

FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968

BEACHHEAD

CHEER
MAY-WAY
FREE

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No More Fluff!

by Patrick McCartney

Few city hall reforms seemed to have more promise in the past several years than the idea of neighborhoods being empowered as part of the planning process.

It seemed an idea whose time had come. The wave of the future.

Instead of developers and community interests clashing in City Hall, producing much heat but little light, the idea was to create community planning boards to iron out some of the conflict before it occurred.

Local boards with some review power have worked in New York City for more than 10 years, and have been created elsewhere.

Advocated years ago in Los Angeles by a blue-ribbon Mayor's panel, and reaffirmed by the Concept L.A. Citizen Advisory Committee in 1986, Community Planning Boards--CPBs--promised to bring the planning process one step closer to the community.

I was a vocal non-member of the Concept L.A. Committee chaired by Valley attorney Dan Shapiro, and witnessed the various developer, architect, community interests hammer out a version of CPBs that addressed the needs of the different groups.

Much time was spent on how the boards would be selected and what their duties and authority should include. Would the mayor or local councilmember appoint members, or should individuals from the community be elected at town hall meetings?

When one builder type expressed reservations about elections, design critic Leon Whiteson of the Herald Examiner asked, "What are you afraid of--the local chapter of the Communist Party winning a seat?"

Many politicians favor appointed boards, as a means of reducing the unknowns in the process and, not insignificantly, as a means of extending their power through a type of patronage.

The Concept L.A. Committee itself was an appointed panel. Plenty of talent, even if it was weighted towards builder-types. The only representative from our Sixth District was the top executive of the execrable Howard Hughes Center, Bill McGregor, and his Latham and Watkins hired gun, attorney Dale Neal. That's what happened when Pat Russell influenced the appointments (although they came from the Dan Garcia-led Planning Commission).

The Shapiro Committee settled on a formula that allowed both the local councilmember and the mayor to make four appointments each to the CPBs, but gave the largest block of seven members to those in the community who would be elected at town-hall meetings. The mix seemed to satisfy

'Fluff' Continued on Page 10.

Lessons Not Learned

by memphis slim

As the Israelis continue their racist pogrom against the Arabs in their occupied territories, I'm struck by what the Israelis learned from the Nazis. I'm not talking about the lessons of the Holocaust. I'm speaking of the military patterns of the Israeli army.

Great Britain had the mandate on Jordan and Palestine in the years prior to Israel's formation in 1948. The Israeli government is structured on the British model. When Israel was formed its armies could have mimicked the British,



Keeping the peace in Lebanon

the Americans or the Soviets, but it seems they patterned their army and many of their policies on the armies of the Third Reich.

CONSIDER:

1) The Israelis "deport" people from a land they have conquered. It is the natives who are "deported" by the conquerors. The Nazis used this technique in Zechoslovakia before World War II officially started when they were uniting Greater Germany.

2) The Israelis use Jewish civilians to prey on the Arab civilians who are considered enemies of the Israeli State. The Nazis used this technique in Romania. The group's name was the Iron Cross. And Israel continues to track down the last remaining members of that organization.

3) Israel conquered the West Bank area of the Jordan River. And although hopelessly outnumbered by local Palestinians they, the Israelis, continue to say that there is no Palestine, just Israel, Jordan, Syria, etc. This is the same rationale Hitler used when he conquered the Sudenland in Czechoslovakia. See Number 1. There were no non-Germans there. At least one, Franz Kafka, springs to mind. What Palestinian Franz Kafka is presently hearing his people

don't exist?

4) Israel conquered the Golan Heights of Syria and most of Lebanon. The stated reason was security. They continue to hold these areas. Hitler invaded Poland saying it was for security. We all know the rest of that story!

5) Israel's whole cultural bias is against anyone who isn't Jewish. Even though Israeli Arabs have some rights, Palestinians on the West Bank have few and these are at the whim of the occupying Army. Again, the racial division that Hitler was so fond of when he spoke of the Master Race. I'm reminded of the line from EXODUS--

"This land is mine, God gave this land to me."
6) When the Nazis occupied Greece, they killed 100 Greeks for every German soldier the partisans killed. In Gaza and the West Bank, the Israelis are killing at a ratio of about 20 to 1.

"When Israel was formed, its armies could have mimicked the British, the Americans, or the Soviets--but it seems they patterned their army and many of their policies on the armies of the Third Reich."

7) The Third Reich was infamous for ignoring international pleas from the League of Nations, International Red Cross and others. The Israelis continue to ignore the United Nations and the pleas of Israel's closest allies, the United States and Great Britain. This arrogance by the Israelis matches the Nazis' attitudes toward the outside world as the Warsaw Ghetto was exterminated and the outside world watched helplessly.

The Israelis of course, control concentration camps called Refugee camps which they alone control regardless of the feelings of the outside world. U.N. observers or U.S. Senators are only allowed in Palestinian "Refugee Camps" when the Israeli military is good and ready.

8) One of the most hateful of racial acts is the desecration of another group's religious symbols and places of worship. These acts are remembered by the offended group long after the offenders have forgotten. Ask the average Egyptian Rameses the Great and they'll tell you about Egypt's greatest General and ruler. Judeo-Christian religion remembers Ramesses as Pharaoh, the guy who took his army swimming in the Red Sea. The Israelis got themselves a timeless piece of bad Karma recently when they invaded the most sacred of Muslim sites, the Temple of the Mount. This is the place where Mohammed ascended to Heaven according to the Muslim theology. The Israeli Army brutally attacked people in and around the Temple even while the world press was watching and recording the events. This particular attack even exceeded the brutality normally displayed by Soputh African troops and police.

So the Israelis seem to have learned the Nazi's lessons well. But didn't they read the ending of the book? Probably the Israelis feel, like Hitler, that they'll be successful. Maybe they will. Maybe, as many people believe, World War III will start in the Middle East. If it does, we'll be on the side of the Nazis.●

Notes On Planning & the Politics of Community Empowerment

By Arnold Springer

The Interim Control Ordinance (ICO) soon to be issued by the City of Los Angeles will regulate all development in Venice for 14 months, from March 1988 to June 1989. The ICO was drafted by the City Planning Department in close consultation with

Ruth Galanter's office. Ruth intended the ICO as a protection for the Venice community. The idea was to discourage developers of large projects from requesting City approvals so that we as a community could give our undivided time and attention to drafting the three specific plans which will constitute the major part of our Local Coastal

Program. The first LCP workshop took place in late January, and the process is off to a good start.

The Planning Dept. has gathered together an experienced, knowledgeable, and committed staff. It will organize workshops, draft questionnaires, and produce a Land Use Plan (LUP) and a Local Implementation Plan (LIP) which together will constitute the three

'Planning' continued on Page 8.



New Age in Venice

Beth Miller

VENICE SKETCH #20

Part One.

My daughter Samantha and her friend Michelle came to spend the weekend in Venice. They arrive with cameras and what seems to me very bohemian clothing, emanating expectant vibrancy, as though prior to sight-seeing in a foreign city or on another planet. I am impressed by their contagious excitement, their openness, their unabashedly adventuresome spirit. "Of course Venice Beach would be attractive to two provincial teenagers from the San Gabriel Valley," I think, forgetting that Michelle spent most of her sixteen years in Hawaii, and Sam has trekked through Mexico, Spain and Peru, went skin diving for sunken treasure in Acapulco Bay while still in the womb (and who can say where she travelled in previous incarnations).

On Saturday afternoon they make several reconnaissance tours of the Boardwalk to check out the shops and the people, planning to return with more time on Sunday. They walk all the way from Navy Street to Windward and back, stopping to listen to music, try on clothes and jewelry, punch a couple more holes in their ears (four dollars per perforation.) Sam buys orange blossom oil, and Michelle buys incense. They later report on conversations with locals and tourists, flirtations with men of assorted colors and accents. They show me their purchases but hide their fantasies. Michelle lights two long black sticks of incense, asks: "What is myrrh?" "A resin from Arabia or East Africa," I tell her after consulting my Webster's Unabridged. "Did you buy myrrh incense?" "No, Blue Nile and Rain Queen." My entire place is redolent now with Blue Nile, which could be myrrh with a new name.

