



# Creciente Newsletter

7150 Estero Blvd., Ft. Myers Beach, FL 33931 (239) 463-9604

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi to All,

Happy to announce the North building now has 2 New Operating elevators.

We are now waiting for the interior of the cabs to be redone.



We have now started our summer hours, 8am-1pm, for the office. If there is an emergency, you can always reach someone at 239-494-2859.

If you have gone North for the summer, we strongly recommend that you have a home watch checking your unit every week and it would be a good idea to let the office know who is watching your unit. If we have the contact number of your home watch, it could expedite matters in case of an emergency. Owners will still always be notified.

Also, if you are leaving a car here – we need to know both the contact person for car keys & who can move your car in case of emergency.

Have a happy & healthy Summer!

*Cheryl Thompson*

# May Access Codes

Please call the Office

Vendor codes may change periodically for safety and security reasons.  
Please contact the Office if necessary.

## Creciente Book Club

### *Summer Reading List*

**November 12**

The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict

**December 10**

Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann

**January 14**

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

**February 11**

Any book about a woman spy or intelligent agent

**March 11**

Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance

**April 8**

Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman



# COMMITTEE REPORTS:

## BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The Building & Grounds Committee continues to address several projects and issues as we seek to improve the physical conditions at Creciente.

### GARAGE

Two new drains along the east wall were installed.

### NORTH BUILDING ELEVATORS

The project should wrap-up by the end of May as originally scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rich Preves

## Decorating Committee

The Decorating Committee has compiled a list of the pieces of furniture for all three mailrooms they would like to present to the Board at the end of the year, providing the funds are available.

Three different decorators have presented their ideas. At the present time, the committee feels the Seawind Collection for Matters Bros. provides the coastal design we are looking for at the best price.

Yes, property of this size ( 6 ½ acres) has many needs & wants. We will continue to weigh the needs against the wants and proceed in the best way possible to keep our property the best on the beach.

Submitted by Cheryl Thompson



## **Landscape Committee**

Now that the garage deck is finished we are working to restore landscaping on the hill by the East building. This is being done under the assessment for the garage deck!

This is a definite challenge but we are trying to do everything possible to prevent erosion of soil into the garage during heavy rains.

The Allamanda in the garage deck planters are being replaced with a native beach Sunflower by the landscaper under their warranty. The Allamanda have not done well due to high winds and salt spray in this area. The salt spray sticks to the leaves & burns them when we do not get any rain.

Considering we are in a drought – the landscaping is doing pretty good!

Submitted by Cheryl Thompson

# Creciente May 2018 Plantings



# Social Committee

## What a Great Season!!!

Three parties with 75 to 100 guests, thirty six swimmers at Water Aerobics, three successful beach parties, eight tables of Bridge during the height of season, full house at Bingo, four tables of Euchre on Tuesday nights, twenty-four at Book Club, and Canasta every Sunday afternoon. Owners, renters and guests all enjoyed the activities which Creciente Condominium Association offers. There are too many people to thank personally but those who planned, set up and cleaned up are responsible for the success of these wonderful activities. Thank you!!! For those owners who rent out your condominium, your renters have told us the reason they rent here is partially due to the great activities here at Creciente.

The 2018/2019 Season activities have already been planned.

### **Listed below are the dates for the parties;**

November 2018 Thanksgiving Dinner—*November 22, 2018*

Christmas Eve Breakfast 2018—*December 24, 2018*

January 2019 Welcome Back Party—*January 11, 2019*

February 2019 Valentine Party—*February 15, 2019*

March 2019 Deck Party—*March 15, 2019*

Bridge and Bingo will start again mid to late October.

Euchre will begin again in January

Book Club will begin again in November

Canasta will begin in November

Bocci Ball to begin January—**New!**

Water Aerobics is year round

*Submitted by Carol Kucharek*

# North Building Elevator Pit Fire

April 10, 2018



## North Building Fire

On 4/10/18 in early afternoon, a North Building fire pull station alerted there was smoke and fire in the North Building elevator pit.

