

Visit the Venice patch,  
O Great Pumpkin!

# FREE VENICE

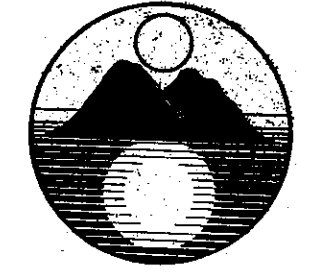
SINCE 1968



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October, 1987



## Twilight

# Zone for the Homeless?

by John Haag

The Venice Town Council Homeless Task Force has recommended using the long-abandoned Venice Pavilion for temporary shelter and social services for the homeless. To some, it seemed an obvious choice: a relatively large city-owned building with kitchens and showers, located in an area frequented by the homeless and whose use would displace no one but the police beach patrol, if them.

Newly elected City Council member Ruth Galanter said she would consider the idea, then rejected it even before her own public hearing on the homeless held on September 17. Many of the business-people and residents most opposed to using the Pavilion for the homeless happen to be those who were most opposed to Galanter's election also. The only help they want to give the homeless is to get them out of town, by force if necessary, and the latest Galanter proposal ought to satisfy them, if more slowly than they would like.

The Galanter plan would have the homeless go to the police substation in the Pavilion, where social workers will screen them and bus them off to the Department of Public Social Services in West Los Angeles, if eligible for welfare, or, if not, refer them to "other facilities", which are not available or the homeless would not be roaming our streets to begin with. Certainly this plan was not drawn up with the cooperation of the homeless: they would not suggest sending people to the headquarters of the police unit that has been threatening them and arresting them. Next we'll hear that the busses are to be borrowed from the Sheriff's Department.

Though it may be a lost cause, I want to examine the reasons given for rejecting the Pavilion for temporary housing. Though safe enough for police officers and social workers, it is deemed not safe enough for the homeless.

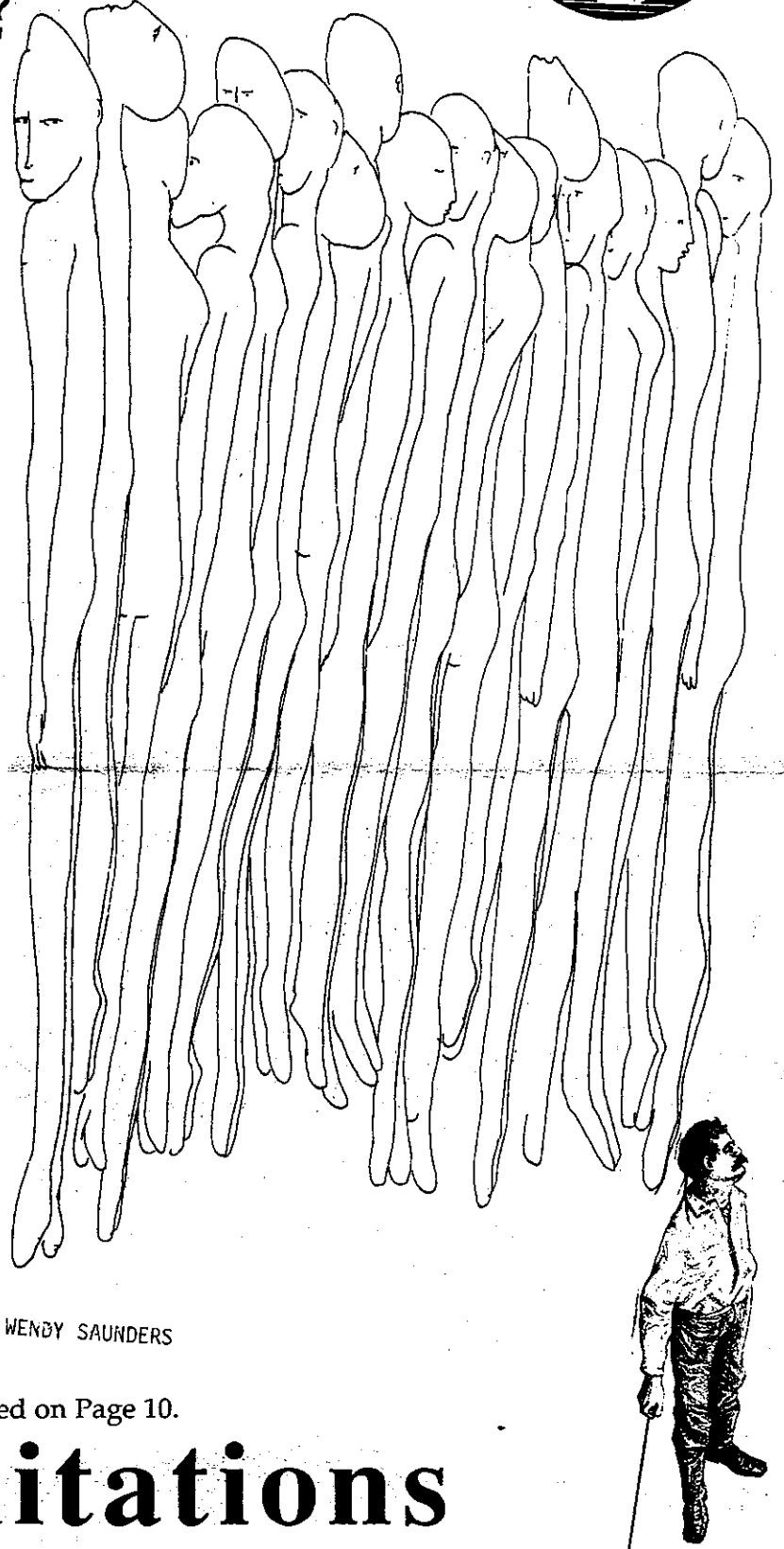
Galanter spokesperson Rick Ruiz has stated that the Pavilion is "extremely run down" and would require "substantial renovation" to make it habitable. "We're not sure that any amount of money could make the place safe." Certainly there would have to be substantial renovation to turn a cement auditorium into any kind of adequate shelter, and certainly someone could have come up with a specific dollar figure for construction, so we'd know what we're talking about. If anyone in fact considered the Pavilion seriously.

What do we mean by safe? Safe for whom? I doubt the homeless would require the equivalent of a security building, though security would have to be considered.

And any estimate of cost should not be taken as anything but an estimate. Would it have to be done that way? Are there less costly ways? Could some of the materials be obtained by contribution? How much labor could be supplied by volunteers and by employing the homeless? Are there untapped sources of funding, such as the legendary Quimby fund, which is supposed to be for beach improvements, but which has been so little used even for recreational uses?

The Ruiz statement that struck me as particularly fatuous was, "We don't think that it's the best site available to put a homeless center." Understand, there is no other site in Venice seriously being considered, let alone available. The Pavilion may not be the best site, just the only one.

Some Venice residents seem to feel the homeless should not be housed in a residential area (namely, their own residential area). But the whole idea, I thought, was to make residents out of the homeless. To suggest that the homeless should not have their residences in a residential area is logically absurd and/or assumes that the homeless are a different species that should be caged somewhere in the twilight zone.



WENDY SAUNDERS

'Homeless' continued on Page 10.

# Statue of Limitations

by Carol Fondiller

About a year ago an article appeared in the View section of the L.A. Times. As I remember, Michael Dieden and/or Tom Sewell were quoted as saying that the Venice traffic circle should be a focal point for the Venice Renaissance. I quoted some of their VACuties and the fact that they were holding a contest to "improve" the Venice traffic circle. I reprinted the phone number that was printed in the Times for people who were either interested in entering the contest or becoming art judges.

Frankly, I expected cries of rage and where-the-hell-do-these-self-appointed-torchbearers-of-culture-come-off-telling-us-what's-art, etc. Or at least a couple of yocks and guffaws. No response. Most people were occupied with the Councilmanic campaign, and since I heard no more about the Windward traffic circle, it receded from the front of my brain to the back attic. What

I didn't know, and what I was not told, and what I didn't bother to find out, was that the Venice Action Committee along with

the Los Angeles Engineering Department, the L.A. Transportation Department, the L.A. Cultural Affairs Department, and Councilwoman Russell's office were going ahead with plans to "beautify" the Windward Circle. From little molehills, mighty mountains grow.

Originally, the whole project was started because city workers needed to repair flood control equipment that was underneath the traffic circle. Venice historians will tell you that Grand Avenue and Windward Avenue are paved-over canals.

The city allocated \$50,000 for the repair. The Venice Action Committee, an organization of investors, speculators, art mavens and architects, agreed to match the city's funds. The incumbent City Councilwoman,

Pat Russell, was defeated. During this time, the VAC contacted fifty of their favorite artists and designers. The Venice Town Council should eat a little crow on this one also. Joan Cory, then President of the Venice Town Council, was also involved with the meetings and on the Board of Jurors. Perhaps the Venice Town Council - a more community-oriented group than the business-oriented VAC - was too busy fending off media Red-baiting to know what was going on or to let other people know what was going on with the circle. This September, in a minimally-publicized showing (a squib in the Argonaut, a weekly paper that covers the Marina area and does not get wide distribution in Venice), fifteen semi-finalists were put on display at the old Ace Gallery, nee the Bank of America Building on Windward & Main.

