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FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968

BEACHHEAD

CHEER
WAY-WAY
FREE

January 1989, #228,, P.O. Box 504, Venice, California
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AKA 320 Hampton Drive

300 Rose Avenue

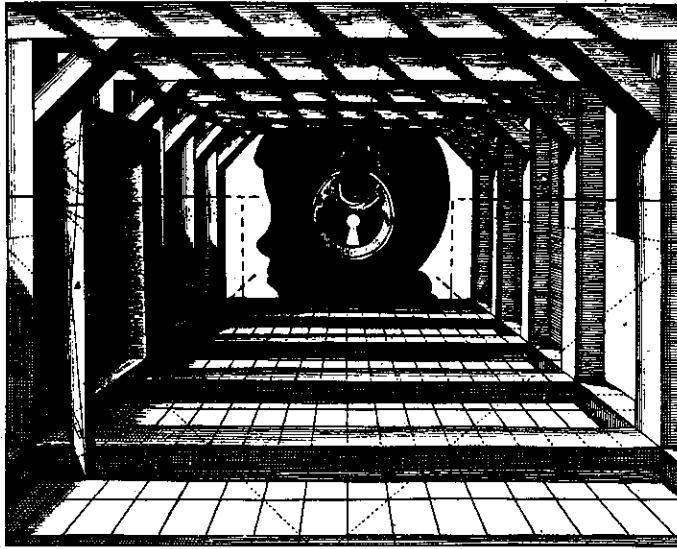
by Judith L. Martin

I went back to 300 Rose Ave. the other day, and I wasn't surprised; everything has changed. Almost everything, anyway. There is a small brick patio adjacent to the building, and while the surrounding fence has been given a fresh coat of paint, the bricks are the same. They felt wonderful under my feet; but these bricks and I are old friends. The last time I was at 300 Rose Ave, I was a student at Antioch University, and I spent a good deal of time on that patio, taking a break from work or from class.

Antioch was a great school, brimming over with creative people, many of whom did their best to provide the kind of abstract university education that was the hallmark of Antioch. Liberal Arts, write your own degree; it was, in many ways, the unofficial University of Venice. Do your own thing, and we'll give you credit. Now, 300 Rose and the adjacent lot, 320 Hampton, is occupied by the people who spread the idea that Reeboks let you be you. Sometimes, I just love irony.

So, I was there the other night, at the invitation of Chiat/Day, ad agency de luxe, for a reception to benefit St. Joseph's Center. It's all different; the entrance, even the parking lot, changed to accommodate more people. I drove in through the driveway on Hampton, my usual route, I confess, but never before have I been greeted by parking valets. I turned a neat U and parked on the street. Not that I have anything against parking valets, but I didn't have enough money on me to leave a decent tip. I wandered in across the lines of parked cars and past the shadows of ghosts that no one else could see. Despite all the fresh paint and modern art, there was a sense of something ugly in the air. Despite all the people present, it felt empty.

The party itself took place at 320 Hampton, former site of Louver Drape. I didn't expect to see anyone



I knew, but there were a few people I'd call friends; Venice activists that I see at every other meeting about the community; I don't know why I didn't expect them here. It was, in many ways, a standard fundraiser. Wine, food, speeches, a band. There were representatives from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, but the guests of honor, (their clientel) were quite absent. Of course, this was expected.

When I was a student at Antioch, I worked at the front desk as a receptionist. Being a student and a receptionist, I spent a lot of time at 300 Rose Ave. I remember every familiar face from those corridors, and not all of them were students or employees or professors. The usual street people would come in, often to use the restrooms, but anyone spending too much time in the student lounge might be asked to leave. But a few, and one guy in particular, used to come upstairs and try to enroll. I never begrudged him an application, and he would take one, every time. Our only official arrangement with St. Joseph's was a Christmas Party. One day of the year, we'd let them use the lounge and the classrooms for a Christmas Party for the homeless.

Unofficially, people lived in the parking lot, in the bushes, and in their cars until we asked them to go. Some lived there for years.

So here I was, one year after vacating the premises at the request of our landlord, back for another homeless party. Now, I have never approved of the kind of charity that says we'll give you something; if you remember to come in the back door.

If you keep in your place. If you stay out of sight. If you seem humble and grateful enough, we might give you a little bit more. Just so you don't forget where it comes from. Just so I didn't forget, I took another stroll around the property. From a purely aesthetic view, I guess the place is more attractive, but from a moral and philosophical stance, I found it lacking. I noticed that they had walled over the door to classroom one. It was in that room I studied comparative religions, art and mythology, and environmental psychology. In fact, the psych class was one of the first I took at Antioch. I thought about all the planning and all the funding that had gone into changing a small college and an industrial drapers into this chic ad agency. I thought of all the speeches and self-congratulations taking place, while the security guards and parking valets kept a close watch on every gate and door. After all, this is now valuable real estate, and invitation only.

One of the guards, trying not to seem too suspicious, asked me why I was out in the parking lot when the party was inside. I told him I was a student here when this was a school. He said, oh, yeah, well, they've changed everything. I agreed, just to be polite, and thanked him for his concern, and walked away. I turned a corner and ducked behind a wall, and stood on the brick patio again. My feet smiled, briefly, and I wrapped my past around me to keep warm as I walked out to the street.



This poem was omitted from the 20 TH Anniversary issue. SORRY! But wasn't it a GREAT ISSUE!

calcified

skeletons remain
 in my pipe bowl
 grey masses of them,
 skulls laughing
 at tito.

ANDY CASTRO

Venetians!



The next Beachhead Collective meeting takes place January 15th, at 11 A.M. at Tenant Action Center, 442 Lincoln

LETTERS...

Hey Beachhead!

I am confused all to hell! How long have you guys had that poem of mine, "Street Scene", that you published in the recent 20th Anniversary issue? It is an early version, (about 1980 or before) of a much-revised piece called "City-Scape", sub-titled (Street Scene by Darkling Light). I wish I had remembered I had sent it to you. The final version is, I think, much better.

And the form in which you presented it! I'm sure I did not write it like that---like prose, with paragraph indentations in strange places, like in the middle of the phrase. Could it be that you used it sometime earlier in the "Letter" section, and had to print it like that? I don't remember ever seeing it thus; but one poem of mine ended up so, apparently because of "space" restrictions. Maybe my Muse was smokin' some dynamite "gold" at the time and got stoned. I don't think so; but that's a possibility, I must admit. "Reefer Madness?" I'm not bitchin' about it! But I am genuinely puzzled! Here is the present version, which I much prefer. I got a bad habit of sending out stuff before it's ready.

Peace, and all that . . .
Don Johns

Dear Don Johns,

The Beachhead apologizes for having messed with your mind. Certain liberties were taken in typesetting your poem for the last issue, perhaps unfairly. It was, as you so perceptively realized, a matter of 'space'. But then, space and time are two of the big illusions we have to deal with in this life, and the Beachhead does try to keep things fair, so here is your poem, just as you want it. As for the condition of your Muse, well, you know how it is.

Love from the Beachhead

Cityscape

street scene by darkling light

Slicked down up-tight dudes and their turned out chicks,
angel-dusted punks and stone burnt out chits,
burned out bombed out crowd with twisted psyches
and satchel sized portables screeching noise,
bop their bodies and scuff their tangled feet
keeping time to some drab redundant beat.
Only the mind-blown get off on such "jive":
And cheap coke is now on the streets. Bad shit!
The "crack" toking chicks can twitch their asses,
flash some thigh, as they swap sex for a toke;
the stone coked dudes, they do nothing but pose,
try to look tough; they all ache for a boost.
Hot-wired homeboys, their circuits shorted out,
they scare one another, lookin' so bad.
Ghetto, suburbia, and barrio,
a dead-end street abuts every block;
the candy-man hustles this dead-end street...

Peace, & all that...

Don Johns

Dear Beachheads...

The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.

Thomas Jefferson

(and me too) Chuck Bloomquist

LIP, LCP comments

Dear Beachhead,

Thank you for providing the chart with responses of the neighborhood study groups to the L.U.P. categorized for easy review.

I would like to correct one element of the items listed for South East Venice section. We were quoted as saying NO to density bonuses.

In fact, we don't want the provision of a density bonus, (which is acceptable for R3/R4) to cause a building to have increased height or mass, or less setback, than that to be allowed in the specific plan for the applicable zone.

We might allow there to be less parking provided in a situation where very affordable housing units are added, but only upon review by a LIP review board. We also didn't rule out having building to our ultimate massing limit be allowed for those structures with "affordable" units in R3/R4 zones (with a smaller building mass allowed for those structures not providing affordable "afordable").

