



THE LETTER

LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS, INC. NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2004

WWW.THELAFAYETTELB.ORG

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IN THIS ISSUE

- BE THE BOARD
- PARKING LLC MEETS
- PROJECT UPDATE
- SEEKING VOLUNTEERS
- BLOCK SALE PIX
- THE GAP
- BIKE ROOM
- ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR CLOSEUP?
- WHO'S WHO
- MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Lafayette Residents Needed For Documentary Photography Project

Photography student and fellow neighbor Geronimo Quitoriano is documenting residential life at the Lafayette for an LBCC class project and seeks subjects.

WHO IS NEEDED? The project is open to any and all residents of the Lafayette. All ages and even pets included!

WHAT IS THE PROJECT? The project is for a Long Beach City College Documentary Photography class. I would like to capture the various everyday moments of living in the Lafayette such as:

- preparing meals
- watching television
- surfing the net
- pet stuff (feeding, walking, etc.)
- gardening
- making artwork or crafts
- playing an instrument
- listening to music
- exercising (yoga, stretching, etc.)
- laundry and other chores
- throwing a party and entertaining
- celebrating a holiday
- going to work and coming home
- moving in or out of the building
- ...plus any other activities you do on a regular basis!

WHERE WILL THE PHOTOS BE TAKEN? Location, location, location! Since the project is about life at the Lafayette, I would like to take the photos in or around the building in a journalistic style.

WHEN WILL THE PHOTOS BE TAKEN? Totally up to you! I will be taking pictures from now until December, so anytime that fits in your schedule and mine. It can be just a few minutes or as long as you want. Whatever time you can spare will be appreciated.

If interested, please contact Geronimo by calling 562-435-4775 or emailing gpolaroid@mac.com or stopping by Unit #505.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Mary Wright & Leo Bell

By Thea Robertshaw

It is 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. Leo Bell arrives for the interview. "Mary will be here shortly," he says, "she's at the hair dresser." His unassuming, quiet, friendly nature seems to need questions like what do you want to know, what is of interest to you? Well, I'd like to know everything but we only get about one page for the newsletter. Did you have a long day? "No." Smiling he says "I played golf." He has a satisfied, joyful look about him. Does Mary play golf? "No, she doesn't. She likes to bike and hike."

Leo casually mentions that he and Mary are planning a trip to Istanbul. He will be playing bridge at the World Bridge Olympiad which is held every four years in conjunction with the Olympic Games, in Greece this year. They will make some side trips to Athens and the Greek Islands. Of course Leo will play bridge eight hours a day for a whole week. Catching the tail end of this, Mary enters, kisses Leo and says, "He will be so happy."

In their preparation they start paying attention to what's happening in Turkey, listen to the news, study its history and the weather. They will even learn some of the language. Leo tells us that Turkish is very different from all the

See page 4 >



PHOTO BY GERONIMO QUITORIANO

Leo and Mary enjoy some sunshine in the Lafayette garden.

THE LAFAYETTE
CONDOMINIUMS
140 LINDEN AVENUE
LONG BEACH, CA 90802
(562) 436-5391

FROM THE OFFICE

Board Member Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for next year's board of directors. There are three open positions, as the terms of Bill Guzik, Andy Blinn and Lou Schor are ending. If you would like to volunteer to serve for the next two years, please provide your resume to the office. Deadline for nominations is November 30. Please consider being a board member—the Lafayette needs you!

First Parking LLC Meeting

The first meeting of the new Parking LLC was held on September 1, immediately following the Lafayette Board Meeting. The members and the board agreed to ask Sharon Hays to be the manager of the LLC as well as the LAHO, and Sharon accepted the position.

Several organizational topics were discussed and the details will be worked out by the next meeting.

The 3rd Annual East Village Linden Avenue Block Sale: It's where you sell your stuff!

The sale was a roaring success. According to lead volunteer Matt Hood, the Lafayette made a profit of \$984.25 that day, which was "\$984.25 more than we had the day before." Hey, it works for me, many thanks, to all the hard-working volunteers who donated their time and effort (and stuff!) to make this event possible.

Speaking of Volunteers...

Yes, once again the call goes out to all of you in the Association and out. There are many projects which could use a bit of help from interested and



PHOTOS BY GERONIMO QUITORIANO

Anie trying not to fall off a bike with a little help from Stan.

helpful people. Please stop by the office and sign up for a committee, or come to the board meetings and let the board know you're interested.

Navy Grant Proposal

Paula Matusa will be submitting our "Letter of Intent" to the Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association Grant Program for 2004. The Lafayette Association was previously awarded funds in 2002 for restoring the painted sidewalks outside the Lafayette building in the amount of \$12,800. This year we are considering applying for funds to repair the terra-cotta façade on the Campbell Building exterior.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Who's Who at the Lafayette

2004 Board of Directors

President: Bill Guzik

First Vice-President: Joe Hill

Second Vice-President: Lou Schor

Treasurer: Andy Blinn

Secretary: Frank Flores

Office Manager

Sharon Hays

Contact the President

E-mail: billguzik@aol.com

Phone: 495-6264

(Weekdays 8am-9pm, Weekends 9am-9pm)

Contact the Board

In writing: Each board member has a mailbox in the office. All written comments will be addressed in a timely manner. Or go to "Feedback" on the Lafayette's Website at www.thelafayettelb.org.

