



T H E L E T T E R

LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS, INC. NEWSLETTER

FROM THE MANAGER

Condo Comments

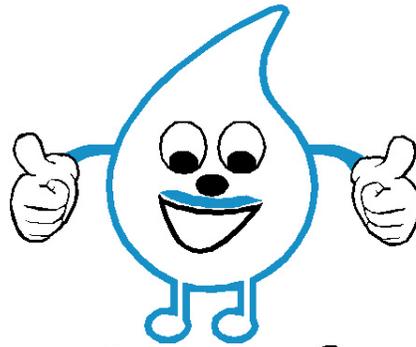
By Sharon Hays

With the cost of everything skyrocketing out of sight, like gas, water and the like, it is time to tighten our belts. Here are a few items where you can assist in keeping the **cost down on water** which the Association pays from your homeowner fees.

If you have a leaking faucet or a toilet that runs all the time, it is wasting water. It is time to get it fixed! Did you know if your faucet is dripping one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year?

- Never put water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden, or cleaning.
- Check out toilet tank leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear within 30 minutes. Flush after test of 30 minutes as food coloring may stain the tank.
- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other such waste in the trash.
- Take shorter showers. Replace the showerhead with an ultra low flow version.
- Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face.

- Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or properly set the water level for the size of load you are using.
- When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water and the other one with rinse water.



got water?
Do your part, be water smart!

- Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or by using the defrost setting on your microwave.

- Minimize use of kitchen sink garbage disposal units which require lots of water to operate properly.

- Beginning Aug 1st, 2008, in an effort to **reduce our electricity** bill, we will be turning off every other light fixture in the hallways of the

Lafayette, Broadway and Campbell Buildings by removing one light bulb from each fixture.

Thanks to everyone who is working toward a greener, more efficient building. *Next month:* Earthquake preparedness! Are you ready? 🏠

IN THIS ISSUE

- FROM THE MANAGER
- A VIEW FROM THE 6TH FLOOR
- WELCOME
- DID YOU KNOW?
- NONPROFIT NEWS
- NOTABLE NEIGHBORS

A VIEW FROM THE 6TH FLOOR

I Have 30 Days

Text and photo by Thomas Wasper

I have 30 days (sometimes 1 more) to get something to Geronimo to include in *The Lafayette Letter*. So, when do I start writing? Usually around the second email I receive from him insisting that I get to work because the next issue is going to press in a few days.

I really don't know why I procrastinate when it comes to writing stuff for *The Letter*.

I tell everyone, myself included, that I'm just too busy, but somehow I don't think laying on the couch watching biographies of Kristy McNichol and the like qualifies me as being busy. Not even if I call it research because I'm including it in this column.

I also watch a lot of news channels for the politics, but I could get the exact same news in a shorter span from "Countdown with Keith Olbermann" and "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" that would free up a lot of time for more productive things. Things like...well, getting my piece to Geronimo in a timely fashion, for one.

And, I could be exercising more. I don't know if you've noticed, but I'm starting to get huge sitting up here in my ivory tower.

On a whim I decided to sign up to walk a non-competitive half marathon in Detroit this October. I tell myself that I have to start training now and not listen to what my blasé brother shared from his experience in last year's marathon:

"We almost missed it!," he says. "We closed the bar the night before and would have slept though it if a friend who was walking with us hadn't banged on our door and woke us up!"

So, it must have been hell, I tell him, thinking he would impart some regret over his foolish behavior.

"Naw, it wasn't that bad," he responds. "We ended up doing it in about three and a half hours. I had to go to the bathroom a few times, but I sang Motown songs as I walked along--still sorta drunk from the night before--annoying everyone around me."

I think I'll just train the old fashion way.

Speaking of which, I was laying on my couch this afternoon trying to decide upon a good time to take a walk and begin my training when the earthquake hit and got me up off my prone position in a hurry.

I grabbed my cameras and ran outside to document the damage for the various newspapers that pay me for this sort of thing. Only...nothing. No damage that I could see anywhere. I mean, thank God and all that, but without photos I don't get paid!

I went to Vons Market thinking I could get pictures of the liquor bottles smashed against the floor...nothing.

I went to Acres of Books to get shots of tomes scattered throughout the aisles. Nope. Still nothing.

Villa Riviera for pictures of fallen gargoyles? No such luck.

I'm walking around half the city at a pretty brisk pace with absolutely no payoff, but then it hits me--I'm exercising! I flick some sweat off my brow and amble my way back towards home with a genuine feeling of accomplishment swelling in my chest.

I had begun my first day of training for the October Detroit-Windsor Non-Competitive Walking Half-Marathon!

After that I went to the House of Hayden for a cocktail. I mean there's such a thing as overtraining.

ATTENTION: I need victims for the **Meet Your Neighbor** segment of *The Lafayette Letter*. It is a perfect way to promote your business or just to go



That Was Close: Worker at the Villa Riviera holds on minutes after the earthquake hit on Tuesday, July 29, 2008.

on a long rant talking about your favorite topic: yourself. Send me an email and something to pique my interest at: thomas.wasper@gmail.com. ☛

.....
WELCOME

New Residents

Please don't forget to read the Rules & Regulations. No moving or bicycles through the main lobby and window covers must be white or off white!

- Unit 634/636 Chris Kell
- Unit 711 Ryan Black

FYI, the last green dumpster in the back is for recycling only! Please do not place trash in the green dumpster. Also please remember to close the windows in the solarium after use to prevent **pigeon problems!** Welcome to the Lafayette! ☛

.....
DID YOU KNOW?

