



Old Spring Branch Bugler

June 2020 * junio 2020

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, June 25: JUNK WASTE

Thursday, July 23: TREE WASTE

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

jueves, 25 de junio: Basura Chatarra

jueves, 23 de julio: Desechos Verdes

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

Mask up, folks! I truly hope you residents, of OSB, are doing your part in keeping our community and Houston safe and well. Wear a masks out in public and social distance yourself from others. **This virus is real. Protect yourself and respect others.** This is the ONLY way, we as Americans, are going to save our nation and keep many, many others from dying. I am very concerned and you should be.

Meanwhile, **OSB has a Membership Drive going** on and we need your support, physically and financially. We are writing the Bugler every month to keep you informed as to what is going on in our neighborhood. Let's keep the Bugler arriving at your door each month. Also, some of your memberships funds have just been used, by our landscaper, Nino Roman, to repair/replace the irrigation system on our esplanades. (See article inside)

The OSB Board of Directors from 2019 will continue to serve you until we have an official monthly meeting to vote the proposed OSB Election Slate into Office for 2020/2021. The Nomination Slate appears in this June Bugler and will continue to appear in the Bugler until elections.

OSBCA is hoping to have a meeting Tuesday, July 14. This will depend on the health status of our city and country.

Please be smart. Listen to the scientists and doctors. Our city officials, the Mayor, the County Judge are the ones locally to listen to. However, you are the decision maker for yourself, so make wise and safe decisions.

Practice being safe and stay well!!!

PLEASE REMEMBER:

OLD SPRING BRANCH IS A DEED-RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.



Follow us for OSBCA updates and news!
Facebook.com/OSBCA



Check out our website!
neighborhoodlink.com/Old_Spring_Branch

BEAUTIFICATION/LANDSCAPING

Jo Lightsey

Thank you, Nino Roman, OSB Landscape volunteer, for repairing/replacing the irrigation systems at our two esplanades, Hammerly/Wirt road and Antoine/Long Point.

Thank you LMC for continuing to replant, mow, and mulch our esplanades. Bill Cox and your crews are much appreciated.

OSB residents, please continue to follow the Heavy Trash schedule. This helps keep our neighborhood clean. Some of our residents put out mixed heavy trash this May 28. This was TREE ONLY month. Please remove the illegal Heavy Trash from the curb immediately or you will possibly face a citation from the City of Houston.

This virus situation in our city, country, the world, does not give one permission to violate the City Codes of Houston.

YARDS OF THE MONTH: MAY 2020

The Yard Hawk, again, rode the streets of OSB this last week of May.

Many yards were selected as yards of the month. It seems that folks have been using their time to spruce up their landscape.

So, congratulations to you that are listed this month. Keep up the good work.

Amelia	<i>none</i>
Antoine	*2056
Cedel	<i>none</i>
Counter Point	2011, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2027, 2107, 2126, 2130, 2203, 2211
Hammerly	7602, 7610, 7614, *7626, *7706, *7625
Harland	*1820, 1915, 1919, 2011, *2102, 2015
Inch	<i>none</i>
Jacquelyn	*1839, *1905, 2050
Johanna	*2060, *2048, *2020, *2002, *1838, *1833, *1928, *1905, *1906, *1840
Silverbonnet	<i>none</i>
Thonig	1942
Todd	<i>none</i>
Turquoise	7614
Woodwine	*1806, 1919, 1910, 1942, 1943, 1954, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2026, 2028, 2103, 2106, 2103, 2131, 2134

**Businesses who have litter free and mowed front ditches, apts that have required landscaping.*

CRIME REPORTS: MAY 1-28, 2020

Listed below are the reported incidents filed with the Houston Police Department for May 1-28, 2020.

- Five reports of Assault: May 4, 3 p.m., 7500 Block of Highcrest; May 14, 5 p.m., 2000 Block of Johanna; May 23, 2 a.m., 7700 Block of Long Point; May 23, 3 p.m., 7400 Block of Long Point; May 25, noon, 7500 Block of Long Point
- One report of Theft: May 5, 1 p.m., 7600 Block of Hammerly (counterfeit, forgery)
- One report of property crime: May 7, 8 a.m., 7500 Block of Long Point (Destruction, damage, vandalism)
- One report of breaking and entering: May 19, 9 p.m., 7200 Block of Long Point (Burglary, breaking and entering)
- Two reports of theft from vehicle: May 2, 2 a.m., 1800 Block of Antoine (motor vehicle theft); May 10, 11 p.m., 2000 Block of Johanna (motor vehicle theft)

Please note that the above information was gathered from the cityprotect.com.

