

THE COMEBACK INN COMES BACK!!

15 MORE YEARS!

By Rick Lesser

Venice nearly lost its world-renown music and cultural center last May. The Comeback Inn, which the L.A. Weekly described as "the glorified basement where legends are born," had its lease expire. After fifteen years of serving up consistently fine talent in music, art, and food, the Inn's tenant could not reach an agreement with the property's owner to renew the lease.

Will Raabe, after years of hard but loving work to keep the small club and restaurant going, describes his dilemma. "The landlord wanted the new lease to include remodeling, since no real work had been done on the building for many years. Though it's not uncommon with commercial property that the tenant be responsible for maintenance of the building in exchange for a long term lease, I felt I could not take on a remodeling job by myself."

"We had recently completed the first 'live at the Comeback Inn' album of music, and I wanted to pursue the path of recording and producing and spend less time on the daily operation of the restaurant."

After much discussion with the owner, as well as with local musicians and fans who pleaded with Will to somehow save the club, he was tired and disheartened. He was ready to let the club fade away.

"But I went up to Ojai one day for the hot springs and some meditation and was struck by an insight that I must remove my ego and personal goals from the picture and do whatever it would take to save the place for the local and artistic communities." And that's just what he did. Negotiations with the owner resumed and finally a good agreement was reached.

The future of the Comeback now looks something like this: the building will be remodeled and expanded. Audio and video recording equipment will be installed, and Will's own Doron Intercontinental Productions will record and distribute tapes of live musical performances. Demo tapes will also be made there, and maybe even a cable TV show.

Some of the money needed for all this will be raised at a series of benefit concerts. The first is planned for Sept. 17 (the Inn's 16th birthday), either in Topanga Canyon's Theatrum Botanicum outdoor theater, or at the Comeback Inn itself. This will be an all day event for people of all ages and musical tastes (well, lovers of opera and country

music may want to try somewhere else that day). Watch for announcements.

Hopefully, some well known artists who have gotten their start at the Comeback will be able to give back in this time of need. Maybe Ricki Lee Jones, Henry Butler, Billy Childs, and others who have gone on to the big time will be available. (Singer Diane Reeves is known to gratefully mention her early days at the inn during her concerts.)

Sales of the album, "Alive in Venice," will help too. The album features Ara and Dana's Tokalian of the band Arco Iris, and the brilliant pianist Milcho Leviev. They all have played at the inn for over ten years. (Their album is available at the Inn and at Penny Lane Records in Venice.)

"The restaurant business is hard and draining," says Will. "In addition, I work with a lot of sensitive artists every day. I want to find a holistic person to be a partner and help run the restaurant, and expand the menu to have a wider appeal."

Remember that it was the heartfelt response of the Venice community, and of the many musicians, artists, and fans that reaffirmed to Will the importance of the Comeback Inn. If you told him how much you would miss the joint, then you helped to keep it alive.

The Comeback Inn, at 1633 W. Washington Blvd., is open Tuesday through Sunday. Dinner is served from 6-10 p.m., with shows at 9:15 p.m. Sunday shows are from 8-10 p.m., with summer Sunday patio concerts added at 3-6 p.m. Call (213) 396-7255.

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FREE VENICE SINCE 1968



FOR A UNITED KOREA

It has been approximately thirty-two years since I, Bok Dong Yoon (commonly known by my Americanized name, Andre Hall) left the land of my birth, Korea. Since that time, I have never spoken to the general public (except to family, friends and acquaintances) regarding Korea, until now.

I must say that the continuation of a divided Korea is not in the best interests of the people on both sides of the Militarized Zone (IMZ) along the 38th Parallel.

With the idea of reunification comes Peace, but with the idea of divisionism comes War, which all peace-loving people of the World are struggling against.

What appalls me is the continued presence of U.S. troops occupying Korean soil since the Korean War. It reminds me of the occupation of Israeli troops on occupied territories of Palestine. The conditions may be different, but the reality of suppression, control, and blatant indifference to the wishes of the people is the same.

I would like to state that the continued U.S. occupation only enforces the threat of confrontation against the Korean people. Along with the demand of total withdrawal of U.S. troops and the U.N. Command also on Korean soil, there must be the total removal of all nuclear weapons from South Korea. This latter, plus the former, mentioned, are, to me, the most potential danger to the Korean Peninsula.

When this article 'hits the press' I will more'n likely already have returned from a Reunification March in Korea. One segment of the march will start from Mt. Baekdu in North Korea on July 20 and another will start simultaneously at Mt. Halla in South Korea. Both mountains are the farthestmost point from either side on the peninsula. Both marches will travel through different cities, towns, schools, workplaces, and community centers for meetings, discussions, educational forums, and cultural activities.

The two groups will converge at Parmonjom, the border site located at the IMZ, separating the two sides of Korea. An international peace rally will be held on July 27, which marks the 36th anniversary of the signing of the armistice agreement that ended the Korean War.

If the authorities at Parmonjom permit the two groups to cross the border, the group from the north will head southward to Mt. Hall (holding a rally in Seoul), and the group from the south will head northward to Mt. Baekdu (holding a rally in Pyongyang).

The Reunification March is being organized by the International Preparatory Committee for Peace and Reunification Study Tour of Korea (IPCPRSTK).

In closing, I would like to extend my greetings to the thousands of war orphaned here and in Korea, who, like myself, were abandoned during the Korean War. I hope that, they, too, will also realize the necessity of bringing a people divided by war, together, again in peace.

Peace and Solidarity,

Andre Hall
(Bok Dong Yoon)
born: April 7, 1952
Place: Kyungnam Province-
Pusan, Korea
Mailing: P. O. Box 1481
Venice, California USA

90291

Funny-farm Cliches from the "Holocaust"

TO: MEIN FÜHROR ANHEUSER BUSHSHIT

FROM: WRETCH ALEECHANCE TO DER FLAK (sp. flag)

If it pleece you dalink! Zee analagous analogy prohibiting zee flak deserecreation viss diss old "one-by-vun slaughter dittee" * iss really not too difficult explaynation!

you must see! Following 1989 outlaw to burn flakees come more legislature require ALL able-bodies and full-voice individuals recite dee "Pietch Aleechance To Dee Flak". Especially to government togethergets. It be criminal stay seat or silenzio!

Fer dose not able or (Gott über alles) VILLING to follow words: "Vun Nazion Unter Gott"...dee compound felony to reveal vunself be possibility atheist(!) included in penalty phase prosecution!

When atheism equilated to be traitorism of state, all persons refusink sabbath-vorship ceremony be declared unconstitutional. Fer instance, uncouth persons caught in business during hours relijealous and traditional be jailed immediately or at least be removed illegitimately.

Finalemente, any grupo or estupido unable or unvilling to compete as a success economically afterwards (compared to remainder law-abidement citizen) be pronounced total unfit to perform fer dis nazon's free und open-up marketplace stricture.

Such communist and non-conformingnist discompetition forms drag to most mature und patriotism forces.

