

# Malibu East Dialogue

December 2012

Your Communication and Information Resource

## Resident artist discovers digital brush

By **Beth Robinson**

You may have seen Rita Whaley in the elevator or perhaps in the garage with her husband, Bob, or her sister, Tracy Poyser. You may even have run across her booth at a local art fair. But you probably have not had a chance to have a long chat with her. I recently sat down with Rita to pose some of the questions that we do not usually have time to ask each other on the elevator.

Her vibrantly colored paintings warm the walls of her apartment. She exhibits her artwork at local art fairs and other venues and has sold large and small canvases to clients in Chicago and throughout the country. Yet Rita only recently began painting seriously.

Born in Germany, she was a young child during World War II. She has fond memories of her home, after the war, in a one-room schoolhouse in a small village where her father was the teacher. As young girls, Rita and her sister, Tracy, entertained themselves with art activities. Once they staged a play and invited other children to



watch, charging a small admission fee, much to their parents' chagrin. The two sisters felt a close bond from the time they were little.

Rita grew up and became a kindergarten teacher with an adventurous spirit. She fell in love with an American in Frankfurt, Germany. They married, and moved, first to New York and then to San Diego. Rita found work at a center for emotionally disturbed children, where she used art as therapy. She encouraged children to express their creativity without concern for conventions. This work led her to discover her interest in helping others deal with psychological issues, and she proceeded to earn a degree in clinical social work. She established her own counseling practice and offered a curriculum for stress management.



Unfortunately, Rita developed a chronic health condition that made it increasingly difficult to continue in her chosen field, so she found new ways to pursue her goals. She stopped counseling groups of children and shifted to the less physically taxing work of seeing adult clients.

While in San Diego, Rita was divorced. Forty years ago she met and married Bob, who had five children from a previous marriage. Longing for a greener landscape more like her homeland, Rita moved with Bob to Portland, Ore., in 1990.

Through all those years, Rita and Tracy saw each other intermittently. Tracy had lived in London and then settled in Chicago with her husband. When Tracy's husband passed away, Rita and Bob moved to Chicago. They have lived in Malibu East since 2003, and they convinced Tracy to move to the building, as well.

It was in Chicago that Rita began to explore more deeply her interest in art. She attended the Open Studio Project in Evanston and took classes at the Lillstreet Art Center. She began to paint. She stopped working in counseling and focused more on her art. Then, as the symptoms of her illness worsened, she became unable to stand at an easel to paint. Not one to give up easily, Rita found a new medium for her creative expression - digital art. She learned how to use Adobe Photoshop to paint a canvas on the computer screen by drawing with a stylus on a graphics tablet. The computer image is then printed on canvas. Bob created a reclining chair with a computer monitor bolted to a wooden tray that sits on Rita's lap. In this adapted studio, Rita creates what she terms "Inner View Art."

True to her background as a therapist, Rita believes that art comes from within as a free expression of the self without inhibition or fear of being judged. Leafing through reproductions of her work, Rita explained that she often begins by creating a wash of colors and then contemplates the background to find the images that emerge. So a green-hued base with tall, shadowy shapes rising toward the top of the canvas suggested a lonely body of water edged by pine trees. The addition of a red boat without oars, adrift near the shore, completed the painting titled "Letting Go."

Some of her paintings reflect her  
(Continued on page 8)

### Malibu East events and meetings

#### Dialogue staff meeting

Wednesday, December 5  
8:00 p.m. - Community Room

#### Board meeting

Tuesday, December 18  
7:30 p.m. - Windjammer Room

#### Malibu East holiday party

Wednesday, December 19  
6:00 p.m. - Lobby

#### Thursday afternoon discussion

Thursday, December 20  
(every 3rd Thursday of the month)  
2:00 p.m. - Community Room

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



# Board meeting notes

By Neil Warner

**Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2012**

Attendance: 10 Board members, two management representatives and 11 residents  
Excused: Marcel Molins, Martina Molins  
Presiding: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Richard Strauss

## REVISIONS TO AGENDA

- 1) "Employee recognition program" and "Landscaping" were added under Items Requiring Immediate Board Action.
- 2) "Façade maintenance," "Garage improvements," "Boat dock" and "Association-owned units" were added under Old Business.
- 3) "Document shredder" was added under New Business.
- 4) "Property tax attorney" and "Fourth-floor deck" were added under Items Requiring Future Board Action.

