

VOTE  
APRIL  
12

# FREE VENICE SINCE 1968 BEACHHEAD

CHEE WAI-WAH

FREE

April 1983, Issue #160, P.O. Box 504, Venice, Ca., 90291, (213) 823-5092

## RUSSELL-ING REAL ESTATE

by Nattering Nabob

Citizens concerned about the independence of L.A.'s City Council need look no further than the 6th District, currently represented by Pat Russell of Westchester. The 6th includes a lot of valuable real estate, including not only Russell's home turf but also the Crenshaw area, Baldwin Hills and Venice. Land developers have long been wooing her and pressuring her to make it easier for them to do what they please, especially in the "boomtown" Santa Monica-to-LAX corridor near the beach. Faced with environmentalists, local "slow-growth" activists and the watching Coastal Commission, Russell has been reticent to respond whole-heartedly and developers have consequently been partly frustrated in their quest to turn the corridor along already congested Lincoln Bl. into a strip version of Century City.

The changes being wrought by Gov. Deukmejian at the Coastal Commission and dropping interest rates are combining with circumstances surrounding Mrs. Russell's current re-election campaign to open development flood gates for the heavy-hitters looking to make big bucks and big traffic jams in the 6th District. Howard Hughes' Summa Corp. has brought its well-publicized Playa Vista "dream scheme" to the State Coastal Commission (a hearing was held in Los Angeles March 22nd) without serious comment or objection from Russell. Playa Vista would introduce tens of thousands of new residents, multiple office buildings and a major new yacht harbor to land now occupied by Hughes Helicopter and one of the last important wild wetland preserves on the California coast. The City of L.A. is already working to annex the currently unincorporated Playa Vista into Russell's district, where it can provide her with more well-heeled voters and campaign contributors for a possible future run for mayor (she was one of those waiting in the wings pending the outcome of Tom Bradley's campaign for Governor last year).

Environmentalists and citizens groups fighting Playa Vista tooth and nail, are concerned about City Planning Director Calvin Hamilton's recent comment that if Playa Vista and all other contemplated development for the Lincoln corridor go forward, the area will end up five times denser than Century City and three times denser than downtown Los Angeles. Playa Vista alone will increase traffic density on Lincoln Bl. by approximately 43%.

All this would seem like more of the same old same old if it weren't for a couple of situations which make it impossible for Ms. Russell to deal with developers, especially Summa, in any kind of independent fashion. To start with, Summa has contributed funds to her campaign. So what else is new? Her campaign manager is from Summa. And her former number one deputy Curtis Rossiter has gone into private business in partnership with Venice realtor (and important real estate industry lobbyist) Richard Rosenthal in a consulting firm whose stated intent is to help developers find short cuts to get their projects approved by the powers that be. It certainly doesn't appear that Ms. Russell will be giving any of Curtis Rossiter's clients any trouble in the foreseeable future. One of his clients happens to be something called Howard Hughes Realty.

Pat Russell has never had any serious opposition in her Council re-election campaigns, and this year is not really an exception. A well-spoken Venetian named Lou Simpson has aroused some attention in his race to unseat her, but the gerrymandered 6th District is nearly impossible to unite in opposition to a well-known, well-financed incumbent like Russell. Some of her critics feel Russell is aligning herself more closely with development interests because this is most likely going to be her final term in the Council. They think she will step down to try for

See "Cure"  
Page 3

mayor or retire into some fat consultancy with one of the developers she's now so friendly with. Considering the frustrations she's accumulated in her efforts to wield more power and influence in the City government (she was maneuvered out of a seemingly sure shot at becoming Council president a couple years back) and the grief she's accumulated being caught between community activists in her district (especially in Venice), you have to figure there's more in this for her than a thank-you plaque from her colleagues in the Council when she leaves. In any case, according to Russell's critics, it all seems to signal the opening death-knell for the decades-old effort to prevent the beach area from turning into the next Miami Beach, or worse yet (from an urban planning standpoint), the next Houston. ■



Buckled Bikepath and Ravaged Restroom



## A "CATALYST" IS BORN

SMALL NEWSPAPER

TACKLES GIANT ISSUES

By Joan Friedberg

Sometime in May, Los Angeles activists will have a news source that will present an alternative to the Los Angeles Times, The Herald, and The Wall Street Journal, when a coalition of leftist organizations debuts its 8-page newspaper, the L.A. Catalyst.

Those many and diverse political groups that now make a cacaphony of sounds instead of a unified voice against social injustice may find the new publication will fill a vacuum otherwise occupied only by radio station KPFK, and infrequent stabs from the L.A. Weekly. For the first time in recent history, the left-hand may know what the "left" is doing.

"We're intending to put out a paper that presents the state of the movement in L.A.," says Sandra Zickefoose, a coordinating committee member and one of the founders of the new publishing collective.

Although the paper will present issues from a Socialist perspective, it is not affiliated with any political party and does not plan to present dry theoretical treatises along Socialist Party lines as some other leftist papers tend to do. Instead, "We want to create a mechanism for communication in Los Angeles," says Zickefoose.

Indeed, the policies of Reagan and now Deukmejian are so far to the extreme right, that those of us who always identified ourselves as middle-of-the-roaders will readily get behind the issues of the so-called "left."

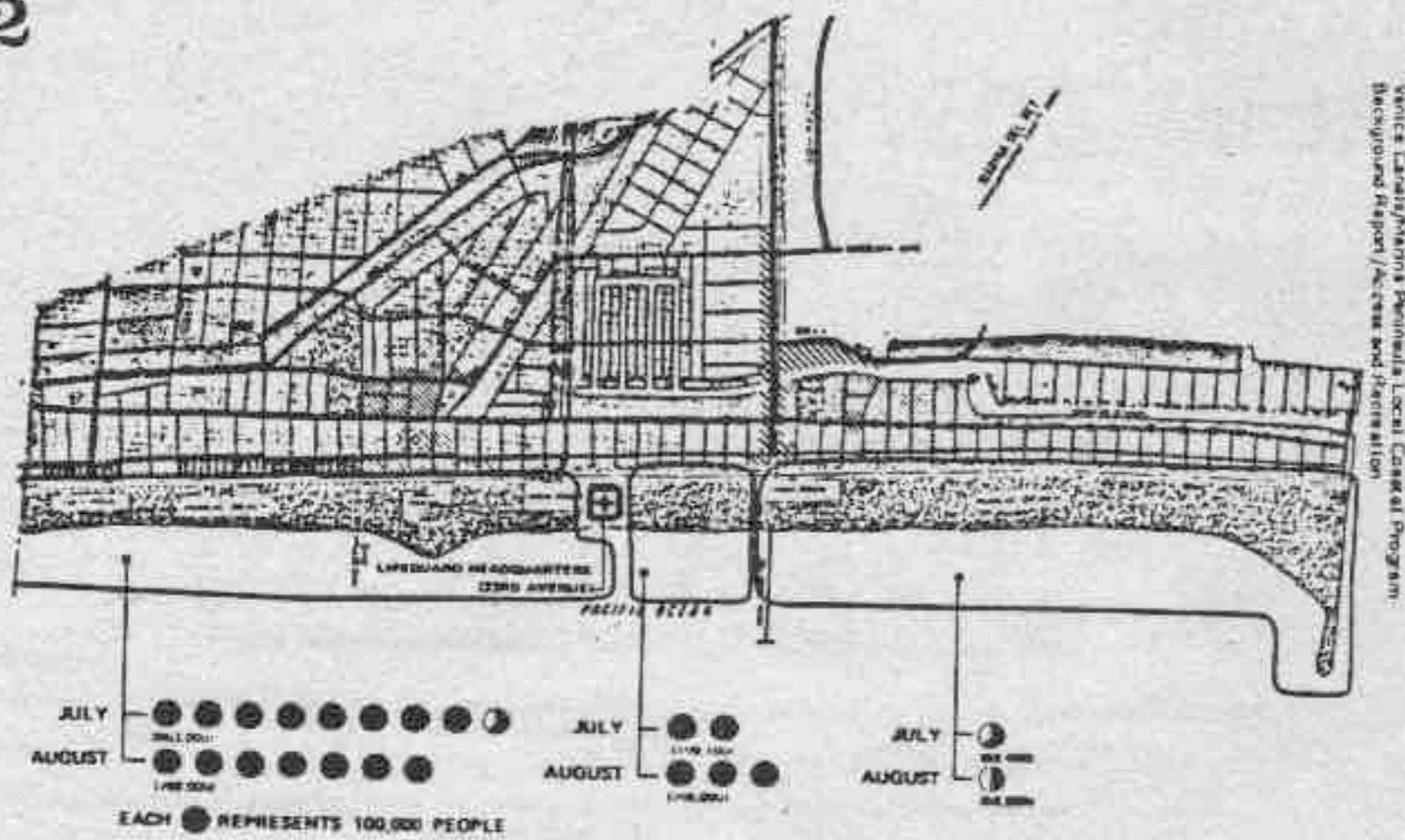
For example, the L.A. Catalyst lists the following topics it will deal with: police abuse, reproductive rights, race and sex discrimination, the environment, defense spending, child care, the draft, immigration, unemployment, among others.

The primary focus of the paper, according to Zickefoose, will be information and opinion on the issues people are organizing around in Los Angeles as opposed to international coverage.

About 20 to 25 people from a variety of activist organizations make up the collective, which published a 4-page sample issue at the end of March. The premiere issue due in May will have an initial run of 5,000 copies, which will be distributed through a loosely-hung network of political organizations and a few bookstores.

The L.A. Catalyst is not backed by big money, so it will be asking for pledges. It will be a free paper, or you may subscribe for \$25 a year. For information: 839-9037. ▲

Photos by Moe Stavnezer



## More Ballona Bologna

protect the wetland. The major issue is the size of these important spawning and feeding grounds. The county and Summa Corp. support the 162 acre figure of the Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game while the Friends back the 325 acre figure of the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Now the staff of both agencies must reach some agreement on this important issue.

Earlier in the day, the commission held a hearing on the City of L.A.'s LCP for the Canals/Peninsula area of Venice. Issues in this plan included public access to the Peninsula beach and protection of Ballona Lagoon as well as the allowed increase in residential density. The Coastal Committee gave testimony opposing the LCP as submitted based on its failure to include the completion of Ocean Front Walk and other types of access to the now virtually private beach on the peninsula. The lawyer for the Concerned Citizens League, a group of peninsula residents, opposed the completion of Ocean Front Walk because it could not be safely designed and because it would promote crime. The League was called to task for this position by a number of commissioners.

Both LCP's are expected to come before the commission again late in June at it's next L.A. meeting. At the urging of the Coastal Committee, the staff will attempt to look at the ways in which each plan impacts on the surrounding areas--an aspect totally missing in the City and County versions.