In the late afternoon we sit in the living room to plan their Saturday night in Venice. Should they settle for Main Street? Or perhaps go to a

dance club? Finally they decide to rent some movies and accept my invitation for an informal meal at Buffalo Chips, a funky, picturesque landmark. It takes us nearly two hours to cover the two blocks on Main Street separating Navy from Buffalo Chips (on the right of the Oar House) since I stop to introduce them to some of my friends among the local merchants. In retaliation they drag me further north to look at the stones at Ocean Park Shells.

PEBBLES AND CRYSTALS

A curly-haired New Age clerk answers all Sam's questions on the properties of the various stones. She introduces herself as Pamela, flashing a wide toothy smile (whose secret Pamela in due time reveals--an amazing double set of upper teeth). Sam looks at big pieces and small ones, finally choosing stones from a large basket near the register. She buys rose quartz for the heart and of course amethyst, her birthstone, since it is a meditation stone. Pamela wears rose quartz earrings and a pink tourmaline necklace. Sam's own favorite is fluorite, what she calls the genius stone, a stone to help intellectually. Pamela recommends a very important triad--rose quartz, kunzite, and pink tourmaline; together these three aid in academic success. (Since Samantha is going to college next year, probably at Santa Cruz, this triad could not be more appropriate.)

She also buys green and blue agate, the first to go along with the identity she is forging, for it is the adventure stone, and the second to help with expression and self-expression. Just for good measure, she takes a small piece of milk quartz which Pamela recommends as a stone to clarify everything else, that is, the heart and the mind. Pamela throws in some extra stones knowingly, so that Samantha's collection will be whole, complete, able to work. Finally, she adds a sliver of obsidian to the pile of pebbles, explaining that since Sam is not yet eighteen, this stone is essential to help release repressed thoughts, an extra-fine stone to help in one's growing work, in becoming what one wants to be. Sam studies all the crystal jewelry. They talk about crystal power and healing energies. ("Metaphysically speaking, a crystal is ordered perfection.") Of the New Age metaphysical manifestations, this is one which does not tempt me. Sam puts her talismans in her pocket, and we proceed to dinner.

Dear Venice BEACHHEAD:

After 16 years of delay and false starts, Venice is finally going to have our own LOCAL COASTAL PLAN (LCP). (The California Coastal Act was passed in 1972 and the California Coastal Act in 1976.)

The first public workshop was held on January 21, 22 and 23, with 70, 80 and 50 participants respectively. There wasn't much advance publicity, but the turnout was pitifully small for the size of this community. The next workshop "...is anticipated ... (to be) sometime in February." Again, not much notice.

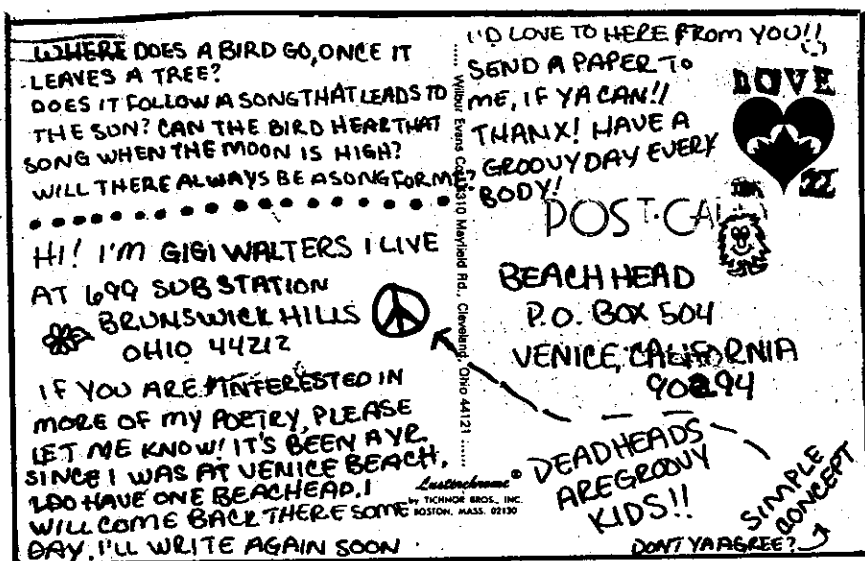
The developers who have their plans to exploit this beautiful, unique space for their own gain were all there. Are you willing to allow them to decide the future of Venice?

In fact, the law mandates that the LCP process "constitutionally protect the rights of private property owners" and "maximize public access" along with "resource conservation" but in no way speaks to any special consideration for non-owner residents. YOU HAVE ONLY THOSE RIGHTS TO YOUR HOME AS ANYONE ELSE HAS TO YOUR HOME.

It is vitally important, therefore, that the people of Venice--rich or poor, residents and merchants, take part in this process, because no one else is looking out for our interests.

Sincerely,

Dell Chumley



Free Venice Beachhead

Subscriptions for 12 issues:

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Mail your check or money order with attached blank to:

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1988 subscription

Free Venice Beachhead

The Beachhead is entering its second decade of publication. The Free Venice Beachhead will be twenty years old in December 1988. Despite the many changes in collectives, the Head is still telling it like it is, from the point of view in the anarachate of Venice. Hope all you former Headers, contributors, community folks, etc., past and present, will start to think about putting out a super-spectacular 20th anniversary issue. You know where to call us; it's right there on the front page. Imagine: Twenty years of poetry and muckraking. May all our issues be bright. There's a play on words there. An advance toast for another twenty years of personal community journalism. Interesting how the issues we wrote about in the 60's are still with us today: poverty and secret wars. It wouldn't be as bad now if you'd only listened to us then.



FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Diane Nickerson, Patrick McCartney, Kathleen Alvarez, Carol Fondiller, Kathy Sullivan, memphis slim, Malcolm Tent, Victor Wightman, Sara Omari and Juan Persona.

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. We ask that writing be limited to 1200-1500 words. 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.

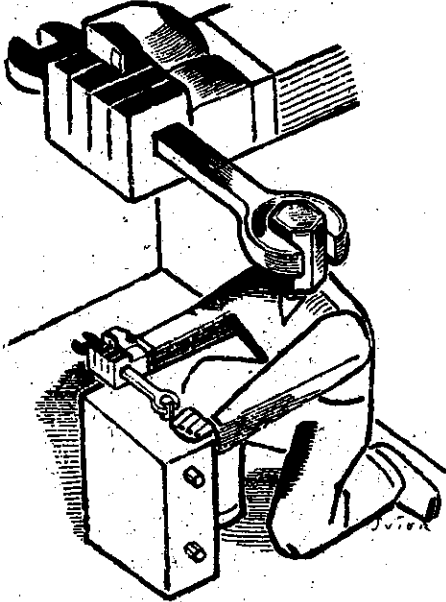
Homelessness: Again Invisible, Still Strongly Felt

by Carol Fondiller

The tents of the homeless that dotted Venice Beach are gone now. The confluence of Nature and the City have smoothed the sand and no sign remains that for six months Venice Beach looked like a psychedelic version of the Hoovervilles of the 30's.

For the past week there's been no moisture in the air. The Santa Ana has grimed the face of the Pacific horizon with detritus whipped up from the Los Angeles Basin, turning the sky a sullen, dirty pink. The sham summer of Southern California late winter season is here. The waves are purring and curling against the very beach that they battered and chewed at the previous week.

The homeless are off the beach. The homeless are no longer visible to those of us who walk our dogs, jog, bicycle, or surf along the Pacific Coast.