In person: Come to the board meetings every first Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Mezzanine (2nd floor of main lobby).

Contact the Office

Phone: 436-5391 9:30am to 6pm weekdays

Elevator Door Gap Danger

Please be careful not to drop any items down the space between the floor and the elevator. Many items have been recovered by our elevator maintenance crew, the most recent being a large serving platter which was rubbing against the elevator cable.

Please be sure to notify Sharon or a board member as soon as possible if you happen to lose any items down the gap, this will avoid possible damage to the elevator mechanism!

Welcome Aboard!

The Lafayette welcomes the many new residents that have purchased units since last March:

Nate Brunskill	Unit 761
Emily Choe and Brian Kim	Unit 852/854
Matt Fortlage	Unit 502/504
Davis Fretwell	Unit 640/642
Kelsey Green	Unit 357
Cheryl Harada	Unit 336
Gina Leago	Unit 714
Kenny Lim	Unit 352
Gregory Wright	Unit 653/655
Monica Youngblood	Unit 954
Amanda Garrick	Unit 603
Elva Cortez	Unit 315/317
James Wilson	Unit 657

Free advice: please take a few minutes to review your CC&R's and Rules and Regulations now, to avoid a flurry of fines in the future.

Storage Closet Conversion Policy Finalized

Month-to-month operating procedures are still being finalized, but the policy for long-term lease of the storage closets for incorporating into the interior of your condo has been finalized and approved. Please see Sharon in the office for the details.

Bike Room Refurbished

You have probably seen the notices by now, but just to reiterate, the bike storage room on the fifth floor of the Lafayette/Broadway building has been re-opened after major cleanup and refinishing work by our handypersons Jody and Barry.

Bikes will be tagged for easy identification of owner and there is a \$5 charge for the key to the



The scene at the 3rd annual East Village Linden Avenue block sale.

room. In case you are wondering where the Bike Room is located, it is on the 5th floor directly above the 4th floor laundry room in the Broadway building. All bikes must enter and exit through the Broadway elevator and lobby.

Please contact David Phinney at 983-0003 if you would like to store your bike.

Apologies to the Third Floor

Residents of the third floor of the Lafayette and Broadway buildings are all too familiar with the electrical work that was completed recently. The contractor failed to replace the ceiling panels and the place looks like a tornado hit it. Work will begin on the fifth floor hallways once the board approves bids from a new contractor.



PHOTO BY GERONIMO QUITORIANO

I guess it depends what you mean by "finished." Obviously the third floor electrical contractor has a different definition. We won't be hiring them for further work.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR, CONTINUED

languages around that area. In the 1930's Turkey converted to the Latin alphabet. And the language was so basic that it was used as a model for Esperanto—which ideally was to become the common language of Europe.

After I asked, Mary started telling the story of how they met. She put an ad in “Match.com” about three years ago. They were married soon after by a judge, a friend of the family right here in the East Village at Gazella's. They created their own ceremony where Mary read her ad which was very funny and Leo sang. Yes, Leo plays the guitar and is a song writer.

What made you put an ad in “Match.com” Mary? “After being alone for 12 years, I felt it was time for a change. I sold my house in Orange County and went looking for something interesting. I found the Lafayette and Leo. Leo starts to interject his version, “Mary sent a photograph of herself standing by a car, me being six foot six inches tall I noticed how tall she was.” He double checked, “Yes, she is six foot two inches tall,” he beams. “I sent a photo of myself with my bike when I was really in shape after a six-week bicycle trip through Italy in 2000.”

That reminded Mary of their trip to Italy in 2002. With a rental car they went to Provance and Tuscany, drove along the coast, stopped in Monte Carlo. Then Leo wanted to revisit Murlo, a small place with a vineyard and wonderful wine. They took a train, got off at Murlo and when the train left they stood on the platform in the middle of nowhere. A few cars picked up some travelers and here they were with their luggage in this desolate place. In the distance

they spotted a few houses. As they started walking a small town became visible. Reservations were made at the inn. Leo's Italian was good enough to converse with a local man in the bar who knew exactly where they wanted to go. It's just that two years before Leo had traveled on his bicycle on a different road, his senses open to the surroundings, passing lavender fields. He related to Mary that the colors and smells were sensational. Mary enjoyed their quiet and restful time there in this out of the way sleepy town.

Back in the ordinary world, Leo is an accountant—mostly consulting for a big firm. As a volunteer he prepares the annual budget for the Lafayette and prepares monthly updates for the Board to review. And Mary is with the Long Beach Health Department. She co-ordinates the Immunization Program.

Leo says Mary puts up with his golf and bridge. The bridge game seems to be quite intense. Last year the Nationals were held in Long Beach at the Convention Center. Leo played 12 hours a day for nine days. He liked being close to home, not having to be at a hotel. This year he formed a team of 6 and played a tournament in Las Vegas where they earned the right to go to the Olympiad.

Actually Mary implies that she likes Leo's involvement. She values the time for herself. She says, “My parents live in Garden Grove and also require some of my extra time.”

Together Leo and Mary enjoy the theater, concerts, movies and a Monday night tennis class. All this at a slow pace.

YOUR TURN

Please feel free to use the space below for your own creative expression.