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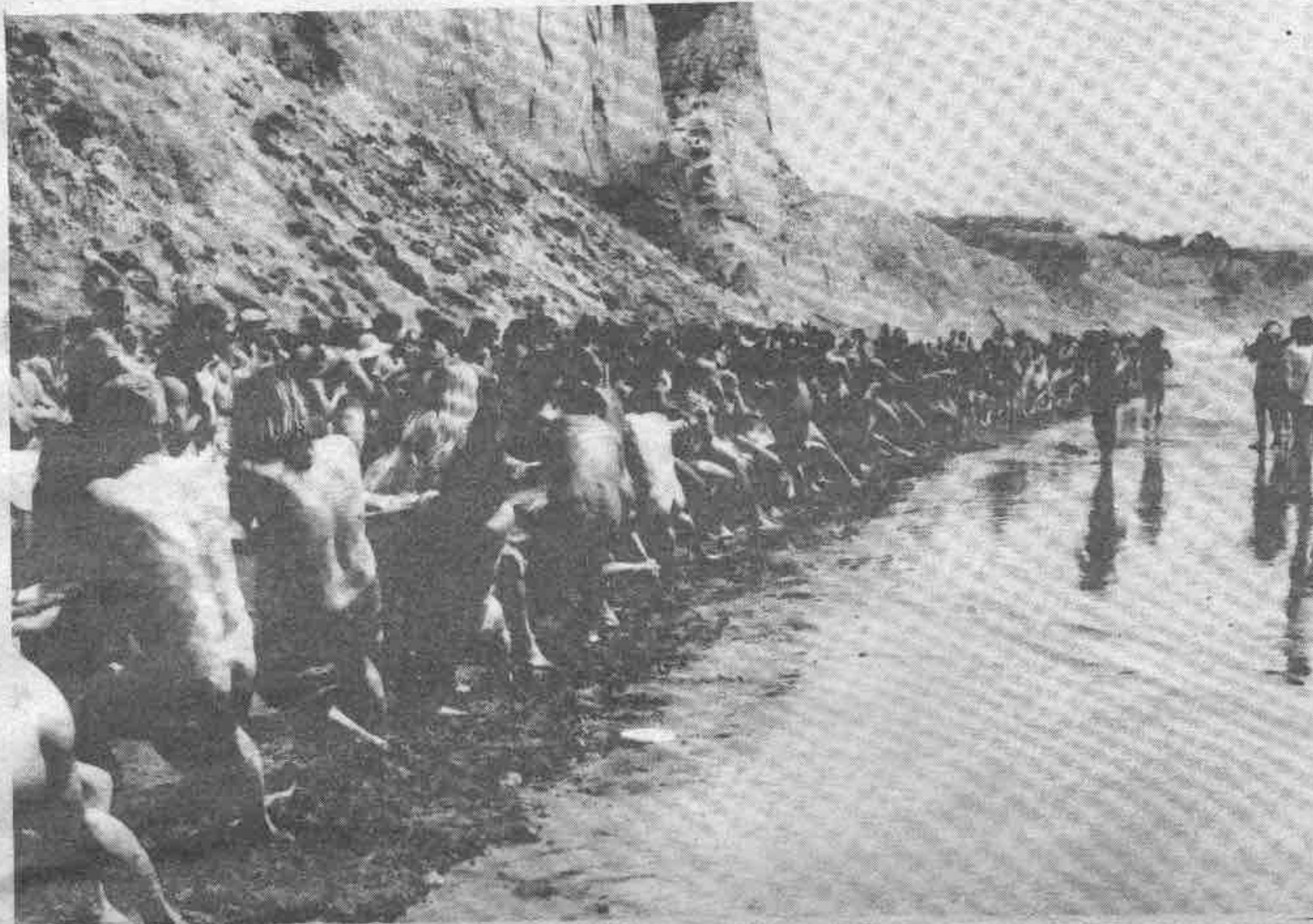
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FREE VENICE SINCE 1968 BEACHHEAD

CHEE
WAH-WAH

FREE

SEPTEMBER 1978 ISSUE 105 P. O. BOX 504 VENICE, CA. 90291 213-823-5092



Tug-of-war over SOUTHERN PACIFIC RIGHT-OF-WAY IN VENICE: HOW TO USE IT!

The Venice Town Council held a special meeting on August 23 to discuss the proposed plan for the State and City of L. A. to acquire the Southern Pacific Railroad right-of-way in Venice. The following concepts were discussed and supported at the meeting.

General Concepts: a) There was insufficient community input on the City's proposed plan. More community-wide meetings are necessary before the Plan can be finalized; b) More information about the land in question and the possible uses to which it can be put is necessary before meaningful planning can occur; c) No part of the right-of-way should be used for a roadway or highway; d) The acquisition should include the section north of Hammond Lumber and all adjacent property like the RTD depot offering possible tie-in use; e) The overall planning approach should be to work with surrounding neighborhoods.

SUGGESTED USES FOR PARTICULAR AREAS

Between Lincoln Blvd. and Washington St.

- a) No road connection with the Marina;
- b) Single family, low-income housing;
- c) Urban farming and mini-parks;

Between Wash. St. and Wash Blvd/Venice Blvd.

- a) Support City's plan for low-income family housing, but question its high density;
- b) Urban farming and mini-parks;

Between Venice Blvd. and Brooks Ave.

- a) reject the City and Merchant Association plans for the area;
- b) Support a mixture of community-oriented

uses such as low-income housing for minorities, spaces for cultural uses, farming.

c) Section across from the library should be considered together with the library property when developed. Streets like Electric could be re-aligned to make the parcel more useful as a building site.

Between Brooks Ave. and Santa Monica line.

- a) low-income senior citizen housing as repeatedly promoted by the Councilwomen's representative.
- b) consider tie-in with RTD property.

Over-all, the design approach to Venice with this particular project should be to minimize the use of the automobile, stressing alternative approaches to transportation.

Representatives of the Venice and City Library system were present at the meeting. They pointed out that in their opinion the present library site was not the best possible site for

the proposed new Venice library. It was too small, lacked visibility, parking, and adequate security. All the people of Venice do not use this library now, said the representatives, especially at night because in the public's eye, that site is not noted for its tranquility. The library people appeared to favor the Venice City Hall area as the best place to put a new library.

Other people at the meeting pushed the idea that the new library should be built on or near the present site at Electric and California. The library thus situated would serve as a link or bridge between the Anglo and minority communities of Venice, tying them together and fostering community integration.

Arnold Springer

coastal commission: ZAPPED BY ART SNYDER

by Brenda Harney

The State Coastal Commission met August 14 - 16 at the local Airport-Marina Hotel. A host of major topics filled the agenda, two of which affect Venice in very specific ways. Both of these -- the proposed takeover of permit applications by the City of Los Angeles, and the appeal of the regionally denied Marina Plaza hotel -- were deferred.

Monday evening, the City of L. A. presented the proposed ordinance under which coastal permit applications would be processed at the local level, by the city rather than the state. At face value, this might sound good: local control. But consider that the coast is at stake, and the coast runs the length of the entire state -- passing only briefly through the city called Los Angeles.

The current Coastal Act provides that should any city desire to take over the permit process, it can do so. The Coastal Commission can act only in an advisory capacity to ensure that the city is capable of enforcing the provisions of the Coastal Act. It is interesting to note that in the two years since the passage of this Act, no other city in the state has expressed interest in taking on this responsibility. Until now.

The City of L. A. proposes to take over the permit process in "an attempt to simplify" the process, to provide "more experienced technicians" and "more extensive hearings," according to City Councilman Art Snyder. In reality, the proposed city process is incredibly confusing (see August Beachhead) and would necessitate the hiring of new city personnel -- a curious development in the light of Prop. 13.

Beyond that, a peculiar double permit zone would result in the area between the beach and 300' inland from it. In Venice this would extend to Pacific Avenue, and in this area double applications would be required (one to the city and one to the state) and double fees could be levied. Twice the effort and twice the cost hardly seems a simplification or an improvement or anything but a rip-off.

And as for rip-offs, the original city proposal would have charged a \$25.00 appeal fee, "to discourage frivolous appeals." By implication, the city was equating lack of funds with lack of serious interest in an appeal.

Following the City's presentation, a dozen concerned citizens spoke in opposition to the proposed ordinance. The main points stressed were: public access to hearings, which would be impeded by the city's labyrinthine structure; cost to appellants, by which the city defines the right to speak as a commodity; and cost to the public, whose cry to cut government spending was heard loud and clear via Proposition 13.

When the public had been heard, the Commissioners expressed their reaction to the proposed ordinance. Interestingly enough, many of their concerns were the same as those expressed by the citizens who had spoken earlier.

Commissioner Richard Wilson was especially vocal about public access. Commissioner Rosener was concerned about the appeal fee. And when each Commissioner had spoken, it became clear once again that this State agency is indeed concerned about just plain folks who are faced with the not-so-plain problem of how to hold on to what we've got, our coastal resources.

The Commissioners resisted Chairman Bradford Lundborg's urging to vote on the ordinance, feeling that there were too many loose ends to consider in too short a period on Monday night. At that point, it was clear why so many who spoke to the Commission were hopeful that it's status not be pre-empted by the City.

We have come to know and love the Coastal Commission. We've won a few biggies and we've lost a few just as big, but we've always known

Cont. on page 14



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Dear Beachhead,

Well, I read S. E. Mendelson's ideas about the Nazis in the Beachhead, that because the U. S. never signed a peace treaty with Germany after World War II we're still at war with them, and that the U. S. gov't ought to make the American Nazis sign a treaty that would give up their constitutional rights, and if they won't sign we call up the ghost of Gen. Patton and roll the tanks against them.

What I want to say is that with all their talk about "white power" and "kill the niggers" the Nazis have a lot more in common with the U. S. gov't than the Beachhead or we in Venice have. What the Nazis are talking about is serious, racism and genocide, but the Nazis themselves are a bunch of clowns. I was in Pasadena during the school bussing there and there was a lot of talk about Nazis and Klu Klux Klan, but the real racists in Pasadena were the Pasadena School Board, the Pasadena Police, and the Pasadena City Council. S. E. Mendelson wants the U. S. gov't to make the Nazis behave but the real racism and genocide in this country come from the U. S. gov't. Read American history (ask the Cheyennes.) If S. E. Mendelson's ideas got put into action S. E. Mendelson wouldn't be allowed to have any more ideas.

J. W. Corrigan
Venice

P. S. Keep up the good work Beachhead!

8 Aug 78

Dear Beachhead Staff,

While sitting at the Sidewalk Café with a friend of mine on a visit to Venice one afternoon, we were both so taken by everything going on around us, that he whipped out a pencil, I brought out my ever-present guitar, and we jointly proceeded to write a song based on our unique surroundings over some frozen yogurt.

Since writing the song, I've moved to Venice and am delighted to be a part of what the lyrics describe. And I can think of nothing more pleasurable than sharing "Venice" with Venice, so, if you find it worthy, you are most welcome to print it in the BEACHHEAD, in the hope that it will present a positive sort of outlook on our extremely individual community.

If you decide not to print "Venice" after all, you can still stop by the Sidewalk Café and check it out. . . . It's written on the back of a menu.

Thanks muchly,
Harmoniously,
Kenny Michelson

VENICE

music & lyric by Cliff Scott & Kenny Michelson

Venice
On a sunny afternoon
Sitting at a small café
Watching pigeons lose their way
Never saw a smoggy day
in Venice
On a sunny afternoon
Gulls 'n frisbees share the sky
Singin' a scoo-bee-doo-beach lullaby
It's a sunny Venice afternoon
Tune

Rolling down a sandy beach
Until it fills my shoes
And when I'm in a sandy spin
I'll sing my Venice Blues

Though the rest of the world
Might crack you
It's good to know that you can
Always come back to
Venice

On a sunny afternoon
And catch the tide when it comes in late
Make a date on a roller-skate
And sing a Sunny Venice Afternoon
Tune


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FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

PO Box 504, Venice, California 90291

Beachhead Collective Staff this issue: Joan Friedberg, Chuck Bloomquist, Brenda Harney, Wendy Reeves, Arnold Springer, Gerry Goldstein. Special thanks to Emily Winters.

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

Write To Us... 
we'd like to hear from you! ~

City of Venice



VENICE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

20 September - 7:30 PM
Venice City Hall, 681 N. Venice Blvd.

EVERYONE FROM THE COMMUNITY
IS ALWAYS INVITED!

AGENDA

- I. Time for emergency issues arising during the month.
- II. VTC Election and/or Re-structuring
- III. Report from two world-trotting VTC members
- IV. Committee Reports

The Venice Town Council Coordinating Committee meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at the Venice City Hall.

Local boy makes good... Stavnezer Receives Award of Merit

(The following is taken from a letter dated Aug 11, 1978, from Huey Johnson, Secretary for Resources, Resources Agency, State of Cal)

Dear Mr. Stavnezer:

California is rich in many ways-- not only in the abundance of natural resources but also in an abundance of people who believe in giving of themselves for the benefit of others. In recognition and appreciation of the many individuals and groups volunteering time and effort toward the goal of wise resource management, the Resources Agency will present the first annual Awards of Merit for outstanding citizen involvement in the resource enhancement and preservation of California.

I am pleased to inform you that you have been selected as one of the first recipients of this award in recognition of your voluntary contributions. I invite you to attend the award ceremony on August 18, 1978, at the opening ceremony of the 125th Calif. State Fair in Sacramento. Again, I am pleased to recognize your contribution to the livability of the State of California through the sound management of its natural resources."



emony on August 18, 1978, at the opening ceremony of the 125th Calif. State Fair in Sacramento. Again, I am pleased to recognize your contribution to the livability of the State of California through the sound management of its natural resources."

