

## Briar Village Newsletter Houston, Texas September 2018 Serving 768 Homes ~ Since the 1970s briarvillage.nabrnetwork.com

Community Association (BPCIA) Meets Regularly on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday - Everyone Welcome I



## **City of Houston Code of Ordinances**

#### Sec. 6-23 Congregations of unconfined and unlicensed stray cats and dogs

A. It is unlawful for any person to intentionally cause, suffer or permit the maintenance of an attractive environment for the assembly of a congregation of unconfined and unlicensed stray cats or dogs by the placement of dog food or cat food. For purposes of this section a "congregation of unconfined and unlicensed stray cats or dogs" means any three or more dogs or cats which:

- (1) May, of their own volition, enter or leave the property on which the food is placed;
- (2) Are not wearing valid city license tags issued pursuant to article IV of this chapter; and
- (3) Are not part of a trap, neuter, and return program.

## Sec. 6-25

## Assuming responsibility for domestic animals

Except as provided in the affirmative defenses as set forth in section 6-23 of this Code, **any person who has** encouraged the presence of any domestic animal on his property, residence, or premises by providing food and water or other care, or has otherwise **accepted caretaker responsibility** for the animal for longer than three consecutive days, shall be considered to be the owner of the animal.

(Ord. No. 2014-244, § 2(Exh. A), 3-26-2014)

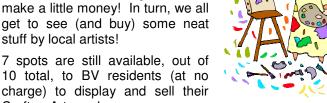
Volunteer! There's a lot to do. Help with BV activities is always welcome! Who will do it, if you don't?



## Sign Up Now! Arts and Crafts Fair on October 7<sup>th</sup>

Briar Village hosts this fair in our Clubhouse at no cost to

participants, so that our highly talented residents can sell their wares; meet their neighbors and make a little money! In turn, we all get to see (and buy) some neat stuff by local artists!





- Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>
- 10:00 am to 4:30 pm +/-
- BV will advertise

Contact Dee McConnon to participate. We'll have a short organizational meeting in September. Look forward to hearing from lots of Art and Crafters! Thank you!

Dee - Phone: 281-794-6482 - dee.briarv@gmail.com

## To Clarify - Recycling Issue Plastic grocery bags are NOT accepted

The recycling guidelines in the June Newsletter were furnished directly by V-F Waste Services via their handout flyer from one of their sales representatives. A resident recently pointed out that the V-F Website shows different information than what was (*on the Flyer*) in the Newsletter. A quick phone call to V-F's Mr. Hernandez, revealed that their website is wrong, it needs to be updated, but they apparently have website issues (we can understand that!)

V-F does NOT accept single plastic bags for recycle. The reason is that single, individual plastic bags tend to get loose and wrap themselves around the sorting machines' mechanisms, stopping the machinery, so they do NOT want single plastic bags at all.

Apologies for any confusion, we strive to get things right the first time.

## 

## Fall Neighborhood Garage Sales Oct 13th

Get ready – it's that time again! BV does the advertising, you have your own Garage Sale at your own house and you keep all your profits! With many houses participating, word gets out and we usually have great crowds of shoppers, and it is a lot of fun too!

## "How to" for Briar Village



Below paragraphs and the Information Box to the right are valuable resources for all things I Briar Village. In addition to I contact information for our Board I of Directors and our I management company, you'll I

find specifics about trash and recycling, security I and police contact information, curfew and amenity I hours, clubhouse rental and other things that may help with life in our little village.

#### Briar Village Youth for Hire ... The Possibilities are Endless

BV young folks who want to work have a special spot on the BV Website. If you need a babysitter, pet sitter, lawn help or general assistance, please check this web page, which is only available to residents, and hire a Village kid! If you would like to add your name to the Youth for Hire list, contact the BV Webmaster; instructions are on the Youth for Hire web page.

#### \*\*\*

## **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.

Diane McConnon, President BPCIA

## **Community Pool**

Access Card required for admittance, see box at right. Pool is open weekends in May and September, and Tues – Sun in June – August.

