

# Malibu East Dialogue

August 2018

Your Communication and Information Resource

## Breaking news: WGN-TV's Sean Lewis tells (almost) all

By Tracy Poyser

Here I was, a bit daunted by agreeing to interview and photograph a skilled interviewer/news anchor and report on a professional reporter – our neighbor Sean Lewis, a Malibu East resident since 2009, an Emmy-award winning journalist and anchor of WGN-TV/Channel 9's Saturday and Sunday morning news, in addition to reporting for WGN News throughout the week. But, as soon he opened the door to the A/B combination unit he shares with his WGN colleague and friend, Chicago's favorite weatherman Tom Skilling, Sean's easy smile and sunny personality put me at ease.



Plus, he had help from Waldo the cat, a.k.a. Bubba, a two-year-old adoptee he met while hosting the Annual PAWS Chicago Fur Ball Gala at the Drake Hotel a couple of years ago. "It was love at first meow," Sean confesses, and I had to agree. He's just about the cutest little black fur ball ever, with distinct white markings for personality.

Not to be outdone by a mere feline, the condo's co-rulers are dogs Kallie and Maddie. Sean got Irish Terrier Kallie as a puppy in 2007 from a rescue in Madison, Wis. And, shortly after Sean had done a story on the Anti-Cruelty Society some eight years ago, he and Tom stopped by Anti-Cruelty and fell for pink-nosed white

terrier mix Maddie, who instantly bonded with Kallie. You can frequently see the happy pair in and around Malibu East, pulling Sean (or Tom) around on their leashes.

So, back to Sean's life story. He's a native of Kenosha, Wis., where he lived until he was 18, and considers himself an American mutt, with German, Irish, Italian, Welsh and French ancestry. His maternal great-grandmother was Sicilian. His father's side was German/Welsh. He was an only child (his parents divorced when he was quite young).



Sean was only seven and in second grade when he decided he was going to be a TV reporter, spurred on by his mother and encouraged by his Aunt Jodi, who was a TV news anchor in Nebraska – where Sean caught the bug for journalism. Coincidentally, Jodi's daughter (Sean's cousin), Christina Souter, moved into Malibu East in 2011 and built her family here. The Souters recently moved back to their native Minnesota.

True to his childhood calling, Sean spent two years each at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and UW-Milwaukee, interned in Minneapolis and Milwaukee, and graduated in 1997 with a double major in broadcast journalism and political science. Two weeks later, he started his first stint as a newly minted reporter in Fargo, N.D., where he covered the most devastating flood of the Red River of the North since 1826 (it flooded again in 2010) – and whatever assignments were lobbed his way, including city council meetings and the local police beat, which didn't quite match the wacky

"Fargo" TV series. He moved on to a TV reporter job at CBS affiliate WISC-TV in Madison, Wis., and was there in 2001 for Gov. Tommy Thompson's tearful resignation speech as the longest-serving governor in the country when he was appointed U.S. secretary of health and human services under George W. Bush.

Two and a half years later, just before his contract was up, he signed for his first full-time anchor job with ABC affiliate WTOV in Rockford, Ill. Was he nervous before his first newscast, I wondered? "Sure, but you just jump in, and nerves plus adrenaline are part of the job that never really leaves you," Sean explains. "It takes a bunch of tries before you find your own, authentic style," he recalls. His is conversational enough to put viewers and interviewees at ease, with a touch of humor, a lot of compassion and a large dose of integrity and respect for the power of the word. Plus, he had amazing role models in TV news. Growing up, he admired Peter Jennings – always classy, knowledgeable, yet down-to-earth – and, locally, he looked up to Ron Magers, Steve Sanders and Carol Marin – exceptional professionals and human beings.

In late 2004, his love for American history and politics next brought him to Richmond, Va., as weekend anchor/reporter for NBC affiliate WWBT-TV. He lived in the heart of Richmond's colonial historic district, five blocks from St. John's Episcopal Church, site of Patrick Henry's stirring "Give me liberty, or give me death!" speech he made to the Second Virginia Convention on March 23, 1775. Sean made lifelong friends in Richmond and had hoped to stay. But, his mother, who still lived in Kenosha, had been stricken with recurring metastatic breast cancer, and he used all his vacation time and free days visiting her.

