

NEIGHBORS FRIENDS

I am happy to write to you that we are well under way in our canvassing efforts to get the required signatures to implement Master Plan B. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this, we would have announced that our efforts have paid off and we will be moving forward with the project.

Canvassing every single household is a massive undertaking. The Directors have split the neighborhood up into 5 different sections to make the task more manageable. My section consists of Trailville, Menasco, Starhill, and Coachlight north of the intersection with Briarhills Parkway. I have to give credit to grass roots organizers, approaching homes cold turkey as a stranger is a daunting task. Some residents were doing yardwork, others working in their garage, some just getting home out of their cars. Walking up and introducing yourself you never really know what kind of reaction you're going to receive. That, coupled with the stammer that I have had since a child, almost made this impossible.

But, with all of that said, every single resident that I have spoken to, both for and opposed to the petition, were kind and generous. Everyone was very kind; some even invited me into their homes and offered food and water. I have lived here for three years now, and find myself walking the neighborhood with my wife and dog quite often (although less so since my wife had ACL surgery). I can say now though that I know 40 more people in my neighborhood after knocking on doors – which is a really neat feeling.

It amazes me how many people have moved into our neighborhood in such a short time. There are so many new families in just that little corner of the world where I have been walking – each with their own stories and history. It's nice to see how they have made friends with their neighbors and how positive they all see this neighborhood as a reason why they chose to move here.

In other news, by the time this is published we will have had our first Movie night of the year out on the lawn. These efforts do not just happen, they are the collective effort of our resident volunteers that had an idea and were willing to make it happen. Movie night is the result of a determined mother with a great idea and a computer. That's all it takes. We the Directors want to encourage this as much as we can.

Last month a number of the mothers in the Mother's Club (that's right, we have an official Mother's Club Now!!! Bhillsboa. mothersclub@gmail.com) approached the board about having a camping night on the lawn later in the summer. The Board unanimously supported this and looks forward to this coming true later on in the summer. We have also opened the clubhouse for the Mother's Club free of charge whenever they need to meet or hold an event.

If you have an idea about a club that you would want to start, please feel free to email me (bhillsboa.pres@gmail.com) so we can make it happen. I have heard some discussion about a book club, or a running club, or a tennis club, or a cycling club, or a Dads Club. All it takes is a resident (or group of residents) to make it happen, and the Board will support it. If your club wants to meet at the clubhouse; no problem. If they need financing for an event; let's talk about it. If they want to be able to advertise their event to the neighborhood; we can make that happen. It just takes one resident.

That is all I have for this month. I hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day and I hope to have even better news next month about the ongoing Master Plan process.

Alec Luong, AIA
President, Briarhills Property Owners Association

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Emergency	911
Constable (<i>Closest Law Enforcement</i>).....	281-463-6666
Poison Help	1-800-222-1222
Library and Community Center.....	832-393-1880
City Services.....	Call 311
Citizens' Assistance.....	713-247-1888
Public Works.....	713-837-0600
Neighborhood Protection.....	713-525-2525
Animal Control.....	713-229-7300
Wild animal problem	713-861-9453
Hazardous waste.....	713-551-7355

OTHER UTILITY SERVICES

Street light problem.....	713-207-2222
.....(then 1 then 4)	
Power out/emergency	713-207-2222
Gas leak suspected.....	713-659-2111
Before you dig.....	Call 811

BRIARHILLS SERVICES

Trash collection	713-733-1600
Amenity tags	281-558-7422
Tennis courts.....	281-558-7422
Pool parties.....	281-558-7422
Clubhouse rental	281-558-7422
Marquee messages	281-558-7422

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Briar Hills Beat. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Briar Hills residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Article Submission.....	briarhills@sbcglobal.net
Advertising.....	advertising@PEELinc.com

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		3	9				5	
5					3			4
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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.



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REBECQUE'S AND NANCY'S BEAT

By living in Houston we are privileged to have access to many diversified activities including the following that are free:

- **Sam Houston Boat Tour of the Houston Ship Channel**, 90 minute cruise
- **Buffalo Soldiers National Museum**-FREE Thursday 1-5 pm
- **Children's Museum of Houston** - FREE Thursday 5 – 8 pm
- **Czech Center Museum Houston** - FREE last Monday of the month 12 - 4 pm
- **The Health Museum** - FREE Thursday 2 – 5 pm
- **Holocaust Museum Houston** - FREE Thursdays 2 - 5pm
- **Houston Museum of African American Culture** - FREE Thursday 6 – 8 pm
- **Houston Museum of Natural Science** - Permanent Exhibit Halls FREE Thursdays 2 pm - 5pm
- **The Houston Zoo** first Tuesday of each month, September through May, from 12:00 p.m. until closing. June, July, and August do not have Free Afternoons.
- **The Museum of Fine Arts**, - FREE Thursday 10 am – 9 pm

- **Miller Outdoor Theater** – free tickets for covered area distributed from 10:30-1 on day of performance and open seating on the hill.
- **Houston Tunnel System** – start at the Chase Bank Building at 600 Travis, tallest building in Texas, view the frescoes and stained-glass window depicting Texas' history. Ride elevator to the 60th-floor to take in views of the city skyline. Descend to the tunnels. Maps available throughout the tunnels.
- **Hermann Park** with Duck Pond and Japanese Gardens
- **Edith Moore Bird Sanctuary** next to Memorial Drive Methodist Church
- For a fee **Ghost Tours** and Kayak or canoe trips down Buffalo Bayou by Bayou City Adventures are available along part of the 26-mile paddling trail from Highway 6 to Allen's Landing. Rent or take your own canoe or kayak.

Recently we sent the Out and About brochure which includes many more activities..