For the past ten years the homeless have become more visible. This is because of the complicity of elected state, county, city and national officials who, along with developers and city planners, think of land and the houses on them as a speculative commodity. In these times when we have a President who picks his Cabinet from people whose business practices seem to be on the sharp side, to put it politely, and where the credo seems to be: Profit Is the Only Morality and Ethics This Government Needs; We Can't Expect Too Much Attention to be Paid to Those of Us Who don't Make Enough Money to Rent a Condo at \$1800 a Month, we should be delighted to have the privilege to rent a closet for \$600 a month, no-parking-no-utilities.

In this country at this juncture there's only one talent, one success that counts, and that's the ability to make money by any means necessary.

For every condo built, there's at least four people who are going to be displaced. California leads the nation in rents that exceed what low-wage earners can afford.

I remember in the 50's how the magazines and newspapers would shudder at the Soviet standards of living. The media pointed its collective finger in scorn at those miserable Ruski's in their cramped quarters, generations crowded together, sleeping on couches, lining up to go to the bathroom, etc. Well, thank you, Reagan, for Sovietizing our living conditions right here in the USA where four people crowd together in an apartment meant for one person. There are 35-year-old children still living with their parents because of the high rents. Thus, unregulated capitalism creates the very conditions that we scorn when it happened to those benighted Reds.

There are the Working Poor, those people who earn the minimum wage or less - try and find an apartment for a quarter to a third of the monthly minimum wage, and maybe you, too, would be sleeping in a camper or a tent on the beach.

We can safely sit outside now in the illegally converted patios of restaurants that encroach on the Ocean Front Walk, and watch as delivery trucks and cars drive illegally up and down the Front, safe from those tents and the threat they conveyed.

What were we afraid of? That poverty was catching? Were they holding the mirror up to us? Did it bother us as we took our Great Danes to shit on the shore, to see people who existed on less than it costs to have the damn' dog's toenails clipped?

It must be admitted that those tents that were erected on the beach were a hell of a consciousness-raising device. It brought the homelessness problem out of the closet. The tents forced people to take a look at homelessness. They didn't hide as if they were ashamed; the homeless got right in our faces.

The Venice Action Committee, an organization consisting of entrepreneurs, investors,

and real estate-as-art groupies decried the "invasion" if the tents because it devalued the potential goldmine of Venice. OFW cafe owners claimed business went down by 50% because of the homeless. (Note: The restaurant owners are still here. None of them went bankrupt.) Agencies that have served the poor in Venice were threatened with violence. A newly elected Councilwoman had to deal with the consequences of seventeen years of What's Good For Development is Good for the Neighborhood, and Low Income Housing is a Commie Idea.

The tents' inhabitants got vouchers for hotels. The vouchers should be running out by now and I have seen no miraculous appearance of affordable housing for these people when they have to leave their hotels. The problem's still here; it's just not as visible.

So the homeless - no, dammit! - HOUSELESS! - many of these people have lived in Venice for years and have been forced out of housing because of gentrification and condomania. Venice is their home; they just don't have a house. The houseless will become invisible again; I'll see them only if I get up early to empty the trash, and see the movement of what at first glance appears to be old clothes and turns out to be a sleeping person behind the dumpster/billboard/carpport/shrubbery, etc. So they're still here, you see; they're just not out there interfering with my view of the ocean.

The VAC, one of the first organizations to demand that the homeless be kicked off the beach, is supplying some housing for some of the people who have completed the Jobs Program.

I understand that Tom Hayden has become aware that homelessness and housing might be a viable campaign issue. Affordable housing is being spoken of as if it were something to consider, not just pie-in-the-sky maunderings of senile lefties. Sen. Roberti has a petition to get a proposition for low-income housing on the ballot.

Nixon and Reagan's metrophobic policies left the cities in this nation near death. How those reactionaries dread the big cities where cultures clash; absorb and share and become urban-urbane, civilized, tolerant and skeptical. President Reagan is busy now with a proposal to cut all grants for rehabilitating buildings in cities that have rent control. I think now that Venice has gone through the agonies of lynch mob

ing the problem is going to be in Our Backyard for a long time, we can't put them somewhere else. Somewhere else already has the "problem." I want Venice to say Yes, we accept the challenge to house those of us who are victims of the years of unregulated real estate exploitation. I want Venice to demand to get the money and land needed to house people. We have 14 per cent of the houseless and two percent of needed services in L.A. County.

Just because the Venice Action Committee is finding some housing for some people, does this give that group the right to keep the Venice Pavilion from being used as a nutrition/ coun-

Venice Zoning Showdown

By Malcolm Tent

Developer/speculators will have a much harder time carving up Venice with the beginning, at last, of the process to enforce the Venice Community Plan. Two public hearings will be held at Venice High School, on February 10th and the 17th to find out what you think. The hearings go on from 4pm to 10 pm each day. A map and report with the specifics is available at Councilwoman Galanter's office in Westchester, at Lincoln Blvd. and Manchester Ave.

The Plan, written into law by the LA City Council in 1980 after a 1970 version stirred up massive public opposition, nevertheless was ignored by the City Dept. of Building and Safety, which issues building permits. The problem is that the city has two sets of laws governing land use, Zoning and the General Plan, and the two don't always match up. The current Venice zoning laws allow much of the area's old neighborhoods to be torn down to be replaced by high density apartment/condos. The Community Plan recommends a maximum density for all Venice neighborhoods of two units a lot.

FOR MORE INFO: Call Cheryl Rogers at the LA City Planning Dept:485-3744

OR

Joan Cory-Venice Deputy for Ruth Galanter: 641-4717

Happy Valentine's Day anyway.

seling center? If the Venice Pavilion, which hasn't been used in years as a recreation center, can't be used for the homeless because it's a recreation center, why was the Oakwood Recreation Center's Christmas program disrupted because it was used along with the Penmar Recreation Center for warming centers when it got below 40 degrees? Could it be that both Penmar and Oakwood Centers are not near the tourist area of the OFW and the VAC proposed "Windward Mall"?

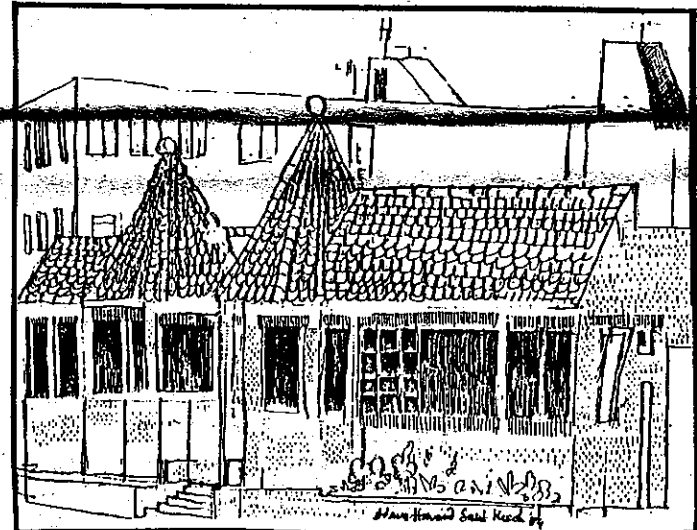
What should be clear to anyone, whether "sympathetic" to the homeless or not, is that the homeless problem is everywhere, from Venice to Des Moines to East Egg.

I've observed that the problem, if we shove it away, just festers. As Venetians who live on the edge of the most imperial city in the most imperial of all countries - right on the Pacific Rim - we could become a shining example. We could show the rest of the country how to do it. And those of us who are homeless/houseless have to be included and must include ourselves in the process of solving the problem. We Venetians, homed and homeless, have several organizations where this is happening.

1988 is a Presidential Election year. We've got a lame duck who would prefer to spend money on dope pushers overthrowing a legitimately elected government rather than using that money for low-income housing and jobs. Every Presidential candidate as well as Congressional candidates and Senatorial candidates, should be called upon to deal with homelessness. Even Bradley has some complicated scheme that has to do with making a lot of money for speculators while incidentally providing some low-income housing.

If we declare Malibu a Disaster Area to make low-interest loans available to the rich who lose their fancy homes precariously perched on shale, surely Venice can get funds for those victims of our precarious and capricious economy.

