



Welcome to



!!!NOVEMBER!!!



Your MONTHLY Garden Gnome News! "with a little help from my friends!"

Volume 2, Issue 11

HOME OF THE GNOME!

November 2017

Association Members,

I'm sure every one knows the leak was stopped on 10/7/2017. Since that time I've pulled the bulk actual financial numbers from our City Water, Sewer and Trash accounts to try and determine how much liability came from the leak and how much we used so we may be able to be prepared to determine how we will come out on this based on these figures.

Keep in mind if & when you would hear someone say that our water for the month of Aug 15th thru Sept 18th bill was over \$4237.70, the bill is true but not the break down of utilities. Same for our reading Sept 18th thru Oct 10th 2017 being \$44915.94. That figure is much more then just water service, Its everything. Includes our trash collection and the water and sewer services we all really did use.

Please see my attachment and you will quickly realize that the estimated water loss only is about \$1287.94 and estimated additional sewage charges equal about \$2575.88 (BUT!!, The leak did not go down the drain, in part, it went into one neighbors condo because another condo owner left their water on while it was vacant with no one attending it, PLUS no keys to get in.

If the city will adjust the sewerage down to our normal average monthly usage (deducting -\$2575.88) and help us with the water leak portion (-\$643.97), we could end with paying our normal bills plus between \$650.00 to

1200.00 extra for the water.

This was so avoidable. Had we had KEYS to get in we would have saved time and many hundreds of gallons of lost water & sewerage and had the owner honored the rules and regulations it wouldn't have happen at all. (see Bekki's article on page 2 for more)

Sorry that it to happen at all. We can all make sure it don't happen again. Please make sure you have your keys in the safe on property and when you leave your condo unattended make sure you turn your water OFF.

You know plumbers where just not available at all during this crisis due to hurricane Irma. Thanks so much to all the folks that joined arms besides myself to resolve this issue that is still ongoing in repairs being made and meetings with the city.

Thank you, Steve Hesche, Bekki Shanklin, Janice Noble, and each of the residence that helped out by checking their own condo for leaks.

I will update hopefully one more time will do it, Until then

Sincerely,
Johnie W Mason III
SGCA President / Treasurer
431 Van Buren St, Apt C5
Fort Myers, FL 33916
239-289-0544

	August	September 26th	October	
		8/15 to 9/18	9/18 to 10/10	Leak stopped on 10/7th
Water				
Average Use	\$ 749.19	\$ 749.19	\$ 749.19	LEAK
Amount Leaked	\$ -	\$ 530.93	\$ 757.01	\$ 1,287.94
				hoping for adjustments
Sewer				
Average Use	\$1,534.06	\$ 1,534.06	\$ 1,534.06	
Amount Leaked	\$ -	\$ 1,061.86	\$ 1,514.02	\$ 2,575.88
				This sewerage was not lost
Trash	\$ 361.66	\$ 361.66	\$ 361.66	
	\$2,644.91	\$ 4,237.70	\$ 4,915.94	\$ 3,863.82
			looking @	-----> -2575.88 sewer adjustment
			looking @	-----> -643.97 water adjustment
				\$ 643.97 Hopfully Final cost of leak
The sewer bill is what was going to kill us..... NOT THE WATER..... We didn't use the sewer.				

Shockingly Sad Alert

Contributed by Bekki Shanklin the human and NOT the SGCA/VP

DISCLAIMER: First and foremost, I'm going to state that this IS NOT a law. But after you read what I have to say and regarding what happened, I am hoping you will want to work with the Association after reading this plea and help us maintain proper keys for your safety and the well being of your homes and the connected homes of your neighbors

~*~*~*~

When Johnie3 and I laboriously hauled our ashes up 6 buildings of stairs, and clutched in our sweaty hands we did this WITH the bag of keys for each building and each door. At each door, we stopped and went through the bag until we found the key to the door we were in front of after going through each and every labelled tag.

We were very upset to learn during this fact-finding foray, that of all of the keys that were in the respective building's bags, that 8 sets were NOT for the respective doors, which means people had placed keys in the clubhouse by the request for all owners to have a safety set in case of emergency. We had no way of knowing which unoccupied condo left its water on, possibly destroying their good neighbor's condo in the mean time. We DID, indeed find the problem condo. But the expense of not being able to get in at a goodly time has yet to be determined, which is the most unfortunate part, especially to the owner of the destroyed condo.

