

# Malibu East *Dialogue*

April 2014

Your Communication and Information Resource

## Meet Violette Deschamps – our property manager

By Lori Ziesmer

Malibu East is one of the largest high-rise buildings on Sheridan Road, containing more than 867,000 square feet of space in the residential tower. Including the parking garage and the Captain's Walk mall, the building encompasses close to one million square feet of space needing to be maintained and managed. We have been fortunate to have dedicated boards of directors over the years to oversee and plan for the long-term upkeep of our building.

Many of us take for granted the day-to-day operation of a building of this size. Things don't get done on their own. Imagine the disarray if we did not have a seasoned and dedicated property manager to provide professional and accurate advice and guidance on issues involving repairs, renovation,



upgrades, maintenance, accounts payable and receivable, insurance, budgets, contracts and compliance with all state and local laws pertaining to condominiums, plus overseeing the 20-plus employees on the Malibu East staff as well as the garage operations? We are fortunate to have hired a person with all these skills, plus a background in architecture and conflict resolution, in our Certified Property Manager® Violette Deschamps (pronounced VEE-oh-let deh SHAHM).

Violette was born in the Cantons de l'Est, an agricultural region in Quebec located in the eastern part of Canada. She is the oldest of seven children. French is her native language; she



learned English later as an adult. She grew up in St. Eustache, a town of 40,000 people and an off-island suburb of Montreal in western Quebec, on the shores of the Riviere des Mille-Îles. At age 18, Violette left for Montreal, where she studied architecture at the Université de Montréal. Her career as an architect spanned more than two decades.

Violette had an architectural firm with three other partners in Montreal. The company specialized in social and institutional design and construction. Her specialty was in residential projects. Violette focused on creating

living environments for people with physical and mental impairments. She created livable and functional spaces for wheelchair-bound residents, as well as designing for many other types of needs. Some of her designs ranged from adapted showers large enough for two to three persons, so that a disabled person could receive proper assistance in the shower, to community rooms for social services that could be used by doctors, social workers, etc.

She remembers fondly a comment from a resident of a building she designed, who told her that she had not been able to walk before Violette worked on her living space. Violette installed handrails throughout the quarters, motivating the resident to walk around while holding on to the rails and therefore gaining her autonomy back. She is also very proud that all of her projects came within two to three percent of the allocated budgets.

At age 40 and looking for a new challenge, Violette took classes in negotiation and arbitration. She gained experience in conflict resolution and became a commercial mediator within the building industry. She was a member of BOMA Canada (Building Owners and Management Association). BOMA is a reputable American network of professionals involved in building ownership, management, development and leasing. They are a great source of education on management, building codes, legislation and technology development. Violette took all the management courses and training

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### Malibu East events and meetings

#### Special owners meeting

Tuesday, April 8

7:30 p.m. - Windjammer Room

#### Bedbug 101 presentation

Wednesday, April 9

7:30 p.m. - Windjammer Room

#### Easter egg hunt

Saturday, April 12

10:00 a.m. - Community Room

#### Thursday afternoon discussion

Thursday, April 17

(every 3rd Thursday of the month)

2:00 p.m. - Community Room

#### Internet security class

Saturday, April 19

10:00 a.m. - Community Room

#### Board meeting

Tuesday, April 22

7:30 p.m. - Windjammer Room

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

*Our condolences to the family and friends of Vernita Gray*



# Board meeting notes

By Neil Warner

## Tuesday, March 25, 2014

Attendance: Eleven Board members, two management representatives and 12 residents

Excused: Richard Strauss

Presiding: President Marcel Molins

### REVISIONS TO AGENDA

- 1) "Bedbug policy" was added under Old Business.
- 2) "Association-owned units" was added under Old Business.

### SALE OF UNIT 26L

Following up on the resolution passed at the special unit owners meeting immediately preceding this regular Board meeting, the directors voted to exercise its right of first refusal on unit 26L at a cost of \$105,000 plus or minus prorations.