On March 24th the commission voted not to certify the LCP for the Malibu area because of it's total non-conformance with Coastal Act policies. Commissioner Marshall Grossman called the Malibu LCP an embarrassment, further stating that the money spent to produce it had been squandered. The Beachhead will keep you informed on all these LCP's.. ▼

nine years ago under the auspices of the National Lawyers Guild. But the unaccredited night school has survived. So far, 81 P.C.L. graduates have passed the California Bar Exam and are practicing law--many involved in such legal controversies as draft resistance, police brutality, tenants rights and immigration law. In December, P.C.L. graduated its tenth class.

While these achievements have gone unheralded, the school's opening in September 1974 was greeted by much press attention, including the New York Times which marvelled at "the only radical law school in the country." Meanwhile, the school has quietly expanded--it has purchased its own building facility near MacArthur Park, and a free legal clinic has been established to serve the surrounding Latin/Asian/White community.

The school is closing in on its most important goal--an enrollment of 2/3 minority students, with 50% women. Many of its minority students would not be in any law school if it weren't for P.C.L. Since the Supreme Court's 1978 decision

## FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

STAFF: Elizabeth Elder, Memphis Slim, Lynne Bronstein, Moe Stavnezer, Olga Palo, Joan Friedberg, Emily Winters.

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. We welcome and take responsibility for publishing contributions exactly as the contributors submit them, although the opinions expressed by the contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Collective staff. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, graphics, or other material of interest to the Venice community. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor of the Beachhead. The Collective is an open group and welcomes interested Venice people's participation. Printing is financed by ad donations. To submit material, include your name & phone no. Anonymous material will not be published, but your name will be withheld on request. If return of material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required. No payment is made for material used.

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in the Bakke case (which hurt affirmative action programs at other law schools), P.C.L. has become an even more important alternative.

Tuition at the People's College is \$675 per semester, the second lowest in California. The tuition is kept low because there is no top-heavy administration to support. The school is run by a student governing council and a set of committees (finance, admissions, curriculum, student affairs.) Students manage the \$250,000 yearly budget, set tuition rates and collect money, vote on applicants for admission, decide what professors to hire and what electives should be offered to supplement the 12 required bar classes. The school has offered "Women and the Law", "Prisoners' Rights", "L.A. Power Structure" and other electives that won't be found at UCLA or Harvard.

But the bottom line on the People's College of Law is its commitment to the training of lawyers dedicated to social change and to "communities of the dispossessed and the disinherited": those who will be advocates--not mediators or arbitrators--for tenants against landlords, workers against big business, neighborhoods against corporate polluters.

As is spelled out in the school catalogue given to all prospective students, "If you want to become a deputy district attorney, or work in the legal department of some corporation, do not waste your time or ours by applying. There are other law schools for you--all the others."

P.C.L. is located at 660 S. Bonnie Brae, L.A. 90057, Phone 483-0083. ▼

July, August 1980:  
Comparative Beach Attendance Estimates LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BEACHES

by MOE STAVNEZER

About 400 people, including a hefty sized contingent from Venice, jammed the Coastal Commission's hearing on the Marina del Rey/Ballona local coastal program(LCP) They attended the March 22nd hearing to protest the massive buildout of the Marina and the Summa property to the south. The commission responded by voting to declare that most portions of the County's LCP did not conform to Coastal Act policies. And now begins a series of meetings between Commission and County staffs, and hopefully some public interest groups, to work out the problems in the LCP--and there are plenty of them.

As reported in the past two Beachheads, the LCP proposed more than 6,000 new residential units, 3,600 new hotel rooms and almost 2 million square feet of office and commercial space. All this at the expense of the Ballona Wetlands, only a small portion of which would have been saved, and massive traffic increases on Lincoln Bl and other beach access roads. Though the County claimed that the proposed Marina Bypass had been "downgraded" from a highway to a controlled speed local street essential to handle the increased traffic, the commission wasn't buying that agreement. The opposition to the Bypass, lead by Citizens Against the Bypass from Venice, included a statement by Councilwoman Pet Russell who also stated that she basically supported the rest of the plan. At best, the two positions can be called contradictory since the county claims the Bypass is a major part of the traffic circulation "improvements" in the LCP.

The Friends of Ballona Wetlands, responsible for most of the large turnout, gave expert and excellent testimony to the inadequacy of the county plan to

## A Brief: Peoples College of Law

By Jeff Cohen

Law student: it could be the fastest growing occupation. Well over 100,000 of them are now enrolled in U.S. law schools. There was even a short-lived network TV program--Paper Chase--portraying the law student as hero in a do-or-die struggle for that diploma. On TV, it's an elite, competitive Ivy League school. The teaching method is "Socratic": that is, teacher humiliates student in front of a packed lecture hall. On the 1st day of class, feared contracts professor (actor John Houseman) glowers at his students and snorts, "You come in here with a skull full of mush; I send you out thinking like a lawyer." The setting could be any of a number of schools--Harvard, Yale, Columbia.

But there is one law school in Los Angeles that will never be portrayed on television. At this school, there are no glowering professors, no huge lecture halls. There is no competitive atmosphere, no class ranking, no dean's list. In fact, there isn't even a dean.

It's the Peoples College of Law, the only law school in the nation that is run by its students and whose faculty and student body is over 75% minorities and women. At P.C.L., teachers are hired, fired and evaluated by the students. No class has more than 30 students. Tutorial programs and study groups are numerous.

Many scoffed at the idea of a People's College of Law when it opened

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# Dr. Simpson's Anti-Russell Tonic

FOR VENICE'S SAKE, LOU SIMPSON AT CITY HALL

by John Haag

For the past twenty years Venice has been under the gun, its residents periodically threatened by developmental schemes that have priced out or otherwise got rid of thousands of people, renters, homeowners and business people alike.

Twenty years ago a drastic building code enforcement program resulted in the demolition of 25% of the buildings on the Ocean Front in preparation for a Miami Beach kind of development that was prevented ultimately by community opposition and economic factors. Four times Venice has defeated plans to put a freeway through our community, yet it appeared again this year as part of the County's local coastal plan. A city plan to rebuild the canals into a private yacht basin that would have cost too much in assessments for almost everyone then living there was eventually tied up in court until contractors lost interest.

Again and again the city has sponsored or supported projects to "upgrade" our community, regardless of the consequences to the people who live here, a kind of piecemeal urban removal. During the last 14 years Pat Russell has been "our" City Councilperson, allowing or initiating these threats to our community, and during these years taxes and rents have gone up and up with no improvement in city services. The storm drains still don't work, the beachfront pagodas are falling apart, the canals have the same brokensidewalks, and so on. Our "slum by the sea", as Laurence Lipton once called it, has become a very expensive slum by the sea, its attractiveness the result of people's care, no thanks to our city government.

Pat Russell's largest contributor is the Hughes Corporation, parent of Summa Corporation whose plans include the Marina By-pass and virtual destruction of the Ballona wetlands. She says she is for rent control, the only economic protection many of our residents have

that allows them to stay here, but last year she voted for amendments that would have gutted the present legislation. Her real interest is in running for higher office and making the money connections that requires.

But business people expect a return on their investment and therein lies the danger to us who live here. Pat Russell does not represent us; she represents someone else's money. She must be replaced by someone who will represent the people.

Dr. Lou Simpson, who is challenging Pat Russell in this year's election would represent the people. He lives in Venice. He is a strong advocate of rent control, while not neglecting the particular concerns of homeowners and small business people.

An indication of his commitment to human welfare is the fact that twice, as president of the interns' and residents' union at Martin Luther King Jr. General Hospital, he led successful strikes for better patient care. Many of his present supporters and volunteers are health care workers.

## VOTE FOR Lou Simpson!

While working in his campaign I have come to know him and the people working with him. Lou Simpson believes that government should serve everyone, but should intervene especially to aid the disadvantaged. He would use his office to produce programs to shelter the homeless, feed the hungry, cure the sick and employ the jobless. Under no illusions that he can do what the national economy cannot do, he nevertheless believes he can use public office to mobilize both public and private efforts to provide for people's needs.

This is a vast improvement over our present officeholder who doles out a few grants and

lots of promises just to get re-elected. An indication of her real popularity is the fact that she was re-elected last time by 7,687 votes out of about 100,000 registered voters.

Lou Simpson is running a grass-roots campaign. All of his campaign workers are volunteers, most of them from the Crenshaw area, where his medical practice is.

For those reasons his campaign has not been very visible in Venice, which comprises 1/5th of the total district with a high concentration of liberal and left voters who would certainly vote for Lou Simpson if they knew about him and realized that, given the strength of his campaign in the Crenshaw area and the resentment against Mrs. Russell everywhere, he could actually win against her.

Already his campaign has brought together progressive people from different parts of the district, which will help our efforts regardless of the outcome of the election. Democrats, Peach & Freedom Party and Citizens Party members and independents and Republicans are all helping in this non-partisan or perhaps multi-partisan effort. This is truly a people's campaign to unseat an unpopular and dangerous incumbent. If the other areas of the district were as well along as the Crenshaw area, there is no question that Lou Simpson would win on April 12.

The question now is whether Venice will do its part. There is precious little time, but each of us can do his or her share to carry Lou Simpson and therefore our community to victory. Put his sign in your window or in your yard. Phone voters before the election. Persuade your friends and neighbors to vote for Lou Simpson. Every vote will count in what is sure to be a low turn-out election.

Lou Simpson's campaign headquarters is at 4321 Leimert Blvd., telephone 295-4401. Locally call 823-8767, 396-3555 or 399-7614. What is at stake is not just a public office, it is the survival and progress of our community and of us who live here. Help now and vote for Lou Simpson on April 12. Δ

## THIS ARTICLE IS A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE

by Phil Chamberlin

The Santa Monica City Council has been advised to tell the Defense Dept., in effect, to take their nuclear evacuation plan and shove it.

A citizen advisory committee recommended last week that Santa Monica reject a Pentagon scheme to make fighting nuclear war thinkable by relocation of residents from 'high risk' areas to rural 'host areas'. Which only makes sense if you are gullible enough to swallow the Reaganoid line that nuclear Pearl Harbor will be generously preceded by several days in which Mom and Pop could pack up the kiddies and file calmly out to Mojave Junction to observe the fireworks.

The committee further recommended that classroom materials distributed by the Pentagon's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and available to the Santa Monica Malibu School District, be rejected. And all disaster-related state monies due Santa Monica should fund only non-nuclear war related disasters. In addition, Santa Monica should recommend the President support the bi-lateral Nuclear Arms freeze as the best response to the present danger. An analysis of this issue will supplement the August Seascape, a publication of Recreation & Parks, available free at City Hall.

This FEMA plan is but one element in a new craziness that blathers about fighting protracted nuclear wars in which one side "prevails". The key is the ABM, the anti-ballistic missile, temporarily banned by the 1972 SALT I Treaty. Either side with a good anti-missile defense might risk striking first, confident they can bat down most of the return fire. Under the glamorous rubric The High Frontier, the government is developing an orbiting ABM, launched from space. The completion of this weapon would complete the Reaganoid hallucination of god-inspired extermination of diabolic Russia.

