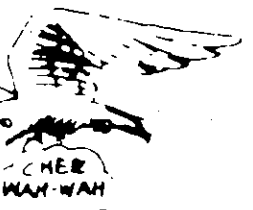


FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968

BEACHHEAD



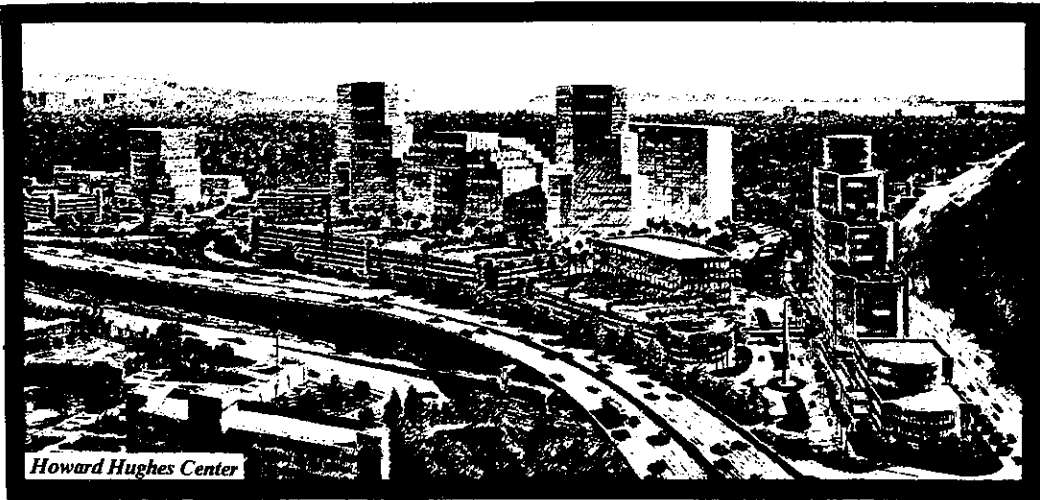
FREE

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Stop Summa-- NOW!!!



Howard Hughes Center

By Rex Frankel

The time has come to stop the menace that Summa Corp. and Pat Russell have foisted on us, the Howard Hughes Center. This future piece of Downtown, to sprout near the Marina/San Diego Freeway interchange, received numerous questionably-legal favors from Ms. Russell, favors the extent of which were not known until recently. A letter containing these findings was sent to the L.A. City Attorney's office two weeks ago. If illegalities occurred, all approvals for the massive Center may be thrown out.

In 1969, the City of LA began the process of updating its 1946 Zoning laws. A new State law required cities to prepare a "General Plan" for all future city planning and zoning decisions. As part of this process, 35 individual District Plans were prepared. Under the previous zoning, LA could have grown from 3 million to 10 million people. The General Plan, taking into account the dwindling supply of energy and drinking

water and the smog that covers LA most of the time, restricts growth to only 4 million people.

In the preliminary report for the Westchester-Playa del Rey District Plan, the recommendation for the current Howard Hughes Center property was for Low Density Residential which corresponded with the R1-1 Zone (meaning single family houses); with no industrial or commercial uses recommended for the site. The City Planners had good reason to recommend low density development, as the site is a geologic graben, a trough sinking between two parallel earthquake faults which are listed as active in the "Seismic Element", the part of the City's General Plan which regulates development in fault zones.

When the W-PdR District Plan was finalized by the Council in 1974, the now Howard Hughes Center was recommended for Limited Industrial uses, a designation that corresponded to the

1946 zoning designation of M1-1 but was limited to the total building area which would have been allowed had the land been built with homes to be compatible with the surrounding neighborhoods and the geologically sensitive site.

The City defines what can be built on a lot with a "Floor area Ratio" (F.A.R.) designation. Most homes are built to a .5 to 1 Floor area to land area ratio. (The smallest legal house lot is 5000 square feet; a big house is 2500 square feet.) Most neighborhood businesses are built to a 1 to 1 F.A.R. A low F.A.R. can be misleading, though. Both the massive Playa Vista and LAX Northside projects will be built to .5 to 1 density.

(The Marina Business Center--which opened in March of 1985, is located alongside the Marina Freeway. Russell restricted this project to a .5 to 1 density. This land was zoned and planned for the same uses as the HHC, so why couldn't they be allowed to develop to 3 to 1? Did Summa's big campaign contributions help smooth the way for this decision? And do these actions mean that any property owner alongside a freeway could sue the City for the right to develop to a 3 to 1 overall density?).

All of Venice is allowed 1.5 to 1 F.A.R., except the Admiralty Place site at Lincoln Blvd. and the Marina Freeway. In one of her last actions as our Councilwoman, Pat Russell allowed the developers to build to the pre-Prop. U density, 3 to 1. If built as planned, Admiralty Place will be even denser than Howard Huge Center, at 2.1 million square feet on 16 acres. HHC is 3.1 million square feet located on 69 acres. As parking structures don't count as density under City codes, double those figures.

The City of L.A. defines all areas that can exceed the pre-Proposition U F.A.R. (3 to 1) as "Centers".

Before Pat Russell got her hands on it, the Centers Definition Plan dated 1983 does not mention Howard Hughes Center, even though the first 16-story

Lincoln Place Evictions, Part 2

by Sara Omari

Continuous rumours of proposed (mad) mass evictions in Venice's Lincoln Place Apartments prompted me to attend a hearing at the city council chambers of the L.A. City Hall, under the aegis of Counsellperson Ruth Galanter. On the 1st of February, I had read a notice about "PROTEST" hearing, (I equate the word "PROTEST" with arm bands, guards police dogs, bullhorns, etc.), so I decided to see, for myself, how the system works.

Furthermore, the LPA tenants, whom I knew were nice people; they are what I call law-abiding, and, of course it helped that they had chartered buses. As we boarded the buses at 7 A.M., we were handed yellow tags, with the words STOP REHAB EVICTIONS. Right away, I had trouble with the word "REHAB" since I view the LPA as beautifully kept, and because I think of rehab as 'vocational rehab', (such as for vets), or other program training for the unemployed. Turns out that this meant BUILDING REHAB. Another reason I had trouble with 'rehab' (ah, the power of the written word!) was that I never considered the LPA as

'handicapped'. (You got it? If you are handicapped, you stand a better chance of getting rehab'ed). Actually, the LPA is a beautiful place, and it's tenants are beautiful people.

On the bus ride downtown, via the S.M. freeway, it was explained to me that the building will, after the proposed evictions, be 'rehabilitated'. DOES THIS MEAN THAT THESE APARTMENTS WILL BE RENTED AT A HIGHER RATE ?? Also, bits and pieces of the bus conversation included such mentions as some tenants that had lived in LPA for 19 years and longer. Other tenants added that, because of the pressure, and also the state of anxiety engendered by the proposed evictions, one person had died. Still, other tenants said that maybe the evictions were the brainchild of some overseas investors, who were using a dummy (pun intended) corporation. Just before we entered the council chambers, our leaders suggested that we "no hiss, not boo, and not applaud", because it might cause the council to vote against us. It was further stated that these meetings were "highly-professional", which is why some council

Evictions Continued to Page 8

Summa Continued to Page 8

Beachhead To Celebrate 20th Year of Muckraking

1968 was one hell of a year. A lot of 20th anniversaries are being celebrated in 1988: The Columbia University sit-ins protesting Columbia's involvement in the Vietnam War, Lyndon Johnson's refusal to run for a second term, the founding of the Peace and Freedom Party, the assassination of Robert Kennedy, the Chicago Democratic Convention riots, and the founding of the Free Venice Beachhead.

The Free Venice Beachhead was started as a reaction to the mainstream media's refusal to acknowledge that there was another side to the speculator-spawned master plan to make Venice another Miami Beach. The Beachhead is one of the longest-surviving alternative press newspapers.

Before we gird our loins for our fight into the third decade to preserve Venice for the needy and the seedy against the onslaughts of the greedy, we want to take a break to celebrate our first 20 years of existence of publishing all the fits that's news to print.

Help us with your ideas, work, donations, etc. for parties, fundraisers and other brainstormers. We're having a celebration strategy meeting at 824 Amoroso Avenue, 11 a.m., May 15. For more information call 396-0811. Please come!

Letters

Dear Beachhead,

Please renew my subscription. Enclosed is a check for \$12.

Don't want to miss an issue. You are like a breath of fresh air (I remember fresh air)! Telling it the way it is--pulling no punches and no sacred bulls and no bullshit!

Solidarity and Peace,
Salud!
Loretta Szeliga

Town Council Responds

The following letter was sent to the fifteen members of the City Council with a copy to Mayor Bradley.

RE: Proposed Ordinance Restricting Sewer Connections, Council File Number 87-2121-S1

Dear Councilmembers:

The Venice Town Council Planning and Development Committee respects the judgment of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury which recently did an examination of the City's sewer problems. We support the Grand Jury's recommendation for a moratorium of up to four years on new sewer hookups in Los Angeles and the other Jurisdictions that use its sewer system.

We urge the City Council to adopt the emergency City ordinance currently proposed that will reduce sewer hookups by thirty per cent. Although it falls far short of the Grand Jury's recommendation, its swift passage will be a step in the right direction toward solving this problem.

We appreciate the attempts of Councilmembers Ruth Galanter, Gloria Molina, and Zev Yaroslavsky to curb the exemptions to the ordinance that other Councilmembers are pushing for, as reported in The Outlook of April 20, 1988. We regret that their position is not shared by the rest of the Council.

According to City engineers, Santa Monica and Beverly Hills are currently exceeding their contractual rights to use the Hyperion Plant (The Outlook, March 16, 1988). We would like the City Council to check with the Mayor on why the City is not enforcing the existing contractual guidelines.

Please consider the Grand Jury's findings as you vote on the emergency sewer connection ordinance.

Sincerely,
Nancy Burnet Kent
Venice Town Council Planning and Development Committee

Dear Editor, the silken cocoon...

To best describe the insularity of our times I recall a "joke" heard in Miami Beach in 1942. A war was in progress, then. The point was made, thusly: Two matronly ladies were sunning themselves at a seafront patio. Suddenly, an atomic bomb explodes, out to sea! One gal says: "Hey! Rita! the sky busted!" The answer: "Shut up! I'm reading a hot story!" There are more such mind-sets, today, than then. Strange business. End of comparison...

Sincerely,
/s/ Joseph P. Krengel
Santa Monica, Calif.

Peace in '88--Just say yes!

Ramadan

by Sara Omari

RAMADAN, the 9th month of the Islamic lunar calander is the month of fasting for adult Moslems. Total abstinence from food, drink, sex and tobacco is required. Tradition says that is during Ramadan that the Quran was revealed. For those who can afford it, daily feeding of one poor person is prescribed. Ramadan is also a Period of Atonement. Fasting begins at daybreak and ends at sundown. The festive EID AL FITR celebrates the end of Ramadan. This year, Ramadan started on the 17th of april. ■



Diane Nickerson, Patrick McCartney, Malcolm Tent, Kathleen Alvarez, Carol Fondiller, Beth Miller, Kathy Sullivan, Shipford Branes, Victor Wightman, Sara Omari, memphis slim and 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. 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.

THANKS TO
Juith L. MARTIN

PRISONER: Joseph A Flecher #22346
P.O. Box 607, Carson City
Nevada 89702

Dear Editor of Beachhead:

March 29, 1988

I'm writing to you to express how little support or understanding our society and government has for mentally challenged such as myself.

I've been trying to go through a rehab program through "Step Up On Second Street" in Santa Monica for the past year and a half. My work project is a hot dog cart. I've appealed to the City of Santa Monica to "legalize" them as the city counsel says the cars are illegal.

On October 13, 1987 as I spoke in front of council and by their own admission acknowledged laws prohibiting street vending were "defective and unconstitutional." Yet, all the while (past year to date) a man by the name of Ben was allowed to operate his hot dog cart at Farmers Market every Wednesday withut prosecution, arrest, or asked to shut down.

