

July 1988, No. 222, P.O. Box 504, Venice, California 90294
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 The next regular Beachhead Collective meeting is Sunday,
 July 10th at 11 A.M. at 824 Amoroso Place. The next 20th
 Anniversary planning meeting is immediately after the
 regular meeting, at 2:30 P.M., also at 824 Amoroso Place.

...
 Venice:
 Not
 Just



PHOTO BY RODERICK BRADLEY, ©1978

Another
 Pretty
 Place

by Carol Fondiller

On Saturday, June 11, myself and about 75 other Venetians took part in what was called a Coastal Conservancy Workshop called Future of Venice Beach. The Coastal Conservancy works with Federal, State, local agencies, private businesses, landowners and just plain citizens to work out equitable and hopefully creative solutions to break long-standing deadlocks within the community. The Coastal Conservancy is authorized to acquire land, to design and implement programs for public access, and to restore urban waterfronts, and to restore wetland and watershed environment. At Westminster School we were handed little booklets which instructed us to "draw answers to questions": Which area did you spend most time in? Make positive statements. Name problem areas. We were told to take a walk down the Ocean Front Walk and nearby. We were to pretend to be visitors who had never been to Venice before. We came back from our solitary walks to sit at our tables, usually six to a table, work things out, put down our priorities of what we wanted. We were given about 15 minutes to do this. Representatives from the Coastal Conservancy thanked us and told us how much they appreciated the fact that some people went to Catalina at the CC's invite to observe how the workshops worked in Catalina.

At my table, there was one person who seemed to want to take the 15 minutes to talk about the Pier. I was reprimanded: "People of all colors and economic strata used to come to the Pier. How could I not be concerned?" Of course I was concerned about the Pier. Meanwhile, the Ocean Front Walk north of Washington Street which concerns me, never, never NEVER has any low-income people of color wandering on the OFW. We handed in our booklets. The whole exercise took from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30.

Afterwards, I had second thoughts and questions about the way some of the questions were worded: Windward Avenue referred to as a Mall? The Traffic Circle on Windward to be used for visitors? The Post Office lot on Windward Avenue and Grand Avenue - what would

you do with it? The main things that came out of the workshops were Green and Clean: No vending, no cars. The Venice Pier rebuilt for use as a place to fish off, with a bait & coffee shop. I started thinking: Dear Coastal Conservancy Folks, I thought - Please consider this: Many times when I've walked down the Ocean Front Walk I've pretended to be a stranger here myself. I've sat on one of the remaining benches, watching the parade of jugglers, Bible-freaks, searchers for the Good Life, etc. I still remember my first vision of Venice: No shining city on a hill, it was more or less a rain-slicked speedway, the rain pouring down, turning Speedway into a brook. Islands of reconstituted dog turd floated ankle-deep. The Ocean Front Walk had replicas of Doge's palaces turned shabby by time. Beatniks used to rest inside the bathtubs of these Doge's palaces; the bathtubs were painted outrageous and muddy colors. When the Ocean Front Walk Association and the Venice Civic Union wanted to beautify Venice, some of the Beats painted garbage cans in bright vibrant colors. Venice was the Wrong Side of the Tracks. One was accepted no matter how one failed in the corporate or art world. Venice was a city that was lived in.

My first visit to Venice was a coffee-house where pornography, pro or con, was to be debated. In those days, it was illegal to possess pornography. Lady Chatterly's Lover was considered pornographic. I knew I wanted to live in Venice because a large percentage of the women didn't feel obliged to wear nylons all the time. The bus lines were convenient and as one woman said in a book called The Holy Barbarians, "I saw a sign that said Rooms To Let: Light Housekeeping. I knew that was for me." Another reason that I liked Venice: because you never knew what was going to happen next. In my role of pretend tourist, I still find myself wide-eyed wondering what will happen next. And again, Coastal Conservancy people who are wondering how to "improve Venice," I look at the questions again. What would you do to attract pedestrians to the Windward Circle? Why do we have to attract pedestrians to the

VAC=VACANT

By Malcolm Tent

Yes, it's true--now you can lease the famous Venice Action Committee (VAC) headquarters at 1407 W. Washington Blvd. And while the office is currently occupied, it has always seemed vacant in the eyes of most longtime Venicians.

The VAC Pack made Main Street in Santa Monica what it is today--turning a collection of unsightly neighborhood-serving businesses into Chic, Trendy Yuppie Art Palaces. While the VAC pack may have VAC'ed up Main Street, most of their Venice properties remain vacant.

The VAC was conspicuously absent from June 19th's 5th Annual Venice Summer Festival. Local merchants joined with at least 100 local artist, etc., to turn West Washington into a giant swap meet. Local musicians blared away from stages at Palms Blvd. and Westminster Ave. I never knew what culture is hiding in the little Collectibles shops on the south side of the street. These stores couldn't exist at the rents charged in VAC buildings.

Take a look at the VAC HQ some time; the office, except for a few chairs and a desk, is empty. The VAC is a pretty store front, and that's all. To many Venicians--that's all the VAC has ever been.▲



Photo by Malcolm Tent

Windward Circle? It's in the middle of traffic going four different directions. Is this one way to solve the onslaught of tourists every year? Aren't there enough attractions on the Ocean Front Walk? Should we put benches on the Windward Circle so that we can then complain about the homeless using them? How could the Circle be developed as a focal point? Why should it be? I scratch my head, Messieurs and Mesdames. But then, other questions: Westminster Recreation Center - propose better ways to utilize the space and

continued to Page 8

Letters

Why the Knights are Dead

An open letter to Alice Cramden:

Alice, in your article, KNIGHTS OF THE LIVING DEAD, June Beachhead, after describing what it's like living in Crack Alley in Oakwood, you asked, "Where are the police?" You might ask Arnold Springer, Councilperson Ruth Galanter, or any honest city planner. The reality is that the police aren't supposed to be in Oakwood. Their planning directive is not to clean-up that neighborhood bounded by Rose, Linclon, California, and Electric. It's not time. It's too early to make it safe. It's still a battlefield and not till the last enemy is killed or captured and sent to a POW camp will this battlefield be turned into a memorial park, or more likely a parking lot. No one is supposed to live in the middle of a battlefield...at least till the war is over.

Many of us have lived as civilians in Venice for years. I say as 'civilians' because while we live the good life, the comfortable life, the safe life far from the front lines those living in the middle of the battlefield are all front line soldiers, whether they want to be or not. Minorities don't have to insist, the color of their skin does it automatically.

The war of course is a class war between the halves and have-nots; between rich and poor; between landed gentry and landless peasants; between capital and labor. It's classical. While there are camp followers on both sides, the front line soldiers are the ones doing the dying.

American Racism adds a particular Third World character to the war. A war we don't recognize as easily as when the fighting is in Africa, Asia, the Middle-East, or Central and South America. Also most Oakwood type neighborhoods are not usually situated close to a gold mine like the Pacific Ocean. In fact, most white people never go to or even know where the Oakwood neighborhoods are.

In our local class war the prize is the gold of Venice real estate. Can you imagine ol' man Rockefeller putting up with a bunch of poor people squatting on oil rich land? We've all heard about the wars he waged to obtain black gold. It's the same with Venice's sand gold.

What has this to do with Crack Alley? With all the pain and death you described it's still a black and white issue and classically American, or should I say, the Bank of America. The residents of color living in Oakwood are in the wrong place at the wrong time. They are the "enemy" soldiers guarding the Venice gold for the rest of us. The landed gentry are growing restless. They want their fix and they'll do anything to satisfy their greed-fed lust.

Many of us white Civil Rights and Anti-War activist of the 60s feel our organizing played an important part in ending the War in Vietnam, integrating neighborhoods, and registering minority voters. Even the Vietnamese praised the Anti-War Movement for helping turn the US War Machine around. Unfortunately, we didn't stop it; it's now turned toward Central America. An Imperial turn I call it.

But in the case of Venice's struggle, I see it a little differently. In terms of city planning our organizing certainly slowed the enemy's advances, but US Racism is what has protected Venice from the developer's bulldozers. The truth is that white people do not want to live (invest) near a Black or Brown community. One or two token colors offer variety to the garden, but only in the wilds of nature do you see entire fields of color (white doesn't count as color).

Planners draw lines on paper knowing the color line must be controlled. In developing neighborhoods it must be removed. If Venice is to be Miami Beach West, a handful of poor people are acceptable to work the hotels and restaurants, but not whole neighborhoods.

In early planning stages of the Venice Community Plan a freeway was designed to "contain" Oakwood. Since the freeway(s) was defeated, the only alternative is that the community of color must go...it's a matter of "good" planning; at least economic planning.

