

## East Village Association in Full Swing

### EVA at MoLAA

### Members Attend Community Meeting with Suja and Bonnie Lowenthal

The East Village Association (EVA) Held a General Meeting with Councilwomen Bonnie and Suja Lowenthal hosted by the Museum of Latin American Art (MoLAA) August 15, 2007. This event began at 5pm with free entrance to the museum and an opportunity to take a self-guided tour of the museum that has a new design and gallery expansions with 55,000 square feet of new exhibits and program and performance space.

At 6 pm, the MoLAA Balboa Meeting Room, with its welcoming surroundings, opened to provide ample room and light refreshments for the hundred or more Arts District neighbors and friends that attended. The session began with a warm welcome from Bob Meyers, President of MoLAA, he continued by expressing MoLAA's support for the Arts District that includes MoLAA, a world-class museum.

After an introduction and brief talks by First District Councilwoman Bonnie Lowenthal and Second District Councilwoman Suja Lowenthal, an opportunity for comments, questions and answers followed.

Some of the topics discussed by the audience were: Availability of artist studio space, parking violations and the status of the proposed park at Alamitos and 7th Street.

In Councilwoman Suja Lowenthal's talk, she presented



*The new Museum of Latin American Art*

the following proposals which pertain to The East Village directly:

- 1) The proposal to close down 1st Street between Elm and Linden and turn it into a pedestrian-friendly block and
- 2) Moving the Farmer's Market to The East Village.

The next EVA meeting will be 6 pm, September 19th at Gallery Eleven Seven. Please come with your ideas and questions.

## What is an East Village Association Member?

The East Village Arts District has now expanded past 7th Street and now extends to 10th St. on the north, Long Beach Blvd. on the West, Alamitos on the East and Ocean Blvd. on the South. The East Village Arts District is a great place to live, work and own property. If you live, work, or own property (business or residence) in The East Village, then you are eligible for membership in the EVA. This organization has been the key reason why The East Village Arts District is considered one of the fastest growing areas in Long Beach.

Do you have any ideas to help your East Village neighborhood? Do you want to hear about new East Village opportunities as soon as they become available? Do you want to be kept abreast of all the activities planned for Second Saturdays? Do you want to receive member discounts at East Village businesses? Do you want to get on our newsletter distribution list so you can get the latest news in the Arts District?

If so contact, Louise Kripal at: (562) 491-5677.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### 2nd Saturday Art Walk

September 8th - 2nd Saturday, 4 to 10 pm

Linden Ave. between 1st St. and Broadway (*street closure*)

### Next EVA Meeting: All are welcome!!!

September 19th, 6pm at Gallery Eleven Seven, 117 Linden Ave.

### SoundWalk

September 22 (see inside, pg. 3 for details)

### Utopia, first lecture in series

"Creativity Network Salon" with Justin B. Hectus, Incoming President-Elect of The Arts Council for Long Beach.

September 27th, 7pm

Utopia Restaurant, 445 E. 1st St.

*Don't miss the next issue of the East Village News*

*"October is Arts Month" with details on all activities.*

# 1st and Elm Organic Community Garden

Story by Louise Kripal

Last Sunday I seemed to have found myself in another world, yet in reality I was practically in my own backyard! Yes, amid lush vine-ripened tomatoes, rows and rows of strawberry plants, scarecrow makings and a happy bunch of folks I had landed myself smack dab in the middle of "1st and Elm Organic Garden."

Many a time I had walked right past this spot yet I had never taken the time to really explore its treasures. Boy, was I surprised! Thanks to tour guides, Jimmy Brashear and Patrick Kennedy I had the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the garden and all its gifts.

**History** — The garden, originally a banana garden, was founded by Charles Moore in 1995. The "1st & Elm Organic Garden" is part of a larger group known as "Long Beach Organics, Inc." which includes several other gardens.

The Wildlife Federation has designated the "1st & Elm Organic Garden" as a Backyard Habitat since it serves as a natural home for wildlife such as butterflies and birds and the Gold Finch that can be seen aplenty in the summer.

