



Old Spring Branch Bugler

March 2020 * marzo 2020

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, March 26: TREE WASTE

Thursday, April 26: JUNK WASTE

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

jueves, 26 de marzo: Desechos Verdes

jueves, 26 de abril: Basura Chatarra

PLEASE REMEMBER:

OLD SPRING BRANCH IS A DEED-RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.

For further information, please attend our monthly meetings.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

Well, it happened, a freeze in late February, the only freeze in the winter season. Now, all the advice we gave you about what to do about your plants, and getting ready for a spring garden/yard, do it now!

Spring is around the corner and daylight savings starts March 8. Spring forward to continue to make 2020 your best year yet. We, as the OSB Board, are going to continue working to move our neighborhood forward. I hope you residents will support us to do so by backing our Civic Association, financially and physically.

Junk heavy trash pickup was February 27. I am hoping that all of that junk is picked up by the end of the weekend. Please remember to call 3-1-1 if your service is not taken care of in due time.

It is important that ALL home remodeling and structural improvements have a YELLOW building permit posted on front window of the home project. It is a lot cheaper to go get a permit BEFORE one begins a project than to get RED TAGGED and have to pay a FINE.

Those who continue NOT to get in compliance with your subdivision deed restrictions are a nuisance to those who DO respect the "laws of the land." These residential "laws" were established by previous and founding residents that wanted to keep the neighborhood respectful and property values high.

Step by step, we have come a long way since Old Spring Branch Civic Association was established in 1991. Let's strive to keep moving forward. The area is a perfect "location." Attracting new residents that are responsible and that will enhance our area is the goal of Old Spring Branch.

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

General Meeting: Tuesday, March 10 | 7 p.m.

(Junta Mensual: martes, 10 de marzo | 7 p.m.)

Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Rd.



Follow us for OSBCA updates and news!
[Facebook.com/OSBCA](https://www.facebook.com/OSBCA)



Check out our website!
neighborhoodlink.com/Old_Spring_Branch

LANDSCAPING

Jo Lightsey

Thanks to Bill Cox and his LMC landscaping crew, the esplanades at Antoine/Long Point and Hammerly/Wirt Rd. have been replanted. These plants are extras/leftovers donated to OSB from LMC landscaping projects. Therefore, there are a variety and interesting plants. I like it! Thank you, Bill for being so thoughtful and generous.

Of course, landscaping equals beautification. It is time to turn our attention to beautifying our yards and properly. Yes, a list of "Yards of the month" for March will appear in the April Bugler.

For your guidance and convenience, the "criteria" for Yards of the Month appears in this March Bugler. Cut it out and keep it handy.

A reminder that it is each resident's responsibility to keep their streets and/or ditches free of litter. Please abide by City of Houston Codes/Ordinances and follow the Heavy Trash schedule.

CRITERIA FOR YARDS OF THE MONTH

- Green, mowed and edged
- General neatness (No visible garbage or clutter.)
- Shrubs and trees neatly pruned
- Walks, driveways, and curbs swept and clean
- Nice over-all landscaping design
- Color Contrast = Flowers, shrubs, etc.
- City of Houston Codes and OSB Deed Restrictions must be observed

In addition:

- No dead plants
- No out of season Christmas lights
- Buildings, fences, porches and patios in good repair
- Have no indoor furniture on porches or patios
- Must be attractive and pleasing to the eye

Thanks to Campbell Woods for use of its yard criteria.

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CRIME REPORTS: MARCH 2020

Listed below are the 'reported' incidents filed with HPD for January 29 to February 25, 2020.

- There were two reports filed for Assault: 2/17/2020 at 6PM at 7400 Block of Long Point at 9PM at 1800 block of Jacquelyn.
- Two reports for Theft of Vehicle: 2/1/2020 at 7PM and 2/20 at 10AM at 7600 Block of Inch.
- One report for Drug, Narcotic Violation on 1/31/202 at 2PM at 1900 block of Woodvine.
- One report of Breaking & Entering on 2/10 at 5PM at 7500 Block of Long Point.
- One report for Disorderly Conduct on 2/10 at 8AM at 7800 Block of Long Point and one report of Vandalism on 2/18 at 4AM at 7800 Block of Long Point.

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

CITIZENS ON PATROL UPDATE

Virginia Lehman

Happy St. Patrick's Day! We will report our total patrol hours for February in April's newsletter. I can say that it is very pleasant patrolling our area in February and March, especially during the day. Grass is getting greener and trees/flowers are starting to bloom. People are out working on their yards and outside house projects are under way. It makes the drive very interesting.

Spring break is right around the corner, SBISD's official spring break starts Monday, March 16 and ends on Friday, March 20. Let's not be victims of 'crime of opportunity', keep your car doors locked, valuables out of sight! This also applies to your garage door, fence gates and front and back doors. Please turn your porch lights on at night.

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!

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.