Derfore, following jail, incarceration and/or execution of such formention undesirabilities, dee new proposed humongo tax be placed to most courageous and productive hero elements. Diss would be to provide for dee general warfare, imprisonment und of course executees.

Und also to disapear all zee previous "aliens" or "outsiders" to OUR vay of liiffink, period.

Y Vodka!, Dee soykle of death is complete! Viss all diss rally-round-dee-Deutschland/ Amerikaner flak, der vill be no-vun left excepting foreigner nationalistics fer whom dee big nuklear boom boom vood be too good! NO?!

signature: bushdutton-4-peace
Zeig Heil Vic

Away *



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6th

Letters! . . . Letters! . . . Letters! . . . Letters! . .



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WITNESS THE VANISHING COMMUNITY

Venice seems destined to merge with the "yuppified" Marina Del Rey high-rise mondo-income fed expansion, losing itself, becoming a non-entity.

Residential dwellings are overpriced, almost assuring commercial interests will move in. Community needs are ignored to the point where long time residents are forced to move to safer, cleaner locations, out of Venice.

Those who can't afford the luxury of relocation are expected to swallow the swill pushed by landlords, unresponsive community leaders, and bad press. When asked "where do you live?" if the response is Venice, a look of horror crosses the inquisitor's face. "Oh you poor kid. With all that crime and filth? How can you stand it?" First response would be "Because I have no choice," but that isn't entirely true.

I for one love Venice...for what it was created to be, for the uniqueness which somehow still remains, and for the things we all know our little corner of the world can become. It just takes tons of work, firm belief in what we are doing, and a strong constitution when dealing with folks who've already signed the death warrant for our Beach Front home.

We have to be willing to work at it...to save it from becoming just another haven for Big Business.

We live on an historic site, and even if the city of Los Angeles can ignore the significance, we can't. Too much of the past has already been lost to the wrecking ball, and more is slated to vanish. We also live in one of the few remaining vestiges of society where individuality and creativity are taken seriously, not pushed aside to make way for the immortal dollar sign.

If we allow ourselves to be swallowed by the Marina, we might as well trash all the museums and galleries in the world, because it's from places like Venice most artists get their first chances.

RANDELYN C. WEBSTER

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
Re: July 22nd Santa Monica Outlook "Group Votes To Tear Down Pavilion"

It was incorrectly reported to the reporter that the Venice Town Council Executive Board voted for a skating rink with a 2,500 seating capacity. Marge Alatorre of the Venice Chamber of Commerce presented her idea for the project. Most board members liked the idea, but had serious reservations, and many also liked other ideas for community usage also.

The V.T.C. Executive Board is not a decision making body. It is accountable to the membership and can only support or oppose after discussion and votes from general membership. CAROL BERMAN

fitting financially, either directly or indirectly, from any negotiation in which I have ever participated.

There are 4 major historical reasons for the compromises many of us have made over the past 10 years. Here's a thumbnail sketch. First, around 10 years ago, over our strenuous but unsuccessful opposition, the City of LA took over issuing coastal permits from the Coastal Commission. Any of you with even a passing familiarity with the City process knows that means dealing with an endless bureaucratic maze rather than one agency. We had to learn the game all over. Second, around the same time the VTC, as we knew it earlier and know it today, essentially ceased to exist. Instead, it appointed its only functioning committee--Planning & Development--to carry on the work of dealing with development in Venice. Third, in 1981 the state legislature removed any reference to affordable housing from the Coastal Act. We had, for the previous 9 years, used that section of the law to argue against new residential and commercial development in Venice. The change made it especially difficult to argue against condo conversions which we had slowed down considerably in North Beach. All of this was going on with Pat Russell in office and becoming more and more pro-development. Finally, as time wore on we wore out! Perhaps none of you understands the amount of time and effort involved in opposing a development. An extreme example is the Safran project at OFW & Navy which is now in its twelfth year. Normally such opposition requires hours of preparation, an ability to travel around the city to attend hearings and taking time off from work to do so. It also takes money; paying for agendas, copying, parking, phone calls etc. At one point I determined that it was costing me between \$500-\$1,000 a year to do this work.

All of this amounted to agencies refusing to give "no" as an answer at the same time a dwindling number of people was willing to put their time and money where their mouths were. If our meetings were secret it was only because no one was willing to attend! So, we began making deals. We made those deals knowing that the community would get nothing if we didn't and that the projects would get built in any case. The first "deal" I was involved in was to give height and density bonuses in exchange for 50 units of affordable housing at #1 Venice Bl. Just go ask the seniors in that building if they think that was a bad deal. The last "deal" I was involved in, that was built, was the Harlan Lee project at Main & Rose. The community got 22 affordable senior units, 100+ beach access parking spaces and 26 community parking spaces for residents in the area. I still think the building is too big and too dense, but our deal didn't contribute much to those problems. The size of that building is almost the same as when it was first proposed. Currently, my "secret," "self-interested" negotiations concern the Snyder project and Public Storage proposal. In both cases my sole interest is the affordable housing component in each proposal. Each proposal involves a combination of commercial and residential development, a situation not addressed in the moratorium passed by the VTC. I guess I should make it clear that in between these developments are those I, and other "compromisers," have vigorously opposed with mixed results: sometimes we stopped the more egregious proposals; other times we plain and simple lost.

Ninety-nine percent of the people I have worked with over the years always tried to do the best things possible for this community. We didn't always agree on what was best and we still don't. But we did not accuse one another of "self interest" and I am deeply offended by that accusation.

To all or any of you who wish to get involved with development issues all I can say is DO IT! I could use some time off.

Sincerely,

Moe Stavnezer

Free Venice Beachhead--

The NEXT MEETING is AT 11 A.M. ON SUNDAY August 6th; the second meeting will be on the 20th, and Paste up will be on the 27th at TENANT ACTION CENTER, 442 LINCOLN BLVD.

The Uses of Power

Dear Beachhead

In Beachhead #234 an article entitled "The Uses of Power" addressed a number of issues I would like to discuss because I am one of the "compromisers" referred to in that article.

The author states that all of us appointed to any board by Councilwoman Galanter (and there is a constant theme throughout the article that Ruth is the enemy) are "accountable" and, therefore, "responsible" to Ruth. Such a statement could only be made by someone who has no knowledge of how we appointed advisors really work. As one of those advisors (I am a member of the Venice Planning Advisory Committee) I invite all of you to our meetings to make your own decision about our accountability and responsibility. We advise, we do not grovel or command. At times we give advice which the councilwoman rejects and at times we criticize suggestions made by her office. At other times we all agree. It's a mixed bag but its hardly as it was described in the Beachhead.