It is true that we never arrived at exact numbers with regard to F.A.R., open space requirements or volumetric standards; we need help from the city on that. However, we did have a general "performance standard" with regard to not maxing-out our land, and we expect that any density bonus system would conform to this.

Also, people may wonder how many participants we had, as they weren't named in the report...there were around forty altogether; individual meetings ranged from a low number of nine to a high of about 20, except for the first meeting, which had over thirty people participating.
---* affordable used here as a general term meaning at low cost to tenant. As a group, we are not conversant with the exact numerical distinctions between "low income" and "affordable" as official terms. Our number for "affordable" would probably be a lot lower than the official definition.

Jo Cunningham, corrdrinator,
South East Venice section

THANX to Cheryl Beauchamp for beautiful work on last month's 20th Anniversary issue--distributors.

CORRECTION-----The article "The Boardwalk in Venice" in last month's issue should have been credited to Greg Dale Cearley, as should a letter that was attributed to Greg Dale Garley. Also--the article "Joan was a Contra" should have been credited to Ted Hajar.

The VOICE of the Venice Town Council is a paid supplement to The Beachhead and does not necessarily represent the opinion of the Beachhead Collective.

FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD
SINCE 1968

Malcolm Tent, Diane Nickerson, Kathleen Alvarez, Beth Miller, Carol Fondiller, Kathy Sullivan, Memphis Slim, Sara Omari, Judith L. Martin and Victor Wightman

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. 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 submissions be limited to 1200 words and be typed in single-spaced, 4-inch-wide columns. 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 and phone number. Anonymous material will not be published, but your name will be withheld by request. If return of material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required. No payment is made for materials used.

Dear Michael Stamps;

In response to your letter, which ran in the December issue, regarding what you perceive as my attitude, i.e.: "bleeding heart" liberal, etc. I say, 1) Reread the article; 2) get your facts straight-- many of the quotes you attributed to me were either your judgements or culled from other articles in the Beachhead, 3) if, in fact, you meant to critique the entire paper, then address yourself to the Free Venice Beachhead Collective. Meanwhile;

"If I am judged by you . . .
. . . using yourself as
The example,
How can I value the opinion
of one so narrow minded?"

Kasimu © 88

AND

The depth of a person's ignorance is their belief in injustice and tragedy. What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the Master calls a Butterfly!

Zen Master Richard Bach

Sincerely,
Diane Nickerson

Salino

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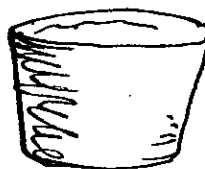
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"STRAW?"

Gerlie



Decompression

by Beth Miller

Isn't that what you call it when a deep-sea diver comes to the surface reaches the light of day but cannot breathe the transparent air until he passes through a decompression chamber to adjust to the oxygen?

When the astronauts return from outer space don't they have to stay on the base before they rejoin society?

And when spies come in from the cold don't they have to be debriefed before they go on vacation to make the transition, prepare for re-entry into ordinary life?

And when you come back from a psychedelic trip, crossing through those doors of perception, don't you have to spend some time outside of time waiting for the layers of personality?

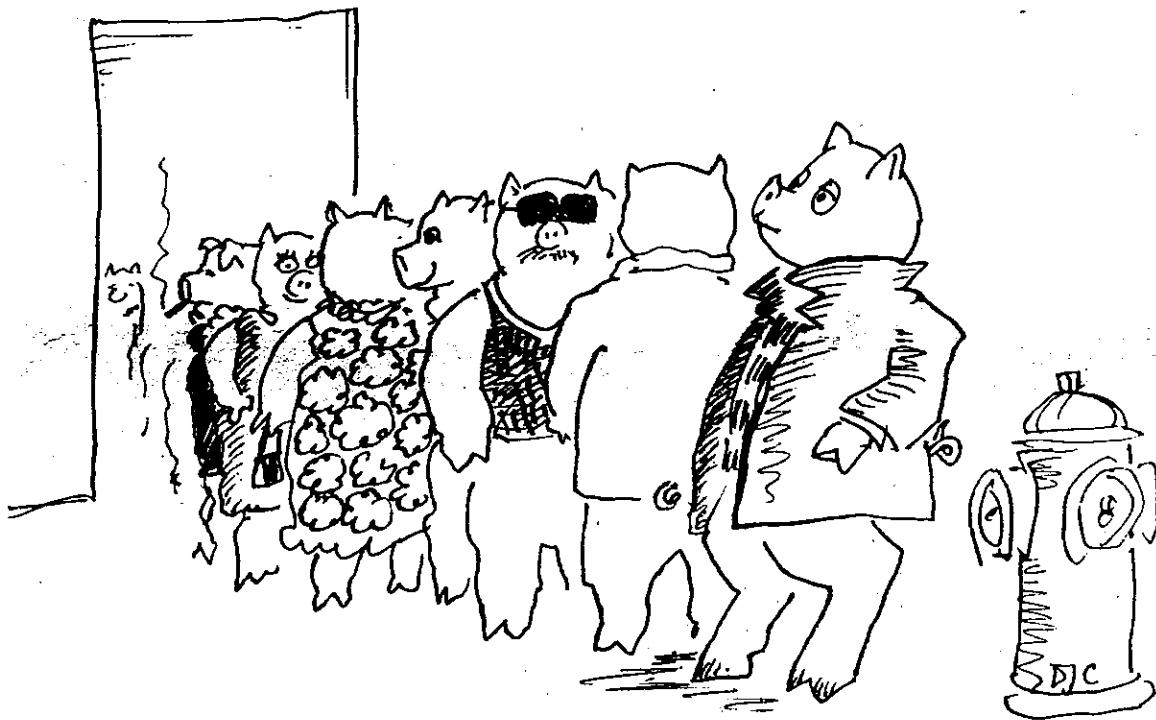
And when you come home from the hospital, don't you love opening the door on your own smells and rituals and trivial pleasures? How do you break the guilty bonds? How do you set yourself free of the strings attached after your mother's visit?



Joel Per

THIS LITTLE PIGGY...

HAMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT



THIS LITTLE PIGGY DOES NOT WISH YOU THE BUSH YEARS AHEAD!

Bits and Pieces

by Geriatric Jack

tidbits


32.5 million Americans in poverty and increasing.

The Census Bureau says that since 1967 the richest fifth of families have increased their share of the nation's income (from 40.4 to 43.7 percent) while the share of the poorest fifth declined. That's not even counting capital gains, a major source of income for the affluent. This trend has accelerated during the Reagan era.

Your Community "Development?" Agency has helped build more than 12,000 new units of low and middle income housing BUT HAS DESTROYED 11,200 apartments and homes. They just gave a \$1.5 million loan to a nightclub at 8.5% interest. Eat your heart out homebuyers!

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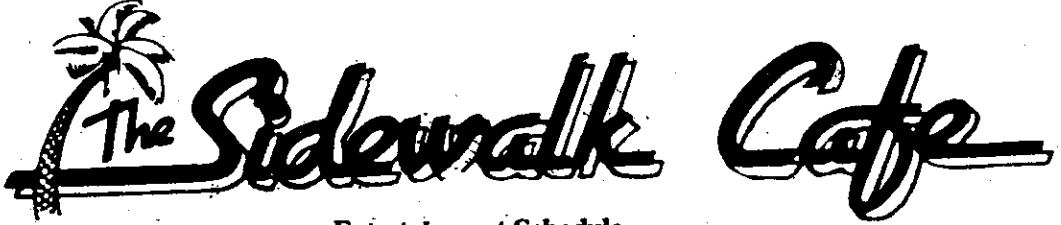
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CHROMA



VOICE OF THE VENICE TOWN COUNCIL



EDITOR: Challis Macpherson

Volume I, Issue 2, January, 1989

MARINA "BYPASS"?

The Venice community, and since its founding in 1973 the Venice Town Council, have continuously opposed construction of the Marina Bypass (I90, formerly the Richard M. Nixon Freeway) for over twenty years.

