

Malibu East Dialogue

April 2002

Your Communication and Information Resource

Malibu East voter turnout outstanding!

A day in the life of a precinct judge

by Betty Mayian

I awoke before 4am in order to get to the phone before it rang (Adeline Kalant was to be my 4am phone alarm clock). I got ready and went downstairs at 5am to set up the polling place. I was downstairs first, so I started putting voting booths together until the person with the key came to open up the metal case with the other supplies. The other judges began arriving, and we worked like beavers to open up on time. It is very important to get everything set up before 6am when the voters should be able to vote. This year would be difficult because of the new machine for counting votes. A TV set and video was set up to run throughout the day, explaining the new voting machine. The judges all had gone to a special class last week to learn about these new changes.

At about 10 minutes to 6am, the voters began lining up, and our fifth judge still had not arrived. While two of us finished setting up booths, a couple of judges began the paperwork to allow voting to start. At 6am we were ready to start — still short a Republican judge.

The 22nd Precinct of the 48th Ward of the city of Chicago votes in our building. That's us! Nobody else. It makes it easier on the judges and the voters. Most of the judges usually live here.



We were sent a letter saying that a Republican judge would be coming from a high rise just north of us. Besides myself and Adeline and Virn Rose as Democratic judges, Tom Vaughan was the other Republican judge. Five judges are what we are supposed to have since we have over 500 registered voters. If we had 700 voters we would be assigned two more judges, one from each party. At one time Malibu East had close to that many, but the numbers have gone down for one reason or another. Well, what should we do to get another judge? We called the ward office and downtown without result. John Chester, a poll watcher for the alderman's office, was asked to step in and he agreed. He voted and then was sworn in with the rest of us, and we now had a full complement of judges. Now every one of the judges was a Malibu East resident.

The voting was fast and furious from the first voter with little time to spare. My first job was "facilitating judge" at the new vote card-reading machine. As each voter left a voting booth, they fed their card into the machine. This process was new to all of us, and some explanation was needed

to get used to it. If the card was properly initialed and punched, the machine kept it and the display thanked the voter. When the card was rejected, it meant something was wrong and the display would say what it was. Undervoting meant not all offices were punched and the voter could either take the card and finish voting or allow me, the judge, to have

the card accepted as is. Overvoting meant that too many candidates were punched for at least one office (and the tape would print out which office was overvoted). The voter could either take the card back to the table to get another card and begin the process again, or tell me to accept the card as voted and I would push the red override button and the card would be taken into the machine. What a wonderful change this year. The voter had the opportunity to

See Precinct judge, page 8

**Don't forget the
Teddy bear party
2-4 pm Sunday,
April 14 in the
Windjammer
Room**



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MECA board meeting

MECA board meeting Tuesday, March 26

Attendance:

10 board members, 2 management representatives and 17 residents

Not present:

Ila Chaiken, Jo Anne Meshbourn

OPEN FORUM 1

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) Resident was of the opinion that the evacuation plan as distributed to residents was insufficient. *The distributed plan was in compliance with current ordinances. A more comprehensive voluntary plan has been prepared, and parts of it will be distributed to residents.*
- 2) Are the hoses in the stairwells ever checked out? *The fire department does not use them anymore; they bring up their own hoses.*
- 3) A resident commented on repeated elevator door vandalism. He made suggestions that all new residents should have a criminal background check, a one-year residency rule before renting, security cameras in elevators, stiff penalties for vandalism, bulk room and garbage shaft room signs in other languages. *The Security Committee will discuss these issues. The signs could be improved with pictures instead of being posted in different languages.*
- 4) Is the west stairwell alarm bell operable, and what is it for? *Yes, it is tested and works, it is for the fire damper system. In case of fire, the bell rings as the louvers in the air-shaft open to vent smoke out of the building.*
- 5) The pictures in the laundry room look great.
- 6) A suggestion was made that the Security Committee review the policies concerning delivery of newspapers, bottled water and telephone directories. *Management was di-*

rected to review this and give advice to the board.

