



Briar Village Newsletter

Serving 768 Homes Since the 1970s

Community Association (BPCIA) Meets Regularly on 4th Thursday - Everyone Welcome

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 7/27/2023 - HOA Board Meeting
- 8/24/2023 - HOA Board Meeting
- 9/28/2023 - HOA Board Meeting

WATCH FOR:

- Game Nights at the clubhouse
- National Night Out

The Pledge of Allegiance

From the Red Skelton Hour, January 14, 1969

We had just finished reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and he [Mr. Lasswell, the Principal of Vincennes High School] called us all together, and he says, "Uh, boys and girls, I have been listening to you recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester, and it seems that it has become monotonous to you. Or, could it be, you do not understand the meaning of each word? If I may, I would like to recite the pledge, and give you a definition for each word:

I -- Me; an individual; a committee of one.

Pledge -- Dedicate all of my worldly good to give without self-pity.

Allegiance -- My love and my devotion.

To the Flag -- Our standard. "Old Glory"; a symbol of courage. And wherever she waves, there is respect, because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts "Freedom is everybody's job."

of the United -- That means we have all come together.

States -- Individual communities that have united into 48 great states; 48 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided by imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common cause, and that's love of country --

Of America.

And to the Republic -- A Republic: a sovereign state in which power is invested into the representatives chosen by the people to govern; and the government is the people; and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For which it stands

One Nation -- Meaning "so blessed by God."

[Under God]'

Indivisible -- Incapable of being divided.

With Liberty -- Which is freedom; the right of power for one to live his own life without fears, threats, or any sort of retaliation.

And Justice -- The principle and qualities of dealing fairly with others.

For All -- For All. That means, boys and girls, it's as much your country as it is mine.

Now let me hear you recite the **Pledge of Allegiance:**

Red Skelton --

Getting In Touch

The most effective way to send and receive information with your board and the HOA is through the official Management website: graham.cincwebaxis.com. The site allows access to Payment, Document, ACC request, Violation and Contact information.

Neighborhood Security

HPD now has full access to all four "FLOCK" cameras at each entrance to the neighborhood. They will have quicker means of tracking suspicious cars or activity in and out of BV.

Also, MJM security will be renewing their contract as our security company.

Our roving security guard Mark Wilson is a great asset to this community and has great knowledge and understanding of law enforcement and this community in particular. We are lucky to have them stay on with BV.

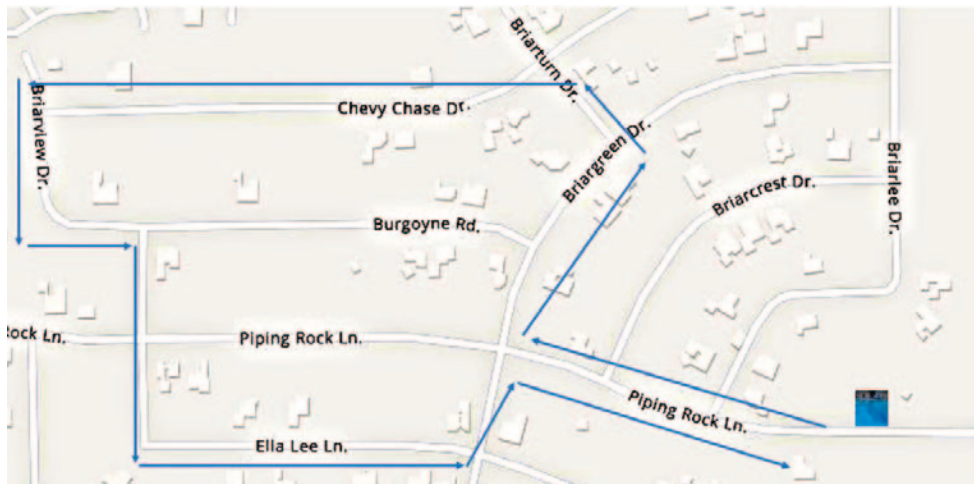
Another note pertaining to security in the neighborhood.

We now have a security camera in the parking lot of the clubhouse. There are also signs posted (24/7 video surveillance)

Please try to attend our monthly meetings so that we can help address any security issues should they arise.