## INTRODUCTION OF NEW PROPERTY MANAGER VIOLETTE DESCHAMPS

### TREASURER'S REPORT - Neil Warner

- 1) **Financial statement**  
Balance on hand, cash and reserves  
\$2,873,712.79
- 2) **Delinquencies**  
Approx. \$292,000
- 3) **Audit**  
The 2011 audit is being printed and will be mailed to owners in the next 7-10 days.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Social- Sandy Chaet**  
The holiday lobby party will be held Wednesday, Dec. 19. A potluck will be held in February.
- 2) **Garage - Richard Strauss**  
Some of the painted pathways on the third floor look dirty already.  
**Standard Parking report as of Oct. 31 - Alex Diakoumis, Mgr.**

### Claims

Approved:	3
Denied:	1
Pending:	0
Total:	4

### Waiting lists

Single self-park:	6
Tandem self-park:	0
Second car:	0

### Monthly parkers

Single:	152
Tandem:	15
Valet:	268
Preferred:	1
Tandem/valet:	0
Motorcycle:	0
Engineer:	NC
Total:	436

### Garage capacity

Single	160
Tandem:	40
Valet stalls:	293
Valet aisles	20
Motorcycles:	3
Total:	516
(Under capacity)	80

### Changes

New monthlies:	4
Cancellations:	2

Upgrades	1
Downgrades	0

### 3) Life safety - Sandy Chaet

Contract for ordinance-required work is being reviewed.

## MANAGEMENT REPORT - Violette Deschamps

### Items requiring immediate board action

- 1) **2013 budget adoption**  
The Board voted to adopt the 2013 budget as presented to owners.
- 2) **Holiday fund letter**  
The Board authorized management to distribute the holiday fund letter to residents three times before the contribution deadline, and to mail it to nonresident owners.
- 3) **Employee recognition program**  
The Board approved awards for five employees based on length of service, with the awards to be distributed at the employees' holiday party.
- 4) **Landscaping**  
The Board approved a bid for winter landscaping.

### Old business:

- 1) **Captain's Walk HVAC**  
A contract to install new HVAC equipment is ready to be signed. The Board approved a budget for ancillary costs related to the work, including drawings.
- 2) **Captain's Walk elevator**  
Nothing new to report.
- 3) **Scavenger rebate**  
The Board sent letters to Mayor Emanuel and Ald. Osterman expressing its belief that the scavenger rebate, which the City Council recently elected to phase out, should be restored in full.
- 4) **Kohlman Chutes**  
This agenda item was dispensed with at previous Board meeting and was implemented.
- 5) **Lobby metal polishing**  
This agenda item was dispensed with at previous Board meeting and is awaiting implementation.
- 6) **Façade maintenance**  
Klein and Hoffman will inspect the E tier, if feasible, to check the condition of the façade and fix any problems that require immediate attention before the onset of bad weather.
- 7) **Garage improvements**  
Vendor hopes to complete the installation of the new atrium lighting soon, after addressing the problems that have been identified.
- 8) **Boat dock**  
Work is near completion on the boat dock. The outer fence and the inside doors to the boat dock will be replaced.
- 9) **Association-owned units**  
Several units have been shown recently, and potential buyers have shown some interest. (The purchase of unit 10L closed several days after this meeting, raising the number of association-owned units to 11, five of which are being rented.)

### New business:

- 1) **Applications for religious holiday displays**  
See Ratification of Action Taken During

Please keep in mind that the meeting notes are not the official record of the Malibu East Condominium Board of Directors meetings. The official minutes are generally approved during the next meeting and may be viewed or copied in the management office.

Previous Executive Session below.