With oil and minerals, the value below the surface can be extracted without moving those living on the land. Butte, Montana and the slant well at the Pavilion are good examples. But when the land itself is what's sought, then the people must go. Those standing in the way, willingly or not, become the enemy. Crack is nearly the latest weapon used against the Oakwood army. And as your article shows, it's working as planned: no one wants to live in a war zone, except the Rambo's of the world. Only well trained soldiers can survive war. Yet, soldiers don't make a community. So we see the slow disintegration of Oakwood as a neighborhood. Families are forced to flee. The population of an urban scorched-earth policy where the population itself is being scorched.

tomorrow there'll be flowers
where children once grew.
nights silent
where cries went unheard.
there'll be space
beautifully landscaped
with a few structures
artfully placed.
all incredibly perfect
for residents new.

to those who know
and remember,
it will be a sad beauty;
a beauty of death
that occupies the emptiness
where a community
once stood.

Then Alice, I can assure you, the only crack will be in the hearts of survivors.

rick davidson <

From One Beachie to Another

- Dear Beachies of the Beachhead Collective,

In reading the June issue whilst dining alfresco at the Cheese & Olive, (still a good place to dine, or at least have breakfast), and I'm glad to see a 16 page issue, and such a clean-looking, (in terms of production design) issue. I'm glad to find the Beachhead still alive in it's 20th year of publication. And after 20 years of publication, I'm glad that the Beachhead still allows diverse points of view, (certainly more diverse than that certain weekly LA give-away paper that allows it's writers to endorse only one candidate for President, (the one the editor prefers) and makes sure that nobody insults any ethnic groups, except for the ones from Caucasian Europe like Albanians and Swedes). Even though that paper alleges it pays for it's articles, I'd rather write for free in the Beachhead in order to say what I think and feel. Which is not to say that I can afford to write for free all the time, alas, which is one reason why you haven't

FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Malcolm Tent, Diane Nickerson
Kathleen Alvarez, Beth Miller
Carol Fondiller, Kathy Sullivan
Shipford Branes, Memphis Slim
Sara Omari, Judith L. Martin &
Wendi Rowe

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.

★ Credit is due to Beth Miller for the article "Tony Bill's B & B" in last month's 'Head. ★

Prisoner: Willie Dillard #15893,
P.O. Box 607,
Carson City, Nevada 89701

seen me. Of late, I've been working these last few months on a long-delayed, oft-dreamed of project; a demo tape of my original songs, which I am submitting to clubs and radio stations, maybe to record companies. My aim is to do combined musical and spoken word performances around town. In February, I did a humorous song at the Improv's open mike night-My first comedy club venture. I'm also going to England, my second voyage there, at the beginning of July. Would you folks be interested in an article about how it is now in England - a bit of "foreign correspondence" ? I corresponded with the editors of a radical music magazine there; they were interested in the Beachhead, and I hope they're still around. Four years ago, the British in London were voting on the abolition of the Greater London Council, (public funding for the arts, etc.)-they abolished it. It would be interesting to find out how people are trying to get out from under Thatcherism. I could have a piece for you for the August issue as I'll be back later in July. In the meantime, keep surviving. I hope I can see some or all of you soon. Let me know about get-togethers. I was trying to figure out who's who in Sara Omari's article; Ohmigod, she called Memphis Slim a macho bunny ? Oy vey. But I guess that is a good description. Sara- wait until you and your sibling collectivists take a hot tub together. THEN you'll know. Love, Lynne Bronstein

Canal Banks

Editor
Beachhead
PO Box 504
Venice, CA 90294

Dear Editor:

Currently, there is some debate about what to do about the deteriorating sidewalks in the "canal section" of Venice. I would like to propose a unique solution. Replace the old sidewalks with new ones created by artists and architects. Select several architects and assign each a block. Have him or her design a sidewalk for that block of Venice. This way the sidewalks can be replaced without losing the character that makes them so attractive. Perhaps also, the cost could be underwritten by these architects and artists or their sponsors.

Sincerely,
Edward Taylor



Val's Prescription Pharmacy
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- Prescription Dept. MON. - SAT. 9:00 - 6:30

THE FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Number 1, December 1, 1968 - Number 36, December 1, 1972

From The Archives

EDITORIAL

This paper is a poem. It is the first of a series. Your participation will decide how often we appear.

This paper is a poem for the people. We decided not to sell it to some of you, but to give it to all of you. It is a poem for all the people.

It is also a paper made by people who love to make poems and dig doing a newspaper which is also a poem.



Hog Wild Weekend
Victims of L.A. police riot on Venice beach, April 20th. (Photo by Bill Daley)

VENICE & THE MASTER'S PLAN

When WE Run Venice.

by Sam Greenberger

This article is in response to a question asked by the BEACHHEAD staff to BEACHHEAD readers: If you had a real say in running Venice, what would you do differently, and how? We welcome and will try to print as many articles on this topic as possible (limitation: 500 words).

The day we run Venice will be the day we return to nature. We will show that technological progress and a life in accord with nature need not be mutually exclusive concepts. Our community will be based on the concept that man is an animal, and as such, must dwell in an environment abundant in pollution-free, life-sustaining natural resources.

Crimes against the environment will be heinous offenses. No enterprise, whether private or public, will be allowed to pollute the air, water or land.

venice of america

EARLY HISTORY

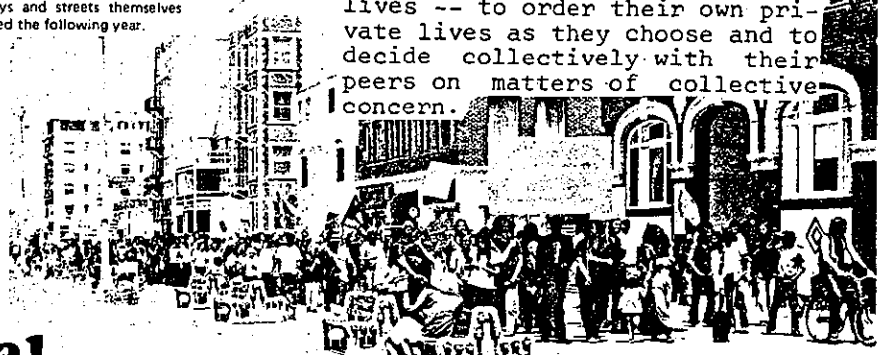
"Venice of America" was the vision and accomplishment of one man, Abbot Kinney. Kinney was a capitalist and a dilettante who envisioned an American Renaissance in Los Angeles and set about in 1900 to plan a proper seat for that rebirth—a new world Venice, as beautiful and exciting as her old world counterpart. Construction of the canals, walkways and streets themselves began in 1904 and most were completed the following year.

AN ALTERNATIVE

"Generally, we believe that the basis of human dignity is the ability of people to make the decisions that affect their lives -- to order their own private lives as they choose and to decide collectively with their peers on matters of collective concern."

FREE VENICE

STOP THE BOMBING OUT NOW!!!



Over 700 anti-war protestors participated in a march and rally on May 10 (Mother's Day). The demonstration was called by the Venice Peace and Freedom Party.

First Annual Venice Canal Festival

COMMUNITY HOUSE



A community house is in the making at 468 Howland Ave. (just east of the Venice Canals). A group of Venice residents, with assistance from the Free Venice Organizing Committee, is bringing the condemned building up to code and transforming the surrounding property into a recreation area.

MY PROPERTY'S VALUE

(Statement to the L.A. City Planning Commission)

by Helene Wolff

The City's study seems based on the idea that it is desirable that property values go up and that everything else is incidental to that. I believe that it is not necessary or desirable to many homeowners in Venice. We have bought homes on lots we consider "just right" not "sub-standard" -- in neighborhoods we consider varied, interesting, challenging, loving, and changing. Varied -- Venice may be unique in the whole world -- neighborhoods that are truly integrated. My block has homeowners and renters, old people and kids, hip and square, young families and middle aged families, married and unmarried, schizophrenics, trouble makers, peace makers, recluses, busybodies, cats, a St. Bernard dog, beautifully kept gardens, unkempt yards, at least one racially mixed couple, a millionaire, welfare recipients -- and many people I don't know.



PEACE AND FREEDOM GOES NATIONAL by John Haag



GRASS ROOTS POLITICS.....

VENICE SURVIVAL COMMITTEE

by JOHN HAAG

The Venice Survival Committee was formed on February 7, 1968, after a meeting of about 150 Venice residents heard descriptions of violence, insults and unjustified arrests by Los Angeles Metro Squad officers called in to augment the regular L.A.P.D. forces that occupy our community. A demonstration at the Venice police station and police observation patrols by VSC members caused the withdrawal of the Metro Squad and a temporary reduction of police harassment.

At the trial of one of those arrested in February, a Metro Squad officer said under oath that his orders were to "clean up the hippies." The Venice police still have those orders and have called in the Metro Squad several times recently to help.

HUEY'S FREE.