Thursday, November 2, 1987 I set my cart up in Palisades Park as my constitutional right to work. I was forced to shut down, handcuffed, put in jail, frisked, etc. My cart was impounded, (cost \$69.00) amaged (\$200.00).

I have been rendered more ill instead of better because of such treatment. Now I am forced to take medication to calm myself down or else I would be in need of hospitalization.

The city has violated my civil rights without care or concern and I can't find a lawyer to assist me as I am short of \$, \$\$, being on disability.

In recent months of cold weather S.M. Police Dept. did a warrant check on the homeless asking for vouchers. People already down and out and crushed even lower by big police power over a piece of identification.

My case as an individual, whose ailment makes it difficult to function "normally", has received same lack of compassion, abuse, etc. by S. M. as homeless people. My plight is of concern as it shows how little laws, government, care about the little person, who by usually no fault of their own, but by nature, are not able to be as productive as one would like to be.

The irony is that I am trying to rehabilitate myself only to face de-habilitating abuse by a government.

I am at this moment, 12:15 p.m. at Safeway on Rose & Lincoln with my cart. By temporary permission I am able to sit my cart there.

On Wednesdays I try to go to Farmer's Market on Arizona Street and 4th only to receive citations to appear in court.

According to a moratorium passed against street vending on January 12, 1988, all such activity was to halt. Yet I reported to police, that Ben was continuing to operate and he was not forced to shut down. Thus I too decided to operate and at present I have three citations, the first to appear in court April 5th.

Is this the kind of aid, (stress) a city gives to an ill person trying to go through a re-hab program? Your support of the mentally ill is needed! Come to Step Up... 1328 Second Street.

cc: Ted Hayes
Tom Hayden
Susan Dempsey
Sylvester Stallone

Sincerely,
N. Clement

To the Beachhead,

I understand that there was indeed an article written about my father after his terrible ending, but I never saw it, and after seeing the section on Baza in your latest paper I felt a little more could be said about a man whose whole life was Venice, from the bookstore he had on Dudley in the early '60s to 517 Ocean Front Walk where he lived and loved for 16 years. So please print this little momento from me his oldest and most loving daughter and former resident of Venice.

Kitty Bratton

That Was Milton

Wheeling a shopping cart with his grandson Tony in it down the Speedway,
Sitting in the bakery window having cake and coffee,
Hosing down the courtyard of 517 Ocean Front Walk,
Sitting on a bench listening to the Johnny Otis show,
Selling books on Dudley in his store #10,
Digging poetry at the Venice West,
Taking Melody and Kitty to POP in the summers long ago,
Wearing Mexican sombreros everywhere,
Living cheaply in Mexico with Danny,
Visiting Stuart on Paloma in '74,
Teaching Tony the Book Biz in Hollywood,
Trashing thru the alleys in Venice,
Arguing with Bunny,
Marrying Bunny,
Talking about the blues,
Showing up late to parties weighed down with records,
Smoking a joint in a pagoda at sunset,
Coming home with me from Jump Street,
Us going to hear Lightnin' Hopkins,
Working for the UCLA library as a book scout,
Sending Gabe out for bananas and milk,
Eating at the Apple Pan,
Working at Canters in the 40s,
Loving all his kids and grandkids too,
Laughing at his own sharp wit,
Petting Opal the cat,
Watching old movies,
Living on the beach,
Moving on just in time,

That was/is Milton C. Bratton, my father.

Kitty Bratton ●

COLLECTIVE REPLY:

Milton Bratton's death was noted in THE Aug. '87 issue of The Beachhead, #1 West Dudley"

BAZA's memorial pages were paid for and created by Reverend Bob Alexander's friends.

ADL Replies

Were Memphis Slim to have learned his history, he would note that Israel's actions are the exact antithesis of the Third Reich.

Were Slim to have studied the 1948 War, he would note that when the United Nations voted for two states, one Palestinian and one Jewish, Israel accepted the petition while the Arabs did not.

Were Slim, moreover, to have studied the history of the 1956 War, he would note that Israel traded in the Sinai for protection by UN troops. These troops, however, left without a fight, after being asked to do so by Nasser in 1967.

Were Slim to have learned his history concerning the 1967 War, he would note that Israel did not ask to occupy the lands of Judea and Sumaria, and Gaza Strip. Instead it captured them after being threatened by armies from Egypt, Jordan and Syria, who were all bent on Israel's destruction.

Finally, were Slim to have learned lessons subsequent to 1967, he would note the entire Arab world, with the exception of Egypt, have followed the three Nos enunciated in Khartoum in 1974: No Peace, No Recognition, No Negotiations.

Perhaps the quote "Lessons Not Learned" are not from Israel at all. Perhaps they are instead from people like Memphis Slim.

Jonathan R. Lightman,
Western States Assistant Counsel, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai Brith.

Collective note: the real Memphis Slim, the musician, died a few months ago in France. Our own memphis slim has moved to Oakwood. ◀

Democracy Who Said it Was Easy?

by Carol Fondiller

be careful of what you wish for; it just might come true.

For eleven months Ruth Galanter has been the Councilwoman of the Sixth District. She was elected to office by a coalition of people whose interests sometimes opposed one another. The Peninsula people south of Washington Street want the public beach kept private but still maintained by public taxes. The Oakwood people want more intensive development on their lots than the Ocean Front Walk people. The speculators want to build as many buildings for profit as they can get in without parking spaces on the very last wetland in the area. The culture vultures have visions of a kitschy-poo Disneyfied expensive artistic-type colony. Notice I didn't say artists; I said artistic, i.e. rich people who want to Find Themselves. I wish they'd get lost. The home-owning predominantly WASP Westchesterites don't want be drowned in Summa-Hughes Century City type developments. Everyone wants affordable low-income housing to replace the low-income housing destroyed by people busily "improving" the poor out of Venice; they just don't want it near them.

Low-income housing and the preservation of neighborhood with its mix of ethnic and economic diversity has been one of my shticks for a number of years. I voted for Galanter because as a city planner she knew how valuable a mix of people, incomes, and industries was to keep a neighborhood interesting and vital. I watched her when she was on the Coastal Commission. She would bring speculators and environmentalists together and whether they liked it or not, plans were worked out by the warring factions. For years - twenty at least, as far as I know - the wishes and needs of the community have been ignored in favor of real estate developers, property owners and speculators. Low-rent types like myself and even homeowners have been ignored. During the Councilmanic campaign, a lemon of an L.A. Times reporter tried to taint the groundswell of support for slow-growth Proposition U and Ruth Galanter with a pinko paintbrush, coating us all - Westchesterites, Crenshawites, MarVistans and Venicians - with that left-leaning, selfish ~~tinousine liberal~~ affluent racist pinko tinge. The first crisis of the new Councilwoman was the homeless on Venice Beach. Frankly, that has not been handled to my satisfaction - nor, I'm positive, has it been to the homeless people's satisfaction either. I still think that the Venice Pavilion would be ideal for social services and if it were renovated, emergency cold-weather shelter. Though the anti-sleeping on the beach has gone into effect, there are still no emergency shelters on the West Side, and of course no affordable housing being built, either. When the homeless issue in Venice became a media event the NIMBYs (Not In My Back Yard) were on the offensive in both senses of that word. Many of us were caught off-guard. What the hell was happening here? We voted for Ruth and this is what we got? I went to a Canal meeting. Galanter told the Canal people that the plan that Russell pushed through was a nogo. The Fish and Game people, the State and the Feds, would not consent to the Russell plan because the plan was not sensitive to the fact that the Canals were wetlands. Much grumblings ensued among those who had envisioned a sanitary small-craft harbor. She was not against development, said Galanter, as long as it was sensitive to the needs of wildlife.

Then fliers and letters from the Councilwoman's office went out announcing workshops, meetings, seminars, open houses, etc. As if from the sky, we were deluged with an alphabet soup of LCPs, LUPs, ICOS, and SLUPs (Local Coastal Program, Land-Use Program, Interim Control Ordinances, and Specific Use Plans). We sat in school auditoriums next to strangers, or huddled with friends. We were yanked about and shoved into workshops, and pelted with initials as big as hailstones: BZAs, CRA, and B&S's (Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Redevelopment Agency, Building & Safety). Our former Councilwoman would lecture us on the rare open meetings that she held, on why plans had to come out the way she and her developer contributors wanted them, and any other way was "unfeasible."

Galanter and her aides explained what those alphabets meant, and how they worked, and how citizens could work the system. In other words, she handed us a ball of string and gave us directions to get through bureaucratic maze.

People grumbled about missing TV

programs, basketball games, hot dates, etc. What the hell is this broad doing to us?

Then one night in a state of altered consciousness, things became clearer. We were being forced into participatory democracy! And we are so inured to rejection and so used to being discounted and so accustomed to having things done for us by the paternal government, that we've nearly lost the ability to bitch to the right department about potholes and stray dogs: we just don't know how to handle doing it ourselves. We are being given an opportunity on a silver platter. But like Pandora's Box, it's a mixed bag. At this time in our history, our community is being given tools to work out our town's destiny. We've got a limited time to make the community we want. And lemme tell ya, folks, the people who've been showing up at these workshops consistently have been the Venice Action Committee. One of their astigmatic visions of Venice is to mall Windward Avenue. They have learned the mantra chant of Preserving Venice's Unique Ethnic Economic Lifestyle Diversity. But they only suggest affordable at sites where it's zoned industrial. (R-1, C-2, R-4, C-1 - more letters with numbers explode in my head: Will it ever stop?) Then there are realtors, developers, and owners of large amounts of property. They know their future depends on pressure. Homeowners also show up in respectable numbers with their concerns of residential identity, parking, crime and potholes. There are homeowners who want to keep and add to affordable housing because they know Venice will look like Downtown Calcutta if affordable housing is not in the community plan. For years people have been telling me that affordable housing is pie-in-the-sky thinking. But as rents go up and space shrinks, the only rational conclusion I can come up with is those people who want a walled community of outsided mansions on undersized lots near a public beach are the

ones who are having trouble with reality. There are some renters at these meetings, mostly upper income \$1200/mo. Rm.wVu&Loft who are disturbed that low-rent types still exist in Venice. Renters have always been low in the caste system in L.A. where the dream of owning a single-family house on a lot has been the guiding force for building. How's that for pie-in-the-sky? Renters, especially middle to low-income, have been insulted and ignored at public meetings. We have been ridiculed and Red-baited into apathy. We have been locked out of meetings, told we don't count, forced to move because the landlord's biker cousin Bruce is out of jail and needs a pad. We have spoken, but no one has listened to us until now. That we've paid rent and therefore our landlord's taxes and membership in the Apartment Owners' Association, never occurs to us until we get a Dear Tenant letter.

The grueling (and interesting) community workshops are continuing. We have one year to come up with a community plan. I know that there will be compromises made, but I don't want to see, as I've seen many times before, low-income housing and public access to the beach more "compromised" than anything else. I mentioned that the Deep Pocket folks have a lot invested in Venice. Well, so do we. Deep Pockets have nothing to lose. In reality, they won't lose any money; they just won't make as much or as fast as they want. We low-rent types can lose our community. We need to make a showing and learn the game. The houseless should also participate and make their presence known and felt. We must participate.

And to quote John Haag, "Who said Democracy was easy?" Tenants of the world, unite: You have nothing to lose but your anomie. For information on meetings, call Joan Cory or Lance Diskan at 641-4717. For toll-free calls from Venice, call 202-4567. ■



"State of the City" Environmental Quality Hearings

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD TO HOLD HEARINGS ON "STATE OF THE CITY'S ENVIRONMENT"

The Environmental Quality Board will hold a series of public hearings about the state of the environment in L.A. Each of the 4 meetings will take place a different location and concentrate on a different aspect of the environment (though the Board will not disqualify those who wish to speak on a subject which is not the focus of a particular hearing).