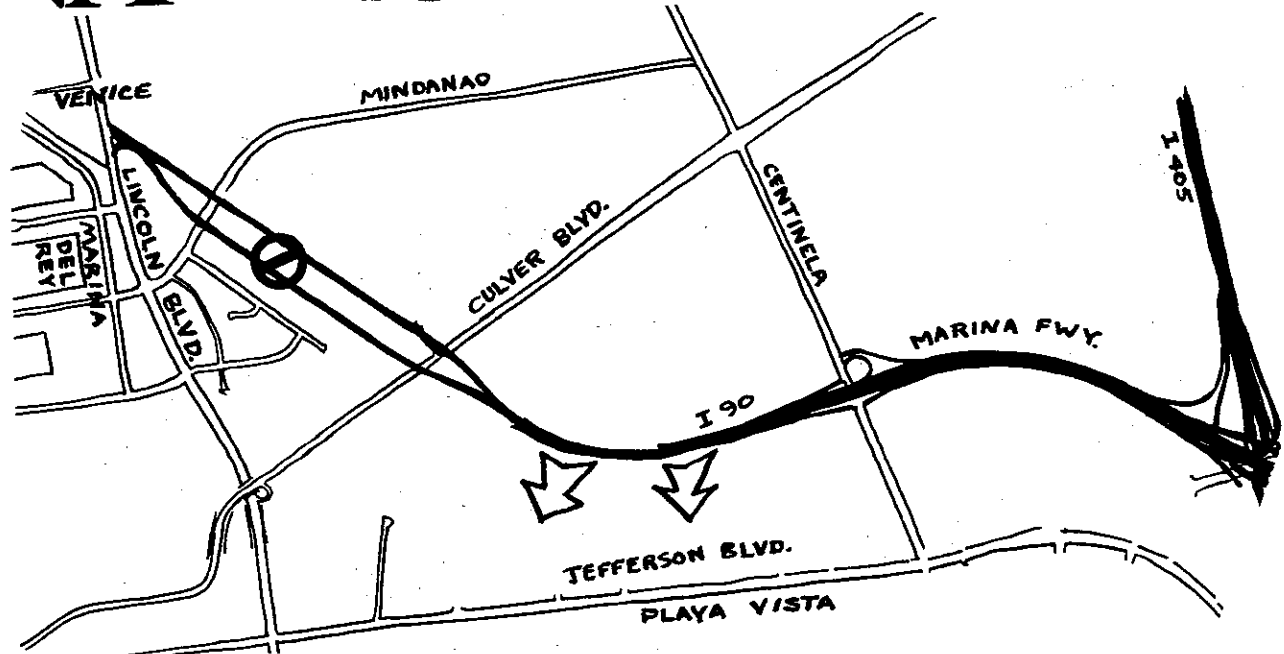
We testified recently at a hearing of the Los Angeles County Planning Commission on the Local Implementation Plan (LIP) for Marina del Rey.

Also testifying for the opposition were Jim Bickhart for Councilwoman Ruth Galanter; Mark Mayer for the Oxford Triangle Neighborhood Residents' Association of which he is President; Rebecca Logue for the J. H. Snyder Co.; and several Triangle residents.

Now we understand the County Supervisors are not united in a commitment to push a "bypass" on us either.

As the major leasee in the Marina (Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Red Onion and Marina City Club) and the owner of the Venice property that such a freeway would have to cross, the J. H. Snyder Co. speaks with a loud voice when it says, "We oppose construction of the Marina Bypass and will do everything within our means to assure that it is never completed."

It is time for us to call upon the County Board of Supervisors and Caltrans to remove



THE MARINA "BYPASS": EITHER TAKE IT OFF THE MAP OR TURN IT SOUTH!!

the Marina Freeway from their maps or to turn the route south to serve the Marina and the massive amount of traffic that project will be generating all too soon.

When that action puts an end to two decades of controversy, the "Bypass" will not only be a dead issue, but will be buried!

Venice Is A Prototype Of A Model Community *President's Message*

Some people like to tell us that Venice is "obsolete". But Venice is actually a model for the most innovative design for new communities. We need to understand and defend what is so very special about our town in order to preserve it.

Sherie Scheer, a neighbor, told me that a magazine article about "leading edge" design of communities described Venice. The library provided it, "A Good Place To Live" by Philip Langdon, *Atlantic Monthly*, Mar. 1988.

Since the '50s, planning has tried to separate function, provide secure private space and include recreation and open green spaces to create "appearance" of community. Real community failed to happen and the automobile control over lives continued.

Now planners are going back to the nineteenth century town where straight, narrow streets lead to useful places, slow traffic with on-street parking, are framed by street trees in even rows. The emphasis is on human scale, pedestrian orientation, and sidewalks and bike paths encourage alternate transportation.

One popular new town offers a "choice of walking in the open air or under a continuous arcade embellished with small courts" like the Windward Colonades. Front porches, windows and fences are all important. Public spaces act as "public rooms" with tightly defined space. Private outdoor space is secure and separate.

Today, most municipal codes make it impossible to mix offices, shopping and housing with compact, tightly defined open space. The people who write the codes are more powerful than the architects who design the buildings. Architects should be designing the spaces between buildings more than the spaces within them, according to Langdon.

Some important features of all these new towns is the inclusion of civic and religious buildings, post offices, childcare centers, as well as shops, restaurants, theatres and office buildings. Some are fortunate enough to have a railroad station and industrial job opportunities.

The automobile is always in conflict with a livable environment. Parking should be provided in small areas, and larger lots broken up by sidewalks and plantings to get people quickly into contact with real places. Streets, on the other hand, allow people to "shop the street" from their cars.

A major component of real community is the ability to govern itself flexibly and democratically. Town meetings and organizational documents written for people, not just attorneys, are important elements of this self governance. Community empowerment is the result.

Bell Chumley

Venice Renaissance CUP

The general membership of the Venice Town Council has voted to oppose the granting of a conditional use permit to allow two restaurants with alcoholic beverage permits to operate in Venice Renaissance, 110 Navy Street, now under construction.

In a long letter to James J. Crisp, associate zoning administrator, reasons for the opposition expressed include:

- scale, height, density of the original project,
- restaurant use was never proposed for this project,
- intensification of use in an already impacted area,
- patrons tend to use the surrounding streets for parking, and no employee parking is provided.
- the use of off-site parking to meet the requirements for the project.

Hearing on the conditional use permit is scheduled for Dec. 19, at the West LA City Hall. Written comments can be sent to Mr. Crisp, room 600, City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012-4856.

NEXT MEETING

January 12



Venice Town Council

Thursday at 7:30

Agenda

Bring Your Brain!

This will be a brainstorming, working session to address the long-range goals of the Venice Town Council.

It is time for us to establish the goals that will take us into the twenty-first century.

Location:

Old Venice City Hall

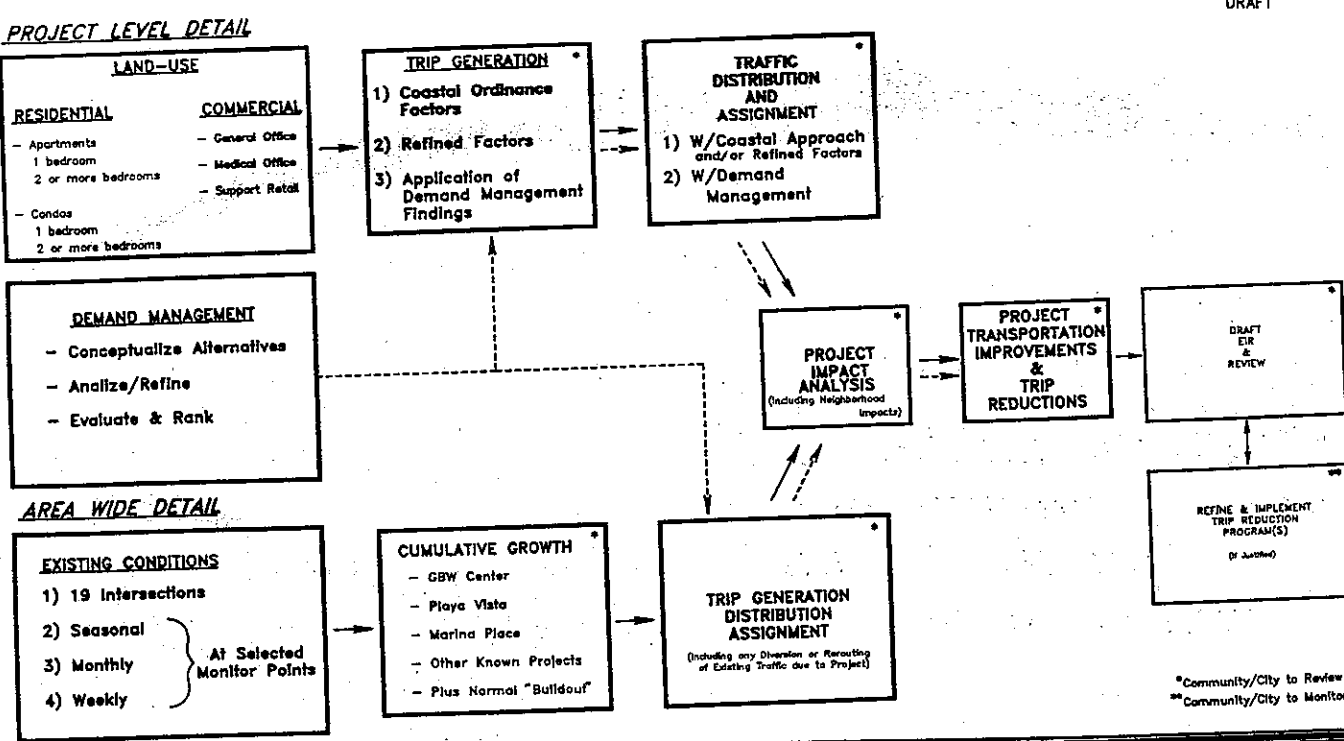
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MARINA GATEWAY TRAFFIC STUDY PROCESS

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 DRAFT



The J. H. Snyder Co. has hired a traffic consultant of our choice to help us analyze the traffic studies which will go into their Environmental Impact Report for the project (which is presently unnamed) in the Oxford Triangle.

