

MARCH 2017

The Official Publication of The Briarhills POA

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3

# Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I'm sorry I haven't written about this sooner. I have had a number of health issues the past month or two that have made me slow down quite a bit.

Construction of the new clubhouse and pool renovations will not happen until after this pool season. The city of Houston has still not approved our permit and had required us to add a number of items that have added to the cost. As of the end of January, the plans were back into the city for permitting, so we will see where this goes. As of right now the Board of Directors has decided to move forward with making the necessary short-term fixes to get the pool running for this season. The pool pumps need to be replaced and some electrical work done to get us going again. We will have all the necessary repairs ready for May. The Board has also decided to continue to leave the clubhouse closed until construction starts. The building needs about \$12,000 in A/C repairs to be functional again and the Board decided the most cost effective way to do this would be to just leave it closed.

As for the dilapidated building at our entrance, the Board did an exhaustive title search and it turns out the original developer of the neighborhood filed for bankruptcy last April. The parcel was never deeded over to the BPOA and a sign easement does not exist. The parcel was purchased by another individual. No contact has been made between the Board and the new owner regarding the sign at this time. We have continued to reach out to the city of Houston to compel the new owner to take the building down. We encourage individual residents to contact Houston 311 and perhaps we can force their hand. One resident is personally connected to the local councilman and has brought it to his attention.

Also, we are planning on doing two movie nights this year. One right around Memorial Day for the opening of the pool and another later in the Fall around Halloween. We look forward to seeing everyone out again!

Please remember that the Board is still meeting at Parkway Place Retirement Community every month. We meet the first Monday of every month at 6:30 pm. We hope to see more people at the March meeting!

Alec Luong, AIA

President - Briarhills Property Owners Association



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## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

#### **GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

Emergency	911
Constable (Closest Law Enforcement)	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	281-368-8397
Amenity tags	281-558-7422
Tennis courts	
Pool parties	281-558-7422
Clubhouse rental	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 <u>advertising@PEELinc.com</u>. 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

## **POA OFFICE INFO**

#### **OFFICE HOURS 2016**

Monday - 1:00pm - 4:00pm Saturday - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

And by appointment

\*Beginning September 12, the BPOA physical office will not be open. It will re-open when the construction of the new clubhouse is completed sometime in early May 2017. However, the BPOA Office Manager will continue to maintain the above regular office hours during this time period, except on these days: November 24, December 24, and December 26.

## **OFFICE CONTACT**

Street Address
14300 Briarhills Parkway, Houston, TX 77077
Mailing Address
Telephone
Email briarhills@sbcglobal.net
Website www.briarhillspoa.org
Every resident is encouraged to register in the Briarhills POA
website. This allows you to have access to various up-to-date
information about the BPOA that is not available to the public.
You will also be able to immediately receive, by email, important
announcements. Your information will only be used for official
BPOA communication and will not be shared.

#### **SWIMMING POOL**

Closed for construction.

## **TENNIS**

A key is required to access the tennis court amenities. To obtain a tennis key, please check the Briarhills POA website.

## **CLUBHOUSE**

Closed for construction.

## **POA MAINTENANCE FEES**

Invoices for BPOA dues are mailed in early December. Please contact the POA office if you do not receive your invoice by December 15. Non-receipt of the invoice does not preclude payment of the dues.

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## **December 2016 Harris County Law Enforcement Summary**

Accident/Minor	1
Alarm Local	4
Alarm/Rep. Site	2
Check Park	35
Contract Check	346
Dist/Fireworks	2
Dist/Loud Noise	1
Dist/Other	2
Incident Report	3
Information Call	48
Meet the Citizen	20

Neighborhood Chk	12
Solicitors	2
Susp Person	·
Traf Initiative	1
Traffic Stop	4
Vacation Watch	83
Veh Suspicious	
Welfare Check	2

**Total Count for Period: 586** 



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## **REBECQUE & NANCY'S BEAT**

Are you aware that in addition to 911 there are other 24-hour hot line help numbers available?

211 is the United Way source of help to support families and individuals going through crises such as job loss, domestic violence, and natural disasters. They provide life-saving services to meet our neighbors' most basic needs, like food and shelter. In addition, they also provide tools, resources, and education for families to achieve financial stability and independence, for children to succeed in school and in life, and for veterans to rebuild their lives after returning from service. Go to www.Unitedwayhouston.org for more information.

311 is Houston's Help and Information System is the City's official information and non-emergency service center. One of the most frequent uses of this number is to report pot holes or traffic signal outages. Go to www.houston311.com for more information. Also, download the app on your cell phone so that you can send a picture of the issue that you see.

411 is the white pages search.

811 is the number to call prior to doing projects around your house so that you do not dig without knowing where underground

utility lines are buried. Go to https://txgc.texas811.org for more information.

Construction repairs are still in progress along Terry Hershey Park Trails due to the extensive erosion caused by last year's spring floods. Continue to exercise caution and keep away from heavy equipment in work areas.

