

The Plaza of Bal Harbour Monthly News



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

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March 2013



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

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March is named after the Roman God of War, Mars. It was the first month of the year in ancient Rome. Since March is the first month of Spring, it was a logical point to begin the year. When the Gregorian calendar was adopted, it became the third month of the year. It is one of the seven months with thirty-one days.

The birthstones for March are the aquamarine and the bloodstone. Aquamarine is the more well-known. Its colors range from greenish blue to blue-green. The color of aquamarine has a calming effect and is said to cool the temper. Bloodstone is actually a dark green jasper. Spots of iron oxide show up as vivid red spots in jasper, hence the word bloodstone. The Babylonians believed the stone had healing powers, especially for blood disorders. The flower for the month of March is the daffodil which is also referred to as the jonquil. Since daffodils are one of the first flowers to bloom in spring, they are considered to be a symbol of rebirth, but beware, because daffodils are poisonous if eaten.

The most well-known holiday of the month is March 17th, St. Patrick's Day. Parades are held in many major cities and many people celebrate by eating a meal of corned beef and cabbage and by

drinking lots of green beer. In the northern hemisphere, the spring equinox occurs with the first day of spring falling on March 20th or 21st. Also worth noting is that Daylight Savings Time begins on the second Sunday in March.

Here are four historical events that took place in March. The Boston Massacre took place on March 5, 1770. Paper money was issued on March 10, 1882 in the U.S. for the first time. An Act of Congress created the first United States National Park (Yellowstone) on March 1st 1872. The Star Spangled Banner was made the US National Anthem on March 3, 1931.

Here are just a few of the famous people born in March: 3 presidents: Grover Cleveland, Andrew Jackson, & John Tyler. Actors: Matthew Broderick, Sarah Jessica Parker, Reese Witherspoon, Vince Vaughn & Bruce Willis. Authors/Poets: Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Robert Frost & Dr. Seuss. Singers/Musicians: Mariah Carey, Celine Dion, Elton John, & James Taylor.

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Happy Passover

Passover is the 8-day observance commemorating the freedom and exodus of the Israelites (Jewish slaves) from Egypt during the reign of the Pharaoh Ramses II. A time of family gatherings and lavish meals called Seders, the story of Passover is retold through the reading of the Haggadah. With its special foods, songs, and customs, the Seder is the focal point of the Passover celebration. Passover begins on the 15th day of the Jewish month of Nissan. As the Jewish day begins at sundown the night before, this year (2013) the first night of Passover is Monday, March 25th.

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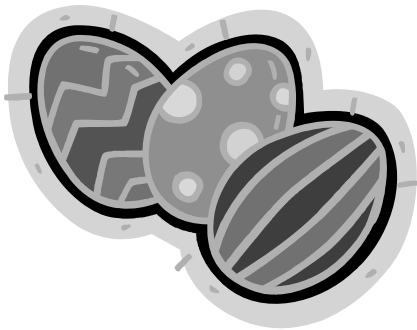
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Easter Egg Fun



Easter is almost here! This year make your annual Easter egg decorating as fun as it can be. These ideas will get you started.

Before dying your eggs, wrap them in different sizes of rubber bands. Dip in the first color and then remove one of the rubber bands. Continue dipping and removing rubber bands until the entire egg is colored. You can also use wax crayons in this way. Color the areas of the eggs that you do not want dyed with the crayon. When they are dipped in the dye, the dye will only adhere to the areas not colored.

After dying your eggs, use stickers, glitter, and nail polish to decorate them. Splatter them with paint applied to an old toothbrush. Use small pieces of a cut-up sponge to paint your eggs. If you do use paints on your eggs, remember not to eat these eggs. Easter eggs are only safe to eat if you have used a non-toxic dye.

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