The graph shows the process which will be followed. By December 13, the data will go to the drafters of the EIR, so that their preliminary report can be completed by January 2.

Representatives of the Venice Town Council will be meeting with them again on Jan. 10, with all modifications to the EIR due by the 20th. We solicit your written comments before that meeting. If all goes according to schedule, the formal EIR review program will take place from January 20 through April 20.

The City of Los Angeles has requested the study of 19 intersections. These include the following, some of which are double:
 Admiralty at Bali
 Lincoln at Venice, Jefferson, Mindanao, Bali, Fiji, Marina Fwy.
 Walgrove at Venice, Washington
 Maxella at Glencoe, Redwood
 Marina Fwy at Culver, Mindanao
 Glencoe at Washington

The Venice Town Council has requested that ten additional intersections be studied, many of which are the limited ingress and egress for the Oxford Triangle. Others are where we see existing traffic re-routed by this project. We have also asked that the impact of cumulative growth be addressed and that neighborhood preservation be given as much attention as the movement of traffic.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ Editorial Comments ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Oxford Flood Control Basin (duck pond)

In 1963, the Oxford Basin was designed with a primary function as a flood control basin draining southeast Venice, and parts of Culver City and Del Rey, and a secondary function as a wildfowl sanctuary. The operative word here is wildfowl. Mr. Steele of Fish and Game negotiated this use. I have lived in the Oxford Triangle for 14 years. For the first few years, flocks of Black-crowned Night Herons nested in the fruit trees in our back yard, great Blue Herons and Egrets sported in the flood control basin, and migratory wildfowl came and went with the appropriate equinox. Twice a day the basin waxed salt water and waned mud as deemed by the tides coming through the flap-gated conduit under Admiralty Way connecting Marina del Rey with the flood control basin. The fencing was not secure and, in fact, had several holes in it. If any domestic birds or animals got tossed into the basin by irresponsible humans, natural selection vis-a-vis local dog and cat predations made short work of these sincerely unfortunate human discards. A natural situation of prey and predator was set up.

Venice Town Council

Old Venice City Hall
 681 N. Venice Blvd.
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- () I will stuff envelopes, & help with the VOICE and misc. mailings.
- () I will distribute flyers on my block.
- () I am especially interested in the problem of: _____
- () I am interested in working on a committee, please contact me.

You are the big winner.



It wasn't for the squeamish. But then, most of this planet isn't Disneyland and isn't for the squeamish. The reality of life is that all of us predators enjoy rabbit, chicken, duck and goose. Dogs and cats are no different.

There are real criminals here — the criminals are those humans that tossed all those chickies, duckies and bunnies that had the audacity to get uncute, gawky adolescent and demanding. The criminals are of the two-legged variety that lack responsibility for their households.

In 1983, several well-intentioned but ignorant and volunteers started feeding the discarded family pets. The fence was repaired and the sloppy, erratic system of prey and predator closed. The creatures were well fed and multiplied without any checks or balances to the population growth.

As is the case with all well-fed populations with finite expansion room, problems appeared. Disease and staggering work for the volunteers as more and more animals were born — rabbits especially. Another problem — rabbits are rodents. Rodents burrow and dig. These rodents dug into the banks of the flood control basin threatening the basin with increased erosion. If the basin fills with dirt or even partly with dirt and the volume is reduced, my home will flood the next really heavy rain storm. That makes me very, very interested in rodent activities in the flood control basin.

Complaints of fecal contamination of "Mothers' Beach" in the Marina. "Mothers' Beach" closed. Patrick Wall of Earth Alert produces a video on contamination of Santa Monica Bay and devotes 20 minutes to Oxford flood control basin and its creatures unbridled breeding, and the trash and fecal matter littering the basin. Residents surrounding the basin become aware of not only noisome smells (fecal matter on the wind) but increased rat activity as other rodents take advantage of the food laid out at the basin.

October 25, 1988 the Small Craft Harbor Commission held a public hearing to present a land use plan by an Ad Hoc Committee composed of representatives from the County Animal Care and Control Department, a volunteer group of that department, the Marina del Rey Area Chamber of Commerce, the Marina Lessees Association and the Marina del Rey Library. Please note that not one representative from the several residents' groups that directly border the basin were included in this Ad Hoc Committee.

The room was packed at the October public hearing. Television stations were there. Newspaper people were there. Emotions were not on a sane level. Residents testified to the stress and harassment of fecal smells, roosters crowing all night and irritation that people — that weren't residents of the area — inflecting a smelly barnyard and amateur animal husbandry on the residents.

The faction supporting the creature population were equally vocal. "A bunny is the personification of innocence, and how we treat that bunny is how we treat innocence." (Follow that one if you can.)

Nothing was resolved. Public testimony was taken and, hopefully, relayed and not filed. Heal the Bay's resident scientist, Mark Gold, proposed a wetlands for the basin after it was returned to a flood control basin exclusively. I spoke as a member of the Venice Town Council and an altogether too close a neighbor to the basin and its current numerous inhabitants. My response to the proposed land use plan was that it did not address the problem. It wasn't logical, it wasn't rational. At best it attempted to placate all the warring human elements and, therefore, solved none of the problems. I further stated that the proposed land use plan would open a section of the flood control basin's 10.5 acres to human use (picnic tables, etc.) which would be yet another source of pollution. Sacks and trash from lunches would all go into the water. I stated that the Venice Town Council's Environmental Committee absolutely supported the wetland proposal for the flood control basin as submitted by Heal the Bay.

I will make copies of the wetlands proposal available for anybody that calls and asks for same.

My emphasis here and in my testimony was that neighborhood representation is a must for the Ad Hoc Committee. My letter to the commission reiterated this.

The rodents must go. The basin must be returned to its status as a fully functioning flood control facility. How do we keep irresponsible humans from throwing outgrown pets over the fence? I doubt if we can. But we can build a fence that allows small animals ingress and egress to the basin. Sign the fence stating that any domestic animals that get thrown into the area will either starve or get eaten by opportunistic dogs and cats. Put the burden back onto the criminal here.

Establish the wetlands and return the secondary function of the basin — a sanctuary for wildfowl. Lots of hollering and slaving about the rights of domestic animals are heard — what about the rights of the wildfowl for which the original negotiators had in mind. The pressure from inappropriate domestic creatures has pushed the wildfowl away. This issue will not die quickly. But it is essential that the basin be returned to its primary function as a flood control basin with absolutely stable sides. It is in our best interest to get a functioning wetland in there and start allowing toxins from the flood channel system to be processed by a wetlands.

Edell Macpherson

joan e. del monte
 broker
 real estate investment & exchanges
 (213) 399-3230

1415 W. Washington Blvd. Venice Calif. 90291

Sixth District Perspective by Councilwoman Ruth Galanter

Nothing is more uniquely "Venice" than the last remnants of its famous canals. The crumbling remains of those once grand waterways offer one of the most tangible links to Venice's past. Over the years, many canals have been filled in and others allowed to deteriorate. Canal-area residents and visitors have for years proposed different ways to fix up or change the canals. Each of these proposals has foundered.

In 1969, one plan was successfully challenged by low and moderate income residents who felt that the plan would force all such people out of the area. In 1987, a later proposal bumped up against state and federal requirements designed to protect rapidly vanishing coastal resources. Many of those federal and state requirements did not exist in 1969, but they came thick and fast in the 1970s. In 1970, California enacted its California Environmental Quality Act and Congress passed the Clean Water Act. In 1972, California voters enacted the Coastal Initiative. In 1976, the legislature passed the Coastal Act.

Unfortunately, in developing a canals rehabilitation project in the early 1980s, the City ignored the findings in its own environmental study. This set up an inevitable confrontation between state and federal agencies whose job is to enforce environmental regulations and the then-proposed Venice Canals rehabilitation project.

When I took office in July 1987, this proposal had already been approved by the Council at the request of my predecessor. It had not, however, been approved by any of the state or federal agencies responsible for protecting our environment. Although the project's supplemental EIR acknowledged that the all-concrete plan would completely obliterate the existing wetlands areas in the canals, I decided to send the proposal to the Coastal Commission for their review rather than hold up the process.