The time, date, location and subject of the hearings are as follows:

First: Air quality, Tue. May 10th, 7-9pm
John Muir Jr. High School
5929 S. Vermont Ave

Second: Water Quality, Plant & Animal life. Thur. May 26th, 7-9pm
L.A. Dept of Water & Power Bldg.
111 N. Hope St., Downtown

Third: Solid, Liquid, Hazardous Wastes
Wed. June 15, 7-9pm
Reseda Women's Club

Forth: Conserve of Natural Resources and Open Space
Tue. June 28th, 7-9pm
Daniel Webster Jr. High School

11330 W. Graham Pl. W. L.A.
For more information please call the Board at 485-3503 <

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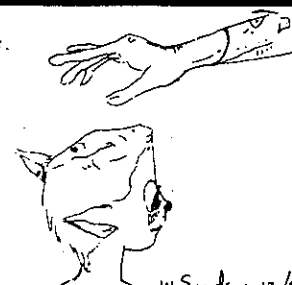
P.A.I.D.

P.C.S.

MON. - SAT. 9:00 - 6:30

SUN. 10:00 - 5:00

Prescription Dept. MON. - SAT. 9:00 - 6:30



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Entertainment Schedule

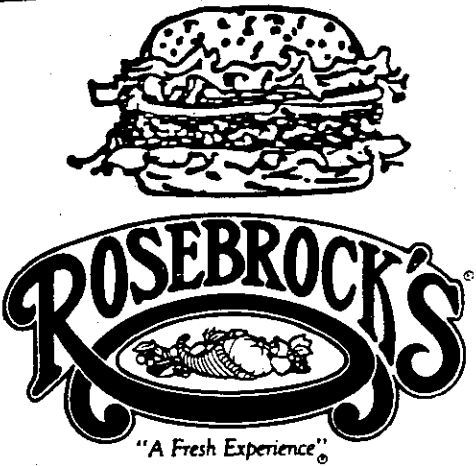
Suns: Michael Lanning.	Thurs: Mike Hamilton
Mons: Ruby Rudman	Johnny Smid
Steve Reynolds	Fri: Wade Prestor
Tues: Cheryl Saunders jazz.	Alfred Johnson
Weds: Bill Todd.	Sats: Harold Payne
	Joanne Kurman
	John Vester

All dates not listed to be announced. Valet parking after 7 p.m.

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KROMA

Racists For Rent**Oxy's Big Squeeze**

By Rex Frankel

Over the next six months, residents of Los Angeles' poorer neighborhoods will receive what sounds like a good deal in the mail. All they have to do is sign a petition, and without an increase in taxes, their neighborhood schools, parks and police forces will get a load of extra cash. Also, this petition will help fund toxic waste enforcement and put L.A. residents on record as opposing any oil drilling in Santa Monica Bay, protecting LA's largest park of all, its beaches.

It sounds almost too good to be true. The group sponsoring the initiative call themselves the L.A. Public and Coastal Protection Committee (or the LAPCP Committee). The leaders of this group are Ex-Governor Edmund G. (Pat) Brown Sr., AFL-CIO Exec. Secretary William Robertson, influential Democratic Party Attorney Mickey Kantor, Bishop H.H. Brookins of the African Methodist Church and ex-L.A. Police Chief Tom Reddin.

So what's the catch? The fine print says that the Occidental Petroleum Corporation (Oxy) will get to drill 58 oil wells at the base of an active landslide across Pacific Coast HWY from the beach, in one of the richest neighborhoods in LA, the Pacific Palisades. As part of the deal, Oxy will pay LA up to "hundreds" of millions in taxes, funding all these programs so dear to the hearts of most inner city neighborhoods. Now, coincidentally, the LAPCP gets all of its funding from the Occidental Petroleum Company. Here this sleazy story begins:

At a press conference explaining why they had formed the committee, Brookins stated that oil drilling was "a black and white, rich versus poor issue" saying that Palisadians had never fought oil drilling in other, poorer parts of L.A. (Notwithstanding that most oil wells in Watts or East L.A. were drilled 50 or 100 years ago.)

No other oil drilling sites in L.A. however, have the potential for disaster like this one. The site is on an active landslide and earthquake fault, which if it moves again threatens to cover Pacific Coast HWY with 300 acres of hilltop Palisades neighborhoods. If that happens, lawsuits from owners of the formerly-hilltop homes will surely wipe out any financial benefits to the City.

(L.A. Times 3/30/88) Oxy's LAPCP Committee begins their media blitz.....

Mickey Kantor: it was the "narrow, selfish interests" of the drilling foes that are "Balkanizing Los Angeles...The only polarization going on is on their part by refusing to share their resources with all of Los Angeles...We are for people coming together and willing to share the burden...My question is, why is their neighborhood any different from any other?"

The LAPCP Committee to date has spent about \$13,000 in ads in Black community papers: the Wave, the Sentinel, the Watts Star-Review and On-the Scene, an entertainment tabloid. \$14,000 went to Spanish language papers: La Guia, La Opinion and Noticias del Mundo.

Arthur Groman, a member of the Board of Directors of Oxy (3/22/88 Outlook) also assailed Oxy opponents: "This is a small group of very arrogant, elitist people who think they're better than all the citizens in Los Angeles."

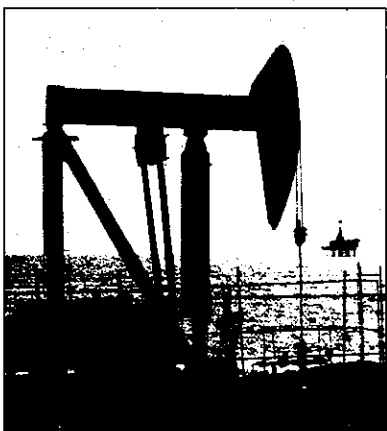
(4/13/88 Herald Examiner) "Many homeowners in the Pacific Palisades are on fixed incomes and have been hoping for years that this project would move forward so they could receive the royalties that are rightfully theirs." Groman fails to mention that Oxy royalties to each homeowner are only \$17 a month. Groman, meanwhile, lives in a walled mansion in Beverly Hills. Enough said.

The group that's fought Oxy's plans for almost 20 years now is called No Oil, Inc. L.A. City Councilmembers Marvin Braude and Zev Yaroslavsky along with No Oil are circulating their own petitions to ban oil drilling along LA's beaches within 1000 yards of the ocean.

Kantor labels his group's pro-drilling initiative as "the pro-environment initiative".

An astute letter writer to the L.A. Times correctly noted that the L.A. Public and Coastal Protection Committee is an Oxymoron. You look it up.

Oxy has hired two members of Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy's campaign team to work on the counter-initiative, according to Mickey Kantor. Kam Kuwata, whose last boss was Pat Russell, is now a spokesman for McCarthy, a Democrat running for Republican U.S. Senator Pete Wilson's seat. Kuwata accused Wilson, who in April endorsed the Anti-Oxy initiative, of "playing catch up on the issue of environmental protection", for not endorsing or opposing a controversial bill to turn much of the Mojave Desert into a National Park (LA Times 4/9/88) Don't forget, though, that Pete Wilson endorsed Pat Russell during her tough fight against Ruth Galanter.

**A HISTORY LESSON**

Occidental Petroleum received their 2 acre site in a swap engineered by the pro-growth L.A. City Council in 1969. (At the same time, the Council was considering plans to demolish half of Venice for high density apartments and condos, a plan overwhelmingly rejected by Venice's residents.) Oxy's oil drilling project was OKed by the Council in '72, but the State Supreme Court disagreed, requiring preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Council, Oxy EIR in hand, OKed drilling in '78, with the concurrence of the City Planning Commission and its new and politically ambitious Chairman Dan Garcia. (More about Garcia later) Bradley, though, vetoed the plan. The West L.A. area had been crucial to the Mayor in elections, and Bradley had made drilling opposition a major part of his '69 and '73 campaigns. Soon, however, things changed.

Oxy and their lobbyists' funds began trickling in, turning to a torrent to Mayor Tom Bradley and the 10 of 15 LA council members who eventually voted its way, totalling more than \$100,000 since 1975.

In 1982, Oxy hired the politically well-connected law firm of Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg and Tunney to represent it before City Hall. The drilling got Council OK in January 1985, and Bradley flip-flopped to Oxy's side. Dan Garcia's Planning Commission this time voted no. Garcia, coincidentally, was at the time attempting to get his buddies Pat Russell and Mayor Bradley to appoint him temporary City Attorney, the post just vacated by District Attorney-elect Ira Reiner. Garcia said he had OKed the wells in 78 because of the energy crisis, but now he felt drilling was inappropriate. I'm sure Garcia was expecting a tough re-election, as Reiner's term was up in April of 1985. Police Chief Darryl Gates, though, opposed the appointment, as Garcia's law firm, Munger, Tolles and Olson, had worked on City investigations of Gate's scandal ridden Public Disorder and Intelligence Division. Few Council members wanted to vote for Garcia and risk alienating Gates. In the April election, Jame Kenneth Hahn, son of long-time County Supervisor Kenny Hahn, defeated Manatt-Phelps attorney Lisa Specht for the City Attorney spot.

In September of 1985, a court decided that the City of L.A. could decide that oil drilling is not an "industrial" use.

This decision allowed the City to circumvent the Brentwood/Pacific Palisades District Plan, an enforceable part of the City's laws, which prohibits industrial uses.

Since the drilling was OK'd in 1985, five of Oxy's council friends have been replaced by 4 drilling opponents, Ruth Galanter, Gloria Molina, Nate Holden and Mike Woo, and one favoring it--East L.A. rep. Richard Allatorre, recipient of \$2500 in Oxy bucks.

With 9 of the 15 Council members now opposing Oxy, Councilman Braude introduced a bill to repeal the 1985 Oxy OK. Under the law, land use ordinances must be voted on by the 5-member Bradley-appointed City Planning Commission. Garcia and the Commission opposed Oxy in 1985. Suddenly, Garcia announced that a few years ago, his law firm did some work for Oxy. This legal work had nothing to do with Oxy's drilling plans, yet Garcia requested that City Attorney Hahn disqualify him and the Commission from the decision, claiming a "conflict of interest". Hahn did what he was told, saving Garcia and Bradley from a major embarrassment. The repeal bill under law now had to go the City Board of Referred Powers, 3 of whose 5 members have taken Oxy Campaign contributions. Naturally, this Board rejected the repeal. Under the law, if the Planning Commission or Board of Referred Powers rejects an ordinance, 10 votes, not 8 votes of the Council, are needed to send it to Mayor Bradley's desk. The Oxy opponents only number 9 on the Council.

Oxy also had to get approvals from the State Coastal Commission, which they got last year. The vote was 7-5, with Governor George Deukmejian's 4 appointees and 3 of Assembly Speaker Willie Brown's 4 appointees voting yes. Voters in State Senate leader David Roberti's district, which includes Hollywood, strongly oppose drilling. And Roberti happens to be up for reelection this year. So, naturally, Roberti's 4 Coastal Commission appointees voted no. Oxy's campaign contributions to Gov. Deukmejian totalled \$10,000 last year; Willie Brown in '85-'86 got \$19,500. Roberti, though has received none.

The connections between Oxy's law firm and our political establishment is both amazing and troubling. Top attorney Charles Manatt also chaired Walter Mondale's 1984 presidential bid; Atty. Mickey Kantor has worked on campaigns for U.S. Senator Alan Cranston, Jerry Brown, Ted Kennedy and Mondale; Atty. Maria Hummer carries out Mayor Bradley's expansionist policies as Chair of the L.A. International Airport Commission; Former Manatt-Phelps Atty. John Emerson was just hired by LA City Atty James K. Hahn to serve as his Chief Deputy and Chief of Staff; Atty. Lisa Specht plans to run for Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky's Westwood seat next year (Yaroslavsky is running for Mayor Bradley's job); John Tunney, the ex-U.S. Senator, is a developer of mini-malls in Marina Del Rey and a "Liberal" commentator on Channel 7. More like a "Limousine Liberal" commentator. Or how about a Librocrete?

