

## *A Look Back at 2020 and a Look Forward to the Holidays*

Who would have thought back in March that 2020 would turn out the way it did? I would like to thank everyone in the Briarhills Community for staying strong and respectful through all the COVID and election turmoil. Hopefully you have been taking advantage of all the great amenities our community offers. All amenities saw increased use this year as more of you headed outside, but thanks to our committees and dedicated volunteers many of the amenities were improved or repaired this year. The pool season was extended to accommodate delayed school reopening. The playground committee held a fun run back in February to raise money for the playground, installed a new swing, and organized playground repairs. The landscape committee installed a new pathway, put in a fence and bench, planted new plants, and is constantly watering and tending everything. The tennis committee facilitated having new lights installed and held a tennis tournament to raise money to replace the missing light pole which should be replaced before the end of the year. The basketball committee worked to get quotes for resurfacing the basketball court and the work should be done before Thanksgiving. More volunteer opportunities to help out these committees and improve the community amenities will be available in the future so keep an eye on the BriarBeat and communications from the BPOA.

The Holiday season is almost upon us though as I write this in early November I see Christmas decorations starting to go up around the community. Unlike last year there is no Holiday party planned at the clubhouse for obvious reasons, but there is a donation drive in the works. Continue to take advantage of your community amenities this holiday season, enjoy the cooler weather and stay safe.

Jeff Dingler, Briarhills POA President

## NOTICE: No rate increase this year!

In October, the Briarhills POA Board of Directors voted against a rate increase for 2021. **This means maintenance fees will remain \$833; same as last year.**

Annual statements were mailed to property owners recently. If you do not receive your statement in the mail by December 15th, please email the BPOA Office at [officemanager@briarhillspoa.org](mailto:officemanager@briarhillspoa.org) and request another copy.

We strongly encourage residents to pay their dues online. When paying online, you will receive a payment confirmation by email which serves as your receipt and eliminates any question as to whether the BPOA received your payment. Instructions for paying online can be found on your account statement. There is no fee to pay online by e-check.

## Monthly Stats for the Month of October 2020

Burglary of a Habitation: 0	Animal Humane: 0
Burglary of Motor Vehicle: 0	Solicitor: 0
Criminal Mischief : 0	Meet The Citizen: 21
Theft Residence: 0	Information Call: 2
Property Lost/Found : 0	Welfare Check: 2
Suspicious Vehicles: 5	Special Assignments: 12
Traffic Stops: 1	Incident Report: 4
Vehicle Speeding: 1	Contract Check : 133
Suspicious Person: 2	Check Park: 11
Local Alarms: 1	Vacation Watch: 10
Disturbance loud Noise: 1	Neighborhood Check: 94
Writ : 2	Traffic Initiative : 1
DOA: 0	Minor Accident: 0
Discharge Firearm: 0	DWI: 0

## 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](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com). The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Article Submission.....	<a href="mailto:briarhills@sbcglobal.net">briarhills@sbcglobal.net</a>
Advertising.....	<a href="mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com">advertising@PEELinc.com</a>

## POA OFFICE INFO

### 2020

By appointment only

### 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..... [officemanager@briarhillspoa.org](mailto:officemanager@briarhillspoa.org)

Website..... [www.briarhillspoa.org](http://www.briarhillspoa.org)

To help you get acquainted with the neighborhood, please visit **[www.briarhillspoa.org](http://www.briarhillspoa.org)** and learn about current events and news happening in Briarhills. Please also take the time and register for an online account so you may access various features of the website that are not available to the public. You will also be able to immediately receive important BPOA announcements by email. Your information will only be used for official BPOA communication and will not be shared.

### 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](http://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.*

## Holiday Charity Drive

Dear Neighbors,

It's holiday time again; time to be thankful, appreciate our family and friends but to also reach out to needy families in our communities more so than ever before.

Last year our neighborhood supported a few charities. One of which was the Easter Seals of Greater Houston who raised over \$46,000 in funds and goods during the holidays. Thanks to the overall Houston community, the Easter Seals of Greater Houston was able to adopt more than 60 families.