**Operation** — The garden is divided into 5 x 12 ft. plots. Three-fourths are occupied by renters. The rest are grown for Christian Outreach Action (COA) (see below). Currently nineteen gardeners tend to the garden however new gardeners and renters are welcome. The garden has a Community seed swap, where Heirloom seeds of organic generations are exchanged.

**Requirements to have a plot** — You must live in Long Beach, pay a fee of \$26 for six months, complete an application and after approval you are placed on the current waiting list. And of course, since it is an organic garden, certain rules need to be followed.

**Community Outreach** — On Tuesdays and Thursdays (COA) is provided with produce from the plots that are especially prepared for them.

**Fundraising** — The garden survives on fundraisers and donations. Anyone interested in making a donation can write a check to: Long Beach Organic Garden Inc. Please write a memo noting: 1st & Elm Garden to assure the East Village garden receives the funds.

*(The following article was submitted by a concerned reader. I appreciate his honesty and concern. Don't forget we need East Village Community input. Do you have an article or an idea to share? If so, submit it today to: sstteevvee@aol.com)*

## The Little Garden that Could

As I wake up this morning I am still coming down off the high of enjoying the 2nd Saturday Art Walk. It's something I look forward to each month.

I live in the East Village "proper" but just barely. I am on the corner of 5th and Alamos.

It got me thinking that there is a little slice of the East Village that doesn't get much attention and certainly deserves to be recognized as one of the diverse and yes, artistic things that make the East Village great. I am talking about the "1st & Elm Garden."

I am a gardener there and it brought me to the East Village as I know it now. And it has brought others as well. The gardeners that make up the family we have there, are residents of the East Village and surrounding areas - all the way to Lakewood. We gather for weekly meetings. We come individually to garden in peace. We bring our time and energy to the East Village as well as our pocket books. I am very proud of the fact that our little garden is located in such a unique-like spot. All who come to our little events comment on what a wonderful juxtaposition it is to see our little garden thriving among the great concrete jungle.

Don't get me wrong! I love the area and it's historic buildings and I think it makes perfect sense to have this little paradise springing up right in the middle of it. I do wish though, that we felt like we were a part of the bigger family of the East Village. We do consider gardening to be a discipline and an endeavor akin to art. It is the struggle to make something out of nothing and hope that our efforts develop a voice. And of course our voice is one of hope. Hope for a future that can learn to

*continued on page 3*

## Gallery Eleven Seven Opens New Gallery Gift Shop

by Karen Ashikeh LaMantia

"Gallery Eleven Seven" located at 117 Linden Ave., known as a center for arts and innovation in Long Beach as well as a source of support and inspiration for scores of Long Beach artists, will now have a gift shop! Opening in September, the Gallery Gift Shop will extend the beauty of the Eleven Seven Cooperative Gallery by introducing new art forms and will remain open for extended hours. Their Featured Artists will include jewelers, painters, sculptors and writers. From 6 to 9 pm, The Gallery Shop will be the focus of evening events such as writers, artist study groups and more! Check out a schedule of activities at the shop.

## Featured Artist of The Month: Paul Hogue

### Come to The East Village and Learn About Earth Art

Well-known Long Beach artist Paul Hogue, inspired by nature, creates his works from organic and found materials and is active in teaching the next generation of artists various ways to use what they find to recreate beauty. Paul freely shares his methods for gathering commonly found materials to make wonderful sculptures, mobiles and other unique art forms of his own design.

You can see Paul's work at most 2nd Saturday Art Walks (especially on October 13th at The Art Park on Elm between 1st and Broadway from 1 to 5pm) and at the "Earth Gallery" on 4th St. and Bonito.



Gardeners left to right: Camilla Bray, Lee Schweickert, Patrick Kennedy, Jimmy Brashear (Garden Manager), Sue Macias.

be more self-sustaining. Hope for art to be found in nature, and hope that we can be part of a community.

