

ATTENTION ALL PROPERTY OWNERS:

As a friendly reminder, all exterior improvements must be approved by the POA Architectural Control Committee prior to any work being performed. Home improvement request forms and instructions can be found on the POA website. You may also request a form by emailing the POA office at briarhills@sbcglobal.net. Once submitted, simple requests are typically reviewed and responded to within 2-3 days. A copy of the Deed Restrictions and Duties of the Architectural Control Committee can also be found on the POA website.

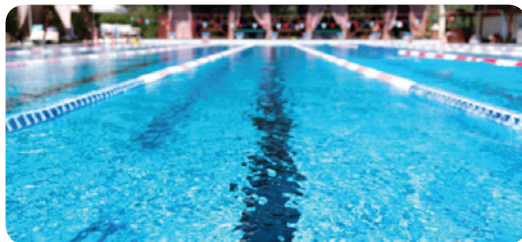
***Please note, if you do not seek proper approval before work commences, you may be required to return your residence to its original condition and remove any improvements that have already been completed. The POA wants to avoid this situation at all costs. When in doubt, please contact the POA office and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Who is Responsible for Sidewalk Maintenance: City of Houston, POA, or Property Owner?

City rules make the property owner responsible for their own sidewalk. So, if the sidewalk in front of your home is uneven, tilted, raised, buckling, cracked or other, it is your responsibility as the property owner to correct such issues. Sidewalk repairs are not the responsibility of the City of Houston nor the Briarhills POA. The only exception is: if the sidewalk damage is caused by a storm sewer (manhole or drain), then you can request a repair through the City's 3-1-1 website, hotline or app.

The POA encourages all property owners with damaged sidewalks to please make the necessary repairs. If every owner does their part, Briarhills will be a more walkable, appealing, and safe community.

Hello Briarhills Dolphins!



We are excited to announce that registration for the 2019 summer swim team will be open from April 1st - May 5th.

To register and obtain more information about our team, please visit our website at briarhillsdolphins.swimtopia.com

We are looking forward to another fun season and can't wait to see everyone at the first practice in May!

Go Dolphins!



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

2019

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

Website

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.

Celebrate Earth Day with OAK Club of Briarhills!

What:

Camping at Brazos Bend SP. Explore trails on foot and by bike.
Observe alligators in daylight and stars at night.

When:

April 19-20, 2019 (2 nights).

Details & Registration:

constantin@oakgeosciences.com

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: bhillsboa.briarbeat@gmail.com



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Summer Program Open Online!

14120 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77079 | 281.531.6088



Rebecque & Nancy's Beat April 2019

On this topic I am definitely not an expert. All I know is that I need to be educated before I start my vegetable garden and plant a new citrus tree – both were affected by the flood waters. The first thing that I am going to do is buy a soil kit and then prepare my vegetable garden soil accordingly. As far as the fruit trees are concerned, my neighbor, John Groweg, who many of you follow on Nextdoor, feeds his trees with all of the correct nutrients and has fabulous crops, while I struggle to get a small or no crop. This year, I am going to finally listen to him as y'all should do as well if you want producing fruit trees or fabulous tasting tomatoes.

While recovering from surgery or an illness have you ever almost had a relapse when you look at the medical bills? Ask the medical provider in advance the cost of a procedure, out of network fees, other costs such as room rates for overnight stays, other out of pocket expenses, cash rates, and hardship rates and how to obtain them. Check with your insurance company in advance of having a procedure. The first time I became aware of outrageous costs was when I was charged

\$25 for a box of tissues on the hospital bill. In addition, you may want to check out goodrx.com for pharmacy comparison costs or Costco, which I understand has some of the lowest costs. I was surprised that Target was the most expensive on one drug that I checked. If you are denied coverage, have the coding verified. That is the most common mistake made that can cause denial of coverage. I recently had that happen when I sprained my ankle and required a boot.

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We want to sing the praises of Heritage Texas Properties Relocation Department for receiving awards for six out of nine categories at the Leading Real Estate Companies of the World Annual Conference! Rebecque and I have been associated with Heritage Texas Properties for the past nine years.

Whether you buy a house from us or not, please have the house inspected by a competent inspector. Recently we have heard a couple of scary stories about buyers who just checked the house themselves and lived to regret it!



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Rebecque Demark

713.252.8899

demark@heritagetexas.com

Nancy Scott

713.865.0500

nscott@heritagetexas.com



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The Misunderstood Opossum

by: TWRC Wildlife Center

Opossums are animals that most people don't think are cute and cuddly. They've got long rat-like tails, they creep around at night doing who knows what and they sure look mean. By learning a little about them, hopefully you'll see them in a different light.

The Virginia opossum is the only marsupial (carries babies in a pouch like a kangaroo) in the USA and Canada. They carry fewer diseases than dogs and cats and because of their low body temperature, the rabies virus in the breed is very rare. The last case of rabies in an opossum in Texas was in 1983. They have 50 teeth, more than any other mammal in North America. And, yes, they really do play dead when frightened in hopes that the predator will leave so they can escape.

Opossums usually have two litters per year and the gestation period is only 13 days. They can have up to 21 babies but usually only about half survive. They have only 13 teats so it's first come, first served. They are furless, blind and the size of a bean at birth. After birth, they crawl all by themselves into the mother's pouch. The babies immediately latch onto a nipple. It swells causing it to be firmly attached to the baby for up to 7 weeks. Once out of the pouch, they cling to their mother's fur for about three months.

How do they benefit us? They're scavengers and they eat all the creepy things we don't like including rats, mice, roaches, grubs and venomous snakes. They especially like carrion (dead animals).

I can't do anything about their looks but hopefully you now know how beneficial they are. Of all the animals TWRC Wildlife Center admits every year, 37% of them are mammals and of those 37%, opossums make up 32% of the mammal admissions.

TWRC Wildlife Center is the oldest wildlife rehabilitation center in the Houston area and admits over 5,000 animals every year. Stop in, meet our staff and volunteers and find out more about what we do and how you can help. For more information please visit our website at www.twrcwildlifecenter.org or call 713-468-8972.



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Attention Parents of Graduating Seniors!

We would like to recognize our graduating seniors by including a small picture and a few lines about where your child will be attending college. Please send your information to articles@peelinc.com (include the newsletter you would like to recognize them in, photo, name, etc).



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Neighborhood WATCH Tips

Let's all work together to help eliminate neighborhood crime. Please watch out for these activities in our neighborhood:

- * Someone running from a car or home.
- * Someone screaming. If you can't explain the screams, call law enforcement and report them.
- * Someone going door-to-door in the neighborhood or looking into windows and parked cars.
- * Someone asking about past residents.
- * Someone who appears to have no purpose wandering through the neighborhood.
- * Unusual or suspicious noises that you cannot explain, such as breaking glass or pounding.

- * Vehicles moving slowly without lights or without an apparent destination.
- * Business transactions conducted from a vehicle. This could involve the sale of drugs or stolen goods.
- * Offers of merchandise available for ridiculously low prices. The merchandise might be stolen.
- * Someone walking or running while carrying property at an unusual time or place.
- * Someone removing property from unoccupied residences.
- * A stranger entering a neighbor's home which appears to be unoccupied.
- * A stranger in a car who stops to talk to a child.
- * A child resisting the advances of an adult.

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