



OCTOBER 2017

The Official Publication of The Briarhills POA

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 10

Friends and Neighbors,

By the time this gets out in October we should be well into recovery mode - hopefully. It's a bit of an understatement to say a lot has gone on since the last issue - so let's get right to it.

Harvey happened. At last count I believe we are at close to 100 homes that took on damage from Harvey in one way or another. Take a stroll down Briarhills Parkway, Forest Home, Stoney Hill, Glacier Hill, Arrow Hill, Honey Hill, Coachlight, or Trailville and you won't recognize the neighborhood you live in. Everyone has a Harvey story by now, and the BPOA is no different.

Rebuild Briarhills - If you have not heard by now the BPOA set up a relief website www.rebuildbriarhills.org to help coordinate relief efforts in the neighborhood. We're trying to help get volunteers connected with homeowners through our own website. If you can, and please do, sign up to volunteer to help cleanup efforts. If you are a homeowner in need of assistance please register so we can direct people to you. As part of our efforts to assist homeowners we have also set up a gofundme site to raise money to offset homeowners dues at the end of the year for the flooded households. We've reached out to individuals and local businesses alike to raise money for this effort. We raised about \$4,000 in a week, to start off with which is very encouraging. If we can get all of the non-affected homeowners to donate at least \$30 we can really make a dent in assisting our flooded neighbors. Please consider giving!

We know that there are many special stories and homeowners who were flooded out. I want to call attention to one family in particular. The Murdoch family, Rita and Warren, have been staples of this community for decades, along with their daughter. Their house on Briarhills Parkway completely flooded, and as such Rita and Warren have resigned their respective positions as BPOA Office Manager and as the Treasurer of the BPOA in order to focus on their family and rebuilding their lives.

Rita has been our office manager for years now, and her institutional knowledge will be sorely missed. We are fortunate as an Association to be self-managed. We don't have a large management company to look after our affairs, and when a resident needs assistance they can go straight to the (new) clubhouse to speak to the office manager directly. Self-management also gives us the flexibility as an association to act quickly (see Rebuild Briarhills above). Rita has been a staple of this for as long as she has been our office manager. And I want to

personally thank her for all of her hard work and energy over the years.

Stephanie Brewster has taken over as office manager. Stephanie is a long time resident living here with her husband and son. Some of you will recognize her as the president of our undefeated championship-winning Briarhills Dolphins Swim Team. When we were scrambling to find a new office manager to keep the BPOA going during the days directly following the storm, Stephanie stepped up and took over. Her background in bookkeeping and HR makes her the perfect new office manager. Please make sure to give her a warm welcome and thank her for stepping in so soon when you meet her.

So back to Harvey. There are a number of items that the BPOA will need to work through in the storm's aftermath. I'm writing this in September, and as yet we have not started this process, but I know there will be a number of items that have to be worked through. I know rebuilding is going to be a challenge, and I am personally trying to reach out to as many effected residents as possible to get their thoughts knowing they cannot all be at our meetings. It's especially important in the coming months to make sure and attend as many monthly meetings as possible or to at least stay up to date with what is going on. As always, please feel free to contact me at bhillspoa.pres@gmail.com with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Many of you will also notice that the elections were not held this year. Due to Harvey, and the resignation of two board members due to it, the elections were uncontested - meaning there were

the same number of candidates as there were open positions. In light of the fact that we could not get mail out to meet our mandatory notification requirements, and that most homeowners would not be living here during reconstruction and would not have a forwarding address on file with the association - the decision to cancel the elections was made.

All of the candidates as well as the incumbent board members unanimously supported this effort as a way to quickly move forward and continue the work of the BPOA board.

The last month has been hard on everyone, not least of which are the homes and families and lives that flooded. I'm so very proud of how our neighborhood has responded to this. How supportive neighbors have been, how generous they've been, how willing to help they've been. Briarhills is truly a great place to live!

Alec Luong - AIA, President - Briarhills Property Owner's 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	281-368-8397
Amenity tags	281-558-7422
Tennis courts.....	281-558-7422
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 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

POA OFFICE INFO

OFFICE HOURS 2017

Monday – 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Saturday – 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

And by appointment

**Due to the construction of the clubhouse, the BPOA physical office is closed indefinitely. However, the BPOA Office Manager will continue to maintain the above regular office hours during this time period, except on these days:*

November 25, December 25, December 30.