In March 2007, he moved back to Kenosha to look after his mom, commuting to Chicago and a new position as anchor/reporter for Tribune Company's CLTV – the only opening he had found. Sadly, his mom died just two months

(Continued on page 8)

### Malibu East events and meetings

#### Board candidate form deadline

Friday, Aug. 10

5:00 p.m. - Management Office

#### Hawaiian luau

Saturday, Aug. 11

6:00 p.m. - South recreation deck

#### Board meeting

Tuesday, Aug. 28

7:30 p.m. - Windjammer 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, July 31, 2018

Attendance: Ten Board members, two management representatives, 10 residents  
Excused: Carol Beatty, Jake Levandowski  
Presiding: President Marcel Molins

### REVISIONS TO AGENDA

- 1) "Board meeting attendance" was added to Old/New Business.

### TREASURER'S REPORT - Joan Scholl

- 1) **Financial statement (as of June 30)**  
Operating and reserve cash \$4,506,772  
Investment in units \$2,409,658 (14 units)  
Excess of operating revenue over expenses \$217,770 year-to-date
- 2) **Delinquencies (as of July 30)**  
\$426,134, including \$240,022 from former residents, less \$310,000 allowance for doubtful accounts

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Architecture & Aesthetics - Carl Chadek**  
Landscape architect is investigating lighting options for the atrium, NW corner and Sheridan Road, among other elements of new landscaping plan. A presentation of landscaping plans will be given at the annual meeting.
- 2) **Communications & TV - Thomas Vaughan**  
A TV/internet survey for residents will be distributed soon.
- 3) **Garage - Martina Molins**  
Garage was 59 cars below capacity as of June 30. Thirteen residents were on waiting list for single self-parking spaces. There were no damage claims in June.
- 4) **Units & Redecorating - Carl Stahlheber**  
Units 9J and 33H are being renovated. Two rental units will soon become available to be renovated and then offered for sale.
- 5) **Security & Life Safety - Sandy Chaet**  
Committee and management are investigating options for replacing the damaged gate to the boat dock.
- 6) **Sports - Neil Warner**  
New yoga class begins Aug. 6 at 6:30 p.m. Newcomers are welcome only at first class of the month and must pay for entire month. Following month's class begins Sept. 10.
- 7) **Social - Sandy Chaet**  
Luau will be held Aug. 11 on south recreation deck, weather permitting; see article, page 4. "Meet the Candidates" night will be held at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 29 in Windjammer Room. Committee is

working to bring a speaker from Chicago Fire Department to Malibu East in the fall.

### 8) ASCO & Community Affairs - Sandy Chaet

ASCO fundraiser 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12 at Marty's Martini Bar, 1511 W. Balmoral. Chicago Park District is working on lakefront path separation project from Ardmore to Foster, separating bicycles from runners/walkers. Complaints were made about Fourth of July fireworks at Lane Beach Park and Kathy Osterman Beach; our alderman will talk with police about patrolling the area on holidays. Edgewater 5k Run/1 mi. Walk will occur on Sunday morning, Oct. 14, and traffic on Sheridan Road and east-west streets will be restricted from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.; see article on page 7 for details.

### MANAGEMENT REPORT - Violette Deschamps

#### Items requiring Board action

- 1) **37E tax payment**  
Board approved the payment of property taxes for this repossessed unit.
  - 2) **Landscape consultant's proposal**  
Tabled.
  - 3) **Garage west wall parapet**  
Directors voted to replace the masonry wall and railing with a similar construction, allowing for a modified railing design to comply with city code.
  - 4) **Tower west wall water infiltration remediation**  
Board approved the remediation work on one bay of the west wall at the 43<sup>rd</sup> floor as recommended by our consultant.
  - 5) **Tower west wall additional investigation**  
Directors authorized our consulting engineer to investigate the west wall of the tower on an additional six floors to better determine the extent of water infiltration and damage.
  - 6) **Unit lease renewal**  
Board approved the one-year lease renewal for Association-owned two-bedroom unit.
  - 7) **Storage locker request**  
Directors denied an owner's request for a change of storage lockers.
  - 8) **Commercial tenant's request**  
Board denied a commercial tenant's request to use a common area for an event.
  - 9) **22.1 disclosure statement**  
Approved.
- #### Old/new business
- 1) **Windjammer Room access**  
Board voted to open the Windjammer

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.

Room for residents' use from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on a trial basis whenever the room isn't rented by a resident or otherwise being used for an Association-sanctioned event.

