



## Mar Del Plata

**Condominium Assoc., Inc.**  
 6423 Collins Avenue  
 Miami Beach, Florida 33141  
<http://mardelplatamiamicbeach.com>

### ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

- President**..... Manuel J. Pardo
- Vice Pres.** ..... Nancy H. Fernandez
- Treasurer** ..... Jose Perez
- Secretary**..... Agustin Veitia
- Director** ..... Marina Oppenheimer

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- Asst. Engineer** ..... Ivan Esteves

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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- Fax** .....305-861-1011
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### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday ...7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

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## From the President

Well owners and residents of Mar Del Plata Condominium, this is the last letter for our newspaper for the year 2010. First, let me wish you all a very healthy and happy holiday season. This is the time of the year when families get together and celebrate the season, make sure you have fun and enjoy; but please stay safe. If you want to celebrate and share fine spirits, use our Penthouse and all you have to do is “drive” the elevators! There is nothing safer than that.

We will be hosting our New Year’s celebration in the Penthouse, Nancy Fernandez, Francis Pena, and Arturo Toirac are in charge of the event. There will be no cost to you, other than what you choose to bring. Please adhere to the following:

- You can have 4 guests per apartment.
- See Jorge to register your guests and to secure tickets for them.
- Guests will have to have the tickets with them the night of the event and identify themselves to the front desk personnel.
- No children will be allowed in the Penthouse on December 31, 2010.
- Only guests on the list will be allowed into the party.

Please see Jorge for further details.

As you can see the work has started on the water intrusion. This is a slow process; please make sure you adhere by the manager’s requests with regards to moving items from the balconies. We are very satisfied with the way they are handling the job, they are actually weatherproofing each of the bolts from the shutters.

We stopped the plumbing work until the beginning of the year, the plumbing company has other projects in the building that can be finished now, and will concentrate on the 17<sup>th</sup> floor beginning 2011. Just remember that when they finished on that floor, the bottom area can be handled without shutting off the water to the entire building, hence being less of an inconvenience to all of us.

Remember that you all will be voting in members for the Board, anyone interested please see Nelson. And last, the situation with the cats has been somewhat remedied, the city has taken an active part in cleaning our area and fumigating. We also got assurances that there will be no more feeding behind our area.

Again enjoy the Holidays, have fun, visit your relatives, friends, and most of all give thanks for what you have.

Manny Pardo, President

## Prevention of Hookworm Infection

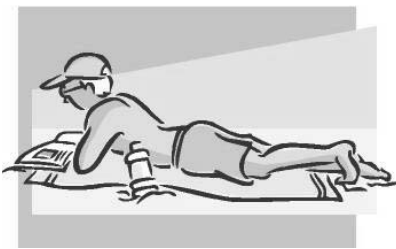


Lillian Rivera, RN, MSN, PhD, Administrator

been exposed to hookworm should contact their health care provider.

The Miami-Dade County Health Department (MD-CHD) Office of Epidemiology and Disease Control (EDC-IS) has identified the

You can reduce the risk of hookworm infection by taking simple precautions including:



hookworm parasite in animal feces on Miami Beach. In general, hookworm usually affects puppies and kittens, but can cause illness in humans who are exposed to the feces of infected animals. We would like to provide you with information on hookworm infection and recommendations to prevent its transmission.

People can get infected with the hookworm parasite when they accidentally step on or ingest material contaminated with infected feces. Severe infections are not common, but symptoms can range from mild illness (itching and rash) to serious illness (anemia, abdominal pain, diarrhea, weight loss, stunted growth, mental development, and congestive heart failure). Anyone who feels that they may have

- Clean up animal waste
- Do not allow cats and dogs to defecate in public areas
- Wash hands with soap and water after handling animals or objects contaminated with their feces
- All animals should undergo routine veterinary visits, parasitic screenings and deworming treatments
- Do not walk barefoot or contact the soil/sand with bare feet in areas where there may be fecal contamination of the soil/sand
- Wear protective footwear on beaches and use towels when laying on the sand
- Cover sand boxes.

## Concrete Restoration

The restoration is due to commence on the first week of January 2010. As we have stated before it is going to be noisy, dusty and uncomfortable at times while the work is performed. The working hours will be Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, any changes will be posted in advance.

### Bike Racks

For your convenience, new bike racks have been installed on the North East section of the lobby level parking. If you are going to store a bike please pick up a tag to identify ownership from the Management Office.



### Trash Rooms & Chutes

Please remember to properly dispose your cardboard boxes by breaking them down and placing it in the dumpsters located on the South West section of the lobby parking. Do not leave large items inside the trash rooms. Your cooperation is appreciated.

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## Christmas

A special Christmas family meal is an important part of the holiday's celebration for many, and the food that is served varies greatly from country to country. Some regions, such as Sicily, have special meals for Christmas Eve, when 12 kinds of fish are served. In England and countries influenced by its traditions, a standard Christmas meal includes turkey (brought from North America), potatoes, vegetables, sausages and gravy, followed by Christmas pudding, mince pies and fruit cake. In Poland and other parts of Eastern Europe and Scandinavia, fish often is used for the traditional main course, but richer meat such as lamb is increasingly served. In Germany, France and Austria, goose and pork are favored. Beef, ham and chicken in various recipes are popular throughout the world. Ham is the main meal in the Philippines. Around the world, Christmas celebrations can vary markedly in form, reflecting differing cultural and national traditions.