The fly in the ointment is the Freeze Movement. A bi-lateral nuclear weapons freeze would snap the mad momentum of each side to steal the march from the other up in high Armageddon. This is precisely why prior to the freeze vote on Prop. 12 super hawk Edward Teller lobbied so frantically against it. Ane why he implored people to accept the 'purely' defensive new weapons under development. While it is true the orbital weapons can

not knock out Soviet silos in the ground-they home in on rocket exhaust and yet could knock out an in-flight Soviet first strike. It is also just as true they can also bat down a Soviet retaliatory strike, thus tempting the crazies in Washington to risk us all in a first strike. 'Crisis Relocation' plays into all this as prelude to an orbital ABM-enabled first strike.

### LET'S MAKE THE WORLD A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE

"This prohibits all development, testing, transportation, deployment, and usage of nuclear weapons within these borders."

Some contributors at the hearings advocated the Nuclear Free Zone idea for Santa Monica. The Committee recommended the City make available pertinent information and materials for Santa Monicans to put on the ballot the declaration of Santa Monica as a Nuclear Free Zone.

"Let's make the Earth a Nuclear Free Zone" is the theme of a peach gathering and dance celebration announced elsewhere in this issue. So what exactly is a Nuclear Free Zone? In the words of a resource center called Nuclear Free America, it is "any well defined geographical area, regardless of size, in which no nuclear weapons shall be produced, transported, stored, processed, disposed of,

or detonated." Garret Park and Sykesville Maryland became the first two US towns last year to so declare. Ashland, Oregon followed, applying a \$500. fine and 60 days in jail for violators. The Nuclear Free Zone movement is fanning out all around the earth. London declared on June 6 of '82. 2000 East Berliners have already signed a petition for all of Europe to declare.



How pleasant the contemplation of Santa Monica as a Nuclear Free Zone. Because, properly construed, we should have to get rid of Rand Corporation. I have heard that the Rand building was originally designed so authorities could later opt to convert it to a hospital. How appropriate -- a mental hospital-- sort of a half-way house for Reaganoids kicking nuclear addiction in an arms freeze environment of peace: The Daniel Ellsberg Memorial Sanitarium.

The local clearinghouse for zone declarations is at the Nuclear Free Registry, P.O.B. 172, Riverside, Ca. 92502 (714-674-6578). People have been coming up with some real creative declarations: streets, stores, trees, one person's parakeet cage, self and/or lover, and so on. So hop on down to Earthday '83 and get your NFZ paraphernalia --logos, posters, decals, and what-not. A flight of nuclear free doves in one's window is a wonderful symbolic antidote to these

Continued on page 3

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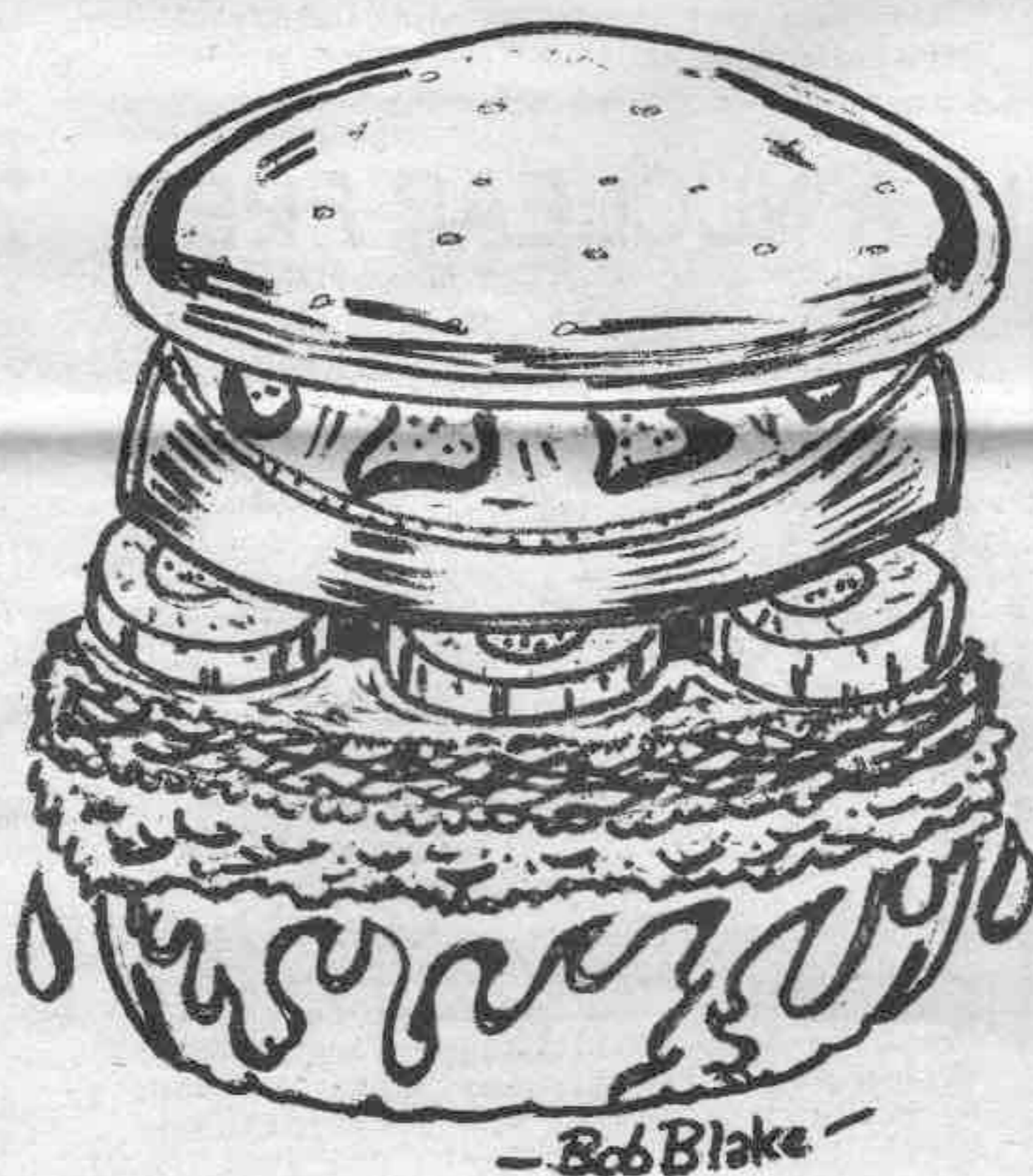
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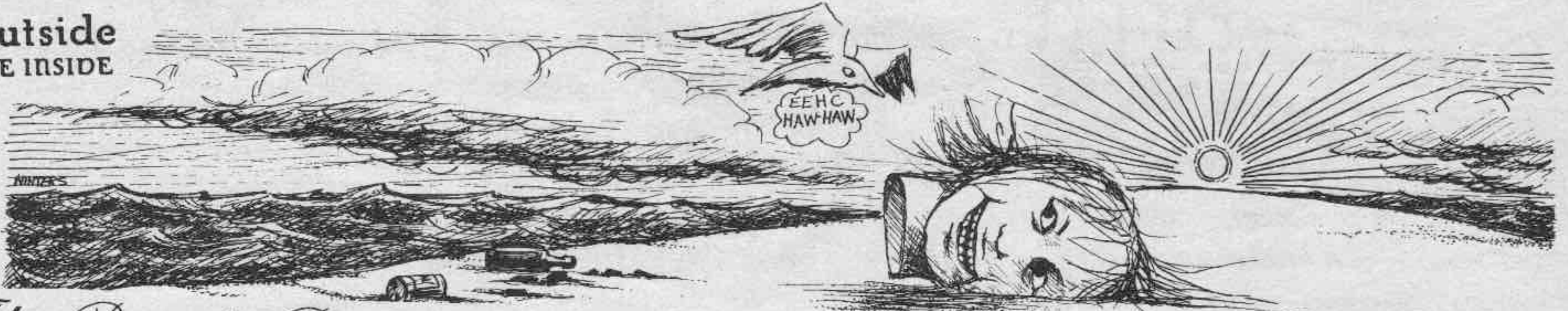
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Outside SEE INSIDE

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The Ronald Reagan Synthetic Sea Coast

by Bim Jickhart

It looks as if an era in Venice planning and politics is coming to an end. In a recent announcement made by long-time resident and activist Moe Stavnezer, the Venice Town Council Coastal Committee switched sides, foregoing its ten-year commitment to coastal preservation and coming out in favor of a "Second Coast" scheme engineered to give the Committee its own fiefdom to control.

"Just like the Santa Monica Pier after all those storms, we couldn't take the barrage anymore," said Stavnezer, "so we caved in, utterly, completely and entirely. We sold out to the best and highest bidder."

That bidder turns out to be none other than President Ronald Reagan, who has committed \$2.5 million to the project beginning in January, 1985 when he leaves office.