### 2) Document shredder

The Board discussed a possible document shredder to be purchased for the Management Office.

## Items requiring future board action

- 1) **Laundry equipment**  
Special committee will meet to evaluate proposals by vendors.
- 2) **Main entrance revolving door**  
Awaiting a possible plan for redesign of the lobby.
- 3) **Windjammer Room sound system**  
Seeking additional bids.
- 4) **Collection attorney**  
The Board will retain its current legal firm.
- 5) **Loading dock drain cover repairs**  
Seeking more bids.
- 6) **Laundry Room hot water tank**  
Seeking more bids.
- 7) **Metal restoration, front entrance/redesign**  
See "Old business" above.
- 8) **Wood refinishing in lobby**  
Nothing new to report.
- 9) **Elevator and lobby stone polishing**  
Seeking more bids.
- 10) **Property tax attorney**  
Nothing new to report.
- 11) **Fourth-floor deck**  
Nothing new to report.

## RATIFICATION OF ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

- 1) The Board approved several owners' requests to display religious symbols (Christian, Jewish) in the Community Room during the upcoming holidays.

Meeting ended at 9:30 p.m. and went into closed session.

## Special Board meeting

Nov. 5, 2012

Attendance: 11 Board members, two management representatives and two residents  
Excused: Joan Scholl  
Presiding: President Marcel Molins

Following an open forum, the Board voted 10-0 to approve a resolution that it exercise its right of first refusal on unit 10L and acquire the unit for a purchase price of \$74,000, plus or minus prorations, subject to the approval by the unit owners.

## Special owners meeting

Nov. 13, 2012

Attendance: Nine Board members, two management representatives and seven residents  
Excused: Arthur Arfa, Sandy Chaet, Maria Damp  
Presiding: President Marcel Molins

Following an open forum, the owners voted unanimously to approve the Board's exercise of its right of first refusal on unit 10L and acquire the unit for a purchase price of \$74,000, plus or minus prorations. President Molins voted the proxies in favor of the resolution to exercise.

## Restaurant reviews

By Betty Mayian

**Inspiration Kitchens –  
Dine well. Do good.**



Do you want to eat well and do good deeds for the community? This article is for you. I will focus on two unique restaurants that follow the Golden Rule. Both are nearby and both serve as examples of how to run a business and still provide food or culinary experience to the less fortunate.

In Uptown is a cluster of locations that can feed your soul --- and your body. South of Lawrence, in the 4700 block of North Sheridan Road, are: the "Alternatives" youth agency (the building with the tiled mural on the front); the Chicago Uptown Ministry and Lutheran Church; the Uptown Recycling Resource; and, at 4715 N. Sheridan, the Inspiration Kitchen, a café that helps individuals gain valuable restaurant employment skills by teaching them (in a culinary program outside of this restaurant) and then allowing them to put their learned skills into practice in a freestanding restaurant. Their goal is to help end homelessness in Chicago. We know this can't be done in one location, but it should inspire other businesses to take in the homeless to train them and help them move into society. This is the second Inspiration Kitchen location – the other is located in Garfield Park.

Ara and I went to Inspiration Kitchens – this time – for lunch. The previous time, the restaurant was called Café Too, but it still serves the same function.

Ara ordered a blackened tilapia sandwich, which was very tasty, but be warned that it is spicy; so let them know to omit the hot Cajun aioli if you prefer it mild. I ordered the turkey Reuben, which was piled high with juicy turkey, sauerkraut and Swiss cheese on rye. All sandwiches are served with your choice of soup, salad, sweet potato fries or French fries. Ara chose the lentil soup with bacon (the best lentil soup we have ever had), and I chose the sweet potato soup with rosemary crème (this was to keep the Thanksgiv-

ing turkey theme going).

They have several appetizers on the menu, seven sandwich selections and a couple of main-course salads. I was so tempted to order the warm goat cheese salad with panko breaded goat cheese, spinach and toasted pecans in a honey balsamic vinaigrette. However, since I wanted the soup, I opted for the Reuben. I only ate half because it was so large and the soup was so filling.