Special desserts are also prepared: The Maltese traditionally serve Imbuljuta tal-Qastan, a chocolate and chestnuts beverage, after Midnight Mass and throughout the Christmas season. Slovaks prepare the traditional Christmas bread potica, bûche de Noël in France, panettone in Italy, and elaborate tarts and cakes. The eating of sweets and chocolates has become popular worldwide, and sweeter Christmas delicacies include the German stollen, marzipan cake or candy, and Jamaican rum fruit cake. As one of the few fruits traditionally available to northern countries in winter, oranges were long associated with special Christmas foods.

## Hanukkah

There is a custom of eating foods fried or baked in oil (preferably olive oil), as the original miracle of the Hanukkah menorah involved the discovery of a small flask of pure olive oil used by the Jewish



High Priest, the Kohen Gadol. This small batch of olive oil was only supposed to last one day, and instead it lasted eight. Latke / Potato pancake frying in olive oil Accordingly, potato pancakes, known as latkes in Yiddish, are traditionally associated with Hanukkah, especially among Ashkenazi families, as they are prepared by frying in oil. Similarly, many Sephardic, Polish and Israeli families have the custom of eating all kinds of jam-filled doughnuts (Yiddish: פֿאַטשקעס = pontshkes), bimuelos (fritters) and sufganiyot which are deep-fried in oil. Bakeries in Israel have popularized many new types of fillings for sufganiyot besides the traditional strawberry jelly filling, including chocolate cream, vanilla cream, cappucino and others. In recent years, there have also appeared downsized, "mini" sufganiyot" containing half the calories of the regular, 400-to-600-calorie version.

There is also a tradition of eating cheese products on Hanukkah that is recorded in rabbinic literature. This custom is seen as a commemoration of the involvement of Judith and thus women in the events of Hanukkah.

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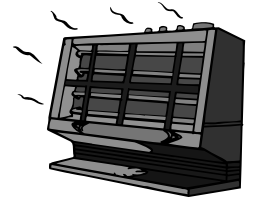
According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid December. Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen - had to be a female.

We should've known. Only women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.



### Space Heaters

We ask that you exercise caution if you are using a space heater during the winter months, as they can be a fire hazard.



### Holiday's Decorations

Just a reminder that as per the Condominium Rules & Regulations, decorations are not permitted to be attached or hung from the front doors of your apartment.

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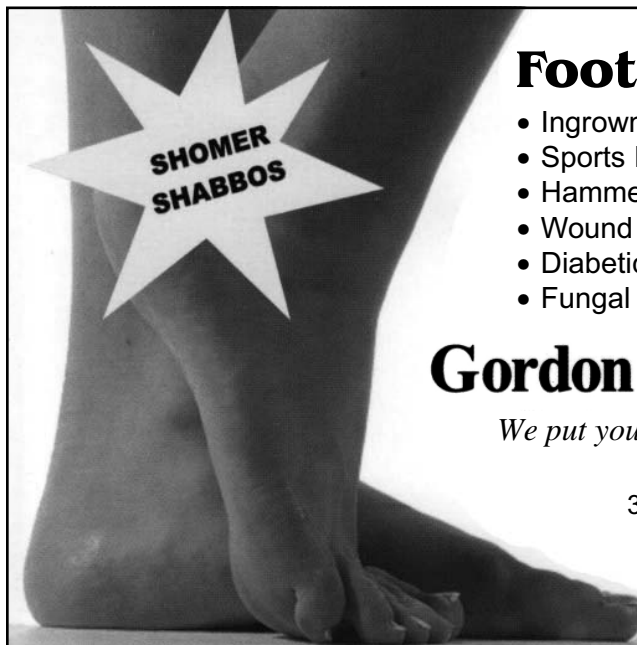
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## December

December ( Listen (help•info)) is the twelfth and last month of the year in the Gregorian Calendar and one of seven Gregorian months with the length of 31 days. December's flower is the narcissus or holly. December's birthstones are turquoise, lapis lazuli, zircon, topaz (blue), or tanzanite.

In Latin, decem means "ten". December was also the tenth month in the Roman calendar until a monthless winter period was divided between January and February.

December is the month with the shortest daylight hours of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and the longest daylight hours of the year in the Southern Hemisphere. December in the Northern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent to June in the Southern Hemisphere and vice versa. In the Northern hemisphere, the beginning of the meteorological winter is 1 December. In the Southern hemisphere, the beginning of the meteorological summer is 1 December.

December starts on the same day of the week as September every year. December ends on the same day of the week as April every year.

## Capturing Holiday Lights



Photographing the spectacular lighting displays found during the holidays often proves

to be a challenging feat. Here are a few ideas that may help you achieve more than just a "beautiful blur" to cherish.

To get the best results outside in the evening, start by loading your camera with a "fast" film - one with a high numbered speed rating. If you have a tripod, use it to steady the camera; otherwise, brace yourself against something sturdy (a tree, fence or building), hold your breath and gently squeeze the shutter button on your camera. Be sure to turn off or cover the flash before shooting, and if your camera has adjustable shutter speeds, set it to 1/15 or 1/8 second. If it's freezing cold outside, keep your camera warm inside your coat and bring along an extra camera battery. For indoor lights, the same rules apply. Again, a fast film will help you capture the glow of a roaring fire or your Christmas tree lights. A slightly "slower" film will help ambient light to register on the film and still let you use your camera's flash to freeze the action of a young child opening his first present. **Good Luck and May Your Holidays Illuminate with Cheer!**

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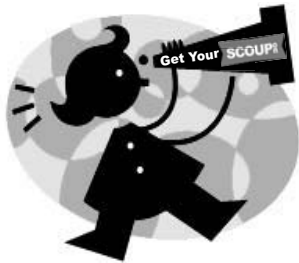
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