

BRIAR VILLAGE

A Neighborhood Newsletter

SOME IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES IN BRIAR VILLAGE:



October 11th - Last day the BV pool is open.

October 24th - Annual Fall Garage Sale: Due to the ongoing pandemic, the neighborhood will not be advertising as in years past. Signs will be placed at the entrances to the neighborhood the day of the sale.

November 7th, 9:00am - 12:00pm - Shred Day: West Houston Document Destruction will be at the clubhouse parking lot to provide document shredding services to BV residents. Please limit the amount of shred materials to 6-10 boxes.

FOODTRUCK NIGHTS @ CLUB HOUSE

The Sauer Kraut - Thursday, October 15

A variety of German style Bratwurst, Schnitzel Sandwiches, Hamburgers, German Pulled Pork, Currywurst, fries and more.

El Guajillo - Thursday, October 29

El Guajillo food truck will be returning to BV to serve up traditional Mexican street food and margaritas!

Make sure to bring your own chairs, sunshades, pop-up table or picnic blanket. This event will be outdoors and the clubhouse restrooms will remain closed. This is a neighborhood event, not an HOA event. We would love to see as many neighbors as possible, but safety of everyone is still very important to us all. If you are feeling ill or have recently come in contact with the Covid-19 virus, we ask that you remain home.

LONDON CAFÉ BV SPECIAL WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

\$35 for four meals

Order anything off the menu, Mix and Match

Order by phone: (346) 774-2817

Pick up at clubhouse parking lot from 6 TO 6:30 pm

Orders accepted until 5 pm on Wednesday


IN THIS ISSUE

CDC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A SAFE HALLOWEEN

REMINDER REGARDING YARD SIGNS

COOK'S CORNER: PUMPKIN CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

HALLOWEEN CROSSWORD PUZZLE

 **Briar Village**
Clip and Save for Future Reference!

BPCIA Position, Name, Primary Area, Contact Info

BPCIA – Briar Park Community Improvement Assoc.
 Meetings 7:00 p.m. at BV Clubhouse on 4th Thursday of Month

Pres. Alvin Olson 832-274-7831 alvin@briarview.com Security Webmaster Clubhouse	V.P. Timothy Cook 281-536-4362 timcookhoa@gmail.com Newsletter Trash/Recycling
Sec. Dee McConnon 281-794-6482 dee.briarv@gmail.com Common Area	Treas. Brian Maguire 832-659-5913 brianjmag@live.com ACC Security
Gale Antoinette 281-543-0840 bvhoagale@gmail.com ACC DRV Common Area	Carrie Bivins 281-253-4540 hoacarriebivins@gmail.com Pool Social DRV
Miriam Munoz 713-277-7791 miriammunozhoa@gmail.com Webmaster, Clubhouse	Graham Management Inc. Carmen Reyes, Com Mgr 2825 Wilcrest, Ste. 600 Houston, TX 77042 ph: (713) 334-8000 f: (713)334-5055

Ranger Patrol & Co. Inc. – Dispatch 832-356-3224
Call 911 for Emergencies 24/7
HPD Non-Emergency - 713-884-3131

Garbage – VF Waste
 Services - 713-787-9790 – Questions & Complaints
 Pick-up Tues & Fri - Trash can only be put by the curb:
 After 6:00 p.m. on Mon & Thurs or by 7:00 a.m. on Tues & Fri
 Trash is not allowed in view any other time (see 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 lbs each
 No construction debris, hazardous waste, tires.
 Bundle/tie limbs 4' long.
 Heavy Trash on Fri Only (dishwashers, water heaters, etc.)
 Recycle Day is Thursday - use blue 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, Xmas

Website and Message Board free to all residents
<https://briarvillage.com>

Problem Resolution

The Board asks residents not to contact service providers directly for problem resolution; please contact the Director over that area on the BPCIA Board of Directors and let that Director handle the problem.

Alvin Olson, President BPCIA

Deed Restriction Violations (DRV)

Please review your Deed Restrictions, which are on the BV Website. If you receive a DRV Letter, please take it seriously, but please do not take it personally. The best course of action is to simply fix the problem and move on. If you are uncomfortable in any manner with a letter you received, please feel welcome to contact me or GMI - our management company - to discuss it.

Alvin Olson, President BPCIA

Community Pool & Tennis Courts

Access Card required for admittance, and can be ordered for \$25 from GMI. Form is on the BV website. Pool is open 7:00 am – 8:30 pm through October 25th, 2019.

Architectural Control Committee (ACC)

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.

BV Governing Docs & Forms

Under the "Resources" tab of the Briar Village website, there are links to important BV documents, including: deed restrictions, amendments and guidelines, and the CIA's formation documents. The Board also regularly posts the approved meeting minutes, past newsletters and important forms. under this tab.