They no longer serve breakfast, but try the weekend brunch. Three eggs Benedict dishes are offered, including crawfish cake Benedict. Biscuits and gravy, root vegetable hash, and the breakfast platter join their buttermilk pancakes, French toast and Red Velvet pancakes – yum! A very reasonable smoked salmon bagel sandwich is a wonderful dish. Or choose from several omelet selections, and you can also supplement your brunch with a variety of sides.

What interested me was the way they handled dinners. No. 1, they list five courses, with a selection in each of the categories of appetizers, soups, salads, entrees and desserts. The menu changes frequently – so, you are never bored. But, it is interesting how they price their meals. They offer only fixed prices, with any three courses for \$15 or five courses for \$20.

Their motto is: "Thank you for dining with us and changing lives!" You will not be sorry for trying the food here. We will not wait so long to come back – for dinner, next time.

4715 N. Sheridan Road  
773-275-0626

Brunch 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. - Sun.

Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Wed. - Fri.

Dinner 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Thurs. - Sat.

### First Slice Pie Café – Andersonville

What does it mean to give the first slice of the pie to those used to living on crusts?

It means dignity – often for the first time. It means hope. It means the possibility of not only sustenance, but joy.

This is the motivation for the First Slice Pie Cafes. Besides the one in the Andersonville area, they also have locations at 4401 N. Ravenswood and 4664 N. Manor. Your support of these establishments actually helps feed the poor.

You might be tempted to think this is only a pastry shop, but the fine selection of unique pies is just a side-note to its great luncheon offerings. These are not items that you find just anywhere. Natural ingredients and healthy choices abound. Soups include the spicy grain, roasted tomato, turkey chili and Cuban black bean. A couple of salad selections are the Harvest, the Cobb and the Latin Hip Hop. Quiches are a good way to eat pie and feel good about it. Many sandwiches are offered (no hamburgers or hot dogs, please), but duck confit, goat cheese and beef barbacoa are but a few of the unique offerings – as well as a few sandwich wraps. Hearty salads include curry chicken, pesto tortellini, roasted beet and poached pear, Greek grain and mango jicama.

Hot dishes are few, but mighty. A couple of types of lasagna, tamales and braised pork burritos are listed.

Now, the pies (by the slice or whole pies): Michigan sour cherry, sweet potato praline, French silk, key lime and about 30 other selections are changed with the seasons, as well as offering several cheesecakes. First Slice also offers catering options and professional staffing, should it be needed.

5357 N. Ashland Ave., 773-275-4297.  
Call to confirm hours (which may vary) – usually 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., but later on occasion.

Contact [info@firstslice.org](mailto:info@firstslice.org) to request information or menus. For more information, check out the website: [www.firstslice.org](http://www.firstslice.org).

**Notice:  
Since the Receiving  
Room space is limited,  
please retrieve your  
parcels as soon as you  
are notified.**



**Community Calendar**  
By Betty Mayian

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**BROADWAY ARMORY**

Indoor park, six gym floors, trapeze classes, senior activities, athletic equipment, meeting room, computer center, dancing floor, shuffleboard, weights, arts and crafts, aerobics, ping pong, after-school activities and more.  
5917 N. Broadway  
312-742-7502  
tinyurl.com/27YYYN

**EDGEWATER BRANCH LIBRARY**

**Library building is closed during construction. A bookmobile is now available in the Broadway Armory parking lot:**  
**Tue-Thu: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., 2-6 p.m.**  
**Fri-Sat: 9 a.m. - noon, 1-5 p.m.**  
**(closed on Sundays and Mondays)**  
tinyurl.com/5L55TL

**EDGEWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**"Anniversary Year Begins"**  
**(10 years as a museum, 25 years as a historical society)**  
Thru April, 2013, we will be celebrating the Society's 25-year history by reprising the most memorable of the exhibits held in the museum.  
Saturday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. The hour of old-time radio will present two comedies for the holiday season: Great Gildersleeve understands the real spirit of Christmas, and My Friend Irma learns who her real friends are at Christmas.  
Regular museum hours:  
Saturday and Sunday 1-4 p.m.  
5358 N. Ashland Ave.  
773-506-4849  
www.EdgewaterHistory.org