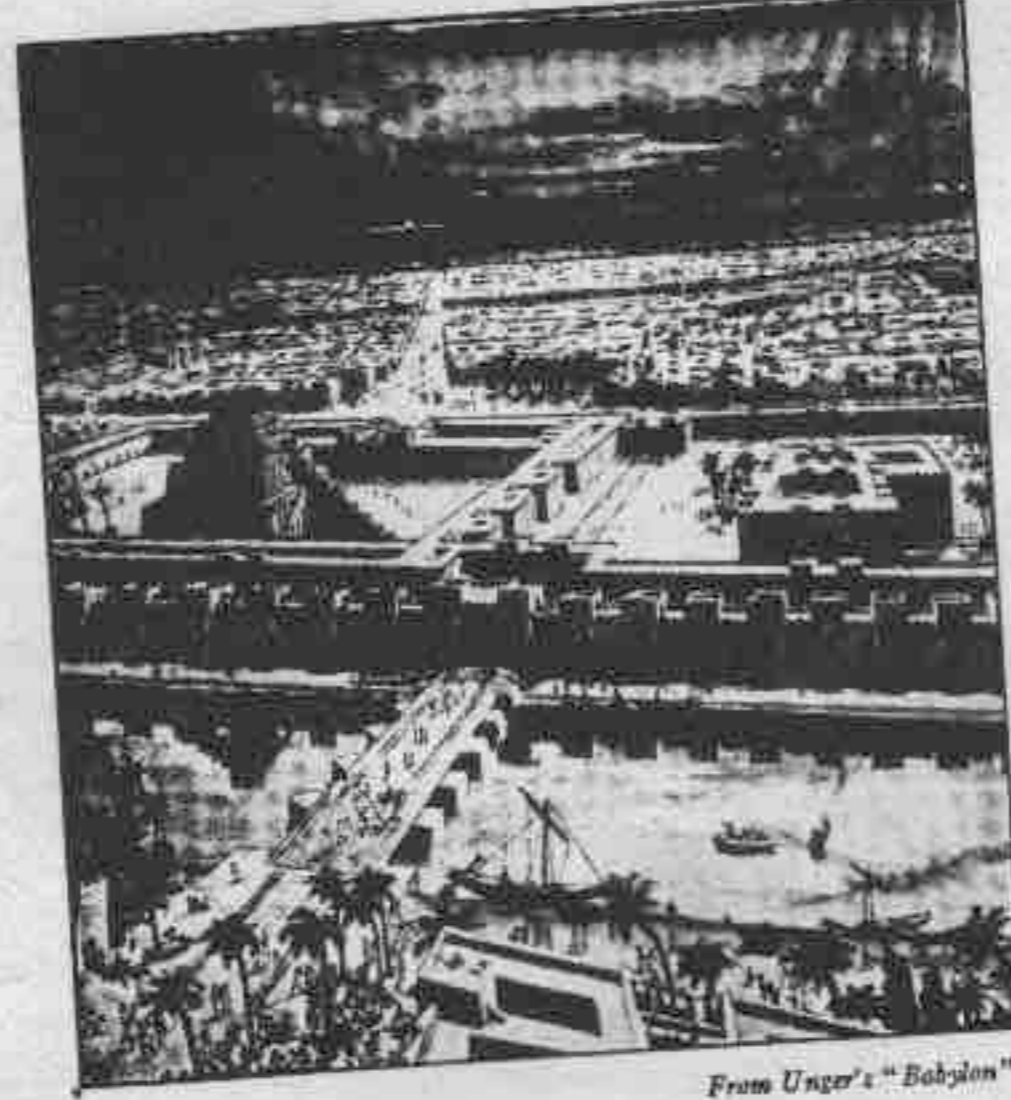
"To give us the money now would be a conflict of interest for him," explained Stavnezer, "so we'll have to wait. In the meantime we're having a lot of parties instead of going to all those damn hearings. That was getting old real fast."

The Second Coast project is the brainchild of educator/author/activist Arnold "Camrade" Springer, a local property owner with a growing distaste for neighbors. According to Springer, the Second Coast is sort of like the difference between Miami and Miami Beach. We're giving Deukmejian's Coastal Commission the outer coast to do with as they please while we create an inland waterfront paradise. The Committee has divided it up in such a way that we'll each get a large parcel to which we can charge admission if we want to allow public access. No house will be within visual access of any other house. Once the project is built, Committee members won't be talking to each other much, except maybe to settle property line disputes.

Stavnezer predicts that even boundary disputes won't engender much communication. "With President Reagan involved, each of us will get any conventional weaponry we think we need, wholesale direct from Pentagon suppliers," he said. When I have a bank of no-nuke Pershing II's aimed at Springer, I suspect he won't stick his head out long enough to

VENICE: BABBLE-ON BY THE SEA

by New York Zoftig

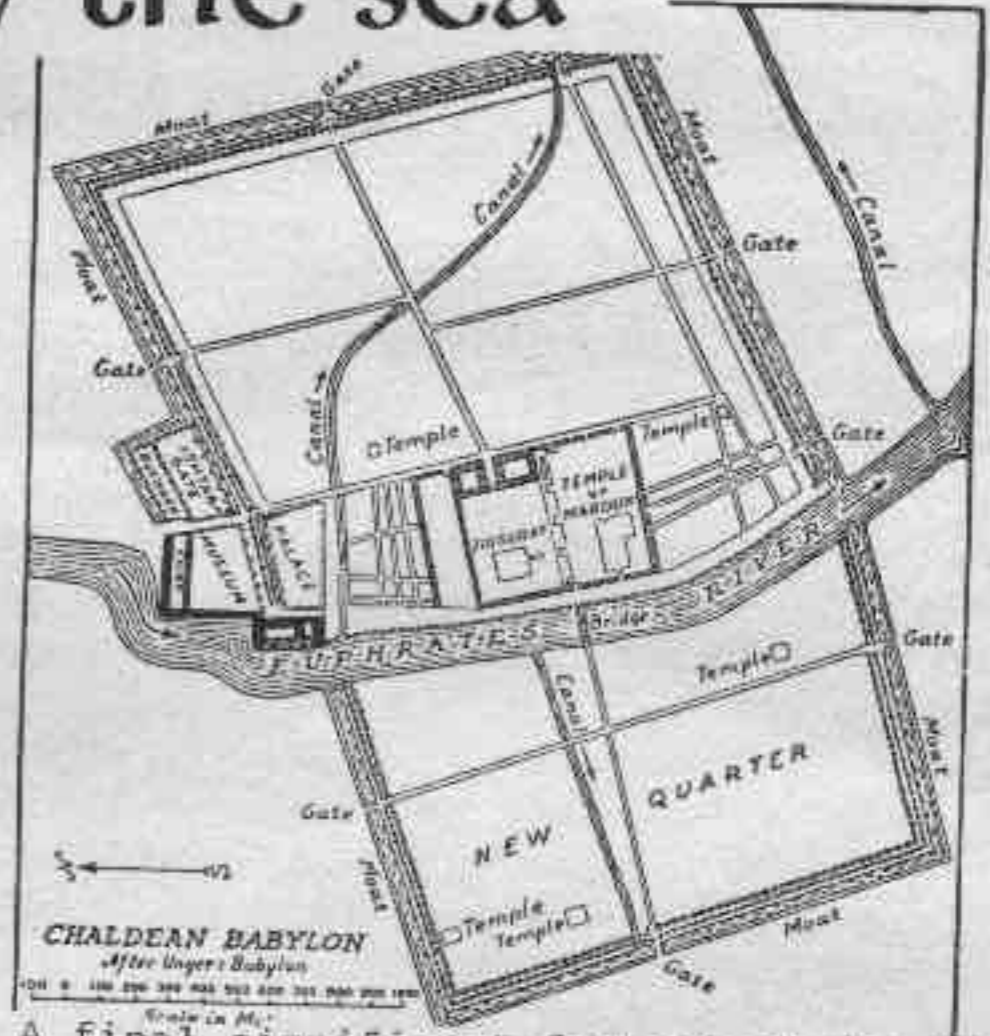


From Unger's "Babylon"

As if all the Coastal plans we've reported on already weren't enough, we've just heard of yet another project. Unveiled last week at a special press conference at the Marina City Club, this plan by local developer-entrepreneurs F. Getway and G. Holliday calls for a complete rebuilding of Venice to resemble ancient Babylon.

"We realize," Holliday told the conference, "that some local malcontents will say we are treading on the vision of Abbott Kinney, who built the original Venice after the manner of Venice, Italy. But Kinney's Venice is, we feel, an outmoded concept that has fallen into semi-ruins. Our Babylon will rebeautify the area as well as increase revenues for local businesses."

Holliday and Getway's plan (shown in the accompanying map and model) would extend the Grand Canal through the North Beach area, and would call for the dredging and deepening of the canal to resemble the Euphrates River. To the west of the river would be the "New Quarter," a series of condominium developments including a modernized replica of the famous "Hanging Gardens" made from astroturf. On the east bank there will be a replica of the Temple of Marduk, complete with ziggurat. "Many people think the ziggurats influenced the Aztec pyramids," said Getway, who admits his hobby is ancient architecture. "While this theory is probably specious, we are planning to capitalize on it by building the ziggurat in a pseudo-Mexican style." Various levels of the ziggurat will feature shops and restaurants, much like the under-utilized Washington Square.



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A final significant feature of the Holliday-Getway plan is the construction of authentic city walls around Babylon-Venice, including a wall in front of the "New Quarter" which will block the city off from the beach. When asked about the wisdom of such an idea, Getway shrugged and said, "A wall would greatly protect Venice from the turbulent surf such as we have experienced this winter."

Needless to say, local coastal activists are not taking this plan lying down (on couches, eating grapes or otherwise). Canal resident and long-time lobbyist Milwood Oak and other Venetians have pointed out the risk of increased traffic (there are no parking provisions for a city too ancient to have had cars), the cutting off of the ocean view from the Common People because of the Wall, the threat to the community's cultural di-

versity as a result of all those statues of Babylonian gods everywhere, the difficulty residents will have reading all those proposed cuneiform street signs, and yes, above all, the violation of Kinney's original vision--Venice by the sea!

"All Venice needs is a little loving repair on the unique structures that already exist," says Oak. He is circulating a petition on behalf of the newly formed Concerned Residents Against A Mesopotamian Insurgency Trip (CRAMIT), and will be holding a meeting at his home Friday, April 15, to discuss further strategy.

At this writing, what with the forces pro and con on the Holliday-Getway plan, the coastal-activist renegades lobbying for the Reagan fiefdom plan (see above article), and the 1,057 other plans we've reported on during the last six months, it sounds like things will be pretty exciting in Venice in the months to come. But then, this has always been a wild little town, hasn't it?

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WHO NAME-DROPPED THE BEACHHEAD

To us Beachhead Collectivists, the world sometimes seems to revolve around the paper--so it's easy to forget that the world at large sleeps through our very existence. But it has been called to our attention that we have received a conspicuous plug on the recent Who album "It's Hard." On a song called "Dangerous" the lyric asserts that "The beach head is the street." Of course, they spelled it with a small B, but you know how they spell things differently in England. Anyhow, we accept the accolade--to us, the Beachhead is the street, the city, the Road to something higher--well, it's just a feeling inside we can't explain.

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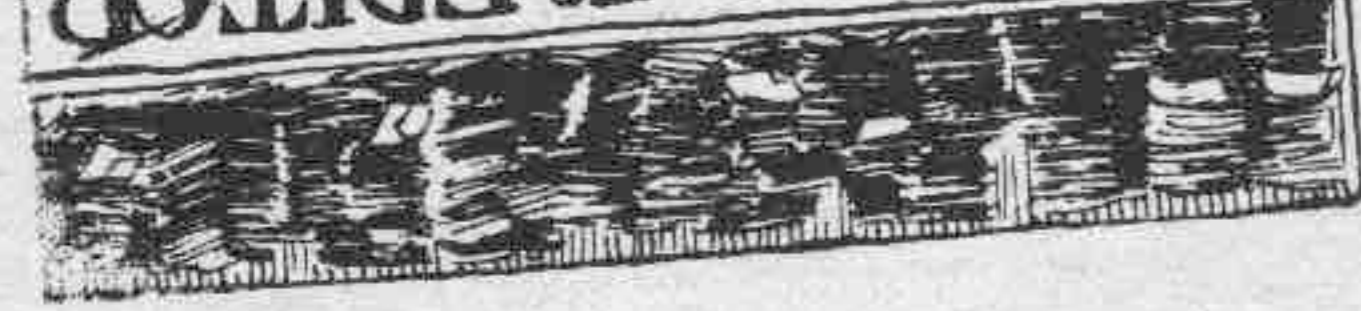
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Beachhead:

Hey you guys, it's really great to have something like the Beachhead to read while I'm sitting out this outrageous cocaine bust. What with "Doonesbury" being on vacation, I don't know how much longer I'll have to be here, so it really cheers me up to get your paper. Only thing is, all the other inmates have been reading my copy and want their own free subs. I think you'd better let them have 'em--no one else is gonna get their mits on the Ex-Ambassador's copy again--not if I can help it!

