

# Malibu East Dialogue

June 2010

Your Communication and Information Resource



## Our cabaret singer

*By Kim O'Neal*

Malibu East's Beckie Menzie is a high-energy, full-of-life personality who is a highly rated cabaret performer with an amazing voice and piano skills and is widely known for her keyboard work. Beckie has been involved with singing since she was just a kid, with her dad and church. Her parents loved music; she had her first piano at eight and had a good ear early on. She studied music in college, and in her junior year performed with cover band Qiana.

Beckie moved to Chicago to work at the Pegasus Theatre on Wilson in its glory days and has lived on the North Side ever since. She really likes being at Malibu East and was sold on the people here. She was introduced to Malibu East by her late husband Earl in 2001. She wants to find out more about all the neighbors in the building, get to know more, and share music.

Beckie has performed at such places as Carnegie Hall and the Lincoln Center in New York, as well as Chicago's Auditorium Theatre and Park West. She travels the country performing. At the time of the interview, Beckie was just in Houston and was heading to Jackson, Mich. She is also a musical coach, teaching at Northwestern University as an adjunct teacher, preparing select seniors for transitioning from school to

auditioning as a performer. She also hosts several open mikes. She multi-tasks and keeps very busy, doing best with short, definitive work. Beckie has a gorgeous piano that was donated by contributions from over 200 people, from students to patrons at clubs where she has worked.

You can learn much more about Beckie at [beckiemenzie.com](http://beckiemenzie.com). This writer thinks you will really enjoy listening to Beckie; it is a true joy.

## Fran Spellman

*By Kim O'Neal*

Local Malibu East resident Fran Spellman ran the Ravenswood Run April 25 with friends and neighbor MECA residents Joe and Cecy Szuba, who have really influenced Fran these last few years, including getting her into the Ravenswood Run. Fran finished first in her female age bracket. True, she was the only female in that age bracket, but when you are in your early 70s and still running, that is an amazing accomplishment.

Fran has been running for 38 years now. She started when she was 35 when her late best friend Pat and Pat's husband, who was a coach, got Fran's five daughters into running. When Fran noticed how happy they all were from running, and how healthy they were all getting, she decided to join them. Fran has done many 5Ks, 10Ks, half marathons and marathons in her 38 years of running. Fran even ran a 50K for her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. She remembers running the first marathon from East Berlin to West Berlin in 1989 when the wall between East and West Berlin was torn down, and remembers East Berlin students having feelings that they were being intruded upon by the West Berliners flooding in. "Not everyone was happy with the wall coming down back then," Fran commented. Fran made a funny comment that when she ran the Berlin marathon, she heard behind her

"Achtung," and when she turned around, they were opening the streets again and asking the runners to move to the sidewalks. Fran said, "I always finished my races but was always in the back."

Fran ran the Bonnie Bell 5K, which was exclusive for female runners and was a big deal in its day. She ran this race with her five daughters, and they were featured on the back page of the Sun-Times sports section. She said someone told the paper that the Spellmans were running. Fran said the media always follow the runners in the front and those in the back, where she always was. Fran is quite humble. Other accomplishments include Fran forming a running group at Carson Pirie Scott in the Evergreen store when she was a department manager. The store had a fire, and while it was closed, employees were required to come in and be available if management needed help. Fran wanted to keep everyone motivated, so she formed a lunchtime running team for women. They made the local paper with pictures. Fran also ran the New York Marathon in five hours, coming in with the first heart transplant patient from France. What great experiences.

Fran likes running because it is really good for her energy. She said she is not a type A, and is mostly into tai chi and yoga, and running has been a good balance for her. You can find Fran in the Malibu East gym many mornings starting around 5:30am. She is someone you should get to know.

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## MECA owner and board meetings notes Tuesday, May, 25, 2010



By Elaine Winans

Elaine@MalibuEast.org

Attendance: 8 board members, 2 management representatives and 15 residents  
Not present: Daniel Denton, Marcia Fishman, Marcel Molins, Martina Molins  
Presiding: Vice President Richard Strauss

### OWNER MEETING

The owners voted unanimously to approve the board selling MECA-owned unit 36E for \$220,000. An ample profit is anticipated, and the integrity of MECA units' market value was sustained with our purchase of this unit at below-market value and resale after repairs.