## Rent the BV Clubhouse Great for Parties!

Rent for an event is \$50 weekdays - \$100 I weekend days. A \$200 deposit is required and will I be returned pending a post-event inspection. I Rental Agreement is on the BV Website under *For* I *Residents* tab, or call GMI, phone at right. I Remember: YOU own the clubhouse, treat it the I way you'd treat your own home.

\*\*\*\*

Board Members, Newsletter Team, Activities Team

are Volunteers. Would you like to volunteer too? Contact a Board Member.

## Advertise

Business Advertising is welcome in this Newsletter Rates and details in box at the right

Support Our Advertisers! Income from advertising helps offset cost of our Newsletter

Briar Village	Briar Village ~ September 🦷 🏹 🛛		
Clip and Save for			
Board Director's areas of resp Make sure you have a current New			
Make sure you have a current Newsletter before contacting a Director. BPCIA – Briar Park Community Improvement Assoc. Meetings 7:00 p.m. at BV Clubhouse on 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of Month			
BPCIA Position, Name, Term Years, Pril	mary Area, Backup Area(s), Contact Info		
Pres. Diane McConnon 2017-18	V.P. Stephen Coad 2018-19		
Clubhouse (to rent Clubhouse	Pool		
call GMI 713-334-8000)	281-935-5440		
281-794-6482 dee.briarv@gmail.com	stephencoad@yahoo.com		
Sec. Alvin Olson 2018-19	Treas. Gale Antoinette 2017-18		
Security	Newsletter, DRV		
832-274-7831	281-543-0840		
alvin@briarview.com	bvhoagale@gmail.com Director Nara Jeffus 2017-18		
Director Lourdes Codina 2018-19 Activities	Director Nara Jeffus 2017-18 Webmaster, Activities		
281-723-0068	832-755-8337		
thecodinas@hotmail.com	narabvhoa@gmail.com		
Director Eric Newman 2018-19	Graham Management Inc. (GMI)		
DRV, Common Areas, Tennis, Clubhouse	(BV Mgmnt Co. started 4/1/2016)		
713-817-2168	Attn: Carmen Reyes, Community Mgr.		
eric_newman@icloud.com	2825 Wilcrest, Ste. 600 Houston, TX 77042		
	PH 713-334-8000 – FAX 713-334-5055		
BPCIA has 7 Directors who serve 2 year te			
Annual Meeting in Feb. each year; 4 are ele	cted in even number years; 3 are elected in		
odd number years. Directors' years of servi	ce are unlimited, but they must be elected at		
2 year intervals. Interim vacancies may b			
Security Patrol – Started October			
Ranger Patrol & Co. Inc.			
Call 911 for Emer	gencies 24/7 HPD I		
HPD Non-Emerger			
Vacation Watch – see Important P then click on link or C			
Juvenile Curfew – Hous			
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Briar Village – Things to Do: Website, Monthly Community Assoc. Meeting, Youth for Hire, Scrapbook Club, Moms Club, Garden Club, Swim Team, Yard of the Month, semiannual garage sales, seasonal events. **Open to all residents, owners & renters.** 







KELLERWILLIAMS

RESIDENT OF BRIAR VILLAGE -

**29-POINT** Marketing plan Communication **Guarantee** Performance **Guarantee** 

713.817.2958 PAULHHOLUB@GMAIL.COM Katyhoustonproperties.com

#### YOUR COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL

No, it doesn't... the bag stays shut and the popcorn stays inside the bag!

## Brown Paper Bag Microwave Popcorn

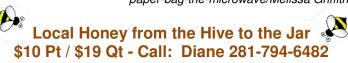
1/3 cup popcorn kernels1 medium brown paper bag (lunch size)Yield: 2-3 cups

Add popcorn to the paper bag and fold the top over a time or two. Microwave

on high until the popping has a one second gap in it, 1.5-2.5 minutes. Stop the microwave, dump the popped popcorn into a large bowl and season as desired with melted butter and salt or other seasonings. Repeat as needed to get the desired amount of popcorn.