OFFICE CONTACT

Street Address.....
..... 14300 Briarhills Parkway, Houston, TX 77077

Mailing Address

..... P.O. Box 940548, Houston, TX 77094-7548

Telephone.....281-558-7422

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

A pool tag is required to access the pool amenity. Check the Briarhills POA website for information on how to obtain a pool tag.

TENNIS

A key is required to access the tennis court amenities. Check the Briarhills POA website for information on how to obtain a tennis key.

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.

The above information is subject to change without prior notice.

REBECQUE & NANCY'S BEAT

October 2017

Many of us have been suffering through the devastation caused by flooding. We know the horror of losing our homes, cars, and possessions. We have labored for endless hours sloshing through water and muck. During all of this, God's love has shown through the hordes of people who responded with their time, boats, water, food, and labor to help those of us in need for no reason other than compassion for their fellow man. Neither race, nor religion, nor political leanings were of consideration. Others of you, as well as myself, were ferried by boat by the young couple from Iowa who left behind their 3-month and 2-year-old children. They were joined by a man from Dallas and one from Nebraska. Not only did they bring deliverance from the waters, but more importantly they brought love. They were among the many volunteers who showed up each day at the boat ramps on Swiss Hill. Neighbors have been helping neighbors. The ones who provided tables, water, and chairs at the corner of Coachlight were a welcoming sight every time we drove home for another day of cleaning and packing. Those of us whose homes flooded are not the only ones suffering. Survivor's guilt is prevalent among far more people than we would expect.

John Culberson, our congressman, along with Congressmen Poe

and McCaul are working on special legislation to have a dam built in Cypress to hold back the water from reaching our dams. This was put up for a vote in the '70s, but we the people voted it down. Along with this, too many subdivisions were built in unincorporated areas that had been rice fields. Ours may be one of them.

THE BRIAR BEAT IS LOOKING FOR SUBMISSIONS!

The Briar Beat would like to build community between neighbors by sharing in each other's celebrations and losses. Thus, please submit news of any birth, wedding, or death of a Briarhills resident, or a family member of a resident, to:
bhillspoa.briarbeat@gmail.com



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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.

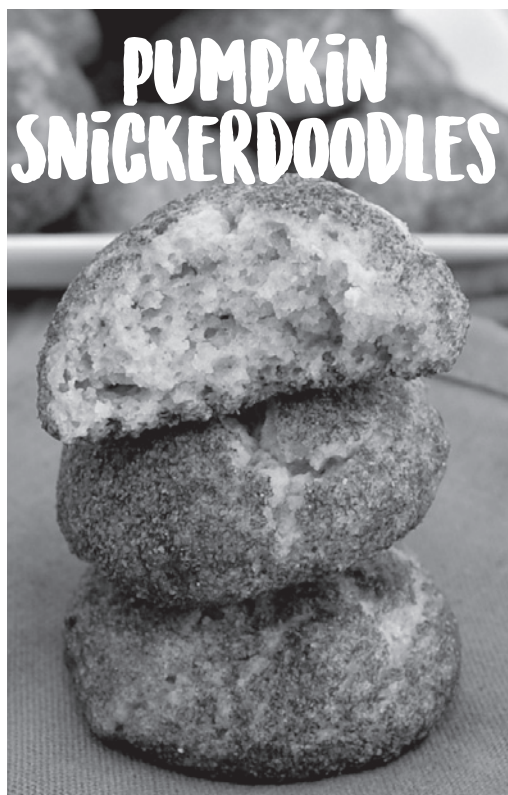
New Year's Day
Independence Day
Memorial Day

Labor Day
Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day



The poster is framed by a decorative border of red and white candy canes and gingerbread cookies. At the top center is a large blue and white '25th' logo with 'ANNUAL' in red below it. To the right of the logo, it says 'SEAS Ladies Auxiliary presents the'. Below this, the main title 'Gingerbread Village Holiday Market' is written in a large, red, stylized font. Underneath the title, the date and time 'Saturday, October 28, 2017 9 am to 4 pm' are listed in green. Further down, the text 'Shop for Arts, Crafts, Specialty Foods and Fashion Goods' is written in a smaller, black font. Below that, the address 'St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church 6646 Addicks Satsuma, Houston, Tx 77084' is provided, followed by a note 'In northwest Houston, approximately 1 mile east of Hwy 6 between FM 529 and West Little York'. At the bottom, a section titled 'VENDOR OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE' in blue text includes the email 'Email Fae@krenekprinting.com for information'. At the very bottom of the poster, there are several gingerbread cookies decorated with icing and sprinkles.

