

# Malibu East Dialogue

March 2017

Your Communication and Information Resource

## Aida Calvopina: A life of all-conquering love

By Tracy Poyser

Those words in the headline are big words – but in the case of our neighbor Aida Calvopina, they're no exaggeration.



Aida's cheerful presence has been a given at almost all of Malibu East's social events over the years, from behind-the-scenes organizing to helping serve food at our scrumptious buffets, especially her delicious home-baked lemon cake.

I knew she grew up in Ecuador; both of us had been part of an immigrant exhibit at the Edgewater Historical Society last year. And, she had told me that her volunteering went way beyond our walls – she admits that she's always been a people person. I was intrigued about what brought her to the U.S. and our own vertical United Nations, so she invited me to tea at her home last month – a few days before her 85th birthday (she still calls herself a "junior senior"). I hope her story will touch your hearts as much as it did mine.

Aida was born in Quito, Ecuador, in February 1932 as the oldest of five siblings – three boys and two girls – raised by their mother with the support of an aunt. The close-knit family lived comfortably in a good Quito neighborhood. In the footsteps of her mom, Aida became a strong, independent young woman and had even started a small business of her own. Then, in her early 20s, she met the love of her life – Oswaldo (Ozzie) Calvopina, who was five years older and from a different neighborhood. Sadly, her mother was totally opposed to the match, and Aida tried to find solace by visiting a family friend in Chicago.

her brothers moved to the United States also, although the older one moved back to Ecuador where he became a partner at Price Waterhouse.

Aida and Ozzie both worked hard to build their own American dream. He learned bookbinding at the Newberry Library, where he knew more than some of the librarians, and later switched to the electricity field. Aida, who had almost died during childbirth in 1956, didn't start working outside the home until their only son was 14 years old (she now has two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren). Having strengthened her English skills in restaurant work, she made a stellar 25-year career in banking, starting at Lakeview Bank and then Continental Bank, where she was able to use her Spanish skills as an interpreter for Hispanic customers. Continental Bank even sent her to Mundelein College and paid her tuition to study communication as she advanced in her banking career.

After 22 years in the Addison/Damen neighborhood, Aida and Ozzie decided to move to Malibu East in 1977, attracted by the location, the building amenities, the security and the multicultural flair of our community. But, just short of their 40th wedding anniversary, tragedy hit the loving couple in January 1996 when Ozzie died of a virulent stomach cancer that had been in remission for three years. Aida was devastated and fell into a deep depression. She tried to find healing through her church community (St. Gertrude's) and therapy support, but for four years, nothing seemed to console her until the year 2000 when a therapist suggested that volunteer work would bring her spirit back to life.

Ever since then, honoring her Ozzie's love by helping others became Aida's true calling and "brought her back to sanity." It just so happened that Mather Lifeways Foundation – new to our area –

*(Continued on page 6)*



Knowing very little English, she arrived with a broken heart at Midway Airport in April 1955 (the same year that O'Hare opened to commercial air traffic). But, to her delight, her Ozzie followed her to Chicago only 3½ months later. So that nothing else could come between them, they got married in the Ecuadorian consulate the Monday after his arrival, with a church wedding a bit later. Sadly, Aida's mother did not forgive easily, and it took her 11 years to speak to her daughter again. Aida kept in close touch with all her siblings. Both of

### Malibu East events and meetings

#### Special meeting of unit owners

Tuesday, March 14  
7:30 p.m. - Windjammer Room

#### Thursday afternoon discussion

Thursday, March 16  
2:00 p.m. - Community Room  
(every 3rd Thursday of the month)

#### St. Patrick's Day happy hour

Friday, March 17  
5:30-8:30 p.m. - Windjammer Room

#### Board meeting

Tuesday, March 28  
7:30 p.m. - Windjammer Room

#### Dialogue staff meeting

Wednesday, April 5  
7:30 p.m. - Community Room

Leave event and meeting notices at the desk for the *Dialogue*. For more events: [malibueast.org/calendar](http://malibueast.org/calendar)



# Board meeting notes

By Neil Warner

## Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2017

Attendance: Ten Board members, two management representatives, two residents  
Excused: Carl Stahlheber, Thomas Vaughan  
Presiding: President Marcel Molins

### REVISIONS TO AGENDA

- 1) None.

