were Thomas Dudley who sold his interests to Alex and his partners were not getting along together. His partners from the city and the railroads and Kinney and his resort with gambling. They faced some opposition from the southern border. They sold lots and built a pier and were busy building Ocean Park on Santa Monica's shore. Which wasn't cheap in those days.

…your toes in the ocean! Most cost about 25 cents, to bathe and swim in ocean water without even sticking your head in the water. In 1894 the early Santa Monica Pier. It had a large salt water pool and had many dressing rooms and a restaurant. Soon another bathhouse that had swimming pools filled with ocean water. In 1876 on the north beach around where Chautauqua Blvd. is today a small bathhouse opened with showers and baths. Soon another bathhouse opened next door with an indoor pool using ocean water. In 1887 the Crystal Plunge opened with an open air seawater pool by what is now the Casa del Mar Hotel at Pico Blvd. In 1890 the huge Arcadia Hotel in Santa Monica had a large bathhouse. In 1894 the North Beach Bathhouse opened just north of the early Santa Monica Pier. It had a large salt water pool and had many dressing rooms and a restaurant. Soon several bathhouses opened along the beach. You could bathe and swim in ocean water without even sticking your toes in the ocean! Most cost about 25 cents, which wasn't cheap in those days.

In the late 1800s, Abbot Kinney and his partners were busy building Ocean Park on Santa Monica's southern border. They sold lots and built a pier and resort with gambling. They faced some opposition from the city and the railroads and Kinney and his partners were not getting along together. His partners were Thomas Dudley who sold his interests to Alex and his partners were not getting along together. His partners from the city and the railroads and Kinney and his resort with gambling. They faced some opposition from the southern border. They sold lots and built a pier and were busy building Ocean Park on Santa Monica's shore. Which wasn't cheap in those days.
Dear Beachhead,

I don’t know how I missed it, but yesterday I went to Gerry Fialka’s event at Beyond Baroque and picked up a copy of the March issue of The Beachhead. I was totally blown away. You people are awesome!!! It was one of the best Beachhead papers I have ever seen. Keep up the GREAT work!!!

Love to you all,

Teresa Danieli

My Solution: Build a Wall

Dear Beachhead,

I’ve noticed as of late that many people are not pleased with the direction Venice is heading. With gentrification, parking expansion and the commercial explosion on Rose and Abbot Kinney, our neighborhood is clearly on a crossroads. I have a modest, maybe a tad extreme, proposal on how to save Venice.

A wall. We build a giant wall on Lincoln, and don’t let anyone in (for free).

I know it sounds ridiculous at face value, like I am an extremist or a loon, but bear with me for a moment. Let’s first look at how it would work. The wall is printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink.

The Beachhead is printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink.

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Krista Schwimmer

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Dear Beachhead,

I’ve just been reviewing my first edition of the Beachhead, the March 2015 International Women’s Day Issue. As a Venice resident and a woman, I was excited to read more about local heroines through the eyes of the Venice Beachhead. Imagine my disappointment when I came across this quote in Brad Kay’s TEDx Venice Beach article in the same issue: “The men dressed in T-shirts, jeans, cutoffs, sandals; the women all wore in baggy clothes, again, jeans – not a dress or decent pair of pants to be seen – no makeup.”

I think I would have been sufficient to simply write that men and women alike were dressed more casually than Mr. Kay felt appropriate. Further noting that the women were lacking tighter clothes, dresses and makeup implies that they should have been dressed that way. And the “decent pair of pants” comment is simply sexist and gross!

Did no one review that TEDx articles and find that offensive? I found it especially troubling to see that sort of a comment about women featured in the International Women’s Day Issue.

Would Mr. Kay make those same comments about his female guides for the event? Or would he say the same about the women you featured on the Beachhead front page, and imply they should have been wearing more revealing clothing and makeup? I would like to hope he would give them the respect of focusing on their contributions to the community.

The women at TED events, like the men, are there to learn and inspire and build community. Surely he knows they can accomplish that with or without makeup on? TED events are supposed to celebrate brilliant new ideas and forward thinking. Mr. Kay seems to be missing the point entirely, at least in regards to feminism.

The female TEDs attendees, just like the male attendees and the women featured on the front page of your paper, deserve to enjoy a local Venice event in comfortable and event-appropriate clothing. Please inform Mr. Kay that if he would like to see a decent pair of pants and some makeup at a TedX event (or anything for that matter), he can wear a dress and put on some makeup himself!

Best,

Teresa Carney White

The LAW OF THE LAND

The law can be ANYTHING, ANYTIME. The land is only ONE. It has been here for a long time and will be for a long time to come – contrary to human will.

So what is the land worth? Who is dictating the price? Once it was $60,000, and in no time it was $300,000 and now $1.6 million. Seems to me somebody here is jockeying.

Sitting Bull’s proclamation that “People belong to the Earth, the Earth does NOT belong to the People” is certainly a way to put it. Many WARS have been fought over it, lots of blood spilled on the Earth. People are getting buried in the Earth. The man is sustained by the land, he is fed by it, so what is it worth? Is it worth Preservation and Availability for EVERYONE?

But I suppose this is a pretty far-fetched idea anyhow, the thing that whoever takes care of the land is his keeper – because nobody can really own it FOREVER and EVER. Let’s keep it OPEN, FREE, BEAUTIFUL and SACRED. Respect the right of FOREVER to everyone to enjoy it to the fullest extent. EVERY square inch of VENICE is worthy of preservation.

Embrace the history of this unusual place. Let’s come together on May 2 at 7:33 Brooks Avenue at 5:00 pm to speak our minds and take back the land.

Let’s put the money where our mouth is: let’s support the Venice Coalition to Preserve our Unique Community Character.

— Rene Kraus

Thanks for your generous donations!

Bradley Bobbs

Nutritional Warehouse

Marty Liboff

Joan Del Monte

Karl Lisovsky

Eric Liner

Krista Schwimmer

TINA CORCORAN

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Donations!!!

We SURVIVE

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Donations!!!

Mail: Venice Beachhead, PO Box 2, Venice, CA 90294

Beachhead Collective Staff:

Eric Ahlberg, Anthony Castillo, Greta Cobar, Don Geagan, Mary Getlein, Ronald McKinley, Krista Schwimmer, Alice Stek.

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. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry or graphics of interest to the Venice community.

The staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor on the Beachhead. The printing is financed by ads, subscribers and donations. The art, poetry, and copy of any sort work express the opinions of the individual contributors and are not necessarily the views of the Beachhead Collective.

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Venice Beach Oceanarium

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By Kratie Schwinmer

On an evening when many residents were out celebrating St. Patrick’s day at local bars, perhaps even “drowning the shamrock” at the end of the night, a small, but vocal group of concerned citizens attended the monthly Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) Board meeting held at Westminster Elementary School.

Chairing the meeting that night was Marc Saltzberg, Vice President of the Board, rather than President Mike Bonin a.k.a. the Dictator of Time. Without the Dictator of Time, community voices were heard sometimes even going over the normal strict one minute time without any scoldings.