Uncle Duke  
State Pen

To the Editor:

Your article last month on the proposed North-South-West beach plan is all wrong. The actual freeway will not be built until 1995, and then, will only be diverted along the beach from Windward to Rose. You also forgot to mention that one advantage of this freeway will be a special lane for roller skaters which should certainly reduce congestion on the Ocean Front Walk. The proposed sidewalk cafes along the freeway also sound like a good idea to me. Imagine quiche and Perrier lunches balanced in the air above the beach and town! Why are you folks so lame and unprogressive?

I. J. Goodlife.

Dear Editorial Staff:

What ever happened to the idea of making Venice a separate country? I was all ready to renounce my U.S. citizenship and apply for a passport. I've heard that a bunch of Austrians founded their own country; why can't we? The main thing is, I'm tired of having to use General Telephone. I propose that in the newly liberated People's Republic of Venice, we communicate through telepathy. Some of us do that already. It wouldn't necessarily be cheaper because of the hallucinatory material needed to induce the telepathic state, but it would probably result in fewer wrong numbers.

E.T. Smith

## Horror Scope

By Casey Dixon (reprinted from the Ape Sheet)

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

If you have plans that depend on others, forget it. The only friends you have who don't hate you plan to use your body in unspeakable ways. Eat garlic.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

Try and bully someone today, and you're liable to get your ass kicked. You've gotten your way long enough, you son of a bitch.

**GEMINI** (May 20-June 20)

Stay at home, or go to a crowded shopping center. Eat alone or have friends over. Any way you try it today, you can't win. Just like yesterday.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

This could be it if you're willing to kiss the boss's ass and lie a little. Build some more of those shallow relationships you are so famous for.

**LEO** (July 23-August 22)

Let nothing stand in your way today. Be unreasonable. Punch out the spouse and bitch at the kids. Do it right and be happy.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 22)

Just another disappointing day. Others take advantage of you and you don't do a thing to defend yourself, you spineless worm. But cheer up. Somebody has to be a loser, why not you?

**LIBRA** (September 23-October 23)

Depend on outside influences today. You have little self worth and know it. Find someone else's opinion. Yours are wrong. Take all the mirrors out of your house and get a puppy from the Animal Shelter. It might like you, but don't count on it.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22)

Boy, are you hot today! All those lies are paying off and the people you manipulated last week haven't found out. Get ready to count money and get laid. Everybody else seems stupid. Live it up. Tomorrow you die.

City of Venice



STAPH: Lagartija Loca de Albuquerque, Larry Sullivan, Sirrom Rezenavts, New York Zoftig, Purple Heart, Electric Olenka and Ylime Sretniw.

The VEN FREENICE BEACHHEAD is crudely thrown together on occasion by a motley crew of bizarre humans of various stripes as a vehicle for the beings and/or people of Freenice to parade their assorted insanities in print for the rest of the community to gawk at. Chortling & guffawing is also encouraged. We never endorse nuthin'. Getting us to agree on the type face for a headline is a major victory. There is no editor of the Beachhead. There is an emperor, a more powerful & obviously male position. Since Arnold isn't on the paper now, the emperor is Moe. He's the only man here who doesn't use a pseudonym. Don't let the fact that we call ourselves a collective and rotate virtually all the jobs fool you. Emperor Moe rules with an iron hand. If you doubt us, ask any of the heavy revvy men in the community. Everyone should send us money and fine gifts.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21)

Laugh, smile, be happy and joke around all day. It is the only thing that will help you escape the depressing morons around you. Don't let the bastards get you down. Cry yourself to sleep, again.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 19)

Don't give anybody anything. Withhold information. Let them guess. Pinch a few pennies for fun. Make a lot of lists. It takes up time and makes you feel you are accomplishing something.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20-February 19)

Be fair in all your dealings as usual. It won't help, as people, especially Scorpios, will lie and cheat you, but so what. They never had a song written about them.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20)

Don't do it. Don't yield to temptation. Don't spend money. Don't have any fun. Don't think for a minute that you have a good deal in life. Some day all this prudence will pay off. Probably the day after you die. ▲

Staff note: We tried it, but it didn't give us much of a buzz.

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SORRY KID, YOU GOTTA BE TWENTY-ONE.



4-1-83 SPARKS

When I first moved to the canals some eight years ago, life there was a hotbed of activity. Each day, it seemed, there was a tree to be saved from a chainsaw; a house to be guarded from a bulldozer; a ducks neck to be extricated from a plastic six-pack holder; and there were meetings, meetings, meetings. At that time, the Venice Town Council was operating full-tilt boogie, and there were functioning area councils as well as committees and task forces for everything from community gardens to "streaking" the volley-ball game. (God! Wasn't "streaking" a trip?) We had meetings to plan meetings. As the Marinating of Venice progressed with subsequent escalation of rents and loss of housing to speculators, the indefatigable folks who were calling and attending these meetings were dispersed; the Town Council died of attrition, and the meetings fell by the wayside.

Then a couple of years ago a huge meeting of canal residents was called. Now, let me backtrack a bit. Issues have come and gone in the canals, but there has been one issue that has been a constant. DUCKS!!! Some love 'em, some hate 'em, but noone who lives here can ignore 'em. They squawk early in the morning; they shit on what's left of the sidewalks; they make you giggle when they dive in a group to feed off the bottom with their rear ends stuck up in the air; and they have wonderful little fluffy ducklings to warm your heart as the early spring warms your bones. People from all over come to the canals to feed the ducks—and a damn good thing that they do as their natural feeding habitats have been depleted by rampant development. Among these people was a concerned group of young folks from some delicious group who brought huge bags of bread and faithfully fed the ducks rain or shine. The young women wore long old-fashioned dresses and an air of piety that

was almost alable. Charming! Then, as spring arrived, an ugly rumor swept the canals. They were smashing the eggs!!! The rationale for the seemingly vicious act was that they were saving the baby ducklings from being eaten by the cat and dog inhabitants of the canals. Not too strange when you consider the example set by our government in Vietnam with their "burn the village to save it" credo.

Anyway, we were all pretty upset. Anyone who has lived here any length of time realizes that these no-longer-migratory ducks need to be thinned out or over-duckulation becomes a problem. Too many ducks—too much duckshit—too much coliform bacteria—pollution of the canals—closing them off to the public. (Remember Myrtle Wilson and her on-going crusades against the filthy, contaminated canals? May she rest in peace in some duck-free heaven somewhere.) But smashing the eggs!!

Then, horror of horrors, a holocaust of dismembered duck carcasses came floating down the Grand Canal! Heads, feet, viscera and other hideous remains in large quantities. A count was taken and it was estimated that the number of mutilated fowl was somewhere in the forties. People were angry. "Dug Snuffer Stalks the Canals" was emblazoned in the local papers. And a meeting was called.

The meeting overflowed the house, out into the yard, then the sidewalks and alleys. An official from the State Game & Wildlife Commission was the featured speaker. He explained that since the ducks were no longer wild they did not come under his jurisdiction. They also did not meet the criteria for domestic pets, so no-one had jurisdiction. No-status ducks. Funny ducks, as one of our new residents designates them. All in-bred (no pun intended),

addicted to Wonder Bread and Cheetos and prone to perverse sexual behavior. Have you ever watched ducks doing it? It's all rape and rann-rann. After the best speaker finished, the meeting was opened for discussion. Committees were formed, phone trees set up (I wouldn't give my phone number. Don't trust the likes of Reed Monroe with that kind of information) delegations to our City Councilperson proposed and acts of violence and intimidation suggested. Someone stated "Well, the people who've lived in the canals before knew how to take care of business, and I just want everyone to know that I've got a gun and I'm prepared to use it." --How! and they called us radicals!

I was kind of amused by the whole thing (except when my dog decided to chase a duck right in front of the Game & Wildlife officer) and also pleased that people were coming together no matter what the issue and I left the meeting with a warm nostalgic glow.

As I was walking home with my friend doing the usual meeting post-mortem, he stopped me in my tracks by saying, "I know who the 'Duck Snuffer' is."

"Tell me. Tell me."

"Can you keep a secret?"

"No."

"Well, I'll tell you anyway. Do you know Abigail?"

"Sure. She made a great speech tonight about the canals belonging to everyone and how she likes it when people from all over come here to enjoy them."

Now, Abigail is one of Venice's many shopping cart people and also a lover of cats and dogs whom she harbors in illegal numbers in her little Grand Canal cottage. Her next door neighbor also maintains a large number of pets. So it seems that Abigail had poked through the garbage of one of

the proliferating ritzy-pitzy eateries and had come upon a huge quantity of what was left-over from the preparation of the Duck 1'Orange or whatever was being proffered that evening for the delectation of the nouveaux. She brought it home for the animals and when it got a bit rank, unceremoniously dumped it into the Grand Canal.

Ah, Venice politics.

I've kept my mouth shut about this for a couple of years, but thought I should share it with the Beschhead for April Fool's Day. It's all true—every word of it except Abigail's name which has been changed to protect the guilty. ▽

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# BABYLON BY BUS

by memphis slim

I didn't know how I'd feel going back. It'd been two years. I was excited about seeing my old friends, teachers, and relatives. It was also a much needed vacation from a hideous office grind. 5,000+ miles on a Greyhound was no problem. Well, at least a tolerable idea. A writer needs to keep growing; experience pain; push. What the hell, let's go. Taking the bus outta' LA isn't LAX. You get a feel at the bus station for what this city's all about. My union steward says, "LA's a working man's town!" She's right. The world melting pot comes together at the bus station.

When you leave the station the bus takes the special bus lane to El Monte and West Covina. You get to East Bumfuck twice as quick as in a car during rush hour. But there's only a few local travelers. Mostly people seem to get on at each stop. We go to Riverside and on into Indio. Indio late at night is a silent town. I'll piss and then walk around the block smoking my herbs. Hope this is enough joints to last me. I'm not really part of this movie; I'm only passing through. Bus stations are always full of poor people. You just gotta' be able to pick out the few poor, desperate people. They're the dangerous ones. I scan the area as I walk. The bus station is IT in this town; everybody's inside. Only one car drives by. As I finish I realize I'm in the bank parking lot.

As it gets on into the middle of the night, we pull into Blythe. Now this is a garden spot! Even at night in February the land looks baked. Well maybe I'll get off for a minute but I ain't drinking no more coffee. I gotta' crash.