This was never about trying to invade your privacy and oust your confidence of having your homes entered and your privacy stepped, and we're not sure what you've been told in the past. But know that ONLY the trusted and background-checked Board of Directors or management company wasn't allowed in. What we DID find out is that the emergent water leak could POSSIBLY cost around \$4,000 TO THE OWNER to

to rectify. As Johnie3 said, this was a totally preventable situation

What if the door MUST be broken into during an emergency?

Here is what will happen if we, or a first responder has to break down your door or we have to have a locksmith come out to get into your personal space: MONEY attributed directly to the owner. And that is a wasted cost at that point, where just a key put in the clubhouse or housed at CAM services is a much easier expense on the pocket book.

So, please just know that whatever damage occurs whether in your condo because of any owner's

lack of keys could have been prevented a month or so ago worth of internal destruction, and then it falls on everyone here having to incur the expense if repairs and angst. Is it worth that?

A possible fun fix!

We are thinking of having a Saturday morning coffee and Keys day where everyone comes in, signs out a current key for their condo and trying it to make sure it's the right key for the current door. It will be a fun, fact-finding day and for all of us to see our neighbors again and say hi! We will post when that day is and hope everyone can attend and try the keys we have on file and replace what doesn't work with a working key. Until then, contact either Johnie, Bekki or Janey to check or exchange your keys in the mean time

Please note that the numbers are still being investigated, so stay tuned for the hope that everything is still to be determined in our favor, FINANCIALLY

Our next Association Meeting is Thursday, November 9th at 6 pm.. we **NEED** as many of the owners there as can get there.. you **DO** have a voice!

DAILY MOJO
By *Janey Hesche*

A few commercials and advertisements have stuck with me over the years.

One is, "What's in your wallet?"

Another is, "What's your poison?" (no eye rolls, they are asking what is your drink of choice!)

Something that has motivated me over the last twenty years is, "What's your challenge?"

Of course, we all want to wake up every morning and make every day a great day.

We all hope for good health.

My own unrealistic wish every day is that my husband and children never know a moment of sadness.

But, I digress...

What is in my wallet?

NOT ENOUGH!

What's my poison? COFFEE, EARL GREY ICED TEA, AND AN OCCASIONAL DARK, STOUT BEER SO THICK YOU CAN CUT IT WITH A KNIFE!

What's my challenge? Why, thank you for asking!

Well, over the years, when ask what my goal was, (usually from a personal trainer) my answer was and is to grow old gracefully. Simple enough.

But every year, I do set a challenge/goal for myself. Kind of like a New Year's Resolution, but obtainable and realistic. (I never achieved my challenge of running a half marathon at 50, but I did run one at age 59 and 61! I guess it was more realistic to wait a few years!

For 2017, I entered two challenges. The first one was an Under Armour Challenge to run, walk or crawl 1017 kilometers. The second was an I Love To Run Challenge to run, walk or crawl 1,000 miles. I had from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017. I finished the first one in June and the second one in October. I was worried for a while in the beginning that I may not be able to complete either one due to some injuries that popped up early on.

First off, I broke my toe which sidelined me for about four weeks. Then I suffered a bout of piriformis/sciatic nerve pain. For a few days I could not even get off the couch let alone walk to the front door. (You remember in an earlier Daily Mojo I talked about my severe "pain in the glutes!") Thank goodness for my Yoga instructor who was certified in Kinesiology. She got me on track and straightened me out, so to speak! My knees aren't what they used to be and the balls of my feet refuse to go farther than six miles on any given day. Despite these setbacks I did dig deep looking for my mojo, and continued on 'til I met my goals. Enough of my being proud of myself! (I

only thought I was "all that" for one week.) Steve just shakes his head! He really is my one, true supporter, he just forgets sometimes.

So, I have been thinking. What is my challenge for 2018?

For years when I lived in Michigan, every New Year's Eve day, at 3 pm to be exact, we had a four mile Resolution Run around Reeds Lake. Last year I did that here around our neighborhood and will do it again this year. (early in the morning, not 3 pm, it's too hot!) It's different from running a four mile course around a frozen lake on snowy, icy roads to running around a beautiful neighborhood with palm trees, sunshine and HUMIDITY!

This year I will stick with the 1017 kilometer challenge. That is only 631.9 miles! I want to focus on cross training. My bike and I were estranged last year. Since I completed my mileage I have pumped up her tires, given her a bath, and rode around the neighborhood. I missed swimming laps in the pool this summer. Everything revolved around Map My Run, GPS, and just getting 'er done.

