

# The Plaza of Bal Harbour Monthly News



*A Newsletter for the Residents of The Plaza of Bal Harbour Condominium*

Volume 7 Issue 2

February 2013



**Condominium Association, Inc.**  
10185 Collins Avenue  
Bal Harbour, Florida 33154

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## OFFICE HOURS

**Mon., Wed., Fri.** ..... 9 AM - 5:00 PM  
**Tuesdays** ..... 9 AM - 1:30 PM

The month of February brings thoughts of romance and Valentine's Day. If you're a football fan perhaps Super Bowl comes to mind but there is a lot more to February.



February comes from the Latin word februum which means purification. In the old Roman calendar the purification ritual was held on February 15th. February is the second month in the Gregorian calendar. It is the only month with 28 days (29 days in leap year which occurs every four years).

The birthstone for February is the amethyst which is purple quartz. Amethyst was a symbol of royalty in the Middle Ages. It also symbolizes clear-headedness and quick-wittedness. The flower for the month of February is the Iris which is Greek for rainbow. The Iris represents faith, wisdom and hope. An alternate flower in February is the Violet, which represents faithfulness, modesty and virtue.

The most well-known holiday in February is Valentine's Day, February 14th.

Groundhog Day takes place on February 2nd. If the groundhog sees his shadow it means we will six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't, Spring is around the corner.

President's Day is celebrated on the third Monday in February.

The Boy Scouts of America were founded on February 8th, 1910.

The Columbia space shuttle tragedy occurred on February 1st, 1003. The Shuttle was scheduled to land at the Kennedy Space Center. The crew of seven was lost when the Columbia Space Shuttle broke up over north-central Texas about 16 minutes before its scheduled landing.

Here are a few famous people who were born in February: Presidents William Henry Harrison, Abraham Lincoln, Ronald Reagan and George Washington. Actors/Actresses Jennifer Aniston, Drew Barrymore, Clark Gable and John Travolta. Authors Erma Bombeck, Charles Dickens and John Steinbeck. Singer/Musicians Garth Brooks, Sheryl Crow, and George Harrison. Athletes Michael Jordan, Babe Ruth and Mark Spitz.

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## How to Ruin a Garbage Disposal

Your garbage disposal is a hard working part of your home. It can seemingly chop up anything put into it. But it does take some care to keep your garbage disposal from becoming damaged or broken. To keep your garbage disposal running at its peak, keep these tips in mind.

- Never run your garbage disposal without also having a strong flow of cold water going. After the grinding has stopped, continue running the water for another 30 seconds.
- Do not allow silverware or other small utensils to drop into the garbage disposal. If one does, use long-handled tongs to remove it.
- Never put your hand into your garbage disposal, even when it is turned off. Do not lean over the garbage disposal when it is running.
- Do not grind large bones or fibrous materials (like corn husks, celery, asparagus ends, etc.) Do not put liquid fats or grease into the disposal.
- Do not let food sit in your garbage disposal. Run it each time food is placed into it.



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## Don't Forget...Spring Forward...Fall Back...

Beginning in 2007, Daylight Saving Time was extended one month and begins for most of the United States at 2 a.m. on the **Second Sunday in March** and lasts until 2 a.m. on the **First Sunday of November**.

**Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.**

This is also a great time to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Many fire departments encourage people to change their batteries in these detectors when they change their clocks, because it can be so easy to forget otherwise. "A working smoke detector more than doubles a person's chances of surviving a home fire," says William McNabb of the Troy Fire Department in Michigan. More than 90 percent of homes in the United States have smoke detectors, but one-third are estimated to have worn-out or missing batteries.



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