The agenda included important matters such as a ReCodeLA Presentation; a Land Use and Planning Committee (LUPC) Short Term Rental Presentation, and a motion concerning an Interim Control Ordinance (ICO) for the Venice Coastal Zone.

The first of the presentations was ReCodeLA, given by Sharon Cummins, Zoning Advisory Committee Co-Chair. According to the ReCodeLA’s website, LA is in desperate need of a “comprehensive revision” of their zoning code which dates back to 1946, and has grown from a “simple, 84-page pamphlet to an unwieldy 600 plus page book.”

This update of the zoning code is basing itself around form based code. In form based code, Cummins said, there is a direct relationship between the building of the city to its environment rather than sorting specific uses for specific building types.” According to Cummins, “form based code is usually a means of regulating development to achieve a specific urban form.” Now in its second year of a five year work plan, ReCodeLA has a cast of thousands, including fifteen consultants who recently recoded Denver.

From the start, Cummins reassured the community that “specific plans will stay specific plans.” Although what Cummins shared was somewhat complex, she stated that it was “critically important to be introduced to it” as it would define how neighbor- hoods looked.

Like the majority of current development through Los Angeles, and Los Angeles coastal cities, ReCodeLA does nothing to address the vulnerable, the displaced, and possibly even the working class. For instance, conflicts can happen on how to protect “jobs generating lands”. Land grabs have included flipping industrial areas into residential homes, as in the case of Santa Fe Lot.

When asked by Board members about such issues as “less expensive housing” and the thousands of homeless downtown, Cummins had no answers. Although sympathetic, she said that ReCodeLA was not the answer to these questions. Low income, very low income, and even working force housing would need to be subsidized. ReCodeLA has no inclusionary zoning ordinance. “What ReCode is doing is addressing the Code alphabet soup, the pattern making, making it to a form based zone and creating a website. We are not rezoning the City,” Sharon stated.

As for the thousands of homeless downtown? Cummins told the story of how one city planner commented that they “have given away every negotiating tool except for parking” and have not gotten a lot of low income housing or housing for the homeless—just three projects in total. Although Cummins called a potential displacement of the homeless “cruel”, her lack of answers was not comforting.

Cummins concluded by saying that Central City and Central City North will be the first to be recoded. Following on the heels of the ReCodeLA presentation was a brief, powerful presentation on the relation- ship of Airbnb to the housing crisis in both Venice and Los Angeles.

Judy Goldman, Chair of LUPC’s Short Term Rental Work Group, began by stating that “No matter how you might feel about short term rentals, the issue affects us as a community and I believe warrants more education and vigorous debate.” Goldman then introduced a video, created from the research of her work group and a recent, 49 page report released by the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE). She also credited James Adams with helping put it together.

Entitled “Short Term Rentals and the Venice Housing Crisis,” the video was no more than five minutes; yet, between the staggering statistics and the remake Seeger song, “Where Have All the Neighbors Gone?”, it had the punch of a mixed martial art’s fighter. Did you know, for instance, that in Venice as many as 12 percent of all housing has become Airbnb units, all without public approval? Or that there are 360 Airbnb units per square mile in Venice?

The majority of these so-called shares are run by commercial management companies. Companies like Globe Home and Condos (GHC) that has 92 listings; Venice Suites, with 32 rental units; and Air Venice with 60+ homes! Shockingly, these “De facto hotels” are even sprouting in rent controlled apartments.

Not only is development demolishing our beachfront and our neighborhoods, it is also taking away a chunk of what remains: “The 7,316 units taken off the rental market by Airbnb is equivalent to seven years of affordable housing construction in Los Ange- les.”

Goldman concluded by encouraging community members to let Council- member Mike Bonin know how they feel.

The third agenda item that night related to development issues was a motion to draft an Interim Control Ordinance (ICO) for the Venice Coastal Zone (VCZ). The motion re- quires that LUPC immediate draft an ICO “in order to assure that development prior to and during the cur- rent ongoing coastal planning effort to prepare the Venice Local Coastal Program (LC) does not prejud- ice, impede or negate the goals and policies of the ultimate certified LC.”

The motion easily passed. Just eight days later, on March 25, the Los Angeles City Council passed its own ICO, a victory for some neighborhoods, but ironically not for the Venice Coastal Zone. Introduced on May 16, 2014 by Councilmember Koretz, the ordi- nance helps slow the mansionization happening around the city by prohibiting “the issuance of build- ing permits for the construction of one-family dwell- ings on RA, RS, R2, and R3 zoned lots in designated neighborhoods where the proposed construction does not meet certain neighborhood specific criteria.”

Fifteen neighborhoods were chosen due to the rate of construction in them is greater than that of city wide. Although Mar Vista/East Venice is one of the neighborhoods, despite the proliferation of develop- ment West of Lincoln Boulevard, the VCZ is glaringly missing.

With the count- less meetings through the past few years regarding the hyper-gentrification of Venice, and the huge outcry from the residents, it is truly perplexing why Councilmember Bonin does not sup- port the community efforts to improve the kind of development. On his website, under “Venice Beach Solu- tions” Bonin states that “Venice has two big problems: homelessness and crime.” Nowhere does he even men- tion the obscene rate of development. Nowhere does he truly connect the housing shortages with tenants being evicted due to these developments. Nowhere does he ac- knowledge that the over-saturation of alcohol licenses, connected to the development hap- pening, contributes to the crime he wants to stop. In- stead, he continues, “It is cruel to equate the two issues and to criminalize homelessness, but it is foolish to think

the two issues do not at times intersect." One of the legends connected to Saint Patrick is that he chased the snakes out of Ireland. Taken at face value, this deed makes Saint Patrick a hero. Ireland, however, did not have snakes; the banishment of the snakes refers to Saint Patrick’s successful conquest of the Druid peoples and their pagan ways as snakes were associated once with wisdom, healing, and divination. Venice is not a Celtic land, but the analogy is fitting. What the City of Los Angeles calls snakes, many long time residents of Venice call sacred. And, if the VNC is truly the Neighborhood Council that eve- ryone looks to, then let’s see them take real action in response to the over-saturation of Airbnb short-term rentals and the hyper-gentrification of the coastal zone. Or, we’ll all be soon singing, “Where Have All the Neighbors Gone?”

Feel like giving Councilmember Mike Bonin a piece of your mind? email him at mike.bonin@lacity.org.

Want to watch the “Short Term Rentals and the Housing Crisis in Venice” video? Go to: http://youtube.be/1qjRug4Jy4

Suffer from “Ophidiophobia”? Move to Hawaii, Ireland, Iceland, New Zealand or Antarctica. There are no snakes there—at least, the reptilian kind.

**March 17 VNC Meeting**

**Venice Local Coastal Program (LC) does not prejud- ice, impede or negate the goals and policies of the ultimate certified LC.**

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**In stead, he continues, “It is cruel to equate the two issues and to criminalize homelessness, but it is foolish to think**
By Jim Smith

We never even learned the way the Vietnamese write the name of their country (Viet Nam), before we lost the war.

It was 40 years ago, April 30, that TV viewers witnessed our Vietnamese lackeys being kicked away from overheard Hues as the helicopters fled from the land our rulers thought they could easily invade and conquer.