An even more troubling fact about Oxy is that one of their subsidiaries, the Hooker Chemical Co., created the Love Canal toxic dump in New York State on which homes were "mistakenly" built. Oxy doesn't have a good neighbor record at their Pico/Doheny site, either.

Oxy's sleazy pro-drilling propaganda is reminiscent of that spewed by Councilwoman Pat Russell when the residents of the sixth District revolted against her big development policies: if you can't defend your actions, Change the Subject or Divide and Conquer. Keep the voting public thinking its a Black vs. White, Liberal vs. Conservative, Democrat vs. Republican struggle.

The real battle is Greed and Big Bucks vs. the Environment.

For more info, contact :
Citizens for a Livable Los Angeles,
11675 Wilshire Blvd., West LA. Call 478-3909 to get petitions or flyers.
THEY NEED 69,500 SIGNATURES BY JUNE 1ST
TO QUALIFY FOR THE NOVEMBER '88 BALLOT.

6 An Unwritten Letter

by rick davidson

I never really thanked you
for being mother.

Oh sure,
like most kids,
I loved, kissed, hugged,
and let you know
how good you made me feel -
good?

how loved, how secure, how wanted,
but since I never knew
what it meant to be
"mother",

I never asked
what it was like for you.
I never thought from your point of view.
I never understood what you gave up
being mother.

I never asked (till those last short years)
what you hoped for, wished for, dreamed of.
What, as a child like me,
you saw your future to be.

I never wondered if you drew, painted, danced.
I knew you didn't sing
for I, like you,
grew up singing alone
because I too was designated "tone deaf"
and not allowed to ruin the harmony.
Yes, we shared that pain
we both knew so well.

But what about those other creative urges,
drives, desires? I never asked.
I knew you could write.

We all did; begging you with all our hearts
to put your beautiful thoughts to paper.
We never thought about the time
and where it would come from.

I seldom sent questions
after the thoughts that must precede words.
Thoughts of love, beauty, giving,
and fear,
and pain,
and loneliness

(but mostly about love and beauty).

Too much we talked about me,
of my feelings and thoughts:
what did I think? what did I feel?
how did I imagine this and that to be?

Now that you're gone
I ask unanswerable questions
about your feelings - all those feelings
of joy and pain

I have seen washing your cheeks...
and all those other tears I never saw,
but know you shed;
so many shed for me.

Now when it's too late
I would like to know
who my mother was.

Not in terms of name, age, place of birth.
No.

Who was this soul that fed me,
offering me the nourishment
my starving heart craved?
Who was this woman who encouraged me
when all things seemed to fail?
Who was this heart that understood
when I refused to travel that road
so straight and narrow?
Yes,
who was this person
who gave up so much of her life
for a son
who really never took the time to know her?
and in the dying moments of her life
found life too short
to learn the interior of his mother's heart?
Who?

Tonight I sit and wonder,
remembering those evenings when you and Sittie
would spend the evenings enjoying
the Telephone Hour.
What did you two sisters talk about?
what did you laugh at?
cry for?
argue about?
And all those trips across our country,
thousands of hours
among the beauty we all love so
what thoughts went out to
nature's wonderments?

Sadly I remember you telling me
how you hadn't understood Richard Byrd
until I gave you his ALONE to read.
You never wrote your alone
and I never asked
how your emptiness felt.
Not even when I struggled with my own
did I perceive that these feelings, hopes,
fears, dreams that continually flow
between heart and mind
flowed in you as well;
that you knew such highs and lows.
Life is such a one-way mirror when you're young
Not young, blind.

Tonight when it's too late,
years too late,
I sit and wrap the darkness about me;
let the inside of my heart
open to the cold night air...
let it expand to fill the space
that's empty...
emptied by my one-way view
of my mother.
So I'm left alone to ask the quiet
what does one do
with unanswerable questions;
to whom does one send unwritten letters?
The rain is heavy tonight.

...

for another MOTHER'S DAY

ArtWalk To Benefit Venice Family Clinic

by EDDIE O'GOY

Mark Sunday, May 22 on your schedule as a
"can't miss."

In a Venice ritual reminiscent of the
swallows returning to Capistrano, thousands of
art mavens from the foothills of the Santa Monica
Mountains and the moneyed enclaves of the West-
side will troop to our community to sample the
studios and galleries thrown open to the financ-
ially willing on the Venice Family Clinic's
ninth annual Art Walk.

Eddie heartily encourages any reader who can
scrape up 35 bucks to take the tour. It may be
one of your few chances to see what beauty lurks
behind the deliberately scruffy facades of many
art lofts and studios in Venice.

And the money goes to a good cause. Last
year the Art Walk raised half a million green
ones to help the Venice Family Clinic serve
thousands of Venice area residents with health
care unavailable to many of them. Eddie himself
has depended on the kind medical attention of
the clinic and has a renewed sense of gratitude
to this important Venice institution.

The Art Walk is open from noon to 5 p.m. on
the 22nd. Simultaneously, a silent auction, a
"shopping place" (to make those mavens manic),
and a food faire bring even more Venice artists'
works in front of the public. More art here than
the Valley will ever see.

If you can tap a rich but dumb relative, or
hey if you're that loaded yourself, you can
plunk down 75 bucks and save your shoe leather,
take a bus tour with a prattling docent to
explain it all for you, visit a select few
artists, and feast on a lunch by Rococco at
the Meyers/Bloom Gallery. Seats on the docent
tour go fast--the art maven crowd being what it
is--so reservations have to be made by May 12th.
Call 392-8630.

Buying into the docent tour also allows you
to tour the Art Walk as well.

More than 40 local artists are part of the
Art Walk this year, and maybe a hundred more
have work available in the silent auction and
shopping place. A few of the "names" include
Larry Albright, Laddie John Dill, Steven Erlich,
Diana Hobson, Robert Graham, Frank Gehry, Don
Bachardy, Billy Al Bengston, Guy and Laddie Dill,
Claire Falkenstein, Alice Fellows, D.J. Hall,
Ed Moses, Ed Ruscha, Judy Stabile, and Kent Twit-
chell.

As always, the Art Walk will be headquartered
at the Westminster School, at 1010 W. Washington
Blvd. Satellite parking is also available at
Walgrove, Coeur D'Alene and Broadway Elementary
Schools, with shuttle service from 11 a.m. to
7 p.m. ■

B.C.



Light at the End of the Tunnel...!

LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM UNDERWAY

by ARNOLD SPRIMYER

The second L.A. City sponsored
workshop on the production of the
Local Coastal Program for Venice was
held on Saturday April 16 at the
Westminster School. About 200 people
attended including activists from
Venice Town Council, Venice Neighbor
to Neighbor, and Venice Action
Committee. At the workshop a draft
LUP (Land Use Plan) was distributed
for community review and input.
Copies of the draft LUP are available
at the Venice Library and from the
Councilwoman's office in Westchester.
The comments on the draft LUP must be
received by the City Planning Dept.
(Catriona Bryant) no later than the
beginning of June.

The LUP is one of two planning
elements that constitute the Venice
Local Coastal Program (LCP). The
other element is called the Landuse
Implementation Plan (LIP). The LIP
will begin production after the
adoption process for the LUP is
underway. The amended LUP should be
before the Coastal Commission in
September for certification. Once
certification is achieved work on
the LIP can begin.

The LIP is meant to compliment
and flesh out the policies,
objectives, strategies, which are
specified in the LUP. The LIP will be
comprised of three Specific Plans; 1)
North Venice, 2) Peninsula-Canals,
and 3) Oakwood-Milwood, and Southeast
Venice. It is possible that
Southeast Venice (Venice south of
Venice Blvd, east of the canals,
including the Oxford Triangle) will
become the first area to participate
in the production of a Specific Plan
given the proximity of the huge
Admiralty Place project (adjacent to
the Oxford Triangle and across from
the new Gelson's development and the
Villa Marina development (Vons
shopping ctr.)

This project could have major
negative impact on all of Venice, but
it can be seen as a vehicle which can
be modified thru compromise so that

it will have less negative impact. To
mitigate the remaining negative
impacts on traffic, parking (Coastal
Access related) and housing issues,
it is conceivable that the developer
will agree to provide significant
fees which will address each of these
issue. This has been the pattern in
all recent large scale project
negotiations. A good example of this
is the recently approved Water
Gardens Project by the J.H. Snyder Co
in Santa Monica.

In the Water Gardens Project the
developer had a 17 acre site. His
project was \$300 million. He had
1.26 million sq feet of development.
He was permitted 4, 6 story office
buildings on the site. The uses
approved were commercial: offices,
shops, restaurants. He had on site
two 1/2 levels of underground
parking. To make this level of
development acceptable to the
neighborhoods impacted by the project
and to the City of Santa Monica,
Watergardens agreed to: 65%
landscaping on site; a two acre
reflecting pool 600 feet long; on
site child care center; on site
health club; to contribute \$6.4
million for traffic mitigation; to
contribute \$ 7.2 million for the
production of affordable housing
throughout Santa Monica; to
contribute \$300,000 towards the
construction of a homeless shelter in
Santa Monica; to contribute \$150,000
to a Santa Monica citywide public art
program.

ADMIRALTY PLACE AND LCP

Currently the position of the
Venice Town Council and the Coalition
of Concerned Communities on the
proposed Admiralty Place Project is:

All provisions of the ICO on height
and density should be adhered to.
This means a 45 foot high cap in
that area; that limited commercial
be permitted fronting Lincoln Blvd
and that the rest of the project site
be developed with market rate
housing. Development density would be
to the RD 1.5 provisions of the

zoning code. The developer is
entitled to build such a project
without providing any fees for
traffic and parking improvements
(public access) or for the production
of affordable housing.

The developer may not want to
build such a low density low impact
project and claims legal right to
develop at higher density thru a
Specific Plan approved by Pat Russell
and the City of Los Angeles shortly
before the election of Ruth Galanter.
Unfortunately certain elements among
Oxford Triangle homeowners signed
off on this high density plan. They
thought it acceptable as far as their
neighborhood and their property
values were concerned. They appear
not to have given sufficient
consideration to the impact of this
project on the public's right to get
to and use its coast. Nor did they
consider what havoc it might cause
physically and socially in the rest
of Venice. These are two reasons why
it appears likely that the developer
will seek to negotiate this project,
and that's why it seems likely that
some compromise will have to be
reached. And that's where recent
comparative development histories can
be of use. We have a right to expect
the costs of development to be
greater in an impacted area like
Venice than in a non coastal specific
area like 28th and Colorado in Santa
Monica. The developer (the Birtcher
Group and State Senator Allen
Robbins) appears poised to resume
discussions with the Coastal Council
in May.

The Specific Plans (LIP) which
community workshops will take up in
October, will be neighborhood
specific. They will address
specifics of height and density in
each neighborhood. If the 30 foot
ICO height limit is considered to be
too generous, too dangerous to
preservation of the quality of life
of the neighborhood, then it can be
reduced. If design controls are
necessary (to insure integrity of
architecture, sunlight etc. these
"fleshing outs" of the LUP can be
accomplished here.

Any proposals f
of affordable housin
height bonuses that
to utilize in order
construction and mai
existence affordable
discussed here. Even
process will only be
constructive preparator
anticipating these n
workshops can already
It would be helpful
document surveys on
to the desires of yo
to height and densit
Front, side, rear ya
story setbacks shoul
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new construction whi
specifically to the
neighborhood, your h
street.

Ruth Galanter o
workshop by emphasis
plans to meet the 14
for the production o
Venice. The deadlin
the City. The Coast
Control Ordinance (C
March by the Los Ang
Council, is the chie
regulating developme
the present time.
14 months. ITs conti
that time and along
important limitation
consolidations, and
parking will also la
its important to mov
all deliberate speed
encouraged the comm
understand that she
Department are comm
production for Venic
month deadline.

