chlorophyll and turned green.
8. Store sprouts in refrigerator. They should be used fresh as they lose their nutritional value after a few days.

**EATING SPROUTS:** Raw, in salads, in soups, on sandwiches, blended into drinks, in vegetable casseroles, sauces, breads, muffins, pancake batter, scrambled eggs or omelets.

### NUTRITIONAL VALUE IN SPROUTS:

**Vitamins** - A, B-complex, C, D, E, G, K, U.

**Minerals** - Calcium, Magnesium, Phosphorus, Chlorine, Potassium, Sodium, Silicon.

**Protein** - Contain all eight essential amino acids to make complete protein.

**Simple sugar** - thus easy to digest and good quick energy food.

**Chlorophyll** - which helps as a blood booster.

**WHAT TO SPROUT:** (Use alfalfa seeds to start with as they are the easiest to sprout.)

**Seeds:** alfalfa, unhulled sesame, unhulled shelled sunflower, radish, mustard, red clover, fenugreek.

**Whole grains:** wheat, rye, oats, corn, barley.

**Whole dry beans and peas:** soybeans, lentils, green peas, chick peas (garbanzos), limas, mung, marrow, kidney, pinto, cranberry, fava beans. (always try to use untreated, organic seeds, beans, or grains - treated ones may not sprout.)

# RENTERS'

BY BRUCE M. MARGOLIN

Our laws are based on those developed in England in the days of feudal lords who were in control of vast estates and wanted to keep it that way. Even today the landlord is greater protected and favored by the law. However, there are rights of renters, and the laws protecting them can be used if we know what they are and how to employ them.

Landlord ripoffs often occur today in the areas of security deposits and cleaning fees. California law requires that, at the termination of the tenant's residence in the apartment, the landlord return to the tenant any of the deposit not used for the purpose originally agreed to. Invariably, some form of deposit is required when renting. It is usually called a "cleaning," "security," or "damage" deposit. It can vary in amount from a few dollars to an entire month's rent. The landlord may claim deductions from the deposits only in amounts reasonably necessary to remedy tenant defaults in the payment of rent, to repair damage to the premises caused by the tenant, or to clean the premises after the tenant leaves, if the deposit was made for any or all of those specific purposes. Any remaining portion must be returned to the tenant.



The important things to remember about these deposits are:

1. The tenant has a right to all of his deposit back, unless the landlord has used the money to cover certain specified costs or damages (including back rent which is due at the time the tenant leaves).

2. The landlord may only deduct his reasonable costs. What is "reasonable" will vary from situation to situation, but it is up to the landlord to prove (if the case ever goes to court) that he actually incurred the costs and that they were reasonable.

The tenant should insist that two questions concerning this money be completely answered before he makes any payment: First, he should determine exactly what the deposit is for -- if it is to be applied for cleaning that should be specified; if it is to be applied to the last month's rent, that should be specified. Second, he should find out under what circumstances the deposit will be refunded. (These questions apply with equal force to those "deposits" which are sometimes required to be made with a lease application which needs subsequent approval by someone other than the resident manager.) The tenant should take care that the answers to these questions appear in writing; this may be accomplished by a simple notation on the deposit receipt. Always obtain a receipt.

If the return of the deposit is conditioned on the tenant doing certain things, make sure these conditions are in writing. Usually if there is a written lease or rental agreement, it will contain language explaining the terms under which the deposit will be returned to the tenant.

Occasionally a landlord will require an advance deposit to hold an apartment for the prospective tenant; for example, the tenant may pay the landlord \$50, rather than an entire month's rent, with the expectation of moving in in a week; a week later the tenant may decide he doesn't want to move in. This deposit exists to protect the landlord against any lost opportunity he may have had during that week to rent the place. If the tenant decides not to take the apartment, the

# RIGHTS

landlord will probably have the right to keep some, if not all, of the money advanced. In addition, it should be made clear exactly how that deposit is to be applied if the tenant does rent the apartment. Is it refundable? Is it to be applied to the rent? Is it to be used as another type of deposit? As always, whatever arrangement is made should be in writing.