FREE BOBBY

VENICE SURVIVAL COMMITTEE SAYS

10 CHECKS

AS PRACTICED BY THE LAPD

ARE NOT LEGAL

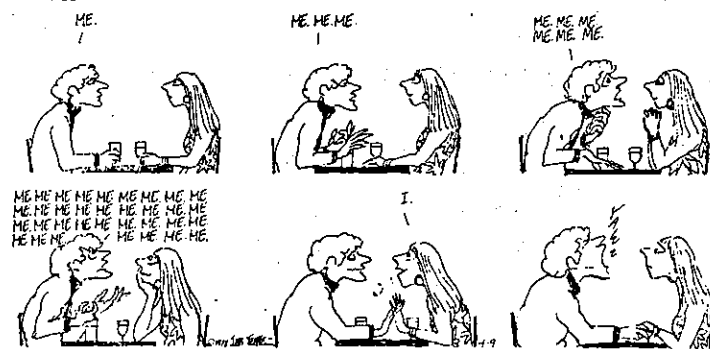
(photo by Bill Edelen)
Venice and Freedom Party members took some time off from their community work to support the anti-Vietnam war demonstrations at Century City on August 13 (see photo)

GOOD STUFF

The Canals Belong To The People!

Volunteers needed to help rebuild the Ash Grove because of fire damage. Please call OL3-2070.

Feiller



THE COURSE OF HUMAN EVENTS

Anna Haag will stand trial on April 21 on a charge of providing live entertainment without a police permit at a private party to benefit BEACHHEAD. Anna is chairman of the FREE VENICE Art Festival Committee and a member of the Venice Health Council board of directors. Witnesses and supporters are urged to attend the trial at 8:30 a.m. in Division 63, 1633 Purdue Ave., West L.A.

The day we run Venice will be the day we return to nature. We will show that technological progress and a life in accord with nature need not be mutually exclusive concepts. Our community will be based on the concept that man is an animal, and as such, must dwell in an environment abundant in pollution-free, life-sustaining natural resources.

RESIDENTS REJECT MASTER PLAN

More than 80 Venice residents decided January 9th to begin a massive petition drive to demonstrate community opposition to Los Angeles' plans for Venice.

The master plan presented on January 9th to the L.A. City Planning Commission drew fire at an evening meeting from residents and homeowners from all parts of Venice. Opposition was unanimous to any freeway through any part of Venice and residents from different parts of the community were critical of aspects of the plan affecting their own neighborhoods.

VERMONT MCKINNEY'S ROUST

by Robert Wells
During the first part of March black community organizer Vermont McKinney, Director of the Community Activity Aides (CAA) in Oakwood, was subjected to one of the weirdest and heaviest police rousters yet in Venice. For 10 days he was shadowed around the clock by foot cops, plainclothesmen and black-and-white cars--and at times by a helicopter which would hover over his home and follow him down the street when he left the house.

"I don't know if I was the target of this intimidation of if the community was the target. It was supposed to have started because somebody came into the station and said something was supposed to happen in Venice and I was supposed to know about it. It was really heavy for about 10 days, until I got heavy for get on the phone to the police and ask what it was for." McKinney says he never did find out why, and he understands he is still "under investigation."

EDITORIAL

Thomas H. Thurlow, last Mayor of Venice, died on March 7th at the age of 93. He fought a gallant but losing battle against the annexation of Venice to Los Angeles in October, 1925. "We committed suicide. That's what we called it, and that's what it was." In an L.A. Times interview in 1966, he said, "a local government is more responsive, especially to small details than a downtown City Hall." Within the next 10 to 20 years, the entire Ocean Front will be a string of modern apartment buildings." The Beachhead Staff urges a return to the 'good old days' of self-government and community control. Here's to the memory of Mayor Thurlow and the future that holds a



Our Wildlife Corridors

An Open Letter to the City of L.A. Environmental Quality Board

By Rex Frankel

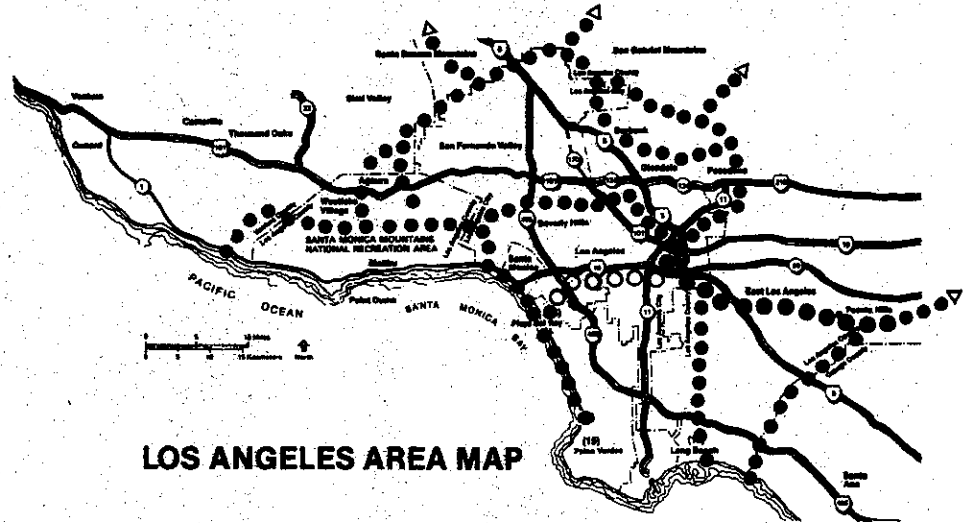
"Wildlife Corridors" are what we call the land left for the inhabitants of the Earth before man moved in. We've paved over just about all the flat land near the cities, now developers are attacking our, or rather, their, bluffs, mountain ridges and steep canyons.

The City, County, State and Federal governments wrote laws to protect these areas in the 1970's, with support from both Democrats and Republicans. Now, however, both parties have resumed the craving for paving. President Reagan and Governor Deukmejian have each year cut funds allocated previously for park land purchases. Democrats in Congress helped torpedo the National Park Service's ability to purchase land in the Santa Monica Mountains last year. Democrats in the California Legislature have been recipients of major campaign contributions from the Summa Corporation and Occidental Petroleum, who propose major offensive projects along the L.A. coastline. L.A. County Supervisors are heavily on the dole from developers; meanwhile, a majority of the L.A. City Council has taken campaign bucks from the Summa Corp.

As part of an area-wide parks system, the laws proposed that trail corridors be purchased to connect all the wildlife parks together. Unfortunately, both L.A. City and County have allowed intensive developments along several stretches of the proposed trails near Downtown L.A. and in the West San Fernando Valley.

Unfortunately for the West Los Angeles communities of Westchester, Playa del Rey, Marina Del Rey and Venice—only a minimal amount of the last 1000 acres of unpaved land

in the area is to be saved for occupants other than humans. I propose that the small Ballona Wetlands conservation area be expanded to include all vacant property west of Lincoln Blvd. and that the trails surrounding the Wetlands be extended to the Westchester Bluffs, connecting to Sepulveda Blvd. A second trail should run alongside the Ballona Creek, continuing alongside the Santa Monica Freeway, finally connecting with Olvera Street, officially known as El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park. Olvera Street is the nexus of the L.A. trail systems. Hikers could then continue from Downtown on the Rim-of-the-Valley Trail, which encircles San Fernando Valley and the Pasadena area, or on the Gabrieleno Trail which leads north to the Pacific Crest Trail system, which travels from the Mexican to Canadian border.



LOS ANGELES AREA MAP

Think Before You Flush!

By MOE STAVNEZER

"Don't flush after every use" Mayor Bradley boldly proclaimed at a recent press conference. Bradley was explaining the importance of obeying newly enacted laws requiring water conservation. The fact that there is a legitimate drought in many parts of the country, including Los Angeles, doubles the need for water conservation.

The L.A. City Council has now passed 2 laws and, the Dept. of Water and Power (DWP) enacted regulations that mandate water conservation and impose a partial building moratorium throughout Los Angeles. Additionally, L.A. passed a law that requires other cities that use our sewer system to do the same. Non-compliance with these rules carries monetary fines that I'll outline below.

Fact is that the sewage system was a non-issue at City Hall as recently as two years ago. So, these actions must be considered an extraordinary accomplishment. HEAL THE BAY, a citizens organization in which a number of Venice folk are involved, is largely responsible for this switch in City policy.

But what does it mean to you? How do you save water? How will the city deal with you when you need a building permit? Here's the skinny.

The following water uses are now prohibited by law due to the drought:

- *Hosing of patios, driveways or paved surfaces.
- *Serving of water at restaurants unless requested by customers.
- *Allowing leaks (faucet, toilet, etc) to continue without repair in a timely manner.
- *Using non-recycling decorative fountains.

Presumably, when the drought is "over," these restrictions will be lifted. The laws dealing with the sewage system side of the equation are more far-reaching though certainly not without serious faults. Mayor Bradley, who authored the laws, recently urged people to report people who are not obeying the law or the DWP regulations. I don't like the idea of tattling on my neighbors, but I'm beginning to notice many people flagrantly breaking

the rules. One goal of the mayor's program is to reduce the amount of water we put into the sewer system, thus reducing the stress on a system currently in a state of crisis. 10% may seem insignificant, but in our case it amounts to 44 million gallons of water every day, enough to supply 9 small cities. It should also ease the strain on our sources of water. A recent scientific study revealed that Mono Lake can be saved if L.A. takes 10% less water from the streams that feed the lake.