Our outreach to the community comes in the donation of specifically grown organic produce to be donated to the COA at Atlantic and Linden each Tuesday morning. We would also love to be more involved in your efforts to continue to upgrade this little corner of Long Beach.

We have opened our doors for the Tour des Artists and have requested that we be on maps of the village

but alas we don't seem to make the cut, although the people who stop into the garden during events are always thrilled that we are there.

I would love to think that we are making a difference in this beautiful area as it is near and dear to my heart, as is The 1st and Elm Garden.

*Signed with a little too much pride.*

*Patrick Kennedy*

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## Community TV Features East Village - Tune In to the Talent!

by Karen Ashikeh LaMantia

Several Charter Community Television Producers have created TV programs that highlight Long Beach Artists and the 2007 Tours Des Artists. One such program can be seen on Charter Cable TV, Channels 65, 69 or 95 on The Earth Neighborhood TV. The show will air on October 8 at 8pm and again on November 5th at that same time. Directed and Produced by local artist, Ken Estes, who is well-known for the wonderful programs he has helped produce about the East Village for Charter Cable Community Television. This is the third time Ken has worked on shows about Tour Des Artists. Revisit the fun of Tours 2007. Thanks Ken!

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## SoundWalk 2007

Saturday, September 22, 2007

5:00 to 10:00 pm

The 4th Annual SoundWalk event, will feature returning artists as well new participants from the Southland as well as the international scene. This one-day event operates under the concept of a one-night aural/visual experience as provided through a walking-tour via sound installations that will be located in various indoor and outdoor spaces situated throughout the East Village Arts District of Downtown Long Beach. The SoundWalk artworks will combine a wide range of visual and audio components in multiple ways and will include sculptures, environments, installations, and performances. Come enjoy this experience. It's one not to be missed!

# May I have your TENSION please?

by Louise Kripal

Suffering from the aches and pains of stress and over-work? Looking for someone to relieve your tension? Well, now there's no need to look any further than our very own East Village. Last month I had the privilege of visiting Chéta Chiropractic & Day Spa located at 126 Linden adjacent to the new Best Western Convention Hotel. On entering the Spa, I was struck by its elegant, tranquil décor (not what one usually encounters upon visiting a Chiropractic service) yet found it quite appropriate after orienting myself with Chéta's mission: "to heal, transform, energize, rejuvenate, and promote long term health and beauty in a ...serene environment through an alternative medicine."

Although I had dropped in unannounced, Melina, one of the co-owners (Mimi being the second), greeted me enthusiastically and kindly took time to fill me in on all what Chéta has to offer. I was totally impressed by their array of services which includes: complete waxing, massage and skin care treatments in addition to their Chiropractic care.

Chéta also is equipped to provide treatment and training for such things as improving sleep, immune system functioning, circulation of blood and energy flow.



*Mimi Alene and Melina Bambalian standing in front of their recently opened East Village business.*

Chéta is currently offering a discount of \$15 off your first visit, Free Hotel parking is available.

**Chéta's website is: [www.chetadayspa.com](http://www.chetadayspa.com)**

**For more info call: (562) 624-4626**

# McCracken Visions Art Studio and Gallery

by Louise Kripal

Artist Linda McCracken lives in Long Beach and is owner of McCracken Visions Art Studio located at 35 Linden Ave. suite #101 since April 2007. Linda is largely a self-taught artist, yet has received Art training from Portrait Painter Chuck Hammond as well as instruction from "plein aire" painter-Joyce Pike. Prior to occupying her East Village studio, Linda worked two years out of her home and seven years at a gallery on Lakewood & Carson. Currently, Linda

is busy painting a signal box on 5th & Linden.

Linda shares her gallery full-time with Long Beach artists Jeffrey Smith an Interior Designer who works with "Permanent Botanicals" and Meagan Sachs a photographer and Mehrnoossh Hunter, who does glass and candle work.