A "security deposit," which exists to protect the landlord against damage caused by the tenant, cannot be applied to cover the cost of repairs made necessary because of normal wear and tear on the apartment. For example, if the plumbing becomes stopped-up, and the tenant did not intentionally cause the blockage, no deduction may be made to pay a plumber to fix it.

In general, there is no such thing as a "non-refundable deposit." In order for there to be such an agreement, the tenant 1) must have clearly understood that he had a statutory right to have the deposit returned, and 2) must have agreed to give up this right. When there is no such understanding between landlord and tenant, the cleaning deposit will be treated like any other deposit -- meaning that the landlord can only make those deduc-

tions reasonably necessary to clean the apartment. Thus, if the tenant fully cleans the apartment before leaving, the landlord should return all of the "cleaning fee."

If the landlord has no reasonable claim on the deposit, he must return it within two weeks after the termination of the tenancy. If he fails to do so, and instead keeps the money in bad faith, he may be liable to the tenant for up to \$200 in damages, in addition to the amount of the deposit, under present California state law (Civil Code Section 1950.5). These additional damages only apply to deposits made on or after January 1, 1971.

If after two weeks, you have not received a good reason for not getting your deposit back, you should send your ex-landlord a letter like this:

Dear Landlord:

It has been more than two weeks since my tenancy ended. I have not received my deposit back, and you have not given me a reason for your retention of this money.

You should be aware that, under Section 1950.5 of the California Civil Code, a landlord may not withhold from a deposit any amount other than that actually required to cover a default in rent, damages, or, if the deposit was made for this purpose, actually cleaning the premises.

You should further be aware that this law also provides that if a landlord withholds a deposit in bad faith, he may be liable for up to \$200 in additional damages.

Please immediately return the deposit or provide an explanation for your failure to do so.

If you do not, I may be forced to start legal action against you.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: Tenant

If the landlord still keeps the deposit, you will probably have to sue him in Small Claims Court to get it back.

My next article will be designed to present general guidelines to a tenant who either 1) wants to give his landlord a 30-day notice to quit, or 2) has received a 30-day notice to quit from his landlord.

### Correction:

In the October issue of the Beachhead, I wrote in the article Funeral Festival that the Venice Town Council passed a resolution condemning the Canal Festival Funeral. Wrong! They passed a resolution of non-support.

Several people active in the Town Council stated at the funeral that they thought it was a fine community event, and were positive and helpful when the police came down. - Carolyn