- 7) A resident with a continuing water infiltration problem asked the board to address the issue as he was contemplating the sale of his unit *The board and the unit owner*

NOTICE

Any resident who needs assistance during an emergency evacuation can get a form to indicate his/her special needs at the doorman's station or at the management office.

will work together on a solution.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial statement

Balance on hand, cash and reserves — \$2,207,510.31

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) *Rules and Regulations*
Charles Cooper — no report
- 2) *Floor Representatives*
Ila Chaiken — no report
- 3) *Security*
Ila Chaiken — no report

NOTICE

Malibu East's April board meeting has been postponed to Tuesday, April 30.

- 4) *Social*
Sandy Chaet
Lerner Press will come to the April 14 Teddy bear party.
- 5) *Commercial Property*
Janice Krzesinski
We are researching means to increase mall traffic and business for our tenants, other than large signage. Management has worked hard in cleaning and lighting the mall and updating the signage. "Welcome to the mall" signs are ordered for the inside of the three north mall windows. Mall business information handouts were passed out at the MB Financial investment presentation. Tenants will be allowed to display literature and handouts in front of their units as

approved by management on an individual basis. We are researching temperature controls for individual units.

6) *Architecture & Aesthetics*

Larry Creter

Some laundry room posters are up, and more will be installed. Locking devices will be installed on them. The bulletin board is up. We will replace the magazine rack with individual Lucite racks attached to the wall. We will be redecorating the garage lobby also.

7) *ASCO*

Sandy Chaet

The April 18 general meeting at Park Tower is on high-rise security. The Thorndale lot will be landscaped by the Chicago Park District with plantings and seating. A dog walk has been proposed for either behind the Greek Orthodox Church or over by Senn H.S.

8) *Garage*

Martina Molins

(see also garage report below)

A round of applause was given to Martina for coordinating garage parking lists with the garage billing. Sandy Chaet is working on a questionnaire to go to those who have one car in self-park and one in valet parking to see how many would be interested in tandem parking. Reduced daytime parking rates are still under discussion. The proposal was sent back to committee.

9) *Communications*

Tom Vaughan

The Dialogue is currently \$800 in the black. Larry Rosen has done a wonderful job of putting together our web page — www.MalibuEast.org. Larry will be adding pictures of our amenities to the site. He suggested a two-tier form of access. Residents could have the opportunity to download specific forms.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Items requiring board action

1) *Insurance policy renewal*

Ken Ortiz of Sudler presented two insurance proposals. After lengthy discussion, a package with \$100 million in coverage, including terrorism acts, was approved.

- 2) **New interior signage program**
Color, background and the elevator signs are being selected. Waiting for the ordinance that will cover stairwell signs. Sent back to committee at Larry Creter's request.
- 3) **Elevator cab repairs**
\$3,200 was approved to redo the wood in one cab (SE). The slats from this cab will be saved to be used as replacement slats in the other three passenger elevators.
- 4) **Building survey progress report**
A draft proposal for material to be printed in the Dialogue was approved. Other elements of the survey that need action will be placed sequentially on the board meeting agenda.



What's happening around the building

by Vito Senese, MECA Association Manager

Since the "ground hog" has seen his shadow, it looks like we will have six more weeks of winter before spring arrives. Your building staff will continue to work hard to keep the interior and exterior of the building looking like spring. The staff has been cleaning and painting the bulk and garbage chute rooms. They are also replacing missing instructions and recycling posters. Another project planned for the staff this year will be painting of the balcony railings on the north and east side of the building. This project will begin as soon as weather permits, and notices will be issued to the residents on the north and east sides of the building soon.

The exterior balcony and fascia project is scheduled to start again on Monday, April 1, weather permitting. This year's project will include the east side of the A and B units as well as the south side of the building, including tiers C, E, G, J and L. The project will take several months to complete, and residents can review the status of the project by look-

ing at the construction progress chart in the lobby.

If your lender needs a certificate of insurance, please contact CISA at 847-870-7000 and ask for the certificate department. CISA will forward the certificate of insurance directly to your lender.

Over the past few months, the staff has collected several bikes from around the building. All the bikes DO NOT have any identification on them, so the staff cannot contact the rightful owner. Please contact the management office if your bike has been missing for the past few months. If no one claims the bikes by April 15, they will be donated to a charity.