CITIZENS ON PATROL UPDATE

Virginia Lehman

We will report our patrol hours for the month of May in our July Newsletter, due to the deadline for the newsletter being on May 29.

While our neighborhood seems to remain quiet and peacefully most of the time, we have had a few reports of gunfire in neighborhood. Please report this to the HPD non-emergency phone number at 713-884-3131.

We have noticed an increase number of cars parked on the streets. Cars/trucks should have up-to-date inspections stickers and should not be left parked or standing in a public street for longer than 24 hours.

We have noticed an increase of 'graffiti' showing up on fences, buildings and signs. It has led to thoughts: are these signs of a 'gang' operating in our area or hopefully just bored kids. I found an interesting website StopHoustonGangs.org. If you have the time, I encourage you to look up this website. It contains lots of information pertaining to gangs, their criminal activities and ways to report gang activity and remain anonymous, etc. I have included some of the information in the following article (found on page 6) and will follow up with more information in July's newsletter.

We all need to stay alert and report any incidents that seem suspicious. If you see something, please call the Police at 713-884-3131 (their non-emergency phone number). If it is a life-threatening situation, please call 911!

As always, get to know your neighbors, exchange phone numbers, etc. (you don't have to become best friends). We all need to watch out for each other.

If you would like to volunteer for the CP program, please contact Virginia Lehman at 832-748-8088 or Loretta Nalley at 832-868-8751.

MEMBERSHIP

Loretta Nalley

Hello, everyone! OBCA is comprised of neighbors, members, non-members and friends. People who care about their surroundings. We would like for you to donate to help our area, or you can become a member and vote on items. Either way we would appreciate your support. Just a quick review in some expenses for the last year \$3,530. Thank you to everyone who have generously donated your time and money.

- Newsletter expense: \$2,500 (\$250.00 x 10)
- Postage: \$100
- PO Box rental: \$80

Maintenance of civic association

- Sprinkler Repairs (yearly): \$250
- Signs: \$200
- Social events: \$300
- Deposit for meeting room: \$100

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DEED RESTRICTIONS

Committee of Five

THE CITY OF HOUSTON SHOULD BE HELPING!

If residents, new and old, have not been advised that they live in a Deed Restricted Subdivision, they are sometimes lead astray by the City of Houston, should they call to determine the legality of a permitted structure on their property.

When calling the City of Houston Permit Dept. or Planning and Development Dept. about any structure one wants to construct on one's property, the City of Houston may say it is legal and NEVER tell one to check with his neighborhood Civic Association or Home Owners Association. This is when residents get in trouble. If legal with the City of Houston, the City of Houston **SHOULD** advise one that he/she should check if it is in compliance with one's Subdivision Deed Restrictions **BEFORE** beginning any project on his property.

An example of this is when, recently, a land owner in a deed restricted subdivision, went to the City of Houston Planning and Development Dept. with the deed restrictions, in hand, and the description of the structure she wanted to build. She was told that she could build. However, a resident in the same subdivision suggested that she present her plan to the Civic Association Deed Restriction Committee before moving forward. The deed restrictions were clearly explained by the OSBCA Deed Restrictions committee, to the property owner. The Planning Dept. had not upheld the subdivision deed restrictions. This improper information would have later involved the property owner with the City of Houston Deed Restriction Legal Dept.

Any violation of established deed restrictions is disrespectful of the "rules" that were voted/approved, by those residents, to govern their neighborhood.

Need a copy of deed restrictions for your Subdivision, call 832-435-0062, OR, contact the Harris County Clerk's Office.

OSB BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION SLATE – 2020-2021

These are the members who have accepted the nomination to lead our neighborhood/civic organization for 2020/2021. If anyone would like to fill the vacant positions on the board, please call 713-681-0560 and leave your name and phone number.

This slate will also be in June Bugler. The members will then vote to accept them as your Board of Directors.