We have two exciting events coming to our Energy Corridor area. The first is the Art-Is-An (artisan) Outdoor Market on Saturday March 25 from 11 am until 6 pm at Republic Square in the Energy Corridor at 13501 Katy Freeway between Hwy 6 and Eldridge on the south side of Katy Freeway. This is an indoor/outdoor market with an European flair showcasing about 100 artists and artisans including food and music. They are still taking applications for vendors. Go to www.republicsquare.com/art-is-an-outdoor-market to apply.

The other event is the Farmers' Market starting April 1 from 9 am to 1 pm. It will run every Saturday through June, and from September to the 1st weekend of December at 147 Grisby Rd. They will be featuring locally grown fresh foods and food related items.

Both events are free!



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## **SOLID WASTE COLLECTION - GENERAL INFORMATION**

# Trash and recycling collection service is provided by Waste Corporation of America (WCA) - www.wcawaste.com

Type of Collection: Refuse will be collected two (2) times per week on Monday and Thursday. Containers and bags shall be placed at their collection points by 6:30 am on the designated collection day. Refuse is defined as waste generated inside the house. Items must be either in light weight metal or plastic containers, or sturdy plastic trash bags (not "kitchen" bags). Containers and bags should not exceed fifty (50) pounds. All permanent trash containers, after being emptied, will be returned to their point of origin in the same condition in which they were taken, normal wear and tear expected.

Yard and Tree Waste: Placed at the curb on your designated collection days. Trees, shrubs, brush trimmings and fencing must be bundled in lengths no greater than four (4) feet with no branch diameter exceeding three (3) inches. The bundling is required to allow quick pickup and size limitations are required to avoid damaging the equipment in the crushing process.

Heavy Trash and Waste Collection: Bulky Waste Items: Furniture and appliances (stoves, refrigerators, washer, and dryers) will be picked up on Thursday. Exclusions: hazardous waste, carpet, and construction debris resulting from remodeling or demolition operations. By Federal Law, refrigerators and freezers, or any other items containing Freon must be drained of Freon and have an accompanying bill to validate such service was performed.

Unacceptable Items: For reasons of government restrictions, personnel and community safety, and protection of equipment, the following items cannot be collected: gasoline, motor oil and used oil filters, paint and other similar liquids, vehicle tires and batteries, and large pieces of metal such as car fenders or engines. Debris from construction and remodeling such as carpet, rocks, bricks, concrete, dirt, sand, gravel, roofing, lumber, fence boards, and large pieces of glass also cannot be collected. Potentially dangerous materials such as sharp objects, glass, metal, and the like should be properly identified and separated from other trash and/or double wrapped to avoid potential injury to the loader.

#### **RECYCLING**

**Type of Collection:** Recyclables will be collected once per week on Friday. Designated recycling containers are provided by WCA. These containers may be obtained by contacting WCA or the Briarhills POA office. Recyclables shall be placed at their collection points by 6:30 am on the designated collection day.

## Acceptable Items:

- Paper: newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, envelopes, office paper, construction paper, colored paper, folders, paper bags, phone books, holiday cards and greeting cards
- Cardboard: corrugated cardboard boxes, paperboard boxes (cereal, soda/beer, egg, shoe boxes)
- Containers: aluminum cans, tin cans, steel cans, empty aerosol cans, aluminum foil, plastics #1-#5 & #7 (milk, soda, water, juice, shampoo, detergent, pool supplies, pet food), metal pots and pans, copper, scrap metal (nails, screws, gutters)

Commonly Mistaken Unacceptable Material: plastic bags, styrofoam, wrapping paper, used pizza boxes, coat hangers, paint and solvent containers, light bulbs, mirrors, windows, dishes and cups, pyrex pans, wet or soiled paper, paper towels, facial and toilet tissue, disposable plates and cups, milk and juice cartons (wax-board containers)

**HOURS OF OPERATION:** Collection of refuse shall not start before 6:30 am or continue after 7:00 pm on the same day.

**HOLIDAYS:** WCA may decide to observe any or all of the following holidays by suspension of collection service on the holiday. In the event the holiday falls on the pick-up day, refuse will be made on the next scheduled pick-up day.

New Year's Day Labor Day Independence Day Thanksgiving Day Memorial Day Christmas Day





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# EGG ROLLS

## Ingredients:

1 lb Chinese cabbage (Napa)

2 stalks celery

1/2 lb cooked shrimp

1/2 lb cooked pork or chicken livers

10 water chestnuts

1/3 cup bamboo shoots

1 tsp salt

1 tsp sugar

liberal dash pepper

1/2 tsp light soy sauce

1/4 tsp sesame oil

1 beaten egg

10 egg roll skins

3 cups oil

## Preparation:

Boil cabbage and celery until tender. Drain & squeeze out excess water. Shred very fine, set aside. Parboil shrimp and fry or bake pork/chicken. Mince both. Shred water chestnuts and bamboo shoots. Mix all ingredients together except egg. Beat egg. Wrap filling in egg roll skins and seal with egg. Cooking: Heat oil in wok or fryer



to 375 degrees and drop in egg rolls. When skin turns light brown, remove and drain. Take out and cool in refrigerator. When ready to serve, drop again into hot oil and fry until golden brown. (Two step cooking assures inside will be moist and not overcooked and outsides crisp). Serves 10.





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