### TREASURER'S REPORT – Joan Scholl

#### 1) *Financial statement as of Jan. 31*

Operating and reserve cash  
\$3,008,320  
Investment in units  
\$3,453,166 (22 units)  
Excess of operating revenue over expenses  
\$31,699

#### 2) *Delinquencies*

\$413,239, including \$272,750 from former residents, less \$275,000 allowance for doubtful accounts

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### 1) *Garage – Martina Molins*

The garage was 39 cars below capacity as of Jan. 31. Fifteen residents are on waiting list for single self-parking spaces. One damage claim in January; it was approved.

#### 2) *Units/Redecorating – Carl Chadek*

Redecorating materials were chosen for two units the Association recently purchased. Committee will try not to repeat the materials selected for any two units that are on the market simultaneously.

#### 3) *Sports – Neil Warner*

Yoga will be offered two nights a week – Mondays and Thursdays – beginning in March. Each night is considered a separate class. New members may join the first session of the month and must commit to a full month of classes.

#### 4) *Social – Sandy Chaet*

A St. Patrick's Day happy hour will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 17 in Windjammer Room. An Easter egg hunt will be held Saturday, April 8, and a high tea on Sunday, May 7; details to follow. The discussion group meets at 2 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room.

#### 5) *ASCO & Community Affairs – Sandy Chaet*

ASCO will hold a meeting in the Windjammer Room at 7 p.m. March 22, when police representatives will discuss safety on Sheridan Road; residents are welcome to attend. 48th Ward Senior Wellness Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 13 at Broadway Armory Park; free. Seniors can apply for \$50 sewer rebate (see article, page 5). A dog park is being planned east of Lake Shore Drive near Bryn Mawr; petitions will be available in the Management Office. If you'd like to join the planning committee for the dog park, leave your name and phone number for Sandy Chaet or contact Ally at the 48th Ward office (773-784-

5277). The ward is setting up subcommittees to plan walks and bike rides through neighborhoods, as well as developing bike safety and education; contact Ally if you'd like to participate. A development is being proposed to replace Superior Car Wash at 6145 N. Broadway, with 105 residential rental units and first-floor commercial space.

### MANAGEMENT REPORT – Violette Deschamps

#### Items requiring immediate Board action

##### 1) *26L sale*

Directors set a meeting of unit owners for March 14 to approve sale of Association-owned unit 26L.

##### 2) *Structural investigation: garage*

Board hired a consultant to investigate cracking in columns on second floor of garage.

##### 3) *Lease cancellation provision*

Directors voted to give lessee of Association-owned unit a lease extension with a 60-day cancellation provision.

##### 4) *Payment plan for unit owner*

Board approved a payment plan for a unit owner to reimburse the Association for legal fees.

##### 5) *Cigarette smoking fine*

Directors voted to fine a unit owner \$200 for violating Association rules in regard to smoking in common area.

##### 6) *22.1 disclosure statement*

Approved as amended.

#### Old/new business

##### 1) *Facade/balcony project*

Consultant's bid documents are being reviewed.

##### 2) *Elevator report*

Board's elevator project consultant and its vendor are working to resolve recent issues involving elevator outages.

##### 3) *Captain's Walk ADA restrooms*

Waiting for City to issue permit.

##### 4) *Captain's Walk stairwell*

Management finished review of architect's documents.

##### 5) *Captain's Walk internet service*

Contract is being finalized.

##### 6) *Realtors' sale/lease reports*

Realtors report accelerated activity in commercial unit spaces and Association-owned residential units.

##### 7) *Rules revisions*

Nothing new.

##### 8) *Association-owned units*

Three units were sold in February, a fourth has been approved for sale, and another has a sales contract and awaits approval of owners. Once these sales have closed, the Association will own 17 units, 14 of which are being rented.

##### 9) *Harassment training*

Directors set a date for the required training.

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.

### 10) *2017 Board election date*

Annual meeting date has been moved to Sept. 19.

Meeting ended at 8:50 p.m. and went into closed session.