Officers		Street Representatives	
President:	Jo Lightsey	Antoine:	<i>Vacant</i>
Vice President:		Counter Point/Turquoise:	Anonymous
Secretary:	Linda Whatley	Harland/Tood:	Georgia Mesa
Treasurer:	Virginia Lehman	Jacquelyn/E.Hammerly:	Mike McGeehon
		Johanna:	Florence Armbruster
		Silverbonnet/Cedel:	<i>Vacant</i>
		Thonig:	<i>Vacant</i>
		Woodvine:	Rosario Machorro

THE GANG THREAT (PART ONE): HOW BIG IS THE PROBLEM?

StopHoustonGangs.org

The FBI says that "gangs are morphing, multiplying, migrating and entrenching themselves in our inner cities, suburbs and rural communities. They are selling drugs to our kids, shooting up our neighborhoods, invading our homes, robbing our banks and stores, stealing our identities, our money, and instilling fear and violence everywhere they go." They are violent and are responsible for committing crimes from assaults to murder using firearms, machetes, fists and blunt objects to intimidate rivals, law enforcement, and the general public. ⁽⁴⁾ They are sprawling our highways, the Internet, and our communities intimidating and infecting all they come in contact with. In some communities, they are responsible for as much as a staggering 80 percent of all crimes. ⁽¹⁾ The National Alliance of Gang Investigators Association (NAGIA) states "The scourge of gangs is a ***clear and present danger*** to our internal national security and adversely impacts the quality of life within our communities with violence, drugs and associated criminal activities." ⁽⁵⁾

There are about 20,000 violent street, motorcycle and prison gangs in the U.S. today containing approximately one million criminally active members - 147,000 of which are currently incarcerated in federal, state, and local correctional facilities. ⁽²⁾ While not all gangs are sophisticated and well organized, they all use ***violence*** to control neighborhoods and perpetuate their illegal money-making activities. Gangs have also become the primary retail distributors of most illicit drugs. ⁽²⁾

Types of Criminal Activities Gang Members Commit

- | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| ▪ alien smuggling | ▪ drive-by shootings | ▪ home invasions | ▪ murder |
| ▪ armed robbery | ▪ drug trafficking | ▪ homicide | ▪ prostitution rings |
| ▪ assault | ▪ extortion | ▪ identity theft | ▪ robbery |
| ▪ auto theft | ▪ firearms offenses | ▪ insurance fraud | ▪ theft |
| ▪ burglary | ▪ fraud | ▪ mortgage fraud | ▪ weapons trafficking |

Gangs continue to pose a serious threat to public safety in many communities throughout the Houston area and the United States.

GANGS ARE NOT JUST AN INNER CITY OR URBAN PROBLEM

Gang movement to suburban areas can be attributed to several factors including the breakdown of traditional hierarchical gang structures resulting from law enforcement targeting of gang leaders, an abundance of wholesale illicit drug suppliers, and the expectation of high profits from new suburban drug operations.

Other reasons include an effort to expand the gang's influence, expanding drug distribution territories, recruiting new members, hiding from law enforcement, and escaping other gangs. As a result, many suburban and rural communities are experiencing ever increasing gang-related crime and violence because of *expanding gang influence*. The movement of gang members to suburban areas result in territorial conflicts between rival gang members and competition for the new territory - suburbia. As gangs grow regionally and nationally, they will continue to meet with resistance by other gangs possibly resulting in drive-by shootings, homicides and other violent crimes - now in suburban communities.

LITTLE FOLKS CHILD CARE

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Beverly Ginther Director
Brenda Zepeda Assistant Director

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Old Spring Branch Civic Association

2020 – 2021 Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Mailing _____

Address: _____

Would you like to be listed in the membership directory? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I am interested in the following committee(s):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens on Patrol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Deed Restrictions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events |

Annual Dues/Membership Types:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Property Represented |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.50 | Senior Citizens/Fixed Income |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Business/Non-resident |

- ☐ New Application ☐ Renewal

Membership Due Amount: _____

_____ Committee

Donation Amount: _____

Total Payment: _____

In applying for renewal or new membership, I agree to pay dues and to support my civic association to achieve a better neighborhood.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Membership dues are good for 5-1-20 through 4-30-21.

Bring form and payment to the next meeting or mail to:

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

P. O. Box 55172

Houston, TX 77255-5172

Checks payable to Old Spring Branch Civic Association or OSBCA.