It was 40 years ago, that shocked Americans saw on their TV sets those same helicopters being dumped into the sea because our offshore fleet didn’t have room to park. The Vietnamese had disregarded their own man-cargo who had begged or bribed their way out of Viet Nam.

And it was 40 years ago that a dedicated people, who wanted nothing more than freedom and independence, regained their country from the blue-eyed invaders.

We Americans are still struggling to regain our country from the bankers and generals who forced on us so many military adventures, then and now. This “little” adventure in South East Asia cost us $58,303 dead and 303,644 wounded physically. We all know that many more were wounded emotionally. PVS - Post Vietnam Syndrome - is a serious, and often lifelong, malady.

U.S. casualties were small in comparison with those of the Vietnamese who lost more than three million soldiers and civilians. The effects of Agent Orange continue to plague those unfortunate enough to have been in this beautiful land during the Sixties and Seventies. Land mines and defoliation persist through Viet Nam.

The arrival of boards of racist U.S. soldiers on the heels of departing, and defeated, French soldiers meant that the constant warfare in the Sixties and Seventies on the Vietnamese by the Japanese, French and Americans would now reach 35 years.

After so many years of atrocities, the Vietnamese must be profoundly affected. After all, Vietnamese Lives Matter. Their only consolation is that they kicked out the most powerful country in the world. On the other hand, nearly every one in America was affected, whether they went to Viet Nam, or not. U.S. draftees in particular, hated the government that sent them, and went through hell in an effort to “stop communism.” They found their way to Vietnam, and Thai marijuana, which they promptly imported in duffle bags when they returned home.

Meanwhile, the formerly passive youth of America had a group epiphany that it was better to live a good life here, than be taken away to Viet Nam. Street legalize was my experience.

The student strike of May 1970 shut down more than 500 universities and was the largest strike in U.S. history. Perhaps more frightening to our ruling class than the protests of any other generation were the words of Free Speech leader, Mario Savio: “you’ve got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the levers, upon all the apparatus…upon the wheels…upon the levers, upon all the apparatus; you’ve got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon all the apparatus…upon the wheels…upon the levers, upon all the apparatus!”

Later, I went to Viet Nam in 2011 and was greeted by friendliness, not the hostility I was dreading. Due to the millions who died in the “American War” and the population explosion, Viet Nam is now a very youthful country. The war that still haunts the American psyche is called “grandfather’s war” by the kids there.

Some of the anti-war veterans returned to humdrum lives in the corporate machine, and have bought into the ideology of this dying empire. Others still heed the words of Free Speech leader, Mario Savio: “you’ve got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the wheels…upon the levers, upon all the apparatus, and you’ve got to make it stop!”

And make it stop, we will - someday.

When they are in motion or making a turn, the hundreds of closely packed motorbikes give the appearance of a carefully coordinated drill team, all lining into the curve at the same angle.

Viet Nam, a third-world country, has a lower percentage of people living in poverty than does the U.S., according to the CIA Fact Book. As a country officially building socialism, Viet Nam has a large safety net including health care, housing and pensions. All this has been done without the U.S. contributing a penny in war reparations.

Now, 40 years on from our collective nightmare, we can begin to look at the war from a historical perspective. Has it had a lasting impact on American society? I would say, emphatically yes. Take a look at the oh-so-bland 1950s. Then take a look at the Sixties. There were other major events, of course. The civil rights movement, the women’s movement, a Native American movement, the assassinations, the beginnings of an LGBT movement, and many more. But all of them were inextricably linked to the Viet Nam war.

The pro-war faction among the 1 percenters never learned the lesson of Viet Nam. They have continued to trample upon people’s lives in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, and are now poking a stick at the Russian Bear. The Victory-in-Vietnam group and Lyndon Johnson’s so-called “Wise Men” have become today’s neo-conservatives - now running the country no matter who is president. They, quite simply, believe America should rule the world. That pipe dream will end up just like the Viet Nam war did, but how many more must die?

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And make it stop, we will - someday.

Peoples’ Victory

By Jim Smith

It was 40 years ago
On April 30th
When the people won and the military ran.

As the people, men and women, marched into Saigon to claim again their land

The invaders escaped from the rooftops and threw their helicopters into the China sea

The American War was won with blood like just the French and Japanese wars.

Today, Vietnam is free to make its own mistakes, or not... There is no fear of sudden death from the sky.

The wind whips through the trees. Ho, Ho, Ho.
What's happening with the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker? Taking so long? It's been fourteen years since the idea first came about, to memorialize the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln in the wake of the relocation of over 1,000 persons of Japanese ancestry, forcibly removed from their homes and businesses in Venice, Santa Monica, and Malibu, by only what- ever else they could carry. They cooperated with the federal government’s “military necessity” line, in accordance with Executive Order 9066, signed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, to demonstrate their patriotism. Executive Order 9066 authorized the military to purify the West Coast states of Washington, Oregon, and California of U.S. citizens and permanent residents who looked like the enemy. It amounted to a blanket curfew, a naval base in Pearl Harbor. Hawai'i on December 7, 1941. No due process, no writ of habeas corpus, just a sweeping violation of Constitutional rights based on ethnic prejudice, economic covetousness, and political expediency.

The Venice Peace and Freedom Party first took up the idea of a memorial to the Japanese American internment and evacuation and incarceration in the wake of the September 11, 2001 jet plane attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Virginia, and the one diverted to a field in Pennsylvania. Muslims and Middle Easterners, or people perceived as such, suffered harassment, power and property dam- age, and became targets of demands for their mass identification, imprisonment, or deportation. Alarmèd by such prejudice, Venice activists and artists joined the Venice Peace and Freedom Party’s call to remem- ber the harrowing fate of AmericanJapanese ancestry on the West coast at the beginning of the World War II. What had happened in 1942 should never happen again, to any minority group, based solely on ethnicity, religion, or national origin, they vowed.

The campaign for a permanent marker stalled with the death of the lead political activist on the Los Angeles City Council. Then, the April 2009 edition of the Free Venice Beachhead published the April 25, 2009 letter from the Japanese American Citizens League, and their families with boxes and sacks at their feet, lined up along the north side of Venice Boule- van, to wait for the next bus to take them to the Beachhead and featured an article by Scott Yuda, Jr. about his aunt Akiko Yagi, his great grandfather George Inagaki, and Inagaki’s friend and business associate Mike Matsaka, and their personal experiences with property loss, sti- fling heat in desert barracks, and the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which became the most decorated unit in American military history. Masako campaigned for the all-Japanese American 442nd, and enlisted volunteers FROM INSIDE the ten War Relocation Authority Camps that imprisoned their Japan-born parents and American-born younger broth- ers and sisters. In a July 16, 2010 letter titled, “Less We Forget,” the Beachhead encouraged readers to write to then-Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl, 11th District, in his support of the community’s concept of a “marker, monument, or sculpture” at the site where “one of the grossest violations of civil liberties in this country’s history took place,” as an “appropri- ating reminder of how easy it is to lose our precious democratic rights if we are unaware.”