The decorating committee is putting the finishing touches on the remodeling of the laundry room. It has selected several new pieces of artwork, and the room looks terrific. The committee has done a great job during this remodeling project and we all appreciate its efforts for a job well done.

Historical Society tour

by Betty Mayian



The Edgewater Historical Society's 2002 spring home tour begins at the Sovereign, 1040 W. Granville, on Sunday, May 6. The 11:00am to 3:00pm tour includes a meal at the Thai Grill that day only. Tickets are \$25; call 773-907-1872 to make reservations. Tickets will be held at the door. The tour homes are from the late 19th and early 20th centuries and are a unique representation of the homes of the wealthy of a bygone era. At each home, tour guides will describe the history of the home and the community around it.

NOTICE

The Windjammer Room rental rate was raised to \$160 from \$100 for the purpose of hiring extra security for parties.

Items not requiring board action

- 1) **Exterior & balcony project**
We have paid for all services to date. New work will start April 1. A letter will go to the A tier covering the removal and storage of balcony possessions and use of their balconies during construction.
 - 2) **Unit sales**
38E \$227,100
 - 3) **Collection of emergency data**
Any resident who needs assistance during an emergency evacuation can get a form to indicate his/her special needs at the doorman's station or at the management office.
 - 4) **Garage report**
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Claims | |
| Approved: | 1 |
| Denied: | 3 |
| Total: | 4 |

Waiting lists

Single self-park:	35
Tandem self-park:	1
Second car:	1

Monthly parkers

Valet:	325
Tandem:	70
Single:	143
Preferred:	3

Engineer:	NC
Motorcycle:	2
Total:	543

New monthlies:	4
Cancellations:	2

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Due to scheduling conflicts for many board members, the April meeting was postponed to the fifth Tuesday, April 30.

RATIFICATION OF ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

- 1) The Windjammer Room rental rate was raised to \$160 from \$100 for the purpose of hiring extra security for parties.

The meeting ended at 10:45pm and went into closed session.

Community Calendar

by Rose Wandel



1210 W. Elmdale
312-744-0718
NORTH LAKESIDE CULTURAL CENTER
"Johnny Appleseed"
A play with music
Apr. 25, 8pm, \$10
Ars Musica

A tribute to America
Apr. 14, 3pm, \$8, \$6 members & seniors
6219 N. Sheridan Rd.
773-743-4477

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Registration for summer sessions
Day camp, academic, athletic, fine arts and recreational programs.
Jun. 17-Jul. 28
6224 N. Sheridan Rd.
773-262-4446 ext 346

SWEDISH AMERICAN MUSEUM CENTER

Pancakes & Varblomman with Pippi Longstocking
Learn how to make pancakes Pippi style, also crafts, singing and dancing.
Apr. 6, 9am, prepayment required
\$12 non-members, \$10 members
Exhibit opening
Lithography with artist Lasse Aberg
Apr. 11, 6-8pm exhibit opening
Apr. 13, 11am. Discussion by artist
Swedish male chorus spring concert

Apr. 21, 2pm
Folk dancers from Dalarna, Sweden
Apr. 18, 7:30pm, refreshments
\$7 members, \$10 non-members
Nordic Family Researchers
Walking tour of Andersonville
One-time \$10 annual fee for members, \$8 per session for non-members
Next tour, Apr. 27, 10am-noon
5211 N. Clark St.
773-728-8111

WHITE CRANE WELLNESS CENTER

Adult day wellness programs for 60 and over. Gentle yoga, tai chi, music exercise, socializing, lunch and snacks. Transportation provided within boundary area.
1355 W. Foster Ave.

773-271-9001

THEATER/SHOWINGS

AMERICAN THEATER CO.

