

The Official Publication of The Briarhills POA

**VOLUME 9, ISSUE 4** 

# TOP 5 DEED RESTRICTION VIOLATION NOTICES PLEASE HELP US BY DOING YOUR PART!

Trash cans must be removed from the curb timely and stored away from street view. Last month many homeowners



received violation notices of trash cans left at the curb or being stored on their driveway, side yard or front patio. While it may not seem like a big deal, leaving your trash can out really impacts the overall neatness and first impression of the neighborhood. Please take the extra steps on trash days to collect your containers promptly and store them out of sight.

Yards must have a neat and orderly appearance. This



means not just keeping up with the mowing but also edging, weed eating, trimming bushes & shrubs and removing dead trees / branches too. Overall, homeowners do a really good job of maintaining their yards. However,

this is the time of year where more frequent mowing is needed and it is also a good time for a seasonal refresh of your plants and landscaping.

#### Repair / replace deteriorating mailboxes and leaning posts.



You visit your mailbox just about every day. Is it in good shape? Does it lean, wobble, have missing or faded street numbers? Is your mailbox dented, rusted or have worn paint? If so, it's time for a repair or replacement. This is an inexpensive maintenance item that is often ignored but can have a great impact on the overall curb appeal of your home. Please evaluate your mailbox this month and check to see if repairs are needed.

Trailers, RVs, storage PODS and inoperative vehicles are not to be stored in driveways. Please move these types of



equipment / vehicles to either an enclosed structure (such as your garage) or offsite and out of view. If you are needing to store a vehicle / equipment temporarily due to construction or other circumstances, please obtain

approval from the POA office beforehand.

**Exterior paint, mildew removal, and replacing rotten wood/ siding.** It is easy to overlook the exterior facade and condition



of your home but sometimes a seasonal power washing, paint refresh, and replacing rotten wood or siding is all it takes to make your home look new again.

Keep up with these items on a regular basis so your home can look it's best!

# Thank you for keeping Briarhills Beautiful!

### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

#### **GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

Emergency	
Constable (Closest Law Enforcement)	
Poison Help	1-800-222-1222
Library and Community Center	
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	
Amenity tags	
Tennis courts	
Pool parties	
Clubhouse rental	

#### 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**

#### 2020

By appointment only

#### **OFFICE CONTACT**

Street Address

#### BRIARHILLS AMENITIES & ELECTRONIC ACCESS CARDS

Available for the use and enjoyment of each resident is the Briarhills POA Recreation Center. The Recreation Center includes four and two-tenths (4.2) acres equipped with a swimming pool for the family, a wading pool for tots, lighted tennis courts, playground equipment, a community clubhouse, basketball court and off-street parking. Electronic access cards are required to access the pool, unisex restroom and tennis courts. Registered property owners and tenants may receive 2 cards per property address. Check the website or contact the POA office to obtain access cards.

#### SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool is normally open from Memorial Day weekend through the start of school in August, six days a week (Tuesday through Sunday). The pool is staffed with certified lifeguards during swim season and maintained by a reputable pool management company.

#### TENNIS

Tennis courts must be reserved through the online reservation system at **www.briarhillspoa.org** (log-in account is required).

#### COMMUNITY CENTER

The Briarhills Community Center may be reserved by residents for private events. Check the website or contact the POA office to make a reservation.

#### MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

The BPOA board meets at the Briarhills Community Center on the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Residents are invited to attend these meeting where the board will discuss and make decisions on issues that will impact the Briarhills POA community.