Long Beach Trivia

By Frank Flores

1. Long Beach has the world's **largest mural!** 3,000 gallons of paint to create! When the environmental marine artist, Wyland completed the mural the Guinness Book of World records certified it as the world's largest! The life size mural is more than 10 stories tall; 1,180 feet in diameter and covers the entire 116,000 square feet surface of the Long Beach arena!

2. World's **largest selection of tap beer** at the Yard House in Rainbow Harbor in Shoreline Village! More than 250 different beers to

sample!

3. The world's **longest breakwater!** Long Beach's manmade jetty constructed in the 1920s to slow wave action and create a calm harbor stretches nine miles making it the world's longest!

4. World's **largest selection of hats!** The Village Hat shop at Shoreline Village boasts the world's largest selection of hats and carries everything from Panama hats to berets! ☛

.....
NONPROFIT NEWS: SAVE THE DATE

Starlight Rendezvous on Friday, Sept. 19, 2008

By Geronimo Quitoriano

The Lafayette Historical Preservation Group is proud to present "Starlight Rendezvous" – a fundraising event on Friday, Sept. 19, 2008 from 6pm-9pm on the 11th floor **Starlight Patio**. The evening will culminate with an outdoor concert by Broadway singer, Yoly Tolentino. Proceeds from the event will benefit the restoration of vintage tile murals original to the rooftop patio, including the

recently discovered **camel mural**. Tickets are \$40 each (tax deductible donation).

"For one evening, 'Starlight Rendezvous' will recreate the atmosphere that existed 80 years ago," says **Jack Nendel**, President of the Lafayette Historical Preservation Group. "We are pleased to open up the rooftop patio to residents and give everyone an opportunity to view the murals, whose restoration are the focal point of this fundraising activity," he continued.

For more event information or to purchase **tickets** visit: www.starlightlafayette.com.

Starlight Rendezvous
 A Musical Entertainment Fundraiser

\$40 tax deductible donation

Friday, September 19, 2008
 Starlight Patio @ The Lafayette
6pm - 9pm

SEE the unearthed 1920's tile mural
 HEAR Broadway performer Yoly Tolentino
 ENJOY breathtaking views of the city and ocean
 SAVOR the specially selected appetizers and drinks

Proceeds benefit the Lafayette Historical Preservation Group

(562) 436-5391
info@starlightlafayette.com
www.starlightlafayette.com

The Lafayette
 140 Linden Avenue
 Downtown Long Beach ☛

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Who's Who at the Lafayette

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Jean-Louis DeBien
 Vice-President: Frank Flores
 2nd Vice-President: Joe Hill
 Secretary: Dennis Cornax
 Treasurer: Rick Blackshere

lhoa7@yahoo.com
ffloresreps4u@aol.com
onejoehill@charter.net
dionysus6652@yahoo.com
andnod@yahoo.com

CONTACT THE BOARD

In writing: Email them. Also, each board member has a mailbox in the office. All written comments will be addressed in a timely manner.

In person: Come to the board meetings usually every first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Solarium (11th floor Campbell Building) unless a schedule change has been posted.

OFFICE MANAGER

Sharon Hays
 Phone: 562-436-5391 9:30am to 5pm weekdays
 Fax: 562-436-8762 Email: **lafayet@charterinternet.com**

Reminder: Meeting minutes may be viewed at the office or if you would like them emailed to you, let Sharon know.

NOTABLE NEIGHBORS

Did You Hear About....?

By Geronimo Quitariano

On July 30, 2008, oldest Lafayette resident **Trudy Wolfe** was featured on the front page of the *Press-Telegram* in an article about the effects of the recent Chino Hills earthquake on highrise residents. Also quoted were neighbors **Brenda "Asthma Attack" Meekins** and **Lucy "In The Elevator" Van Wagner**.

Artist and neighbor **Carlos Ramsey** recently married his lovely fiancée, Mari, at a ceremony held at La Muse Cafe (455 E. Ocean in the Cooper Arms). The cafe is also exhibiting his artwork in a show entitled "Inspirations" covering diverse inspirational subjects such as his new wife, love, the Muses as well as destruction. He also currently has a show at Washington Mutual (401 E. Ocean) entitled "Modern Storyboards."

On July 4, 2008, in an extremely close competition, the Masters of Harmony (neighbor **David Phinney** is a vocal member) bested the St. Charles, Mo.-based Ambassadors of Harmony to win the gold medal in the 2008 International Barbershop Chorus Competition in Nashville, Tennessee.

A photo of **Sharon Hays** at the International Quilt Festival at the L.B. Convention Center appears in the *Grunion Gazette* (July 31 issue).

For all your Avon needs, call **Joanie Foster** at 562-528-6711. ☎

Calendar

Tuesday, August 5, 2008

**Board meeting
 7pm, In the Solarium**

Friday, August 15, 2008

**Special CC&R's
 Amendment Meeting
 7:30pm, In the Solarium**

* * *

Friday, September 19, 2008

**Starlight Rendezvous
 6pm, Solarium &
 Starlight Patio**

NEWSLETTER TEAM

FRANK FLORES
 SHARON HAYS
 GERONIMO QUITORIANO
 THOMAS WASPER



THE LAFAYETTE LETTER IS PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY FROM THE OFFICE OF THE LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE LETTER, PLEASE CONTACT GERONIMO AT (562) 435-4775 OR EMAIL: GPO-LAROID@MAC.COM.