

FREE VENICE

SEPT, 1973

NO. 45

P.O. BOX 504, VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291

PHONES: TANK-YUK, 392-8969, 396-9325

RAINBOW PAGES

We are a living, working collective in Venice, compiling a free peoples directory known as the Venice Peoples Rainbow Pages.

We have written over 300 articles about the various services, free schools, free stores, free food, spiritual trips, organizations, arts, media, legal aid, jobs, housing, co-ops, collectives, etc. that are going down within the Venice Community.

After nearly nine months we are finally entering our last phase—production. We have all the hardware and energy to print our own publication but we need skills and additional man/womanpower to get it all done within the next month or so.

Specifically, what we need are: Art work and photography (We figure every other of the 160 pages should contain someone's

creativity) typists (about 120 pages of copy to be typeset) graphics work, collators, etc.

If we're going to be out by Mid-September we're going to need an awful lot of energy around here with the next few weeks. So if you want to help out or contribute any of your works (they should have something to do with Venice) please call us any time at DYM-NerG "Dime Energy" or shoot it on over to us at P.O. Box 363, Venice. If we're not in when you call, please try again.

For the rest of you out there, see you in September.

Harvey, Kelly, Larry, Peter,
Strawberry, Yvonne
THE TELEPHONE KOMPANY

DEATH OF A COMMUNITY

The sign reads: "This lifegiving tree due to be destroyed for auto parking. If you think trees are more important than autos . . . PROTEST! Call Pat Russell, 485-3357."

A small, but very unique, community lies between North Venice Blvd and Mildred Avenue, close to the Venice Post Office. The streets are still dirt, the old canal system filled in. The houses along Canal Street (the old Grand Canal) are mostly small cottages, the people living here elderly. Many of these folk tend their flower gardens, or just sit in the sun talking. Canal Street is very quiet. There is no through traffic here, no noises, no smells of trucks, cars, or motorcycles passing through. At one end of Canal Street an ancient palm tree lifts its head towards the sky, helping to blot out the view of the new Windward Village development on Mildred Ave. At night the neighborhood is softly lit by house lights. It is nice to walk here, to feel the darkness broken only by the softly glowing bulbs and window panes. It is one of the strange miracles of Venice that this tiny enclave has survived the attentions of the City of Los Angeles.

On July 9, 1973, the Los Angeles City Council voted to destroy this quiet community. In direct violation of the basic provisions of the People's Coastal Initiative, Proposition 20, the City made clear its intention to pave the old dirt streets, and to connect Canal Street with both Venice Blvd and Mildred Avenue. The resulting through traffic would shatter the peace and quiet, and bring the smells of motors to mingle with the roses. With the increased traffic must come street lighting, of course. In place of the soft darkness, the harsh glare of mercury vapor would banish the spirit of the night. In the curious world of the street engineer, trees are obstructions to progress. The old palm tree, giving freely to all, life supporting oxygen for 28 years of its own life, would have to go. It would be in the way of the black top and concrete,

and the automobiles to follow. No sensible person would want a tree in a right turn lane.

Who is to benefit from this development? Certainly not the people living in the community. But the trail of money is easy to follow. Entrenched City bureaucracies with their minds still geared to the mindless development policies of years ago, the black top, concrete, and lighting contractors, the gas, electric and telephone companies, the banks, the land speculators, real estate developers, and their ilk, all of these profit enormously from community destruction and redevelopment to their liking.

One of the jobs of the new Coastal Commission is to prevent developments along the coast which destroy neighborhoods. Any development which would have a substantial adverse effect on the coastal neighborhood environment is prohibited by law. One of the easiest ways to reduce the effectiveness of the Coastal Commission is to just simply refuse the Commission money to operate. This is what Governor Reagan has done. The Coastal Commission is so understaffed that all but the largest projects have little chance of review. This Canal Street project was granted a permit by consent of the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission upon recommendation of the Los Angeles City Council. No investigation was made by the Commission, and no public hearings held.

At this writing (August 9), the Coastal Commission has been asked to stay the permit for the Canal Street project, and to hold full public hearings at which all residents of the neighborhood may have a chance to be heard. But even if the Commission agrees to hold public hearings, it will take a strong effort by the People to prevent the City from hatching its Canal Street obscenity.

If you wish to protest the City Council's endorsement of community destruction, or if you feel that trees are more important than automobiles, call Councilwoman Pat Russell at 485-3357, or 641-4717, or write Pat Russell, Member City Council 6th District, City Hall, Los Angeles 90012. Let her know how you feel.

Ron Guenther

FIFTH ANNUAL VENICE CANAL FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 23

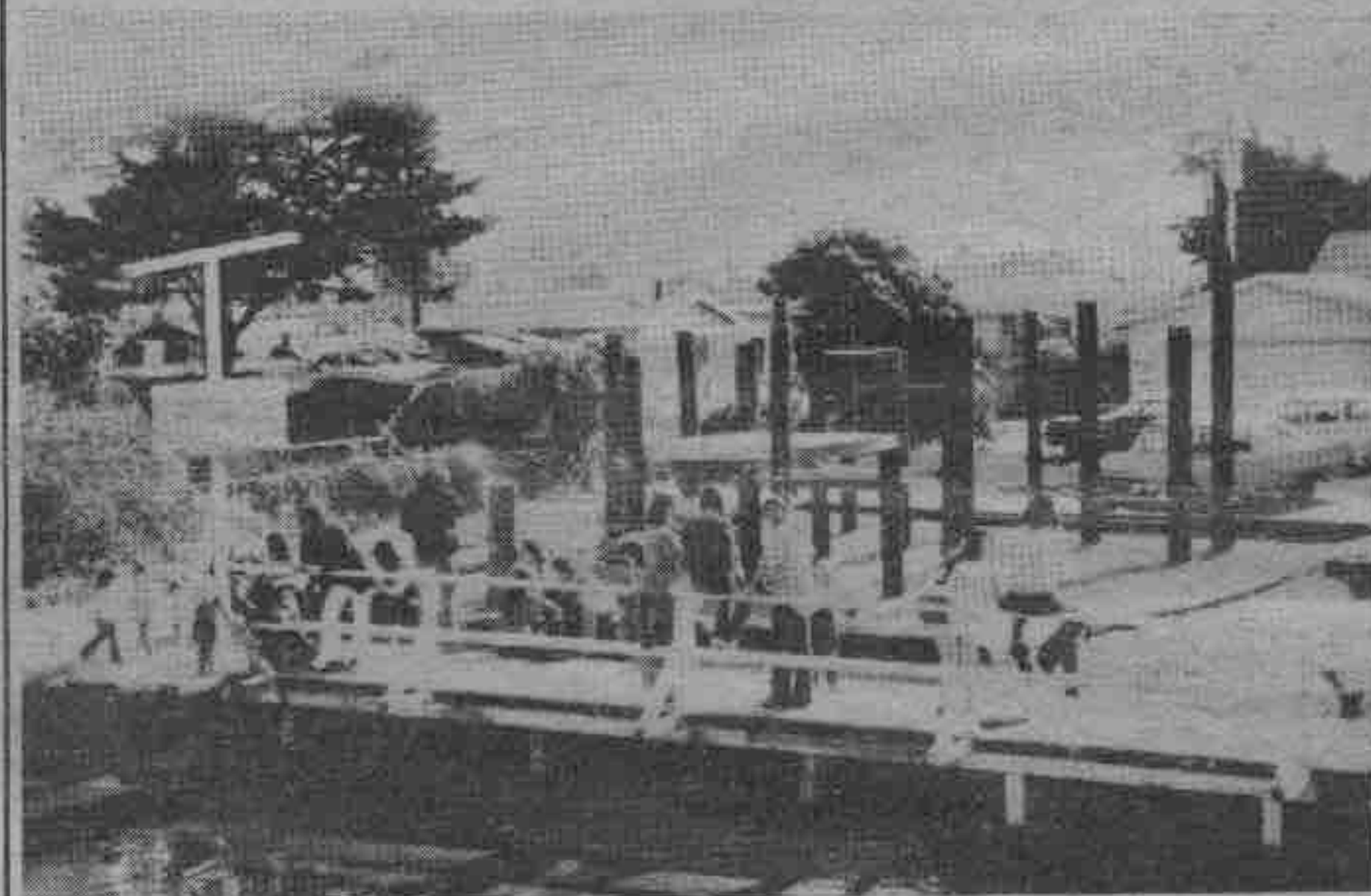


photo by gail Williamson

Wounded Knee

On August 12, lawyers for the Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee filed papers in federal court asking for an order to prohibit the FBI from interfering with legal preparations for the upcoming trials.

The complaint filed in Federal District Court in South Dakota charged that members of the WKLD/OC have been subjected to surveillance, harassment, shouted obscenities, threats of physical harm, actual assaults and batteries, false arrests, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution at the hands of agents or employees of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Among those named as defendants in the complaint are Morris Pierson, an FBI special agent already charged by the Rapid City authorities with assaulting Carolyn Mugar, an investigator and photographer for the defense committee, various other FBI agents who allegedly struck lawyers and legal workers, Clarence M. Kelley, the Director of the FBI, and Elliot Richardson, the Attorney General of the United States.

In the suit, Ramon Roubideaux, Luke McKissack and Mark Lane, attorneys for the Committee said, "the FBI and its agents have disrupted defense preparations for trial" and have had the effect of denying the defendants "the right to counsel guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment."