- 2) **Boat dock cleanup**  
Nothing new.
- 3) **East air handler: flow and moisture control**  
Directors authorized upgrading the east air handler to control air flow and moisture.
- 4) **Stack effect: loading dock enclosure**  
When all proposals have been received, the Architecture & Aesthetics Committee will meet to discuss our options.
- 5) **Stack effect: garage carbon monoxide detection**  
Work is in progress.
- 6) **Seawall rehabilitation project**  
Bidding documents awaiting review.
- 7) **Garage structural repairs**  
Bidding documents awaiting review.
- 8) **Landscaping beautification**  
See Architecture & Aesthetics Committee report above.
- 9) **Balcony/facade project**  
L and M tiers are nearly finished. Work on north-side tiers is on schedule.
- 10) **Lobby/fourth-floor master plan**  
Management has solicited proposals to develop a master plan for renovating the Lobby, the east side of fourth floor and the residential hallways. Directors will interview the firms being considered.
- 11) **Captain's Walk stairwell**  
Bidding documents awaiting review.
- 12) **Captain's Walk rebranding**  
Directors will meet to discuss ideas for rebranding the commercial space.
- 13) **Convenience store status**  
New tenant is making progress in renovating the space.
- 14) **Rules revisions**  
Nothing new.
- 15) **Committee membership, format**  
Nothing new.
- 16) **Realtor lease/sale reports**  
Nothing to report.
- 17) **Association-owned units**  
Of 14 units owned by Association as of June 30, 10 were being rented, two units were listed for sale and two were being renovated for eventual sale.
- 18) **Board meeting attendance**  
Board discussed the issue of directors' attendance record for Board meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m. and went into closed session.

**Pet Corner****Pooches don't like to be hot dogs***By Tracy Poyser*

With the proverbial “dog days of summer” hitting us early this year, let's be sure our four-legged companions get to frolic safely so they don't turn into hot dogs. To that end, I asked Malibu East's own resident dog whisperer/walker Melodie Garcia for hot-weather do's and don'ts to keep your furry best friends safe. Here's her advice, supplemented with information from the Chicago Park District and other websites:

- Chicago Park District rules ban our pooches from public beaches (lifeguards will chase them off).
- There's a big fenced-in, volunteer-run dog park recently between the lakefront trail and Lake Shore Drive at Bryn Mawr. It's volunteer-monitored, so help keep it clean!
- Montrose dog beach is located at the north end of Montrose Beach at Montrose and Simonds Drive. You must also carry a Chicago Park District DFA (dog-friendly area) permit and a tag (issued by a veterinarian) to prove that your best friend is up-to-date on vaccinations.
- There's a small dog beach at the north end of Belmont Harbor at 3500 N. Lake Shore Drive. It's a lot smaller than Montrose Beach and can get crowded. Parking is \$10 on Sundays. This beach doesn't have a cleanup area, so bring a towel to keep your back seat dry.
- Sand can hide glass splinters and other debris – and gets stuck between paw pads.
- Paws get burned on hot sidewalks, concrete paths, asphalt or rocks, so stay in grassy areas or in the shade as much as possible.
- Rub some Musher's Secret on your dog's paw pads and between the toes to prevent the salt on the sidewalk from irritating the dog's feet, and in the winter it can help prevent the snow from accumulating between the toes. It's a paw protection wax you can get in pet stores or online. Use it sparingly like a sunscreen. Won't stain hardwood or carpet.
- Stay in the shade as much as you can – just think how you would feel

wearing a fur coat in summer. And, even if you're training for that triathlon, don't run or bike with your dog.

- For long walks, take water along – just pour a little in your hand or bring a little bowl.
- Never, ever leave your dog in a hot car while you're shopping – heat stroke can kill within 20 minutes!

If you want to take your pooch to a fun summer party, the Bark Bark Club, at 5943 N. Broadway, invites you to bring your dog-friendly pup to their Happy Yappy Hour for some “fun in the pool, free drinks and plenty of two- and four-legged friends” from 7-8 p.m. on Aug. 15.

Here's to a safe and happy summer for our canines and their humans.

**Congrats!**

The *Dialogue* is acknowledging Malibu East residents who are celebrating a graduation, whether it be from college, high school or junior high.

This month we recognize Rachel Blair, who recently graduated from Beacon Academy in Evanston and will enroll at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., this fall.



Congratulations on the accomplishment, Rachel.

If your family has a recent graduate that you would like the *Dialogue* to recognize, please email the graduate's name, the school from which he/she graduated and the school (or job) that he/she will next attend, along with a photo and contact information in case we need to contact you. Please put “Malibu East graduate” in the subject line of the email.

**Correction**

In the July issue, management's article misstated a few facts regarding Cook County's property tax reassessment, which is currently underway.

First, the reassessment will impact the 2018 tax, which is paid in 2019, in two installments.