A letter to the finalists from the jurors was on display. Here are some excerpts:

'Statue' continued on Page 10.

# FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Kelly Ball, Memphis Slim, Kathy Sullivan, Carol Fondiller, Kathleen Alvarez, Diane Nickerson, Patrick McCartney, Victor Wightman and Malcolm Tent.

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. We welcome and take responsibility for publishing contributions exactly as the contributors submit them, although the opinions expressed by the contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Collective staff. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, graphics or other material of interest to the Venice community. We ask that writing be limited to 1200-1500 words. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor of the Beachhead. The Collective is an open group and welcomes interested Venice people's participation. Printing is financed by ad donations. To submit material, include your name & phone no. Anonymous material will not be published, but your name will be withheld on request. If return of material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required. No payment is made for material used.

New members being sought for Los Angeles City Youth Advisory Council (YAC) ages 16-21, questions call Lupe Munoz at 485-3821



To the Beachhead,  
Within 10 years four living beings on one block in Venice has contacted cancer. They belonged to B.E., third house up from Hampton on the north side of Indiana Ave. Another was a woman Mrs. A. formerly of the 300 block of Indiana. Homeowners in that area might know of her. And now, Jack L. has lymph cancer and he lives next door to Mrs. (the late) A. on the west side...300 block of Indiana.

This is more than a coincidence. This is the effect of the destroyed NATURAL OZONE and the ultra-violet rays which are cancer causing. The Public Relations men who blame cigarettes for the world's cancer problems are protecting the AIRLINES! Jet exhaust destroys ozone--Mr. Holmes of the California State Dept. will confirm my statement. As well as the textbooks in the children's Library.

Are we entirely defenseless in the face of this problem?  
Yours Truly,  
Glenna Katz.

(Collective note--The Beachhead has edited the full names and addresses of the cancer victims Ms. Katz refers to, in the interest of the privacy of those Venice residents. We share the concern of Katz for environmental causes of cancer. The Beachhead has published an article on the high rate of cancer in neighborhoods adjacent to the many dry cleaners on Lincoln Blvd.)

## Krengle Rock

Dear Editor,  
A thought on power...  
I often wonder about whether a poll taken of American opinion, regarding a monarchy vs. a democracy, would reveal distinct preferences. The runaway egocentricity of today implies the first choice: So many would-be Emperors and Empresses! And most of such bias comes from one's wealth, only. So! What else is new? Jefferson knew of this. And he had warned, often, of it...

Sincerely,  
Joseph P. Krengel

## Krengle Roll

Dear Editor,  
A transitory performance...  
If a ballet or pageant was to be carried out to express our times, it would be of a somnambulist nature: A sleep-yet-waking half-world. Thus no once intervenes in crises. Horrors unfold and one sits, as rooted to the spot! (So typical of many nightmares!) It has to be a phase. Just as in the Universe. Nothing remains, as is. And perhaps, a fresh dance-team enters, smiling and victorious; (with none to sneer at such directness.) The audience will also be different. And life will proceed, sanely, as it must. And as it will. The Universe disposes of mockery, as well as other debris...

Sincerely,  
Joseph P. Krengel

Dear Beachhead readers/fellow Venetians/friends and neighbors,  
A few personal thoughts on Venice politics as the Galanter administration begins:  
1) **BE UNDERSTANDING** Ruth Galanter was nearly killed. Since real life is not like television, don't expect her to win an Olympic gold medal and the Nobel Prize before the commercial at the end of a 30-minute program. Give her a chance to listen and act.  
2) **BE PATIENT** There are only three people to staff the Venice Field Office, and more than 300 Constituent Inquiries have been received since the day Ruth was sworn in. Of necessity urgent matters of health and safety are likely

- important than the tree limb overhanging your sidewalk.
- 3) **BE PERSISTENT** Anyone choosing to become involved in the political process must come to understand that it takes commitment and effort to forge ahead. Only miracles happen overnight.
- 4) **BE CREATIVE** People with new ideas that may help solve complex social problems are likely to be welcomed by any political representative. If all you have to offer is ongoing complaints you are not making much of a contribution to a better community.
- 5) **BE DISCRIMINATING** Just because 'someone said' Ruth Galanter did this or Ruth Galanter said that does not mean that what you heard is true. The media has been known to draw mistaken conclusions even while trying to convey things accurately. Verify your information before wasting time & energy on misconceptions.
- 6) **BE SMART** If your approach to the Council-woman's office is to make demands for instantaneous response and then criticize if you don't get exactly what you want, the chances of her being happy to hear from you diminish significantly.
- 7) **BE TOLERANT** People with differing viewpoints, differing values and differing political agendas voted for Ruth Galanter and have a right to her attention. This is known as democracy.
- 8) **BE REALISTIC** Ruth Galanter is not going to solve all your/our problems.

Lance Diskin

(Collective note--Lance is the office manager for Ruth Galanter's Venice Field Office.)

To the Editor:  
In his last "Bits 'N' Pieces," Geriatric Jack asks: "Who decreed that the search of innocents would be the rule of the schools?"

I've got (1) news, and (2) the answer for you, baby: (1) I expect FULL CREDIT for having preserved your innocence for over 1/3 of a century and (2) it's the pedophiles put in charge of the schools by the ruling patriarchy who'll settle for vicarious pleasures when they can't get it at home.

Not-so-geriatric spouse

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# Patpurée

by PATRICK McCARTNEY

**BRADLEY A RARE VISITOR**—Mayor Tom Bradley made a field inspection of the Westside a week or so ago. Mayor Bradley—a hopeful Mayor-for-life seeking his fifth term in April, 1989—had to look hard to find groups to attend who supported Pat Russell in her unsuccessful last go-round. The visit looked more like a showing of Bradley's colors than a fence-mending.

In a press conference Bradley seemed weak on the issues Westsiders care about, except to rule out use of the Pavilion for homeless in Venice, saying that homeless would be attracted to Venice. It made me wonder when Bradley last visited Venice.

**HOMELESS HEARING SEEMED LIKE PSYCHODRAMA**—A thousand Venice residents attended the hearing several weeks ago called by Venice Councilwoman Ruth Galanter. The hearing, which filled the ornate and cavernous Venice High auditorium, was for the benefit of Galanter's Public Health, Human Services and Seniors Committee. Also attending to hear testimony was Councilman Robert Farrell, who chairs the council committee that has formulated a draft homeless policy.

The hearing was the equivalent of a political Rorschach test. Angry homeowner types jeered, cheered and shouted at any mention of "residents' rights," and the homeless and bleeding-heart Venetians hooted and hollered at for even the slightest show of compassion.

Service providers and members of the Venice Town Council's Ad Hoc Committee on the Homeless tended to take the ethical high ground, and were more represented on the panels that testified. The pissed-off homeowners were the most vocal, though, challenging any interpretation of the problem that implied that the homeless were other than lazy, shiftless lawbreakers, or that a solution should include more services in Venice, including the boardwalk. Much favored by the anti-homeless contingent is an encampment in the Saugus-Newhall area. It remains to be seen how fond Saugus-Newhall would be to have hundreds of Venice homeless-bussed in.

**LOCAL PLANNING BOARDS**—Newest political football in town is the tussle over local planning boards to help with the city's planning. In the wake of the distant mayor's race, Mayor Bradley and the city council are each trying to get out in front of the other in proposing local boards.



Here's something that's less than a surprise: Bradley wants the boards appointed by him, and the city council wants its boards to be appointed by the local councilperson. Either way, the boards will extend the power of City Hall.

**ON THE FOREIGN FRONT**—Since "democracy" is the rallying cry for Contra supporters in Congress, I have a positive suggestion for Reagan. How about considering full funding for the Contras, provided they agree to fly to Chile to unseat President-in-Perpetuity Pinochet. Remember when Pinochet took power in '73 he promised to step down in 1985 after everything had calmed down? Well.....

**ON THE OCEAN FRONT**—Slickest trick on the local development scene involved Doug Christmas a few years ago. Christmas, who survived an art-resale scam with probation and a new, successful gallery, had his hand in on a number of Ocean Front Walk and Windward Avenue schemes.

Christmas, no doubt peeved that the intransigent Venice Town Council battled him over every project, found out that the VTC at that time was an unincorporated group. Christmas filed for incorporation and for two years held papers as the Venice Town Council from the State of California.

I'm willing to bet that somewhere out there in some dusty file on a Christmas project, there exists a letter supporting the project from the Venice Town Council.

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# The Right to Rape Law or...

MAKE SURE it's a minor, the younger the better, and ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that you are a member of her family/household while you do it.

Lest some gentle reader think that the patriarchy is too lightly accused of installing pedophiles in our schools, let's look at what is fondly known by them as the CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION ACT, Penal Code section 1203.66, pursuant to which probation may be GRANTED to a convicted child molester if, inter alia, he "is the victim's natural parent, adoptive parent, stepparent ... relative [or] has lived in the household."

In a case decided by our new California Supremes this September, defendant, who had "engaged in substantial sexual conduct" with a girl under the age of 11 was therefore given probation; he was, at the time of the offense, a "member of the household" as, according to our Sups, he had established a "bond" and a "quality of relationship" with the child, although he did NOT live in the same house. [!!!]