The suit asks that the federal court permanently enjoin the FBI from "threatening, assaulting and interfering with the activities of the attorneys and legal workers of the WKLD/OC. It also demands the payment of \$680,000, most of which is in the form of punitive damages.

Roubideaux, McKissack and Lane said on August 12, "This suit is part of a massive legal effort to ensure that our clients receive a fair and impartial trial. The Nixon dirty tricks department will not prevail here. Rapid City is not and will not become Watergate and our clients will not be sacrificed to those who deal in perjury, subornation, falsification of documents and the use of illegal threats and violence. This suit follows our motion for a change of venue to an area less fraught with prejudice against Indians, the motion to remove Judge Bogue who has personally proven himself to be hostile to Indians who speak up for their rights, and our citizens arrest of FBI agents who have attacked members of the defense committee."

"Agent Pierson has evidently fled the jurisdiction and is seeking to avoid the consequences of his illegal acts. Our committee, made up of volunteer legal workers and lawyers from all over the country, is not just a defense committee. The government is now beginning to understand what the 'offense' stands for in the title 'Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee.' Let it be known that we will take whatever legal steps be required to halt the unlawful efforts of the government to deny a fair trial to our clients. Let the armed and dangerous government agents who attack our lawyers and legal workers in the street know that we are neither defenseless nor passive."



How to Save Our Coast

By David Shulman

Proposition 20 did not save our coast. What it did do was to set up the machinery to save our coastline. That machinery is in the form of six regional commissions and one state commission that are empowered to establish a coastal plan by 1975 and to issue building permits in the interim. Unfortunately too many of the commissioners are more interested in issuing building permits than in saving the coast.

In the Santa Monica-Venice area the "protected" coastal zone of 1000 yards from the mean high tide line runs to about 6th Street. Any developer seeking to build in this area must have a permit from the regional commission. Before a permit can be issued, a public hearing must be held. Anybody can speak at the public hearing. After the hearing, the commission votes. It is through this mechanism, believe it or not that several people in Ocean Park-Venice have stopped

numerous buildings including the Ocean Park Development Project.

A permit can be denied for two reasons. Those are that the permit would have a direct adverse effect upon the environment and that it may be inconsistent with the yet to be devised plan. In addition in a decision involving 1739 Ocean Front Walk, a permit was denied by the State Commission on the grounds of cumulative effects.

What all of this means is that we can now think seriously about preserving our neighborhoods in the Venice-Ocean Park area from the ravages of high density-high income development. What it will take is the will and endurance to talk to our neighbors and to sit through long meetings of the regional commission that are usually held in Long Beach (925 Harbor Place near the Queen Mary, tel 436-4201) on Mondays. We have the power to insure that our beachfront will never become an enclave of the rich, but rather a diverse community of young and old.

BEACHHEAD STAFF

JOANNE CURTIS
GAIL WILLIAMSON
CAROL FONDILLER
JIM ZANE
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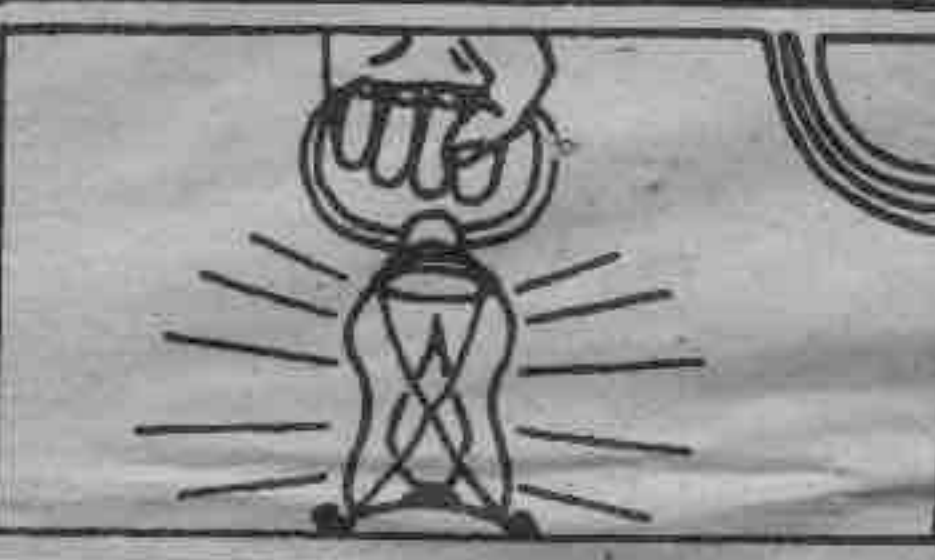
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SEPTEMBER CALENDAR
1: Ruling Class*Prime of Jean Brodie.2: Tom Jones*Catch 22.3: Marjoe*Derby*What to Say to Naked Lady.4: Monterey Pop*Festival at Newport.6: Fellini/Roma*8 1/2.7: Damaged Goods*Checkers* Speech*Jayne Mansfield, Ronnie Reagan, much more.8: Graduate*Caral Knowledge.9: Illustrated Man*Invasion of the Body Snatchers.10: Marat/Sade*Savage Messiah.11: Good, Bad, and Ugly*Vanishing Point.13: Flesh*Lonesome Cowboys.14: Hour of Wolf*Kwaidan.15: Intolerance*Son of Sheik.16: Everything About Sex*Candy.17: Ivan Denisovich*Walkabout.18: French Connection*Quiller Memo.20: Last Movie*Head.21: Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*Metropolis*Andalusian Dog.22: Reefer Madness*Elevator Girls in Bondage*at least 4 more.23: Ben Hur.24: Loved One*Alex in Wonderland.25: Passion of Anna*The Butcher.27: Beatles Festival.28: Psycho*Targets.29: Heart Is Lonely Hunter*Cool Hand Luke.30: King of Hearts*Magus.

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Owners-Tenants UNITE

For behold! The storm comes, and now all friends should gather together, lest each singly be destroyed. (Tolkien)

Bob Wells, Free Venice

A crushing rise in property taxes, and the disastrous increase in rents that is certain to result from it, has become the No. 1 issue before the North Beach Area of the Venice Town Council. The most recent property tax assessments for the North Beach, and to some extent the Canals and in Oakwood, showed increases of 50 to 60 percent.

Bill Evensen, North Beach representative on the Town Council, said at the Area Council meeting that all the fights to preserve Venice—the battle for Proposition 20, stopping the Canal Project, preserving senior citizen housing and saving the Westminster Auditorium—will have been for nothing if this tax assessment is not turned back.

Property taxes are based on the County's assessment of the "fair market value" of the property, and increases in property taxes are generally passed on to renters. The County Assessor's Office determines the value of property by looking at the sales of comparable property. If speculators are paying high prices for property then similar properties are assessed at the high value, even if the owners have no intention of selling. Thus, Venice land is taxed at its "highest and best use"—meaning high-rent apartment buildings (where zoning permits)—no matter if the land is presently being used for the single-family dwelling of a family that does not intend to move. If assessments continue to rise, small property owners may be forced to sell to the very speculators who are driving the prices up. The individual situation of the owner or renter is not considered, so it doesn't matter to the assessor's office that a person may be poor or aged.

It was charged at the August Town Council meeting that a real estate syndicate with two or three dummy fronts is operating in Venice to inflate property values. Company A will buy a piece of property, and then sell it to Company B at a jacked up price; Company B then sells it to Company C at an even higher price. Since all three companies are owned by the same syndicate no money actually changes hands. The profit comes when Company C sells to an outsider at an artificially inflated price. This has the effect of elevating

property values—and property taxes—generally for the area. The residential homeowner of limited income who is not manipulating the land market for quick profits is nevertheless caught in the crunch, and the pressures on him to sell out are increased.

North Beach property owner Alan Ross charged at the meeting that Tax Assessor Philip Watson is part of an immoral system that victimizes people by raising their taxes merely for living on a piece of property. He said the market value of a property is meaningless unless an owner is about to sell, and many people don't want to sell. "Don't tax us for living," he said.

Clearly, the latest assessments are intended as a piece of social engineering, to drive out the elderly, the long-hairs, the working people and the young families, where police oppression and the more obvious forms of downtown manipulation had failed. It has been ruled in court that if any government action has the effect of moving poor or low-income people out of an area, this is de facto urban renewal, and the government must pay the relocation expenses of the people moved. This was one of the legal arguments that stopped the Canal Redevelopment Plan—maybe we should go back into court with it on these assessments.

The North Beach Area Council decided to attack the assessments on a number of fronts:

- 1) Getting property owners to appeal their assessments—the deadline is Sept 15. This year a hearing before a single appeals hearing officer is possible for properties of \$50,000 or less market value. This officer makes recommendations to the formal appeals board.
- 2) Pressuring the Assessor's Office to postpone the reassessments until the effects of Proposition 20 and a possible zoning rollback in the North Beach area are determined.
- 3) Filing a class-action lawsuit against the assessments. Lawyers and law students are needed to help—call 396-6876.
- 4) Attempting to get the State Legislature to enact a special bill putting a moratorium on Venice reassessments. Write to State Senator Stephens, and Assembly members Priolo and Sieroty.

Property owners should appeal their assessments; tenants should try to get their landlords to appeal rather than raise the rent. Names, addresses, and phone numbers of all owners wishing to file appeals should be turned in to Free Venice, 396-6876.



Free

all

Political

Prisoners



Because of the recent court decision, prisoners can now sue guards who brutally beat them.