It was at the Coastal Commission that the environmental shortfalls of the project became an issue. The Commission also alerted us that both the Fish and Game, and Fish and Wildlife Departments would recommend against approval of the project to both the Commission and the Army Corps of Engineers because the proposal did not comply with the relevant state and federal laws.

At this point I asked the State Coastal Conservancy to assist the City in finding some design alternatives that would meet the requirements of the various federal and state laws. The Conservancy suggested something called Armorflex, a blanket of interlocking concrete blocks with hollow centers. These blankets can be laid down along the canal banks, the hollow cores filled with soil and native vegetation planted. Armorflex can preserve, or even expand, a sufficient amount of wetland area while providing a stable, long-lasting lining for the canal banks.

It also has the advantage of being about \$700,000 less expensive than the previous proposal and is easier to install.

Since then, I have met several times with residents of the canals to discuss the various concerns our canals project must address, including: 1) Maintaining sufficient wetland habitat, 2) Safety, 3) Aesthetics, 4) Cost, 5) Potential delays.

While the Armorflex plan appears to be the best alternative to date, it is not "set in concrete." I remain open to exploring other options, but we must decide soon on a project that meets the concerns of all the agencies involved. The only guaranteed alternative to ignoring these concerns is more years of delay. I think this project has already taken far too long.

Let's make the decision soon. We all stand to benefit if we do.

Laura Lake for LA City Council

by Arnold Springer

I support Laura Lake first of all out of a sense of reciprocity. She and her friends in the Westwood and WLA area supported us in our campaign to defeat Pat Russell and elect Ruth Galanter. These neighbors recognized that our struggle was their struggle, too. They were enlightened enough to help us and together we were successful. I would like to help them, because it is in our best interests here in Venice to help them.

I guess we're talking about slow growth and the quality of life issues on the Westside. What this means to me is maintaining a humane scale of neighborhood, dampening real estate speculation, preserving existing neighborhood-serving businesses, maintaining our stock of low income housing, and giving neighborhoods more power to control new development.

It also means to return to communities the ability to discuss, debate and take positions on pending municipal legislation which actually means on policy decisions which effect all the communities of Los Angeles City.

On a larger scale I think it means perestroika for Los Angeles. All the emasculated communities and depressed neighborhoods need to be revitalized by returning power to community and neighborhood, by restricting Los Angeles City government to the administration of things. What has to happen is that policy needs to be discussed and debated in the neighborhoods and communities with the Council representatives taking their marching orders or at least their cues from these sources. What we desperately need is to rethink the relationship between community and neighborhood, and the vast cancerous political blob, Los Angeles City.

I know that Ruth Galanter feels that such restructuring is necessary. I know that Laura Lake thinks so, too. We need to address the issues of quality of life directly and forcefully but we have to work within the system, and that means constant pressure in pursuit of our goals, all the while realizing that we can't easily or simply undo the work of the Dan Garcias, Pat Russells and Nick Patsureases. They have thrown up precedent and institutional roadblocks which continue to serve the interests of a vested bureaucracy and an arrogant class of real estate speculators and fixers who have the power of law, precedent, the courts, and money on their side. They have the system.

Try as we might we cannot take the system away from them. We can capture some positions, win some battles, but we can't win the war by working within the system. So, we have to work both within and outside the system. First to temper it, second to force upon it fundamental changes.

I believe that Laura Lake, as Ruth, is prepared to work within the system. As Ruth she understands the limits of working within it and will welcome all the pressure she gets from those who want her to go faster and further in the area of systemic changes, that is community and neighborhood empowerment. She will stand up to developers and arrogant elected and appointed officials for us. She will help us to achieve our objectives in Venice, both in terms of planning, and in terms of political perestroika. She's the best and most trustworthy candidate running for Yaroslavsky's seat and I think it is in all of our best interests to support her.

Trends: Where Is Venice Going?

by Dell Chumley

Venice is a land area of 1,798.9 acres, or less than 3 square miles in the City of Los Angeles' 465 square miles, as well as the five county "Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area" of 34,000 square miles. When we read about growth to 18.1 million population by the year 2010, it is for this 34,000 square mile area.

Where does Venice fit in? We should have had this information before we did the Local Coastal Plan. Here it is: Basic Census data, compiled by the Federal Government every ten years since 1780, is by Tract and Block.

Blocks are about the same as when we "walk around the block". Tracts are groups of Blocks and the smallest divisions in which data is published. Venice is made up of eleven Tracts.

Going back to the Tracts, adding up the numbers for 1960, 1970 and 1980 is the research background of this report. A 1986 estimate compiled by the Census Bureau gives us more up-to-date information on a few topics.

The total population of Venice has gone from 37,236 in 1960, down to 36,137 in 1970, up to 36,553 in 1980 and 38,183 in the 1986 estimate. Our community plan population capacity is 61,300. (one person per room.)

Total ethnic data was not available because in 1980 the Census Bureau changed counting procedures, and smaller numbers are dropped off to avoid identification. In the aggregate, Venice is very close to being a cross-section of the area in ethnic mix with about 10% Black, 20% Hispanic, and a sizable smaller number of "Foreign Stock" (Census Bureau term). Los Angeles is about 10% Black, 14% Hispanic, 6% Asian and 75% Anglo.

In housing units we have a steady, slow climb from 14,594 in 1960; 15,466 in 1970; 18,398 in 1980; to 19,179 in 1986. Our community plan capacity for units is 23,932. We are the third most dense Planning Area (of 35) in LA after Westlake and Wilshire. We are very near build out. Home ownership is low, under 25%, remains stable.

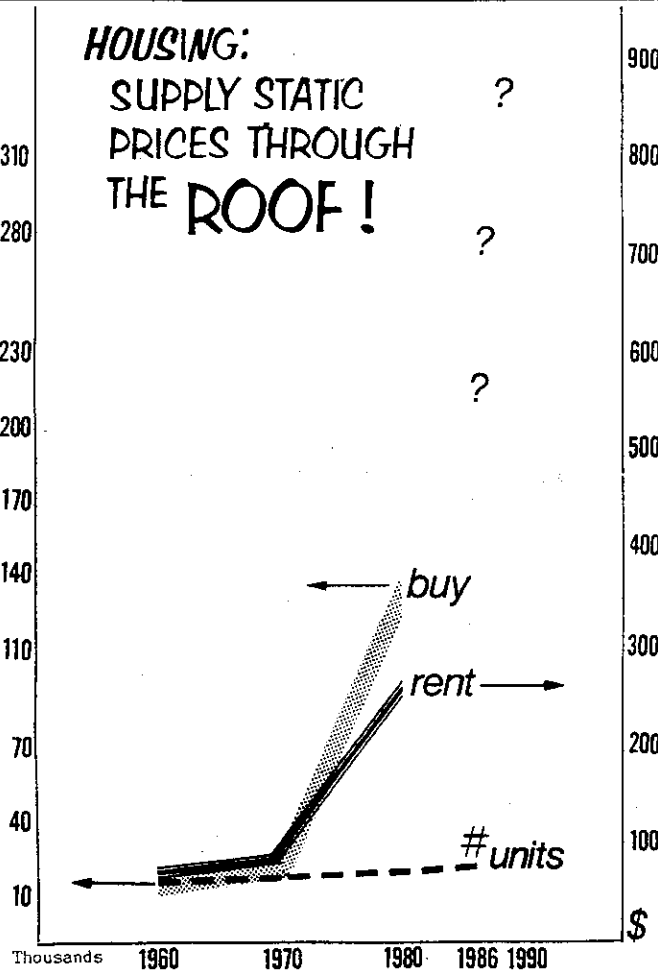
Automobile ownership explains why we feel that parking is getting worse! Since 1960 our 12,268 vehicles have nearly doubled to 23,343.

The real story is in property values. Both median rents and median prices went up between 1960 and 1970, but from 1970 to 1980 the rise is indeed dramatic. And the 1980 median rent of \$258.12 and sales price of \$130,955. gives an idea of the acceleration since 1980!

Conclusions:

- "Affordable housing" is our most serious crisis.
- We are already doing our part to house the large numbers of new residents who will come to Los Angeles during the next thirty years.

If we can house and shelter our own, we can have the social, economic and ethnic diversity that is the goal for this World Class Pacific Rim Capitol City in the year 2000. We are already there!