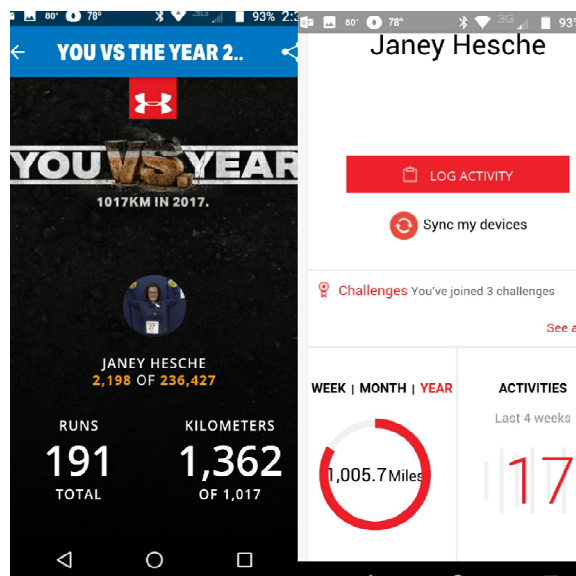
I have one challenge next year, but many goals! That's what purposeful, positive, powerful mojo is all about. You know friends, I say this a lot but, Life is Good. I like to follow that with, Do what you like, Like what you do.

It seems like every month you have allowed me to write about my life, thoughts, adventures, goals and Miss Stella! I want to sincerely thank you for being along on this journey with me, called Retirement! It has been real.

Going to close with some amazing lyrics from the esteemed songstress, Katy Perry...

"I got the eye of the tiger, a fighter, dancing through the fire, 'cause I am a champion, and you're gonna hear me roar, louder than a lion, 'cause I am a champion and you're gonna hear me roar."

Namaste(meow)



Gypsy's Melting Pot is by Tasha Mizell

Recipe and photo~Southern Living

Ingredients:

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 (8-ounce) package sliced fresh mushrooms
- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 (26-ounce) jars tomato-basil pasta sauce
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon dried Italian seasoning
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 (20-ounce) package refrigerated four-cheese ravioli
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded mozzarella cheese

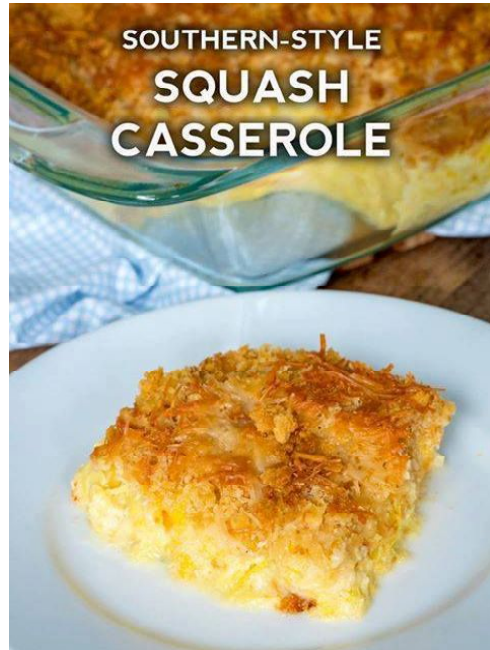
Preparation;

Cook ground beef in a Dutch oven over medium-high heat, stirring until it crumbles and is no longer pink; drain. Wipe Dutch oven clean.

Sauté onion and mushrooms in hot oil over medium-high heat 8 minutes or until tender. Add garlic, and sauté 1 minute. Stir in beef, pasta sauce, 1 cup water, and next 3 ingredients.

Bring sauce to a boil; add ravioli. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer, stirring occasionally, 8 to 10 minutes or until pasta is done. Stir in cheese. Serve immediately.

Note: For testing purposes only, we used Classico Tomato & Basil pasta sauce and Buitoni Family Size Four Cheese Ravioli.



Great dish for pot lucks!!

Put a little butter in a skillet, throw in some squash, onion, tomato.

Cook it down, add some Hot Sauce,(if desired) top with cheese. Let cheese melt, then serve some good eating. Use Zucchini and Yellow squash together.

Elections for the new board of directors is before the

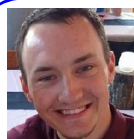
January meeting, the 11th.

Please vote your heart

and

Please remember when offering to run, or voting for your champions to watch and care for the owner's well-being, the Board of Directors needs to include active people willing to do more than just be a 'vote'

We are running out



***Tech In A Flash
Matthew Rebstock
& Bekki Shanklin
at your service!***