J I L M S

QUICKIE MOVIE REVIEWS

by Bob Cadden

Dedicated to the Film Freaks of America (FFA)

BLUME IN LOVE - George Segal is George Segal again (maybe he will come to alter his image when 'The Terminal Man' is released as he is bald in this which will be a welcome change, hopefully!) and Susan Anspach, looking like she should have had a hair conditioning treatment or quite possibly she is readying herself for a career in horror films (with her teeth, she should give it some consideration) in a flick by Paul Mazursky of 'Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice' fame if one could call it that. A bonus is Kris Kristofferson who is much, much better then in the disappointing and butchered 'Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid'. Shelley Winters stands out again in this one. More pain than comedy.

O LUCKY MAN! Super-super. From the remarkable director of 'If Mr. Lindsay Anderson and stars Malcolm McDowell of 'A Clockwork Orange', Alan Price did the magnificent score. A massive work of cinematic imagination and lots of fun. Highly recommended.

THE HIRELING - Excellent adaption of the L.P. Hartley novel with superb acting by Robert Shaw and Sarah Miles. Destined to be compared with 'The Go Between' due to the subject matter but is actually superior especially photography-wise, which gives the

green English countryside.

LIVE AND LET LIVE - Avoid this like the plague. Roger Moore, lacking the charisma of a Sean Connery, in a staggeringly dull 007 non-adventure. The worst of the Bond series. There is one good sequence with a Louisiana sheriff but actually not worth paying an admission to witness. Wait until this hits the tube.

THE LAST OF SHEILA

Recommended for bored gays only and even they would be better off staying home reading MS. and listening to Bette Midler records. I love good trash but this one misses. We have James Coburn who should be doing Dentyne or Gleem 2 commercials, as a sadistic, coiffured producer who owns a yacht and enjoys maniacal game playing with his guests. More confusing than interesting. The Smorgasbord of has-been's and would-be's on board are Raquel Welch (looking exactly like Myra Breckenridge), Joan Hackett (didn't someone tell her this wasn't a sequel to 'The Group') James Mason (who delivers left-over lines from 'A Star is Born') Richard Benjamin (less offensive than usual) Ian McShane (I'd bet he wishes he were still in 'Belgium on Tuesday') and last but not least, Dyan Cannon, repulsively smashing. (One wonders what Cary Grant EVER saw in her). Best line in the movie is delivered by Miss Cannon to Ian McShane: Toss me a tab, honey, my mouth is so dry you could film Lawrence of Arabia inside it. Directed by remote control by Herbert Ross, ex-ballet dancer.

HELP

CANAL FESTIVAL 5 YEARS OLD

by Mary Jane

Our 5th annual Canal Festival is here! It's really quite a feat to put on and also, sometimes unbelievable that we're having year 5 of festivities. The first Canal Festival definitely had the feelings from a lot of us, that it would be the first and ONLY Canal Festival as the money monger developers were sure to get their way on the canals soon. AH! but some of us fought on and survived and soooooo we have our 5th annual Canal Festival. Some people ask -- what's the motivation behind this day? Is it political? WELL! of course -- but don't be snowed by social political indulgencies. It's also a day of celebration, rather like our birthday party, a day of focus on us and on our community.

Arts and crafts exhibits, food, theatre performances, three music areas and sometimes films in the evening, go on this year, September 23, Sunday -- from noon till dark.

For all artisans, musicians, performers, feeders, there will be a major meeting, of placement, timing, and special announcements on Sunday, September 9th at noon -- you can call 821-5118 for further information. Anyone not yet registered by that date Please attend that meeting, if you wish to participate.

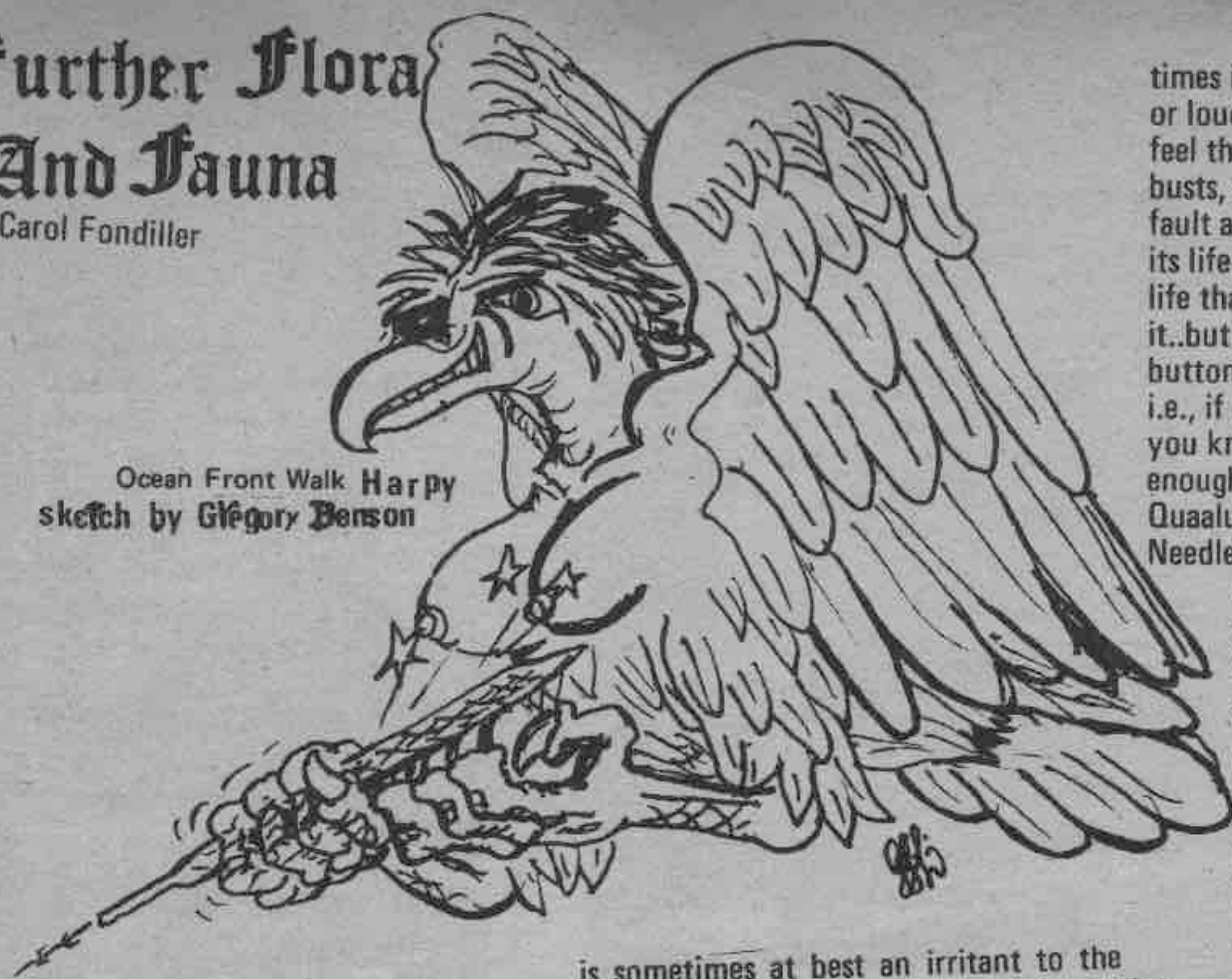
If you live in Venice and/or do your creative work here and you wish to participate or HELP, call Maryjane at 821-5118. Also try to get an entry bland from shops around town.

We are asking for \$1.00 donation (at least) from all artisans and feeders. All donations go to pay for the advertising, entry blanks, receipts.

Further Flora And Fauna

by Carol Fondiller

Ocean Front Walk Harpy
sketch by Gregory Benson



Gee, Beachhead readers, your Ocean Front Walk Wild Game Preserve researcher took off for a few issues to relax after the intensive studies that she has been involved in and now I'm happy to report that another installment is here...at last. I call it further flora and fauna instead of summe species because summer is nearly gone. How ever, most long time residents of Venice know that the summer season isn't over just because some smart aleck says "Oh wow, yeah, let's put Labor Day here..." the summer season doesn't begin until late July or early August. It doesn't end until mid-October. So, there are many more of the wondrous examples of the transient birds and mammals to delight our eyes and amaze our senses. Alright, fellow Naturalists, notebooks at hand? Pencils, minds and eyes sharpened and ready for me? O.K. folks, let's go.

It's 5 am all along the Ocean Front Walk, the benches are empty except for a few Dufferani Americanus and a few Red Nosed Bilbous Wine Bibbers, who have not stirred from their nests in the pagodas. The air is cool and clean. The fog hangs lightly misting and skimming the buildings. Look sharply and you can spot a few Sweat-Suited Rock Chested Joggers who are out pounding the ol' black top with their Addidas. These are quite common on the Ocean Front Walk in early morning or late evening. These bipeds bipeds trudge or, as they call it, jog along the deserted streets of Venice in baggy grey coverings. Their feet clad in Addidas, their arms bent at the elbows close to their sides, heads thrust out gulping for air. They do this for lengths varying from five minutes to an hour (this intrepid reporter broke the record for the shortest jog in the Guinness book of records—two and a half minutes from the Bakery to the bench) This was not included in the official records because this reporter was eating at the same time. That's what you get when you have Gemini in your moon. These Rock Chested Joggers assiduous in their exercise. The expert jogger can also cast a reproachfully disdainful stare at the Heavy Lidded Lax Muscled Bench Hippers. After their run, the Rock Chested Joggers usually go to their homes, shower, change into "work clothes" and get into their four-wheeled rubber eating smog belching machines and go to their place of employment.