4th of July

Please meet at the clubhouse at about 830 to 8:45 AM on Tuesday, 4 July. The parade will start at 9am refreshments will be provided after the parade ice cream, cookies and Crystal light and water. If people can pre-decorate the cars and bikes that would be great. If people want to dress up that's fine too.



Keep BV Beautiful

- Take pride in the appearance of your home and your landscaping.
- Lawn services working on non-garbage pickup days should place bagged leaves/grass out of sight, not on the curb.
- Help minimize street flooding by bagging your landscaping rather than blowing it into the street.
- Keep an eye on your pups and their poops!
- Power-washing is really affordable and can make a world of difference on your driveways, sidewalks, fences and homes.
- Parking on grass is prohibited - it is a COH fineable offense
- If you see something, say something.

Back to School

As our Kids finish their summer and get ready for back to school, let's all work to keep them safe.

West Houston is home to schools of all grade levels from preschool and day care to high school. Some walk to school, many are dropped off by parents ride a bike or drive themselves. Others ride a school bus. Each mode of transportation comes with its own risks.

Let's do what we can do in our little pocket of this city to be aware. Please pay attention to the school bus rules and be patient as the kids navigate the neighborhood.

Here's to a great 2023-2024 school year for students, teachers, administrators and parents!

Briar Village Real Estate Update

January 1, 2023 - May 1, 2022

Homes Sold	16
Average Sold Price	\$329,000
Average Sold Price per square foot	\$145
Average Days on Market (Sold)	70
Homes Pending	4
Active Homes	3
Months of Inventory	2.7 Months
Active Rental Homes	8
Number of Leased Homes	6
Average Lease Price	\$2350

The average sales price for homes in Briar Village was just over \$306,000 at the beginning of 2022. Currently, the average sales price is 7% higher at \$329,000. This is despite the Houston Area home inventory jumping from 1.4 months of inventory to 2.7 months of inventory. So, the real estate market continue to favor home sellers.

For the Houston area, the average time a house took to sell increased from 34 days in May of 2022, to 55 days in May of 2023.

Home prices have not dropped in most areas of Houston despite the increased inventory, but I expect that to slowly shift towards the end of the year as buyer demand relaxes.

Cheers!

Paul Holub, Briar Village Resident



Paul Holub

Traditions Realty

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✉️ paul@traditionshouston.com

🌐 www.traditionshouston.com



MY HOME SEARCH



Board/Committies

BRIAR PARK CIA BOARD/COMMITTEES
C/O GRAHAM MANAGEMENT
2825 WILCREST DRIVE, SUITE 600
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77042
PH: 713-334-8000 FAX: 713-334-5055

President - Carrie Bivins
hoacarriebivins@gmail.com

Vice President - Casey Collins
mrcaseybriar@yahoo.com

Treasurer - Brian Maguire
brianjmag@live.com

Secretary - Diane Guillerman
dguillermanhoa@gmail.com

Director - David Patronella
hoadpatronella@gmail.com

Director - Rob Harvey
rharveyhoa@gmail.com

Director - Eric Wallin
cew3832hoa@gmail.com

Committees:

Common Areas - Casey Collins,
David Patronella

Clubhouse - Eric Wallen, Brian Maguire

Pool - Carrie Bivins, Eric Wallen

Tennis Court - Brian Maguire,
David Patronella

Security - Rob Harvey, Casey Collins

Website - David Patronella

Social - Eric Wallen, Carrie Bivins

Newsletter - David Patronella

DRV - Diane Guillerman

ACC - Diane Guillerman

Manager

April Pitarra
apitarra@
grahammanagementhouston.com

Volunteer Opportunities

We are always looking for volunteers to help with events and initiatives. Please help while getting to know your neighbors. Email cew3832hoa@gmail.com for info.