The Gallery Hours are: Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 11-5pm and noon to 10 pm on 2nd Saturdays. Phone: (562) 432-9529.

McCracken Visions carries oil paintings, fine porcelain, sculpture and ceramic art. Art as unique as you are. Drop by and see them.



*Linda McCracken painting a signal box on the corner of 5th and Linden Ave.*

*One of Linda's Oil Painting*



Let The East Village News know about your new or existing East Village business. Send details to Steven Stein at [sstteevoee@aol.com](mailto:sstteevoee@aol.com) or Karen LaMantia at [karena@tdl.com](mailto:karena@tdl.com) or call her at- 562-590-3739. Please note that it's for the newsletter in your heading.

# The Village Grind

by Louise Kripal

Richard Saldana and partner, Kristina Shoffit, two upbeat entrepreneurs, opened The Village Grind, located at 442 E. 1st Street approximately six months ago. Currently four other employees assist the two in serving a fantastic array of gelato, smoothies, assorted coffees, teas, tonics, bakery items and more.

**For info. call: (562) 432-4033**

**Mon. – Fri 7 am to 8 pm. Sat. & Sun. 8 am to 7 pm**

Like other venues in the East Village, The Village Grind participates in The Second Saturday Art Walk by often providing music as well as offering artists the opportunity to exhibit their work. Richard is unique however, because he gives each artist an additional kudo: the option to revolve their artwork weekly throughout their assigned month.

Richard and Kristina are always on the ball trying to improve their business. During the September Art Walk a Jazz/Blues player will perform from 2 to 5 p.m. Stay



*Richard Saldana and partner, Kristina Shoffit standing in front of their business, The Village Grind.*

tuned in for The Village Grind's upcoming new and improved menu which will include 25 new food items. It is sure to be a winner!

# Utopia Restaurant

by Karen Ashikeh LaMantia

"Utopia" is the cornerstone of fine dining in the East Village Arts District. Known for its fine food and romantic atmosphere, you can dine in style indoors or in view of the beauty of the Arts District surrounded by public art, in its outdoor café. Utopia's owner's: Kamran Assadi and Amir Zee first opened Utopia's doors in 1999. Kamran, an active member of the Arts Council for Long Beach is also a supporter of the Long Beach Creativity Network.

On September 24th, Utopia will host it's launch of Creative Community Leader Salons. These sessions feature both artists and creative community leaders and will take

place on the last Monday of every month.

Plan to attend the first Salon entitled: "Creativity Network Salon" which will feature Justin B. Hectus, the incoming President Elect of The Arts Council for Long Beach on September 24th at 7:00pm. Utopia Restaurant is located at 445 E. 1st Street (corner of Linden Ave. and First St.), Long Beach. Check out Utopia's menu and more at: [www.utopiarestaurant.net](http://www.utopiarestaurant.net). Entertainment: Fri. - Sun. 7pm.

**Open – Mon. thru Fri. Noon to 9:30 pm.**

**Sat. 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm & Sun. 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm.**

**To RSVP call 562-432-6888.**

# New business provides answers to condo pet owners prayers

by Louise Kripal

Have you had difficulty trying to wash and dry your pet in your studio apartment? Would you love to have someone else take over the task of cleaning up the mess? Are you looking for a nearby place that provides a convenient, inexpensive pet wash experience, as well as a variety of pet food and essential pet accessories?

Well, take a walk down to 334 E. 4th St. and meet Lawrence and Annette at their new pet self-wash service- "Soggy Dog."

I was fortunate enough to stop by and visit there last week while two customers were washing their pooches. I was amazed to see the former bookstore converted to a hassle-free, inexpensive, dog wash experience. The front room was fully equipped with shelves containing pet-related products such as a variety of pet foods, play toys, water dispensers, leashes and dozens of other unique items.

The back room was equipped with huge deep wash tubs (located high off the ground to save the washer's back), step stools and fancy spray nozzles. Supplies such as a choice of shampoos, conditioners, ear cleaners, brushes, towels and dryers were provided free of charge.