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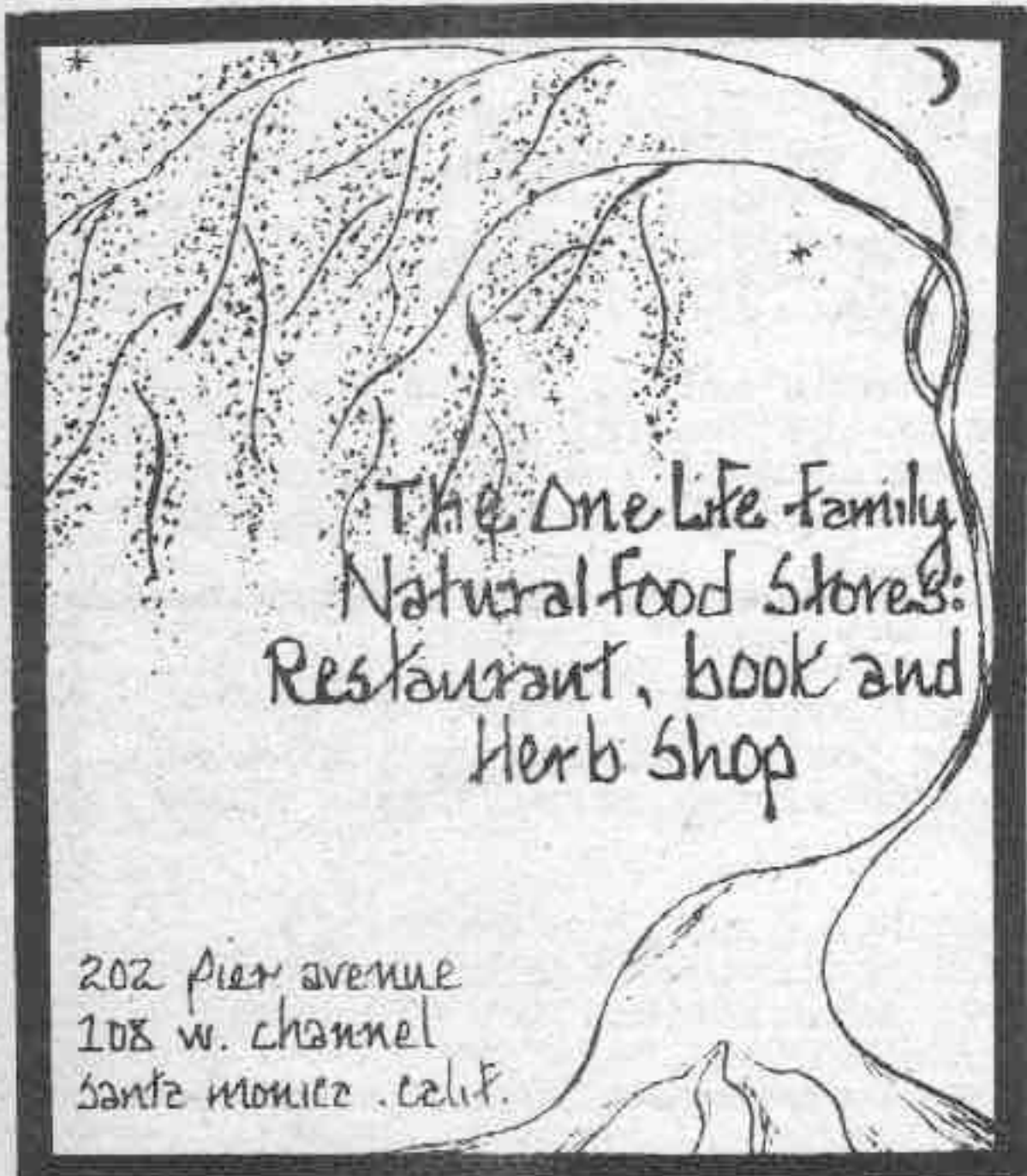
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# COMMUNITY

## BEYOND BAROQUE CENTER

- Tues., -Nov. 2, Master Class in Fiction writing begins led by Joseph Hansen
- Fri., -Nov., 8 p.m. Peter Levitt and John Oliver Simon read their poetry.
- Sat., -Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. Recital of works by Los Angeles composer Mark Chatfield - performers to be announced.
- Sat., -Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m. Recital of baroque 19th and 20th century music by Becky Heaton, flute, Lowell Crystal guitar.
- Fri., -Nov. 19, 8 p.m. Theodore Enslin and Benjamin Saltman read their poetry
- Sat., -Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. Music for electronic media by Gary Chang and Richard Jetter. (Tentative)
- Sat., -Nov. 27, noon-5 p.m. Opening reception, exhibition of works by VENICE ARTISTS - Beverly Moio Damailoff, Pano Davros, Diane Humphreys, Lee McGuire, Sheldon Tarrant. continues through Dec. 24

Venice Poetry Workshop, free open to public, every Wed., 8 p.m.

Autobiographical Fiction Workshop, led by Frances Smith, Nov. 1-Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m. Open. 6 Mondays.

Experimental Writing Workshop, led by George Drury Smith; 6 Tuesdays, starting Jan. 4; deadline for applications, Dec. 20.

## community services

## NEIGHBORHOOD & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Venice Legal Aid.....392-4177

Services Referral.....399-9228  
Helpline for food, clothing counseling, etc. M-F 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 10-3 p.m.

Food Stamps only.....479-4421

NAM (New American Movement).....392-7698  
478-1514

Food stamp/unemployment counseling, Mon. 10-noon, 6-8 p.m.  
Tues. 4-8 p.m., Weds. 10-4 p.m. 6-8 p.m.