It is now around 9 am on the Ocean Front Walk. Ah, and what is that we see staggering towards the now open Beach Front Market? Why, it's one of the Red Dropping Fish Mouthed Quaalude Queens! This Piscetorial wonders, stumbling through the environs of dear old Venice in all seasons. It seems unaware of night or day, rain or shine. It is indeed a fish out of water. Though in it's own finny way it seems to have adapted to it's environment. Instead of swimming in the murky depths from which this species only half-evolved, it seems to find enough medicated and alcoholic liquid to turn its inside into a mini-sea of man-made chemicals. It is easily identified by its swim-like stumble, the eyes always bleary from the wonder world of chemicals. Since this species has no idea of night or day, it

is sometimes at best an irritant to the more peaceful animal life in its immediate environs, and sometimes a downright threat to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It also attracts other species that inhabit the murky depths of urban rivers and oceans, such as the Bad-Mouth Bottle Breaking Ripple Swilling Bully (that species was covered in the July issue of the Beachhead under Summer Species), the Night Crawling Needle Freak, a strong, Lemming-like creature that likes to destroy itself by injecting itself with strange and noxious substances ranging from baby powder and boric acid, to heroin and aspirin. While of no apparent use to those around them, these creatures are a sort of living textbook of Medieval Diseases, and as such are much prized by young interns in County Hospitals. The Night Crawling Needle Freak can generally be identified by running sores, bright yellow and red pustules, and the sort of appearance that makes you obey Mommy's command to line the public toilet with paper before you sit down. Of course, the Night Crawling Needle freak takes a long time to reach this stage, but it usually ends up fulfilling its main objective, giving the worms and maggots a fix. But before it reaches this happy state, it usually spreads its slime and muck to others, leaving syphilis and hepatitis riddled needle marks in its wake. Their usual explanation (when they are able to speak rationally, which is a rare occurrence, and should be valued) is that they get a "rush" i.e. an immediate good feeling. But that's rather odd, because this observer once met a needle freak in one of its favorite haunts, a drug store. "Just window shopping", it said wistfully, talking about the rush it got from a penicillin shot. Funny, this reporter called it an allergic reaction—but he was happy dear lad, as he watched his body erupt in pustules. He also told me later he hallucinated. Now, back to the Red Dropping Quaalude Queen. This fish seems to have no sense of time and if often heard stumtling and mumbling about in the wee hours. It usually fights with its friends—various species as I've said before—yelling about burns and complaining about being ripped off, either by the Night Crawling Needle Freak or the Sly and Sleazy Hustler. It can be identified by its hoarse cry of "I'm doing my own thing".

When other inhabitants of the Venice Wildlife Preserve complain about noise, or burglaries. The Quaalude Queen feeds on barbituates, wine, tranquilizers and other people's souls. It's squawks of "Doing its own thing" and its cries of "Freedom" mean (to the Quaalude Queen) doing its own thing on other people's heads. And woe betide that peaceful citizen who takes umbrage and mentions the fact that its annoying to be awakened by the police, broken windows and/or shrieks and yells in the middle of the night! The Quaalude Queen will gather its cohorts and in the best Gestapo fashion threaten said citizen, beat up said citizen and try to bully said citizen into leaving Venice. Identifying marks of the Quaalude Queen are glazed and unfocused stares of hostility.

At other times it lapses into syrupy sentimentality or loud and manic talking. It seems to feel that anything that happens (burns, busts, and bummers) is someone else's fault and that it has no control over its life—a somewhat existential view of life that might have a grain of truth to it...but as someone said "if you push a button you're going to get a response." i.e., if you punch someone in the nose, you knuckles might get bruised. Ah, but enough of this. The sun is out, the Quaalude Queens and the Night Crawling Needle Freaks have crawled into their sewer pipes, not to emerge til the sun goes down, unless they wish to swill some pills, so they can overdose on the sand and become sunburned corpses. It's now about 10 am and the Fuzzy Bearded Spare Change Oafs and the Throttle Twatted Groovy Chicks are bopping and bipping. "Use the bike path mother fucker!" Why, that's the cry of the Strident Voiced Ocean Front Walk Harpy! This almost legendary Rara Avis has a shrill but full cry that can be heard for miles. Bottles and ear-drums shatter when it's in full voice. It is always found on the Ocean Front Walk sitting atop the benches, its beady but observant little eyes watching everything, keeping an eye out for miscreants who litter, ride their Ten Speed Terrors on the Ocean Front Walk, walk on the bike path, and bottle breakers. These Ocean Front Harpies are a hardy group of birds. At times their plumage is drab. They have no distinguishing characteristics, except for a proud strut or stride as they go from bench to bench. They melt into the scenery of palm trees, benches and other inhabitants thereof. But when some malefactor malefacts...watch out! They ruffle their feathers, sharpen their claws, go ahead and FREAK! Woe unto the harpy's victim! Woe unto the harpy's, shall we say less demonstrative acquaintances. For they are treated to an ear splitting monologue of the malefactor's ancestry, sexual proclivities, small and silly vices and a judgment of said malefactor's intelligence and wit.

Each bird has its favorite hate. With one Harpy it might be broken bottles, with another, Fuzzy Bearded Spare Change Oafs, with another, vehicles of any sort on the Ocean Front Walk, helicopters, anything that makes noise or causes pain to themselves or others. You name it, they hate it. Though sometimes abrasive and raucous in word and thought, it seldom does physical violence to anyone and rarely makes noise after 10 pm (except at meetings where they can always be counted on to be vehemently for or against something). Often they sit on the benches all day pondering the MEANING OF LIFE and/or wondering if they should go to their nests and listen to Esther Phillips or the M.J.Q. or read "Animal Stories from Cal Worthington". They are not migratory. They have the idea that if they leave Venice or stop watching it for an instant, Venice will dissolve into the ocean or be eaten up the Predacious Land Grabbing Shrike, the Night Crawling Needle Freaks, and others. (as I said in the July issue of the Beachhead, the Beachhead Staff has its own conspiracy theory.)

Well, budding Botanists—more flora and fauna in forthcoming issues if someone doesn't wreck my pen or steal my glasses. See you at the Winter Solstice.

DIRECT CHARGE CO-OP

by George Tucker

Cooperatives are enterprises operated under the ownership and ultimate democratic control of the people they serve. They are not themselves a replacement for other political and social systems, but act as a check on the power and methods of other sectors. The need for such a check is obvious in all modern societies.

Canadian co-ops, faced with overwhelming competition and the conflicts between service to the members and business necessities under the traditional structure, developed the direct-change method in 1964. Now the competition is having trouble, and co-ops have become more cooperative. The immediate economic saving to Canadian consumers is millions of dollars each year. Of course Canada has greater existing co-op resources, a less competitive market, and more stable communities than L.A., but the method should be applicable here as well.

The member of a direct-change co-op essentially signs a contract to use it, agreeing to pay a share of operating expenses equal to that of the other members and to make periodic small investments in co-op shares—regardless of amount of purchases. The co-op (the collective agent of all members) in turn agrees to sell merchandise at or very near the wholesale cost. Members are informed of any markups which are charged. Often members are asked to mark their own prices on individual purchases, using prices given on the shelves.

Why use direct-change? Prices in the store are so low that members do as much shopping as possible there, which in turn results in a tremendous increase in efficiency of operation, resulting finally in a greater saving than can be offered by volunteer buying clubs for very little effort. The co-op derives income for operations from service to the members rather than markup on merchandise so it does not promote undesirable items. The relation between services and costs, and between members and the collective membership, is so obvious that members really do participate. Although the fees paid by each member household are usually so low that even 2-person households benefit, the greatest benefit is derived by larger households—those who usually need it most and who are the main losers in retail sales.

We have been working for almost a year to organize a d-c co-op store. We had hoped for quicker results, but according to the Cooperative League of the USA a group such as ours should anticipate taking two years or longer to recruit the 500 members necessary for a store. We may therefore be on schedule. The major problem is arranging for financing, although we have found a strange reluctance to join even when the amount of money involved is very small.

If you like the direct-change idea and/or want to join the ESP buying club in West L.A., please call Bill or George at 478-1922.