Briar Village Newsletter

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

BPCIA Meeting Highlights September 24, 2020

On September 24, 2020, the Board held its monthly meeting *via* Zoom which was open to the community. The September meeting is also the annual meeting where the Board approves the budget for the following fiscal year.

This year a majority of the Board voted to increase maintenance fees by 5%. Below is a summary of the budget. A copy of the full budget can be obtained on the BV website or can be requested from Graham Management.

2021 Briar Village Budget Summary

INCOME	
TOTAL INCOME	\$513,921
EXPENSES	
TOTAL UTILITIES	\$25,750
TOTAL CONTRACT SERVICES	\$276,887
TOTAL REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$31,250
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	\$88,723
TOTAL INSURANCE	\$16,500
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$439,110
INCOME/LOSS	\$74,811

The official Meeting Minutes for September will be posted on the BV Website shortly after approval under the "Neighborhood Stuff" tab.

Outside of the budget, it was reported that all is running well with the other committees in the neighborhood (security, web, newsletter, DRV, ACC and financial) and potential upcoming events were discussed.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2020. At this time, it is most likely the next meeting will be held *via* Zoom. Residents will be updated on the Message Board with instructions on how they may attend the meeting.

We have Local Unfiltered Honey
Call or Text Dee 281-794-6482

Swim at Your Own Risk

Our neighborhood pool is "Swim at You Own Risk." This means that there are no lifeguards on staff at the pool. Making the decision to make our pool SAYOR means that we can enjoy this neighborhood amenity longer into the year, but please make sure that you and your family are following the pool rules. **Propping the gate open or allowing others in who do not have an access card is prohibited. If you prop the gate open for another person and that person has not signed a waiver, you will be personally liable for damage caused by, or personal injury to, the person you have allowed in.** Only residents and their guests, who have current access cards and signed waivers are allowed to use the pool. Access cards cost \$25 for each household and can be ordered from Graham Management.

Pool Hours : Tuesday -Sunday 7am - 8:30pm
Closed Monday

Pool Rules

1. Per Harris County and state-wide guidelines, face coverings must be worn when not swimming. Please follow CDC guidelines regarding washing your hands and social distancing.
2. Parents/Guardians must watch children at all times. **NO LIFEGUARD IS ON DUTY.**
3. Absolutely no glass containers, running, horseplay, diving, pushing, pets, loud/offensive/abusive language or behavior or smoking of any kind is tolerated within the pool gates.
4. Swimming/bathing suits or special swim-type diapers must be worn at all times.
5. All patrons must clean up after themselves.
6. No swimming during rain, lightning or thunderstorms.
7. Non-proficient swimmers are to be supervised by competent swimmers.
8. Persons inside the pool area MAY NOT open the gate for another person. A key card must be used to enter the pool area.
9. The baby pool is reserved for children 42 inches and shorter and must be supervised at all times.
10. No standing, sitting or playing with rope dividers.

BV: Building Value

By Amy Hill

I hope you won't mind if I "talk trash" in my column this month. No, I am not talking about using foul language. I am saluting a couple of Briar Village heroines. The first one is a lady I spotted in the neighborhood recently when I was exiting the neighborhood and later returning from running an errand.

I noticed her as I glanced out my window while waiting at a stop sign. She was toting a plastic bag, wearing gloves and was stooped over picking up a piece of trash. And then she bent over again, continuing on her mission, unaware she was being watched.

The first thought I had was, wow, isn't that great for her to take the time to do that? But then a bit of shame washed over me. You see, in normal times I walk with a friend, a second heroine, who always picks up trash as we walk. I simply walk by it, not wanting to get any germs.

I still, especially now, want to protect myself from germs, but I know I can do my part. I plan to buy one of those trash picker upper claws and at least once a month do my part. Perhaps you will find inspiration from these two ladies and join in keeping our Briar Village trash free.

Oh, and by the way, when I returned from my errand about thirty minutes later, there she was, bent over, her bag almost full. She didn't notice me. She was hard at work. I salute both of these ladies who donate their time to build value in our glorious neighborhood.

EARLY VOTING: OCTOBER 13, 2020 - OCTOBER 30, 2020

Early voting will be here soon! This election will likely bring lots of people to the polls. Make sure you are prepared and cast your vote before Election day (November 3rd) to avoid long lines and crowds. Luckily, Texans have more time to vote early due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

You can find information regarding voting by mail, locate a polling location, and see the sample ballot at <https://harrisvotes.com/>