St. Joseph's Center.....392-5101  
533 Rose Ave. Venice, CA.  
Community alternative. Bi-lingual education. 16 & over. Food Stamps. Counseling 9:30-4:30

Job Information Center.....451-9811

Welfare  
1. 11390 W. Olympic Blvd.....478-5511  
2. Welfare Rights.....731-5095  
3. NAPP.....399-7737

Free Venice...226 San Juan.....396-6876

Pet Assistance.....937-5204

Air Pollution Count.....629-4711

## CITY SERVICES

Street Cleaning.....393-9931

Garbage Pick-up .....272-6376  
large parcels, call 1 day ext. 392 in advance

Lot Cleaning.....485-3465  
fire hazard, health or building & safety, call for inspection. Owner gets billed for clearance.

Emergency Clearance of Street...485-3702

Street Lights.....485-5922

Bureau of Consumer affairs.....485-4682  
State office.....620-4360  
County office.....974-1452

Better Business Bureau.....627-6305

## SINGLE MOTHERS ON WELFARE

The District Attorney's office is now making women take a lie detector test if the father of their children is "unknown". They say if you don't take the test your aid will be cut off. This is unconstitutional. You do not have to take this test. Lawyers will help you for free. Contact N.A.P.P. or the ACLU or Neighborhood Legal Services. Do not submit to a lie detector test! Stand up for your rights and your dignity as women.

The Episcopal City Society.....483-7002

Donational health food restaurant. Herbs sold at cost. ONE LIFE NATURAL FOODS 202 & 204 Pier Avenue. Santa Monica.

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## VENICE TOWN COUNCIL

The Venice Town Council meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Venice City Hall, 681 North Venice Blvd. Every citizen of Venice is a member of the Venice Town Council and is urged to come and participate. Friends of Venice are also invited.

For information or a ride, call: 396-6876, 396-8160, or 821-4304

## PROPOSED AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 3rd MEETING:

### SPECIAL ITEM - Discussion of VTC rules;

1. Expose' of tax assessor - Phil Watson;
  2. Coastal Commission - Canals fight back;
  3. Police Committee report;
  4. Miscellaneous
- Discussion of election over coffee & cookies.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Beginning October 1, 1976 the Community Calendar will begin operating at the Ocean Park Community Center. The purpose of the Calendar is to avoid scheduling events sponsored by community groups and organizations on the same date. If your organization is planning a rally, fund raiser or any other function just call the Calendar at 399-9231. The function will be listed on the Calendar and you will be informed if another group has already scheduled something for that date. This is a free service. For more information call the Community Calendar at 399-9231.

## THE CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK CONTINUING CLASSES

Improvisational Theater Workshops  
Mondays/8 \$3.00 with directors and players of PUBLIC WORKS  
BALLET with Robert VanSanten  
MTW 1-2:30; M 6:30-8; Sat 11-12:30  
Call 396-0760 for information  
Touch for Health with Buzz Short  
Mon/7:30 (call 457-7251 for info)  
TAI CHI CHI with Ted Wood  
Tues/Thurs 6-7:30 \$2/session  
Introduction to Avatar Meher Baba  
Tues/8-10 with films/readings  
Creative Dance Class with Heidi Schaffer: Tues/10:30-noon  
Yoga by Integral Yoga Institute  
Wed/6-7:30 donation  
GAY RAP GROUPS  
Thursdays/7-10:30

A NEW MOVEMENT/DANCE CLASS  
will meet MTTh 3-6 and Sat  
12:30-5:30 taught by Nanette Dietz, Lorna Sadler & Nadine Ronson. Call 829-1948 for info

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## SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES

Israel Levin Senior Adult Center.399-9584  
201 Ocean Front Walk

Retired Senior Program.....394-0251

Westminster Senior Citizen Center.....392-5566

Jewish Home for the Aged.....881-4411

Holy Family Services.....484-1441

## THE CHILDREN'S PLACE SCORES A GRANT

The Children's Place, a day care center in Santa Monica located in the Church in Ocean Park, has recently received a grant from the Greater Los Angeles Community Action Agency (GLACAA), the federal poverty program, to subsidize low-income and minority children between the ages of two and a half and five, for pre-school and full time day care.