Important Contacts & Information

MJM Security - Dispatch 832-356-3224

Always call 9-1-1 for Emergencies Houston Police Dept Non-Emergencies 713-884-3131

Graham Management - April Pitarra, Community Manager

Email: apitarra@grahammanagementhouston.com Phone: 713-334-8000

BPCIA - Briar Park Community Improvement Association

Meetings are held at the Briar Village Clubhouse every 4th Thursday of the month at 7 PM

Garbage and Recycling: Texas Pride Waste

- **Pick-up Tuesday & Friday:** Trash can only be put by the curb after 6:00 p.m. on Monday & Thursday or by 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday & Friday. Trash is not allowed in view any other time by city ordinance.
- **Bagged Lawn Debris** is not to be left curbside except at above times. Up to 8 bags or cans with weight limit 40 pounds each. Landscapers should be instructed to place bagged debris behind fences if their work does not coincide with the trash schedule.
- **No construction debris, hazardous waste, tires.**
- **Bundle/tie limbs 4' long.**
- **Heavy Trash on Tuesday & Friday** (dishwashers, water heaters, etc.) No more than 2 bulky items per trash day. Note you cannot put out bulky items and let them sit on the curb for 3 days while awaiting the next heavy trash pick up day. Deed restriction enforcement will occur.
- **Recycle Day is Thursday** - use recycle bins only on Thursdays
- If Tues, Thurs or Fri are Holidays, pick-up is skipped
- **Holidays** are: New Years, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas.

The Website and Message Board are FREE to all Residents! <https://briarvillage.com>

Problem Resolution

The Board asks residents not to contact service providers or board members directly for problem resolution; please contact Graham Management as the first stop for problem resolution.

Deed Restriction Violations (DRV)

Please review our Deed Restrictions on the Briar Village website. If you receive a DRV letter, please take it seriously but do not take it personally. The best course of action is to simply correct the problem. If you are uncomfortable with a DRV letter, please feel free to contact the management company or Board President to discuss.

Community Pool and Tennis Courts

Access cards are required for admittance and can be obtained from GMI for \$25 each. The order form is on the BV website.

Citizen Patrol

The Citizen Patrol needs you! Citizen Patrol is actively seeking new members. Join this great group of residents who volunteer some of their free time to drive our neighborhood keeping an eye on things on your behalf.

No experience No experience is required, but a background check and attendance at a one-night training session are required.

For more information contact Maurice Townsend at mtowns7557@aol.com.



BV Governing Docs & Forms

Under the "Resources" tab of the BV website, there are links to important BV documents including deed restrictions, amendments & guidelines, CIA formation docs, meeting minutes, etc.



Architectural Control Committee

All improvements visible from the street must have ACC approval BEFORE work starts. Get the ACC Approval Form on the BV Website or from GMI.



Briar Village Newsletter

Want to contribute to the BV newsletter? BV residents can submit content to: briarvillagenewsletter@gmail.com.



2023 Briar Village Swim Team

The Briar Flyers & Junior Flyers kicked off the swim season at the beginning of May, and the kids are excited to be back in the water! The annual Spring Fling event hosted by BVST was a great success. The kids had fun enjoying the foam pit, water slide, face painting, and the pool. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the team.

The Briar Flyers have been working hard in practice this May and are excited to compete in the swim meets in June. We had many returning coaches & swimmers and some new faces too! If you have ever wanted a way to meet more of your neighbors, the neighborhood swim team is an excellent opportunity!

The Junior Flyer program filled up quickly and the progress they have made in the pool is impressive.

This program is designed to get our future Briar Flyers comfortable in the water and learn the basic stroke mechanics of crawl/freestyle. It is so exciting to see a Junior Flyer move up to the "big pool" and become a Briar Flyer!

Thank you to Briar Village for supporting your neighborhood swim team, we look forward to a fun and successful 2023 season!



ECHO: The Energy Corridor of Houston Orchestra Celebrates 10 Years!