This year, as you can very well imagine, they are in need more than ever before and are asking for 4 main donations:

**1. Monetary donations that they will translate into Walmart or HEB gift cards.**

**2. HEB gift cards. Large to small denominations- \$5, \$10, \$15 etc.**

**3. Walmart gift cards. Large to small denominations- \$5, \$10, \$15 etc.**

**4. Drives for small things easily packaged or transported (socks, undies, pj's)**

At present they have 60 especially needy families with a total of approximately 220 people and with more coming in.

If you would like to support this cause, please bring your above donations for the Easter Seals to the Briarhills Clubhouse on the following dates and times:

**Thurs. December 3rd from 5:00-6:30 pm.**

**Sun. December 6th from 12:00- 2:00 pm.**

If friends/family prefer to make a straight cash donation, please do so at: <https://app.etapestry.com/hosted/EasterSealsGreaterHouston/OnlineGiving.html> Mark the fund as holiday adoption.

Donations may also be mailed or dropped off directly to Easter Seals at: **4888 Loop Central Drive, Suite 200, Houston, TX, 77081. Call first: 713.838.0878.**

Thank you and happy and healthy holidays to all!

Regards,

Maria Galitos

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## SUMMARY OF 1st BRIARHILLS TENNIS TOURNAMENT (OCTOBER 3, 2020 COVID-19 EDITION)



Dear Neighbors,  
Friends and Tennis  
Enthusiasts,

On Saturday October 3, 2020, the Briarhills Tennis Committee, comprised of residents of Briarhills and Terraces on Memorial, organized its first Briarhills Tennis Tournament.

The overarching goal of the event was for neighbors to get to know each other as tennis players and

in the process to have fun and to build a stronger community. The tournament was also organized as a fundraising event to help raise funds to add a 4th overhead light to the courts along with other improvements.



When it comes to appreciation, first, I would like to thank all of the players. Without players there would have been no tournament and we had a great turnout! 36 tennis players played on two courts from 8 a.m. until after 5 p.m. It was a beautiful autumn day to be outside, and perhaps one hundred residents throughout the day stopped by to watch the tournament.

The Tournament Championship was won by Julio dela Colina and Alan Levine against Chere Cormier and Luis Del Rosario.

Second, I would like to thank several individuals and organizations that donated time, money, or products. Below is a list of individual sponsors and organizations that helped with the fundraising in no particular order...

Jerry Cogging with Coggins Geosciences: \$500;

Sean Coggins with JuvenateCBD: 2 tubes of sport cream worth \$80;

Tsveti Ivanov with Realm Real Estate Professionals: \$170;

Ben Mehralizadeh with CopyPlusPrinting, Diana Moskova, Stina Mosvold, Alan Levine and Constantin Platon, each offered 2 h of tennis lessons, totally worth \$750;

Constantin Platon with OAK GeoSciences offered a kayaking tour for 4, worth \$600;

Luis Roger with BCN Taste and Tradition Restaurant offered dinner for 2, worth \$300;

Walter Hayes with Thriggle offered a cooler with beer and ice worth of \$100;

Kroger on Eldridge offered bottled water, bananas, ice, and granola bar worth of \$150;

A number of individuals donated their tournament entry fee of \$80 or more: Douglas Elsen, Faroukh Fekravar, Walter Hayes, Franz Helin, Gale Jenkins, Fa Dwan, Esteban Oliva, Ben Mehralizadeh, and Anne Zornosa.

A big thank you also to the Briarhills Tennis Committee, composed of the following subdivisions and representatives:

Briarhills POA: Steve Ashy and Constantin Platon; Briarhills HOA: Stina Mosvold and Donna Carrabba; Terraces on Memorial: Ivan Ivanov.

If you would like to get involved with the Briarhills Tennis Committee, and help organize future events, please reach out to me or to your subdivision representative.

Thank you again for your contribution to the great success of this event! I hope to see you on the tennis court (or kayaking) very soon!