An expert psychologist writing a presentencing report picked that up nicely when he stated that the "defendant did not seem to be a threat to the community at large" since--I must emphasize that I quote--the offenses were "almost incestuous in nature."



The Sups were also very concerned that "mischief" would result if the household member (watch it, please!) were to be defined as of time of sentencing. For example, quoth Kaufman, our newest Sup, consider the "incentive victim's mother and a boyfriend offender would have to marry" after his conviction but before sentencing so as to fit him into the probationable category.

I spare you the concerns expressed by our legal luminaries about the victim's (that's the 11-year old girl with whom the 47-year old defendant had substantial sexual relations, in case you forgot, "feelings of guilt" due to the defendant's incarceration which might be "very harmful to her.")

If you don't believe me, read the DAILY JOURNAL APPELLATE REPORT, September 11, 1987, page 6084--and don't ever say that I exaggerate. • Not-so-G. Spouse





# Here Theyre Be Fascists

Free Venice Beachhead October, 1987

By Carol Fondiller

I was at the Homeless meeting at Venice High, and I really thought I'd heard it all, when I heard anti-Jewishness being blamed on the Homeless. Not only were all the crimes, drugs and litter being blamed on the Homeless, but now the twin muses of fear and bigotry were spewing out their propaganda. VAC members who were proponents of ship-the-Homeless-to-Saugus, Newhall, anywhere-but-not-in-my-backyard, were also blaming incidents of anti-Jewishness solely on the Homeless. We all know that synagogues being spray-painted and vandalized has never occurred in the Valley or West Hollywood. Oh, no! These incidents have only occurred in Venice, perpetrated by the Homeless. How do we know this? Because the Homeless have great big Capital H's tattooed on their foreheads.

Later, someone from the congregation said they might have to move from the Ocean Front Walk because of anti-Jewish actions. Another factor might be that the congregation could sell the property and get a far larger and more attractive piece of property inland for the price of their Ocean Front property.

I thought I'd seen all the hate possible spewed out on the homeless when I read the anonymous leaflets in bright purple and pink using scaremongering and out-of-context quotes and opposing all solutions for solving the problems of homelessness.

The following story was told to me and I'm using pseudonyms at the teller's request, and altering certain facts.

Shawn Hirsh is about 25. Blond-haired and green-eyed. I met Shawn at a Venice Town Council meeting about The Homeless. Personable and fastidious, he became involved in community affairs. He was offered a job by a local businessman and he took it.

For several days afterwards when I saw him he would tell me how he slept in his apartment. He hinted broadly at things he wanted for housewarming presents. He bought an el cheapo black and white TV. He showed me his apartment key. New and shiny, it glittered with all the power of keys in fairy tales. He told me how it felt to lock himself in at night, and lock the door when he left. A door! he laughed. A door - I have a door.

The day after the Homeless Hearings, we met again on the Ocean Front Walk. His eyes shifted from one place to the other, avoiding eye contact with me. He slouched, shuffled, and spoke disjointedly. Could he come up and have a cup of coffee? Sure, I said. We settled down. He didn't have his apartment any more.

Did the sun glinting in the windows make him blink? What happened, I asked. After hearing some of the speakers at the meeting, he had gone into the lobby to smoke a cigarette. An idle thought crossed my mind that it seemed more of my unhomed friends and acquaintances smoked, and smoked more heavily, than my homed acquaintances and friends. He saw his landlord. I've got

bad news for you, said his landlord. You have to move. The landlord showed Shawn a letter. Why are you ruining this neighborhood by having a homeless person here? Damage to the landlord's property and possible injury to the landlord and his family were alluded to in the letter. Please don't hurt us in this way. Signed, A Concerned Neighbor. I asked Shawn to get me a copy of the letter. The landlord refused. Did you report this to the police? The City Attorney? Yes. They can't do anything until something happens.

How can you be homeless if you're paying rent, I asked. Shawn shrugged his shoulders. I was a little skeptical. Did this really happen, or was Shawn setting me up? But I thought of the hate and fear I'd seen around me in the past months regarding the homeless. I thought of black people being burnt out of their homes in Torrance, and of how in the past blacks in the South, when they would try to participate in community affairs that affected their destinies, would be threatened or lynched.

While the VAC's blonde, twin muses of fear and hate probably did not write that letter, nor is there any proof that they or the VAC had anything to do with the anonymous leaflets, they are certainly responsible for creating the heavy, sullen atmosphere in which these things were spawned.

Shawn probably comes from the same European stock that the twin golden muses come from, or maybe from the same heritage that the member of the Jewish congregation comes from. I guess it's human to blame someone else for our failings, but it's also human to help those of us who need help.

A few days later, Mayor Bradley stopped at the Israel Levin center for an early campaign talk. Some of us had signs asking for services for the homeless and more affordable housing. As we were waiting for the Mayor, a friend of mine showed me a quote, the sense of which was: The Strong Shall Survive. Survival of the fittest. The weak should die. Who said that, she asked. Nietzsche, I guessed - I used to fall asleep in philosophy - No, she said: Hitler.

It's hard to keep clean when you don't have showers, but he promoted himself the use of a shower by a friendly homed person. In keeping with the American myth, he saved his money for first and last month's rent. I ran into him at a yard sale.

I got an apartment, he said. His eyes glowed. He seemed to have grown at least two inches. He and I looked at the yard sale goodies. He was going to have a housewarming. He didn't have a stove. He rattled on about how great his apartment was. It was off the beach, near the Marina, but he could still walk to work, and when he found a better job he'd get a better apartment and see if he couldn't get another homeless person into this apartment.



## Where's the Bread?

After two years of serving free dinners, last weeks refusal of Westside Food Bank to grant us full access to donated supplies and Government Surplus commodities has prompted the publication called SPIRITUAL CRIME.

What is the Basic definition of a SPIRITUAL CRIME? First of all, it's not the type of crime which we see and hear about on T.V. and it's not the crimes which police deal with every day, even the motivations for ordinary criminal activity very often have a direct connection with a SPIRITUAL CRIME. In most cases, people who commit a SPIRITUAL CRIME don't even realize what they have done. Why? Because the consequences are either not immediately known or in the most severe cases, are not something to be even considered.

The facilities of living in the creation of the Lord either on the land or water or sky, is equally given to all living entities because they are all sons of the Supreme Lord. Unfortunately, in reality humans face problems of homelessness, hunger and hatred.

That is why we ask the big question. Where are these resources of food, buildings, money provided by either donations of good-hearted people, supermarket donation boxes or by Government Grants for the homeless? Why is it so difficult for us who are actually working on the solution everyday to get anything from these resources?

This we consider to be a SPIRITUAL CRIME of the highest degree. Now we feel it is the time to ask everybody to send your tax deductible gifts directly to:

National Food Relief  
P.O. Box 1724  
Venice, CA 90291  
(213) 281-8430

Thank you,

Vladimir Sakhorov  
Robert Steinbach



Photo by: Francine Forese

### WHERE IS YOUR TEENAGER TONIGHT ???

Since teenagers are blamed (Justly or unjustly) for everything, I will suggest the use of electronic monitoring. That's the device they use to make sure a criminal probationer is staying put.

You've grounded your child for some real or imagined infraction like listening to punk or heavy metal. You want to go out but who's going to make sure the kid stays home. Hook 'em up to the electronic monitor. If your receiver starts beeping you know the kid has cut out. The device wrapped around the kid's leg lets everyone know he/she is a pariah.

The same device could be programmed to let you know if he/she really went to the library or to their friend's house. Your boss could hook you up to make sure you are home sick as you claim. I'm sure you can see the many varied uses for this electronic wonder.

What a boon to the economy. Let's put one on everybody and program them for the day. 236,000,000 electronic monitoring devices. WOW!!

# RUBBER LASAGNA

By Kathy Sullivan

Recently Mayor Bradley came to Venice... I'm not kidding...he really did. He met with some community groups here in Venice/Mar Vista/Marina del Rey as part of something called "Area Day".

He was the featured speaker at the Westchester/LAX Chamber of Commerce luncheon (where they served rubber lasagna instead of rubber chicken) and also used this opportunity to speak with publishers of the Westside community papers.

Since we do not have a publisher or for that matter an editor, I went as a representative of the Beachhead.

Most at the luncheon were business people...what you would expect from a Chamber of Commerce luncheon, I suppose. The chamber gave out awards for various events and then the mayor spoke.

He did not do a tap dance, he did not flip a cane, but he did tell the mostly white upper middle class business-as-usual Westsiders what they wanted to hear.

He opened his speech with what else... commerce...he spoke of promoting travel, tourism, trade and encouraging investments. He spoke of Los Angeles as the "Gateway city to the Pacific Rim where 32 nations make up 60% of the world's consumers in the world and where they look to Los Angeles as the magnet city, the gateway city into which and from which they will engage in two-way trade."

While he spoke, I thought of smog, congestion, rampant consumerism, industrial pollution, crowded skies, freeway shootings, etc. etc.