The goal is to pop as many kernels as you can without burning the popcorn. The time that will take will vary depending on the age and water content of your popcorn, your climate/weather, and your microwave. Don't walk away from the popping or you'll end up with a bag of burnt popcorn. Stand there and listen until, after the popping starts going rapidly, you hear a one second pause in popping. As soon as you hear that little break, stop the microwave.

www.blessthismessplease.com/how-to-pop-popcorn-in-a-brownpaper-bag-the-microwave/Melissa Griffiths





From "Pleasant Bend Upper Buffalo Bayou and the San Felipe Trail," by Dan M. Worrell, Concertina Press, Fulshear, Texas\*

In 1830 a road between San Felipe and Harrisburg was begun. (Houston wasn't founded until August 30, 1836, before that Harrisburg, on the Buffalo Bavou, was the town through which many passengers and freight to and from Galveston were routed.)

In that era, construction of a road consisted of indicating its directions between points, felling trees along river banks where necessary, lowering inclines at fords, and installing ferries at larger rivers, all of which were an improvement over a wilderness trail. Roads were dirt, which became very muddy when it rained. Oxen were the best



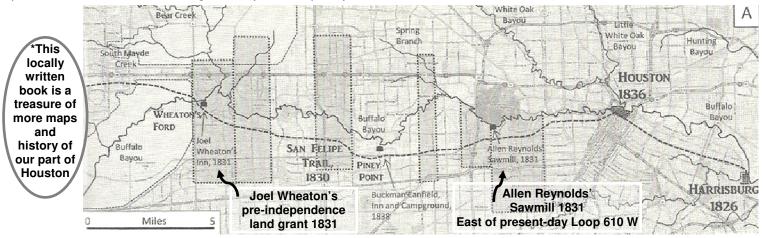
The Joel Wheaton Home & Inn Circa 1885

animals for hauling heavily-laden wagons of cotton and other goods; their broad feet enabled them to walk more easily in the soft earth and mud, but they were painfully slow. At that time the only trees in the Harris County area were along bayou banks, and the stand of pine trees through Spring Branch; everywhere else was a sea of knee high prairie grasses.

The new road ran generally along the south edge of the Buffalo Bayou, but at enough distance so as to not have to deal with various meanders. There were two Buffalo Bayou crossings. One approximately half way between San Felipe and Harrisburg, at the farm of Joel and Elizabeth Wheaton, [YES that Joel Wheaton] and the second, farther west, was at the cane brake at the Cane Island Branch of Buffalo Bayou (just north of what would later be Katy, Texas.) In 1830, the few pioneer residents in west Harris County included Allen and Harriet Reynolds and Joel and Elizabeth Wheaton.

Joel Wheaton (1788 – 1838) was born in New York and served as a Private in the New York State Militia during the War of 1812. He married Elizabeth Hawkins in Jefferson, Mississippi in 1826. She was born in Tennessee circa 1805 and died at her home on the bank of the Buffalo Bayou in November 1851. They had 3 daughters in Mississippi and 1 son shortly after they arrived in Texas in December 1830. Joel Wheaton's land grant application in Stephen F. Austin's Register of Families shows he has a wife and 4 children, and his occupation is blacksmith. He received a grant for 4,605 acres of land and established their home, blacksmith shop and traveler's inn on the south side of the Buffalo Bayou, at the ford of the new San Felipe to Harrisburg wagon road. Their home, see photo above, stood until a fire destroyed it in 1956. It's location was right beside present-day Highway 6, on the east side, approximately where the office building parking lot is today, immediately south of the Buffalo Bayou.

One traveler wrote of Joel Wheaton: "The roads in the Brazos bottom being unpassable on account of the mud, we camped at Weeton's [Wheaton's]. This was the first house on the road from Harrisburg to Cat Spring, and was a good day's journey from the former place. Weeton was backwoods American, and carried on the trade of "teamster." He was the very personification of whole-souled generosity and hospitality."



When he died on October 6, 1838, possibly of Yellow Fever, Joel Wheaton had 7 children, all but one were minors. He asked a friend, John Perry, to look after his estate, as he was too ill to write a will. At the time of his death his 4,605 acres were valued at a little over \$1.24 per acre. His widow Elizabeth continued to live on and operate the farm, the inn and raise a large family as a single woman on the frontier. Wheaton's Inn at the ford was a well-known landmark on the road between Houston and San Felipe for many years.

