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# AROUND THE BEND

## Your Willowbend Community Newsletter

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### Board of Directors Notes

Thanks to everyone who participated in the annual meeting and election, either in person or by proxy. Here is your new Board of Directors

President, Stephen Meuler  
Vice President, Frank Pugliese  
Treasurer, Janet Kaplan  
Secretary, Paul McClain  
Director at Large, Tina Wetter

Here are the challenges we see coming for the community in the next year:

We continue to make the transition to the upgraded Frontier cable service.

We projected a 20% increase in insurance costs; however, they came in higher than expected.

The cost of utilities continue to rise.

Rewriting the community legal documents.

The next Board meeting will be March 21.

### Frontier Communication Information

We've had numerous questions about the Frontier cable service we're receiving under the new contract. I've added a pdf channel lineup and the Frontier link as attachments to this newsletter. Remember, we have the Prime channels unless you have upgraded your service. You can also search channels on the Frontier App on your phone or other devices.

Thanks for Alex Wagenaar for researching and providing this information.

### Imagine This!

Ellen Nacinovich



Imagine guiding your friends to Willowbend by saying “Just turn at the Take 5 oil change on the corner and go to the stop sign...” Imagine the business pictured above facing Tamiami Trail (41) but having both its entrance and exit on Habitat Blvd. Imagine 10 parking spaces associated with that oil change business. Imagine another building behind the oil change -- a 2-3 story building designated as office/retail space with 25 parking spaces. Imagine a small retention pond east of that “office” building. Imagine passing all this before you reach our Willowbend entrance sign!

The landowner of the parcel # 0155120008, known as 1401 S. Tamiami Trail, has requested a zoning change in order to develop it into not one, but TWO businesses. Think traffic concerns! Think noise! Think lights! Think signage! Think environment! Think nature (eagle perch on tall pine tree)! It is important to let your voices be heard if you oppose this zoning change.

Here's what you can do:

- Contact your county commissioner – Joe Neunder, [jneunder@scgov.net](mailto:jneunder@scgov.net), 1660 Ringling Blvd, Sarasota FL 34236, 941-861-5000
  - Attend the Planning Commission Public Hearing (tbd)\*
  - Attend the Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing (tbd)\* This is the meeting when the County Commissioners will decide whether or not to issue the zoning change. It's a 6- to 9-month process from initial filing to final hearing.
  - Stay alert! Watch for notifications of the hearings.
- \*Public hearings require signage and postcard notifications provided by Sarasota County.

## LMP Maintenance Requests

Willowbend homeowners will now have two options for requesting landscape and irrigation maintenance for their property.

Option 1 – Our current system is to email Sentry Mgmt. with their work order request, or

Option 2 – The LMP client portal. This option will be directed to the appropriate manager at LMP to speed completion of work orders and provide direct contact with the howe owner. The client portal for Willowbend is located at <https://thelmpadvantage.com/client-portal> .

## New Willowbend Webmaster

We all owe a thank you to Marshall Hestenes who has been our webmaster for the last 15 years! He spent countless hours keeping our Willowbend webpage up to date.

Following the election last year Marshall stated that he would continue as webmaster for a year and would like to step down in 2023.

The call went out for tech savvy volunteers to take over the webmaster duties and Barbara Males taken over. Thank you, Barbara for volunteering!

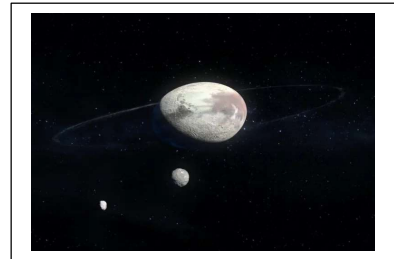
## Committee News

Joyce Cekander is stepping down after co-chairing the Social Committee for several years and has organized most of the community events we've attend over the last several years. Thank you, Joyce.

Thanks to Roseann Santiago who will continue now as the sole Chairperson for the Social and Welcome Committees. The social events take a lot of preparation and coordination so if you'd like to become involved you can contact Roseann at [bigmamarosie58@gmail.com](mailto:bigmamarosie58@gmail.com).

## Did You Know?

There is a planet shaped Like a Potato



Not every celestial object has a shape that's as perfectly majestic as planet Earth. In fact, some of them are downright hilarious to look at. Take Haumea, for example. This dwarf planet is cool for a number of reasons. About the same size as Pluto, Haumea orbits the sun beyond Neptune and has rings similar to Jupiter. But what makes this object even more interesting is that it's shaped like a potato.

## Odds and Ends

It's amazing that in the beautiful Willowbend neighborhood the Board of Directors has to again remind dog owners to clean up after their pets. Please have pride in your neighborhood and respect for your fellow neighbors, carry a poop bag and clean up after yourselves.

The pickleball court has become a very popular place over the last year. You'll often see quite a few players from our community and their guests playing.

But players from other communities who are not guests of Willowbend residents are not welcome. The Board is still working on a repair to the court fence when it was cut so non-residents could play.

We continue to see the court gate still propped open after our players have finished their games. This is an open invitation for anyone to use our courts. Please be sure to secure the court when you are finished playing.