...And then I thought I saw him tip his top hat...no...he was only talking a fine line as he included..."I don't know anybody who is more concerned about the quality of life, about planned growth and development than I am and I don't like being caught up in some sloganeering. I know that growth is going to occur, I just want to see it planned well, I want us to be prepared for the best we can get out of that kind of development. Those communities that need it, I promote it. Where we have built to the maximum or are approaching it, let us be careful that our plans take that into account..."

I thought about the recent upset victory of Ruth Galanter and the poor showing of the mayor's candidate Pat Russell and I thought of his growing agitation on being known as the pro-growth mayor and I wondered what he would do to change his image...

...And then the next thing I heard him say was that..."growth in this community is related to the issue of transportation. They come out of their homes in the morning and try to get to work, to get on the freeways and the surface streets and there is congestion, no doubt congestion is growing."

I thought about how I hate to leave the Westside and get on a freeway going anywhere...

...The mayor continued saying that a bill had just passed the legislature which was now on the Governor's desk for signature that would prohibit truck's on the freeway during peak travel hours and he went on to say that they were including an 8-point program on ride sharing.

He spoke about traffic stability committees made up of professionals who work on public transportation and planning.

He spoke of the Olympics and the Pope's visit and the successes in traffic alleviation.

He spoke of office workers doing more computer work at home to alleviate the situation.

He reminded everyone that the County workers' parking fee had gone up as a disincentive for parking and an incentive for ride sharing. He said he was going to pay the fee also.

And then he ended with..."we are truly going to produce for this community a gateway city to the world, premiere city of the world, one that all of us can work, live in and do business (of course) in and feel a sense of pride in what we have accomplished."

And then it was over, that was it.

Surely the Mayor didn't think that he would change his image of the pro-growth Mayor by taking trucks off the freeway at peak hours and devising a ride sharing plan...and certainly doing computer work at home was a good idea but in my mind, while growth was related to transportation, it was only the tip of the iceberg...

If this was his plan...traffic stability committees and disincentive parking for County workers...if he thought he could placate the growing anti-growth contingency with these meager offerings, then he was in more trouble than I realized.

Later the Mayor met privately with the newspaper representatives of the Westside. I have included some questions and answers to that interview:

## CONCERNING THE PAVILION

Q - I heard that you ruled out the Venice Pavilion for services for the homeless, I'd like to know if you intend to prohibit use of it for a shelter...for all services including day?



A - I think that we have got to provide shelter outside the Pavilion and I think that if you use that as a center for shelter and for collection of the homeless, you're going to have the very thing that caused a great deal of disruption in downtown Los Angeles.

Q - Are you worried that the Pavilion is already being used by the homeless and if so do you support removing those homeless from that area?

A - I announced this morning that I am going to appoint a committee that will make some recommendations, provide a plan for dealing with the homeless and I will be asking Ruth Galanter to join in that effort. I think it is necessary that we get input from those who are impacted...certainly focus our resources and County resources as well as City resources.

Q - Doesn't your prohibiting use of the Pavilion undercut the plan that Galanter just devised using...

A - That building was never built or devised for the purpose of a homeless shelter...



## CONCERNING LOW-INCOME HOUSING

Q - Along the same line, is anything being done to increase low income housing so that there is an alternative for the homeless?

A - Yes. A week ago I announced a plan to the City Council Acquisition and Distribution whereby prefabricated units would be brought from Utah and distributed on a city wide basis so that every district would offer some territory, some land in their district so that the homeless would not be a problem in just one, two, three or four council districts.

## CONCERNING PRO-GROWTH

Q - I was wondering if you had second thoughts about your pro-growth...

A - NOW JUST A MINUTE.

Q - Okay.

A - I have had it up to here on people saying Bradley is a pro-growth mayor. You can't point to a single project that I have promoted, that is what you would call pro-growth.

Q - Well then, how did you get that reputation?

A - Because you the members of the press continue to spread that kind of statement and it becomes a perception even though it is not the reality.

Q - Did you approve the Playa Vista Project, the Continental City, the Howard Hughes Center, LAX Northside ...

A - You know the authority of the mayor to change or prevent development of that size...the few times that I have tried to exercise veto, it is quickly overridden...I know the political realities of each council representative having almost total control of what happens in his or her district. The few times that I have made an attempt to shift or to put a stop to...where there has been a recent adoption by the council of a community plan then almost weeks later they make an exception to it that's par for a veto that within a matter of hours it was overridden, that's a political reality...and I've been there long enough to know that.

So there you have it. Some of the questions and answers put to the Mayor. All in all, I was dissatisfied. The remedies for over-development, congestion and the low quality of life were wanting, a case of too little, too late.

The remedy offered for the homeless was a case of all talk and very little action. Those pre-fabs from Utah better hurry, winter is rapidly approaching.

The Mayor is a superb politician in his own low-key way but he is just that...a politician, and maybe 10 or even 5 years ago, Los Angeles may have benefited in some ways by his low-key style, but today we have some very serious problems that need immediate attention and the Mayor's vision of Los Angeles being the Premiere City, the Gateway City of the world may be standing in the way of finding practical solutions to these problems.

I would think that for the mayor to be re-elected, he would have to be in a position on growth. It has been demonstrated by the defeat of Pat Russell that growth is a rising concern in many communities and one which a wise Mayor with an eye for re-election would heed.

While removing trucks from the freeways at peak hours and ride sharing are some sound solutions to traffic and gridlock, the Mayor will have to come up with some innovative and creative solutions to smog, the bay pollution, over-development, the homeless, etc. etc.

While I was disappointed in the Mayor, it occurred to me that he really wasn't that different from the other politicians these days who blame the press and political realities and go on their way doing the two-step, the side kick and the shuffle off the buffalo...

We can only hope that the Mayor will put away his top hat and cane and listen, really listen to the community, not only the monied developers or realtors, not only the Chamber of Commerce or the VAC but also to us common folk out here who are the ones who will, or will not, re-elect him. ▲



# The Sellout Begins

by Memphis Slim

Well, we got rid of Pat Russell and the congratulatory glow still hasn't worn off. At no time in history has the Venice alternative community worked so hard for something and won. We all worked our asses off and defeated the President of the Los Angeles City Council. Now we have someone who is at least somewhat aware of our concerns. But how far have we really come?

The day after Ruth Galanter was elected a group of property owners on the Silver Strand announced a \$1.84 million dollar planning project to see how feasible it is to build a private marina where the Esplanade is today. This, the last section of undeveloped land in South Venice would become a deep water marina for yachts and raise these same property owners' land values an enormous amount. Included in their plans is a necessary drawbridge that would divide the only (two lane) road going in or out of the Silver Strand. This project would destroy Ballona Lagoon and severely hamper emergency vehicle access to the peninsula.

Ruth Galanter's office refused comment until the environmental impact study is completed.

Shortly after the election, Ruth notified her supporters that she wanted them to show up at the Coastal Commission hearing to oppose the oil drilling in Pacific Palisades. The drilling was eventually approved. I'm glad she's protecting the interests of the filthy rich in Reagan's old neighborhood. Which is, of course, out of her district.

The campgrounds on the Beach are getting more and more crowded. The number of complaints from Venice residents about the homeless is getting to the shrill level. Every TV station in LA is

covering the story. Ruth toured the downtown LA campground (now disbanded), the 1 West Dudley encampment and held hearings at Venice High School. Two weeks prior to the Hearings on the homeless in Venice, she had met with the people of the Venice Action Committee and their ilk and had caved in on the demands of the filthy rich in the North Beach. She stated that the Venice

Pavilion was not to be used as a Shelter for the homeless! While the hearings on the homeless that she, Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky and Councilman Robert Farrell held in Venice High School were discussing all aspects of the Venice homeless situation, her office through the official mouthpiece, Rick Ruiz, announced that she was making the Venice Pavilion available for social services applications only. She did not announce that at the meeting. Most of the audience learned of the plan in the newspapers later in the week.

That same Pavilion that is not available for people with no shelter in Venice is still being used as a Police Substation. Ruth is, of course, a supporter of law and order. Look around and it feels just like the old Police Task Force days. And you know the old saying, "A conservative is just a liberal that's been mugged."

In personal defense of Ruth, as opposed to the defense of her policies, it was clear that she is agonizing over some of the conflicting demands and emotions that exist around the homeless situation. However, this doesn't change her sellout to those that own property. Remember, the document that we celebrate this year, The Constitution? It recognizes property owners and then everyone else. That's always been the distinction in America, those that own property and those that don't. We're not as bad as the Latin American latifundistas but our economic and class values are very similar.

Councilwoman Galanter's office also has continuing bad relations with the press. Rick Cziment of the Santa Monica Evening Outlook told me, "Before the election she screwed us!" (He was speaking about the Press Relations don't seem to be getting any better. She's been criticized already by more than one newspaper that supported her in the election. (Prior to the publication of this article!) Bad relations with the press and an eroding base of support among the locals are indicative of the same mixed messages that are coming from her 6TH District Offices.

Galanter was not supported by Tom Bradley and although she had a one on one meeting with his honor the mayor shortly after her election, relations between her office and his are cool. A fundamental difference is, he's a supporter of organized construction labor and she isn't. The big labor unions like big growth and more construction. Ruth's philosophy and training favor

controlled growth, planning and a better quality environment. That philosophy and values are not popular with some of LA's minority communities.