"The Trip to Bountiful"
One woman's journey to regain strength, dignity and peace of mind.
Apr. 10-May 26
1909 W. Byron
773-929-1031

BLACK ENSEMBLE THEATER

"The Story of Ethel Waters"
Starring Sweet Mama Stringbean.
Apr. 5-May 12
4520 N. Beacon
773-769-4451

BOXER REBELLION THEATRE

"The Wal-Mart'lans"
Apr. 17-May 25
1257 W. Loyola
773-465-7325

CITY LIT THEATRE COMPANY

"Taking Steps"
English-style comedy
Apr. 18-Jun. 16
1020 W. Bryn Mawr
773-293-3682

LIFELINE THEATRE

"Cat's Cradle"
Satire about banana republic politics.
Thru Apr. 21, Fri./Sat. 8pm, Sun. 5:30pm
\$20, \$16 students & seniors
"The Rescuers"
Two mice on a perilous and musical journey.
Thru Jun. 9, \$8
Sat./Sun. 1 & 3pm
6912 N. Glenwood
773-761-4477

LOYOLA STUDIO THEATRE

Loyola University
773-508-3847
"Cabaret"
Apr. 12-21, \$5 seniors & students
Thu.-Sat. 7:30pm, Sun. 2pm
Mullady Theatre
6525 N. Sheridan Rd.
"Love and Marriage"
Two one-act plays about love & marriage and all the baggage that comes with it.
Apr. 5-7, \$5
8pm Thu., Sat.-Sun. 2pm
Studio Theatre Mertz LL12

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

BERGER PARK CULTURAL CENTER

Computer Club

For boys & girls 9-13 years old
Saturdays, 10am to noon FREE

Registration for summer programs

Apr. 6, 9am

Summer Camp

Jul. 1-Aug. 9

Children, 6-12 yrs. old

Lunch & refreshment daily

\$150 per child, enrollment limited
"Taste of America"

Spring dinner concert featuring the students of Janice Pantazelos. For information or tickets, please call CSPS 773-764-5022 or visit www.professionalsinging.com

Sunday, Apr. 14, 3pm

Live at 6205 Jazz Cabaret

Apr. 19, 7pm - FREE
6205 N. Sheridan Rd.
312-742-7871

BROADWAY ARMORY

Clean-up Day

Volunteers needed to clean and paint 10 rooms

Sat. Apr. 6, 9am-1pm

Lunch provided

Advisory Council

Meeting at 7pm Apr. 23
5917 N. Broadway
312-742-7502

EDGEWATER

MEDICAL CENTER

Senior Center programs

5700 N. Ashland Ave.
773-797-1095

EDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

CAPS 24th Dist. Beat #33SD

Come meet our beat police.

Wednesday, Apr. 3, 7pm
(1st Wed. of every month)

Internet basics

Learn mouse skills, www, e-mail
1st Sat. of month

1125 W. Loyola
NEO-FUTURARIUM THEATRE
"That's Weird, Grandma"

Performance by Barrel of Monkeys. Skits based on public school children's stories.

Mondays 9pm, \$8

"City Girl!"

Apr. 18–May 25

5153 N. Ashland Ave.

773-275-5255

PEGASUS PLAYERS

"The Waverly Gallery"

A quasi-autobiographical drama dealing with Alzheimer's disease.

\$15-\$25, Thu.-Sat. 8pm, Sun. 3pm

O'Rourke Theatre

1145 W. Wilson

773-878-9761

COMMUNITY EVENTS/

MEETINGS

Armory Clean-up Day

Saturday, Apr. 6, 9am-1pm

5917 N. Broadway

312-742-7502

One Book, One Chicago

Discussion of *"Night"* by Eli Wiesel, led by Rabbi Herman Schaalman

Monday, April 8

5500 N. Broadway

773-561-5343

ASCO meeting

Thursday, April 11

7:30pm General meeting & election

8:00pm Seminar

High rise procedures by Michael Kim and Mary Kay Minahan
 Park Tower

5415 N. Sheridan Rd.

Parking available in building.

Misericordia Candy Days

Street candy tag day.

Apr. 26 & 27

Volunteer to tag, call Tessa at

773-273-2768

MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

Dialogue Committee meeting

Tuesday, April 16

7:30pm — Community Room

Thursday afternoon

discussion group

Thursday, April 18

(every 3rd Thurs. of month)

2:00pm — Community Room

Garfield Park Conservatory

by Rose Wandel

There is a special exhibit now being shown at the Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave., that is very worthwhile seeing and enjoyable — "Chihuly in the Park: A Garden of Glass." The exhibit will run through May 19, 9am-5pm Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri and 9am-8pm Thu/Sat/Sun. Admission is free.