Venice
Bookstore
& Culture
Palace

1510 Pacific Ave.

Venice

399-9910

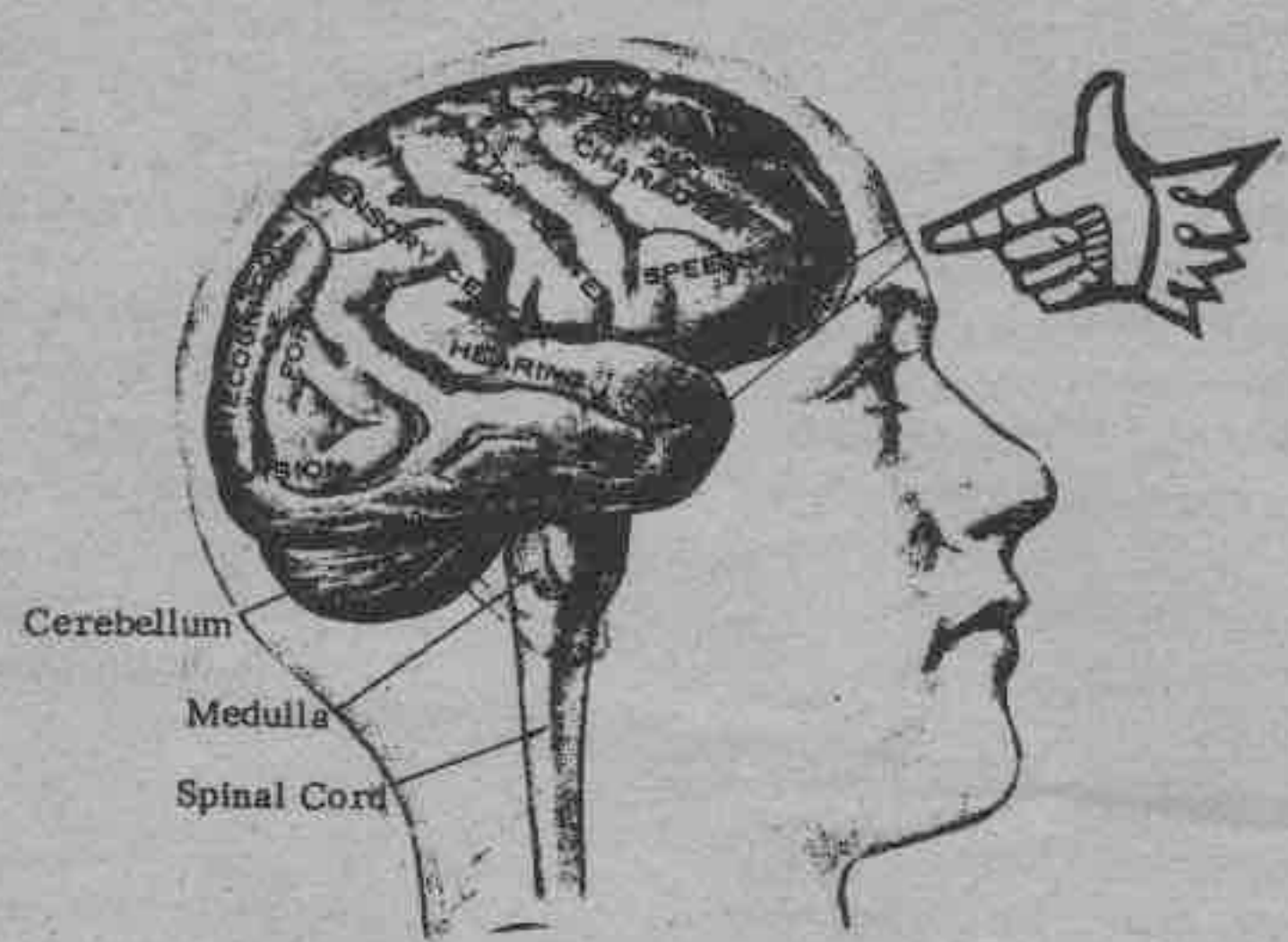
TUES-SATS 11-8

SUNDAYS 12-6

CLOSED MONDAYS

DR. ZANE'S LOBOTOMY COLUMN

"BAD TASTE IS TIMELESS"



A Monthly Column of Advice on All Subjects the Doctor Knows Absolutely Nothing About

by Jim Zane

Dear Dr. Zane:
Why did President Nixon find it necessary to bomb Cambodia secretly?
Adam Baum

Dear Adam Baum:
The President knows how upsetting it is to be bombed. Since he's a humanitarian and didn't want the Cambodians to get upset, he decided not to tell them that he was bombing them. By taking that course of action, the President felt that the Cambodians wouldn't realize they were being bombed and that they'd therefore feel much better.

Dear Dr. Zane:
Whatever happened to George McGovern? He seems to have disappeared from the scene entirely.
Tom Eagleton

Dear Tom:
Senator McGovern's mental capability to speak out on issues that are troubling America was severely restricted because of head injuries he received last November when he was caught in a landslide.

Dear Dr. Zane:
Are midgets' conventions very political? I've been invited to one as an outside observer but I won't go unless they're political.
Goliath

Dear Goliath:
Midgets' conventions are not political at all. It's just a bunch of small talk.

Dear Dr. Zane:
President Nixon says that Watergate has been investigated just as thoroughly as the John Kennedy assassination. Is he telling the truth?
Archibald Cox

Dear Archibald:
He is telling the truth in this case. Watergate has been investigated as thoroughly as the John Kennedy assassination. Unfortunately, we still don't know who really killed Kennedy, do we?

Dear Dr. Zane:
sometod fos]wmqmd? ddf?gwl,s cant helpsdkgf but lf?fl]q dp?f?r] t?a

BEACHHEAD PHOTOGRAPHER
GAIL WILLIAMSON (PHONE: TANK-YUK)

POLITIDISCS

A record review column with an emphasis on records that have an enlightening social or political significance.

by Richard Foos



Songs that Made America Famous,
Patrick Sky,
Adelphi AD-R4101

Is it possible that in these days of artistic freedom and lenience that a phonograph record could be so socially offensive that three major pressing plants and record companies have refused to release it? Yes kids, believe it or not, it is, and thanks to a small independent company called Adelphi Records we the public can finally buy what our corporate and possibly judicial fathers felt we didn't have the right to hear. And boy, is there a lot to be corrupted by in this album.

Easily the most offensive album since the

early Mothers, the album would be totally intolerable if it didn't accurately echo the decadence of contemporary American society. In one song folksinger Pat croons a diatribe to a two day old sickly baby who is eaten because of the expense in keeping it alive. Offensive, yes, but the song does bring up a disturbing societal problem that the masses would choose to ignore. Other subjects Pat touches on are the Cambodian War, Women's Lib, and the Pope.

In conclusion, if you are not nauseated by Pat's suggestion that Jackie Kennedy should take LSD and get fucked by proletariats, then you will probably enjoy this album. If you are nauseated and can't see the humor in this suggestion,

conclud d?g?w[tl] f[[f
Helen Keller
Dear Helan Keller:
comels dkfels? dlf? dlhrhdie gjtue9303k
vlsgrk scenerh d, edthe rtebnmf ulknh?wo

Dear Dr. Zane:
What does the President mean when he says that he favors capital punishment? He's beginning to get me scared.
Lt. William Calley

Dear Lt. Calley:
By capital punishment, President Nixon believes that means that he believes that all crimes should be punished with the exception that there should be no punishment for crimes committed in the capital.

Dear Dr. Zane:
Why didn't the skeleton cross the road?
Seymour Butts

Dear Seymour:
The skeleton didn't cross the road because he didn't have the guts.

Last month Dr. Zane reviewed the movie DEEP THROAT negatively, saying that it left a bad taste in his mouth. This apparently set off a storm of controversy as evidenced by a tide of letters (one) he received this month. (Interestingly enough, the one letter that was received, from the Sandalmaker and the Leatherettes, had nothing to do with the movie review.)

Dear Dr. Zane:
Your review of DEEP THROAT made me retch.
Carol Fondiller

Dear Dr. Zane:
I hated your review. I tried to forget it as soon as I read it but it has haunted me ever since. You might say that it left a bad aftertaste.
Linda Lovelace.

Dear Dr. Zane:
Your review was a bad gag.
Jim Zane

Dear Dr. Zane:
What makes you think you can review movies?
Judith Crist
Pauline Kael
Charles Champlin

Dear Dr. Zane:
News travels very slowly where I live so

then you will hopefully learn from this album.

Paris Sessions,
Country Joe McDonald,
Vanguard VSD 79328

In the overtly sexist world of pop music, one lone male voice is voicing the cries of women's liberation. That this man should pioneer the anti-sexist rock movement is not surprising, for in the sixties he was one of the pioneers of the anti-war rock songs. His name is Country Joe McDonald formerly of Fish fame, and his songs seem as fresh today as they did in the mid sixties.

His new group, creatively titled the All Star Band, blends perfectly with his laid-back rock style. On "Coulene Arme" the woman of the song complains how babies have ruined her body, washing ruined her hands, etc. I'm sure women have known no finer hour in the world of rock than when Coulene empties a .38 into her chauvinistic pig husband Jimmy. The other women's lib song on the album is aptly titled "Sexist Pig."

However, Joe's complaints against society are not limited to male supremacy; also covered in this topical album are the inhumanity of prisons and the absurdity of dope busts. All in all, a socially, political, and musically impressive album by one of the most important contemporary artist.

you can only imagine how excited I was when I first heard about preventive detention, the no-knock law, widespread phone tapping, brain surgery on political deviants, and the attempts at scrapping all the basic civil rights and civil liberties as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. As a good Communist I can only applaud these actions of President Nixon as being in the best traditions of what is good. And when I think about it, a chill runs down my spine. It kind of makes me feel proud that I'm an American.
Leonid Brezhnev

Dear Dr. Zane:
Just sitting around sniffing some leather glue and wondering if Dr. Zane's first initial was "N."
Sandalmaker (Jeffrey)
and
The Leatherettes (Marti and Laurel)

Dear Dr. Zane:
I'm so very happy. Daddykins just got me a summer job at Disneyland. Won't that be peachy-keen? I almost didn't get it because I had a nasty zittykins on my faceykins. But Daddykins is the President and I think that helped. It'll be nice to get away from DC where they have all these nasty jokes about Daddykins like, "Did you hear about the new Watergate ice cream? It only comes in one flavor...in peach." Hubby is going to get a job there too so we can work together. In Tomorrowland he operates the attraction in which there is a miniature replica of Indochina, and he pushes a button that destroys the entire area. It was Daddykin's idea and me and hubby think it's real great. Someone should do it to them for real...at least, that's what I think.
Tricia

Dear Dr. Zane:
I love your column. I think it's very spicy and enjoyable and I like eating it best with a little butter and jam on it.
Billy Goat

Would you like to give a party but are somewhat reluctant because of those unwanted guests who never leave and stay all night? Don't worry, there is a solution. Read aloud some of Dr. Zane's old and truly memorable columns. That should clear the room in minutes. But if that isn't fast enough for you, Dr. Zane is willing to make a house call (at reasonable prevailing rates) and clear your house in mini-seconds with some of the worst and most offensive humor heard in years. You too can now have live unentertainment. Dr. Zane is willing to come to your party. Just contact the Beachhead. Unfortunately, you may have trouble in getting him to leave as he usually is one of those unwanted guests who never leaves.