### TREASURER'S REPORT – Joan Scholl

#### 1) Financial statement

Operating and reserve cash  
\$3,330,650

#### 2) Delinquencies

Approx. \$346,000

#### 3) Audit

A first draft of the 2013 audit is expected soon.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### 1) Aesthetics & Building Services – Carl Chadek

Committee interviewed three potential elevator cab interior design consultants and will follow up with on-site visits of their work and checking of references before recommending one.

#### 2) Garage – Martina Molins

There's a waiting list of self-park spaces. Both damage claims were approved.

#### 3) Pet – Sandy Chaet

A new gate has been installed on each dog run.

#### 4) Sports & Entertainment – Neil Warner

A new yoga class begins April 7; beginners are welcome.

#### 5) Social – Sandy Chaet

Safety presentation by Chicago Fire Department speaker was very informative. Bedbug seminar will be held at 7:30 p.m. April 9 in Windjammer Room; learn how you can detect/prevent bedbugs. Easter egg hunt will be held at 10 a.m. April 12. Zumba class resumes April 13, each Sunday at 7 p.m. in Racquetball Court (no class April 6 or 20).

#### 6) ASCO/Community Affairs – Sandy Chaet

48th Ward's annual Clean & Green will be held Saturday, April 26; contact Ald. Osterman's office for details. Alderman is working on better timing of traffic lights

and more security on Thorndale and Sheridan because of recent problems. A new dog park is being considered, along with 5K run in Edgewater in September.

### MANAGEMENT REPORT – Violette Deschamps

#### Items requiring immediate Board action

##### 1) Property & liability insurance

Multi-peril package of insurance under Sudler's master program came in well under budget.

##### 2) Garage lighting retrofit

Board approved funds to install new lighting in garage.

##### 3) 9L list of work

Management will solicit proposals for major renovation of Association-owned unit.

##### 4) 22.1 disclosure form

Approved.

#### Old business

##### 1) Elevators

Will have recommendations from elevator consultant regarding mechanical upgrade.

##### 2) Cable TV and Internet rewiring

Options are being considered.

##### 3) Voice communication, life safety

Close to completion. City will inspect system. Residents must have working smoke detectors.

##### 4) Penthouse repairs

Management is soliciting proposals.

##### 5) Garage drain repairs

Still awaiting proposals.

##### 6) Clean-out project

L tier express line has been rodded, flushed and equipped with clean-out. Awaiting proposals for clean-outs on two other tiers.

##### 7) Garage membrane repairs

Will be done after floor is power-washed.

##### 8) Garage maintenance

Management is trying to get a sweeper for a trial run; the results will determine our needs for extra electrical outlets in garage.

##### 9) Captain's Walk plumbing lining

City has issued a permit for the work. Management will schedule a start date with vendor.

##### 10) 2014 façade work

Golf will begin work on H tier March 31, weather permitting.

##### 11) Caulking & balcony membrane

Project will go out to bid.

##### 12) Captain's Walk stairwell

Board approved a motion authorizing construction of a stairwell from Captain's Walk to boat dock.

##### 13) Lobby heating

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.

Board authorized repair of defective heating coils.

##### 14) Captain's Walk & garage ventilation

Nothing new.

##### 15) Sheridan Road retaining wall

Repair work will begin soon to wall in front of Captain's Walk.

##### 16) Bedbug policy

Board approved it last month.

##### 17) Association-owned units

Two units have been listed for sale following renovations; another two must be renovated.

#### New business

##### 1) Sundeck sunshade canopies

Aesthetics & Building Services Committee will investigate the options.

### RATIFICATION OF ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

- 1) The Board voted to lease, rather than sell, Association-owned unit 33L at this time.
- 2) The Board voted to renew a tenant's lease in an Association-owned unit for another year.
- 3) The Board denied an owner's damage claim.
- 4) The Board waived a charge for bedbug treatment.
- 5) The Board denied an owner's request to reverse a parking charge.
- 6) The Board denied an owner's damage claim due to kitchen flood.
- 7) The Board rejected an owner's request to waive a door replacement charge.
- 8) The Board voted to give partial reimbursement to owner who rented the Windjammer Room.

The meeting ended at 10 p.m. and went into closed session.