Congratulations Moe, from all of us on the Beachhead, and from all the 'regular' people of Venice and Southern California who've you been helping and devending for the past 10 years before the City Council, the Planning Dept., and the Coastal Commission. You're a true Daughter/Son of Venice and if Abbot Kinney were alive today, he would certainly agree with your selection. He might not have been captivated by your style but he would have applauded your environmental politics. ***

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MANIFESTO OF THE VENICE ARTISTS' FORUM

We, the members of the Venice Artists' Forum, recognizing that the futures of Venice and its artists are inextricably bound, pledge ourselves to preserving our community's unique blend of cultures and generations. In the face of rampant property speculation we will not move, nor will we any longer remain silent:

We support the preservation of Venice as a pluralistic community. We are opposed to those forces which speculate for profit in property as well as in art. We stand with those who are threatened with displacement from Venice: the poor, the elderly, the minority and the working class populations.

We believe that all people have the right to live and work in an environment where they can breathe freely and express themselves in a multitude of individual and collective forms.

We declare that the community of Venice is such an environment, and demands our efforts to preserve it.

As communicators through dance, theater, music, painting, sculpture, literature, film and the other arts, we recognize that the artist is a social creature and that the importance of the artist's work is its social impact rather than its marketability.

We believe that the life of a serious artist is an uncompromising quest for truth, beauty, and the improvement of the self and society.

We support the concept that "space" for artists incorporates the entire social and geographical space of the Venice community, recognizing that artists and the community are inseparable.

We call for and expect public support of the artist and public access to the arts.

We declare that any exclusionary culture, with its dictated lifestyle and environment, is a threat to spontaneous life and art in Venice.

We call for a coalition of all community groups dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of Venice as a multicultural community, working in cooperation with one another.

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OCEAN PARK SCORES !

BY ARNOLD SPRINGER

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), U.S. Dept. of Justice, has funded Ocean Park Projects, Inc., to implement a Community Anti-Crime Program. Called *Comunitas*, the project, which has received an 18 month grant for \$223 thousand, will establish a network of safe houses, block clubs, and neighborhood councils in the Ocean Park area.

Major components of the project are:

- 1) A media program to make community residents aware of the project and its crime prevention and community building goals, as well as crime prevention techniques;
- 2) House to house inspection surveys stressing the physical security of residences.
- 3) Education on crime prevention and projects to foster a sense of community;
- 4) Programs aimed at victim target populations such as women, the elderly, and ethnic minority people, in this case mainly Chicano.

The organizers of the project plan on creating 32 neighborhood councils during a period of 11 months. The first 4 neighborhood councils should be in place by October. But the community will actually be organized block by block, with about 3 block clubs clustered in a neighborhood council. What if any further pyramiding of this organizational network occurs may depend on the desires of the neighborhood councils.

Each block club will have a leader or coordinator, and a designated "safe house" that anyone in trouble with street crime can go to for refuge 24 hours a day. While the block clubs and neighborhood councils will initially be organized around crime prevention, they will be free to take up any other issues.

The grant application was presented by Ocean Park Projects, a non-profit, incorporated, community based organization. Jim Conn from the Church in Ocean Park, and Jan Zimmerman, a practiced grantswoman and *Perspective* staff member, were principally responsible for the proposal. The Santa Monica Police Dept. opened its statistical bureau to the researchers during the preparation of the proposal.

The Board of Directors of the Church in Ocean Park is currently acting Board for Ocean Park Projects, but a new, independent Board will soon be created, and the project will be independent of the Church in O.P. The Director of the project will be Ms. Carole Cullum, an Ocean Park resident. Most recently Assistant Director of the Alcohol Center for Women in L.A., Cullum was on the staff of Bella Abzug of New York, and the staff of the International Women's Year Conference in Houston.

In total the project will employ six staff people, 2 administrators and 4 organizers. The organizers, who should be bilingual in Spanish, will receive \$12,000/year (18th month project). Their duties will include organizing block clubs, neighborhood councils, leaflets, community surveys, and coordination with other local community social service and criminal justice agencies. **APPLICATIONS FOR THESE POSITIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED AND MUST BE IN BY SEPT. 15. INTERESTED PARTIES SEND IN A FILE TO OCEAN PARK PROJECTS P.O.Box 5835, Santa Monica, or call 399-1631.** Qualifications should be experience in community, community development, or issue oriented organizing; good communications skills and ability to work in a community base setting; experience in tenant and/or neighborhood planning preferred.

Several meetings have taken place over the past month both in Santa Monica and in Venice, in which the projects aims have been discussed with local activists. The standard problem with LEAA projects is that they are seen as ways of channeling data on local people, groups, and communities into a centralized national law enforcement information bank.

Organizers of the project tried to assure the *Beachhead* that such suspicions were unfounded. Although surveys will be taken in the project area, none of these surveys will be turned over to LEAA or any other group. No government agencies will have any access to collected data. The project is only accountable to LEAA for the budget, the spokesman said.



International Street Performing Arts Assoc.

BY FRED DELMER

From the quagmire of political and social issues that ooze from the sands of Venice, the International Street Performing Arts Association has emerged as a vocal community group striving to achieve its goals that were set forth in the 100th issue of the *Free Venice Beachhead* (Ap., 1978). To bring the people of Venice up to date on the goals achieved and those still to be accomplished let's look at I.S.P.A.A.'s progress:

- March 22, 1978 - ISPAA duly formed, articles and by laws adopted.
- April 22 - First Annual Street Performers Concert cancelled due to rain, Rescheduled for Ap. 22.
- April 22 - First Annual Concert huge success with 3,000 in attendance and total of 10 performances.
- April 29 - Five acts from ISPAA performed for handicapped children at "A Very Special Art Festival" put on by L.A. Unified School Dist.
- May, 1978 - ISPAA lawyers opened up Westwood Village to street performing.
- June 1978 ISPAA obtained permits for monthly Concert-Benefits at Venice Pavillion Picnic area.
- June 25 - First benefit concert, no money made but many new members: also first attempt to bring rock made up of street performers, local groups and all of our local street performers and artists.
- July 30 - Concert By The Sea, was marginally successful. It was also tragic day for Venice. The violence obscured an otherwise successful concert of rock mixed with our street performers using a second stage.
- Aug 15 - ISPAA lawyer opened L.A. Zoo facilities to street performers.

ISPAA is attempting to educate the public, gov't, and the artist in this oldest form of theater in order to alleviate fear or the unknown.

It is traditional and proper for the public, or the one entertained, if she/he listens or watches a street performance, to make a donation, gratuity, or tip to be placed in a performer's hat. If she/he doesn't approve of the performance the listener only has to walk on.

For the gov't it is important that they know that a street performer has a right to perform on the sidewalk or mall. This is a right guaranteed under the 1st Amendment of the Constitution. The limitation on this right is that the public's safety, health, and general welfare must be protected. Attempts to bust performers for solicitation, loitering, begging, nuisance, or any other infraction are of questionable legality and subject the official to possible civil liability under the Civil Rights Act.

Performers are safe if they do the following: Passively receive 'donations'; allow room for pedestrians to pass; use only 'pig nose' amplification. With these precautionary notes street performers can perform where they like. It is helpful to obtain the consent of the proprietor in front of whose premises you are performing--most are cooperative.

In addition to providing these educational functions, ISPAA asks its members to perform for institutionalized persons in hospitals, prisons, schools, and labor camps, and similar institutions. ISPAA also wants to assist community groups and charities in their fund-raising efforts. This was to be done on Aug. 27, with GREENPEACE in a save the whales concert, but the event was cancelled because Rec and Parks lifted our permit (a hearing is scheduled Sept. 14, at 200 N. Main St. 13th Floor, downtown LA. Community support is welcome. For membership and other info call 399-4004. A performer who wants to perform in "unopened" areas such as Santa Monica or Beverly Hills etc., should also call for assistance. Memberships are \$10 with annual dues of \$10.

same crusade, different coast RON GUENTHER IN FORT BRAGG

By Brenda Harney

Ron Guenther was known to many Venetians as an outspoken and energetic community advocate who worked hard for the preservation of Venice. Ron was part of our community struggle for many years, speaking to the Coastal Commission, to local politicians and agencies, to the desire in each of us to save our community and the lifestyle it affords us.

Such long-term activism brings with it a mixed bag of satisfaction and frustration. A couple of years ago, the satisfaction ran out and the frustration caught up with Ron -- so he packed up his energy and vision and moved to the Mendocino Coast, a remote and beautiful area 150 miles north of San Francisco.

Those of us who were touched by his energy miss him, but we should know -- as Ron does -- that one can move elsewhere in this struggle, but one cannot give it up. It is the same drama all along the coast, from San Diego to the Oregon border, and Ron has taken his character into the scenario unfolding in Fort Bragg and Mendocino.

A local alternative newspaper, the *Big River News*, recently ran a two-part interview with Ron. The following is an excerpt from that interview, reprinted here by way of connecting the circle of community advocacy and coastal commitment which Ron Guenther has drawn from south to north.

BRN: So are you hopeful about the future of the area?

RG: I'm very optimistic. It's time for change. Even with the old, hardened attitudes, there are enough people here who want change that I'm confident it will occur. People are going to realize more and more that we've got to have some land-use planning. We've got to have an assessment of environmental, economic, and social problems before we go ahead with development.



Three or four years ago I was a lonely voice. But now I'm no longer a lonely voice. I'm delighted that support is coming, because I really get tired.

Local government is the last bastion of change. It isn't responding to the people, in Fort Bragg. Every time the people of Fort Bragg get a chance, they vote down major development projects. But what's happening in south Fort Bragg is...bit by bit they're intensifying development. And then one of these days there'll be this gigantic mess, and they'll say, "Oh, my goodness. Tsk, tsk."

BRN: Do you see yourself continuing this mode of existence indefinitely?

RG: Yes. I like living here. I've been driven out of three or four really beautiful small towns by uncontrolled development. The first thing they do is kick out the poor people, so they can buy the property and develop it into housing for the rich. I used to live in the Venice canals -- it happened there. I used to live in Santa Monica -- it happened there.

I don't want to move again. I'll continue to work for people-oriented, people-controlled planning. I'll continue to resist the idea that money can do the planning for us. That's got to be resisted, or we're going to have another messy, stinking city along the coast here. Then we'll look back and say, "Why didn't we do something to prevent it?" But I'm not going to say that, because I'm doing something right now.

It gets lonesome and scary. I've had death threats. I've had a person stand up in a public coffeehouse and announce that a contract assassin had been hired to kill me. I had a man come up to me in the Club Fort Bragg one night and say

Continued on page 14

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Some Thoughts On Beauty

by Sharon Bas Hannah
(member, Fat Underground Collective)

The culture we live in distorts people's souls and that is why, in turn, so much praise is given to people who have a "perfect" body. The "beautiful" body is the symbol of the destruction of the beautiful soul. If it were physical appearances that got destroyed by the culture, something else in our lives would become the symbol of this sort of falsified beauty.

The image makers and media rulers feel good when they look at a "beautiful" body because such looks do not induce feelings of pain or guilt that looking at an old or unconventional body induces. Looking at a conventionally beautiful body and selling this beauty to the public in the form of media propaganda makes our rulers feel they have created a beautiful culture. Physical outcasts who do not fit into these norms then get socially stigmatized even though they have done nothing to deserve getting insulted.

People feel uncomfortable around physical deviates because we are led to believe that anyone who "looks funny" somehow deserves to be punished and also to be treated with less humanity, less gently, and less respectfully than the rest of us.

When, as a compensation, physical deviates go out of their way to do special favors for others, their differentness may get overlooked. Or people tell us our "inner beauty" somehow makes up for "what we lack" in looks.

Since nearly everyone in this culture has to fight for their self-respect and humanity, any close association or love for someone who looks like they don't deserve respect must thereby threaten people who are fighting for their lives and their self-images.

Only those who have nothing to lose by their association with physical deviates feel secure enough to be with us. Once minority groups start to gain more opportunities for status in America, assimilation erodes respect for traits that were once accepted or valued in other cultures, i.e., oldness, and fatness.

Conventionally ordinary American looks, such as *Playgirl* or *Playboy* magazine images we learn to call beauty are a privilege and an asset. No doubt a naturally thin person can get ahead easier than a fat person. An upwardly mobile father or mother can look at their daughter and feel good if she has



made it in terms of conventional American looks. Through her appearance, she becomes a symbol of their success or failure.

Women are more vulnerable than men because of the ways in which we have to use our bodies in order to survive. Since we tend to see people as commodities, someone having unsaleable body imagery tends to get shoved aside.

Fat women applying to colleges have less chance of getting accepted than their thin counterparts. No fat men are visible in politics today; too much danger of being called a fat capitalist. (The term fat capitalist is a misnomer because innate physical characteristics are not related to moral principles).

Fat people make us uncomfortable because every thin person knows how horrible their lives would be if they were fat. Oppression of fat people is justified when we're taught it's our fault we're getting kicked around.



Looking at an unconventional body makes people feel guilty because the body ugly symbolizes 1) the potential and creative talents of people who have limited opportunities in the world of economic scarcity and competition 2) knowledge and guilt that so often people get where they are because they were born with class or physical privilege 3) people project onto the body ugly their own negative personality traits and sins; things they'd rather keep hidden beneath the smokescreen of conventional appearance.

When you reject or dislike someone for being a physical distortion, what is really coming through is the distorted ways we have in our culture of seeing and judging people's beauty.

MALE CHAUVINIST FIGHTS BACK

A new magazine appropriately titled "Male Chauvinist" has hit the streets. The magazine, edited and published by Ron Fenton, blatantly puts down women and glorifies the male with articles in its upcoming October issue such as, "How To Cheat on Your Wife and/or Girlfriend," "Living With 2 or More Females-It can be Fun," "Why Younger Women Are Better," "An In-Depth Look At The Nimble Female Mind," "Ten Ways To Keep A Woman in her Place," "How to Become Involved Sexually-not Emotionally," and "Why Women Are TOTALLY Ruled By Their Emotions."

With an editorial line-up that's an obvious backlash to the feminist movement, it would appear that Fenton must be joking. Apparently he's not. The first press run is slated for 200,000, with ad pages selling at \$1000 a shot.

