CASA COASTER

December 1, 2022 | Volume I, Issue One | CasaCoaster.com

What's News

Neighborhood

★ **Boat captains** are preparing for an annual holiday parade on the water. **A3**

★ **Boynton Beach** is closing major roads to host a market and parade. **A4**

Casa Costa

★ **Residents gathered** to share homemade food and celebrate the start of Thanksgiving week. **A1**

★ **Building managers** are targeting February to reopen the pool deck completely, following a protracted project to repair the garage. **A4**

INSIDE

OPINION
Renters here deserve respect, writes Stephanie Finz. **A2**

LETTERS
Treasurer quizzes on driving, plants. **A2**

Residents kick off holiday season



BELINDA BATTISTA/CASA COASTER

While rain pounded outside, guests joined on the third floor and the Casa Costa club room for dessert. A1

December party includes live band

Hotwire Communications, the cable television and internet provider to the community, is set to stream the cocktails while the association's social committee orders catering.

Over one hundred residents have bought tickets for the December 8 evening event that takes over the club room and pool deck, weather permitting. Hotwire is providing a band, the booze and bartenders comprised of their local employees.

The sold-out event for Casa Costa residents caps a busy year for Roberta Mann, the chairperson of the Social & Welcoming Committee.

"We went from basically zero events during COVID to dozens this year," said Ms. Mann. "I'm thrilled how people have come together again, rain or shine."

The building staff is invited to join the party, she added.

– Staff reports

Pre-Thanksgiving dinner proves a popular potluck

Over eighty folks helped themselves to the turkey and gravy provided by Casa Costa's attorneys at GD&C of Boca Raton the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Residents brought homemade side dishes and desserts to share. Uncooperative weather forced the festivities indoors but did not dampen the spirits of the residents who enjoyed as many as seven varieties of casserole.

The evening's planners credited Danilo Cajina, the building's head engineer, for last-minute assistance with extra tables and electricity when the dinner was moved indoors.

Toy drive revs up

Castle Group announced that donation boxes are in the lobby for its annual toy drive.

Organizers urge residents to donate new, unwrapped toys for kids aged six to 18 by December 9.

– Staff reports

OPINION

One third of Casa Costa residents are renters and we deserve respect

By Stephanie Finz

I have lived here as a renter for eight years. My involvement and concern for this building is no less than an owner's, yet renters like me are left out of everything that impacts our lives here.

Renters should be allowed to attend Board meetings. If an owner expresses that they would like the renter of their unit to attend meetings on their behalf, it should be permitted. Currently owners must sign over power of attorney for this purpose, which is a ridiculous hurdle.

Renters are treated like second-class citizens.

Most investment owners have no idea what goes on here, while we renters live here and have no idea what goes on here.

Renters are treated like second-class citizens and it's time we are included in things that affect us. Our rents are higher than many owners' mortgages and we deserve to know everything.

Renters make up a huge portion of active residents. We live here every day. Ask us what we think because we see and hear everything.

Keeping renters in the loop makes us a part of this community. Excluding us tells 1/3 of the residents that we don't matter and that our concerns fall on deaf ears. Keeping us involved helps us guide owners who don't live here when it comes time to vote. My owner asks me every year who are the right people to put on her ballot.

Happy holidays!

Ms. Finz is moderator of a private Casa Costa Community group on Facebook.

LETTERS TO THE PUBLISHER

Can you separate facts from fiction?

With more residents back in town, rumors are swirling and I think it's time for a little test of your knowledge of what's been going on around Casa Costa.

1. The speed limit in the garage is five mph, *not* 50.

FACT! With many pedestrians and dogs in the garage is it imperative that people drive slowly. Reckless driving and speeding can result in a fine of $100. If you see someone speeding in the garage, please call the front desk and let them know the floor, date, time and any information you have about the car. We have many cameras to check as a follow-up.

2. Stop signs are a suggestion – not a rule.

FICTION! Stop means *stop* and you can be subject to a $50 fine.

3. The sprinkler system is inoperable, so the plants died.

FICTION! The sprinkler system works, sprinkler heads are checked and replaced if failing at regular intervals. Most watering takes place late at night to avoid evaporation. We water as many times a week as the local law permits.

4. The fifth floor plants died due to a lack of water.

FICTION! The concrete dust from the construction of the fifth floor was the culprit.

How did you score? Be safe.

Art Rome

Mr. Rome is treasurer of the Board of Directors.

Email letters intended for publication to casacoasternews@gmail.com. All letters are subject to editing.

Holiday boats ready to bring the bling

On December 9, the Intracoastal will be lit

By John Battista

BOYNTON HARBOR MARINA – Locals know the holidays are here when the boats get dressed up.