## Special meeting of unit owners

Feb. 21, 2017

Presiding: President Marcel Molins

After treasurer Joan Scholl's recap of Board's history regarding Association-owned units 15H and 28E, owners approved a resolution authorizing directors to sell unit 15H for \$270,000, plus or minus prorations, with \$2,500 credit to buyer, and a second resolution authorizing directors to sell unit 28E for \$284,000, plus or minus prorations, with \$4,000 credit to buyer. President Molins voted the proxies in favor of both resolutions, both of which passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned, followed by special Board meeting.

## Special meeting of Board of Directors

Feb. 21, 2017

Attendance: Twelve Board members, one management representative, seven residents  
Presiding: President Marcel Molins

### REVISIONS TO AGENDA

- 1) "26L sale offer" was added to Items Requiring Board Action.

#### Items requiring Board action

##### 1) *15H sale*

Directors approved the sale of Association-owned unit 15H for \$270,000 less \$2,500 credit to buyer.

##### 2) *28E sale*

Board approved the sale of Association-owned unit 28E for \$284,000 less \$4,000 credit to buyer.

##### 3) *26L sale offer*

Directors authorized President Molins to finalize negotiations on the sale of Association-owned unit 26L, based on buyer's offer of \$199,000 with a closing credit to be negotiated.

#### Other business

##### 1) *Landscape architect interviews*

Representatives from four landscape architectural firms made presentations to the Board, and answered questions, about their ideas for landscaping and decorating the ground level of Malibu East's property.

Meeting ended at 10:27 p.m.



## What's happening around the building

By Violette Deschamps, Malibu East Manager

**SMOKE DETECTORS AND FIRE SAFETY:** Malibu East proceeded with the replacement of the batteries of all smoke detectors installed in the water heater closets, at no charge to the unit owner.

All residential units must be equipped with at least one smoke detector installed in the vicinity of the bedrooms. Additional detectors can be installed, at your discretion, in the cooking area and/or individual bedrooms.

All smoke detectors require some maintenance: They must be kept clean, in good condition and equipped with operating batteries. Maintenance can replace the batteries and the smoke detectors for the cost of the parts only, no labor cost. The smoke detector devices have a life expectancy of about 7-10 years, after which time they must be REPLACED; check the printed instructions on your detector to determine the replacement date.

Most smoke detectors installed in the residential units of Malibu East are NOT hard-wired to the electrical panels; they are battery-operated, and batteries should be replaced regularly, if not annually. You do not need a dual carbon monoxide and smoke detector because there is NO gas or indoor fuel-burning device in the property.

### Smoke detectors save lives.

**SPILLS IN COMMON AREAS:** Malibu East is a pet-friendly building; there are an increasing number of dogs in the building; there are an increasing number of elderly dogs; and there are an increasing number of pet accidents on the residential floors. We wish the pet owners would contact either the front desk or office staff to alert us whenever their pet has an accident. That would allow the janitorial staff to remove the spill before it dries out. The cleaning will be more effective and residents happier to have these accidents taken care of in a timely manner.

Just a phone call.

**GARAGE ACCESS DOORS:** The garage consists of three levels; it is separated from the tower and adjacent stairwells with four-hour fire protection walls and three-hour fire protection doors. On the second and third floors, there are three points of entry from the garage into the tower at the disposal of the self-parkers. All garage doors leading to a corridor or a stairwell must be kept closed and latched at all times when unused. Self-parkers: You may have to pull or push a door until you hear it latching - failure to properly close a door will permit cold air to enter the tower or may allow an intruder into the garage or the tower.

The same request to pull or push the 2nd and 3rd floor garage and stairwell doors closed and latched is made to residents using any one of the staircases adjacent to the garage or any one of the garage access doors.

### A single pull or push will do.

**SLIDING DOORS:** As a reminder, for those owners who might be considering the replacement of their sliding glass doors, there are two contemporary sliding doors installed in the Windjammer Room for your assessment. The northeast sliding door has been installed by Softer Lite, and the southeast door by Illinois Sash. Both companies have been screened and interviewed by Malibu East to assure that they install products fabricated to resist the high winds associated with high-rises. The specifications of the products are in compliance with the City of Chicago's requirements and the rules of the Association. The fabrication and installation timetable of the sliding doors may take as much as five to six months. It may be a good time for you to start working on this project should you contemplate replacing your sliding doors this summer or in the fall. The contact information for both companies is available in the Management Office.