**BRIAR VILLAGE
REAL ESTATE UPDATE
AUGUST 16, 2020 - SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**

HOMES SOLD 4	 <p>Four homes sold this past month in our hot real estate market. Currently there are 10 homes active in Briar Village with only one active rental. Low interest rates continue to spur home buying and refinances.</p> <p>Home inventory in the Greater Houston Area Market continues to drop to 2.8 months of inventory. This is down from 4.1 months of home inventory that we had at this time last year.</p> <p>Have a happy Halloween!</p> <p><i>Paul Holub, Briar Village Resident</i></p>
AVERAGE SOLD PRICE \$233,500	
AVERAGE SOLD PRICE PER SQ. FT. \$105	
AVERAGE DAYS ON MARKET (SOLD) 128	
HOMES PENDING 4	
ACTIVE HOMES 10	
MONTHS OF INVENTORY 2.8 MONTHS	
ACTIVE RENTAL HOMES 4	
NUMBER OF LEASED HOMES 3	
AVERAGE LEASE PRICE \$1943	

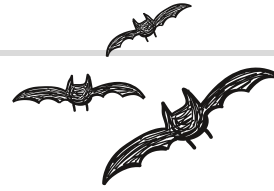
OUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!

We are always looking for residents who are interested in volunteering to help create our community newsletter.

Contact us at Briarvillagenewsletter@gmail.com for more information.



CDC recommendations for a safe Halloween



Many traditional Halloween activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses. There are several safer, alternative ways to participate in Halloween. If you may have COVID-19 or you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to trick-or-treaters.

Low Risk Activities:

These lower risk activities can be safe alternatives:

- Carving or decorating pumpkins outside, at a safe distance, with neighbors or friends
- Doing a Halloween scavenger hunt where children are given lists of Halloween-themed things to look for while they walk outdoors from house to house admiring Halloween decorations at a distance
- Having a scavenger hunt-style trick-or-treat search with your household members in or around your home rather than going house to house
- Having a Halloween movie night with people you live with

Moderate Risk Activities:

- Participating in one-way trick-or-treating where individually wrapped goodie bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard)
 - If you are preparing goodie bags, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 second before and after preparing the bags.
- Having a small group, outdoor, open-air costume parade where people are distanced more than 6 feet apart
- Attending a costume party held outdoors where protective masks are used and people can remain more than 6 feet apart
 - A costume mask (such as for Halloween) is not a substitute for a cloth mask. A costume mask should not be used unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around the face.
 - Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask.
- Going to an open-air, one-way, walk-through haunted forest where appropriate mask use is enforced, and people can remain more than 6 feet apart
 - If screaming will likely occur, greater distancing is advised. The greater the distance, the lower the risk of spreading a respiratory virus.
- Visiting pumpkin patches or orchards where people use hand sanitizer before touching pumpkins or picking apples, wearing masks is encouraged or enforced, and people are able to maintain social distancing
- Having an outdoor Halloween movie night with local family friends with people spaced at least 6 feet apart
 - If screaming will likely occur, greater distancing is advised. The greater the distance, the lower the risk of spreading a respiratory virus.

See more CDC recommendations for a safe Halloween at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#halloween>

Cooks Corner: Cookout Recipes Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Cookies



INGREDIENTS

- 2 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 c. (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 3/4 c. brown sugar
- 1/2 c. granulated sugar
- 3/4 c. pumpkin purée
- 1 large egg
- 2 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 2 c. semi-sweet chocolate chips

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375° and line two large baking sheets with parchment paper.

In a small bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, pumpkin spice, and salt.

In a large bowl using a hand mixer, cream together butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Beat in pumpkin, egg, and vanilla extract until combined, then add flour mixture. Beat on low until no raw flour appears, then fold in chocolate chips. Refrigerate dough for 30 minutes.

Scoop 1” balls onto prepared baking sheets, 2 inches apart, and bake until puffed up and golden around edges, about 12 minutes.

<https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/recipes/a55742/pumpkin-spice-chocolate-chip-cookies-recipe/>



The Citizen Patrol Needs You! For more information contact Karen Avery at jxb1339@att.net

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

REMINDER: Yard Signs



This is a reminder that all political yard signs must be removed within **10 days** after the election. This includes both signs supporting a particular candidate or party as well

as signs supporting a political/religious cause (e.g. pro-life, pro-choice, BLM, Blue Lives Matter, etc.). Any signs which remain in the yard after this date will be in violation, and a violation notice will be sent. The Board will not be making any exceptions based on the content of any person's sign nor will any signs be "grandfathered" in because they have existed in the yard for any extended period of time.