The next sched
are: City Workshop
for Saturday, May 2
Center, from 10 am
is intensive public
LUP which was distr
The first work
Venice Housing Task
scheduled for Satur
12:30, at the Oakwo
Center. General di
and objectives of T

ArtWalk To Benefit Venice Family Clinic

by EDDIE O'GOY

Mark Sunday, May 22 on your schedule as a "can't miss."

In a Venice ritual reminiscent of the swallows returning to Capistrano, thousands of art mavens from the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains and the moneyed enclaves of the Westside will troop to our community to sample the studios and galleries thrown open to the financially willing on the Venice Family Clinic's ninth annual Art Walk.

Eddie heartily encourages any reader who can scrape up 35 bucks to take the tour. It may be one of your few chances to see what beauty lurks behind the deliberately scruffy facades of many art lofts and studios in Venice.

And the money goes to a good cause. Last year the Art Walk raised half a million green ones to help the Venice Family Clinic serve thousands of Venice area residents with health care unavailable to many of them. Eddie himself has depended on the kind medical attention of the clinic and has a renewed sense of gratitude to this important Venice institution.

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As always, the Art Walk will be headquartered at the Westminster School, at 1010 W. Washington Blvd. Satellite parking is also available at Walgrove, Coeur D'Alene and Broadway Elementary Schools, with shuttle service from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

B.C.



Johnny Hart

by PATRICK McCARTNEY

Stop me if you've heard this before. I've got a theory on déjà vu that's so airtight you may think you read every word before. Maybe you did.

Deja vu--the French expression to have "seen before"--may hint at a connection between the future and the past that transcends mere Einsteinian physics. In more intense passages of déjà vu, you can almost predict the next sentence to be spoken.

There exists a welter of psychological and neurological theories to explain déjà vu, but none are especially persuasive. One that has merit is the neurological explanation that déjà vu is a form of a neural echo, or reverberation, of consciousness. Sort of a ghost image of an event.

But let me tell you my story, and maybe you'll think déjà vu is something else altogether.

It happened when I attended the University of San Diego twenty years ago (gasp), but the detail remain more vivid than much of what happened last week.

I had already learned of the intuition of my college girlfriend, Cathy B. Very bright and creative, an art student, Cathy experienced more than her share of seemingly impossible coincidences, of intuitive flashes that we both learned to respect.

One day Cathy told me of an unusual dream she'd had the night before, a dream that scared the hell out of her.

Cathy remembered sleeping and being aware of a pleasantly silly and trivial dream. But at some point the bright dreamscape darkened from a grisly plot twist.

In her dream state, Cathy was driving a car down a highway. But she was forced to slam on the brakes because a body lay on the road directly in her way. The scene was stark and frightening. Cathy awoke in tears.

The next day as she related the dream to me, Cathy recalled the inconsequential parts of the dream also. A drive through a green tunnel, her dog chasing the car, a knick-knack shop with glass shelves. But it was the vision of a still, bloody body that awakened her.

The first Coastal Conservancy workshop is scheduled for the beginning of June. No firm date or place has been set. The workshop is supposed to discuss design standards for the prominent public places in Venice, including Ocean Front Walk from the Santa Monica line to the Marina channel, Windward Ave and Circle, and parts of Venice Blvd.

PRODUCTION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Responding to many requests, including requests from Venice Neighbor to Neighbor and Venice Town Council, the Councilwoman has announced the formation of an all Venice Housing Task Force. The task force will discuss programs and strategies for producing affordable housing and preserving existing affordable housing in the Venice community. A draft set of proposals can, hopefully, emerge from this task force, to be discussed in the community, modified, and introduced into an amended Venice community plan as part of the so called housing element that each Community Plan in Los Angeles must have.

Meanwhile affordable housing in Venice is being eliminated very quickly by prospective developers who are asking permission to tear down already existing rental units (usually older, cheaper, not upscale enough) and replace them with new units, sometimes at a much greater density, and of course with rents pegged to all the market will permit. For instances a developer at 474 Venice Blvd. wants to tear town four affordable units and replace them with 9 more costly units. A developer on Venezia wants to do the same thing. The rapid destruction of affordable housing is occurring everywhere in Los Angeles and throughout the country, but nowhere as rapidly as in Venice, because developers are purchasing duplexes and triplexes, paying tenants mandated relocation stipends, getting out from under rent control, then

upscaling the units. Lot's of people born in Venice and lots of people who have lived here a long time are being

Future

"If the 'green tunnel' and the car were part of the dream, was the shop from the dream," I the only part of the dream that was the part about the dead body

In a few days, Cathy and I several days, driving to the Sol north of the Tehachapi Mountains

When we returned, we visited in the Old Town area. Bazaar de ated in what was a land-grant ha it was converted to a chic outdo

The hacienda's rooms were co fashionable little shops, and er pleasant courtyard planted with flowers.

Over our meal Cathy mentione dents from our trip to Solvang (be similar to parts of her dream of the three minor elements that the climactic death scene.

Each incident was ordinary. we drove from Solvang on Alisal beneath a bower of moss-laden o through exquisitely green pastur was something like the "green tu her dream.

At one point on the drive w watch deer graze in a field. C of a little, yapping dog--Bobo-

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SAFRAN PROJECT: Navy a

Negotiations between t developer, Venice Town Cou effected residents of that



Drawing by Marshall Stone

Tunnel...!

ning code. The developer is titled to build such a project thout providing any fees for affic and parking improvements (public access) or for the production affordable housing.

The developer may not want to ild such a low density low impact oject and claims legal right to vep at heigher density thru a ecific Plan approved by Pat Russell d the City of Los Angeles shortly fore the election of Ruth Galanter. fortunately certain elements among ford Triangle homeowners signed ff on this high density plan. They ought it acceptable as far as their ighborhood and their property lues were concerned. They appear ot to have given sufficient onsideration to the impact of this oject on the public's right to get p and use its coast. Nor did they nsider what havoc it might cause ysically and socially in the rest e Venice. These are two reasons why e appears likely that the developer ill seek to negotiate this project, d that's why it seems likely that me compromise will have to be eached. And that's where recent mparative development histories can e of use. We have a right to expect e costs of development to be eater in an impacted area like enice than in a non coastal specific ea like 28th and Colorado in Santa onica. The developer (the Birtcher oup and State Senator Allen bbins) appears poised to resume sussions with the Coastal Council y May.

The Specific Plans (LIP) which munity workshops will take up in ober, will be neighborhood cific. They will address cifics of height and density in h neighborhood. If the 30 foot e height limit is considered to be generous, too dangerous to servation of the quality of life e neighborhood, then it can be eced. If design controls are ecessary (to insure integrity of hitecture, sunlight etc. these eshing outs" of the LUP can be mplished here.

Any proposals for the inclusion of affordable housing, any density or height bonuses that neighborhoods want to utilize in order to encourage construction and maintenance of existence affordable housing would be discussed here. Even though the LIP process will only begin in October, constructive preparatory work anticipating these neighborhood workshops can already be undertaken. It would be helpful to develop document surveys on your streets as to the desires of your neighbors as to height and density standards. Front, side, rear yard and second story setbacks should be surveyed and a consensus standard objectified for new construction which speaks specifically to the wants of your neighborhood, your block, your street.

Ruth Galanter opened the 2nd workshop by emphasizing that she plans to meet the 14 month deadline for the production of an LCP for Venice. The deadline is mandated by the City. The Coastal Interim Control Ordinance (ICO), passed in March by the Los Angeles City Council, is the chief document regulating development in Venice at the present time. It will expire in 14 months. Its controls will lapse at that time and along with them the important limitations on height, lot consolidations, and production of parking will also lapse. That's why it's important to move forward with all deliberate speed, and Galanter encouraged the community to understand that she and the Planning Department are committed to LCP production for Venice within the 14 month deadline.

The next scheduled workshops are: City Workshop #3 is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, at Penmar Rec. Center, from 10 am to 1 pm. Objective is intensive public input on proposed LUP which was distributed last month.

The first workshop of the All Venice Housing Task Force is scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 12:30, at the Oakwood Recreation Center. General discussion of goals and objectives of Task Force.

jonny nart



by PATRICK MCCARTNEY

Stop me if you've heard this before. I've got a theory on deja vu that's so airtight you may think you read every word before. Maybe you did.

Deja vu--the French expression to have "seen before"--may hint at a connection between the future and the past that transcends mere Einsteinian physics. In more intense passages of deja vu, you can almost predict the next sentence to be spoken.

There exists a welter of psychological and neurological theories to explain deja vu, but none are especially persuasive. One that has merit is the neurological explanation that deja vu is a form of a neural echo, or reverberation, of consciousness. Sort of a ghost image of an event.

But let me tell you my story, and maybe you'll think deja vu is something else altogether.

It happened when I attended the University of San Diego twenty years ago (gasp), but the details remain more vivid than much of what happened last week.

I had already learned of the intuition of my college girlfriend, Cathy B. Very bright and creative, an art student, Cathy experienced more than her share of seemingly impossible coincidences, of intuitive flashes that we both learned to respect.

One day Cathy told me of an unusual dream she'd had the night before, a dream that scared the hell out of her.

Cathy remembered sleeping and being aware of a pleasantly silly and trivial dream. But at some point the bright dreamscape darkened from a grisly plot twist.

In her dream state, Cathy was driving a car down a highway. But she was forced to slam on the brakes because a body lay on the road directly in her way. The scene was stark and frightening. Cathy awoke in tears.

The next day as she related the dream to me, Cathy recalled the inconsequential parts of the dream also. A drive through a green tunnel, her dog chasing the car, a knick-knack shop with glass shelves. But it was the vision of a still, bloody body that awakened her.

"If the 'green tunnel' and the dog jumping from the car were part of the dream, and if the shop was the shop from the dream," I told Cathy, "then the only part of the dream that didn't come true was the part about the dead body."

In a few days, Cathy and I left town for several days, driving to the Solvang area just north of the Tehachapi Mountains.

When we returned, we visited a favorite cafe in the Old Town area. Bazaar del Mundo is located in what was a land-grant hacienda before it was converted to a chic outdoor cafe.

The hacienda's rooms were converted to fashionable little shops, and encircled a pleasant courtyard planted with a profusion of flowers.

Over our meal Cathy mentioned that two incidents from our trip to Solvang could be said to be similar to parts of her dream. They were two of the three minor elements that had preceded the climactic death scene.

Each incident was ordinary. On our outing we drove from Solvang on Alisal Ranch Road beneath a bower of moss-laden oak trees, winding through exquisitely green pastures. To Cathy it was something like the "green tunnel" she saw in her dream.

At one point on the drive we had stopped to watch deer graze in a field. Cathy's nuisance of a little, yapping dog--Bobo--leaped from the car and refused to return. Well, I admit it, I drove on a hundred yards and made that sawed-off chihuahua run for the car--not the first time I'd punished the mutt in that fashion.

Bobo's chasing the car was also in her dream, Cathy said. But the incident was too common, I remember telling her with some measure of guilt, for us to believe that it could only have come from the dream.

After our meal, Cathy and I strolled through the courtyard, poking our noses into some of the shops under the hacienda's eaves. Opposite the cafe, I entered a gift shop where clay and metal curios filled the glass shelves.

Cathy was behind me. I heard her gasp. "It's the shop from the dream," Cathy said, her face ashen.

I turned and left the shop. Cathy was upset. Accurate or not, her belief that she had seen the shop, the overhanging oaks and her dog in a dream had obviously shaken her.

We left. We climbed into Cathy's Plymouth and, after a stop, headed onto Interstate 8 going west. We drove towards the turnoff to Highway 395 north, what is highway 163 now.

We talked about the dream. I was challenged by the possibility that the dream had come true.

Although Cathy was upset, she brushed aside the nightmare. I saw no reason to attach any special meaning to her dream either. Maybe it was nothing more than what Freud called "day residues."

"...dead body." Yes, hokey drama or not, but no sooner had the words left my lips than I had to brake sharply. Ahead of us, on the transition road to 395, was an accident. Sitting propped up against a guard rail was a man with his side bloodied. He was conscious.