### DIRECTORS MEETING OPEN FORUM 1

#### Resident comments and questions:

- 1) What is the reason for the memo on F tier wiring repairs? *Have to check for possibly crimped wire in the wall due to possible remodeling. NOTE: When remodeling, please do NOT mess with the common element wiring.*
- 2) AWB e-mail service complaints. Discontinued customer service for e-mail service without prior notice. *Give written complaints to the management office.*
- 3) Complaints of noise from the hospital rooftop fans. *We will contact the alderman and the hospital with your complaints. Residents can also call 311 and complain.*
- 4) Building intercom system is having problems. *Replacement parts are hard to acquire, but replacement of the system is financially impossible at this time.*

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Neil Warner

- 1) **Financial statement**  
Balance on hand, cash and reserves  
\$2,417,899.36
- 2) **Delinquencies**  
\$154,429.71

Please keep in mind that the meeting notes are not the official record of the MECA Board of Directors meetings. The official minutes are generally approved at the following meeting and may be viewed or copied in the management office.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Rules and Regulations**  
Cass Buscher  
(No report)
- 2) **Floor Representatives**  
Eleida Gomez  
(No report)
- 3) **Security**  
Sandy Chaet  
Key fob checks will start soon.
- 4) **Social and Educational**  
Sandy Chaet  
Sunday, May 23 brunch a success.
- 5) **Commercial Property**  
Marcel Molins  
(No report)
- 6) **Architecture & Aesthetics**  
Daniel Denton  
(No report)

**NOTE:**  
When remodeling, please do NOT mess with the common element wiring.

- 7) **ASCO report**  
Sandy Chaet  
(No report)
- 8) **Garage**  
Martina Molins  
Richard Strauss  
Garage use remains low. No improvement can be made until garage repairs are finished in 2011.  
**Standard Parking report**  
Syed Haider, Mgr.  
**Claims**  
Approved: 0  
Denied: 0  
Pending: 10  
Total: 10  
**Waiting lists**  
Single self-park: 2  
Tandem self-park: 5  
Second car: 0  
**Monthly parkers**  
Single: 135  
Tandem: 38  
Valet: 265  
Preferred: 1  
Motorcycle: 2  
Engineer: NC

Total: 441

#### Garage capacity

Single 144

Tandem: 72

Valet stalls: 295

Valet aisles 20

Motorcycles: 3

Total: 534

(Under capacity 93

Over \$10,000 unrealized revenue per month.)

#### Changes

New monthlies: 3

Cancellations: 0

Upgrades 0

### 9) **Public & Community Affairs**

Sandy Chaet

6151 park opened.

(See article page 6.)

New benches at George Lane Park.

### 10) **Pets**

Sandy Chaet

(No report)

### 11) **Parents**

Marcia Fishman

(No report)

### 12) **Sports and Entertainment**

Neil Warner

Door with window on order for auxiliary Fitness Room

### 13) **Finance & Insurance**

Neil Warner

(No report)

### 14) **Long Range Plans & Special Projects**

Leon LeRoy

(No report)

### 15) **Communications**

Cass Buscher

Dialogue continues monthly publications at a slight deficit.

### 16) **Legal**

Cass Buscher

(No report)

### 17) **Building Maintenance & Services**

Eleida Gomez

(No report)

### 18) **Satellite TV**

Cass Buscher

A TV satellite meeting with our vendor is scheduled.