Two of Joel and Elizabeth's daughters married boys from the nearby Brookshire family. Head of that family, Nathan Brookshire, arrived in Texas in 1835. The town of Brookshire, Texas is located on part of the Brookshire Family land.

An Addicks area resident remembered how "the Indians came in large numbers and camped near Buffalo Bayou near the Habermacher Crossing (Wheaton's Ford, now at Highway 6). In 1875, they suffered from a severe winter and many died. This was the last time that a large tribe ever came." These Alabama-Coushatta had migrated from the southeastern United States to Polk County in the East Texas piney woods, where they received a reservation in 1853.

## Briar Village Real Estate Update July 16 - August 15, 2018

Homes Sold	3
Average Sold Price	\$215,000
Average Sold Price per square foot	\$99
Average Days on Market (sold)	94
Homes Pending	5
Active Homes	12
Months of Inventory	4.2
Active Rental Homes	9
Number of Leased Homes	1
Lease Price	\$2,200



Briar Village had three homes sell last month and dropped the average sold price to \$215,000. Currently there are 12 homes on the market with 5 pending and on the way to closing. So next month's number should have some more sold properties. There are multiple homes available for lease as well.

Houston continues to see low inventory overall, but various areas throughout Houston have high inventory levels. The area labeled "West Area," in which Briar Village falls, currently has 6.0 months of inventory; this theoretical number says if no new homes came on the market, it would take 6 months for all the homes to sell at their current rate. So, that means home sales are slowing down, which is not uncommon for this time of year.

**Tip of the Month:** remove permanent marker stain from nearly any surface with regular toothpaste. (TheKrazy CouponLady.com)

Paul Holub, Briar Village Resident (Note: Paul - a realtor - voluntarily submits here as it fits his schedule.)



F.E.A.R. has two meanings. Forget everything and run OR

Face everything and rise

The choice is yours.

## Rules of the Road Often not observed in Briar Village, we can do better!



Come to a complete, 3 second stop at stop signs and when turning right on red...count: 1001...1002...1003.

- Vehicles turning left must yield to oncoming traffic. NOTE to oncoming drivers, YOU are breaking the rules if you stop when you have the right of way. Giving up your right of way may seem polite, but it is not how things are done.
- Parking too close to a corner and across from other vehicles, might inhibit free movement of large emergency vehicles, fire trucks for example, which cannot make tight turns. Allow room for any eventuality.
- If you must park in the street, the passenger side of the car must be closest to the curb when parallel parking.

## Yard of the Month – September 2018 Congratulations to the Pubchara Family of 14114 Briarworth



September 1, 1976 was the day that the Pubcharas moved into their home in Briar Village. Exactly 42 years later - to the day, completely by surprise - they were named the September 2018 Yard of the Month! Some of us don't believe in accidents... However it happened, it is a great way to celebrate their move-in anniversary. This home and yard are always immaculately groomed, not easy to do in our summer's heat. As you approach the front door, the meticulous and beautiful details are astounding; someone puts a lot of love into maintaining their home. They were YOTM once before in 2002. The grown children have been saying they'd be Yard of the Month, so the first happy phone call was to the son! Because this home sits where Briarturn T's into Briarworth, you'll have to make a special effort to slow down to take a look - if Mr. Pubchara, "head gardener," is outside - be sure to give him a wave!

# Your neighbors thank you for all your hard work and dedication: your yard is a joy to behold!

## Honorable Mention

2022 Briarcrest	14315 Burgoyne	13715 Locke Lane
2102 Briarstem	14303 Chevy Chase	14002 Wickersham



## Yard of the Month (YOTM) ~ Judging

March - December a home is selected for Yard of the Month based on the merits of good maintenance, design, seasonal color and an overall appearance that supports the standards set for BV by our Deed Restrictions. While the selection may not be the most perfect or beautiful in the world, each month one home has a little something special that sets it apart. To share the honor, consideration is given to the frequency with which any one home is honored, the goal being to allow five years before a home is chosen again, although that is not always feasible. An added consideration for choosing the winner? What would Briar Village look like if all our homes looked like this one?