The author then blithely describes us "compromisers" as people who he thought "used to keep ourselves busy objecting to developments," and "now keep busy extorting concessions out of developers in return for agreeing to violations of the ICO..." This contention can only have been leveled if the author was unaware of what's been happening in Venice over the past 8-10 years and lacks an historical perspective on why its been happening. It also implies that we had nothing better to do with our time than to entertain ourselves opposing projects for the rest of the community. That inference could only come from a person who hasn't spent even an hour in the past 10 years involved in all this "fun." Finally, the author states, in a number of different ways, that the only possible reason for the actions of the "compromisers" (always a pejorative descriptive term) is self interest. A not very well hidden euphemism for taking a bribe in one way or another. I would happy to make my enormous holdings public to any of you who believes that I am in any way bene-

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THE SUPREME COURT VS. THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

WEBSTER VS. REPRODUCTIVE SERVICES

By Judith L. Martin

When I read the Supreme Court's decision on the case of Webster v. Reproductive Services, I was stricken to find that they had upheld for the Missouri court and ruled against privacy. The echoes of previous court rulings, (equally absurd) rang out in my mind like an alarm. I recalled, first, another terrific precedent on State's Rights, the Dred Scott decision; A slave from Missouri, whose owner had taken him to Illinois, figured that if he was in a free state, he was free, and he sued for his freedom. The Supreme Court denied him, saying that if he was property in Missouri, he was still property in Illinois. The Dred Scott decision was one of the sparks that helped to start the civil war.

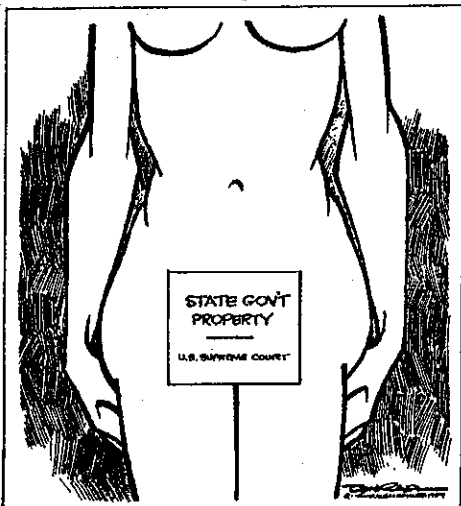
We have another issue here, confirming the idea that some of us, who think we are citizens, are really property, and when we ask the court to support our constitutional rights, like Dred Scott, we are refused...When I consider what this country has been through on the subject of abortion, I am not reminded of legal precedents or state's rights. I am reminded of all the people whose lives were affected by the problem of illegal abortions, pre-Roe v. Wade.

A physician recently told me that during his training at a Philadelphia hospital, it was very common for a resident to do fifty to a hundred septic abortions per day. (A septic abortion, for those who are mercifully unfamiliar with the term is the after-of effect of a homemade or backalley procedure, and is done to save your life). His question was 'what will happen when we start seeing these cases coming in to emergency rooms, asking for help from doctors who have never been faced with this before, and don't know the procedure?' And what of the women who had children and had to give them up to adoption? What other seemingly archaic fates will be inflicted on the victims of this ruling?

It is the deeper and more tragic issue of privacy that is really at stake in the Webster case. It is because, abortion, like flag-burning, is an emotional issue, and the administration uses this as a smoke-screen, behind which they can do a hatchet-job on the Constitution with our permission. Don't be deceived into thinking of Webster as a "women's issue"-(Sad but true, labeling anything as a women's issue is to dismiss it as being politically irrelevant). I have often encountered a strange resistance on the part of some men to recognizing an issue like rape or abortion as something they need to be concerned with. No matter how often I come upon this attitude, I am invariably shocked, and I always ask "Have you no Mother? No wife? No sisters, daughters, no nieces? Don't you ever consider how they think about these things?" Rarely does this line of approach work, but it is an important question, and I will continue to ask it.

As a citizen in a democracy, I must insist that if anyone's rights are being trampled on, then my rights are just as flat...No matter how blue-eyed you are, you need to be aware of how racism affects this country politically; it has an affect on you. No matter how nicely your pockets may be lined, you must consider the fact that other citizens are wearing rags and going hungry. As long as women are treated as a sub-caste of citizens, then there is no equality for men.

If we do not recognize and understand the basic substance of these issues, we may well have another Civil War on our hands.



SANDRA DAY AND THE EXTREMES

Singing Their Latest "Hit" "STOMP OUT INTOLERANCE"

By Rex Frankel

The American Constitution was written by a group of rich, white men, many of whom also owned slaves. So is it any wonder that America's Supreme court says the constitution doesn't protect women from slavery?

Who cares what the Supreme Court says. Should political appointees be allowed to decide the rights of a segment of the public? Or should the public be able to vote to take civil rights away from a certain segment of our supposedly equal society? If it was a particular ethnic group, there'd surely be a civil war. The court on July 3rd targetted women for the new slavery. It's time we abort this court.

The Reagan-dominated court has made a lot of bad decisions, bad if you value civil rights, protections against random unfair search and seizure of your property and money, Miranda rights, right to privacy against low-flying helicopter surveillance, and the right to sue the government and big businesses.

What do these Flagwavers and the "anti-choicers" really want? Is it a "pure" nation, free of sin and "liberals"? Not likely. I'd say it's really a diversionary tactic to keep us battling on the local level, keep the public in an emotional state, while environmental destruction and corporate consolidation continue without any government attempts to stop it. Corruption, except for a few token resignations, rolls on.

The abortion battle is significant because if women's rights to privacy can be denied, is anyone else safe from government intrusion? What's next, mandatory drug testing? Hope no dirty needles are used.

No citizen has a constitutional right to privacy, that's what Robert Bork said on TV and the 5 "conservatives" on the court feel. They feel they have a duty to stop these "casual" abortions that "selfish" poor women seem to be having. That statement is like having casual tooth pullings. Abortion is not a pleasant experience that women like to repeat at will.

Stopping abortion is a matter of economics--America's debt-based Reaganomy can only work with rapid & constant population growth; for constantly more consumers. If the economy doesn't grow, we're told by TV newscasters, it will "stagnate". Debts, mostly corporate, will not get paid, they say. It's these debts, along with corporate consolidation and selloffs to foreign corporations, that financed the stock market rise under Reagan--the so-called prosperity of the '80's, not really economic growth. And while it's payday for the Bushshitters, you and I still get tickled on.

CAPTURE THE FLAG

George Bush made the flag a key campaign issue, condemning Mike Dukakis for having vetoed a law requiring all school children to salute the flag and recite the pledge of allegiance every day. When I salute the flag, it's because it represents not America's corrupt government, but the ideals America was founded upon. I thought mandatory saluting went out with Nazi Germany.

Even that "liberal" Tom Hayden got in on the act, joining the State Assembly in a 58-2 vote urging a constitutional amendment to lock up flagburners. Hayden is considering running for the new elected post of State Insurance Commissioner, and argued that the public doesn't tolerate anti-Semitic grafitti or cross burnings, and so we shouldn't allow flag burnings.