This is the first time in many years that Santa Monica has received poverty money and it is the first year that day care for working parents has been funded by GLACAA.

Because of this grant, The Children's Place is actively recruiting minority and low-income children who qualify for the subsidy to the school. Subsidies are given on a sliding scale according to family income and size.

# SERVICES

## HEALTH AND THERAPY SERVICES

Abortion Referral.....936-6293

Free Clinic - 115 N. Fairfax....938-9141  
offers free birth control pills and V.D. treatment. Call for appt.

Youth Clinic & Medical Help.....821-3484  
905 Venice Blvd. Venice, pregnancy tests, infections, abortion counseling, birth control, 4 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

Community Family Health Center..392-4125  
320 Lincoln Blvd. M-F 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

Family Planning Center.....392-4147  
1501 Pacific Ave.(at MarketSt)

Westside Women's Health Care ...450-2191  
1711 Ocean Park Blvd.

Women's Center.....826-0818

Women's Building.....225-1724

Drug Treatment Center.....274-5387  
24 hour number

Methadone Treatment.....477-4085

Venice Drug Coalition.....392-4151

Narcotics Anonymous.....372-9666

Drug Hotline.....392-2873

Drug Emergency.....393-2873

Alcoholism Service Center.....396-5940

Gay Alcoholic's Anonymous.....396-6551

Benjamin Rush Center.....392-4905  
Help for your head

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police. ....393-9911

Fire.....473-1155

Ambulance.....473-1155

Medical Emergency Hospital.....451-1511

Poison Center.....451-1511

Highway Patrol (dial 0 ask for...ZE 12000

Suicide Prevention Center.....381-5111

Rape Crisis Hotline.....677-8116

FBI.....272-6161

Beach Weather Report.....451-8761

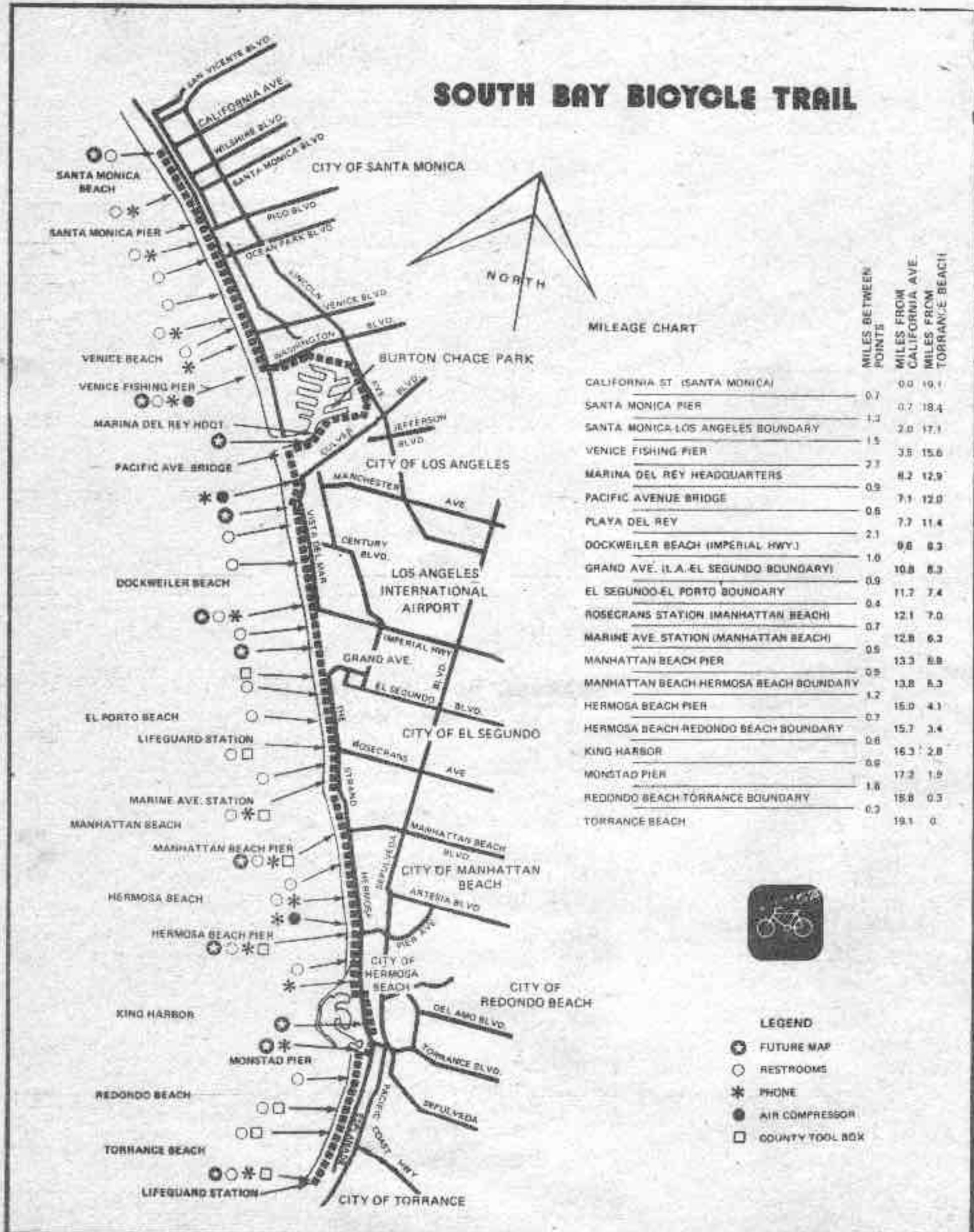
## DIDI HIRSCH

## COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

Volunteers are needed for Didi Hirsch Community Mental Health Center's new Emergency Service Program. This program will provide Culver City, Venice, Marina del Rey, Palms, Mar Vista, Baldwin Hills, and Ladera Heights communities with a 24 hour emergency/crisis telephone service. Volunteers will be utilized to answer