Martin Mull and His Fabulous Furniture in Your Living Room,
Capricorn CP 0117

Martin Mull is an extremely difficult artist to review because, to the best of my knowledge, no one can figure out whether Martin is a social satirist, total absurdist, or light weight sight-gag comic.

Take for example, his practice of playing on a stage surrounded by large, overstuffed Victorian furniture. Now is this (1) a satire on the excesses of rock groups and society in general, (2) random absurdness, (3) a cute one shot sight gag.

The problem in deciphering the meaning of Mull's on stage props carries through into his albums. Some of the cuts seem to be great satires, i.e. "Dueling Tubas," a mockery of the schlocky over attempt to capture pioneer America in "Dueling Banjos." Other songs like "2001 Polka" and "Ukelele Blues" seem to be in the same social satire vein.

However, the rest on the songs on the album seem to be stupid, trite, half-ass attempts at light comedy: like mocking a fat lady, or songs that are totally incomprehensible in meaning.

Anyway, I guess we'll just have to wait until Martin's next album to find out whether Martin is a Marxist (Karl), a Marxist (Groucho), or a Marxist (Zeppo).

GETTING TOGETHER

THE VENICE TOWN COUNCIL AS VIEWED FROM PLATO'S CAVE

BY SPERABAMUS

Civics has never been my cup of hemlock. Nevertheless, being true to Chuang Chou (that is in no way a gay double-entendre) I will attempt to say something to you concerning your Venice Town Council. First of all, let me make it perfectly clear that I am a cosmic anarchist who views all as controlled folly and only lend my pen and sword to the Venice Town Council because of my now thinning friend, the incurable Italian romanticist, Vinci Vincent Coppola. That aside, let us ask some questions in this now syndicated column. WHAT IS THE VENICE TOWN COUNCIL? WHAT CAN IT BECOME?

At present it is a working body of thirty members from six areas or Neighborhood Councils, some who think themselves and the Council as a conduit to Pat Russell's office; others who fancy the idea of real grass roots government where-in the community can work out its fears and desires and the Council act as the orientator against those fears and for those desires; and still others who are probably in "Neverneverland" looking for Peter Pan.

Despite the fact that, like Gaul, the Venice Town Council is divided into three parts or philosophies, the "grass-rooters" have been carrying the day with, at least, very strong resolutions; e.g., the Ombudsman-Committee Resolution, the Tax & Rent Control Committee Resolution, the Moratorium on Building for North Beach and the Canals, etc., etc., etc. In some cases the "grass-rooters" implemented these resolutions themselves as far as they could; e.g., they formed a fine group of people acting in unison with L.O.V.E. in Venice and made vigils at the South Coast Regional Commission until North Beach Became a no-expansionist area; they via the Ombudsman-Committee established a Green Arm Band Civilian Patrol and asked and received many guarantees from Captain Dottson of the Venice Police, not to mention the fact of The Metro leaving Venice; they via the Tax & Rent Control Committee are now waging the battle for the survival of our community, demanding the Mayor set up a Special Task Force on this Problem, asking the aid of the City Attorney, and having meetings with the Councilperson, Assemblyman, and State Senator to obtain the needs now most evident to all of our community.

The Venice Town Council has been in existence only six months and yet it has moved in a very strong independent way due to the "grass-rooters." However, there are problems that must be faced up to if we are to succeed in having the Council as an efficient tool representing effective grass-roots government. THE PROBLEM AREAS OUR COUNCIL AND WE FACE CAN BE LOOKED AT FROM WITHIN AND FROM WITHOUT.

FROM WITHIN it can be its own members lack of energy or courage coupled with either fear or the philosophy of conduits gaining the day that would cripple the Council causing impotency. Also from within it can be a community apathy which could be the death blow to our Council, for the Venice Town Council is a working Council based firmly upon the lifeblood of the grass-roots

Neighborhood Councils for the resolutions and desires of the people. Thus the danger from within can almost be called "suicidal." For that would be the result. We can kill our own grass roots government with the proverbial whimper not a bang! I need say nothing more about the within. It is simply an internal awareness and community realization.

THE PROBLEM FROM WITHOUT is more complex. It will in essence decide whether the Council becomes an open orientator achieving the desires of the community with outside cooperation, or a fortress which finds the community under attack and must protect it from those outside forces. From without, besides the "rich and the realtors, the bankers and the builders" as was so vividly penned for us in the article "The battle Is On!" in the FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD of August 1973, there are those who unlike the above profiteers are suppose to be cooperating with the community; namely, the bureaucrats and the politicians. Now these are two separate breeds, but we shall lump them together in a forced bedfellow relationship that might either prove fruitful or pornographic depending on what they do with and to each other and us.

Bureaucrats whether they be planners or police, animal regulators or traffic controllers must realize that the community does not go with hat in hand begging for compromises and crumbs but rather goes and must go as the citizenry to civil servants who should immediately respond positively to the desires of the community and their duly elected grass-roots government -- and not as so often has been done in the past; namely, responding only to the vested interests of the powerful, using the lady with the poodle and blue in the toilet bowl as the criterion for the life style of Venice in objecting in their bureaucratic fashion. They must appreciate and accept the real life style and desires of this our community through its democratic process of grass-roots government. There-in lies the proper response of the bureaucrats who should function as civil servants.

The politicians role in this is to make sure that the tools of bureaucracy move and move in the desired direction the community's Council has expressed and resolved. There-in lies the proper response of the politicians who should function as representatives of the citizens.

But enough of civics lest I think myself naive and fall into a Shakespearean melancholia. You and I as a community and Venice Town Council as our grass-roots government should watch these bedfellows like voracious voyeurs. Let us see, now that the resolutions of the Venice Town Council are actually moving into the meat and potatoes arena of tax & rent control, and ombudsman-committee, the way "they" respond to the needs and desires of the community as expressed via its grass-roots government. WE ARE AT THAT CRITICAL POINT WHEN RESPONSE MUST BE SUBSTANTIAL AND NOT P.R.!

The bureaucratic "hands are tied" or "procedure" Kafkaian nonsense of the political "rhetoric for the vote" or "pass the buck" con-game cannot be covered up with P.R. if there is no substance. We will forgive them their games and tolerate their behavior if

there is substance. Wouldn't it be nice if City Hall from the Mayor on down responded with substance and not public relations to the real needs of the real community and surprised all the Voltaires of Venice, like ille Sperabamus and the now thinning Italian, by telling the builders and the bankers, the rich and the powerful, the police power, the career bureaucrats of mediocre intellect and superior officiousness, the lady with poodle, and all those blue filled toilet bowls that tax & rent control, ombudsman-committee, reasonable dog plan, and grass-roots government in general were going to be! But alas that would be too democratic and we are a country that functions on the credo that what's good for the businessman and that lady with the poodle and blue in the toilet mentality is good for you and me, the ecology, the doggies, the children, the old people, etc., etc., etc.; and God forbid if you say or show otherwise. Yes, I am afraid, my fellow Venetians, that the hard fact is that "they" don't exactly sit around City Hall brainstorming on how to help you and me, the people -- nor are the hymns of Zarathustra ever hummed in the labyrinth of bureaucratic voodoo. Despite all, the blue in the toilet bowl is lodged too deeply in the psyches of all these nice people. It would take the Pacific Ocean and all the epsom salts of Persia to flush their epizootic minds clean! Watergate is merely one outhouse in a land of outhouses -- all with blue in their toilet bowls. We could write a plethora of polemics concerning the pathology of normalcy in America America. And I suppose I could at this time take pleasure in a vindictive pen and possibly even be accused by Ming and his sister Mollock of having Vincent's stomatitis, commonly known as trench mouth, but I will censure myself. I will not allow myself to become entrenched.

Rather I propose the thesis that, we have our problems in Venice and the thing to do is let us solve them! Whether we come on as Jeffersonian Democrats of The Red Army marching out of Iowa, City Hall should do what the community wants via its elected Town Council. The effete elite planners downtown, or the Caligarian-controlled bureaucrats everywhere, who clog everything with their officialese, rules and regulations, and innane inoperatives, or the politicians who need so much monies to get elected, or those bankers and builders who have so much monies to get them elected, must not speak for the community. The community must speak for itself. We are told this is a government of and by and for the people -- what better expression is there of this than grass-roots government. Therefore, City Hall should bend over backwards to cooperate

with the Venice Town Council. It may be like waiting for Godot but soon we should know the response to our resolutions that the bureaucrats and the politicians are concocting in their chambers and whether the Venice Town Council becomes an open orientator achieving the desires of our community via cooperation from City Hall or a fortress of protection against those politicians, their carillons the bureaucrats, and Ming the Merciless. That completes the more complex problem from without. I realize you may need a glass of Chenin Blanc after all that. So take one. In fact, take two.