The alarm panels began alerting in quick succession to advise everyone that an event was in progress. As we have seen from experience, the alarm sensors are *thankfully* very sensitive and a vape e-cigarette, a saw used, or an open vacuum dust bin used without covering a sensor- can easily set them off- but in this case there was a presence of Fire and accompanying Smoke to be alerted to.

As everyone mobilized to come to our assistance, we confirmed the elevators and hallways were clear as black smoke rapidly filled the buildings middle 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> floor elevator landings and hallways.

The Fire Rescue trucks came racing to our fountain circle and drives to cordon off the roads, so they'd be clear for emergency work. The E.M.T.'s pulled in and began mobilizing as well.

As the hoses and axes rolled out the Fire Captains began planning the steps that would be taken after successful fire and smoke containment. The Office began calling all Residents, Owners and Guests to make certain all units were clear and all residing/sheltering inside had access to emergency resources should they need them.

Fire Emergency Response Teams assisted some Residents to waiting air-conditioned lobbies, our Social Room or onto gurneys that could be rolled to the equipped buses they had efficiently mobilized onsite.

After clean-up and the building's release for re-occupancy, the cause of the below-stairs elevator pit fire was attributed to a bag of trash having caught on fire during installation welding. The installing techs ran down to apply the extinguisher due to the high flammability of the bag and wiring within, pulled the pull station and called 911 for further assistance.

We had the hallways, ceilings, carpets and lobbies inspected, a general cleaning was ordered, and General Elevator had the elevator pit and walls professionally cleaned to eliminate the smell emanating onto the floors.

To protect the new elevator components, the Association opened an insurance claim and we are waiting on the inspector's follow-up.

We are vastly thankful for everyone's quick thinking and continued willingness to pitch in to work together in times of need to make the Creciente North Building Fire handled so well.

*Submitted by Gina Krause*



# Electrical Safety at Home

Tune up  
your electrical  
systems every **10** years

## Prevent Fires by Looking for Electrical Hazards

- ⊘ Electrical cords under rugs or behind furniture
- ⊘ Laptops and phones charging on beds or sofas
- ⊘ Overloaded outlets



## Practice Electrical Safety in Your Home

- ✓ Unplug appliances by pulling the plug, not the cord
- ✓ Remove items from overloaded outlets
- ✓ Use extension cords properly
- ✓ Use light bulbs of the correct wattage in lamps



## Tune Up Electrical Systems Every 10 Years

The need to plug many things into a single outlet or the reliance on extension cords is a sign it's time to have an electrician review your system. Fire officials recommend having a licensed electrician review your home every 10 years. Small upgrades and simple safety checks, like making sure outdoor grounds and connections are secure, can prevent larger problems.

### *Electricians can:*

Make sure circuit breakers are working properly

Place ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) receptacles near sinks, bathrooms, & outdoors to prevent electrocution

Install tamper-resistant receptacles (TRRs) that prevent young children from accessing outlets

## Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years

Smoke alarms have a life span of about 10 years and should be replaced when they reach that age. Look for the date of manufacture to determine the age of your home's detectors.

## Know the Warning Signs

Call your local fire department immediately if you notice warning signs like arcs, sparks, or short circuits. Other warning signs include hearing a sizzling or buzzing sound or smelling a vague odor of something burning. Firefighters can use thermal imaging technology to see excessive heat inside the walls. Immediate attention to these signs can save lives and prevent an electrical fire.

Call a professional electrician soon if you have other warning signs, including:

- Frequently blown fuses or tripped circuit breakers
  - Dim or flickering lights
  - Bulbs that wear out too fast
  - Overheated plugs, cords, or switches
- Shock or mild tingle — more than normal static electricity — when touching a switch or outlet
  - Loose outlets or unusually warm or faulty outlets or switches

## Did You Know?

By Kathy Luce

Do you know how we keep our JR Olympic sized pool temperature maintained? We have a Geothermal Heat Pump System which is also referred to as Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHP's).

Ours is an Open Loop System. An open loop consists of 2 deep wells: one that supplies water to the heat pumps and one that returns water back to the ground.

Our 150 foot deep source well is located on the south end of Creciente and taps into an aquifer with the discharge Well being approx. 50 feet down.