### 19) **Life Safety**

Sandy Chaet

(No report)

### MANAGEMENT REPORT

Chris Chiodo

#### Items requiring

**immediate board action**

- 1) **Outdoor landscaping proposals.**  
The board awarded the outdoor landscaping work to Kinsella Landscape at a cost of \$7,670.  
The board will ask for some perennials.
- 2) **Tennis court surfacing and garage project**  
**Richard Strauss**  
It will cost \$32,700 to \$39,800 to replace our tennis court surface that was removed during garage repairs. The original quotes for this winter season's garage repairs ranged from \$600,000 to \$729,000. \$686,000 was the final cost, but we will get a rebate of \$55,000 plus due to quantity discounts.
- 3) **Furniture upholstery in Community and Windjammer Rooms**  
**Eleida Gomez**  
Of the three bids for labor only, the one for \$7,730 was provisionally approved with an additional \$5,000 for board-approved fabric.
- 4) **Elevators and garage repairs**  
**Richard Strauss**  
An elevator inspection discovered a dozen issues. The main issue was the missing elevator restrictors in the Malibu access elevator. The items indicated of the inspection report are being repaired. The total low bid for the electrical, plumbing and elevator repairs comes \$11,151.

**Items requiring****future board action****Items not requiring board action**

- 1) **Façade ordinance repairs**  
**Richard Strauss**  
Still working on C tier, held back by bad weather. Three tiers will be done this year — one further west and the façade between the A & B tiers. Our engineers will use binoculars to do the critical inspection this year rather than the expensive use of scaffolding. This method has been approved by a change to the façade ordinance. The fourth floor deck work will be done soon. They will be doing the lights and drains in the garage where work is finished.
- 2) **Laundry Room project**  
**Dean Lerner**

**Management report****By Chris Chiodo**

**Assessments:** Assessments are due by the first of each month. A late charge will be assessed for any delinquent account at the close of business on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.



Please send remittance to:  
Malibu East Condo Assoc.  
% Sudler – 80  
8401 Innovation Way  
Chicago, IL 60682-8401

The management office will not accept assessment checks.

**Construction noise:** I received numerous calls regarding noise coming from units or the outside in regard to construction activity. Please understand that this work has been approved and they are allowed to make noise. Please do not request the office to tell the individuals conducting the work to stop or take a break. This will not happen. The contractors are obeying the rules and policy of Malibu East and have the right to work.

**Carpet cleaning:** We have finished cleaning every floor in the building as of May 16<sup>th</sup>. We already have started a new schedule and will clean all the floors again. Please understand this project will take 2-3 months to finish. We are on a set schedule for floors. Whatever floor is scheduled for that day is the floor that will be cleaned. Please don't request to have your floor cleaned on a certain day. We are sticking with the schedule.

Still continuing a three-way project with us, the engineers and Commonwealth Edison in order to facilitate the dryers we want, not the ones we were forced to have due to inadequate electrical supply.

- 3) **Unit sales**

24H	\$188,500
36E	\$220,000 pending
20H	\$1,350 rental pending
12D	\$1,350 rental pending
- 4) **MECA-owned units update**  
18D 36E 41K 8E 07M  
We have made progress with leases and sales of MECA-owned units.

**Swimming pool & fourth floor deck:**  
The swimming pool opened May 29. We will have water aerobics this summer Monday through Friday, times to be determined. Please make sure you sign a waiver in the management office before you attend a class. The lifeguards will be checking for **pool passes** this year and it will be strictly enforced. Anyone without a pass will be asked to leave the pool area. If you do not have passes, please come to the management office to purchase them. Each unit is allowed only four passes at a cost of \$10 each. If a unit is caught with more than four passes, they will be confiscated. Please make sure you are aware of rules and regulations regarding the pool and other recreational areas on the fourth floor deck. If you need a copy, please come to the management office and we will provide one for you. I will be personally monitoring these areas on a daily basis.

**Façade inspection & repair:** Golf Construction is currently on the C-tier balconies. They could be on for 1-2 more weeks, weather permitting.

**Parking garage repairs 2010:** The 2010 phase of the project is complete and everyone should be back to normal parking routines and the 2010 rates.

**Cable TV:** Any cable TV questions, please contact USA Wireless office at 847-831-4561 or 800-433-4558. Emergency after hours: 847-923-6004.

**E-mail:** You may contact the management office or the board of directors for any reason, with requests, concerns, problems, etc. E-mail to: malibueast@awbworld.com

**OPEN FORUM 2****Resident comments and questions:**

- 1) Did we ever talk to Ravenswood upholstery? *No.*
- 2) Comment: Historically we have had no luck planting perennials in our atrium and lawns areas.
- 3) Suggestion: Need to form a committee to look into ways to improve our drastically diminishing garage income.