"Need of Saving The Whale"

A couple of years ago notable quantities of plankton were seen off Cape San Lucas, at the end of Lower California. The cause of the extension of the ocean area occupied by this and allied forms of marine life in rapidly increasing amounts is of practical interest on the entire Pacific coast, at least to San Lucas. It is a whale food. The whale lives entirely on these forms of food. Its mouth is large and the throat is furnished with the flexible fringed bars that act as a sieve to catch the minute life in the water passed thru them. From these flexible bars we derive our so-called whalebone. The whale gullet is small.

Whales formerly existed in considerable quantity all along our coast and were found in large and numerous schools in the Arctic and adjacent seas. The whales undoubtedly kept down the undue extension of the peridinium and its allies. The persistent and continuous destruction of the whale, of late years with bombs and guns carried on steamers threatens the extermination of these cetaceans. What then? Will we then have to endure red seas and brown seas and phosphorescent seas and perhaps very disagreeable seas?

The whale is in the situation of the fur bear ing seal. If something is not done soon to prevent the barbarous and indiscriminate slaughter of pregnant whale females or nursing mothers by whole sale modern methods there will be no whales. The extermination of the whale may be a serious calamity for the human race.

We advocate a close whale season by international agreement reasonably protecting the breeding grounds and breeding season of the whales. This proposal is rational if for no other reason than that we could thus perpetuate the products of the whale suited to human use. Besides this, we would insure the keeping down to decent and tolerable limits of such bad rubbish as is the peridinium.

Abbot Kinney - 1903
Founder of Venice California

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DEAR BEACHHEAD READERS,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WARM RESPONSE TO MY STATEMENT IN THE AUGUST ISSUE. CLASSES AND LECTURES ARE AVAILABLE TO LICENSED COSMETOLOGISTS.

822-2353

Savino

The Santa Monica Bay Cetacean Society (whale watchers) meets Monday, Sept. 25 at 7:30 pm. in the Santa Monica Library auditorium, 1343 6th St., Santa Monica.

In Defense Of The WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

By Joan Friedberg

In a recent Beachhead article, Bob Wells attacked the position of Karen Manov on the women's movement and other issues. I would like to address some of these issues because I disagree with both perspectives so far set down on these pages. (See April and August issues.)

Essentially, if my interpretation is correct, Manov would have all of us women ban together and find strength in sisterhood to overcome our oppression. Wells would have us all (men and women) ban together to fight some imaginary revolution of the Leftist movement and forget about women's oppression as separate from the oppression of everyone.

I feel both views are ignoring some realities. When Wells refers to the issues in 1968, he has a point. We were inundated with a horrifying war in Vietnam, with police oppression and other struggles here. Some of these struggles are still with us, some will always be with us, but mostly, we have already fought those battles and it's time to attack other issues...mainly, the oppression of women in this country. (Women's oppression is much worse in other countries, but I don't know what we can do to change that.)

The popular cigarette ad that claims, "You've come a long way baby," gives us a false picture of the effects of the women's movement so far. The only woman who's come a long way is the model in that ad, Cheryl Tiegs, who earns \$1000-\$2000 a day, when she works. For the rest of us, nothing much has changed beyond the fact that we can now smoke in public.

It's a shocking fact that women are economically and politically boycotted from any position of power in this country. According to U.S. Bureau of Census figures for 1976, men earned more than twice the income of women. The mean income for white males in 1976 was \$12,726. For white females it was a mere \$5,097. Even black males earned more than women, with a mean income of \$7,665.

The gap closes slightly when we look at the mean incomes of those with one or more years of college: mean income, males, \$16,369. Females, \$9,344. These figures show us one thing: that in spite of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that forbids discrimination in employment on the basis of sex (Title VII), in nearly 15 years since its passage, the equal pay law has had little effect in overcoming the economic oppression of women. Only three percent of women in the working force in 1976 earned \$15,000 or more. Nearly 40 percent earned less than \$3,000. This clearly places them at the poverty level. No baby, you have not come such a long way after all.

Politically, women are just as bad off. We are poorly represented in our government. We have one woman in the Senate, Muriel Humphrey, whose appointment is only honorary at this point. In the House of Representatives there are a mere 19 women out of a total body of 435.

It's apparent from these statistics that this country is run by and ruled by men almost exclusively. Both economically and politically, women have absolutely no clout. They are, in most cases, financially dependent upon men. And it is only by exercising their traditional roles as wives that they can perhaps have some influence on the decisions made by their husbands. Consequently, we see the stereotypical wife, running around frantically trying to please her husband.

Advertisers play upon the insecurities generated by this power arrangement. We have the husband who never drinks a second cup of his wife's coffee, the one who prefers a packaged stuffing mix to his wife's homemade potatoes, and, god forbid, the husband with ring-around-the-collar!

The good little wife at home is supposed to look like Miss America and make coffee like Mrs. Olsen. Unfortu-

nately, in many cases she looks like Mrs. Olsen and makes coffee like Miss America.

Of course this doesn't paint a true picture of marriage. But even if marriage were bliss, as we were all brought up to believe, there are many women who are single, either by choice or by circumstances. A recent issue of Ms. points out that, according to statistics derived from the U.S. Statistical Abstract, 1977, 20 percent of all households are single-person households, and almost a third of them are women over 65, more than a third of whom live below the federal poverty level. Most women have found that there is only one ticket to affluence: marriage. Those of us who have rejected marriage have abdicated our right



to a place of wealth or power.

What can we do? Karen Manov's separatist approach is the approach of many feminists. But I feel this is also a defeatist approach. The problem is a social one and it affects many more people than the few women who are strong feminists. If we are to make any advances for all women, I feel we must have the support of a broad spectrum of society: men, married women, and straight women, many of whom have been turned off by the women's movement for its philosophy of sisterhood and its reputation for being "just a bunch of dykes."

How can we afford to ignore men when they make up almost the entire Congress of this country? The National Organization for Women (NOW) realized finally that the lesbian connotation and image that feminists had in the past had factionalized the movement and scared off many straight women. They have been so far successfully lobbying in Congress (persuading men) for an extension of the deadline for ratification of the ERA. It's my feeling that if we work to help our male rulers see that our present status is unfair, ungallant, and even cruel, those men who are open enough to see this can help the women's movement by rallying to our cause.

The irony of the status of women is that, in sheer numbers, we are a majority; in power we are a tiny minority. If women were organized, we would be the most powerful union in the country. Though we don't earn most of the money, we do spend most of it. The buying power of women in the marketplace is one of our greatest strengths. If we were to boycott a product whose advertising commercials were offensive to us, we could wipe that product off the face of the earth. But such a victory would

do us little good. Neither will the tactics of the movements of the 60's work for us. Women have already tried marching on Washington and burning their bras. What did it accomplish? It probably convinced many people that feminists are indeed a joke.

We need to learn how to use the power we already have. We need to vote for women in elections. We need to hire women for good jobs. We need to get our message to all women instead of a radical few. Our consciences have been raised; now we need to raise the consciences of everyone. And we need the support of men.

Bob Wells casually writes off the women's movement in favor of some higher goal for our society. He apparently has psychic powers of precognition when he states matter of factly, "This will be a necessity in all the coming periods of our history, during the decline of U.S. imperialism, in the period of national liberation and revolutionary struggles, during the construction of a new socialist society."

Does he know something we don't know? Can he tell me the exact time and date of this momentous event? I'd like to know so I can do my laundry. My mother told me never to be caught with dirty underwear in an emergency. Looking at the world from this lofty perspective, I can see how Wells so easily dismisses the struggles of women. But his utopian premonitions are a dream world that has nothing to do with the realities of today. I'm worried about my next rent raise. I'm worried about being able to stay in Venice. I'm worried about being able to live anywhere on half the salary of my friends and neighbors who are men.

We have a difficult struggle here in Venice to maintain our diverse lifestyles. But this is a local problem. On a larger scale, if Leftists of the 60's are looking for a movement which needs their support, let them turn their attentions to the women's movement. The Left has always been the defender of other disadvantaged groups. Blacks, Chicanos, Indians and any oppressed people have always had the support and help of the Left and liberals of this country. Do they think women are any less oppressed? Do they think we are any less disadvantaged? I have a feeling that many men think we're just tired of making the coffee. Or that all we need is a good man, etc. etc. It's time they wake up and see that we're tired of being the butt of their jokes. We're tired of being second-rate citizens. We're tired of being underpaid and we mean to change our status. And we ask for their support.

the pot shop



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6 RUSH HOUR ON THE 405

by DAVID DANIELSON

A look at the clock confirmed I had waited too long. It was already four o'clock. "Shit," I said to myself. I should have left by two-thirty.

And I was right. By the time I was driving the 405 alongside the airport, the traffic soured, curdled--and then congealed. (I was driving south towards San Diego to visit friends.) Nowadays in Los Angeles you must guess when the majority of your fellow citizens are doing something, and then avoid them. It was a Thursday, and rush hour had begun.

Rush hour? In 1984, George Orwell's nightmare of the future, the Big-Brother government names its departments backwards--the Ministry of Peace manages the wars and the Ministry of Truth manufactures the lies. As usual, we are a little ahead of schedule. Rush hour drags on into four hours and the last thing it does is to rush. And it's enacted on the free-ways, and nothing could be less free: hemmed-in, suffocating among thousands of engines idling around us--and crawling, crawling, crawling south and west and north and east but crawling nowhere most of all.

At least Long Beach is named accurately. It was endlessly long. After half an hour I was appalled to find the freeway signs still boldly announcing it. It oozed by, slowly, slowly. And slowly I began to freak out.

THE BIG FREAK-OUT

Let me tell you, it's been a fruitful year for freak-outs among the people I know. One friend became convinced the federal government monitored him at every step. Another prowled through my dictionary as if he had to find a precious, invulnerable answer before the hour was out. (My first friend preferred the Bible.) And the next day as I squeezed back through the traffic to Venice, an old acquaintance riding with me told me our problem is that we don't have enough zinium in our atmosphere. I think it was zinium: some sort of planetary deficiency, at any rate. He said a compassionate fellow from Jupiter named Soltech--I'm sure of that one, if not the spelling--is now pumping zinium in, so we will be all right.

I thought he should get together with still another friend, who really got off on "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and who is convinced our salvation will not come from Jesus or any other human-groomed god, but from an oversized Frisbee coasting down from out of the sky.

As I was crawling southward into Orange County that day, though, I gave way to my own



particular dementia: the ever-popular apocalypse. The choke of cars dissolved into the last gasp of our destructive race. Not to say I wasn't open-minded; the exact cause of the apocalypse I couldn't settle on. Maybe those awful exotic bombs. Or maybe a Fascist convulsion in this intolerant country. Or maybe all of us being reduced to cannibalism because we're the only organic things left alive to eat. Take your pick.

I was less polite, though, when it came to selecting the locale: I zeroed in on America and especially Southern California--where I grew up and which I've come to know and loathe. I once again vowed to trot my body over the Pacific someday to the safer shores of New Zealand. This may arguably be a more mature attitude than waiting for the Great Father to descend from a saucer, but if you take its clothes off, you'll find the same panic inside.

Mind you, I'm not proud of buying in on the panic. At the supermarket check-out stands trashy newspapers sell themselves by revealing something new about how Farrah Fawcett-Majors handles her hair. Meantime more sophisticated publications talk solemnly about these being not hard times but the Hardest Times. Alienation, rootlessness, the erosion of values--well, you've heard it all before. The Big

Freak-Out.

This annoys the hell out of me because I think we're pretty damned conceited to believe this is any more a crucial time in our history than any other, either before this or after. We're always all too willing to elect ourselves the Chosen Race. If you're not so monstrous to consider yourself the Special Individual, at least you can reserve some extraluscious glamor for our times.

Yet there seemed no denying it, having listened to my friends and at the moment being in the mill of 405. We can live on the edge of some pretty dangerous cliffs these days.

But where do I point the finger for the cause? At the things we have now that we didn't ten or twenty or a hundred years ago? Certainly anywhere I pointed in that heavy traffic led to an automobile, that modern-day dinosaur. Is it the technology and/or nuclear warfare and/or television (make your own list) we see in every dark corner that gives us such a fright in the night?

SNAKING THROUGH THE SUBURBS

At this point, I dragged into Orange County. You've seen it, even if you haven't seen it in the flesh: you can see it in well-appointed suburbs anywhere, in upstate New York, in the Midwest. Vast tracts of ranch houses, browning lawns, and bored and bickering children. There was nothing but suburbia to look at as the traffic crept. And stopped. And then, after a while, crept.

Except, of course, to look inside the automobiles as I gambled on one lane and then would bolt to another. You certainly know what I saw: one driver per car and only one, as if by regulation: mostly crisp men in business suits, occasionally interspersed by a tailored and tanned woman or a blonde-haired kid looking pissed as hell that his sports car was being so badly curtailed.

By the time we were scraping through Newport--my God, Newport! an hour and a half of this asphyxiation!--I pondered them relentlessly. I was only enduring this that one day; some of these clean folks do it every workday in their present lives--twice every sunstroked and smog-soaked day! Jesus Christ, how do they stand it?

And then I realized that when I pointed for a cause, I wasn't pointing at the automobiles but at the people driving the machines.

All I had to do is look beyond the cram to the rest of the county to see why they stomached rush hour's grind. Orange County lives the American Dream so convincingly it is more a myth than a real place. And sorry about this--but no matter how we'd like to believe otherwise, Orange County is not a bad place to live. Nuclear families and cocktail parties and Jack Lalanne Health Spas may strike us as boring, but you got to admit they're not exactly unpleasant. And, indeed, when I've been in its clutches, its people treat me pleasantly. (I'm also clean-cut and white.)

But. Oh my goodness. Then Orange County hits the freeways. And like arteries fattened by too many rich, greasy cholesterol over the years, the freeways clog. By any earthbound standards, the rest of their lives are serene and untainted. But their time on the freeways is pure excruciating hell far worse than anything I usually endure. Here at last they bite it, and my finger counted the reason as it stretched by: one by one they drove by in expensive cars. If they rode together, the traffic would move well.

I realized then that greed and indulgence at the cost of others and even ourselves is no new thing. People are people are people, and we've struggled between our two earliest and simultaneously-created inventions, good and evil, for a terribly long time now. But, you see, there are an awful lot more of us these days. In rush-hour traffic, that was obvious. And I could see that though the age-old mendacities of the human race haven't changed, we are running out of space in which to give them room.