But in the roadway directly in front of our car was the still, bloodied body of a man. There could be no doubt from the injuries and ghostly pallor: the man was dead. I was forced to inch the car around the body to continue.

Cathy was hysterical by then. I found no rational words to comfort her.

Later, after some reflection, an explanation came to me that helped unravel the mystery, and serendipitously gave me an insight to the deja vu experience as well.

I had no doubt that Cathy had somehow glimpsed the future in her dream. She was, as I said, a little witchy.

True, she had not reported clairvoyant dreams before, but maybe it was only because she had not recalled any. After all, it was only the presence of a death in her dream that had been traumatic enough to awaken Cathy.

I am convinced now that, if it had not been for "the body," Cathy never would have remembered the dream. But, when she later walked into the gift shop with metal and clay curios on its glass shelves, she would have felt a strong sense of deja vu--of having seen the shop before.

Deja vu, then, may not be a mere neural echo, but actually derive from seeing an event before it occurs in a forgotten dream. I'm convinced that Cathy peered beyond the present and saw something so shocking it could not remain a dream. It was too scary to forget.

Pleasant dreams. ●



the inclusion any density & neighborhoods want encourage ince of using would be ough the LIP in October, ork hborhood e undertaken. develop r streets as neighbors as standards. and second e surveyed and justified for speaks ts of your k, your ed the 2nd that she nth deadline n LCP for s mandated by Interim , passed in s City oment in Venice at ill expire in will lapse at h them the n height, lot duction of . That's why orward with nd Galanter y to the Planning d to LCP thin the 14 workshops s scheduled at Penmar Rec. . pm. Objective ution proposed ed last month. o of the All rce is , May 14, Recreation sion of goals Force.

The first Coastal Conservancy workshop is scheduled for the beginning of June. No firm date or place has been set. The workshop is supposed to discuss design standards for the prominent public places in Venice, including Ocean Front Walk from the Santa Monica line to the Marina channel, Windward Ave and Circle, and parts of Venice Blvd.

PRODUCTION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Responding to many requests, including requests from Venice Neighbor to Neighbor and Venice Town Council, the Councilwoman has announced the formation of an all Venice Housing Task Force. The task force will discuss programs and strategies for producing affordable housing and preserving existing affordable housing in the Venice community. A draft set of proposals can, hopefully, emerge from this task force, to be discussed in the community, modified, and introduced into an amended Venice community plan as part of the so called housing element that each Community Plan in Los Angeles must have.

Meanwhile affordable housing in Venice is being eliminated very quickly by prospective developers who are asking permission to tear down already existing rental units (usually older, cheaper, not upscale enough) and replace them with new units, sometimes at a much greater density, and of course with rents pegged to all the market will permit. For instances a developer at 474 Venice Blvd. wants to tear town four affordable units and replace them with 9 more costly units. A developer on Venezia wants to do the same thing. The rapid destruction of affordable housing is occurring everywhere in Los Angeles and throughout the country, but nowhere as rapidly as in Venice, because developers are purchasing duplexes and triplexes, paying tenants mandated relocation stipends, getting out from under rent control, then

upscaling the units. Lot's of people born in Venice and lots of people who have lived here a long time are being

forced out, evicted from their community, and their places are being taken by people who come from more privileged classes, professions, and sub cultures. The uniqueness and diversity of the Venice community is being destroyed along with its affordable housing.

It is sad that no one has volunteered to replaced Moe Stavnezer who championed the cause of affordable housing in Venice for many years but is no longer doing that. Everyone needs to know that no one is minding the chicken coup and that these permits are not being monitored by the Town Council as closely and as vigorously as they should be. Champions of affordable housing need to aware that the LCP workshop process is not the only game in town. Development continues, and in many instances that means destruction of existing affordable housing.

PUBLIC STORAGE PROPOSAL

The Public Storage proposal already under review by City agencies has undergone another metamorphosis. In response to the Councilwoman and expressed community input the developers have agreed that the land on 4th Ave currently zoned residential remain residential and not be rezoned light industrial to facilitate their public storage project. Instead they are willing to consider leasing back this land to the City for a nominal fee so that affordable housing can be built on it. In return the 12,500 sq feet of ground floor which was to be leased to the City on Rose Ave for some type of social service will be taken back by the developer and utilized for his own purposes. Thus a new social service use on Rose Ave. is now precluded on that site and the community gets its desire for affordable housing addressed. Negotiations and hearings continue on this project.

SAFRAN PROJECT: Navy at OFW

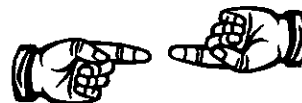
Negotiations between the developer, Venice Town Council and effected residents of that North

Beach area have begun again. To get the discussions going the neighbors have made a proposal which the developer has been asked to consider and respond to. The spirit appears to be one of conciliation and compromise, an approach which the Councilwoman has repeatedly encouraged. Residents objectives continue to be to get the project's height and bulk reduced and to provide sufficient parking (including) replacement parking on site.

Blanchard Project
500-600 blocks (Sunset Ave) OFW

The VTC continues to oppose changing certain residentially zoned parcels along Ocean Front Walk to commercial because of the

intensification of uses that would be allowed under such a rezoning and because it wishes to maintain a variegated pattern of commercial and residential uses along the North Venice Ocean Front. Any large commercial projects such as the Blanchard proposal on the blocks north and south of Sunset, and the Tony Bill proposal for a hotel between Marine and Navy cannot be negotiated until: either the entire LCP, especially the LIP for the area is discussed and drafted, or an independently funded, objective study of the following North Beach problems are initiated and concluded. Since these studies are necessary in order to legitimate a LCP for the North Beach, it makes sense to get them done right now: 1) Venice Interceptor Sewer capacity study, North Beach sewer study; 2) Parking shortfall study; Traffic circulation study. Neighborhood agreement on permissible intensifications of commercial uses along OFW, especially food service and restaurant uses, still has not been achieved. ■ ■ ■ ■



Summa Continued from Page 1

tower, the Wang building, is built to 6 to 1 F.A.R.

In Dec. 1985 and January of 1986, Pat Russell Rezoned the Howard Hughes Center to C2-1 and rePlanned it to a Community Commercial Designation. This change allowed development at a 3 to 1 F.A.R. instead of the previous .5 to 1. These changes, however, were not fairly publicized. Read on.

Russell's sneaky Plan change said this:

"The Los Angeles International Airport and its environs are considered to be a special Transportation and Commerce Center, and the area adjoining the San Diego Freeway is a special Office and Hotel Center... industrial land use designations (such as Limited Industry) having access to adequate regional transportation, may be allowed to develop up to intensities, densities, land use and height limits allowed by the Los Angeles Municipal Code..." meaning 3 to 1 density, instead of .5 to 1. Declaring much of Westchester and Playa del Rey a "Center" allows the Downtown-like density. This six-fold increase was a "significant" change under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). However, in the 300 page Environmental Impact Report (required under CEQA) for Russell's pork barrel road-widening bill, the Coastal Transportation Corridor Specific Plan (CTCSP), which served as legal notice for the Plan Amendment and Plan text addition, no mention of these changes is made in either the 2 page introduction or the 9 page summary in front of the report. What is mentioned is a Plan amendment for a section of Century Blvd., where there are already plenty of office towers, from Limited Industrial uses to Community Commercial, identical to the Howard Hughes Center changes. Both the Century Blvd. and Howard Hughes Center Amendments are mentioned in the middle of the report, in the space of 3 pages out of 300, but still, no mention is made anywhere that the Planned density was being increased six times.

Councilwoman Pat Russell sent out newsletters on the CTCSP. None mentioned the two plan amendments, the Plan text addition, or the six-fold density increase. Meanwhile, no news stories on the CTCSP mentioned the changes, either. Russell and her cronies had managed to fool everybody.

Finally, just before the Council ok'd the Amendments and text addition on December 18th, 1985, at least 30 members of the community who called Mrs. Russell's office were told by aides David Grannis and Kathy Martin that the Amendments and text additions were only a "clarification", that the changes would only keep industrial uses from being built on these areas, and that there was no need to even attend the Council hearing. No callers were told of the six-fold density increase.

(Grannis and Martin now run their own Wilshire Blvd. developer lobbying firm, "The Planning Company".)

Moreover, if the average resident of the area had known how large and dense the Howard Hughes Center was to be, there would have been as much opposition then as there is now (if last June's election was any measure of public feeling). The residents had no way of knowing how large the Howard Hughes Center was because the only graphic representation of the project was a bird's eye view, and the high rise offices looked no bigger than the surrounding neighborhoods. A three-dimensional picture was released by the developers, but only after the project had received City Council approval.

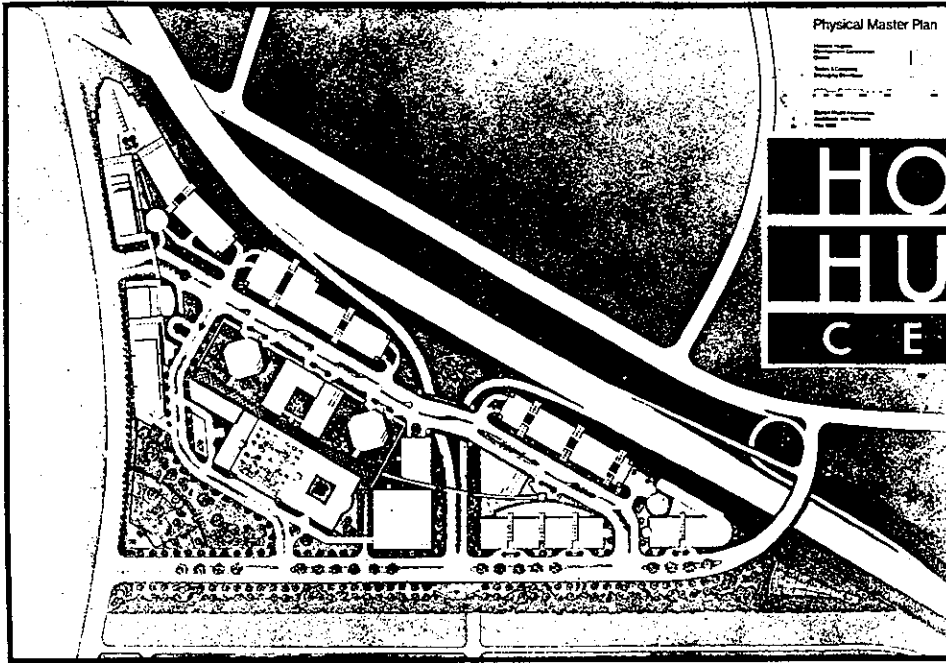
WHY THE VENICE ICO OPPONENTS COMPLAINTS SOUND VAGUELY FAMILIAR...

The Howard Huge Center received City OKs in less than six months. As for the 14 month limitation on the Venice Local Coastal Plan process, if we get half the consideration the Summa Corp. got, we'll just squeak by.

Speaking of squeaking, the developer/speculators who fought Ruth Galanter's 14-month Venice Interim Control Ordinance could find nothing legally wrong with it, so they resorted to saying public participation was not being allowed. The ordinance protects Venice's small-town character by limiting building heights to 30-35 feet

and imposing strict parking standards on large commercial and condo/apartment projects. Lead greed Guy Bartoli said, as dutifully reported by the Pro-growth LA Times, that "A very serious thing is happening here without any public participation". At the final City Council hearing on the ICO, Bartoli, along with his 10 or so well-dressed and well-fed looking supporters, said he represented 300 people in the Canals and Silver Strand area. Don Doyle, of Sail Realty, said he represented 500 people, all of whom had been "excluded" from the process. Neither Bartoli nor Doyle, however, presented any petitions or any documentation to back up their claims.

This sounds very familiar to when Bartoli and another house builder were supporting the Howard Hughes Center. Sure, the "Westport Heights Homeowners Association" endorsed HHC--all two members of it. The rest of the surrounding neighborhood hates it, and we would have protested in 1985, had we been fairly informed of the public hearings.