The water conservation ordinance requires that conservation devices be installed in all toilets and showers by October 13, 1988. The DWP will distribute low-flow showerheads and toilet flush reduction devices free of charge to all residences but it's up to each of us to install them. Owners of commercial, industrial, and multi-family residential buildings must have a licensed inspector certify that such devices have been installed. Owners of one- and two-family homes need only sign a document saying that they have installed the devices, but they must have this work certified by a licensed inspector if they sell their home or need a building permit for alterations costing more than \$500, which is just about anything these days. Fines will be meted out according to information from water bills, the longer anyone is in violation, the greater the fine. (The fine is actually a percentage of the water bill and ranges from 10% for minor violations to 100% for major ones). The law also calls for audits of the city's largest water and sewer system users and requires owners and managers of large turf areas (3 acres or more) to reduce irrigation water use by 10%.

The 2nd ordinance establishes a monthly allotment of new sewage flow based on a total of 5 million gallons a day (mgd) per year as compared to the 7mgd growth we now experience. Each month, plans for new construction will only be accepted by the Dept. of Building and Safety if there is sufficient sewer capacity left in the monthly allotment. Applicants who come in after the month's allotment is used up will be put on a waiting list. So, you can easily imagine very long lines at the

beginning of each month by people trying to make sure that the allotment doesn't run out on them. It's also easy to visualize a build up of the waiting list to the extent that very few new permits could be processed.

Of the monthly sewer capacity allotment, 5% is reserved for priority projects which include low and moderate income housing, homeless shelters, individually owned single family homes and any other project that the City Council determines to provide a public benefit.

Naturally, the Council did not pass this ordinance without exemptions for some pet projects. Several specific redevelopment projects are excluded, as are all projects within the commercial core area of the North Hollywood CRA project area. Similarly, the Council passed this ordinance with a short time limit during which the City bureaucracy is to come up with a permanent law. Unfortunately, the law does not designate a lead agency nor does it provide extra funding or personnel to get the job done. Follow-up has never been a city strong point.

But a start has been made. It's now up to each of us to make that start a success. ★



Boynton

NO MORE

MR. NICE GUY



Marina Place is OUT OF PLACE!

Prudential Insurance

wants to build a regional shopping center

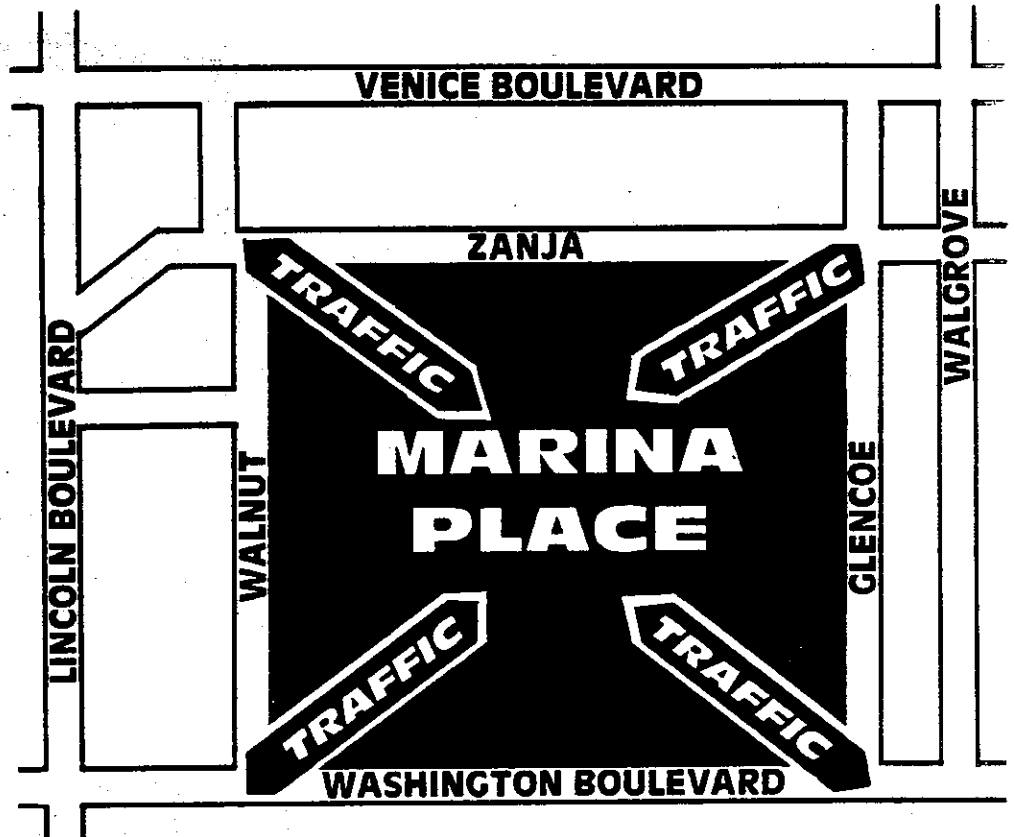
(1,300,000+ square feet)

in **OUR** neighborhood!

Prudential reaps the **profits** — **Culver City** gets the **taxes**

WE get:

- TRAFFIC**
(30,000 to 40,000 cars
PER DAY)
- CRIME**
- POLLUTION**
- SEWAGE**



COME to the **Public Hearing!**
SPEAK OUT against this!

When: Monday, July 11 at 7:30 PM
Where: City Hall, Culver City, 9770 Culver Boulevard

Questions? 306-8255 — Martha Platt
Zanja Neighborhood Residents Association
202-5777 — Culver City Planning Department

Gang Warfare in Venice

GANG WARFARE IN VENICE by Rick Davidson

There has always been gang activity in Venice. In the 1980's we see new gangs invading our community as they are in other communities across the US. Sad it is when innocent people are hurt, maimed or killed. Most people don't recognize these gangs, so that, when a gang finishes its activity in one neighborhood and moves to another few realize the danger. Nor is their death and destruction limited to innocent by-standers; the very fabric of the community is destroyed. Although these gangs are destroying neighborhood after neighborhood they go unchallenged, unchecked. We must ask ourselves why? How can we stop these gangs that rape and pillage with immunity. Of course these criminals of which I am speaking are speculators, immoral developers, lying politicians, and unfeeling bureaucrats. These are the people, individually and collectively, who are destroying Venice with its culture and diversity. They are the ones who over the past twenty or thirty years have forced over half the community to leave; many to graveyards rather than a "comparable" housing situation.

Yet, these destroyers of community because their unrestrained greed has filled their pockets with gold and labeled them "successful", society accepts, even applauds, their plunder. Because they top the list of what we're told we should emulate, we fail to see them for who they really are; murderers of the elderly, killers of youth, destroyers of family, community, culture. An army of death they are. Valedictorians of greed.

Frustrated at our inability to stop these speculating gangs, we turn on the helpless among us. We focus on our youth who rebel against them, along with those of us who are unable to cope in an unreal world of lies, deceit, hypocrisy, and hate; fellow citizens who have lost the way because they refuse to follow the lies that serve as road signs to to unbridled "success" become targets of our misdirected anger.

Still it's natural that we should get upset at our youth who join gangs and play out their gang activity in our neighborhoods. But aren't they playing the same activity that the US Marines, Army and Navy play in other neighborhoods around the world, especially Third World countries? Why don't we get upset at those gang activities? Instead we give them medals, calling them heroes; and call their counterparts who we trained and armed, "freedom fighters". How are they different?

What can we expect of youth if our leaders label rapists and murderers "freedom fighters"? If what's ok on tv is Rambo One, Two, Three, Infinity or Miami Vice, why shouldn't it be ok for the rest of society to act out their ego fantasies? If it's ok for Presidents and congresspeople to wheel and deal, why not the average citizen? And if tv evangelists can live hypocritical lives outside the rules they preach for others, why not the rest of us?

Is this what we really want? If not, who's to set the standards? Who are our models? Who represents the moral and just person to follow? If not our political leaders, spiritual leaders, and educational leaders, then who?

What a different society we would have today if our invading forefathers had been sensitive and selective enough to appreciate the social system of the native people that welcomed them to the "new" world.

Even at this late date I feel it's instructive to consider the qualities for leadership among Native Americans as described in The Cheyennes by E. Adamson Hoebel, 1960;

The personal requirements for a tribal chief, reiterated again and again by the Cheyenne, are an even tempered good nature, energy, wisdom, kindness, concern for the well-being of others, courage, generosity, and altruism. These traits express the epitome of the Cheyenne ideal personality. In specific behavior this means that a tribal chief gives constantly to the poor."

It seems that we have advanced a long way backwards in our trek across the new world. If we don't establish a higher values systems, we don't deserve our place on planet earth and will go the way extinct species have gone before us. Unfortunately, we may take the rest of life with us in our departure.

So the question is who educates society with respect to morality and justice? With separation of church and state, a competitive and alienating culture whose national priority is greed where an investment in education seems unprofitable, with all of the above, what are we to do? Not to address this question is suicidal. Most theories tell us that the dinosaurs were destroyed by ecological disasters beyond their control. We, humankind, are creating ecological disasters that may well destroy the planet itself.