Her environmental background and inclination make her a more natural ally of Zev Yaroslavsky. Besides mutually compatible environmental goals, Yaroslavsky and Galanter share one important bond. He needs and wants her support in the next mayoral election when he runs and she needs and wants some initial support for her goals as a new City Council person. Besides, Tom Bradley's been so sweet in the past. So they had a joint press conference (her and Zev) on the Santa Monica Pier about the quality of Santa Monica Bay. And they did the homeless hearings. Well the mayoral election is next year.

When Ruth was elected she was proclaimed as "one of us." She is a long time Venice resident and a long time supporter of many community causes. She's also a genuinely nice person. But folks, those fund raisers a Tony Bill's place don't come without their cost, political and moral.

Besides, Ruth's a Yalie and she's no tool of the hard left as Pat Russell called her in the election campaign. She's certainly liberal but not radical. Being pro-environment, anti-nuke and anti-imperialist doesn't make one a radical. Ruth is also a property owner and understands the pride of owning a home or business.

I thought it was a nice touch that the Community Representatives are women and the office managers are men. But her Venice Representative, Joan Cory, got her picture and bio in Main magazine and is now on the jury deciding which monstosity is

going to be visited on the Windward Circle. Joan is accessible but self-absorbed. Joan told me that about 350 complaints/concerns were waiting on the staff when they took over the Venice office. However, Ruth and her supporters were well aware of most of the problems prior to the inauguration day. A letter to this month's Beachhead from her office manager states that we should be patient; that we should consider that she was almost killed.

She was almost killed but she and her staff have plenty of time and ideas to work on. And, as for being patient, every moment wasted favors the wealthy and powerful. By making or not making decisions that favor the wealthy, she like so many others before her, is following a sellout policy detrimental to many of the people that supported her. Some of her initial moves took like the beginning of her reelection campaign.

## Developers Have 9 Lives--And Then Some

Remember your overwhelming vote for Prop U to limit growth, not stop it? Big deal. The L.A. City Council voted to chop about three stories off a 26-story building at the site of the old Ship's Coffee Shop in Westwood. The builders will pay the city \$3.3 million for so-called traffic mitigation. Does anyone think that a paltry \$3.3 million will do much to mitigate Westwood traffic?

The L.A. Planning Commission approved plans to control development in crowded Westwood Village but stopped short of endorsing strict height and density limits sought by homeowners. They allowed 70 foot height limits rather than the 55 foot limits suggested by the homeowners. The other limitations requested by the residents were not outrageous. Plenty of room for a decent profit for developers if they weren't such hogs.

If you think the overwhelming vote for Prop U made any impact on Planning Commissioner Daniel Garcia (Mayor Bradley's reappointee) you are mistaken. Old Zev (who is hot to be mayor) was the only token vote against concessions to the builders. It has been the custom in the past for Councilmembers to be able to stop what they oppose in their district. You must not have tried very hard, Zev. I guess if you aspire to higher office in L.A. you must get your "Mother's milk" from the realtor/builder/developer/speculator crowd.

Why bother to write this sad news? I want to put a little firmness in our backbones when dealing with stuff in our neighborhood. Sure, the owner has to be permitted to develop the property--BUT--we have to live with the results. Compromise, yes. Roll over and play dead, NO!

by Geriatric Jack



"THE RISK OF GOING WITH WHAT YOU GOT IS THE RISK IT TAKES TO BE BEAUTIFUL"

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# I Fought the Law and the Law Lost\*

(\*so far it only cost \$60 and one moving violation.)

This is not the Nile, it may be the Nile. The longest introduction.

I used to marvel how spineless and disgusting Dostoevsky characters could get...and I figure I could try too. So the following diatribe may 99% fly against the grain of 'LA-have-a-good-day' pap. Nonetheless it will trip the germ of truth, undigestible or not. Furthermore, though most of this scene took place in ye-old, non seaside Glendale...I believe it would be unfair to speculate that what stinks in high heaven Denmark doesn't stench up the nostrils to so many other 'LA'calaties' too.

Be that as it may, it all started eventually upon running one errand for our beachheader folks last spring. As the prick of fate turned my pickup truck into one more traffic-cop encounter of the worst kind at pink-neck, land-locked Glendale.

Now we all know Glendale hit "Metro News" recently with the brilliantly witless court commissioner remark: "Another nigger case?"...spoiling like spilt milk in LA law sun. But we should remember that this end-of-summer aperatif just followed the firecracker salad of INCAR (International Committee Against



Racism) members allegedly beating up a newly resurgent (ie. moved from "LA") KKK-type group invited to a (Glendale) city-sponsored "debate" on immigration. A hilarious acquaintance of mine mentioned some old Trotsky? quip concerning the limits to free speech which should be accorded fascists...and it went something like 'they should have the right to be directly acquainted with the pavement'. Earlier in the summer, I distinctly recall a local television news slowly culling through the fears of one lonely black-canadian, business woman located in the same area.

But enough of these gut-wrenching tired cliches. I want to exasperate my own personal experiences via true selfish style.

Switch gears to Glendale courthouse (following the ticketing of one Toyota truck on it's way to catching it's 'Venice Beachhead' paper cargo.

For once, the pig showed up nearly on time. The judge I mean. Looking like a young, underpants-squeezed host of "Password". Old enough to probably be fond of the fifties. Young enough to catch the perfectly idiotic expression of the captain of his bathtub...ie. most likely this man imagined his four-row courtroom the center of Southern California's ocean of law that would be Glendale.

Piglet number two (the ticketing 'officer') was either undercover or I was unable to recognize his non-descript face. When several cases got called...and dismissed for lack of arresting officers, my hopes were raised he hadn't shown. As luck dictated however, fish-net-for-brains was discovered in a suit and corner seat obviously pre-reserved for just such witnesses as

himself. Located practically in the judge's lap by a tiny row of seats directly next to the bench.

I had finally determined to drag myself there in whatever mood I felt at the appointed time. From a 7am automobile repair class therefore, I arrived by 9am in one quite smelly and dirty pair of green overalls. If (my) cop dared to show (so I mused)...at least I might be able to stink up the courtroom before being carted off to jail for contempt, or fined or shouted down or whatever. But I played cool.

I agonized through the perfunctory, shit-faced "judgements" of the "court": "Guilty?", "Not Guilty?", "No Contest?" yuk, yuk, yuk. Bla Bla Bla. Every asshole approaching the bench quivered and quaked and ate shit. God I hate courtrooms. They truly have to be one of the true sewer-pillars of the american way. I think of the tattooed, beer-belly, motorcycle riders trying to play cool by referring to the judge as "your honor" only to learn once again how to get fucked by

playing along. I hate courtrooms almost as much as their precursor, training grounds, the all american "classroom".

This particular judge struck me as the "cut your baby in half routine"-type pimp. After one young man patiently explained how his cop had deliberately ticketed him while full-well knowing the 'no-parking' zone was located on the opposite side of the street, the judge declared he would investigate the scene of the dispute himself...temporarily suspending the imminent sentence another day. Craftily waiting while another woman recounted her version of yet a different incident, the judge lunged into a guilty sentence at the wee first suggestion of error on her part.

At this point though, let me fill in again on the "crime" in question. That is, while driving to pick-up our "Beachhead" papers from a Glendale printer one night after an evening workshift in the Valley, I became 'lost' on the reconstructioning 'Brand St. looking for 'Broadway Blvd.' Pulling off to a side-street for redirection, I received what I believed to be a warning ticket for making an "illegal U-turn". Now the "story": I had 'had enough' with just about every "policeman"

living within 2,000 light years of this planet by the time piglet #2 approached my little truck that evening.

Bogus speeding tickets at 3am while driving taxicabs, false arrests for "disturbing the peace" following clever speeches delivered to union parkchoppers, choke-holds, insults, and generally asinine, bully-behavior by "policeman" have unfortunately discolored my experiences with these individuals. Yet this creep I tried vainly to shine on. I attempted explaining my 'visitor to Glendale' circumstances to him. And he didn't listen.

I just let him write out the ticket form. And he condescended with the crocodile-tear apology that he had only written a 'warning'. He then stuck me with his handiwork and basically left me fucked.

So I waited for my "chance" (day) in court. Walter Mitty alias Casper Milquetoast his dishonor finally got to my case-name. But before he finished the expected request asking whether I was prepared to present the case...I was on my feet in row numero uno catching the court audience's attention. Asking then whether I would entertain any questions for the ("prosecution's") witness, I started waving my summons in the open air: "I sure do! ; I sure do!"

--"First of all, I want to ask this man (punk officer had already mounted his testimony-stand seat in loving, court-fashion speed) if he could tell me in his own very words what the "arrow" drawn on the ticket face is supposed to mean?"

--(He replied): "You were observed making a U-turn on Wilson St. which is a violation of bla bla number vehicle code."

--"I didn't ask you what the bla bla number means. I already know the number's explanations are included on the backside of the ticket. What I would like to know is whether you saw this U-turn made on the wrong side of the road as this arrow is drawn?"

--"You were observed proceeding from the right side of the road into a U turn onto the other side."

--"So this U-turn did not occur on the same side of the street as this arrow is drawn?"

--"Brand is a street divided by a median."