### Special meeting of unit owners March 25, 2014

Attendance: Eleven Board members, two management representatives and 12 residents

Presiding: President Marcel Molins

This special meeting was held immediately before the regularly scheduled Board meeting. After an open forum to discuss the pros and cons of exercise, the owners overwhelmingly approved a motion authorizing the Board of Directors to exercise its right of first refusal on unit 26L at a purchase price of \$105,000, plus or minus prorations. President Molins voted the proxies in favor of the resolution to exercise.

## Meet Violette Deschamps

*(Continued from page 1)*

available to her through BOMA. She also managed a new condominium association in Montreal (a few years before leaving for the United States) while the property was being transferred from the developer to the association.

Violette's sense of adventure brought her to the United States in 1999. She first settled in Alabama. She was looking for a property manager position. Her English was not great at this point in her life, and she was unable to find a position in the industry. With no prior waitressing experience, Violette convinced the owner of a high-end French restaurant that she would be a perfect addition to his staff. She was hired for the position. When she left the restaurant, where she had worked approximately six months, she was about to be promoted to assistant manager.

After brief stops in Buffalo Grove, Ill., and De Pere, Wis., located near Green Bay, Violette arrived in Chicago in 2001. She took a position in leasing with Lincoln Properties. Looking for additional challenges, she worked in lease abstraction, overseeing documents for a national restaurant chain. Violette climbed the ladder toward property management in Chicago. Her first management position was with Wolin Levin at 860 N. Lake Shore Drive as the assistant manager.

One of Violette's most unusual positions was managing the Industrial Council of Nearwest Chicago, an industrial incubator in the Kinzie Industrial Corridor of Chicago. Spanning portions of Humboldt Park, West Town, East Garfield Park and Near West Side communities, the Kinzie Industrial Corridor is a modern industrial and distribution center serving the long-term needs of the area. Prior to her arrival at ICNC, Violette's incubator had four property managers in the previous 12 months. She took a month to understand the problems of the property and then made a presentation to the board, stating why she should be their next property manager. There were 20 business owners sitting on the board at the presentation. After hearing

her speak on what she considered to be the top five problems of the property and their resolutions, the board conferred and offered Violette their full support as the property manager.

The Kinzie Corridor is protected by the City of Chicago, and no retail or residential businesses can come into the area. The corridor consists solely of industrial and manufacturing businesses. Violette stayed five years at ICNC. She replaced the windows and the roof of the building. She used her architectural skills and knowledge to break down large unoccupied spaces and designed them into smaller spaces that fit the needs of future start-up tenants. She would then oversee the build-out of each new space for the new tenants once a lease had been signed. When she made the decision to leave ICNC, she had achieved her professional goals and the building was 99% occupied. She also had resolved all the safety and environmental issues that had plagued the buildings before her arrival.

The remainder of Violette's professional career has been spent in the Chicago residential property arena. She spent three years with Draper and Kramer at Newport Condominiums on South Lake Shore Drive and then at the 3950 N. Lake Shore Drive property. She joined Sudler Property Management in 2009. Her first property with Sudler was the Hemingway House, located in Lincoln Park on North Clark Street. Violette has been the property manager at Malibu East Condominium since November 2012.

Violette is a Certified Property Manager® with the Institute of Real Estate Management since 2004, CMCA® (certified manager of community associations) since 2010, and a Licensed Community Manager with the State since 2012.

For those not familiar with the steps to become a Certified Property Manager®, each applicant must pass seven required courses given by IREM, including marketing, human resources, asset management and ethics; complete a management plan on a subject building; pass the CPM certification exam; and have three professional references with recommendations. This

is a difficult title to acquire and takes several years to achieve. My research found that only 70% of all residential property managers are currently certified by IREM either as a Certified Property Manager or an Accredited Residential Manager.