Hayden used two provocative issues which are truly peripheral--grafitti and cross burnings are directed at someone else's property. The flag, unless stolen, belongs to the flag burner. When San Diego Republican Sunny Mojonier reminded her colleagues that they should pledge allegiance to the flag at the start of every session, Democrat Dick Floyd of Hawthorne demanded that she and others start showing up in time for usually unattended morning salute.

LABELS

What's the difference between Communists in Russia and China and DemoPublicans in the USA? All 3 are militaristic, openly corrupt, centrally controlled and fascistic at times. Their government is "left" wing, ours is "right" wing. What makes America special is that here you have the right to scream freely while the big guys squash you.

I don't fear the Russians anymore 'cause I think they learned their lesson in Afghanistan. They've got enough problems keeping their own people happy to waste time conquering their neighbors. Chernobyl pissed off a lot of people. Look at the no-winner wars between Iran and Iraq, Israel and Lebanon. There are so many people that no nation can conquer another--the population just won't move. Let the generals and millionaires fight the wars that they start.

Sandra Day continued to P. 6

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BED & BEER UPDATE
ERRATA, ADDENDUM, & ORRECTIONS
 The above advertisement was left out of the article "Bed'n Beer" of July. The advertisement was found in various youth clubs and bars in the West Side area advertising a totally illegal youth hostel. On July 24, several operators of illegal youth hostels in the Venice area were ordered to discontinue. They were given three days to discontinue illegal operations of youth hostels or to file an appeal with Building & Safety for an extension of time to comply with the order to discontinue. On Yale Avenue near the Oxford Triangle, a youth hostel was run by the tenant of the building. The owners are now filing to evict the tenants." CAROL FENDLER

'The "Wilding" of HUD, Privacy, etc.

by Carol Fondiller

This past July 4 I wanted to burn the flag. Not as an act of contempt, but as an act of purification of the flag. I bought two flags that Tuesday afternoon, from Kelly, one of the outdoor vendors. I can spy on her from out my window (anyone know of a good deal on a pair of decent binocs?).

I bought a cotton flag, and a nylon flag. I picked the nylon/polyester, made in Taiwan as the sacrifice. I mentally flinched as I chose the all-cotton flag as my permanent flag (some long-buried Yuppie snobbery that has come to the fore as a result of gazing at countless Land's-End catalogues?).

I went to the July 4 party that I'd had a standing invitation to for years. The hostess of the party had not reached consensus whether I should/should not burn the flag. So now I fly under two flags: polyester, and cotton. That night, after over-indulging in various potluck dainties (Mexican Sushi), I put the two flags under my pillow. I was relieved at the Third World's flag reprieve. 'Til next year? 'Til this year's All-Hallow's Eve? Anyway, the decision could be dismissed, postponed. I fell asleep to the sounds of firecrackers and the smell of gunpowder.

A figure stood at the edge of my futon. I raised myself up to squint at the figure, obscured by the smoke of a million illegal firecrackers and legal domestic semi-automatic rifles. I reached under my pillow and brought out the two flags. Holding them in a pyramid, I said: "In the name of the Mother, the Nymph, and the Holy Crone, state your biz!" The smoke cleared and a raddled green figure stomped towards me: "Name's Liberty. Got a smoke?" "You got a light?" "Sure." She flipped her torch, and I lit her a cigarette. "You're not as tall as you are in New York Harbor," I said. "Of course not," she said, "that's not me - only a representation of me. That's not me, any more than all those Madonnas and Buddhas are really The Madonna and The Buddha. That statue on Liberty Island isn't me, any more than that twelve-inch tin thing of me with a thermometer at my side is me. This isn't me, either. I'm human-scale now, so's not to scare you out of your wits" She took a drag off her cigarette as she sat down. "What's this about burning the flag?" She lay aside her book and her torch.

"Well, I wanted to burn it as an act of protest, and a rite of purification...." I mumbled. "You can't burn The Flag," she said. She leaned her head back against the chair, her sturdy arms crossed over her commodious bosom. "You can only burn a symbol of a flag. And The Flag is only a symbol of the USA. But why burn that material anyway? What are you protesting?"

"I wanted to show how stupid it was. That's the only thing I agree with the present Supreme Court about. That it's an act of Free Speech. President Bush has wrapped himself up in the flag so many times that I want him to stand naked, and some of the things he's done are more un-American than burning a yard of material. But even during the anti-Vietnam War demos I never burned the flag, because I felt that that flag was mine. And I like the colors: red, white, blue - the white for purity, the red for blood that was shed in defense of you..."

She leaned towards me, adjusting her tiara, her draperies creaking with her movement. "Do you...pledge?" she asked. "Well, a little..." I leaned towards her and whispered, "but I leave the God part out." She said nothing. I stumbled on: "Well, here we are saying 'under God' and we talk of the USA, America, as 'her' and God is 'He' and there she is 'under God.' And besides, one nation under God was stuck in the Pledge during the Eisenhower administration. And if Church and State are to remain separate, that should give one freedom from God. And the way Bush, Swaggart, and Randall the anti-Choice Czar of the Pro-Life Movement talk about God - well, God's a Stalinist and a sexist, and I don't want to worship someone who oppresses me."

Ms. Liberty politely covered her yawn with her hand. "When Mr. Bartoldi brought my image to Bledsoe Island, there was no Pledge. I have to get back." She stretched, gathered her torch and book. "There's another long dark night ahead. Remember, dear," she said, "you still have the right to burn the Chinese flag." The sound of a thousand firecrackers and screaming Mimi's went off. The fog billowed thickly through my window, all but obscuring the retreating figure. "Thanks for the smoke," she called.

It was totally quiet now, save for the steady sloshing of the waves. But I couldn't get back to sleep. Liberty, I thought. My Liberty of sixteen years of Roe vs. Wade had been taken away. A voice as tiny as a mosquito's whine chimed in my ear: In 1940 people were arrested for running a birth control clinic. In 1965 the Supreme Court decided birth control was a matter of privacy. The 1973 decision of the Supreme Court, Roe vs. Wade, only expanded that concept. In 1989 - July 3, a day that will live in infamy - the Supreme Court ruled that life began at the point of conception. The little voice continued at my ear: Now the Anti-Choice factions are babbling that they have brought the decision back to the people. States' rights, poll tax. They've taken the right of choice away from the individual woman and put it back into the hands of State Legislatures.

Now the Anti-Choice (Pro-Lifers, as they call themselves) groups are licking their lips and rubbing their palms in anticipation of outlawing various forms of birth control, such as The Pill, spermicide, and the Day-After Pill used in Europe, called RU-486, which Anti-Choicers call the Death Pill. Some Anti-Choicers OK diaphragms, IUDs, condoms and the Rhythm Method (old joke: What are people called who practice the Rhythm Method? Answer: Parents). If a woman has money, the little voice continued, she can get an abortion no matter what the law says. And if daughters, mothers, lovers and sisters of the rich have an unwanted pregnancy, their cases are always special and the exception.