But remember, unfortunately, there is no Peter Pan and Nanny. We have to exert positive pressure and perception for the problem areas of both the within and the without. Only then will the Venice Town Council be what it should be and our community survive. And our community's survival is everyone's concern in this Venice Vasbar on the edge of America.

I have tried to draw you a picture of the terrain, so that you as a member of this grass-roots government might know the great possibilities and the possible pitfalls in our drive for self-rule and the Constitutional concepts of a healthy democratic process of grass-roots government as is concretely expressed in our Venice Town Council. It is ironic that as we fight for tax & rent control almost two hundred years after the American Revolution the initial slogan of that Revolution of 1776 was "No taxation without representation!" Do we the people of this community have representation? I mean real substantial representation, not schoolbook public relations representation. Without our most immediate Neighborhood Councils and the Venice Town Council would any of our fears and desires be aired and attempted to be resolved? Would we have an already functioning body to act from and use as a base of our desires without a Venice Town Council? Think of it -- really contemplate it -- would we? Of course, if you are President of ITT I am not speaking about or to you. You control the government. But if you are a Molly Goldberg or Old Man Terranova or even Archie Bunker living here in Venice -- I am speaking to and for you. Would you alone really be listened to without you and your fellow citizens joining together in and through your Neighborhood Councils and Venice Town Council? It's hard enough even then in fact, we may still be forced into a fortress position. But whether fortress or orientator the Venice Town Council is a necessary tool and should be used as such. Even I, the hairypawed cosmic anarchist who views all as controlled folly, want it to succeed and prosper.

COULDN'T
FIND A
JOB.



CAME
HOME
DETESTED



JOINED
THE
ARMY.



CAN'T
FIND A
JOB.



SENT TO
NAM.



AMNESTY
FOR
DRAFT
DODGERS
AND
DESERTERS?



THREE
TOURS
OF
DUTY.



BUT WHAT ABOUT
AMNESTY FOR VETS?



Dr. Publishers Bill Spelman

Dr. Publishers Bill Spelman

by Karen Duke

The Oakwood Towncouncil met as scheduled, the 2nd Wednesday of the month, for August. One of the first things discussed was width of alleys. This topic was discussed only generally, since Curtis Rositter did not have specific information. Certain alleys are supposed to be so many feet wide. Presently, many of the alleys in Oakwood do not meet requirements. Details will be available at a later meeting. But, it is safe to assume that many property owners will be affected.

The announcement was made that there are 20 additional jobs open to young people and no more jobs available to adults.

The Oakwood Council has requested funds to build a swimming pool at Oakwood Playground. As of the last meeting there has been no response from Mr. Greben who is with the L.A. City Parks and Recreation Department.

In response to the request for mailboxes in Oakwood, Carl Ogilvie of the Venice Post Office has said that they were not necessary. The Federal Government has not yet replied.

Another important issue for Oakwood property owners is whether Oakwood is a redevelopment area. This greatly bears on whether people can get loans and if so for how much and from what

agency (or agencies). Oakwood is not an urban renewal area but there is an urban renewal study being done on Oakwood, the results of which may change the status of Oakwood.

Also a representative from L.A. County Health Department discussed a pre-paid health plan which may be started in this area. Subscribers pay a fee and are entitled to visit any doctor who is signed with the health plan.

The September meeting of the Oakwood Council will be a special panel discussion. Panelists will include Pat Russell, L.A. City Councilperson; Ken Norwood with the Venice Community Design Center; a bank manager; a housing specialist; and tentatively Norm Emerson, a executive assistant to the mayor on housing and urban redevelopment programs; and the community people.

This September 12th meeting is specifically set-up so that any questions that community people have will be answered. Inquiries into loans, rent subsidies, taxes and other information will be available for the asking.

It is vital that more Oakwood residents attend these meetings, if only as a source of information concerning the community.

DON'T SHOP AT SAFEWAY!

VENICE-BAY AREA RESIDENTS. Are you an ex-drug addict who is having a rough time getting: A JOB? LEARNING A TRADE? GETTING INTO SCHOOL? FINDING A PLACE TO LIVE? GETTING ON WELFARE? We Can Help. NEW HORIZONS. Vocational-Educational Counselling and Referral. 1306 W. Washington Blvd. Venice, Calif. 90291, 392-3055.; 9-5 Mon. - Fri. Sponsored by: Venice Health Council.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

WELFARE & FOOD STAMPS
1. 11390 W. Olympic Bl, 478-5511
2. Welfare Rights, 731-5095

WOMEN'S CENTER
218 S. Venice Bl, 823-4774

ABORTION REFERRAL
936-7466, 823-4774

PET PRIDE (FOR CATS)
459-1703

CHICANOS
La Causa Youth Center
531 Indiana, Mon-Fri
392-5361, 392-1616

FREE VENICE
226 San Juan 396-6876

GAY LIBERATION
Westside Gay Community Center
1829 Stanford Ave, Santa Monica
828-2444 or 392-3324

COMMUNITY PLANNER
Community Design Center
392-4525

PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY
221-2404

CANALS PARK
821-5421

VENICE DRUG COALITION
392-4151

PEOPLE'S ACTION UNION
734-4540

TOGETHER
396-0108

CHILD COUNSELING CENTER
392-7995

VENICE PEOPLE'S RAINBOW PAGES
17 Ozark

SENIOR CITIZENS
Israel Levin Senior Adult Center
201 Ocean Front Wk, 399-9584

HEALTH RIGHTS
LA County Health Rights Org
39-7737 (Vera Davis), 392-4177
(Al Emkin)

ALCOHOLISM SERVICE CENTER
NAPP Community Center
1101 W. Washington Bl
Hours: Mon-Wed-Fri 5 pm

VENICE COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER
826 Hampton Dr, 392-7722

RECYCLING
Westside Environmental Center
Behind the Co-op Market
2021 Barrington Av, West LA
478-3429 Open 7 day/wk, 24 hrs.

VENICE HEALTH COUNCIL
1306 W. Washington Bl
392-5752

YOUTH CLINIC
905 Venice Bl,
Medical help: 4: 30- 10 pm

DRAFT COUNSELLING
1. Valley Peace Center, 7105 Hayvenhurst, Van Nuys - 787-6925
2. Papa Bach Bookstore
11317 Santa Monica Bl, W. LA
Dial: GRUBERG, MTuWF, 7: 15 pm

JOB INFO CENTER
316 Lincoln- 392-4811

VENICE LIBRARY
610 California Av, 821-1769
M-F 1-9 pm, Sat 9: 30 am- 1 pm

FAMILY PLANNING CENTER
1501 Pacific Av (at Market)
EX2-4147

BENJAMIN RUSH CENTER
Help for your head- 392-4905

HITCHHIKERS
Rides and riders- 931-4357

WINTER SOLDIER/VVAW
734-1391

UCLA DENTAL CLINIC
392-4125

LEGAL AID
1. NAPP, 1101 W. Washington Bl
MTuW 6: 30- 9 pm, 399-7737
2. 1607 Pacific Av (upstairs)-
392-4177, M-F 9: 30 am to
3: 30 pm;

EDITORS NOTE:

Although the Beachhead Staff agrees with the content of this letter, we do want to clarify the fact that only one person on the Beachhead staff knew of the Peace and Freedom Party acceptance of money from the Republican Party, and that person chose to remain silent without advising others. There are several other Beachhead staff members who are registered Peace and Freedom Party but were never informed or consulted about the filing fee transaction prior to the election or after the elections. The Beachhead staff was just as shocked and indignant as some of the other local Peace and Freedom Party members who were allowed to remain ignorant of the Party workings.

by Tanya Tolmosoff-Wren

There are constant indications that suppression is not unique among reporters of the establishment press. As a consequence of the emerging Watergate revelations, not the Beachhead, but the New York Times disclosed the connection between Republicans and Peace and Freedom candidates. In the August issue of the Beachhead our community learned in part of the actions of PFP candidates and activists. But these articles failed to explain why the story was hushed-up for 1 year and 5 months, and, most importantly, why some members of the PFP, one of whom is a Beachhead reporter, finds it a necessity to engage in concealment but barely condone this activity in their counterparts of the establishment press.

Although PF has come to be regarded by some as an alternative, absolute in idealism and principles, it has now shown itself to being pragmatic when it comes to accepting money. What, then, makes PF so different from

the Democratic and Republican Party who admit to being pragmatic? Accepting money from people who have suspicious motives without letting other people know amounts to a questioning of PF's motives. Secret covenants secretly arrived at makes deception the major virtue. PF has fallen into the old trap that's been holding people back. Even if the purpose was to use the money for a good cause, the methods are those which hold people down. The underlying philosophy here is "...by any means." An that is best exemplified by the already existing power structure. Those in power have always used offers of money and/or power to gain control over the actions of those who struggle to be equal. An example is James Farmer, who used to be a fiery person with CORE, the Congress of Racial Equality, during the Freedom Rides and voter registration drive in the South. Slowly but finally the well oiled system with money dripping all over it got to him, and, he became not only a Republican but a Nixon cabinet member as well. Using this method, power buys people off, with people no longer caring and it ends up in corruption and a sell-out. Consider, also, the fact that powerful groups hold people down by their power. They do not give money with no strings attached. The instant that money is accepted leverage is held over that individual, and in reality the individual is being used. I conclude that when PF employs these same means, their principles can be bought. At least the Democratic and Republican Party admit to the means and say "that's politics." But PF is less than honest when it expounds on participatory democracy and the people despair and say "Oh shit, it's the same old thing." If people are not to become as their "enemies," then actualization of our ideals must prevail in the process in order to be in the product.