Asociación Cívica de Old Spring Branch

Formulario de Membrecía 2020 – 2021

Nombre: _____

Dirección: _____

Correo
Electrónico: _____

Dirección de
correspondencia: _____

¿Le gustaría formar parte del directorio de
membrecía? ☐ Sí ☐ No

Estoy interesado en los siguientes comités:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embellecimiento | <input type="checkbox"/> Vigilancia de la Vecindad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comunicaciones | <input type="checkbox"/> Restricciones de las Propiedades |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jardinería | <input type="checkbox"/> Membrecía |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social | <input type="checkbox"/> Eventos Especiales |

Cuota Anual/Tipo de Membrecía:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Propiedad Representada |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.50 | Tercera Edad/Bajos Ingresos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Negocio/No resident |
- ☐ *Nuevo Miembro* ☐ *Renovando*

Cantidad de la Cuota Anual: _____

_____ *Comité*

Cantidad de la Donación: _____

Pago Total: _____

Al solicitar membrecía nueva o al renovar, está de acuerdo a pagar su cuota y apoyar a su asociación cívica a obtener una vecindad mejor.

Firma: _____

Fecha: _____

Cuota de membrecía válida del 1-5-20 hasta 30-4-21.

Traiga el formulario y pago a la siguiente reunión o puede
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REALTORS MARKET FOR MAY 2020

Rosario Machorro

Old Spring Branch	Sold	Leased
Number of Houses	0	2
Average Sales Price	\$0	\$1,308
Average Sales Piece Per Square Ft.	\$0	\$1.15
Days on the Market	n/a	39

Hello neighbors! I hope you all are doing well and enjoying the outside once more, as things begin to go back to a type of normal, let's continue to wash our hands and keep our distance from other people.

Presently, there are 22 homes listed in the neighborhood for sale. Of which five are pending expected to close in the next 60 to 90 days. The closings on some of these properties are primarily due to being new construction. Average time on the market continues to be is 4.3 to 7.2 months, if priced correctly.

If you want to check the value of your home, dispute the HCAD assessment or just have a real estate related question, please do not hesitate to give me a call, 713-391-6533. I am here to help.

At this moment there are 2 active rental properties in the neighborhood, and none pending.

Welcome to our new Neighbors!

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Friday, June 26, 2020

Got ideas or suggestions? Send them to sybilsanchez@yahoo.com, Subject line: OSBCA

The Old Spring Branch Civic Association publishes the Old Spring Branch Bugler monthly. OSB serves the area between Wirt & Antoine, north of Long Point and southwest of Todd. Material in this publication may not be reproduced without permission from the OSBCA communications committee. Due to time and space not all letters or articles may appear. Any correspondence must include your name and address (which may be withheld upon request). Please print or type any submissions. For advertising information or to submit articles, mail to: OSBCA Bugler; P. O. Box 55172, Houston Texas 77255-5172



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Old Spring Branch Civic Association

JUNE 2020				JUNIO 2020		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sábado
7	8	9	10	11	12 	13
14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19  	20 <i>May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada</i>
21 <i>Father's Day</i>	22	23	24	25 Heavy Trash – JUNK	26 	27
28	29	30	1	2	3  	4 <i>Independence Day</i>
5	6	7	8	9	10 	11

OLD SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President:	Jo Lightsey	713-681-0560
Vice President:		
Secretary:	Linda Whatley	713-681-0560
Treasurer:	Virginia Lehman	832-748-8088

STREET REPRESENTATIVES

Antoine:	---Vacant---	
Counter Point & Turquoise:	<i>Anonymous</i>	----
Harland & Todd:	Georgia Meza	713-688-2737
Jacquelyn/ E. Hammerly:	Mike McGeehon	713-956-8446
Johanna:	Florence Armbruster	713-688-7546
Silverbonnet, Cedel & W. Hammerly:	---Vacant---	
Thonig:	---Vacant---	
Woodvine:	Rosario Machorro	713-391-6355

OSBCA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Beautification:

Jo Lightsey, 713-681-0560

Citizens on Patrol (COP):

Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751

Virginia Lehman, 832-748-8088

Communications:

Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331

Lorna Gast, Bugler Mail Out

Deed Restrictions:

Committee of Five

In-Touch:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Landscaping:

Nino Roman, 832-877-4701

Membership:

Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751

Social:

Georgia Meza, 713-688-2737

Website:

Christi Hicks, 281-460-5883