#### 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.



### **February Summary of Stats**

Burglary of a Habitation: 0 **Burglary of Motor** Vehicle: 0 Open window/ Car Door: 3 **Criminal Mischief: 2 Property Lost/Found** :1 Suspicious Person: 1 **Suspicious Vehicles: 4** Traffic Stops: 2 Local Alarms: 4 Alarm Report: 0 Disturbance : 0 **Disturbance** Fire works: 0 **Discharge Firearm: 0** Animal Humane: 0

Meet The Citizen: 48 **Information Call: 1** Special Assignments: 12 Follow Up:1 **Incident Report: 5** Park Check: 5 **Contract Check : 96 Check Public** Infrastructure: 1 Vacation Watch: 7 Neighborhood Check: 87 **Unkown Medical Emergencies: 1 Traffic Initiative : 3 Minor Accident: 0** Accident FSGI : 1 **DWI: 0** 



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# Community Events Corner

### LOVE BRIARHILLS RUN

Thank you to all the neighbors that came out on Saturday February 29th to the first Love Briarhills Fun Run and to show their support toward The Project Playground Campaign! The event was very well attended – 190 registered and we raised over \$3,000. This will be a big and multi-year project but this run was a great first kick-off event to it!

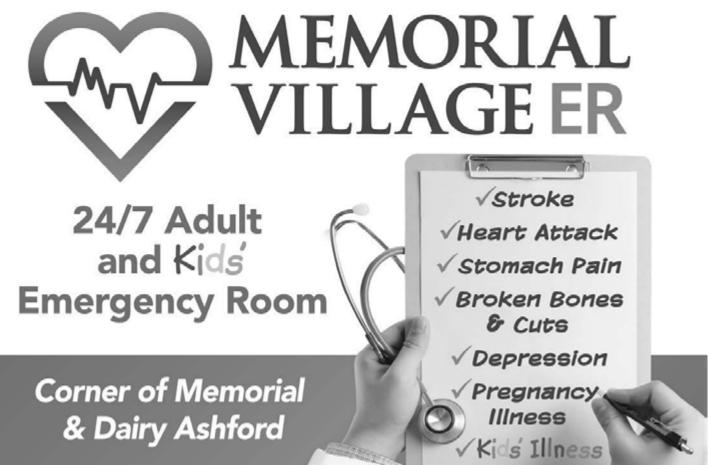
Special thanks to all of our wonderful sponsors: Sadaf Javaid Cognitive Psychiatry, BB's Tex-Orleans Café, Aurore Artus Coldwell Banker, Energy Realty, Maylis Curie and The Art Cellar. Also thank you to Family Point, for helping with the event logistics, Constantin Platon with O.A.K. GeoSciences for providing First Aid and race pictures, Adventure Kids Playcare for providing the entertainment, and Jennifer Champion and Date Shape for helping us with the warm up. Thank you as well to Monica Zhang from M&R Houston Event for helping out with the start and finish line set-up and to the Westside High School volunteers for their support along the route. Finally, thanks to the Briarhills POA and HOA, for their support and endorsement of the project and to the Playground Committee (Katy Bate, Meycy Zapata, Ivonne Brenner, Natalia Ibañez and Valerie Shaikh) for leading the project.

Please make sure to stay tuned for the Love Briarhills Fun Run next year! If you'd like to contact the committee please email us: playground@ briarhillspoa.org



### BRIARHILLS





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Briarhills - April 2020 5

### BRIARHILLS

# **Energy Corridor Farmers Market**



Normally in the Briarbeat we report on events occurring within the Briarhills community, but today we would like to share a weekly event that should be of interest to many in the community. The Energy Corridor Farmers Market has started up again after a short hiatus. It has moved locations and is now being held at Republic Square on Memorial Drive, just West of Terry Hershey Park. This new location is very convenient and can be reached by walking or riding the Terry Hershey trails from Briarhills. The market is held from 10 AM - 2 PM on Saturdays. Please check out this event if you have time because community interest will be needed to keep it going and to help it grow. For more information and updates join their **Facebook page: Energy Corridor Farmers Market at Republic Square** 



# Call for Submissions

The Briar Beat is looking for submissions! Please email briarbeat@briarhillspoa.org for more information.



### BRIARHILLS

# **10** Easy Ways to Make Your Home Safe

A home should be a sanctuary and a safe haven. You can ensure that you and your loved ones remain out of harm's way in the precincts of your homestead.

To avoid all kinds of accidents you should make it an accident-proof dwelling. It's really simple if you observe specific steps to keep mishaps at bay.