The meeting ended at 9:25pm and went into closed session.

## Community Calendar

By Betty Mayian

### COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

#### EDGEWATER

##### BRANCH LIBRARY

##### Saturday Book Club

11am 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. month  
1210 W. Elmdale  
312-744-0718  
tinyurl.com/5155tl

#### EDGEWATER

##### HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Speaker John R. Schmidt topic:**  
**ECC's\* 50<sup>th</sup> and Politics in Edgewater.**

Jun. 19 noon-1pm  
5358 N. Ashland Ave.  
773-506-4849  
edgewaterhistory.org  
\*Edgewater Community Council

#### FARMER'S MARKET

##### Edgewater Green Market

Until Oct. 18  
7am to 1pm Saturdays, rain or shine.  
Broadway and Norwood

#### WARREN PARK

##### Ice skating rink hours:

We-Fr 3-5pm & 5:30-7:30pm  
Sa & Su 12:30-2:30pm, 3-5pm &  
5:30-7:30pm  
6601 N. Western  
312-742-7888  
tinyurl.com/7tlo7

#### WHITE CRANE WELLNESS CENTER

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1355 W. Foster Ave.  
773-271-9001  
whitecranewellness.org

#### THEATER/SHOWINGS

##### CITY LIT THEATRE COMPANY

**"Oh, Boy" by P.G. Wodehouse and Jerome Kern**

A young man hides bride and young woman from disapproving aunt who controls his finances.  
Thru Jun. 27  
1020 W. Bryn Mawr  
773-293-3682  
citylit.org



#### GRIFFIN THEATRE COMPANY

**"Little Brother" by Cory Doctorow**  
A vision of the future when a 17-year-old hacker decides to fight back against a government out of control.  
Jun. 6 thru Jul. 19

##### Athenaeum Theatre

2936 N. Southport  
800-982-2787  
griffintheatre.com

#### LIFELINE THEATRE

##### "Neverwhere"

About a nightmare shadow world beneath the City of London.  
Thru Jun. 20  
Call for hours & prices  
6912 N. Glenwood Ave.  
773-761-4477  
lifelinetheatre.com

#### PROFILES THEATRE

##### "Body Awareness"

A photographer, famous for his nude portraits, causes dissention on Vermont campus.  
Thru Jun. 27  
8pm Th-Sa, & 5pm Sa, 7pm Su  
4147 N. Broadway  
773-549-1815  
profilestheatre.org

#### RAVEN THEATRE

**"The Odd Couple" by Neil Simon**  
The classic comedy of ordinary men who are extraordinarily irreconcilable.

Thru Jul. 18  
6157 N. Clark  
773-338-2177  
raventheatre.com

#### STEEP THEATRE

##### "2,000 Feet Away"

2,000 feet away refers to the number of feet that sex offenders must stay from certain areas in Iowa. A deputy is assigned to transport one of the convicted to a new residence.  
Thru Jun. 26  
1115 W. Berwyn  
866-811-4111  
steeptheatre.com

#### MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

##### Dialogue Committee meeting

Wednesday, Jun. 16  
7:30pm — Community Room

##### Thursday afternoon discussion group

Thursday, Jun. 17  
(every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of month)  
Luncheon planned for 17<sup>th</sup>, last meeting until Sep.

#### MECA board meeting

Tuesday, Jun. 22  
7:30pm — Windjammer Room

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

#### JUNE HOLIDAYS

##### June 6

##### D-Day

Anniversary of the 1944 WWII invasion of Europe with the landing at Normandy.



##### June 12

##### Anne Frank's birthday

German Jewish victim of the Holocaust. Her diary became one of the world's most widely read books and the subject of films.

##### June 14th

##### Flag Day

Commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened that day by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777.

##### June 29

##### Fast of the 17th of Tammuz

Jews the world over fast and lament to commemorate the many calamities that have befallen their people on this ominous day.

##### June 20

##### Father's Day

A day honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society.