Second, the results of the appeal being filed by our law firm, Worssek & Vihon LLP, won't be known until probably the beginning of next year. As a result, owners won't be billed for their portion of the fee as a result of the tax savings, if any, until next year, when they will realize the savings.

Lastly, each owner will be billed for Worssek & Vihon's legal fee based on the estimated tax savings resulting from the valuation decrease, if any, for that individual unit, not the unit's percentage of ownership in Malibu East. The estimated tax savings resulting from the valuation decrease, if any, is based on the difference between the Cook County assessor's initial assessed valuation of the unit and the Cook County Board of Review's final assessed valuation, multiplied by the most recent (2017) tax rate and equalization factor. Keep in mind, though, that the assessed valuation is only one component of the tax bill and that changes in the tax rate and equalization factor for 2018 could make the actual tax savings either lower or higher than Worssek & Vihon estimates, or could even negate the effect of the valuation reduction altogether.

Owners are billed Worssek & Vihon's legal fee only for the first year of the triennium even though they get the benefit of the reduced assessed valuation for two additional years. The results of Worssek & Vihon's appeal will be publicized in the *Dialogue* once they are known.

The other information included in the July article – such as details about the various types of exemptions, including those that will exempt an owner from paying the appeal fee – was accurate.

Management and the *Dialogue* sincerely apologize for the errors.

**Malibu East manager  
Violette Deschamps'  
article will return in  
September.**



## 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

#### CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

No CAPS/community meeting in August

#### EDGEWATER BRANCH LIBRARY

Check out their book clubs and other events.

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

chipublib.org/locations/28

#### EDGEWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Current exhibits: "Made in Chicago: An industrial history in everyday objects 1900-1970" (closes August 5th) and "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

#### EDGEWATER SATELLITE SENIOR CENTER

Organized activities for seniors, Monday through Friday, throughout the year.

Broadway Armory Park  
5917 N. Broadway  
312-742-5323

#### FARMERS MARKETS

**Andersonville:** 3-8 p.m. Wed.

On Berwyn betw. Clark & Ashland  
**Argyle:** 5-9 p.m. Thursdays

On Argyle betw. Sheridan & Kenmore

**Edgewater:** 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sat.  
SE corner of Broadway/Thorndale

**Glenwood:** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundays

On Glenwood betw. Morse & Lunt

**Loyola:** 4-8 p.m. Mondays

Loyola Plaza, 6550 N. Sheridan

#### SUMMER ON THE PLAZA

Live music every Wed. and Fri., 5-7 p.m.

CTA Red Line Loyola station  
6550 N. Sheridan  
LUC.edu/communityrelations

#### 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

#### BABES WITH BLADES

"The Lady Demands Satisfaction"

by Arthur M. Jolly

A young maiden learns that her entire inheritance will be forfeited to anyone who bests her in a duel once she comes of age. The catch? Her birthday is in a week. A farce.

Thru Aug. 25  
City Lit Theater  
1020 W. Bryn Mawr  
773-904-0391  
babeswithblades.org

#### STEEP THEATRE

"Linda" by Penelope Skinner

An award-winning cosmetics executive finds that her immaculately curated work-life balance hasn't prepared her for the battle for visibility in a world focused on everlasting youth. An Olivier Award-nominated play.

Thru Aug. 18  
1115 W. Berwyn  
773-649-3186

steeptheatre.com

#### THREE CAT PRODUCTIONS

"Cabaret on the Lake"

A free, monthly (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday) variety show giving singers, storytellers, comedians, performance artists, musicians, dancers, poets, and solo artists of every type a place to develop their work.

Friday, Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.  
Berger Park Cultural Center

"Want" by Shayne Kennedy  
An adaptation of Frank Norris' late 19th century novel "McTeague," moved from the 1800s to 2008. A staged reading. Free.

Monday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m.  
Berger Park Cultural Center  
6205 N. Sheridan  
threecatproductions.com

## Let's be eccentric

By Helen Reichert Lambin

"Eccentric: Departing from a recognized, conventional norm or pattern." (*The American Heritage College Dictionary, Fourth Edition*).



Are eccentrics made or born? Yes. But one thing is certain: Every eccentric is so in their own way. After all, what's the point of being eccentric if you're not yourself?

To celebrate wisdom eccentricity, the *Dialogue* will offer some aphorisms or pithy insights.

This month we have a slice of wisdom from an anonymous Guest Eccentric, submitted by Elaine Sundin.