Here are 10 easy ways to make your home safe and secure. These will help you take care and protect yourself, family members and houseguests. Employ these effective tips:

1. Keep interiors and exteriors well lit. This is important at nighttime and also in winters when daylight is not very effective. Critical areas that need to be illuminated are the stairs, outdoors and foyers.

2. Never leave electrical problems pending at any point. The slightest fluctuation should be attended immediately. Make it a cardinal rule to switch off appliances after use.

3. Smoke alarms are a necessity and you must have the very best. Practice regular safety drills with your family to ensure awareness of procedures.

4. Keep ordinary appliances safely as they could be dangerous. Especially with kids around. Make electrical outlets safe by safety plugging and child proofing them. Keep sharp objects like scissors, knives, weapons and match boxes out of reach.

5. Ensure locks and bolts on doors and windows are in order and tamper-proof. Keep an eye out for suspicious characters and never invite strangers into your home. Teach your children not to entertain queries from strangers.

6. Do not share information about working or school hours. Teach family members to avoid telling people about schedules and routines. Do not put personal information online and never respond to voicemails.

7. The risk of accidents goes up when you are getting maintenance or repair work done. Ensure safety and precaution and be prepared to react quickly to accidents or injuries.

8. Do not attempt repair work of appliances involving undue risk. Many home accidents are the result of improper tampering with tools like lawnmowers and trimmers.

9. Maintain caution when driving vehicles in or out of your home. If you are backing the car up, watch out for children and pets on the road.

10. Make sure you don't leave stuff on stairs that may cause people to trip and fall. Be watchful when clearing snow from pathways that you do not heap it up in areas where people might walk.

# Watermelon Salad



- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 1 lime, zested and juiced
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 4 cups seeded watermelon chunks
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup mint chiffonade
- 2 cups baby arugula

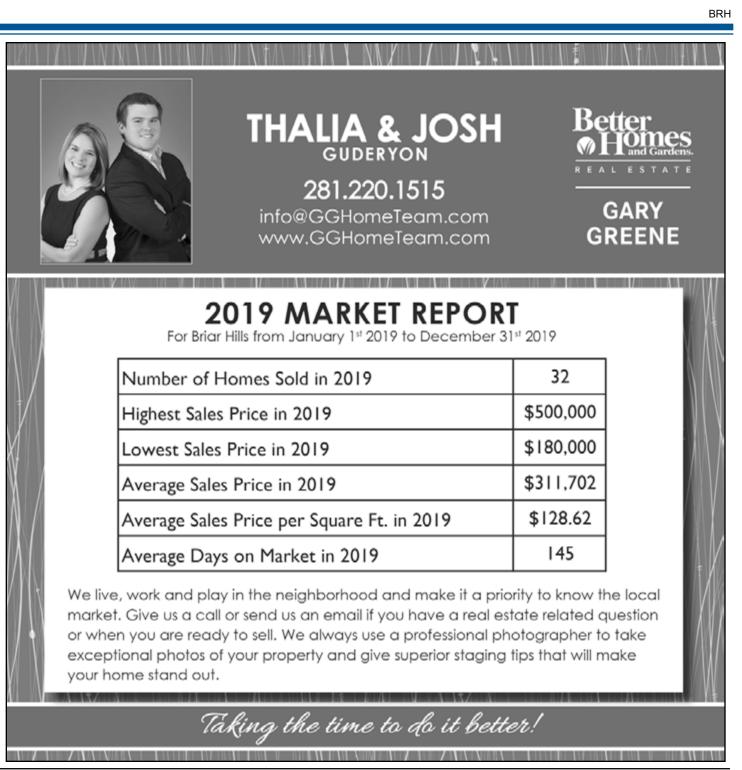
#### **Directions:**

Add the white wine vinegar, lime zest and juice to a small bowl. Whisk in the olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Add the thinly sliced red onion and let marinate for 5 to 10 minutes as you prepare the rest of the salad.

Add the watermelon, feta, mint, and arugula to a large bowl. Toss with the vinaigrette and serve immediately after dressing.

Recipe courtesy of The Neelys, www.foodnetwork.com





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