I thought then of the wildings, most notably the incident in Central Park. Oh, the outcries of racism because it was a white woman whose case was reported... What about, people said, the rapes, beatings, killings, of poor women of color? Watching the news of the abductions, mutilations, rapes and other crimes against women, it seems that crimes against women are on the rise. Well, they're only following what the government tells us to do. In spite of fifteen years of the women's movement, most women are easy pickings. The government encourages wilding on women. What group has more of an obligation to burn the flag as an act of purification, of fumigation, than women?

WHAT'S THE PLAN, STAN?

by Moe Stavnezer

The past 2 issues of the BEACHHEAD have had articles about Venice becoming a city, separate from L.A. One of the articles even mentioned that others, and I was among them, had looked into this idea some time ago.

What's missing from all these articles is what it takes to accomplish this task and believe me it's no small task.

First though, since those articles mentioned Malibu and West Hollywood as models for Venice, I'd like to explain the difference between those places and Venice. Both places, when they began the process of becoming a city were unincorporated parts of L.A. County. By contrast, Venice is part of an incorporated city within the County. Malibu and West Hollywood had/have a far easier row to hoe because only the residents of those areas are involved in forming and voting to become a city. Both must deal with something called the Local Agency Formation Commission-LAFCO-which has the power to stop the process before it gets to the ballot. But, if LAFCO gives the go ahead then the residents of the area in question get to vote for or against cityhood.

The situation for Venice is dramatically different and far more difficult.

There are, to my knowledge, only 2 ways for Venice to separate from L.A. The first is to petition the State legislature to pass a law allowing Venice to succeed --I can't remember if there is then a vote or not when one goes this route. But imagine, if you can, the legislature passing such a law. Imagine the lobbying required to get a majority of 120 legislators, many of whom come from L.A., to vote in our favor. Now imagine Gov. Duke signing such a law. It boggles the mind.

The second alternative is to launch a petition drive to put the matter on the ballot. Not the ballot here in Venice, but of the entire city of L.A.! First we would have to gather between 100,000 and 200,000 valid signatures simply to put the matter on the ballot. I am only aware of one successful attempt to accomplish this task recently, the truly citywide issue of Jobs With Peace. Then, if we managed to get the required signatures, we would have to conduct a citywide election and win with 50%+1 of the vote. A citywide vote on such a controversial issue, and this

CITYHOOD | SECESSIO

would be controversial, would cost a minimum of \$500,000. (Ruth Galanter's campaign cost between \$150,000-\$200,000 while Pat Russell spent 2-3 times that amount).

Another very pressing issue not yet discussed is how the City of Venice would support itself. We would need to provide normal city services including street maintenance, police, libraries, garbage pick up, parks and recreation, a fire

department, a city government with its attendant bureaucracy, the conduct of elections and so on. There are state laws that deal with the responsibilities of incorporated cities and we would have to obey them, and they all cost money. It might be useful to look at Santa Monica & Culver City for some clues about how we might raise that money. Both Santa Monica & Culver City derive a substantial portion of city revenue from commercial taxes and licenses (the now dreaded "C" word here in Veniceburg). Venice, believe it or not, has a lower percentage of land zoned for commercial and industrial uses than LA as a whole or either Santa Monica or Culver City. Santa Monica is increasing its revenue with more commercial development, especially hotels and Culver City is doing somewhat the same, witness Marina Place. So where, all you advocates of independence, do you propose we get the money to run this place? After all, the services I've mentioned only deal with necessities not with innovative programs for dealing with issues such as the homeless and affordable housing. Do you think people would accept a personal income tax similar to New York? How much could you raise from business taxes before the costs of goods and services became too high for any of us to afford? How high could you raise developer fees? We could contract out for many of these services but that cost money too and has the distinct disadvantage of losing control over those services. So far I haven't read anything about any of these crucial questions. So, Beth and Kathy and Rex--lets hear some answers to go along with your inspirational rhetoric.

I'm raising these issues not because I oppose Venice cityhood. I raise them to educate and to challenge those who are, I trust, serious about this undertaking. If you're really not serious, please stop doing a real disservice to us Venetians by urging us to consider such a daunting task without having considered how to go about accomplishing that task.

So, what's the plan Stan? ★

20 Minutes in Downtown L.A.

by Sara Omari

Hot damn! I had not been downtown in decades. However, I had to run an errand. So I took the R(apid) T(ransit) D(istrict), Wilshire Line & prepared to transfer @ 7th and Broadway. Not only was the weather unseasonably hot but it was a long holiday weekend.

As I got off of the bus, I felt as if I had stepped into Little Mexico. There must have been thousands of people on that corner--unlike the Motley Main or the Los Angeles Streets. Or unlike the desolate Hill or Olive Streets. Everyone was Spanish-Speaking: i.e., Mexican or Mexican-American, not Central nor South American. There were also tons of gamin/urchin. Some of them held on tightly to an adult hand.

As I looked into that sea of fellow faces I recalled a very old expression: "Mejico, ven por tú gente!" (loose translation, "Mexico, come get your people!").

In the 20 minutes I spent waiting for the bus, I only saw 2 black faces. Also saw/heard a British Isles sounding voice amid that cauldron of Hispanicity. Or, as LAPD is phond of saying: "Latino types."

LAPD was not in evidence, only swatches of people with shopping bags. Then I remembered that Grand Central Market was only about 4 blocks away.

The women, for the most part, wore brightly-colored dresses: red, yellow, orange, blue, green, purple, pink.

With the guys, it was a different story. Many were wearing 'camisetas' (undershirts with no sleeves, only those spaghetti-like straps). Many others were wearing regular T-Shirts spouting a variety of messages: e.g., STOP THE WAR ON DRUGS or SUPPORT THE MEDELLIN CARTEL. The first message to catch my eye was the disrespectful and corrosive SAME SHIT, DIFFERENT DAY. As I looked around at all those brawny chests I realized that I must ration my viewing pleasure, so I tried to be more discriminating in my eye-balling.

"20" CONTINUED P.5

Free Venice Beachhead- August 1989

I'm thinking of the war on women here in the U.S. For not only is the Supreme Court in its twenty-steps-backwards in regards to privacy, choice and affirmative action, wilding on women, but other branches of the government are also. Witness the wilding of HUD (Housing and Urban Development). One of Ronnie Reagan's promises was to dismantle that agency. It's now apparent how well he has succeeded.

I must get some sleep, I thought. But the voice got even more insistent: It's been estimated that approximately five billion dollars has been siphoned off by the likes of James Watt, former Secretary of the Interior to President R.R., who nearly auctioned off all public lands to his cronies, earned four hundred thousand dollars by a half an hour phone call to HUD on behalf of a developer crony seeking subsidies for an unneeded and unwanted housing development.