Selection usually takes place during the fourth week of each month. Many homes are given Honorable Mention each month. December selections are based on Holiday Decorations.

## Detailed Pool Schedule When Pool is Open in September 10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Labor Day and Weekends Only See detail below

Sept 1 - 2	Pool open (weekend)
Sept 3	Pool open on Labor Day Monday holiday
Sept	Pool open weekends
8-9	(Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> last day pool open for 2018)
15-16	
22-23	
29-30	

Access cards are required to use the Pool (and Tennis Courts) and are available through Graham Management. Order form is under the BV Website's Resources Tab and in previous Newsletters.

## NO SWIMMING WHEN POOL CLOSED 🗲

Several residents ignored posted Pool Rules and went swimming when the pool was closed, therefore, the pool gate is now chained and padlocked when the pool is closed. The dangers and risk of someone drowning – **especially a child** - in the closed pool are too great to ignore.

## If you see someone inside the pool fence when the pool is closed, call the police.

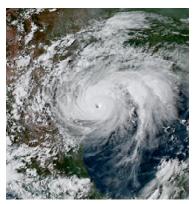
## The Sept 1<sup>st</sup> Lemonade Stand was a busy place!



Volunteers work in shifts throughout the annual event.

## We'll never forget Harvey

It's been a year since Harvey. We will never forget the dark nights of unrelenting rain, followed by weeks of closed stores, businesses and roads. We all felt the impact that hurricane had on Houston, even though, we in Briar Village, were among those whose homes did not flood. Never-the-less the experience was life-altering and so, one year later, we pause to remember...



**Hurricane Harvey** 

Many locations in the Houston metropolitan area observed at least 30" of precipitation, with a maximum of 60.58" in Nederland, southeast of Beaumont, Texas. [That's 5 feet of rain!!] The local National Weather Service office in Houston observed all-time record daily rainfall accumulations on both August 26 and 27, measured at 14.4" and 16.08" respectively.

Due to the amount of rain accumulated from Harvey, the National Weather Service added 2 new colors to the rain index representing around 50% of the maximum rainfall dropped by Harvey. Multiple flash flood emergencies were issued in the Houston area by the National Weather Service beginning the night of August 26. In Pearland, a suburb south of Houston, a report was made of 9.92" of rainfall in 90 minutes. The 39.11" of rain in August made the month the wettest ever recorded in Houston since record keeping began in 1892, more than doubling the previous record of 19.21" in June 2001.

An estimated 25–30 percent of Harris County—roughly 444 square miles of land—was submerged.

On August 28, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began controlled water releases from Addicks and Barker Reservoirs in the Buffalo Bayou watershed in an attempt to manage flood levels in the immediate area. According to the local Corps commander, "It's going to be better to release the water through the gates directly into Buffalo Bayou as opposed to letting it go around the end and through additional neighborhoods and ultimately into the bayou." At the time the releases started, the reservoirs had been rising at more than 6 inches per hour. Many people began evacuating the area, fearing a levee breach. Despite attempts to alleviate the water rise, the Addicks Reservoir reached capacity on the morning of August 29 and began spilling out.

The flood impacted outer space too. The NASA Johnson Space Center was closed to employees and visitors due to the flooding until September 5. Only the critical mission control staff remained and resided in the control rooms to monitor procedures of the International Space Station.

Demonstrating the gravity of the situation here on earth in Texas, is this statement from Jacques Blanchette, Tyler County Emergency Management, in the deep East Texas and Beaumont–Port Arthur area: "Anyone who chooses to not [evacuate] cannot expect to be rescued and should write their social security numbers in permanent marker on their arm so their bodies can be identified. The loss of life and property is certain. GET OUT OR DIE!" Wikipedia

## **BPCIA Meeting Highlights – August 23, 2018**

Common Areas: four "No Soliciting" signs have arrived and will be put up at BV entrances. The free Little Library is nearly complete and will be installed when ready.