*Lawrence and Annette Brown, Owners of Soggy Dog, pet self wash service at 334 Eth 4th St.*

Currently customers are offered a \$2 off discount coupon on a \$15 dollar bath. Other discounts are also available such as getting a 10th wash free.

Please plan on dropping by and bring other pet owners with you. "Soggy Dog" will be having an Open House soon.

**For info call: (562) 432-6934.**

**Hours of operation are: MWF 8:30 to 6pm, Th 8:30 to 8:30pm, Sat 8:30 to 7pm, Sun 9 to 5pm, closed Tuesday.**

# Artist Interview: A. Scott Bloomfield

by Louise Kripal

Scott Bloomfield, a highly proficient oil painter and a super cordial guy was raised in Santa Monica Canyon and influenced by his mother Virginia, as can be seen reflected in the naming of his current business-Ginia Studio & Gallery. Scott's Art education is varied and consists of various avenues such as attending several schools including: The Arts Center College of Design, Dayton Art Institute and UCLA as well as receiving individual training under Russian Impressionist Sergei Bongart.

Scott's accomplishments in the art world are numerous and varied and include dozens of murals and a significant number of projects for the Aerospace Industry. Scott did the artwork for several magazine covers including Aviation Week and the Industry Annual for Hughes. When asked what he felt was one of his most important accomplishments in Art, Scott replied his design for the prospectus that was selected to sell Hughes Electronics remaining property. Designing this prospectus was a huge undertaking which



*Scott Bloomfield,  
Artist/Owner  
GINIA Studio and Gallery  
433 E. Broadway  
Long Beach, CA 90802*



*"Opening" by Scott Bloomfield*

required several drafts before final approval and was extremely detailed and involved.

If you go to the following website, you can see an example of this project as well as a portfolio of his work: [scottbloomfield.foliosnap.com](http://scottbloomfield.foliosnap.com)

For 13 years prior to working in the East Village, Scott was part of The West Broadway Studios. For the last two years Scott has occupied Ginia Studio & Gallery.

Recently, Scott has ventured into making Fine Art Giclee Reproductions on canvas or archival paper from his original oil paintings. All works are adjusted and hand embellished by the artist and numbered with a Certificate of Authenticity. These Giclee reproductions are exquisite and almost identical to the originals but are obtainable at a very reasonable cost. However, some original paintings may be available for sale.

The gallery, located at 443 E. Broadway, is open Wed. thru Sun. from 10 - 6 pm and also stays open till late on 2nd Saturday nights.

**Phone: (562) 243-6502 cell • (562) 901-9216 gallery**

## "Spirits of Nature"

*Paintings by Thea Robertshaw*

Opening September 8th thru October 8th, 2007, at Gallery Eleven Seven, 117 Linden Ave. Long Beach

Thea Robertshaw takes us into the mystical aspects of nature with the use of magical lighting and brilliant colors. She attempts to reveal the mystery that lies beyond ordinary reality.

A key painting in the exhibit is "Twilight." Twilight portrays that special in between time when the Celts believed we could access other realities. In "Dream Quest," Robertshaw follows her passion for the mythological.

**Thea offers an array of activities at Gallery Eleven Seven:**

Sunday September 16th, 2007 Healing Mandala Workshop. 10am - 4pm. This workshop views the healing mandala from a crosscultural perspective.

Tarot classes start again on Friday evening 7 to 9pm, September 14th.

Once a month Master Class: Painting and Drawing Sunday 11am - 3pm.

**For info. and fees call Thea at 562-432-7762**



*Flying Frog by Thea Robertshaw*

# **LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! on the streets of the East Village.**

by Louise Kripal

*As many of you have noticed, a month rarely passes by without at least one film crew hitting the streets of The East Village. You may be asking yourself questions such as: "Why film here?" and "Do the benefits of such an onslaught outweigh the detriments?" In this article I will attempt to answer these questions as well as provide a little historical background.*

## **The early silent film industry in Long Beach**

Long Beach is one of the places where the film industry started in Southern California. Balboa Amusement Producing Company, also known as Balboa Studios, was located at Sixth Street and Alamitos Avenue (The Museum of Latin American Art or MoLAA occupies this site today.)