Scott Pine, while a junior at Venice High School, brought the April 2009 edition of the Beachhead to Mrs. Hayashibara’s 11th grade U.S. History class for a current event discussion with historical relevance to what the class had been studying. Mrs. Hayashibara took up the Beachhead’s challenge to contact Coun- cilmember Rosendahl, but no response. A year later, during Experience, then a high school graduation requirement. Stu- dents wrote to Rosendahl, and cc’d their emails to the City Council meeting to make a presentation, and sending a change of venue request to fifteen to twenty-five students to City Hall in downtown Los Angeles on May 29, 2009. Student Felix Barron represented the group of students by reading his letter to Rosendahl before the City Council. Barron’s letter acknowledged that the memory of the Japanese American internment had slowly begun to fade, and with a permanent marker or monument, the legacy of the Japanese American in- ternment could be remembered, so the same mistakes would not be made. The City Council referred the motion to the Board of Public Works, which granted its approval on Octo- ber 20, 2010. The City Council approved the motion on November 2, 2010.

But wait! There are many other requirements for a nine foot six inch obelisk of solid black granite, with a three foot by three foot base, as the volunteer Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker (VJAMM) Committee learned. The VJAMM Commit- tee diligently complied with the various rules and regu- lations required before the VJAMM could be installed, and researched professional referrals for civil, struc- tural, and geotechnical engineering; prepared docu- mentation and plans, and submitted applications which resulted in the following actions:

Then-State Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield, 53rd District, and then-State Senator Ted Lieu, 28th District, co-sponsored Assembly Concurrent Resolution 46 in April 2011, keying that the California Department of Transportation grant an encroachment permit for the VJAMM. The VJAMM Committee made its initial application to CalTrans for an encroachment permit in April 2012, which was denied, pending additional re- quirements. On September 12, 2012, the Los Angeles City Council granted the VJAMM Committee’s original motion, proposed by the Public Works Com- mittee, to “INSTRUCT and AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) to negotiate the neces- sary agreement with the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) for the maintenance of this memorial monument within the roadway right- of-way.” Due to the design change from an obelisk with a concrete core with granite slabs, to a solid granite obel-isk, the VJAMM Committee amended their application for an encroachment permit in February 2015, also pending additional requirements which the VJAMM Committee is working to resolve.

The California Coastal Commission granted a waiver to the VJAMM on November 15, 2012, as the VJAMM will not interfere with views or access to the coastline. The State Office of Historic Preservation of the Department of Parks and Recreation, concurred on September 13, 2013, with the National Park Serv- ice’s conclusion of No Historic Properties Affected by the VJAMM project.

Ralph Sullaway, Inc. conducted a soils test at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln on No- vember 20, 2013 and concluded that the “proposed memorial obelisk is feasible from the standpoint of geotechnical practice as the subject site.” Digalet, also onsite on November 20, 2013, found no utilities under the installation site. Sullaway Engineering originally submitted its structural engineering calculations on February 12, 2014. After the Los Angeles City’s Bu- reau of Engineering indicated that the structural Engineer- ment required changes, Sullaway Engineering resub- mitted revised structural calculations, and the BOE’s Structural Engineer approved the project on February 24, 2015. In the meantime, the Cultural Affairs Committee of the City of Los Angeles granted conditioned final approval to the VJAMM on August 21, 2014.


And of course, the VJAMM Committee embarked on an intense fundraising campaign, beginning in Sep- tember 2010, which has raised $100,000 towards the VJAMM’s fabrication, installation, and educational outreach. The National Park Service’s Japanese Ameri- can Confinement Sites Program granted the VJAMM Committee $50,000 in 2:1 matching funding (the VJAMM had raised $25,000) in March 2012. Then-Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl became the first to donate $5,000 towards the VJAMM in April 2011. Then-Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, 3rd District, became the first Los Angeles County Supervisor to donate $5,000 in February 2013, followed by Supervi- sor Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District in August 2013, and then by Supervisor Don Knabe, 4th District in Feb- ruary 2014. Then-Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin, 11th District, donated $5,000 in March 2014, and then-California State Senator Ted Lieu, 28th Dist- rict, donated $5,000 in April 2014. The Venice Neigh- borhood Council had voted unanimously to support the VJAMM at the June 15, 2010 meeting; the VNC voted to donate $1,000, on the recommendation of the pro- motion Project funds at the May 24, 2011 meeting. The VJAMM Committee held a benefit at Beyond Ba-rocque on November 29, 2011, which raised $5,000 from VIP sushi reception, entry donations, DVD donations, various raffles of donated goods, and a silent auction of donated goods. We received $500 from the Japanese American Culture Center, Southern California Social Science As- sociation, King Fahad Mosque, Manzanar Committee, Nikkei Student Union for Civil Rights and Redress, Asian American Citizens League, West Los Angeles United Methodist Church.

So, between drumming up support in writing, raising funds, and educational outreach in partnership with the Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress Committee, which conducted a workshop for educators at the Constitution Day Conference at the Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley on September 7, 2013 at the invitation of the VJAMM Committee; and patiently (and wait- ing) through the bureaucracies at the city and state lev- els, with guidance from kindly city and state officials, the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee had raised over $70,000. Many of the Hama Sushi staff have also volunteered their time to help serve bento box lunches. This year, the VJAMM fundraiser at Hama Sushi will take place on Thursday, April 23. Pro- gram begins at 11 am and ends at noon, when the pre- ordered bento box lunches will be distributed through 2 pm. Take out or eat in, but place your orders in ad- vance. Please see ad in this issue of the Free Venice Beachhead.

By Phyliss Hayashihara
By Eric Ahlberg

Let’s face it you dumpster diving bohemians, you are in a hot property market, millions of investment dollars are aimed at ousting you and putting up a monster mansion in the place of your humble abodes where the dudes and dudettes abide. Investment-hungry politicians are not much help, they are lobbied and they lobby where they can, with a handshake and careful campaign donation, without the slightest smell of quid pro quo, until the connections are drawn by their actions.

The Canals became a hot market after the canal reconstruction. Some of my friends had lived there for 40 or more years, in their little bungalows, nearly overgrown with plants. They were very upset by the reconstruction project because each parcel was burdened with a portion of the cost. Now they are best friends with people who live in the 3 story monsters, because, hey, monsters can be your friend. Scarer than monsters however are the ghost mansions. Owned, but rarely or never lived in. Somebody with too much money just not caring whether a house lives in a community, or it is dead.

Tearing down bungalows and building monster mansions, in addition to driving up density and blocking views, is a great burden to the neighbors. Construction noise, debris and traffic in an area without street parking. There is already street congestion on Dell during commuting hours, and often on the weekends, sometimes tour buses. Summer weekends get worse, and hot summer weekends with beach-day radio promotion make traffic in the Canals even worse. There is only one way in and one way out.

When three adjacent lots around the corner from Deborah Groening’s house came up for sale, she purchased them, to keep them from being turned into monster mansions. She has recruited and hired her neighbors to help her rebuild the three lots into an art community angel for honoring and valuing a beautiful community, and for knowing that it is all about the people who live here.