Evictions Continued from Page 1

members were walking around with steamy coffee-looking cups in their hands & that these meetings had no room for EMOTION. Most privately, I thought that the homelessness, proposed evictions, and the like were quite unprofessional and very emotional issues.

Much as I admire Ruth Galanter, I think Pat McCartney would have been a better choice. Galanter has a tough fight on her hands.

About 150 of us attended the hearing, chaired by Councilman Mike Woo. The hearing was very orderly. Only three weak boos were heard, and Councilwoman Gloria Molina asked pertinent and intelligent questions. The diminutive one was very dynamic!

Bailiffs were drinking coffee; some of the listeners said that they could not hear what the council members were saying; that the council members could not be asked to speak louder, since they allegedly, didn't have to. Me, I'm a very diffident person, so I didn't mention

that the council was elected by us, voter taxpayers; ergo, their salary is paid by the tax-payer.

However, the LPA tenants seemed to be working within the system. Methinks there is something to be said for looting and pillaging; it does get the undivided attention of the city!

THERE ARE 795 UNITS AT STAKE HERE !!! LOS ANGELES, TAKE HEED, YOU ARE NEXT! As I understood, some of the items that were bandied about for major rehab targets were; kitchen cabinets, security bars on the bedroom windows, carpets, mirrors and sliding doors. The erudite, experienced and sophisticated Larry Gross, the grey matter behind the Coalition for Economic Survival, asked why the landlord didn't cosmetize the empty apartments? Another knowledgeable person asked why the former tenant (after the proposed rehabilitation) shouldn't have the first right-of-refusal.

The second Council hearing in the middle of February, found the interested ones among us (not true-many interested people had to go to work) once more boarded the buses

POSTSCRIPT

We can't ever forget the June 1987 election. Pat Russell called her five challengers first Liars, then Radical Leftists. She enlisted her buddy, City Planning Commission Chief Dan Garcia to brand the Slow Growth (actually Responsible Growth) movement as racist, elitist and only benefitting white Westsiders.

Why such a dirty fight? Summa has already contributed thousands of dollars to City, County and State politicians. When built, the Howard Huge Center will be worth billions. Think about it.

To contact the Howard Hughes Center opposition headquarters, call me at 645-2241. Also, come to the Coalition of Concerned Communities' public meeting with Ruth Galanter on May 18th. It starts at 7 PM at the Covenant Presbyterian Church in Westchester, at the intersection of Sepulveda Blvd. and 80th St. O

WAS THAT STORY TRUE, THAT A PHOTOGRAPHER WAS TAKING PICTURES OF THE TENANTS WHO BOARDED THE BUS TO ATTEND THE COUNCIL HEARINGS? Be aware, I don't look so hot without mascara!

The City Council and it's members honored and handed out awards to recognize... After all of my scrambling around to get to the bus on time, (I am not a tenant of LPA) and at the almost very end of the meeting, (just so I could see how the system works), THE LPA TENANTS GOT AN EXTENSION OF THE EXISTING MORATORIUM FOR 60 DAYS. . . When the vote was taken there were 13 'ayes' to that!

I noticed that the council members had a toll-free number, and they can be reached by dialing 800-922-2909. As the yawning jaws of Justicville inch closer, some of the council members joked, or laughed, or even gave out a lot of "forthwiths" - So much for the system! Thanks sould go, I opine, to the ones who organized the trip to City Hall. Indeed, there is always that core of the intelligenzia who do most of the work; write to the elected ones; attend to meetings and distribute flyers. As one busser said, "Today, the LPA, and tomorrow, Justicville."

Later, I heard the idea at the local market, one of the tenants muttering, mumbling and cursing about the request for a fee for the tenant association. This is to pay the lawyer's fees, the cost of printing the flyers, etc. I asked her why the curses, since by her own admission she was not paying her share, and she was carping. I reminded her that those fees probably paid for the newsletter of information, and, that, without that information, she may not have applied for a rent subsidy if she had not gotten the idea from the tenant info line. She said I was right, but there was always someone who would pay their share and her share. What nerve! She added that she meant to move anyway, so I asked her what gulag would take her. Her succinct reply to me was "Bitch!"

Nonetheless, to nicer things! The Lincoln Place Tenant's Association's April 4th letter says "WE ARE COMING IN TO THE HOME STRETCH! The moratorium on major rehabilitations evictions has once again been extended for 60 days. Our work is paying off !!!"

Blasé Pudding

At L. A. Schools Headquarters

Free Venice Beachhead May, 1988



There usually is a little sparkle at public school board meetings held Monday afternoons at 450 N. Grand in L.A. The "ever dangerous public" is technically invited to speak! to elected board members. The only problem exists however that one must wade through several hours of sleep-inducing bureaucratic garble to catch a few screeches of truth here and there. And usually from strangers. Monday March 14 was no exception.

The usual drone of "made-for-TV controversy" surrounding 'year-round schooling' slithered past the cameras with about three yawns. In clear monotone, new superintendant Bretton announced his latest, recent "delay" in order to "go ahead" with the "future agreed upon" planning. He emphasized this was all in "keeping with the program".

Homeowner speakers with properties in the bulldozer path of schoolsite construction seemed to literally dodge the microphone's metal boom lest they lose themselves totally to the cavernous auditorium.

Citizen, dissidents Watts, Kimmett and myself roared our typically, thunderous criticisms including the call to abolish the district's personnel commission to the board members' deaf ears.

Black LAUSD (Los Angeles Unified School District) Finance Administrator Booker patiently (?) explained to two "minority" C.P.A. businessmen why they had been rejected for district audit contracts "NOT" necessarily for their firm's color!, but for their (small) SIZES! The firm's reps had given only mild protestations with respect to the schooldistrict's process for choosing contractors.

Later, the obligatory, self-congratulating and delusional affectation of pretending to serve LA schoolchildren would reach it's typical lowpoint; this time with the fawning approval (by board members) of two, skinny "junior statesmen of america's" presentations which called

PRESENTING SCHOOLBORED MEMBERS

RETA!
! WALTERS

THE FEMALE CHAMPION OF SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES



for higher teacher salaries and more recognition for their own dearest (of same) teachers! All this to the estatic delight of an auditorium crowd heavily loaded with just such poverty-stricken teacher and administrative "victims".

When one tattooed man got up and chastised the system for not promoting decent work habits, for tolerating dress codes which seemed to resemble sexual fashion contests, and for encouraging more TV as opposed to homework...he was roundly ignored.

Another man hollered out that students ought to be paid for attending classes, rather than being enslaved.

When a little woman arose to complain about the method the district used to compute it's "offers" for taking "eminent domain" homes in it's way...board member Rita Walters gave her the nth stern lecture reminding everybody that "price" was NOT a subject which could be discussed! Walters then immediately turned to approve the lengthy, bumbling discourse of some apologetic, district administrator in order to chew up 10 more easy minutes of public time.

A 'crazy' Mexican (?) stood up to question why the Los Angeles school district was advertising and recruiting spanish speaking teachers from Spain and Mexico when so many Chicanos and Chicanas in the immediate area might do the job. He added that Spain was unindustrialized and needed it's teachers while Mexico, with it's large population also needed it's teachers. Why can't LA attract it's own locals??

The superintendant heartily agreed (!) and stated that "all" of the man's proposals were being implemented!!

So hey, let's hear it for the newest leadership in downtown Los Angeles. And please, by the way, don't gag me with a spoon OK?



Whether you like it or not; VICTOR WIGHTMAN

BYE BYE PAT

PATRICK MCCARTNEY, Venice gadfly, City Council candidate and community activist, has succumbed to the evils of capitalism and has taken a full-time job. What's worse is that it's in San Diego. Patrick needed a full-time job and he believed that he could really be a journalist. So when the chance to be the hard news reporter for the Del Mar Citizen came along, he jumped at the chance. We at the Beachhead and the community at large are the less for Patrick's going. His investigative reporting, political commentary and almost tireless community activism will be sorely missed.

The Free Venice Beachhead

Collective

Beachhead Homeless!

In Chinese astrology, 1988 is the year of the dragon. This is the sign of strength, creativity and CHANGE.

And the times are coming down. For many years TH beachhead has met at the Fox International (nee The Fox Venice). The space was donated to us gratis by Dan and Rol. We thank them for their sharing their space & their Sundays with us. Their lease has run out, and so must we.

If you have any spare space where we can permanently store about 4 feet (about 1 cubic yard) of stuff, and can let us use your condo, Caddy, office dance studio etc., for four hours a week (TIMES CAN BE ADJUSTED.) PLEASE let us know!!! call: 399-0584, or 396-0811

For now we will be meeting at 407 Broadway, Sun. May 8 at 11 A.M. For more info., call the above #'s.

Beachhead:

Los Angeles is currently celebrating UKLA festival. This leads all of us to believe these are wonderful people with whom we have a great relationship with.

Why are we celebrating with a country that has more political prisoners in its jails than any other country in Europe? A country that shoots its No.

Irish neighbors in the back while holding peaceful marches.

I have enclosed some information on the current situation in Northern Ireland. It would be great if one of your writers could do a story on the conflict.

Thank you, Michele Labrie

KID!

Luke 13:25-30



Boss Phil Says So

THE WORLD IS WAITING FOR YOU!

YEAH!

Human Care, Not Warfare

by J.L.MARTIN

It was a beautiful, sunny Saturday in Los Angeles on April 9th, and several thousand people from every imaginable interest group came together for a march and rally. The official reason for this event was to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.. There was another reason as well, one that Dr. King would have approved of wholeheartedly; to build a progressive precinct network across the city and unite the people from these varied organizations into an effective political resource. The event, I am pleased to report, was very successful.

The march was a short one, from Pershing Square to City Hall, but no matter how brief the distance, the sight of this multi-faceted crowd, all going in the same direction for the same purpose, was inspiring. There were faces of all colors and banners with every creed. "U.S. OUT OF CENTRAL AMERICA" was a popular theme, as prevalent through the crowd as the Jesse Jackson posters and the N.O.W. placards. At the rally, the speakers touched on every concern in the crowd, from the environmental crisis of acid rain, to the desperately under-funded AIDS research. The people cheered them all, and as I looked around, I saw that every faction, from the disabled to the feminists to the homeless, were just as interested in the agendas of others as they were in their own issues.

Not everyone spoke; some sang as well. Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt and Holly Near all had the crowd singing along, and we were introduced to a young black woman named Tracy Chapman, who sang a song about revolution that was so moving, the crowd called her back for an encore. She obliged with a great a cappella piece about domestic violence that raised goose-bumps with

its plaintive honesty. John Doe and Exene were there to remind us "This was supposed to be the new world", and Herbie Hancock lent his music and support as well.

Of all the speakers, the two that stood out as most memorable were the Rev. James M. Lawson, leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Dr. Michio Kaku, a survivor of Hiroshima, and leading nuclear physicist. The Rev. Lawson spoke with great eloquence and passion about the past and the future of the civil rights movement. There was much cheering on all sides. Dr. Kaku not only supported all the ideas presented, but also offered information on the history of nuclear policy that sent a visible shiver over the crowd.

Yet, the primary function of this rally, in addition to presenting these speakers, was to build the precinct network. If everyone would be responsible for the three blocks around their house, we could connect the entire city. Not just gays talking to other gays, and Latinos talking to other Latinos, but one neighborhood connected to another, and another and another. The upcoming Presidential election is the most important one in the history of this country. Organizing people to vote and getting out as much information as possible, is more crucial now than it ever has been. As I spoke with communists, farmworkers, and members of the African National Congress, we all agreed on this point. The election is critical, and we must put aside

our own limited agendas in favor of the greater focus, and join together in this effort.