**No person is utterly worthless. They can always serve as a BAD EXAMPLE.**

You are invited to be a Guest Eccentric by contributing your own sample of eccentric wisdom to the *Dialogue*. Email it to Dialogue@MalibuEast.org and place "Eccentrics" in the subject line, or leave a hard copy at the front desk to the attention of editor Neil Warner. Maximum number of pithy words: 30.

The text will appear in print, either with your name or anonymously if so requested. However, as with all editorial text, the *Dialogue* staff reserves the right to edit the text or choose not to print it.

So, up with eccentricity, wisdom and creativity. It wasn't conventional cave persons who did the cave paintings at Lascaux.

## Hula comes to Malibu East

A Hawaiian luau for residents is set for Saturday, Aug. 11 in the Windjammer Room.

The luau will begin at 6 p.m. with refreshments and music, followed by a performance from the Royale Polynesian Revue at 7 p.m. on the south recreation deck of the fourth floor, weather permitting.

If the event is held outside, please bring your own beach chair. The Social Committee will provide some appetizers, wine and soda. Please bring an appetizer or wine to share.

There is no charge to attend, but RSVP using the form on the flyer that was distributed.

## The best of TV is still ahead of us

*The following article was written by USA Wireless, Malibu East's authorized DirecTV provider. In business since 1988, USA Wireless specializes in providing TV service for large apartment and condominium buildings. Since 2005 it has had a seat on the Board of Advisors to ATT/DirecTV.*

When almost 15 years ago USA Wireless became a vendor providing TV at Malibu East, the analog TV as developed in the 1930s was still a dominant standard. But digital video recorders (DVRs) were becoming popular and digital high-definition TV (HDTV) was gaining momentum.

The old loop (riser) cabling in the building did not allow for offering either DVRs or HD service. In 2009, we used all technological tricks available to us to bring to every unit a full offering of digital standard definition programming available from DirecTV. At the same time, for early HDTV adopters, we used a method of delivering the HD signal over the existing phone lines, which had been newly developed by DirecTV.

In 2014 DirecTV discontinued this technology. Malibu East was graciously rewarded, when DirecTV paid the total cost for a cabling upgrade for both TV and the internet with what is known as "home-run" wiring. The total cost of this project was about \$1 million, equal to about \$2,000 for every unit. The actual unit owners' benefit is much higher because the new TV and internet lines raised the market value of the units.

TV technology is changing fast; high-definition TVs are not expensive anymore. Beginning in February 2018, DirecTV removed the \$10 monthly fee for HD service altogether, considering it now as a basic service with standard definition being phased out. USA Wireless will order a replacement HD receiver for any resident now using an SD receiver, and DirecTV will ship them later this year. After receiving the new receiver, the resident can call USA Wireless for help with the installation.

Likewise, today, DVRs are considered a must-have by most TV viewers. Instead of arranging their schedules around the airing of their favorite TV shows, people record these programs. Also, once they have tried a DVR, viewers cannot imagine watching TV with-

out the ability to fast-forward through commercials, go back and forth between live and recorded, or without being able to pause viewing for a coffee break.

Some say that the conventional TV might be replaced soon by streaming service options. Ironically, new streaming services mimic old-fashioned TV format. The future is in finding the balance between the two options. DirecTV is doing it already. All subscribers with DVRs can have access to about 30,000 titles of video on demand (VOD) if they connect their DVR to the internet.

In July, USA Wireless completed a major overhaul of the DirecTV backbone system at Malibu East. All the switches and amplifiers have capacities to deliver all the best of TV, including all the newest technological offerings from DirecTV. If, despite this robust upgrade, some subscribers still experience frequent pixelation (more than is typically caused by bad weather), DirecTV recommends using a new generation of splitters and TV jacks. Call us at (847) 831-4561 for a free checkup and free upgrade.

The best of TV is still ahead of us, and Malibu East is ready for it.

Greetings, Malibu East Friends!

USA Wireless appreciates your business, and our promise to you is to continue to improve our service offerings as new technology and enhancements become available.



Here are a few of the upgrades USA Wireless/DirecTV has made, at no charge to Malibu East Condo Association:

- The \$10 high definition (HD) fee was removed as of February 1st, 2018.
- Recently we upgraded the backbone of the DirecTV system, making it more robust and ready for the newest features.
- DirecTV will replace at no charge standard definition (SD) receivers with new high definition (HD) ones beginning this September.
- All residents with a DirecTV account can stream to laptop, tablet or phone, their actual programming from their account... on up to 5 devices – free.
- On Demand... Over 30,000 titles available free. \*Requires internet-connected HD-DVR.
- Lastly, with all reception-related issues, please call USA Wireless at (847) 831-4561, or email us 24/7/365 at [service@usawireless.tv](mailto:service@usawireless.tv). About programming or billing, please call DirecTV directly at (800) 531-5000.

**WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!**

The USA Wireless Team



**Restaurant review****Mussels shine at American bistro Vincent****By Beth Robinson**

The promise of steamed mussels brought a large group of Dialogue Diners to Vincent for dinner one Tuesday last month, and we were not disappointed. Vincent, an American bistro in Andersonville, has five versions of mussels to choose from, and on Tuesdays they are all half-price.

Vincent is located on Balmoral, a quiet side street just off Clark. Debbie and Neil started going to this location in the 1990s when it was the Dellwood Pickle, a funky restaurant appreciated for its comfort food. Our party of nine was too large for the sidewalk seating, so we headed inside. In the cozy wood-paneled interior of the restaurant, candles flicker on the tables. The space features an eclectic décor that changes periodically. A large gold-wrapped stag



head mounted on the wall had long leafy branch "horns" with white dangling flowers that extended across the ceiling. In the bar, colorful umbrellas hung overhead.

At our table, owner Michael Bransford (living up to his "greeter puppy" designation on the restaurant's website) came over with a warm welcome and gave us a little background. When he opened the restaurant with a partner in 2010, it specialized in Dutch cooking, offering dishes such as snert (a split pea soup served with pork belly and fried haddock). When his partner moved back to New York, the restaurant reworked its menu to focus on American bistro food.

Most diners ordered the classic dish of mussels cooked in white wine, herbs, shallot and garlic, and Neil had the Bohemian version prepared with sauerkraut, beer and caraway. No one opted for the other three intriguing choices: spicy red curry, bleu cheese or chorizo. The mussels in their shells came in individual bowls with rich fragrant broth accompanied by a generous portion of thin, salty frites with mayonnaise aioli and, upon request, toasted bread from pHlour Bakery for soaking up the broth.

Tracy remembers eating perfectly

prepared mussels when she lived close to the North Sea coast in England and Germany and finds that the dish served in Chicago venues does not always measure up to her expectations. But everyone agreed that the mussels at Vincent were excellent – plump, tender and full of flavor.

Vincent offers a full cocktail menu with seasonal and daily specials. Helen had a cocktail made of mezcal, jalapeño and honey that she thought was fabulous. Tracy and Neil recommend the ginger-flavored 2 Towns Ginja Ninja cider with the meal. Louise paired her mussels with a white wine from Spain, Albariño, which has notes of apricots and had a nice acidity to cut through the richness of the mussels.

Opinions were mixed on the three desserts that we shared: chocolate cake and a cookie with cream fraiche, macerated cherries and chili; a strawberry sundae; and a vanilla bean crème brûlée. One end of the table thought the desserts were delicious, but the other end was less enthusiastic.

Mussels is not the only item on the menu, which includes small, medium and large plates featuring vegetable

*(Continued on page 7)*



6050 N. BROADWAY CHICAGO IL 60660

We repair patio screen doors and windows screens

Can't bring the screens to us? No problem!!

We can pick them up for you.

Pickup and drop-off service now available\*\*

**\*\* Pickup and drop-off service is NOT included in the cost of the repair**

CALL US TODAY FOR A QUOTE

**773-761-5532**

**Restaurant review**  
(Continued from page 6)

dishes such as Curaçao-glazed baby carrots, cheeses and charcuterie, and entrees from bavette steak to pan-roasted chicken.

Prices are moderate and comparable to other restaurants in Andersonville. But the Tuesday night special price of \$11.50 for mussels is a real deal.

Vincent  
1475 W. Balmoral Ave.  
773-334-7168  
www.vincentchicago.com  
Hours: 5:30-10 p.m. Tue.-Thu.  
5-11 p.m. Fri.-Sat.  
10 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m. Sun.

**Plan ahead for these community events**

By Sandy Chaet

Several neighborhood activities in the next few months will impact life on Sheridan Road.

The first is EdgeFest on Saturday, Aug. 4 (11 a.m.-10 p.m.) and on Sunday, Aug. 5 (noon-9 p.m.), held on Broadway from Thorndale to Ardmore. A pet parade will be held at 11 a.m. that Saturday. To register for the pet parade and to learn more about these events, go to www.edgewater.org. The Broadway bus will be rerouted to Sheridan Road from Thorndale to Hollywood, and all other vehicular traffic will be rerouted from Thorndale to Ardmore, with most of the traffic coming to Sheridan. This will inevitably increase traffic congestion on the surrounding streets.