With the number of special projects the Malibu East Board of Directors has planned over the next several years, we should all feel confident in Violette's capabilities to manage them. She is involved in getting each request for proposal sent out to vendors being considered for projects and organizing them to present to the Board. With her background in architecture and construction, she is extremely capable of explaining structural/technical issues on the various projects. She enjoys project work and is happy to be working on multiple opportunities in addition to the day-to-day operation. Currently our Board is working on upgrading the elevators, with the construction work to potentially begin later this year, along with the remodeling of the inside of the elevator cabs. TV and Internet wiring upgrades are also being worked on by the Board, so it appears Violette will be busy managing projects for the foreseeable future.

In her spare time Violette enjoys traveling. She recently returned from a trip to Costa Rica. She enjoys going back to Montreal to see her brothers, sisters and friends. She likes everything about New York, and she hopes someday to go to Singapore. Favorite restaurants include Ras Dashen, two blocks from Malibu East on Broadway, which serves Ethiopian food, and Chez Joël Bistro Français on Taylor Street in Little Italy. Violette also enjoys sewing, photography and roller blading. An interesting fact is that she has never owned a television and prefers to learn about current events in the world by reading the newspaper or listening to the radio.

Violette brings a wonderful French Canadian flavor to our building. I had never met her before she graciously spent 90 minutes with me so I could interview her for this article. I asked her what we could do to make her job easier. She asked that if we see or hear

*(Continued on page 6)*



## 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](http://tinyurl.com/27YYYN)

#### EDGEWATER BRANCH LIBRARY

Now open for business at  
6000 N. Broadway  
Mon. and Wed.: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Tue. and Thu.: noon - 8 p.m.  
Fri. and Sat.: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
(closed on Sundays)

[tinyurl.com/5L55TL](http://tinyurl.com/5L55TL)

#### EDGEWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

##### Annual fundraiser at Ethiopian Diamond Restaurant

Wed., April 23, 6-9 p.m.

"Motoring through Edgewater" theme. See website for details.

**Current exhibit: "Gems from Our Collection"** (thru June).

Regular museum hours:  
Saturday and Sunday 1-4 p.m.  
5358 N. Ashland Ave.  
773-506-4849

[www.EdgewaterHistory.org](http://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

[www.whitecranewellness.org](http://www.whitecranewellness.org)

#### 2013-14 Board of Directors

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

### THEATER / SHOWINGS

#### CITYLIT THEATRE

**"A Crime in the Neighborhood"** by  
Suzanne Berne

The audience has to ask, "What really was the crime?"

Through April 13

**"The Haunting of Hill House"** by  
Shirley Jackson

The greatest haunted house story ever written.

Through May 11

1020 W. Bryn Mawr  
773-293-3682

[citylit.org](http://citylit.org)

#### JACKALOPE THEATRE

**"The Killing of Michael X"** by Cory  
Hinkle

A humorous, tragic and intensely human world premiere set in Middle America.

Through April 13

Broadway Armory  
5917 N. Broadway  
[jackalopetheatre.org](http://jackalopetheatre.org)

#### NEWHART FAMILY THEATRE -

##### LOYOLA

**"Hot Mikado"**

Gilbert & Sullivan turned into a mix of jazz, gospel and vaudeville.

April 4-13

1020 W. Sheridan Road  
773-508-3847  
[blogs.luc.edu/artsalive/theatre-mainstage/](http://blogs.luc.edu/artsalive/theatre-mainstage/)

#### RAVEN THEATRE

**"Playboy of the Western World"** by  
John M. Synge

What happens when a handsome young stranger saunters into a Dublin pub telling grand tales and boasting of dark deeds?

Through April 5

6157 N. Clark  
773-338-2177  
[raventheatre.com](http://raventheatre.com)

#### STEEP THEATRE

**"If There Is I Haven't Found It Yet"**  
by Nick Payne

An insightful comedy looking at a family who must find the fine line between saving the world and saving themselves.

April 18 through May 24

1115 W. Berwyn  
866-811-4111  
[steeptheatre.com](http://steeptheatre.com)

## Chocolate Feast a sweet success

By Betty Mayian

How do you measure success? Personally, I think an event is a success if I have a good time. Well, the 30 or so neighbors who came to our Chocolate Feast said they enjoyed it – they had a good time. Could we have had a more successful event? Yes, if more people would have come. I swear, when I got into the elevator, three people commented that they had wanted to go, but forgot – or just got home.