Planning.

## Restaurant review

### Mango Pickle: A bold, modern twist on Indian cuisine

By Tracy Poyser

Late last year, our local restaurant row on the west side of Broadway from Thorndale to Ardmore welcomed an exotic, colorful newcomer: the intriguingly named Mango Pickle Indian Bistro, billed as a contemporary twist on Indian cuisine. You can't miss its cheerful orange exterior just south of Ras Dashen, together with its colorful neon-lit window and logo design in the shape of a mango. So, ever in search of interesting new taste-bud temptations, your Dialogue Diners (Neil and Debbie, Beth, James, Janet, Lori and I) gave the place a try for dinner on Feb. 10 - an easy five-block walk on a mild winter night. After our arrival at 6:30 p.m., the place filled up fast.



First, a bit of background excerpted from the many press announcements and reviews you'll find when you google them: Chef/owner Marisa Paolillo had accompanied her husband to India in 2005 for a change in his work, and during their nine-year stay she found her new calling in Mumbai, where she cooked in a California-style restaurant called Table. She has not looked back on her former corporate life ever.

She treats traditional Indian dishes with a modern approach, striving to maintain the quality of her farm-to-table ingredients. "When one cooks Indian food, there's a long time on the heat, and the colors become muddy ... so we're working

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## Community Calendar

By Neil Warner

### 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.

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

Sat.-Sun. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

5917 N. Broadway

312-742-7502

goo.gl/MSZSES

#### EDGEWATER BRANCH LIBRARY

Check out their book clubs!

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)

312-742-1945

chilib.org/locations/28

#### EDGEWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Current exhibit: "Edgewater Beach Hotel 100 Years Later"

Regular museum hours:

Saturday and Sunday 1-4 p.m.

5358 N. Ashland Ave.

773-506-4849

www.EdgewaterHistory.org

#### SENIOR WELLNESS FAIR

Information tables from more than 50 health-care providers, community organizations and government agencies.

Light refreshments and live entertainment provided. Free.

Monday, March 13, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Broadway Armory Park

5917 N. Broadway

773-784-5277

### THEATER / SHOWINGS

#### IDLE MUSE THEATRE

**"The Scullery Maid" by Joseph Zettelmaier**

As King Edward celebrates an uneasy truce with France, the lowliest servant in Nottingham castle, Miriam the scullery maid, initiates a murder plot that will see him dead before the night is done, no matter the cost.

March 16 thru April 9

Edge Theater

5451 N. Broadway

773-340-9438

idlemuse.org

#### JACKALOPE THEATRE

**"The Snare" by Samantha Beach**

When Ruth mentions at the dinner table that the Devil has been talking to her, her pastor mom and family struggle to help Ruth fight something only she can see.

Thru April 1

Broadway Armory Park

5917 N. Broadway

773-340-2543

jackalopetheatre.org

#### LIFELINE THEATRE

**"A Wrinkle in Time," adapted by**

**James Sie**

A heartwarming adventure across the stars, in a newly revised adaptation of a 1963 novel by Madeleine L'Engle.

Thru April 9

6912 N. Glenwood

773-761-4477

lifelinetheatre.com

#### LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

**First Friday Series: Cameren De-Caluwe**

Recent Loyola graduate Caluwe presents a recital exploring the development of early classical guitar repertoire.

Friday, March 24, 11:30 a.m.

Skowronski Music Hall

Mundelein Center

**"Romeo and Juliet," by William**

**Shakespeare**

This timeless story of true love caught in the tension of violent social conflict continues to remain brutally relevant today.

March 30 thru April 9

Newhart Family Theatre

Mundelein Center for the Fine and

Performing Arts

1020 W. Sheridan

artsevents.luc.edu/events

#### NOTHING WITHOUT A COMPANY

**"The Kid Thing" by Sarah Gubbins**

When two lesbian couples, who have been best friends for years, get together for a dinner party, an unexpected pregnancy announcement manages to rock both relationships.