On Friday and Saturday Sept. 29-30, the Edgewater Arts Festival will hold its annual event on Granville from Broadway to Sheridan. Granville

will be closed from Sheridan to Broadway. Also, there will be no north-south traffic on Kenmore or Winthrop from Glenlake to Rosemont. Organized by Edgewater Artists in Motion, the festival showcases the work of numerous artists in various media, along with live music, food and beer.

Lastly, the Edgewater 5k Run/1 mi. Walk will take place on Sunday, Oct. 14 along Sheridan Road and the lakefront. The race begins at 8 a.m. from St. Ignatius Plaza at Rosemont and Kenmore. Sheridan Road will be closed to traffic from 7:30 a.m. to about 9:30 a.m. East-west traffic will be prohibited to and from Sheridan Road on all side streets during this time, except for emergency vehicles. The affected side streets include Ardmore, Thorndale, Glenlake, Granville and Rosemont.

While the race is in progress, residents from Malibu East and other buildings on the east side of Sheridan will be allowed to turn ONLY right (north) slowly out of their driveways and proceed to West Sheridan/Devon. Bus routes 151 and 147 will be rerouted to Broadway during this time also.

To register to participate in the 5k Run/1 mi. Walk, go to edgewater.org. More information to follow.

**Buying • Selling • Renting • Management**

Your Sheridan Road Condo Specialists

**Recently closed: 32K, 44E**  
**For sale: 7F**

773-334-0200



Helen Wagner

**Wagner Realty Services, LLC**

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

**Kerstin E Horbal, DDS**

My family caring for your family for over 45 years

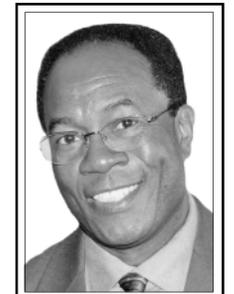
6033 N Sheridan Road  
Chicago, IL 60660

773-275-0110  
drkerstin@horbaldds.com  
www.horbaldds.com

5128 W. Irving Park Rd.  
Chicago, Illinois 60641  
**Business: (773) 283-4600**  
Home: (773) 271-7649  
Cell: (773) 520-1945  
PSmith6033@sbcGlobal.net  
**Expert service, Buying, selling  
or renting — contact Percy**

**Percy L. Smith**

**TEAM REALTOR**



**Recently closed on 20H, 17K**  
**For sale: 38F, 31G**

**Chestnut Organizing & Cleaning Service**

312-332-5575

... especially for people who need an organizing service because of depression, elderly, physical or mental challenges or other causes of your home's clutter, disorganization, dysfunction.

We also organize and clean for the deceased in lieu of having the bereaved needing to do this preparation (to sell or rent the deceased's home). Longtime references in this building.

Please visit our website for more information about us:

www.ChestnutCleaning.com

**Home Improvement Services**  
**KC Beautiful Dimensions**  
**EARLY SUMMER SPECIALS**  
BALCONY SCREENS REPAIRED - FREE PICKUP AND DELIVERY  
Tile Installation, Kitchen - Backsplash - Bathroom - Floor  
**SUMMER SPECIAL: BALCONY SCREENS REPAIRED**  
Painting and Decorating - Drywall Repairs  
Kitchen and Bathroom Designs

Fully Insured With The  
Association Of Certified Handyman Professionals  
**IACHP**  
Many Other Services Available  
No Job Is Too Small  
I Will Beat Any Other Shown Estimate

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

**Sean Lewis***(Continued from page 1)*

later. So, in summer 2007, he looked for a home in Chicago and discovered his beloved Edgewater. His first home was a spacious gut rehab across from Senn High School, and the friendliness and diversity of our neighborhood reminded him of small Midwestern towns with real people. "It's so great to walk down the street and hear languages you didn't even know existed, and restaurants that take you around far-flung pockets of the globe," he says.

Covering news in our huge city took a bit of an adjustment, but he was comfortable in Chicago. By 2008, while still with CLTV, he moved on to WGN-TV as a reporter. And, when WGN started a weekend morning news show, the station offered him the anchor position. He's held onto it ever since, while still filing reports for WGN News at 4, 5, 6 and 9 p.m. during the week. You can watch his show live every Saturday and Sunday morning from 7-9 a.m.