At this point I looked up and noticed a woman - tiny, no bigger than a cockroach, swathed in a tatty fur coat. She kept changing: she seemed all ages, colors and voices. "Hi," she said, "I'm the mythic Woman in Mink who receives welfare. I'm 48 years old, housewife for twenty-five years, divorced, no skills. I'm twenty years old, a widow with three children; high-school education. I'm fourteen years old, black, pregnant and illiterate. I'm white, 25 years old, two kids; my husband got laid off and I work as a clerk in Woolworth's. We're being evicted. I'm 58 years old, black, widow - lots of debts, and my home is my sister's sofa. I'm Hispanic; I've been ill for several months, but I have no health insurance. My husband earns minimum wage as a car-washer, and I'm going to have a baby. The prenatal health care facilities and fundings for abortions have been cut. I'm twelve years old, white, and because funds for juvenile services have been cut, I have to stay in Juvenile Hall. My crime is that I was sexually abused by relatives. I'm white, 65 years old, and broke. I'm living in a dumpster because there's been no low-income housing built or funded by the government for the past seven years. I'm 23 years old; I've been released from a mental hospital. I'm black, and broke; no place to live..." She was pushed aside by a very well-dressed blonde in a very new, serviceable Republican mink: "I'm the real welfare recipient," she said, as she peeled off her white

gloves. "Never believed in housing and Urban Development, which was started by President Johnson as one of his weapons for the War on Poverty. So of course I was hired by Mr. Pierce who was hired by Warren G. Reagan because he was a dear friend and completely incompetent. I just took Ollie North as my guide and diverted five million dollars from HUD to my own private charities. Name's Robbin' HUD. My card. I told you these government give-aways to the poor wouldn't work. So very many welfare cheats. The poor only waste money." She smiled and her canines glistened. "Of course, the reason James Watt and Robert Weinberger, nephew of former Defense Secretary Cap Weinberger, receive such generous commissions is that Warren G. Reagan cut the HUD programs to practically nil, darling, and competition among developers increased." I shook my flags at her: "Be gone, monster. Back to your escrow!" She smiled. I shuddered.

There is wilding, and the wilders are the people at the top, including women who are waging war on women and the Constitution. It was ex-Colonel Ollie North who only voiced what his masters felt - complete contempt for Congress and its laws. Joseph Coors, long-time buddy of Reagan, head of the Coors' Brewing Company which is famous for its anti-Affirmative Action stand, lobbied HUD for his favorite developers to get funds. Coors also sent money to support the Contras, via Ollie North. The new HUD head, Jack Kemp, has to his credit exposed this can of worms. But he's also suspending programs. Again the poor get punished for the graft of the rich. "Well, darling, that's one way of looking at it. But the poor don't deserve money. Besides, I worship God, white gloves, basic black, and all the accoutrements that mean something." Suddenly the lady in her tatty mink stood up. She grew taller and taller, and broader. She kept changing colors and features. She swelled, and seemed to fill the room. She strode over to Robbin' HUD. "Look, bitch," she said, "I've had it. I don't spit or stomp on the flag. But I'm gonna stomp on you." She took Robbin' HUD by her beautifully coiffed hair and shook her 'til her beads rattled: "Oh, come on," I whined, "I want to get some sleep." But the woman kept shaking Robbin' HUD. Her clothes fell off. The woman reached into her plastic

shopping bag and pulled out a plastic American flag the size of a man's handkerchief. "Wrap yourself in that, heiffer!" And threw Robbin- HUD out the window. She reached then into the pocket of her coat and pulled out a bottle of Night Train. She took a swig and offered it to me. I shook my head: "No, thanks."

"Whatever you do, sis," she said, "don't say anything about the striking coal miners in West Virginia. Just talk about the coal miners in Russia and they'll never bust you. Ciao."

I finally fell asleep. The next day I found a note pinned on my pillow. It read: "Always thank the Goddess when your bus arrives within a few minutes, and you'll never lose your keys. That's all that really matters." ●



FOTO BY: DAN CARNEY

WHEN IT SMELLS BAD

in your neighborhood and it isn't a gas leak or your own sewer line you can call TOLL FREE 1-800-572-6306 any time 24 hours a day. An inspector will come out and track the source of the smell. If they receive three calls during the night they will send an inspector out that night. Otherwise, they come out the next morning. Obviously the more calls the sooner the response. Let's keep the phone lines ringing so we don't have to breathe that pollution.

Geriatric Jack ★

"20 MINUTES" FROM P.4

Next, I focused the beady eye on: JESUS CHRIST IS COMING and groaned inwardly at those who try to cram organized religion down the throat but the back of said T-Shirt read AND BOY, IS HE PISSED.

Another T-Shirt plugged: NO and I thought that ole Nancy had covered a lot of ground. Then there was the LAWRENCE OF ARABIA photo-like ness T-Shirt. I almost walked over to the guy but was too timid. I wanted to ask him where he had bought it but then noticed that said T-Shirt was old, yellow-gray, frayed and plain decrepit. I wanted a T.E.L. for myself since I have seen the movie 104 times and have travelled over most of the lands that LAWRENCE did. I even lived (and worked) in one of those cities.

Whilst I was going ga-ga over the 'T-Shirts' I missed my bus so decided to walk around the block. Walking south on 7th, I saw another T-Shirt that read: YOU NEED MORE FIBER IN YOUR DIET and laughed aloud, thereby confirming my therapist's diagnoses....

Mustn't forget to mention the loud music all over the place: Mariachi, Mexican hill-billy, etc., smogging up the auditory canals. I had planned spontaneously to take a short cut down one of the alleys but wiped out after I glimpsed the mini-city within this megalopolis.. warrens and warrens of cardboard boxes; no, excuse me, not boxes as boxes but boxes as LEAN-TO dwellings; just intersticed neatly. People seemed to be visiting from one box to another. I also saw 2 men, age uncertain, taking a nap with the familiar bottle in hand or close by. I dared not stand still too long, (even from afar), & looking in, because it seemed disrespectful. It was like looking into someone's front window as the inhabitants sat drinking their tea. Also, there was a fire going, albeit small, so perhaps they were drinking THEIR tea or heating their food.

Then I heard a Cicero and I pigeon-toed over to see him. I could hear him only too well. His vivid diction proclaimed, (in ENGLISH): REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND. His Bible-waving hand made little currents of air on that hot street. No one seemed to be paying attention

Then my mind meandered and I thought of the movie SALAAM BOMBAY (which I only saw 3 times). There is a scene wherein a van crisscrosses downtown Bombay, after midnight, picking up houseless children (naturally, the most vulnerable). Thus these roamers are removed from the streets. Then my mind wandered even more, and recalled reading that Mayor Tom B. headlined one of the local readeries: MAYOR BRADLEY PROMISES TO HELP THE POOR DURING HIS 5th TERM. That got me to wondering what Mayor Tom B. had done, for the poor, during his previous 4 terms. ...back to reality: There was a lot of spitting on those downtown sidewalks. Perhaps a message

to the mayor, or even to the city council members? ??

That place needs a lot of hosing down, water shortage or not... But the penultimate message was yet to come. At the Venice Circle, as I transferred from RID back to the local bus (right in front of VAL'S RX), a guy, who said he was from Hilo, was discussing the L.A. area in general. He said: "I'll sum up L.A. for you. My impression is that it is one giant coke spoon." I disagreed, on principle.