March 13 thru April 15

Berger Park North Mansion

6205 N. Sheridan Road

nothingwithoutacompany.org

#### OTHERWORLD THEATRE

**"A Princess of Mars"**

When Confederate deserter John Carter is mysteriously transported to the surface of Mars, he is forced into an epic conflict between the planet's alien races.

Based on a novel by Edgar Rice

Burroughs.

March 18 thru April 1

Berger Park Coach House

6205 N. Sheridan

815-277-7855

otherworldtheatre.org

#### RAVEN THEATRE

**"The Assembled Parties" by Richard Greenberg**

In 1980, the Bascov family gathers with relatives and friends to celebrate the holidays and the accomplishments of the son they assume will one day become president of the U.S. By the year 2000, they find that fate doesn't always play by the rules and that their lives and family look much different than they had planned.

Thru March 25

**"Sycamore" by Sarah Sander**

Set in a world where all the rules have changed, this play examines sibling rivalry, sexual and gender identity, and the importance of neighbors.

March 8 thru April 29

6157 N. Clark

773-338-2177

raventheatre.com

#### REDTWIST THEATRE

**"Death of a Salesman" by Arthur Miller**

With the American Dream seemingly in his grasp, Willy Loman refuses to admit his mistakes and balance the books in his heart.

Thru March 26

1044 W. Bryn Mawr

773-728-7529

redtwist.org

#### STEEP THEATRE

**"Earthquakes in London" by Mike Bartlett**

As global destruction approaches, the lives of a climate scientist and his three estranged daughters come crashing unexpectedly back together. The play embodies the chaos of today's society, and asks us what matters most when everything's falling apart.

Thru March 18

1115 W. Berwyn

773-649-318

steeptheatre.org

## Sewer rebate available to seniors

Senior citizens who own a condo at Malibu East may be eligible for a \$50 sewer rebate from the City of Chicago.

To be eligible for the Sewer Charge Annual Refund, you must:

- Be 65 years of age, or older, as of Jan. 1 in the year for which you are applying;
- Be the sole owner, or the owner in joint tenancy, or tenancy in common of the property;
- Occupy the property as your principal place of residence;
- Own a condominium, townhouse or cooperative apartment that shares a common water bill.

If you have received this rebate in prior years, you should have received a letter requesting a signature to confirm your place of residence.

If you have not received this rebate previously – the *Dialogue* learned of this rebate only recently even though it's not new – you will have to file an application. The Management Office has copies of the application form, and you can find the instructions for this rebate and the application form online at [www.CommitteeOnFinance.org/claims/sewer.asp](http://www.CommitteeOnFinance.org/claims/sewer.asp)

You must submit three documents, along with the completed application form, to the office of 48th Ward Ald. Harry Osterman as proof that you qualify for the rebate. The three documents fall into the following categories, with one document required from each category:

- 1) Most recent water bill, which can be obtained from our Management Office;
- 2) Second installment of your most recent property tax bill showing that you received the senior citizen homestead exemption, OR a copy of the approved application for a senior citizen homestead deduction, OR the Assessor's Senior Homestead Deduction printout (call 312-443-7550 for a copy);
- 3) Proof of age, with a copy of any of these documents: driver's license, state ID card, passport or birth certificate.

The completed application form and the three supporting documents described above must be taken to Jerry Goodman at the alderman's office, 5533 N. Broadway, no later than July 1. The alderman will then present your application to the City Council for its approval. Do NOT send your application directly to the City or the Committee on Finance.

This is an annual rebate that must be applied for each year, either with a letter that you received from the City or with the application form and required attachments. After you receive your first rebate, the City should mail you a letter in February of subsequent years that requires only your signature and your affirmation that you continue to meet all of the qualifications to receive the rebate. In any case, the onus is on the homeowner to make the application.

## Happy hour

Malibu East residents can celebrate St. Patrick's Day with their own in-house happy hour in the Windjammer Room on March 17, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Social Committee, which is organizing the event, will supply wine and soft drinks. Attendees are asked to bring a snack, appetizer or finger food to share and may also bring their beverage of choice.

Come and meet new neighbors or chat with old acquaintances.

## Seeking stories

Do you know a Malibu East resident whose life story deserves to be publicized?

The *Dialogue* is looking for individuals to profile in our newsletter, but may not be aware of their stories.