Bookending Deborah’s three lots are two monster mansions. The first, SE corner of Linnie Canal and Dell, is a three-story metal and glass and concrete monstrosity and 100% exhibitionist. It has been under construction for 10 years, unoccupied. With such a giant jerk-off of a house, somebody should be exposing themselves in it. Every house is a story, beginning with its design and ending in its demolition. Why waste a house? Who can afford to just drag this project out for 10 years? At the East end of the three lots is a big three story, white stucco box, also unoccupied. Since tear-downs sell for $2M now, the affordability goes to the housing rich, because if you are really in the big money, you just can’t own too many houses in hot markets. Maybe you’ll visit it someday.

So look Dicks, see the free market in action, driving the cutthroat wars of the dollars, wasting, wasting. Then look again, that the spirit of a community lives in its commons.

By Sam Clay, Suzy Williams, and Eric Ahlberg

Sing to the tune of Day After Day (an old folk song)

Demo, De-e-e-e mo
Bulldozers come and they flatten your home.
Demo, De-e-e-e mo
Developer come and a taka you home.
End of month comes your money is spent
Developer come and a taka you home
Landlord comes and he raises your rent
Developer come and a taka you home
I floor 2 floor 3 floors more!
Developer come and a taka you home
six foot seven foot eight foot fence
Developer come and a taka you home
Maka more traffic and maka more dense
Developer come and a taka you home

Well the people get together gonna shut them down
Daylight come we’re gonna own this town
We are fighting to save it, because it’s our town
Developer gone because we say “No More!”
Demo-De-e-e-e-n-o
Developer gone because we say “No More!”

No More Fiesta, thanks to Greedy Developers

By Joe Delaplaine

Jasmin Camarena works as a waitress at La Fiesta Brava, which her father owns and runs. Her entire family has worked there for the past twenty-one years at the same location in Venice, on the North-West corner of 4th Street and Rose Avenue. The restaurant is a small, comfortable, local favorite that has always served great Mexican food at (in my opinion) ridiculously affordable prices, especially when compared to the recent wave of “up-scale” restaurants attempting to gentrify Rose and Abbott Kinney Avenues. Think “Superba” among others.

Until this year, the property owner, Miriam (unknown last name), also ran “Venice Ranch Market” next door to La Fiesta Brava, sharing the same lot. However, Miriam recently closed the Ranch Market and plans to close La Fiesta Brava and develop the entire property to a new developer who already closed the Ranch Market and plans to close La Fiesta Brava and develop the entire property into a larger, new “high-end” restaurant.

This new owner also informed the Camarena family that they will have to close immediately upon his plans being approved. Jasmin, her brothers and most of her family have worked at La Fiesta Brava for the past two decades and know the local community well. In fact, while working at the restaurant Jasmin’s aunt met and eventually married her husband of nineteen years. It probably helped that he also lived across the street and was a regular customer.

Like other, long-time members of the community, the Camarenas have seen too many wealthy developers relentlessly attempt to “clean up” Venice, first by buying affordable properties in established neighborhoods, then immediately pricing the existing tenants out by raising rents or refusing to renew businesses leases, until nothing of the original neighborhood remains.

Based on the pace of recent development, Rose Avenue seems destined to turn into the next “Third Street Promenade”, unless the local community presses the City to keep long-time, family-run businesses like La Fiesta Brava open. A write-in campaign and petition to both the California Coastal Commission and the Los Angeles City Council has begun, but requires A LOT of community support immediately, seeing as how the new property owner plans to close the restaurant as soon as possible. Copies of the petition are available inside the restaurant and the community’s encouraged to contact the City directly.
Evans Haas – Fair Winds and Following Seas

By Ken Haas

Evans Haas, a salty character on the Venice Beach scene, passed away at the age of 83 on March 16. Born in Manhattan and raised in Culver City, Evans spent most of his life in Venice, so much so that he became known as the King (or Mayor – depends on who you talk to!) of Venice Square (AKA Hamburger Square, at Washington and Pacific). A sailor, an artist, a free spirit, Evans fell on hard times, and spent most of the last 25 years without a home. Business owners and other locals took care of him, fed him, gave him rides, clothes, let him shower at their homes, and trusted him to house-sit.

Highly intelligent, articulate, generous and extremely witty, Evans represented vestiges of the old Venice. While homeless, he lived in a van parked in back of the Venice Bike and Skates, owned and operated by Carolyn Anderson, a Venice native. Carolyn's parents owned the Bait and Tackle shop housed first at the end of Venice Pier and later where Venice Bike and Skates is currently located. Carolyn, a benevolent soul, and Arlene Matteson, another Venice resident and dear friend of Evans, were always looking out for him. Arlene helped Evans secure senior housing at Del Rey Square for the last two years of his life through the St. Joseph Center.

Almost daily, Evans was a fixture at Hinano Café, his throne the third bar stool from the entrance. Thanks to local artist Barbara Mastej, Evans is immortalized in her painting in oil, Carlos Vargas, Bar-tender at Hinano’s. Evans’s signature is etched on one of the original round resin tables in the back of the café.

Evans is survived by his son, Ken Haas of North Bend, WA and his daughter, Tina Odum of Burbank, CA. In lieu of flowers, the family requests any donations (tax-deductible) be made to the St. Joseph Center.

For more information, please visit www.cheapestactors.com.
Community Ferments As Alcohol Licenses Multiply

By Krista Schwimmer

In recent months, violent incidents in Venice have garnered even mainstream media’s attention. Some residents claim violence has risen due to transients and homeless encampments. Others resist the link between too many alcohol licenses and increased crime rates, a link backed up by numerous studies, according to the executive director of the Venice Main Street Project.

With a total of 108 alcohol licenses, Venice has reached a tipping point. According to the Westside Impact Project, the density of alcohol sales outlets in Venice — 34 per square mile — is among the highest in Los Angeles County, where the overall average is four outlets per square mile.

To address solutions to this insane number of alcohol licenses, on March 11, the Institute for Public Strategies held a public workshop at the Oakwood Recreation Center. Guest speakers included three women from the Institute itself: Brenda Simmons, Executive Vice-President, Sarah Blanch, Project Manager, and Tiffany Burgess, Westside Impact Project Manager. Also on the speaking panel were Tricia Keane, Director of Planning for Los Angeles, and Claudia Martin, Neighborhood Prosecutor for Venice.

Simmons began by stating that the Institute works with communities to solve alcohol related problems and are not “alcohol nazis.” Funded by LA County, the Venice Coastal Zone, and Santa Monica, focusing on the retail availability of alcohol, Blanch stated they were there in response to the community’s frustration around the ALC licensing process locally and at the state level. “We think the system is broken in a couple of areas,” Blanch said. They were there to talk about the community might work together to fix the system. These solutions, she said, were at a local, not state level.

Two more solutions were presented by first Tricia Keane, and then Brenda Simmons. Keane introduced and explained the Condition Compliance Unit (CCU), a program brought forth by Councilmember Mike Bonin. The CCU would oversee compliance when conditions are placed on permit project approval, making sure that the conditions were being applied and enforced. The unit would also keep track of permit conditions and expiration dates so permits do not lapse.