Keep the Heat On



In a recent speech Councilwoman Galanter said she needs letters and your presence at hearings to effectively stop overdevelopment.

A speculator wants to: CONVERT 19 beautifully renovated apartments to STORES at 511-517 Ocean Front Walk.

CONVERT a historic single-family dwelling into a LARGE restaurant at 523 Ocean Front Walk.

OPEN a present walk street, Sunset Avenue, to AUTOMOBILE TRAFFIC.

To accommodate this high-density commercial development, he wants the entire area bounded by Sunset, Dudley, Speedway and Ocean Front Walk rezoned from current residential to COMMERCIAL.

We have a HOUSING SHORTAGE in Venice. A principal objective of the Venice Community Plan is to maintain the existing housing stock.

DO WE NEED MORE SLEAZY STORES ON OCEAN FRONT WALK?

DO WE WANT WALK STREETS OPENED TO VEHICLE TRAFFIC?

Please express your strong opposition to this project and zone change to Councilwoman Galanter, Rm 333, City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., L.A. 90012, and to the Dept. of City Planning, Rm 561, City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., L.A. 90012.

Galanter said "It is always helpful to go to any other official and say, 'This is very hot in my district. And how do I know? I got 125 letters on this subject.'"

A hearing on this overdevelopment is scheduled for Feb. 9, Rm 200, West L.A. Muni Bldg. 1645 Corinth Ave. at 10 am.

Geriatric Jack

Venice Video



Dear Beachhead:

John Haig writes that he "couldn't disagree more" with Ruth Galanter's ordinance calling for police attacks against the homeless on Venice Beach. More is at stake here, however, than a disagreement over public policy.

There are two basic approaches to the homeless: One views homeless Americans as the most vulnerable victims of an unjust social order and calls for aid to the homeless and changes in the social order. The other approach views the homeless in terms of the discomfort they create for those who have homes—and, especially, restaurants!—and seeks to remove the homeless from public view. The second approach talks about society's need to protect itself from the homeless; the first about society's obligation to the homeless.

By advocating police removal of the homeless, Galanter moved from the first approach to the second. This is not a tactical disagreement; it is a fundamental changing of sides.

The lack of merit in Galanter's ordinance was pointed out long ago by Anatole France: "The law, in its majestic equality, prohibits both the rich and the poor from sleeping under bridges."

At one point, John writes that Galanter can't solve the homeless problem, but then who can? I thought he would go on to talk about homelessness as a result of capitalism, perhaps, but he went on to say that the homeless don't qualify for assistance and that many prefer to tough it out. This comes dangerously close to blaming the victim. Remember Ed Meese telling us that the homeless prefer to sleep on the sidewalk? It was nonsense when it came from Ed Meese; it is not more cogent coming from John Haig.

- Jim Prickett *

There is a wonderful opportunity for the Venice community with the arrival of American CableSystems' newly built "community access" studio facility, Channel 37, in Marina Del Rey. Serving "the Westside"; Culver City Palms, Mar Vista, Marina Del Rey and Venice, it is committed, through the cable medium, to bringing community issues and lifestyles to local residents who are immediately and directly concerned. Demographically specific.

I volunteer with American CableSystems and am presently working on getting the Venice Town Council monthly meetings cablecast on Channel 37. There are many concerned persons who, for various reasons including child care, age and health problems, cannot get out at night. They need, and should have available, the wealth of information presented at the Venice Town Council meetings, and by other community organizations.

BUT, it's a volunteer venture. At the studio facility there is one excellent access coordinator/director and her assistant, who are paid. The rest of her 5-10 person crew are volunteer student interns, who cover all Westside programs. What's needed now are 5-10 enthusiastic and committed volunteers, who would be trained by American CableSystems, in studio and remote production. Initially, specifically, for taping the Venice Town Council ... for camera, sound, lights, to pick up and set up equipment, tape Council meeting, wrap up and take equipment back to the Beach facility. One Thursday a month, 5:30-10:30P.

Since this facility is new, and it doesn't generate any income, it's a low budget operation. They are gradually building their equipment capabilities. In February they will be able to cablecast "live" from their studio, rather than on relay from another facility. And they now have sufficient portable equipment to tape the Venice Town Council, and other "remote" locations.

In the coming years we've a wide range of possibilities for local programs, reaching every Venice home that has basic cable. It's a great opportunity!

I am organizing a crew who can see the possibilities. Please contact me and call Marlene Franks 306-2070. *

at 6:30 p.m. on Channel 37, the Public Access Channel.

In addition to Pat, you can frequently see yours truly in my alter ego, Larry Sullivan, faithfully representing the Beachhead and all those couch potatoes who shout back at their TV sets. Believe me boys and girls, I'll make you feel like I asked the right questions.

Generally, most of the guests are sorta on our side, if you get my drift. The police officer on the gang show was into two things, killing 'em or locking 'em up.

So tune in to what's happening. If you don't get cable go watch someone else's TV. Hell, if you're real brave go to Brandelli's Brig and make 'em turn it on. They even get cable.

The show's name is Westside Beat. You won't see many big name stars 'cause the L.A. Times is afraid of its reporters developing anything outside of their jobs at the Mars Media Monolith. You will see such local papers represented as the Free Venice Beachhead, the Westchester Journal, the Evening Outlook, the Culver City New and the Wave Newspapers. Also, other journalists occasionally sit in.

The show's going live this month, with call-ins to the show. So watch.

P.S. If you notice a glitch or two in the production values, remember that most of the camera people and other technical staff are volunteers and/or students. memphis slim.*



Thoughts and Memories of Bob Alexander.

By Rick Davidson

Bob Alexander, known to many as Baza, died last December. Although always contemporary, Bob was of that 50's period that spawned the Beats: poets, musicians, hipsters, thinkers, dreamers, and most of all, communicators.

I didn't know Bob during the Beat Generation; I met him in the late 1960's. A time when the Free Press Newspaper and the Peace and Freedom Party were in their heyday. Locally, the period saw the birth of the Free Venice Organizing Committee and the Free Venice Beachhead Newspaper.

In Venice at that time, we were having difficulty getting the Beachhead printed. Printer after printer dropped us. Bob Alexander helped us from a little printing shop way the hell and gone east of East L.A.

As the 60's smashed into the 70's, I often saw Bob and his wife Anita on our mutual walks around Venice, at many community gatherings, and at the long, and often emotional, meetings of the Venice Town Council. Always strong supporters of the community, Bob and Anita symbolize the spirit of Free Venice. We often talked about spirit in relationship to politics, and it became clear that we shared a common concern, i.e., that there was a lack of spirit, a lack of spiritual love within the Left, the community, and the country generally. And that no matter how many good organizations we create, how many valuable projects we complete, or how many important and valid causes we support - without a spirit of love to connect them and give them direction we're just "blowin' in the wind."

Bob and Anita lived that spirit we talked about. They were committed to supporting it, providing a home for it, and stimulating it whenever and wherever they felt it.

I thank Bob and Anita for their commitment, their love, and their example. I know that Bob's spirit still flows through our community, indicating the road we need to travel in order to reach that better world we all seek.

Thanks.*

Up Your Access

Ever wish local issues could be discussed like national issues are on Meet the Press or Face the Nation? Well, now they are. The local cable TV company, American Cable Systems, presents a local version of the national interview shows.

Local journalists interview guests on a variety of topics. Issues such as the Homeless, Trauma Center cutbacks, Air Traffic problems, Insurance Redlining and Gangs are just some of the topics discussed since the the Fall of '87 when the show originated.

Perry Parks III, the cablesystem General Manager, is the moderator of the program. Candace Jones is its capable producer/director. And best of all, the one regular journalist on the set is The Beachhead's own Pat McCartney. He does, however, represent the paper that pays him a lavish salary, the Westchester Journal.