VENICE ARTIST HAS SHOWING

Paintings and drawings of Beverly Moir will be shown at Forbes Hall of the Unitarian Community Church of Santa Monica, 1260 18th St, Santa Monica. The show will begin on September 2 and continue through October 7. It can be seen daily from 11 am to 3 pm.

AREA TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Peninsula- 4th Monday of the month
Anchorage St. School, 7: 30 pm
North Beach- 1st Tuesday of the month
Israel Levin Center, 8 pm
Canals- 3rd Tuesday of the month, Anchorage St. School, 7: 30 pm
Oakwood- 2nd Wednesday of the month, Broadway Elementary School, 7: 30 pm
East Venice- 4th Wednesday of the month, Coeur D'Alene School, 8 pm.
Central Venice- 3rd Thursday of the month, Westminster School Library, 7: 30 pm.
For more information, call Sharon Kaplan at 485-3357.

COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP
Sharon Shapiro, 391-7939

ASIANS
Involve Together Asians, 477-0357

NATIVE AMERICANS
391-6067

COMMUNITY BOOKSTORE
Midnight Special Bookstore
1335 1/2 W. Washington Bl
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SANTA MONICA

THE PLUNDER OF PICO

by Joanne Curtis

About six months ago construction began on Pico Boulevard between 4th Street and Lincoln Boulevard in Santa Monica. There was nothing unusual about this except for the big cement dividers that began to emerge in the middle of the street. After about a month, poles for a cyclone fence began to attach themselves to the cement blocks that had been formed and it almost seemed that the project had a life of its own especially since no one seemed to know much about it.

A spiffy new light signal was erected at 6th Street and Pico and since 6th Street is atop the hill near Santa Monica High School, it would seem logical that something be done about this dangerous intersection. However, before the light signal became operative there was a sudden curtailment of construction. The incomplete project sat and soon became a chilling reminder of the Ocean Park Redevelopment Project of the early 1960's which became well known as Urban Removal.

The project apparently came to an abrupt halt with the vociferous voices of outraged business owners on Pico and also the high school students who pointed out the grave error of this abortion. The construction took place almost overnight removing all parking on the street on both sides thus forcing the Sandwich Man out of business and

seriously affecting the other small businesses lining Pico. The NO STOPPING ANYTIME signs still remain so it appears that in order to drop your kid off at the highschool, you will have to maintain a speed of 5 miles an hour while your kid is catapulted from your moving vehicle which would literally constitute a drop off.

It has become quite a task to discover why the legitimate necessity for an elaborate divider and fence - one version suggests that the much needed stop light could not be put in without street dividers; another version from the students of Santa Monica High School was that the cyclone fence was directed at the students as a deterrent to jay walking. If you have ever seen hungry Santa Monica High School students at lunch time, you know that a silly little fence isn't going to stop them.

It was rather coincidental that the fence took form almost immediately after the completion of that thoughtless horror, the Ramada Inn, which is directly across from the high school. (ASIDE: Although the 9 story Ramada Inn is only six blocks from the Pacific Ocean, not one of its 187 rooms has windows facing the ocean. The windows face north towards Santa Monica High School and it will be no real wonder if the Ramada Inn ends up catering only to "dirty old men" and peak freaks).

It also seems rather strange that the City of Santa Monica has never felt a pressing need to do anything about

the treacherous crosswalk at 6th Street until now. It is rather dubious as to whether the stop light will be for the safety of the Santa Monica High School students or as a gimmick to shuttle traffic into the Ramada Inn. Why would a small intersection require a special left turn only signal (three guesses where the left turn only signal leads to - yep the subterranean garage of the Ramada Inn)?

I spoke with one of the workmen on the project who smiled with amusement at my questions as to what was going to be put in the dirt holes inside the concrete dividers. This appeared to be a new addition or should I say subtraction from my previous trip by the demolition zone. The workman said with a shrug that the City of Santa Monica has now decided to rip out portions of the divider and the workmen are now busy excavating holes in the concrete to plant ivy to cling to the cyclone fence. Oh, what goodies doth the morrow bring! The plight of Pico Boulevard remains as an extension of the ambivalence of Santa Monica politics - whether to listen to the people or cater to the big out of town money investors and capitalistic speculators.

One thing for sure, if the fence stays, I'll make sure that something besides ivy clings to it as it would seem an ideal area to begin attaching IMPEACH NIXON and STOP U.S. IMPERIALISM signs or better yet, a giant sign with bold letters - GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER SANTA MONICA!

Letter

by Kathleen Arianne Inches

I am writing to you on behalf of myself and other fellow members of the Los Angeles Cultur-Heritage Foundation for your help in preserving the old Santa Monica Library building that is threatened with demolition some time in the near future. It seems that no one is aware of the danger this beautiful and historic landmark is in and it appears that the owners wish the situation to remain so.

As I understand, the demolition, besides being in conflict with proposition 20, would violate a strict condition of the agreement the city of Santa Monica made when selling the property five years ago.

The Library is a landmark that should be preserved for future generations and not to have its fate dictated by present and rather secretive economics.

I am hoping that there is some publicity, some assistance that you might lend so that the old library building will not suffer the proposed fate of the pier.

For additional information please contact: Kathleen Arianne Inches P.O. Box 1018, Venice, Ca. 90291.

PEOPLE'S LOBBY Actions Speak Louder Than Words

by People's Lobby

1974 is the year in which we can reform the political process. The special favors which our elected officials grant to those who give big money have been documented a thousand times over. The scandals which tainted political dollars have brought to our system of democracy are illustrated all too well by the Watergate case. The public's lack of trust in the government institutions is indicated in virtually every major public opinion poll.

The influence of special interest money can be removed from the political process-NOW. One way to work toward this reform is to put a limit on the amount of dollars which can be spent in running for public office. This would help to give more qualified candidates the chance to serve as elected officials, instead of the present system, which practically insures that only those who can raise outrageous sums of money attain office-whether or not they are qualified!

Starting around the first of September, an initiative entitled the Political Reform Act of 1974 will be circulated throughout California. It was written by the Coalition for Political Reform, which includes the People's Lobby, Ralph Nader's California Citizen Action Group, the office of the California Secretary of State, Common Cause, NAACP and many other individuals and organizations. Basic provisions

of the Political Reform Act are as follows:

1. CAMPAIGN LIMITATIONS-- Limits the total amount of money that can be spent by any candidate of committee for a statewide office, in both the primary and general elections. For example, the maximum that could be spent in the general election for the governor's race would be \$1.2 million. Incumbents are restricted to 10% less than the challengers. It provides a \$1.2 million limit for ballot initiative campaigns, and limits the amount that can be spent to qualify an initiative.
2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST -- Requires all state and local decision-making officials to file annual financial statements. Each state and local agency is given the responsibility for adopting a Conflict-of-Interest Code governing its employees.
3. LOBBYIST REGULATION-- Forbids lobbyists from making or arranging for political contributions and gifts to legislators whom they are lobbying.
4. CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE-- Requires complete auditing of campaign expenditures for all candidates in California.
5. BALLOT REFORM -- Provides a readable and understandable ballot pamphlet.
6. FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION-- A five member commission, with a full-time visible Chairperson, administers this Act.
7. ENFORCEMENT-- provides

tough civil and criminal penalties for those who violate the ACT.

People's Lobby, the acknowledged experts in grass-roots signature gathering, is responsible for gathering the 325,000 signatures necessary to qualify the Political Reform Act for the June, 1974 ballot. It was their effort that placed the strong Clean Environment Act (Proposition 9) on the June, 1972 ballot. In an all volunteer effort, they collected over 500,000 signatures in a five month period. This was the first time a grass-roots effort had qualified an initiative since the process was added to the California Constitution more than sixty years ago. The techniques which People's Lobby developed and perfected were also used to pass the highly successful Coastal Protection Act. (Proposition 20).

Interestingly enough, it was the defeat of Proposition 9 which led People's Lobby to begin the Coalition for Political Reform. Joyce and Ed Koupal, founders of the People's Lobby, were certain they could gather enough signatures for another clean environment initiative. But they were equally certain that enough corporate money could be raised to overwhelm any proposition which cut into corporate profits. And Proposition 9, you many remember, was defeated by one of the most costly, underhanded, false, and malicious campaigns ever waged in California--thus, the move toward political reform. The Political



Reform Act has a maximum total spending limit on initiatives of \$1.2 million. The original intent of this initiative was to keep the big, special interest money out of the initiative process. For example, Whitaker & Baxter, the high-priced public relations firm that was hired to defeat Proposition 9, spent over \$2.6 million in the process. But as the document was being written, it was broadened to include political candidates and other areas of politics.

Since the People's Lobby is a volunteer organization, the success of the Political Reform Act depends upon your participation. It's time to put our ideas into action. The California legislature might never clean up California politics, but this initiative can be law in less than a year, regardless of their actions.

Volunteers are needed RIGHT NOW to gather signatures and do office work. If you are interested, please contact People's Lobby 3456 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles 90019, 731-8321.

Fill out at least one petition--IT CAN ONLY HELP YOU!