I had gone to the conservatory several years ago and found it almost "neglected" due to a lack of plantings and care. The Chicago Park District renovated the buildings and restored the plantings — and it looks wonderful! Along came Dale Chihuly, a renowned glass blower whose work is mostly in Washington state. I was first "introduced" to his work in Anchorage, Alaska, several years ago and was fascinated to the point that I have been following his and his associates' work.

The opportunity for Chihuly to display his work at the conservatory came after he had seen the "new" garden. The glass blown pieces located throughout the buildings are unbelievable. As you walk from one area to another, you sometimes would swear that these are blossoms growing there! They're not — they're just the beautiful and exotic glass pieces that are in between the plantings. Some of the glass pieces are floating in ponds! Some are "growing" as a tower! All of it is very unusual and beautiful. Children will also enjoy this exhibit. If you go, write a note to our editor and tell him your impressions. There is a parking lot just next to the buildings that is handicapped-accessible. The gift shop is offering notepaper, posters, etc. of Chihuly's work. It's something you should see.

MECA board meeting

Tuesday, April 23

7:30pm — Windjammer Room

Dialogue distribution meeting

Tuesday, April 30

2-3pm — Community room

Leave event and meeting notices at the desk for the Dialogue.

Teddy bear party

by Rose Wandel
Social Committee

All Teddy bears and their owners are invited to celebrate the Teddy bear's 100th birthday party, 2-4 pm, Sunday, April 14 in the Windjammer Room. Bears of all sizes, colors, designs and ages are welcome. So bring your owners (all ages) so that we can celebrate this wonderful occasion.



The Teddy bear was born in 1902 when our great president, Theodore Roosevelt, who was an outdoorsman and hunter of big game, was in the backwoods of Mississippi with a hunting party. The group failed to capture a bear and was disappointed. The story continues that some of the men in the hunting party captured a bear and tethered it to a tree. The president refused to kill a trapped animal and had it released. The newspapers found out about the incident, and Washington Post illustrator Clifford Berryman drew a cartoon of the event. As the story spread across country, the bear in the cartoon shrunk to cub size — a cute little bear. A shopkeeper in Brooklyn, N.Y., Morris Michton, saw the potential of marketing toy bears and asked permission from the president if he could call his toy bears "Teddy bears." The president agreed, and so Teddy bears were born.

We are planning this party to highlight this American toy that was so important to children in this country over the years. Many children kept them — even when they became adults. We would like to see them if you have such a toy. We will enjoy the afternoon with songs, stories, games, photos and refreshments. All you have to do is bring your bears, or have your bears bring you! Watch for the flyer that will feature the party. If you have any ideas, games or other activities to help us celebrate, please leave the information at the doorman's desk for the Social Committee. Thanks and let's have fun!

Ward Watch

by Norm Cratty

Following is a summary of the Edge-water Community Council's (ECC) Planning and Development Committee and Alderman Mary Ann Smith's Zoning & Planning Committee meetings, each held monthly. Any comments or suggestions can be directed to: ncratty@21stcentury.net.



- 1122-24 West Catalpa

A concept plan was presented and approved for a proposed seven-story, 126-unit residential structure with public parking on the first three floors, 18 units per floor, 204 parking spaces. Unit size ranges from 520 sq. feet to 1,500 sq. feet. Project financed by Reza Toulabi. Concept proposal approved.

- 5812 North Kenmore

Proposal for construction of a 12-unit condominium. Project needed alley access permit. Proposal opposed due to high density and the proposed height more than code allows. They will come back with a revised plan.

- 5226-30 North Kenmore

Proposal for a 20-unit condominium building, which requires the demolition of three single-family homes. Because of the extensive disrepair of the homes, they are deemed not salvageable and are not considered historical in nature for preservation. Rezoning from R4 to R5. There are 10 three-bedroom (1,800 sq. ft.), four two-bedroom (1,100 to 1,200 sq. ft.) and six one-bedroom (700 to 900 sq. ft.) units planned. All units will have nine-foot-high ceilings. Proposal passed.