Sleeping against the window is heaven; if you're tired enough AND have a down vest for a pillow.

Phoenix rolls around at two in the morning. The driver turns on all the interior lights and announces in his best Chet Huntley voice, "Phoenix, Phoenix." Oh god help me go back to sleep.

Real morning finally rolls around. Breakfast in Lordsburg is not exactly what the Chattanooga Choo Choo had in mind, but I ain't never said, 'Pardon me boy.'

I wolf down my food and head for my favorite spots, alleys and parking lots. Doing a roach after breakfast, I wonder what's the penalty here? Buzzers go off in my mind; just don't get caught. Nothin' is illegal if you don't get caught.

Well maybe waking up was a mistake. I gotta' look at New Mexico! Oh shit. New Mexico can be described in one word- Dusty!

My bus is not too crowded. Once we've done the first 1000 miles the core passengers remain. People get on and off at all the stops but mostly there's us. The Senora knitting in the seat across the aisle was sitting next to me when we left LA. Finally she got her own window seat in Indio. She was hoping I'd be able to speak more in her native tongue. She smiles. I guess she figures I tried. She doesn't run into man blue-eyed gringos who are polite in both languages. My pronunciation belies my limited vocabulary.

Crashed out in the seat in front of the Senora is a young woman trying to be a 'biker chick'. She's reading the only copy of EASYRIDERS I've ever seen. She's about 21 and dressed in blue jeans and suburban sports clothes. She has a leather cap with the Harley eagle on it but she looks wholesome. Wonder if she's got her tattoo yet. In front of me is a Southeast Asian man going to D.C. He's got the permanently scared look of so many of his fellow Indochinese. I wonder which Georgetown restaurant he'll be working in. The Indian (Native American) man who just got on is smartly dressed in his Sunday go to meeting clothes. There's a Problem with his change and the driver soon realizes the man speaks only one European language, Spanish.

In the rear are the nicotine addicts. Several brothers exchange NAM stories. They seem to have survived or at least parts of them did. Part of the way my aisle side is occupied by a Grunt. Where you stationed? "29 Palms" "Heading to Mesa to see my girl." He's from Michigan. A working class hero is something to be. The conversation ends quickly. I'm reading a book and like most of the kids who came from where we did, he doesn't relate. I talked to one of the dudes in the bathroom. He's headed to Norfolk, Va. It's a long way from San Diego to Norfolk but he's got a smile on his face. I can dig it. Life's hard enough; smile while you can. At a wide spot in the road in New Mexico, a Latino soldier on leave gets off. He'd noticed me getting high earlier but shined it. Discretion remains the better part of valour. A middle aged Latino man gets on and sits next to the Indian. They share a language and some culture. Not only did the Spanish teach the Indians their language, they also taught them how to scalp people. So much for cultural imperialism.

We pass the LaTuna Federal Penitentiary. I asked the man next to me what joint it is. He's a local and responds right away. The facility, of course, is designed to look like a Mission. It resembles a Mission as

closely as Alcatraz resembles a Condo development. Prisons are for hurting people; theoretically those who've hurt others first. The local and the Senora stike up a conversation. El Paso draws closer.

Miles outside of El Paso and our regulars are going on the 2nd day of togetherness. Things are getting strange. The three black women and their 2 kids (motherhood seems to pass equally between them) are getting on everybody's nerves. Two of the women are no more than children themselves and parenting seems to be a combination of slaps, shouts and shrill commands. At El Paso a well scrubbed young blond and her two terrible three year olds take the back seat. Getting to the bathroom requires running a gauntlet of rug rats now.

The geek with the dark blue leisure suit approaches the driver. The bus driver pulls over, stops the bus and walks toward the back. Near the back of the bus there's a medical emergency. The driver calls for a nurse but no one responds. Asking for anyone with medical knowledge, three of us tentatively emerge. A hospital worker, a Vietnam Vet and myself are the medical team. The guy that works in the hospital states it's a seizure. I harangue the passengers for something to put in his mouth. The lady behind me produces a big plastic comb. He's chewed his tongue some but the comb helps. The young hospital worker asserts himself and as the man comes around, the patient is declared well. I tell the bus driver to proceed to the nearest medical facility. He looks too gray. We make the man as comfortable as possible, pull off his jacket, etc. He's breathing better. His drinking buddy produces three bottles of anti-convulsants. Seems they been on a 4 day binge. Ever been on a crowded bus in the middle of nowhere Texas and need a doctor? We finally get to a small, dusty pueblo and there is a doctor. Our friend is finally rushed back to El Paso. He had a heart attack with his seizure. The bus pulls out; life goes on.

We arrive at Dallas at 5 AM. I gotta' brush my teeth at least. God why did I do this? If that fat lady had rolled over me one more time last night. Oh well. Personal grooming is a treat at the bus station. I get to meet a coupla' guys who basically live in that bathroom. Bob Marley was right. This is Babylon. Actually I think Sodom and Gomorrah meet Tobacco Road is closer. The Burger King in the station doesn't open for another 45 minutes. I gotta' eat or get stoned. Dallas has lots of new buildings. Oil money is there. As I was wandering around getting blitzed I saw a MacDonald's opening up. I went in with all those Dallas residents

who aren't seeing much of that oil money. The black, working class patrons and I have our plastic breakfast at 6AM. Before I finished they had all left to build more glass towers for oil.

Northeast Texas and Arkansas fade together in my mind. The driver gets on the microphone and tells us all about this fabulous fried chicken available at the next stop. Also this is the last meal stop until Memphis, six hours later. A busload of people descend on a cafe the size of NuPar's. The fried chicken is great. The driver's sister in law is a great cook.

I get to Memphis on a Friday nite. My sister picks me up. She wants me to go to the AA meeting with her. Sure, Lulu, but first can I pick up a 6 pack of Stroh's? ▽ continued next month

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I crawled through the sewers

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I refused to be expendable, protested my position in the circuits of the Pentagon computer alongside endless scenarios of nuclear war, day in, day out, year in, year out, the nuclear war games went on. I repudiated all U.S. presidents since World War II, each and every one played with the globe as their game board, bullied weaker nations with nuclear threats and not just Cuba--I've read the reports--but twelve times since 1945 they threatened nuclear war: when the other side backed down, the nuclear blackmailers crowed their triumph. I have been considered expendable for that end, my life less than a pawn in their global chess game, less than a chip in their Russian roulette with the earth, just a mere blip in a computer readout on evacuation plans in case of nuclear war, plans to make the threat of war more credible, plans which condemn me to death. My life is very precious, and her life, and his life, and that child's life, not to be played with as chips in a game, not to be bartered away for world dominance. I did not board the train to the Auschwitz of the world, refused my place in line to the global crematoria. I crawled through the sewers of these computer circuits until I reached the exit outside their empire, into the woods, the good, green woods where I live with a partisan band, with humans fighting for our lives.

Julia Stein, copyright 1982

## PLAY WITH YOUR PLANET

by Jerry Rubin

An Earth Day '83 commemorative address by Santa Monica's new mayor, Ken Edwards will highlight the April 22 evening festivities as peace, anti nuke, human rights and environmental "Earth Activists" gather to celebrate this traditional day of planetary focus. (The first Earth Day was Apr. 22, 1970)

An Earth vigil beginning 5pm and including a Native American drum ceremony will take place at the cannon in Palisades Park (Ocean Ave. & Colorado, no. of pier). Participants are urged to bring music as well as flowers to lay on the cannon. At 7:30pm, candlelight peace walk will proceed through the park to the Santa Monica Union Hall (1410 2nd St. at Santa Monica Blvd.) where from 8pm till 2am festivities will continue with a benefit dance and gala peach celebration.

The theme of the benefit is "Lets Make the Earth a Nuclear Free Zone" and is meant to help generate grassroots support for a Nuclear Free Zone ballot drive initiative campaign now being considered in Santa Monica. Others have passed but this would be the first in California/.

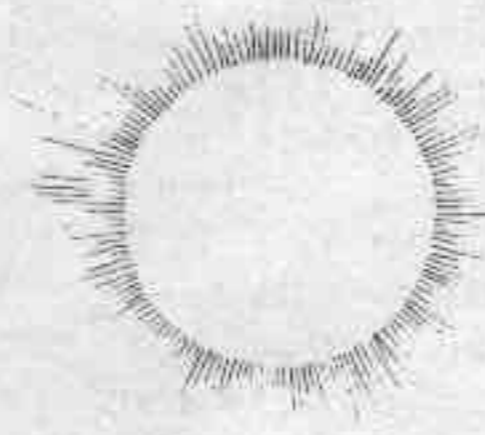
Entertainment highlights include two reggae bands, PLANET 10 and JAH MOON, as well as L.A.'s activist comedienne Judy Carter; folk singer/songwriter Hamilton Camp and S.T.O.P. (Street Theater of Protest).

Mayor Edwards and Santa Monica councilwoman Delores Press will be joined by other important "Earth speakers" including Blase Bonpane, former missionary in Central America; Nancy Sue Pearlman, Executive Director of the Ecology Center of Southern Calif.; Brian and Jeanne Molucka, co-directors of the Nuclear Free Zone Registry, and Ellie Cohen, president of the Southern Cal. Alliance for Survival.

The Children's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament will also facilitate a special screening of "Bombs Will Make The Rainbow Break", a 17 minute film which depicts through children's voices and artwork, the impact of growing up in a world on the brink of nuclear destruction.

A closing ceremony Earth Circle of Peace will include a gong-ringing performance by Songs For Humanity founder Don Conreux as well as The New Age Planetary Anthem and other peace songs performed by recording artist Stephen Longfellow Fiske.

Plenty of food, drinks, and free parking available. Admission to dance \$5- For info and tickets call 399-1000.



MFP/cpf

### THIS ARTICLE continued

times maniacal bible beating and flag draping. PROCLAIM NUCLEAR FREEDOM AND THE ABOLITION OF NUCLEAR ENSLAVEMENT.

And here's more good news: Our children are on the move. Meeting every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, The Children's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. Call Scott before 9:30: 823-2863. Target L.A. '83 is cranking up for another extravaganza in the arts of disarmament: 221-61-26. A mass vigil on Mahatma Gandhi's birthday Oct. 2 called Concentration Peace is now forming working groups: 247-4008. Media for Peace feels we can "heal the planet by healing the media": 470-3738/9. The Thursday Night Group produces events and gives small group educationals on nuclear issues. Meets 3rd Thursdays at the Presbyterian Church on 2nd and Wilshire. Come April 21 at 7:45pm and watch "If You Love This Planet" the Canadian film causing such furor over registration. Judge Jerry Katz will talk 395-4123. International Day of Nuclear Disarmament, June 30 solstice. A day of coordinated local actions around the world to resist nuclear arms and power. In L.A. contact the NRC (Nuclear Resistance Coalition), organizers already this year of two direct actions and mass civil disobedience at Vandenberg Air Force Base near Lompoc to impede completion of MX. Also sponsored the recent hilarious T.K. Jones Civil Defense Dig-in on Santa Monica beach. 36 entries vied for cash prizes for the best designed shelter along the T.K. Jones prescription: "The dirt is the thing that protects you from the blast and radiation...if there are enough shovels to go around, everybody's going to make it". Call 395-4483.

