



Carrollton Lakes Newsletter December 2025



**Christmas
Decorating
Contest
Deadline
Dec. 19, 2025**



**Let's see those
blingy lights and
reindeer and
snowmen and
Santa Claus!!!**



Congratulations, Neighborhood Award Winner!

We, at Hillsborough County Florida Government, are pleased to inform you that Carrollton Lakes HOA has been selected as the Award Winner for the 2025 Engaged Neighborhood Award.

Award winners are recognized for enriching the quality of life in their communities by fostering healthy, safe and engaged neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Award was presented to the HOA Board on November 25, 2025 at a Board Meeting in the Park.

-Gabrielle Nickerson, Neighborhood



**December 2025: 3311 Red Mulberry Ct.
Congratulations to Megan & Elvin Ramos!**



**~~ THE LAKE ~~
And
THE LANDSCAPING**

We are still looking for volunteers who are interested in working on projects in our community. Please contact Russell Smith at outreach@carrolltonlakeshoa.com.

Thank you!

Let's look at some Christmas trivia!

1. The tallest Christmas tree ever displayed was a 221 foot Douglas fir.
2. Santa didn't always wear red. Before Coca Cola's ads in the 1930's, he was often shown in green, blue, and purple.
3. In 1836, Alabama was the first US state to recognize Christmas as an official holiday.
4. Every year, Santa receives over 8 million letters from children all around the world.

A Christmas Caramel Treat!

Ingredients:

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup corn syrup
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt
- 1/2 cup butter (softened)
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tbsp heavy cream
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

Instructions:

1. Combine sugar, brown sugar, heavy cream, butter, and corn syrup in a saucepan over medium heat, stirring until melted and smooth.
2. Bring to a gentle boil and cook, stirring occasionally, until the mixture reaches 238° F.
3. Remove from heat, stir in vanilla and salt, and pour onto a parchment-lined tray. Cool until firm yet flexible.
4. Beat softened butter with powdered sugar until fluffy, then add heavy cream and vanilla to make a smooth filling.
5. Spread the cream filling over the cooled caramel sheet.
6. Roll the caramel into a tight log and refrigerate for 20-30 minutes.
7. Slice into spirals and serve.



CHRISTMAS FAVORITE CREAM CARAMELS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Ryan Kearns
VP/ARC Chairman: Tom Read
Treasurer: Charlie Pritchard
Secretary: Rose Bowman
Outreach Coordinator: Russell Smith

OCEAN BLUE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

LCM: David Latrella

Friendships need Face-to-Face Time

In the US and across the world, actual friends are being replaced by acquaintances. Digital contacts are replacing human contact.

You Tube, Facebook, 2-career families and demanding jobs mean that people have less time to belong to clubs or churches. People don't go out as much. They don't do things together.

Today, the average American has only 2 close friends. Shallow friendships prevail, like pals on the Internet. Sociologists are worried about the decline in social connections in the US. The secret to close friendships? Put down the device and engage the person. Spend some time with a friend.

Face-to-Face

HOMEOWNERS

1. Attend our HOA Meeting: 12/16/25.
2. 25 MPH is the speed limit . . .
. . . but 15 MPH is better.
3. Stay informed. Follow us on . . .
Homeowner Portal / Ocean Blue
Carrollton Lakes website
Facebook / Next Door / and more
4. Advise "Project Ideas" for our
Community participation
5. Don't forget our Christmas
Decorating Contest!