--"I didn't ask you whether Brand was divided. Do you see a median strip on this drawing? I was asking you if you can see this arrow...how it is drawn as if to show that my truck first drove down the wrong side of Wilson, then made a loop de loop only to continue driving the wrong side of Brand?"

--"The arrow shows you made an illegal U- turn in a business district on Wilson St. for which I gave you a.."

--"So you don't see this arrow you yourself drew on this..." (By this time, the judge had come rushing to the officer's defense): "Mr. Wightman...the officer has answered your questions and I don't see the relevance of this line of questioning".

--"Well maybe you don't have a good copy of this

ticket. The man drew an arrow on it which suggests I was driving the wrong way down two streets with a loop in the middle! This aggravates the charge of a supposed illegal U-turn and makes me into a dangerous reckless driver! And I resent this from a man who told me he had only written a warning ticket after I spoke with him about what was going on there."

I was unsuccessful in turning the witness from his grown-up adult, crybaby-wimp self into tears of admission and the confession that he had indeed lied and planned a cover-up with these phoney arrows. So I jumped to a new tack: Lurching two steps physically forward at the bench and witness I intentionally provoked the bailiff and the judge as well.

After all, this was the home of one other judge (Superior Court Judge Robert Fainer) whom had once

screamed at me in a downtown courtroom "I don't want to hear the facts!" I promptly picketed him at his home on the very first day of the year whereupon he persuaded the Glendale gendarmory to surround the estate (me) with 5 squad cars and one helicopter... "detaining" me with a brief (several hour) arrest, fingerprinting, jailing etc. Apologizing profusely with a further threatening letter...the good judge then dis-charged himself of the case by disqualifying himself so ungraciously.

But that was L.A.! Back to Glendale! My crime at that time after all was the hideous, snivelling picketsigh which spelled out "FAINER-THE NO TALK JUDGE! Now I would comport myself inside legal walls!

--"Let me ask you this Mr. (whatever the f--- this police person's name was); did you see any other traffic on the street at the time you say you saw me making this turn?"

--"I don't remember. There might have been some."

--"No, there wasn't any. Do you remember about what time it was?"

--"No"

--"Night or day?, light or dark? The ticket says at about midnight."

--"It was at night. That's right."

--"Did you see any business establishments open at that time?"

--"There may have been a few"

--"No. There was not a single person around. In fact, was this a main business street or an off street of Brand Mr. (F---)?"

--"I didn't ask you if it was in a business district. I asked you if this was a main business street like Brand?...and I will tell you no it wasn't! There was no businesses open. There was no people. It was midnight and I was the only vehicle on the street."

Following a stern lecture on my part on the importance I always place in practicing safe driving habits, the judge "suspended" the payment of the \$60 fine. But in view of his evidently pleased remaining "criminals", he refused to budge off the "moving violation" points. With no expression besides a private look of disgust toward the Solomon-pimp judge, I walked straight out of the courtroom showing only the filthy backside of my coveralls. And the judge has never sent me the sixty dollars.

I have always had the dream of a silent courtroom all of a sudden getting up...swirling around, and intermittently telling the judge to shut the fuck up. But what else can I say about a people tucked between the Golden State Fwy and Ventura Fwy, between Griffith Park and Pasadena? Egads...if it weren't that we Beachheaders don't have our own printshop, we'd have to invite everybody all these Glendale mantacs down to the beach!

Following this tragi-comedy escapade in cheapskate court, I was once again sentenced to return before LA judicial-shit in one wholly unrelated, extra-curricular Glendale silliness.

Declared suspiciously and insufficiently "sane" to stand trial in a different criminal misdemeanor case by two downtown LA, nit-wit-bitch judges...I was ordered during the summer to report for a "sanity" hearing in none other than (you guessed it) Glendale (psychiatric) Superior Court Dept. 95. This back-alley, warehouse court facility-in-the-wall located dangling off of San Fernando Road and the Golden State Fwy is numbered in dark lettering on a dirty brown facade. Judge Bernstein presided over the Aids "biter" (attempted murder?) client a few days after declaring me mentally "competent" to stand (yet another!) "trial". For the record, so was the Aids defendant declared competent.

So much for this "neck" of the woods. When LA stops baving a love affair with this contracted-out, fourth-world entirety, perhaps we, or those of us who must (as fate would choose) pass through it, might yet get out alive. None of the names herein have been changed to protect the innocent because number one, there wasn't anybody innocent. Ha Ha Ha. Fuck Glendale. ■

— Always innocent Vic



# Bits 'n' Pieces

By Geriatric Jack

## THE CONEHEADS WERE HERE OR SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE ROADSHOW

I'm sure the present Pope is a "nice guy" but I'm a little upset. His visit triggered off memory of an earlier Pope in the 1930's blessing the Italian troops who went to fight the spear carrying Ethiopians. The Crusades, the Inquisition and the policies of the Catholic Church during World War II, etc. leave a great deal to be forgiven.

Shaking hands with Waldheim of Austria and Pinochet of Chile is not the way to let your "moral authority" be used. No, I'm not a nominee for sainthood but the line has to be drawn somewhere about "Who is holier than thou?"

P.S. Almost forgot about the treatment of California's Indians.

## HOORAY FOR HACKERS

Somewhere and sometime in the near future those wonderful hackers will find a way to stop "Star Wars."

They just recently penetrated an international computer network used by NASA. They reportedly got information on space shuttle projects and rocket boosters.

Go for it!

## SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT

I stopped a police car on Ocean Front Walk and asked them to see what they could do about a drunk sprawled out in my neighbor's parking place. He, and his now departed buddy had been drinking there all morning. When another neighbor gave him 25 cents the drunk told him to up it to \$1.

I was concerned that the neighbor would meet with hostility when she came home, the drunk might get run over and a general concern for the safety of me and mine.

The cops told me that they would pass my request to the police on bicycles when they saw them because they weren't covering that area which was only 100 yards away as the crow flies and about two minutes away by squad car.

Some time later the bicycle cops came along. I made the same request of them and they said they would follow up on it on their way back on their beat.

I guess this is the age of specialization?

## HAPPY HYPERTENSION

When that monster project at Rose and Main gets completed (northwest corner) we will have gridlock. Remember this building is in addition to the Binocular building down the block on Main.

## WHO NEEDS NUCLEAR TESTS

I'll be the first to commend Pres. Rambo when the treaty gets signed with the Russians. Keep in mind that we are only agreeing to deal with about 5% of the nuclear arsenal. There are still a helluva lot of nuclear firecrackers left in both stockpiles but maybe this is a breakthrough. Actually more megatonnage is being built while the 5% is being negotiated.

By the way, our foremost expert with U.C. Livermore says that nuclear testing is unnecessary.

## NO MORE ELECTION TURMOIL

Too bad the Pope isn't an American. He could run against the Rev. Pat Robertson and we could let God decide who should be President.

## TRY AND BE A GOOD SAMARITAN

I warned two druggies who were sharing a needle about the danger of AIDS. One of them said I shouldn't worry because they were both wearing condoms.

## ARE ITALIANS MORE CIVILIZED

Italy outlawed capital punishment in 1889 and we are still executing children.

## OF COURSE MONEY WORKS

We have just been informed by a select committee of corporate executives that we better do something about children in poverty.

That's a start. At least it is a change from the Reaganites urging every pregnancy be born and then opposing every program for pre and post-natal health and education.

"Where is the money coming from?"

Every one million school dropouts cost us \$240 billion in their lifetime. The G.I. Bill after WW2 and the long range impact of Head Start are good examples of "throwing money at programs" that do work. The problem is that Head Start covers only one of five kids who need it. It should be equally obvious that Food Stamps help prevent future medical needs and costs.

We keep getting conned. Programs are enacted but never funded properly. No wonder they don't work. Preventive programs are a hard sell and we are easily pacified by a token program. Why not concentrate for a change on benefits from social programs?

## IT'S THE LITTLE STUPIDITIES

Remember those MX "Peacekeeper" missiles with the faulty guidance systems? YOU just gave Boeing a \$235.5 million contract to design protective "igloos" for them

## HOW TO SCUTTLE THE PEACE PROCESS

The five Central American nations are trying to cool things down with their own peace plan for Nicaragua and the whole area. What does our peace loving Pres. Rambo do? He pours oil on the fire.

He gets rid of Philip Habib our special envoy who has credibility and replaces him with an obscure assistant to Elliott Abrams. Abrams, of the State Dept., is more of a hawk than Pres. Rambo.

Rambo cuts off aid to Costa Rica the author of the peace plan. He threatens Honduras, the poorest nation of the five with cutting their financial aid. Rambo then proposes to ask Congress for \$270 million for the C.I.A. created contras to continue to attempt to overthrow a legal government with which we have relations. So much for law-and-order.

In the meantime, Daniel Ortega, the top man in Nicaragua appoints a Catholic Cardinal to the committee which is to oversee Nicaraguan peace plan behavior. The Cardinal is not a member of Ortega's fan club. Now this could be all for show but why not give it a chance Pres. Rambo?

## KRASNOYARSK

is the Russian radar station that is supposed to be violating the ABM Treaty. "This facility would have trouble withstanding a hurricane, let alone a nuclear attack," said Democratic Rep. Thomas Downey who recently visited it. "If it had been built in the U.S., the general in charge would have been court-martialed and the construction company sued."