Great fun and games, this movement to undo the accumulated evil of the ages/ Or is it, this our do or die fight to snatch back our tomorrows from the inferno. This from The Date is Set, 942 Market St., #710, San Francisco, 94102, the newspaper of Fast For Life: "Ghandi and many others throughout history have confronted evil institutions by offering their lives through fasting. We intend to do the same. Through fasting we identify with the millions who will hunger as long as the arms race continues. We will share pain and by so doing we may finally unlock the doors to our own hearts and to the hearts of our brothers and sisters. Open-ended fasts, because of the life risks involved, have a way of speeding up decision-making, breaking stalemates, and producing change. If we ever needed such speed, it is certainly now. The children are dying and the thread that holds the Bomb is fraying".

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SPORT SHIRTS (100% Cotton & Cotton Blend)	\$26-\$30	\$14.79-\$17.84
COTTON DESIGNER TROUSERS	\$55-\$75	\$25.82-\$26.76
SILK CREPE DE CHINE SHIRTS	\$75-\$115	\$19.95-\$49.77
COTTON KNIT SHIRTS (Variety of Polo-like Colors & Styles)	\$22-\$35	\$12.91-\$16.90
<b>FOR EVERYONE</b>		
JEANS (Black or Stonewashed Blue)	\$15	\$18.95
HAWAIIAN SHIRTS	\$26-\$34	\$16.90-\$19.95
COTTON WALK SHORTS	\$25-\$40	\$11.97-\$19.95
COTTON SWEATERS	\$22-\$60	\$12.91-\$35.92
COTTON FLEECE ACTIVEWEAR	\$25-\$45	\$9.88-\$19.95

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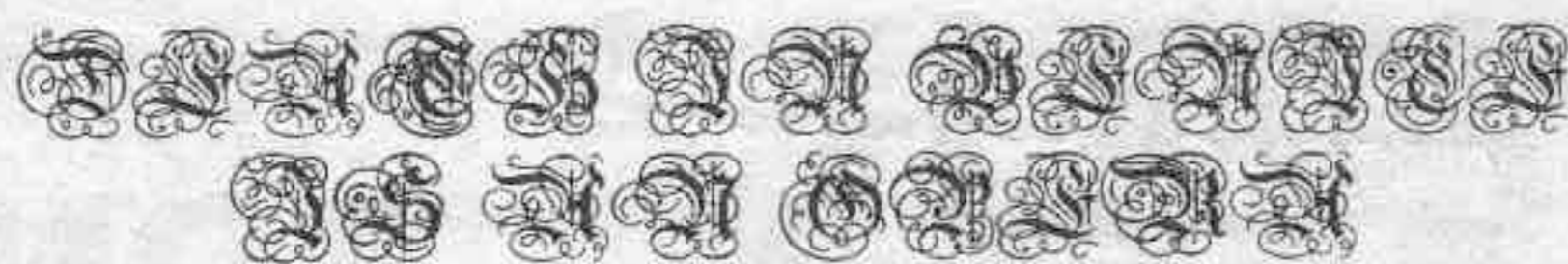


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Laddie Dill is a well known Venice painter. He has a studio across from the potter Victoria Norton, near Speedway and Breeze Ct. Laddie lives in Ocean Park near the Mayor. He teaches art at UCLA. He is approachable, affable, likeable. He likes Venice.

Now he has been commissioned to create the designs for the Benjamin Britten opera - what else, "Death in Venice". He is doing that presently in his studio here in Venice. The opera is scheduled to be presented this coming September by the Long Beach Opera Co.

On March 8 an exhibit of drawings and sketches by Dill for "Death in Venice" went on exhibit at Gallery A, University Art Museum, Cal State Long Beach. That school has a good rep for the technical application of art, and shows many Venice artists. That's appropriate also because it periodically offers course work in the history of Venice and has a repository of materials dealing with the history of our community.

On the 8th Dill gave a short talk to interested students, faculty, and staff. I don't know anything about art. But I had talked to Laddie on a number of occasions and so was interested in seeing his work and in hearing him talk about it. I found the art colorful, illusionist, dynamic, innovative. It was beautiful. I liked it. How else to describe it. Its not geometric so much as its a play with color washes, with the application of cement washes brushed on screens and coated with polymers, matted to reflect light and color differently at different angles. Its non-representational. Some-one saw a cross barely outlined on a scrim. I hadn't seen it; it was pointed out to me. Not intentional said Laddie. Gee, nothing to hang onto - well. So I continued to insist that it was an unconscious symbol and important. So much for me as an art critic.

There was a brochure written by Connie Glen of the Art Museum. She had a gallery in Venice once upon a time and is now Director of the museum. She knows about art. I'll paraphrase some of what she wrote in it.

Laddie Dill was born in Long Beach in 1943. He studied with Emerson Woelffer and Matsumi Kanamitsu at Chauinard Art

Institute, had his first one-person exhibition at Sonnabend Gallery, New York in 1971. He received NEA Fellowships in 1975 and 1982, a Guggenheim in 1979.

Benjamin Britten's opera is based on the novella 'Death in Venice' by Thomas Mann. Several years ago it was made into a beautiful film by Luchiano Visconti. The opera by Britten was written in 1973. Previous opera designs have been created by Henry Moore (of UCLA sculpture gardens fame) and Marc Chagall. Dill has purposely tried to use color to evoke the distinct romanticism of the artist William Turner, a romanticism which he feels captures the novella's inner sense. Sometimes Turner's style can be described as opalescent, allusionist. Dill, like Turner, is very interested in color. I looked at a Turner collection and noticed similarities - 'Sunrise, with a Boat Between Headlands' (1835); 'Landscape with Water' (1835); 'Norman Castle, Sunrise' (1835).

"Always concerned with the evocation of illusionary space, as seen in his topographic cement, glass and polymer paintings and his most recent paintings on paper, for 'Death in Venice' Dill uses light and scrim to suggest Venetian light and returns to his early sand, argon and neon environments for an inspired allusion to Venice's (that's us) beaches. The first sand, neon and glass work, shown in New York in 1971, was described by Artnews: 'A sandscape on the floor laces neon through the dunes, casting multitone shadows on surrounding bands of sand; one has the feeling of emerging from the sea to discover an island...' Written twelve years ago, these words could not have been meant to predict the marriage of Laddie Dill's art with Britten's 'Death in Venice', yet they are an uncannily correct description of this exciting project."

The show runs thru April 10th.

Arnold Springer with acknowledgment to Connie Glenn.



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His agenda for ACTION is:

The continuation of the rent control law (present incumbent is in favor of phasing out rent control)

Moratorium on condo conversion in Venice

Calling for ROLLBACK of high utility bills to December 82 levels

Creation of a "People's Action Center" to solve quickly the problems of the average citizen

Starting a "Venice Culture Project" for artists and actors

Improvement of Venice's city services

Upgrading the Venice canals without displacing residents

Restoration of benches on the beach

Will fight for building affordable low cost housing and rehabilitation of existing housing in Venice

Will start off beach parking and tram service to the beach to relieve weekend congestion

Revitalization of the beach area

Creation of mini-parks and gardens on vacant city lots

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# Community events POLITICS

## MUSIC

11

BEYOND BAROQUE PERFORMANCES  
681 Venice Bl. Venice 822-3006

April 1-- Poet/performer David Antin will read from his work. Fri. 8PM \$2.00

April 8-- Poet Micheal Davidson and fiction-writer Lydia Davis will read from their work. Fri. 8PM, \$2.00

April 9-- Writer Kathy Acker will read from her work. Sat. 8PM, \$2.00

April 15- A performance reading,utilizing 5 actors, of Dale Herd's novel, *Dreamland Court*. Fri. 8PM, \$2.00

April 22- Poet/novelist Ron Koertge and humorist poet Kowitz will read from their works. Fri., 8PM \$2.00

April 23- Many Mansions:Four Folk Art Environments. Exhibition thru June 4th. Sat. 2PM.

April 29-Writers John Taggart and Polly Gross will read from their works. Friday, 8PM \$2.00

April 30- New and unusual music featuring the guitar in SIGNS OF LIFE by the L.A. New Music Ensemble. Sat. 8PM, \$2.00.

GEORGE SAND BOOKS PRESENTS  
9011 Melrose L.A. 858-1648

April 10- Shakespearian scholar Irene G. Dash discusses Shakespeares women. Sun 4:30PM Free

April 17- Novelist Eric K. Goodman reads from his rock and roll novel "The First Time I Saw Jenny Hall" 4:30PM Free

COMING SOON! Mid or latter part of May. Special presentation of Studs Terkel's *WORKING*, with Venice actors. Old Venice City Hall. Info, call Anita Noble, producer, at 396-6944 or Eze Sigall, director at 413-1427. FREE.

OLD VENICE JAIL POETRY READINGS:  
685 Venice Bl. Venice 822-9560

April 7-- Lance Jencks, Thur. 8PM \$2.00

April 19- Clayton Eshleman, Tue. 8PM \$2

April 21- Chitra Chakaborty Silver & Ted Berkic Thur. 8PM \$2

April 26- Gaila Patrice-Turner Tuesday 8PM \$2

## FILM

TEMPLE OF MAN BENEFIT at Beyond Baroque Don Roberts will present 3 hours of extraordinary films, enjoying the generous cooperation of Angie Pike, director of the Creative Film Society. The feature film is *TREE OF LIFE* by artist Rowena Pattee. The other film is *THE SUN DANCER* produced by the Solstice Project, narrated by Robert Redford about the ancient Anasazi Indians. Thursday April 28th, donation \$3, Seniors \$1. 8PM 681 Venice Bl.

WESTSIDE CISPES presents the first in a series of events at the Midnight Special Bookshop: "Report from the Front--The U.S. War Against Nicaragua." This multimedia event will feature speakers recently returned from the peace vigil on the border in which 20 U.S. activists went to observe the U.S. and Honduran war games on the Nicaraguan border. Fri. April 8th, 7:30PM, Midnight Special, 1350 Santa Monica Mall, Santa Monica. 392-7672.

FILM -- Outstanding Cuban film, "Puerto Rico -- A History of Colonialism & Resistance," Sat., April 2, 7:30 P.M., at Joslyn Park, Santa Monica (in Ocean Park at 7th & Kensington). Donation: \$2. In commemoration of The Week of Solidarity With the 11 Puerto Rican Prisoners of War. Sponsor: New Movement in Solidarity With the Puerto Rican & Mexican Revolutions (392-8733 days).