Silent movie stars who lived in Long Beach included Fatty Arbuckle and Theda Bara. The 1917 film Cleopatra, starring Theda Bara, was filmed at the Dominguez Slough just west of Long Beach, and Moses parted the Red Sea for Cecil B. DeMille's 1923 black-and-white version of "The Ten Commandments" on the flat seashore of Seal Beach, southeast of Long Beach.

## **The current film industry in Long Beach**

One advantage for Long Beach is that the film industry uses a zone that extends 30 miles from Beverly Blvd. and La Cienega Blvd. in the West Hollywood area. It is cheaper to film within that zone, so Long Beach and other South Bay cities often stand in for areas of Orange County (such as for The O.C. TV show) because almost all of Orange County is outside of the zone.

Long Beach is regularly used for movies, television shows, and advertisements not only because of its proximity to LA-area studios but due to its variety of locations. The city has filled in for locations across the nation and around the globe. Our "Miami-like" beaches, marinas and palm trees alone account for the filming of over a dozen episodes of Miami CSI. right on the streets of The East Village. Did you know that American Express, Nissan, AT&T, OnStar, Mitsubishi and Volkswagon are among the companies who filmed their commercials in Long Beach this year?

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## **2nd Saturday Art Walk gets grant from Arts Council of Long Beach**

In recognition of their on-going work to promote opportunities for artists, musicians and performers to share their art with the public, the Arts Council for Long Beach has again awarded a grant to the East Village Art Walk Organization. Their events which are free, fun and accessible every month from February – December, offer artists a chance to show their art and see the work of other artists as well as help promote East Village businesses, restaurants and galleries.

Long Beach's high schools are especially popular with the film industry. Long Beach Polytechnic High School has played host to numerous films, providing the outdoor high school grounds of Coach Carter and the indoor high school rooms and hallways of American Pie, among others. Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo High School has been a very popular place to film movies as well, with 2-4 movies filmed per year. St. Anthony High School's gymnasium has also been featured in many movies and television shows, including Coach Carter and Joan of Arcadia.

Other locations in Long Beach have been used quite frequently as well. Many car chase and crash scenes have been filmed on the long stretches of road near the Long Beach harbor, and Long Beach's downtown neighborhood has stood in for various urban areas in a variety of films. Additionally, the Virginia Country Club area of Long Beach (near, or sometimes considered part of, Long Beach's Bixby Knolls neighborhood) has also provided numerous locations for Hollywood films, including Ferris Bueller's house in Ferris Bueller's Day Off. The upscale neighborhood is home to several National Historic Landmarks and is known for its diverse styles ranging from a famous Greene and Greene designed California Bungalow home to modern homes designed by world-renowned architect Edward Killingsworth.

## **Permits and other requirements**

The City of Long Beach has over 50 square miles of film friendly areas. However, there may be areas in the City that are more popular than others and as a result may have some limitations. In this case, a certain process needs to be observed when pulling the film permit which may include: Checking with the Special Events & Film Office first, a survey of area residents/merchants, notices to the film area, an application with at least three working days advance notice, insurance, contact with Police, Fire, Public Works, the bus company, or any other City agency that may need to be notified of any shoot. Contact with residential areas should be completed before 8:00 p.m. Fees, which result in a 14% economical impact will be paid to the city. At the conclusion of the shoot, the City will either issue a bill for any services provided or a refund if their estimate exceeds the actual costs.

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For a great day/night out, make a visit to The East Village "2nd Saturday Art Walk" centered between 1st & Broadway on Linden Ave. from 4 to 10 pm.