During his first couple of years at WGN, he had become friends with weather guru Tom Skilling, a member of the WGN family since 1978. At that time, Tom lived in Malibu East's 31C, when, in 2009, he became interested in an A/B combination unit with a glorious view and 280-degree front-row seat to those spectacular weather systems over the lake and city. Since the layout easily provided independent living quarters for two people, he and Sean became roomies, subletting rent-free to pets Bubba, Kallie and Maddie. Sean enjoys the fact that our building attracts so many young families now, plus it's our own United Nations.

Despite crazy schedules and stressful professions, Sean and Tom find time to travel to exotic locales. Past destinations include Australia, South Korea, Thailand, Bora Bora, Alaska, the United Kingdom, the Caribbean and Mexico. Their upcoming adventure will take them to London and Southampton for a trans-Atlantic return voyage on Cunard's Queen Mary 2.

At home, Sean relaxes with reading, working out, playing with the animals, cooking without following recipes – and, not to forget sleeping. He loves spending time with friends far and near.

Getting back to his life as a TV anchor/reporter, I asked Sean about the emotional impact of reporting on the dark side of life and the human condition. He admits it's not for everyone, and it's especially hard to deal with tragedy, trying to get a

story without being too invasive or insensitive. "Meeting people on the worst day of their lives is so hard," he says. It's impossible not to be affected by gang violence and shootings of children.

He's emphatic that no reporter loves to cover crime, and he's glad that WGN has the staff and time to cover the good, positive side of life in our city, with four reporters concentrating on feature stories (including Sean).

On the joyful side, he remembers a couple of 10- and 12-year-old kids who raised thousands of dollars for cancer research with a lemonade stand in the suburbs.

I asked Sean how long he thinks he will continue to do what he does now. "Until it's no fun anymore. I have to enjoy the process and not get jaded, and keep my sense of humor," he responds.

Getting back to the title line of "breaking news," you really don't know from moment to moment if the five or six stories you've lined up will make it on the air. And, he explains, whether you're nervous, distraught, amused, annoyed or befuddled, depending on the story and the situation, you must be able to relate to people and come across as authentic, cool and composed, because TV cameras catch every expression.

And, before I forget – Sean's work and passion for social justice have brought him a bunch of honors. In Rockford, Sean

served on the board of AIDS Care Network and was named Best Newswriter by the Illinois Associated Press. In 2009, the AP recognized Sean again for his special report on the student journalists who were the first on the scene of the Northern Illinois University shootings.

He's an active member of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association and frequently speaks to community groups. Also, he's an avid supporter of Shelter Inc., a nonprofit focused on helping abused and neglected children in the northwest suburbs, as well as Chicago's Legacy Project, which provides education about the contributions of LGBT people throughout history. He also donates his time to animal charities, including PAWS Chicago, Fetching Tails and Care For Real's pet food pantry in Edgewater.

I would have loved to have stayed the entire afternoon listening to Sean's experiences, while taking numerous pictures of Bubba the cat and watching his antics (Bubba's, that is). I bet Sean could star in his own biopic, and I guarantee it wouldn't be boring. And, I'm still waiting for him to tell me how long "breaking news" lasts before it is broken. Maybe you can ask him – a tall, smiling guy pulled off our freight elevator by two cute dogs.

**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.

**Advertising disclaimer**

The *Dialogue* neither endorses nor promotes in whole or part any advertising printed in the *Dialogue* newsletter or included as a separate insert. The content of such advertising is the sole responsibility of the advertiser and is paid for by the advertiser. Advertising fees are used to defray the publication cost of the *Dialogue*.

Copyright © 2018 Malibu East Condominium. All rights reserved. This material may not be duplicated or distributed without written permission from authorized representatives of Malibu East Condominium.

**Malibu East Condominium**

6033 N. Sheridan Road  
Chicago IL 60660-3003  
773-271-1732

Marcel Molins, Board President  
Violette Deschamps, Malibu East Manager  
Melody Keegan, Administrative Assistant  
Tom Vaughan, Chairman of the  
Communications Committee  
Larry Rosen, Webmaster  
[www.MalibuEast.org](http://www.MalibuEast.org)

**Malibu East Dialogue Committee**

[Dialogue@MalibuEast.org](mailto:Dialogue@MalibuEast.org)

Neil Warner, Editor  
Tracy Poyser, Photo Editor  
Larry Rosen, Graphics Editor  
Bob Butler  
Ron Cohn  
Dianne Fishing  
Jo Gayle  
Katie Heffernan  
Ken Ilio  
Helen Lambin  
Rosemary Lambin  
Myrna Manners  
Ethel Mullin  
Tracy Poyser  
Beth Robinson  
Nancy Stoesser  
Lori Ziesmer