FILMEX 1983 April 13 to May 1  
Four Star+Fine Arts+El Rey Theaters on Wilshire Bl. For Info call 520-2000

DEMONSTRATION on Friday, April 8, in support of 5 Puerto Ricans & Chicano-Mexicanos convicted by a secret jury in Feb. of criminal contempt for steadfastly refusing to betray the Puerto Rican national liberation movement to a federal grand jury. The 5 go to court for sentencing on this day: they could get up to ten (10!) years in prison. Demonstration: Westwood Federal Bldg on Wilshire Blvd., Fri., April 8, 4 P.M.. Sponsors: Movimiento de Liberacion Nacional (MLN); Comité de Calif. Contra la Represion; New Movement in Solidarity With the Puerto Rican & Mexican Revolutions (392-8733).

HUMAN RIGHTS & THE LAW -- April 9, 8:45 A.M. to 5:15 P.M.: A symposium at Southwestern School of Law. Fee. Registration information: 738-6731.

JOBS WITH PEACE: PEOPLE'S BUDGET HEARING Sat. April 16th, 12--3PM, Patriotic Hall 1816 So. Figueroa St. A movement to fund jobs and programs by reducing the military budget. Jobs With Peace Coalition 462-6382, 386-0208.

## ART

SPARC presents: Visual Conversations, East Coast/West Coast. from March 19 thru April 30th. A selection of sculpture, paintings, drawings and prints by artists east and west coast artists. Gallery hours Wed.-Sat 11AM--5PM. For more info call 822-9560

### Visual Conversations EAST COAST | WEST COAST



An exhibition of works by:

Gloria Bohanon-Williams

Carole Byard

Maren Hassinger

Varnette Honeywood

Viola Leak

Valerie Maynard

Varnette P. Honeywood, B.F.A. #1, Silkscreen and Mixed Media Collage, 1983

## SELF HELP

Clare Foundation 450-5123 (for more info)

Continuing Training for 11th annual Alcoholics Olympics 9AM, Sundays at Clare Ctr. 1527 Venice Bl. Venice. Olympics will be held on May 14th.

Potluck meetings: Make a statement with color. Get in touch with your life thru color. Weds. 11313 Wash. Bl. Mar Vista 1:15--2:30PM

April 14- Financial and Tax Planning Today, seminar. Tues. 7-9PM Santa Monica Public Library.

April 13-Eating Disorders, an Addicting Disease. Judi Hollis, PhD. 909 Pico Bl. Santa Monica, 10:30PM.

April 15- "Shalom Aleichem on Tour" at Santa Monica Playhouse., 7:45PM, 1211 4th St. S.M., admission \$20.00

April 24- Begins a 6 month workshop for family and friends of newly recovered alcoholics. Sunday evenings, 7:30-9:30PM, 11313 Wash. Bl., Mar Vista, \$15.00.

ALCOHOLISM COALITION: Western L.A. 450-5123 Ext 213  
Alcoholism Awareness Forum, Saturday, April 9th, 10:00AM--4:00PM, 3rd Floor Community Room, 395 Santa Monica Place, 2nd & Colorado, Santa Monica

BENEFIT DANCE FOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR THE CONGO! Featuring reggae with the Willin Prophets, juju funk with Lasisi, and dance music from Africa and the Caribbean with Ron Miller Hi-Fi. All this on Friday, April 22nd, at the California Club, 1755 M.L.King Blvd. (near Western) in L.A. Tickets are \$6 in advance, and \$7 at the door. Get your tickets at Chatterton's Bookstores, Rhino Records, or call *Freedom Rising* at 464-8381 for more information.

BEYOND BAROQUE FOUNDATION  
681 Venice Bl. Venice 822-3066

April 2-- Saul Gropman, Solo Classical Guitar Recital, Saturday, 8PM Don. \$2.00

Beyond Baroque Literary/Arts Center needs responsible volunteers to assist with work ranging from carpentry to clerical. Call number above to volunteer.

Ecolibrium Street Theater and Dance Troup presents Wulf Zendik in Concert. Friday, April 8th, 8PM, Joselyn Hall, Lincoln Park, S.M. Donation. 455-3504

## RELIGION

Jewish Federation Events 852-1234

April--Applications being accepted for summer camp for troubled boys operated by Jewish Big Brothers.

April 13--Annual Men's Division stag day and dinner at Brentwood Country Club.

April 13--Jewish Hospice Training Institute. Training for volunteers working in hospice programs. Thru May 13 Weds.

April 19--Search for Jewish roots will be the subject of geneology classes thru May 24.

April 24--"He Wjo Laughs, Lasts" an afternoon of Jewish Humor with Jerry Cutler & Friends, 6505 Wilshie Blvd. 2 PM.

THE 1ST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES  
2936 W 8th St. L.A. 389-1356

April 3--"More Than Christianity" will be the subject of Rev. Philip Zwerling on Easter Sunday at 11AM.

April 10- Midge Costanzo will speak on "Human Rights: A Right Not A Privilege" Sunday at 11AM.

Dr. Martin Luther King Series: presented by Mark Ridley-Thomas, Exec. Dir. of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in L.A.(SCLC). 1PM Severence Room.

\*\*April 10: "Martin Luther King's Theology: Fifteen Years Later"

\*\*April 17: "A Theology of Anti-Militarism: The Kingian Perspective"

\*\*April 24: "Non-Violent Direct Action Revisited: Twenty Years Later"

## WOMEN

WOMEN: TAKE A SELF-DEFENSE CLASS. Challenge the view that women are passive and weak; re-define who we are so we can fight to change this racist and sexist society.

April 9-May 28 (Saturdays), 3:30-5:00 PM; Marine Park, 14th & Marine, Santa Monica. Free childcare. For more information, leave a message for the "John Brown Anti-Klan Committee" at 827-0505.

FREE SELF-DEFENSE WORKSHOP OFFERED at Antioch Univ. 300 Rose Ave. Venice, Saturday, April 9th, 10AM--2PM. Taught by women for women, call 651-3147.

THE SEPARATE SEXUAL WORLDS OF MEN AND WOMEN, a discussion of how and why men & women become enemies rather than friends. Thursday, April 14th, Open Path: Community Counseling Ctr. 3744 South Barrington, 7:30PM, Free, 398-7877.

## MEN

L.A. Men's Collective, an 8 year old group open to men of all backgrounds. Potlucks and rap groups on first Sunday of month at Meeting House, 1440 Harvard, Santa Monica 7-10, \$4.00.  
April 3-Male Identity, 7:30 388-6640

# AN INVITATION -

A new age of humankind has evolved, and with it a new set of needs and desires. At the Comeback Inn, we approach these needs with new ideas in nourishment: sensual refreshments.

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Join us in our quest for heightened awareness.  
Do it for the health of it.

## SPRINGFEST 83

A GARDEN CELEBRATION!

SATURDAY APRIL 16, 2p.m.

featuring

HEADLIGHTS - new wave ska

UNCLE BILL CRAWFORD - blues artist

ERIC LOVE and MICHAEL PESTLE - cont. jazz flute, guitar, vocals.

CIRO HURTADO - Peruvian guitarist

WAYNE JOHNSON TRIO - 9 p.m. dynamic, progressive jazz



AN AFTERNOON CONCERT WITH "INCA", PERUVIAN MUSIC AND DANCE ENSEMBLE

INCA will present an afternoon of all the facets of the life of the people of Peru, who have over the years sustained an influx of various cultures intermingling with the native Incas, the Blacks of Africa, and the invading Spaniards. This informative and entertaining program will be presented at the COMEBACK INN in a special garden concert on SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 1983 at 2:00 PM, located at 1633 WEST WASHINGTON BLVD. in Venice.



John B. Williams and Jessica Williams  
THE INNER CIRCLE - A Contemporary Jazz Ensemble - Appearing Fri, Apr. 15

FRESH VEGAN FOOD			 <b>THE COMEBACK INN</b>				LIVE MUSIC APR. 83		
SUNDAY	MONDAY						FRIDAY 1	SATURDAY 2	
SPECIAL SUNDAY EVE DINNER CONCERTS			TWO GREAT NIGHTS 9pm						
7:30 *MUSIC FROM AROUND THE WORLD*			LOUIS VERDIEU AND FRIENDS						
9:00			Calypso-fusion with vocals						
2pm	3	9pm	4 TUESDAY	5 WED	6 THURSDAY	7	8 9pm	9 9pm	
EMBRA SAMBA Brazilian Carnival!		MIRTH in MEDIA	9pm <b>ARCO</b>	9pm SYNTHONIC VISIONS PANACEA CHERYL GRANGER vocals	9pm PASTORIA		THE FENTS FUSION	WAYNE JOHNSON TRIO Dynamic Fusion	
7pm AKEMI IWASE Japanese folk artist		w/hosts	12	13	Brazilian influenced	14	JOHN B. WILLIAMS The Inner Circle Jazz w/vocals	16 2pm SPRING GARDEN FESTIVAL Reggae, Ska, Jazz, Latin 9pm WAYNE JOHNSON TRIO	
2pm BRENTWOOD DIXIELAND JAZZ BAND	10	THE CASSETTES	12	EMMITT CHAPMAN "The Stick"	JAZZ FUSION	14	featuring vocalist	15 9pm JOHN B. WILLIAMS The Inner Circle Jazz w/vocals	
7pm GOODIE WILLIAMS Koto expressions		comedy,	19	20	featuring vocalist	21	ELLEN DEMOS	22 2pm BROOKLYN RAIN featuring RAY DE LA PAZ	
2pm MAYUTO Afro-Brazilian Soul Dusan Bogdanovic	17	music, mime, visual arts, dance,	AN EXCITING MUSIC JOURNEY THROUGH PERU, EQUADOR, BOLIVIA ARGENTINA.	THOMAS RONKIN VISUAL MUSIC SYNTHESIST	and	28	MIKE McMULLEN reeds	23 2pm INITY Roots Reggae GARDEN CONCERT 9pm ARCO IRIS	
2pm INCA Peruvian Folk	24	audience encounters (sign-up at 8:00)	26	9pm STEVE ROACH Life-Affirming Music - Terry Wood, Daily News	28	29	SACBE JON CROSSE sax and flute Latin-jazz fusion	30 2pm HEADLIGHTS New Wave Ska 9pm THE APPOLLONICON NEW WORLD FUSION	
7pm MILCHO LEVIEV									
UPCOMING EVENTS!			LUNCHES AND DINNERS IN OUR DELIGHTFUL GARDEN!			HOURS-MON-FRI: 6:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.			
May 1st MOACIR SANTOS			1633 WEST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD VENICE, CA 90291			beg. Apr. 16 SAT: 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.			
CHRIS PROCTOR			one half block north of Venice Bl.			SUN: 11:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.			
May 4 DANIEL SOFER						396-7255			
May 22 SHELBY FLINT									