The Energy Corridor of Houston Orchestra, otherwise known as ECHO, will celebrate its 10th anniversary season this fall. ECHO was founded in 2014 by Sarah McDonner local flute player and a resident of the Energy Corridor area. She recruited ECHO's conductor, Michael Fahey, to join the team and in just 5 short months after the idea was acted upon, the orchestra had its first rehearsal in September of 2014. It is ECHO's mission to enhance the appreciation and understanding of orchestral music, which may include collaboration with other arts organizations, within the Energy Corridor of Houston, TX, and the surrounding communities. ECHO seeks to share musical and arts experiences through concerts, private events, and educational programs that will strengthen the community. This is accomplished by providing an opportunity for musicians (amateur, retired, teachers, professional or semi-professional) to play and learn, encourage others to become interested in music through concerts and outreach programs, and to perform orchestral music in minimally priced public concerts and events. Through shared experiences such as these, musicians can realize their self-potential, a spirit of generosity, and opportunities for growth.

By Sarah McDonner, ECHO Executive Director and Founder www.ECHOOrchestra.org.

Our SUPER Neighborhood

Super Neighborhoods

Can't fight City Hall? What if there was an organization to help you break through the bureaucracy? Your Super Neighborhood is just that - and more! Briar Village is a member of the **Eldridge/West Oaks Super Neighborhood (SN-17)**.

Super Neighborhoods were created during Mayor Lee Brown's tenure. Super Neighborhood councils are composed of volunteer delegates from subdivisions and civic clubs that fall within designated geographic boundaries. SN-17 boundaries stretch north and south across Westheimer to include parts of City Council Districts F and G.

Super Neighborhoods serve as a powerful means of raising neighborhood concerns. With a collective voice into city council, issues get attention, and there's a better chance that solutions will be found when they are channeled through the proper city department.

Briar Village resident and HOA board member, Diane Guillerman worked to organize and set up SN-17 in 2009. SN-17 is an active member of the Super Neighborhood Alliance, a formal advisory board to the Mayor and city government on community matters.

SN-17 Leadership

President, **Jeff Baker**, has led SN-17 for the past four years. His goal is to increase membership and participation. He has succeeded in keeping SN-17 active and relevant, even conducting meetings via Zoom during COVID for the sake of continuity. Another reason for SN-17's success is the addition of a speaker series to the monthly meeting lineup. Jeff represents SN-17 as a member of the Super Neighborhood Alliance.

Vice-President, **Nick Kornuta** serves as the delegate to the Terraces on Memorial subdivision. Nick keeps the SN-17 community informed about local flood mitigation projects and studies by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Harris County Flood Control District.

Briar Village is well-represented on SN-17 by two board members. **Diane Guillerman**, founding member, who serves as Treasurer and **Joy Cocchiara**, your Briar Village delegate, who serves as Secretary.

Monthly Meetings

SN-17 partnerships have expanded beyond the City of Houston to include our elected officials at the county and state level. Standing agenda items include briefings from the offices of TX House Representative **Mano DeAyala**, Harris County Commissioner, **Lesley Briones**, and City Council Members **Tiffany Thomas** and **Mary Nan Huffman**. Reports from the **HPD-Westside Station, Houston Department of Neighborhoods, METRO and the Houston Public Library** are recurring agenda items as well.

Guest Speakers

Monthly meetings typically feature a guest speaker. President, Jeff Baker works hard to secure speakers who are well-recognized authorities on topical issues. Below is a list of our speakers, year-to-date:

- Ted Heap, Precinct 5 Constable, describing bridge-building activities with the community, specifically targeted to teens (young drivers' training), adults (Silver Watch program) and women (self-defense).
- Sallie Alcorn, Councilor-At-Large Position 5, discussing city-wide initiatives, including the noise ordinance, flood mitigation (Adopt-A-Drain), nuisance vehicles /trucks in neighborhoods, and gathering support for a bond initiative for public sidewalks.
- Mary Nan Huffman, City Council District G representative gave a 2022 year-end summary of projects in the district that focused on Crime Prevention (Flock cameras), Flooding and Infrastructure (Capital Improvement projects), and other District G items.
- Leslie Briones, Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 4 laid out her vision for Harris County in terms of public safety/crime, infrastructure, and public health.
- May 10 - Metro Police Department, discussing Crisis Assessment Response Engagement (CARE). This program is a collaboration with the city, in which METRO police patrol bus and rail routes, with a specific focus on helping people experiencing homelessness, and people suffering from mental health issues.
- June 14 – Mano de Ayala, TX House Representative, District 133 with a legislative update.