It is easier to blame our ills upon inanimate concepts. Our complacent media writers do so year after year. But this is like the exasperated typist blaming a typo on the typewriter. We have proved all too well that the inanimate world is only our tool.

At least at present.

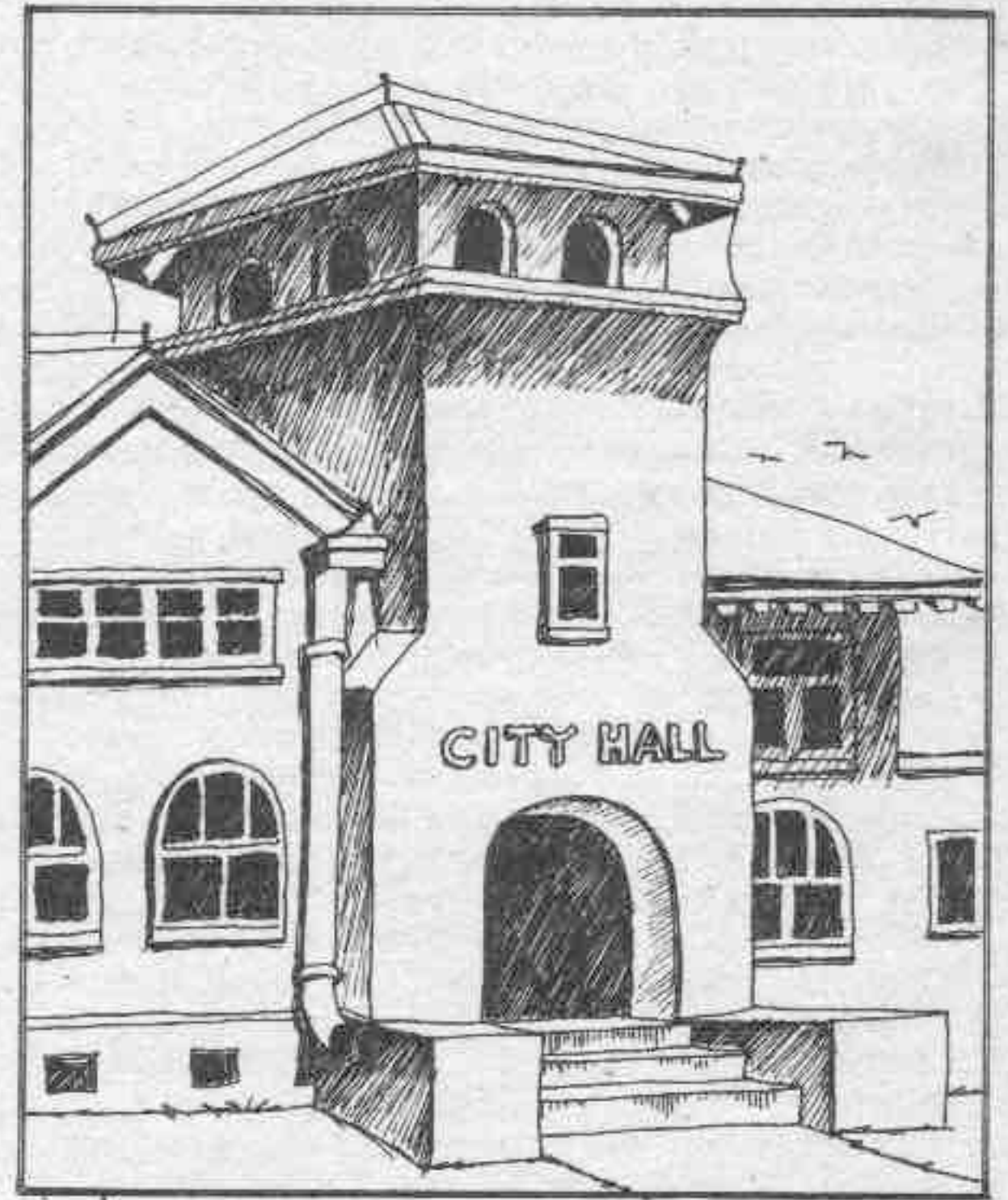
SWEET RELEASE

The traffic lightened, and at last I moved up into fourth gear, to sail down the freeways like they were indulgently designed to let us do. No Orange Countian was happier than I at this release, and this underscored that I was also behind one of those wheels, driving one of those machines. This hardly makes me a guilty party: I have to use the structure

given me the best I can. But it is hardly fair to stay in this system and then bug out when it breaks down entirely. Unless I do what I can to overhaul it now, it and I will be damned.

This is not to say I shall sacrifice myself to the system. Someday it may always be rush hour. And someday I may have to escape to New Zealand or somewhere else saner than here, under the dreadful lemon sky. But in the meantime I will not ignore the arteries hardening.

And in the meantime, I drive. ~



SAVE CITY HALL

by Carolyn Rios

Picture this - a cooperative playgroup for toddlers in a large room also used for meetings at night; a small library of local and avant-garde poetry and experimental literature; a variety of offices for drug counseling, career counseling, and obtaining legal advice; printing equipment available to the public; a small art gallery

Sounds good, huh? Isn't this what Venice has wanted and needed for years now - a center of activity.

The old Venice City Hall, 681 North Venice Blvd., is about to become a community center for the people of Venice!

Last month Councilwoman Pat Russell, due to Prop. 13 staff cuts, closed her Venice office in the City Hall. The other "evicted" tenants, the Venice Community Playgroup and the Venice Town Council, formed the Committee to Save City Hall, chaired by Carolyn Rios. The committee was at first very angry and aggressive - sue! injunction! the people! - as Ms. Russell was about to board up City Hall with no concern for the building or the people it represents. The VCP had no quarters for their parent-run playgroup and their funded site at 7th & Broadway was six months to completion. Where else should the Venice Town Council meet but in Venice City Hall?

Ms. Russell and her able deputy, Curtis Rossiter, seeing a near revolt on their hands, quickly decided to give full support to the Committee in getting full City Council approval for a Venice Community Center at City Hall. A proposal must be presented to the Public Works Committee in early September.

Calling together various Venice groups from Project H.E.A.V.Y. (a juvenile program), Beyond Baroque, and Temple of Man to the Neighborhood Justice Center and the Venice Drug Coalition, the committee agreed that the main concern be that the building be used by at least several organizations and that the playgroup meeting-room be available to all Venice groups for meeting.

As of this writing the entire proposal is stalled - use of the second floor requires a structural analysis of the building, built in 1907, in order to determine how to bring it up to code. Privately this could cost \$3,000 to \$5,000. The committee will ask the city to do it themselves with already salaried draftspeople and city engineers.

Hopefully one group can immediately occupy the now empty first floor office while waiting for the entire building to pass the bureaucratic process.

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Renters' Rights

The real estate industry is powerful and highly organized. So often tenants are abused and/or manipulated because they do not know their legal rights. To help with this problem, I have put together information dealing with various areas of tenant-landlord laws and problems. CLIP THEM OUT AND KEEP THEM FOR YOUR REFERENCE, USING THEM AS NEEDED.

If you are having landlord problems, suffering rent increases, would like information or would like to organize a tenants' union in your building, give me a ring at 399-3450.

For legal problems, contact the Tenants' Action Center at 1301 Main St., Venice: 399-9255. This first piece deals with BASIC TENANT RIGHTS and what you can do if your landlord is not providing them.

Three fundamental tenant's rights often not included in a rental agreement or lease are these:

- 1) The right to live in a building which is habitable, i.e. safe, and fit for human occupancy.
- 2) The right to peace and privacy within the tenant's premises.
- 3) The right not to be evicted without proper notice.

To elaborate:

- 1) **Habitability:** The landlord is required by law to provide the tenant's premises with:
 - a) effective weather protection and waterproofing (doors, windows, roof, ceiling, and walls)
 - b) plumbing in working order
 - c) hot and cold water and sewage facilities provided and working
 - d) proper heating
 - e) proper lighting and electrical wiring
 - f) clean grounds
 - g) freedom from rodent and insect infestation
 - h) adequate number of properly sized garbage cans
 - i) safe, clean floors, stairways, and railings

If these requirements ARE NOT met, the landlord is not entitled to the rent as agreed.

- 2) **Privacy:** The landlord can enter the premises only:
 - a) in case of emergency
 - b) to make necessary agreed-upon repairs, alterations or improvements
 - c) supply necessary or agreed-upon services
 - d) to show the unit to prospective tenants, landlords, workmen or contractors

She or he must give at least 24 hours notice AND enter only during business hours unless otherwise agreed with the tenant.

- 3) **Eviction:** To be covered in next month's piece on Renters' Rights.

ACTIONS tenants can take if the landlord fails to satisfy these legal obligations are:

- 1) repair and deduct costs from one month's rent, OR
- 2) withhold the rent.

However, FIRST the landlord must be NOTIFIED of the violations before these remedies can be taken. The landlord must inspect the common areas to make sure they are up to standard, but where they are within individual apartments the tenant should send the landlord written notice specifically setting out the problem(s). COPIES of all correspondence should be kept!

The landlord must be given time to make the repairs -- normally 30 days.

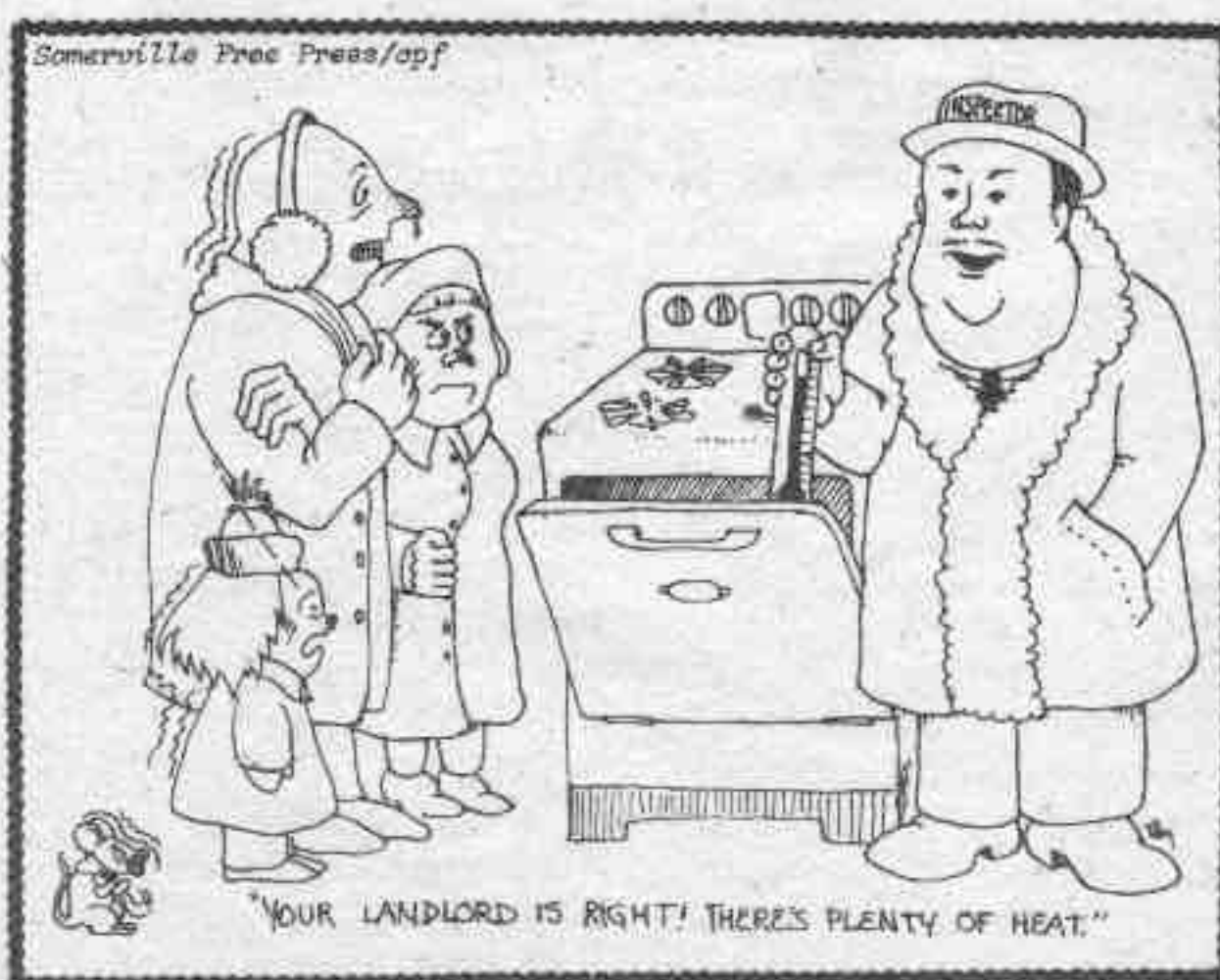
However, the more a defect directly affects the tenant's health or safety, the less time is needed for repair.

To elaborate on ACTIONS:

- 1) **Deducting from the rent:** If a landlord does not repair a defect after being informed of it, a tenant can deduct the cost of materials and labor up to the equivalent of one month's rent, but only ONCE in every 12 month period. When the next month's rent comes due, the landlord should be given a WRITTEN STATEMENT of the amounts spent (itemized to as much detail as possible) along with receipts. This total is deducted from the rent, and the remainder is paid. If the tenant made the repairs, the deduction can include a reasonable charge for labor.

HOWEVER, this remedy action can be undertaken ONLY IF:

- a) the tenant's health or safety is threatened, OR
 - b) the tenant has
 - 1- kept the premises clean
 - 2- properly disposed of garbage and rubbish
 - 3- properly used and kept clean electrical, gas and plumbing fixtures
 - 4- not permitted any person "willfully" to damage or destroy the premises
 - 5- not used a room for a purpose other than that for which it was intended (bathroom, kitchen, bedroom)
- 2) **Rent Withholding:** Larger repairs may require the withholding of rent. If a landlord has



TENANT DANCE

The Westside Tenant Action Center-- a group of community people, legal workers and law students who have banded together to provide information on evictions, rent raises and unlawful landlord practices--is holding its second great fundraising dance on Saturday, September 9, 1978.