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DEED RESTRICTIONS ARE ENFORCEABLE

Committee of Five

If you are wondering, just in case you have been misinformed, if you have any questions and/or there is any doubt in your mind about the fact... YES! We all live in an area that is Deed Restricted and the deed restrictions are enforceable. If this is news to you, let us be the first to let you know and please make note. We all need to abide by our set of deed restrictions.

Deed restrictions are a written set of agreements/laws between you & your neighborhood. As such, it is usually up to you & your civic association to enforce them. However, the City of Houston Legal Department does enforce certain restrictions that:

- 1) Affect the use to which a commercial or residential property may be used;
- 2) Fix the distance that structures must be set back from property lot lines & street lines;
- 3) Affect the lot size, re-plating & number of structures that may be built on the lot;
- 4) Regulate orientation of a structure; or
- 5) Regulate certain fences types, heights and/or restricting fences in some lot areas.

To file a complaint, call the City of Houston Deed Restriction Hotline at **(832) 393-6333**.

Note: City of Houston Legal Department cannot offer legal advice about your deed restrictions. For legal advice, you must contact a private attorney.

How to find out if you really do have deed restrictions within your area:

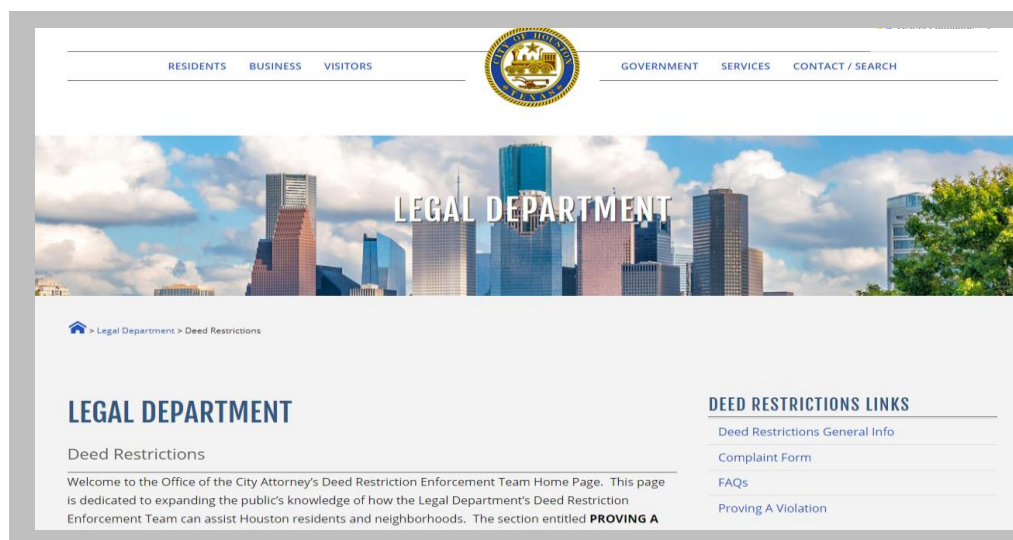
Contact the Harris County Clerk's Office at (713) 755-6405 to request a copy. If you wish, a copy may be obtained in person at the Harris County Clerk's Office located downtown in the Harris County Civil Courthouse, 201 Caroline, 3rd Floor; Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Attend our monthly Old Spring Branch Civic Association meeting.

Keep a lookout for proper permits (or the lack thereof) in your neighborhood:

Almost every remodeling job **MUST** have the proper permits prior to starting. All property owners **MUST** display the yellow Job-Card issued by the City on the front of the residence.

All work must comply with our deed restrictions upon completion.

You can sign up to receive emails about permits being issued by the City of Houston (you will be able to sort them by zip code). This is the best way to stay informed so that you can notify the Legal Department if you believe there are any deed restriction violations.



The screenshot shows the City of Houston Legal Department website. The header includes navigation links for RESIDENTS, BUSINESS, VISITORS, GOVERNMENT, SERVICES, and CONTACT / SEARCH. The main banner features a city skyline with the text "LEGAL DEPARTMENT". Below the banner, the breadcrumb trail reads "Legal Department > Deed Restrictions". The page title is "LEGAL DEPARTMENT". The main content area is titled "Deed Restrictions" and includes a welcome message: "Welcome to the Office of the City Attorney's Deed Restriction Enforcement Team Home Page. This page is dedicated to expanding the public's knowledge of how the Legal Department's Deed Restriction Enforcement Team can assist Houston residents and neighborhoods. The section entitled **PROVING A**". On the right side, there is a section titled "DEED RESTRICTIONS LINKS" with links to "Deed Restrictions General Info", "Complaint Form", "FAQs", and "Proving A Violation".

For more information about Deed Restrictions visit the City of Houston's website: houston.tx.gov/legal/deed.html

PURSE AWARENESS STARTS WITH YOU!

