



Volume 16 Issue 12

A Newsletter for the Residents of The Mar Del Plata Condominium

March 2026

Mar Del Plata
Condominium Assoc., Inc.
 6423 Collins Avenue
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<http://mardelplatamiamibeach.com>

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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Vice President Manuel J. Pardo
Treasurer Leslie Cortina
Secretary.....Mario Suarez
DirectorTeresita Pastoriza

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Published monthly at no cost for the Mar Del Plata Condominium by Coastal Group Publications, Inc. Contact CGP at (305) 981-3503 or www.cgpnewsletters.com to advertise in one of our newsletters or to get a free newsletter for your property.



MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Residents,

I hope this message finds you well as we begin the new year. Last month, the Board of Directors convened for our annual Organizational Meeting, and I am pleased to announce the selection of the following members to serve in key positions:

- Ernesto Marcos: President
- Manny Pardo: Vice President
- Leslie Cortina: Treasurer
- Mario Suarez: Secretary
- Teresita Pastoriza: Director

We sincerely appreciate your continued confidence in our leadership. While we have made significant progress, there is still work ahead. The path we are on has become clearer over the past year, and we eagerly anticipate recertifying our building soon. The journey has been longer and more challenging than we initially anticipated, but we believe our hard work and patience will soon yield positive results.

I would like to address a couple of important points. Leslie provided an overview of potential cost overruns related to the window replacement project. To mitigate these overages, we need the cooperation of all residents. Please understand that the Association will not cover repairs to units beyond what was initially agreed. Balancing the needs of all residents while managing costs is our goal, and we appreciate your collaboration.

Additionally, if your apartment's electrical panel requires adjustments, I urge you to take action promptly. Our certification depends on every panel

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President (cont. from page 1)

meeting code requirements.

On a positive note, we are pleased to share that our insurance costs are projected to decrease significantly by nearly \$50,000,00. This is a welcome change, especially after the substantial increases we have faced in recent years. Furthermore, we have renewed our contract with Breezeline at a lower rate, offering higher speeds and additional services for our community.

Remember, success is a collective effort. Regardless of individual independence, we thrive as a community, and every member’s participation is vital for achieving our shared goals.

Wishing you all the best.

Warm regards,
Ernesto Marcos
President, Board of Directors

Celebrating the Women in Our Community

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

This month we celebrate International Women’s Day, a special time to recognize and honor the incredible women who make a difference in our homes, our community, and around the world.

We would like to take a moment to appreciate the strength, kindness, leadership, and resilience that women bring to our daily lives. Whether as mothers, daughters, partners, friends, neighbors, or leaders, their contributions help shape a stronger and more caring community for all of us.

On behalf of the management team, we wish all the amazing women in our community a wonderful International Women’s Day filled with appreciation, joy, and recognition.

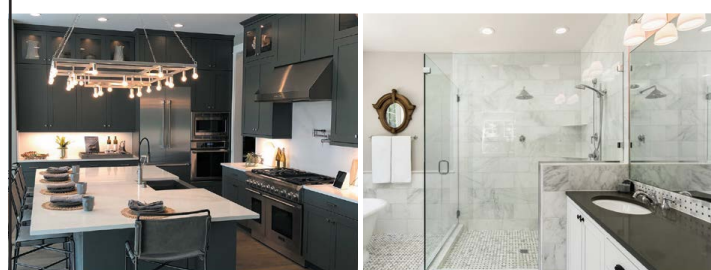


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MARCH IN HISTORY



- Harvard University students in March 1939 thrilled the public with their new fad: Goldfish swallowing.
- On March 15, 1937, the first blood bank was established at Cook County Hospital, Chicago, Ill.
- On March 30, 1867, Alaska was purchased from Russia for 2 cents an acre.



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National Panda Day
March 16.





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HOW ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVOLVED INTO A PARTY

St. Patrick introduced Christianity to Ireland in the fifth century A.D., but it took until the 1960s for Ireland to start celebrating it like Americans. But how did this holiday arrive on American shores, and why did it turn into a wild party over here while the Irish observed it as a religious occasion? For that, we can blame the British -- which is an Irish custom all by itself.

According to the Smithsonian, Irish soldiers, many of them indentured servants, introduced the holiday to the original 13 colonies as early as 1762 -- the same year that the first St. Patrick's Day Parade was held in New York City. The parade tradition continued past independence and through the decades, growing in scope and size and party opportunities as Irish immigrants poured into the U.S. and established the largest Irish diaspora outside of Ireland.

But while Irish-Americans partied in green getups and waved shamrocks around, the situation in Ireland was comparatively bleak. British authorities banned green clothing because of its association with Irish revolutionaries, and American-style public gatherings to celebrate Irish pride were simply not on the menu. Thus, the St. Patrick's Day that Americans recognize and love is largely a product of immigrant imaginations, mixed with healthy doses of American capitalism and our national appreciation for excellent parties.

St. Patrick's Day still remains a solemn religious occasion for many observant Catholics in Ireland, but blowout parties have gained in popularity in recent decades -- partly to attract tourists, and partly because they're tons of fun.

Whether you're Irish or not, when you attend a St. Patrick's Day celebration, let yourself enjoy every piece of it, no matter how corny or weird or outlandish it is. Because centuries ago, Irish people -- perhaps even your ancestors -- fought to preserve that piece of their homeland and pass it down with pride.



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