



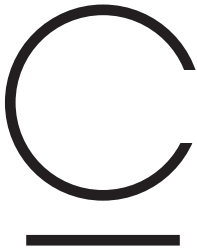
# CENTRO

*A Newsletter for the Residents of the Centro Downtown Condominium Association, Inc.*

Volume 2 Issue 12

December 2019

**CENTRO DOWNTOWN**  
Condominium Association, Inc.  
151 SE 1st Street  
Miami, Florida 33131



## PROPERTY STAFF

**Manager** ..... Gisbell Lores  
manager@centrocondominium.com

**Admin. Asst.** ... Daniel Orozco  
admin@centrocondominium.com

**Front Desk**.. Lauren Gutierrez

*Front Desk is available to residents 24hrs  
frontdesk@centrocondominium.com  
Receiving Department is available for  
package pick up from 9am until 6pm  
receiving@centrocondominium.com.*

## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

**President** ..... Shai Ben-Ami  
**Vice Pres.** ...Harvey Hernandez  
**Secretary** ..... Mandi Miranda

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**Main** ..... 305-440-0566  
**Fax** ..... 305-440-0622

## OFFICE HOURS

**Mon - Fri**.. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm



## Tis' The Season To Be Jolly

The Holiday spirit certainly has all of us here on the Centro staff feeling pretty happy and jolly. Here's hoping the spirit has caught you as well. From all of us to all of you, have a very Happy Holiday season and a Happy New Year.

## Tips for a healthy & safe live Christmas tree:

- Leave the tree outside or in the garage for a few days before bringing inside to decorate.
- Make a fresh cut across the bottom, about 1" above base, so your tree can drink easily.
- Make a preservative: mix a quart of water with 1/2-cup of corn syrup and a tsp. of bleach.
- After a few days in the preservative, bring the tree inside and place it in a location away from direct sunlight and other heat sources (such as heating ducts, wood stoves and fireplaces.)
- Remember to add water to the reservoir daily.



## Did You Know?: Kwanzaa Trivia

- Kwanzaa is celebrated for seven days from December 26 to January 1.
- Kwanzaa (Swahili for "fresh fruits") is based on an African harvest festival.
- Kwanzaa was created by Maulana Karenga, a professor of black studies at California State University at Long Beach, in 1966.
- The colors of Kwanzaa are black, red and green.
- The seven principles of Kwanzaa are unity (umoya), self-determination (kujichagulia), collective responsibility (ujima), cooperative economics (ujamaa), purpose (nia), creativity (kuumba), and faith (imani).
- The karamu, or feast, held on Dec. 31, is one of the high points of the seven days of Kwanzaa. Food, music, and dance are part of the karamu.
- Kwanzaa is now celebrated all over the world, especially in the U.S., Africa, and the Caribbean.
- Kwanzaa is a nonreligious holiday.

# Smoking is Not Allowed in Common Area and Individual Units

## Under the Rules and Regulations of Centro Downtown Condominium Association, Inc.

1. No owner, family member, tenant, resident, guest, business invitee, or visitor shall smoke cigarettes, cigars, or any other tobacco product, marijuana or illegal substance in outside common areas, enclosed common areas, and exclusive use common areas (balconies) within the Association.
2. Smoking shall include the inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying of any lighted cigarette, cigar or other tobacco product, marijuana, or illegal substance.
3. Business invitee shall include, but is not limited to, any contractor, agent, household worker, or other person hired by the owner, tenant or resident to provide a service or product to the owner, tenant, or resident.
4. Any owner who sells his/her unit shall specifically disclose to all potential buyers and Realtors that smoking is NOT prohibited within all common areas in the building. Any owner who rents or otherwise allow someone other than the owner to reside within or occupy the unit shall disclose to all persons who reside within his/her unit that smoking is NOT prohibited within all common areas prior to their residency or occupancy.
5. Each owner is responsible for the actions of all other persons residing within or visiting his/her unit and shall be subject to disciplinary action or court action for an injunction, or any remedies available for the violation. The association is required to hire legal counsel to enforce these rules, the resident or the association shall be entitled to recover his/her or its attorney's fees and costs incurred, whether or not litigation has been commenced. The association may collect the attorney's fees and costs it incurs through the use of a special assessment levied against the owner of the unit and an assessment lien, if necessary.



*Please note that drifting smoke from within a unit that enters another unit is also prohibited and will be enforced under the Nuisance provision.* The Association respectfully demands that you comply with the Associations Rules and Regulations, as the foregoing rules are designed to make living for all Residents pleasant and comfortable.