The dessert tables were set with plastic cloths. The people who came brought so many different types of chocolate treats. There were cakes, pies, cookies, candies, fudge, brownies, etc. Jovita Duran made Mexican hot chocolate – very good. We had coffee and water to help quench our thirst.

We joined friends and neighbors (old and new ones, too) in conversational groups. What a pleasant way to spend a couple of hours on a cold Sunday.

We are bantering about having a "tea" for a coming activity. You know, scones, small sandwiches, finger food – and teas. This might be up your alley, right?

Watch for more from your Social Committee. Join in with ideas by leaving a message for Sandy Chaet of the Social Committee or coming to the next committee meeting. We want to hear more of your thoughts.



Photos by Ken Ilio

# Securing your computer, personal information

By Bob Whaley

Note: Rather than copying the Internet links in this article, you may find it easier to go online to [www.malibueast.org/Dialogue](http://www.malibueast.org/Dialogue) and copy the links from the article into your browser.

**Should I worry about computer security?** Do you leave your doors unlatched, with the keys in the lock? Do you let your purse hang open with an open wallet in it? Do you leave your purse in your cart while you shop? Each of these behaviors has caused quick, but limited, financial damage to my friends and relatives. However, not protecting your information from Internet threats can cause you to suffer much greater loss and annoyance for a very long time. If you are fortunate, you will be victimized only by "AND" (Annoying but Not Dangerous) attacks, which install unwanted toolbars, send you hundreds of ads and popups, or trick you into downloading unwanted software and then attempt to charge you for it. If you are unfortunate, you may be severely affected. Our mailman, Rich, said the other day that his identity had been stolen seven years ago, and people are still applying for credit cards in his name.

**How big is the threat to me, personally?** Very big. Experts estimate that many millions of U.S. PCs are infected with "botnet" robotic software, which sends your personal data to the perpetrator. Your PC may also be "hacked" by malware such as viruses, worms and Trojans, developed by thousands of industrious and ingenious thieves around the world. See:

[http://netforbeginners.about.com/od/v/f/virus\\_def.htm](http://netforbeginners.about.com/od/v/f/virus_def.htm)

**How might I cause my PC to become infected with malware?** Here are five common ways you might make it happen. See:

<http://netsecurity.about.com/od/securityadvisorie1/f1/5-Common-Mistakes-That-Might-Get-You-Hacked.htm>

**How can I minimize malware impacts on my PC?** Here is an easy-to-

understand article from our Department of Homeland Security:

<http://www.us-cert.gov/sites/default/files/publications/>

TenWaystoImproveNewComputerSecurity.pdf

They stress the importance of high-level security protection by your Internet service provider (ISP). Many ISPs use encryption, filters and firewalls to stop about 35% of the threats. A good ISP will also quickly recognize, choke off and warn users about developing threats.

**After a hack attack succeeds, what then?** Cleaning up your PC may be long and difficult, requiring you to run malware removal software, restore your system to an earlier date or completely reinstall the operating system, e.g., Windows. Doing this erases all data on that disk partition (usually C:). Then, you must reinstall all the application software - e.g., M/S Office, accounting, photo managers, etc. - that you use. This can take you days or weeks to fully recover from. Much of the data is often lost forever.

**How can I minimize the extent of this problem?** There are several ways to minimize the impact. First is prevention. If you set up your PC with partitioned drives and save all files and data to a different partition or disk drive, you will not lose them if you must reinstall Windows. Backup software must first be set up, run and checked regularly.

Installing a top-quality Internet security suite is a must. Currently, McAfee Security Suite is top-rated, and any current AT&T U-verse subscriber may download and install it for free:

[http://www.att.com/esupport/article.jsp?sid=KB402441&cv=803#fbid=74\\_xRae8NRy](http://www.att.com/esupport/article.jsp?sid=KB402441&cv=803#fbid=74_xRae8NRy)

To avoid the loss of very sensitive or valuable data, it might be best to have a real professional assist you with the setup and recovery.