If Washington D.C. allows a 4th of July celebration this year, we might do well to look beyond the form of food and drink and consider revolution, in whatever form one thinks appropriate, as an alternative to the absurdity we are living with. At the very least, let's be clear about the gang war going on that is going on in our community; and Who's Who among our modern day criminals.

Independence Day 1988

a patriotic paean to Ronald-the-Regressive
in the final year of his reign

In the foggy bottoms of his muddled mind he's played deadly war-games with real soldiers, invaded small countries and armed terrorists, acted as though life were an old war film and tried to look as tough as a movie hero with fantasies like those projected by a drill instructor from Camp Pendleton on the peeling walls of a Tijuana "crib". Swapping limp phallus for a celluloid gun, he has a world-view based on fantasy and yearns for the days of his Movie-Tone youth; while his mind, inflexible as his aging spine, is rigid as a pair of frozen long-johns flapping stiffly from a clothes-line in Winter

"Hail to the Chief!"

Don Johns
St. Louis, Mo.



CELEBRATE THE 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NICARAGUAN REVOLUTION!

SUNDAY, JULY 17

THE THIRD ANNUAL

HANDS OFF THE AMERICAS FESTIVAL

A rally to celebrate the survival and achievements of the Nicaraguan revolution and to help build ties of peace and friendship between the people of the U.S. and Nicaragua.

BRING THE FAMILY!

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN!

SURPRISE GUESTS!

MUSIC, DANCE, POETRY

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

NOON TO 6 P.M.

Fairfax High School*
7850 Melrose
Los Angeles
(corner Melrose and Fairfax)

Donation: \$5

Children under 12 free.

Proceeds to benefit Let Nicaragua Live
"Oats for Peace" campaign to help
feed children in Nicaragua.

SPONSORS:

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Office of the Americas
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SOL-NICA

*These school premises have been licensed pursuant to the provisions of Section 39379 of the Education Code of the State of California by El Rescate/Southern California Ecumenical Council from the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles. The Board of Education does not sponsor or take responsibility, nor does it necessarily endorse any of the activities, statements, or opinions which may be expressed at this meeting or activity.

A Trip Through Oakwood

Venice Sketch #22

A TRIP THROUGH OAKWOOD

By Beth Miller

Last December I was put in touch with Regina Hyman by a long-time Venice resident and friend who inspired me to move here a couple of years ago. I wanted to get to know all parts of the community, the way I once knew Berkeley. It is hard for me to write about Oakwood, as it is hard for me to write about the homeless, because of my fear that anything I say will be interpreted as the arrogant musings of a middle-class radical. Still, I was fascinated by Oakwood because of all the scary cliches (I have two friends who live on Brooks who never notice any drug traffic.) People talk about gangs and crime and drugs, not realizing that some of what they say is racist or has a racist origin. Since I have lived in Spanish-speaking America (and still do, of course), I do not notice any differences in color between Hispanics and "Anglos." I feel at home buying vegetables at "la troca" or pan tortillas at Zamora's Market, but I don't feel as comfortable in Black areas as in Hispanic areas, maybe because the Blacks see me as an outsider, while the Hispanics do not seem to. I mention this to explain that my guide during this sightseeing trip through Oakwood I am reporting on here is a Black woman, a ten-year Oakwood resident, who knows her neighborhood and feels a part of the Black community. Although I have a few friends in Oakwood I visit weekly, and drive down Brooks frequently to go to Boy's Market on Lincoln or to the Park Lane cleaners or to do xeroxing, I am not really familiar with Oakwood, nor do I really think of it as a Black neighborhood.

In the 1920's a small Black (now called "Negro" community that was centered north of Electric Avenue between Westminster and San Juan Avenues, mainly employees of Abbot Kinney, was established in Venice and grew with its expansion. So there is a historic Negro section of Venice, the most striking monument of which may be the Abbot Kinney residence itself. It was moved from its original site on an acre of land to its present location at 1310 Sixth Avenue in the block adjoining the public library in the late twenties. Kinney bequeathed this house to Irvin Tabor, his long-time trusted chauffeur and personal assistant. Mr. and Mrs. Tabor lived at that address for over forty years, and the house is still a lovely and gracious residence. In short, I had a particular interest and was grateful to Regina for showing me Oakwood from her point of view.

One sunny winter afternoon, I picked up Regina Hyman at her building near Broadway and Sixth. Regina is the head of the Concerned Parents of Venice/Oakwood, and she was anxious for me to see Oakwood, an area about eight blocks square. We started at the center, at the Oakwood Park playground, the place they are thinking about dedicating to the homeless near Seventh and California. As we drove around, John Haag, another long-time Venice resident, at the wheel, we passed what is known as "the Reverend Holmes' Church" several times, the First Baptist Church. We also passed the Friendship Baptist Church, located across from the Oakwood Wesley House on Broadway (a place where help is offered to the homeless in the form of food and shelter). In addition to the Reverend Holmes' Church and the Friendship Baptist Church, there is also the New Bethel Baptist Church (the church Regina attends), the Body of Christ Church, the Second Community Baptist Church, and the Bethel Church of God and Christ. Quite a few churches for such a small area.

I had read that the Reverend Kelso, one of the early Black residents of Venice, served as pastor for the First Baptist Church of Venice when it was organized in 1912. The congregation moved from its original hall near San Juan and Electric to a new church at Seventh and Westminster Avenues in 1928.

The present congregation, led by the Reverend Holmes, is a large one and now meets in a new church edifice across from the old church.

We pass up and down streets with small houses, many owner-occupied for many years, many of the owners Black. Regina identifies the apartment buildings which are or were Black-owned and informs me of the history of the government buildings put up by HUD in 1971 for low-income residents.

When Regina first came to Oakwood a decade ago roosters crowed every morning, an acoustical treat she had never experienced in New York City. One of her neighbors used to keep chickens in his back yard. Another old gentleman on Seventh and Vernon fixes cars and teaches young men from the area how to fix cars too. Indeed on his block I counted thirteen Hispanic boys working on cars. The pleasant house has fruit trees standing on the corner, you think you're in a small town.

The small town is gradually disappearing as a small town. The place where a nursery school used to be is now one of many sites under construction. A sign on the structure of the future apartment building says "Beverly Hills Construction Company."

I see the spot where the only grocery store in the Oakwood area used to be, fallen to a zoning change. Now people have to walk quite a distance to buy a carton of milk or a package of cigarettes. I notice buildings recently repainted and some apartment buildings rehabbed. Regina points out a fancy building where a one-bedroom apartment costs nine hundred dollars, just a few doors away from a dilapidated house. Venetian diversity prevails in Oakwood.

She also delights in showing me some of the newer esthetic oddities in the district, such as the unusual building on San Juan Avenue near the corner of Sixth, created by a German artist as a studio. He hired unemployed neighbors to work on the construction, but sculptures in the front yard are his own work.

Sunset is a pleasant, quite street with many single-family houses. One big apartment building has greetings of the

season in Spanish spray-painted in white snowy stuff on all the windows facing the street. The building seems clean and well-kept-up. There are people looking out the windows smiling. I find it radiates a happy atmosphere, but Regina whispers to me that the edifice is known locally as Peyton Place. I wonder aloud if there is an element of anti-Hispanic racism in the nickname. Regina concedes that it is probably a mistake to single out one building for this epithet when most of the country believes that all of Southern California merits the nickname. In any case, it seems to me that the Hispanic ethnicity of Oakwood is on the rise, certainly it is visible in the small commerces, such as shoe repair and small appliance repair shops on Lincoln and food wagons on Rose. But there was a Black community here before there was a Hispanic one.

Abbot Kinney employed Blacks on the staff of the Kinney Amusement Company and a small Negro Ghetto, centered north of Electric Avenue between Westminster and San Juan Avenues, began in the 1920's. Kinney for years retained Arthur Reese, one of the earliest Negro settlers in Venice, as his interior decorator. It was Reese who decorated the famous Venice Dance Pavillion as an indoor garden and designed the huge revolving ball with bits of mirror on its surface, the kind of ball you see in movies of the period, with colored spotlights turning the ball into a magical predecessor of rock-n-roll high-tech light shows. Reese's brother, Joe Allen Reese, was one of the first Venice mail carriers. But I have only seen one Black mail carrier in Venice in the last two years. I am sure though that in the old days the mail was delivered early in the morning, not at five o'clock as mine is in 1988.

We have been riding up and down the streets and round and round in circles, and I am disappointed not to see any of the famous Venice graffiti. We see some scrawls on a few buildings near Fourth and Indiana, but they seem to be imitation. When I ask Regina what she thinks she replies the the Los Angeles Times (and more recently other local papers as well, has been blowing the gang thing way out of proportion for some time. Regina claims that gangs have not been a problem in Venice since about 1980, which is not to say that one cannot find small-time drug runners plying their trade on certain streets and corners.

From Rose to California is about eight blocks and from Hampton Drive to Lincoln is about eight blocks. Those are the generally recognized boundaries of Oakwood. The Venice Library, however, maintains Oakwood is situated between Lincoln, Electric, Rose, and California, yet emphasizes that there is nothing "official." Two hours pass and we still haven't exhausted the subject of community spirit or visited Melvin Haywood, the man who tutors children for free at the old Venice Library on California and Electric. I promise to return to chat with him and to check out the Venice Skill Center as well another day.