telephones and to do counseling under the direct supervision of staff members. A training course stressing empathy skills, crisis intervention and suicide prevention will be offered. The training will begin on Nov. 1, 1976. People wishing to volunteer five hours a week to Emergency Service's are asked to contact the center at 390-6612 ext. 252 immediately. The Didi Hirsch Community Mental Health Center is located at 4760 South Sepulveda Blvd. in Culver City.

As part of the program, the school will be developing a bilingual bicultural curriculum in order to cater to the special needs of Spanish-speaking children. According to Sherry Wilds, Director of The Children's Place, "We are very excited that we are now in a position to serve the real needs of our immediate community. We are especially anxious to reach out to those families in our community who are low-income and minority, as we can now offer them full-time quality day care at a greatly reduced cost. We feel this is meeting a great need in our community." The Children's Place is open Monday through Friday from 7AM to 6PM. For information on the Children's Place or its subsidy program, call 399-6405.





**NEW GOVERNMENT REPORT SHOWS  
DRAMATIC RISE IN POVERTY**

Reflecting the impact of the recent recession, the total number of persons below the poverty line increased by 2.5 million, or 10.7 percent from 1974 to 1975, according to a Bureau of Census report released September 26.

The report indicates that the total number of people below the poverty line increased from 23.4 million in 1974 to 25.9 million in 1975. This was the largest single year increase since poverty data became available in 1959. The poverty level for 1975 was \$5,500 for a family of four.

White families had a median income of \$14,270 in 1975; black families a median income of \$8,780, and families of Spanish origin had a median income of \$9,550.

The number of white persons below the poverty level increased by 2 million, or 13 percent from 1974 to 1975, and the number of blacks by 363,000 or five percent. The number of poor people of Spanish origin increased by 16 percent.

The median income for men who received income in 1975 was \$8,850; for women -- \$3,390.