**Internet security class for Malibu East residents.** At 10 a.m. April 19 in the Community Room, I will teach a free class on the basics of how to proactively protect your information and recover from hack attacks.

*Bob Whaley has been working with computers and technology planning since 1966.*

**✂ Clip & Save ✂**

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Doorman's Station ..... 773-271-1769  
 Garage Office..... 773-271-5193  
 Management Office ..... 773-271-1732  
 Receiving Room ..... 773-271-2608

**CAPTAIN'S WALK MALL**

Dr. Ahmad Bastani ..... 773-506-9600  
 Drs. Jack & Kerstin Horbal... 773-275-0110  
 First Commercial Bank..... 773-564-4122  
 Sheridan Hair & Body Studio 773-561-6595  
 Malibu Cleaners..... 773-728-6023  
 Malibu Convenient Store ..... 773-769-5440  
 H. M. Wagner Realty..... 773-334-0200

**CITY SERVICES/UTILITIES**

Aging & Disability..... 312-744-4016  
 Alderman Harry Osterman.... 773-784-5277  
 Assessor's Office ..... 312-443-7550  
 AT&T ..... 800-288-2020  
 AWB..... 312-951-9600  
 Chicago Transit Authority .... 312-664-7200  
 Chicago Park District..... 312-747-2200  
 City Hall Inquiry & Info ..... 312-744-5000  
 Com Ed..... 800-334-7661  
 Consumer Services ..... 312-744-4006  
 Edgewater Branch library ..... 312-744-0718  
 Family Pride Laundries..... 630-620-4700  
 48th Ward Streets & San..... 312-744-2130  
 Police (24th Dist.)..... 312-744-5907  
 Police/Fire Emergency Only..... 911  
 Police/Fire Non-emergency ..... 311  
 RTA Travel Information ..... 312-836-7000  
 USA Wireless ..... 800-433-4558

**Board meeting dates**

April 22	September 23
May 27	(budget review)
June 24	October 7
July 22	November 18
August 26	December 16
September 9	
(annual meeting)	

**"Town Crier" announcements by Caitlin Gilman**

We welcome all new residents to our building, including:

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

## Very different life paths led to historic marriage

By Beth Robinson

With cake and about 100 guests, Ken Ilio and Ron Dorfman, longtime residents of Malibu East, celebrated their marriage in a reception at Phil Stefani's 437 Rush, formerly Riccardo's, in January. The location had special significance for Ron, who had spent many hours there with fellow journalists after hours.



Ken and Ron had made history as the first gay men to legally marry in Illinois when a Catholic woman priest conducted their wedding ceremony in the Northwestern Memorial Hospital chapel in December. Coincidentally, the first gay women to marry in Illinois (Nov. 27), Vernita Gray and Patricia Ewert, also were Malibu East residents. (Vernita died at home March 18 at age 65 after a long battle with breast cancer.) A judge had granted both couples the right to marry before the Illinois gay marriage law takes effect, due to health considerations. Ron Dorfman had a serious heart condition and passed away at home Feb. 10 at age 73.

Marriage also gave official recognition to a committed relationship that lasted 20 years. Ron and Ken met on a Saturday evening in 1994 at an AIDS Foundation fundraiser, where they sat next to each other as guests of one of the sponsors. They hit it off right away. Ron drove Ken home, and they promised to be in touch the next week, but neither had a pen to write with, so they agreed to contact the sponsor's secretary for the information on Monday. Ken, however, could not wait until Monday. A speed reader, Ken went through all the "Rons" in the phone book until he found the one with an address on Sheridan Road. He says he was lucky that Ron's last name began with "D" instead of "Y" or "Z." Ken made that phone call, and he and Ron spent the next 20 years together. They entered into a civil union in 2004.

Ken did not think much of marriage until the opportunity presented itself, and then he was glad to have that option. He loved wearing the wedding band, though

sometimes he forgot to put it on. The secret to their long-lasting relationship, according to Ken, was shared beliefs ... and separate bathrooms!