Every 2nd Saturday highlights the opening of new gallery shows, often with meet-the-artist opportunities, food, music and more. You can tune in to the creative side of Long Beach at the "Music Stage" on Linden where local and regional musicians are featured and hosted by artist and musician, Paul R. Dominguez. On our next 2nd Saturday Joey Joel joins Paul on stage. If you would like to play on the Linden Music Stage call Paul at: (562) 206-9968. (See our events section to find out about our next 2nd Saturday Event)

# About The East Village

## A collection of short walks around the East Village

by Steven Stein and Louise Kripal

*The following on-going column is based on a suggestion from an EVA member that an article needs to be written that shares the many treasures one finds while taking walks around the East Village.*

Over the past five years since my lady Louise and I moved to the East Village, we have made a concerted effort to explore every block while taking note of any interesting finds. To further our knowledge and appreciation we have included a bit of historical research. Readers are welcome to add their input.

Our first walk begins where we live at 1st and Atlantic Ave. Our building, The Royal Palms is a 164 unit stock co-operative built approximately fifty years ago. At the time it was built, it was considered to be of highly modern design. One fact that set it apart from other buildings of the time was that Royal Palms is built on rollers in the case of an earthquake.

As we proceed north toward the corner of Atlantic & Broadway, we pass Vons Market and reach the intersection which includes some interesting businesses: Long Beach Inn and Americana Restaurant. The Polynesian-styled Long Beach Inn is on the southwest corner. Few of us are aware that it was once owned by the Hilton family and was built in 1956 at the cost of \$400,000. Formerly named the Lafayette Lanai, The Long Beach Inn consisted of 51 deluxe rooms, a palm garden

and a heated swimming pool. The pool area was originally built for fashion shows and chuck wagon dinners and could accommodate 300 people. In 1968, the Lafayette was converted into condos and the Lanai was sold separately as a hotel. (historical information was taken from Lafayette's website:

<http://www.thelafayetteelb.org/history.html>

Caddy corner one will find the old Americana Restaurant which was once known as "The Silver Skillet" back in the 70's. I don't know any other historical information about the place at this time, other than that its architecture is likened to a 1950's malt shop. In recent times the Sakata family managed "The Americana" for over thirty years. However, recently they retired and the owner - Americana Inc. decided to close the restaurant and make necessary improvements before reopening. About a month ago "The Americana" reopened and is currently managed by John and Gladys Lamping. It has been nicely remodeled with giant stained glass windows made by Savoy Studios. The kitchen staff is basically the same and the same good meals are on the menu.

In the next issue we will continue our walk down Atlantic Ave. and include other fascinating facts. (any information, ideas or comments on this column should be sent to: [ssteevvee@aol.com](mailto:sssteevvee@aol.com))

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## *Be Involved in the East Village Join the East Village Association*



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### **Submit to The East Village News**

*A publication of the East Village Association (EVA)*

You can feature your art, business or your gallery in a future issue. Share ideas and events with the East Village News writers - Karen LaMantia or Louise Kripal and our graphic artist, Steven Stein. You can email your event, letter, story or story idea to Karen at [karena@tdl.com](mailto:karena@tdl.com) or to Steven & Louise at [ssteevvee@aol.com](mailto:sssteevvee@aol.com). This is your newsletter! Let us know what is happening!

Or call Karen at: (562) 590-3739 and leave the information requested below.

Your name, phone number(s) and the best time to reach you.

### **EVA Supporters:**

The Arts Council for Long Beach, Appleby Brokerage, Gallery Eleven Seven, Hellada Gallery, Earth Gallery, 2nd District City Councilmember - Suja Lowenthal, Vice-Mayor and 1st District City Councilmember - Bonnie Lowenthal, Village Treasures, Cement Records, Earth Neighborhood.com, ThePrimeSpot.com, Downtown Long Beach Associates, EastVillageGraphics.com, Charter Cable Community Television: Channels 65, 69 and 95, Long Beach Artists & Crafters whose creations are the foundation of the East Village Arts District.