- Corner of Hollywood and Ridge

A new BP Amoco station, which will incorporate narrower curb cuts, a bike-friendly store, decorative brick in the sidewalk and more landscaping.

- Goldblatt's/Leland Hotel project

After four plus-hours of testimony before the City Council's Development Commission, this project is moving forward. The redevelopment of the former Goldblatt's building is scheduled to include 38 condominium units with a

Border's Books and Music as the main anchor tenant on the north with mixed-use retail (such as a "green grocer" store on the remainder of the first floor to the south. The Leland Hotel property is to include extensive renovation. With the revitalization of Lawrence/Broadway as an entertainment district, and with the eventual revival of the Uptown Theater, this type of anchor tenant will be ideal for public appearances by entertainers. The developers, who will be using \$7.4 million from the TIF in that district, plan to invest \$36.7 million into the project, which is expected to create about 70 new jobs.

- Northeast corner of Granville and Broadway

Loyola University owns this parcel, which is now up for sale. Look for a major redevelopment of this property. No plans released at press time.

Malibu East primary election results

By Thomas C. Vaughan



The 2002 primary election again saw Malibu East's 22nd Precinct of the 48th Ward outshine the voting averages for the rest of the city and state. Our self contained Precinct has 572 registered voters and 314 of them showed up to cast their recommendations for party candidates for the November general election. MECA's lobby polling location opened on time at 6:00 AM and closed at 7:00 PM. Our 55% turnout surpassed the estimates for the whole City, as usual. The day went smoothly with few backups that, even then, took only a few minutes to clear. Of our 314 voters, 257 opted for the Democratic ballot (unchanged in number from 2000's primary), 56 for the Republican ballot (up 17 from 2000), and 1 for the non-partisan, advisory-referendum-only ballot.

At the top of the ballot on the Democratic side, Paul Vallas received 46.0% of our votes for governor while the ultimate state winner, Rod Blagojevich, 30.8%; and Roland Burris, 23.2%. Seven Democratic voters did not record

The new vote tabulator



a vote for governor. Running for the Republican nomination for governor: Corrine Wood received 41.8% of the votes cast; the statewide winner, Jim Ryan, 40.0%; and Patrick O'Malley, 18.2%. One Republican voter did not record a vote for governor.

For the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor: the state winner, Pat Quinn, received 37.0%; Joyce Washington, 32.3%; and F. Michael Kelleher Jr., 30.6%. The Republican lieutenant governor candidates showed: the state winner, Carl Hawkinson, receiving 51.1%; William O'Connor, 38.3%; Jack McInerney, 6.4%; and Charles Owens, 4.3%.

For Democratic attorney general, John Schmidt outpolled the statewide winner, Lisa Madigan, 54.7% to 45.3%. The Republican winner, Joe Birkett, drew 55.3% of MECA's Republican ballots versus 44.7% for Bob Coleman.

Carol Ronen ran unopposed for 7th District state senator, as well as Jan Schakowsky, our incumbent 9th Congressional District Representative. Carol Ronan also was a candidate for the Democratic State Central (Female) Committeeman and received 90.4% of the vote over Veda Rotman's 9.6%.

Election Judges are always needed, particularly those who voted Republican in this primary. Should anyone have interest in working in November, they can contact the Election Board, either of the two Ward Committeemen, or one of our Election Judges.

There is time to register for the November general election. The process is quite painless at the Board of Election Commissioners offices at 69 West Washington (the Brunswick Building across from the Civic Center). Periodically, the Election Board also has registration booths set up at neighborhood locations in Chicago. Watch for publications of such opportunities.

So now you own a condo, what next?

by Jack Winans

This is a continuing series on owner responsibilities. (See the January & February 2002 issues for the first 14 items in this series.)