Ron Dorfman, a graduate of the University of Chicago, was highly regarded for his contributions to journalism in Chicago. He worked for a number of publications and news organizations, including the City News Bureau of Chicago, the *New University Thought* (a University of Chicago progressive journal), *Chicago* magazine and the *Chicago's American* newspaper. Most recently he was on the board of *In These Times*, a nonprofit magazine.

In 1968, Ron and other journalists were troubled by the one-sided coverage of the Democratic National Convention demonstrations in the Chicago media. They believed that the press had slanted the stories about the violent confrontations between demonstrators and police in favor of then-Mayor Richard J. Daley and the police. During a gathering at Riccardo's, they started the *Chicago Journalism Review*, significant in journalism because it was one of the first publications devoted to media criticism. In 1970, Ron became the first editor of the publication.



Ken Ilio (left) and Ron Dorfman

Ken studied to be a veterinarian in the Philippines, his home country, and received a master's degree in New Zealand before coming to the United States to earn a Ph.D. in reproductive biology at the University of Illinois in Urbana. His professional experience includes teaching at Columbia College and directing research at Stroger Hospital. Currently he teaches biology at a high school in Hammond, Ind.

A self-described "foodie," Ken developed an interest in Filipino cooking in the 1980s when he went to New Zealand and was asked to represent the Philippines at events and gatherings. He learned a lot about Filipino cuisine and figured out how

to make dishes even though some of the ingredients were not available in New Zealand. He has since created an iPhone app called Manong Ken's Carinderia and a website ([carinderia.net](http://carinderia.net)) devoted to the subject ("Carinderia" is a Filipino eatery where customers order food that is on display). The sumptuous food pictures on the website highlight Ken's current passion – photography. He has been creating photowalks for Chicago vistas and landmarks. One photo from his study of the Picasso sculpture in Daley Plaza was recently featured in the "Around Town" section of the website [Chicagoist.com](http://Chicagoist.com).

Over the years, both Ron and Ken have been involved in advocating for gay rights. Ron was on the board of Chicago House and a contributor to the Chicago Gay History Project. Ken once edited an online Filipino LGBT magazine. He was awed by the experience of speaking to a crowd of 250,000 people in Central Park at the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall parade in New York City, on behalf of LGBT groups in the Philippines, who could not attend the event.

A memorial for Ron will be held on April 10, once again at Phil Stefani's 437 Rush.

### Meet Violette Deschamps

(Continued from page 3)

something that does not appear to be right, to report it to the Management Office. When the Management Office sends out requests for information, please be proactive and kindly respond. For example, if you have not updated your contact information yet for 2014, please take a few minutes to do so. You might be saving yourself a big headache, as I did when my hot water heater burst and I was able to be called at work, because my contact information had been updated on file.

I feel extremely confident in Violette's abilities to be the property manager of our condominium association. Knowing that someone with her intelligence, attention to detail and years of experience in the industry is watching out for all of us assures me that Malibu East will continue to be the caliber of building that we can all be proud to call our home.



## What's happening around the building

By Violette Deschamps, Malibu East Manager

**Facade repair work:** As announced earlier in March, the facade project will start this year on the H tier on March 31, weather permitting. Golf Construction will install the scaffold on Monday, to be followed by Klein and Hoffman's balcony/facade inspections on Tuesday or Wednesday, weather permitting. Please have your balconies ready as indicated in the notice we distributed to each unit in the affected tiers. The first step of this project consists of assessing the potential damage to each balcony in

the tier and the repairs that will be needed.

**Life safety:** Per the City of Chicago, you MUST have a smoke detector in your unit in working condition. This is NOT a new rule; it is there because smoke detectors save lives.

You may want to test the battery in your detector by pressing the test/sensor button with a broomstick. If it works, you will hear an alarm sound for a few seconds and your smoke detector will reset itself off. If you don't hear an

alarm, the battery must be replaced.

**DO NOT WAIT.** The City of Chicago may inspect units at random to check the smoke detectors in those units. The same goes for the automatic closers on unit doors. You are in violation of City ordinances if you are missing either one of these important fire-protection devices in your unit or they aren't functioning properly.

Do not hesitate to contact management should you need a new smoke detector and/or battery or a new door closer, which can be installed by our in-house staff through the work-order process.