You can try your hand at writing the profile yourself, or you can contact the *Dialogue* staff and, if we like your idea, we'll assign one of our staff writers to interview the resident and write the profile.

Send an email to the *Dialogue* staff at [Dialogue@MalibuEast.org](mailto:Dialogue@MalibuEast.org) or leave a note at the front desk or with the Management Office to the attention of the *Dialogue* editor.

## Mango Pickle

(Continued from page 3)

to maintain the vibrancy of the vegetables and sauces," she told Chicago Tribune reviewer Adam Lukach last September. "Color is part of the inspiration, not just in the restaurant design, but in the dishes as well."

That philosophy is clear when you walk into the long, rectangular space with its vibrant, yet tasteful wall paint, cheerfully lit bar toward the open kitchen in the back, dark wood (fairly small) tables, wall benches with colorful pillows, and intriguing art throughout. Like in trendier spots these days, the sound reduction could be better, and the soundtrack selection made conversation between opposite ends of our table a bit tough.

Matt, our server, was a credit to the place – knowledgeable, attentive without hovering, and eager to help guide us through the menu and nightly specials. We had told him that we wanted to share everything tapas-style, so he made sure that we had clean small plates for every course and that our dishes came out at nice intervals.

Unlike traditional Indian restaurants with multi-page menus, Mango Pickle's offering fit on a double-sided letter-size sheet, listing cocktails, wine, beers and non-alcoholic beverages on one side, and 11 shared plates, seven side dishes and three desserts ("mithai") on the other. Three daily specials are listed on a small add-on sheet. The menu features lamb, chicken and vegetarian choices, but no seafood.

We started with beverages: "Not Your Mama's Lassi" for Neil and me, a cocktail made with gin, feni (an Indian spirit made from cashew fruit), mango, lime and cardamom – very unlike the traditional non-alcoholic lassi made with yogurt. Beth found the hibiscus lemonade made with sparkling water refreshing but prefers it to be made with still water. Others were happy with their wine or craft beers. Some of the menu items needed a bit of translation, expertly provided by Matt, and we ended up with a nice mix:

Samosas – Acorn squash, hibiscus-date chutney, cilantro ice.

Bhel puri – Winter squash, homemade

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**Aida Calvopina**

(Continued from page 1)

was looking for volunteers in 2000 also. They accepted her on the spot, and she has worked “wherever I was needed” for 17 years, especially at the monthly Mather Edgewater luncheons, the first event that she helped with and where she serves as “ambassador” to this day.

She also signed up with the Hull House R.S.V.P. senior volunteer program (it closed five years ago). She pitched all over – causes such as the American Cancer Society, Channel 11, The Children’s Museum, the local MS Society chapter, an arthritis organization, Chicago heart research, and St. Gertrude’s “Heart to Heart” project helping the elderly of Edgewater, regardless of religious affiliation, to remain independent in their homes.

“Every project was a learning experience, and I haven’t stopped learning yet,” she smiled. Her commitment to each group lasted anywhere from five to 20 years.

She especially remembers Equip for Equality (EFE), an advocacy organization for people with disabilities, where she conducted a survey project gather-

ing information on the disability community’s interests and concerns and assisted the development team with fundraising and special events. “People remember me by my accent, and then they donate more,” she quips. In gratitude, EFE honored Aida with its 2004 Public Citizen’s Award. Chicago Sun-Times Charity Trust, where she volunteered for 10 years, is another favorite memory, especially their “Tools for Education” and “Letters to Santa.”

Of course, there were and are a bunch of fun projects also, for Mather as well as our Malibu East Social Committee led by Sandy Chaet, who relies on Aida immensely. Our longtime residents may remember those twice-a-year casino outings to Joliet for 50 people per trip, which Aida organized for seven years. She admits that the outings didn’t make her rich either. For the past few years, she’s taken charge of Malibu East’s monthly Thursday afternoon discussion group in the Community Room (at 2 p.m. the third Thursday of each month, except in July and August), where everyone’s welcome.

Whether it’s through her love for kids, her compassion for adults and people in need, her friendship for neighbors or her

dedication to church and family, she’s transformed the grief and enduring love for her Oswaldo into a force that has made a difference for thousands. I’m sure she’s a shining example of resilience and enduring loyalty to her entire extended family both in the U.S. and back in Ecuador.