This program is presented most Saturday nights



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MASS FOR THE DEAD

Silence drifts down
Upon silence, doors
Stop all questions

Born from the mouth
Of the dead
Tall, the ghosts
Tall, the wind
That wraps round
Our sorrow
This marble tomb
Our sky opens
The wound each day
City emptied of nightingales
Shadows carved by night
Shadows that weep
Upon each born
Below the surface
Of light

Miserere nobis
Dona eis pacem

--Philomene Long

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letter to baza

"Art is Love is God"

A F A R E W E L L

The Rt. Rev. Robert Al
(1923)

you say we are together in this house
by accident of circumstance & love
to satisfy simple needs with what consideration
we can bring to the acts of living

'accident' is a word describing
how fragments fall together
when the pattern is not known, but knowing
we are moved by, flowed thru, carried along

we watch & we listen. i listen
to you, not because i love you
but for the greediest of reasons what
i learn as you fill my ears, my eyes, my
whole head & being
with what you know see do. you
present yrself as you are, totally
a purity of vision

as in a poem, all is clarity
with many levels seeming obscure
how can it be
i learn abt myself & how i love
from how you touch the plants?
if i am asked abt god
i wd have to tell how by yr example
i know abt love which does not hold or obligate

as in a poem
there are times you talk
& i dont know the words, how they relate, then
later i am illuminated

you teach me to be me
by being you. we are together
for this part of the journey
i know my back is covered
i gladly call you brother
i state unambiguously that
divinity pours thru you
even tho i never saw
the lite from yr eyes extending over the street
i have seen you reach out towards
something hurt & needing with such love
i cd have walked upon it. i know
you make no claims, & i
can only report what i know
to be true. i know
whatever of my life has been shared
with you has been enriched. the rituals
we have danced thru
have been performed joyously, out of deep need
you emerged from the sea & stood hugely tall & glowing
making a binding, a wholeness
to teach me abt love. you came to me
in prison, to teach me
abt love. not that you are
didactic, it's just how you move
thru what is demanded of you
with such grace & awe, feeling
that sweet tinged fear
of presumptuousness, on the edge of the abyss
no matter how dark & ominous
you will descend. if you can mark a path
for me & others, you will.
but path or not, i walk gladly into darkness with you

if we emerge into light, we will be thankful
if black suffocation is eternal, we wont be surprised
hand in hand with you
for we know how to touch in light or gloom
i wd sing praises echoing thru the labryntes
resounding with ur name & the names we reverence
always i wd sing, there cd be no despair
by one of many roads we will find what we seek

love,

stuart

The Mensch

for Baza

Want to write a poem, weeks've passed...
guess I've forgotten how...never knew...
it just happens...She gives 'em to me...

Memories....

Gentle strength, honest caring,
respect that empowers me. & humor --
from funny tale-telling rude sounds
from same source as Lord Buckley's -- or
were his source! --

to deep solemn wit,
rarest human quality, always abiding love,
brotherhood, gathering me IN to where I'd felt
left out before.

Never enough time to finish
the good talk, always enough for the good listening...
Wonder, Art, Love...

God, the only way it makes sense....

... Thanks, Bob.

--William J. Margolis

in the spirit of a kiss a waterfall a touch
with neither apology nor hesitation
naked, oftentimes gruff and violent
bannering an end to guilt and seeding
for that better shot, not now, but here
i stand, undedicated

tense waiting storming against
the absence of action o negativia! i abhor you!
(thru the eye a certain hashi truth)
fuck you, devil at once, i proclaim my evil
pure and unconsidered

i throw straight up selecting enigmatically
a mask a toy a paper ball i dig
the naturalness in a blood hot cunt
and the pure winged harlot, bold beyond a
plan for mmaking cocaine heaven

i stand unashamed, ready and unfrightened.

baza

for Baza

We were talking
me & Night.
I called Masha
Thank god she loves me
& gale & Anita.

I can't live anymore without it
Yes Baza, it began with you in the tunnels
& on the beach
You covered my hand with your hand
& my mouth with weed.

You were my father
whom i rebelled against
but you brought me luck
You brought a picture for me to look at
which i otherwise wouldn't have seen
I sd no, you sd yes
I see things differently
you sd you like the way i see things
i sd ok.

you talked art & artist
you rapped poetry and you rapped hottub;
I love them all.

We feel that we've been created
by yu gone so soon
we wanted more time with you
listening feeling more confident.

So it is...
rest Brother
you don't have to be my Father
You are a brother
what you wanted most.
No Fathers
No Gurus
No Chorusline
extemperanius
extraveganzo
on pedigree pages which you have.

The light
The farewell
The ship has come!
It is in the shape of a flower
In the shape of a clay sculpture
in the shape of a black painting
i thought i would never like.

You bring the ship home
you bring the painting to face me
i will talk back to you now
but i won't have anybody to talk back to later.

I will miss that
lots and lots will miss that
and the chicks who would have you pinch on their ass.

Yeah, we'll all rap art & poetry & artist
and we will rap Baza
Poet, Artist, extemperanius extravaganzo
who on a sunny afternoon walking down windward
stoped me and sd "I like that painting
give it to me and i'll make you a minister
in the Temple of Man".

barry simon

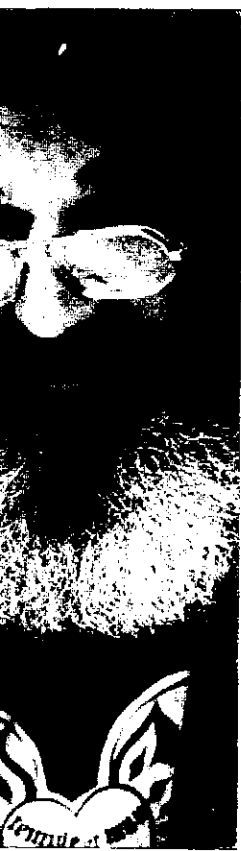


We don't
We don't
We don't
We don't
We don't
We don't
We don't

"Art is Love is God"

"Art is Love is God"

L T O B A Z A

ander, The Temple of Man
(1987)

"Art is Love is God"

roll.
adjust.
flip.
float.
lo-speed.
rise.
lower.

on martin

This is not to be a poem

i havent figured it yet: the
coming
& the going

the life
in lyrics &
dialogue:

'life is but a dream...'

or
'life is shit & then
u die'

it lies in there some
where in between:
the coming & the going
not to be no poem.

& Be-ez Baza Bob
& what carnation u knew him as
yr own rememberies
as mine are of the Rt Rev Robt
Alexander

& the 1st folks he married
officially
we thot: what a lark!

hey bobby
can u come out a play!
but: when he walked out in
his rabbi dugan suit
w/the little roundcollar
no jokes
no joke
to read Patchen outloud
& mean it!

how did he do it in them killer
daze of venice when every
phonecall wuz a tale of woe
of deaths & busts
& pain?
reverending wuz not 'ezy
but he did it

w/behop gags
& heart

my remembrance
of showing up
kranky&down
on life's lot
n he told me once:
'they put the stink on shit
so's u wdn't eat it
so dont'
& i wont
can u imagine when the bigtime
channelers start channeling
Baza the Hip?

Tony Scibella

"Art is Love is God"

winged mortar bitter high
riding a frantic stroke to heaven
or to hell- o bluebird!

smoking answers fired from
dried cats guts smug with death
and warm with unborn seed

only a few are feeling
that edgieness
summer eve about the air and

there must be just one circus left-
somebody, somewhere, wants to laugh.

baza

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE KIDDING?

I am not fooled, Baza. You just sneaked off
to round up the others--Stu, Ben, Jimmy,
Milton, the rest--and bring them all back. You'll
be wearing elaborate disguises,
of course, but the water pistols and the
squirting carnations will give you away.

--John Thomas

A Song of Crossing

for Baza

Death

a dark crossing
by those we love
by those who wait
spangled in darkness
as he enters
near the gate

We insist

open
close
reach
enter

O man

whose heart
we place
to eternal rest
to the last breath
held in this earthly place

& down the quiet glass
to morning light
we lift our naked heads
& sing the parting
of this holy giant

O heart! heart!

a place of rest
a drop of blood
to make him blessed

bow the head
Baz is dead
sing for us
who are
not yet

O man

who rumbled,
man who said
eyes are crosses
the heart is best
a life whose song
was sung

full breath

Frank T. Rios

BazaScope

Today I heard that George and Louise Herms had their
2nd daughter. Sing of it, poets, sing of birth.