25th ANNUAL SEAS Ladies Auxiliary presents the
Gingerbread Village Holiday Market
Saturday, October 28, 2017
9 am to 4 pm
Shop for Arts, Crafts, Specialty Foods and Fashion Goods
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
6646 Addicks Satsuma, Houston, Tx 77084
In northwest Houston, approximately 1 mile east of Hwy 6 between FM 529 and West Little York
VENDOR OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE
Email Fae@krenekprinting.com for information



INGREDIENTS:

3 3/4 cups flour
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
2 sticks unsalted butter, room temperature
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup dark brown sugar
1 cup pumpkin puree
1 large egg
2 teaspoons vanilla extract

FOR THE COATING:

1/2 cup sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
Dash of allspice

DIRECTIONS:

- In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Whisk together to blend. In a large bowl, beat together butter and sugars on medium speed until well combined. Next, still on medium speed, beat in pumpkin.
- Then, add the egg and vanilla extract. Lastly, add in the dry ingredients. Beat until combined, but do not over mix. Cover the dough, and refrigerate for one hour, until firm.
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- Line baking sheets with parchment paper. In a small bowl, mix together the sugar and spices for the sugar coating. Scoop dough (approximately 2 1/2 tablespoons) and roll into a ball. Roll the dough ball in the sugar mixture, and place on the lined baking sheet, leaving about 2 inches between each cookie. Take a drinking glass with a flat bottom and moisten with water. Dip the glass in the sugar mixture, and use it to flatten the dough balls. Re-sugar the glass as needed.
- Bake the cookies for 10-12 minutes. Remove when the centers of the cookies have set. Let cool on the baking pan for approximately 5 minutes, and then transfer to wire to cool completely.



2017 Season Schedule

Sunday, September 10 Jacksonville - 12 p.m.	Sunday, November 12 @L.A. Rams - 3:05 p.m.
Thursday, September 14 @Cincinnati - 7:25 p.m.	Sunday, November 19 Arizona - 12 p.m.
Sunday, September 24 @New England - 12 p.m.	Monday, November 27 @Baltimore - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, October 1 Tennessee - 12 p.m.	Sunday, December 3 @Tennessee - 12 p.m.
Sunday, October 8 Kansas City - 7:30 p.m.	Sunday, December 10 San Francisco - 12 p.m.
Sunday, October 15 Cleveland - 12 p.m.	Sunday, December 17 @Jacksonville - 12 p.m.
Sunday, October 29 @Seattle - 3:05 p.m.	Monday, December 25 Pittsburgh - 3:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 5 Indianapolis - 12 p.m.	Sunday, December 31 @Indianapolis - 12 p.m.



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FLOODWATER MOSQUITOES

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

If you've been outside lately, you have most likely noticed the giant mosquitoes that seem to want to pick people up and carry them off. With recent weather conditions, floodwater mosquitoes have

emerged in large numbers.

Floodwater mosquitoes lay their eggs above the water line in ponds, ditches, pastures, or other places where water collects. The eggs can remain in dry areas and when these areas are flooded the eggs hatch, leading to swarms of hungry mosquitoes. These mosquitoes are larger than mosquitoes we are used to and can swarm in high numbers.

While floodwater mosquitoes won't last forever, other mosquitoes called container breeding mosquitoes emerge when floodwaters begin to recede. Many of these species are ones that we are used to seeing around our homes.

Many things can help to reduce mosquito problems around the home. Eliminate all sources of standing water. Containers such as watering cans, buckets and bottles can turn into mosquito breeding grounds. Water should be drained from birdbaths, gutters, flowerpots and pet dishes at least once a week. Children's wading pools should be emptied of water at least once a week and stored so they cannot collect water when not in use. Tree holes should be filled in with sand or mortar, or drained after each rain. Leaky faucets and pipes located outside should be repaired.

Areas that cannot be drained, such as ponds or large rain collection systems, can be stocked with mosquito fish that eat mosquito larvae. Dunks can also be used in these areas. Dunks are a small, donut-shaped product that contains *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *israeliensis*. The donut disrupts the life cycle of the mosquito and is non-toxic to humans, amphibians and fish.

When outside, wear loose-fitting, light colored clothing with long sleeves & long pants. Repellants containing active ingredients such as DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus can be effective to keep mosquitoes from biting when activities cannot be rescheduled.

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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