A condition of compliance would first be approved by the Conditional Use Beverage (CUB) permits and Conditional Use Entertainment (CUE) permits, eventually the City’s Attorney’s Office would set conditions attached to approving permits. “It puts the responsibility of – for lack of a better word – policing the permit conditions on the Planning Department. It does not put it on individuals who have to keep close track of a business because we’re supposed to be doing that for you.” (One has to wonder how the Planning Department, working with Building and Safety Department that led Venice to this point, could ever be trusted.)

Keane seemed confident that the CCU would soon receive funding from Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM), where it is slated to go next.

“Although regulations would apply for businesses violating conditions, Keane said the businesses would have the chance to first fix their problems. Claudia Martin added that if there is an out-of-compliance element, the penalty would first be probation, followed by fines. For minor offenses however, the top amount for a fine is only $1,000 and 6 months in contempt, hardly deterrent for successful bars and restaurants.

The CCU also do nothing to help with current developments, such as 259 Hampton, that have already slipped through the City’s greasy fingers.

Simmons introduced a second solution to curbing alcohol licenses locally, something rarely used. Called Public Compliance or Necessity, (PCN) is a state law that places the onus on a business to prove there is a need for an alcohol license. If a city denies Public Compliance, ABC cannot grant them an alcohol license. PCN’s come into play in high crime areas (120% of the city’s average); or, in areas where there is a high concentration of licenses. Simmons stated that almost every tract in Los Angeles is over-saturated. Two major backers of PCNs are that they cannot be used for restaurants and any criteria for determining them is, according to Simmons, “very arbitrary.” So, PCN’s would not help the community in its fight against Sauce on Hampton and Gjusta’s Bakery. To address this second concern, Simmons announced the creation of a volunteer group to work with City Council to help set conditions for PCN’s. A sign-up sheet was then passed around the room.

Simmons’ last solution is the CCU would expedite things. As it exists,” and once more, promoted the CCU, standing their “absolute frustration with the current process.” She assured the community that she understood their “absolute frustration with the current process as it exists,” and once more, promoted the CCU, saying this unit would expedite things.

“Actually, I don’t think anybody can deny that.” As Venice struggles to maintain some kind of connection to her heritage, Bonin is acting too late. “How can you, all of you, expect us to have hope, to have faith, to try and support what you say you’re trying to do?” Wrede asked. “The city is not there for us. I don’t think anybody can deny that.”

By Ivonne Guzman

On February 4, 2015 an appeal was heard by the Venice City Council Meeting, Councilman Mike Bonin made null and void the hearing held February 4 by the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission (WLA APC) by exercising Chapter Section 245 of the City Charter.

The project has been referred to the Los Angeles City Planning Commission and will heard on April 14, 2015 at 2:30 pm and move on to the FULL City Council thereafter. This action gives the project an opportunity to proceed forward and dose the authority of the WLA APC and the time and effort spent by all those who attended the hearing, sent in letters and participated in the process.

In the matter of 758 Sunset, the West LA APC considered four issues — a Tentative Parcel Map, a Coastal Development Permit (CDP), a Mello Act Determination, and a Zoning Administrator’s Adjustment. The commission approved the Parcel Map, Coastal Development Permit (CDP), the Mello Act Determination, but denied the Adjustment. The denial of the Adjustment effectively halted the project. However, since then, the Planning Department and the City Attorney have determined that the request for the Adjustment was not required, and the Planning Department should not have advised the applicant to seek it.

COUNCILMAN MIKE BONIN TAKES JURISDICTION OVER A SMALL LOT SUBDIVISION CASE THAT WAS DENIED BY THE WEST LOS ANGELES AREA PLANNING COMMISSION

By Ivonne Guzman

On February 4, 2015 an appeal was heard by the the West Los Angeles Planning Area Commission for a Small Lot Subdivision case at 758 Sunset Ave in the Venice Coastal Zone.

The hearing lasted over four hours. After much deliberation AND community input the appeal was upheld and the project was turned down.

On Tuesday March 31, 2015 in the Supplemental Agenda of the City Council Meeting, Councilman Mike Bonin called for and heard on April 14, 2015 at 2:30 pm and move on to the FULL City Council thereafter. This action gives the project an opportunity to proceed forward and dose the authority of the WLA APC and the time and effort spent by all those who attended the hearing, sent in letters and participated in the process.

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There is no mention of other facts which would warrant denial of the project, such as lack of notice to the tenants, the need for more parking and compatibility with the existing neighborhood.

When the WLA APC approved the Coastal Development Permit and Tentative Parcel Map it was with the understanding that denial of the Adjustment would stop the project. Now it is being made to appear that the tenants, the need for more parking and compatibility with the existing neighborhood, and the impact these rapid changes are having on the natural habitats of birds, bees, butterflies, etc. This alone warrants a closer look at the long term effects of the Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance, which allows development that covers every square inch of a parcel.

Support those who have dedicated their lives to protecting our neighborhoods, and quality of life in Venice. Please contact Mike Bonin at mke.bonin@lacity.org and sharon.gin@lacity.org subject line: Council file 15-0362 ask him to uphold the appeal for 758 Sunset, and get this project going! Attend the April 14 hearing at City Hall, 230 N. Main Street, L.A., at: 2:30 pm.
For Juan Carlos

"Transient found dead."

That is what the papers say. Well known transient found on the side of the road. He was found in Malibu, on the beach, they found him alone.

They don't know how he died. They don't know where he died. They didn't carry him and left him on the rocks. The sand and water had become his grave. But what the papers should have said was "Venice Beach local found dead."

What the papers should have said was "Well known Artist was found dead."

He was not just a transient with no name.

He was born in Costa Rica but for more than 20 years the streets of Venice had become his home. He earned his living selling art on the boardwalk. Using disregarded coke and pepsi cans he created recycled tin aeroplanes all made by hand. They were spectacular. They were original.

They were one of a kind.

I wonder how many people across the globe have one of his aeroplanes somewhere in their home? How many have been given as a gift of love? or as a distraction for a kid as a toy for fun? How many are just a symbol, a souvenir, have one of his aeroplanes somewhere in their home? They don't know where he died.

"Transient found dead."

"Venice Beach local found dead."

But what the papers should have said was "Well known Artist was found dead."

"Scott Wannberg," you pulled out afterwards, "Tell me again the name of that guy. I said "I Rejoice — When I Hear Your Voice"

I Rejoice — When I Hear Your Voice

I don't need no G.P.S. to lead me straight to YOU! And, I don't need No TWEET or TEXT to tell me what to do!

Don't send me big INSTAGRAMS or SELFIES — from your phone — Just, Call me... Call me... Call me... When you're all alone! Don't LIKE me on your FACEBOOK, or Follow me on TWITTER!

I like your "face-to-face look" — (Some) Follow me to the River. Or, Meet me at THE BREWERY, The Cafe, or THE BAR — Just, Call me... Call me... Call me... From ANYWHERE you are!

Your voice is my connection — to your sweet perfection.