##### June 21

##### Summer Solstice

In the Northern Hemisphere the longest day and shortest night of the year occur on this date, marking the beginning of summer.

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Friday	9:00-7:00	
Saturday	8:00-5:00	TELEPHONE: (773) 561-6595
Sunday	by appointment only	(773) 561-6596

**CLOSED MONDAY**

**EAIM promotes safety**

**By Tracy Poyser**  
**Co-Chair Edgewater Artists in Motion**  
**Osterman invites Edgewater artists to help improve Thorndale/Broadway public safety**



State Rep. Harry Osterman met with some 15 EAIM (Edgewater Artists in Motion) participants on May 17 to explore ideas and artists' participation in an exciting and innovative new safety initiative for the Thorndale/Broadway corner area. In light of increasing gang and drug activity, Osterman, together with State Sen. Heather Steans & 48<sup>th</sup> Ward Ald. Mary Ann Smith, wants to tackle this important neighborhood concern once and for all.

The expected rise in gang and drug activity, especially in the summertime, requires a focused and innovative approach, especially for the Armory parking lot and the stretch from Broadway to Winthrop under the CTA tracks. The CTA has installed 18 new cameras at the Thorndale stop, and police

presence has been drastically increased, but that alone is not enough, according to Osterman.

"We want to involve the entire neighborhood to bring so much light and action to the Broadway/Thorndale corner that criminals and gangs will just have to slink away," he says.

The plan is to hold exciting and fun events in and near the Armory parking lot every weeknight from June through Labor Day. Already lined up are "positive loitering" on Mondays, a Furry Friend Summer Fest including a farmers market for dogs on Wednesdays, and other events sponsored by local merchants and community groups. Artists were invited to work with Osterman's office to fill time slots on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Osterman and his community outreach coordinator, Jared Desecki, came away with a number of creative ideas and suggestions from the artists: Arts nights for kids and seniors, ongoing free photography workshops for children and adults with donated disposable cameras for those who don't have one, musical



**EAIM's Rae Ann Cecrle and Osterman**

entertainment and performance artists, ethnic/multicultural events such as an ethnic fashion show, teaching kids cooking skills, and talent shows, to name just a few.

A number of artists immediately volunteered to help make these ideas reality, especially the photo workshop for kids. "This is yet another way EAIM can improve the quality of life in our neighborhood," commented Rae Ann Cecrle of B. R. Development, founder of Edgewater Artists in Motion. "We're also looking to double the number of lit-up storefront art displays in the course of the year to help make our neighborhood safe and pedestrian-friendly for all."

For more information and to contribute ideas, please contact Jared Desecki at: 773-784-2002 or [jared.ostermanoffice@gmail.com](mailto:jared.ostermanoffice@gmail.com).



Osterman and Lulkin receive awards

## ECC annual meeting

By Kim O'Neal

The ECC (Edgewater Chamber of Commerce) annual meeting and luncheon was held May 21 at The Breakers. Local business owners, politicians, artists and guests attended. Notable attendees included senior U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, Illinois Rep. Harry Osterman and Illinois Sen. Heather Steans, 40<sup>th</sup> Ward Ald. Patrick J. O'Connor, Committeeman (D) and former Illinois Sen. Carol Ronan, ECC president and CEO Jay Delaney, ECC past president Sheli Lulkin and EAIM (Edgewater Artists in Motion) co-chairs Rae Ann Cecrle and MECA resident Tracy Poyser.



The luncheon was emceed by executive vice chair Jennifer Clark of Loyola University Chicago. The luncheon is an annual event to award honors and trophies to local businesses.

Durbin spoke of the Healthcare Reform Bill, immigration, and safe streets. Osterman spoke of the accomplishments of Lulkin, as well as his years of living in and service to Edgewater and his care for this community.

ECC honored Lulkin with a Lifetime Achievement Award for her commitment to Edgewater and many years of service to the Chamber.

Durbin, Osterman, Steans and Cecrle all spoke of their years of experience with Lulkin, with her in-depth knowledge of the community, her strong-minded opinions, her fight to make Edgewater a better place to live, her strength of conviction, her dedication and commitment.