Calendar of Events

- JANUARY 3: Tuesday
7:45 am VTC Communication Team meeting at Maxwells Restaurant, Washington & Walgrove, (breakfast meeting!)
- JANUARY 6: Friday
7:00 am Farmers' Market, OFW & Windward
- JANUARY 9: Monday
6:30 pm Writers coffee hour at the Venice Library. Informal group, bring work to share Lucille 821-1769
- JANUARY 12: Thursday
7:30 pm Venice Town Council generam meeting Brainstorming session, bring ideas for long-range goals into 21st cent.
- JANUARY 10 through JANUARY 13, California Coastal Commission meets at Burton Chase Park, MdR. Call Long Beach office (590-5071) for agenda
- JANUARY 13: Friday
7:00 am Farmers' Market, OFW & Windward
- JANUARY 14: Saturday
1:00 pm International Guiding Eyes to show film & special dog at Venice Library. Call 821-1769
- JANUARY 16: Monday
7:30 pm Regular meeting of Venice Historical Society at Venice Public Library
- JANUARY 20: Friday
7:00 am Farmers' Market, OFW & Windward
8:00 am Venice Community Vision regular meeting at Westchester Field Office
- JANUARY 26: Thursday
7:00 pm Venice Town Council Board meeting
- JANUARY 27: Friday
7:00 am Farmers' Market, OFW & Windward

Venice Town Council Team Concept, Outreach/Membership

The OUTREACH/MEMBERSHIP committee of the Venice Town Council is chaired by Ms. Beth Miller. The primary responsibility of this team is soliticing and processing memberships. After a membership is received, the new member is added to our roster, and the mailing list for the VOICE. The check is sent to the treasurer and the skills information related to the appropriate committee.

Ms. Miller gets mailing labels to the VOICE committee each month, greets people attending the general membership meetings, provides membership applications as needed and sends out dues reminders/renewals.

This committee contacts Venice residential groups to enlist them in the Venice Town Council as organizational members. This is a new approach for the Council. Residential groups are encouraged to send representatives to general meetings, for input as well as getting VTC information back to the individual groups. The VTC is increasing its broad-based support -- cutting across all ethnic groups geographically all over Venice. It is important that we all talk, and fight, and make up, and get the word about that the community spirit is alive and well in Venice.

* * * * *

Again, a listing of the committees working as teams for the Venice Town Council. Don't hesitate to contact any team's chairperson.

MEETING ARRANGEMENTS: Carol Berman, 396-0811
LEGAL & NEGOTIATIONS: Debra Bowen, 284-8500
OUTREACH/MEMBERSHIP: Beth Miller, 450-4178
COMMUNICATIONS: Challis Macpherson, 822-1729
SOCIAL SERVICE: Barbara Palivos, 396-1169
FINANCE: Fran Solomon, 396-1585
DEVELOPMENT: Arnold Springer, 823-5092
ENVIRONMENT: Iylene Weiss, 306-5078

Again, efficient administration of a volunteer organization requires participation from everyone!

Contact the team of your choice today.

Classic V.W.
Volkswagon "BUG", early 1965, new exterior, running but needs some work.
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graphic design
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santa monica, ca 90405
213 452-2919

Marina Place Update

THE TOWN COUNCIL is suing Culver City, the Prudential, and Mel Simon Associates in an effort to reduce the size and the negative impacts of the proposed Marina Place shopping center.

We are fighting an insurance company -- an opponent with very deep pockets. So far, VTC has been able to litigate successfully by recruiting plenty of free and almost-free help -- but we also need money. If we all reach into our shallow pockets and give a little, our combined power will overcome their financial advantage.

We desperately need someone to spearhead a fund-raising effort. We also need volunteers to carry out our fundraising plans. Can you help? If you can, please call the VTC at 281-8323, or Debra Bowen at 392-0510.

Zanja Neighborhood Residents Association

The Zanja Neighborhood Residents' Association (ZNRA) was formed in 1983 in response to a proposal by Prudential Insurance Company to build a high-rise office complex one block east of the Lincoln/Washington intersection, in Culver City. Nearby residents were outraged at the prospect of having five office towers (12 to 17 stories) abutting their neighborhood.

Since 1983, Prudential has put forth a variety of commercial or commercial/residential proposals for Marina Place, all of them in excess of one million square feet of development. The ZNRA's position has been that any development of Prudential's property should enhance and complement the surrounding area, not destroy it by exacerbating existing problems such as traffic congestion, jobs-housing imbalance, and inadequate sewage treatment capacity. None of Prudential's proposals have met this standard.

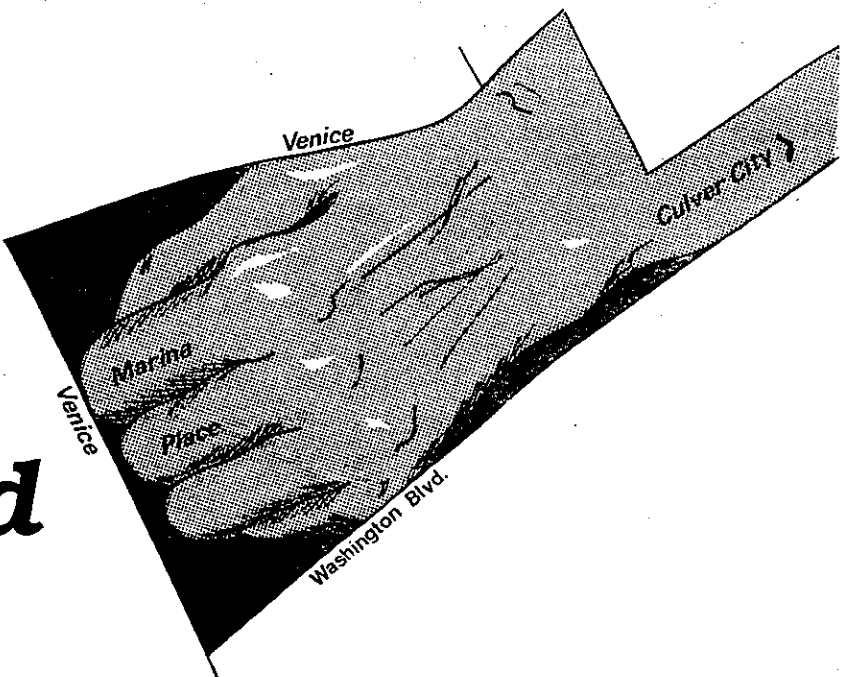
The Marina Place site is an inappropriate location for a regional shopping center or a regional attraction of any type. The area cannot handle the volume of traffic such a development would need to sustain itself.

The ZNRA supports both the City of Los Angeles and the Venice Town Council in their lawsuits against Prudential Insurance (Culver City) in the hope that we will one day see a development on the site that benefits everyone.

Submitted by Ms. Martha Platt, Pres. Zanja Neighborhood Residents' Assoc.

THE MORTGAGE CAPITAL GROUP
Jeff Solomon & Katrina Meier
Make Westside Real Estate Loans
\$100,000 to \$5,000,000
The Mortgage Capital Group
213-276-3377

Don't let Venice be KO'd



Lincoln & Washington will be three times capacity
Blocking Coastal Access
Impacting surrounding Venice neighborhoods
Closing Venice businesses with a two level Lincoln Blvd.

JUST SAY NO! TO A REGIONAL SHOPPING MALL!

Send contributions to the Venice Legal Defense & Education Fund
c/o the Venice Town Council, Old Venice City Hall
681 North Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291 Phone: (213)281-8323

Yes, I support responsible development on this site and oppose a regional mall.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Here is my contribution:
\$500. \$100. \$50. \$25. time/skill

By Rex Frankel

The elections are over, you think. Well, don't relax yet. While George Bush sold himself as a born again environmentalist, with his "gentler and kinder nation" B.S., now it's time for our local leaders and their media lackeys to sugar coat their atrocious policies to sell the public one more time.

It's the race for L.A. Mayor, and Tom Bradley, who's held the job for 16 years, faces the fight of his career against Westwood-councilman Zev Yaroslavsky. But Zev really isn't Bradley's worst enemy--no--it's the mayor's record on community issues that may defeat him this April. To borrow a phrase used in the presidential elections: Where was Tom the last 16 years?

Growth--The Mayor and ex-councilwoman Pat Russell fought enforcement of local Community Plans for years---until a lawsuit filed by a coalition of neighborhood groups forced the City to do it. Before the suit, the City could grow from 3 million people to 10 million. How?--well such as leveling most of Venice west of W. Washington Blvd., replacing bungalows with buildings 5 times as dense. The Venice Community Plan stopped that. Enforcement of Community Plans throughout L.A. limit the City's population to 4 million.

Trying to sway westside slow growers, Bradley last month asked Santa Monica officials to cut in half a planned office and movie studio project on vacant land at the SM Airport. Bradley called the project "too dense", saying "Our city feels strongly enough about this issue that if Santa Monica ignores our wishes, you are likely to see a lawsuit initiated and pursued."