-Constantin Platon

Additional pictures can be viewed at: [briarhillspoa.org](http://briarhillspoa.org)

*Marcella dela Colina credited for pictures*





## FROM THE BRIARHILLS LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE...

Dear Briarhills Neighbors,

Thank you all for your past, present and future support regarding the beautification around the clubhouse area. In 2020 we renovated our park benches, maintained a beautiful wildflower patch, created a new sitting area west of the clubhouse, erected decorative fences and planted lots of new flowers.

In 2021 we aim to build a patio in the back of the clubhouse (see rendering). To finance the materials, we welcome you to participate in our fundraising effort. Please, take the opportunity to literally become part of the garden by purchasing your very own personalized, laser-engraved brick that will be installed along the front of the property in 2021. This is a great way to honor a loved one, celebrate your family or show your love for the Briarhills Community.

Please, let your family, friends and neighbors know about this opportunity and check the POA website at [briarhillspoa.org](http://briarhillspoa.org) for information on how to order your customized brick.

We wish you a cozy end of the year season and a good start into a healthy and happy 2021.

Yours, Doerte Steinhoff



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Should I renovate my house before I sell it?



**Probably Not.**

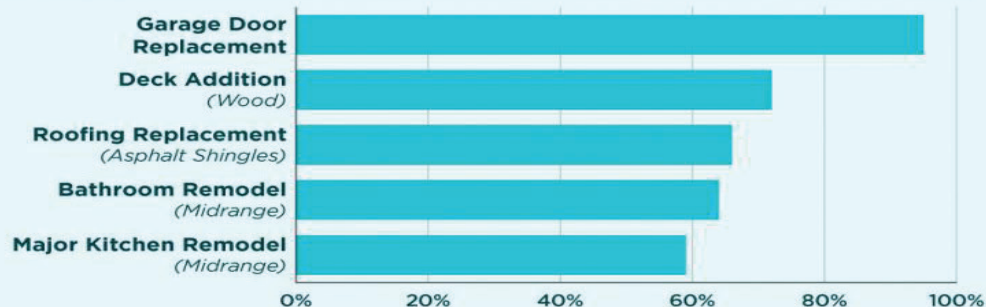
In today's hyper-competitive market, buyers are often willing to overlook cosmetic or minor repair needs if it means snagging a home in their price range.



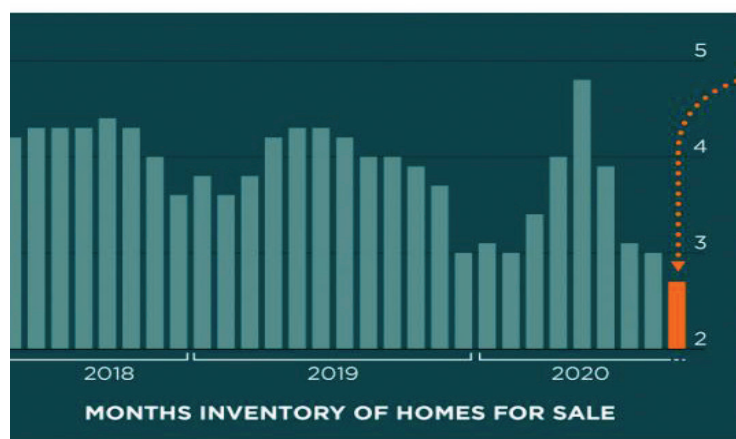
Ultimately, **you're unlikely to recoup the full cost of most renovation projects when you sell your house.**

### REMODELING PAYBACK

*% of cost recouped for common renovation projects*



If the market is flooded with houses for sale, renovations might be necessary to make your house stand out... **but that's not the case today.**



Houses are flying off the market because **there are so few available to buy**

**71%**

of homes sold in September were **on the market for less than a month**

The average home sold had over

**3 offers**

Today's sellers' market means you may be able to skip the headache of renovations and cash in on the demand for your house.  
Let's connect to determine your best next steps.

Source: Remodeling 2020 Cost Vs Value Report, NAR





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*Happy Holidays!*

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