Not to worry. The Russians claim that the two radar stations we are building in Greenland and Britain are violating the ABM Treaty. Checkmate, or do we trade pieces? □

# twits AND

# fleecers

By Malcolm Tent

When Ex-Council President Pat Russell was busy getting her City Hall cronies to grant Summa Corp. the right to gridlock our streets, pollute our air and destroy the remaining open space on the Westside--what were our elected State and County officials doing to protect us? Nothing! All five County Supervisors have taken campaign contributions from Summa. As for our State officials, Summa cash went to 18 of our 80 Assemblymembers, and a staggering 32 of our 40 Senators in 1983 and '84. These same officials determine the political makeup of the State Coastal Commission, which also rubber-stamp OKed Playa Vista exactly as Summa asked for it.

...Recognize any of these civil servants?

Assemblyman--now L.A. Councilman--	
Richard Allatorre-----	\$2,000
Senator Ed Davis-----	1,700
Assemblyman--now State Controller	
Gray Davis-----	1,250
Governor George Deukmejian-----	10,000
Senator Alan Robbins-----	2,000
Senator Art Torres-----	6,800
Senate President David Roberti-----	14,000
Assembly Speaker Willie Brown-----	25,000
Assembly Speaker-pro-tem-Mike Roos-----	1,500
Assemblywoman Maxine Waters-----	4,620
Assemblyman Bruce Young-----	8,500

200 Years of Protecting The Constitution

So, you think traffic on the Westside is bad. According to a just-published L.A. Times story, the Westchester/LAX/El Segundo/Marina Del Rey area has 17 million square feet of office space, and just under 20% of it is vacant. The "Big 4" hirise developments--Playa Vista, Howard Hughes Center, LAX Northside and Continental City would add at least 20 million more square feet. Think about this next time you drive home along Lincoln Blvd.

Howard Hughes Center will soon be the home to several 15 to 20 story buildings, if some of our elected officials have their way.

This monstrosity will rise from a huge pit-like site at the intersection of Sepulveda Blvd. and Centinela Avenue. Seismologists, those who study earthquakes, have a term for this hole, which was created by two parallel earthquake faults. It's called a Graben, which is a German word for ditch. The French have a verb which derives from this term--"grafen"--to dig a grave.



The amoeba is considered the lowest form of animal life.



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## 'Statue' continued from Page 1.

"Up to now, our community has lacked a visual focal point. The Circle can be a meeting place, a reference point, a plaza in the European tradition. IT CAN ALSO BECOME A BOOK-END FOR MAIN STREET (emphasis mine), symbolically closing the stretch from the Civic Center to the center of civic life in Venice. The Circle creates an axis that directs the visitor..."

"...to the proposed new Venice Library and down Windward Avenue, to the possibility of a future pedestrian mall to the Beach. Main Street soon will have the new Frank Ghery/Abby Scheer Museum and the Chiatt-Day offices with the monumental Oldenberg sculpture..." (a giant pair of binoculars)

"The goal of the Windward Circle Committee is to create a new landmark for Venice."

I interject. What center of civic life? Does Venice need or want a plaza? Doesn't Venice have something called the Ocean Front Walk for "browsing, seeing, and being seen?" But wait: there's more: "Broad sidewalks encourage public life..." "The

space converts into a plaza for special occasions when it can be closed to traffic..." (!?) "...and used for civic functions..." (like public hangings of asymmetrical and/or aesthetically deprived people?) (Closed to traffic? And the jurors will let the public park its cars in the jurors' yards?)

The letter from the jurors to the finalists goes on about the use of water and "...it (the water) can be ILLUMINATED AT NIGHT..." "...a landmark for the Circle might have great scale, and be up to one hundred feet tall."

"In the evening, a monumental light sculpture appears which is a beacon for Venice for miles around and invites use of our downtown spaces at night."

According to the rules of the contest, the winner of the Windward Circle Award will receive five thousand dollars, half to be paid when he/she wins and the other half paid when permit for construction is to be obtained.

From what I understand, some of this money will be raised from the private sector. In a letter from the Cultural Affairs Department to the entrants, one finds this little gem: "In addition, a significant change has been made in reference to influence on your design concept. You may consider a design that goes beyond the \$100,000 if you wish. You can also consider a permanent installation or structure rather than the 'platform' or environment originally requested."

The entries were interesting, but even more interesting were the rather grumpy comments made by the small segment of the community who'd heard about the showing.

The finalists included a huge crescent by fashionable artist Billy Al Bengston. It was sketched on a paper placemat with the comment: "This is all you get (too much) for five thousand dollars on spec. Get serious. SVP." A fountain with trees. A replica

of the Lion of Venice, Italy on a pedestal, with a tiled plaza, or piazza. An elephant made out of steel grids that moves mechanically as water courses through it, covered with ivy, about a hundred feet high.

What struck me about the majority of the finalists was that the Circle was now expanded to 225 square feet, cutting the street down to forty feet.

Most of the jurors - Perloff, Webster, Bill, Sewell, Graham, Erlich, Spiller etc. - own property in the immediate vicinity of the Circle, or are employed as architects for building buildings on the Circle, or have obtained permits to renovate old buildings for boutiques. Did you notice the references to a Windward Pedestrian Mall?

Aside from the kitchie-coo aesthetics of some of the structures, i.e. lamp-posts striped red and white to look like gondola hitching-posts, spotlights that will light up Venice for miles around, encouraging night-life to the wonder and amazement of the never-consulted residents of Grand Avenue, Windward Avenue and Venice Way - aside from the fact that maybe some people would like the traffic circle just as it is, the upkeep and maintenance of said structures, statues, pergola, etc., will be the responsibility of the City of Los

Angeles. One has only to look at the wonderful conditions of the Ocean Front Walk pagodas and benches and the Pavilion to realize how carefully the city maintains such things. It gripes me that these same people who encourage the neglect and removal of the benches and pagodas on the Ocean Front Walk are willing for us to pay for the upkeep of their expensive toys.

Nowhere are the questions of traffic flow or parking addressed. The question of cars being able to see other cars coming is fleetingly noted, and if the City were to change existing street patterns, and add more sidewalk to the area, the city would have twenty-five feet of sidewalk instead

of the eight feet which is common. Generally, what the city does in cases like this is to vacate everything but eight feet - the remainder reverting to the original property owner - this would give these people additional frontage. Even if the city kept the sidewalks 25 feet wide, the owners most likely would get a variance or Conditional Use Permit. Or a revokable permit which is what is shrinking the Ocean Front Walk.

As we long-time residents have seen, this leads to severe intensification of use. That ol' devil parking comes up again. I don't believe - and I mean this - that VAC intended this. Their vision is short-sighted and astigmatic. That's all.

The present Councilwoman, Ruth Galanter, wants the traffic circle included in the Local Coastal Program. She would like the Coastal Conservancy to sponsor workshops so that the community would become involved.

Fred Croton, General Manager of the L.A. Cultural Affairs Commission, is reported to have said that "everyone recognized their error" (of not including the community at large). The Venice Action Committee claims they have a legal contract with Los Angeles. I'm of several minds about this dilemma.

I have some brilliant concepts of my own. If we hew to the bookend concept of Main Street, why not have a giant binocular case in the traffic circle? For the night lights, how about the outline in Dayglo pink neon of a giant condom floating in one of the reflecting pools, and above it a sign that said "WELCOME TO VENICE. SAFE SEX, SAFE SEX!" in chartreuse flashing on and off.

Something else whispers to me "Let them do it. Let the Venice Action Committee tart up the traffic circle with the smuggest, most pompous, vulgar, trendiest, most fashionable geegaw they can pick. If my life depended on picking one of the six

finalists, I'd pick the giant elephant. It signifies nothing (except Republicanism); you can see right through it, and if we can trust the city, in ten years the thing will become a rusting, actionable safety hazard. The ivy will die, and it will be a safe haven for rats. It will be a symbol.

I imagine myself a Digger Indian peacefully clamming, half-hidden by marsh grass. The Spanish soldiers and the padres call me a degraded being because I don't know their language and don't acknowledge their god. They call my communal sweathouses obscene, and cite my ignorance of the concept of land-as-property as evidence of being uncivilized. They destroy things that are special to me - the sacred writings called petroglyphs and burial mounds.

The gentle padres round us up, lock us in stockades and, being pagan, we are kept that way so we can be worked and starved until we die. The Spaniards were overrun by the expansionist yankees seeking the imperial dream, and the Circle itself becomes symbol.

If you feel that public participation is important, and refuse to give up public land to be played with by self-appointed arbitae elegantae, write your concerns and ideas to Councilwoman Ruth Galanter, 200 N. Spring St., L.A. CA 90012. ☉



TWILIGHT ZONE FOR THE HOMELESS

PHOTO BY:  
RICH MANN

But, back at the Pavilion, one of the merchants' objections is that it's in a tourist zone. I don't quite understand the problem here. Do tourists bite? Are the homeless attracting tourists away from the stands and restaurants? Are the homeless luring unsuspecting tourists into homelessness?