In recent months, Bradley has come out against two major shopping malls: Culver City's Marina Place and the Westside Pavillion, and supported a lawsuit filed against the Marina Place mall by LA City. What puzzles me is why

the Mayor now is opposing these big projects. Could his new-found community concern be traced to the upcoming mayoral election? Could it be that Bradley is trying to upstage Yaroslavsky--who has fought Bradley's OK of other more dense projects, the Occidental Petroleum beachfront oil wells, etc. Yaroslavsky co-authored the density-cutting Proposition U, passed by 70% of L.A. voters in 1986. Bradley opposed it and helped Pat Russell rush through Development Agreements for two of Russell's pet projects, the Howard Hughes Center and Continental City, protecting them from Prop. U's limitations. Amazingly, these two projects are more than twice as dense as the SM Airport or Marina Place projects. Moreover, while Bradley now will fight the Culver City and Santa Monica projects, they are insignificant compared to what he's already OKed in his own city in the last 4 years. Adding up the numbers on the Hughes Center, Continental City, LAX Northside and Playa Vista--westsiders face over 20 million square feet of new development--ten times the size of the Marina Place and SM Airport projects combined.

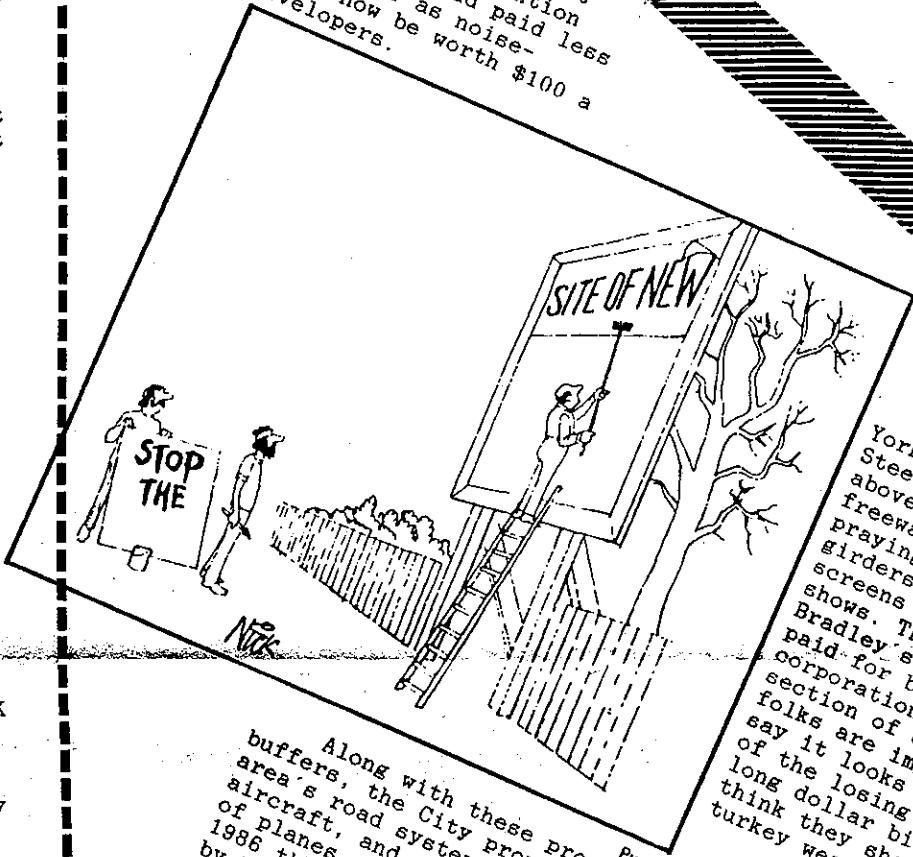
The fact that the SM Airport and Marina Place projects are in other cities may have a lot to do with Bradley's turnaround. L.A. won't make any tax dollars from the projects, even though the traffic impacts will be felt largely by L.A. voters. And unlike the Hughes Center/Playa Vista and Continental City, Bradley has not received any campaign contributions from the out of L.A. projects.

How did the mayor plan to solve the traffic jams created by his local pet projects? Well, along Lincoln Blvd., it entails demolishing all the businesses between the L.A. airport and Washington Blvd--then widening the street. Sort of like Reagan's deficit financing--Bradley just mortgages the future of our neighborhoods and local businesses to allow big corporations their usual obscene profits. Now that Reagan is on his way out, the public faces massive tax increases or cuts in domestic

programs to pay for Reagan's military buildup. On the local level, Bradley and Russell's traffic plan had loopholes galore, and they "miscalculated" how much it would cost to widen streets, etc. But because of Development Agreements, the Mayor's favorite

Mayoral Politricks Growth and Greed

Projects are exempt from paying their fair share, and in fact, will pay only one-third the fees charged to all other builders now. Whoops!
In Westchester, the L.A. International Airport expanded rapidly in the 1970's--taking 3000 homes. City officials promised that the 300 acres of former neighborhoods would be a noise buffer zone, with soundwalls, landscaping, with parks etc. By the 1980's, after all the homes would be a noise buffer zone, the vacant land and residents had been swept away, and air freight became an office project, maybe a convention center. Land that the City had paid less than \$1 a square foot for as noise-impacted homes could now be worth \$100 a square foot to developers.



York's Statue of Liberty. Dubbed the Steel Cloud, the monument will rise above the regularly gridlocked Hollywood Freeway and will look sort of like a praying mantis built out of steel girders, with 10-story high movie screens and aquariums, and trendy art shows. The monument, like much of Bradley's re-election campaign, will be paid for by developers and other huge corporations. Reading the letters section of our daily papers--not many folks are impressed by the letters of the losing designs was a four block-long dollar bill. If I had my way, I think they should have made it a big turkey wearing a gas mask.

Along with these promises for noise buffers, the City promised to fix the area's road system, require a quieter aircraft, and set a limit on the number of planes using the airport. Well, in 1986 the Airport's management, appointed by Mayor Bradley, exceeded the promised flight limits. They even had the audacity to announce even had the more passengers in and out of the Airport, attempting to reuse most of the but did not keep.
One wonders how sincere Mayor Bradley is about some of his other pledges--such as more jobs in L.A.'s poorest areas--replaced by job growth only on the westside. Or fighting oil drilling on our beaches--as Bradley pledged during the 1970's concerning Occidental Petroleum's Pacific Palisades wells. In each case--the mayor changed his tune, especially when the backers of various projects poured thousands of dollars into his campaign treasuries.
Now the mayor has come with plans to build an L.A. Monument--to rival New

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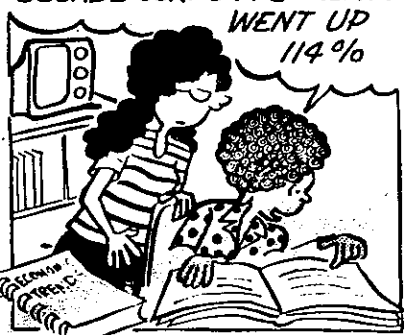
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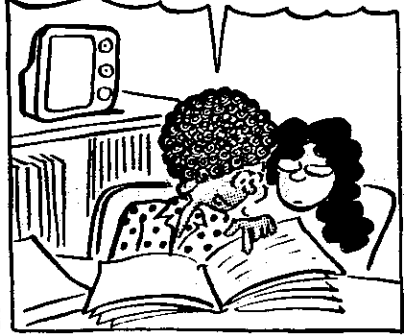


HERdles »

IT SAYS IN THE PAST DECADE CORPORATE PROFITS WENT UP 114%



WAGES WENT UP 9%



THE HIGH COST OF LABOR HAS MADE THE U.S. LESS COMPETITIVE

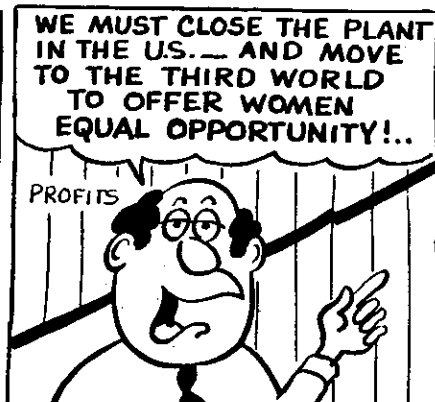


HERdles »

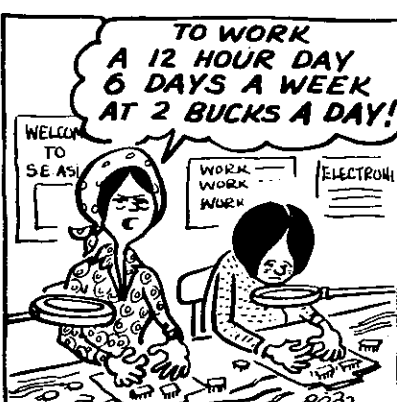
OUR PROFIT MARGIN IS NOT HIGH ENOUGH



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TO WORK A 12 HOUR DAY 6 DAYS A WEEK AT 2 BUCKS A DAY!