The survey further shows that about 1.4 percent of U.S. families received \$50,000 or more in 1975. About 25 percent received less than \$8,000. (LNS)

**NEW BOOK SWAP/READING ROOM OPENS**

If you have any books you would like to trade, bring them to 22 Wavcrest. In the front yard under the shed has been set up "The Wavcrest Reading Room and Book Swap". Hours are the same as for solar lighting: dawn to dusk. Or bring candles. Further info: 399-0029.

**OUR TAX MONEY AT WORK**

The National Taxpayers Union has a list of federal spending projects which the union considers a waste of money. For instance: The Agriculture Department has spent more than \$45,000 to research, print and distribute material on how long it takes to cook breakfast.

Among the findings is that it takes 34.56 seconds to cook french toast. This includes 1.9 seconds to approach the griddle, 54-hundredths of a second to crack the egg, and 94-hundredths of a second to place a slice of bread on the griddle.

If the USDA proceeds with time studies of lunch and dinner, the total cost reportedly will rise to nearly \$160,000.

Among the other grants listed is one for nearly \$24,000 to North Carolina researchers to determine why prisoners want to escape from jail. (ZNS)



**BIG BROTHER HELPS SISTERS**

Are you interested in the woman employee's rights?

The government can provide you with a free booklet listing the federal laws which affect women workers, Changing Times reported. The publication covers such subjects as protection against job discrimination because of sex or age, equal pay, maternity leave, tax deduction for child care, unemployment insurance, social security benefits and pension plans.

"A Working Woman's Guide to Her Job Rights" is available from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Women's Bureau, Room S-3317, Washington, D. C. 20210.

SAT. NOV. 27

30 WAVECREST DONATIONS 2.00

7-12 PM

free eats, cheap wine

# BEACHHEAD

Remember those fine Beachhead parties? Well, we're gonna do it again! That's right again! You may ask why-- well to meet each other and to party! Come to live music-- also for the same reason we give all those other fabulous baskets! #1 We got our typewriter, now we need ribbons, incidentals. Party from 7-12

Donations 2.00 30 Wavcrest See you there.

# BENEFIT

chee wah wah!

*Continued from page 2*

Maybe, now that you've got your lobbyists and you know how to do it so much better than the hoi poloi, you could start lobbying for people over property. Maybe, with your superior ability you might woo a few legislators with the idea that highest and best use might mean a stable integrated community, not one where even property owners who live on their property are subjected to the wants of profit oriented speculators. It is touching to see Jeannie and Stranger defend the rich as if they were. I know they aren't. I know they too can be blown away like so many dandelions. They are at the mercy of the powerful also. I'm sorry that they haven't received their engraved invitations to fight. Must have gotten lost in the mail.

I don't mind people who have more money than I do. I just don't like being moved out by them, and then being told I'm not a good little peasant and settling for compromise that is, no freeway but no low income. I refuse to pull my forelock and say, yes massuh, you all must be superior to me, because you have more money than I and you deserve to live where ever you want, even in my home. I feel that Venetians are putting into practice the idea that Droit de Seigneur has lost it's viability in this modern time.

I dreamt that my friends and I finally had to leave Venice. We were being run over by small economy cars driven by sensitive hipoisie who were driving on the Ocean Front Walk. They kept crying and running into each other and me and saying "oh, I get how you feel. I mean it's clear, man, but the streets are crowded and there are no parking places and you can't fight progress." So my friends and I moved to a ghost town called Hellngone. We were happy there and kept saying "please don't throw us in that Briar Patch." But someone wrote an article for a magazine called "New Chic". It was about children from the dull sterile community of Venice who kept running away to Hellngone even if it only rained once a year there. The article was called "Hellngone opens up! Quaintness abounds!"

And it was all over. Again. I hate to move so, I'll live with the occasional twinges of guilt I feel when I think of you having angst attacks on Grand Canal where a friend of mine used to live for half your rent, and if it weren't for the wallowing in self pity us Venetians did, you couldn't afford to live there either, suffering feelings of exclusion. That's a small compromise, and we all know about that, don't we?

Carol Fondiller

SI YES

PROPOSITION

14