

JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER FROM THE STRAND MASTER BOARD

It's a new year at The Strand! We can only hope that 2020 is behind us -- and rejoice in the promise of a better, brighter, healthier 2021. Please read on for updates on the many projects currently underway in our Community...

- **GATEHOUSE**– It's difficult to believe we could be so unlucky...just when the Club was finishing its roofing project and the vendor was preparing to install the Gatehouse roof and add a fresh coat of paint to provide a more modern look for our entrance, a piece of equipment too tall for clearance crashed into our Gatehouse and did significant damage. Most significant was the weakening of a major support beam which required the closing off of the guest lane and some emergency precautions to ascertain safety in that area. **While the Master Assn. maintains the Gatehouse per our cost sharing agreement, the Club owns and insures the Gatehouse and it is our understanding they are working with the vendor who caused the accident and their insurance company to get repairs completed.** Should you have further questions, please direct them to The Club.
- **PLEASE NOTE: The County has installed a new sign in our front median just past the Gatehouse EXIT LANE indicating that there is NO LEFT TURN allowed from Strand Blvd. on to Tavilla Circle and NO U-TURNS allowed as a way to return to the Strand. Please observe this signage immediately as it our understanding that it will be "monitored."**

BACK GATE - As our residents are no doubt aware, the back gate has had several problems of late and the Board has been researching multiple options to make that entrance/exit safer and more secure. Issues include whether or not guests should use the gate, how best to monitor the usage, how to allow our residents quick access but not allow unwanted strangers, and several others. In reviewing past minutes, the SWING gates were never intended for 24 hour usage when installed – the current Board voted to implement that practice three years ago, at the request of several communities located near the rear of the community who wanted tighter security. The added usage has proved to be too much for a gate that was not designed for such. We ask your patience as we resolve many of these issues with new equipment, new cameras and entrance procedures.

NEW FIRST MEDIAN! - The Board hopes you are as pleased as we are with the new median design between the Gatehouse and Cypress Cove. We had received some comments that our old first median might be one of our least

attractive with its difficult sightlines, so Mainscape's Landscape Architect has lowered the "profile," put in all new plants and added more color to create a WOW factor upon entering. It will look even better as it grows in!

- **PRESERVES SIGNAGE**– the new signs required by Southwest Florida Water Management to delineate many of our Preserve Areas are on order and will be installed when they arrive.
- **LEGAL ISSUES** -While we cannot disclose some details of the lawsuit filed by Mango Cay because of confidentiality requirements, the Board did meet with our attorney on January 27th and participated in a court ordered mediation. The mediation was unsuccessful and we are moving forward with the litigation.
- **NEW LAKES VENDOR** - The Lakes Committee voted to put our lakes management contract out for bid. We will be interviewing vendors soon for their take on how best to improve our SIXTEEN lakes.
- **NEW PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL PRESIDENT** - Congratulations to Master Board Member and Sawgrass resident Ted Farah, who was elected President of the President's Council on December 22nd. Ted accepted the position formerly held by Elena Mola and we thank her for her work on the Council over several years. The President's Council is an "informal roundtable" which allows Presidents to share the ideas and concerns of their communities with each other, as well as provide suggestions to the Master Board. Most recently, the Presidents have offered to help the Master Board communicate more information to Strand residents.
- **MASTER ASSOCIATION ASSESSMENT** - The November newsletter discussed the Master Assn. budget -- there was no increase this year - the \$364 quarterly Master assessment remains the same as 2020...but several residents inquired about how this money is collected. Very simply, it is part of the assessment paid to your Neighborhood each quarter. Some Communities break out separately the Neighborhood Assessment and the Master Assessment, while others do not. So as an FYI, the Master fee is included in your quarterly Neighborhood billing. The \$364 per quarter pays for the landscaping of Strand Boulevard, maintenance of pumps, wells and irrigation, the Gatehouse staff, the security features of the community, utilities used on the Boulevard, and a host of other items **including your COMCAST cable fees.**
- **ANNUAL MEETING AND MASTER BOARD ELECTIONS** - The Strand will conduct business and elect Master Board Directors at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 30, at 6:00 at the Club. The Annual Meeting often attracts a crowd and the Board and the Club are always concerned about health and

safety, so no decision has been made yet on an in-person attendance policy due to concerns about COVID and crowds. We will keep the community posted as we review the situation.

ELECTION TO THE MASTER BOARD - If you are interested in running for the Board, you may want to contact President Susan Mulgrew or any Board Member listed below for information on time requirements, responsibilities, etc. Serving on the Board is a great way to meet your neighbors and help your community! **Intent to Run** forms (posted are due to our Property Manager Michaela Neumann at Vesta no later than **February 18th**. You may also submit an introduction, a biography or resume to the community no later than **February 23rd**. **Those forms will be available on our website: thestrandmaster.com after February 8th per our election requirements.** For additional details on election procedures, please contact Michaela at 239-947-4552 or at Vesta Property Services, 27108 Bay Landings Dr., Suite 4, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

- **FOR YOUR SAFETY AND THAT OF OTHERS.... WALKERS AND RUNNERS, PARENTS WITH STROLLERS, AND DOG WALKERS - PLEASE USE THE SIDEWALKPLEASE DO NOT USE THE CART LANES – THEY ARE FOR BIKES AND CARTS ONLY. Thanks so much!**
- Please be a responsible neighbor and pet owner and pick up after your furry pals...and don't forget to observe the 25 MPH speed limit on Strand Blvd.! The next meeting of the Master Board will be held at the Club on Tuesday, February 16th at 4:00. Check the posted agenda two days before the meeting on to see if owner attendance is in-person or call-in. Thank you.

THE STRAND MASTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

Susan Mulgrew, President Tom Ewert, Vice President Katy Wrede,
Secretary Tom Guthrie, Treasurer Diane Parisi, Director Ted
Farah, Director Bob Schultz, Director