HERdles »

WE MUST LOWER WAGES TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE



THE ECONOMY CONTINUES ON THE UPSWING



WE MUST DEFEND FREEDOM!



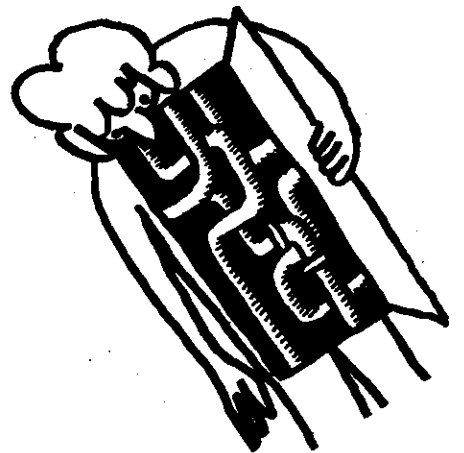
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Community Events

PERFORMANCES

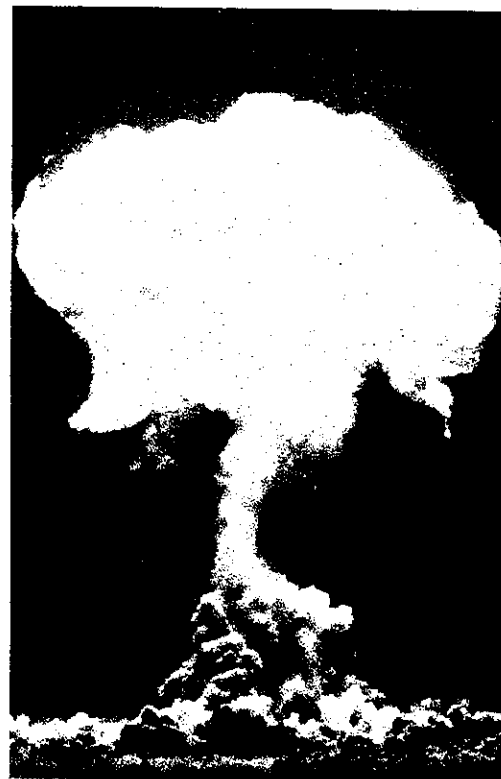
Mime Artist Thomas Leabhart and dancer-choreographer Gilberte Meunier will perform individual programs at SMC on JAN 6 & 7 AT 8 pm in the Studio Stage, 1900 Pico Blvd. Tickets: \$5, parking: free info, call 452-9214

Celebration

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU

"GULLS" AT THE POWERHOUSE
Thursdays -Sundays through Jan.
Admission \$12.50, Students, seniors,
\$10.50 . For reservations, call
392-6529.

BENEFIT FOR ALCOHOLISM CENTER FOR WOMEN !
A performance and dance benefit will be held JAN 29 from 2:30 to 8:00 PM at 4067 West Pico in the Catch One Ballroom. Show starts at 5:00 PM. For info, call Laurie at 381-7805 or Lovey C. at 837-3669. \$6.00 donation requested, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Come and enjoy a clean and sober celebration !!!!
Alcoholism Center for Women has ongoing programs and many special workshops. Call (213) 381-7805 for more info on the Center.

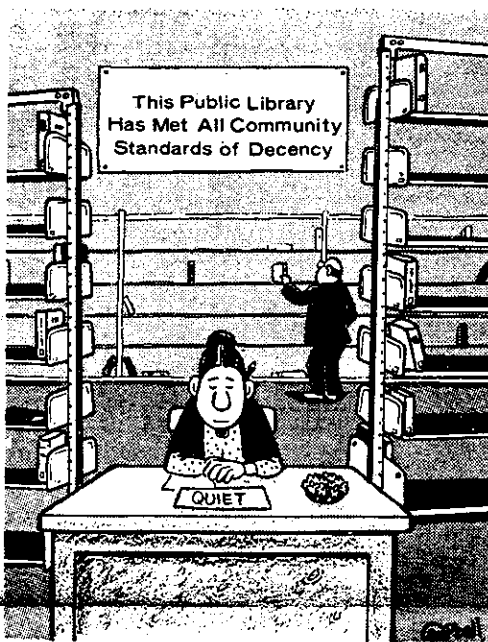


Music



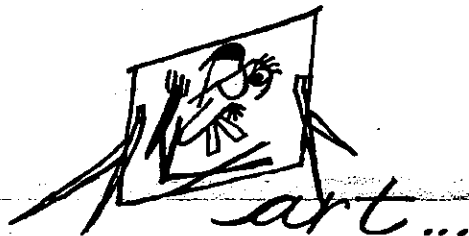
Jazz Great Charlie Byrd and his trio will play a benefit concert at 1st Unitarian Church of L.A. JAN 27 AT 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$17.50 in advance, \$20 at the door 2936 W. 8th St. Call Sarah Wood or Marilyn Couture at 389-1356 for info.

BOOKS



CPF #75-76 JAN./FEB. 1979

Co-Op America has published A SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL PLANNING GUIDE. 20 page guide available \$5 from Co-Op America, 2100M St. NW, Suite 310, Washington, DC 20063 (1-800-424-COOP).



ART ON VIEW

At the L.A. Louver Gallery
55 N. Venice Blvd.
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OPENING RECEPTION; JAN 10
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Indian Miniature Painting
from the Muslim, Hindu and Jain
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JAN 10 - FEB 4

Rick Stich: "Reflections"
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for info call Jon E. Sorenson
(213) 822-4955

ARIK BRAUER: Fantastic Visions

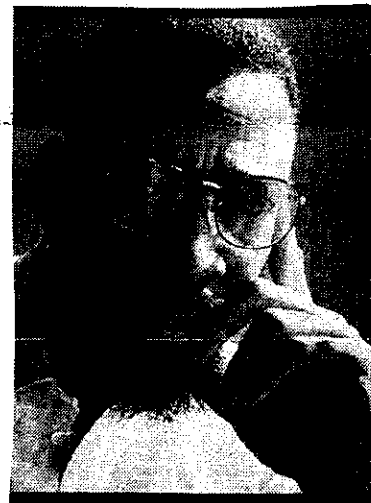
Jan 14 through Feb 28
Jack Rutberg Fine Arts
357 N. La Brea Ave.
L.a.
Call 938-5222 for info

SPARC

"MacDowell Hay Bales"
by Gilah Hirsch
through JAN 28 at
685 Venice Blvd.
info; call 822-9560

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 399-0584 no later than the following Wednesday.

Poetry



Kamau Daood
Jan. 6, with Ruben Martinez

POLITICS

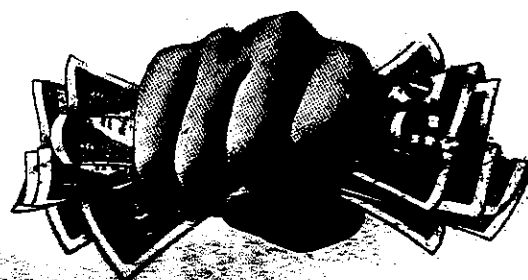
Heal the Bay Annual Meeting

JAN 21; all day conference at Mt. St. Mary's College. Get involved in cleaning up the bay and get back to enjoying the beach. For info call 399-1146

Feed the Homeless! JAN 16, Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday by joining in a city-wide collection of canned food and clothes to benefit local shelters. Call 452-5068 for info.

Stop the War in El Salvador !
JAN 20; National day of action to stop the war. For info on planned demonstrations call CISPES at 969-0071

BEYOND BAROQUE
Jan 6; Ruben Martinez and Kamau Daood
8:30 PM reading
Jan 8: Open Reading; sign up prior to 8 PM
Jan 13: Leslie Dick and Michelle Huneven; reading
Jan 14: Shiva Burlesque; Music
Jan 20; Crimes Against Nature: A reading by five homosexual men
Jan 21; Ellen C. Schimmel and Johanne Metcalf
Visual Music
Jan 27: Reading the works of Marquez and Faulkner
readers include Max Benavidez and Michelle T. Clinton



TAX TIPS; TAX PLANNING ASSOCIATES
Do tax forms confuse you, repulse you, or just make you crazy? Help is just a phone call away. KEN PEYTON says that if you want help, get an appt. as early as possible. The unofficial rush starts in Feb. Call Tax Planning Associates at (213) 413-1151, and ask for KEN PEYTON.

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FRIDAY--SAT 7-3AM

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