The center is located at 1301 Main Street in Venice and is open Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. In addition to providing information for tenants having problems with their landlords, the people at the center can also assist in the formation of tenant organizations. Over the long term, the center hopes to become a legal resource for the housing movement on the Westside.

To carry out its work, the center needs money--and more people who are interested in working on this project. The September 9 dance is designed to raise the money--but more importantly, the center would like to interest community people in participating in the center itself. Each Tuesday, for example, the center holds free training sessions in different aspects of landlord/tenant law. There are eight sessions in a series. You really need to attend all of them to understand your rights--or lack of rights--as a tenant. Even if you don't have time to work at the center, the series of training sessions can be an enlightening and helpful experience.

If you are having landlord/tenant problems--or you want to learn more about the center, call 399-9255.

And come to the dance. It's Saturday, September 9 at the Church in Ocean Park, 235 Hill St., Santa Monica (8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.). There will be live music, beer, wine, apple juice and coffee. A donation of \$2.50 is required in advance--you can pick up tickets at the center-- or \$3.00 at the door. The center needs your support, so get down and boogie! ♪♪

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mortgage payments or tax bills and is caught in a "cash-flow crisis" or foreclosure crisis, she or he will be economically vulnerable and therefore receptive to his or her tenant's needs. The severity of the dilapidation will indicate the court's assessment of what is a reasonable rental value.

The PROCEDURES for withholding of rent are as follows:

- 1) The landlord must be given a written explanation of why the action is being taken.
- 2) Written complaints must be filed with the governmental agencies that enforce building, housing and safety codes (L.A. City and County Departments of Building, Safety and Health).
- 3) Put the rent money into an "escrow account" in the tenant group's name at a local bank.

NEXT MONTH: Evictions -- what the landlord can and cannot do, and what YOU can do.

-- Brett Bogeaus

Renters' Recourse⁷

by Senator Alan Sieroty

Many renters voted for Proposition 13 despite arguments by the Initiative's opponents that they were not guaranteed any of its benefits. Perhaps many tenants assumed that sharply reduced property taxes would result in major rent reductions. It may have seemed to them to be a reasonable assumption, since landlords have frequently used "increased property taxes" as a favorite rationale for raising rents in past years.

Consequently, many renters throughout the state were shocked in recent weeks when their landlords not only refused to reduce rents, but a significant number actually raised rents since the passage of Proposition 13. This is occurring despite the substantial tax savings landlords are receiving, although the exact savings will not be known until November.

Some of the reasons given by landlords for these post-election increases would be truly comical if they didn't have such damaging effects on people's lives. One West Side resident sent me a copy of a notice of a rent increase which she received from her landlord. The notice was dated June 7, 1978 -- one day after Proposition 13 passed. The stated reason in the letter for the rent increase was -- believe it or not -- increased taxes!

Another person wrote to tell me that she directly asked her landlord to share his property tax savings with her in the form of a rent reduction. He replied that he was very sorry that he couldn't because of the increase in his income tax! His income, of course, increased as a result of the reduced property taxes on his apartments.

Of course, no one is denying that landlords have a right to adjust rents when expenses or inflation justify such action. Many legitimate factors besides property taxes are involved in such a decision, including utility rates, maintenance and repairs, and insurance.

However, today, a major expense of apartment owners, property taxes, has been drastically reduced. As a group, apartment owners are expected to receive \$1.2 billion in Proposition 13 tax savings. Since it is estimated that an average of 17% of one's total rent is used to pay the owner's property taxes, renters should share in some way in these tax savings.

The manner in which renters should receive these benefits is currently a matter of great controversy, particularly in Los Angeles County where the size and frequency of rent increases have outraged many people. In response, Governor Brown and leaders of the apartment industry are advocating that landlords "voluntarily" share their tax windfall with renters through a rent roll back to May 31st levels, a rent freeze through the end of the year, and a rent rebate in December.

Some people are skeptical of this approach. If a landlord refuses to comply with the voluntary method, the tenant is left with no recourse. Without legislation, it would be difficult to insure that the thousands of apartment owners in California will respond to the Governor's request.

I am supporting Assembly Bill 2986, the Renter Property Tax Relief Act of 1978, which would require apartment owners to return 80% of their 1978-79 property tax savings in the form of rent reductions. Landlords would be required

Continued on page 13



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There's a special on this Sunday
A stranger will appear
We can huddle 'round our sets
Until he disappears
...It's all that we can do
We invited him
We switched him on...
He'll enter where we live
Where we drink our tea
And pass the bottles
Hug our children
Slap the women
Stare
At someone else's pain
And what we gain is food for fear
In eight installments
He is standing on a hill
In the city
He is crying on the street
In the run-off from the storm last night
He is watching our reaction
With his hands around the necks
Of our daughters
...And it's all that he can do
We invited him
We switched him on...
There's a special on this Sunday
For all of us to see
They have put us on -
T.V. in eight installments.

-- Linda Hammond

I SIT ON A CLIFF

I sit on a cliff o'er hanging
the bay and say:
"Surely my feelings are grand
And will last!"

I slide down the cliff, goo curling
through toe; cigarette in
hand and say:
"Surely my feelings are grand
and will last."

I spot a sea gull caught in a
wire mesh offshore,
struggling, dying, contort-
ing surely my feelings
are grand -- and will last!

-- P. Beethovan

SEXY POVERTY

We fuck like we're poor
Circling from cabin to cabin
Night to morning
There is all this time
For flesheating.
We change color in broad daylight

Like ships run aground
In the desert
Our tan bodies grow fat and soft
Our brains turn to jelly
Sexy poverty.
Nothing to do
So the cream flows constantly pink

What day is tomorrow?
No matter.

-- Blake Latimer

A LAST RETREAT

At last there was only one retreat.
The family room was full of family
and the bedroom windows faced the court
and somebody out there was cursing his dog
or his wife.

The living room was no longer living
because its innards were bloated with T.V.
and the sound and pictures leaked through
the walls and ceiling and there was no place
to get away.

On all sides of the egg-shell house
were Venice neighbors and occasionally
they were quiet and I could forget
they were always there.
But most of the time they bonged
and hi-fied and T.V.'d (capitalized as if
it were Him) and fluted and radioed
and sometimes fought.

At last, I sighed and tied on a scarf
to keep my head from flying off
and took a walk to find soothy
in the ocean sand.

Out the door and down the court
past two liquor stores
a gay bar and deli
a vacant lot peopled with rusting cans
mildewed winos smotty children
pregnant cats
and a hungry greyhound.

The toilet crowd was at its post
bonging it up outside the ocean front public
restrooms where you can see into the first cubicle
if you peer when you pass.

A wino drew his switchblade and beckoned
another to have a little - fun -
Come on Gus whassamatter you scared
You weren't scared las night when you stole
my bottle were ya Gus come on
you son-of-a - bitch.

The smotty little kids gathered round
to see the blood, but the wino was bluffing
the kids were disappointed.

I walked out across the sand
to see the ocean.
The tide was coming in.
It always did.

-- Claudia Carroll

THE NEW CAPTAIN

Crossed winds, beaten back -
Entire voyage threatened -

And the New Captain says
"Play with the storm, Boys!!
It might mean sooner home,
Sooner to sea again;
Maybe down to Rio next time!
Come on, Boys! Reach for the spars!
Get your teeth into some wind!"

-- Hugh McKay

Myth Of The Bone

When the light from the moon pours out,
Softens our faces,
It will be a sign, a moment

When all from the same bone
Gather wings, our loved ones;
Worship the sky
For the last time here.

-- Stuart Lishan

SWAMI X SPEAKS

(Collected on Ocean Front Walk by
Judy Lent)

Hey Swami, you ever been busted?
Have I ever been busted?
Did I tell you about the time
I got busted? It was in
Sausalito. I was
hitchhiking. It had taken me
all day to get out of Frisco,
and there I was on that lousy corner
when the cops pull up
and bust me. The judge
fined me \$36.00 for hitchhiking
and \$6.50 transportation tax.

Give us the \$42.50
and we'll let you go, they said.

Give you the forty-two fifty! I said, Hell,
if I'd had goddamned forty-two fifty,
I'd have taken a motherfuckin taxi!

VENICE



Man conducting clam-shell orchestra

Venice, city of
cascading waves
my place in the
a midnight sun,
conceived upon sh
in my womb of un
with Starbucks ric
transporting me
to the fiery cent
of his explosive.

this raving madne
unfurling inside
rushes to overtak
and weaves its sp
the sudden ecstas
and fills me with
as we embark upon

the aroma of our
permeates the air
and gives off
its sweet energy
the rainbow of my
takes flight
releases its rapt
and spans the hor
in a multi-spasm
of reflections

Lady R



Photo by Linda Hammond

SEWER MOON

I had a garbage day.
The sun came up like rotten rolls...
I treated my friend the way
The police treat poor people...
I built an edifice of art
About as beautiful as the sounds of
Motorcycles, car brakes &
Oil wells...
What have I done
To deserve SO MUCH CRUD!!!!???
What has any of us done
To deserve having our imagery
Turn on us and become
The twentieth century?

-- Hugh McKay

TRUCK SONG

While you slept in the truck
I raced over the beach.
This morning
My legs were whitewater
My blood was full of you
The wind off the sea
Slammed my head
And claimed reason.
Leaving me to
The flesh of motion

I had to flee
Before you woke and found
I'd stolen your tongue.

-- Blake Latimer

THE SHALLOWNESS OF

The shallowness of me not knowing
Shelley. A weak hearted winter
us me, pink to your face, not
going any further than my
rose garden
And getting away with it!

Not you
Chaucer! Dickens!
I, now hear me well, want to be
great in my own lifetime.

-- P. Beethoven

Tone Deaf Poets

My anxious ear prefers
the subtle accents of Bach
to the rude incantations of "rock";
yet rhythm seems a proper
and necessary component
of all Pierian arts.
In that Apollonian craft
called poetry,
which weaned and grew with song,
rhythm and occasional rhyme
(as long as they're not forced)
help underline the moods expressed
with a certain cosmic lilt.
Rhythm is such a natural
device, and the only way
to fully express a lyrical thought.
But many poets of today
simply don't know how to sing;
don't seem to be in tune
with the music of the spheres
that gracefully harmonize
with artless sophistication
in bright celestial song.

The above lines were written one evening after
attending, for the first time ever, a "poetry
workshop" where the other poets seemed to look
upon rhythm with such horror.

-- Donald Johns

Just By Accident

Tightropewalking
down the curb of Pacific Avenue
I challenge cars that pass
within inches of me.
No more safety;
this daring is the life.
Do I want accidents to happen?
Yes, if that's what it takes
To get everyone to look.
And so
that's when you have to come along!
I expect cars to hit me;
I don't expect you
just because you were in my thoughts.
You crash and the whole day has to
detour.
The danger flares go up
but I wave the traffic aside
as I dash over to you.
I look into your silver mirror
sunglasses
and I'm not surprised to see
my body fragmented all over your face,
my breasts and hips writhing
where your eyes should be,
and your reaction
hidden.

-- Lynne Bronstein

LULLABY

The crusted grey-oyster lies
Contented on the bottom of the
cold, blue sea -- rocking in
a lullaby of sweetly colored
dreams

-- P. Beethoven

Euterpe

I feel you moving muse baby
Singing softly inside the silence
Vacuous unborn and unceasing
Sounding like Echo
The perfect pattern of unreality

Illusion of causation
Euterpe, muse of music
Your name is strange
I copy it laboriously
To find your form

My name is related
I invoke you, Euterpe, sister
The sound is singing and I am the singer
When does it come
And through what instrument?

The silence is
The cacaphony is
The music is waiting
Somewhere
Within

Waiting for inspiration
I breathe the air of musicians
Learn the words
Their meanings;
Dynamics

Euterpe like uterus
Still unborn
Not stillborn come forth baby
My love I want to care for you
Rest and nest in my branches

I sinned, but have repented
The knowledge of good and evil, I give it up
All is beyond, the music is beyond
The word, what is the word?
A fragment among fragments.

-- Melody Brennan

POWER POLES TO THE PEOPLE

BY RICK DAVIDSON

Public utility poles, power poles, people's bulletin boards... to whom do they belong? One would never know looking around Venice that the City of L. A. has an ordinance against posting leaflets on utility poles: Section 28.04 of the Municipal Code. Obviously it's a political question, i.e., city enforcers decide if they approve of the politics implied by a particular leaflet. To some of us it seems equally obvious that there is the constitutional question of free speech involved, especially in a poverty community where access to media, mass printing and distribution, is often a burden on those trying to communicate.

In The Case of the People vs. the people, the people win!

Recently the argument over posting was decided in favor of the people, over strong objections by the People. The struggle has been long (nine years) involving two similar cases in Venice - both handled by H. Peter Young.

In August of 1969, John Haag was arrested for stapling leaflets concerning the Venice Master Plan to utility poles on Pacific Ave. At the time John was a full-time unpaid community organizer with the Peace and Freedom Party and the Free Venice Organizing Committee. The major work of these two groups was "informing the community." John lost at the trial court and Peter Young took it to the Appellant Division where it was sent back for retrial. Again the Court ruled against John, and Peter again appealed to the Superior Court, which also affirmed the lower Court's ruling. Due to community and legal pressure in Venice at that time the case was not pursued.



Haag

On July 10, 1975, I was arrested on 7th Ave. Joanne Little rally in Oakwood Park. With the help of Marge Buckley, I tried the case proper and won at the trial level on a demurrer, claiming the ordinance was unconstitutional on its face. The City appealed and I argued before the Appellant Division which asked for more research. At that point Peter Young, Marge Buckley, and the ACLU agreed to take the case with Peter Young doing the appeal work. Peter argued before the Appellant Division which sent the case back to the trial court claiming the

10 demurrer was not the proper procedure.

After lengthy pre-trial hearings and a short trial, on August 3, 1978, Judge Louis Feder decided in favor of the people, i.e., "Section 28.04 is overbroad and an unconstitutional denial of freedom of expression..."