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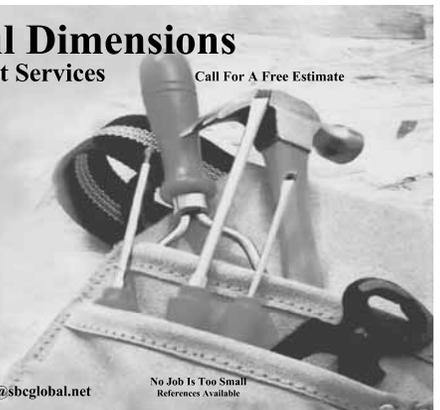
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Office: 773-878-1574  
Cell: 773-425-2239  
Email: curtisjacobsen@sbcglobal.net



No Job Is Too Small  
References Available

## Speaker provides fire safety advice

By Bob Whaley

On March 22, thanks once again to Sandy Chaet's hard work, Tom Devaney of the Chicago Fire Department gave a presentation of fire safety for high-rise residents. Unfortunately, only about 25 residents attended this very informative talk, complete with video and question-and-answer period.

Devaney first showed a video that demonstrated the ways recommended by the CFD for surviving a fire in a high rise, without injury. He then began his talk by stating his personal, unofficial belief that installing sprinkler systems in concrete and steel buildings like ours is not only unnecessary, but that the breaching of walls required in their installation may actually create more pathways through which fire can travel.

A building like Malibu East is one of the safest places in which to survive a fire. And, the best place in our building is your own unit. Stay there if the fire is somewhere else.

If you didn't attend the presentation, why don't you take this quick quiz?

- 1) If I smell smoke, I should immediately call:
  - a) Our doorman.
  - b) My ex-husband.
  - c) 911.
  - d) 311.
- 2) Red boxes containing "firefighter" phones have been installed in the stairwells at every floor ending in 0 or 5. If there's a fire, you may use them for calling:
  - a) 911.
  - b) 311.
  - c) Firefighters in our building.
  - d) Doorman.
  - e) You may not use them.



Tom Devaney

- 3) If I live on the 43rd floor, when I hear the fire alarm, I should:
  - a) Climb to the roof.
  - b) Climb to the basement.
  - c) Ride an elevator down.
  - d) Stay in my unit.
- 4) If my barbecue's propane tank begins to leak or flame, I should first:
  - a) Throw it off the deck.
  - b) Throw it into the pool.
  - c) Throw it into the lake.
  - d) Call 911.
  - e) "Your what?"
- 5) I love my pet dearly. In case of fire, I should do the following:
  - a) Put a wet towel at the bottom of doors.
  - b) Put a wet towel around your pet.
  - c) Leave, but prop the door open so your pet can escape.
  - d) Throw him into the pool.
- 6) I am handicapped. In case of fire, I should:
  - a) Install sprinklers.
  - b) Buy a fire extinguisher.
  - c) Slide quickly down the stairs.
  - d) Call 911.

### Quiz answers:

- 1) c), and then a)
- 2) c)
- 3) d)
- 4) (Possession of a propane tank in a

high rise violates the Chicago Municipal Code. Only an electric starter may be used to start a charcoal grill.)

- 5) a) (Always close doors but leave them unlocked. An open door could allow the fire to spread. If you have to vacate your unit, take a flashlight and/or your pet with you.)
- 6) d) (Before then, please call the Management Office, which maintains a list of persons/units needing special assistance at the doorman's station.)

### Other things to remember:

- Make sure you have a working smoke detector in your unit.
- Never use an elevator during a fire.
- Don't open your balcony door unless the smoke and heat build up inside your unit, in which case you should open it only slightly and then call 911 to notify them of your predicament. Any added oxygen will fuel the fire and may cause a backdraft.
- Don't open the unit door to the corridor without first feeling the doorknob with the back of your hand to see if it's hot. If it is, stay in your unit until a fireman gives you instructions.
- Keep an ABC-rated, handheld fire extinguisher in your kitchen.
- Never go to the roof.

## The Dialogue

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