

unching off the
 r time, we were
 open for Apples
 Espresso Roma,
 the street from
 t in the middle
 When the
 was set up, Jen
 nifer Jansen] came
 hop and said, "It's
 I changed my
 l across the street,
 through my lunch

"Where we live on West Point Loma, it's called the 'war zone.' There's been two people shot within a four-block radius in the last couple of months. There was also a stabbing."

Dandelion is the lead singer of the Ocean Beach reggae band Vegetation. He maintains the only thing worse than a bad crime zone is bad cops in a bad crime zone.

SANDIEGOREADER.COM
Calendar
MUSIC SCENE
blurt
 continued

has an obligation to not just spread positive vibrations but also to speak out about injustice. That includes police behavior.

"They say they are there to serve and protect. I say they are there to harass and neglect. They don't treat you with respect. They feel as if they are better than you. I know you can't generalize a whole group for the action of some, but I haven't met a cop yet in OB you can get along with. Their actions dictate their abuse of power. Everybody in Ocean Beach feels this way."

The all-original Vegetation started as a five-piece band two years ago and grew to seven a year ago. They have released one album, *From the Garden*.

Dandelion says rent increases have made it "harder and harder" to live in Ocean Beach. But the prices haven't changed the area. "If you need help in OB, there's gonna be people there to help you, whether you know them or not. When Daniel [Woodyard, homeless man

called "the Walking Man" who was killed by police] was shot, the whole community came together in protest. People are people regardless of their walk. There is still an OB. There will always be an OB. OB is a heartbeat."

He said all the Ocean Beach locals rose up over Woodyard's death.

"As a community, we walked by police officers, down to the beach to a stage where people united and rallied. OB is a family. I saw Daniel every day.... I knew he was harmless, and I knew he did not deserve the death penalty for searching for food."

Dandelion said all seven members of Vegetation write their own parts to their all-original music.

"Reggae has always carried a message, and that's why we have chosen to play reggae. Our music is our way of making people aware of what's going on.... Reggae is the sound of nature, the sound of elements, the wind and oceans and birds in the canopy. We have more tribal roots sounds. Our music is a voice for the environment. We have a respect for all life, not just human life."

Vegetation appears at Reggae by the Pier Saturday, July 19, at the Oceanside band shell with the Abyssinians, Ras Michael, Barrington Levy, the Wailing Souls, Fidel & Quinto Sol,

OVERHEARD IN SAN



Zema, Isouljahs, Shocks of Mighty, and Clownfish; \$24 advance, \$29 day of show, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

— Ken Leighton

The Cramps' 7" vinyl

EP *Smell of San Diego* was recorded June 2, 1984, at the North Park Lions Club, just days after ending their first headlining U.K. tour. There are two limited numbered editions of this record, one on red vinyl and one on



SMELI



PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK PLANK.COM

VEGETATION PROTESTS POLICE BRUTALITY

Diego and Las
 x-song self-titled
 her called *Nine*
 h was nominated
 ervative Album"
 an Diego Music

Jay Allen Sanford

"I feel like that's the kind of stuff police should be focusing on, other than shooting homeless people who are looking for breakfast and who drift through stop signs."

Dandelion says any conscious roots-reggae band