Hosted annually on the second Friday of December, the Holiday Boat Parade brings festively decorated boats in an evening coordinated by leaders of four towns and cities along the Intracoastal.

The parade forms near the drawbridge in Lantana and floats south to Delray Beach. City officials designated this marina as the official watch location and are organizing music and kids activities, including a visit from Santa. The parade begins at 6:30 p.m. and lasts nearly two hours.

Organizers are also collecting new, unwrapped gifts for Toys for Tots, which donors can throw onto designated boats from the shoreline.

"Simply wave a flashlight and a boat will come directly to you," said Mercedes Coppin, an events manager for the city. Donation boxes are also located at restaurants at the marina.

Boat captains must register in advance to join the parade and bring a toy donation to a pre-parade meeting earlier in the week. Judges will award nine prizes for creative decorations.

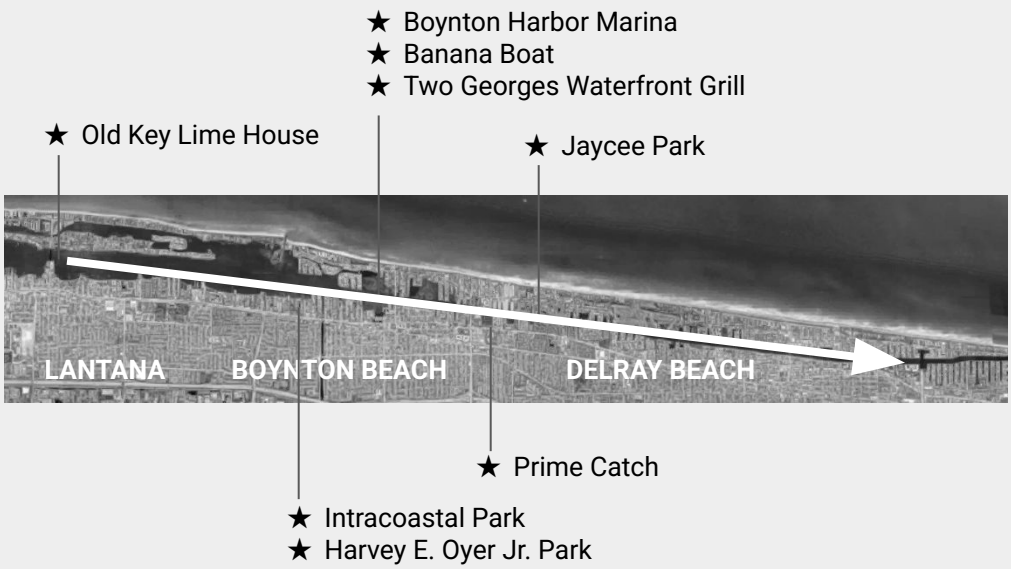
The parade floats under five drawbridges in Boynton Beach and Delray Beach, which will be raised for extended periods to accommodate the decorated boats. Officials estimate the parade will reach Boynton's Ocean Avenue drawbridge ar 7:15 p.m.



BOYNTON BEACH COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Hundreds of boats are expected to participate in the parade of lights.

RECOMMENDED VIEWING LOCATIONS
Restaurant reservations recommended



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Manager delivers construction update to anxious residents

CASA COSTA – Castle Group officials offered hope to residents who feared the construction work would outlast them.

Sue Gutierrez, the community's property manager, estimated that the protracted project to repair the parking garage would be completed by February.

"Unfortunately, our worst fears about damage to the concrete beams came true," Gutierrez said, adding, "The good news is that the workers are making solid progress to repair the beam."

The repair job, which commenced in June 2021, required the closure of much of the pool deck. Residents have vocalized concerns about slow progress and unprofessional workmanship.

"This was a big job and it's a shame it took so long," said resident Jim Brousseau. "There's finally light at the end of the tunnel. I'm just happy to live to see the pool reopen."

– Staff reports

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Local events

BOYNTON BEACH HOLIDAY PARADE
Dec 3 @ 4 p.m. | Federal Hwy
Road closed between Boynton Beach Blvd and Woolbright from noon to 8 p.m.

ROCKIN' AROUND THE BLOCK & HOLIDAY MARKET
Dec 3 @ 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. | Dewey Park

CASA COSTA HOLIDAY PARTY
sponsored by Hotwire Communications
Dec 8 @ 6 p.m. | Pool deck

HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE & TOYS FOR TOTS
Dec 9 @ 6:30 p.m. | Intracoastal Waterway from Lantana to Delray Beach

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Boynton Beach, Fla.

This is an independent publication. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Board of Directors or managing agent of Casa Costa.

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