**WHITE CRANE WELLNESS CENTER**

Adult day wellness programs for persons 60 and over. Gentle yoga, tai chi, music, exercise, lunch and snacks. Transportation provided within boundary area.  
1355 W. Foster Ave.  
773-271-9001  
whitecranewellness.org

**THEATER / SHOWINGS**

**CITY LIT THEATRE COMPANY**

**"The Cricket on the Hearth"**  
Celebrating the magic of domesticity, this Dickens classic illustrates the importance and power of love.  
Dec. 21 thru Jan. 6  
1020 W. Bryn Mawr  
773-293-3682  
citylit.org

**LIFELINE THEATRE**

**The Dorothy L. Sayers Series**  
Four performances only of past shows featuring detectives Lord Peter Wimsey and Harriet Vane. Limited-time engagement.

**"Whose Body?"**  
Dec. 5  
**"Strong Poison"**  
Feb. 27, 2013  
**"Gaudy Night"**  
March 27, 2013  
**"Busman's Holiday"**  
June 12, 2013  
\$75 ticket for each performance includes light supper, wine, dessert  
6912 N. Glenwood  
773-761-4477  
lifelinetheatre.com

**How we voted**

Precinct 22, which is composed entirely of Malibu East residents, mostly reflected the voting trends of our ward, the 48th, and the city of Chicago as a whole in the Nov. 6 general election.

Vote totals from the Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago, www.ChicagoElections.com, show our precinct had an impressive 86.31% turnout, easily beating the ward's and city's turnout percentages. Although our precinct gave a big edge to President Barack Obama in his re-election win over Mitt Romney, 80.04% to 19.33%, the city and the ward both gave bigger margins to the president.

	Chicago	Ward 48	Prct 22
<b>Regist'd</b>	1,364,371	28,278	555
<b>Voted</b>	1,028,870	23,364	479
<b>Turnout</b>	75.41 %	82.62 %	86.31 %
<b>Obama</b>	84.00 %	84.63 %	80.04 %
<b>Romney</b>	14.59 %	13.11 %	19.33 %

**New manager**

Violette Deschamps has been named the property manager of Malibu East, effective Nov. 6.

Ms. Deschamps had previously managed some of Chicago's largest and most complex high-rise condominium associations. Prior to her work in residential management, she was a commercial property manager and practiced architecture and project management.

Ms. Deschamps is learning about our building during this transitional period, so please be patient if she isn't immediately familiar with some issues that you may wish to bring to her attention.

Management is in the process of seeking to permanently fill the vacancy of administrative assistant in the Management Office. It is the goal of the Board of Directors and management to stabilize our staff and provide all of our owners and tenants with superior service.

Also, be aware that the Management Office is trying to update its database for residents with current locker numbers, cellphone numbers, emergency contacts, etc., so please cooperate with our staff, even if you believe you have provided this information in the past. This is an ongoing process in which the information must be updated periodically, and management needs your cooperation so that it will have accurate information for ALL of our residents. If you haven't returned the resident information form that was distributed several months ago, please do so, or pick up a new one in the Management Office.

**2012-13 Board of Directors**

Marcel Molins, President  
Richard Strauss, 1st Vice President  
Thomas Vaughan, 2nd Vice President  
Neil Warner, Treasurer  
Carl Stahlheber, Assistant Treasurer  
Arthur Arfa, Secretary  
Maria Damp, Assistant Secretary  
Carl Chadek, Director  
Sandy Chaet, Director  
Allan Eckardt, Director  
Martina Molins, Director  
Joan Scholl, Director

## Winterizing your unit

By Neil Warner



Despite the unseasonably warm weather that we experienced at the beginning of December, we all know that the frigid weather typical of Chicago winters is coming soon. And many of us know that it can be difficult to keep that cold from permeating our units.