Briarhills July 4th at 11 - Parade and hot dogs. Fire truck provided by Rebecque and Nancy.

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FOUR-LINED PLANT BUGS



Four-lined plant bugs are brightly colored. Nymphs (immatures) are red while older nymphs start to have wing pads with yellow and black stripes. Adults have fully developed wings that are yellow and black striped. Adults look similar to, and may be mistaken for, striped cucumber beetles.

These insects have piercing-sucking mouthparts which they use to suck out plant juices. The plant bugs suck out chlorophyll and leave a "window" between the upper and lower epidermis of the leaf. Damage appears as white, dark or translucent spots of foliage and is sometimes mistaken for fungal damage. Feeding may also cause curling and browning. Fortunately, damage is mostly cosmetic, but if you are trying to eat the foliage of the damaged plant it may become a problem.

The insects feed on a wide variety of hosts, including fruits and vegetables, annuals and perennials and woody plants. When disturbed, the insects are fairly good at hiding. They either crawl to the underside of the leaves or drop to the ground to hide among foliage.

If you feel the need to manage these insects, try insecticidal soap. If that doesn't work, you can try azadirachtin (neem- concentrate, not oil; it's getting too hot to use oil formulations) or pyrethrins. If that doesn't work then try a residual contact product.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com.

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The Value of Sleep for Children and Teens

Shelley Coleman M.A., L.P.C.-S.

As important as food and water, sleep is vital to your well-being. And, if you are a parent, research shows that your children are not getting the sleep they need. According to the National Sleep Foundation, children (ages 6-13) require 9-11 hours of sleep per night and adolescents (ages 13-18) require 9-10 hours per night. A recent study from the Centers for Disease Control found that 31% of teens get 8 hours or less of sleep per night and most school age children are getting 8.5 hours.

For growing brains and bodies, not getting enough sleep can have consequences on school and relationships. Teens and children can have difficulty concentrating when sleep deprived. And, according to the Sleep Disorder's Center, approximately 1,550 people are killed annually in crashes related to drowsy driving. Often, these crashes are caused by young people under the age of 25.

On the contrary, quality sleep has been linked to improved attention, better mental health, and lower risk of obesity. In recognizing the importance of quality sleep, parents can help children establish healthy sleep habits at an early age. If healthy sleep hygiene is established in adolescents, those habits can carry into adulthood.

Healthy sleep habits for teens and children include:

- a set bedtime and wake time that does not vary by more than 2 hours

on the weekend

- a relaxing bedtime routine such as reading for teens or story time for children
- no "exciting" activities at bedtime such as jumping or wrestling for children or computer games for teens
- daily exercise
- healthy diet
- no caffeine after 4 PM

If you think your teen or child may have a sleep issue, there are common symptoms you may notice. For adolescents, parents may have difficulty waking them in the morning or observe that their teen is irritable in the early afternoon. Children may require excessive "help" falling asleep, wake many times during the night, or cause their parents to lose sleep. While these symptoms are usually easily addressed by improving sleep habits, more severe symptoms should be addressed with the help of a pediatrician or behavior specialist.

As parents, the value that we place on sleep is a big influence on our children's attitude toward sleep. Fortunately, there are a lot of practical steps we can take to help our children get the sleep they need. There are too many benefits of good sleep for our teens and children to miss out on them.

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Lesha Roberts

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Accident/FSGI.....	1
Alarm Local.....	3
Alarm/Rep. Site.....	4
Animal/Humane.....	2
Check Park.....	4
Contract Check.....	327
Dist/Loud Noise.....	1
Dist/Other.....	1
Incident Report.....	9
Information Call.....	5
Meet the Citizen.....	16
Open Door/Window.....	4
Solicitors.....	8
Susp Person.....	2
Traf Initiative.....	31
Traffic Stop.....	18
Vacation Watch.....	70
Veh Suspicious.....	9
Welfare Check.....	1

Total Count for Period : 519

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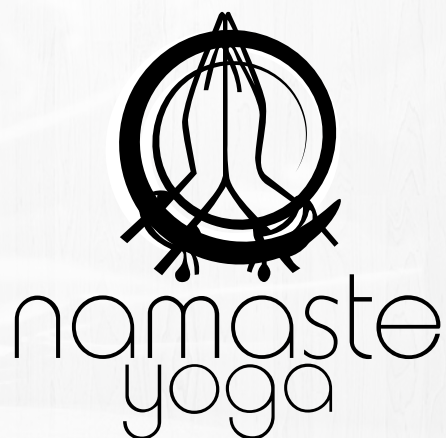
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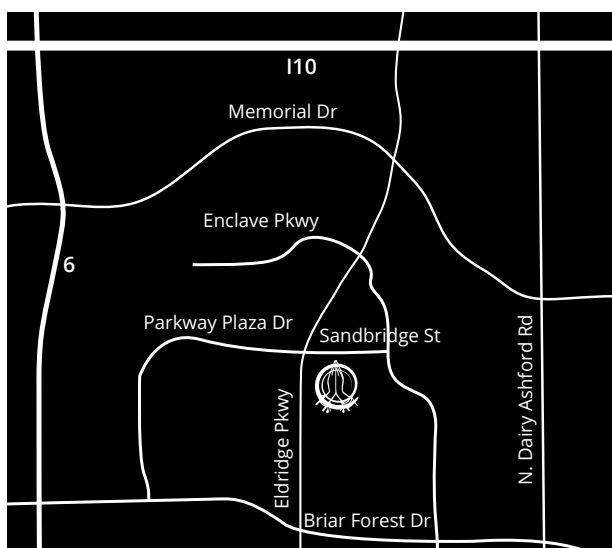
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