POWER (poles) TO THE PEOPLE

I want to thank everyone who assisted in this case and I am sure John Haag joins me in a special thanks to H. Peter Young for his tireless and excellent work in finally gaining a win for the people. Thanks Peter.

I should also note that this was not a "give-away" trial on the City's part. Larry Guzen, arguing for the City, did an excellent job - he was just on the wrong side of the Constitution. Come on over Larry.

After such a long struggle one is left with the question: Who can afford our Constitution? This is especially relevant when considering such hard fighting movements as the American Indian, Civil Rights, Anti-War, ERA...etc. But the Constitution is there, it is ours, and we can't allow special interests to void it in the name of the People.

Keep up with what's on around town.

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The Argonaut, the newsy weekly



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POT RECORDS PURGED

By LINDA LUCKS



In 1975, California enacted landmark legislation which provided for the destruction of criminal records for persons arrested or convicted of marijuana possession prior to January 1, 1976, when penalties for simple possession were reduced from a felony to a citable misdemeanor. California thus became the first state in the nation to take affirmative action to alleviate the harm caused persons by lifelong criminal records for marijuana offenses. In 1976, the Legislature revised and streamlined the procedures for destruction of records and significantly expanded the civil rights of persons with old convictions.

The California Department of Justice reports that it currently has in its files approximately 806,000 entries for marijuana offenses eligible for destruction, involving 460,000 persons.

California Attorney General Evelle Younger challenged the constitutionality of the record destruction provisions and the State Department of Justice refused to process applications for destruction of records pursuant to the new law while the issue was being litigated in the courts. NORML filed "friend of the court" briefs in a number of lower courts and the California Supreme Court, strongly supported the constitutionality of the record destruction provisions.

On April 26, 1978, in the case of Younger v. The Superior Court of Sacramento County (Mack), No. S.F. 23517, S.F. 23597, the California Supreme Court unanimously upheld the new law and ordered the California Department of Justice to comply with the procedures outlined in Health and Safety Code Section 11361.5 as amended in 1976.

Any person who was arrested and/or convicted for marijuana possession prior to January 1, 1976 or for any specified misdemeanor marijuana offense repealed as of that date--1) being in a place where marijuana is being smoked, 2) possession of marijuana smoking paraphernalia, and 3) use of being under the influence of marijuana - can have those arrest and conviction records destroyed or permanently obliterated. The procedure begins with an application to the California Department of Justice. The Department, upon verifying the applicant's identity and offense, and upon the applicant's payment of not more than \$37.50, shall notify the Federal Bureau of Identification of the destruction of the records, and shall destroy its own records and request that the appropriate law enforcement agency, probation department and Department of Motor Vehicles destroy their records. The application for and notices to the agencies will also be destroyed.

All records eligible for destruction are no longer considered to be active, relevant, timely or complete for any purposes by any agency or person. No public agency shall deny or limit any license, opportunity or right of any person because of such prior arrest or conviction and any person arrested or convicted for any such offense may, two years from the date of such an arrest or conviction, indicate and respond to any question concerning his prior criminal record that he was not arrested or convicted for such offense. These provisions are applicable whether or not one's records have been actually destroyed.

Persons who would like to have criminal records of marijuana offenses destroyed pursuant to the provisions of this section should contact the California Department of Justice in Sacramento or a local law enforcement agency for the necessary application. For additional information, assistance, and forms, contact NORML in Los Angeles at 272-1443 or 395-9668. ★

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A MINT? THAT'S A LITTLE STEEP



12 no more nukes

by Sue Johnson

"If a man chooses oblivion, he can go right on leaving his fate to his political leaders. If he chooses utopia, he must initiate an enormous educational program immediately, if not sooner." Buckminster Fuller.

The Alliance for Survival is an organization consisting of people not willing to sink into oblivion due to nuclear disaster. On August 5, the AFS held a protest march and rally at the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station. The peaceful protest, attended by approximately 1,200 people, was designed primarily to educate the local Seal Beach population and others about the dangers at Seal Beach. Built in 1944, consisting of 5,000 acres within the Seal Beach city limits, the weapons station furnishes weapons to the Pacific fleet and services 600 ships a year. Although at times denying storage of nuclear weapons there, the military's response to a proposed Orange County airport to be built on the base stated, "Nuclear Weapons and aviation don't mix." A weapons station P.R. pamphlet states that the station is engaged in planning and implementation of programs to measure and improve the performance of the Polaris, Poseidon and Trident submarines, all of which are strategic nuclear weapons. Local emergency agencies such as Seal Beach police and fire departments and Orange County Sheriff and fire departments have no knowledge of the existence of nuclear weapons at the naval station- nor do they have emergency plans in the event of an accident. The naval weapons station constitutes an unacceptable, very tangible and avoidable damage to the people of Southern California.

On August 6, 1978, 33 years after the infamous Hiroshima bomb "test", a group of people gathered on the beach at San Luis Obispo for a rally. The sun, surf and sand could not however, diminish the nauseous feeling and the cold sweat one felt as a rally speaker described the deaths of those Hiroshima civilians and the aftermath of the "test." From the rally, a group of people engaged in civil disobedience and climbed over the fence onto Pacific Gas and Electric property in order to occupy and transform the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. They, along with blockaders the next day, (a total of close to 500) were arrested and spent the next three days in jail. This group was not a hippie, college, picnic crowd. These people constituted all ages,

racers, religious and creeds- from 14 to 70, from unemployed to white collar, from Maine to California

Vance Corum, Howard Ryan, Karen Gilmore, Margaret Cinque, and Kevin Blanchenburg from a Venice/Santa Monica affinity group, along with approximately 50 other people from L.A., participated in the Transformation Occupation and are out of jail on their own recognizance, waiting for their pre-trial hearing set for the end of September.

The crowd was diverse due to the common bond of the issue. The issue is the well-being of humanity. Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant is not safe nor can it be made safe. The plant is on an earthquake fault capable of a quake registering 7.5 on the Richter scale, 8 to 10 times what the plant can withstand. An earthquake would release a large amount of radioactive material into the eco-system. Even during "normal" operation, nuclear power plants release radiation into the eco-system. Radiation causes cancer, leukemia, birth defects and premature aging. Plutonium, a waste product of nuclear power plants is one of the most toxic substances known and remains radioactive for many years. It has a half life of 24,400 years. The waste disposal systems now in operation are not capable of adequately and safely handling the waste materials. The dangers of nuclear power are unnecessary and unacceptable. If you are interested in the well being of the human race, join with us.

For more information, call: or
Alliance for Survival 396-2048
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Demonstrators Play Dead at Nuclear Test Center "Die In"

BY PANO DUVOS

Daniel Ellsberg and Alan Ginsburg were among the 79 persons arrested for blocking access roads to the Rocky Flats plutonium works in Colorado. Over 200 demonstrators held a "die in" commemorating the Aug. 9, 1945 nuclear bomb attack which killed 45,000 people in Nagasaki, Japan.

Los Angeles news outlets and the national wires chose to ignore this story. Ellsberg was ejected from the court room of the county judge hearing the case against 10 of the demonstrators who were held and accused of violating bond and probation restrictions by returning to Rocky Flats.

"Your honor, you know that's not true", replied Ellsberg, insisting that he never promised to stay away, and that the judge was making "a very serious allegation" to which he had a right to respond.



"You do not have the right to do anything" snapped the judge... Ellsberg persisted and was ejected from the room.

Joyce McClure of Los Angeles, one of the demonstrators, pointed out to the Beachhead that the demonstration leaders recommended that the east gate, downwind from the plant, be avoided because soil tests there showed relatively high concentrations of plutonium.

A macabre joke to demonstrator Lynn Jorgenson of Los Angeles was the fact that also downwind and a short 20 miles from the Rocky Flats plutonium works is the city of Golden, Colorado, home of Coors Beer. "Coors Beer" "It's the heavy water that makes the difference."

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NEWS Peace & Freedom

(The following is part of a statement issued by Marilyn Seals, Peace and Freedom candidate for Governor of California, issued on Aug 5, 1978).

"We feel alternative energy sources must be developed, particularly solar and geothermal, and all energy corporations must be publicly owned and democratically managed.

The price gouging by oil companies since 1973 demonstrates the need for this new type of structure. While hiking prices under the claim that the public needed to provide more money for oil exploration, new refineries, and the development of new energy sources, the oil companies actually used much of the money gouged out of the consumers for totally unrelated speculative investments. Mobile Oil bought up the Montgomery Ward Dept store chain and then bid over \$300 million to buy the Irvine Ranch in Orange County, while ARCO ran out and bought the Anaconda Copper Mines.

Under the present corporate capitalist system, the consuming public, not the stockholders in the oil companies, is asked to supply the capital for expanded energy development.

We reject such a system which is so unfair and which doesn't even work well. Only with public ownership and democratic management can we achieve fairness and control over the proper use of the funds we the public provide for energy development.

This brings us to the question of what the state and the Governor are doing in the field. The state should be jumping into the alternative energy field in a big way. But what has Governor Brown done? According to the LA Times, 'Brown agreed to drop immediate plans for creation of an Energy Development Authority to encourage tapping of alternative energy sources'.

This is a typical Brown move. He appoints Tom Hayden to an alternative commission and then strips the budget of all funds for alternative energy development so that it is virtually powerless to do anything, leaving all symbol and no substance.

The fact is that there is plenty of money available to fund state alternative energy development and to restore full government services if we just close the state's notorious tax loopholes for the rich. But this Brown refuses to do, preferring instead to cut the alternative energy program and needed public services.

Let me be specific about what we would do if we were running this state. First, we would close the state's capital gains tax loophole. Right now, persons with an income of \$14,000 per year in the form of profits on speculations in real estate or the stock market pay only \$95 in state income taxes, while working people earning \$14,000 in wages or salaries have to pay \$505. This is because of the capital gains tax loophole. In 1971, the State Legislative Analyst estimated that closing this loophole would bring in an additional \$240 million per year, 60% of it from people earning over \$100,000 per year.

Secondly, we would add some higher income tax brackets for the rich. Right now, a person with an income of millions of dollars per year is in the same 11% state income tax bracket as a single person with a taxable income of \$15,500. This is absurd. Closing this loophole was proposed last year in the Petris Bill, SB 154, but Governor Brown refused to support the bill, which fell a few votes short of passage in the legislature.

People concerned about the environment and about alternative energy sources have got to look hard at the Brown record. The support for "whale days" is only symbolism. The real substance of the program is budget cuts for alternative energy programs, support for the special tax privileges of the rich and big business, and vetoes of cost of living increases for teachers, government workers and children from low-income families on Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

The Peace and Freedom Party is working hard to turn around these mis-oriented priorities. "For info call P&F 221-2414."

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UTOPIAN EYES, ROSE COLORED GLASSES

by DAVE TAPPAN

I don't like admitting it, but I am new to the Venice-Ocean Park Community (six months in town, slapping myself occasionally as I ponder why I did not make it here sooner). When I meet someone who has lived here 10 or 20 years, I am in awe.

For the purposes of enjoyment and economic austerity, I have been walking out and around: Ocean Front Walk, Main St., Electric Ave., California, Indiana, Westminster, Broadway, Rose, Marco Place, Windward, Market, Pacific, Carillo, West Washington Blvd., Lincoln, The Canals, Pier, 4th Ave., Marine, 2nd and Hill. Apart from a few mean eyes and some rough talk, my feet have hooved me into much of the joyous diversity and staunch heart that is the people of Venice-Ocean Park.

Community wise, one of the topics I frequently hear talk of is crime. I hear that senior citizens, women of all ages, apartment dwellers, and modest home owners, are fearful of walking their streets, are anxious regarding the safety of their persons and their dwellings.

According to my dictionary, fear is defined as "A painful emotion caused by an expectation of evil, danger, or anxiety..." Now fear is a burdensome piece of luggage to be carrying around. I am not about to suggest that much of our fear is not and has not been grounded in actual personal experience. But I am very much a romanticist, very much an idealist.

Asking you to remember this (laying my deck of cards face up), I'll offer an approach to walking that might be a method for us to unload some of our fear. First-though, I need to digress by way of a couple suppositions: that community requires both tight and loose neighborliness, you know, "Buenos Dias, What's happenin' man? How ya doin? Can I give you a hand sister/brother? I'll back you up." that sort of good stuff. My second supposition is that community requires a free and tolerant attitude, that folks-in fact, walk their streets, that they spend some time in their front yards and on their porches.

So, when I amble the streets, I carry with me wonder, love, and trust. I believe that in general, instant karma holds true for each of us, i.e., that a person's actions determine what happens to him/her, that we carry with us many of the trips that are going to be layed on us, that in projecting trouble we might very well self-fulfill our projection. During my walks, the response I've received most often is "I don't know what you're really about but you're alright. You seek peaceful space, so do I; we can come together on that score."

On the other side of the ledger, when I meet those mean eyes or hear brutal talk, I adopt a common sense approach, I pierce my utopian eyes with the reality that there are some people who aren't up to any good at certain times, that some folks aren't coming from where my conscience happens to be. What I do-then, is keep in harmony with compassion and say to myself earnestly and honestly, "Brother/Sister, I wish you no harm. I want no harm done unto me. There's room enough for all of us; love and peace to you." For eight years, this method has worked for me. More important, I like to think that it has enabled me to be balanced and to see some of what Venice-Ocean Park truly is: a precious mosaic.

Perhaps my perspective would be altered if I had had severe violence done unto me, but I think not. I do not wish a delusion upon anyone. I do believe, however, that to experience joy and seed trust is worth risking disappointment and danger.

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RECOURSE, cont. from page 7

13

to provide each renter with a notice of the reduction and the calculations used to reach it by January 1, 1979.

Additionally, I have been working with members of both the Los Angeles and Santa Monica City Councils in supporting local efforts to create rent mediation boards. A Rent Mediation Board was recently approved in Los Angeles and will soon be in operation to handle tenant complaints.

Earlier this year, I introduced legislation to expand the rights of renters. SB 2193 was designed to protect tenants from arbitrary evictions by limiting the right of landlords to evict tenants to a limited number of grounds defined in the bill. It also protected tenants from rent increases by requiring landlords to offer tenants a one year lease at a fixed rent if requested by the tenant.