I close my eyes and realize — how close I am to YOU!

Your Voice, and your Vibrations — are my inspirations.

Don't ever think, some other link, can move me like you do...

I don't need no G.P.S.!

I got your ESP! I got yours and I got mine — "That's all we really need!"

Tho, I like your PSYCHIC HUGS, and PSYCHIC KISSES too...

I Rejoice — When I Hear Your Voice — Just because it's YOU!

Love,

Tina Catalina Corcoran

I sing back

Croons to me in her madness

Rolling ahead

At eventide

Shopping Cart Lady

By Steve Goldberg

At estate

The house lights of the world are dim in purple silver

The dried old woman of the street

Rolling ahead

Her home of woven steel

Cooons to me in her madness

I sing back

This Paper Is A Poem
Bed and Beer
By Carol Fondiller

This is a re-print from the July 1969 edition

According to the long-term tenants, some of whom have lived in the Ellison for over 15 years, 15 of the 60 units in the Ellison have been “rehabbed” into youth hostel accommodations. So 15 units times $1,768 a month equals $26,520 a month. If these 15 units at $98 per 4 people in a room were only fully occupied for three months out of the year, the landlords would be making $79,580 a year – taking into account the minimum repairs the landlords would have to do, payment of commissions to people who recruit the young travelers, and minimum wages to the manager who oversees the youth hostel section of the Ellison might be the most spectacular in this new phenomenon. It’s not the only one. There are two hostels on Brooks Av., one on S. Venice Blvd., and one in the Oxford Triangle area – all of the above are located in residential zones.

Perhaps the landlords are on the lookout for good tenants; it has nothing to do with landlords versus tenants. This is, what it has always been, Big Money versus all of us.

So let the politicians and their Big Money buddies be put on notice. Venice is organizing to fight back, to protect our community and take back our affordable housing. By Carol Fondiller

According to the long-term tenants, some of whom have lived in the Ellison for over 15 years, 15 of the 60 units in the Ellison have been “rehabbed” into youth hostel accommodations. So 15 units times $1,768 a month equals $26,520 a month. If these 15 units at $98 per 4 people in a room were only fully occupied for three months out of the year, the landlords would be making $79,580 a year – taking into account the minimum repairs the landlords would have to do, payment of commissions to people who recruit the young travelers, and minimum wages to the manager who oversees the youth hostel section of the Ellison might be the most spectacular in this new phenomenon. It’s not the only one. There are two hostels on Brooks Av., one on S. Venice Blvd., and one in the Oxford Triangle area – all of the above are located in residential zones. Perhaps the landlords are on the lookout for good tenants; it has nothing to do with landlords versus tenants. This is, what it has always been, Big Money versus all of us.

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planning about a rehearsing Tunisian rock musician who moved in as a permanent resident, some of the tenants were told that the only thing the owners cared about was that the tenants paid their rent and minded their own business. Councilwoman Galanter’s office is busy trying to find an ordinance that covers hostels in a residential zone. The impact on the surroundings are negative: parking, noise, congestion, fights, etc. The Ellison might be the most spectacular in this new development. It’s not the only one. There are two hostels on Brooks Av., one on S. Venice Blvd., and one in the Oxford Triangle area – all of the above are located in residential zones. Perhaps the landlords are on the lookout for good tenants; it has nothing to do with landlords versus tenants. This is, what it has always been, Big Money versus all of us.

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So let the politicians and their Big Money buddies be put on notice. Venice is organizing to fight back, to protect our community and take back our affordable housing.
Saturday, April 7
10am – Noon Body Heart and Soul Walk. Take a mystery tour with Lisa Green through Venice, experiencing nature, the beings and the elements.
7pm – Songwriters in the Round at Wisteria 10 - 12pm. Inurban Extravaganza hosted by Gabby at the Unurban, Donation.

Sunday, April 8
5pm – First Sunday Open Reading, Featuring Karin Spieritzer, hosted by Steve Goldenman at Beyond Baroque, Donation.

Monday, April 6
7:30pm – Peace and Freedom Party meeting in the Library at Beyond Baroque. Free

Tuesday, April 7
8-10pm. Lulan-Finmegas Wake Reading Club MDR library 4533 Admiralty Way. Free

Wednesday April 8
8pm – Living in Lotus Land: Reading by J.R. Phillips, a Southern California odyssey from the 60s to present day. Beyond Baroque, $10

Thursday, April 9
7:30pm – ‘Rin’ Ho’ Blues with Stefani Valadez, Steve Moos and friends. $10 Unurban
8-10pm – Dutch Newman and the Musical Medlions $10

Friday, April 10
4pm – Noon – Dean of the Reel 50th Birthday Bash, Boat Show. Thru Sunday at Burton Chase Park 13650 Minuteman Way, MDR.

Saturday, April 11
8:30 am – 12:30pm Venice High School Beautification Day.
4pm – KISSL – Noted cartoonist/writer Andre Monnstrom interview at Unurban, Free
7pm – Song Night with Still Gandhis featuring Kevin Williams, Sam Morrow, Mike Stockdale. Wisteria $10
8pm – Beyond Baroque Award Winners Reading, featuring Suzanna Lumina & Elena Karina Byrne. Host: Gail Wrongsky, $10/6
9:30pm – Still Gandhis at Wisteria $10

Sunday, April 12
2pm – Soap Box Poets Open Reading Feature Poets: Jessica Wilson, at Beyond Baroque. Donation $5
6pm – Beyond Baroque 5th Annual Awards Dinner, Suzanne Lumina, and Elena Karina Byrne. Hosted by Benjamin Constantine, with entertainment by Phillip Littell.

Monday, April 13
6-10pm – Documental - Philosophy Films - from Typhoon Townhouse. For $20

Tuesday, April 14
7-9pm – Songwriters in the Round hosted by Dan Navarro with Steve Post, John Bandfeld and TBA Wisteria, $10

Wednesday, April 15
7-10pm – MOM - Media Discussion at Beyond Baroque Free
7pm – Michael Jost at Wisteria $10

Thursday, April 16
7pm – A Night at the Miskinder Arts Club - Fine Art & Music at Beyond Baroque Free
7pm – Venice Beach Central – Nickie Black and Audrey McNamara-Garcia represent at the Unurban

Friday, April 17
7pm – Roses and Cigarettes, Leslie Bouvais, Annette Conlon, Meghan Andrews at Wisteria $10

Saturday, April 18
8pm – 6pm – Trailblazers Premiere. Money makes the world go around and dark comedy is the perfect genre to tackle the business of finance. director Steve Sieckerman, Odyssey Theatre 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd. $30 310-477-20552 Saturday
4:00pm – Rip Rep reads from Always Not There in the Bookstore at Beyond Baroque

Tuesday, April 21
7pm – Venice Neighborhood Council Board Meet at Westminster Elementary.