Today Baza is born. Baza is born as the moment goes.
and goes and is gone, Baza is the re-incarnation of Baza:
years ago, standing in the doorway of his printshop on
Santa Monica Blvd., leather wristband, head shaved, huge mustache,
shirtless, watching the one and only Hollywood girls go by, snapping
his fingers, exstatic;

Baza of the Beam, of suprahuman endurance, night and day,
God's phonograph, the sound of His revelation coming forth rapid
from Baza's mouth

-IT'S ALL GOOD! IT'S ALL RIGHT

-and that aint bad. Bombed out, his soul's aeromap erupting
the smokeblossoms of rockets. On target

IT'S ALL RIGHT!

-and that aint wrong, singing thru the Broadway tunnel,
San Francisco, cars going backward, Baza onward, forward

Who is this Baza?

He is a condition of man - a moment of all that's best,
all this is less, and in those great and good moments, he is all that
transcends the All;

he lives in his loins, his heart, his mind, he is
possessed and pure, rotten with the ancient grief; he is the
ghost of Love;

Baza is a revolution in the heart.

Baza is a drummer, a travelling salesman, the confidence
man moving on with the angels (CHICAGO! CHICAGO! O WHAT A TOWN!)

He is the only rabbi that ever blessed me, the only
priest that ever wed me, the only father that baptised my daughter.

He is a hoodlum, the mad rapist, coming flowers and agony
all over his women;

the boy/man, wolf/ape, lamb of the Plains;

the 1st, the last, apocalyptic hipster, the 1 and only Junkie,
self-demolated bunko wino wizard

but

IT'S ALL GOOD

!!!!!!!

Baza is his own martyr, his own saint. One follows him
to the door, piped that far by Baza's song, but only he opens the
door and walks in.

Baza is just part of the man that wears Baza's flesh.
Baza is, of course, illusion. Baza is, of course, a fake, an
obstacle, the Great Wall of China.

I have known him for 8 years, perhaps 9, perhaps 10,

perhaps I have known him from birth;

I have cursed him, abused him, robbed him and have felt
no pain and I acted from the knowledge that he was doing it before
it was done.

This is Baza. Meet him, known him, go beyond him.
Meet him, face to face, when you open the door.

and, for all that's beautiful and real, walk in.

Hello, Bob

David Meltzer

8

specific plans for Venice. These are a) North Venice, b) canals peninsula, 3) Oakwood, Milwood and so. east Venice - including the Oxford Triangle. Simultaneously, the State Coastal Conservancy will spend 6 months here helping to shape a community inspired plan for all the 'public spaces' in Venice. Each process will produce a draft plan which will be melded into one LCP or Local Coastal Program for the entire Venice area. This should occur in September or October of this year. Public hearings before City regulatory agencies will then be initiated, with approval of the Coastal Commission as the last step in the process.

We didn't get everything we asked for in the ICO. A struggle took place at the City Planning Commission in January over certain

provisions contained in the ICO. Daniel Garcia, President of the Commission and the chief pro development municipal official still remaining in office, saw to it that the ICO was weakened so as to favor developers. A prohibition on the consolidation of more than two lots was removed so that legally, a developer can put together as many lots as he can assemble and attempt to build a large project. However, a 28-30 foot height cap remains in the ICO, as does the stipulation that no more than two residential units can be built on any normal, substandard Venice lot.

The Beach Impact Zone, a special parking district for the North Beach area, the purpose of which was to provide a framework in which we could increase the amount of parking for residents and the public was also removed by the Commission, stripping us of the ability to insist that developers include replacement parking in their projects.

On the positive side the huge Admiralty Place project just west of Lincoln Blvd (in the industrial zone east of the Oxford Triangle, South of Washington Blvd and North of the Marina), was included in the ICO covered area over the objections of the developer, State Senator Allen Robbins, and thus made subject to the ICO, at least for 14 months.

The ICO is built from the Coastal Commission Guidelines for the Venice area (in force for many years and the base rationale for issuing Coastal Development Permits), significant Coastal Commission and L.A. City precedents on parking and public access, the considerable experience of Town Council activists, and the experience and expertise of the Councilwoman herself.

The most important thought I would like to share with you is that we have been given only 14 months in which to discuss, draft, and formally adopt our Venice Local Coastal

Program. This is not what would be considered sufficient time by anyone knowledgeable of the processes involved. Dan Garcia gave us 14 months because he thought we would fail. The Commission's revisions aim at forcing us to focus not on the LCP process, but on defending ourselves from large projects, dissipating and diffusing our energies. In other words, business as usual. The pro development lobby in City Hall is attempting to thwart the victory which we won at the polls in April and June of 1987.

They have challenged us. We need to rise to that challenge. We are all here in Venice because we believe this place to be special. If we can't defend our territory then Venice is nothing but a place, an administrative entity devoid of autonomous spirit.

We need to participate actively in the LCP process, in the public workshops and hearings that will barrage us over the next 14 months. We have to encourage everyone involved in this process to exelerate it. We need to work together and to forge compromises on issues like low income housing, on parking, and on public access.

We should not compromise on density. We should insist that the ICO provisions on height and density become the maximums permitted in the Specific Plans which we draft for all our neighborhoods, especially in the areas of Venice zoned residential. If the majority of residents in neighborhoods and sub neighborhoods want lower heights and lower densities that's ok, we can get them, we just have to move with dispatch. Developers will naturally try to get their large projects permitted before we get our Specific Plans for the neighborhoods drafted.

There are some weakness in the ICO. In a few instances the intent of the ordinance needs clarification. A few examples are: the exemption from its provisions in case of



"developer hardship"; on parking requirements for projects which propose to intensify commercial uses in already existing buildings; in projects which propose changing of use from residential to commercial in an existing building.

The Beach Impact Zone (BIZ) special parking district which is set up by the ICO is an imaginative, novel, and stimulating idea. It was removed by Garcia and needs to be restored, as does some limit on the number of buildable lots which can be consolidated by a developer in order to max out a commercial or mixed use project. The community will need to sit down and negotite the final structure and objectives of this special district. Through the BIZ we have the opportunity to address the existing significant shortfalls of commercial and residential parking; to create a self funding mechanism to insure that our publicly used areas are kept clean of trash, and at the same time to encourage public access to all Venice beaches, both north and south. A good opportunity for innovative and positive solutions exists.

The same can be said for housing. We need a special workshop series on this subject which should take up: 1) low income family housing; 2) low income senior housing; 3) shelter for homeless/transitional housing. We need a package proposal to submit to Ruth.

What's fair for us as a community to take, what proportion to each of the catagories, site-ing in the community, maximum densities and heights should all be in this package. Neighborhoods should expect to be treated equally, and the density of such housing, when located in residential neighborhoods, should approximate what is designated as normally permitted, i.e. no density bonuses, no height bonuses.

Money will be less of a problem than we think. All the funds will be from Venice developers; the

full price of doing business in Venice must be born by this group. We will preserve our social and cultural mix, we will preserve our community physically as well as spiritually, and since development always destroys our equilibrium here we need to have that same development compensate for its corrosive impact.

We need to make concrete our housing objectives. How many low income family units do we want built in Venice? How many low income senior units? At what density? We should immediately shift the focus of the housing discussions now going on in the community around the homeless issue to the planning process where we can focus on producing a package which is acceptable to most of us and especially to the neighborhoods. Trade offs, compromises, and iron clad guarantees will be needed to get most people to sign off on such a package.

We all need to be individually involved in the parking, housing, and access workshops that will be announced over the next several months. Remember that if we fail to produce a Local Coastal Plan for Venice in 14 months we shall have squandered the right which we won in June to structure our own destiny. We should exelerate and aid the elaboration and formalization of the LCP and in this way we will beat the developers and the bureaucrats in their own arena. Lets go at it with resolve, creative energy, and a clear objective. Let's make our victory stick. I would be very sad if we failed.