16. Plumbing repairs

Due to the age of our building, individual unit plumbing problems may occur, especially with water heaters. The most common problem is a leaking water heater that can pose a problem as minor as a trickle of water into the water heater closet and out into the hallway carpet or as major as a complete failure of the system, allowing copious

amounts of water to flow down into common areas and residential units, resulting in a great deal of damage. It is the responsibility of unit owners to carry insurance for this risk. Section 9.1 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act states that “unit owners are responsible for any damage to another unit arising from the use or operation of his unit, or caused by his own conduct.”

If you have one of the original water heaters or one that is 10 or more years old, it is a good idea to inspect it for leaks with some regularity. If there is any question about its reliability, have a licensed Chicago plumber or one of our staff make an inspection.

If the water heater must be replaced, it is imperative to follow the steps below

to comply with the Malibu East declaration, rules and regulations and City of Chicago ordinances.

- Notify the office immediately upon the failure of your water heater or any plumbing leak.
- Make sure that any plumbing repair or water heater replacement is done by a plumber licensed by the City of Chicago.
- Notify the office and the receiving room of the date and time of water heater replacement.
- Have your plumber contact our management office to obtain the details of plumbing specifications for our building as required by ordinance of the City of Chicago. This will include an overflow valve and pan.



WRONG

Water heater without a drip pan.



WRONG

Water heater with a drip pan — BUT no drain pipe.



RIGHT

Drip pan with drain pipe.

Now that you know what a correct water heater installation looks like — take a few minutes and inspect your own water heater. Are you protecting yourself from an expensive liability? Make sure that your water heater conforms to Chicago ordinances and Malibu East rules and make sure you are protected with homeowners insurance.



WRONG

Old galvanized pipe and fittings recycled.



RIGHT

Old galvanized pipes replaced with new copper pipe & fittings.

Precinct judge from page 1

correct mistakes and to recast their vote, if desired.

A city poll watcher came by to see if we were in need of anything. Other than a plastic lid for the new machine, we seemed to be OK. Later on, a police officer came to ask if we had any trouble. Of course not! Not in Malibu East. A couple of voters from outside the precinct came in to vote and were directed to their polling place. We were provided maps of the area with voting places for every address in our neighborhood. Other city/state workers came by and would check our totals. Invariably, we were told how well this precinct does in comparison to all the others. The percentage of votes to registered voters is always outstanding here.

Around 8am the alderman's office brought over a large box of donuts for the workers. The Republican ward office brought us a bag of bananas to go along with the donuts. We noted that there was no coffee, so I said I would make some and bring it down. This would have to wait until things slowed down. At 11am I took my leave and someone shifted to my position by the new machine. I made the coffee, brought cream, sugars and napkins. When I returned downstairs, I changed posts to work at finding voters' names in the signature book and verifying their current signature with the one in the book. As it sounds, this is a simple process but an important one as we found out. We were visited by a couple of state's attorneys at 12:10pm. They verified a few signatures at random (I was so glad we checked them so thoroughly). Someone asked how the machine was working. We were surprised to hear that a number of other locations were having difficulties with their machine jamming.

Lunch arrived at 1:15, brought to us compliments of Mike Volini and Mary Ann Smith. It was from Wikstrom's Deli and was a tray of sliced meats and cheeses, pickles, potato salad, rolls and condiments. A box of soft drink cans came along with it. By this time we were all very hungry and took turns getting a sandwich and drink to take to our

workstation. Over the course of the afternoon I went from one task to another. Shifting around to do a variety of tasks is the best way to stay alert and also to learn the whole system. Even so, we do get tired because of the long day. One neighbor repeated her good deed from the previous election and brought us a box of cookies to supply some sugar energy. It was well received. Thanks, Dorothy Doherty (DD).

Other neighbors "saluted" us as they finished voting. Such a variety of visitors we saw! Babies in strollers, babies in arms, toddlers on foot, pre-teens and teens on foot and scooter, puppies in arms, more mature dogs on leash, voters on foot, voters with canes and a wheelchair, and at least one first-time voter that I knew as a child — a big moment for little Christina! Our building is like a mini United Nations, with people from so many different lands. It was impressive to see these people relishing their voting experience.