There is also the objection that the Pavilion should be used for recreation.

but over the years it has proved to be a dismal failure. The Pavilion has never been fully utilized and in recent years virtually not used at all, unless one counts the beach patrol playing bocceball and plainclothesmen playing ping-pong. Its decline in community use corresponds with the rise of tourism, in fact, though I don't suggest a causal relationship.

Heeding everyone's objections, the homeless should not be housed in residential or commercial or recreational areas. I think that leaves industrial and agricultural, and I'm sure there would be objections there, too.

So somebody's objections will have to be overruled. And not everybody objects. Many of the newspaper articles on this issue talk about "the residents' objections" as though all residents object to the existence of the homeless and want to get rid of them. On the contrary, many residents, including me, want to see programs that will help the homeless out of their homelessness, want those programs right here in Venice, and want the homeless to participate in the planning. The Homeless Task Force recommendations illustrate this.

The many Venice residents who want to help the homeless back into society, rather than just shoving them around, are also people who strongly backed Galanter in the recent election. While

she can be credited with delaying mass arrests on the beach, her social worker-bussing plan, to be followed by mass arrests, will be seen for what it is: caving in to transient merchants to clear the beach by moving the homeless elsewhere.

When facilities are simply not available, either they must be made available or they must be built. With no prospect of that, we are right back where we started, social workers and busses notwithstanding. I had expected better of Ruth Galanter and, for the time being, I still do. ★

# Community Events

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

## POEM COMBATS

**BEYOND BAROQUE** 681 VENICE BLVD. 822-3006  
 SUNDAY OCT. 4, 8:00 PM-OPEN READING  
 FRIDAY OCT. 9, 8:30 PM-ALICE McDERMOTT  
 novel writer & teacher  
 SATURDAY OCT. 10, 8:30 PM-JOE BAIZA AND  
 UNIVERSAL CONGRESS OF, CRUEL FREDERICK,  
 KEN ROSSER music  
 FRIDAY OCT. 16, 8:30 PM-DAVID RATTRAY,  
 RUBEN MARTINEZ poetry, journalism, writing  
 SATURDAY OCT. 17, 8:30 PM-THE CLIFF  
 HANGER'S FALL or UNLEARNING IN THE LAND  
 OF BIG DOGS  
 FRIDAY OCT. 23, 8:30 PM-CATHERINE TEXIER,  
 JOEL ROSE, writers  
 FRIDAY OCT. 30, 8:30 PM EILEEN MYLES,  
 DAVID TRINIDAD poetry

POETRY ON MELROSE/READINGS AT GASOLINE  
 ALLEY-FOUR SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER AT 3:00PM  
 October 4: S.A. GRIFFIN & SKIE BENDER  
 October 11: MARINE ROBERT WARDEN &  
 GEORGE JAMES  
 October 18: OPEN READING (first 6 poets)  
 October 25: BENJAMIN WEISSMAN/937-5177

## OTHER TOMES

### VENICE WRITERS COFFEE HOUR

Venice Library is hosting a coffee hour for writers on Monday, Oct. 5 at 7:00 p.m. Venice Writers is an informal group which meets monthly to share ideas and information. Join us at the Library at 610 California Ave. For information call Lucille at 821-1769. (Editor's Note- Extremely helpful staff.)

To contact the "Little Free Press" (ie. \*Seven Wonders of the World) write: Rt. 2 Box 136A, Cushing, MN 56443

THE 4TH CA. ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR  
 Oct. 18th-10am til 6pm in Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Road 875-0555

## RELIGION?

THE 1st UNITARIAN CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES  
 2936 West 8th St. Los Angeles CA 389-1356  
 "CELEBRATING THE CONSTITUTION AFTER CONTRAGATE"  
 "The Constitution: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow" will be the subject of DR. HERBERT APTHEKER when he speaks at the First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles Sunday, October 4 at 11 AM.  
 Oct 11/Dr. Philip Foner: "The Cuban Revolution Today"  
 Oct 18/Rev. Phil Zwerling: "Spirituality v. Spiritual"  
 Oct 25/Blase Bonpane: "Towards a New Foreign Policy"

## PHOTOGRAPHY:

Venice historian Jeff Stanton is seeking photographs from Ocean Park and Venice piers, especially some of the rides on POP--Pacific Ocean Park--like Nigara Barrel and the Great American Racing Derby. The piers were built in 1904 (Venice) and 1905, and lasted as the West Coast's "Coney Island on the Pacific" until 1946 (Venice) and 1967. You can reach Jeff at 821-2425.

Barbara Bosworth/Sept. 22-Nov. 1 \*photographic documentation of the ancient burial mounds and sacred circles of North American cultures.. Cal State University Art Museum exhibit

ROBERTO BARNI-Paintings-Drawings-SEPT. 11-OCT. 31 @ JACK RUTENBERG FINE ARTS, INC. 357 N. La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles 938-5222 Tuesday-Friday 11:00-6:00 Saturday 11:00-5

## MUSIC

LA MUSICA DEL PUEBLO featuring SABIA at the Echo Park United Methodist Church basement (1226 N. Alvarado St.) OCT. 3, 8 PM CALL 484-8214 for further information

## THEATER

LA THEATRE WORKS/A Non-Profit Corporation 681 Venice Boulevard, Venice 90291/827-0808 October 6: "JUST THE WAY IT WAS" written by Rob Sullivan and directed by Guy.../20.

THE SECOND ANNUAL ONE SKY, ONE WORLD KITE FESTIVAL IN SANTA MONICA-SUNDAY OCT. 11: contact Let's Fly A Kite at (213) 822-2561

## POLITICS

BLOCK BORK RALLY OCTOBER 4, 12-2PM Downtown Fed Bldg. Call (213) 652-2525 for more info.

"STOP WAR TOYS" / Campaign Kickoff Halloween Eve Peace Pumpkin Ball, Comedy by Paul Krassner Reggae, Rock w/ Planet 10 Friday Oct. 30, 8pm-lam The Church in Ocean Park, 235 Hill St., S.M. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 day / (213) 3991000

## WALKING POLITICS

NATIONAL WALK AGAINST THE WAR IN EL SALVADOR Sat. Oct 24, 9:30 am/Start and Finish: St. Augustine's-by-the-Sea 1227 4th St., S.M. (4th and Arizona) For info: (213) 225-6136

GREAT PEACE MARCH for GLOBAL NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT HONORED BY NOBEL PEACE PRIZE NOMINATION The Great Peace March for Global Nuclear Disarmament which traversed a 3,701-mile route across heartland America as they walked from Los Angeles, CA to Wash D.C. in 1986 has been nominated for the NOBEL PEACE PRIZE in 1987. The Nobel Committee will decide who is the winner in mid-October. People who supported the march throughout the country are invited to submit a letter to the Norwegian Nobel Committee (Drammensveien 19, Oslo, Norway) indicating how their life was changed by the Peace March. Further info (212) 734-0455 or (216) 249-3999

Sierra Club Oct. 17 at 9am, 8 mile day hike from Sta Ynez to Los Liones. Start just N. of Sunset Bl/ PCH for short car shuttle to start of hike

## SHARKS

### PROGRAM ON SHARKS AT VENICE LIBRARY

Saturday, October 10 at 1:00 p.m. Bem De Bus of the American Cetacean Society will present a special program on sharks found off the California coast. She will have slides and fossils for you to see. All ages are invited to attend this free program. Friends of Venice Library will provide refreshments. The Library is at 610 California Ave. (821-1769)

## recuperation

VENICE SKILLS CENTER offering course in medical office procedures/call 392-4153

WRIGHT CENTER FOR PROGRESSIVE THERAPIES & BOND WRIGHT presents [213-393-3779] PSYCHOLOGY WITHOUT WALLS FORUM Series:

Oct. 11 Bond Wright, Certified Reichian Therapist, therapist for individuals, families and couples. "Paradoxes and dilemmas in 1987: why are those people shooting other people on the freeways?" Wright will give an engrossing and fascinating analysis of the psychological motivation for violence.

Oct. 25 Phina R. McBride, D.C. innovative and imaginative chiropractor in private practice in Marina Del Rey. "A.I.D.S.; healing without walls". Dr. McBride will discuss her approach and treatment of A.I.D.S. She will begin a treatment project 1 Jan. 87 wherein ten victims will undergo this treatment. Individuals who wish to become part of this treatment program can attend this FORUM and apply.

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SINGLES: Tuesday, October 6, 7:30 PM @ The Westside YWCA, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, West L.A., four blocks east of San Diego Fwy/398-4141 --L.A. School Board Member Jackie Goldberg will discuss a variety of current educational issues, including the extent to which preoccupation with military spending has damaged our educational system and hence is stealing from future generations and is jeopardizing the wellbeing of all of society, in a program entitled The Future of Our Educational System and What It Will Mean to Society.

Thursday, October 8, 7:30PM @ The Temple menorah, 1101 Camino Real, at the corner of Knob Hill, one mile west of Hawthorne Blvd. on Sepulveda, in Redondo Beach./324-6068 --Maureen Carney, whose brother Padre Gradalupe Carney of the Jesuits was murdered by the Honduran Army with the knowledge of the U.S. Government, will show the award winning BBC documentary about her family's search for her brother's murderers and will present the testimony of an accomplice to the murder that has recently come forward.



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