We drive west on Rose Avenue, which is recently being referred to as the "Rose Corridor," and notice the increase on the chicness scale as you approach Main Street. There are a bunch of Latinos buying tacos at the Isla Bonita across from the Rose Cafe, and it seems to me that there really are two Venices in sight here. The contrast between rich and poor is no less apparent in Venice than in Rio de Janeiro. As I regard the street from the Rose Cafe, the mixture of people passing by reminds me of crowds in Ipanema. You can sit and have a beer at a cafe and watch the rich tourists mingling with boutique shoppers, bohemians, and the homeless. We lament that certain groups have been trying to move the Venice Free Clinic and Saint Joseph's away from Rose because, in their view, these establishments "attract a bad element" to Venice. I don't know exactly what the bad element is that they're referring to, perhaps the transients. As most Venice residents know, for many years the Venice Free Clinic has been doing an admirable job despite severe space limitations, as has Saint Joseph's.



Still, we are all aware that there are real estate investors, agents, and developers who have vested interests in the gentrification and "development" of our city. For the operators and entrepreneurs, the historical preservation of Venice and of the community spirit of Oakwood are minor considerations in their pursuit of personal fortunes.

Mediocrity continued from Page 1

Westminster Rec. Center is used by seniors, frisbee enthusiasts, dogs, hookers and other community groups.

IT is a nurturing mound amidst the hurtling 4 way traffic currents of Pacific ave & Main st. Do we need more uses for this ex~~last~~ sand dune in Venice.

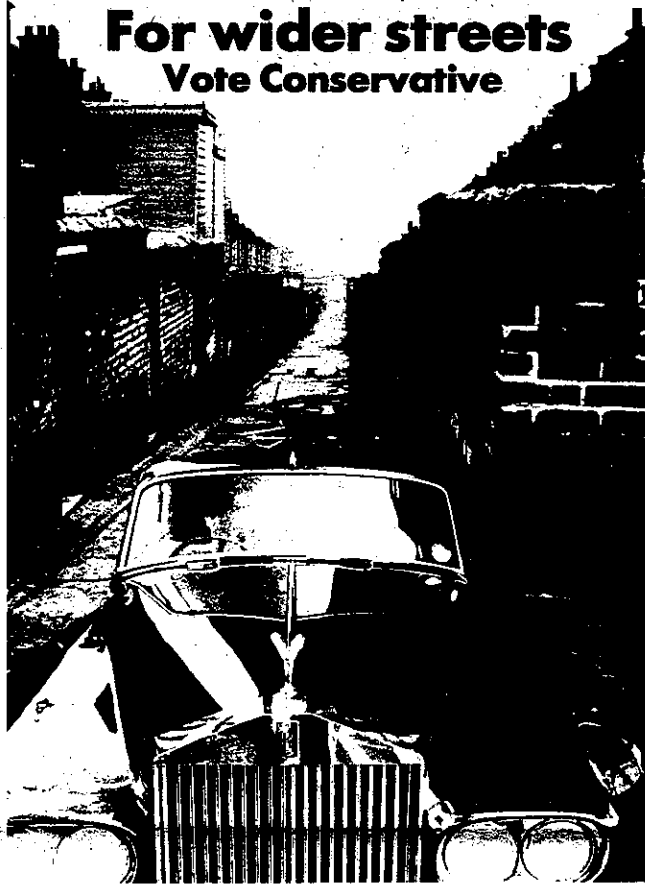
attract more public use - Wait a minute, say I: Hold it! I began to question the motivation behind some of the questions. Who were the people invited to observe the workshops in Catalina? No one I knew was invited to observe the Catalina workshops. If I knew of the workshops, I could not have afforded to go. Were people from the Venice Action Committee the ones who were invited? The VAC'ers are most vociferous about malling Windward Avenue. And one of their members would like an ivy-covered elephant as a focal Point on Windward Circle. As a tourist, I looked at Windward Circle. It looked okay to me : a few hibiscus trees and a funny little green statue. I put on my resident glasses and looked again: I remember Myrtle Wilson who used to call anyone who opposed widening the Canals a Commie Hippie. She and I were on opposite sides of every conceivable question. When she died, someone planted the hibiscus tree there as a memorial to Myrtle. The little green statue was put there as a symbol of freedom. But is is not BEAUTIFUL. It is not fashionable or trendy art. It is not worthy of all the architecture - I mean, we can't call what's being spewed up mere buildings that are going up to serve visitors who are clamoring for offices and galleries. So they are architectural statements. I think of the restaurant 72 Market Street. 72 Market was a modest proposal by Tony Bill, Dudley Moore and Liza Minelli for an intime place where a few hundred of their closest friends could come and listen to Dud play the piano. Market Street has been turned into a one-way street convenient for Visitors (non-beach-related restaurant-hoppers), but

troublesome for the residents who cannot afford to be friends of Tony, Liza or Dud. Then, ladies and gents of the Coastal Conservancy, I thought of the proposals voiced by some of the workshops. Destroy the Pavilion. Greensward. Lawns. Is this useful? Is it reasonable? Is being against green un-American? What visitors are we serving? According to the Coastal Commission staff, Venice Beach attracts one million visitors a weekend in the summer. Do we need to attract more? Here are some queries I'd like to ask you people on the Coastal Conservancy: What do lawns have to do with Venice? Southern California? Here we are in the middle of a drought, for Chrissake, and people are talking Clean and Green. Should we stop fast-food places from selling food to go because of the litter and pollution? Should we outlaw dogs? Speaking of green: Has anyone noticed the "greenbelt" on the Ocean Front Walk? You haven't? It's not there, that's why! About fifteen years ago a hike path was installed along the Ocean Front Walk. Grass was planted. After Prop 13, several droughts, tons of dogshit, negligence by the County/City, the grass is practically gone and the sand is covering up those sad little bald hills.

It occurred to me that many people who've moved to Venice moved here because they couldn't afford to live in Pacific Palisades or Malibu, so they chose Venice as some place west of the smogline. They don't want to be in Venice at all; they want to be somewhere "pretty" and "safe." In Monterey, Steinbeck wrote of Cannery Row. He spoke of the mists and the dank and squalid bars. The city fathers and mothers of Monterey honored Steinbeck by destroying Cannery Row and turning it into galleries and restaurants. It's safe to go there. And sometimes on the drive up, one can see the ocean. San Francisco had a real fisherman's wharf. Most of the fishermen are gone now, but I remember when I was a kid the shouts of the fishermen, the creaking of the boats, the scent of tar and turpentine and fish, wandering through this urban waterfront scene and eating fresh crab out of a paper cup, strolling towards Chinatown.

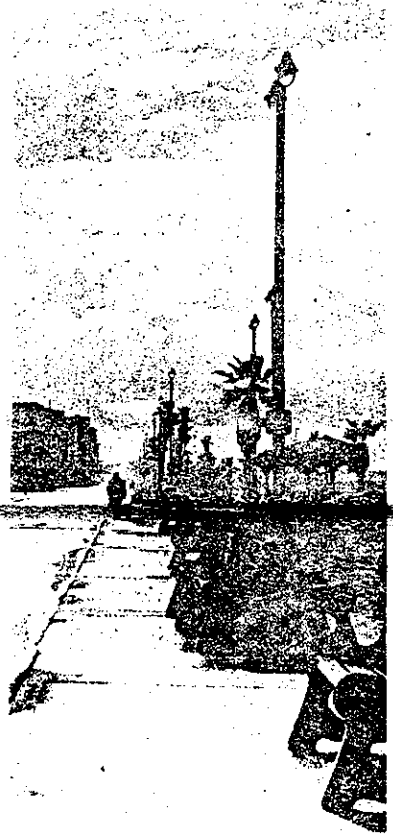
The point is/are, ladies and gentlemen of the Coastal Conservancy: We must keep in mind for whom and why questions are asked. I've not noticed questions like this: Are fifty-room so-called Bed and Breakfasts needed for visitor-related services? Are they needed in already congested North Beach? Should clusters of fast-food services be forced (encouraged) to build restrooms for the - pardon me - overflow of visitor-related bowel movements?

What about that great big beige something-or-other out there, the whadyacallit, the beach - is that in itself sufficiently visitor-related? remember San Pedro, with seamen's bars that served good coffee. They're gone now, because fishing doesn't smell like Wizard Airfresh. The sea-birds with their hoarse cries as they skree above the fish-guts strewn like jewels on the slippery wooden piers are not Jonathon Livingston Seagulls; They are not pretty: they are beautiful. they are predators and garbage-eaters and will shit in your coffee if you're not careful.



For wider streets
Vote Conservative

The Nouveau Venetians remind me of the folks who move to the canyons to be in the country and then proceed to kill the California pumas because they're killing their poodles, pussycats and their children, rather than learning how to raise children to be cautious in the outside and to protect them from pumas, and not act as if canyon country were Encino. I have no solutions for the unfortunate poodles or pussycats, except: Get bigger dogs and keep the cats inside.