AUGUST



SCHEDULE

THE COMEBACK INN
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"ALIVE IN VENICE", FEATURING MILCHO LEVIEV AND DANARA FROM ARCO IRIS IS NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL PENNY LANE RECORD STORES AND HERE AT THE COMEBACK INN!		1 BLUES/JAZZ VOCALIST	2 singer/ songwriter ALFRED JOHNSON	3 KRISTINA OLSON JOYCE WOODSON TERESA TUDURY	4 RAY PIZZI TRIO	5 MILCHO LEVIEV JOHN PISANO
6 3-6 PM MARISSOL JAZZ 8:00 PM MILCHO LEVIEV concert pianist	7 closed	8 ARLEE	9 VENICE JAZZ BAND	10 jazz singer CHAR WELLS & GREG FISHER & HIS TRIO	11 ARCO IRIS ethnic fusion jazz	12
13 noon to 8 PM 6th ANNUAL VENICE SUMMER FESTIVAL	14 closed	15 THE MCST EXCITING &	16 BIG WORLD	17 RED ELEVEN	18 CLAY JENKINS QUARTET	19 HUAYUCALTLIA Latin music
20 3-6 PM SAMB'IN 8:00 PM ART SLIDE SHOW: "THE BOB JANKAY"	21 closed	22 DYNAMIC PERFORMER SINCE	23 RAY PIZZI'S WOODWIND TRIO	24 JEFF RICHMAN DUO	25 PHIL UPCHURCH TRIO blues/funk	26 JORGE STRUNZ ADISHIRE FARAH QUARTET
27 3-6 PM AFRICAN GARDEN PARTY 8:00 PM CIPO HURTADO LATIN JAZZ	28 closed	29 RICKY LEE JONES ard DIANNE REEVES	30 CHRIS GRECO QUARTET contemp. jazz	31 jazz singer/ pianist JUDE SWIFT	SUMMER FESTIVAL SCHEDULE: 12:00 PM: GILIAN GARDNER 2:00 PM: EMMETT CHAPMAN 3:00 PM: S A M B ' I N 5:00 PM: MANGO BANG 6:00 PM: AFRICAN DRUMS	

TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY; 396-7255

THE 2 FACES OF DEATH

by Sara Omari

Steve Davies, one of my brothers-in-law, died on May Day 1989.

My ex-brother-in-law, Worth Cook, died on the 16th of June 1989. Same sister.

On the evening that I got to 'view' the body, a priest friend of Steve's said some nice things about Steve. On the evening of the service, however, a minister friend of Steve's family eulogized him and recalled poignant details of Steve's boyhood.

The chapel was banked with flowers of many colors and various kinds. Since the funeral home was only 3 blocks from Steve's Reseda home, we walked. It was (is) a beautiful country setting.

Not 6 weeks before, I had babysat for Steve's little one (from a previous marriage). During our conversation, Steve had told me that when it was his time to go, he wanted to be cremated. As I stood looking at the casket, I recalled that his wishes would not be honored; his family was to fly his body back to Oklahoma for burial.

I did not know why I cried, except to realize that I had never told the man that I had thought he was a fine human being.

Worth's funeral was somewhat different. When I went to 'view' his body, I was the only one there. I "talked" to Worth and told him that, although I had not seen him lately (several years) I remembered him fondly. I also mentioned that I had ever offended him, to forgive me.

I touched Worth's hands; they were not as cool as Steve's. For a nanominute, I was startled but then concluded that it must be the way the lighting splayed over his hands.

Just before 10 the following morning, my sister, Alicia, 'Aya' and my brother Raoul and I arrived at the funeral home in the Crenshaw area of L.A. and signed in. Promptly at 10, as if by some unseen hand, drapes were lifted and there was this silver-looking coffin. An American Flag was draped over it. The ceiling resembled a starry midnight colored sky and had a centillion of teeny weeny lights. Against all this, there was one, and only one, white wreath.

I cried, and found that I cried, not for the dead, but for myself. I thought of his many kindnesses, which I took for granted. He used to tell me stories about his boyhood in Louisiana. Am sure that he told the stories to his grandchildren, whom he loved dearly. He especially loved Larry. I remembered Larry as a tubby and now I saw him as a nice slender-ish young man.

I also remembered funerals I had attended, decades ago. At that time, it was the custom in the Mexican community of the Southwest to take turns sitting/staying with the dead body day & night until the burial.

Therefore, and especially in the smaller and poorer towns, the deceased remained in the house with people coming and going day and night. There were also all the little kids running around. All of this was considered normal and natural. It was mentioned that we were to stay and accompany the body while the 'soul' made its way to 'the other side.' At that time, such an explanation made sense to me.

I felt sad because I knew that Worth's body was to be taken later to the VA cemetery in Riverside for burial. As far as I could fund out, no one was going to go for that final good-bye. Since I am no longer able to pay California's car insurance rates, I no longer own a car and so would be unable to go to Riverside.

It was also another old Mexican custom to stay with the casket until it was lowered into the grave and all dirt piled atop.

About 10 years ago, I accompanied a friend to Hemet. Her mom had died. Services were out in the open, under a tent. I was the only person who stayed, and stayed, and stayed, until Mrs. Kelly's casket was lowered into the ground and all the dirt/soil replaced.

I guess that old childhood customs die slowly. I felt sadness at the many missed opportunities to say or do something nice for the now dead friend/relative. But now it was too late. Or, was it? I burned up wires calling to say nice things to my living relatives/friends.

Worth was not a member of any organized religion, either. But his family's minister eulogized him. The man of god said that Worth had been a just man. He continued with: "We shall miss Worth. BUT God missed him more." He concluded with "There is only one thing stronger than death. And that is Faith."

There was a singer, too. She sang AMAZING GRACE and then sang THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Then I wondered what, if anything, is on 'the other side.' I recall telling Dr. Misbah, of the Islamic Center, that I wanted to be cremated (this was years ago). But first, I had instructed my son to donate my bod to the local university in order for the students to use any spare parts they might want.

Dr. Misbah said that Moslems are buried as soon as possible after death, possibly one day or less. Moslems are buried in their white robes and with their feet facing Makka. At the day of judgement the body rises, already facing the Kabba and all set to be judged.

However, I still want my ashes scattered over the nearest flower bed and with no services.

But just suppose that all our good and bad has already been taken care of in this life. Suppose there is no day of judgement?..

Sandra Day from p. 3

THE FUTURE: GREENS

The National Organization of Women (NOW) is talking about forming a new nationwide women's rights party, with strong emphasis on the environment. The world's various Green movements are based around social and ecological wisdom. I'd define the Green movement by defining what the other parties represent, and what greens, I hope, don't.