### 2010 awards

#### "Green" Business

True Nature Foods

#### Restaurant

Uncommon Ground



### New park at 6151 N. Sheridan Road

## New lakeside park

By Beth Robinson

Tucked between the El Lago and Tiara high-rise buildings, a new park offers respite from the bustle of Sheridan Road. The park features a wide concrete path flanked by a green lawn that leads to a little seating area overlooking Lake Michigan. While the nearby parks along the lake include playground equipment that invites children to play, the new park is designed to foster quiet strolls and contemplation of the lovely lake view. On a sunny Sunday morning one man sat on a bench reading his paper while several other people walked their dogs along the path.



The land at 6151 N. Sheridan has been vacant for a number of years. To ensure that it would not be used to build another high-rise, it was acquired with aldermanic discretionary funds in 2002. However, completion of the park was delayed because environmental clean-up had to be conducted first.

A contest is being held to select a name for the new park. So walk over to see our new neighborhood public space and submit your entry to the contest by July 1 to [ernie@masmith48.org](mailto:ernie@masmith48.org)

### New member

Steep Theatre

### Storefront

Edgewater Artists in Motion (co-chairs Rae Ann Cecrle and Malibu East's Tracy Poyser accepted the prize.)

### Community-minded business

Metropolis

### Customer service

Bark Bark Club

### Growing business

Ethiopian Diamond

### Pride of Edgewater

Harry Osterman

### Lifetime Achievement Award

Sheli Lulkin

All enjoyed a delicious lunch with a gazpacho soup, salad, salmon, spinach-stuffed chicken breasts, steamed vegetables, an apple dessert, tea and coffee.

After the presentation of her award, Lulkin thanked everyone and emotionally expressed her gratitude for the award.

Local businesses also donated to a raffle. Prizes included play tickets, Sheffield Street rooftop tickets to a Cubs game, an autographed and framed photograph from Tracy Poyser, as well as restaurant gift certificates and more. The money went to a great cause, and the event was a packed schedule that moved along quickly, and a good time seemed to be had by all. All attendees were given a goody bag.

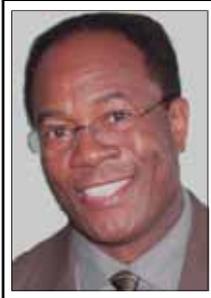
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## The Dialogue

The Malibu East Condominium (MECA) *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 MECA *Dialogue* staff and contributors are their personal views and do not necessarily represent the views of MECA or its Board of Directors and management.

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

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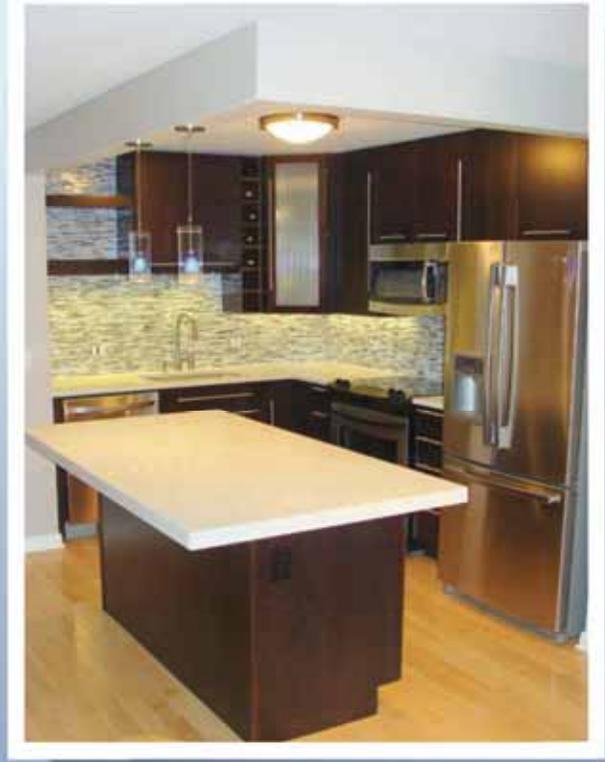
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