Wednesday, April 22
7pm – Panamania at Wisteria $10

Thursday, April 23
11am – Program, Lunch until 2pm, Fundraiser for Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker at Hama Sushi 213 Windward Avenue $20 Bento Box. RSVP 310-390-1576
7pm – Allie Bo Bo’s First Great night of R&B and Funk at the Unurban. $10
9:30pm – Orkestar MeZe’ featuring Ellis Hall $10

Saturday, April 25
3-5pm – Collective Talk: A Short Essay on Chi- cano Photography. Discussion about collecting art. SPARC
4pm – Holy Barbarians Teen Workshop, Antology Reading. Donation $5
7-10pm – Jazz Funk Fest, Black Shoe Polish, Fiendly Gims, Fiendly Aidenberg. ++ at Unurban. Free
9:30pm – Brian Auger’s Observion Express at Wit- zend $20
8pm – Beyond Baroque Poetry Contest Winners Reading. $10

Sunday, April 26
2pm – Nebraska Girl Open Reading hosted by Wyatt Underwood and Melissa Alvarado at Beyond Baroque, Signup 1:45pm, Donation $5
4pm-5:30pm – Workshop: Know Thy Characters - From The Inside Out, Analyzing Characters’ Per- sonalities, Actions, and Reactions, workshop by Aimee Liu at Beyond Baroque, RSVP required. Donation $10
6pm – Folkworlks Benefit Concert “Banjo Gal” Donna Lynn Caskey, Rowan Storm, Joe Fontenot & his band, Tom Sauber and Patrick Sauber, at Santa Monica Bay Women’s Club 1214 4th Street, Santa Monica $20
6pm – Amy Umayatsu: The Yellow Door Publica- tion with Special Guest Mong Lan at Be- yond Baroque
6pm – La Poesia Festival: Alicia Partory, Cesar Vallejo, Antonieta Villamil, Ema Chuaquin. Alicia Partory is a survivor from the secret detention camps where about 30,000 Argentinian citizens ‘disappeared’, at Beyond Baroque. Free

Tuesday April 28
7pm – Jazz at Wisteria with Nick Mancini, $10

Friday May 1
8pm – Mason’s Noise Parlor youth program with Charlie Hickey Maya Hernandez and Julian Cor- bett. Host: Songwriter Mason Simon $10 Beyond Baroque

Saturday May 2
8pm – Poetry in Motion: Rick Overton at Beyond Baroque, $20
7:30pm – Still Gandhis, James Brown Tribute at Wisteria $10

Location Guide

- Abbot Kinney Public Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd. 310-821-1769, free.org
- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Boulevard. 310-822-3006, beyondbaroque.org
- Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Avenue. 310-306-1854, electriclodge.org
- G2 Gallery, 1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd. 310-452-2842, g2gallery.com
- Hal’s Bar and Grill, 1349 Abbot Kinney Blvd. 310-390-3165, halbarandgrill.com
- Oakwood Park, 767 California Ave.
- Pacific Resident Theatre, 703 Venice Blvd. 310-822-3102, pacificresidenttheatre.com
- Venice Bistro, 213 Windward Avenue $20 Bento Box.
- Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker at Hama Sushi 213 Windward Avenue $20 Bento Box.
- Venice Oceanarium
- Cooking Class, 52 Windward.
- The Venice Oceanarium

MISCELLANEOUS

- 8:30am, 2nd Friday. Bus Token Distribution. First 40 people in line will receive a free bus ticket. Vera Davis Center. 5-7pm, every Sunday. Vera Davis Center.
- 11pm Wednesday – Open Mic Night, Twentieth Century Church of Christ, Scientist. 132 Brooks Ave. Free.
- 8pm Saturday, 2nd Friday. Burlesque. No Cover.
- 9pm Wednesdays, People’s Potluck at 3rd & Rose. Free.
- 7pm Thursday. Free Food Distribution. Vera Davis Center.
- 10am Sunday. People’s Potluck at 3rd & Rose. Free.
- 7pm Thursday. Free Food Distribution. Vera Davis Center.
- 8pm Sundays People’s Potluck at 3rd & Rose. Feed the People. Volunteer or donate - 424-209- 2777.

ART EXHIBITS

- A Short Essay on Chicano Photography SPARC – call for dinners.
- Ben Jackel: American Imperium, L A Louver
- Nature Photography. G2 Gallery

THEATRE

- “Kalamazoo” at Pacific Resident Theatre until April 8.

Ongoing Events

- OCCUPY VENICE BEACH
  8pm Mondays General Assembly upstairs at Be- yond Baroque
- 8pm Sundays People’s Potluck at 3rd & Rose. Feed the People. Volunteer or donate - 424-209- 2777.

- COMPUTERS
  2:30pm, Mon-Fri. Student/Workshop Zone. Computers, iPads, homework resources and a trained computer aide to assist students grade 4- 12. Free Printing. Abbot Kinney Library.
  Tues/Wed 8-3:00pm, Thurs/Friday 8-5pm. Free Computer User, Vera Davis Center.

- FOOD
  10am Tuesdays, 12:30pm Thursdays, 1pm Fri- days. Free Food Distribution. Vera Davis Center.

- Sign up for Food Stamps (EBT Cards). Vera Davis Center. Call for date and time. 310-305-1865.
- 4pm Saturdays through Wednesdays. Free Vege- tartian Food. OFW & DGA.
- 1:30pm, Thursdays. Free Vegetarian Food. OFW & Sunset.

- KIDS
  11:30am-noon Wednesdays. Toddler Storytime.
  Abbot Kinney Public Library. Free.

- MUSIC
  8pm-12am, Sunday and Monday nights. Hal’s Bar and Grill feature jazz. No cover.
  9pm Wednesdays. Venice Underground Com- edy, Townhouse, No Cover.
  11pm Wednesday – Burlesque, Townhouse, No Cover
  6-8pm, First Fridays. Venice Street Legends.
  7pm Thursdays. Beyond Baroque, Signup 1:45pm, Donation $5.

Get Your Local Event Listed

Your email is safe with us. Email your time, date and a brief description to: free@venicebeachhead.org
ander Fraser, Henry Gage and George Merritt Jones. Some streets around the beach such as were named after these three men. Fraser goes that in January 1904, Kinney and his three remaining partners all agreed to flip a coin to see who would stay in Ocean Park and who would leave and take over some land a ways south of Rose Ave. This land was considered worthless swampy marsh land. The coin was flipped and Kinney won the toss. To everyone’s amazement Kinney took the worthless marsh! He proceeded to clear the land and create his fantasy world that he called Venice of America. Some called it Kinney’s Folly.

Abbot Kinney’s ex partners decided they needed to spruce up their Ocean Park resort to compete with the amazing new Venice with its canals, pier and beautiful new bathhouses. They were turned into cheap apartments. It outlasted many of the other plunges was no more...

The gigantic new bathhouse was made to look like an enormous Moorish mosque. It resembled the Hagia Sofia in Istanbul, Turkey. The indoor sea water pools came to be known as plunges, and this one was called the Venice Bathhouse. It was opened on May 29, 1905. It was the 8th wonder of the world! Just north of the bathhouse the large Hotel Decatur was built. The small Denver Hotel just south of it at Ozone Ave. is now the Israeli Service Center. I still remember the Levin Center many years ago with a second floor. The second floor was a huge bathhouse where the families were received because of earthquake concerns.

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