Houston Police website

Always be aware of your surroundings

- Hold your keys & lock your car doors when pumping gas
- or carry your purse while refueling

When Carrying your Purse

- Never walk with purse facing the traffic aisle
- Always hold your purse tightly or use a crossover strap
- Eliminate clutter – only carry necessary cards & cash

Inside the Store

- Secure your purse with the shopping cart's child safety strap
- Keep your purse closed & zipped
- Never leave your purse unattended, even for a second

Additional Tips

- Look around as you enter the parking lot
- If you feel uneasy or see suspicious activity, ask for an escort
- Park beneath a light or in a well-lit place if shopping after dark
- When unloading your cart, place your purse and child in the vehicle first
- If you are going to place packages in your trunk and continue shopping re-park before you continue shopping
- If making multiple purchases, make your most expensive purchase your last purchase before returning home

LONG POINT RD PANEL REPLACEMENT UPDATES

As a part of the 7 Projects to Follow www.SBLMD.org/7projectstofollow , the panel replacement project on Long Point is moving along at a steady pace. This city project that began in November of 2019 with a completion date of November this year. The project encompasses the entire length of Long Point. The panel replacement will be followed by an overlay and restriping of the roadway.

If you have any questions regarding the project, please reach out to Deputy Executive Director, Josh Hawes Jhawes@SBMD.org

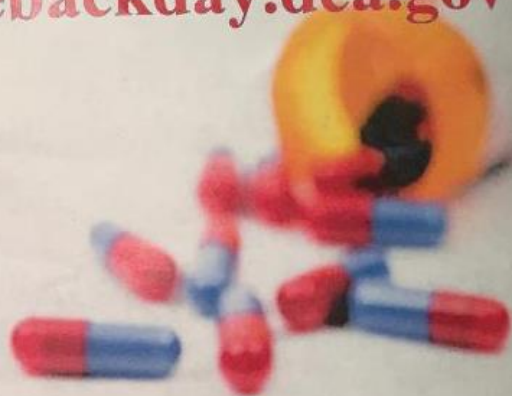
MAIL-IN VOTING BALLOTS

After not receiving one this year, I was informed by the Harris County Clerk's Office that one has to call in every year, in January, to receive a mail-in voting ballot.

If you are 65 years old or disabled, you qualify for a mail-in ballot. Just remember to call the Harris County Clerk's Office at 713-655-6411 in January to request yours.

CoSAP
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TAKEBACK

takebackday.dea.gov



Coalition of Substance Abuse Prevention

Turn in your unused medication for safe disposal
Saturday April 25, 2020 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

On April 25, 2020, **CoSAP** (Coalition of Substance Abuse Prevention) will sponsor a collection site for any expired, unused, and unwanted prescription medications for safe, legal, and environmentally friendly disposal. The take-back day offers everyone an easy way to dispose of old and unused prescription drugs while at the same time helps in reducing their illegal non-medical use and abuse.

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WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

2019 – 2020 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 5-1-19 through 4-30-20.

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 2019 – 2020

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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Nuevo Miembro</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Renovando</i> | |

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 1-5-19 hasta 30-4-20.

Traiga el formulario y pago a la siguiente reunión o puede mandarlo por correo a:

Old Spring Branch Civic Association
P. O. Box 55172
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Cheque a nombre de Old Spring Branch Civic Association o OSBCA.

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REALTORS MARKET FOR JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Rosario Machorro

Old Spring Branch	
Number of Homes Sold	2
Average Sales Price	\$262,450
Average Sales Piece Per Square Ft.	\$174.80
Days on the Market	193

Hello neighbors, I hope you all are having an excellent start to 2020, the market is beginning to pick up, don't forget to vote on March 3.

Presently, there are 17 homes listed in the neighborhood for sale. There are two pending expected to close in the next 10 to 35 days. Average time on the market is 3.5 to 6.4 months if priced correctly.

If you want to check the value of your home 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.

Don't forget to come by the meeting Tuesday 10th to see how the association helps keep taxes low and property values up. Hope to see you there.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Friday, April 3, 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

MARCH 2020

MARZO 2020

Sunday domingo	Monday lunes	Tuesday martes	Wednesday miércoles	Thursday jueves	Friday viernes	Saturday sábado
8 Daylight Saving begins Int'l Women's Day	9	10 OSBCA meeting	11	12	13 	14 Pi Day
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 	21 May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada
Spring Branch ISD's Spring Break (3/16-3/20)						
22 World Water Day	23	24	25	26 Heavy Trash – TREE	27 	28
29	30	31 Cesar Chavez Day	1 April Fool's Day	2	3 	4

OLD SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President:	Jo Lightsey	713-681-0560
Vice President:	Marvin Thielemann	713-682-9634
Secretary:	Linda Whatley	713-681-0560
Treasurer:	Virginia Lehman	832-748-8088

STREET REPRESENTATIVES

Antoine:	---Vacant---	
Counter Point & Turquoise:	Anonymous	----
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