It was no surprise to me, when I signed up to do my bit, that Venice was rather well represented. But there was room for me to volunteer my services, and plenty more room besides. If you believe that this election is the first priority on anyone's list, call up Coalition '88 at;

(213) 470-6537. •

Nobody Told me

Song By John Lennon

"Everybody's talkin' but no one says a word . . .
Everybody crying, but no one makes a sound . . .
[There's Nazis in the bathroom just below the stair]"

by W. Rowe

Just another boring Saturday evening. Cooked dinner long ago. Now, having et' it, I try to settle into my nice comfy sofa . . . for the evening. The TV echoes: "God damn it, . . ." And I'm so bored, I caught myself looking up the ten commandments! I mean my life is probably no better than yours right now (April 15th and all that). John Lennon was singing my woes when he wrote "Nobody Told Me," 'Everybody's makin' love, and no one really cares; Something always happenin', and nothin' goin' on.' Somehow that song echoes something familiar and relevant to me, and I just had to share this thought. Seems we be warrin' all the time. Selling weapons to these folks, selling weapons to those folks, then sittin' back and saying "Hey, those folks fightin' these folks, it's wrong! Against human rights, we're intervening for these folks." Carol Fondiller "Semitic Semantics" spoke of one of the wars in the world today. Well I like to handle problems at the source level, so I leafed another one.

"In the big inning God created."

"26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

"28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, . . ."

And look what Daddy gave us! Certainly the "E" postage stamps issued in April do not quite reflect the wondrous nature of the planet.

Therefore, when his most precious creature (and he made only two genders, but in like kind), mate, or shall I use the "f" word, bang, procreation. And after all the begats, there were the three tribes. . . our relatives. So here we all are, Nineteen-Hundred Eighty-Eight A.D. planet Earth, home. Our family has come a long way. We can take hikes to the moon now! Although we are creative, we couldn't create a lobster any faster than we could whip-up an ocean, even if we all tried. Nor, will we be able to replace the ozone layer within ten years, even if we start today. Canada's Prime Minister has invited President Reagan to join a coordinated effort to curtail acid rain, with no commitment still, after one year. Most of the time, I live with an underlying dread that the mentalities that "rule the world" are going to out-smart themselves and really mess the place up. Seems to me, the commandments were meant for our own preservation. Looking beyond the well guarded man-made world we live in, reality seems to be just us, the waters, the sky, the animals, and the earth.

Someone once said:

"That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another."

Or, as someone recently remarked to me, "Don't hurt and abuse me, more than you would yourself."

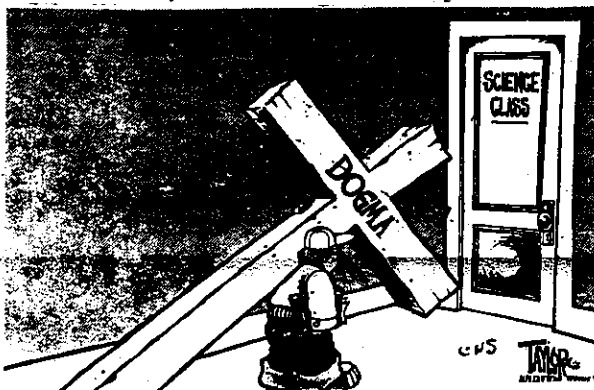
Peter Woods once said to me:

"The only true love you will ever find on earth is the love within yourself."

I wonder if we aren't God, in His image, a sort of "living Thesaurus." Because we, like the other creations have a seed, and have multiplied, and indeed have dominion over the earth. And I didn't find any of the ten commandments hard to live with, except for the false images we tend to emulate and hold-out as "ourselves," for others to fall in love with. Which just brings it all right home, doesn't it? Starting with a man and a woman.

Even IBM is made up of people behind its protective corporate veil, and we all eat, and sleep at night, or sometime, don't we? My neighbor and I were sharing after hours huevos and he says "We won't be alive by the time it gets really bad, so we'll be okay. Besides, we can't do anything about it."

What if we draw a wild card, and we have to start over, again, for some reason. Logistically thinking, I hope there will be enough left here to work with. I don't think there will be apple pie, but surely Corporate America will leave something in the pot. After all, it's a family affair, isn't it? •



and women (maybe even men too).

Those whose thinking is less categorical, less imprisoned by catchwords, and slogans (who may well constitute a muted majority) do not seem to be exercising any initiatives in the face of this deadlock.

If you have followed me thus far, you may be ready for the MODEST PROPOSAL which will allow moderates of good will to regain the initiative, to DO SOMETHING.

A MODEST PROPOSAL:

That women in this community of readers who have reached the twentieth week of a pregnancy arrange among their appropriate friends, relatives and neighbors for a 'FETUS-NAMING' ceremony.

Such a ceremony would give the fetus a suite of temporary names including but not limited to:

- *the mother's maiden name
- *both grandmother's maiden names
- *some typical ambiguous given names (Leslie, Beverly, Courtney, Terry, Allie, Phil, Jody, Shelley)
- *some typical sexually unambiguous names if the fetus' sex has been determined unambiguously.

Participating in the ceremony could be:

1. A person who will commit to getting the mother to frequent prenatal care (obstetrical care?)
2. A person who will commit to getting the mother to have 2 months off from work before the birth and four months after the birth.

Some who make commitments that apply only after the umbilical cord is cut:

- A person who commits to keeping the child in clothes.
- A person who commits to keeping the child in a 'community of spirit'.
- A person who keeps the child from being overwhelmed by bullies.

Some of those ensnared in the two extreme positions may be beyond reason, example, and pragmatic consequence; however I think many will find that name giving at the 14th week will provide an anchor so that their fears of extreme behaviour by the other side will gradually dissipate. •

FETUS'SRS

A Modest Proposal

A Modest Proposal for NAMING PROGENY
by L. Gulliver Swift

Q According to the Jesuit theologians of the 17th Century, when does a fetus acquire a soul?

A 40 to 90 days after conception

Q According to Fetal Sonography, when do the survival chances of the weaker of a pair of fetal twins improve to better than 50%?

A Sometime between the 9th week of a human pregnancy (when the chances are 5%) and the 14th week (when the chances are better than 95%).

Moreover as a matter of experience you know that: Animals that have been given names (Rover, Cleo, Spot) are treated better than animals that don't have names. (Better not to visit the nearest chicken 'ranch' or many a 'pet' store).

BABY naming, christening, circumsion etc. typically have occurred several weeks after birth because when those customs were getting started, the chances of the baby surviving to a legal majority were much less than 50% until several weeks after birth. Now modern technology and caring have pushed the 50% survival point back to somewhere around the 12th week of pregnancy (even for the weaker of a pair of fetal twins. You man naturally now ask the question: how far back shall we push the progeny naming ceremony? Too early naming would have only been an invitation to more mourning, more grieving. Shall we then keep adjusting it back even further as technology improves---or is this a once-in-a-millennium type of change?

In the USA, there is now a great polarization in the electorate between those groups who say that a one-cell conceptus in a human womb is automatically a 'person', and those who say that an eighth-month fetus is simply an extension of an enveloping woman's body; like her hair or fingernails that she is free to keep or sever from herself as her whim (or peer pressure) dictates.

Both these uncompromising groups seem to be exercising their VETO power to prevent negotiation of reasonable compromises that will result in more healthy babies, children

Venice Town Council



Thursday, May 12
Beyond Baroque Center
681 N. Venice Blvd.

Doors open: 7:00 p.m.
Meeting begins: 7:30 p.m. sharp

AGENDA

1. Venice Local Coastal Program: Does the first draft reflect community input? City Planning staff members have been invited to attend.
2. Committee reports: Planning & Development (823-5092) Homeless (281-8323) Parking (392-8037) Board of Directors (281-8323)

VICTORIANA is an evening of music, and poetry and Jack-the-Ripper at the POWERHOUSE THEATRE in Santa Monica, Tues. and Wed. (til may 4th) (213) 392-6529

BEYOND BAROQUE: 681 Venice Blvd. All shows start at 8:30 PM. Admission: \$5 nonmembers, \$3 to members and students

- Friday, May 6th--Cinco de Mayo reading
- Friday, May 13th--Poets Gustaf Sobin and Paul Vangelisti
- Saturday, May 14th--Concert: New Computer Music by The Hub
- Friday, May 20th--Native American Reading
- Friday, Sat. & Sun-May 27-29-- Performance artist Eleanor Antin
- Friday, June 3rd--Artist Jeremy Gilbert-Rofe

ARTS AT SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

- MAY 3rd--Student Recital, 11 AM, Music Auditorium
- May 10th--Operatic arias performed by Soprano Valeria Orlando and Pianist Paul Matsumoto, 11 AM, Music Auditorium
- May 13-15 and 20-22nd--Synapse Dance Theater 2PM and 8 PM at SMC Studio Stage. Admission \$5, \$4 to students and Sr. Citizens. Call 450-5150 ext 9590 fomoinfo.

SIX CHAIRS/SIX ROOMS is a theatre, dance and visual art piece, involving the interaction of ten actors, ten dancers, slide and video projections, and live cello and voice recital. The audience will be able to focus on any of six rooms. Each room will contain one chair specifically redesigned by the artist, Cal Arts student Clive Camillo Coogan, to relate to the personal, sexual and sociological pathologies of the actors. The rooms are open for viewing May 1-7, with complete performances May 5th, noon and 6 PM and May 6th and 7th at 10 PM. MAIN GALLERY--CAL ARTS--VALENCIA CALL (805) 253-7801 FOR DETAILS

Venice Neighbor to Neighbor

Meeting Schedule

at Beyond Baroque, 681 N. Venice Bl.

Tues., May 10, 7:30 pm
Cheri Leslie, past chair Planning and Development Cmt. VTC, and Arnold Springer, current chair, will lead a discussion of zoning laws, who owns Venice, and how housing production works.

Tues., May 24, 7:30
Steve Clare, Tenant Action Center lawyer and Venice housing advocate, along with Larry Gross, Director of the Coalition for Economic Survival, will discuss rent control: the present law, what changes need to be made, and what we can do to make these changes. ◀

Community Events

The Beachhead welcomes notices of public meetings and entertainment for publication on the Community Events page. To have your event publicized, please mail your press release to us at P.O. Box 804, Venice 90294 by the third Sunday of the month. Late additions can be called in at 823-8082 no later than the following Wednesday.



VENICE SKILLS CENTER OFFERS COURSES

Take your pick: electronics, medical and clerical office work, property maintenance, child care occupations, word processing, computer operations, auto mechanics, VCR repair, air conditioning and refrigerator repair. 611 5th Ave, Call 392-4153. The Venice Skills Center is part of the L.A. Unified School District

SIERRA CLUB MEETS MAY 9TH--At the Sea Scout Base in Burton Chase Park in Marina Del Rey, 7:45 PM, fomoinfo call 641-4028

"THE GREATER ROSE AVENUE COMMUNITY EFFORT"

The G.R.A.C.E. Patrol is a volunteer group of homeless individuals dedicated to serving our community through good deeds and good works. Homeless does not mean helpless.

Members of the G.R.A.C.E. Patrol are reliable workers seeking further employment. For more information about the Patrol, contact:

Donna Herlihy/Job Counselor
St. Joseph Center- 204 Hampton Drive
Venice, CA 90291
(213) 399-7943

Mother

by Sara Omari

Do you know the meanings: Mother's Day; Mother Goose; Mother Hubbard; Mother Lode; Mother Jones; Mother-of-Pearl; Mother's Milk; Mother Country; Mother's Fair haired boy; MOTHER by Gorky; "...doesn't taste like the one MOTHER used to make..." and, lastly, Mother Effer. Erma Bombeck says that MOTHERHOOD is the biggest on-the-job training program ever. ●

Cinco de Mayo

In 1861, Mexico announced the suspension of all payments on its foreign debts, for a period of 2 years. Under pretext of Mexico's failure to pay, Britain, Spain and France sent an Expeditionary Force, with plans to collect. In April 1862, Britain and Spain withdrew, but the French forces began their march towards Mexico City. The Mexican Army resisted, and, on "El Cinco de Mayo" (May 5th) it made a stand at Puebla. The French forces retreated, to wait for reinforcements. (Napoleon sent 30,000 more men). ■

by Sara Omari

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