Attend a Meeting

Meetings occur every second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Eagle's Trace, except July, August and December. You can find the monthly agenda and meeting minutes posted at www.sneldridgewestoaks.org

Reach out to your SN-17 delegate at joycocch@gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns. If you aren't getting the expected response from the city's 311 reporting system, please elevate your issue to the Super Neighborhood level. Your ideas for projects that would help our SUPER neighborhood are always welcome.

WEED & FEED; Don't Buy The Hype!

GREG COOPER | MICROLIFE FERTILIZER | MICROLIFEFERTILIZER.COM

Lawns are now the largest crop in America and manufacturers are spending tons of money to convince you that their products are what you need. We are told that weeds are shaming us, bugs are threatening us, and our home lawns need to look like the professionally maintained grass we see at sporting events. They don't tell you that sometimes you are seeing grass that is painted green so it looks great on TV and how much many they spend on toxic chemicals to make it look "perfect."

One of the greatest marketing ideas was Weed & Feed fertilizer. It kills your weeds and feeds your lawn right? Not really. It is a great name but not a good product. The fertilizer ingredients are not going to improve your soil. They temporarily feed the plants with junk food, creating a dependency. The herbicide which is usually Atrazine does not know the difference between weeds and desirable plants like St. Augustine grass, trees, or flowers. It is a poison for all plants. I get tons of calls every year from landscapers and homeowners that have burned up a lawn using weed & feed incorrectly. They often end up needing to re-sod their lawn. The label on the product says "Do not use under trees, shrubs, bedding plants, flowers, or garden plants." This is because it is known to be very toxic for those plants. How many of us can say we have lawns without any tree or shrub roots growing in them?

Weed & Feed fertilizers contain chemicals that can harm the environment. These chemicals are designed to kill weeds, but they also harm other plants, children, pets, insects, and animals that come into contact with them. When rainwater washes these chemicals into nearby bodies of water, they can cause damage to aquatic ecosystems. These chemicals can contaminate groundwater, which is a source of drinking water for many people. We can do much better than using these toxic products.

Organic fertilizers are a much better way to go than Weed & Feed fertilizers. Organic fertilizers are made from natural materials, and unlike Weed & Feed, organic fertilizers are free from harmful chemicals and are safe for the environment, pets, and children. Organic fertilizers provide many benefits to lawns and gardens. They contain a range of nutrients that are essential for plant growth that releases slowly over time, providing a steady supply of nutrients to plants. This results in healthier, more vibrant plants that are better able to resist pests and diseases.

Organic fertilizers also improve soil health. They help to increase the amount of organic matter in the soil, which improves soil structure, water retention, and nutrient uptake. This can result in healthier, more fertile soil that is better able to support plant growth. One of the main advantages of organic fertilizers is that they are cost-effective. While the initial cost of organic fertilizers may be higher than synthetic fertilizers, they provide long-term benefits that can reduce the need for costly lawn and garden treatments.

In conclusion, organic fertilizers are an excellent option for homeowners who want to maintain a healthy, vibrant lawn or garden without harming themselves & the environment. They provide a range of benefits, including improved plant growth, healthier soil, and cost-effectiveness. With a little effort and some basic knowledge, homeowners can easily transition to using organic fertilizers and reap the benefits of a healthier, more sustainable lawn or garden.

Ready to go Organic?

Get our How To Go Organic Booklet

<https://www.microlifefertilizer.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/how-to-go-organic-2021.pdf>

Be Sure To Download Our Organic Weed Control Booklet

<https://microlifeblank.wpenginpowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Organic-Weed-Control.pdf>

MicroLife Spring Recommendations

The Perfect Color Program, Easy as 1-2-3!

MicroLife Ultimate 8-4-6

Most complete, nutritious,
non-burning color fertilizer ever!

MicroGro Bio-Inoculant

Prevents diseases that
plague color plants

MicroLife Max Blooms 3-8-3

Organic Foliar spray for
popping flowers





Briar Village
 A Family Neighborhood in Far West
 Houston
 2825 Wilcrest Drive, Ste 600
 Houston, Texas 77042

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 in color on the BV
 Website
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- Pools
- Brick Work