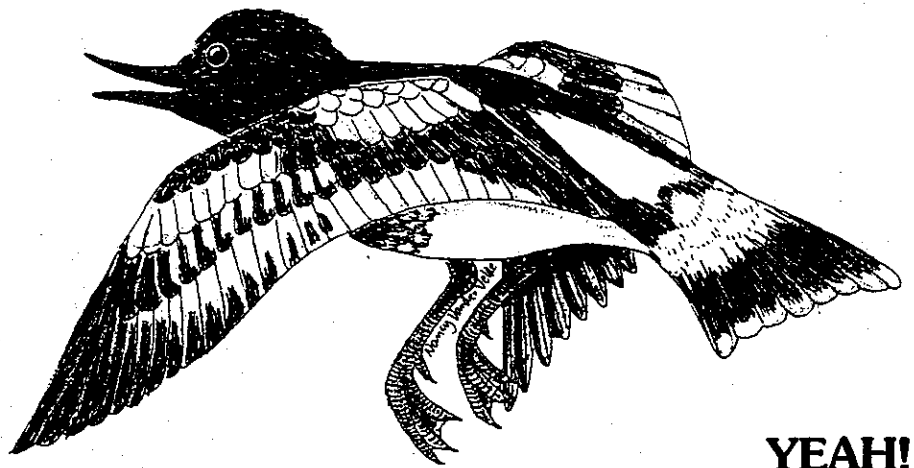


OPEN 7 DAYS
CORNER NAVY AND PACIFIC
DAVY JONES LIQUOR LOCKER

Use a Gun

Matthew 20:1-16

KID!



YEAH!

IT WON'T GET DONE

Boss Phil Says So

Nothing is Free

...GEM SNIPLETS ABOUT OUR ADVERTISERS...

by SARA OMARI
 Since I have become marginally/peripherally connected to the FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD NEWS-PAPER, I have become aware of the pragmatics of putting out a newspaper. Three times, in the past seven months, there were enough writings (the 'ins' call it "copy" for 36 columns (to me, it meant 12 pages) but there was only money enough to print 24 columns (8 pages).
 So, the very painful process of 'editing' began (it was painful only to me - the rest of the writers were sophisticated about it). (Furthermore, I don't call it 'editing' - I call it "cutting"-). The penal colony at the Collective are the tops at euphemizing. I volunteered the beheading of one of my own stories. The other article, COKAIGNE, was prioritized (it was really voted out temporarily). Outwardly, I smiled and said I understood. Inwardly, I fumed. What right had a bevy of baldies to vote my stories out and theirs in? It was then explained to me that something of interest, or more importantly, of major concern to Venice or its neighbors would have first priority. Later, my article, THE LASHES ON A ONE-HUMP CAMEL, would be voted in, and IF, mind you, IF, there was space, would be printed.
 I retreated to pout and/or otherwise sulk. Soooo, then I turned my individual attention to OUR ADVERTISERS.
 These are the people/companies which make this newspaper possible.
 The 'biggest' ad is the "THOMAS'" AD on the back page of the BEACHHEAD. It runs for \$125. and is a steal at that. A regular full page ad usually runs for \$200.
 I go to THOMAS' when I'm flush; the chow is good. I tried to get the guys to give me a discount, by waving the ad at them, but, mutely, they turned a deaf eye on me.
 Next, I turned to the VAL'S PHARMACY AD. IT is, indeed, an exciting (VAL'S itself is a fixture in the community). Many times, it changes from month to month. Do you remember the "happiness is a warm..." ads? Well, when we do "paste up" (euphemism for doing all of the work connected in order to get said copy ready for the printer), I think of all the Collective Beachers as little kids and the VAL'S PHARMACY AD as a warm puppy. The penal collective colony is like a little girl who changes the ribbons on her puppy every day. We love VAL'S and VAL'S loves us. Carol, one of the resident artists/writers, fools around with the ad, then get the right idea for the ad, for the month. Vikktor does similar things for the VAL'S ad. Vikktor did the December ad. It is my freudian favorite. I shop at VAL's when flush.
 Next, on to SAVINO'S. Although not a fool, I am almost bald-headed. Heck, my mom has more hair than I do. However, if I ever have

anything growing out of my follicles, I'm going to go to SAVINO'S. Also, I'm going to ask them if they do any tinting-then I'm going to treat my mom to a bluing job.
 On to DANNY'S DINER. I told myself to go and sample the banana pancakes. Next, I plan to wait til DANNY'S DINER offers a menudo omelet. Or better yet, a menudo pick-me-up!
 Have you ever looked, I mean looked closely, at the KROMA ad? The KROMA ad is so classically gorgeous.
 Every day, on my way to the Venice Post Office I walk past the SIDEWALK CAFE. I like to watch the equivalent of Earl Wilson's B.P.; also, I check to see that the FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is prominently displayed at the bookstore next to the SIDEWALK CAFE. About three years ago, my sister, Olivia, visited me (she lives in the Bible Belt area) and took me to lunch at the SIDEWALK CAFE. The food was super; the help was attentive. The food was tasty and pleasing to the eye. Olivia said that she might visit Venice again, so I look forward to dining out, again.
 I DID try to take CLASSICAL FLUTE LESSONS (A la James Galway) (I wanted to imitate him) but the old budget snickered, so I forgot it, temporarily.
 MARGARET BUCKLEY, the ATTORNEY, is a super nice/brainy lady I met several years ago. Attorney Buckley helped me to resolve a prob. Here's hoping I get a chance to ask her about her logo.
 When I am in one of my experimental moods, I would like to try the JAPANESE FULL BODY MASSAGE. Hell, even if I just got part of the bod massaged, I'd be O.K. Must remind myself to ask SETSU for a definition of SHIATSU.
 Hope you won't ever need his services, but, IF you do, go to WENDELL'S WESTSIDE TENANT ACTION CENTER for information, for assistance or for counselling. A fee is accepted; if, however, one can't afford a fee, one is not turned away.
 Since I also like to walk to the area south of California Avenue, on Lincoln, I pass the EL CAMINO REAL RESTAURANT and I salivate. My siblings, Rosa (UCLA) and Pie (GTE) told me that EL CAMINO REAL serves hot food (I mean hot as in from the oven, not hot chile type), although there is hot chile if one asks for said chile. Rosa and Pie also told me that the tortillas are delicious. Rosa calls the tortillas 'turtles' so I have to pay close attention to what she tells me, especially about the EL CAMINO REAL foodery.
 About 12 years ago, I shopped at the CO-OP OPPORTUNITY. CO-OP had accepted me, after I had transferred myself down here, from the Berkeley Co-op, I plan to join the Co-Op, again, because I like their chemical-free food. When I go self-shopping for my Mother's Day gift, I plan to get myself something at SACK'S Fifth Off. SACK'S has moved to Santa Monica Boulevard between Bundy and Barrington in West Los Angeles.
 California, always one of the nation's leaders, is working to strengthen the Rape and Child

Molestation laws-just ask the NATIONAL ACTION AGAINST RAPE Company.
 At the corner of Brooks and Lincoln is the FOOD Co-Op, which is open to the public 7 days a week, from 9 to 8.
 Hope all is well with your refrigeration, but, if not, call our FRED AND BOB MEYERS of the POLAR BEAR REFRIGERATION (ofr both commercial and domestic work). Now that "summer is a cumming" (remember Ezra Pound, ???, take a good look at the POLAR BEAR REFRIGERATION ad and cool off.
 MY PLACE OR YOURS sounds erotic, but it is an ad for a fine Notary. Call first and make an appointment.
 Have not re-married recently, but would not be averse to going to the Reverend BOND WRIGHT for the marriage ceremony. Her ad reads that she is an ordained Minister.

THE CUSTOM WINDOW DECOR COMPANY is the 'designer Resource place. Their new # is 396-5822 (213). If I even had a window where I live that would need covering, I would most certainly advise myself to have my windows tinted or otherwise decorated bt CUSTOM WINDOW DECOR. When I shop @ the CUSTOM WINDOW DECOR COMPANY, I plan to ask for my 50% discount (Once, several years ago, I owned a Chevy lowrider with no window glass, except for the windshield, but, had I know about the CUSTOM WINDOW DECOR COMPANY, I would have had one of the windows tinted. Anyway, I DID call for a free consultation offered (see the ad) and spoke to a brash, sexy sounding, with-it guy. He reminded me of their new number /396-5822. !!!!!!!

Nextly, I plan to get on the horn and call the WONDERLAND FOUNDATION and see/ask what it is about Don't forget REX FRANKEL'S AD. He should be hired for research into Venice self-determination!!!

The busy RUTH WEISMAN runs the COMPUTERIZED ACCOUNTING AND TAX SERVICE for all you CATS out there. She is a registered tax-preparer located @ 1228 Venice Boulevard.

For the abused/assaulted, go to or call the LOS ANGELES COMMISSION ON ASSAULTS AGAINST WOMEN. So sorry, it seems, sadly, that there is a lot of that going around. What a shame. Me, I say - Get rid of said turkey or hit back! Or get your very own abattoir tool. Wonder why people behave in such a mean manner?