Much of that cold infiltrates our units through the crevices around the sliding glass doors. Those who still have the original doors in their units have doors that are more than 40 years old. As a result, the original weather stripping has undoubtedly deteriorated. Even those of us who have had their doors weather-stripped again during the interim aren't immune to drafts coming into our units.

This can cause drafts that make us feel uncomfortable all winter long – and even more uncomfortable when we see our electric bill.

I've tried several different methods of winterizing my unit over my many years at Malibu East, some more successful than others.

One approach is to apply duct tape, or another strong type of tape such as a weather-seal tape, over the crevice where the sliding glass door meets the stationary window. You might also want to apply it over the crevice where the sliding door meets the door frame, as well as the crevices at the top and bottom of the door. It's preferable to apply the tape while the temperature is still well above freezing, as you will be able to get a stronger bond. Probably the biggest negative with this method is that the tape may leave residue on the door frame or glass when it is removed, although the

residue can be taken off with a solvent come spring.

Another product that may serve you well is Mortite Weatherstrip and Caulking Cord, a putty-like substance that looks like a rope or cord. You can press the Mortite into the problematic crevices, molding it into the crevices with your finger or the head of a screwdriver. Mortite is usually easy to remove. One potential downside is that if you don't press it into place firmly enough, it can come loose and pull away from the crevice during the winter, allowing the outside air to infiltrate your unit. The Mortite can also become brittle after a while.

Another method, which I've never tried, is to apply a clear plastic film specially designed to weatherproof windows. This product is applied with tape and a hair dryer, and it's available at major hardware stores.

The method that I've found to be most effective and user-friendly is the application of Seal 'n Peel Removable Weatherstrip Caulk. This is a clear caulk that is manufactured by DAP, and you can buy a tube for less than \$10. You can apply it either inside or outside, or both. If you apply it inside, the manufacturer cautions that you ventilate that room during application and drying – you may need to use a fan – because the caulk emits chemical fumes that could prove hazardous to your health.

If you choose to apply the Seal 'n Peel caulk outside, you'll have to open your screen, which means that you can't lock it into place for the winter. However, you can tape the screen to the opposite side of the door frame in the open position, which should prevent it from rattling during the windy days of winter. (I thank

fellow Board member Carl Stahlheber for that suggestion.) You will want to apply the caulk in temperatures above 40 degrees, according to the manufacturer.

Before placing the caulk tube in a caulk gun, you will want to cut off the end of the tube at a nozzle diameter that is comparable to the width of the crevice you'll be trying to fill. Once you've placed the caulk tube in the caulk gun, you should puncture the inner seal of the tube. Then position the nozzle at a 45-degree angle to the crevice, and I've found it most effective to start at the bottom of the door and work upward, applying uniform pressure on the caulk tube as the nozzle makes contact with the door.

I have tried a less expensive caulk product that purports to be similar to Seal 'n Peel, but I had a difficult time keeping it adhered to the door crevice.

When the cold weather comes to an end and you decide you want to open your sliding glass doors, you can remove the Seal 'n Peel caulk by simply grasping one end of it and pulling it out of the crevice.

If you decide to winterize your sliding glass doors, you will probably want to leave one of them unsealed – perhaps in the room that you use the least. Otherwise, you will have no easy access to your balcony if you should need it. And if you should get any smoke in your unit, it will be much more difficult to expel it if you can't open a sliding glass door to the outside.

If you've found a successful method of sealing your sliding glass doors that wasn't mentioned in this article, please email us at [Dialogue@MalibuEast.org](mailto:Dialogue@MalibuEast.org) and explain how it works. We'll make note of it and include it in a future update of this article.

### Chestnut Organizing & Cleaning Service

312-332-5575

- We are a home and office cleaning service.
- But more importantly, we are an organizing/cleaning service for people who need that service. Often, cleaning services don't organize and organizing services don't clean, but we can do both and at the same time!
- Please visit us for more information and “before” and “after” photos:

[www.ChestnutCleaning.com](http://www.ChestnutCleaning.com)

### 'Town Crier' announcements

We welcome all new residents to our building, including:

If you have information concerning talented or famous Malibu East residents, please contact the *Dialogue*.