“I can say I fulfilled the American dream,” Aida said, referring more to the pride she feels in her family than to any material gain she has achieved.

Please don’t hesitate to talk to her in the elevator or at our next social event, especially if giving back is in your line of vision. Hugs are OK, too!

**“Town Crier”  
announcements  
by Melody Keegan**

We welcome all new residents to our building, including:



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

**Need A Handyman?**  
**KC Beautiful Dimensions**  
 Home Improvement Services  
 Fully insured with the Association of Certified Handyman Professionals  
**Winter Specials**  
 Painting / Tile Work / Carpentry  
 Painting and Decorating - Drywall Repairs  
 Tile Installation, Kitchen - Bathroom - Backsplash  
 Ceramic, Porcelain, Marble, Glassblock, Stone  
 Regrout/Caulk Shower Stall, Floors, Tubs, Backsplashes  
 Steam Clean Tile and Grout, Seal Grout/Tile  
 Closet Designs and Installation  
 Contact Information:  
 Many Other Services Available  
 No Job Is Too Small  
 I Will Beat Any Other Shown Estimate  
 References Available  
 Office: 773-878-1574  
 Cell: 773-425-2239  
 Email: curtisjacobson@sbcglobal.net  


**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)

**I have been getting top prices for Sheridan Road condos for over 25 years. And I would love to do the same for you.**

I live here and love Edgewater. I understand what makes this area special and how to market it. I will sell your condo for the best possible price.

**Thinking about selling or buying?  
Call me. Let’s talk. 773.430.2300**  
**John Diederich/Coldwell Banker Broker**  
 edgewaterexpert.com



## Proxies wanted

By Neil Warner

Eight years ago, the Board of Directors embarked on a strategy designed to maintain the values of our condominium units in the face of a recession that proceeded to erode the value of real estate across the country. The strategy involved exercising the Board's right of first refusal, with the approval of Malibu East unit owners, on unit sales that the Board considered far below fair market value and then either renting the units or renovating them for sale at much higher prices. By all measures, this strategy has produced impressive results that impact all of our owners.

The housing decline appears to have bottomed out and is on an upturn, reducing the frequency with which the Board needs to employ this strategy. However, there continue to be occasional sales that are far below what the Board considers to be fair market value. Yet, to be able to continue its strategy of maintaining, and sometimes even increasing, our unit values, the Board strongly encourages those owners who don't have a proxy on file in the Man-

agement Office to please complete one. By signing such a proxy, you are giving the Board the authority to purchase and sell units only. This proxy does not cover any other matters that require the owners' approval. You may revoke this proxy at any time.

If you have already completed such a proxy, there is no need to submit a new one, unless you were notified that the Management Office doesn't have one on file.

Now, about the impressive results of the Board's strategy. As of Jan. 31, the Board had exercised its right of first refusal and purchased 34 units. Twelve of those units were sold during that period, increasing the recorded sales prices by an average of 59% over the purchase prices. These sales generated a \$133,000 net profit for the Association after considering improvement costs and the direct costs incurred in holding these units, such as real estate taxes, insurance and assessments. In addition, the leasing of Association-owned units generated, as of Oct. 31, 2016, a net return of \$105,000 before non-cash depreciation expense.

To put these numbers in perspective, the Board would have had to increase

assessments by 6% in 2016, rather than keeping assessments unchanged, to generate the \$238,000 net income that the sales and leases of Association-owned units produced.

Since the end of January, three more units have been sold, increasing the recorded sales prices on those units by an average of 81% over the purchase prices. A fourth unit has been approved for sale, and yet another is under contract, awaiting the approval of Malibu East owners. Following these anticipated sales, the Association will own 17 units, 14 of which are being rented. The policy of the Board is to offer at any given time only a limited number of units for sale so that Malibu East minimizes competition with owners who are offering their units for sale.

Bottom line: Unit values at Malibu East have returned to a pre-recession level, with two-bedroom units regularly selling in the \$250,000-\$284,000 range and one-bedroom units approaching the \$200,000 level.