The Collective has reminded me that I have veered from the subject. Technically true, wunderkind! What I meant to say, i.e., what I started to say is that NOTHING IS FREE! The many writers who express themselves (includes Krenzel/Wells/Gregg) are kept going by the green supplied by the support of the ADVERTISERS. Don't forget, do MATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS!!!

Hair

by J.L. Martin

I recently had the chance to see a great revival of HAIR at the Heliotrope Theater in Los Angeles, and whether you're a retired flower-child who remembers the B'way cast album, or a child of the current era who has never heard the word "hippie" spoken with pride, you should see this show.

The Heliotrope is a small house, and the production makes excellent use of the space to keep the feeling intimate and the audience involved. From the opening notes of "Aquarius" to the last echo of "Let the Sunshine In", the cast had the spirit of '68. The tribe, as the ensemble is known, went through songs and scenes with the bright voices and light feet of the well-rehearsed and terrifically talented.

The three principal characters of the tale, Berger, Claude and Sheila keep the story moving through the machinations of sex and politics, and keep the bigger picture in perspective. Berger, portrayed by James Short, was the perfect mix of Abie Hoffman and Tarzan, a credible tribal leader and acrobatic ace. Claude, in the performance that I saw, was played by understudy Jeff McConnell, who did such a good job as the confused and tormented character, I found myself fighting tears during his finale. Sheila, the female corner of the triangle, was also done by an understudy, the rich-voiced Robin Skye. Her rendition of "Easy to be Hard" had an edge of pathos that stung like one of Cupid's arrows, and her commanding stage presence made her a believable foil for Berger and Claude.

With such wonderful understudies, the tribe has every eventuality covered. Some of the outstanding people in the ensemble were Mary Margaret Patts, Tod and Troy Garner, Dutch Helmer, and Linda Jackson, all of whom added immeasurably to the spirit and the sound of Hair.

Go and see Hair at 660 N. Heliotrope, (off Melrose), Thursday through Sunday, while the tribe is still in residence. ■

Color Me Angry

by E. Terrestrial

Have you ever thought it strange (in a simple sort of way), that we can see our blood pumping through our veins? I meant the color of it, by holding up your hand to the light. Yet, when mixed with air (another awesome wonder), we can also see it. It is red.

Walking home last Sunday, a stranger biked-up behind me and asked me something in my left ear. When I asked him to repeat it, he said "Do you want to go smoke some cocaine with me?" Once I understood what he was asking, I told him no. He apologized by saying "I'm sorry, I thought everyone around here did that."

There's been a lot of talk lately about the "Gang" problem in Los Angeles. Living in Venice, I see a lot of graffiti, but the writers are all ghosts to me.

Local Hondurian hero, Carlos Ledher Rivas is loved by the people because he built a school, a factory, and other public succor. Yet because his generosity comes from sales of drugs to wealthy Americans. Alas, robbing better than "Mr. Hood" still won't produce a "Get Out of Jail Free" card, because Reagan's put together a posse and rounded 'em up. Of course, Nancy was bucking-trigger up and cheering "Just say no."

Perhaps Carlos had never played monopoly before, maybe he was too poor.

I don't remember anyone asking me if I wanted to see the color of anyone elses blood. No one asked me when they decided to go over to wherever and help so-and-so blow-up whoever. Reminds me of the corporate structure.

Seems to work something like this:
 Independent produces good product inexpensively;
 Corporation obtains product;

Bought product for \$1.00;
 Markets to entice buyer;
 Sells product for \$11,000.00.

I.C.B.M.'s - how effective. All one need do is go to the store. Whatever you buy there has been marked-up many times-that's why its so expensive, and you might find yourself contributing to the "health-care" profession if you eat too much of it.

Imagine, one lone drug-dealer building the much needed social and economic structures for his country's people, while all the taxes you and I pay don't even seem to fill a tenth of the pot-holes in our public roads! Nor are oldsters, homeless, or your child's education reflective of the large amount of taxes taken from our pay checks.

I believe there are no shortage of solutions to the social an economic problems we now face. Someone once said "it is a matter of asking the right questions."

Is it Americas' right to interfere with another countrys' economic structure? Are drugs a good investment in one's health?

An ancient Inca ledgend foresaw cocoa as the downfall of the white man.

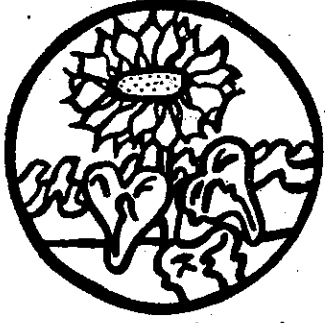
Acts 19:24-41 has another perspective on "questionable employment."

I suppose we are all faced to make a decision from a moral and health position each time we decide to use drugs. I have seen the weary eyes squint in the face of morning light though, after all-night drugs. That's when I see an unproductive person, unhappy neighbor, one of the cells of the whole, a cog in a great clock of sort, beauty lost from within.

I don't have anything against gangs. I'd just just like to see more consciousness in individual user's decisions. ▲

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HANDS OFF THE AMERICAS FESTIVAL

The Nicaraguan Revolution stands as a shining example for all the world. To the majority of poor people everywhere it has shown that a tiny nation can indeed begin to determine its own destiny. But the people of Nicaragua are paying dearly in their attempt to fulfill the dream. The seven-year long US financed contra war and the continuing US economic blockade have devastated the country.

The contras have killed over 30,000, orphaned more than 9,000 children, and caused more than \$3 billion worth of damage to homes and facilities. Many of these facilities, such as schools, health clinics, infant feeding stations, water purification projects and food storage and farm cooperatives never existed for the poor of Nicaragua before the Revolution.

After the triumph over Somoza in 1979, the Revolution sparked a growth rate of 10%, the highest in Latin America. In 1981 Nicaragua earned UNESCO's award for outstanding achievement in literacy. In 1982 the World Health Organization chose Nicaragua as a model country for primary health care.

Since then, the US war has forced Nicaragua to divert 50% of its annual budget from social service and economic development to defense - and now the children are hungry. The US war and the cruel trade embargo continue. What is more, Nicaragua has been hit by a severe draught that will leave 40% of the people without enough food to eat by mid-year. The main benefactors of the Revolution, the Nicaraguan children, continue to suffer. In the US our own children are at risk because of US government war policies - from homelessness, discrimination, cutbacks in health care and education. The dumping of drugs on the streets of our cities, particularly in poor and minority communities is very much a part of this military policy.

As friends of Nicaragua we must work to STOP all US wars of intervention and cut the military budget. We must demand that our tax dollars be used to develop decent paying jobs, affordable housing, accessible health care and meaningful education for all who live here. We must also demand that the US government abide by international law and obey the 1986 World Court decision that directs the US to stop the contra war, end the US embargo and pay Nicaragua war reparations for the destruction it has inflicted on the Nicaraguan people.

In the midst of war and tragedy there is also celebration. On Sunday July 17, Los Angeles will be celebrating the 9th Anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution with the Third Annual HANDS OFF THE AMERICAS FESTIVAL, to benefit LET NICARAGUA LIVE! Pledge Campaign. (See Advertisement on page 6) July 17 is known in Nicaragua as Día de Alegría (Day of Joy) when the hated Somoza was forced to leave Nicaragua forever. The Festival will be a celebration of Nicaragua's defeat of the US proxy army (contras) and the survival and achievements of the Nicaraguan revolution.

We will be making a big effort to raise our share of the two million dollars needed for the LET NICARAGUA LIVE! Oats for Peace Campaign through monthly pledges and contributions.

So come on down and bring the kids. There will be a special children's program and lots of surprises. Now is the time to nourish peace and build ties of friendship between the people of the US and Nicaragua.

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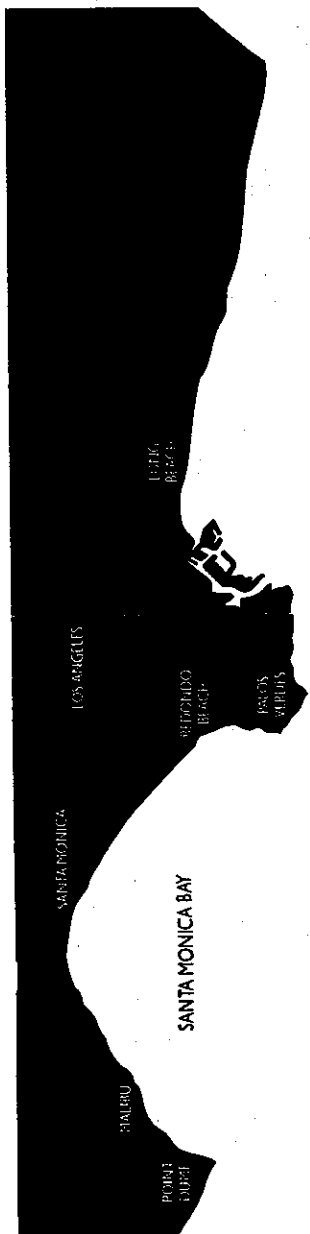
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