# Kitchen and Bath Specials



## Curtis Jacobson's KC Beautiful Dimensions

And

Florin Nistor's

**COMFORT HOME**  
REMODELING

Are Working Together For All Your Home Improvement Services

**We Are Fully Insured and Have Professionals Specializing in:**

- Complete Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling and Design
- Kitchen and Bathroom Cabinets
- Six Lines of Cabinets in Stock
- Counter Tops - Natural Stone, Granite, Marble
- Flooring - Hardwood, Engineered, Laminate, Pre-Finished
- Floor and Wall Tile - Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles, Marble
- Installation of Doors, Baseboards, Casings, Crown Moulding
- Painting and Decorating, Drywall and Plastering Repair
- Closet Designs and Installation
- Plumbing Repairs, Faucets Installed
- Balcony Screens Repaired

**Contact:** Curtis at 773-878-1574

**Email:** [CurtisJacobson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:CurtisJacobson@sbcglobal.net)

[www.ComfortHomeRemodeling.com](http://www.ComfortHomeRemodeling.com)

## Panhandling has limits

By David Kelley

Did you know that panhandling is legal in Chicago?

Recently I attended a workshop at the Presbyterian Church on Bryn Mawr sponsored by Ald. Harry Osterman, the Cook County state's attorney's office and the Chicago Police Department. The purpose of the seminar was to discuss panhandling and to go over the limitations and prohibitions associated with it.

Panhandling is defined as any solicitation made by any person or persons on any street, park or place where the public is allowed. It includes a request for money and is clearly a donation.

Panhandlers may be standing, sitting, performing music, singing or holding a sign asking for a donation. The Chicago ordinance controlling this activity is MCC 8-2-025.

When does panhandling become illegal?

It is prohibited within 10 feet of a bus stop, in any public transportation vehicle or in a vehicle that is parked on a public street. However, charitable solicitations from certain organizations,

such as the Salvation Army, are allowed. Panhandling is prohibited in a sidewalk café, restaurant or filling station, within 10 feet of an ATM machine or the entrance to a bank or currency exchange.

The ordinance also prohibits a panhandler from touching the person who is standing in line to enter a business or from blocking a person's path to the entrance of a building or vehicle. It is also prohibited to follow a person who has walked away from the panhandler or to use profane or abusive language or any gesture that would cause a reasonable person to be afraid.

What should be done if any of the above happens? Contact the police, who will give the panhandler an "administrative notice of ordinance violation," known as an ANOV. The panhandler then appears before a hearing officer and may be fined or sent to jail. The panhandler is subject to a fine of \$50 for a first or second offense. For the third offense the fine increases to \$100 if it occurs within one year of the first offense. No criminal record is tied to the fine.

In summary, the panhandling ordinance does not ban panhandling; it

merely sets limitations. Persons who are standing, sitting or performing music and merely displaying a sign that requests money are not considered to be violating the law. Unlawful panhandling behavior, however, is treated as a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in the city or county jail.

### Panhandling Q & A

- Q. Must panhandlers register with the police?
- A. No.
- Q. Do the police patrol on foot?
- A. Not in every ward but in some.
- Q. Can panhandling legally take place at night?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What is the most common technique used by panhandlers?
- A. The panhandler asks for a specific amount for a specific need.
- Q. Do panhandlers typically engage in aggressive behavior?
- A. Rarely.
- Q. What are the three most common types of aggressive behavior displayed by panhandlers?
- A. Obscene language, touching and/or following the person being solicited for money.