Let's continue this progress. Show the Board that you support its strategy by completing and returning a signed proxy to the Management Office. You will be one of the beneficiaries.

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## Mango Pickle

(Continued from page 5)

crackers, raw mango, hibiscus-date chutney, cilantro ice and sev (a popular Indian snack food made from crunchy, spiced chickpea noodles).

Baingan bhārata – Charred eggplant dip, Indian crispbread, tomatoes, scalions, cilantro.

Seasonal saag paneer – Mustard greens, kale, grilled paneer, almonds, cashews, cauliflower, mushrooms.

Daily vegetable plate – Taro root kofta, ginger, broccoli, green chili, kasundi mustard, basmati rice, dal (lentils).

Butter chicken masala – Pasture-raised chicken, ghee, oven-dried tomatoes, mushrooms, garam masala.

Lamb special – Roasted leg of lamb “Dhansak,” Slagel Farms lamb shoulder (butchered in-house), cooked with a mixture of lentils and vegetables, seasoned with cinnamon, cumin and black pepper, and served with farm beets, carrots and basmati rice.

We also ordered enough “slow-rise naan” for the table – it’s a bit thicker and a bit spongier than naan baked in clay ovens and more in line with recipes from western India favored by the chef.

Most of our selections were hits, with a few misses mixed in. Everyone loved the cold, refreshing, crunchy bhel puri. Chef Marisa prides herself on her samosas – different from the usual deep-fried version, from the filling to the light, puff pastry-like crust and fragrant hibiscus-date chutney, and not too spicy. You get two large ones per serving, cut in halves. They were a favorite for most of our group. And, I took an order home to my sis and brother-in-law, who declared these were the best they had eaten outside of India. The charred eggplant dip disappeared too fast, especially after we got more of the Indian crispbread for scooping it.

The saag paneer featured a vibrant, delicious green puree with lots of complex tastes. Beth loved it, James found it too salty, and the rest of us fell a bit in between. The butter chicken masala had larger chunks of moist and flavorful chicken nestled in a sauce a bit different from what one encounters in most Indian restaurants, with more of an earthy flavor rather than predominantly buttery, and mildly spiced.

Neil, Debbie and I enjoyed the daily vegetable plate, an interesting mix of textures and flavors, especially the taro root kofta – a golden-fried ball with a soft, fragrant interior – and roasted broccoli florets. The lentils had been a bit close to the salt.

Janet raved about the lamb shoulder “Dhansak” special. The taste I had was very good, especially the complex sauce; Neil, Debbie and James thought it more average than what they expected from a specialty of the house. By the way, with in-house butchering, the cut of lamb used changes daily.

By the time dessert rolled around, everyone was sated, but Lori, Neil, Debbie and I sacrificed our diets for the sake of this review and shared all three intriguing dessert offerings:

Small bites trio – Chocolate fudge brownie, laddoo (a popular Indian ball-shaped sweet), carrot halwa.

Mango parfait with jalebi – Mango ice cream, Indian “funnel cake,” chocolate ganache, hibiscus syrup.

Butterscotch apple & orange – Panna cotta, laurel leaf, cinnamon, cookie crumble.

All had a great combination of tastes and texture, artistically presented and not overly sweet – clearly the work of a fine

pastry chef. Of the three, the panna cotta was Debbie’s least favorite. Neil enjoyed especially the carrot halwa, together with a masala chai tea, which he felt was just spicy enough. Lori and I made short work of the delicious mango parfait with its unusual toppings, accompanied by tulsi herbal tea – fragrant and healthful.

We agreed that Mango Pickle is a great addition to our Edgewater dining scene, and worth repeat visits. They serve Sunday brunch, featuring an intriguing mix of eight exotic and more regular items, including carrot halwa French toast and house-made granola and yogurt.

Chef Marisa stopped by our table, clearly passionate about her venture and welcoming guests’ feedback. Prices are a bit higher, and portions smaller, than most Devon Avenue Indian restaurants, but not out of line with the quality, freshness and unique focus of the menu. Try it, and if you bring a sense of adventure, you won’t be disappointed.

5842 N. Broadway

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Afternoon chai: 4:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat.

Brunch: 10 a.m. Sunday

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### The Dialogue

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