At 7pm on the dot we closed the polls. We waited for a couple of voters to finish up and vote and actually turned away someone at three minutes after seven. The process of closing was split up, with our most experienced two judges taking the paperwork. There was one absentee vote processed, and now our final count came to 314. John and I were charged with handling the new machine by creating the total tapes to go with all the balance sheets; transmitting the totals directly (the other new innovation in 2002); taking out the totals disk; and helping to pack the machine away. The polling booths were all broken down and packed away; the TV was put into the blue metal box along with other supplies. Then we all signed each official form and sealed envelope and looked at the clock to record our closing time 8:15pm. This may have been the end of the evening for three of us, but Adeline and Tom got to take all the forms and tapes and sealed envelopes to the processing center for our area. As for me, I got into my limo (Otis elevator No. 3) and rode it home. Thus ended a very long and satisfying day in the life of a precinct judge.

Negative air pressure

by Jack Winans

Our building has amassed considerable negative air pressure over the years. It is the cause of strange noises in common area air and plumbing shafts and has triggered the installation of expensive automatic doors in the lower level. The following text is from an article in the January issue of "Condo Lifestyles," titled "Window repair ..." by David Mack. It is one of the best explanations of negative air pressure that I have seen and also explains the harmful effects that this situation can cause to condominium buildings.

Negative air pressure

... another problem that can undermine the effectiveness of any window system in a high rise before the end of its reasonably expected useful life is reached — negative internal air pressure. There must be a well functioning ventilation system to prevent air stagnation, especially in the winter. Typically fresh air is introduced into corridors by a supply fan on the roof, heated or cooled and then ideally drawn into apartments via the openings at the bottoms of doors and eventually exhausted through kitchens and baths by fans also located topside. This supply and exhaust relationship should be in balance but sometimes it is not, which can result in greater pressure existing outside a structure's wall and window system. We have negative air pressure inside many high rise condominiums because a lot of unit owners do not like the intrusion of air through their door undercuts ... So they close them off with rubber or other strips and even towels to block the minor drafts they may feel from beneath their doors. This causes the roof exhaust fans to search elsewhere for air and they attempt to pull it through plumbing stacks (which can cause foul odors in a unit) or the closed windows and their frames. This negative pressure is working on windows and masonry and over the years these elements deteriorate to the point they don't work efficiently. Weather-stripping and caulking wear out prematurely. This is a serious cause for the deterioration of windows.

Dear Etta Kitt,



I often see dogs in the building, in the halls, in the elevator and outside going to the dog walk WITHOUT A LEASH. This often makes me uncomfortable, as I don't know how the dog is going to react. I thought that there was a strict rule about this at Malibu East. How can this rule be enforced?

Signed, Uncomfortable

Dear Uncomfortable,

When any group of people share property as in our Malibu East condominium, rules must be set down to govern its use. Rules are established by the developer are later administered and usually revised by the condominium association board of directors. The rules often are forgotten when things are going smoothly, but if

they are broken and enforcement is lacking, the result might be that everyone begins to ignore them.



A case in point is our rule that dogs be

leashed in the common areas inside and outside. Unfortunately, many dog owners, seeing others allowing their pets to run loose, tend to follow suit.

Infractions of this or of any rule need to be addressed by a written complaint from a resident to the board or association manager, who will initially attempt to solve the problem privately through a phone call or a face-to-face discussion.

If this doesn't work in resolving the rule infraction, our legal documents provide effective legal remedies, and in extreme cases there may be times when it is necessary to take a violator to court. Because of the ill will that often results, this should be the last resort and should be contemplated only when all other procedures have been exhausted.

'Town Crier' announcements
by Betty Mayian

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Balcony Man by Scott Virzi



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The Malibu East Condominium Association Dialogue is published by resident volunteers to promote communication among owners, residents, Board of Directors, management and staff of the Malibu East Condominium, 6033 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660.

Articles and opinions by the MECA Dialogue staff and contributors are presented as their personal views and do not necessarily represent the views of the association or its Board of Directors and management.

Letters to the MECA Dialogue Committee are encouraged. Please be as brief as possible. The MECA Dialogue staff reserves the right to edit letters to fit available space and to print only those with constructive content. Letters to the committee may be left at the management office.



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