### Buying • Selling • Renting • Management

Your Sheridan Road Condo Specialists

**Important notice:**  
If you are planning on renting your condo in the spring, please contact my office now.



Helen Wagner

773-334-0200

**Wagner Realty Services, LLC**

Captain's Walk Mall Phone: (773) 334-0200  
6033 N. Sheridan Rd. #5 Cell: (773) 297-0205  
Chicago, IL 60660 HMWagnerRealty@sbcglobal.net

PHONE: (773) 275-0110

HOURS BY APPOINTMENT

**DR. JACK P. HORBAL**  
**DR. KERSTIN E. HORBAL**  
DENTISTS

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## Belly dance/exercise class

By **Sandy Chaet**

The Social Committee will begin a five-week belly dance and exercise class on Jan. 17. The cost is \$50 (cash or check) for the five sessions, which will be held in the Windjammer Room from 7 to 8 p.m. on Thursday nights through Feb. 14. Whether you enjoyed the last class and are going to continue, or just want to join in as a beginner, all are welcome.

Instructor Dianne Hodges, who has been teaching for more than seven years, will give a demonstration of belly dancing and provide information about the class on Thursday, Jan. 10 in the Windjammer Room. Refreshments will be served. Come and learn to use belly dance moves to help your cardio, strengthen your abdominal muscles and enhance your femininity.

Belly dance is a dance form in which various parts and centers of the body are moved individually, independently from each other, yet ending up forming a unity. In belly dance it's the intensive use of the trunk, pelvis and rib cage that strengthens us. You do not need years of technique to enjoy the dance or be "good" at it. Belly dance will burn calories, tone certain parts of the body, give you endurance, help joint problems and allow you to look graceful and radiant.

You may register for the class at the demonstration on Jan. 10 or at the first class session on Jan. 17 between 6:30 and 7 p.m.

## Holiday party

By **Sandy Chaet**

The annual Malibu East holiday party will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 19, at 6 p.m. in the lobby.

The Social Committee will provide appetizers, desserts, wine, soft drinks, etc. Yet, the success of this party has resulted from the various foods that the residents bring to share. If you bring something, please label your dish or platter with your name and unit number.

This has been one of the best-attended events of the year. Come, mingle and enjoy the holiday cheer with your neighbors.

## Holiday fund

Malibu East is collecting contributions for its annual holiday fund, which benefits approximately 40 men and women, seen and unseen, who work hard to keep the building operating smoothly.

The fund proceeds are allocated by the Holiday Fund and Employee Recognition Committee to employees based on years of service and salary, and they're distributed at the employees' holiday party.

Please make your check or money order payable to the Malibu East Holiday Fund, and place it in the lockbox located at the doorman's station. Include a piece of paper listing your name and unit number as you'd like them to appear on the contributors' list that is given to employees.

The deadline for contributions is 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16. Any contribution received after that time will become part of the 2013 holiday fund.

**Please check your Sudler statement to make sure it lists your correct storage locker number**

### The Dialogue

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

Articles written by and opinions of the Malibu East Condominium *Dialogue* staff and contributors are their personal views and do not necessarily represent the views of Malibu East Condominium or its Board of Directors and management.

Letters to the Malibu East Condominium *Dialogue* Committee are encouraged. Its staff reserves the right to edit those letters which it sees fit to print and to print only those with constructive content. Letters to the *Dialogue* Committee may be left at the management office.

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**Rita Whaley**

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personal stories. In "Sister Love" two girls walk away, hand-in-hand, reminiscent of Tracy and Rita walking together as children. She has a series of Buddhas that arose from her interest in reflection and looking inward. Humor also finds its way into her work as with "Cow Talk," in which a boy sports makeshift horns to communicate with brightly-colored cows eyeing him curiously over the fence.

Rita had a solo show at Sunshine Gallery at Unity in Chicago two years ago. Since then she has had exhibits at multiple locations, including That Little Mexican Café, Pizzeria Aroma and Bloom Yoga Studio, as well as area art fairs, and she's a member of Edgewater Artists in Motion. Bob and Tracy help with the setup for shows. Tracy, a photographer, and Rita often exhibit their works together. They are now showing their artwork at the Swissotel downtown and nearby at St. Andrews Inn on Broadway. You can see Rita's colorful, introspective work at [www.innerviewart.com](http://www.innerviewart.com). Next time you and Rita ride the elevator together, ask about her art.

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