Unfortunately, the bill was defeated in a Senate Committee. However, I have requested the Senate Judiciary Committee to hold extensive hearings in Los Angeles and other cities this Fall on landlord-tenant law. Tenants who have received unjustified rent increases or unfair treatment from their landlord should continue to write to me. The information they provide may be useful material for the upcoming hearings.

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that he was working with one of the local realtors and that he personally was going to kill me. The latest thing was a phoney warrant for my arrest from Orange County.

BRN: Can you live with that level of intimidation?

RG: It gets hard sometimes, but, as I say, the general community is beginning to understand what I'm into and what I stand for. I'm beginning to get a lot of smiles now and a lot of good will. I have many friends in Fort Bragg, among the people who are a little more knowledgeable and care a little more. I get fan letters from people I don't know: "Thank you so much. Please keep it up. Signed, W.T."

What's happening is that there is a large number of really intimidated people living in Fort Bragg. They're afraid to get up and say what's on their minds. I think the lumber company has a lot to do with it. They're very intimidating. And they are the only business in town, or used to be. But people are breaking away from it more and more.

I believe that people are responsible for what they do. I have my values, and I'm true to myself. I've seen the system that we live in, and I think it has its good parts, but I think it has its bad parts. I'm not going to sit idly by and watch a paradise here destroyed.

I think very carefully about my actions. What I do is done calculatedly, and it's consistent. I'm working completely within the law. I'm doing nothing but exercising vigorously my right under the laws of this country and state.

Our environmental problems are people problems. Humans are just about the only species on earth that fouls its own living environment. You've got to take into account that the people are part of the environment. One of the problems is that we all love people and kids so much that we expand our numbers to the very limit of the environmental carrying capacity.

I feel that we should provide a place for every freaked out refugee of the city that we can possibly pack in here, but we've got at the same time to protect this beautiful place from being overrun with humans and their machines. What we need is good solid land-use planning. And it's definitely going to interfere with the right of the individual to make all the money he can off his land. I don't see any other way.

I was a long distance runner in school. I used to get up at dawn to train on the cross-country course before classes. It seems so long ago.

My dream is to find the energy and time to start training again in this good air, and to get in condition to compete in the cross-country meets here on the coast. Running, to me, and the good feeling that goes with it, is one of the joys of my life.

I guess that I'd really appreciate the people of Fort Bragg and Mendocino and the coast realizing, if they don't already, that they are not powerless and helpless, and can control their lives and the future of the coast.

I'll be around to help out wherever I can.

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COASTAL COMMISSION, from pg. 1

where the hearings were and what we had to do in order to be heard. We've been treated fairly by this agency, and that's a lot in this day and age.

We were treated fairly once again, as the Commission tabled the vote until Wednesday, at which time the staff had prepared a modified resolution which incorporated the Commissioners' concerns. This resolution, which included deleting the appeal fee and providing more clearly defined public access to the proceedings, was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

At this stage, the proposed ordinance has gone back to the City for reworking. If it does not meet approval by the Commission, the ordinance will lay the City open to court action. The City must address the issues raised by the Coastal Commission and either include them as part of the ordinance or explain the decision not to do so.

Furthermore, the City could decide that it is all too much of a hassle and would cost the city too much money (as seems to be the case) and simply withdraw the proposal altogether.

At any rate, the onus is now on the City -- and on those concerned citizens who appear at the City Council hearing -- to make sense of all this. You can become involved by calling Councilwoman Pat Russell at 641-4717 and requesting that your name be put on the list of persons wishing to be informed of these hearings.

On Tuesday morning, Abe Lurie of Marina Plaza spoke to the Commission. Mr. Lurie claimed to have "substantial issue" with the Regional Commission's denial of his application to construct a 300-unit 10-story hotel in the Marina. He declared that the Regional Commission had been misinformed by the opposition, and his new tack was that the people of the entire state were in

favor of constructing this hotel.

After a discussion punctuated by catcalls from the audience, an irritated Commission ruled that there was no substantial issue in this matter, and the appeal could not be heard.

Commissioner Judith Rosener made the observation that Mr. Lurie had made a number of applications for very similar developments on this property over the last few years. She voiced the opinion that a new type of development be proposed, adding that it is not within the purview of the Commission to initiate local planning.

Perhaps Mr. Lurie might take a cue from Allen Charlin, owner of the L&A property, and seek community input in deciding what to put on this property. Mr. Lurie has, after all, spoken of the value of "public access" -- perhaps he could make his planning accessible to the public he wishes to serve. Perhaps we could all push together...?

So. The State Commission came -- and saw -- and heard us; we were not conquered. Not yet.

There is still no final decision on either of these issues -- or on any issue in Venice, for that matter. There is still work to do, lots of it: reading papers, keeping up with schedules, exchanging opinions, planning strategies.

For laid-back Venetians, this is all too much -- too much time, too much trouble, too much establishment to get involved.

But for those who realize that Venice is a living organism, depending on her residents for sustenance, the effort required to keep her alive is just another part of living.

Politics? Synergy? A cause? It doesn't matter what you choose to call it. It only matters that you give a damn.

Venice needs you. Get involved.



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SOME LANDLORDS (PART TWO)yuch

BY LILLY TANNER
(Continued from August Beachhead)

Synopsis: In the August issue, I talked about the loss of a \$5,000 investment in a small shop on a quaint business street in Venice. This was the sum to renovate which brought the building up to code. The landlord began to force me out through neglect of the roof, outside walls, and rent raises, an irresistible combination. I stopped paying rent in May of this year to retrieve part of the loss. The 'instinct' of the creditor, often the landlord, is incessant. The demands appear to be universal, the same everywhere. The landlord threatens in Muyaka Ibn Haji's African par "If you don't pay by tomorrow, I'll impound your hoe and your plot!" In modern society, the responsibility is shifted to the court, crude and impersonal....

I am still in my shop eating the eviction notice for Sunday lunch. It is called; Complaint for Unlawful Detainer. Why use euphemisms? What a mix-up. I half-guess the landlord is unlawfully detaining me and I can't get out until he lets me go. Actually, I haven't seen him nor have of him except for those papers served on me by an agent of the law. After the landlord refused my request for a settlement, \$500 back, my security deposit and a couple of months free rent, I gave up. I made up my mind not to fight him, to let him have his windfall and be gone....

It didn't work out that way. By chance, I read the print on the back of the Small Claims Notice of Entry of Judgement. (I had lost the case, had to pay the June rent, and could not collect further damages.) The print said "If you appeared at the trial, your appeal begins by filing a notice of appeal within 20 days after date judgement was entered." What a bargain, to perhaps save a month's rent. Like adding another bingo card.

In July came the Unlawful Detainer. This was more insistent and demanding: "NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 5 days." Now I felt, I couldn't get out and I couldn't stay; the landlord could sue me even further claiming I wrecked the place with improvements unless there was a settlement. I called two lawyers. They wouldn't take the case. They said they couldn't find a case and there wasn't enough money in it.

So, I went downtown to the law library and a secretary typed the General Denial for seven dollars and sent me across the street to the court to file it for another ten. The hearing dates will come in the mail.

Downtown, the new buildings shimmer and shine north of Wilshire Blvd. Granite and marble and glass almost hide the old City Hall. Down the street begins Little Tokyo. The shops and restaurants maintain their style. Old buildings come down and are replaced by an Oriental Court. Why is Venice fighting so hard to maintain? Other historic sites tend to follow original lines.

"Life is nothing, if it is not sacrifice", from the dark-pen of William James. Does it mean if I don't sacrifice everything here in this case, my life is nothing? The 'innocent' never know what's going on, never get a total picture. So they tend to put together philosophies and incidents to form a jig-saw-puzzle logic. They stick in pieces even if they have to pound them in with a hammer....

A strange thing happened a little while ago. I was sorting through boxes and glanced up. There I saw the landlady peering into my shop window, her hands cupped to the sides of her head, her nose against the glass. The door was open and I half-motioned for her to come in. I thought she had come to talk about a settlement. She saw me looking at her and ran. I went back to what I was doing for a moment. Then I went out on the sidewalk to look for her. She was gone.

NOTE: I have used my pen name to protect the seemingly innocent as well as the seemingly guilty. Be sure to consult the Westside Tenant Action Center if you are having trouble with your landlord or with an apartment or house you are renting. This is an excellent service and it is free. Call 399-9255.

BLINDSPOT, cont. from pg. 15

late 22nd-century revolutionary, democratic, and socialist America, with white supremacism on the wane; but for us who were born at the heart of a vicious imperialism there is no way we cannot feel these things. I feel no guilt or shame -- chagrin, maybe -- but this essay isn't meant as a guilt trip on anyone: a blind man can't help himself to see by beating himself with his own cane.

It's been four or five months now since these things happened. At this point a self-analytical approach might relieve some of the bitterness and anger that came out at the time, and help us do better in the future.

What it takes, I think, is to catch this "white blindspot" mistake every time happens -- even after it happens, like now -- and eventually it will happen less. In practice we need to search out ways in which we can help guarantee that Blacks and other Third World peoples of empire have full sway to exercise their right to self-determination. This means that in every situation we fight to ensure that a full range of options is open to them, and that they have complete decision-making power over what options they choose -- even if we might not like their decisions. And while our priorities are set by our own conditions, we must be sure there is space for their priorities too.

As anniversary issue No. 100 of this newspaper showed, ten years of resistance struggle in Venice have spread the insurgent rebel spirit widely through our community. Now we have to deepen the political content of our movement. For us, in our time and place, this struggle against white supremacism, against the "white blindspot," is the most important political struggle in the fight against world imperialism. We should be grateful that the circumstances around this fight at Rose & Main have brought this question out -- and wonder how many other times we've missed it.

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MIDWIFE CHARGED WITH MURDER

15

Venice Homebirth Community
Joins Defense Efforts

In June a child born at home to a San Luis Obispo couple was taken to a nearby hospital with a respiratory problem and died five days later at a neonatal intensive care unit in San Francisco. July 24, the San Luis Obispo Grand Jury charged the attending midwife "...did willfully, unlawfully, and with malice aforethought murder Amy Gannage, a human being, and a fetus."

The precedent-setting case will have long range influence on the question of fundamental human rights for the birthing community and for everyone.

Venice homebirth parents and practitioners have joined with other Southern California alternative birth support groups in a state-wide Defense Committee and will communicate their work and the progress of this case in the Beachhead in the ensuing months. For further information contact Elizabeth at 392-7521.

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"If I can't save the customer money, I don't want to be in business."
— Bob Goldman

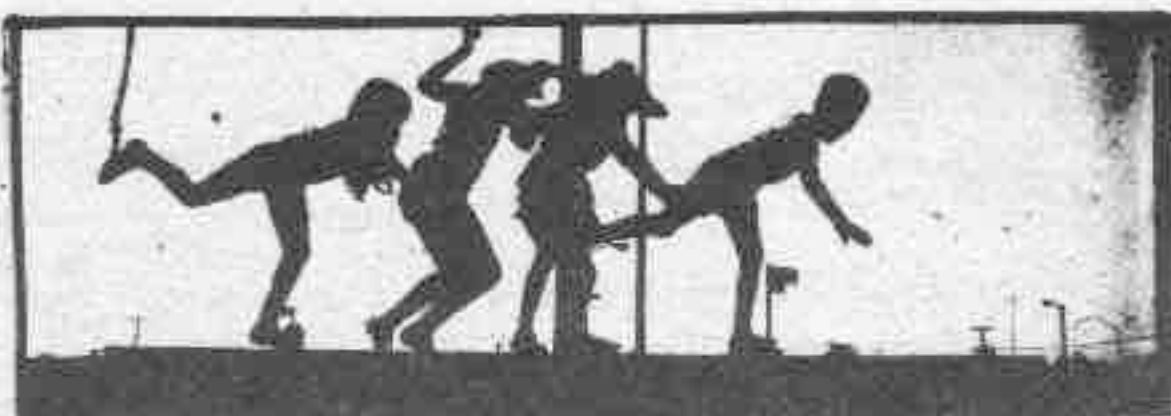
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Venice earth forms
ceramic art gallery
Lancy Swanson



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Send your announcements to Beachhead Community Events, P.O. Box 504, Venice Or phone 823-5092 or 823-2626. This month's page was edited & photographed by Gerry Goldstein.

SEND US YOUR HALLOWEEN PHOTOS & PARTY DATES.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MEDIA ALLIANCE
Tues. Sept. 19, 7:30 PM, KCET Community Room
4401 Sunset Blvd., L.A., near intersection
of Sunset & Hollywood boulevards.
Court Reporting: THE JOURNALIST AS DEFEND
ANT: Discussion of legal threats facing working
journalist, emphasis on case of Sacramento
reporter John Hammerly and California Shield
Law which protects reporters & their sources.

BEYOND BAROQUE CENTER

Fri., Sept. 1 Non Reading - Labor Day
Fri., Sept. 8, 8 pm Poetry of Martha Lifson
Fri., Sept. 15, 8 pm. Poetry of John O. Simon
Fri., Sept. 22, 8 pm. Poetry of Carole Graham
Fri., Sept. 29, 8 pm. Poetry by S. Wannberg and
Leo Mailman.

Poetry readings on-the-air, KCRW, 89.9fm
Sunday 8:30pm, Tuesday 3pm.

Sat. Sept. 16, 1-4 pm YES, LINT! Like in dryer.

Exhibition of Lint Drawings by Patty Jones.
Invitation for Artists to Exhibit

Beyond Baroque has announced a new policy in
selecting artists for its late fall and winter
solo and dual exhibitions. Sample work will be
viewed by the Gallery director and staff Thursday
afternoons, beginning Sept. 7. Artists need to
make an appointment (phone 392-5763). Call between
10 am and noon on Thursdays for appointment
that same afternoon. Don't call before 10 am.
Artists should be prepared to bring in five or six
examples of their work, and should be ready to put
together a solo exhibition or framed work on short
notice. Sculpture is not eligible.