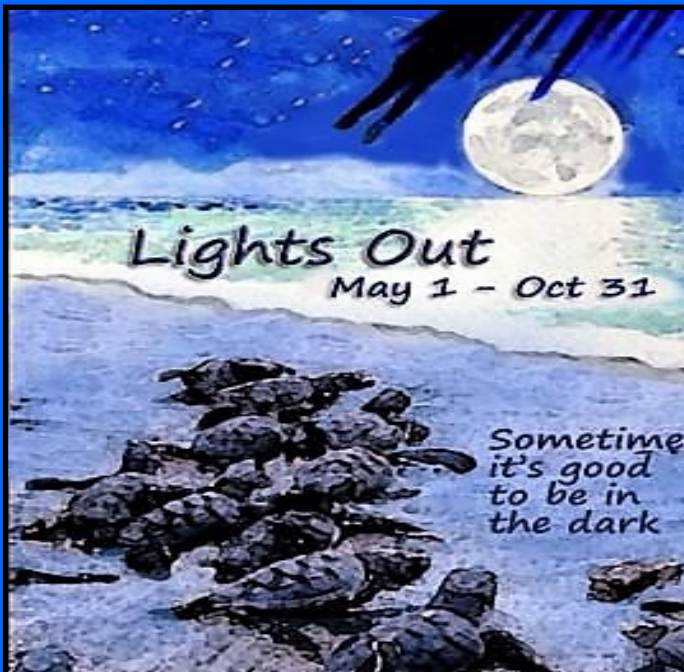
A system of pipes bring water to/from the pool heaters which use coils and freon to either extract heat (winter) or cool (summer) the water entering the pool. Then a computerized dispensing system or ORP Feeder balances acid/chlorine to keep the pool water clean and buffered.

We have six geo thermal units that are located in the fenced in area behind the pool house. They were replaced 13 years ago and are maintained by J & L Refrigeration.

When stormy weather, winds or sudden temperature swings dilute or cool the pool, our aging system can be a little challenged. It can take up to a few days for the water to be rebalanced. Your management team is aware and monitors the pool regularly.



So whether you are looking over the sparkling blue waters of our beautiful pool, enjoying a swim or just walking by, here is a brief glimpse into the mechanics of the GSHP's responsible for it.



We hope you enjoy our beautiful beaches during your stay. In addition to being a great place to enjoy the sun and surf, our beaches are important nesting areas for sea turtles and our dunes are home to many plants and animals. During your stay, we hope you will help us protect our coastal wildlife & habitats.

**Sea turtle season is March 1 to October 31 (Atlantic coast) or May 1 to October 31 (Gulf coast), please remember a few simple things to help protect sea turtles & their habitats:**



It is against the law to touch or disturb nesting sea turtles, hatchlings, or their nests. To report a dead or injured sea turtle, call FWC at 888-404-3922.



Avoid using flashlights, lanterns or flash photography while on the beach at night.



Turn off or shield lights, close drapes/blinds to prevent lights from shining onto the beach. Lights disturb nesting turtles and hatchlings.



Fill in holes and knock down sand castles to make the beach safe for sea turtles.



Make sure to remove all items, such as beach chairs and trash, from the beach at night.



# Happy Mother's Day!

- The best medicine in the world is a mother's hug.
  - Home is wherever mom is.
  - Not always eye to eye, but always heart to heart.
- All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother. –Abraham Lincoln
  - The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of a mother.
    - St. Therese of Lisieux
- Mothers and their children are in a category all their own. There's no bond so strong in the entire world. No love so instantaneous and forgiving.
  - Gail Tsukiyama
- Mothers hold their children's hands for a while, but their hearts forever.
  - Life doesn't come with a manual; it comes with a mother.
    - Mother (n): cheap therapist and best friend
  - Mothers are like buttons—they hold everything together!
    - A worried mother does better research than the FBI.
      - Mom: A title just above Queen
    - Nothing is lost until your mother can't find it.
  - A mother is your best friend, first friend, and forever friend.
- My mother...she is beautiful, softened at the edges and tempered with a spine of steel.
  - I want to grow old and be like her.
    - Jodi Picoult
- Mom, thank you for teaching me how to stop and smell the roses.