Republicans: Big property owners; promote economic and population growth; don't raise taxes; reduce taxes on the richest, but don't reduce bureaucracy because long-time bureaucrats tend to be very conservative; support monopolies as a competitive edge against foreign businesses; put Christian teachings in public schools, outlaw abortion and birth control, curtail citizens' rights to privacy; support Gerrymandering when in power; are Corporate controlled; support "borrow and spend economics"; support Insurance Companies, War, Fascism, Censorship and Greed.

Democrats: Promote economic growth, affordable housing and jobs for poor people--like temporary construction jobs--by letting big developers build highrises and destroy neighborhoods; support gerrymandering when in power; "Tax and spend"; increase government size, create a bureaucracy to "solve" every problem; support lots of social services, health plans and "moderate" rent controls; abortion--OK, except for "conservatives"; supports War, corruption & greed; party leaders are mostly lawyers, power brokers, real estate agents AKA "middlemen". Charles Manatt, who was Party Chair in 1984 during Walter Mondale's run, represents Oxy Petroleum; Mayor Tom Bradley, and loads of developers. Republicans own the land; the Democrats regulate it; the rest of us have to live with their decisions.


Libertarians: cut taxes drastically; eliminate government regulation of private property; get government out of the bedroom; War is too expensive; the government should go away and let the public run things; Legalize everything, tax if necessary.

Peace and Freedom: Self explanatory: no-nukes, civil rights, "radical" rent control--or "moderate" depending on one's viewpoint.

Communist and Revolutionary Communist Party: confiscate businesses and let "the public" run them; the same with housing.

Greens: Peace always; stop overseas military "adventures"; protect consumers, regulate and watchdog corporations, the big media, and big government; require mandatory health coverage by govt. or big employers; civil rights, but not reverse racism--like Mayor Bradley's minority aid programs which make his rich supporters richer; no nukes; no pesticides; save old-growth forests; support the right to private property, but not to destroy the environment or wildlife habitats; give communities local control of projects that affect the environment; replace the government with community control; the ideal government agency solves problems and then goes away; break up cities where any resident lives more than 3 miles from city hall; ban gerrymandering, let's have true, fair representation of neighborhoods in congressional, Assembly, Senate and City Council districts, no splitting of communities; support right to choice in abortions; legalize everything, tax or charge an annual license fee as a gambler, hooker, drunk, pothead or crack freak, put the money raised into education and health care.

For more on the Green movements, read Green Synthesis--published by the League for Ecological Democracy, P.O. Box 1858, San Pedro Calif 90733. or call (213) 833-2633. Subscriptions are \$10 for two years.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Venice Town Council

Free Venice Beachhead—August 1989

7

Commercial Moratorium Committee
1801 Lincoln Blvd., #105
Venice, CA 90291
(213) 859-5851

TEXT OF VENICE TOWN COUNCIL COMMERCIAL MORATORIUM

A Petition to Councilwoman Ruth Galanter

We, the undersigned residents and friends of Venice, support the Venice Town Council policy that there shall be an immediate one-year moratorium on commercial development in Venice and that the City of Los Angeles shall conduct an environmental impact study to determine the capacity of the Venice area to sustain additional commercial growth, and we urge you to sponsor this policy in the Los Angeles City Council.

Kick-off date for the moratorium petition drive is August 13th at the Sixth Annual Venice Summer Festival on W. Washington Boulevard from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING DATES

August 21st at 9:30 AM: Public hearing at West L.A. City Hall on Corinth on Werner Scharff's application for a CDP and zone variances to allow relocation of a triplex from 39 N. Venice Blvd. to 205 N. Venice Blvd. Neighbors and homeowners are resisting this.

August 22nd at 12:15 PM & 1:00 PM: Public hearing before Board of Zoning Appeals at City Hall, Room 561-A of applicant Kevin Brunk's appeal of Zoning Administrator's rejection of his two development proposals - 1) four lots on 1410 W. Washington Blvd. of a two story, 21,000 SF of commercial office building with 38 parking spaces; and 2) four lots at 1518 W. Washington Blvd. of a two-story, 26,000 SF of commercial/retail with 49 parking spaces.

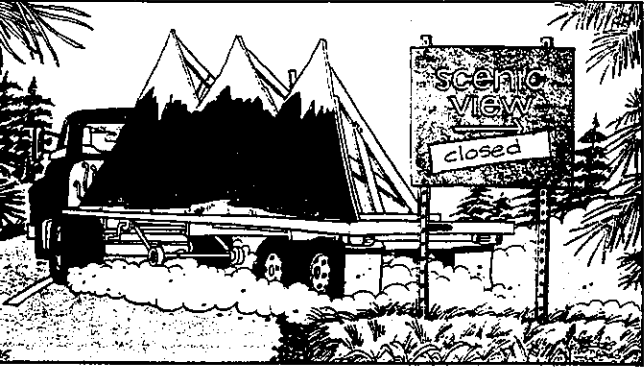
September 12: Tentative date for public hearing before BZA of North Venice Blvd. Neighborhood Association's appeal of Werner Scharff's Project Permit and CDP for 8,000 SF of commercial space with a 38-story parking garage consolidating four lots on N. Venice Boulevard between Pacific and Speedway.



VTC "OUR AGENDA"

by Rex Frankel

At its next meeting Thursday, August 10th, at 7:30 PM, the Venice Town Council plans on discussing its ideals, goals, etc. What do we really want? Highrises? No! Solid 3-story blocks of buildings? Let's hope not. I know what I don't want. Rather than have the VTC negotiate projects in each neighborhood, the negotiating should be left to the homeowner/residents groups in each neighborhood. I don't think it's "our" agenda to support projects that dwarf the surrounding neighborhoods, but provide a few "affordable" apartments or \$5/per day parking spaces which satisfies the Councilwoman, who does not have to live next to it. We should actively support the neighborhoods getting what they want, not call them NIMBYS if they won't take these 3 to 5-story block-long projects. And why does Downtown L.A. have a say in Venice? Local control, block by block, if necessary, is essential to a true democracy. That should be the agenda of the Venice Town Council. And if that's by secession from the City of Los Angeles, more power to us. See you Thursday, August 10th, at the Venice City Hall, 681 N. Venice Blvd. at 7:30 PM.



HOLIDAY VENICE TENANTS meet regarding proposed rent increase at OAKWOOD REC. CENTER-767 California Ave./SATURDAY AUGUST 19 from 4-6PM

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Aug.13th:"DRUGS,GANGS,AND POLICE ABUSE"
Michael Zinzun of the Coalition Against Police Abuse and the South African Support Committee will address the issues, with discussion to follow. 11 AM Contact Merwin Lucas (213)389-1356

Aug. 27th "BEYOND HOMELESSNESS" 11 AM
Bob Erienbusch, Program Director of Los Angeles Homeless Healthcare, will address the myths and reasons behind homelessness.
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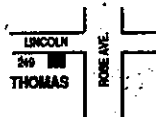
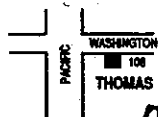
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