D&K TREE SERVICE

- Trimming
- Shaping
- Stump Removal
- Fine Pruning
- Topping
- Tree Removal
- Feeding
- Planting

Danny

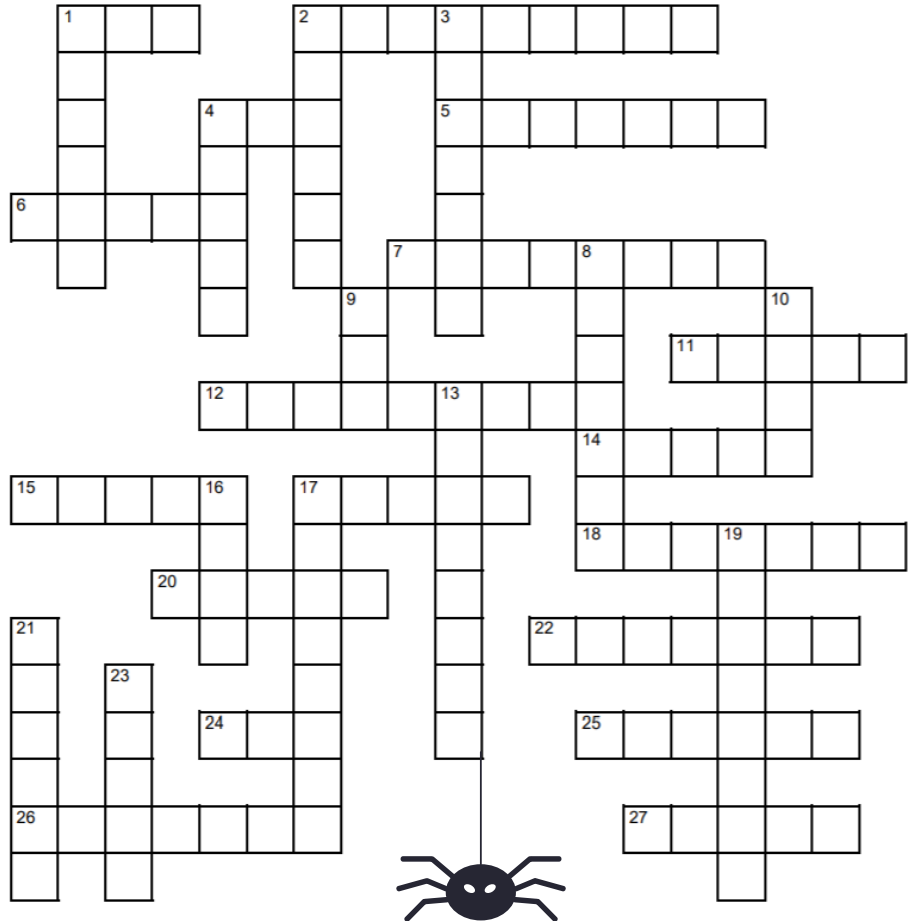
BONDED & INSURED
OVER 15 YEARS EXPERIENCE

FREE ESTIMATES **832-228-1942**

1933 Thonig Rd. Houston, TX 77055 | d.ktreesevice@yahoo.com

[D&K Tree Service @dktreeservice](https://www.facebook.com/dktreeservice)

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Across

- 1. He swallowed the canary.
- 2. Playground for ghosts.
- 4. What a spider spins.
- 5. Frankenstein has one.
- 6. When ghosts come out to play.
- 7. Scare.
- 11. What the pot might call the kettle.
- 12. October 31st.
- 14. ____ or treat.
- 15. Witch transportation.
- 17. Frightening.
- 18. The Count.
- 20. A skeleton is just a bunch of these.
- 22. Disguise.
- 24. Lives in the belfry.
- 25. Incey wincey is one of these.
- 26. Main ingredient in a popular pie.
- 27. ____ stories.

Down

- 1. Where a vampire sleeps.
- 2. Evil or mischievous creature.
- 3. He hates garlic.
- 4. Samantha for example.
- 8. ____ house.

- 9. Whooo? Whooo?
- 10. Mr. O'Lantern.
- 13. Comes out on full moon nights.
- 16. Might be full, half, or new.
- 17. A boney sort of fellow.
- 19. Fire burn, and ____ bubble.
- 21. When something makes our skin crawl, it's this.
- 23. Found in Egypt.





Briar Village
A family neighborhood in far west Houston
2825 Wilcrest Drive, Ste 600
Houston, Texas 77042

See this Newsletter
in color on the BV Website
Join today, it's free!

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON, TX
PERMIT NO. 6270

October 2020 Neighborhood Newsletter

DO NOT FORWARD

Please open and read if you live at this address. This is not advertising, it is your community news.

Nearest locations to BV for early voting:

- Mission Bend Islamic Center
- Nottingham Park Building – Meeting room
- Houston Community College Alief Hayes Campus Building C – West Houston Institute- Room 194 Auditorium
- Houston Community College Alief Center – Room 157
- Houston Community College Alief Center (**Drive-through location**)
- Alief Regional Library
- Tracy Gee Community Center – Room 1 and 2
- Unity of Houston Annex – Annex

If you plan on voting early in the upcoming election, make sure you head to [Harrisvotes.com](https://www.harrisvotes.com) for a list of all voting locations and available options for safe and early voting.