Notes on the Homeless and the Politics of Low Income Housing

We in Venice cannot solve the problem of homelessness. The Rose Ave shelter proposal, St Joseph's programs, the temporary, transitional housing sprinkled through the community Ruth is sponsoring, are all tokens. They will not solve the

problem. We can address the problem only in a symbolic way. A small shelter, some transitional housing, more low income family and senior housing are not outrageous considerations given what we all see going on around us in this society, and we should be able to find places for them in Venice. But at a basic moral and corporeal level, given the magnitude and scope of the housing problem in this country and state, what we do in Venice is symbolic, a gesture, an existential exercise. But we can produce some of this needed shelter. It is do-able and very important. We can't walk away from this one. Ruth would be disappointed if we did. What about you?.





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YOU DON'T KNOW ME

MATTHEW 20: 1-16

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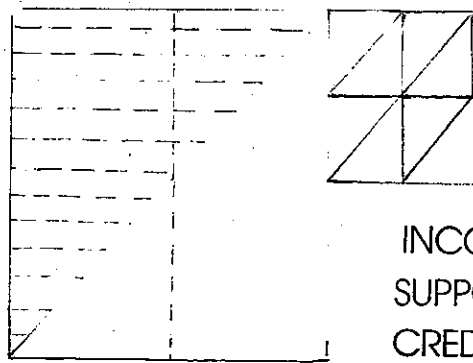
BALANCE = TOTAL NET DEBT =

2.0 X PERSONAL INCOME

(LOW INFLATION)

(LOW UNEMPLOYMENT)

CONSTANT PERCENTAGE
INCOME RAISES



TOTAL NET DEBT

(USB&A SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, 1969-1977)

DISEQUILIBRIUM

DEBT

(INFLATION)

COLLAPSE = TOTAL NET DEBT

= 2.5 X PERSONAL INCOME

(LOW INFLATION)

(HI UNEMPLOYMENT)

BOSS PHIL SAYS SO

DONT LEAVE ROME WITHOUT IT

P
HW
I A G
L L R M.
I L E A
P A G A
C G
E

1973 1974
UNPUBL.

Understanding AIDS

By Diane Nickerson

HIV (AIDS virus) is transmitted by intimate sexual contact with exchange of genital secretions...It is also transmitted by blood contamination, by which we do not mean a splash onto the skin or mucous membranes. It is most likely blood into the bloodstream, such as the way IV-drug users (who share needles) inject into their bloodstream blood that remains in the syringe from the prior shooter, or the way hemophiliacs get factor VIII, or others get blood transfusions directly into the vein. It is blood to bloodstream, not blood onto a laboratory bench or onto a toilet seat.

"AIDS: A Medical Overview"

□

AIDS is not about sex. Nor is it about lifestyle. Or punishment. Or "justice" or retribution, either, for that matter. Rather, it is more about misconception, rampant paranoia, and indeed injustice. AIDS is an infection of the white blood cell called the lymphocyte, the building block of the immune system, by a virus. The name of this new virus is HIV (human immunodeficiency virus), and it infects predominantly the white blood cell. In so doing, it leads to a variety of so-called opportunistic infections and unusual malignancies. Intimate sexual contact, with exchange of genital secretions, and blood contamination are the two routes of transmission of HIV and, therefore, AIDS.

□

It's a Sunday in January. A dark, quiet day here in Venice. The grayness of the weather lends a suitably gloomy aura to the afternoon. As I gather my purse and keys, and head toward the door, I pause. Somehow, I feel that after today, things just may not be the same. I'm on my way to a smallish hospital on the Westside. I'm going to meet several AIDS patients. Many of the AIDS symptoms are subtle and may only indicate simple, everyday ailments. You should be alerted, but not alarmed, if you have one or more



of the following symptoms:

weight loss of more than ten pounds during a period of less than two months that is not related to diet or increased activity;

prolonged loss of appetite; unexplained, persistent or recurrent fevers, shaking chills, or night sweats;

swollen glands which persist and are unexplained by other illnesses;

severe and prolonged fatigue; persistent and unexplained diarrhea or bloody stools;

a persistent, whitish coating (or spotting) on the tongue or in the throat which may be accompanied by soreness or difficulty in swallowing;

a heavy, persistent, dry cough that isn't due to smoking and has lasted too long to be explained by a cold or a flu;

unexplained bleeding from any orifice.

Fresh from that first visit to the hospital, I'm awash with emotion. My feelings range from recognition and familiarity, to horror and dismay. Frustration ranks right up there, too. Memories of my friend Dave race through my mind. Young, vibrant and (seemingly) healthy, he epitomized the all-American image, albeit with one not so obvious difference... he was gay. Gay isn't even the operative word here. Was is. Dave is dead. Has been, now, since last Thanksgiving, '87. The irony, dead at Thanksgiving time, traditionally the time to rejoice in life, count one's blessings, look to the future with optimism and hope. Right? Think again. I don't know the specifics of Dave's case, but after having become acquainted with a few AIDS patients so far, even with my limited knowledge, I know his death must have been, had to have been, a blessing.

However, at this point, I can't help but recall the statement made by AIDS patient, Louis Nassaney, that, when "a person lives with AIDS for

that she then proposed. Said one neighborhood activists close to the debate, "Everyone had higher hopes for Galanter."

As it is, our new councilwoman turned an issue that could have electrified the city into one where activists can only yawn and grumble about politics-as-usual. What a pity.

To arguments that appointed advisory boards are all that the council would support, I would have hoped that Galanter would have shown leadership rather than follow the self-interests of a Council few have complimented for its vision.

The watered-down community planning boards--artfully renamed Community Planning Advisory Committees lest anyone think they have clout--will be in front of the City Council within a week or so. They are a step in the right direction, but the next step looks larger than our new councilwoman seems willing to take. ●



Keep your cherub happy--bring home
the Beachhead on Valentine's Day!

a day, a second, then that's a miracle." Mr. Nassaney is in his fifth year with AIDS. He was diagnosed in May, 1983, and given 3-6 mos. to live. Though he's no longer in remission, he maintains a positive outlook on life. "Start blessing yourself - don't criticize, and be thankful for who you are."

People die all the time; car accidents, all kinds of accidents, sudden illnesses, etc. AIDS, however, is hideous. A fate many find worse than death. Dying, and in the cases of many AIDS patients, even dying alone, is one thing. The baggage that this particular disease carries with it is especially heavy. It ain't cheap, either, emotionally, psychologically or otherwise, to say nothing of the actual monetary damages that will be incurred. The economic and social impact of AIDS is staggering. Health-care costs average over \$130,000 for each AIDS patient. Insurance premiums are rising in response to the AIDS crisis. In the workplace, co-workers with valuable skills and contributions to make are gone. Loved ones are lost. And a wave of hysteria, termed "AFRAIDS" by one national publication, threatens the civil rights and well-being of literally tens of millions of Americans, including many beyond the high-risk groups.

People can be extremely irrational, incapable, in many ways, of reason and understanding. Public education and social service programs like AIDS Project L.A. offer hope, support and desperately needed services. Being informed about AIDS is vital. For more information contact:

AIDS Action Council, Ste. 200
729 Eighth Street, S.E.,
Washington, D.C. 20003
Phone: (202) 547-3101

Los Angeles AIDS Project
7362 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90046
(213) 876-AIDS

AND... keep watching these pages.▲

'Fluff' Continued from Page 1.

the competing interests. I might add that it was this non-member that proposed the version that gained most support.

Newly-elected councilmember Ruth Galanter chose the CPBs as one of her issues, and participated in several community forums where the review power and selection process were discussed at length.

The consensus by community groups like the Venice Town Council, the Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, the Westside Civic Federation and the Coalition of Concerned Communities favored elected boards with the authority to review large projects and amendments to the local community plans.