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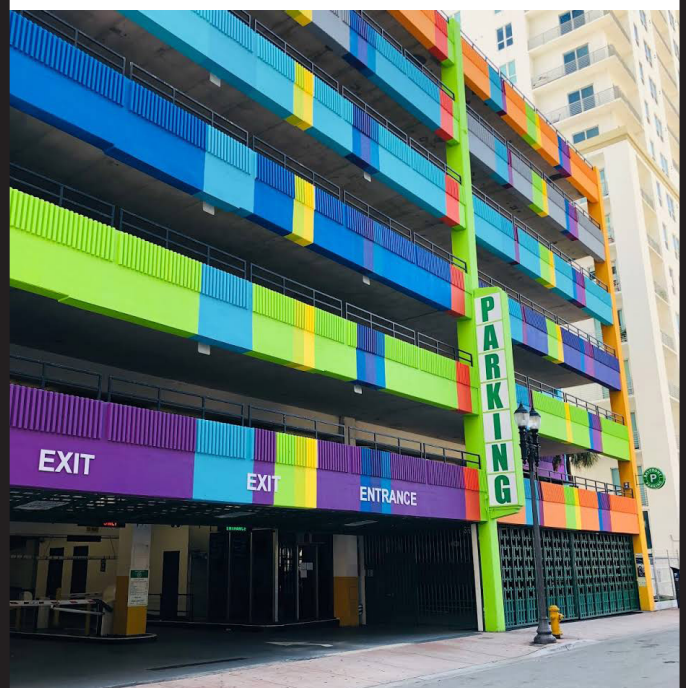
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## What is Chanukah?

In 2nd century BCE, in an effort to pull Jews away from Judaism and adopt the Greek culture – Hellenism, the Syrian-Greek regime of Antiochus outlawed aspects of Jewish observance, including the study of Torah, which began to decay the foundation of Jewish life and practice. In response, a band of Jewish settlers took to the hills of Judea in a revolt against this threat to Jewish life. Led by Mattitياهو, and later his son Judah the Maccabee, this small band of devout Jews led guerrilla warfare against the Syrian army. Antiochus sent thousands of well-armed troops to crush the rebellion, but the Maccabees succeeded in driving the foreigners from their land. Jewish fighters entered Jerusalem in December, 164 BCE. The Holy Temple was in shambles, defiled and desecrated by foreign soldiers. They cleansed the Temple and re-dedicated it on the 25th day of the Jewish month of Kislev. When it came time to re-light the Menorah, they searched the entire Temple, but only one small jar of oil bearing the pure seal of the High Priest could be found. Miraculously, the small jar of oil burned for eight days, until a new supply of oil could be brought. From then on, Jews have observed a holiday for eight days in honor of this historic victory and the miracle of the oil. Today, the observance of Chanukah, meaning “dedication” features the lighting of a special Chanukah menorah with eight branches (plus a helper candle), adding one new candle each night.

## Recipe for Latkes



- 4 medium potatoes
- 1 medium onion
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup matzah meal (flour or bread crumbs can be substituted)
- salt and black pepper to taste
- vegetable oil

Shred the potatoes, onion and bell pepper into a large bowl. Press out all excess liquid. Add eggs and parsley and mix well. Add matzah meal gradually while mixing until the batter is doughy, not too dry. (you may not need the whole amount, depending on how well you drained the veggies). Add a few dashes of salt and black pepper. Heat about 1/2 inch of oil to a medium heat. Form the batter into thin patties about the size of your palm. Fry batter in oil. Be patient: this takes time, and too much flipping will burn the outside without cooking the inside. Flip when the bottom is golden brown. Place finished latkes on paper towels to drain. Eat hot with sour cream or applesauce.

If you'd like to try something a little different, add some bell peppers, carrots, celery, or other vegetables to the batter to make veggie latkes!



Commissioner  
**Eileen Higgins**  
District 5



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**MIAMI BEACH OFFICE**

1700 Convention Center Drive, ground floor  
Miami Beach, Florida, 33139  
Tuesday and Thursday / 9:30 am - 4:30 pm


[www.miamidade.gov/district05](http://www.miamidade.gov/district05)

305-375-5924

District5@miamidade.gov

@CommishEileen


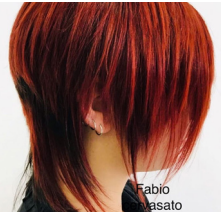
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