Tues. **POETRY AT VENICE PAVILION** 8:00PM

Sept. 5 Bob Flanagan and Morgan Alexander.
Sept. 12 Al Tarzwell, Carol Fry, Rob Terry.
Sept. 19 Otis O'Solomon and Olivia Sanchez
Sept. 26 Ben Pleasants and Luis Galvez.

GASP! (GROUP AGAINST SMOKING POLLUTION)

Thurs. Sept. 21, 8PM, 11911 Wilshire Blvd.
Sears-Allstate Bldg. meeting room, entrance
on parking lot

SINGING SINGLES performing choral group
Tuesday evenings 7:45 pm. Palms recreation
center, 2950 Overland Ave., near National
Blvd. and Santa Monica Fwy. Meets in bldg.
at far end of playground back of library.
Ginger 391-4184.

CETACEAN SOCIETY (Whale watchers)
Monday Sept. 25, 1:30 pm., Santa Monica
public library auditorium, 1343 6th St.

AUDUBON SOCIETY (Bird Watching)
Wed. Sept. 6, Santa Monica Public Library,
1343 6th St., 7:30-9:30pm.
Jim Clements describes his trip to Cuba &
West Indies searching for rare flora & fauna.
Sat. Sept. 16: Gull identification, shorebirds &
waterfowl. Malibu Lagoon. Meet 8:30 A.M.
behind supermarket on north side of bridge.
Other events, call 459-2922, 476-3681, 4746205

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

Portraits of women by Annemarie Deubl. Canis
Photoworks. 709 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica, Sept. 25.
Oct. 1. info. 393-7547

GEORGE SAND CELEBRATION

A photographic documentary -- George Sand, Her
Life and Times (1804-1876) will be held Sept. 30
thru Oct. 5 at 8 pm, at the George Sand Gallery,
2076 Westwood Blvd. (474-4685). Maria Espinosa
will be on hand at the opening of the exhibit to
discuss her recent translation of *Lelia*.

WOMEN'S FILMS BY SENSOR

Fri., Sept. 8, 8 pm. Anne Hershey's documentary
on Imogen Cunningham, "Never Give Up", and
Johanna Demetrakas' Womenhouse. Sensor is loca-
ted at 9040 Washington Blvd., Cul City. 392-1636.
Donation is \$3.

FREE MOVIES

Santa Monica Public Library, 1343 Sixth St. at
Santa Monica Blvd. 451-5751
Thurs. Sept. 14, 3pm & 7:30pm:
Hardware Wars, a satire of Star Wars.
The Unicorn in the Garden, a fable by James
Thurber.
Woody Allen Interview, Total program, 50 min.

ROLFING

Sept. 22, 29. "New Dimensions in Rolfing", lec-
tures and demos on Aston method. 8-10 pm, at
Open Paths Community Counseling Center, 3744 S.
Barrington Ave. phone 398-7877

Join or form an extended family. Phone
Bob Wedemeyer at 839-8412.

"PARTY FOR A FESTIVAL" with THRUST,
dynamic 9-piece band, Sept. 30th,
9PM - 2AM, Club 88, 11784 W. Pico,
near Bundy. Dancing, pool tables,
slide show, beer and wine. \$5 per
person. Tickets and information:
822-1678 or 822-1395 or P.O. Box
575, Venice.

WOMONSPACE BEACH DANCE

For the first time in Santa Monica history,
public dancing will be offered on the beach under
the stars. The fund-raising dance is sponsored
by Womospace women's center, with music by Joy
Sound (a woman-owned business). The beach dance
will be Sept. 1, 2, 3 (Friday-Sunday) from 8 pm
to 12:30 am, on the parking lot at 1150 Pacific
Coast Highway, North of S.M. pier. Food will be
available and the donation is \$3.50.

WOMEN & ALTERNATIVE LIFE STYLES

The Third (annual) women and alternative life
styles conference presented by the sexuality and
lesbianism task force of Los Angeles National Org-
anization for women, will be held on Sat., Sept. 16,
at UCLA, from 9 am to 5:30 pm.

Thirty three workshops will be offered, includ-
ing "The Single Lesbian", "Financial Planning",
Women and Power". Each participant chooses and
attends a total of three workshops during the day.
Anticipated attendance is 800 women. To obtain
brochure and pre-registration form, call N.O.W.
at 655-3331.

CLASSES FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN

Sept. 4 Labor Day - no classes
Sept. 11, 7 pm. Herbs. Gail McDonald talks about
herbs she's grown and found in Topanga.
Learn to identify herbs in their natural
state, how to prepare them for health rem-
edies and a good diet.
Sept. 18 7 pm. Natural Health Education thru Pol-
arity. Shannon Sobel. Lecture and demon-
stration of 4-fold system designed to bal-
ance body's energy field. Wear comfortable
clothes for exercise and body readings.
Sept. 25, 7 pm. Self Defense. A rep. of Rape
Crisis Hotline will discuss and demonstrate
techniques of self-defense against rape and
assault.

Classes for Women held at Westside Women's Clinic
1711 Ocean Park Blvd.
Santa Monica info 450-2191

SINGLETARIANS Adult singles club affiliated
with Santa Monica Unitarian Church, Sundays
8:00pm, Forbes Hall, 1720 Arizona Ave. at 18th.
Members \$1; guests \$2.
Sept. 3: Labor Day party and dance.
Sept. 10: Investment protection in an inflationary
era: talk by John D. Ford.
Sept. 17: Making single life what you want it to
be: Joan Reighley, marriage & family counselor
& instructor or nursing, CalState L.A.
Sept. 24: A Mongolian way to total awareness of
yourself: experiential evening, wear loose
clothes; bring towel or blanket. Viga Richkova,
yoga teacher from Mongolia!
Information: 396-6877 or 837-9023

CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK EVENTS (Ocean Park United Methodist) 235 Hill Street.

1st and 3rd Sun., 7 pm
L.A. Men's Collective Potluck
2nd and 4th Sun 7:30 pm
Dances or Universal Peace (Sufi)
Mon and Wed, 7:30 pm
Improv. Workshop by Public Works Directors.
Six weeks - fee
Wed., 7:30 pm.
Alliance for Survival meetings.
Thurs, 8 pm.
VOP Co-Op meeting.
Sat. Sept. 9 8 pm
Westside Tenant Action Ctr. Benefit Dance.

ASTROLOGY AND TAROT CLASSES

Sat. Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30
The Sacred Tarot I, 11:12-12:30
Sun., Sept. 10, 17, 24
Chart Interpreting I, 11:12-12:30.
Chart Construction I, 12:30-2:00.
Chart Interpret III, (advan.) 2:30-4:00
Mon., Sept. 11, 18, 25
Chart Interpreting II, 7- 8:30 pm

All above classes at Fantasy Meets Reality
132 Broadway, S.M. 451-3461. By Church of Light.

MORE THEATER Community Drama Group
Mondays 8pm. Saturdays 2pm, Cordell Hall,
Venice United Methodist Church, Victoria at
Lincoln. 1 block N. of Venice Blvd. Mary. 399-0556

PARENTS & FRIENDS OF GAYS: 472-8952

Venice people Cliff Fried & Pete Savino return-
ed recently from the 11th World Festival of
Youth & Students in Cuba. They were part of a
17 member Los Angeles area delegation.

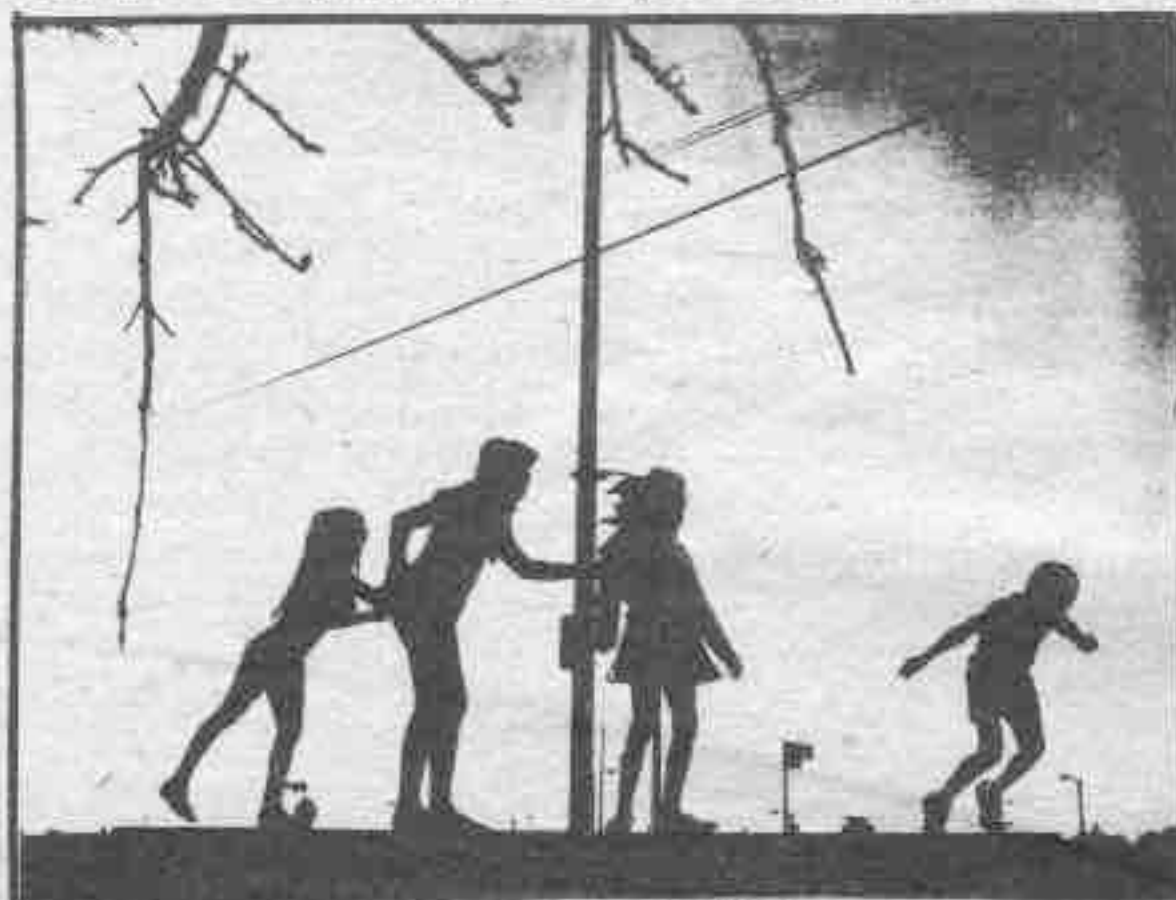
Theme of the 10-day, 29,000 delegate 140
country festival was "Anti-Imperialist Solidari-
ty, Peace, & Friendship. Conference highlights
included political seminars, art exhibits, music,
dancing & social gatherings. Fried will describe
his experiences in a future issue.

Since Fried & Savino paid their own expenses,
the "Party for a Festival" is a fundraiser for
them.

IMMUNIZATIONS FOR CHILDREN

All kids entering school in Sept. will be re-
quired to be adequately immunized or face exclusion
from school. Shots against 10 day measles, polio,
diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus are requir-
ed for school admission. Health officials also re-
commend an immunization against rubella (3 day
measles.) Records of immunizations will be reques-
ted by schools.

The Venice Health Center offers these shots
Monday and Friday at 12:30 pm, and Wednesday at
8 am. The Center is located at 905 Venice Blvd.
Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal
guardian. Bring records of previous immunizations.



PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS
Santa Monica Chapter 801838-0070
W.L.A.-Beverly Hills: 278-4700

CHILDREN AND SCHOOL AND PARENTS

Tues., Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, 8-10 pm.
Free lecture series on Childrens Transitions
Through School Years. At Didi Hirsch Community
Mental Health Ctr, 4760 S Sepulveda, Cul. City,
Phone 390-6618

ZERO POPULATION GROWTH

2315 Westwood Blvd. 474-2154 Call for mtg. date.
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF NON-PARENTS
SUN. Sept 3, 1pm, 2315 Westwood Blvd. 474-2154

SHAKESPEARE: TEMPEST

Fridays through Sundays, Sept. 8-Oct. 15
Venice Pavilion, 1530 Ocean Front at Windward.

HOOTNANNY (FOLKSINGING)

Friday Sept. 1, Inglewood Church of Religious Sci.
525 N. Market St., Inglewood. 8:15-12 midnite Free
Sunday Sept. 10, 1:30-4:30, Douglas Park, 25th St.
& Wilshire, Santa Monica. 390-7278. FREE

FILM: DYAN CANNON, #1

Benefit Free Arts Clinic for Institutionalized kids
Sun. Sept. 24, Malibu Cinema, 3822 Cross Creek Rd
Tickets: \$4-5, 456-9010 or 656-2300.
GASP (Group Against Smoking Pollution)
GASP GARAGE SALE for PROP. 5
Sat. -Sun. Sept. 9 & 10, 959 Indiana Ave. 838-0719
FREE FILMS: Venice Public Library
Tuesdays, 6 pm. 610 California Ave.
Sept. 5: D.H. Lawrence in Taos, 821-1769 for sched.

ARTISTS' FORUM-COMMUNITY FAIR: an organ-
izing meeting to plan a mid-October Arts-
Community Fair in Venice will be held
Sunday, September 10 at 4:00 p.m., 1802
Washington Way, Venice. Sponsored by the
VENICE ARTISTS' FORUM. 396-7448,
398-2785, ask for Cornie.

ART, PHOTO, MUSIC, FILM EXHIBITION
Sunday, Sept. 3, Public Art Station
685 Venice Blvd. (Old police station)
12 noon-6pm. 822-9560 FREE
Speaker, Carlos Montez, former Brown
Beret & organizer in Farah pants strike
Commemorates eighth anniversary of
Chicano Moratorium 29 August, 1970.

LIVING: space for living, typing needed. Sept-
November. Jeff Gillenkirk. 399-0011

For Sale

'71 Chevy Vega, excellent body, runs
good. Will sacrifice. \$600 or make
offer. P.p. Eve. after 6. 392-4748.