A typical approach to LPB authority was to allow the boards to review the community plans and a range of discretionary approvals. The Planning Commission and City Council would then be allowed to override the LPB decisions, but would need one-vote and two-votes more than a simple majority to override (4-1 for the Commission and 10-5 for Council).

The Planning Department came out with a report that supported extensive LPB participation in the planning process. It downplayed elections as well as decision-making power, saying that they would require "a major restructuring of city operations..."

The Planning report, authored by city planner Dan O'Donnell, pointed out that LPB elections would require a City Charter amendment, and decision-making power an amendment to the Municipal Code.

When the time came to propose how the planning boards would be formed, our new councilwoman, Ruth Galanter, took a large step backwards. Galanter introduced a motion recently for the LCBs to be entirely appointed by the local councilmember, and to be an advisory body only.

To say that leaders of the city's community groups are disappointed in the motion would be an understatement. Many regard the stand Galanter took--and she introduced the measure--as a slap at the grass-roots groups that helped elect her.

After all, nobody at the public forums she attended asked Galanter for the type of stale, hackneyed approach to community planning boards

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Venice Town Council

Thursday, February 11
Beyond Baroque Center
681 N. Venice Blvd.

AGENDA

1. Venice Neighbor to Neighbor will present a petition supporting Rose Avenue homeless services for discussion and support.
2. Charter Committee will submit an amended By-Laws for discussion and vote. Two-Thirds vote of members needed to pass.
3. Committe Reports
 - Planning & Development (305-7149)
 - Homeless 281-8323
 - Board of Directors 281-8323
 - Boardwalk Task Force (306-7756)

POLITICS

KPFK 90.7 FM special with RUTH GALANTER-----
Councilwoman Ruth Galanter will be interviewed on the problems facing the city, including the plight of the homeless. This will be the first opportunity for KPFK listeners to phone in their questions of Councilwoman Galanter. 7:30 pm Thursday, Feb 4th.

ALLIANCE FOR SURVIVAL--VALENTINE'S DAY
"Kiss War Toys Goodbye" will be the theme of two events. A balloon liftoff-with war toys tied to them--begins at noon at the Westwood Federal Bldg. 11000 Wilshire Blvd. A benefit dance starts at 8 pm at The Church in Ocean Park--235 Hill St. Music by the Bonedaddys, The Cripples and It And The Changs. \$10 at the door. Call 399-1000

BLAISE BONPANE, speaker.
Feb. 24, Wednesday. 7 p.m. Coffee refreshment Westminster Senior Center, Westminster and Pacific. Mr. Bonpane, Director of the Office of the Americas, will speak about his current experience in Nicaragua.
Sponsored by the Marina, Mar Vist, Venice Democratic Club. \$1 members, \$2 non-members. Call 306-7756 for more info.

THE BAY

SIERRA CLUB MEETING: February 8th, 7:45 P.M. at Burton Chase Park in Marina Del Rey. Heal The Bay will present a slide show on the pollution problems of SM Bay. Fomoinfo call 614-4028

WOMEN

BEHIND MY OWN DISGUISE is a weekend workshop on self-discovery, self-acceptance and self esteem for adult daughters of alcoholics, incest and battering survivors, and women from other backgrounds of chronic stress--At Alcoholism Center for Women, 1147 S. Alvarado St., Downtown LA. Cost \$40. Call 381-7805 for the facts.

ODDS & ENDS

INTERRACIAL FAMILIES POTLUCK AND SPEAKERS
Feb. 13th, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. at SM Memorial Park, 1411 Olympic Blvd, Santa Monica. Guest speakers and potluck picnic. Bring food to share. Call 656-7133.

DISCUSSION AND GET-TOGETHER FOR SINGLES
Unitarian Church, Forbes Hall, 1721 Arizona Ave., SM. Dancing and refreshments. Discussion:"My Funny Valentine". Feb. 12. 7:30 pm:mix and meet, 8:30:discussion, 9:30: dancing. \$5 donation. Call 392-4713

REICHIAN THERAPY GROUP: Ca11 393-3779

Community Events

The Beachhead welcomes notices of public meetings and entertainment for publication on the Community Events page. To have your event publicized, please mail your press release to us at P.O. Box 504, Venice 90294 by the third Sunday of the month. Late additions can be called in at 823-5092 no later than the following Wednesday.

POETRY

VENICE WRITERS' COFFEE HOUR-----
Venice Writer's will gather once again at the Venice public library, 610 California Ave. on Monday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 pm. Venice Writer's is a group which meets monthly to share info and ideas. More details: call Lucille at 821-1769. Meetings are the first Monday of every month.

BRUCE COCKBURN AT UCLA--Wadsworth Theatre
Feb. 27 at 8:30 pm. Tickets at UCLA Central Ticket Office and at all Ticketron and Ticketmaster locations, or charge by phone:825-9261.

Poetry at Midnight Special
Poetry Reading: Robert Larsen, Beth Miller, Chris Osburn, Austin Straus and others: Midnight Special Bookstore, 1350 Santa Monica Mall, Sunday, February 14, 5pm.

L.A. LOUVER

55 North Venice Boulevard, Venice, California 90291
Tuesday through Saturday 11-5 pm
213/822-4955

WORKS BY 19 BRITISH ARTISTS AT L.A. LOUVER--Feb. 5th thru March 5th

POETRY ON MELROSE AT GASOLINE ALLEY
Feb 7th--Doren Robbins
Feb. 14th--a tribute to Ann Stanford as read by poets Robin Johnson, Harry Northrup, Holly Prado and David Trinidad
Feb. 21st--Annie Reiner & Martin Nakell
3 pm at Gasoline Alley, 7219 Melrose Ave.
Donation. call 937-5177

Photocollages

Santa Monica Community College District
1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405
February 20-March 20, 1988

NEW PHOTO GALLERY AT SANTA MONICA COLLEGE
SMC will inaugurate its new Photography Gallery with an exhibition of photocollages by internationally known artist David Hockney on Friday, Feb. 19th, 7 to 9 pm. The exhibit runs for five weeks.

Beyond Baroque

FOUNDATION

Post Office Box 2727, Venice California 90291
681 Venice Boulevard, Venice California 90291
213.822.3006

- Feb. 1-Poetry workshop 8-10 pm taught by David Trinidad. 10 weeks-\$125.
- Feb. 7-8 pm -Open reading
- Feb. 12-8:30 pm-Tina Darragh & Diane Ward \$5-nonmembers, \$3 to members
- Feb. 13-"Domes" in concert, 8:30 pm. \$3-\$5
- Feb. 19-8:30 pm Rita Valencia and Rosemary Waldrop. \$3-\$5
- Feb. 27-8:30 pm-David Bromige and Steve McCaffery-\$3-\$5

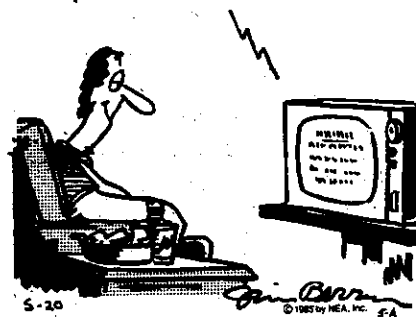
ART EXHIBIT AT SELF-STORAGE FACILITY
Five artist will show their works which have been created in storage lockers. The works will explore connotations involved with storage: preservation, surplus, excess and desire. Feb. 6-27 at Best Storage, 816 S. Grand, Downtown LA. Call 489-1223 for more info.

The Church in Ocean Park
235 Hill Street, Santa Monica

CONTINUING GROUPS

- AA Monday Evenings at 8 p.m.
- KUNG FU with Victor Walker Monday, Tuesday & Thursday at 6 pm & Saturday at 8:30 am
- OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 7:30 am & Saturday 10 am
- CISPES (WESTSIDE CHAPTER) 2nd Saturdays at 10 am (call 396-6557 for info)
- COCAINE ANONYMOUS Meditation workshops on Thursdays, 7:30 to 8:30

.....
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