Clubhouse: CenterPoint was called for repair of lights in the parking lot; as of 8/14 a work order had been submitted, hopefully repair(s) will be completed within a week. Repainting the Clubhouse interior is being researched.

Pool/Tennis Courts: obtaining revised proposals for the bath house renovation project.

Security: there were two reports of thefts from unlocked vehicles and one of theft from a mailbox. There were more reports of cat remains being found from dogs or coyotes.

Activities: the next scheduled events are fall Garage Sale 10/13 (Rain Date 10/20), Craft Fair 10/7, National Night Out 10/2 and Halloween Party 10/27.

Deed Restrictions: violation notices sent since July 26th, 68 1st letters, 27 second letters, 1 third letter.

ACC: 5 requests received, 4 approved, 1 pending,

Financial: Operating Funds = \$524,790; Reserve Funds = \$342,197; Accounts Receivable = \$72,449; 2018 collection rate = 96%. Draft of the 2017 audit was approved. discrepancy was noted on the income/expense statement account 04225 for 2018 actual.

The Board approved: a \$3,150 proposal from Reserve Advisors to perform a reserve study for the community; a \$1,560 proposal from McKenna Contracting for additional safety-surface material at the playground, required per the inspection report: authorization to proceed with foreclosure on account BV22109.

Open Forum, residents had the following questions/concerns: security patrol hours were questioned, standard policy is that we NEVER publicize those hours, for obvious reasons; poor acoustics in Clubhouse were queried, the Board is aware of problem and is seeking solutions; complaint that pool was closed a full week before school started and that lifeguards were not in lifeguard stands, but were swimming, while there were swimmers in the pool - the Board reported that the guards are not required to be in the stands when on duty; "swim-at-your-own-risk" was again suggested - the Board is considering all the options on the issue: much discussion about Swim Team and events' attendance and impact on facilities and write ups in Newsletter.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

## Community Association Meeting

The best way to learn about and comment on BV business is



in person, by regular attendance at Monthly Meetings, which are held in the BV Clubhouse, on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each

month (except Nov & Dec), and start at 7 p.m. Attire is casual, everyone welcome.

Next Meeting:

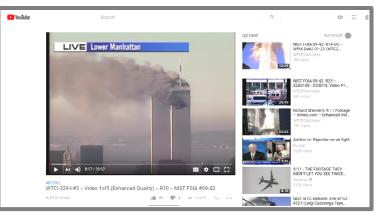
September 27, 2018



### 9-11

Just two numbers, but the reaction is immediate and gutwrenching. For those who are interested, a collection of all media, (much of it enhanced quality), from that day has been posted on You Tube, the link is below. WTCFOIA = World Trade Center Freedom of Information Act.

#### https://www.voutube.com/user/WTCFOIAVideos/videos



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#### This is your Newsletter!

Everyone is welcome, in fact encouraged (begged O), to submit articles and/or editorials. See the Information Box on Page 2 for deadline dates and details. Let's hear from you! If you have something to say, but need help putting it down, let the Newsletter Team know, we're here to help.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### 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.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **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 us or GMI - our management company - to discuss it.

Gale Antoinette & Eric Newman. DRV Directors BPCIA

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## Being on our Board of Directors isn't always easy

Among the challenges of serving on our Board is that you must represent the entire community, fairly and equally on all issues.



You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending. C.S. Lewis



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 freel

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PRSRT STD

September 2018 Neighborhood Newsletter

Do Not Forward

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

## Have a Fun & Safe September

~ At a Glance ~		
Sept 1	Lemonade Stand	
Sept 3	Pool open on Labor Day Monday holiday	
Sept	Pool - see detailed schedule inside	
Sept 27	Community Association Mtg	
Oct 2	Nat'l Night Out for Texas	
Oct 7	Craft Fair BV Clubhouse	
Oct 13	Neighborhood Garage Sales	
Oct 27	Halloween Party	

All improvements visible from the street must have ACC approval BEFORE work starts



## School Started in August - be watchful for excited children crossing streets

# ENERGY CORRIDOR

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